

# Andrew K. Nietor

For AILA Board of Governors 2019



## **AILA Activities**

I have been an active member of AILA since 2005.

### **San Diego Chapter:**

- Executive Committee (2013-2018): Chapter Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary
- Committee Chair: EOIR, Criminal Defense Bar (present)
- Committee Member: Advocacy & Media (present), Website (present), Mexican Consulate, ICE-ERO

### **National:**

- EOIR Liaison Committee Vice President (present)
- Speaker at Annual Conferences (2014-present)
- 2018 Midyear Conference Planning Committee
- National Day of Action (2016-present)
- Chair: Message Center Moderators Committee

## **About Me and My Practice**

I practice immigration law in San Diego, CA. Originally from Queens, N.Y., I graduated from The George Washington University Law School, then worked at Federal Defenders of San Diego as a trial attorney before opening my own practice in 2004, focusing on litigation in immigration and federal courts. I also advocate for particularly vulnerable groups including respondents with mental health issues. I lecture regularly on topics including litigation, crimmigration, advocacy, technology in the courtroom, and ethics. When I'm not working? Not that we've had much of that luxury lately, but I always find time for my dog Bosco.

## **About My Goals for the Board of Governors**

If elected, here are my two main goals: 1) Provide resources to members that are valuable, practical, and accessible; 2) Make AILA a strong and relevant voice that advocates for fair immigration policies. AILA needs to focus on being responsive to the needs of regular members, through the individual chapters that best know those needs. Our organization should also continue to advocate zealously. Our collective voice should be one that rails against a system that is often inefficient, illogical, and inhumane, from unrealistic visa quotas, to bureaucratic red tape, to cruel enforcement and detention policies. I see no inconsistency in these goals that focus on member benefits and advocating for our clients. I have found that AILA offers a unique opportunity to support both ideas that has kept me involved and excited since I joined in 2005. I want to bring that energy and excitement with me to our Board of Governors. Thank you for your consideration.