2019 AILA SPRING CLE CONFERENCE: GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

Join us at the AILA Spring Conference to receive an insider’s view of what is happening at the agencies! Hear directly from agency officials and AILA Liaison Committees about the changing decisions that affect your practice and clients. Learn about the latest issues, policy changes, and hot topics in agency adjudications, and receive a summary of the most recent liaison meeting discussions. The conference will wrap-up with a panel on litigation tactics for attorneys practicing in this challenging environment.

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2019

WASHINGTON COURT HOTEL ON CAPITOL HILL
WASHINGTON, DC

Friday, April 12, 2019

Day Coordinator: Robert W. Armstrong, Jr., Dallas, TX

7:30 am–5:45 pm REGISTRATION, INFORMATION, AND EXHIBITS

8:10 am–8:15 am WELCOME AND GREETINGS
Bennett Savitz, AILA USCIS HQ (Benefits Policy) Liaison Committee Chair, Boston, MA

8:15 am–9:00 am Advocacy and Liaison Update
Benjamin Johnson, AILA Executive Director, Washington, DC
Greg Chen, AILA Director, Government Relations, Washington, DC

9:00 am–10:00 am AILA USCIS LIAISON COMMITTEE UPDATE
• Breaking News and Hot Topics
• Policy Memoranda Update
• Adjudications Trends and Update
• Interview and Online Inquiry Update
• Regulatory Update

* = invited, not confirmed
Faculty
Bennett Savitz (DL), AILA USCIS HQ (Benefits Policy) Liaison Committee Chair, Boston, MA
Suzanne B. Seltzer, AILA USCIS HQ (Benefits Policy) Liaison Committee Vice Chair, New York, NY
Matthew D. Stump, AILA USCIS Service Center Operations Liaison Committee Chair, Oklahoma City, OK
David J. Long, AILA USCIS Field Operations Liaison Committee, Jamestown, NC

10:05 am–11:05 am U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL) OPEN FORUM
• Staffing Changes and ETA Leadership
• Processing Updates and Timeframes
• LCA and Related Disclosure of Data
• Current DOL Trends
• Regulatory Changes on the Horizon
• Interaction with USCIS and Other Agencies
Faculty
Sarah K. Peterson (DL), AILA Board of Governors/DOL Liaison Committee Chair, Minneapolis, MN
Vincent W. Lau, DOL Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Cambridge, MA
Shawn M. Packer, Counsel, Office of Foreign Labor Certification, ETA, DOL, Washington, DC
William “Bill” Rabung, Director, Division of Operations, Office of Foreign Labor Certification, ETA, DOL, Washington, DC
Renata Adjibodou, Director, National Prevailing Wage Center, Office of Foreign Labor Certification, ETA, DOL, Washington, DC
Paul Gotte, National Prevailing Wage Center, Office of Foreign Labor Certification, ETA, DOL, Washington, DC

11:05 am–11:15 am NETWORKING BREAK

11:15 am–12:15 pm EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW (EOIR) OPEN FORUM
• EOIR Updates (e.g., Memoranda, Hiring Updates, etc.)
• Practice Updates
• Q&A
Faculty
Merlyn N. Hernandez (DL), AILA EOIR Liaison Committee Chair, Los Angeles, CA
James McHenry, Director, Executive Office for Immigration Review, Falls Church, VA

12:15 pm–1:10 pm LUNCH (INCLUDED WITH REGISTRATION)

1:10 pm–2:10 pm U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (DOS) OPEN FORUM
• Travel Ban Update
• Public Charge Determinations
• Review of §214(b) Refusals
• Seeking Administrative Review of Consular Decisions

* = invited, not confirmed
• Implementation of the Modernized Immigrant Visa Program
• Petition Returns for Revocation

Faculty
Kenneth J. Harder (DL), AILA DOS Liaison Committee Chair, Houston, TX
Sandra S. Reguerin, AILA DOS Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Phoenix, AZ
David Newman, Director of Legal Affairs, Visa Office Bureau of Consular Affairs, Department of State Visa Office, Washington, DC
Julia Follick, Acting Deputy Chief, Legislation and Regulations Division, Visa Office, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Department of State, Washington, DC

2:15 pm–3:15 pm
U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT (ICE) OPEN FORUM
• Detention Issues
• Latest Policies and Practices in Immigration Court
• Post-Removal Order Options

Faculty
Jesse A. Lloyd (DL), AILA ICE Liaison Committee Chair, Oakland, CA
Sui Chung, AILA ICE Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Miami, FL
Merlyn N. Hernandez, AILA EOIR Liaison Committee Chair, Los Angeles, CA
Amanda B. Keaveny, AILA ICE Liaison Committee Member, Charleston, SC

3:15 pm–3:25 pm
NETWORKING BREAK

3:25 pm–4:25 pm
U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION (CBP) OPEN FORUM
• Update on Expansion of Pre-Flight Clearance Locations
• Update on the L-1 Pilot Project
• CBP Preparations for the “New” NAFTA
• CBP’s Policy on Admissions in Light of the Legalization of Controlled Substances by Various States and Canada
• Facial Recognition and the Future of I-94 Forms and Passports
• New Trends and Issues

Faculty
Alexis S. Axelrad (DL), AILA Board of Governors/CBP Liaison Committee Chair, New York, NY
Ramon E. Curiel, AILA CBP Liaison Committee Vice Chair, San Antonio, TX
Luis A. Mejia, Director, Enforcement Programs Division, Office of Field Operations, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Washington, DC
Colleen M. Manaher, Executive Director, Planning, Program Analysis and Evaluation, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Washington, DC
Frank Russo, Assistant Director of Field Operations, New York Field Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, New York, NY

* = invited, not confirmed
4:30 pm–5:30 pm

**LITIGATING PETITION DENIALS: A VIEW FROM THE INSIDE**

- How AILA’s Administrative Litigation Task Force Can Assist Members in Litigating Petition Denials
- Update on Pending and Anticipated Litigation
- How to Get a Client to Agree to Be a Plaintiff
- Insider Views on How the Government Defends Litigation

**Faculty**

*H. Ronald Klasko (DL), AILA Past President/Administrative Litigation Task Force Chair, Philadelphia, PA*

*Marketa Lindt, AILA President-Elect, Chicago, IL*

*Bradley B. Banias, Charleston, SC*

*Jonathan D. Wasden, Burke, VA*

5:30 pm

**CONFERENCE CONCLUDES**

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**Conference Program Committee**

*Bennett Savitz, AILA USCIS HQ (Benefits Policy) Liaison Committee Chair, Boston, MA*

*Alexis S. Axelrad, AILA Board of Governors/CBP Liaison Committee Chair, New York, NY*

*Kenneth J. Harder, AILA DOS Liaison Committee Chair, Houston, TX*

*Merlyn N. Hernandez, AILA EOIR Liaison Committee Chair, Los Angeles, CA*

*Jesse Lloyd, AILA ICE Liaison Committee Chair, Oakland, CA*

*Sarah K. Peterson, AILA Board of Governors/DOL Liaison Committee Chair, Minneapolis, MN*

*Grace Akers Woods, AILA Senior Director, Education, Washington, DC*