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(Pwd: **GA-AL-M3MB3R5!**)

February 26, 2018 Chapter Newsletter

Chapter Events

Chapter Conference a Great Success!

Thank you to everyone who made the 2018 Georgia-Alabama Chapter Conference such an amazing success! I know a tremendous amount of work went into planning and coordinating - so a HUGE thank you to our conference planning committee: Aundrea Roberts, Roberta Cooper, Joy Smith, Jennifer Bensman, Asiyah Sharifi, Sarah Dubale and special thanks to our illustrious co-chairs Lino Rodriguez and Sarah Owings.

Next Chapter Luncheon: Focus on Advocacy March 16, 2018

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/>

National Day of Action April 12, 2018

The registration for AILA National Day of Action is open!

Come out and exercise your lobbying skills in Washington, D.C. with GA-AL Congressional Representatives on April 12, 2018. It is a great opportunity to meet with representatives and discuss important immigration issues especially with the current political climate.

Registration Deadline: April 1, 2018

To register: www.aila.org/nda2018.

Make a Weekend Out of it and also attend the [2018 AILA Spring conference](#) in Washington, D.C. More information on the conference is below.

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 and Liaison Updates

EOIR Update Folkston Hearings to be Held at Annex

The Atlanta Immigration Court will be the Administrative Control Court for the Folkston Hearing Location, effective Monday, March 12, 2018.

Immigration judges at the Stewart Immigration Court currently hear Folkston Hearing Location cases via video conferencing (VTC). Beginning Monday, March 12, 2018, immigration judges at the Atlanta Immigration Court (Annex) will hear Folkston Hearing Location cases via VTC. The Atlanta Immigration Court (Annex) is located at [401 W Peachtree Street NW, Ste. 2600 Atlanta, Ga. 30308](#).

Please note that all pleadings and other correspondence for cases assigned to the Folkston Hearing Location should be filed with the Atlanta Immigration Court (Annex), effective Monday, March 12, 2018.

USCIS Atlanta Liaison Unofficial Notes From February Meeting

Earlier this month, the USCIS Atlanta Liaison committee met with local leadership. We were told that no official notes would be given, so the attached notes are meant to be informational only - not to be cited to in any official capacity.

BIA Decision on Ineffective Assistance of Counsel

From our friends at CLINIC - With just a few days before her check-in with Atlanta ICE ERO, a mother reached out to us via our Facebook group. Taylor, Lee & Associates had represented her and accepted an order of removal without fighting her case. The BIA found that the firm did not defend her against removal before the IJ instead accepting an order of removal in exchange for seeking a stay of removal and promising an EAD.

When we learned that the mother had not actually consent to this practice, we knew we had to help this mother. But time was not on our side as her imminent check-in with Atlanta ICE EOR was supposed to be her last. After strategically considering our options, we rushed to prepare an untimely BIA appeal....a two-year untimely appeal.

The BIA accepted the Notice to Appeal and issued a briefing schedule. We followed this with an emergency motion for a stay of removal with the BIA. While the Notice to Appeal was pending and we awaited the briefing schedule, we complied with the Lozada procedures.

The BIA dismissed the appeal as untimely instructing us to file a Motion to Reconsider and Remand on the question of timeliness. As was done in five nearly identical cases involving this law firm, we asked the BIA to accept this late-filed appeal on certification, or in the alternative, equitably toll the notice of appeal deadline and remand the case for further proceedings before the Immigration Judge.

The decision is attached.

New Asylum Notes and Guide

We have two documents to share today from our Asylum Committee. First is the Best Practices guide that has updated information for all asylum offices, including how to submit documents to the Arlington Asylum Office once an interview has been scheduled.

There was a national call last week and among the topics discussed was the new “first in, first out” scheduling change.

Finally, the committee reports that Burmese refugees already settled in the U.S. are receiving letters to re-interview. It appears that USCIS believes that some of these individuals used fake identities on their refugee paperwork to gain admission to the United States.

Local News and Events

**EOIR Listening Session
March 7, 2018**

The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) invites interested parties to attend a regional stakeholder listening session at the Atlanta-Annex Immigration Court on March 7, 2018, from 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. EST. We seek your feedback regarding immigration court operations and to hear of your experiences with our courts. EOIR's leadership, including Director James McHenry, seeks your input as they consider future plans and initiatives for EOIR and its immigration courts across the country. The Atlanta-Annex Immigration Court is located at 401 W. Peachtree Street, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30308

To RSVP for the meeting, please contact Amanda St Jean, Regional Public Information Officer, via email at Amanda.StJean@usdoj.gov by Feb. 28, 2018. Please note that seating is limited, so we encourage you to register early. In your email, please indicate the name(s) of the attendee(s), your organization, and an email address.

Official invitation is attached.

SB 452 “Deportation Pipeline” Bill Advocacy

Recently, SB 452 was introduced in the Georgia General Assembly. As written, it would require law enforcement agencies to detain anyone “verified” to be in the U.S. undocumented. If this passes, it would be a nightmare for our communities - it takes away judicial discretion, it will increase the already fragile relationship between immigrant communities and law enforcement, and likely lead to racial profiling.

A press conference will be held at 11am on Tuesday, February 27th to denounce this recently introduced legislation in the Georgia Senate.

Also, if you are a member of the Immigration Section of the State Bar of Georgia, you can draft comments. If you are interested in spearheading a response, please let me know by February 28th.

Read the full proposed bill [here](#).

Attached is a fact sheet prepared by Project South.

Richard Dien Winfield Running for Congress from the 10th District

Chapter member Sujata Winfield's husband is running for Congress! He is looking for input from our members on immigration policy so he has the best information available. If you have questions about his run or would like to share your expertise, please contact Sujata at sujatawinfield@yahoo.com.

For more information on him and his candidacy, please visit:
www.winfieldforcongress.com.

New Sanctuary City Movement Update

Please see attached for the latest newsletter from the New Sanctuary City Movement of Atlanta. Included in the newsletter is information on working with the faith-based

community, fundraising and assisting families being torn apart by draconian deportation policies.

**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!](#)

AILA National News and Events

AILA National Resources for Advocacy on USCIS Mission Statement, MAVNI Program and Immigration Law Myths

- [AILA's press statement](#) pushing back on the changes to the USCIS mission statement. Ellie has crafted a couple of sample tweets:

@AILANational responds to the rewrite of the @USCIS mission statement: It cannot change America's identity as a nation of #immigrants <http://ow.ly/Kh0j30iA0er>
#AILAStandsWithImmigrants

The Trump administration may be bent on turning #USCIS away from its core mission, but as @AILAExecDir says, we will not let the change in the mission statement to exclude "nation of #immigrants" go unnoticed.
#AILAStandsWithImmigrants <http://ow.ly/Kh0j30iA0er>

- A [brand new Quicktake video](#) featuring Margaret Stock who describes exactly how things stand for immigrants interested in or currently enlisted in the armed services: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nxsbO9iy6qM>

- A [new blog post from Doug Penn](http://thinkimmigration.org/blog/2018/02/23/the-myth-of-the-good-guy-visa/) in which he addresses a common myth that there is some sort of “good guy visa” for immigrants in U.S. immigration law (spoiler alert, there’s not):
<http://thinkimmigration.org/blog/2018/02/23/the-myth-of-the-good-guy-visa/>

2018-2019 National Committee Call for Volunteers Deadline March 2, 2018

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.

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

- McKinsey & Company is seeking an immigration paralegal to be based either in Atlanta or Tampa. Please send their resumes/CVs to Amy Loggins at amy_loggins@mckinsey.com with the subject line "Immigration paralegal position."
- 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