



2020 AILA SPRING CLE CONFERENCE AND WEBCAST: GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

Join us at the 2020 AILA Spring Conference and Webcast 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 also will include a panel on litigation tactics for attorneys looking for alternative solutions in this challenging environment. New this year, the conference will feature an H-1B Registration Tool Assistance Area, where practitioners can discuss lessons learned and brainstorm with staff and other members on issues related to using the new H-1B registration tool.

Viewing Options: On Friday, March 6, 2020, faculty members will present a full day of live sessions. These sessions can be attended in-person at the Washington Court Hotel or via webcast from the convenience of home or the office. Either way, the program is live and interactive! All webcast participants will be given a link to the conference recording, so any sessions missed (particularly helpful for our West Coast participants given the time difference) can be revisited at a different time. Please note that webcast sessions are dependent on government participation and can change at any time.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2020

**WASHINGTON COURT HOTEL ON CAPITOL HILL
WASHINGTON, DC**

Friday, March 6, 2020

<i>Day Coordinator:</i>	<i>Julia K. Bizer, Washington, DC</i>
7:15 am–5:45 pm	REGISTRATION, INFORMATION, AND EXHIBITS
7:45 am–7:55 am	MEMBER BENEFIT DEMO: AILA UNIVERSITY

* = invited, not confirmed; all sessions and speakers are subject to change without notice.

8:00 am–12:25 pm & 1:35 pm–4:00 pm	<p>AILA H-1B REGISTRATION TOOL ASSISTANCE AREA <i>Do you have questions about using the new H-1B registration tool? Have you encountered an issue that you aren't sure how to navigate? Stop by the H-1B registration tool assistance area to discuss your concerns and brainstorm solutions with staff and other members.</i></p>
7:55 am–8:00 am	<p>WELCOME AND GREETINGS <i>Bennett Savitz, AILA USCIS HQ (Benefits Policy) Committee Chair, Boston, MA</i></p>
8:00 am–9:00 am	<p>U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES (USCIS) HQ (BENEFITS POLICY) COMMITTEE UPDATE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breaking News and Hot Topics • H-1B Registration Update • Policy Memoranda Update • Adjudications Trends and Update • Field Office, InfoMod, and Contact Center Update • Regulatory Update <p><i>Faculty:</i> <i>Bennett Savitz (DL), AILA USCIS HQ (Benefits Policy) Committee Chair, Boston, MA</i> <i>Suzanne B. Seltzer, AILA USCIS HQ (Benefits Policy) Committee Vice Chair, New York, NY</i> <i>Susan S. Im, AILA USCIS Service Center Operations Liaison Committee Chair, Grand Rapids, MI</i> <i>Kari Ann Fonte, AILA USCIS Field Operations Liaison Committee Chair, Coral Gables, FL</i></p>
9:05 am–9:35 am	<p>KEYNOTE <i>*TBD</i></p>
9:40 am–9:55 am	<p>NETWORKING BREAK</p>
9:55 am–10:55 am	<p>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL) OPEN FORUM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ETA Leadership Updates • Processing Time Updates • FLAG Updates • Prevailing Wages and the 2018 SOC Roll-Out • Current Trends <p><i>Faculty:</i> <i>Sarah K. Peterson (DL), AILA Board of Governors/DOL Liaison Committee Chair, Minneapolis, MN</i> <i>Vincent W. Lau, DOL Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Cambridge, MA</i> <i>Brian Pasternak, Administrator, OFLC, DOL, Washington, DC</i> <i>Shawn M. Packer, Senior Counsel, Office of the Assistant Secretary, ETA, DOL, Washington, DC</i> <i>Renata Adjibodou, Director, OFLC, National Prevailing Wage Center, DOL, Washington, DC</i></p>

*Brandt Carter, Director, OFLC, Atlanta National Processing Center,
DOL, Washington, DC*

11:00 am–12:00 pm

EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW (EOIR)

OPEN FORUM

- Hot Topics
- Memoranda Updates
- MPP and Court Updates
- Litigation Updates
- Trends and Changes
- BIA Updates and Procedure
- Local Immigration Court Trends

Faculty:

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

Sarah Owings, AILA EOIR Liaison Vice Chair, Atlanta, GA

James McHenry, EOIR Director, Falls Church, VA

12:00 pm–1:30 pm

LUNCH (INCLUDED WITH REGISTRATION)

12:30 pm–1:30 pm

LUNCH BREAKOUT PANELS

Attendees can choose to attend one of the two panels being offered during lunch.

LUNCH PANEL 1:

DOL'S WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION (WHD) OPEN FORUM

- Staffing Changes and WHD Leadership
- Current WHD Trends
- H-2 Issues
- Interaction with USCIS and Other Agencies

Faculty:

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

Bob White, DOL Liaison Committee, Chicago, IL

Kevin R. Lashus, DOL Liaison Committee, Austin, TX

*Francia Yops, Regional Immigration Coordinator, Wage and
Hour Division, DOL, Washington, DC*

*Katelyn Poe, Senior Attorney, Office of the Solicitor, Division of Fair
Labor Standards, DOL, Washington, DC*

*Whitney Ford, Director, Office of Immigration and Farm Labor, Wage
and Hour Division, DOL, Washington, DC*

LUNCH PANEL 2:

LITIGATING PETITION DENIALS: A VIEW FROM THE INSIDE

- How AILA's Administrative Litigation Task Force Can Assist Members in Litigating Petition Denials and Delays
- Update on Pending and Anticipated Litigation
- Incorporating Litigation into Your Immigration Practice
- 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, Chicago, IL

Jesse M. Bless, AILA Director of Federal Litigation, Washington, DC

1:35 pm–2:35 pm

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (DOS) OPEN FORUM

- Strategies for Coping with Administrative Processing Delays
- Public Charge Rules and Implementation
- National Visa Center (NVC) Update: Managing the Modernized Immigrant Visa Process
- Kentucky Consular Center (KCC) Update: Digital File Transfer
- Regulatory, Policy, and Institutional Updates

Faculty

Kenneth J. Harder (DL), DOS Liaison Committee Chair, Houston, TX

Sandra S. Reguerin, AILA DOS Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Phoenix, AZ

Daniel J. Parisi, AILA DOS Liaison Committee Member, London, England

Heather Drabek Prendergast, AILA Board of Governors/AILA University Committee Chair, Cleveland, OH

2:40 pm–3:40 pm

U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT (ICE) OPEN FORUM

- Enforcement Actions
- Detention and Access to Counsel
- Parole, Intensive Supervision of Appearance Program (ISAP), and Bond
- ICE Policies and Practices in Immigration Court
- Orders of Supervision, Stays of Removal, and Post-Order Issues

Faculty:

Sui Chung (DL), AILA ICE Liaison Committee Chair, Miami, FL

Aaron Hall, AILA ICE Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Denver, CO

Amanda B. Keaveny, AILA ICE Liaison Committee Member, Charleston, SC

3:40 pm–3:55 pm

NETWORKING BREAK

3:55 pm–4:55 pm

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

- CBP Legislative/Congressional/Executive Branch Mandates Impacting Port of Entry (POE) Operations
- Expansion of Expedited Removal
- Update on NAFTA L-1 Adjudications at the Border: One Year Later
- Overview of the National Targeting Center (NTC) and Regional Carrier Liaison Group (RGCLG)
- Latest CBP Pilot Programs/Transformation
- 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

Gregory L. Eddy, Chief, Passenger Operations, New York Field Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, New York, NY

5:00 pm–6:00 pm

VERIFICATION AND DOCUMENTATION OPEN FORUM

- Agency Overview and Objectives
 - Brief Overview of Mission, Areas of Focus, and Updates
 - How and When Each Agency Most Likely Would Initiate Investigation
- Current Trends and Areas of Focus
 - Electronic I-9 Considerations
 - Protecting U.S. Workers
 - IMAGE Updates/Developments
- Practical Advice and Best Practices
 - Key Takeaways from IER Settlements/Cases in the Past Year
 - Common Issues to Avoid Relating to Form I-9 Violations and Discrimination in the Hiring Process

Faculty:

Katie Nokes Minervino (DL), Verification and Documentation Liaison Committee Chair, Portland, ME

Nicole Kersey, Verification and Documentation Liaison Committee Vice Chair, St. Petersburg, FL

Alberto Ruisanchez, Deputy Special Counsel, U.S. Department of Justice, Immigrant and Employee Rights Section (IER), Civil Rights Division, Washington, DC

Scott B. McCormack, National Program Manager, Worksite Enforcement Unit, ICE, DHS, Washington, DC

John “Jack” Morris, Unit Chief, Worksite Enforcement Unit, ICE, DHS, Washington, DC

6:00 pm

CONFERENCE CONCLUDES

Saturday, March 7, 2020

7:00 am–7:55 am

YOGA AND MINDFULNESS MEDITATION

Location: *Springwood Room*

Release tension and increase your focus with an all-levels, hatha yoga class followed by a guided mindfulness meditation. We'll focus on optimal alignment in each pose, with an eye toward cultivating flexibility, strength, and balance. No yoga experience? No problem! All are welcome to attend.

Faculty:

Danielle Polen, AILA Director of Publications and Online Resources, and Registered Yoga Teacher (E-RYT500) and Mindfulness Instructor, Washington, DC

Conference Program Committee

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

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

Sui Chung, AILA ICE Liaison Committee Chair, Miami, FL

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

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

Katie Nokes Minervino, AILA Verification and Documentation Liaison Committee Chair, Portland, ME

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

Grace Akers Woods, AILA Chief Learning Officer, Education, Washington, DC