



Naturalization

Online Course

AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYERS ASSOCIATION



Kathrin S. Mautino, Naturalization Online Course Committee Chair/Military Committee, San Diego, CA

Kathrin practices immigration law in San Diego, California. She has been certified as a Specialist in Immigration and Nationality law by the State Bar of California, Board of Legal Specialization for over 20 years—in any given year, there are fewer than 200 attorneys with such certification. Ms. Mautino

speaks and writes regularly on immigration and citizenship issues for local, regional, and national audiences and is considered an expert on topics as diverse as the Western Hemisphere Priority Date program and citizenship issues for children born in the United States to foreign diplomats. She has served on numerous AILA committees over the years, including the Military Assistance Program, National Conference Planning committees, and the California Service Center liaison committee.



Scott C. Titshaw, Macon, GA

Scott is a professor at Mercer University Law School, where he teaches immigration law and runs an Asylum and Human Rights Clinic. He previously practiced immigration law and served as chair of AILA's GA-AL Chapter. Professor Titshaw earned a *JD cum laude* from the University of Georgia and an *LLM magna cum laude* from the Universität Hamburg. He clerked for a federal court, served as a

legal translator for Germany's Constitutional Court, and researched EU immigration law as a Fulbright-Schuman fellow. He is co-Editor-in-Chief of AILA's *U.S. Citizenship and Naturalization Law Toolbox*. He has published citizenship-related articles such as *Inheriting Citizenship*, 58 STAN. J. INT'L L. 1 (2022); *ART, Surrogacy, Federalism, and Jus Sanguinis Citizenship in the US, Australia, and Canada*, 3 ASIAN Y.B. HUM. RTS. & HUMAN. L. 144 (2019); *Throwing the Baby Out with the Patriarchy*, 33 BERKELEY J. GENDER L. & JUST. 179 (2018); *A Modest Proposal to Deport the Children of Gay Citizens, & etc.: Immigration Law, the Defense of Marriage Act and the Children of Same-Sex Couples*, 25 GEO. IMMIGR. L.J. 407 (2011); and *Sorry Ma'am, Your Baby is an Alien: Outdated Immigration Rules and Assisted Reproductive Technology*, 12 FLA. COASTAL L. REV. 47 (2010).



Kathia I. Quiros Medina, Las Vegas, NV

Kathia is a partner at GWP Immigration Law, a national firm serving the immigrant community in its efforts to obtain legal permanent residency in the United States. She studied dentistry and journalism before immigrating to the United States in 1996 and became a lawyer to serve immigrants with compassion and dignity.

Her practice focuses on family immigration, naturalization, VAWA, U visas, TPS, and consular process. Aside, Kathia is a champion of public education and dedicates her life to educating immigrants and empowering them to become better persons. Kathia is a recognized influencer in the Hispanic community and uses her platform to promote pro-immigrant causes.



Jamila Little, Naturalization Online Course Committee, Brandon, FL

Jamila is the founder and owner of Little Law, P.A. She is licensed to practice in Florida, Washington, D.C., and in her home country of Trinidad and Tobago. Her practice areas include immigration, criminal defense, and personal injury. As an immigrant herself, Jamila is personally acquainted with the struggles of immigrants and is passionate about helping her immigrant clients to achieve a better future in the

United States. Jamila received her Juris Doctorate from Florida International University College of Law and obtained her Masters in Business Administration (MBA), with a concentration in Finance, from Clark Atlanta University School of Business. She graduated with honors from Spelman College, where she majored in Economics. In her leisure time, Jamila enjoys traveling with her husband, mentoring law students, and is involved in her local church community.



Tiffany E. Markee, San Diego, CA

Tiffany received her Juris Doctorate from California Western School of Law in May 2001 and became a founding Partner of Milner & Markee, LLP in San Diego, California in January 2002. Tiffany is a Certified Specialist in Immigration and Nationality Law, by the Board of Legal Specialization/ State Bar of California; and recently became an Invited Fellow with the Academy of California Adoption and ART Lawyers (ACAL). She successfully represents clients before USCIS, U.S. State Department, Board of Immigration Appeals, Administrative Appeals Office, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the United States Federal District Courts. In 2003, Tiffany expanded her practice to include international adoption law, and has become one of a small handful of attorneys across the nation with a large active practice in the adoption and immigration of foreign-born children. This specialization became more relevant in light of the implementation of the Hague Convention and the Intercountry Adoption Act in April 2008, and the subsequent USCIS practices and policy memoranda. Tiffany is an active lecturer and mentor in this field and is a frequent invited local and national speaker at law schools and professional organizations. She is also the very proud mother of two internationally adopted children.



Sarah B. Pitney, Lawyer Well-Being Committee /USCIS Field Operations Liaison Committee, Washington, D.C.

Sarah Pitney (they/them) is a partner at Benach Collopy LLP in Washington, D.C. Their practice includes family-based, deportation defense, asylum, naturalization, and waiver cases. They have represented numerous LGBTQ+ clients in all stages of the immigration process. They serve as an advocate for LGBTQ+ practitioners within the immigration law community and gladly mentor practitioners on ways to create a more welcoming space. Sarah is admitted to practice in Florida and Washington, D.C., as well as before the U.S. District Courts for the Southern District of Florida and for Washington, D.C., and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. They were recognized as one of the LGBT Bar's 40 Best Attorneys Under 40 in 2018.



Petula Natasha McShiras, AILA Board of Governors, Greenwood Village, CO

Petula is a Senior Immigration Attorney with Kolko & Casey, PC. Licensed since October 2011, Petula has dedicated her legal career to immigration law and advocating for immigrant rights. She brings a broad range of experiences to Kolko & Casey, PC, from working as an Attorney Advisor to the Denver Immigration Court, to nonprofit immigration work, and private law firm work. While specializing in family-based immigration and naturalization, she also has extensive experience in business immigration, religious worker visas, and special immigrant juvenile petitions, including obtaining the requisite state predicate order.

She earned her law degree from the University of Denver, where she was the Sutton Editor of the Denver Journal of International Law and Policy, a Chancellor Scholar, and graduated with honors. Prior to joining private practice, Petula worked as an Attorney Advisor for EOIR and as the director for the Littleton Immigrant Resources Center. Ms. McShiras earned her B.A. in Political Science and Peace Studies from the University of Notre Dame in 2005. Petula has successfully presented cases before the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), USCIS, the Department of State (DOS), the Department of Labor (DOL), and the El Paso County District Court for state predicate orders on behalf of unaccompanied minors.

Petula has presented both locally and nationally on naturalization, cancellation of removal, the unauthorized practice of law, and the intersection of immigration law and other areas of law. She is a member of the Colorado Bar Association, El Paso County Bar Association, and The Ben S. Wendelken Inn of Court.

She is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). She served as the Chair of the Colorado Chapter of AILA from June 2022 to May 2023.



Cynthia A. Aziz, Naturalization Online Course Committee, Charlotte, NC

Cynthia is the founder of Aziz Law Firm, P.A., and focuses her practice on U.S. immigration and nationality law. Ms. Aziz is a North Carolina State Bar Certified Specialist in immigration and nationality law. Ms. Aziz has successfully argued before the federal district and appellate courts. Recognized for her knowledge of U.S. immigration law, she has frequently spoken, planned, and written for various continuing education groups at the national, state, and community level. She is an active member of the AILA having served in numerous leadership positions including past Chair of the Carolinas Chapter, National Immigration Project, past member of the Board of Directors for the Mecklenburg Bar, and past chair of the North Carolina State Bar's Specialization Committee for Immigration and Nationality Law. She routinely serves as a mentor to her colleagues and was the recipient of the Carolinas Chapter of AILA the Elizabeth Gervais Gruen Mentor Award. She has been recognized as a "Super Lawyer" in her field of Immigration Law in North Carolina. Ms. Aziz received her B.A. from Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts and her J.D. from New England School of Law in Boston.



Nicholas Jesus Mireles, Finance Committee/ Investment Task Force, Los Angeles, CA

Nicholas has been practicing immigration law in Southern California since 2013. Licensed in California, Nicholas founded the Law Office of Nicholas J. Mireles, APC in 2018 with a primary focus on family-based immigration. Nicholas is regularly hired by law firms from all over the country for USCIS, CBP, and ICE-related client matters. Mr. Mireles prides himself on his in-person advocacy work and believes all clients deserve a zealous and dedicated representative who will put their interests first.

Nicholas holds a Bachelor's Degree from UCLA as well as a Juris Doctorate from Loyola Law School in Los Angeles. He is an executive committee member of the Los Angeles County Bar Association's (LACBA) Immigration Section as well as an active member and immediate Past Chair of the Southern California Chapter of AILA.



Lauren McClure, Distance Learning Committee, Chicago, IL

Lauren is a Partner with Kriezelman Burton & Associates, LLC. She is admitted to practice law in the state of Illinois. She focuses her practice exclusively in the areas of immigration law, including family-based immigration, asylum, removal defense, employment-based immigration, and federal court litigation.

Lauren is admitted to practice before various district courts across the country including the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, Western District of Michigan, Southern District of Indiana, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for Seventh Circuit. She is an active member of the American Immigration Lawyer's Association (AILA) Chicago Chapter and a board member for the Federal Bar Association, Immigration Law Section.



**Maria C. Chavez, San Diego Chapter Chair/ Distance Learning Committee/
Nominating Committee, San Diego, CA**

Maria, the daughter of Salvadoran immigrants, is a partner at the boutique immigration law firm Jacobs & Schlesinger LLP in San Diego, CA. She represents clients in a wide range of immigration matters including removal defense in immigration court, family-based petitions, naturalization, and humanitarian remedies. She is the 2023 chair of the Immigration Section of the San Diego County Bar Association, 2022-23 chair of AILA San Diego, and legal representative on the San Diego Immigrant Rights Consortium Advisory Board. She is a graduate of the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law.