



December 6, 2024 Newsletter

Dear Chapter Members:

Happy Holidays! Thank you to all who participated in the AILA GA-AL Communication Poll. We appreciate the opportunity to explore alternate methods of chapter-wide communication. A plurality of the Chapter expressed a preference to keep communication as is, but many want better methods of communicating. For now, **we will keep the Listserv as is, but will also provide the option of communicating via [Groups.io](https://groups.io)** to help us streamline our conversations. More information to come about Groups.io!

For anyone who didn't have a chance to join our post-election "Water Cooler" conversation on Zoom, please join the next one on December 6 at 12pm. We'll host these every month as a safe space for casual conversation and giving/receiving support with your AILA colleagues.

Tickets are SOLD OUT for our annual holiday party at Ponce City Market Rooftop on December 13. We look forward to seeing you all there!

The Internal Member Support committee of the AILA GA/AL chapter is planning a slate of brown bag meetings/round table discussions as well as a slate of CLE. Due to the fact that our membership spans two states, all of these events will be conducted virtually to maximize the ability of our membership to attend regardless of geographical location. To facilitate planning, [please take this poll](#).

If you have news, events, job postings, or resumes you'd like us to share in future newsletters, please reach out to me and I will add them to the newsletter!

Sincerely,

Adriana

News:

1. SOLD OUT - December 13, 2024 - Chapter Holiday Party -

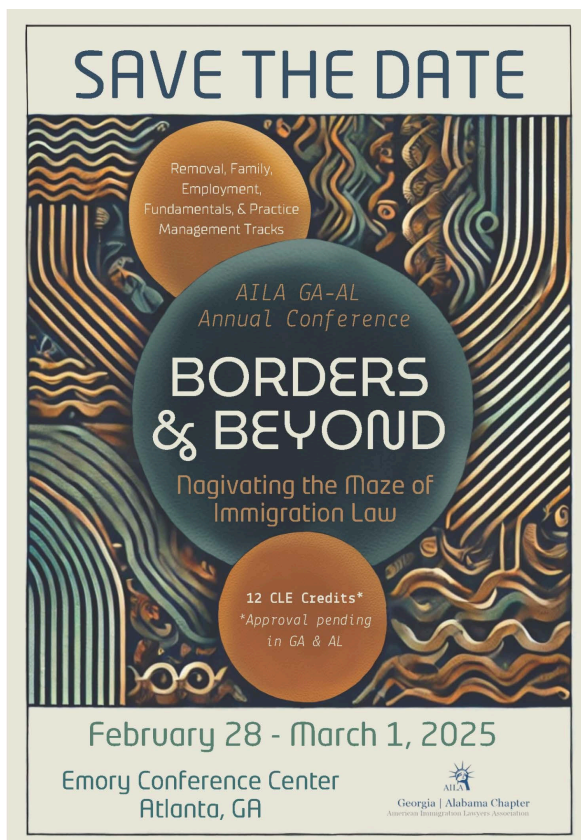
Ponce City Market Rooftop

- We hope you got your ticket for AILA GA-AL's Chapter Holiday Party on December 13, 2024 at Ponce City Market Rooftop! Get together with your loved ones with unlimited midway games, mini golf, and rides! Heavy appetizers and drinks will be served. We'll also be donating to immigrant-serving nonprofits to power their vital work.

2. EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION OPEN - February 28 - March 1, 2025 - AILA GA-AL Chapter Conference:

- EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION ENDS JANUARY 31
- You are cordially invited to join the GA-AL American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) chapter's annual immigration law conference scheduled for **Friday, February 28 - Saturday, March 1, 2025** at the **Emory Conference Center in Atlanta, GA**. National, regional, and local presenters will speak across five tracks and attendees can earn up to 12 CLE credits (including ethics, professionalism, and technology). Please see the attached "Day-at-a-Glance" for details on this year's lineup of panels.

To join this event at the early bird rate of \$329, please click [REGISTER HERE](#). Please note that [hotel reservations](#) at the Emory Conference Center Hotel are available at our group rate of \$199/night.



3. Action: Take a poll for the Education Subcommittee!

- The Internal Member Support committee of the AILA GA/AL chapter is planning a slate of brown bag meetings/round table discussions as well as a slate of CLE. Due to the fact that our membership spans two states, all of these events will be conducted virtually to maximize the ability of our membership to attend regardless of geographical location. To facilitate planning, [please take this poll](#).

4. Action: Send a submission for DEI member spotlight!

- The wealth of legal knowledge shared at the AILA Georgia/Alabama Chapter derives from the diverse cultural and personal qualities and experiences of its membership body. The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee of this Chapter aims to embrace and celebrate the diverse heritages of our members by providing a platform to honor these rich member experiences in the Chapter Newsletter's DEI Member Spotlight. We are currently seeking submissions from our Chapter for feature in the Newsletter's Member Spotlight. The Member Spotlight is an opportunity for our members to share with the rest of our membership their stories and values which support and influence their legal practice.
 - If you have a story you'd like to share, please email Zainab Alwan (zainab@socheatchea.com) and Cassandra DeCoste (cdecoste@firclaw.org)

4. Mental Health Support Reminder

- Thank you to Eli Echols for sharing the following:
 - The Georgia Bar Lawyer Assistance Program offers all members of our bar 6 counselling sessions through an outfit called Corp Care. You can see the details here: <https://www.gabar.org/programs/center-for-lawyer-well-being/mental-well-being/lawyer-assistance-program>

6. Looking for work or hiring? Send us your job description/resume!

If you are looking for a new role or hiring, please email us so that we can help amplify your role/candidacy!

CHART OF IMPORTANT LINKS & RESOURCES

AILA Georgia Alabama Chapter Website	https://ga-al.com/
AILA GA-AL Chapter Listserv and Official AILA email list	<p> Listserv: georgia-alabama@lists.aila.org </p> <p> Click on https://www.aila.org/myaila and keep your email address updated. Also click here: https://www.aila.org/MyAila/Account/Listservs) where it says “Review and Change AILA Listserv Subscriptions” to make sure you are subscribed to the “Georgia-Alabama Chapter” chapter’s official listserv. </p>
SLACK (Formally “Yahoo Listserv”)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create an account with Slack or log in to your existing account and link our chapter Workspace through a link. Since links expire after 7 days, please email Chapter Vice Chair <first.vice.chair@ga-al.com> in order to receive an updated link. 2. Once you log in, you can begin adding the channels that you wish to follow and participate in. We recommend everyone join the general channel to start. 3. Links to resources available through Slack to help learn the basics are the following: Slack Guides, Slack 101 and a video training.
American Immigration Council	https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org

AILA Immigrant Justice Campaign & AILA Fearless Lawyering	https://www.aila.org/about/immigration-justice-campaign
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AILA's Immigration Practice & Professionalism Toolbox	https://agora.aila.org/product/detail/3531
AILA Member Benefit Guide	https://www.aila.org/membership/benefits/membership-benefits-guide

Connect with Your Chapter

Your 2024-2025 Executive Committee:

Chapter Chair: Hiba Ghalib

1st Vice Chair: Bhavya Chaudhary

2nd Vice Chair: Eszter Bardi

Treasurer: Sonal Shah

Secretary: Adriana Heffley

Immediate Past Chair: Erin Elliott

Please email content suggestions for future newsletters to:

Chapter Secretary: secretary@ga-al.com

Your feedback means EVERYTHING to us. Please feel free to provide feedback about the newsletter, chapter events, and anything and everything else you wish to provide feedback on as it related to chapter matters:

<https://forms.gle/ybEPs5vFADnF4bFVA>



Adriana Heffley
Secretary

[Georgia Alabama Chapter](#)