



AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
BANGKOK DISTRICT CHAPTER THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE

IMMIGRATION THRILLA IN MANILA

Makati City, Philippines



March 12-13, 2015



HOST HOTEL

Dusit Thani
MANILA



HOTEL RESERVATION

The discounted rate of PhP 6,252 for single occupancy/PhP 6,559 for double occupancy (includes tax and breakfast; \$1 = 44 Pesos) is available until 1/26/15. Corporate/Promotion Code: **DTMN-AILA**

<http://bit.ly/dusitmanila>

Pre/after-conference tours and questions,
email: bdc.conference@gmail.com

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

(US Embassy tour included; subject to approval, 12.5 CLE credits)

http://bit.ly/ailabdc_manila

	In-Person	Virtual
BDC Member	\$125	\$75
AILA/Non-BDC	\$200	\$100
(Join BDC and pay BDC Member rate)		
Non-AILA US Licensed Attorney	\$300	\$150

SPONSORED BY:



AILA InfoNet Doc. No. 1400604. (Posted 1/26/15)

CMB Regional Centers





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AGENDA

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS



CMB Regional Centers



AGENDA

As of 1/16/2015

*The program may be slightly modified based upon the best judgment of the panelists. * We are awaiting confirmation from some invited speakers.*

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2015

5:30PM - 7:00PM **EARLY REGISTRATION**

6:00PM **MEET & GREET/SPEAKERS PRE-CONFERENCE MEETINGS**

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2015

ROUND I

Virtual attendees must adjust schedule. Manila is 13 hours ahead of New York.

6:30AM - 5:00PM **REGISTRATION, INFORMATION AND EXHIBITS**

6:30AM - 7:00AM **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

6:30AM - 6:45AM **WELCOME AND REMARKS**

**Mary Carmen
Madrid Crost**

Conference Committee Chair

Jared Leung

AILA Bangkok District Chapter Chair

Leslie Holman*

AILA National President

6:45AM - 7:15AM **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

Leon Rodriguez*

*Director, USCIS, Department of Homeland Security
(Invited to speak in person or via video conference, subject to
confirmation)*



Banaue Rice Terraces

"Pana Banaue Rice Terraces". Licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons - http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pana_Banaue_Rice_Terraces.jpg#mediaviewer/File:Pana_Banaue_Rice_Terraces.jpg

AGENDA

7:15AM - 8:30AM

PRE-MATCH WEIGH IN & THE REFEREES: HOT TOPICS AT THE AGENCY LEVEL

A combined in-person and remote discussion with Department of State officials on attorney practice and communication channels.

- Recommendations from consular officers on preparing clients for interviews
- Best practices in getting questions answered by Consulates and the National Visa Center
- When to use DOS' LegalNet, and other resources
- Third country consular processing and pitfalls
- Consular processing issues after changing status in the United States
- Coordination between USCIS, KCC and Consulates
- The role of the USCIS Ombudsman's office
- What's in the horizon in light of the Executive Actions?

**Prakash I. Khatri
(DL)**

Bethesda, MD

Aron Finkelstein

Owings Mills, MD

Jeff Gorsky

*Chief, Legal Advisory Opinion Section, Visa Office
U.S. Dept. of State.*

Consular Managers*

from around Asia

Thomas E. Curley

*Field Office Director, USCIS Manila, Department of
Homeland Security*

Donald J. Monica*

*Associate Director, USCIS Field Operation, Department of
Homeland Security*

8:30AM - 9:30AM

RULES OF THE GAME, NO LOW BLOWS: ETHICS OF CONSULAR PRACTICE AND PRACTISING ABROAD

- Ethical and practical concerns of managing a law practice in both the U.S. and Asia
- Foreign lawyer registration under the WTO
- UPIL and consequences of bad lawyering on visa eligibility
- Fee agreement; working with local counsel
- Practical things they see on a day to day basis

Reid F. Trautz*

Director, AILA Practice and Professionalism Center

Stephen R. Pattison*

Darnestown, MD

Jeremy A. Weber

Bangkok, Thailand

9:30AM - 9:45AM

NETWORKING BREAK

9:45AM - 10:45AM

PREPARING THE KNOCK-OUT CASE: STRENGTH TRAINING ON EMPLOYMENT-BASED NIV TIMING ISSUES

Between caps and PERM difficulties, the old adage "timing is everything" is becoming more and more applicable to an immigration law practice. When every day in status can be crucial, this panel will explore select timing issues for those occasions when your clients' time is running out.

- Squeezing every last day out of AC21 s.106(a) – and proving it!
- Employment timing and status changes: Dodging in and out of H-4 EAD eligibility
- Creative preparations when status time limits become unavoidable
- Alternative visas to fill the visa void
- Effectively using the B1-in lieu of H

James W. Austin (DL) *Kansas City, MO*

Aron A. Finkelstein *Owings Mills, MD*

Nikki Dryden *Sydney, Australia*

10:45AM - 12:15PM

THE HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMP'S PURSE: SALIENT POINTS OF EB-5 PRACTICE

- The contenders: an investor, a project, a regional center, an agent and an attorney
- Managing investor's expectations: what are investors looking for and now to obtain it
- Scope of representation and fee agreement: avoiding a knock-out
- Special issues of BDC markets

David A. Enterline (DL) *Taipei, Taiwan*

Anthony B. Ravani *Seattle, WA*

Laura Danielson *Shanghai, China*

Government Speaker* *tba*

AGENDA



"Phiyas Festival". Licensed via Trekearth - http://www.trekearth.com/gallery/Asia/Philippines/Southern_Tagalog/Quezon/Lucban/photo909625.htm

Pahiyas Festival

12:15PM - 1:15PM

LUNCHEON

- Sponsor Introduction
Irene A. Steffas

BDC Program Committee, Marietta, GA

- Sponsor Remarks
Ky Boyle

CMB Representative

- Luncheon Speaker Introduction
Jared C. Leung (DL)

BDC Chair, Pheonix, AZ

- Luncheon Speakers
Jeffrey H. Gorsky

Chief of Advisory Opinions, Visa Office/Office of Legal Affairs, U.S. Department of State

1:15PM - 1:30PM

NETWORKING BREAK

1:30PM - 3:00PM

WHO'S IN YOUR CORNER: PREVALENT ISSUES AFFECTING FAMILIES, K-IS, LGBTs, AND SURROGACY

- When is a child, YOUR child?
- Family Petitions for Partners – evidence to support your petition
- Fertility Clinics – US versus international standards
- Embryo Adoptions – Is a visa available?
- K-1 – television show????
- Ethical issues regarding International Gestational Carriers

Nash J. Fayad (DL) *Richmond, VA*

Irene A. Steffas *Marietta, GA*

Ryan B. Barshop *Makati, Philippines*

**Government
Speaker*** *Tba*

3:00PM - 3:15PM

NETWORKING BREAK

3:15PM - 4:15PM

ON THE ROPES: SURVIVING CRIMINAL INADMISSIBILITY GROUNDS AND DIFFICULT CONSULAR INTERVIEWS

It comes as no surprise that difficult cases receive close scrutiny. This panel provides an update on various criminal issues and advises attorneys on the best way to supply clients with the documents needed for the detailed interview.

- The most common criminal inadmissibilities
- Documenting foreign laws and convictions
- Tips for preparing effective criminal waivers
- Bracing your client for difficult consular interviews

**Hudaidah Bhimdi
Ahmed** *Falls Church, VA*

Daniel Parisi *London, United Kingdom*

Patrick Metcalf *Chicago, IL*

Mary E. Kramer* *Miami, FL*

Cheryl David *New York, NY*

**Government
Speaker*** *Tba*

AGENDA

4:15PM - 5:15PM

HEALTH CARE WORKERS: NURSES, ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AND FMGs

Discuss with leading practitioners the trends and problems being encountered by workers in the medical professions.

- A Possible NIV opening for Registered Nurses?
- Physical and Occupational Therapists: Rocky paths to credentialing and U.S. licensure
- Schedule A cases and Portability
- Revisiting Foreign Medical Graduates

Ronald A. Nair

Normalk, CT

Carl M. Shusterman

Los Angeles, CA

**Mary Carmen
Madrid Crost**

Chicago, IL

**Government
Speaker***

Tba

5:15PM - 6:30PM

PRE-DINNER PRESENTATION/COCKTAILS

- Sponsor Presentation
- Cultural Presentation

"Manila Sunsets". Licensed via
Trekearth - http://www.trekearth.com/gallery/Asia/Philippines/NCR/Manila/Manila_Bay/photo626873.htm



Manila Bay Sunset

Albert Cadag 2006

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2015

ROUND 2

6:30AM - 12:00NN

REGISTRATION, INFORMATION AND EXHIBITS

6:30AM - 7:00AM

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

7:00AM - 8:30AM

DEALING WITH THE PENALTIES: EXPECTING AND WAIVING INADMISSIBILITY DETERMINATIONS

No matter how well we think a case is prepared, undisclosed facts and inaccurate answers can have unpleasant consequences at consular interviews. Learn to anticipate and handle some of the more common "surprises" inadmissibilities.

- **Avoiding the unexpected inadmissibility findings despite provisional waiver approval**
- **Misstatements or fraud? Inaccuracies on prior visa applications**
- **Preparing for and waiving the family smuggling accusation**
- **The surprise medical inadmissibility determination**
- **212(d) to the rescue!**

Leslie A. Holman* *AILA National President, Burlington, VT*

Marisa I. Casablanca *Miami, FL*

Radlyn Mendoza *Virginia Beach, VA*

Diana Okoeva *London, United Kingdom*

Satnam Singh *Norfolk, VA*

8:30AM - 9:30AM

HOLDING AND BREAKING THE CLINCH: DEALING WITH ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESSING, DELAYS AND RETURNS

Two frustrating experiences for clients – and their attorneys – is enduring the indeterminate wait of 'administrative processing' and the often destructive delays caused by Consular returns of petitions to USCIS. How much do we really know about these actions, and what remedial steps are feasible?

- **The causes and timing of 'administrative processing'**
- **Avoiding, handling and managing 'administrative processing' delays.**
- **The Consular return process and possible intercepts?**
- **Strategies to consider when facing a USCIS Notice of Intent to Revoke**

Gary N. Chodorow *Beijing, China*

Prakash I. Khatri *Bethesda, MD*

Daniel Parisi *London, United Kingdom*

Jon Eric Garde *Las Vegas, NV*

AGENDA

9:30AM - 9:45AM

NETWORKING BREAK

9:45AM - 11:15AM

POST-MATCH PRESS CONFERENCE: BEST PRACTICES FOR FAMILY AND BUSINESS IMMIGRATION PRACTITIONERS

Seasoned practitioners share their lessons from the trenches. This panel will delight the audience with war stories and special tidbits from their treasured knowledge through working daily with US consulates and embassies in the Bangkok Chapter District.

- Consulates and embassies are not created equal
- Countries with only one US Embassy - How to succeed
- Preparing your clients for family interviews - do's and don'ts
- Problem posts and areas in family cases?
- How to make your employee applicants shine
- What are the challenges with Hi-Tech workers in India

Jared C. Leung (DL) BDC Chair, Phoenix, AZ

J. Marcus Ellis* Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Wayne M. Weightman Phnom-Penh, Cambodia

Frederick W. Hong Guangzhou, China

Gary N. Chodorow Beijing, China

11:15AM - 12:15PM

LUNCH

- Brief Sponsor Presentation

12:00NN - 12:15PM

CLOSING REMARKS AND RECOGNITION OF SPONSORS

The US Embassy along Roxas Blvd. in Manila.
(Photo credit: PLM website)

12:15PM - 12:30PM

ASSEMBLE FOR US EMBASSY TOUR

12:30PM - 2:00PM

**TRANSPORTATION (PROVIDED) AND SECURITY
CLEARANCE**

2:00PM - 4:00PM

US EMBASSY TOUR and Q&A with DOS & DHS OFFICIALS



OPTIONAL TOURS

DAY TOUR

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

After the US Embassy Tour

- **Mabuhay Restop**
- **Fort Santiago**



OVERNIGHT TOUR

**SATURDAY, MARCH 14 AND
SUNDAY, MARCH 15**

- **Boracay**
- **El Nido**
- **Panglao Island**



SATURDAY, MARCH 14

- **Taal Volcano, Tagaytay OR**
(1.5 hours south of Manila)
- **Corregidor (WWII Death March)**

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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