



July 28, 2017 Chapter Newsletter

Chapter News

Joint Online Meeting with the Bangkok District Chapter

On **August 2nd**, we will hold our chapter's first ever webinar! The Bangkok District Chapter and the Georgia-Alabama Chapter will be co-hosting a webinar on AILA member benefits with Danny Navarro of AILA National. Due to the time zones involved, this will be held online at **9:00PM**.

You can call in or use your computer or smartphone to view the video.

- 1) Join us on StartMeeting online or through the App (smartphone or computer) - <https://www.startmeeting.com/wall/ailabdcinfo/#/>

OR

- 2) Dial into the conference:
Dial-in Number: (701) 801-1220 - United States
Access Code: 737-647-643

Chapter Website Password

Always being updated and changed...but the password on www.ga-al.com is **GA-AL-M3MB3R5!**

Over the next few weeks, you should see more information behind the password protected site, including committee news, liaison minutes, and recordings.

Save the Date: Chapter Conference

The 2018 Georgia-Alabama Chapter Conference will be on February 23rd and 24th. More details to follow!

Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs

We are so very lucky to have the following individuals step-up to volunteer as Chairs and Vice Chairs of our local committees. Members are still being added to a few committees, but leadership is in place and they are ready to go!

Advocacy - Georgia
Kamala Sessoms, Chair and Shirley Zambrano, Vice Chair

Advocacy - Alabama
John Charles Bell, Chair and Salem Afangideh, Vice Chair

Ancillary Services - Georgia
Elena Kochutin, Chair

Asylum
Rachel Effron Sharma, Chair and Will Miller, Vice Chair

CBP Liaison
Courtney Noce, Chair and Bhavya Chaudhary, Vice Chair

Citizenship Day
Nicol Weitnauer, Co-Chair and Justin Russo, Co-Chair

Donations
Jennifer Bensman, Chair and Maritza Ramos, Vice Chair

EOIR Liaison
Jennifer Bensman, Chair and Zaira Solano, Vice Chair

Essay
Hiba Ghalib, Chair

Georgia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (GACDL) and AILA Taskforce
Latrice Latin, Chair

ICE Liaison
Peter Isbister, Chair and Anna Erwin, Vice Chair

MAP
Anne Koch, Co-Chair, Russell Putnam, Co-Chair, and Audra Doyle, Vice Chair

National Day of Action: Georgia
Kamala Sessoms, Chair

National Day of Action: Alabama
Salem Afangideh, Chair

New Members Division / Law Students
Joy Smith, Chair and Olga Gambini, Vice Chair

Pro Bono
Killa Marti, Chair and Joanna Delfunt, Vice Chair

Unauthorized Practice of Law - Georgia

Stephanie Steele, Chair

Unauthorized Practice of Law - Alabama
Norman Roman, Chair

USCIS Liaison - Atlanta
Sam Radin, Chair and Erin Elliott, Vice Chair

USCIS Liaison - Montgomery
Zainab Alwan, Chair

Wellness
Kerry McGrath, Chair

Local News and Resources

UAC Raids on Suspected Gang Members

Please be on the lookout for clients who could be subject to ICE raids targeting UACs suspected of gang membership or to have gang affiliation. See [this article](#) for more details. Thank you to Christina Iturralde Thomas with KIND for bringing this to our attention.

Resources from Project South

Project South has several great resources regarding non-detainer policies and detention facilities here in Georgia. Thank you to Azadeh Shahshahani for providing these to the Chapter.

[Chart on Georgia non-detainer policies](#)

[Spanish translation of the conclusions and recommendations of the report "Imprisoned Justice: Inside Two Immigrant Detention Centers in Georgia"](#)

[Original report on "Imprisoned Justice: Inside Two Immigrant Detention Centers in Georgia."](#)

National News

[Featured Issue: FY2018 DHS Appropriations Bill](#)

On 7/11/17, the House Appropriations Committee introduced the [Homeland Security Appropriations Bill for FY2018](#), which gives the Trump administration a blank check to implement a mass deportation plan.

[Take Action: Tell Congress to STOP Bill that Funds Trump's Border Wall and Massive Deportation Machine](#)

[Featured Issue: Dream Act of 2017](#)

On 7/20/17, Senators Lindsey Graham (R-SC) and Dick Durbin (D-IL) introduced the bipartisan Dream Act of 2017, which would provide young people who were brought to this country as children and grew up, commonly known as Dreamers, in the United States the chance to apply for lawful permanent residence, if they meet certain requirements.

[Take Action: Urge Congress to Protect Dreamers and Support the Dream Act of 2017.](#)

Think Immigration - AILA's Blog

AILA's new [Think Immigration](#) blog will give you interesting new insights into immigration law and issues, and also inspire you to write posts for this interactive and engaging platform! Want to know more about submitting your work to the blog? Check out the [FAQ](#). The best way to get a sense of how to write for the blog is to read some recent posts like those below. And feel free to share on social media!

- July 18, 2017, [Think Immigration: An Obscure Trump Administration Policy that Needlessly Harms Americans](#)
- July 19, 2017, [Think Immigration: There's Always More to Learn](#)
- July 21, 2017, [Think Immigration: A Righteous Act](#)

Upcoming Trainings and Conferences

2017 AILA Fall Conference: Portland, OR **September 14, 2017**

Litigating Employment-Based Immigration Cases. A unique, hands-on practicum.
Organized by the American Immigration Council and Co-Sponsored by AILA

The Council aims to demystify the process of challenging denials of business-related petitions in federal court. Panel sessions are designed to educate attorneys at all levels on how to develop a solid administrative record, address a client's concerns about filing suit, and draft, file, and serve a complaint. Based on a case study, participants will apply what they learn during interactive sessions focused on developing a complaint, preparing to oppose a motion to dismiss, and honing arguments to prevail on summary judgment. Faculty members will provide feedback, and offer practice pointers, and participate in a mock oral argument. Don't miss this opportunity for small group hands-on learning with experienced litigators!

Attendees will be required to review a case-study prior to this one-day training and participate actively in practical exercises. To facilitate peer-to-peer and faculty/participant interaction, space for this intensive workshop is limited. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration will open soon. Please check the [Upcoming Live Events page](#) on Agora.

Global Citizenship Conference
Sponsored by the Latin American and Caribbean Chapter of AILA
Nov 2 & 3, 2017

Tired of L denials, your client doesn't want EB-5, your client's asylum claim is denied but he cannot return to his country of nationality, learn how your non-treaty clients can acquire a passport from a third country and obtain an E visa.

- Do you want an opportunity to golf at one of the world's best golf courses?
- Do you want to learn about citizenship by investment and how it can help your clients from China, Russia, Venezuela, Brazil, India, and other countries lacking treaties of investment with the U.S.?
- Do you want to hear about the high skilled nonimmigrant worker regulations from the best lawyers in the country?
- Do you want to party in one of the most beautiful resorts in the World, Casa de Campo (Villas and hotel rooms are still available)?
- Do you want to meet with USCIS, CBP pre-flight inspection and DOS in the D.R.?

See attached flyer for more information.

Immigration Justice Training Materials
From Karen Lucas and the American Immigration Council

As you may know, a big component of the Immigration Justice Campaign is preparing lawyers of all stripes to be cutting-edge defenders of and advocates for immigrants facing deportation. We're happy to report that the campaign is taking a BIG STEP toward this goal by offering our first introductory-level package of training materials for volunteer attorneys.

Introductory Training Materials are now available to you on ImmigrationJustice.US! These materials are *perfect* for lawyers who are new to deportation defense or have never been inside an immigration court or detention center. Just register through our new form – even if you've joined our site before – to access.

And this is just the beginning! We're building a whole new web platform that will allow you to communicate with other volunteers, choose opportunities and trainings, and track your progress. So stay tuned for more. We're just getting started! *(But don't worry, we'll keep sending the regular emails with advocacy and volunteer opportunities as well.)*

To learn more about the AILA/Council Immigration Justice Campaign, visit www.aila.org/justice. Thanks for joining us and being patient as we create an Immigration Justice Campaign you can be proud of.

Upcoming Events

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- August 26th, Red White and New with New American Pathways
 - Support refugees and new Americans at their annual gala:
 - <https://refugeef.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/RedWhiteandNew2017/tabid/868076/Default.aspx>

Ongoing Activities

- Vote on the AILA bylaws amendment regarding an additional New Member Division Representative to the Board of Governors (Voting remains open through August 11th):
 - <https://eballot4.votenet.com/aila>
- Problems with EOIR's Pilot Bailiff Program
 - If your clients have had any negative experiences with the EOIR Bailiff's Program (through which EOIR has contracted with Federal Protective Service to provide security in non-detained immigration cases) please submit it as an example to AILA -- our National Asylum & Refugee Liaison Committee is collecting examples.
http://www.aila.org/advo-media/agency-liaison/case-examples/call-for-examples-experience-under-eoirs-pilot-bai?utm_source=aila.org&utm_medium=InfoNet%20Search
- Let Center of Excellence Observe your Individual Hearings
 - If you have an upcoming asylum case and would be so kind as to let CoE volunteers observe, please email ariel@innovationlawlab.org with dates and times.
- Raid Updates
 - If you want to be added to the Crimmigration listserv that is our effort in conjunction with GACDL, email Latrice Latin llatin@latinlawimm.com.
- CFI/RFI help needed at Stewart Detention Center
 - Contact Amir Naim to volunteer –anaim@georgiaasylum.org. you do not need to go in person and can participate by telephone.

Job Scene

Associate Opening at The Baldwin Law Firm

Description: We are looking for an associate in a small but very successful firm practicing in the areas of juvenile law, criminal defense, and immigration defense.

Email resume to: JBaldwin@thebaldwinlawfirm.net

Paralegal Viviana Fajnwaks Seeks Position

Ms. Fajnwaks is an attorney licensed in both Argentina and Israel but is seeking work as a paralegal here. Please find her resume attached.

Contact Us

- Like us on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/ailagaal/>
- Chapter Website: www.ga-al.com
- Chapter Yahoo Group: In case you didn't, 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.

