

Ira Azulay
Chicago

2012 Campaign Statement:

I am running for a seat on the AILA Board of Governors. I, like many of the other candidates, have a diverse background with accomplishments that merit election. There is only one week left in the election period. Please take a moment and vote for me, I could really use your support.

My 100 word bio that was submitted to AILA is as follows: Ira is a founding partner of IMMIGRATION ATTORNEYS, LLP where he champions an emphasis on client service through greater accessibility, high quality solutions, and modern economic models. Remains focused on improving the Immigration Bar's professionalism and reputation. Leader of a variety of groups focused on legal and immigrant rights and issues and leverages participation to increase support for Immigration Reform. (i) JCUA Board Member, Policy Committee and Chair Immigrant Justice Action Team (member of ICIRR); (ii) AJC's Bridging America Taskforce; (iii) Board Member Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce; (iv) Board Member AAJLJ; (v) Chair, ISBA Committee Law Office Management & Economics.

At my firm I am fortunate to practice with a group of immigration lawyers who work tirelessly for our clients, challenging the decisions of governmental agencies, while also advocating for change to rectify the injustices in the current system. As a group we participate in many of the local committees and continue to request additional placements. We are regular presenters on immigration and other legal issues and place an emphasis on providing pro bono and/or low cost services in order to prevent people from being steamrolled.

The reason I am running by petition is because it is the only way I know to get involved where the members of AILA get to choose who is appointed. The reality is, my name has been proposed to the nominating committee two of the last three years, and I was not selected. During that time, I have also submitted applications to volunteer for national committees and have also not been selected. From conversations with other AILA members I know I am not alone. It leaves me disappointed with AILA.

I believe that I share the views of a large segment of AILA members who feel like they are not being heard. Please vote for me, and if you like what I have to say, please consider only voting for me. It will help me to be elected based on the way votes are tabulated.

If you want to discuss anything in this statement with me, or anything else about AILA or my positions, please send me an email at iazulay@immattyllp.com or call me at 312.661.9100. I will be arriving in Nashville on Wednesday morning and would be glad to speak with you in person as well.

Thanks for your support.