AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYERS ASSOCIATION – CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER
SPORTS IMMIGRATION LAW CONFERENCE

March 8, 2019
Citrus Club, 255 S Orange Ave., Suite 1800, Orlando, FL 32801
Information: Ksenia Maiorova, Organizer – ksenia@kmimmigration.com

Formats: In-Person, Livestream Webinar, Recording

7:00 am – 8:00 am  REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST

8:00 am – 9:00 am  Leagues, Coaches and Support Staff
Amy Maldonado; Alison Foley-Rothrock
• COMPETE Act
• P-1S visas for support staff – who qualifies?
• Special procedures for MLB under EB-2

9:00 am – 10:00 am  Marketing Your Practice to Athletes
Ksenia Maiorova; LaVonne Idlette
• Why marketing to athletes is different & marketing mistakes you are making right now
• Building legitimacy and your brand
• Social media tips for attracting athletes – apps and platforms

10:00 am – 11:00 am  Individual Athletes and Their Woes
Elinor Tesfamariam; Mechelle Zarou
• Navigating petitioner scenarios, including a discussion of “self-petitioning” through LLC’s, the efficacy of attorney petitions
• What the 2015 Draft O/P Agents Memo really means
• “Moonlighting” on an O or P and the importance of a living wage
• Can an athlete on an O or P coach on the side?

11:00 am – 11:15 am  NETWORKING BREAK

11:15 am – 12:15 pm  RFE’s, NOIDS, and Strategic Lawyering
Ksenia Maiorova, Nadine Navarro
• Trends in RFEs, NOIDs, and denials and strategies for avoiding them
• Selecting O and EB-1A criteria and best evidence to use
• Game: the most ridiculous things you have seen the government claim (prize)
12:15 pm – 1:30 pm  KEYNOTE SPEAKER & LUNCH

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm  The Universe of Supporting Documents and the Issues That Hide Within
Karin Wolman; Steve Ladik

- Best practices for petitions, itineraries, and contracts
- Change of plans – “breaking up” with petitioner, changing training locations or teams, and what to do if the client violated the terms of the petition
- Whose job is that? – potential conflicts in drafting contracts for the athlete
- The attorney’s due diligence responsibilities in sports immigration matters: suspected fraud, bad contract terms, tax issues, employment issues

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm  Fighting the Good Fight – Post-denial Options
Francisco Symphorien-Saavedra; David Stoller

- Preparing affirmative filings with an eye toward litigation – how to preserve the record for optimal litigation position
- Enough is enough – when to file the case? Do you have to go to the AAO first to exhaust administrative remedies?
- AAO vs. federal court – basic process and timeline overview
- When litigation is not your strong suit – co-counseling with litigators on sports immigration matters

3:30 pm – 3:45 pm  NETWORKING BREAK

3:45 pm – 4:30 pm  Working With Your Athlete’s “Team”
LaVonne Idlette; John Anthony Castro;

- PR Agent – how to utilize the services of a public relations agency to help your client get to extraordinary
- Tax Advisor/Enrolled Agent – tax issues for foreign athletes training and competing in the US and how a tax advisor can assist with pre-immigration tax planning
- Sports agent/coach – how to work with the athlete’s “handlers” without stepping on any toes