



Annaluisa Padilla for AILA Secretary

www.annaluisa4ailasecretary.com

Why Should You Vote For Me?

Unusual times call for unusual solutions. I bring a critical combination of humility, tenacity, and directness to AILA leadership. My years of experience leading and working with other large, even divisive groups will serve our multi-faceted association. I also offer a unique perspective that only an immigrant can bring to the practice of immigration law. These are unique and critical leadership skills which will benefit all AILA members.

- I lead by example
- I emphasize inclusion and professionalism
- I practice what I preach.

What is My Vision for AILA?

First and foremost, to create an atmosphere of openness where all AILA members know that the association is truly theirs, regardless of where they work or who they know. We need to welcome everyone who wants to be part of the AILA family and enrich ourselves from the varied backgrounds and experiences that make up our association. We need to work together to fulfill AILA's mission to promote justice, improve the quality of practice, and advocate for fair and reasonable immigration law and policy.

It is one of AILA's greatest strengths to have such a varied membership. In this hostile, even racist environment that AILA lawyers and our clients face today, I am more convinced than ever that AILA's leadership must reflect a commitment to diversity. Our adversaries have turned immigration into a national security issue resulting in divisiveness and intolerance. We need to change that bringing people together and offering solutions.

I believe that AILA must remain the voice of those who would otherwise be silenced; a coherent and passionate advocate for smart immigration measures in all areas of the practice. Just as immigration policy must reflect unity, tolerance, and integration, so must AILA's leadership. I bring a diverse experience of serving on large governing boards, a commitment to pro bono, and an unwavering dedication to remain a voice for those who would be silenced.

[over]



As A Guatemalan Asylee The Immigrant Experience Is My Personal History.

When I was 15, my family fled Guatemala to seek the security of a new life in the United States and we were fortunate enough to be granted asylum. Although my parents were both professionals, I saw my father work as a gardener, a car salesman, a furniture salesman, and even a driver; and my mother labor as a domestic worker to ensure the safety and security of our family. My parents' sacrifices and the opportunities I received in the United States have forged my identity and made me a passionate advocate. It is a unique privilege to truly understand my clients' experiences and help them see that their hopes of a new life for themselves and their families can be more than just dreams.

My journey to America and my personal immigration experience have had a tremendous influence in my life and continue to provide me with my bearings. At the same time, I am driven to be an instrument for what is right and what is just. I am sure many of us became immigration attorneys because of this same imperative, driving us to push for acceptance, tolerance, and respect for the most basic human rights of the people we represent.

As A Solo Practitioner I Am Keenly Aware Of The Everyday Trials And Tribulations Facing Most AILA Members.

My practice looks like yours. Solo practitioners are the heart and soul of AILA. We know how to continuously reinvent and innovate; otherwise our practices wouldn't survive. AILA must continue to build a strong vibrant system of support for solo practitioners and mentoring for young attorneys.

I Bring Extensive Leadership Experience To AILA Which Will Benefit All Members.

I had the privilege of serving as the 2009-2010 Southern California Chapter Chair, one of the largest, most diverse and dynamic chapters in AILA. I welcomed the opportunity to lead our chapter and, I established new procedures that made our Chapter more efficient and transparent. As Chapter Chair, I was a member of the Board of Governors, which exposed me to AILA's governance issues. Although I have not held a voting seat on the Board of Governors since then, I attended all of the BOG Meetings last year and several the year before. Having been to these meetings has provided me with a deeper understanding of AILA and its governing principles. My active participation in AILA leadership meetings has provided a solid understanding of the challenges we face as an organization and the needs of our members.

My extensive national committee work includes USCIS Field Operations Committee, the UPL Committee, and the both the 2011 and 2012 Annual Conference Planning Committees. I was also Vice-Chair of the 2011 California Chapters Conference Planning Committee. In addition, I was one of the drafters of AILA's comments on USCIS' fee increase proposed rule and I am on AILA's comment team on the proposed new stateside waiver processing regulations.



To read more about my platform go to:

www.annaluisa4ailasecretary.com

THE RIGHT CHOICE IS



ANNALUISA PADILLA – AILA SECRETARY

Partial list of endorsers - List growing every day:

- Ann Allott, Colorado Chapter
- Peter Asaad, Washington DC Chapter Chair-Elect
- Jonathan E. Avirom, AILA Past President
- Michael A. Bander, South Florida Chapter
- Edward C. Beshara, Past Central Florida Chapter Chair
- Kerry William Bretz, New York Chapter
- Jan H. Brown, Past New York Chapter Chair
- Daryl Buffenstein, AILA Past President
- Randall Caudle, Past Santa Clara Valley Chapter Chair
- Henry Chang, Past Canada Chapter Chair
- Steven A. Clark, AILA Past President
- Susan J. Cohen, Past New England Chapter Chair
- Lorna DeBono, Past Southern California Chapter Chair
- Kevin Dixler, Chicago Chapter
- Charles Foster, AILA Past President
- Terry Yale Feiertag, Past Chicago Chapter Chair
- Raul Godinez, Past Southern California Chapter Chair, EOIR Liaison
- Josie Gonzalez, AILA Board of Governors
- David Grunblatt, Past New York Chapter Chair, Past Co-Chair VSC Liaison Committee
- Robert G. Heiserman, Former AILA BOG
- Janet L. Henner, New York Chapter
- Stanley H. Horn, Chicago Chapter
- J. David Hughes, Washington DC Chapter
- Mark A. Ivener, Southern California Chapter
- Allen E. Kaye, AILA Past President
- Daniel M. Kowalski, Editor-in-chief Benders Immigration Bulletin, Texas Chapter
- Deborah Notkin, AILA Past President
- Brenda Oliver, Outgoing Washington DC Chapter Chair
- James J. Orlow, AILA Past President
- Angelo Paparelli, Southern California Chapter
- Jan M. Pederson, Past Washington, DC Chapter Chair
- Fernando Perez, Past Central Florida Chapter Chair
- John L. "Jack" Pinnix, AILA Past President
- Arturo Rios, Central Florida Chapter Founder and Past Chair
- Seymour Rosenberg, AILA Past President
- Donald K. Sheppard, Past San Diego Chapter Chair
- Elizabeth Espin Stern, Washington DC Chapter
- Lincoln Stone, Investor Visa (EB-5) Committee, Southern California Chapter
- Carlina Tapia-Ruano, AILA Past President
- Clark M. Trevor, Past Northern California Chapter Chair
- Ronald Jeffrey Tassoff, Southern California Chapter
- David Ware, Mid-South Chapter
- Michael N. Weiss, AILA Past President
- Leon Wildes, AILA Past President
- Peter Williamson, AILA Past President
- Bernard Wolfsdorf, AILA Past President
- Stephen Yale-Loehr, Professor/Author, New York Chapter