

**35<sup>th</sup> Annual Immigration and Nationality Law**  
**October 19\*, 20-21, 2011 • AT&T Conference Center • Austin, TX**

**Wednesday Afternoon, Oct. 19, 2011**

**Presiding Officer:**

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

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**Fundamentals of Immigration and Nationality Law**

2:00 pm 0.00 hr ethics	<b>Registration Opens</b>
2:30 pm 1.00 hr	<b>Top 10 Things You Should Know about U.S. Immigration Laws</b>  This presentation includes a discussion of the interplay of unlawful presence, out of status, and nonimmigrant, immigrant, and citizenship categories for foreign nationals, their employers and their families.  Paul Parsons, Paul Parsons, PC - Austin, TX
3:30 pm 0.50 hr	<b>Getting Started: Key Issues Involving Processing of a Visa</b>  The basic issues surrounding the adjustment of status process including classifications, priority dates and other basic qualifying factors.  Michelle L. Saenz-Rodriguez, Saenz-Rodriguez & Associates, P.C. - Dallas, TX
4:00 pm 0.42 hr 0.25 hr ethics	<b>Mock USCIS I-130/I-485 Adjustment of Status Interview</b>  This session provides a mock adjustment of status interview with USCIS for the spouse of a U.S. citizen. A mock USCIS interviewer suspects the validity of the marriage for immigration purposes and interrogates the married couple. Panelists provide analysis and critique after the interview.  Panelists: Nicolas Chavez, Chavez & Valko, LLP - Dallas, TX Panelists: Harry J. Joe, Jackson Lewis LLP - Dallas, TX Panelists: Kate Lincoln-Goldfinch, Hines & Leigh, PC - Austin, TX Panelists: Peter D. Williamson, Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, White, Williams & Martin - Houston, TX
4:25 pm 0.75 hr	<b>Naturalization and Citizenship: Basic Issues</b>  Your client has a green card and wants to "upgrade" to U.S. citizenship. Is she eligible? This session reviews basic eligibility and some hidden pitfalls.  Daniel M. Kowalski, The Fowler Law Firm, P.C. - Austin, TX

5:10 pm 0.33 hr	<p><b>Mock Naturalization Interview</b></p> <p>In this mock interview session, seemingly eligible applicants are interviewed about their naturalization applications and then see the pre-ceremony aspects of the Swearing In Ceremony. The follow-up suggests ways counsel can get eligible individuals to that all-important ceremony to be sworn in.</p> <p>Moderator: Nancy Taylor Shivers, Shivers &amp; Shivers - San Antonio, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Thomas Esparza Jr., Attorney at Law - Austin, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Victoria Jurado, Shivers &amp; Shivers - San Antonio, TX</p>
5:45 pm 0.75 hr 0.25 hr ethics	<p><b>Ask the Experts</b></p> <p>This moderated panel provides an interactive opportunity to have questions answered by the experts.</p> <p>Moderator: Nancy Taylor Shivers, Shivers &amp; Shivers - San Antonio, TX</p>
5:30 pm	<p><b>Break</b></p> <p>Fifteen minutes for drinks.</p>
6:30 pm	<p><b>Adjourn to Opening Reception</b></p>

## Thursday Morning, Oct. 20, 2011

### Presiding Officer:

**Michelle L. Saenz-Rodriguez**, Saenz-Rodriguez & Associates, P.C. - Dallas, TX

8:00 am	<p><b>Registration Opens</b></p> <p>Includes continental breakfast.</p>
8:50 am	<p><b>Welcoming Remarks</b></p>
9:00 am 1.00 hr	<p><b>Family-Sponsored Immigration</b></p> <p>A focus on basic concepts in family-based immigration such as who can file for whom and when, where to file petitions, the definition of “child,” cross-chargeability, the Child Status Protection Act, the Adam Walsh Act, affidavit of support requirements, widows and battered spouses/children.</p> <p>Janet Barbara Beck, University of Houston Law Center - Houston, TX</p>

10:00 am 0.75 hr 0.25 hr ethics	<b>A Practitioner's Guide to Navigating the Complexities of Marriage Cases</b>  This session reviews how to deal with problem issues that arise in marriage petition cases. This unique panel looks at the topic from the lawyer's perspective in preparing marriage cases as well as the paralegal's perspective, and includes how to deal with both legal issues and client issues in these sometimes complicated cases, such as preparing the case for potential fraud factors, atypical marriages, cultural differences and language differences.  Sarah Zoller Brown, Miley & Brown, P.C. - Dallas, TX Tonya Spears, Miley & Brown, P.C. - Dallas, TX
10:45 am	<b>Break</b>
11:00 am 1.00 hr 0.25 hr ethics	<b>What about the Children? Immigration Issues Involving Minors</b>  Texas is the destination for a growing number of Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC) who have fled turmoil, abuse and violence in their home countries. The speakers discuss federal government programs responding to these children and strategies for representing these children in removal proceedings, including pro bono opportunities.  Maria D. Mitchell, Catholic Charities Cabrini Center for Immigrant Legal Assistance - Houston, TX Viridiana Pulido, Catholic Charities Cabrini Center for Immigrant Legal Assistance - Houston, TX Vanna Slaughter, Catholic Charities of Dallas, Inc.- Immigration and Legal Services - Dallas, TX
12:00 pm	<b>Break to Pick Up Lunch</b>  Included in conference registration fee.

## Thursday Afternoon, Oct. 20, 2011

### Presiding Officer:

**Peter D. Williamson**, Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, White, Williams & Martin - Houston, TX

	<b>Luncheon Presentation</b>
12:15 pm 0.75 hr	<b>Lessons from Inside: How Reform Could Happen</b>  Roxie Bacon, Former Chief Counsel, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services - Phoenix, AZ
1:00 pm	<b>Break</b>
1:15 pm 1.00 hr	<b>The Permanent Resident Timeline Tightrope</b>  This session reviews the process and discusses issues including critical intake points, why immediate relatives are so special, when adjustment won't work, managing expectations on timing, interpreting the visa bulletin, the pros and cons of consular processing, delays due to waivers, and appellate rights.  Judith G. Cooper, Attorney at Law - Houston, TX Kathleen Campbell Walker, Cox Smith - El Paso, TX

2:15 pm 1.00 hr	<p><b>Extreme Lawyering: Filing Waivers at Home and at Consulates Abroad</b></p> <p>The panel covers which waivers of inadmissibility to use when seeking Adjustment of Status and when applying for an immigrant visa or nonimmigrant visa abroad. It also provides insight into preparing an effective packet with the use of psychological evaluations, various strategies at the consulates, and how to strive for success and achieve the extreme.</p> <p>George Rodriguez, Saenz-Rodriguez &amp; Associates, P.C. - Dallas, TX Martin Valko, Chavez &amp; Valko, LLP - Dallas, TX</p>
3:15 pm	<b>Break</b>
3:30 pm 1.00 hr 0.25 hr ethics	<p><b>Citizenship: Exploring the Advanced Issues</b></p> <p>Panelists discuss problem areas that arise when a person makes a claim for U.S. citizenship, including claims to U.S. citizenship by persons born with the help of a midwife; challenges to U.S. citizenship for persons issued delayed U.S. birth certificates; federal court review over claims to US citizenship; challenges to immigration detention by persons claiming US citizenship; reopening denials of applications for U.S. citizenship certificates; state of the law on constitutional challenges to different standards for transmitting citizenship to children born out of wedlock outside the U.S. depending on the sex of the U.S. citizen parent; and more.</p> <p>Commentator: Elisabeth S. Brodyaga, San Benito, TX Javier N. Maldonado, Attorney at Law - San Antonio, TX</p>
4:30 pm 1.00 hr 0.25 hr ethics	<p><b>Ask the Experts</b></p> <p>This moderated panel provides an interactive opportunity to have questions answered by the experts on any of the day's topics including professional practice and ethics issues. Registrants are asked to provide questions in writing in advance or to present questions from the conference floor. Always a crowd pleaser so don't miss this chance to bounce ideas off the top immigration lawyers in Texas.</p> <p>Moderator: Michelle L. Saenz-Rodriguez, Saenz-Rodriguez &amp; Associates, P.C. - Dallas, TX Panelist: Richard S. Fischer, The Law Office of Richard S. Fischer - Nacogdoches, TX</p>
5:30 pm	<b>Adjourn</b>

## Friday Morning, Oct. 21, 2011

### Presiding Officer:

**Richard A. Gump Jr.**, Attorney at Law - Dallas, TX

7:45 am	<p><b>Conference Room Opens</b></p> <p>Includes continental breakfast.</p>
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8:30 am 0.75 hr	<p><b>Finding What You Need: Practice Tips for Immigration Lawyers on How to Find Key Statutes, Forms, Regulations, Governmental Memoranda, Manuals and More</b></p> <p>How to more effectively conduct legal research for free, check case status, access current processing times and keep current with new laws, regulations, 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>
9:15 am 1.00 hr 0.25 hr ethics	<p><b>Business as a Solution: The Basics of Employment-Based Immigration</b></p> <p>Whether you are a new or seasoned practitioner, this session provides an overview of the most widely utilized work visas and employment-based permanent residence categories. It provides practical tips and considerations on common issues to help devise strategies for choosing the best visa category and to avoid common pitfalls and ethical dilemmas.</p> <p>Helene Nguyen Dang, FosterQuan, LLP - Houston, TX Judy J. Lee, FosterQuan, LLP - Houston, TX</p>
10:15 am	<b>Break</b>
10:30 am 1.00 hr	<p><b>Hot Topics in Business Immigration</b></p> <p>This panel addresses developing issues including new options for entrepreneurs, what constitutes prohibited B-1 work, prevailing wage roadblocks, preparing for FDNS actions, lessons learned from recent H-1B penalties (Prince George), OSC actions and E-Verify mandates.</p> <p>Moderator: Kathleen Campbell Walker, Cox Smith - El Paso, TX Panelists: Harry Gee Jr., Law Office of Harry Gee, Jr. &amp; Associates - Houston, TX Panelists: Harry J. Joe, Jackson Lewis LLP - Dallas, TX</p>
11:30 am 0.75 hr	<p><b>ICE Audits: What Every Attorney Needs to Know</b></p> <p>The panelists discuss third-party audits, what happens when an audit leads to criminal investigation, the process from Notice of Inspection to ICE settlement, and giving post-ICE settlement advice to your client.</p> <p>Richard A. Gump Jr., Attorney at Law - Dallas, TX Kevin Robert Lashus, Jackson Lewis LLP - Austin, TX Joseph Martinez Jr., Department of Homeland Security - San Antonio, TX</p>
12:15 pm	<p><b>Break to Pick Up Lunch</b></p> <p>Included in conference registration fee.</p>

## Friday Afternoon, Oct. 21, 2011

### Presiding Officer:

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

	<b>Luncheon Presentation</b>
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12:30 pm 0.75 hr	<p><b>Proposed Texas Immigration Legislation: Bad for Business?</b></p> <p>Luis Orlando Figueroa Jr., MALDEF - San Antonio, TX  Todd C. Landfried, Arizona Employers for Immigration Reform - Phoenix, AZ</p>
1:15 pm	<b>Break</b>
1:30 pm 0.75 hr	<p><b>Inadmissibility and Removal: Litigation Strategies</b></p> <p>Non-citizens in removal proceedings are charged with either grounds of inadmissibility where they could face denial of admission to the United States, or grounds of deportability where they could face deportation after being admitted to the country. This session examines both grounds of inadmissibility and removability, and litigation strategies in the removal context for challenging both and the available defenses.</p> <p>M. Elizabeth 'Liz' Cedillo-Pereira, Cedillo-Pereira &amp; Cedillo, PLLC - Dallas, TX  Garry Lee Davis Jr., Attorney at Law - Dallas, TX  Raed Gonzalez, Garza &amp; Associates, Attorneys at Law - Bellaire, TX</p>
2:15 pm 0.75 hr	<p><b>Anatomy of a Removal Case</b></p> <p>Notice to Appear, aggravated felonies, retroactivity, naturalization, 212(c), 212(h), <i>nunc pro tunc</i> application of law, and readjustment.</p> <p>Moderator:  Jodi M. Goodwin, Law Office of Jodi Goodwin - Harlingen, TX  Simon M. Azar-Farr, Attorney at Law - San Antonio, TX</p>
3:00 pm 0.75 hr	<p><b>Mock Removal Hearing</b></p> <p>In this mock removal hearing, the panelists portray the Respondent, the Respondent's Attorney, an ICE Trial Attorney, and an Immigration Judge.</p> <p>Panelists:  Simon M. Azar-Farr, Attorney at Law - San Antonio, TX  Panelists:  Thomas Esparza Jr., Attorney at Law - Austin, TX  Panelists:  Jodi M. Goodwin, Law Office of Jodi Goodwin - Harlingen, TX  Panelists:  Jacqueline L. Watson, Law Office of Thomas Esparza, Jr., P.C. - Austin, TX</p>
3:45 pm 0.75 hr 0.25 hr ethics	<p><b>Ask the Experts</b></p> <p>This moderated panel provides an interactive opportunity to have questions answered by the experts, including professional practice and ethics issues. Registrants are asked to provide questions in writing in advance or to present questions from the conference floor. Always a crowd pleaser so don't miss this chance to bounce ideas off the top immigration lawyers in Texas.</p> <p>Moderator:  Richard A. Gump Jr., Attorney at Law - Dallas, TX</p>
4:30 pm	<b>Adjourn</b>