



2023 AILA SPRING CLE CONFERENCE & WEBCAST: GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

Join us for the 2023 AILA Spring CLE Conference and Webcast to get an insider's view of what is happening at the government agencies. This conference provides a unique opportunity to hear directly from agency leadership and representatives of the Biden Administration. Agency officials and AILA liaison committees will discuss the latest regulatory and policy initiatives affecting your practice and clients. You'll also learn about current trends, issues in agency adjudications, and potential future changes. Don't miss it!

Viewing Options: On Thursday and Friday, April 27 and 28, 2023, faculty members will present live sessions. These sessions can be attended in-person at the Grand Hyatt Washington or via webcast from the convenience of your home or office. Either way, the program is live and interactive! All registrants will be given a link to the conference recording and live webcast, so any sessions missed (particularly helpful for our West Coast participants given the time difference) can be revisited later.

Note: *AILA's 2023 National Day of Action (NDA) also will be held on Thursday, April 27, 2023. As a result, some portions of the conference may overlap with NDA schedules. Separate registration for NDA is required.*

**April 27 and 28, 2023
Grand Hyatt Washington
1000 H St NW
Washington, DC**

*~All times indicated below are **Eastern Daylight Time**~*

**Sessions may be subject to changes and will be confirmed closer to the event.*

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

Note: All sessions and events are subject to change without notice.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023

2:00 pm–3:00 pm

BOARD OF IMMIGRATION APPEALS (BIA) OPEN FORUM

- Effects of recent BIA and Attorney General decisions
- Best practices for cases at the BIA
- Building a record to ensure a fair appeal
- Ask a Board member

Faculty:

**Sui Chung (DL), AILA Board of Governors/EOIR Liaison
Committee/ICE Liaison Committee, Miami, FL*

Anthony Drago Jr., AILA EOIR Liaison Committee, Boston, MA

**Government Representatives: TBD*

3:00 pm–3:30 pm

NETWORKING BREAK

3:30 pm–4:30 pm

VERIFICATION AND DOCUMENTATION OPEN FORUM

- Virtual I-9 and the new I-9 Form: What is new? What is on the horizon?
- E-Verify and SAVE
 - The latest on Next Gen and E-Verify enhancements
 - How SAVE can be saved
- Immigrant and Employee Rights Section (IER) update: How technology is both your friend and foe in the anti-discrimination world
- List of Acceptable Documents (LOAD)
 - The official (and unofficial) lists
 - How to keep up with frequent new additions to LOAD

Faculty:

*Amy L. Peck (DL), AILA Verification and Documentation Liaison
Committee Chair, Omaha, NE*

*Kimberley Best Robidoux, AILA Verification and Documentation Liaison
Committee Vice Chair, San Diego, CA*

*Alberto Ruisanchez, Deputy Special Counsel, U.S. Department of
Justice, Immigrant and Employee Rights Section (IER), Civil Rights
Division, Washington, D.C.*

**Amy Wheelock, Chief, Verification Division, U.S. Citizenship and
Immigration Services, Washington, D.C.*

4:30 pm–5:00 pm

VIRTUAL COFFEE BREAK

5:00 pm–5:45 pm

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

5:45 pm–6:45 pm

Joint NDA and Spring Conference Reception

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FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2023

7:45 am–9:00 am

U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT (ICE) OPEN FORUM

- Prosecutorial discretion (PD): The state of priorities with *United States v. Texas* at the U.S. Supreme Court, the exercise of PD in the absence of explicit priorities, varied PD exercise by jurisdiction
- Areas for potential further collaboration between the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor (OPLA) and AILA members with the immigration court backlog continuing to climb
- Final orders and stays of removal
- Status of the Alternatives to Detention (ATD) program: Mission, enrollment numbers, de-escalation, and metrics for evaluation

Faculty:

Aaron Hall (DL), AILA ICE Liaison Committee Chair, Aurora, CO

**Amy Bittner, AILA ICE Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Columbus, OH*

**Kerry E. Doyle, Principal Legal Advisor for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Washington, D.C.*

**Corey A. Price, Executive Associate Director, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Enforcement and Removal Operations, Washington, D.C.*

9:00 am–9:30 am

NETWORKING BREAK

9:30 am–10:45 am

EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW (EOIR) OPEN FORUM

- Virtual hearings: Immigration judge (IJ) defaults, Webex, and immigration adjudication centers
- Technology advancements: EOIR Courts & Appeals System (ECAS), electronic Records of Proceedings (eROPs), and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests
- Docket management strategies: Pre-trial conferences, off-docketing policies, scheduling orders
- Secured leave for attorneys

Faculty:

**Amanda Keaveny (DL), AILA EOIR Liaison Committee Chair, Charleston, SC*

**Andrew K. Nietor, AILA Board of Governors/EOIR Liaison Committee Vice Chair, San Diego, CA*

**David L. Neal, Director, Executive Office for Immigration Review, Falls Church, VA*

**Charles Adkins-Blanch, Acting Deputy Director, Executive Office for Immigration Review, Falls Church, VA*

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** = invited, not confirmed*

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**Mary Cheng, Regional Deputy Chief Immigration Judge, Office of the Chief Immigration Judge, Executive Office for Immigration Review, Falls Church, VA*

10:45 am–11:15 am

NETWORKING BREAK

11:15 am–12:30 pm

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION (CBP) OPEN FORUM

- Navigating CBP policy and guidance: Systems Enforcement Admissions Liaison (SEAL), Systems Enforcement Analysis and Review (SEAR), Regional Carrier Liaison Groups (RCLGs), and Professionalism Service Managers (PSMs)
- Proper B-1 and B-2 activities: What is incidental and what is not in the era of remote work and social media?
- Mobile One application and the future of innovation technology initiatives at ports of entry
- How to communicate effectively with a port of entry
- Trusted Traveler Programs: Backlogs and solutions
- Recent developments and current trends

Faculty:

**Ramon E. Curiel (DL), AILA CBP Liaison Committee Chair, San Antonio, TX*

Nell W. Barker, AILA CBP Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Chicago, IL

**Matthew S. Davies, Executive Director, Admissibility and Passenger Programs Office of Field Operations, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Washington, D.C.*

**Luis A. Mejia, Deputy Executive Director, Admissibility Passengers and Programs, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Washington, D.C.*

Frank Russo, Director, Field Operations, New York Field Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, New York, NY

12:30 pm–1:00 pm

LUNCH BREAK

1:00 pm–2:15 pm

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (DOS) OPEN FORUM

- Status of consular operations worldwide
- Visa backlog elimination initiatives
- Hot topics

Faculty:

Fuji Whittenburg (DL), AILA DOS Liaison Committee Chair, Calabasas, CA

Steven D. Heller, AILA DOS Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Lewes, East Sussex, UK

**Julie Stufft, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visas Services, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Washington, D.C.*

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**David Newman, Deputy Assistant Legal, Office of the Assistant Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Washington, D.C.*

**Matt McNeil, Attorney Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser, Visas Advisory Opinions and Litigation, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Washington, D.C.*

**Kate McGeary, Director, National Visa Center, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Portsmouth, NH*

2:15 pm–2:45 pm

NETWORKING BREAK

2:45 pm–4:00 pm

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL) OPEN FORUM

- Program and personnel updates
- Processing times
- Technology updates
- Status of new ETA 9089
- Best practices under remote working conditions

Faculty:

Vincent W. Lau (DL), AILA DOL Liaison Committee Chair, Boston, MA

Amy Novak, DOL Liaison Committee Vice Chair (H-2A/H-2B), Vail, CO

Bob White, AILA DOL Liaison Committee Vice Chair (H-1B/PERM), Schaumburg, IL

**Kathy Valerin, Deputy Administrator, ETA, OFLC, DOL, Washington, D.C.*

**Brian Testa, Director, Division of Policy and Regulation, OFLC, DOL, Washington, D.C.*

**Brandt Carter, Director, Atlanta Processing Center, DOL, Atlanta, GA*

**Lindsey Baldwin, Director, National Prevailing Wage Center, DOL, Washington, D.C.*

4:00 pm–4:30 pm

VIRTUAL COFFEE BREAK

4:30 pm–5:45 pm

U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES (USCIS) HQ (BENEFITS POLICY) OPEN FORUM

- Breaking news and hot topics
- USCIS initiatives, stakeholder participation
- Regulatory changes on the horizon
- Adjudications and policy updates
- Backlogs and customer service

Faculty:

Robin D. O'Donoghue (DL), AILA USCIS HQ (Benefits Policy) Liaison Committee Chair, Spring Conference Chair, Cambridge, MA

Beatriz Trillos Ballerini, AILA Field Operations Liaison Committee Chair, Houston, TX

(DL) = Discussion Leader

** = invited, not confirmed*

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- *Carrie Selby, Acting Associate Director, External Affairs Directorate, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Washington, D.C.*
- *Amanda Baran, Chief, Office of Policy and Strategy, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Washington, D.C.*
- *Tracy Renaud, Associate Director, Service Center Operations Directorate, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Washington, D.C.*
- *Michael Valverde, Associate Director, Field Operations Directorate, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Washington, D.C.*
- *Doug Rand, Senior Advisor to the Director, Office of the Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Washington, D.C.*

5:45 pm

CONFERENCE CONCLUDES

CONFERENCE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

*Robin D. O'Donoghue, Conference Chair, AILA USCIS HQ (Benefits Policy)
Liaison Committee Chair, Cambridge, MA*

Ramon E. Curiel, AILA CBP Liaison Committee Chair, San Antonio, TX

Amanda Keaveny, AILA EOIR Liaison Committee Chair, Charleston, SC

Vincent W. Lau, AILA DOL Liaison Committee Chair, Boston, MA

Amy L. Peck, AILA Verification and Documentation Liaison Committee Chair, Omaha, NE

Fuji Whittenburg, AILA DOS Liaison Committee Chair, Calabasas, CA

Kelli J. Stump, First Vice President, Oklahoma City, OK

Sharvari (Shev) Dalal-Dheini, Director of Government Relations, Washington, D.C.

Kate Voigt, AILA Senior Associate Director, Government Relations, Washington, D.C.

Emmie R. Smith, AILA Director, Professional Development, Washington, D.C.

JJ Area, AILA Education Program Manager, Washington, D.C.

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