



2022 AILA SPRING CLE CONFERENCE & WEBCAST: GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

Join us for the 2022 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 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 Friday, April 8, 2022, faculty members will present a full day of live sessions. These sessions can be attended in-person at the Grand Hyatt Washington or via webcast from the convenience of home or the office. Either way, the program is live and interactive! All registrants will be given a link to the conference recording, so any sessions missed (particularly helpful for our West Coast participants given the time difference) can be revisited later.

Please note that [AILA's 2022 National Day of Action](#) will be held virtually, after the Spring Conference, on April 27, 2022.

April 8, 2022
Grand Hyatt Washington, Washington, DC

All Times Indicated Below Are Eastern Time

**Session times may be subject to minor changes and will be confirmed closer to the event.*

FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2022

7:45 am–8:45 am

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

- Breaking News/Hot Topics
- Policy Manual Updates

(DL) = Discussion Leader

* = invited, not confirmed

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

- Procedure Updates
- Backlogs, Customer Service
- USCIS Efficiency Initiatives

Faculty:

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

*Nicole Simon, AILA USCIS Case Assistance Committee Chair,
Philadelphia, PA*

*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.*

*Dan Renaud, Associate Director of U.S. Department of Homeland
Security, Washington, D.C.*

*Tracy Renaud, Associate Director, Service Center Operations
Directorate, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services,
Washington, D.C.*

8:45 am–9:15 am

NETWORKING BREAK

9:15 am–10:00 am

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

- Program and Personnel Updates
- Technology Updates: FLAG, ETA 9141, and ETA 9089
- Processing Times
- Best Practices During COVID

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

*Cheryl Beasley, National Prevailing Wage Center, DOL,
Washington, D.C.*

10:00 am–10:45 am

VERIFICATION AND DOCUMENTATION OPEN FORUM

- Impact of Facebook Settlement on PERMS and How the IER Has Changed the Game

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- Recent Trends in Citizenship Discrimination: How Employers Need to Change Recruitment Practices
- I-9 and E-Verify Updates

Faculty:

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

Helen L. Konrad, AILA Verification and Documentation Liaison Committee Vice Chair, Richmond, VA

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

10:45 am–11:15 am

NETWORKING BREAK

11:15 am–12:15 pm

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

- Status of Consular Re-Openings
- Visa Backlog Elimination Initiatives
- Afghan Refugee Admissions Update

Faculty:

Sandra Sheridan Reguerin (DL), AILA DOS Liaison Committee Chair, Phoenix, AZ

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

Mahsa Khanbabai, AILA Board of Governors, Member, AILA DOS Liaison Committee, AILA Board of Governors/AILA Afghan Response Taskforce Co-Chair, Easton, MA

Neal Vermillion, Office Director, Visa Office, Field Operations, Bureau of Consular Affairs, DOS, Washington, D.C.

Lawrence Bartlett, Director of the Admissions Office, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, DOS, Washington, D.C.

12:15 pm–12:40 pm

LUNCH BREAK

12:40 pm–1:10 pm

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Introduction: Benjamin Johnson, AILA Executive Director, Washington, DC

Keynote Speaker: Honorable Ur M. Jaddou, Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Washington, D.C.

1:10 pm–1:40 pm

NETWORKING BREAK

1:40 pm–2:40 pm

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

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** = invited, not confirmed*

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

- Transitioning the Detention and Supervision Landscape: Changes To Enforcement Operations, Training, Use of Technology, and Facilities
- Interpreting the Application of Enforcement Priorities Within the Field Offices and Beyond
- Prosecutorial Discretion: Capturing Accurate Data, and Engaging In Process Reform and Education
- Current Reach of OPLA Guidance
- An Explanation and Understanding of Escalation and Communication Within ICE Headquarters and Field Offices

Faculty:

Aaron Hall (DL), AILA EOIR/ICE Joint Liaison Committee, Aurora, CO

Amanda Bethea Keaveny, AILA Board of Governors, AILA EOIR/ICE Joint Liaison Committee, Charleston, SC

Sarah Weston Hayes Owings, AILA Board of Governors, AILA EOIR/ICE Joint Liaison Committee Member, Atlanta, GA

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.

2:40 pm–3:00 pm

NETWORKING BREAK

3:00 pm–4:00 pm

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

- Current Stage on Entry Requirements (Land and Air) in the Ebb of the Pandemic
- E/L Spouse Annotations
- Mobile One Application and The Future of Innovation Technology Initiatives at Ports of Entry
- How to Effectively Communicate with a Port of Entry

Faculty:

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

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

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

Larry A. Panetta, Director, Biometric Entry-Exit Strategic Transformation, Office of Field Operations, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Washington, D.C.

4:00 pm–4:30 pm

VIRTUAL COFFEE BREAK

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4:30 pm–5:30 pm

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW (EOIR)
OPEN FORUM**

- Hot Topics: Webex, Adjudication Centers, Expansion of Immigration Courts
- Advancements in ECAS and Navigating Communication with Respondents and the Bar
- The Continued Evolution Of Memoranda and Regulations
- Effective Engagement Between the Bench and Bar
- The Board of Immigration Appeals: Where Are We Now and Understanding Its Decisions

Faculty:

*Sui Chung (DL), AILA EOIR/ICE Joint Liaison Committee Chair,
Miami, FL*

Amy Bittner, AILA EOIR/ICE Joint Liaison Vice Chair, Columbus, OH

*Andrew K. Nietor, AILA Board of Governors, AILA EOIR/ICE Joint
Liaison Committee Member, 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*

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

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

*Hope Holiona, Acting Chief, Legal Access Programs, EOIR, Office of the
Director, Falls Church, VA*

5:30 pm

CONFERENCE CONCLUDES

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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

Sui Chung, AILA EOIR/ICE Joint Liaison Committee Chair, Miami, FL

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

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

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

Sandra Sheridan Reguerin, AILA DOS Liaison Committee Chair, Phoenix, AZ

Kelli Stump, Second Vice President, Oklahoma City, OK

Gregory Z. Chen, AILA Senior Director of Government Relations, Washington, DC

Sharvari (Shev) Dalal-Dheini, Director of Government Relations, Washington, DC

Emmie R. Smith, AILA Director, Professional Development, Washington, DC

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