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(Pwd: GA-AL-M3MB3R5!)

February 16, 2018 Chapter Newsletter

Chapter Events

2018 Georgia-Alabama Chapter Conference Next Week

Less than one week until the best immigration law conference in the Southeast kicks off! We have “hands on workshops,” experts from our own backyard and from across the country, and plenty of networking opportunities. We cannot wait to see you at the Georgian Terrace later this month. There’s still time to register, but don’t wait too long!

View the [Program](#)

[Register online](#)

Dates: February 23-24, 2018

- Attorney, AILA Member: \$400.00
- Attorney, Non-AILA Member: \$500.00
- Non-Profit Employee: \$200.00
- Paralegal: \$275.00
- Law Student (must have prior approval): \$100.00

Next Chapter Luncheon: Focus on Advocacy March 16, 2018

Save the date! Our next chapter luncheon will be on Friday, March 16th. Our Advocacy Committee is hard at work on securing speakers, but we are excited to have local legislators and community leaders join us.

Date: Friday, March 16th

Time: 11:30 networking, 12:00 lunch

Location: RiRa Atlanta, 1080 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 1, Atlanta, GA 30309

Cost: \$25.00

Registration Link: <https://ailagaal.wufoo.com/forms/zj6nnlf0gtmdfc/>

Immigrant and Refugee Education and Advocacy Day February 27, 2018

The Georgia-Alabama Chapter is honored to co-sponsor the Immigrant and Refugee Education and Advocacy Day! Join local immigrant rights groups at the Georgia Capitol on February 27th, 9am-12pm. We will discuss pending anti-immigrant bills as well as provide a lobbying training. This will be followed by a chance to talk with your State Senators and Representatives regarding these issues.

See attachment for more details.

Chapter Needs

Day Coordinators Needed for Chapter Conference

The Conference Planning Committee is looking for law student and/or new member volunteers to assist us at the GA-AL Chapter conference on February 23 and 24th. Day Coordinators will help with registration, keep track of time for panelists and make brief announcements between panels. Day coordinators are needed for shifts in the morning and afternoon for Friday and Saturday.

This is a great opportunity to interact with your local immigration bar and meet experienced practitioners! You'll also receive a reduced rate for conference registration.

To volunteer please contact Joy Smith at JoyElmoreSmith@gmail.com.

Chapter Nominating Committee Volunteers Needed

Although chapter elections are nearly four months away, we need to get the wheels in motion for the 2017-2018 Executive Committee. Each year, the Nominating Committee meets and puts forth a slate of candidates for the chapter to vote on to serve on the Executive Committee. This year's Nominating Committee will be chaired by Immediate Past Chair, Sarah Owings. We need two other members to join her.

You cannot serve on the Nominating Committee if you have already committed to a potential candidate or if you have an interest in running for the Executive Committee.

Please contact Sarah directly at past.chair@ga-al.com by Friday, February 23rd if you are interested. If more than two people express interest, we will have a chapter-wide electronic vote to create the Nominating Committee.

Local Events

2018 Asian American Legislative Breakfast and Lobby Day February 22, 2018

Join Asian Americans Advancing Justice for their Seventh Annual Asian American Legislative Breakfast and Lobby Day on Thursday, February 22nd in the Georgia State Capitol located in downtown Atlanta. Our Legislative Breakfast and Lobby Day is designed to be a relationship-building opportunity among Asian American leaders, Georgia elected officials and other policy makers. The event draws the largest number of Asian American business and community leaders to the Georgia Capitol each year, typically bringing together over 300 guests.

This year's event will start with coffee and refreshments as well as a formal program at the Floyd Room at the James H Floyd Building from 7:30AM - 9:00AM, followed by an opportunity to lobby elected officials on important issues in the legislature. Guests will be invited to join the group back in the Floyd Room for a lunch and keynote address (TBD).

For any questions, please contact Berenice Rodriguez at:
Berenice@advancingjustice-atlanta.org.

To purchase tickets or sponsorships <https://2018legbreakfast.eventbrite.com>

Volunteers Needed for Family Preparedness Clinic February 25, 2018

The recent rise in immigrant detention is causing instability in families across metro Atlanta by separating caregivers from children.

To empower families, a team of advocates created the [Georgia Immigrant Family Preparedness Guide](#), which outlines steps families may take to ensure children's well-being in the event a caregiver is detained.

Now the team is hosting a series of Family Preparedness Clinics. At the clinics, volunteer attorneys assist parents and guardians in obtaining travel documents for children and completing certain legal documents, including school affidavits, power of attorney, and declarations. We have a few upcoming opportunities to help.

There will be a clinic on February 25 at St. Edward's Episcopal Church in Lawrenceville. The information for that session is below. If you are interested in volunteering, please register [here](#). Volunteer attorneys specializing in immigration or family law are in special demand for both clinics.

February 25, 2018 Immigrant Family Preparedness Clinic
St. Edward's Episcopal Church
[737 Moon Road, Lawrenceville, GA 30046](#)

Sunday, February 25, 2018
1:45 p.m.-3:45 p.m.

Hosted by Alston & Bird, Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Kids in Need of Defense, and Southern Poverty Law Center

If you have any questions about the February 25th clinic, you can contact Carmen Martinez at Carmen.Martinez@splcenter.org or Tori Guy at Tori.Guy@splcenter.org.

**Go Formal for Freedom to Support GAIN
March 23, 2018**

The Georgia Asylum and Immigration Network (GAIN) is pleased to invite you to their annual Go Formal For Freedom on March 23, 2018 at the Intercontinental Buckhead. Several people will be recognized for their pro bono work for asylum seekers and for victims of violence, including the Honorable Beverly Baldwin Martin of the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

Tickets and information on the event are [online](#) or see the attached flyer.

**2018 Basics of Federal Court Litigation
South Florida Chapter and Immigrant Justice Campaign
March 24, 2018**

Join the Immigration Justice Campaign and AILA South Florida Chapter for the [2018 Basics of Federal Court Litigation CLE](#). This basics-level, single-day conference on March 24, 2018, in Miami, is designed to demystify the judicial process and provide you with the tools you need to seek judicial remedies for your clients. [Register today!](#)

Senate Failure

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**Summary of What Happened on the Hill This Week
From Greg Chen, AILA Director of Advocacy**

Yesterday, the Senate voted on 4 amendments on immigration, none of which received the 60 votes needed for passage. These are the amendments: #1955 by Senators McCain and Coons (#1955) (52 Yays; 47 Nays); #1948 by Senator Toomey (54 Yays; 45 Nays); Senators Rounds and King amendment was substituted in as #1958 (54 Yays; 45 Nays); and the Secure and Succeed Act #1959 sponsored by Sen. Grassley and several other Republicans (Yays 39- Nays 60). Link here to the [Senate vote tally](#).

AILA sent vote recommendations opposing the [Toomey amendment](#) and the [Grassley amendment](#). We supported the bipartisan [McCain/Coons](#) amendment which included the

best Dreamer protections of all the bills, smart border security reforms, and provisions on immigration judges. AILA provided analysis to the Hill about the [Rounds/King amendment](#), but did not issue a vote recommendation. The Rounds/King amendment was very controversial. Our main concerns on policy are its codification of enforcement priorities; the huge amount of border money \$25 billion it appropriates all in 1 year; and the loss of family 2B (reallocated to 2A). This was the beginning of the legislative process and if Rounds passed we would likely have seen negotiations move farther to the right in the House. At the same time we did not want to attack a bill that had built significant bipartisan support including 8 Republicans, and was the best shot at getting 60. For these reasons we decided not to take an official position on the vote.

During this debate, AILA coordinated a rapid response team with the Council and other coalition partners to provide analysis on all the major amendments filed. I am incredibly proud of our team for doing such high level work at such a fast pace. AILA's updates and materials on the senate debate are on [AILA's Senate Debates Immigration Reform page](#).

The Senate's failure to pass a bill means we are headed toward the March 5 deadline when DACA formally expires. The next realistic date when Congress might do something is March 23, when the current Continuing Resolution funding the federal government ends, and we have a chance to get Dreamer legislation attached. The main lever we have to get something passed will be public opinion and the pressure generated on Congress when they see Dreamers start losing protection in such large numbers.

Even if the future is unclear, I am leaving this week with a sense of strength that there is greater support publicly and in Congress for protecting Dreamers. That pressure will continue to build in the upcoming month, and our team in DC and all our AILA members will be ready to rally again to fight for reform.

AILA National News and Events

2018 Nominating Committee Call for Nominations

Do you have leadership skills and experience? Would you like to take an active leadership role in AILA? If so, the 2018 Nominating Committee would like to hear from you. The committee is [currently soliciting nominees](#) interested in running for National Office and the Board of Governors. All nominations are due on or before Wednesday, February 21, 2018.

2018-2019 National Committee Call for Volunteers

AILA National is always looking for energetic volunteers to speak at conferences and seminars, write for or edit publications, moderate the Message Center, assist with advocacy activities, and much more. Please fill out this [volunteer survey](#) to tell us about your interests in volunteering for AILA National activities. The National Committee

selection process for the 2018-19 term is now open. To learn more about the work of the current AILA national committees and taskforces visit [AILA's National Committee page](#). If you are interested in serving on an AILA National Committee for the 2018-19 term, please select "National Committee Member" and indicate your top three committee choices in the question that follows. AILA cannot guarantee a position on any specific committee or taskforce. The call for Committee volunteers for the 2018-19 term will close on March 2, 2018. If you have any questions, please send an e-mail to volunteers@aila.org.

Calls for Examples on the "Invisible Wall"

AILA is pulling together two reports and associated shareable materials – one on the "invisible wall" that the Trump administration is building facing immigrants coming legally and a second on those who are being swept up in the deportation machine.

We NEED your help. If you have clients whose stories fit the bullet points below, we'd love to hear from you. Ideally we want clients willing to talk with press but we realize that's a huge ask right now, so we can work with pseudonyms. If you have a client case example you could share, just a paragraph that has name (pseudonym noted if used), family situation (age, married to USC? Kids?), what they are facing, and the ramifications of bad policy/bad law on them, their family, their business or community.

Also please flag whether the client is willing to speak with press themselves and/or be on camera or share photos of themselves or their family. In the case of business clients, please note whether the name of the business can be used or if they would prefer along the lines of "small mid-Western design company" or similar. Please also note whether the client would like you to initially field any press requests or if we could go directly to them.

Feel free to send in more than one example of course! Send them in by the end of the month (the sooner the better!) to Belle Woods at BWoods@aila.org

Enforcement Report Case Examples To Focus On

Creating New Undocumented Populations -

- TPS terminations
- Indiscriminate Enforcement Policies
 - Overly broad enforcement priorities -
 - Visa Overstays
 - Other groups that are not threats to public safety
 - Refusing to renew long-standing stays of removal or orders of supervision -
- Aggressive Enforcement Tactics
 - "Collateral" arrests -
 - Targeting Vulnerable Populations -
 - UAC Sponsors
 - Victims of Crime (pending U visas)
- Blanket Prosecution Policies
 - Increasing the number of cases on the docket -
 - Reopening and recalendering administratively closed cases
 - Undermining efficiency and due process -

- Refusing to administratively close cases where respondent is eligible for I-601A
- Immigration Court Policies that Undermine Due Process -
- Fast tracking cases
 - Case processing priorities
- Blocking Access to Counsel
 - Continuances memo

Invisible Wall on legal immigration

- Brick #1: Spreading Falsehoods about the Legal Immigration System
 - Employment-Based Immigrants – e.g., an individual who is contributing their unique skills and talent to a U.S. business – perhaps someone in the advanced technology, medical, or the arts/entertainment industry
 - Myth: Stealing jobs from U.S. workers
 - Fact: Filling gaps in the U.S. workforce and providing much needed labor, skills and talent
 - Diversity Lottery System –e.g., a successful individual to showcase that diversity visa lottery winners contribute their skills and talents to the United States
 - Myth: Brings in only low-skilled immigrants
 - Fact: Adds to the diversity of the United States and broadens the pool of individuals who are able to immigrate to the United States
- Brick #2: Implementation of Policies to Slow/Stop the Admission of Temporary Skilled Workers
 - Cases from FY 2018 H-1B cap season still pending – e.g., an H-1B employee who was impacted by lengthy USCIS adjudication delays / RFEs, for example, had to be taken off of payroll, start date delayed, overall projects delayed, etc. – (okay if the case has been approved (doesn't have to still be pending with USCIS))
 - Regulatory agenda proposes terminating H-4 EADs for spouses of H-1Bs - an example of an H-4 employee who was impacted by lengthy adjudication delays, for example, had to be taken off of payroll, start date delayed, overall projects delayed, etc.
- Brick #3: Termination of Humanitarian-Based Programs and Policies to Promote Family Unity
 - DACA
 - TPS
 - MAVNI
- Brick #4: Implementation of Onerous and Unnecessary Screening and Vetting
 - Travel Ban – e.g., a U.S. citizen who is separated from a fiancé, or a foreign national prohibited from traveling to the U.S. to visit a family member or sick relative in the United States
 - Cases stuck in administrative processing at U.S. Consulates for excessive periods –e.g., a foreign national prohibited from traveling to the U.S. to visit a family member or sick relative in the United States
- Brick #5: Slowing Down the Adjudication of Benefits Applications and Executing Policies that Add to the Backlog
 - Cases taking a long time to be adjudicated – ex. Form I-765 (EAD), I-130s, I-751s, I-90s
- Brick #6: Decreasing Stakeholder Access to Agencies

- Reduced availability of InfoPass appointments in certain jurisdictions/InfoPass Pilot – e.g., someone unable to get an appointment to request an urgently needed travel document
- Cancellation of stakeholder meeting – e.g., an AILA chapter or liaison committee who had a meeting canceled and had important/urgent stakeholder questions that needed resolution

Immigration Justice Campaign Seeks Volunteers and Mentors

The Immigration Justice Campaign is a joint initiative of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and the American Immigration Council. Its mission is to fight for due process and justice for detained noncitizens by fortifying the army of lawyers across the country who are ready and able to vigorously defend their rights in court. To learn more, visit www.aila.org/justice.

The Campaign will also partner with local nonprofit organizations to expand your opportunities to take your fearless lawyering to the next level and volunteer to represent immigrants detained in places like Texas, Colorado, Ohio and Georgia – or to mentor newer volunteers. Together, we will strengthen the army of lawyers needed to advocate for detained immigrants.

Training opportunities include:

- An on-demand [bond hearing webinar](#) (free)
- Upcoming CLEs in partnership with the [AILA South Florida Chapter](#) (\$229) on March 24, 2018, in Miami, FL, and the National Immigration Project (TBD) on April 12, 2018, in Washington, DC, and via webcast
- A [three-part fearless lawyering video series](#) featuring retired immigration judges (free)

Learn more and volunteer [online](#). Attached flyer contains more information, too.

Questions? Contact Justice Campaign Director Karen Lucas at klucas@immcouncil.org.

AILA Spring Conference April 13, 2018 in Washington, DC

With the upheaval wrought in the first year of the Trump administration, you'll want to make sure that you're up to date on all the latest proposed policy changes. Join us on Friday, April 13, for the [2018 AILA Spring CLE Conference](#), where you'll get updates from AILA liaison committee members and the government leaders who implement and shape American immigration policy. New for this year, you'll have the opportunity to hear what each agency's priorities are for the year ahead in our "Conversation with the Agencies," where government officials will describe their outlooks for the year. Get the critical information you need in order to effectively help your clients in the next year and beyond!

See the [complete conference program](#), and register today!

AILA Annual Conference June 13 - 16, 2018 in San Francisco

It's that time of the year again, with cold weather and short days, but you can look forward to mild temperatures and the [AILA Annual Conference](#)! The hottest event in immigration law will be held in San Francisco this year, from June 13-16.

Join your fellow fearless lawyers for the 2018 AILA Annual Conference to get all the updates you need for the year ahead, from the latest government policy changes to creative ways to defend your clients.

Member Price: \$855.00

Make your plans now to be in San Francisco for the biggest event of the year! Check out the [complete program](#) and [Day-At-A-Glance](#) and register today!

Job Scene

- Adekunbe Adejumo is relocating from Chicago to Atlanta and is seeking an associate position. See attached resume.

Contact Us

- Like us on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/ailagaal/>
- Tweet with us! <https://twitter.com/@ailagaal>
- Chapter Website: www.ga-al.com
 - **Password for AILA Members Only Page: GA-AL-M3MB3R5!**
- Chapter Yahoo Group: As chapter members, you get to use it. Send anyone on the Executive Committee an email if you want in on the action - the ability to post responsibly and search older threads.

	Tracie L. Klinke Chair Georgia Alabama Chapter American Immigration Lawyers Association
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