



## 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**

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### **Friday, April 12, 2019**

<i>Day Coordinator:</i>	<i>TBD</i>
7:30 am–5:45 pm	<b>REGISTRATION, INFORMATION, AND EXHIBITS</b>
7:55 am–8:00 am	<b>WELCOME AND GREETINGS</b> <i>Bennett Savitz, AILA USCIS HQ (Benefits Policy) Liaison Committee Chair, Boston, MA</i>
8:00 am–9:00 am	<b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS</b> <i>L. Francis Cissna, Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Washington, DC</i>
9:00 am–9:30 am	<b>U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES (USCIS) OPEN FORUM</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Breaking News and Hot Topics</li><li>• Policy Memoranda Update</li></ul>

\* = invited, not confirmed

- Adjudications Trends and Update
- Interview and Online Inquiry Update
- Regulatory Update

*Faculty*

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

*Donald Neufeld, Associate Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration  
Services, Service Center Operations, Washington, DC*

*Daniel Renaud, Associate Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration  
Services, Field Operations, Washington, DC*

9:35 am–10:05 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

*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. Packert, 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*

*Andrew K. Nietor, AILA EOIR Liaison Committee Vice Chair, San Diego, 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
- 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*

*Matt McNeil, Chief, Supervisory Attorney Advisor, Visa Office, Advisory Opinions Division, Department of State Visa Office, 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*

*\*Matthew T. Albence, Executive Associate Director, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Washington, DC*

*\*Tracy Short, Principal Legal Advisor, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Washington, DC*

3:15 pm–3:25 pm

**NETWORKING BREAK**

3:25 pm–4:25 pm

**U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION (CBP) OPEN FORUM**

\* = *invited, not confirmed*

- 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*

*\*Todd A. Hoffman, Executive Director, Admissibility and Passenger Programs, Office of Field Operations, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Washington, DC*

*\*Luis A. Mejia, Director, Enforcement Programs Division, Office of Field Operations, 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*

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. Baniyas, Charleston, SC*

*Jonathan D. Wasden, Burke, VA*

5:30 pm

**CONFERENCE CONCLUDES**

**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**