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April 16, 2018 Chapter Newsletter

Chapter News

National Day of Action Update



A huge thank you to Georgia NDA Coordinator, Kamala Sessoms and our Alabama NDA Coordinator, John Charles Bell, for organizing an amazing slate of meetings last week in DC! We talked about the need for oversight, the slashing of legal immigration, and what it would take to get DACA passed (among other things). Immigration isn't the easiest sell right now, but the Congressional staffers we spoke to were reasonable, accommodating and they listened.

AILA Board of Governors Report

As your Chapter Chair, I represent you before our national Board of Governors (BOG). You can always review BOG materials on [AILA.org](#). We discussed the following:

- The need to partner with health care providers in regards to the proposed public charge policy changes (which, among other things, punishes immigrants whose US citizen children receive the benefits they are entitled to)
- The need to sue USCIS more. We had a great presentation from a former OIL and AAO attorney to talk about the agency's weaknesses. AILA National will be helping us to coordinate a planned litigation attack and providing members with the necessary resources to move forward.
- Despite moving the Annual Conference from Texas to California, AILA had a net gain in 2018.
- The Civility Policy went through revisions and passed.

Nominations for Georgia-Alabama Executive Committee Announced

Thank you to our Nominations Committee (Sarah Owings, Carolina Antonini and Aimee Clark) for selecting the following candidates to lead us for 2017-2018.

Chair: Eli Echols

First Vice Chair: Elizabeth Matherne

Second Vice Chair: Janora Hawkins

Secretary: Rachel Effron Sharma

Treasurer: RUN-OFF Joy Smith or Olesia Gorinshteyn

Additionally, any member in good standing may run by petition for any office, notwithstanding the Nominating Committee's selections. Your petition must be in writing, endorsed by five other chapter members in good standing, and submitted to me our Secretary, Elizabeth Matherne, no later than Wednesday, May 2, 2018. This is in accordance with Article IV, Section 4.3 of the Chapter's by-laws, which you can access anytime via this link:

<http://www.ga-al.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/AILA-GA-AL-bylaws-08-2015.pdf>

On or before Saturday, May 12, 2018, our Secretary will publish the final slate of nominees. Any member in good standing may cast a secret ballot after that date for any nominee who is opposed to an office. Voting by secret ballot will commence from May 12 until the close of the Annual Meeting on June 1, 2018.

You may cast your ballot at the Annual Meeting, but for those who are unable to attend, we will set up some sort of mechanism to allow you to vote prior to the meeting. Instructions for accessing that mechanism will be provided after the time for nominations closes on May 12. The results of the election will be announced after the close of the Annual Meeting.

Congratulations nominees!

InfoPass Policy Update

We are awaiting confirmation from USCIS leadership, but for those of you who may not have seen this, Member Ken Levin reported the following on our Yahoo listserv:

I was at CIS this morning with a client to obtain an I-551 stamp. It took my paralegal only about a week to reserve the appointment. When we got up to the counter I was advised by the Infopass Officer that CIS Atlanta has instituted a policy change regarding I-551 stamps.

The current policy is as follows:

- *Infopass appointments are no longer required to obtain an I-551 stamp. A ticket will be provided as a drop in appointment.*
- *A drop in appointment must take place in a 30 day window prior to expiration of the Applicant's current green card or I-551 stamp.*
- *I-551 drop in appointments are accommodated from 7am -noon M-F.*

Also, I wanted to bring to everyone's attention that CIS Atlanta now takes the position that an Applicant will no longer be entitled to unlimited I-551 renewal stamps where the Natz application is filed 180 days prior to expiration of the green card. The current policy is that CIS Atlanta will give one "courtesy" 6 month stamp. If the Applicant is not naturalized in that six month window, then CIS Atlanta is requiring the filing of an I-90 to receive any subsequent I-551 stamps.

While in DC, I also learned that InfoPass is being completely overhauled. USCIS states that they need those resources to go towards adjudications and not to simply telling people that their cases are pending. Soon, InfoPass appointments will only be scheduled by the NCSC and will be for documentary purposes only (I-551 stamps, granting of AOS by an IJ, etc.). AILA and our liaisons will stay on top of this development.

Chapter Events

How to Object in Immigration Court and Other Litigation Strategies April 25, 2018

Join AILA, KIND, COE and CLINIC for an advanced training on immigration court litigation strategies. This training will focus on how to make objections and develop the record for possible appeals on the merits of the case.

Presentations from Michelle Mendez, Charles Kuck, Sarah Owings, Ilana Greenstein and Brian Spears

When: Wednesday, April 25

Time: 12:00pm - 2:00pm

Where: 50 Hurt Plaza, 10th Floor Conference Room

Cost: \$20 (includes box lunch)

Please see attached flyer for more information.

Registration link: www.ga-al.com/upcoming-events

CLE credit in Georgia has been applied for.

Two Immigrant Justice Campaign Trainings in Atlanta April 24th and 25th

To register for one or both trainings, please email your name, title, and institutional affiliation to McKayla Eskilson at justice@immcouncil.org.

Immigration Detention: How It Works, And How You Can Help

When: April 24, 2018, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Where: Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy LLP, [600 Peachtree Street NE, 42nd Floor, Atlanta, GA 30308](#)

Event Details: The U.S. currently detains 400,000 immigrants per year, and detention capacity is only increasing. Who are these detainees and why are they detained? Which immigrants are at risk for detention? What is immigration detention like, and how might immigrants get out of detention? Join the Immigration Justice Campaign and the Southern Poverty Law Center for a look at the answers to these questions—and concrete ways that volunteers can help!

Representing Detained Asylum Seekers: A Pro Bono Attorney CLE Training*

When: April 25, 2018, 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Where: King & Spalding LLP, [1180 Peachtree St NW, Atlanta, GA 30309](#)

Event Details: In the current era of increased detainments and deportations, lawyers can make all the difference. Detained immigrants with attorneys by their side are ten times more likely to win their case than their unrepresented counterparts. This training will provide an overview of asylum law and how to prepare the asylum application, with a particular focus on the difficult circumstances confronting detained asylum seekers. If you are interested in learning more about asylum and how you can help, we encourage you this comprehensive CLE hosted by the Immigration Justice Campaign and the Southern Poverty Law Center on the morning of Wednesday, April 25, 2018.

*CLE credit for Georgia will be offered.

Take a Hike with the Wellness Committee April 22, 2018

The Wellness Committee has not only started a hiking club, but has scheduled a hiking event on April 22nd at Stone Mountain Park. Please see the attached flyer and contact Gergana Tzekova at gergana.tzekova@ogletree.com for more information.

Chapter Meeting at AILA AC18
June 14, 2018

We have secured a location for our chapter meeting in San Francisco. Put this on your calendar now so you don't forget! And hey, who doesn't like a free lunch at the Annual Conference?!?

When: Thursday, June 14th

Time: 12 pm-1 pm

Hotel: Hilton San Francisco Union Square

Meeting Room: Union Square 22, Tower 3, 4th floor

11th Circuit Cruise CLE
December 2-9, 2018

The ship is Royal Caribbean's Harmony of the Seas, its second-largest and most popular cruise ship. We'll leave Fort Lauderdale on December 2nd and travel to Labadee (Haiti), Falmouth (Jamaica) and Cozumel (Mexico), arriving back at Fort Lauderdale on December 9th.

We anticipate 10-12 hours of CLE credit and already have speaking commitments from Mary Kramer, Kari Ann Fonte, Laurel Scott and Helen Parsonage. We are still working on the program, but our focus will be on 11th Circuit Litigation Strategies and Professional Development (How to Practice Immigration Law During the Trump Era). Don't worry - it won't be eight hours straight of CLE each day - we know you want to get out and have fun :) This CLE will be in addition to our chapter conference (anticipated to be in February 2019) and the Florida chapters' respective conferences.

We should open up registration soon and will start finalizing the program material shortly. The cruise's itinerary is attached for your review and pricing options and deadlines are listed below. Thank you to Bridgette Bennett for organizing the cruise arrangements and to Chapter Chairs Sui Chung and Stan Walker for helping put this amazing event together.

- Oceanview Balcony (15 rooms available) for \$997.86 per person - balcony overlooking the ocean
- Boardwalk View Balcony (17 rooms available) for \$923.86 per person - balcony overlooking the ship's boardwalk area
- Central Park View Balcony (18 rooms available) for \$892.86 per person - balcony overlooking the central park neighborhood

\$250/person deposit due: May 15, 2018

Final payment due: August 31, 2018

For questions about the cruise, please contact Bridgette Bennett at bridgette@bennettlawcenter.com

<https://www.royalcaribbean.com/cruise-ships/harmony-of-the-seas> (Link to Harmony of the Seas) for more information about the ship

Local News and Events

Victory in Clark County

Thank you to Project South and Dignidad Inmigrante en Athens for your hard work in getting the Clark County Sheriff's Office to issue a new policy regarding cooperation with ICE - they will only do so if they have a judicial warrant.

Please see attached press release for more information.

11th Circuit Federal Litigation Update

From the editor, Bruce Buchanan -

This issue summarizes many immigration-related cases decided by the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals, District Courts of the 11th Circuit, and the BIA from January 2018 through March 2018. (There were no significant unpublished BIA decisions.) This is a group effort of attorneys from three AILA Chapters - John Gihon, Marshall Cohen, Andrea Montavon-McKillip, and myself.

We are currently looking for two more attorneys to join this effort. If interested, please contact me at bbuchanan@sblimmigration.com, John Gihon of Shorstein, Lasnetski & Gihon at John@slgattorneys.com, or Marshall Cohen at cohen@antoniniandcohen.com.

National News

DOJ Halts the Legal Orientation Program

AILA and the Council issued a statement calling out the administration's reported halt to the Legal Orientation Program (LOP) and what that will mean for immigrants. This is just the latest attack on due process. If you'd like to lift it up, here are two sample tweets:

Here's a simple tweet to lift up the statement:

@AILANational and @immcouncil respond to news that DOJ plans to halt the Legal Orientation Program: DOJ Cuts Immigrants' Access to Counsel in Latest Attack on Due Process ow.ly/7L1K30jrks3

Catholic Charities has also released a statement speaking out against this denial of justice to our detained clients. Please see attached.

EOIR Announces Quota System: AILA Stands in Opposition

Since the news broke last Monday evening (4/2), AILA's Communications and Government Relations teams have been working with reporters to cover this issue. On Wednesday (4/4), AILA organized a [telephonic press conference](#). AILA also participated in a [hill briefing](#) this week (along with NAIJ's President) in order to educate the Senate staff about the current state of our immigration courts. There has been a lot of interest from both media and the hill, partly due to last Sunday's HBO show, "Last Week Tonight with John Oliver" which was [very powerful segment](#) on the injustices in our immigration courts.

Please [contact](#) your members of Congress to urge them to speak out against DOJ's use of quotas on IJs. Please share AILA's Take Action with your colleagues ([Take Action: Protect Due Process](#)).

AILA and The Council Press Statement: [DOJ Strips Immigration Courts of Independence](#) - April 3, 2018

Featured Issue page: www.aila.org/immigrationcourts - Includes EOIR documents on IJ quotas, links to telephonic press conference, links to media, press statements, related FOIA response, and AILA's resolutions on immigration courts.

Links to Media:

- [John Oliver Video on the Immigration Courts](#) - April 1, 2018
- Wall Street Journal: [Immigration Judges Face New Quotas in Bid to Speed Deportations](#) - April 2, 2018
- The Daily Beast: [New Quotas for Immigration Judges are 'Incredibly Concerning,' Critics Warn](#) - April 2, 2018
- CNN: [Justice Department rolls out case quotas for immigration judges](#) - April 2, 2018
- AP: [Justice Department Imposes Quotas on Immigration Judges](#) - April 3, 2018
- Washington Post: [Trump lashes out at two of his favorite targets](#) - April 3, 2018
- Bloomberg: [Lawyers See Immigration Court as Trump 'Deportation Machine'](#) - April 4, 2018

AILA News and Events

AC18: Building Bridges and Standing for Justice June 13-16, 2018

Early bird rate ends May 1, 2018! Register early and save \$250!

The first year of the Trump administration has brought about unprecedented changes and immense challenges. This June, join your fellow fearless lawyers at the 2018 AILA Annual Conference (AC18) in San Francisco to share experiences from the last year and plan for the

future. The nearly 150 sessions at AC18 will prepare you for the year ahead, whether you specialize in asylum, business, or anything in between. Tracks are available for all levels of experience, and you'll be eligible to earn up to 32 CLE credits.

New this year, in addition to an earlier start on Wednesday, AILA will feature the AILA Inspires Series, a Fearless Lawyers Inspiration Lounge, and expanded Law Practice Management Sessions, including a Three-Part Practice Innovation Series. During the expanded Lunch Breaks, meet face-to-face with nearly 100 exhibitors and learn about the latest tools, technologies, and services in one convenient location.

Finally, don't miss your chance to network with colleagues at the Taste of San Francisco Networking Events, the President's Reception (at AT&T Park—home of the San Francisco Giants), and the Saturday Night Party (at the California Academy of Sciences). See the full slate of AC18 events and program offerings in AILA's Day-At-A-Glance at www.aila.org/ac.

Your registration fee includes:

- Admission into the CLE sessions from Wednesday through Saturday
- Peer-reviewed conference handbooks—AILA's *Immigration Practice Pointers* (2018–19 Ed.) and *Navigating the Fundamentals of Immigration Law* (2018–19 Ed.)—in electronic format
- Continental breakfast (while supplies last)
- Admission to the Exhibit Hall Grand Opening on Wednesday evening, President's Reception, Awards Presentation, and Saturday Night Party
- Admission to the Exhibit Hall throughout the conference
- Refreshment breaks (while supplies last)
- Opportunities to network
- A copy of the attendee list
- A Conference Program Book.

**The 2018 AILA Global Immigration Forum: “Disrupting Business as Usual in the City by the Bay: Global Immigration Practice in a Restrictionist Era”
June 11 – 13, 2018.**

We are pleased to announce that the consulates of *Canada, India, Israel, Mexico and the United Kingdom* have generously agreed to participate on this year's consular panel! This is a golden opportunity to gain valuable insights from these consular officials.

To register for the Forum, please click the registration link below:

Early Bird Registration ends May 1, 2018. [AGORA REGISTRATION](#)

AILA's Global Migration Section is pleased to announce that our Annual Immigration Forum will be held on June 11-13, 2018 in San Francisco, California at the luxurious JW Marriott San Francisco Union Square. The conference will take place prior to AILA's Annual National

Conference at a location within easy walking distance of that conference venue. Early bird registration ends May 1, 2018

The GMS 2018 conference is titled “Disrupting Business as Usual in the City by the Bay: Global Immigration Practice in a Restrictionist Era” and will provide practitioners with cutting edge information and practical advice on managing clients’ global mobility needs in an environment of change.

We are pleased to announce that this year we have a fun-filled schedule planned including:

- An all-day private, chauffeured wine tour to Napa Valley and Sonoma wineries on Monday, June 11. Advance purchase is required for this tour.
- Our conference dinner will be held on Tuesday, June 12 at the Bistro Boudin, located on iconic Fisherman’s Wharf. Dine with us on the Bay while you reconnect with friends and colleagues. Please remember that when you register for the conference you need to register separately for the dinner.
- On Wednesday, June 13, we have the consular tours and a cocktail reception and networking event. Advance sign-up is required for the Consular tours.

Save 25% of Kurzban’s Through May 1st

There's just one month left to save on the new edition of [Kurzban’s Immigration Law Sourcebook](#)! After May 1, the discount will be gone and rates will rise – so take advantage of your chance to preorder and save 25% through the Chapter Purchase Program.

How to Get the Discount - We know this is an extremely busy time for AILA members so we’ve simplified the process to receive the chapter discount! To save 25%:

- Go to AILA Agora and place your order.

That’s it! AILA members will automatically receive the chapter discount when ordering. You don’t have to sign up through a chapter coordinator, and you don’t need a coupon.

What's New in Kurzban's 16th Edition?

The list of changes to this edition are too numerous to include here! Visit AILA Agora for a more complete list of updates that have been incorporated in the 16th edition so far.

- Updates to Visa Programs and Benefits Adjudications Under the Trump Administration
- USCIS Policy Manual Updates Through May 2018
- Lost PERM Certifications
- Updates to Removal Policies and Humanitarian Programs Under the Trump Administration
- Extreme Hardship Changes
- Particular Social Group Changes for Family and BIA Appeals
- Post-Mathis Aggravated Felony Analysis

Don't be without the book thousands of immigration lawyers and judges turn to first. Use your chapter discount, and preorder your copy of the new Kurzban's today!

Member Price: \$449

Chapter Price: \$335

Chapter Savings: 25%

Job Scene

- Serene Hawasil Kashlan is an attorney (GSU COL 2010) who is moving to Atlanta in July and is looking for an entry-level position in family-based immigration or civil rights advocacy. Please see her attached resume.
- Racquelle James is a 2L at Emory and is seeking a summer experience at a local immigration law firm. Please see attached resume for more information.
- Sol Angela Ochoa seeks a bilingual assistant position at a local immigration law firm. Resume is attached.
- Jean Padberg & Associates has a job opening for a case coordinator. Please see attached job description for more information.
- Advancing Justice Atlanta is looking for a legal fellow to begin work in August 2018. Please see the attached (Trinh Huynh Fellowship) description for more information.

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.

