

43rd Annual Conference on Immigration and Nationality Law
October 24-25, 2019 • DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Austin • Austin, TX
October 24-25, 2019 • Live Webcast

Thursday Morning, Oct. 24, 2019

Presiding Officer:

Jacqueline L. Watson, Walker Gates Vela, PLLC - Austin, TX

7:30 am In Austin Only	Registration Opens Includes continental breakfast.
8:20 am	Welcoming Remarks
8:30 am 1.00 hr	Federal Court and BIA Update Imran B. Mirza, Law Office of Imran Mirza, PC - Bellaire, TX
9:30 am 0.75 hr 0.25 hr ethics	When Worksite Enforcement Turns Criminal With ICE initiated raids and criminal investigations on the rise, examine key issues including identifying your client, damage control, staffing company issues, gathering the evidence, negotiating with the U.S. Attorney, and potential outcomes. Moderator: Richard A. Gump Jr., The Law Offices of Richard A. Gump, Jr. P.C. - Dallas, TX Panelists: Paul E. Coggins, Locke Lord LLP - Dallas, TX Richard B. Roper III, Thompson & Knight LLP - Dallas, TX
10:15 am	Break
10:30 am 0.50 hr	Challenging the NTA/Removal Proceeding Learn how to navigate the ever-changing landscape of NTAs, and get tips on challenging removability in the current legal climate. Amelia Ruiz Fischer, Fischer & Fischer, Attorneys at Law - Nacogdoches, TX George Rodriguez, Saenz-Rodriguez & Associates, P.C. - Dallas, TX
11:00 am 0.50 hr	Detention Discuss the circumstances of detention by ICE and CBP as well as the practical and logistical methods of obtaining release. Also explore requesting release via ICE, the Immigration Courts, and Federal Courts. Jodi M. Goodwin, Law Office of Jodi Goodwin - Harlingen, TX Priscilla Olivarez, American Gateways - San Antonio, TX

11:30 am 0.50 hr	Denials Based on Public Charge Discussion of the new public charge grounds of inadmissibility and strategies for overcoming them. Jennifer Walker Gates, Walker Gates Vela, PLLC - Austin, TX
12:00 pm 0.50 hr 0.25 hr ethics	Golden Nuggets There are plenty of nuggets out there but they may not be all that "golden"...uncover some of the current initiatives being used to curb and in some cases eliminate the flow of immigrants into the US. Hear how to spot them, avoid them and best be able to navigate today's crazy chaotic immigration policy. Michelle L. Saenz-Rodriguez, Saenz-Rodriguez & Associates, P.C. - Dallas, TX Jacqueline L. Watson, Walker Gates Vela, PLLC - Austin, TX
12:30 pm In Austin Only	Pick Up Lunch Included in registration.

Thursday Afternoon, Oct. 24, 2019

Presiding Officer:

Nancy Taylor Shivers, Shivers & Shivers - San Antonio, TX

LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

12:50 pm 0.75 hr	What's Going on at the Southern Border: Immigrants' Rights Issues in Texas Explore immigration-related issues throughout Texas, including family separation, immigrant detention and state legislation affecting immigrants. Fatima Menendez, Mexican American Legal Defense & Educational Fund - San Antonio, TX
1:35 pm	Break
1:50 pm 0.50 hr	What Can You Do on a B-Visa? The B-1 Visitor visa can provide a variety of options for foreign nationals. Address the advantages and difficulties of this visa classification. Dorothee B. Mitchell, Foster LLP - Austin, TX
2:20 pm 1.00 hr	Federal Court Litigation: Mandamus, Declaratory Judgement, and Habeas Corpus. What to Bring, How to Bring it, and How to Win Hear a primer on the federal court options for your clients, what to consider before bringing a challenge, how to get it done, and how to win the case. Charles H. Kuck, Kuck Baxter Immigration LLC - Atlanta, GA

3:20 pm	Break
3:30 pm 1.00 hr ethics	Avoiding Malpractice To reduce your sleepless nights and help you keep your law license, this session will discuss case scenarios illustrating key strategies for dealing with ethical challenges in the ever-changing landscape of immigration practice. Charles Herring Jr., Herring & Panzer, L.L.P. - Austin, TX Erica B. Schommer, St. Mary's University School of Law - San Antonio, TX
4:30 pm 1.00 hr 0.50 hr ethics	Ask the Experts Take advantage of an interactive opportunity to have top immigration lawyers answer your questions and provide solutions to your ethical quandaries. Please submit your questions in advance to ConferenceQA@utcle.org or on-site at the conference registration desk. Moderator: Eugene J. Flynn, Eugene J. Flynn, P.C. - Dallas, TX Panelists: Harry J. Joe, JMA Firm, PLLC - Dallas, TX Charles H. Kuck, Kuck Baxter Immigration LLC - Atlanta, GA George Rodriguez, Saenz-Rodriguez & Associates, P.C. - Dallas, TX Jacqueline L. Watson, Walker Gates Vela, PLLC - Austin, TX
5:30 pm	Pro Bono Introduction Pro bono work doesn't just serve the community. Explore ways to integrate pro bono service into your practice, and learn how it can benefit you as well.
5:40 pm In Austin Only	Adjourn to Pro Bono Reception
In Austin Only	NETWORKING RECEPTION AND PRO BONO MIXER (5:40 p.m. to 6:40 p.m.) Enjoy refreshments and a networking opportunity with colleagues, conference faculty, and <i>pro bono</i> organization representatives.

Friday Morning, Oct. 25, 2019

Presiding Officer:

Vanna Slaughter, Office of Welcoming Communities and Immigrant Affairs - Dallas, TX

8:00 am In Austin Only	Conference Room Opens Includes continental breakfast.
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8:30 am 1.25 hrs	<p>Recent Developments, Legislative and Policy Changes</p> <p>Discuss a wide range of policy changes and recent developments affecting the practice of immigration law. Also hear updates on potential legislative changes on the horizon.</p> <p>Sharvari (Shev) Dalal-Dheini, American Immigration Lawyers Association - Washington, DC Faye M. Kolly, De Mott, McChesney, Curtright, & Armendáriz LLP - Austin, TX</p>
9:45 am	Break
10:00 am 1.00 hr 0.25 hr ethics	<p>The Basics of Asylum and Beyond: What You Need to Know When Preparing Affirmative and Defensive Asylum Cases</p> <p>Hear an overview of the elements of and bars to asylum and related relief, changes in procedure and practice for affirmative and defensive cases including credible/reasonable fear interviews, and related case law updates.</p> <p>Benicio Diaz, American Gateways - San Antonio, TX Cori A. Hash, Lincoln Goldfinch Law - Austin, TX</p>
11:00 am 0.75 hr	<p>Naturalization</p> <p>Fighting for naturalization in the culture of no.</p> <p>Richard S. Fischer, Fischer & Fischer, Attorneys at Law - Nacogdoches, TX</p>
11:45 am 0.75 hr	<p>Rescission and Denaturalization: Taking the Precious Away</p> <p>Examine procedures to bring rescission proceedings against lawful permanent residents, or to strip immigrants of their citizenship status, including the conditions for and defenses against rescission and denaturalization.</p> <p>Simon M. Azar-Farr, Simon Azar-Farr & Associates - San Antonio, TX Peter D. Williamson, Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, White, Williams & Aughtry - Houston, TX</p>
12:30 pm In Austin Only	<p>Pick Up Lunch</p> <p>Included in registration.</p>

Friday Afternoon, Oct. 25, 2019

Presiding Officer:

Kate Lincoln-Goldfinch, Lincoln-Goldfinch Law - Austin, TX

LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

12:50 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Practicing Immigration Law in an Era of Delay and Shifting Policies</p> <p>The Buy American Hire American Executive (BAHA) has resulted in numerous shifts in long standing immigration policies. In addition, backlogs, denial rates, and delays in adjudications are at all-time highs, while the U.S. is losing revenues from foreign students and investors fed up with the arduous path they face concerning U.S. changing immigration policies. Litigation is now a common recourse in most areas of immigration law. Hear an overview of the current landscape post BAHA.</p> <p>Sharvari (Shev) Dalal-Dheini, American Immigration Lawyers Association - Washington, DC Kathleen C. Walker, Dickinson Wright PLLC - El Paso, TX</p>
1:20 pm	Break
1:35 pm 1.00 hr	<p>Minding Your Hs and Ls</p> <p>How to achieve success for H and L cases in an adjudications climate featuring increased RFEs, denials, stonewalling and other adverse trends.</p> <p>Francisco J. García, The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston - Galveston, TX Harry Gee Jr., Gee & Zhang, LLP - Houston, TX</p>
2:35 pm 0.75 hr	<p>The World's Got Talent! The U.S Might Have a Golden Buzzer for You</p> <p>Explore visa options that require showcasing everything and anything concerning extra special achievements and recognitions, and how to impress the judges.</p> <p>Rebecca R. Massiatte, JMA Firm, PLLC - Dallas, TX Candida Olga Paris, Fong & Associates LLP - Houston, TX</p>
3:20 pm 1.50 hrs 0.75 hr ethics	<p>Practice Management for Immigration Attorneys</p> <p>Learn how to develop an efficient, ethically compliant, and profitable law practice, especially during a time of fluctuating policies and increasing processing times. Hear useful tips and experiences on a variety of pertinent topics, including how to manage client expectations, set legal fees, and utilize technology to both your and your client's benefit.</p> <p>Nicolas Chavez, Chavez & Valko, LLP - Fort Worth, TX Charles H. Kuck, Kuck Baxter Immigration LLC - Atlanta, GA</p>
4:50 pm	Adjourn