

37th Annual Conference on Immigration and Nationality Law
October 24-25, 2013 • AT&T Conference Center • Austin, TX

Thursday Morning, Oct. 24, 2013

Presiding Officer:

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

7:30 am	Registration Opens Includes continental breakfast.
8:25 am	Welcoming Remarks
8:30 am 1.00 hr	Hot Topics in Employer Sanctions/Compliance and Removal A review of the newest of the new—a sneak peek at the hot-button issues including Comprehensive Immigration Reform (CIR), Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Removal. Richard S. Fischer, The Law Offices of Richard S. Fischer - Nacogdoches, TX Jodi M. Goodwin, Law Office of Jodi Goodwin - Harlingen, TX
9:30 am 0.75 hr	Naturalization on the Whole The ever-changing world of immigration and naturalization law. Francisco J. García, The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston - Galveston, TX Clarissa Guajardo, Attorney at Law - Houston, TX
10:15 am	Break
10:30 am 0.75 hr	Are You/Are You Not a U.S. Citizen? Derivative Citizenship Oftentimes, clients come to your office regarding their immigration options, not knowing that they may be United States citizens. Clients also come to your office having been told all their lives that they are United States citizens, but are now being denied U.S. passports. This session explores the various means of proving citizenship, acquired and derived, as well as how to respond to Department of State allegations against United States citizens. Olsa Alikaj-Cano, FosterQuan, LLP - Houston, TX Nathaniel R. Martinez, Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C. - Houston, TX
11:15 am 1.00 hr	Evidence 101: Standards, Burdens, How-to Proof, FOIA/TRIP/SAVE An evidence road map, including formulating a theory of the case, administrative and judicial notice, and building an evidentiary record for possible review of constitutional claims over which the Immigration Court lacks jurisdiction. Brian K. Bates, Reina Bates Immigration Law Group - Houston, TX Elisabeth S. "Lisa" Brodyaga, Refugio del Rio Grande - San Benito, TX

12:15 pm	Pick Up Lunch Included in registration.
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Thursday Afternoon, Oct. 24, 2013

Presiding Officer:

Edna Yang, American Gateways - Austin, TX

LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

12:30 pm 0.75 hr	The Process, Politics and Prospects of Immigration Reform in the 113th Congress For the last ten months, Washington, DC, has been teeming with news of immigration reform, but what does it all mean? More important, what can you do about it? A look at the process, politics and prospects of immigration reform in the 113th Congress. Anu Joshi, American Immigration Lawyers Association - Washington, DC Gregory Siskind, Siskind Susser - Memphis, TN
1:15 pm	Break
1:30 pm 1.00 hr	Rules of Evidence in Removal Proceedings Advanced coverage of the various facets of evidence, types of evidence and general admissibility issues. Simon M. Azar-Farr, Attorney at Law - San Antonio, TX Imran B. Mirza, Law Office of Imran Beg Mirza - Houston, TX
2:30 pm 1.00 hr	Family-Sponsored Immigration A focus on basic concepts in family-based immigration such as who can file for whom and when, using old priority dates, the definition of “child,” cross-chargeability, the Child Status Protection Act, the Adam Walsh Act, affidavit of support requirements, widows and battered spouses/children. Janet B. Beck, University of Houston Law Center - Houston, TX Sarah Zoller Brown, Miley & Brown, P.C. - Dallas, TX
3:30 pm	Break
3:45 pm 1.00 hr 0.50 hr ethics	Anatomy of a Removal Case Immigration law experts, including a recently retired immigration court judge and former Assistant Chief Counsel at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, examine the mechanics of removal proceedings from initiation of proceedings through the bond process, all the way to the removability phase of the case. Gain insight on presenting the best case possible—from legal strategy to practical considerations. Moderator: Michelle L. Saenz-Rodriguez, Saenz-Rodriguez & Associates, P.C. - Dallas, TX Panelists: Hon. Jimmie L. Benton, Gill & Benton - Houston, TX Joel R. Gonzalez, Cote & Gonzalez PLLC - San Antonio, TX Jodi M. Goodwin, Law Office of Jodi Goodwin - Harlingen, TX

4:45 pm 1.00 hr	<p>U/T/VAWA/SIJ</p> <p>An in-depth review of immigration remedies for vulnerable populations and crime victims, including U Visas, T Visas, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and Special Immigrant Juveniles (SIJ) Status.</p> <p>Wafa Abdul Rauof Abdin, Catholic Charities - Houston, TX Elise Thompson Harriger, Casa Marianella Immigration Legal Services - Austin, TX</p>
5:45 pm 0.25 hr ethics	<p>Pro Bono</p> <p>A <i>pro bono</i> practitioner and client briefly talk about their experiences as they relate to the value and benefits of <i>pro bono</i> representation. Get inspired to share your time and expertise with nonprofit immigration programs in Texas.</p> <p>Paul Trahan, Norton Rose Fulbright LLP - Austin, TX Wael Samir Abdelaty, Pro Bono Client - Austin, TX</p>
6:00 pm	Adjourn to Mixer
6:00 pm	<p>PRO BONO MIXER</p> <p>Enjoy refreshments and a networking opportunity with colleagues, conference faculty and <i>pro bono</i> organization representatives.</p>

Friday Morning, Oct. 25, 2013

Presiding Officer:

Jacqueline L. Watson, Law Office of Thomas Esparza, Jr., P.C. - Austin, TX

7:30 am	<p>Conference Room Opens</p> <p>Includes continental breakfast.</p>
8:30 am 1.00 hr	<p>Hot Topics in Immigration Reform and Family Immigration Law</p> <p>The latest developments in immigration reform efforts, including an examination of some of the biggest issues included in the Senate immigration reform bill—SB 744—and what the House’s options are moving forward, an exploration of Obama’s Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy, and what it all means for family-based immigration.</p> <p>Anu Joshi, American Immigration Lawyers Association - Washington, DC Carl M. Shusterman, Law Offices of Carl Shusterman - Los Angeles, CA</p>
9:30 am 0.75 hr	<p>AOS Versus Consular Processing</p> <p>Advantages of adjustment of status, inspected and admitted or paroled, 245(1), approvable when filed, adjustment strategies, various consular procedures, and provisional waivers.</p> <p>Harry Gee Jr., Harry Gee, Jr. & Associates, PLLC - Houston, TX Mona Gupta, Gupta & Wiora, P.C. - Dallas, TX</p>
10:15 am	Break

10:30 am 1.00 hr 0.50 hr ethics	Waivers of Inadmissibility An overview of immigrant visa waivers of inadmissibility, including the stateside unlawful presence waiver, and a general look at non-immigrant visa waivers. Get practical tips as well as an understanding of the law. Magali S. Candler, FosterQuan, LLP - Houston, TX Jason C. Mills, Law Office of Jason Mills - Fort Worth, TX
11:30 am 1.00 hr 0.50 hr ethics	Crimmigration Experienced "crimmigration" practitioners review the latest developments regarding immigration consequences of criminal convictions, including a Supreme Court case law update, a practical application of the modified categorical approach, and ethical considerations when advising non-citizens on plea agreements. Moderator: Jacqueline L. Watson, Law Office of Thomas Esparza, Jr., P.C. - Austin, TX Panelists: Carlos M. García, García & García, Attorneys at Law P.L.L.C. - McAllen, TX César Cuauhtémoc García Hernández, University of Denver Sturm College of Law - Denver, CO
12:30 pm	Pick Up Lunch Included in registration.

Friday Afternoon, Oct. 25, 2013

Presiding Officer:

Cristina Zambrano, Zambrano Law Office - Austin, TX

LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

12:45 pm 0.75 hr	State and Local Anti-Immigrant Laws: Update on the Fight Against Patchwork Immigration Enforcement Nationally-recognized civil rights attorney Nina Perales, lead attorney in <i>Reyes v. City of Farmers Branch</i> , discusses recent developments in the fight against anti-immigrant local ordinances and state laws. Nina Perales, Vice President of Litigation, MALDEF - San Antonio, TX
1:30 pm	Break
1:45 pm 1.00 hr	What the H? What the L? What You Need to Know about Non-Immigrant Visas What is the best option when your client qualifies for several different work visas—H-1B professional worker, L-1 intracompany transferee, TN NAFTA professional worker or E Treaty Investor/Trader? Hear the practical, legal and processing challenges of each of these visas. Judy J. Lee, FosterQuan, LLP - Houston, TX Susan K. McConn, FosterQuan, LLP - Houston, TX

2:45 pm 0.75 hr	<p>PERM Building Blocks: The Basics</p> <p>An overview of what it takes to build a PERM case on solid ground, including practice-specific examples and how-tos concerning the "blocks" of a PERM case.</p> <p>Rebecca R. Massiatte, Jackson Lewis LLP - Dallas, TX Paige L. Taylor, Berry Appleman & Leiden LLP - Dallas, TX</p>
3:30 pm	<p>Break</p>
3:45 pm 0.75 hr 0.25 hr ethics	<p>Work Site Enforcement: The New World of I-9s and E-Verify</p> <p>Conflicting agency interpretations of the new I-9 coupled with increasing E-verify usage causes employer headaches. Learn how to manage verification and work site compliance challenges and how to negotiate with the enforcement agencies.</p> <p>Richard A. Gump Jr., Attorney at Law - Dallas, TX Kathleen Campbell Walker, Cox Smith Matthews Incorporated - El Paso, TX</p>
4:30 pm 0.75 hr 0.25 hr ethics	<p>Ask the Experts</p> <p>An interactive opportunity to have top immigration lawyers answer your questions. Please submit your questions in advance to service@utcle.org or onsite at the conference registration desk.</p> <p>Moderator: Eugene J. Flynn, Eugene J. Flynn, P.C. - Dallas, TX</p>
5:15 pm	<p>Adjourn</p>