

2008 Immigration and Nationality Law
October 22*, 23-24, 2008 • Marriott Plaza, San Antonio • San Antonio, TX

Wednesday Evening, Oct. 22, 2008

Presiding Officer:

Jodi M. Goodwin, Law Office of Jodi Goodwin - Harlingen, TX

5:00 pm	Registration Opens
	Fundamentals of Immigration Law
6:00 pm 0.75 hr	Introduction to United States Immigration Law A framework of family-based and employment-based immigration, as of October 2008. Paul Parsons, Paul Parsons, PC - Austin, TX
6:45 pm	Break Includes light dinner -- please RSVP on registration form.
7:15 pm 1.00 hr	Fundamentals on Family-Based Immigration This session will cover the very basics of family immigration law. A comprehensive look at the procedural steps to filing the basic family based petitions. Tips on how to organize the documents, up to date filing fees, addresses, and strategies on how to avoid an RFE. Michelle L. Saenz-Rodriguez, Saenz-Rodriguez & Associates - Dallas, TX
8:15 pm 1.00 hr	Fundamentals of Business-Based Immigration This session will discuss fundamentals of business-based immigration including non-immigrant classifications, immigrant classifications, quota systems awareness and planning, and strategic considerations for legal counsel. Harry Gee Jr., Law Office of Harry Gee, Jr. & Associates - Houston, TX
9:15 pm	Adjourn

Thursday Morning, Oct. 23, 2008

Presiding Officer:

Paul Parsons, Paul Parsons, PC - Austin, TX

7:45 am	Registration Opens Includes continental breakfast.
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8:15 am	Welcoming Remarks
8:30 am 1.00 hr 0.25 hr ethics	Naturalization and Citizenship Issues Common problems, solutions, and ethics in naturalization cases; citizenship for children; derivative citizenship; dual citizenship; litigation issues and strategies. Gary E. Endelman, BP America, Inc. - Houston, TX Richard S. Fischer, The Law Office of Richard S. Fischer - Nacogdoches, TX
9:30 am 1.00 hr	Grounds of Removal This session reviews grounds of inadmissibility and deportability and suggests strategies to contest common charges of removability. Co-Author: Barbara Hines, University of Texas School of Law - Austin, TX Lee J. Terán, St. Mary's University School of Law - San Antonio, TX
10:30 am	Break
10:45 am 1.25 hrs	Strategic Planning for Family Cases This session covers steps for analyzing the nuances of potential clients' cases upfront, suggestions for solving cases that appear impossible, exploring waiver eligibility issues, consular processing challenges in dealing with unmet clients, and adjustment application dilemmas raised by grandfathering, VAWA, removal proceedings, CSPA. M. Elizabeth "Liz" Cedillo-Pereira, Cedillo-Pereira & Cedillo, PLLC - Dallas, TX Nancy Taylor Shivers, Shivers & Shivers - San Antonio, TX

Thursday Afternoon, Oct. 23, 2008

Presiding Officer:

Harry J. Joe, Winstead PC - Dallas, TX

	LUNCHEON PRESENTATION
12:15 pm	Pick up Box Lunch Included in conference registration fee.
12:35 pm 0.83 hr	Immigration Rights Why we are losing the battle for immigrants' rights and why Lou Dobbs isn't completely wrong. Ira J. Kurzban, Kurzban, Kurzban, Weinger & Tetzeli, PA - Miami, FL
1:25 pm	Break

1:40 pm 0.50 hr	<p>A Primer on Foreign Adoption</p> <p>This panel will discuss the procedures for immigrating children adopted through private adoptions as well as through agencies and the pre-processing through citizenship of the adopted child pursuant to the Child Citizenship Act.</p> <p>Jodi M. Goodwin, Law Office of Jodi Goodwin - Harlingen, TX</p>
2:10 pm 0.75 hr	<p>Immigration Options for Vulnerable Populations</p> <p>Immigrant workers—in particular, women—are frequently victims of crimes, including domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. Unaccompanied immigrant children arrive in growing numbers each year to the U.S. The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act (VTVPA) provides special immigration remedies to non-citizens in these vulnerable situations. This session will cover updates on the U Visas for immigrant victims of crime; VAWA self petitioning; the T Visa for victims of human trafficking; and the Special Immigration Juvenile Status (SIJS) self-petitioning process.</p> <p>Meredith Linsky, ProBAR - Harlingen, TX Erica Britt Schommer, Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid - Weslaco, TX Vanna Slaughter, Catholic Charities of Dallas, Inc.—Immigration and Legal Services - Dallas, TX</p>
2:55 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Primer: Getting A Green Card</p> <p>This session provides a step-by-step primer on getting a green card including related pointers on adjustment of status.</p> <p>T. Douglas Stump, T. Douglas Stump & Associates - Oklahoma City, OK</p>
3:25 pm	<p>Break</p>
3:40 pm 1.00 hr	<p>Removal Proceedings: The New Rules</p> <p>This session highlights the role and use of the revised Immigration Court Practice Manual with particular attention to the common areas of confusion and pitfalls for new practitioners.</p> <p>Nicolas Chavez, Chavez, Gallagher & Valko, LLP - Dallas, TX Maurice Y. Hew Jr., Texas Southern University - Houston, TX</p>
4:40 pm 1.00 hr 0.25 hr ethics	<p>Immigration to Criminal Law</p> <p>Review of the substantial increase in criminal prosecutions and what immigration lawyers need to know about criminal law and practice.</p> <p>Ira J. Kurzban, Kurzban, Kurzban, Weinger & Tetzeli, PA - Miami, FL</p>
5:40 pm	<p>Adjourn to Reception</p> <p>Sponsored by:</p>

Friday Morning, Oct. 24, 2008

Presiding Officer:

Jodi M. Goodwin, Law Office of Jodi Goodwin - Harlingen, TX

8:30 am 1.00 hr 0.50 hr ethics	<p>Of Counsel--Breakfast With the Experts</p> <p>A leading panel of experienced practitioners answers questions from conference registrants.</p> <p>Richard S. Fischer, The Law Office of Richard S. Fischer - Nacogdoches, TX Harry Gee Jr., Law Office of Harry Gee, Jr. & Associates - Houston, TX Jodi M. Goodwin, Law Office of Jodi Goodwin - Harlingen, TX Harry J. Joe, Winstead PC - Dallas, TX Robert Arley Shivers, Shivers & Shivers - San Antonio, TX Carl Michael Shusterman, Law Offices of Carl Shusterman - Los Angeles, CA Peter D. Williamson, Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, White, Williams & Martin - Houston, TX</p>
	Strategic Planning for Employment Based Immigration
9:30 am 0.75 hr	<p>Working With Non-Immigrant Visas</p> <p>“How soon can you get us a work visa for a Design Engineer from India? for welders from the Philippines? For a nanny from Russia?” This session will cover the immigration attorney’s role in analyzing and guiding employers through the various work visa options (H-1B, H-2, H-3, TN, L, E, etc.) using a “nuts and bolts” approach.</p> <p>Rebecca Burdette, Quan, Burdette & Perez, P.C. - Houston, TX Judy J. Lee, Foster Quan, LLP - Houston, TX</p>
10:15 am	Break
10:35 am 0.50 hr	<p>Strategic Planning Using Immigrant Visas</p> <p>Your client might have the perfect background/credentials for PERM but is this the best route toward PR? This session will cover the attorney's role in analyzing, and guiding clients through various employment based immigrant visa categories (extraordinary ability alien, outstanding researcher, multinational manager, national interest waiver and PERM) in light of visa availability, portability, time left in non-immigrant visa status, and success rates</p> <p>Rebecca Burdette, Quan, Burdette & Perez, P.C. - Houston, TX Judy J. Lee, Foster Quan, LLP - Houston, TX</p>
11:05 am 1.00 hr	<p>A Primer on PERM</p> <p>A discussion about the PERM process, including case preparation, bona fide recruitment, and BALCA case update.</p> <p>Eugene J. Flynn, Eugene J. Flynn, P.C. - Dallas, TX Rebecca R. Massiatte, Winstead PC - Dallas, TX</p>

Friday Afternoon, Oct. 24, 2008

Presiding Officer:

Nancy Taylor Shivers, Shivers & Shivers - San Antonio, TX

12:05 pm	<p>Pick up Box Lunch</p> <p>Included in conference registration fee.</p>
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	<p>LUNCHEON PRESENTATION</p> <p>Sponsored by:</p>
<p>12:25 pm 0.83 hr</p>	<p>Law Office Management for Immigration Practitioners</p> <p>Practical advice on office processes and forms, and how effective time management can reduce your time in the office.</p> <p>Albert Armendariz Jr., El Paso, TX Judy J. Lee, Foster Quan, LLP - Houston, TX Moderator: Paul Parsons, Paul Parsons, PC - Austin, TX Patsy Pei-Ling Yung, Dept Of Homeland Security, US Citizenshi - Dallas, TX</p>
<p>1:15 pm</p>	<p>Break</p>
<p>1:30 pm 1.00 hr</p>	<p>Worksite Enforcement</p> <p>Worksite compliance and enforcement issues from two perspectives: the employer and the non-citizen-employee. The presentation will provide up-to-date information on employer concerns such as raids, I-9s, audits, and no-match letters; and will address non-citizen employee issues including individual rights, community responses to raids, and the immigration consequences of certain criminal convictions.</p> <p>Nicole Lawrence Ezer, Greenberg Traurig, LLP - Houston, TX Jacqueline L. Watson, Hines & Leigh, P.C. - Austin, TX</p>
<p>2:30 pm 0.50 hr</p>	<p>Snatching Victory from the Jaws of Defeat</p> <p>USCIS has rejected 1.) your client's citizenship case for "lack of good moral character" due to incorrect tax returns and, 2.) your employment based case due to Yates memo "inability to pay" issues. Learn how to overcome these denials and salvage your case...plus much more.</p> <p>Robert W. Alcorn, Dallas, TX</p>
<p>3:00 pm</p>	<p>Break</p>
<p>3:15 pm 0.50 hr</p>	<p>Asylum</p> <p>This session will provide information on the basics of asylum law and how to represent asylum seekers before CIS and the Immigration Court.</p> <p>Edna Yang, American Gateways - Austin, TX</p>
<p>3:45 pm 0.50 hr</p>	<p>Using the Internet to Stay Current with Immigration Laws, Procedures, and Agency Interpretations</p> <p>How to more effectively use the internet to conduct legal research, check case status, access current processing times, and keep current with new laws, procedures, and agency interpretations.</p> <p>Eugene J. Flynn, Eugene J. Flynn, P.C. - Dallas, TX Carl Michael Shusterman, Law Offices of Carl Shusterman - Los Angeles, CA</p>

4:15 pm
0.50 hr

Top 10 Immigration Updates to Help Guide Your Practice

What are the top 10 predictions every lawyer needs to know to prepare for the future?

Richard A. Gump Jr., The Law Offices of Richard A. Gump, Jr. P.C. - Dallas, TX

4:45 pm

Adjourn