

Abrutyn, Russell

Attorney, Abrutyn Law PLLC

Track 4: Supreme Court and Circuit Court Updates

Russell Abrutyn has a full-service immigration law firm, Abrutyn Law, in Berkley, Michigan. Russell has served on the AILA Michigan Chapter Executive Committee since 2017 and is currently the Vice-Chair. He has chaired AILA's National Membership Committee since 2020. He has served on or chaired other committees including chairing AILA's Amicus Committee. Russell also serves on the Michigan State Bar Immigration Law Section Council. From AILA, Russell has been honored to receive the Edith Lowenstein Award for excellence in advancing the practice of immigration law, the Sam Williamson Mentor Award, four President's Commendations, and he was a co-recipient of the Jack Wasserman Award for excellence in litigation in the field of immigration law. As counsel, co-counsel, or amici, he has successfully litigated *Kada v. Barr*, 946 F.3d 960 (6th Cir. 2020); *Hernandez v. Whitaker*, 914 F.3d 430 (6th Cir. 2019); *Arangure v. Whitaker*, 911 F.3d 333 (6th Cir. 2018); *Shuti v. Lynch*, 828 F.3d 440 (6th Cir. 2016); *Matter of Ruzku*, 26 I&N Dec. 731 (BIA 2016); *Yousif v. Lynch*, 796 F.3d 622 (6th Cir. 2015); *Matter of Ordaz-Gonzalez*, 26 I&N Dec. 637 (BIA 2015); *Hanna v. Holder*, 740 F.3d 379 (6th Cir. 2014); *Pruidez v. Holder*, 632 F.3d 234 (6th Cir. 2011); *Zhang v. Mukasey*, 509 F.3d 313 (6th Cir. 2007); *Matovski v. Gonzales*, 492 F.3d 722 (6th Cir. 2007); and *Pickering v. Gonzales*, 465 F.3d 263 (6th Cir. 2006), among others. He graduated cum laude from the University of Michigan Law School. He is licensed to practice law in Michigan, Washington State, and multiple federal courts.

Ajmera, Sujata

Member, Clark Hill

Track 5: H1B RFEs, Trends, Litigation and Alternatives

Sujata Ajmera assists corporate and academic clients in I-9 compliance and securing lawful nonimmigrant, immigrant, and citizenship status for employees worldwide, including executives and managers, researchers, engineers, and specialized knowledge workers. She is Board Certified in Immigration & Nationality Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

Al-khersan, Farah

Attorney/Owner, Al-khersan Law PLLC

Track 3: Ethical Issues in Immigration Practice

Farah Al-khersan's passion for immigration law stems from her own experiences as an immigrant. Her family fled Iraq when she was young and moved to New Zealand before settling in the United States. Farah graduated from the University of Michigan "Ann Arbor with a Bachelor's in English and Spanish. During her undergraduate career, Farah worked at the University of Michigan Law School Pediatric Advocacy Initiative, assisting immigrants in applying for public and immigration benefits. Farah subsequently graduated from Wayne State University Law School. During her time in law school, Farah worked as a student attorney for the Asylum and Immigration Law Clinic and completed an internship at the Detroit Immigration Court. For her academic performance and public interest work, Farah was awarded the Harry Klein and Shirley Klein Legal Scholarship, Marilyn Kelly Public Interest Endowed Scholarship, Justice for our Neighbors' Dr. Kenneth Christler Volunteer Award, Mark Weiss Memorial Endowed Scholarship, WSU Law Dean's Scholar, and Women Lawyers' Association of Michigan Foundation Scholarship. Farah currently handles matters involving family-based immigration, naturalization, asylum, and removal proceedings. Farah dedicates great focus and attention to each one of her clients and has successfully handled a wide range of cases before USCIS and Immigration Court. Farah is fluent in Arabic and Spanish.

Anker, Deborah

Clinical Professor of Law and Founder of Harvard Immigration and Refugee Clinical Program, Harvard Law School

Track 4: Litigating Gender and Domestic Violence-Based Asylum Claims in Courts of Appeals

DEBORAH E. ANKER is Clinical Professor of Law and the Founder of the Harvard Law School Immigration and Refugee

Clinical Program (HIRC). Professor Anker is one of the most widely known asylum practitioners, teachers and scholars in the United States and a pioneer in the development of clinical legal education in the immigration field, training students in direct representation of refugees and creating a foundation for clinics at law schools around the U.S. As part of her vision of clinical education, Professor Anker involved students in the first substantial empirical studies of the immigration agencies, helping to educate policy makers and the academy about the day-to-day realities of agency decision making. Author of the leading treatise, Law of Asylum in the United States, Anker has co-drafted groundbreaking Gender Asylum Guidelines and amicus curiae briefs. Her historical work on U.S. ratification and implementation of the UN Refugee Convention in The Forty Year Crisis is a classic that has shaped the interpretation of U.S. asylum law, especially in an internationalist direction. Professor Anker's work has been cited by federal courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court as well as by various international tribunals. Professor Anker has received numerous awards including the Elmer Fried Excellence in Teaching Award from the American Immigration Lawyers' Association (AILA), the AILA Founder's Award for the Women's Refugee Project, and the AILA Edith Lowenstein Memorial Award for excellence in advancing the practice of immigration law. She has also received the CARECEN Award from the Central American Refugee Center and the Massachusetts Governor's New American Appreciation Award. Anker was designated a Woman of Justice by the Massachusetts Bar Association, and in 2011, she was elected as a Fellow to the American Bar Foundation. Most recently, she received AILA's Arthur C. Helton Memorial Human Rights Award for the groundbreaking work of the Harvard Immigration and Refugee Clinical Program.

Ardalan, Sabi

Clinical Professor, Harvard Law School

Track 1: Responses to Refugee Crises

Sabrineh Ardalan is director of the Harvard Immigration and Refugee Clinical Program. At the clinic, Ardalan supervises and trains law students working on applications for asylum and other humanitarian protections, as well as appellate litigation and policy advocacy. She has authored briefs submitted to the Board of Immigration Appeals, as well as to the federal district courts, circuit courts of appeal, and U.S. Supreme Court on cutting edge issues in U.S. asylum law. She also oversees and collaborates closely with the clinic's social work staff. She teaches courses on immigration and refugee law and advocacy, as well as on trauma, refugees, and the law, and on international labor migration. Prior to her work with the clinic, Ardalan clerked for Hon. Michael A. Chagares of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals and Hon. Raymond J. Dearie, district judge for the Eastern District of New York. She previously served as the Equal Justice America fellow at The Opportunity Agenda, where she worked on advocacy around a right to health care under U.S. and international law and as a litigation associate at Dewey Ballantine LLP. She holds a J.D. from Harvard Law School and a B.A. in history and international studies from Yale College.

Banias, Brad

Attorney, Wasden Banias LLC

Track 4: Mandamus Boot Camp: Litigating to Combat USCIS delays in EADs and other Applications

Brad focuses his practice on federal court immigration litigation. After two federal clerkships and an LLM, Brad started his career as a trial attorney in the Department of Justice's Office of Immigration Litigation. Brad then got sick of living in DC. So, he moved back to Charleston, South Carolina, and entered private practice. He very quickly learned he did not like insurance defense and returned to federal court immigration litigation. He now practices with three other former-DOJ attorneys at Wasden Banias, where they focus on effecting change in immigration policy through litigation.

Bazzi, Saraj

Esq., Bazzi Immigration Law, PLLC

Track 3: Dealing with NVC and DOS after Petition Approved

Ms. Bazzi founded Bazzi Immigration Law, PLLC in McLean, Virginia in 2010. Her firm is a high volume practice specializing in family, humanitarian, and asylum claims for primarily Spanish-speaking clients. Ms. Bazzi is a member of the Hawaii State Bar, the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), and the Federal Bar Association (FBA). Ms. Bazzi has presented on immigration topics at the local AILA conference, the National Conference, and at the FBA National Immigration Law Conference.

Ms. Bazzi served as a judicial law clerk at the Miami Immigration Court from 2006-2007 and as a Hawaii State Supreme Court Law Clerk from 2007-2009.

Berger, Dan

Partner, Curran Berger & Kludt

Track 2: Spurring U.S. Economic Growth through Immigrant Talent

*Dan Berger is a partner at the immigration law firm of Curran, Berger & Kludt in Northampton, MA. He is an Honorary Fellow of the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys, on the Legal Advisory Board of the Presidents' Alliance on Immigration & Higher Education, on the Legal Advisory Council of the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) USCIS Liaison Committee Afghanistan Task Force. He co-authored 2 reports last year on strategies to support international entrepreneurs. He also co-edited recently updated editions of *Immigration Options for Academics and Researchers* and the *International Adoption Sourcebook*.*

Birge, Andrew

U.S. Attorney, U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Michigan

Track 2: A Discussion with members of BRIDGES - Building Respect In Diverse Groups to Enhance Sensitivity.

Andrew B. Birge was appointed U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Michigan by the federal court on March 16, 2018. He first assumed the duties of the office as the Acting U.S. Attorney on January 20, 2017. Mr. Birge has been with the office for over 20 years, including nearly ten years as the First Assistant, the senior-most management position in the office. He began his legal career as a law clerk to the Hon. Richard A. Enslen, the late Chief U.S. District Court Judge for the Western District of Michigan, and worked for a law firm in the private sector for several years before joining the office. Mr. Birge obtained his law degree from the Columbia University School of Law, and his Bachelor of Arts degree from Carleton College.

Brill, Amanda

Managing Attorney, Brill Immigration

Track 5: Consular Processing Trends and Legal Developments

Amanda S Brill is the Founder and Managing Attorney at Brill Immigration in London. She has practiced immigration law since 2005, and has extensive experience with a wide range of business-related immigration issues including consular processing. She earned her J.D. from Boston University. Ms. Brill is past Chapter Chair of the American Immigration Lawyers Association's ("AILA") RDC-EMEA Chapter and has served on numerous AILA national committees including Chair of AILA University's Consular Processing Course and Chair of the inaugural ACES conference in LA.

Campbell Walker, Kathleen

Member, Dickinson Wright PLLC

Track 5: Consular Processing Trends and Legal Developments

Kathleen Campbell Walker is a national past president and general counsel of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). She continues to serve on the national Board of Governors for AILA. She began practicing immigration law in 1985. She is chair of the Immigration Practice Group of Dickinson Wright PLLC and is based in its El Paso office. She is board certified in Immigration and Nationality Law by Texas Board of Legal Specialization. She is recognized in Chambers USA (Band One), Chambers Global (Band One), International Who's Who of Business Lawyers, Super Lawyers, and Best Lawyers in America. She is rated AV[®] Preeminent[®], ç and Judicial AV[®] Preeminent[®], ç in Martindale-Hubbell[®]. She has chaired several of the AILA national liaison committees including those for the Department of State, Customs and Border Protection, Interagency, and the Verification and Documentation Liaison Committee for Worksite Enforcement. In 2014, Ms. Walker received the AILA Founder's Award, given from time to time to the person or entity having the most substantial impact on the field of immigration law or policy. She served on the Council of Foreign Relations Independent Task Force on U.S. Immigration Policy, and has provided testimony on a variety of immigration subjects at the federal and state legislative levels.

Castillo-Granados, Dalia

Director, ABA Children's Immigration Law Academy (CILA)

Track 1: SIJS Updates and Best Practices – Intermediate to Advanced

Dalia Castillo-Granados is the co-founder and director of the Children's Immigration Law Academy (CILA), a project of the American Bar Association. CILA builds capacity for those working to advance the rights of children seeking protection through trainings, resource production, technical assistance, and collaboration. Prior to starting CILA, Dalia was a Senior Attorney at Kids in Need of Defense, a Staff Attorney at Tahirih Justice Center, a Clinical Supervising Attorney at the University of Houston's Immigration Clinic, and began her public interest career as a Greenberg Traurig, LLP Equal Justice Works Fellow with Catholic Charities' Cabrini Center in Houston. She is a graduate of the University of Houston Law Center. During law school, Dalia was active in the Immigration Clinic and interned at US Citizenship and Immigration Services, Catholic Charities, and was a Public Interest Law Fellow at Boat People SOS. She was previously the chair of the State Bar of Texas' Immigration Law Task Force. She is currently the Chair of the Executive Committee for the Houston Immigration Legal Services Collaborative, on the Board of Directors for the Houston Association of Women Attorneys, and she is the president of Latino Giving Houston, a giving circle devoted to promoting philanthropy in Houston's Latino community.

Chase, Jeffrey S.

Jeffrey S. Chase, Esq. P.C.

Track 1: Nuts and Bolts of Asylum Law: Strategizing a Winning Case

Jeffrey S. Chase is a former Immigration Judge and Senior Legal Advisor at the Board of Immigration Appeals. He is a past recipient of AILA's Pro Bono Award. Jeff founded the Round Table of Former Immigration Judges, which was awarded AILA's 2019 Advocacy Award, and serves on the Boards of the Association of Deportation Defense Attorneys (ADDA) in NYC, and Central American Legal Assistance (CALA) in Brooklyn, NY. He has also been involved with immigration law-related theater and video projects. His immigration law blog can be found at jeffreyschase.com.

Cheung, Amy

Senior Legal Counsel, ASISTA Immigration Assistance

Track 1: Representing U, T & VAWA before EOIR

Amy Cheung is a Senior Legal Counsel with ASISTA Immigration Assistance. Previously, Amy was a staff attorney at the Tahirih Justice Center where she represented immigrant women and children in their applications for asylum, VAWA, and U and T visa applications. Before that, she represented detained and post-release unaccompanied minors at Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. Amy is a member of AILA's VAWA, U, and T visa National Committee. J.D., Georgetown University Law Center; B.A., University of Pennsylvania.

Cooper, Scott

Senior Counsel - Practice Leader, Fragomen, Del Rey Bernsen & Loewy LLP

Track 5: "Don't Know Nothing about Science Books": F 1 Students

Scott F. Cooper is Senior Counsel and Practice Leader for the Troy, Michigan offices of Fragomen. Scott serves as immigration counsel to Fortune 100 companies, universities, research institutions, arts institutions, and foundations. He is a past Chair of the Michigan Chapter of AILA/member of the national AILA Board of Governors; former member of the executive committee of the Greater Chicago Chapter of AILA; and former Chair of the Immigration and Nationality Law Committee of the Chicago Bar Association. Scott has also served as Chair of the Michigan Association of International Educators (MAIE) and of Region V of NAFSA: Association of International Educators. He has Co-Chaired NAFSA's annual conference, and served as a member of NAFSA's national Government Regulations Advisory Committee. Scott has been a contributing author and editor of publications including NAFSA's Adviser's Manual, CLE immigration practice handbooks, including other articles on students and scholars. He has also taught at the Chicago-Kent College of Law, the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, the University of Wisconsin at Madison, School of Law and served as a faculty member of the Michigan and Illinois Institutes for CLE. Scott is a former Fulbright Scholar and has been listed individually in Best Lawyers in America, Who's Who in Corporate Immigration Law, Best Lawyers in America, Super Lawyers, dbusiness Top

Lawyers. and is AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell. He is a recipient of MAIE's David Horner Distinguished Service Award and served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Association for International Practical Training (now Cultural Vistas). Scott has been a member of the Illinois, Michigan, New York, Wisconsin, federal district, and United States Supreme Court bars. Prior to his career in the law, Scott worked in higher education administration, last serving as an Associate Dean for the University of Illinois Medical Center. Scott has managed audits of F-1 and J-1 programs, assisted with recertification/redesignation applications, and consulted for international educational exchange organizations.

Covino, Meghan

Partner, Honigman LLP

Track 5: Independents' Day: Developments in L, E, and TN Practice

Meghan Covino focuses her practice on employment-based immigration. She currently serves as the Chair of the American Immigration Lawyers Association - Michigan Chapter and has been recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* and *DBusiness* and as a Michigan Super Lawyers Rising Star. Meghan earned her Bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and her J.D. from Boston University School of Law.

Cozart Martin, Stacy

Partner, MJB Immigration

Track 3: Dealing with NVC and DOS after Petition Approved

Stacy is a Partner at MJB Immigration located in Independence, Ohio. Since 2000, Stacy has focused her extensive legal career on business and family-based immigration. She has successfully won thousands of specialty visas and permanent residency for employees, while balancing the needs of employers. Ms. Cozart Martin is one of the foremost attorneys in the field of employment-based permanent residency, assisting with visas based upon Labor Certification Applications (PERM), extraordinary ability, designation as outstanding professors and researchers, and national interest waivers. Ms. Cozart Martin has worked on J-1 waivers for interested government agencies such as the National Institutes of Health and Conrad State 30 programs, and she has extensive experience in assisting clients seeking J-1 waivers of the home residency requirement based upon hardship. Ms. Cozart Martin also processes non-immigrant visa petitions for H-2B seasonal workers. Finally, Ms. Cozart Martin works with employers to ensure I-9 compliance and appropriately respond to government audits. Ms. Cozart Martin does not forget that immigration is also built upon families. For almost two decades, she has processed family-based petitions based on marriage, familial relationship and VAWA. She is also familiar with the intricacies of benefits for derivative family members, and ready to litigate issues that may arise with the Child Status Protection Act, and the Child Citizenship Act of 2001. Stacy is also an Adjunct Professor at Case Western Reserve University, School of Law.

Cusitello, Lauren

Director, ABA Immigration Justice Project

Track 1: Asylum at the Border

Lauren Cusitello is the Director of the ABA Immigration Justice Project (IJP) in San Diego, where she previously served as the first-ever Legal Director. Before joining IJP, Lauren worked for over 10 years as a state and federal public defender and Criminal Justice Act defense attorney. Lauren regularly speaks to both immigration and criminal defense attorneys about the intersection of criminal and immigration law, and she is the instructor of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) University Removal Defense Course's Criminal Grounds of Removal module. Lauren has an A.B. in Politics from Princeton University, a J.D. from the NYU School of Law, and an Advanced Certificate in Immigration Law from the CUNY School of Professional Services. She is admitted to practice in the state of California, before the Eastern and Southern Districts of California, and before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Derentz, Tiffany

Senior Counsel, Berry Appleman & Leiden

Track 3: Waivers of Inadmissibility - Advanced

Tiffany serves as Senior Counsel in the Washington, D.C., office of Berry Appleman & Leiden LLP. Tiffany joined BAL after

nearly nine years with the U.S. State Department in the Bureau of Consular Affairs and as a senior adviser to the Chief Legal Adviser for immigration affairs. Prior to joining BAL, Tiffany served as Deputy Chief of the Legal Advisory Opinions Division within the Visa Office, placing her at the forefront of legal issues impacting all facets of consular operations at U.S. Embassies and Consulates. As Deputy Chief, Tiffany was a key adviser to senior leadership within the Visa Office, the Bureau of Consular Affairs, the White House, and other federal agencies on all aspects of immigration law, including implementation of presidential proclamations under three administrations. Immediately before joining BAL, Tiffany served as a senior adviser to the Department of State's Chief Legal Adviser for immigration affairs. In addition to her experience at headquarters, Tiffany served as a consular officer at multiple posts overseas, including in the Middle East and Russia. She has direct in-person experience working with consular sections worldwide, the National Visa Center, and the Kentucky Consular Center. During her tenure at the Department of State, Tiffany served as the Department's lead diplomatic visa expert. In this capacity, she worked closely with foreign government missions and international organizations, the Office of the Chief of Protocol, the Office of Foreign Missions, and other federal government agencies. She also worked closely with federal law enforcement officials investigating visa fraud, providing counsel on complex legal matters relating to visa processing, classification, and eligibility requirements. Tiffany started in the Visa Office through the Presidential Management Fellows (PMF) program in September 2012 as an attorney adviser in the Legal Advisory Opinions Division. As a PMF, She spent five months in Moscow assisting in the planning of the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics.

Douglas, Andrew

Assistant Director of Field Operations, CBP Office of Field Operations Detroit

Track 2: CBP and Port of Entry Processing Hot Topics

Mr. Andrew Douglas is the Assistant Director, Border Security for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) at the Detroit Field Office. His responsibilities include assisting with the operational oversight of seven major ports of entry in the State of Michigan. In this capacity Mr. Douglas's responsibilities include: implementing anti-terrorism and anti-smuggling initiatives; traveler admissibility policies; managing the overall passenger operations (land, air, and sea); and special enforcement operations to ensure border integrity.

Duehning, Kelli

Partner, Berry Appleman & Leiden

Track 2: Intersection of Policy and Litigation - A View from the Government

Fragar, Barry

Attorney, Frager Law Firm

Track 2: ICE Hot Topics

Barry L. Frager, founder of the Frager Law Firm, has been practicing immigration law since 1990 and has previously served as a trial attorney for the Immigration & Naturalization Service in Los Angeles, California through the Honors Law Graduate Program of the U.S. Department of Justice. From 2005 to 2011, Mr. Frager served as the national chair of the Federal Bar Association's Immigration Law Section on multiple occasions. For his service, he received recognition in September 2007 with the Outstanding Section Chair award by the FBA. Mr. Frager has successfully planned CLEs for the FBA to offer training to other lawyers in the immigration law field and when its annual immigration CLE was previously held in Memphis, Tennessee

Garvock, Heather

Senior Attorney, Ellis Porter, PLLC

Track 3: Waivers of Inadmissibility - Advanced

As a Senior Attorney on our Individual and Family Immigration Services team, Heather provides a broad range of services to individual clients, including marriage-based green cards and family immigration sponsorship, waivers of inadmissibility, J-1 waivers based on hardship and persecution, asylum and other humanitarian relief, and immigration court representation, including removal defense. During your immigration journey, sticky issues sometimes arise that can greatly complicate your immigration plans, or sometimes derail them all together, if not handled properly by an

immigration legal expert. If you find yourself in this situation, you definitely want Heather in your corner. The first time you speak with Heather, you will immediately appreciate her warm, friendly personality, and the caring approach she takes when handling sensitive client matters. But don't let that fool you - Heather is also an incredibly aggressive and effective advocate for individuals who find themselves in difficult immigration situations, and her professionalism and knowledge of complex immigration issues have earned her a stellar reputation among the key immigration agency officials and judges who will be making decisions on your case. Heather lives in Ann Arbor, and splits her time between Ellis Porter's Ann Arbor, Troy and Southwest Detroit offices.

Gersten, David

ICE Detention Ombudsman, Department of Homeland Security

Keynote Speaker

Mr. David Gersten is DHS's Acting Immigration Detention Ombudsman, charged with leading investigations of complaints related to violations of federal immigration detention standards or misconduct occurring in facilities where people are held in DHS custody. Prior to joining the Office of the Immigration Detention Ombudsman, Acting Ombudsman Gersten served for over three years as the Acting Director of the Office for Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention (now known as the Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships), having previously served as that Office's Deputy since its inception in 2015. From 2006-2014, Acting Ombudsman Gersten served as the Director of the DHS Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Programs Branch and two years as its Acting Deputy for Programs and Compliance. He was responsible for promoting respect for civil rights and civil liberties by advising Department leadership and personnel, and state and local partners. Acting Ombudsman Gersten led efforts to communicate with individuals and communities whose civil rights and civil liberties may be affected by DHS activities, informing them about policies and avenues of redress, and promoting appropriate attention within the Department to their experiences and concerns.

Govindaiah, Manoj

Managing Attorney, Immigrant Legal Defense

Track 4: Hot Topics in Habeas and Border Issues Litigation

Manoj Govindaiah is a Managing Attorney at Immigrant Legal Defense (ILD). His practice consists of direct services and federal litigation. Prior to joining ILD, Manoj worked for several years at the Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services (RAICES) in San Antonio, Texas, where he worked in policy, federal litigation, family detention, affirmative services, and with unaccompanied children. Previously Manoj worked at the Southern Poverty Law Center in Miami, Florida, the National Immigrant Justice Center in Chicago, Illinois, and the Immigration Project, now based in Bloomington, Illinois. He graduated from the University of Illinois College of Law in 2006. He has spent his career working at non-profit legal services agencies in immigration, civil rights, juvenile justice, and education. He is fluent in Spanish, and is admitted to the bars in Illinois, Texas, and Florida.

Gregg, Kevin A.

Partner, Kurzban, Kurzban, Tetzeli, and Pratt, P.A.

Track 4: Supreme Court and Circuit Court Updates

Kevin A. Gregg is the San Diego, California partner of the law firm Kurzban, Kurzban, Tetzeli, and Pratt, P.A. (KKTP). Kevin practices in all areas of immigration law, including federal court litigation, appellate advocacy, and removal defense. Kevin is admitted to practice law in both California and Florida, as well as multiple federal district and circuit courts of appeals. He is also the host of the weekly immigration case law podcast Immigration Review, available on the KKTP website and all podcast platforms. Prior to joining KKTP, Kevin served a one-year Judicial Clerkship with a U.S. District Court Judge in the Southern District of Florida. Before that, he served for two years as an Attorney Advisor in the San Diego Immigration Court, Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), through the Attorney General's Honors Program. Kevin is a graduate of Boston University School of Law and the University of Florida (go gators).

Harbeck, Dorothy

Judge, Personal Capacity

Track 4: Legal Research in the Era of Facebook: Ethics and Best Practices for Navigating Social Media, Google and other Fast-Track Lanes of “Legal” Information

Judge Harbeck is appearing in her personal capacity and the views she expresses are not necessarily the views of her employer, USDOJ-EOIR. Judge Harbeck is an immigration judge in NYC and a Fellow of the Federal Bar Foundation. She is an adjunct professor at both Columbia Law School and Rutgers Law School, where she teaches both immigration law and trial skills. Judge Harbeck has published several law journal and also legal periodical articles. She is an enthusiastic photographer and her photos have appeared New Jersey Lawyer Magazine and the ABA Judges Journal. She is a member of the NJ and NY bars.

Janklow, David

Member, Frost Brown Todd LLC

Track 5: Steady the Wheel: Navigating PERM in 2020

Dave is a Member in Frost Brown Todd’s Columbus office and practices immigration law within the firm’s labor and employment practice group. He advises employers in an array of industries on complex immigration issues and assists them in securing temporary work visas and permanent residence for their foreign national employees. He works closely with foreign national employees, human resources personnel, business units, and offices of general counsel to coordinate both individual case matters and global immigration strategies. Before rejoining the firm, Dave served as lead immigration counsel for American Honda Motor Co., Inc. and oversaw insourced and outsourced immigration visa activities for several of Honda’s U.S. operations; developed strategies to navigate reorganizations, global travel issues, administrative changes, and a rapidly changing industry; supported outbound visa activities; counseled on I-9 and E-Verify compliance; and advised Honda’s international operations on U.S. immigration matters. Dave also has extensive law firm immigration experience.

Khan, Sumaira

Partner, Sodette KM Plunkett & Associates, P.C.

Track 3: Navigating Marriage based I-130 Petitions

Sumaira Khan is a Partner at Sodette K-M Plunkett & Associates. She graduated from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan, where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and English in 2004. Ms. Khan obtained a Juris Doctorate degree from University of Detroit Mercy School of Law in Detroit, Michigan in 2007. She has been admitted to the bar since 2007 and has specialized in Immigration and Nationality Law for over fourteen years.

Kimbrell, Elaine

Managing Partner, Ware Immigration

Track 5: H1B RFEs, Trends, Litigation and Alternatives

Ms. Kimbrell graduated from the George Washington University in 2000 where she earned her B.A. in International Affairs. She earned her J.D. from Loyola University New Orleans in 2005. She was a member of the Maritime Law Journal and participated in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program. Ms. Kimbrell previously served as a constituent services representative for U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu. In this capacity, she assisted constituents with their applications for federal benefits and specialized in immigration cases. She continued her federal service as Senator Landrieu’s projects assistant, focusing on federal funding opportunities for state and local communities. Ms. Kimbrell is the Managing Partner at Ware | Immigration and the past chair of the AILA MidSouth Chapter. Ms. Kimbrell is a frequent presenter on a wide range of immigration topics and specializes in nonimmigrant visas.

Lahoud, Raymond

Member and Chair, Immigration Practice Group, Norris McLaughlin, PA

Track 4: Legal Research in the Era of Facebook: Ethics and Best Practices for Navigating Social Media, Google and other Fast-Track Lanes of “Legal” Information

Raymond G. Lahoud, Chair of the firm's Immigration Law Practice Group, focuses on immigration law and deportation defense for individuals, families, small to large domestic and multinational businesses and corporations, employers, international employees, investors, students, professors, researchers, skilled professionals, athletes, and entertainers, in every type of immigration or deportation defense matter—whether domestic or foreign. Ray's practice is global, serving individuals and organizations across the United States and beyond. Ray's practice ranges from corporate and employment immigration and related compliance to immigration litigation before agencies and courts across the United States, for corporations and individuals alike. Ray's practice includes deportation defense of thousands of individuals at the Immigration Court, the Board of Immigration Appeals, the Administrative Appeals Office, and federal district and circuit courts. In state and federal trial and appellate courts, he seeks post-conviction relief for the underlying crime that led to the removal proceedings and serves as immigration counsel to non-citizens accused of removable crimes. Ray's ability to understand each interaction of criminal law with immigration law has made him a leading expert on immigration.

Ray represents multinational corporations on the global migration of their workforce, including immigrant and non-immigrant employment and investor visas. Additionally, he has advised on international M&A transactions and contracts concerning immigration compliance, international recruitment of employees, tax consequences of relocations, and cross-border trade matters.

Ray has received numerous accolades. He has been awarded the Empire State Pro Bono Counsel Award each year since 2012, has been selected as Lead Counsel, received the Martindale-Hubbell Platinum Client Champion Award, and has been named a Super Lawyers Rising Star, ranked as a Top Rated Immigration Attorney in the New York Metro Area. EB5 Investors, the leading online portal, conference series, and magazine for investors, developers, and EB-5 professionals, has named Ray one of the Top 5 Rising Stars nationally. He was also included in the Lehigh Valley Business 2021 Power 30 in Law and named one of the 40 young professionals from the Greater Lehigh Valley as the Lehigh Valley Business 2017 Forty Under 40 for his commitment to business growth, professional excellence, and the community. He served as a United States Congressional Page under then-Congressman Ray LaHood (R-IL) and was a legislative aide to State Senator Lisa Boscola (D-PA).

Leopold, David

Partner/Chair Immigration Group, Ulmer & Berne LLC

Track 1: Responses to Refugee Crises

David Leopold's diverse immigration, visa, and citizenship practice focuses on employment- and family-based immigration, the representation of employers in Form I-9 compliance matters, complex removal cases including administrative trials and appeals, and federal court litigation. David is the past president and past general counsel of the Washington, D.C.-based American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), the premier bar association of immigration lawyers and professors in the U.S. A nationally recognized immigration reform advocate, writer, and public speaker, David has testified as an immigration law expert before the U.S. Congress. His analyses of cutting-edge immigration issues frequently appears in major media outlets.

Lykins, Dallin

Attorney/Director, Lewis Kappes

Track 3: I-864 - Liability for Petitioners and Joint Sponsors and Issues of Public Charge

Dallin is a director at Lewis Kappes and is a member of the firm's Immigration practice group. He handles a variety of immigration matters. Dallin also handles immigration and legal issues for religious and nonprofit clients. He frequently speaks and presents to school administrators, bar associations, and other organizations on immigration matters. Dallin graduated cum laude from the Maurer School of Law in Bloomington. He is fluent in Spanish. Dallin serves on the Board of Directors for Reach for Youth, Inc. and as a volunteer judge for Teen Court. He has previously served as the Chair of the Indiana State Bar Latino Affairs Committee. Dallin grew up on a farm in Indiana, and he now lives in Indianapolis with his wife and their six children.

Maldonado, Amy

Managing Attorney, Law Office of Amy Maldonado LLC

Track 1: Managing Your Humanitarian Case Practice and Balancing Client Demands (Ethics)

Amy Maldonado is the founder of the Law Office of Amy Maldonado LLC, with offices in East Lansing, Michigan and Chicago, Illinois, a practice encompassing business and family immigration, Ms. Maldonado is recognized nationally for her expertise high end business immigration (with a focus on sports immigration), as well as her pro bono work on behalf of detained immigrant families and children.

Malik, Bushra

Shareholder, Butzel Long

Track 5: Independents' Day: Developments in L, E, and TN Practice

Bushra A. Malik is a shareholder at Butzel Long and has more than 20 years of immigration experience. Ms. Malik advises her clients on U.S immigration and global migration; specializing in employment and family based petitions; complex naturalization matters; currency seizures; and work and residence permits worldwide. Previously, Ms. Malik was a Foreign Service Officer with the DOS; clerked at EOIR/Chicago Immigration Court; and externed with UNHCR in New Delhi, and the INS HQ, in Washington, DC. Ms. Malik was named "Lawyer of the Year" (2022) and is listed in The Best Lawyers in America (Immigration Law), was named one of DBusiness magazine's Top Lawyers in the field of immigration law, and is recognized as a Who's Who Legal Thought Leader for Corporate Immigration 2021. She graduated from the University of Michigan Law School and MSU's James Madison College. Ms. Malik is currently serving on the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) Department of State National Liaison Committee. She previously served as chair of the AILA Michigan Chapter; on the AILA Board of Governors; chair of AILA's Global Migration Section; and speaks regularly at AILA national and international conferences. Ms. Malik speaks Hindi, Japanese and Urdu.

Maze, Bradley

Lawyer, Palmer Rey, PLLC

Track 4: Hot Topics in Removal Defense

After a 5-year stint at Freedom House Detroit, a non-profit assisting refugees and asylees, Bradley went to Wayne State University Law School. Since graduating in 2006, Bradley has been working exclusively in immigration law, specializing in removal defense and affirmative asylum. In July 2017, Bradley and two partners founded Palmer Rey PLLC a full-service immigration law firm in Southfield, MI with satellite offices in Detroit, MI and Ann Arbor, MI. As a French-speaker, many of Bradley's asylum clients are from West Africa.

Melloy Goettel, Kate

Legal Director of Litigation, American Immigration Council

Track 4: Mandamus Boot Camp: Litigating to Combat USCIS delays in EADs and other Applications

Kate Melloy Goettel is the Legal Director of Litigation at the American Immigration Council, where she leads impact litigation focusing on unlawful detention, the laws surrounding immigrant youth, interior enforcement, and family separation. Kate has practiced in nearly 40 federal district courts, eight courts of appeal, and the U.S. Supreme Court. In 2019, Kate received the NGO Lawyer of the Year award from the Federal Bar Association's Immigration Law Section. Before joining the Council, Kate was a litigator at the National Immigrant Justice Center, senior litigation counsel at the Department of Justice's Office of Immigration Litigation, and a law clerk for a U.S. District Judge. Kate is an adjunct law professor at her alma mater, the University of Iowa College of Law.

Mendez, Michelle

Director of Legal Resources and Training, The National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild

Track 4: Hot Topics in Removal Defense

Michelle N. Mandez serves as the Director of Legal Resources and Trainings and prior to this role she served as the Director of the Defending Vulnerable Populations Program at the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC). At CLINIC, Michelle provided training and technical support to immigration practitioners nationwide, engaged in federal

litigation, supervised remote response projects, and, from 2015 to 2017, oversaw CLINIC's role in the CARA Pro Bono Project in Dilley, Texas (now the Dilley Pro Bono Project). Before joining CLINIC, Michelle served as senior managing attorney at Catholic Charities D.C., where she began as an Equal Justice Works Fellow sponsored by DLA Piper. Michelle has taught the Immigration Litigation Clinic at Catholic University Columbus School of Law, was a Visiting Clinical Lecturer in Law at Yale Law School, assisted the Immigrant Rights Clinic at the University of Baltimore School of Law and serves as the Program Director for the National Institute for Trial Advocacy's Immigration Public Programs. Michelle holds a JD from the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, a BA from the University of Richmond, a Certificate in Nonprofit Management from Georgetown University, and a Professional Certificate in Peace and Conflict Resolution through the Rotary Peace Center at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand.

Partenheimer Mick, Pamela

Track 5: New Trends in I-9 Audits, Worksite Enforcement, and Investigations

Pamela has accumulated more than 25 years of experience practicing all aspects of employment based immigration and compliance law. Pamela partners with clients to develop and execute unique, customized and sophisticated business strategies critical for companies seeking contemporary, dynamic and cutting edge solutions necessary for businesses to grow and thrive in today's regulatory environment. Pamela has extensive experience advocating for her client interests with DOL, USCIS, CBP, ICE and U.S. Consulates. In addition, Pamela assists corporate clients in developing and maintaining successful compliance and service driven immigration policies. She advises corporate legal departments, human resources, business partners and individual employees regarding a full spectrum of immigration related issues and conducts corporate training regarding immigration related hiring and retention issues. Pamela also manages and conducts quality assurance I-9, Labor Condition Application and Public Access file audits. Pamela partners with companies, including private equity companies, to perform immigration related due diligence, counsel regarding immigration related mergers and acquisitions, defend against ICE investigations and DOL audits, develop gold star compliance programs and counsel regarding employer sanctions. Pamela has volunteered extensively in a variety of capacities with the American Immigration Lawyers. Pamela has spoken, written and participated in Bar-Government liaison extensively at local and national levels.

Mikrut, Joshua

Attorney, Law Office of Joshua J. Mikrut PLC

Track 4: Hot Topics in Removal Defense

Joshua earned his Bachelor's degree from Grand Valley State University in 2006, double-majoring in Political Science and English Language and Literature. In his time at Grand Valley, he also minored in Philosophy and studied Spanish abroad at the University of Guadalajara in Jalisco, Mexico. After earning his Bachelor's degree, Joshua went on to earn his Master's degree from Western Michigan University in 2008, in International Development Administration. During this time, Joshua focused his study on international relations, economics, and the difficulties that developing nations face as they attempt to grow into the twenty-first century. Throughout his master's curriculum, Joshua focused on the People's Republic of China, and on the unique problems that face Latin America today, especially Mexico and Central America. While studying for his Master's, Joshua traveled to China three times and began learning the Chinese language. Joshua also served as a graduate assistant at WMU and taught classes in urban politics. After this, Joshua went on to law school and graduated cum laude from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in January of 2011. In his time at Cooley, Joshua was the leader of the Grand Rapids branch of the Moot Court Board, and he was a two-time participant in the Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. In 2009, Joshua earned the award for 3rd Best Advocate out of 96 in that competition, and 6th of 100 in 2010. Joshua was a member of the editorial board of Cooley's Law Journal, and he made the Honor Roll and the Dean's List on multiple occasions. He also earned the bluebook award for highest grade in the class four different times. Before becoming a member of the Michigan State Bar in 2011, Joshua externed for six months at the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals where he worked for the Hon. Richard Suhrheinrich. After graduating, Joshua developed practice areas in immigration law, criminal defense, family, and appellate law. He has extensive experience in litigating cases in Immigration Court, having represented well over 400 individuals charged as deportable by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, as well as having pursued legal status for hundreds of other immigrants and their families in other contexts. Of much help to his practice, Joshua speaks fluent Spanish, which he learned in large part from studying abroad in 2001. In his scarce free time, Joshua enjoys reading world history, British and early American

literature, playing the guitar, and spending time with his wife, Laura; his eight-year-old daughter, Julia, his twin three-year-old daughters Noelle and Natalie; and walking with his golden retriever, Huckleberry!

Moore, Meghan

Partner, Avanti Law Group

Track 3: Ethical Issues in Immigration Practice

Meghan is the former Vice-Chair and current member of the AILA National Ethics Committee. She is a founding partner of Avanti Law Group in Grand Rapids, MI and advises individuals and families on immigration issues, with a focus on ethics and waivers. She has learned more about immigration law and true advocacy from other attorneys than from any book and is grateful for shared wisdom.

Musalo, Karen

Bank of America Foundation Chair in International Law, Professor & Director, Center for Gender & Refugee Studies, U.S. Hastings College of the Law

Track 4: Litigating Gender and Domestic Violence-Based Asylum Claims in Courts of Appeals

Nelson, Marie

Staff Attorney, Michigan Immigrant Rights Center

Track 3: Navigating Marriage based I-130 Petitions

Marie Nelson specializes in providing direct legal representation to low-income immigrants in Washtenaw County and the Detroit metropolitan area. Prior to joining MIRC, she was the senior attorney at Freedom House Detroit, where she primarily represented US asylum seekers. Marie also spent several years in private practice as an immigration lawyer with Antone, Casagrande & Adwers, P.C. Marie is a graduate of Harvard Law School and New York University. She is currently a member of the State Bar of Michigan's Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee and is the Asylum Chapter Liaison for AILA-MI.

Nowlan, Michael

Member and Immigration Business Unit Co-Leader, Clark Hill PLC

Track 5: Independents' Day: Developments in L, E, and TN Practice

Mike Nowlan is a Member and Immigration Practice Group Co-Leader with Clark Hill PLC in Detroit. Mr. Nowlan is currently the Chair of the Business Section Steering Committee. He has served as the Vice Chair of the AILA Business Immigration Response Team (2020-2021); Chair of the AILA Business Committee (2011-2014), Vice Chair of the AILA Nebraska Service Center Liaison Committee (2010'11); member of the AILA Customs and Border Protection Liaison Committee (2009'10); and was the Michigan AILA Chapter Chair (2007'09).

Parsonage, Helen

Elliot Morgan Parsonage PLLC

Track 4: Where Are We with the Categorical Approach

Helen Parsonage, based in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, is certified as a specialist in Immigration Law and in State/Federal Criminal Law by the North Carolina State Bar Board of Legal Specialization. Her practice focusses on complex deportation defense and she works with Indigent Defense Services and the Federal Public Defenders to consult on the immigration consequences of convictions. She has litigated cases in the immigration courts (focusing on North Carolina and Georgia), before the Board of Immigration Appeals, as well as in the Middle Districts of Georgia and North Carolina and before the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Fourth and Eleventh Circuits. She has presented extensively on immigration law, including to the North Carolina Bar Association, North Carolina Advocates for Justice, and numerous local bar associations. She has been an invited faculty member for numerous AILA and Federal Bar Association, Immigration Law Section conferences. In addition, she has lectured on immigration, as adjunct faculty and as guest speaker, at Wake Forest University School of Law, Elon University School of Law, North Carolina Central University School

of Law, Davidson College, and at the University of Carolina Chapel Hill, School of Law. Ms. Parsonage is a member of the ICE Liaison team for the AILA Carolinas Chapter.

Pazar, Hon. Charles

Track 4: View From the Federal Bench

Judge Pazar was appointed to the Immigration Court in Memphis in 1998. He retired in 2017. He is an adjunct professor of Immigration Law at the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. He has been a panelist at CLE presentations of the Arkansas Bar Association, Tennessee Bar Association, Memphis Bar Association, Federal Bar Association, and has written for the Memphis Bar Journal and other publications. Judge Pazar is on the Board of Directors of Advocates for Immigration Reform (AIR) in Memphis and the TBA Immigration Law Section Executive Committee.

Perry, Nicholas

Associate Counsel, USCIS/Office of the Chief Counsel/Service Center Law Division BUT I am appearing in my personal capacity and am not representing the government

Nick Perry has been on the FBA's Immigration Law Section's Board of Directors since 2017, and received the section's Government Lawyer of the Year award in 2020. He is the author of an article in the May/June 2020 Federal Lawyer. Nick graduated from the University of Notre Dame and the North Carolina Central University School of Law. He has practiced immigration law with the federal government for 25 years in multiple departments and agencies. He currently works for USCIS at the Nebraska Service Center but is presented in his personal capacity. Nick lives in Lincoln, Nebraska with wife, son, 4 cats, and 2 dogs.

Piston, Michael

Senior Attorney, Immigration Law Offices of Los Angeles

Track 3: I-864 - Liability for Petitioners and Joint Sponsors and Issues of Public Charge

Michael E. Piston is the senior partner of Piston & Carpenter PC in Troy, Michigan, Transnational Legal Services P.C. and Immigration Law Office of Los Angeles, P.C. each firm of multiple lawyers practicing exclusively in U.S. immigration law. He also works in New York as counsel to Allen E. Kaye & Associates, focusing primarily on Federal litigation, particularly under the Administrative Procedure Act. He has practiced immigration law exclusively for over 30 years, and has spoken at numerous AILA, ILW.COM, and Federal Bar Association National and other conferences and workshops as well as writing articles for AILA's Annual Conferences Handbooks and ILW PERM Handbooks. Mr. Piston has been named a Michigan "Super Lawyer" in the field of immigration law each year since 2006.

Pratt, John

Partner, Kurzban Kurzban Tetzeli & Pratt PA

Track 4: Hot Topics in Removal Defense

John Patrick Pratt is a Partner at Kurzban, Kurzban, Tetzeli & Pratt, P.A., in Coral Gables, Florida. Mr. Pratt received his BA degree from Florida State University & his juris doctor degree from Tulane University School of Law. Mr. Pratt is admitted to the bars of the State of Florida, State of New York, and the District of Columbia. He is also admitted in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida, U.S. District Court of the District of Columbia, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and the U.S. Supreme Court. He is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). Mr. Pratt previously served in the Board of Governors (BOG) of AILA 2017-2020, Director of AILA, South Florida Chapter, 2003-2017, and President of AILA, South Florida Chapter 2010-2011. Mr. Pratt is AV Rated by Martindale-Hubbell and Florida Bar Board Certified in Immigration & Nationality Law 2005-2025. Mr. Pratt concentrates in all areas of immigration and nationality law, including corporate immigration matters, employment-based immigrant and nonimmigrant petitions, family-based immigrant and nonimmigrant petitions, deportation or removal, and federal court litigation, including complex employment-based federal court litigation.

Prokosch, Marc

Senior Attorney, Prokosch Law, LLC

Track 3: I-751 Issues

Marc regularly handles the most complex immigration cases, representing individuals throughout the immigration process, from application to appeal. Marc practices before USCIS, the immigration court, the Board of Immigration Appeals, U.S. District Courts, and the Circuit Courts of Appeal. Marc is active in the immigration bar, currently chairing two committees for the Minnesota/Dakotas chapter of AILA, was previously chair of the chapter from 2012-2013, and currently serves as the vice-chair of the AILA National Bylaws Committee. He regularly mentors other attorneys and law students, and frequently speaks on immigration topics for attorneys as well as at public forums in the community.

Richardson, Christopher

General Counsel and COO, BDV Solutions, LLC

Track 5: Consular Processing Trends and Legal Developments

Christopher Richardson is an immigration attorney and former U.S. Diplomat. While at the State Department, he won numerous awards including Superior Honor and Meritorious Honor Awards. Richardson is currently the General Counsel and COO of BDV Solutions, a national consulting company specializing in legal immigration solutions to help resolve labor shortages in industries across the United States. He also the founder of Argo, LLC, a consulting firm of former U.S. diplomats who provide advice on the immigration process. Richardson has written several well-received opinion columns for the New York Times, Los Angeles Times, Washington Post, San Francisco Chronicle, Slate Magazine, Chicago Sun-Times, The Hill, and the Nation about immigration policy and race under Presidents Trump, Obama, and Biden. Richardson served as the chair of Mayor Pete Buttigieg's immigration policy team.

Robins, Jeffrey

Deputy Director, District Court Section, Office of Immigration Litigation

Track 2: Intersection of Policy and Litigation - A View from the Government

Robinson, Ruby

Managing Attorney, Michigan Immigrant Rights Center

Track 1: Inadmissibility & Waivers in Humanitarian Cases

Ruby Robinson is a managing attorney at the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC), a statewide immigration legal services provider and resource for Michigan's immigrants and immigration advocates. He has worked at MIRC since 2012. He is an expert in many areas of immigration law, notably relief available to survivors of domestic violence/crime and naturalization. He regularly advises clients and their defense counsel on the immigration consequences for criminal convictions. Ruby graduated from Wayne State University Law School.

Rogers, Deborah

Director, Immigrant Military Members and Veterans Initiative, DH

Track 3: Issues Related to Immigrants in the Military

Roy, Susan

Hon. (Former IJ), Law Office of Susan G. Roy, LLC

Track 4: Legal Research in the Era of Facebook: Ethics and Best Practices for Navigating Social Media, Google and other Fast-Track Lanes of "Legal" Information

Susan G. Roy began her legal career through the Department of Justice Attorney General Honors Program, as an Attorney Advisor at the Board of Immigration Appeals. She then became an Assistant Chief Counsel and National Security Attorney for Immigration and Customs Enforcement. From 2008-2010, she served as an Immigration Judge in Newark, NJ. Sue then entered private practice and is now the owner of a law firm which specializes in complex immigration cases. Sue is currently the Chair of AILA-NJ, serves on the AILA National EOIR/ICE Committee, and is a past Chair of the NJBSA Immigration Law Section. She is a member of the Round Table of Former Immigration Judges, which has authorized over 50 amicus curiae briefs in immigration cases before the Supreme Court, the Circuit Courts and cases certified to the U.S.

Attorney General. In 2019, she, along with the other Round Table members, was a recipient of the AILA Advocacy Award, and in 2017, she was awarded the NJ Federal Bar Association's Pro Bono Advocacy Award. In addition, Sue has been a speaker and/or moderator on CLE panels for AILA national, regional and local conferences, as well as for the NJSBA and NJICLE; NYSBA; Federal Bar Association; has been a guest speaker at numerous laws schools; and has testified before the NJ State Supreme Court, and the NJ Senate and Assembly on immigration and criminal issues. She serves on the Board of Trustees for the Latin American Legal and Education Defense Fund; Haven House, Inc., and is an attorney mentor for the American Immigration Council. Sue has also authored two articles for the NJ Law Journal: *Walk/Don't Walk: How the Legalization of Marijuana in New Jersey Will Affect Non-Citizens*, Oct. 2018; and *How the Sins of the Father Can Affect a Child's Claim to Citizenship*, Feb. 2017.

Schmitt, Brian

Attorney, Hake & Schmitt

Track 5: Employer Petitions and Adjustment of Status: Will We Ever Get There?

Brian Schmitt is the president Hake & Schmitt in New Windsor, Maryland, where he concentrates on all kinds of waiver applications with an emphasis on J-1 waivers. In particular, he focuses on Form I-612 hardship and persecution waivers, handling such matters at all stages, including administrative appeals and federal litigation. He is interested in litigation involving judicial review of J-1 waiver denials based on negative State Department Recommendations. He holds memberships in the following organizations: American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), International Medical Graduate Taskforce (comprising J-1 lawyers across the United States), IMMLOG Listserve, AILA Military Assistance Program (AILA MAP), and the ABA Military Pro Bono Project. He serves on the editorial board of *Bender's Immigration Bulletin*. He is currently the sole updating author of the *J Visa Guidebook*, a greater than 2,800 page treatise on J-1 law. He is also a Major, Judge Advocate (Reservist), in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps, where he focuses on military justice (criminal law), administrative law, international and operational law, and legal assistance. He is particularly interested in military-immigration law issues. He received his B.S. in General Biology from the Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio. He received his J.D. from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, Detroit, Michigan.

Seifert, Lisa E.

Principal, Seifert Law Offices

Track 3: Ethical Issues in Immigration Practice

Lisa Seifert practices in Olympia Washington in a solo practice focusing on family, removal and citizenship cases. When not practicing law Lisa can be found playing brazilian jazz and choro music in the Pacific Northwest.

Shmueli, Mark

Attorney, Law Office of Mark J Shmueli

Track 3: I-864 - Liability for Petitioners and Joint Sponsors and Issues of Public Charge

Mark Shmueli is a private immigration law practitioner who focuses his practice on complex family, removal, and naturalization cases. He is the immediate past Chair of the Federal Bar Association's Immigration Law Section. Mark passionately works to achieve progressive immigration reform through community engagement, education, and advocacy. In that light he has worked with the University of Maryland to organize panels and speak on "sanctuary cities and racial profiling of immigrant communities along with other issues. In the past year, Mark has provided expert testimony before the Howard County, Maryland Council in support of its attempt to restrict its cooperation with ICE. As the representative of the Maryland State Bar Association on the Governor's Commission to Study the Impact of Immigrants in Maryland Mark co-authored its 2012 final report. He also taught Immigration and Ethnicity at the University of Maryland in College Park and is a frequent commentator on immigration matters and a regular guest on Sirius XM satellite Channel 126 the Urban View and other media.

Mark has authored several articles and opinion pieces and co-authored the lead article for the *Federal Lawyer* examining the legality of President Trump's religious based ban in immigration and a 2017 Op-Ed in the *Baltimore Sun* examining the Muslim ban in relation to the Maryland Religious Tolerance Act. His other articles include a March 2014 co-authored editorial published in the *Orlando Sentinel*, entitled, "Republicans Must Embrace Inevitable Immigration Reform."

Siblani, Osama

Editor, Arab American News

Track 2: A Discussion with members of BRIDGES - Building Respect In Diverse Groups to Enhance Sensitivity.

Steglich, Elissa

Clinical Professor and Co-Director, Immigration Clinic, University of Texas School of Law

Track 4: Hot Topics in Habeas and Border Issues Litigation

Elissa Steglich is Clinical Professor and Co-Director of the Immigration Clinic at the University of Texas School of Law. In her over 20 years advocating for immigrant rights, she has provided direct representation to asylum seekers, immigrant children, and immigrant survivors of violence and human trafficking. Professor Steglich regularly presents at scholarly conferences, public events, and professional trainings. Professor Steglich previously served as Legal Services Director at the American Friends Service Committee's Immigrant Rights Program in Newark, New Jersey. She worked with the National Immigrant Justice Center and conducted extensive field research on trafficking in Latin America and the Caribbean for the International Human Rights Law Initiative of DePaul College of Law. She serves on the advisory committee of the ABA Children's Immigration Law Academy and on the Amicus Committee of the American Immigration Lawyers Association. She received a BA in English from Haverford College and was awarded a JD with Honors from the University of Texas School of Law.

Stock, Margaret

Attorney and Lt Col (retired), US Army Reserve, Military Police Corps, Cascadia Cross Border Law Group LLC

Track 3: Issues Related to Immigrants in the Military

Margaret D. Stock, Lieutenant Colonel (retired), is an attorney with the Anchorage office of Cascadia Cross Border Law Group LLC, where she devotes her practice to immigration and citizenship matters. She transferred to the Retired Reserve of the U.S. Army in June 2010 after serving 28 years as a Military Police Officer in the Army Reserve. While a part-time professor and Reservist assigned to the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, NY, Ms. Stock was temporarily asked to work for the U.S. Army Accessions Command, where she developed and implemented the Department of Defense's recruiting program, Military Accessions Vital to the National Interest (MAVNI). Ms. Stock also worked on many other issues related to immigration, citizenship, and military service, including the Naturalization at Basic Training Initiative, which allowed immigrants to naturalize at military basic training sites from 2009-2018. In 2008, she earned the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) Pro Bono Award for founding the AILA Military Assistance Program (AILA MAP), a pro bono program to help military members, veterans, and their families with immigration law matters. She was named a MacArthur Foundation Fellow in 2013 for her work related to immigration and national security issues. Ms. Stock has testified before Congress numerous times on issues relating to immigration, citizenship, and national security law. Most recently, on June 23, 2021, she testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee's subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and Border Safety on the topic of "Honoring Veterans and Military Families: An Examination of Immigration & Citizenship Policies for US Military Service Members, Veterans, and their Families. Her testimony included a discussion of the immigration legal issues relating to Afghanistan. Ms. Stock earned her undergraduate degree from Harvard-Radcliffe and holds a Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School, a Master's in Public Administration from Harvard Kennedy School, and a Master's in Strategic Studies from the Army War College. Ms. Stock is admitted to practice law in the state of Alaska, the U.S. District Court for the District of Alaska, and the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. She currently serves as a leader on the Council on National Security and Immigration. She has also served as a member of the American Bar Association's Commission on Immigration and the Council on Foreign Relations Independent Task Force on U.S. Immigration Policy. She authored the book Immigration Law & the Military, published by the American Immigration Lawyers Association, and now in its third edition.

Suarez Candler, Magali

Attorney, Suárez Candler Law, PLLC

Track 3: Navigating Marriage based I-130 Petitions

Magali Suarez Candler, founder, Suárez Candler Law in Houston, Texas, formerly a partner at Tindall & Foster (later at FosterQuan, now Foster, LLP), is a former Chair of the Texas Chapter of AILA and has served in various liaison positions, as well as on the national AILA EOIR, TSC, and Lawyer Well-Being Committees. Most recently Federal Litigation Liaison for Texas, she is Board certified in Immigration and Nationality Law, and received the J. Chrys Dougherty Legal Services Award from the State Bar of Texas in 1999 for her longtime work at Catholic Charities, Houston. Co-counsel on a 2012 Supreme Court win, *Umer v. Holder*, and a recently published 5th Circuit Court of Appeals case (*Gregorio Osorio v. Garland*), she is licensed at the U.S. Supreme Court, the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits, and the U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas. She is a Senior Fellow of the American Leadership Forum, served through 2018 on the Advisory Council of the Tahirih Justice Center in Houston since its inception, and is currently on the Advisory Board of the UH Law Centers Immigration Law Clinic. She is on the Commission for Lawyer Discipline for the State Bar of Texas and a frequent speaker locally and nationally.

Sweet, Lindsey

Founding Partner, Sweet & Paciorek, LLC

Track 1: Managing Your Humanitarian Case Practice and Balancing Client Demands (Ethics)

Lindsey Sweet is one of the founding partners of Sweet & Paciorek, LLC, a law firm dedicated exclusively to the practice of Immigration and Nationality Law. A native of Pennsylvania, Lindsey is bi-lingual English/Spanish and has lived and studied in Veracruz, Mexico. Lindsey graduated with degrees in Political Science and Spanish from Haverford College. Lindsey worked for the Pennsylvania Migrant Education Program for where she provided supplemental education to the children of migrant farm workers in Pennsylvania. While in law school at Rutgers University School of Law-Newark, Lindsey provided legal outreach in Spanish to indigent farm workers across Pennsylvania regarding their legal rights as employees and to immigrant day laborers in Newark, New Jersey. Lindsey has worked defending immigrant legal rights since 2006 and has been licensed to practice law in the states of Pennsylvania and New Jersey since 2009. After working at several private firms, in August 2014, Lindsey united with Anna Paciorek to form Sweet & Paciorek, LLC, where she now manages one of the Firm's two offices and continues to focus exclusively on Immigration and Nationality Law. In her practice, she has performed extensive legal research and drafted briefs and motions to the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), and the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO). She works closely with individual clients and their families while managing her staff of 12, focusing on Family-Based Immigration, Humanitarian-Based Immigration and Removal Defense. Lindsey has served on multiple liaison committees of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association and is currently co-Chair Liaison to the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor for the Philadelphia Office of Chief Counsel - ICE. She frequently gives talks and workshops on immigration-related topics of interest to Spanish speaking immigrant communities, social service agencies, government agencies, private companies, school districts, and universities in the Mid-Atlantic Region. She is very involved in her local community serving on the board of directors for several non-profit agencies and as an appointed Commissioner on the Advisory Commission on Latino Affairs for the Borough of Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. Lindsey was named a Rising Star in Immigration Law by Super Lawyers for years 2018-2021.

Tabaddor, Ashley

Chief Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel, USCIS

Track 2: Intersection of Policy and Litigation - A View from the Government

A. Ashley Tabaddor was appointed as the USCIS chief counsel on Jan. 25, 2021 as part of the Biden-Harris leadership team at DHS. Prior to her appointment as chief counsel, Ms. Tabaddor served as an immigration judge. She was appointed to the bench in November 2005 where she presided over the detained, nondetained, juvenile and mental competency dockets. Prior to her appointment, she served as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Central District of California in Los Angeles. She also served as a trial attorney with the Justice Department's Civil Division in Washington D.C., and as a law clerk and attorney advisor for the immigration court and the Chief Immigration Judge. From 2017 until her appointment as chief counsel, Ms. Tabaddor served as the president of the National Association of Immigration Judges. Ms. Tabaddor is the recipient of judicial excellence awards by the Mexican-American Bar Association (2019), Armenian-American Bar Association (2014), the Arab American Lawyers' Association of Southern California (2014),

and the Iranian American Bar Association (2013). She is actively involved with the legal and the non-legal community, mentoring and speaking regularly before bar associations, conferences, symposiums, organizations and schools.

Testa, Brian

Director of Policy and Regulation, Office of Foreign Labor Certification, U.S. Department of Labor

Track 5: Steady the Wheel: Navigating PERM in 2020

Brian Testa is the Director of Policy and Regulation at the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Foreign Labor Certification (OFLC). Brian has over fifteen years of experience with OFLC and has experience with all of OFLC's programs. He worked for OFLC in the Boston Regional Office, starting as a coop student during college. He subsequently practiced immigration law in Washington, DC. Since rejoining OFLC, he has worked at the National Prevailing Wage Center and in the OFLC National Office Divisions of Policy and Operations. He graduated from Northeastern University and Tulane University School of Law.

Thronson, David

Alan S. Zekelman Professor of International Human Rights Law, Michigan State University College of Law

Track 1: SIJS Updates and Best Practices – Intermediate to Advanced

David Thronson is the Alan S. Zekelman Professor of International Human Rights Law and Director of the Talsky Center for Human Rights of Women and Children. His research focuses on the intersection of family law and immigration law, in particular on the impact of immigration law on children. Thronson served as a mathematics teacher in Nepal and New York City before attending Harvard Law School. In 1995, he returned to New York City as a Skadden Fellow at The Door's Legal Services Center where he created a program to provide direct immigration legal services to at-risk young people. He then served as a Gibbons Fellow in Public Interest and Constitutional Law before entering academia. Thronson taught at New York University, Seton Hall University, and Hofstra University law school, Law School, before serving as Professor and Associate Dean for Clinical Studies at the William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada Las Vegas, where he founded the school's immigration clinic. Thronson is an elected member of the American Law Institute, a fellow of the American Bar Foundation, and a member of the Board of Governors of the Society of American Law Teachers. In 2021, the American Immigration Lawyers Association selected him to receive its Elmer Fried Excellence in Teaching Award and the Michigan State University College of Law honored him with its Donald F. Campbell Outstanding Teaching Award.

Thronson, Veronica

Clinical Professor of Law, Michigan State University College of Law

Track 1: SIJS Updates and Best Practices – Intermediate to Advanced

Veronica Tobar Thronson is a Clinical Professor of Law & Director of the Immigration Law Clinic at Michigan State University College of Law in East Lansing, MI where she also teaches Domestic Violence Law and Immigration and Nationality Law. From 2017 to July 2021, she served as the Director of the MSU Law Clinic. Thronson routinely conducts trainings for attorneys and judges and was appointed to the faculty of The National Judicial College in 2012. Since 2015 she has served as expert faculty with the National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project at American University Washington College of Law's nationwide Family Law Attorneys Community of Practice. Thronson is a graduate of the City University of New York School of Law and is admitted to the practice of law in the states of New Jersey, New York, Nevada, and Michigan.

Torres Sueiro, Karla

Supervising Attorney, ProBAR

Track 1: Asylum at the Border

Karla Torres Sueiro is a Supervising Attorney for the ABA Pro Bono Asylum Representation Project in Harlingen, Texas. Karla oversees and supports staff in providing pro bono legal services to adults in ICE detention and asylum seekers placed in the Migrant Protection Protocols. Karla has experience working with affirmative asylum, defensive removal proceedings, and humanitarian-based immigration. She took part in ProBAR's task force to assess and strategize on the needs of the population affected by the implementation of the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP) on the southern

border with Matamoros, Mexico. Previously she worked for a community land trust coordinating the international exchange of knowledge on forms of land tenure and community democracy and assisted European Union citizens established in the UK in exercising their EU citizenship and residence rights. She is a co-author of *Seeding the CLT in Latin America and the Caribbean: origins, achievements, and the proof-of-concept example of the Caño Martín Peña CLT*, available in various essay collections on community organization and impactful development. Karla holds a B.S. in Industrial and Organizational Psychology from the University of Puerto Rico, a J.D. from the PUCPR School of Law in Puerto Rico, and an L.L.M. in International Criminal Justice and Human Rights from the University of Kent in Canterbury, United Kingdom.

Triche, Alicia

Sole Proprietor, Triche Immigration Appeals

Track 4: Legal Research in the Era of Facebook: Ethics and Best Practices for Navigating Social Media, Google and other Fast-Track Lanes of “Legal” Information

*Dr. Alicia Triche is a sole proprietor in Memphis, Tennessee at “Triche Immigration Appeals.” TIA’s mission is twofold: (1) to provide affordable, high quality appeals for individuals appearing before the BIA and US circuit courts, through both direct representation and contract work for fellow attorneys; and (2) to foster positive development of US immigration jurisprudence through individual impact litigation. Notable recent successes include: Victory in *Zometa-Orellana v. Garland*, 19 F.4th 970 (6th Cir. 2021), the first Circuit Court case to confirm the potential validity of domestic violence-based asylum claims in the aftermath of former Attorney General Sessions’ attempt to effectively eliminate that relief; A New Orleans based asylum grant on the particular social group Honduran women; Through group advocacy, strategy, negotiations with OIL, and teamwork with Latino Memphis, a successful Sixth Circuit challenge to a Memphis Judge’s denial of continuance to a 9 year old girl waiting for her I-360 approval date to become current; As co-counsel, assisting a US military spouse to defeat OIL’s Fifth Circuit motion for dismissal on the evolving issue of whether a final, unexecuted removal order cut off 10 years of continuous physical presence when the NTA was defective under *Niz-Chavez*. Dr. Triche was directly involved in one of the main Fifth Circuit cases seeking review of the issue that was ultimately became *Niz-Chavez v. Garland*. She is a member of the American Immigration Lawyer’s Association’s national Federal Court Litigation Section’s steering committee, who frequently speaks on *Niz-Chavez*, asylum, appellate brief writing and other issues. She is an active member of the governing board of the Immigration Law Section of the Federal Bar Association, and is involved in planning the program for this year’s annual conference in Detroit. She has also authored numerous practitioner’s columns in *Bender’s Immigration Bulletin* and the *Federal Lawyer* magazine. Dr. Triche is a former immigration law adjunct at the University of Memphis. In September, 2013, she received her 'D.Phil.' in law from the College of Lady Margaret at Oxford University. She also holds a Master of Studies with Distinction from LMH. Dr. Triche has always been active in the non-profit arena. In 2014, she helped to co-found *MidSouth Advocates*, and served as their first Executive Director. Until August, 2010, Dr. Triche served as part-time staff immigration attorney at the Memphis Community Legal Center, where she designed and taught an Immigration Clinic as an adjunct professor at the University of Memphis law school. Before attending Oxford, she began her career as a detention attorney with the Catholic Legal Immigration Network (CLINIC) in Oakdale, Louisiana and Los Angeles, California. Dr. Triche also records and performs alt-rock, original blues music under the stage name *Delta Ondine*, and her next show is the “Betor Festival” in Memphis in July, 2022.*

Ware, David

Founding Partner, Ware | Immigration

Track 5: “Don’t Know Nothing about Science Books”: F 1 Students

David Ware has been an immigration practitioner since 1982, with a consistent academic focus. His national practice boasts offices in New Orleans, Denver, and Seattle. He is active in AEIA, AILA, NAFSA, the FBA, and NACUA, and a frequent speaker and author on immigration topics. He currently serves on the Board and Annual Conference Committee of the FBA’s Immigration Law Section (ILS). Mr. Ware has served or chaired various AILA Committees over the years, including Students, Healthcare, Department of Labor, and both CSC and TSC Liaison.

Waxman, Nathan

Attorney, Office of Nathan Waxman PLLC

Track 5: Employer Petitions and Adjustment of Status: Will We Ever Get There?

Nathan has written more than two dozen journal articles and book chapters on aspects of immigration law, particularly focusing on EB1, NIW, H1B, O1 and AC 21. He has lectured at AILA national conferences since the 1990s, and written extensively on the National Interest Waiver since 1996.

Wherry, James C.

Civilian Attorney, U.S. Army

Track 3: Issues Related to Immigrants in the Military

Williams, Lorilei

Principal Consultant, Lorilei W Consulting

Track 1: Trauma Informed Representation

Lorilei W. (they/them) is a queer, trans non-binary Korean-American abolitionist, artist, and attorney dedicated to teaching legal advocates on how to engage in trauma-informed and antiracist advocacy in their individual capacities and collectively as movement advocates using an interdisciplinary approach informed by systems theory, design thinking, and management science. Their expertise is informed by over a decade of professional experiences ranging from volunteer to director at numerous nonprofit organizations, including the Southern Poverty Law Center, Legal Services NYC, and various Catholic Charities organizations. Lorilei has been a strategic accomplice to migrants across the nation, including in rural farms in Upstate NY, migrant camps in Tijuana, and multiple detention settings, from unaccompanied minors shelters to rural for-profit mass incarceration facilities in the Deep South. In addition to providing independent services, Lorilei serves as co-faculty for the 2021-22 New York Law School Asylum Clinic and consultant to The Confined Arts, an arts and advocacy project out of Columbia Law School. They previously served as the Training Attorney for the Shriver Center on Poverty Law, where they designed and launched a national network of expert race equity legal advocates to lead sessions on racial justice advocacy, while also designing and leading sessions in trauma-informed advocacy, community-driven advocacy, structural racialization, systems thinking, practice management, and supervision. Lorilei's experiences building power in local community groups and among colleagues within nonprofit workspaces are the foundation for their approach and methodology on building sustainable, collaborative direct services advocacy models. Lorilei is admitted to the state bars of New York and Texas (inactive), the US Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit, and the Southern and Eastern Federal District Courts of New York. They are a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis School of Law and the University of Maryland. Lorilei is also an alum of the Robert H. Smith School of Business's Quality Enhancement Systems and Teams (QUEST) Honors Program, a multidisciplinary program through which they studied systems thinking, project management, organizational design, and marketing.

Zelichenko, Roman

Founder, GMI Rocket LLC & LaborLess LLC

Track 4: Legal Research in the Era of Facebook: Ethics and Best Practices for Navigating Social Media, Google and other Fast-Track Lanes of "Legal" Information

After graduating from Brooklyn Law School where Roman founded the Brooklyn Law Immigration Society, he landed a job practicing US immigration law at a DC immigration firm. Handling a high volume of H-1B cases, Roman quickly realized that he was doing a lot of administrative paperwork, particularly around H-1B compliance, that no one was automating this process, and there was a gap in the market. So he quit working as a lawyer, got a job in tech to learn the ropes, and eventually launched LaborLess, an immigration technology company which helps employers and immigration law firms automate and streamline their H-1B compliance process. Roman is also the founder of GMI Rocket, a digital marketing agency focused on the global immigration industry.