

PREFACE

AILA is pleased to present this third edition of *Immigration Options for Artists, Entertainers, and Athletes*. “Athletes” is a new addition to the title of this book, reflecting an expanded slate of articles specific to the issues involved in representing athletes, both amateur and professional. This edition brings together as authors some of the most seasoned and respected practitioners who represent figures in the sports and entertainment industries, and we are honored to have their experiences and advice reflected in this collection. Leading this project as editors were three AILA colleagues well-known for their expertise in the field: Catherine Haight, Richard Tashjian, and Ksenia Maiorova.

This publication will be useful both to veteran practitioners and those newer to the world of representing artists, entertainers, and athletes. Opening the way is Karin Wolman’s definitive and comprehensive *O and P Nonimmigrants*. With that as your grounding, you can explore the nuances of these nonimmigrant categories with articles focusing on agents and itineraries, consultation letters, the effect of the public charge rule, and other specific topics. If O and P are not going to be possible for your clients, you will find articles taking you through the alternatives: B and the visa waiver program, Q, and even E-1/E-2 for the entrepreneurial-minded. For the client seeking permanent residence, you’ll get advice on the transition to EB-1 or the use of Schedule A, Group II. Also contained within the book are informative articles on a variety of other topics, ranging from consular processing issues to inadmissibility roadblocks to taxation, and more.

The recent COVID-19 pandemic has affected foreign artists, entertainers, and athletes whose performance venues in the United States were closed, as well as those from certain countries seeking to enter the United States. In addition to Helena Tetzeli’s article *The Impact on O and P Major League Athletes of Work Stoppages, from Strikes to Pandemics* in this book, be sure to frequently check AILA’s resource center at www.aila.org/advo-media/issues/all/covid-19 for all information bearing on the pandemic’s effect on immigration status and admission.

We extend our kind thanks to the authors, editors, and all those involved in bringing this publication to our readers.

Richard Link
Managing Editor
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