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

October 20, 2017 Chapter Newsletter

Chapter Events

November 3rd - Chapter Luncheon

November is all about giving - and at our Chapter Luncheon, we'll be talking about ways to give back through local pro bono opportunities!

- Elizabeth Matherne speaking on behalf of SPLC to tell us what the program is doing and how we can get involved.
- Emily Laney- Director of Refugee and Immigration Services at LSG who will share with us the best way to help refugees in the wake of the massive reduction in refugee arrivals to our country.
- Featured speaker is Leigh Burgess from the state bar discussing the ethics implications and tips when doing pro bono work.

We will have Pro Bono guides available for attendees that will include information on all the awesome organizations that they can volunteer with.

Attendees can sign-up to receive 1 ethics CLE credit (to be paid by attendee).

Where: 5 Church, 1197 Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta, GA 30361 (Colony Square)

Date: November 3, 2017

Time: 12:00pm - 1:30pm

Cost: \$25.00

Payment and Registration Link: <http://www.ga-al.com/chapter-luncheon/>

There is a call-in option for this meeting. Yes, we do have a new microphone so hopefully technology will be on our side!

Number: 701-801-1211

Passcode: 617-121-923

October 26th - New Member Division Dinner

The New Members Division (NMD) has their monthly dinner set for next week! They'll be meeting with Anton Mertens. Mr. Mertens is a Partner in Burr & Forman's Labor and Employment Practice Group with a focus on immigration law. Anton's concentration consists of business immigration matters for investors, managers, executives and technical personnel.

Time: 6:30pm

Location: Ribalta, [1080 Peachtree St NE #9, Atlanta, GA 30309](#)

Parking: There is a garage on Crescent avenue which is right around the corner, next to RA Sushi.

RSVP: Email Yane McKenzie at yane.mckenzie@troutman.com

October 27th - Litigation Roundtable Luncheon: A Case Study

Back in 2010, a young woman was just trying to go to college when campus police pulled her over for allegedly blocking traffic while waiting for a parking space. Apply a little imagination and one extremely vindictive Cobb County Sheriff, and you end up with the national news saga of Jessica Colotl, which ended with Jessica receiving deferred action before DACA even existed. Once DACA did exist she received DACA twice until this year when DHS decided her grant of DACA was no longer consistent with the government's enforcement priorities.

Our colleagues Chuck Kuck and Danielle Claffey, along with the ACLU, filed suit, and then filed for a temporary restraining order.

Please join our Litigation Section for a discussion of this case with Chuck and Danielle, followed by an opportunity (AILA national conference style) to talk as a group about any pending litigation of interest to the group.

Where: Maggiano's Perimeter, 4400 Ashford Dunwoody Rd., Dunwoody, GA 30346

Date: October 27, 2017

Time: 12:00pm - 1:30pm

Cost: \$25.00

Payment and Registration Link: <http://www.ga-al.com/chapter-luncheon/>

November 1st - New Member Division and Law Student Mixer

The New Members Division presents its 3rd Annual Law Student Mixer on Wednesday November 1st from 7 to 9pm. Please share the attached flyer with any law students or recent graduates interested in immigration law. And no, you don't have to be a student or new member to attend - the more AILA members, the better! Come have a frightfully good time!

Where: Fragomen, Del Rey, Bersen & Loewy, LLC, 600 Peachtree St. NE Suite 4200, Atlanta, GA 30308

Date: November 1st

Time: 7pm - 9pm

There is no cost to attend but please RSVP by October 27th.

RSVP Link: <https://goo.gl/forms/xBIIbRHcmYwo0VP62>

Future Events - Save the Date

December 6th - Chapter Holiday Party

February 23rd - 24th - Chapter Conference. Registration and schedule to be released soon!

Chapter News

Atlanta EOIR Updates

Our EOIR Committee has been in touch with the Atlanta Immigration Court's Administrator and has a bit of news to report...

1. Mailing address for the Annex. If you print your labels from USPS, you have noticed that the official address is not recognized. If you want to use the USPS, you'll need to switch the "NW" to "NE" on the street address.
If you have had a mailing returned to you, they want to see it. Please contact our EOIR liaison chair, Jennifer Bensman, at jen@jenniferbensmanlaw.com with a copy of the returned envelope.
2. IJ Criss' Docket - The overall issue is that on Tuesday and Thursday there are 8:30 and 9:30 non-detained master calendars and a detained docket at 10:00. 8:30 are initial MCs and 9:30 are resets. If IJ Criss is done with one docket early, he'll move on to the next.
By December, Judge Criss should not have a mixed detained/non detained docket in one morning.
Through the end of the year, if you have a master calendar hearing before IJ Criss, AILA recommends that you disregard the printed time and appear at 8am.

Call for Questions - Montgomery USCIS

The USCIS Montgomery Liaison Committee will have its first quarterly meeting with the Montgomery Field Office on November 15th. Please submit any questions or concerns you may have by October 31, 2017 to zainab@solanofirm.com.

Call for Questions - Atlanta USCIS

The USCIS Atlanta Liaison Committee will have its quarterly meeting with the Atlanta Field Office on November 17th. Please submit any questions or concerns you may have by November 6, 2017 to Sam Radin at ailaatlantaliaison@gmail.com.

Committee Highlight: Wellness

Each month, we highlight one of our amazing committees. We want the entire chapter to know about the work that they're doing to better lives for our members.

The wellness committee helps members identify causes of stress in their practice and find methods and resources to reduce these causes. We have a detailed bibliography of resources which we are happy to email to you which should also be posted to the chapter page. We are setting up a Wellness Facebooks group as well. Wellness Committee events include last week's lunch program for litigators and an upcoming meditation class for our members at Georgia Meditation Circle <http://www.meditationcircle.org/>. More details to follow.

We are developing a survey to help identify what would help our members be healthier. We would love to hear from you on what events you would like to see to help reduce stress in your life and build a sense of community. Feel free to contact Kerry McGrath at kerry@kerrylaw.com or Rachel Effron Sharma at rachel@effronimmigration.com.

Endnote: Did you know that one out of five lawyers suffers from Anxiety or Depression? NYTimes July 16, 2007.

Local Events

October 24th - Effective Strategies for Master Calendar Hearings in Atlanta

Kilpatrick Townsend is excited to host a discussion and training in partnership with the Center for Gender and Refugee Studies at UC Hastings (CGRS), the Georgia Asylum and Immigration Network (GAIN) and the Atlanta Center of Excellence (COE) to consider strategies for responding to challenges encountered at Master Calendar Hearings in the Atlanta Immigration Court.

Join us for an informal presentation on best practices and the rights of asylum seekers at a Master Calendar, followed by a strategic conversation as to how we can continue to defend our clients as a community. We'll use the last 30 to 60 minutes to brainstorm strategies for individual cases as a group.

Following the strategic conversation, we'll head to RiRa, [1080 Peachtree St.](#) (actually, it's at the corner of Crescent and 12th Street) to keep the conversation going! Join if you can.

Where: Kilpatrick Townsend, 1100 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 2800, Atlanta, GA 30309

Date: October 24th

Time: 3:00pm - 5:00pm

Cost: Free

RSVP: Email Tamara Caldas at TCaldas@kilpatricktownsend.com

November 8th - Dine for a Cause with GAIN

The Georgia Asylum and Immigration Network (GAIN) is hosting a Dine for a Cause event next month! Join them for tasty Indian food, specialty drinks, and know that part of your tab will be donated to a great cause. See the attached flyer for more information.

Where: Chai Pani - 406 West Ponce De Leon Ave., Decatur, GA

Date: Wednesday, November 8th

Time: 5:30pm - Close

LAA Announces State of Latinos Conference

The Latin American Association is hosting a new conference that addresses the critical issues facing Georgia's rapidly growing Latino population. The statewide gathering will take place on January 29 and 30, 2018 at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta.

The first day will focus on the macro-level dynamics that affect the state's 1 million Latinos and the social, economic, political and policy implications. The second day features concurrent summits on housing and education.

We are especially seeking the participation of local stakeholders with in-depth knowledge of local circumstances that affect the lives of Latinos and their neighbors. Register before November 16th to receive our discounted rate of \$50

<https://thelaa.wufoo.com/forms/state-of-latinos-online-registration/>

National News

AILA Stands with Dreamer Campaign Roll Out

AILA is launching the "AILA Stands with Dreamers" campaign to keep pressure on Congress to pass a clean Dream Act, and to reject the White House's harmful immigration principles. Over the next several weeks, and culminating during the week of November 13, 2017, we want to continue to mobilize AILA members across the country to tell Congress loudly and clearly that AILA stands with Dreamers! Activities include in-district visits on November 14 to key Congressional offices, which AILA National will schedule, as well as calls to Congress, press and media work by AILA chapters, and of course, a Tweetstorm.

Please [register online today](#) for any of the campaign events below:

- November 14
 - Lobby visits to key members of Congress scheduled by AILA National
 - #AILAStandsWithDreamers Tweetstorm from 3-5 pm ET
- November 15
 - 800K calls to Congress for 800K Dreamers
 - AILA Chapters issue press statements
- November 16

- Write an opinion piece for your local newspaper on the importance of passing the Dream Act

Together we can ensure Congress acts now! The lives of nearly 800,000 Dreamers, who were brought to this country as children and are integral to America, depend on it. Thank you.

Department of Justice Threatening Immigration Judge Independence

Last week, the Washington Post broke the [story on the DOJ's plan](#) to impose numeric quotas on immigration judges as part of their performance evaluations. See link below. The judges' union and DOJ are still in negotiations, and the judges are now speaking out against this as fundamentally undermining their independence and the integrity of the courts, not to mention the Constitution's guarantee of due process.

AILA has been aware of this development for several weeks and has been working with our EOIR National Committee and ExCom to develop a response strategy. We have released a press statement, an explanatory video – featuring EOIR committee chair Kelli Stump, and a policy brief, and we are already working with Congress and other partners to pushback against this DOJ plan. See the attached resources and social media you can use.

AILA has posted the following resources:

- [AILA press release.](#)
- [AILA Policy Brief: Imposing Numeric Quotas on Judges Threatens the Independence and Integrity of Courts](#)
- [AILA video explaining problems with quotas](#)

Tweets and Social media:

- Retweet me: <https://twitter.com/GregChenAILA/status/918831871508860928>
- AG Sessions threatens independence of immigration courts. When will these attacks on judicial branch stop!? <http://wapo.st/2g7kUf0>
- Trump Administration Erodes Integrity and Fairness in [#Immigration](#) Courts <http://ow.ly/2X7930fQh2J>
- Retweet AILA National sharing the press statement: <https://twitter.com/AILANational/status/918644972898934784>
- Retweet AILA National sharing a Quicktack video about the quotas: <https://twitter.com/AILANational/status/918635897020665856>
- Retweet AILA National's policy brief: <https://twitter.com/AILANational/status/918838788578738181>
- Retweet the Washington Post story: <https://twitter.com/AILANational/status/918635075167772672>
- Check out [the AILA Facebook page](#) for easy sharing from there as well.

National Events

AILA 2018 Midwinter Conference - Cancun in February

AILA National recently announced the program for the 2018 Midwinter Conference in Cancun, Mexico on February 2nd. Escape the cold, blustery, raw winter here and head south to warmth and sunshine. The AILA Member price is \$545.00.

Program Highlights

- Track I: Advanced Business
Advanced PERM: Recent Trends at DOL
Advanced H-1B: Accommodating Non-Traditional Situations
Basics of Immigration Litigation
Processing in Mexico
Hot Topics
- Track II: Advanced Removal
Advanced Detention Issues
Advanced Motions: Making Full Use of the Practice
Litigation and Recent Issues in Asylum
Representing Individuals with Final Orders of Removal
Ethical Issues in Removal Proceedings
- PLUS! Earn Specialized CLE Credit

The Trump administration has ushered in an era of vast uncertainty for immigration lawyers. With such uncertainty, attending the [2018 AILA Midwinter Conference](#) in Cancun, Mexico, is a great way to start your year and get the strategies needed for the year ahead. You'll have the opportunity to get updates on issues old and new, learn new processes and methodologies, and network with your colleagues from across the country.

Visit AILA Agora to view the [complete program](#) and register.

Job Scene

Resumes

Ednny Ferrell is seeking a position as an immigration law assistant, receptionist or an entry-level paralegal role. Please see attached resume.

Victor Enaboifo is a LLM student at Georgia State University and is looking for employment. Please see attached resume.

Alice Estaville is a California-licensed attorney looking for a position. She's also available to appear at USCIS Montgomery interviews. Please 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: 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.

