

2006 Conference on Immigration and Nationality Law

September 20-22, 2006 • • San Antonio,

Wednesday Afternoon, Sep. 20, 2006

5:00 pm
2.00 hrs

Fundamentals of Immigration Law: Grounds of Inadmissibility and Deportability, Removal Proceedings, and Relief

This overview session reviews the most common grounds of inadmissibility and deportability, and examines the basic procedures in removal hearings including bond hearings. It will also discuss relief from removal such as cancellation of removal for permanent and nonpermanent residents, adjustment of status in proceedings, and waivers.

Barbara Hines, The University of Texas School of Law - Austin, TX
Lee J. Terán, St. Mary's University School of Law - San Antonio, TX

Wednesday Evening, Sep. 20, 2006

7:15 pm
2.00 hrs

Dealing with the Immigration Consequences of Crimes

The panel will examine the immigration consequences of offenses such as domestic violence, theft, burglary, firearms and controlled substance offenses. Issues involving the renewal of green cards and naturalization for LPRs with criminal records, and topics relating to pre- and post-conviction relief will also be discussed.

Brian K. Bates, Reina Bates Immigration Law Group - Houston, TX
Elisabeth S. Brodyaga, San Benito, TX
Felipe D.J. Millan, Law Office of Felipe D.J. Millan - El Paso, TX

Thursday Morning, Sep. 21, 2006

Presiding Officer:

Vanna Slaughter, Catholic Charities of Dallas, Inc.—Immigration and Legal Services - Dallas, TX

8:30 am
0.75 hr

A Nation of Immigrants, Nonimmigrants, Citizens, and Undocumented Persons

Family-based and employment-based immigration.

Paul Parsons, Paul Parsons, PC - Austin, TX

9:15 am
0.75 hr

Family-Based Immigration: Eligibility of Spouses, Parents, Children, and Other Relatives of U.S. Citizens and Permanent Residents

This session reviews the basics: tips on filling out forms, definitions of qualifying relatives, fees, document requirements, and other things that the statutes and regulations don't teach you.

Michelle L. Saenz-Rodriguez, Saenz-Rodriguez & Associates - Dallas, TX

10:15 am
1.75 hrs

Adjustment of Status Versus Consular Processing, and Waivers in Both Contexts

This session will examine the advantages and disadvantages of adjustment of status and consular processing; eligibility for adjustment of status and eligibility; and procedures for seeking waivers of inadmissibility based on unlawful presence prior removals (I-212s). Misrepresentations and crimes will also be reviewed.

Richard S. Fischer, The Law Office of Richard S. Fischer - Nacogdoches, TX
Joseph Reina, Reina, Bates & Kowalski Immigration Law Group - Dallas, TX

Thursday Afternoon, Sep. 21, 2006

Presiding Officer:

Paul Parsons, Paul Parsons, PC - Austin, TX

12:15 pm
0.75 hr

Lunch Presentation: The Perfect Storm for Immigration Reform

The President, Congress, and the public all have to “get real” in order for true reform to be enacted.

Daniel M. Kowalski, Reina, Bates & Kowalski Immigration Law Group - Austin, TX

1:15 pm
0.75 hr

Naturalization and Citizenship 101—Should You Go There? Can You Go There?

A review of substantive eligibility issues concerning lawful acquisition of permanent residence status, residence and physical presence and abandonment of status, good moral character requirements, denaturalization, and procedural issues for judicial review of adverse determinations.

Albert Wiley Blakeway, San Antonio, TX
Harry James Joe, Jackson Lewis LLP - Dallas, TX

2:00 pm
1.00 hr

Detention and Bonds: The Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How

This panel will focus on the practical aspects of being detained, seeking bond, bond hearings, and generally what you need to know and do to spring your client from the hands of ICE.

Simon M. Azar-Farr, Attorney at Law - San Antonio, TX
Jodilyn Marie Goodwin, Law Office of Jodi Goodwin - Harlingen, TX

3:15 pm
1.00 hr

Special Remedies: Violence Against Women Act, Child Status Protection Act, Victims of Crime or Torture

Immigrant workers—especially women and children—are the frequent victims of domestic violence and other crimes which go unreported. The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Prevention Act (VTVPA) are statutes which provide immigration remedies to non-citizens who have been victims of domestic violence and other violent crimes. This session will cover updates on VAWA self-petitioning, the VAWA 2005 amendments, VAWA cancellation of removal, the U Visa, and the T Visa.

Magali S. Candler, Tindall & Foster - Houston, TX
Vanna Slaughter, Catholic Charities of Dallas, Inc.—Immigration and Legal Services - Dallas, TX

4:15 pm
1.00 hr ethics

Counsel to Co-Conspirator: Drawing Lines, Crossing Lines, and Recognizing Risks of Criminal Liability in Immigration Practice

This session brings together a leading practitioner, prosecutor, and former prosecutors to discuss the risks, pitfalls, and boundaries faced by lawyers handling immigration law matters. Includes discussion of current case law developments, pending criminal actions, and areas of particular concern to prosecutors and immigration practitioners.

Edward F. Gallagher III, Houston, TX
Feroz Farook Merchant, Merchant Law Firm - Houston, TX
Peter D. Williamson, Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, White, Williams & Martin - Houston, TX
Lezlie B. Willis, Fish & Richardson P.C. - Dallas, TX

Friday Morning, Sep. 22, 2006

Presiding Officer:

T. Douglas Stump, T. Douglas Stump & Associates - Oklahoma City, OK

8:00 am
0.50 hr

Birthright Citizenship

The principle of birthright citizenship has been the organizing theme of U.S. citizenship law since the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment; however, the historic integrity of this rule has recently been called into question. This talk examines the history and judicial treatment surrounding birthright citizenship while also evaluating proposed legislative and constitutional revisions.

Gary E. Endelman, BP America Inc - Houston, TX

8:30 am
0.75 hr

Business Basics: Employment-Based Nonimmigrant Status

This session covers the fundamentals of the most commonly requested employment-based nonimmigrant categories including practice pointers for problematic issues.

Leigh Ganchan, Haynes & Boone - Houston, TX

9:15 am
0.75 hr

Business Basics: Employment-Based Immigrant Status

Immigrant visa petition: hot issues under bi-specialization including documenting minimum requirements, ability to pay, successors in interest, and beating visa retrogression by moving from EB 3 to EB 2. Avoid labor certification if your client qualifies for a national interest waiver or as a priority worker on Schedule A worker.

Judy J. Lee, Foster Quan, LLP - Houston, TX
T. Douglas Stump, T. Douglas Stump & Associates - Oklahoma City, OK

10:15 am
0.75 hr

PERM Update

This session will discuss the latest trends and information relating to the PERM labor certification process including recruitment requirements, completing Form 9089, and identifying trigger questions and audits.

Rebecca R. Massiatte, Winstead PC - Dallas, TX
Daniel Xiaoyu Zhang

11:00 am
1.00 hr

Best Practices in the New Era of Worksite Compliance

Employers are targeted for enforcement and severe penalties. What are the best practices for risk avoidance in this new era?

Magdeline R. Esquivel, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. - Bentonville, AR
Richard A. Gump Jr., The Law Offices of Richard A. Gump, Jr. P.C. - Dallas, TX

Friday Afternoon, Sep. 22, 2006

Presiding Officer:

Harry Gee Jr., Law Office of Harry Gee, Jr. & Assoc. - Houston, TX

1:30 pm
0.75 hr

Immigration Law Office Management

Practical advice on office processes and forms, and how effective time management can reduce your time in the office.

Craig E. Miley, Miley & Brown, P.C. - Dallas, TX
Paul Parsons, Paul Parsons, PC - Austin, TX
Kathleen Campbell Walker, Brown McCarroll, L.L.P. - El Paso, TX

2:15 pm
0.50 hr

Seeking Adjudications of Benefits from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

When and how to effectively contact the USCIS about delayed cases, expedite requests, and security checks.

Shawn A. Orme, Berry Appleman & Leiden LLP - Dallas, TX

2:45 pm
0.75 hr

Unlocking the Power of the Internet for Immigration Practice, Research, and Marketing

How to more effectively use the Internet to market your practice, conduct legal research, check case status, access current processing times, and keep current with new laws, procedures, and agency interpretations.

Eugene J. Flynn, Eugene J. Flynn, P.C. - Dallas, TX
Carl Michael Shusterman, Law Offices of Carl Shusterman - Los Angeles, CA

3:30 pm
0.50 hr

The Immigration Lawyer's Tax Handbook

In many immigration cases income tax problems can delay, or even terminate, the progress of your client's immigration case. This presentation will cover common tax problems and solutions that immigration attorneys should be aware of in order to keep their client's case moving forward. Also, any income tax filing requirements contained in newly passed or pending immigration legislation will be reviewed.

Robert W. Alcorn, Dallas, TX