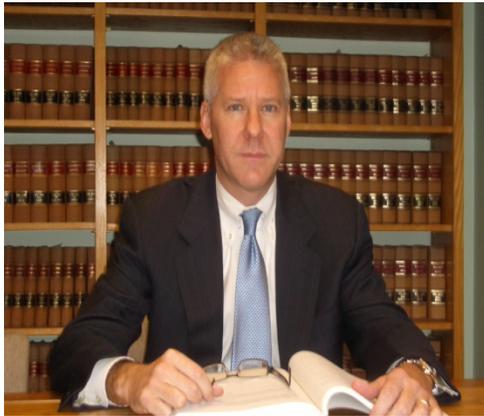


**ANTHONY DRAGO, JR.**  
**Candidate FOR AILA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



I am very excited to have been nominated for the position of Director on the AILA Board of Governors and ask for your support in this year's election. If elected, I will continue to serve AILA and its members as I have done for many years both locally and nationally. As an elected Director my sole obligation would be to serve the AILA membership which includes providing our members with the resources and services necessary for the practice of immigration law. The Board of Directors must support members with cost effective educational programs and conferences and effective liaison with governmental agencies. As Chapter Chair for AILA New England, I served on the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors makes critical decisions for the membership and I

will bring a strong perspective on the practice of law in a small firm to the Board. With this experience, I can offer that perspective to the Board to ensure that concerns of those who work in smaller firms are addressed. Additionally, I will use my experience in the courtroom to ensure that the interests and concerns of those who litigate removal cases are heard at the Board of Governor's meetings.

**Summary of AILA activities and Legal Work:**

AILA NE Executive Committee - June, 2005 – present

AILA NE Chapter Chair - June, 2009 through May, 2010

AILA National EOIR and Distance Learning Committees - June, 2010 to present

AILA VSC and TSC Liaison Committees

AILA Mentor on EOIR, Federal Court and litigation related issues

Speaker at Annual Conference and other AILA conferences

AILA Election Judge - June, 2010 Annual Conference

AILA National Day of Action attendee - April, 2009, 2010, 2011

Organized attorneys and filed Amicus Briefs in First Circuit Court of Appeals and Massachusetts SJC

Organized and helped set up AILA/EOIR/PAIR Pro Bono Project at Boston Immigration Court

Practiced law in Boston, Massachusetts since 1988 – state government, small firm and solo practitioner

President of Anthony Drago, Jr., P.C. since July, 1995

**Major Challenges Facing AILA:**

Some of the major challenges facing AILA and its members over the next year include: ongoing advocacy in terms of getting out the message that immigration benefits America; continued liaison with government officials to force change in adjudication and policy; and ongoing development of programs for AILA members that are cost effective for the organization and essential for the practice of immigration law.

Having recently served on the Board of Governors in my capacity as Chapter Chair for AILA New England, I understand these challenges. As an Elected Director I will be involved in making critical decisions for our organization and welcome the challenge of ensuring that the needs of all members are addressed by the Board. If elected, I will seek to improve on how AILA develops our message and how we strengthen liaison with governmental agencies so our voice is heard in the immigration debate throughout this country. Through my experience I have developed strong and valuable relationships with government officials and have always used those relationships to assist AILA members in their day-to-day practice of law by forcing the government to address our concerns. As a Director for AILA I would continue to use my experience and ability to build relationships that will benefit our membership and will ensure that the Board of Governors makes critical decisions with the needs of all members coming first.