

Three-Part Telephone & E-mail Seminar:

PERM Nuts & Bolts: The Latest Tips For Practitioners

Speakers: Lori S. Melton, Debra H. Baker, Robert E. Banta, Jill Bloom, Steven A. Clark, Jane Goldblum, Ester Greenfield, Allen E. Kaye, Jared C. Leung and Sofia M. Zneimer

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Seminar Outline

FIRST Phone Session on Nov 17, 2005:

- What is "identical" for refiling purposes?
- Refiling and SVP/Job Zone issues
- Refiling and BEC Interaction/How to withdraw a case
- Multiple filings and the 8/11/05 FAQ
- The role of retrogression

SECOND Phone Session on Dec 8, 2005:

- PW Determination Expirations
- SVP/Job Zones and Business Necessity
- Drafting for BS+5 and EB-2 Preference Category Cases
- Drafting for cases involving a combination of education and experience
- Calculating Recruitment Dates

THIRD Phone Session on Jan 12, 2006:

- BEC Update
- PERM Processing Times
- EB-2 vs. EB-3
- Substitutions at CIS and at the BECs
- Audits and Denials

Special Note: The PERM Book Editor Joel Stewart, see here

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About the Speakers

Lori S. Melton is an associate at Littler Mendelson Bacon & Dear and has been practicing immigration law since 1998. She is a member of the North Carolina State Bar Association, the Washington State Bar Association, and the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). Ms. Melton has represented Fortune 500 clients from the software, retail, semiconductor, telecommunications, financial, hospitality, education and healthcare industries. She has published numerous articles on employment-based immigration and asylum law issues and has served as a presenter for various professional and bar associations on immigration law issues.

Debra H. Baker obtained her BA from San Jose State University in 1988 and her JD from Santa Clara University School of Law in 1994. Prior to joining the law firm of J&H in 1994, Ms. Baker spent five years with Hewlett-Packard Company as an Immigration Specialist where she focused her efforts on all aspects of business immigration law from a corporate perspective. Through this experience, she gained a unique insight into employer/employee needs and concerns. Ms. Baker has been instrumental in strategizing and developing new immigration processes and policies for corporate clients, and she has played a key role in expanding the firm's educational piece of the practice. An expert in I-9 regulations, Ms. Baker has worked with clients in conducting internal audits and developing internal training to ensure IRCA compliance. She has served as Associate Editor for the Northern California American Immigration Lawyer's Associate Chapter Conference, a guest lecturer at Santa Clara University, and a guest speaker at the Western Regional Relocation Conference. In addition, she has taught classes at the Santa Clara University School of Law. Ms. Baker is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and the American Bar Association.

Robert E. Banta is Founder and Managing Partner of Banta Immigration Law, Ltd in Atlanta, Georgia.

Jill Bloom has practiced immigration law since 1999. While at Wayne State University she earned 2nd Place Oralist in the Moot Court Competition. She is founding member of the Metro Detroit Hadassah Attorney's Council (HACOL) and Past Fundraising Vice-President and past Community Outreach Vice President of HACOL Professional Profiles. Ms. Bloom has extensive experience in all business immigration matters and a wide variety of family based immigration matters. She was admitted to the Michigan Bar in 1999 and is a member of the American Bar Association, American Immigration Lawyer's Association (AILA), the Michigan State Bar Association, the Oakland County Bar Association, and the Maricopa County Bar Association. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree with a concentration in Spanish and a minor in Linguistics from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan in 1996 and a J.D. from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan in 1999. She had an article published in the Michigan Bar Journal, July 2003 and she is co-author of Immigration and Family Law: What every family law attorney needs to know about immigration law and its impact on divorce and related matters (Please note that a correction was made to this article in the August 2003 issue, page 8 - "Corrections") Ms. Bloom also is a frequent speaker on a large range of immigration related topics

Steven A. Clark is with Flynn & Clark, P.C. in Cambridge MA and is a past president of AILA (1999-2000). He has authored over 40 publications on H & L visas, Labor Certification, and Employment Based Immigration. He served as Senior Editor AILA's Annual Conference Handbook, Editor of the chapter on Labor Certification in the treatise Immigration Law and Practice (Times Mirror/Mathew Bender Co.). He has also been listed as one of "The Best Lawyers in America" under the immigration heading since its inception and is rated "AV," the highest rating conferred by Martindale-Hubbell, an authoritative, independent rating service. Mr. Clark is also a founding member of IMMLAW®, the national consortium of preeminent immigration firms with over two centuries of combined immigration law experience.

Jane Goldblum who has limited her practice to immigration, nationality and consular law since 1980, is listed in the June 2004 and in the June 2005 issue of Philadelphia Magazine as one of the top immigration attorneys in Pennsylvania (www.superlawyers.com) and is listed in the 2005 publication Best Lawyers in America as one of America's best immigration lawyers (www.bestlawyers.com). Soon after graduating in 1979 from Yeshiva University's Benjamin N. Cardozo law school, Jane joined Wildes & Weinberg, a leading New York immigration law firm, best known for its successful representation of John Lennon. In 1981, she joined Dilworth, Paxson, Kalish & Kauffman, where for 6 years, Jane led Dilworth's corporate immigration practice. In 1988, Jane, believing that the practice of immigration law, which is so personal, does not belong in a large law firm, joined with Wendy Hess to form Goldblum & Hess. Based outside of Philadelphia (in Jenkintown, Pennsylvania), Jane is a past Chair of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers' Association (AILA), has served on AILA National's Board, and has served numerous times as a liaison with the Philadelphia office of both the US CIS and Department of Labor. Jane also is a frequent writer and speaker on issues pertaining to the acquisition of nonimmigrant and immigrant visas—particularly on an employment basis. Jane is past Chair and an active member current Chair of the Civil Rights Committee of the Anti-Defamation League and a supporter of Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International.

Ester Greenfield is past President of the Washington Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, has taught immigration law as an adjunct professor at the Seattle University School of Law and lectures at local and national immigration law seminars. Ester has served on the Seattle Human Rights Commission and has worked with organizations protecting the rights of aliens. She is listed in "The Best Lawyers in America" for 1999-2003 in the field of immigration law. She has been active on local, regional, and national Department of Labor liaison committees of the American Immigration Lawyers Association. She is co-editor of AILA's Department of Labor Directory for Immigration Lawyers, 2002 and 2003 editions.

Allen E. Kaye is a past National President of AILA. Mr. Kaye is a regular columnist on the U.S. immigration and naturalization law for the newspaper India Abroad and over 50 other newspapers across the U.S. He co-hosts a popular bi-monthly television program on Channel 47 in New York called "Immigration and You". He is a frequent lecturer on the U.S. immigration, naturalization, visa and consular law for various organizations and associations in the U.S. and India and has offices in New York City and Bombay, India. He is Co-Editor, with Dan P. Danilov, of the United States Immigration News. Mr. Kaye is listed in the Martindale-Hubbell Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers and also in The Best Lawyers in America, both in the field of Immigration and Naturalization Law.

Sofia M. Zneimer is the managing attorney of Jasinsky Immigration Law, LLC in Chicago, Illinois. Sofia received her law degree from Chicago-Kent College of Law in December 2003. Prior to that, she was an immigration specialist at Bank One in Chicago for more than 3 years, where she handled numerous employment-based immigration matters. While in law school, Sofia served as a Notes and Comments Editor of the Chicago-Kent Law Review. She also interned for the Immigration Court in Chicago and externed for the United States District Court in Chicago during law school. Sofia is admitted to the Illinois Supreme Court, United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois, and the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. She is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, Chicago Bar Association, Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, American Trial Lawyers Association, and the Federal Bar Association. Sofia speaks Bulgarian and Russian.

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