



**The Art of Immigration in an  
Ever-Changing World  
*(and the art of Diego Rivera)***

**Hyatt Regency – Polanco  
Mexico City**

**November 30, 2022- December 3, 2022**



**Sailor at Breakfast**

We are thrilled to present the AILA Latin America and Caribbean Chapter's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and CLE, internationally again, and to reconnect in person in fabulous Mexico City. In addition to our traditional Embassy Tour (pending final DOS confirmation) we are excited at the opportunity to host Mission Mexico Posts in the CLE portion of our conference. Embassy Tour logistics will be provided closer to the conference date (as usual, the number of participants will be limited). We hope you will join in the many special events we have planned around town. Please be sure to familiarize yourself with applicable travel advisories and exercise due diligence traversing Mexico City.

**We appreciate our sponsors! Be sure to visit them at their display tables.**



## **CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

<b>Wednesday, November 30, 2022</b>	Evening Welcome Reception at Hyatt Regency
<b>Thursday, December 1, 2022</b>	Consular Tour and Conference Dinner
<b>Friday, December 2, 2022</b>	CLE and Post Conference Cocktail Reception
<b>Saturday, December 3, 2022</b>	Frida Kahlo Museum -- Purchase tickets (on own) at <a href="http://www.boletosfridakahlo.org">www.boletosfridakahlo.org</a>

## CLE PROGRAM

# The Art of Immigration in an Ever-Changing World *(and the art of Diego Rivera)*

### 7:00 am – 7:45 am: Registration

Meet, greet, network, breakfast

### 7:45 am – 7:55 am: Opening Remarks

Leigh N. Ganchan, Chapter Chair, Houston, TX



*Dream of a Sunday Afternoon in the Alameda Central*

### 7:55 am – 8:55 am: Hot Topics in a Cold Immigration World

- EB-5
- Pending legislation
- Litigation updates
- Impact of midterms
- NVC backlog
- Issues du jour at USCIS, DOL, DOS, CBP

*Tammy Fox-Isicoff, Esq., (DL), Miami, FL*

*Alexis S. Axelrad, Esq., AILA Treasurer, NY, NY*

*Jeff Joseph, Esq., AILA 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Denver, CO*

*Nicole Simon, Esq., Philadelphia, PA*



*Motherhood Angelina and the Child*

**8:55 am – 9:50 am: Welcome to the Family! – Advanced Family Issues**

- NVC tips – Keeping the petition alive and moving through NVC amidst the continuing delays and uncertainty. Getting the case documented and transferred to the Post
- Proving “Intent to be Domiciled”
- Termination of Registration of Visa Petitions by NVC or US Consul due to alleged "abandonment" for failure to contact DOS in last year
- Denial of IV due to use of marijuana, as revealed in Civil Surgeon report, from admission or result of blood test
- Denial of IV by US Consul, due to alleged charge of smuggling of family members by applicant
- Denial of IV by US Consul, due to alleged records of applicant's prior false claim to US Citizenship upon entry and detention by CBP
- What happens marriage goes awry - ethical concerns
- Denial of IV by US Consul, due to alleged gang tattoos

*Carlina Tapia-Ruano, Esq., (DL), AILA Past President, Chicago, IL*

*Jodi Goodwin, Esq., Harlingen, TX*

*Linda Rose, Esq., Nashville, TN*

*David Ware, Esq., Metairie, LA and Vancouver, BC*

**9:50 am – 10:05 am: Networking Break**



*Peasants*

### **10:05 am – 11:00 am: E's, L's and FAM Gems**

Learn the latest and greatest with E and L visa processing. Look what you'll find in the FAM if you dig deeply. Learn some of the secrets, tips of the trade, and ethical considerations from our expert panelists who have dissected the FAM.

- Is it worth it to seek an interview waiver for an E?
- How to deal with dangerously delayed E visa applications?
- Is re-registration an added problem?
- Solving L adjudication issues at USCIS
- L strategies for obtaining continued work authorization in the US while waiting and preparing for consular appointment
- Dealing with CBP -- I-94s granted for longer than PED - L's arriving with Blanket Approvals - tracking the validity period

*Maria Casablanca, Esq., DL Miami, FL*

*Ron Klasko, Esq., AILA Past President, Philadelphia, PA*

*Ellen Krengel, Esq., Menlo Park, CA*

*David Leopold, Esq., AILA Past President, Cleveland, OH*

### **11:00 – 11:05: Sponsor Presentation**



*The Watermelons*

**11:05 am – 12:05 pm: Ethics . . .The Hard Stuff: Avoiding Ethical Rules Minefields as We Take our Practices to the Next Level in a Digital Paradigm**

Think your engagement letters and systems cover you for minefields in our demanding practices? Think again! Panelists will take us through real life scenarios to provide us with key problem-solving takeaways

- Defining the scope of representation
- Conflicts of interest
- Co-counseling with subject matter experts (EB-5, global mobility, etc.)
- Using overseas Attorney contractors
- Fixed fees & trust accounts

*Eleanor Pelta, Esq., (DL), AILA Past President, Washington, DC*

*Michael R. Jarecki, Esq., Chicago, IL*

*Matt Kaiser, Esq., Washington DC*

*Teri A. Simmons, Esq., Atlanta, GA*

**12:05pm – 1:45 pm: Lunch and Sponsor Presentations**  
**CBP/Community Relations speaker (*invited, not confirmed*)**



*Street in Avila*

### **1:45 pm – 2:40 pm: Lateral Candidates with Heavy Immigration Baggage**

Lateral employees often have complex immigration histories and issues. Learn tips to efficiently triage, identify and avoid ethical minefields both during the hiring process and after onboarding; Learn how to deftly answer candidate questions on Priority Date Movement for the remainder of FY 2023 and set realistic expectations.

- FY 2023 is well underway – Where is Charlie Oppenheim’s crystal ball?
- The skinny behind the delta in DOS’ predictions for last year’s FY 2022 and how it all panned out
- Impact of Priority Date predictions on lateral candidate hiring decisions
- EB-2 versus EB-3 when porting employers for lateral EB-3 downgrade candidates – managing expectations and achieving transparency
- AOS Porting– sufficiently “same or similar” occupational classification?
- Internal Promotions/Changing Divisions at Same Employer – permissible natural progression or uncomfortably outside the realm of original PERM position?
- Solving and advising on undiscovered hiccups with the previous USCIS H-1B Approval
- Discovering and advising on inadvertent I-94 overstay/Satisfying 3- and 10-year bars while in the US

*Marcine Seid, Esq., (DL), Palo Alto, CA*

*Laura J. Mazel, Esq., Oakland, CA*

*Cyrus Mehta, Esq., New York, NY*

*Charlie Oppenheim, former DOS Chief of Visa Control and Reporting Unit, Wilmington, NC*

### **2:40 pm – 2:45 pm: Sponsor Presentation**



*The Flower Carrier*

**2:45 pm – 3:45 pm: Consular Panel: Mexico City and Other Mission Mexico Posts**

Our moderators will facilitate a conversation with representatives from consular posts in Mexico. Participants/Post Representatives to be determined.

- NIV interview waivers
- Third Country Nationals
- TN and E visas update
- Expedited IV and NIV appointments
- How to address visa denial
- Direct filing of I-130 petitions

*Moderators:*

*Jeanne Malitz, Esq., San Diego, CA*

*Ramon Curiel, Esq., San Antonio, TX*

**3:45 pm – 3:50 pm: Sponsor Presentation**

**3:50 pm – 4:05 pm: Networking Break**





*Tenochtitlan Marketplace*

#### **4:05 pm – 5:00 pm: Managing Your Office**

Whether your office is still fully remote, hybrid or you require 100% in person work at your headquarters, learn the hottest and the best tech programs, apps, and support in the market, including how to best protect your data, your clients, and your practice.

- Living paper free: Are we there yet?
- How long must we retain digital copies of filings once we provide the clients with a secure link to the filing?
- Electronic Signature Tips (contracts, forms, declarations)
- How to best provide documents to clients (sharepoint, BOX.com,?)
- How best to communicate to clients (text, what's app, email)
- No silver bullet: How to manage/integrate our favorite platforms?
- Remote receptionists and paralegals: A real savings or a real expense?
- Using the remote control in a hybrid or remote practice: Owning the remote

*Peter L. Ashman, Esq., (DL), Las Vegas, NV*

*Jeffrey A. Devore, Esq., Palm Beach Gardens, FL*

*Kathia Quiroz, Esq., Las Vegas, NV*

*Reid Trautz, Esq., Senior Director, AILA Practice & Professionalism Center,  
Washington, DC*



*Retrato de Ignacio Sanchez*

**5:00 pm – 5:50 pm: Thinking Outside the Box: Consular Processing Solutions**

- Tips and Tricks to Scheduling NIV Appointments
- NIV Emergency Requests: Securing an Approval & Timely Appointment
- TCNs: Determining Best Interview Locations for NIV and IV Applicants
- IV Wait Times: When and How to Expedite Appointments
- No US Consulate, No Problem: Assisting clients in Ukraine, Russia, Venezuela, Cuba, Afghanistan, and more
- Visa Refusals/Denials

*Lynn Lee, Esq., [DL] Reston, VA*

*Matt Hughes, Esq., Portland, OR*

*Steve Pattison, Esq., Portsmouth, NH*

*Jan Pederson, Esq., Washington, DC*



*Man at the Crossroads*

**5:50 pm – 5:55 pm: Closing Remarks**

**6:00 pm – 8:00 pm: Cocktail Reception, hosted by Santamarina + Steta**

Not sure what to do next, now that this fabulous CLE is over? Feeling like you're at a crossroads? Then join us for post-conference cocktails, botanas, and more, right in the neighborhood on the elegant JW Marriott Terrace!



*Frida Kahlo – Self-portrait*

**Saturday, December 3, 2022: Frida Kahlo Museum**

Don't miss the Frida Kahlo Museum and visit in groups with colleagues and friends. Highly recommended! Open all day Saturday 10 am – 6 pm. Visit the museum website for more information. Purchase tickets (on own) here: [Museo Frida Kahlo](https://museo Frida Kahlo) | [www.boletosfridakahlo.org](http://www.boletosfridakahlo.org)

**Conference Committee**

Linda Rose, Laura J. Mazel, Lynn Lee, Teri A. Simmons, Maria Casablanca, and Maria T. Hoyos ~with much gratitude to Tammy Fox-Isicoff and Jeffrey Devore, and to Leigh N. Ganchan, our Chapter Chair

***Important Registration Information/ Housekeeping Items on Next Page***

## **REGISTRATION FOR CLE AND ALL EVENTS ONLY AVAILABLE ONLINE VIA EVENTBRITE**

**Eventbrite Registration:** <https://tinyurl.com/48zmhbjv>

**Note amounts to pay**

**Registration on or before October 20, 2022**

**Registration \$375 for speakers only**

**Registration \$450 for AILA LACC Members only**

**Registration \$500 AILA non-LACC Chapter Members**

**Registration \$550 non-AILA Members**

**Add \$75 for late registrants (anyone registering after October 20, 2022)**

**Register for Events not included in CLE fee at time of online registration**

- **Registration for extra events is only available before November 5, 2022**

## **Housekeeping Items**

- **Hotel Accommodations**

Discounted rooms available at the Hyatt Regency Mexico City in Polanco.

We encourage you to book early as our block will go quickly!

**To make a hotel reservation contact:** [AILA LACC - CLE Conference 2022 \(hyatt.com\)](https://www.hyatt.com)

- **Included with Registration:** continental breakfast, lunch, coffee breaks, cocktail reception, and conference materials.

- **Refunds**

Refunds for canceled registration will be provided, if notice of cancellation is emailed to [jdevore@devorelawgroup.com](mailto:jdevore@devorelawgroup.com) on or before October 20, 2022, subject to a \$50 processing fee.

- **Embassy Tour**

We are arranging a tour of the Embassy for Thursday, December 1, 2022. Registration is through Eventbrite. Details will be provided before the tour.

- **Government Officials**

We are doing our best to secure the participation of DOS from the American Embassy in Mexico City and other Mexico Mission Posts.

- **Conference Dinner**

Reservations will be through Eventbrite for our group dinner on Thursday, December 1, 2022, at a stellar location with amazing Mexican/international gourmet fare. Price is \$120.

- **Courtesy 1:1 Practice Management Sessions**

We are pleased to offer free, in-person confidential practice management and ethics consultations with AILA's resident practice management and ethics advisor, Reid Trautz. Whether you need guidance on an ethical dilemma, want to improve your firm's bottom line, are looking to start or merge your practice, or would like to discuss any other business issue impacting your practice, we can be of assistance. Over the past 16 years, Reid has helped countless AILA members across the country to better manage workflow, implement marketing strategies, embrace technology, become financially secure and understand their ethical responsibilities. Sign-up today for the limited spaces available: <https://calendly.com/rtrautz/laccconference>

- **CLE credit:** We have applied for CLE including at least one ethics credit for the following jurisdictions: Florida; Texas; California – CLE reciprocity with Texas and Florida. Other states should be eligible via self-reporting.