

CHERYL R. DAVID  
Candidate FOR AILA BOARD OF GOVERNORS



It is with great enthusiasm and commitment to AILA that I ask for your support in this election for the position of Director on the AILA Board of Governors. As an elected Director, I believe that our mission is to serve the membership of AILA at large and work toward the betterment of the practice, which includes ensuring our membership is equipped to represent their clients vigorously and competently. If elected, I will continue to work to support AILA in continuing to provide the resources and services that help us all develop as attorneys. In addition, my personal and professional experience as a solo practitioner provides beneficial insight as to what many of our membership experience and the difficulty of “doing it alone”. With this experience, I can offer that perspective to the Board and ensure that the concerns of those of us in smaller firms are not forgotten. In addition, I believe it is important that the interests, work and concerns of those who handle removal work are heard at the Board of Governor’s meetings.

**Leadership, Service & Activities:**

**AILA National:**

- Director - AILA Board of Governors – June 2007 – present
- Chair - U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement - June 2007 – present
- Strategic Planning Committee on membership 2008-09
- Committee Member - U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement 2005-2006
- Ad-hoc Committee on EOIR reform
- Speaker at numerous conferences and trainings

**AILA New York:**

- New York Chapter Chair 2006-07
- Coordinator for the pro bono project with E.O.I.R. to seek representation for unaccompanied minors
- Previous positions in N.Y.: Vice-Chair, 2005-06; Secretary, 2004-05; Treasurer, 2005-04, Co-Chair, EOIR/Chief Counsel Committee, 2001-2003

**Local Activities:**

- Board of Directors - City Bar Fund of NY - The Fund leverages the strengths of the City Bar through its Justice Center to provide pro bono legal services to low income clients.
- Member - Immigration & Nationality Committee of the City Bar of New York

**On Removal:** My main area of concentration throughout my career has been removal defense. As national and local chair, I have had the opportunity to develop our liaison with ICE and work hard to bring our memberships concerns to those within ICE.

**Our fight for comprehensive immigration reform:** With our ongoing struggle to obtain some meaningful change within our immigration laws, I would be honored to be among the AILA leaders to assist in educating Congress while helping to develop our grassroots contacts and forcefully fight for the rights of immigrants and their families.

**Pro Bono** – As attorneys we have an obligation to use our expertise and assist others less fortunate than ourselves, simply because we can. I have been committed to pro bono work. I established the AILA juvenile docket in NY in June 2007. We coordinate children with attorneys who need representation before EOIR. In addition the City Bar Fund’s mission is to bring pro bono legal representation to New Yorkers in all legal areas. This past year the Fund has been dedicated to fighting for the rights of detained immigrants and I am proud member of this Board.