

PREFACE

Welcome to the 2020–21 edition of *AILA’s Immigration Practice Pointers*, the advanced-level handbook prepared as a supplement to the 2020 AILA Virtual Annual Conference (VAC20). Each panel’s goal in preparing the practice advisories contained within was to write a brief, though still in-depth and informative, guide to a particular topic, based on the bullet points for that panel (as listed in the conference program). The form each practice pointer took—whether formal article, informal Q&A, etc.—was left up to each panel to decide.

As in the past, this book collects a wealth of information and practical advice from some of the foremost authorities in the various subject areas. The handbook begins with advisories covering law practice management, diversity, and ethics. Following that, you’ll find expert analysis and guidance on a wide range of substantive topics, including family immigration, business immigration and PERM, asylum, removal, litigation, crimmigration, and worksite issues.

***Note:** Materials associated with CLE sessions at the AILA 2020 Virtual Annual Conference are identified in the Table of Contents by “VAC20 PANEL” followed by the name of the corresponding session. Materials without this designation were submitted earlier this year for CLE sessions originally planned for the in-person 2020 AILA Annual Conference, scheduled to be held in San Diego but cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Content in this book is only current as of the date of original submission, so please do not rely on it as your sole source of information. Instead, use the materials in this book as part of more exhaustive legal research.

Beginning practitioners and others seeking a more basic understanding of the concepts underlying particular areas of immigration law should refer to this book’s companion volume—*Navigating the Fundamentals*, 2020–21 Ed.—also available free to all VAC20 attendees. AILA offers that tome to complement the more advanced and/or specialized content contained in this handbook.

Thanks go out to all the contributing authors for finding time within their busy schedules to make this book happen. Thanks also are owed to the peer reviewers of the VAC20 articles—Dan Berger, Jan Brown, Leigh Cole, Carl Falstrom, Rodney Malpert, Robert Nadalin, Jack Pinnix, Dev Viswanath, and Cletus Weber. These colleagues of yours volunteered their time and expertise to ensure the articles you read are of the highest quality possible.

Rizwan Hassan
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