

AILA Law Journal Symposium

Shaping Immigration Policy through the Federal Courts

Speaker and Author Biographies

Professor Susan Akram is a graduate of the University of Michigan (BA), Georgetown University School of Law (JD), Oxford University (MsT), and the Institut International des Droits del’Homme (Diplome). She directs BU Law’s International Human Rights Clinic, in which she supervises students engaged in international advocacy in domestic, international, regional, and UN fora. She teaches or has taught courses in International Human Rights, Refugee and Migration Law, U.S. Immigration Law, and Palestinian Refugees under International Law. She has taught at the American University in Cairo, at Al-Quds and Birzeit Universities in Palestine, and the University of Murcia in Spain. She regularly teaches in the summer institute on forced migration at the Refugee Studies Centre at Oxford University, and in various venues in the Middle East on refugee law. She is a double Fulbright Senior Scholar award recipient, to Palestine (1999–2000) and Spain (2021–22).

Her research and publications focus on immigration, asylum, refugee, forced migration and human and civil rights issues, with an interest in the Middle East, the Arab, and Muslim world. Her book projects include *Still Waiting for Tomorrow: The Law and Politics of Unresolved Refugee Crises* (with Tom Syring); *International Law and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: A Rights-Based Approach to Middle East Peace* (with Mick Dumper, Michael Lynk and Ian Scobbie). Her articles and book chapters include “UNRWA and Palestinian Refugees” in the *Oxford Handbook of International Refugee Law*; “The Arab Israel Conflict,” (with Michael Lynk) in the *Max Planck Encyclopedia of International Law*; “The Search for Protection for Stateless Refugees in the Middle East: Palestinians and Kurds in Lebanon and Jordan” in the *International Journal of Refugee Law*; and “A Comparative Perspective on Safe Third and First Country of Asylum Policies in Europe and the Americas,” (with Elizabeth Ruddick) in the *Boston University International Law Journal*. With her Human Rights Clinic students, she has published dozens of reports documenting human rights issues related to refugees, migrants and stateless persons in many parts of the world.

Sabrineh Ardalan is clinical professor of law and director of the Harvard Immigration and Refugee Clinical Program. Ardalan supervises law students working on deportation defense, strategic litigation, and policy advocacy with a focus on asylum and other humanitarian protections. 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. Her courses and research focus on immigration and refugee law and advocacy, trauma, refugees, and the law, and strategic immigration litigation and advocacy. She has also engaged in research on asylum in comparative contexts as a Fulbright Senior Scholar and Fulbright Specialist in Morocco and in Croatia. Prior to her work at HLS, 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. She holds a JD from Harvard Law School and a BA in history and international studies from Yale College.

Ahilan T. Arulanantham is Professor from Practice and Co-Director of the Center for Immigration Law and Policy at UCLA School of Law. He has successfully litigated a number of cases involving immigrants’ rights, including *Franco-Gonzalez v. Holder*, the first case to establish a federal right to appointed counsel for any group of immigrants; *Jennings v. Rodriguez*, which has allowed thousands of immigrants to obtain release through bond hearings after being jailed for years while litigating their deportation cases; and *Ramos v. Wolf*, a challenge to the Trump Administration’s plan to end the TPS program for immigrants who have lived here lawfully for decades. Ahilan has argued three times before the United States Supreme Court. He has also testified before the United States Congress on three occasions.

Ahilan's parents are Sri Lankan Tamil immigrants who left Sri Lanka to escape race discrimination and sporadic violence. Several years after they came to this country, the Sri Lankan civil war began, causing much of his extended family to flee Sri Lanka. Ahilan has remained interested in promoting human rights in Sri Lanka, and also represented several Sri Lankan Tamil refugees during the course of his work with the ACLU.

Prior to joining UCLA, Ahilan was Senior Counsel at the ACLU in Los Angeles, where he worked for nearly twenty years. Ahilan has also worked as an Assistant Federal Public Defender in El Paso, Texas, and as a law clerk on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. In 2007 and 2013 he was named one of California Lawyer Magazine's Lawyers of the Year for immigrants' rights, and has repeatedly been named one of the Daily Journal's Top 100 Lawyers in California over the last decade. In 2010 he received the Arthur C. Helton Human Rights Award from the American Immigration Lawyers' Association, and in 2014 received the Jack Wasserman Memorial Award for litigation to protect the rights of vulnerable immigrants, also from the American Immigration Lawyers' Association.

In 2016 Ahilan was awarded a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship (aka a "Genius Grant").

Jean Binkovitz is a practicing immigration attorney with over 30 years of experience. She has a BA from Capital University, an MS in Education from Walden University, and a JD from the University of Minnesota. She has taught at Capital University and served on a number of boards and commissions. Her work has included contributing to The Encyclopedia of American Civil Liberties and presenting at conferences, including the American Political Science Association Conference.

Kaitlyn A. Box is a Senior Associate at Cyrus D. Mehta & Partners PLLC. She works with corporate and individual clients in a wide variety of immigration and nationality matters, including labor certification, EB-1 petitions, nonimmigrant visa petitions (H-1B, TN, L, O, E-2, etc.), adjustment of status, consular matters, naturalization matters, waivers, family petitions, asylum, cancellation of removal, VAWA, and TPS. She also assists with ethics matters for immigration lawyers. Kaitlyn serves as the secretary of the AILA NY chapter's employment-based committee, and sits on the editorial board of the *AILA Law Journal*. She is the author or co-author of several articles in publications like the *AILA Law Journal*, *Frontiers*, and *Bender's Immigration Bulletin*, co-authored an ethics article for AILA InfoNet, and is a frequent co-contributor to the Insightful Immigration Blog. Kaitlyn earned her JD from Penn State Law, and has a BA in Political Science and French from Drury University in Springfield, MO. She is admitted to practice in New York.

Kathryn ("Kate") Brady has practiced as an immigration and nationality law attorney since 2006, with extensive experience in family-based and employment-based petitions before USCIS and the Department of State. She has represented a wide variety of clients before USCIS, including applications for adjustment of status, applications for naturalization, and petitions for nonimmigrant workers. Her experience includes USCIS motions to reopen and/or reconsider denials and appeals to the Administrative Appeals Office when benefits have been administratively denied. Additionally, she has assisted clients with Department of State applications for immigrant visas, including those requiring waivers of inadmissibility, and in proving derivative citizenship of foreign-born children of U.S. citizen parents. Before joining the Muslim Legal Fund of America's Legal Division (formerly the Constitutional Law Center for Muslims in America), Kate represented clients in removal proceedings before EOIR and the BIA.

Kate's law practice blends her extensive knowledge of immigration law with federal civil litigation to assist clients in obtaining immigration benefits through the administrative processes, in removal proceedings, or in federal civil litigation. She regularly challenges DHS's unlawful delays and discriminatory denials of MLFA's clients' applications for U.S. immigration benefits at USCIS, EOIR, and in multiple federal court jurisdictions, including filing a petition for writ of certiorari to the U.S. Supreme Court.

She obtained her law degree from Texas Wesleyan University School of Law (now Texas A&M School of Law) in Fort Worth, TX in May 2006. Kate earned a bachelor of science in sociology with a concentration in social psychology from Brigham Young University. She is licensed to practice in the State of Texas and is a member (inactive) of the Missouri Bar. Kate has been a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association since 2007. She served on the board of the J. Reuben Clark Law Society's Dallas Chapter in various positions from 2006 to 2019 and is currently a member of its Women in the Law Committee.

Sui Chung is an attorney with Immigration Law & Litigation Group in Miami. She is an elected director of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) National Board of Governors, and a member of the AILA National Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Liaison Committee and co-chair of AILA's Asian Interest Group. She previously served as chair of AILA National's EOIR/ICE Joint Committee for two years and is a past president of AILA South Florida. Sui is Chair of the board of directors of the American Immigration Council, Vice President of the board of Catholic Legal Services, a member of the boards of Immigrants' List Political Action Committee and Immigrants' List Civic Action, and a vice chair of the Florida Bar's Diversity and Inclusion Committee. She is the 2019 recipient of the inaugural AILA National Diversity & Inclusion Award and was previously honored by AILA National with the Michael Maggio Pro Bono Service Award. In June 2023, the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild honored her with the Lisa Brodyaga Award for her contributions to advancing the rights of immigrants. Highlights of her practice have included corepresenting the lead Florida Supreme Court case addressing immigrants' right to effective representation in criminal proceedings, as well as representing Enrique from the award-winning novel *Enrique's Journey*. She began her career at the Board of Immigration Appeals through the U.S. Department of Justice Attorney General Honors Program, after receiving a juris doctor from Georgetown University Law Center, and bachelor of arts and bachelor of music degrees from Oberlin College.

Dree Collopy, author of *AILA's Asylum Primer*, is a leading authority on U.S. asylum law and policy. As a partner of Benach Collopy LLP, a nationally renowned immigration law firm in Washington, D.C., Ms. Collopy represents and defends asylum seekers before the Department of Homeland Security, the Executive Office for Immigration Review's Immigration Courts and Board of Immigration Appeals, and the U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeals. While she focuses her practice on asylum matters, she also represents individuals seeking all forms of relief from removal, VAWA and U visa petitions, waivers of inadmissibility, family and employment-based visas, adjustment of status, and naturalization to U.S. citizenship.

Ms. Collopy has authored several book chapters, articles, practice pointers, and op-eds, and she frequently lectures on cutting edge immigration issues. A recognized asylum expert, she served as chair of the AILA National Asylum and Refugee Committee for a decade and continues serving as a committee member. In that capacity, Ms. Collopy advocates for the fair and accurate implementation of U.S. asylum laws, keeps AILA's membership informed about key changes in U.S. asylum law and policy, produces useful practice advisories and alerts to assist AILA members in representing their asylum-seeking clients, and builds relationships and works cooperatively with government officials to seek justice and equality for asylum seekers. She also makes regular and significant contributions to AILA's policy and media advocacy efforts addressing asylum-related issues.

As a member of the adjunct faculty at the American University Washington College of Law, and previously the Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law, Ms. Collopy has taught courses on asylum and refugee law, law and public policy, and directed a clinical course on immigration court representation.

Ms. Collopy is deeply committed to the pro bono representation of indigent clients and securing their access to counsel. She regularly mentors pro bono attorneys, develops case materials and strategies for the representation of asylum seekers, and serves on working groups developing nationwide policy advocacy and litigation strategies on behalf of refugees and asylum seekers.

In 2014, Ms. Collopy was awarded one of AILA's highest honors, the Joseph Minsky Young Lawyer Award, for her outstanding contributions made in the field of immigration and nationality law. In 2013, 2016, and 2021, she was awarded the AILA President's Commendation Award for her work in advancing and defending the cause of refugees and asylum seekers. She has been recognized as one of the top immigration lawyers in Washington, D.C. by Chambers and Partners, the preeminent legal rankings guide.

Ms. Collopy earned her JD and Certificate in Law and Public Policy at the Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law and her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Spanish at Grinnell College.

Franchel Daniel began her legal career in civil litigation, focusing on product liability defense. She has represented clients in both state and federal courts. While studying abroad in London, UK, through Pepperdine Caruso School of Law, Franchel worked for René Cassin, a charity organization aimed at promoting and protecting human rights. While there, she worked to promote equality and combat discrimination against the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller populations. Franchel was a founding member of Charlotte Advocates Against Trafficking Humans in Charlotte, NC.

Since 2020, Franchel has used her civil litigation experience to assist MLFA's immigration clients in federal civil litigation that challenges DHS's unlawful delays and discriminatory denials of applications for U.S. immigration benefits. Likewise, she has represented clients during administrative processes at USCIS and EOIR.

Franchel graduated magna cum laude from Charlotte School of Law, where she served as the Article Editor of the *Charlotte Law Review* and a member of the Moot Court Honor Board. She earned her bachelor of science in psychology from Lipscomb University, and Franchel also holds a master of science degree in counseling psychology from Tennessee State University and a master of science in public service management from Cumberland University. Franchel is licensed to practice law in Texas and the State of Washington.

Jenna L. Ebersbacher currently serves as an Associate Attorney with Brown Immigration Law and is based in Raleigh. She received her juris doctor from Penn State Law, University Park in 2022 and is admitted to practice law in the state of Ohio. Jenna graduated from the Ohio State University cum laude with a dual degree in international business and Spanish in 2019. During law school, Jenna worked for the Center for Immigrants' Rights Clinic at Penn State Law, clerked for a top immigration law firm, and externed at the Department of Justice, Office of Immigration Litigation where she gained significant and diverse experience in the field to strengthen her advocacy skills for immigrants. She now works on a variety of cases, including asylum and removal defense, family-based immigration, immigrant and nonimmigrant visas, employment-based immigration, and naturalization. She is originally from Cleveland.

Eric Eisner is a PhD student in the Johns Hopkins University Department of History. He has a BA from the University of Pennsylvania, an MPhil in American history from the University of Cambridge, and a JD from Yale Law School. His work has appeared in the *Journal of Religious History*, *Southern Jewish History*, *Law and History Review*, and the *Yale Law Journal*.

Anil Kalhan is a Professor of Law at Drexel University and a Professor (by courtesy) at the Drexel University Center for Science, Technology, and Society. He also is an Affiliated Fellow at the Yale Law School Information Society Project and an Affiliated Faculty Member at the University of Pennsylvania South Asia Center, and during the 2021–22 and 2022–23 academic years he was a Visiting Professor of Law at Yale Law School. He writes and teaches in areas including immigration law, constitutional law, legislation and regulation, privacy and surveillance, and international human rights. His scholarship has examined themes including the growing and transformative use of surveillance technologies for immigration control purposes; the expansion of immigration detention; judicial independence and judicial politics in the United States, Pakistan, and India; and issues that arise when legal regimes span periods of authoritarian and democratic rule.

Professor Kalhan currently serves on Committee A on Academic Freedom and Tenure of the American Association of University Professors and its Special Committee on Florida, and he previously has served on the Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure of the Association of American Law Schools and the Law and Society Association's Task Force on Academic Freedom. He has served on numerous committees of the New York City Bar Association, including its Task Force on the Rule of Law, International Human Rights Committee (which he chaired from 2015 to 2018), Immigration and Nationality Law Committee, International Law Committee, Task Force on National Security and the Rule of Law, and Task Force on Puerto Rico. He previously served as Chair of the AALS Section on Immigration Law and is a co-founder and former Chair of AALS Section on Law and South Asian Studies. He also has served on the executive committees of the AALS Section on International Human Rights and Section on Comparative Law. An elected member of the American Law Institute and fellow of the American Bar Foundation, he received the Conference of Asian Pacific American Law Faculty's Chris Kando Iijima Teacher and Mentor Award in 2018.

Mahsa Khanbabai is founder of Khanbabai Immigration Law, which focuses on employment-based immigration and consular processing issues, and an adjunct professor at Stonehill College. She serves in numerous leadership roles at AILA: elected director on the Board of Governors; State Department Liaison Committee; DEI Liaison Committee; co-chair of the Afghan Response Task Force; and editor on the *AILA Law Journal*. Mahsa is an advisor to international student entrepreneurs at the MIT Sandbox and engages in physician immigration policy work with the IMG Taskforce. Her legal advocacy and strategic use of the media spotlight has led to numerous high-impact immigration changes and she is interviewed regularly by news sources such as NPR, Wall Street Journal, MSNBC News, and NYT. An active advocate and representative for Save the Children Boston Leadership Committee, Mahsa travels to field sites, most recently Turkana, Holloman Air Force Base an Afghan evacuation temporary site, and Lebanon, to learn more about their programming. Ms. Khanbabai received her JD from Albany Law School (1998).

Cyrus D. Mehta, a graduate of Cambridge University and Columbia Law School, is the Managing Partner of Cyrus D. Mehta & Partners PLLC in New York City. Mr. Mehta represents corporations and individuals from around the world in a variety of immigration matters, including business, employment, entrepreneur and investor immigration, asylum and ethics. Based on over 30 years of experience in immigration law, he is able to comprehend all kinds of problems and provide effective, ethical and strategic solutions to his clients.

Mr. Mehta is the Editor-in-Chief of the *AILA Law Journal*. He also currently serves as the Chair of AILA's Ethics Committee, and is also a member of AILA's Benefits Litigation Committee. Moreover, Mr. Mehta is a board member of The New York Immigration Coalition and a board member of Volunteers of Legal Services. He is also special counsel on immigration matters to the Departmental Disciplinary Committee, Appellate Division, First Department, New York.

Mr. Mehta is the former Chair of the Board of Trustees of the American Immigration Council, former Chair of the Committee on Immigration and Nationality Law of the New York City Bar, former Secretary of the New York City Bar, and former Chair of AILA's Pro Bono Committee. He has also served as a member on various national and local AILA committees in the past.

Mr. Mehta is a frequent speaker and writer on various immigration-related issues, including on ethics, and is also an adjunct professor of law at Brooklyn Law School, where he teaches a course entitled Immigration and Work. Mr. Mehta received the AILA 2018 Edith Lowenstein Memorial Award for advancing the practice of immigration law, the AILA 2011 Michael Maggio Memorial Award for his outstanding efforts in providing pro bono representation in the immigration field and the AILA 1997 Joseph Minsky Young Lawyers Award for outstanding contributions in the immigration field. He has also received three AILA Presidential Commendations in 2010, 2016 and 2020. Mr. Mehta is ranked highly by Who's Who Legal – Corporate Immigration Law and also by Chambers USA and Chambers Global in immigration law, among other rankings.

Simon T. Nakajima is currently on detail from U.S Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) as the Assistant Director for STEM Immigration. He joined OSTP in May 2022 and works closely with other offices within the Executive Office of the President, including the Domestic Policy Council, the National Security Council, and the National Economic Council on a wide range of employment-based immigration issues.

He joined USCIS in 2011 and serves as an associate counsel within the Office of the Chief Counsel. Since joining the government he has been on several details, working in various capacities in the immigration area. In 2014–2015 he was Counsel to the House Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on Immigration. From 2018–2020, he was Special Assistant United States Attorney for the US Attorney’s Office in the Southern District of New York. More recently, in 2021, he was Counselor to the Assistant Secretary for Immigration at DHS.

Before joining the government, he was in private practice for five years and graduated with a JD from UC Law San Francisco (formerly UC Hastings) and a BA in molecular and cell biology from UC Berkeley.

Amy M. Nice has been an immigration lawyer for over 35 years, with a broad range of experiences in the private practice of immigration law (for more than 20 years) and in the policy realm (since 2010), primarily focused on employment-based immigration. She is a thought leader concerning STEM immigration and is relied upon for her creative, elegant, and practical solutions as well as deep, data-based research on all angles and perspectives of the immigration policy problems she tackles.

She is currently a Distinguished Immigration Fellow and Visiting Scholar at Cornell’s Immigration Law and Policy Program and Distinguished Immigration Counsel at the Institute for Progress, a nonpartisan think tank working to promote scientific and innovation progress. She is also a Visiting Policy Analyst (Long-Term Visitor) at the RAND Corporation, an institution that focuses on improving policy and decisionmaking through research and analysis. The American Immigration Lawyers Association recognized Nice’s accomplishments and status as a leading immigration law and policy expert with the Edith Lowenstein Memorial Award (2023) for advancing the practice of immigration law.

From June 2021 to January 2023, Nice served as an Assistant Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, responsible for leading efforts on STEM talent policy. Her policy efforts since 2010 have also encompassed: supporting coalitions between academia and industry; serving at the Office of the General Counsel at DHS headquarters where she contributed to notice and comment rulemaking on such topics as STEM Optional Practical Training; and, before that, working as the Executive Director of Immigration Policy at the US Chamber of Commerce for almost five years where she primarily pushed legislative reforms including involvement on S. 744, the bipartisan immigration reform bill that passed the U.S. Senate.

From October 1989 to December 2010, she practiced immigration law at the Washington, DC firm of Dickstein Shapiro, where she managed the immigration practice beginning in 1997. Nice is a Phi Beta Kappa, magna cum laude graduate of Tulane University, where she studied medieval history, including one year studying abroad in England, and earned her law degree at George Washington University.

Sarah Owings is a partner at Owings MacNorlin, LLC, based in Atlanta. She obtained her juris doctor degree from the Georgia State University’s College of Law in 2007 and she has practiced immigration law exclusively since that time. Sarah has experience in representing foreign nationals in a variety of immigration proceedings, including removal defense, family-based petitions, humanitarian forms of relief, and asylum proceedings. Sarah served as an elected director on the board of governors of the American Immigration Lawyers Association from 2017 to 2023. Sarah currently serves on AILA’s national ICE and CBP Liaison Committee as well as the Removal Defense Section Steering Committee. She has been involved in immigration advocacy and support efforts at the state and local level throughout her career and she is frequently asked to speak at continuing legal education

programs and to provide commentary to the media on the rapidly changing immigration landscape. She lives in Atlanta and is a member in good standing of the Georgia Bar.

Robert Pauw is a founding partner in the Seattle law firm of Gibbs Houston Pauw and one of the founding members of the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project. He taught immigration law at Seattle University School of Law for over 25 years and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the National Immigration Law Center. Mr. Pauw specializes in immigration-related litigation. He has been counsel for plaintiffs in many significant immigration cases, including *Vega-Anguiano v. Barr*, 982 F.3d 542 (9th Cir. 2020) (challenge in reinstatement proceedings to validity of prior removal order); *Zerezghi v. USCIS*, 955 F.3d 802 (9th Cir. 2020) (challenge to USCIS imposition of marriage fraud penalty under 8 USC §1154(c)); *Hajro v. USCIS*, 811 F.3d 1086 (9th Cir. 2016) (challenge to USCIS delays in processing FOIA requests); *Wayne Smith and Hugo Armendariz v. United States*, No. 12.562 (IACHR 2010) (challenge to U.S. deportation policies adopted in IIRIRA as violating the American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man); and *Morales-Izquierdo v. Gonzales*, 486 F.3d 484 (9th Cir. 2006) (en banc) (challenge to reinstatement process). Mr. Pauw is author of *Litigating Immigration Cases in Federal Court*; his published articles include “Plenary Power: An Outmoded Doctrine,” 51 Emory L.J. 1095 (2002); and “A New Look at Deportation as Punishment: Why at Least Some of the Constitution’s Criminal Procedure Protections Must Apply,” 52 Admin. L. Rev. (2000). He has received numerous awards, including AILA’s Jack Wasserman Award for Excellence in Litigation, the NWIRP Amicus Award for the pursuit of justice for low-income immigrants and refugees, and the National Lawyers Guild’s Carol King Award.

Thomas Ragland is the Member in Charge of the Washington, D.C. office of Clark Hill PLC and is a Member in the firm’s immigration practice group. His practice focuses on federal court litigation, removal defense, immigration consequences of criminal activity, complex consular and naturalization issues, asylum, INTERPOL Red Notices, and defense against terrorism- and security-related bars to admission. Thomas received the 2013 Edith Lowenstein Memorial Award for Excellence in Advancing the Practice of Immigration Law from the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). He is a member of AILA’s Federal Court Litigation Section steering committee, author of the chapter on Immigration in the leading treatise *Business and Commercial Litigation in Federal Courts*, 5th ed. (Thomson West 2021), and a Member of the Editorial Board of AILA Law Journal. Thomas is a frequent writer and speaker on immigration issues.

Diane Rish is an immigration attorney with more than 14 years of experience in immigration law and policy. She currently serves as a Senior Manager, Immigration at Salesforce, a cloud-based software company with 70,000 employees in 28 countries. Prior to joining Salesforce, Diane worked as Associate Director of Government Relations from 2017 to 2022 at the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) advocating for immigration law and policy reforms before Congress, the White House and the federal agencies. During this period, she also served as an Immigration Policy Advisor for the Immigration Policy Tracking Project under Professor Lucas Guttentag. Previously, she worked in private practice as a business immigration attorney representing multinational corporations in the advanced technology and semiconductor manufacturing industries. She currently serves as Vice President of Salesforce’s Latinoforce D.C. Chapter, as Board member of the Rotary Action Group for Refugees, Forced Displacement and Migration, on the Taskforce of the American Bar Association (ABA Afghan Legal Professionals Scholarship & Mentoring Pilot Program, on the Editorial Board of the *AILA Law Journal*, and on the AILA USCIS HQ (Benefits Policy) Committee. She holds a law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law and a bachelor’s degree in international relations from Tufts University.

Susan 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 became an Assistant Chief Counsel and National Security Attorney for ICE. From 2008 to 2010, she served as an immigration judge in Newark, NJ. Sue then entered private practice and is a solo practitioner specializing in complex criminal immigration cases.

Sue is the former chair of both the AILA-NJ Chapter and the NJ State Bar Association (NJSBA) Immigration Law Section. She has been a guest lecturer at many area law schools, and has been an adjunct professor at Rutgers, University of DC, and Mercer County College. She is on the faculty of the Immigration Trial Advocacy College and Vecina.

Sue is a member of the Round Table of Former Immigration Judges and has been a speaker and/or moderator for many AILA national, regional and local conferences, as well as NJSBA, NYSBA, the Federal Bar Association, the American Bar Association, and many others.

Elizabeth Ruddick is a graduate of Harvard University (BA), the London School of Economics (MSc), and the Boston University School of Law (JD). She was admitted to the bar in New York in 1999 and qualified as a solicitor in England and Wales in 2011. She clerked for Hon. Nancy Gerner of the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts before beginning the practice of law, and she has previously worked as a Senior Protection Associate with UNHCR. She sits as a Fee-Paid Judge of the First-tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber) in the UK.

Rekha Sharma-Crawford is an expert in the field of immigration law. She has taken on many complex, high-profile cases and focuses on removal defense issues, trial advocacy and federal litigation. In 2023, Rekha was elected the first South Asian American secretary for the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). She is currently on the Board of SevenDays, a Kansas City nonprofit whose mission is to spread kindness through education. In 2023, Rekha was a member of the AILA Amicus Committee when the committee was awarded AILA's Jack Wasserman Memorial Award. In 2021, Rekha had previously been nationally recognized by AILA by being awarded the Edith Lowenstein Memorial Award, for excellence in advancing the practice of immigration law. In 2018, the Kansas Bar Association honored her with the Courageous Attorney Award, for having displayed exceptional courage in the face of adversity. She is also the author of her children's books, *Aaliyah the Brave*, *Empowering Children Coping with Immigration Enforcement*, released in 2022 and her new book, *Finding Freedom, Empowering Young Survivors of Human Trafficking*, released in 2023. The net profits from the sale of the books are divided between two nonprofits: The Clinic at Sharma-Crawford, which provides removal defense to indigent individuals in the Kansas City Immigration Court, and the National Immigration Litigation Alliance.

Rebecca Sharpless is a member of the faculty of the University of Miami School of Law, where she is the founding director of the Immigration Clinic and teaches immigration law. Her scholarship focuses on how hierarchies within immigration law, progressive lawyering, and the intersection of immigration and criminal law affect marginalized groups. Professor Sharpless' work addresses the harms and limitations of the conceptual framework for immigration reform that draws its narrative force from a contrast between model immigrants and people who have been convicted of a criminal offense. Her 2024 book with the University of California Press, *Shackled: 92 Refugees Imprisoned On ICE Air*, examines our immigration enforcement system through the stories of two Somali men who were on the botched 2017 ICE Air flight. From 2016 to 2017, Professor Sharpless served as the President of the South Florida Chapter of AILA. She was a board member of the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild from 2001 to 2019. From 1996 to 2007, Professor Sharpless was a supervising attorney at Americans for Immigrant Justice (formerly Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center). She has received numerous awards and recognition for her work, including the 2021 University of Miami's Provost's Teaching Award, the 2019 Arthur C. Helton Memorial Human Rights Award (team defense of Somali 92), and AILA's 2018 Elmer Fried Excellence in Teaching Award.

William A. Stock is Managing Partner of Klasko Immigration Law Partners, LLP and a founding member of the firm. He handles all aspects of immigration law, including assisting companies and individuals in obtaining employment- and family-based visas; resolving citizenship issues and obtaining naturalization; and defending clients in DHS and Department of Labor enforcement proceedings. He is featured in *The Best Lawyers in America*, *The Chambers Global Guide*, *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers*, and *Who's Who of Business Lawyers*. He has taught

immigration law at Villanova University School of Law, is a frequent speaker and author on immigration law topics, and is a Past President (2016–17) of the American Immigration Lawyers Association. He is a member of the editorial board of the *AILA Law Journal*.