

TBA Immigration Law Forum 2023

May 10, 2023 – 1212 Germantown

Program Producer: Arléne Amarante, LMU Duncan School of Law

Total Credits: 5 General



8:30 – 9:00 a.m. CDT

Registration

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Bean Station Raid of 2018

On April 5, 2018, federal and state officials conducted a worksite enforcement action at the Southeastern Provision meatpacking facility in Bean Station, Tennessee. At the time, it was the largest such raid in the U.S. in over a decade. During the ensuing five years, advocates, officials, and members of the immigrant community have continued to grapple with the myriad legal disputes arising from the raid. Panelists will discuss issues such as the rapid response organized in the immediate aftermath of the raid, immigration court advocacy, and the recent \$1.17 million settlement of a civil rights suit involving claims of racial profiling and excessive force.

Michelle Lapointe, National Immigration Law Center (NILC)

Jazmin Ramirez, TN Immigrant & Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC)

William Gill, LMU Duncan School of Law & Volunteer Attorney at Catholic Charities of East TN

10:00 – 10:15 a.m.

Break

10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

Family Immigration Law Trends, Timing, and Packets

American Immigration Lawyers Association USCIS Nashville Liaison Terry Olsen will share and explain the implementation of a new interview process at USCIS Nashville Field Office, along with discussing how to arrange "adjustment of status marriage packets", avoiding requests for evidence in light of "no marriage interviews", and how to understand Salesforce & other AI tools for immigrant visa consular processing. This session will cover the current trends, the timing issues being created by the trends, and how to address all issues with "immigration law packet" thinking.

Terry Olsen, Olsen Law Firm

11:15 – 11:30 a.m.

Break

- 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **“I just pleaded guilty and later I found out that I might not be able to get a green card because of my conviction—can I take it back now?”**
Foreign nationals accused of criminal wrongdoing routinely make agreements with the prosecution to resolve their cases well before going to a jury, which often result in convictions that may irrevocably harm their chances to gain legal immigration status in the United States. In the event such a foreign national client comes to you, this course will discuss what options might be available for your client to attack a conviction with severe immigration consequences that has not yet become final. Because this course focuses on the very time-sensitive forms of relief before a criminal judgment becomes final, post-conviction relief for judgments that have become final will be only very briefly addressed.
Steven J. Simerlein, Law Offices of Steven J. Simerlein
- 12:30 – 1:15 p.m. **Lunch**
- 1:15 – 2:15 p.m. **Employment and Investment-Based Immigration Options: How Foreign Direct Investment Leads to Nonimmigrant Worker Visas & Permanent Residence**
U.S. employment and investment-based immigration law changes at a rapid pace, and new rules and policies are constantly placed in front of U.S. employers seeking to hire foreign professionals, as well as international entrepreneurs and startups seeking to enter the U.S. market. Immigration attorneys must be flexible with change and be prepared to offer timely and efficient solutions. We will look at E-2 treaty investors/traders, L1A start-ups, EB-5 investors, & beyond to see how FDI leads to authorized work status, permanent residence in the U.S. and creates jobs & investment in the U.S.
Billy Hoover, Southern Champion Tray
Kanzi Takayama, eXp Commercial Realty
Waddell Wright, W. Wright Companies
Terry Olsen, Olsen Law Firm
- 2:15 – 2:30 p.m. **Break**
- 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. **Making Sense of the Categorical and Modified Categorical Approaches: A Practical Workshop**
Under current law, the immigration practitioner must analyze criminal convictions under the categorical and modified categorical approaches. This area is one of the densest and most complex in all of immigration jurisprudence. To help the attendee understand these approaches and their real-world implications on clients and their families, the panel will proceed in two parts. First, the panel will explain the approaches generally, focusing on key cases and terminology. Next, the panel will analyze an actual Tennessee statute utilizing the approaches.
Andrew J. Rankin, Law Office of Andrew J. Rankin