



Three-Part Telephone & E-mail Seminar:

Removal For Beginners

Speakers: Scott Bratton, Wayne Benos, Philip Eichorn, Nikki M. Jacobson, Matthew Kriezelman, Patricia Mann and Steven C. Thal

Available on CD

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Seminar Outline

FIRST Phone Session on April 15: The Basics of Removal Proceedings

- Removal Proceedings under INA Section 240 - Notice to Appear
- Exceptions to Removal Proceedings under INA Section 240- expedited removal, reinstatement of removal order
- Basic Immigration Court Practice and Procedures - Overview, EOIR Practice Manual
- Bond Hearings - ineligibility, Joseph hearings
- Master Hearings and Individual Hearings – pleadings, an attorney's role and responsibilities
- Motions to Reopen- in absentia orders, motions to apply for new reli
- Appeals - Form EOIR 26, BIA Practice Manual

SECOND Phone Session on May 20: Grounds For Removal

- Grounds of Inadmissibility under INA Section 212
- Grounds for Removal under INA Section 237
- Criminal grounds of Removal- categories of crimes that trigger removal
- Aggravated Felonies- convictions that are considered aggravated felonies and their implications

THIRD Phone Session on June 10: Overview of Relief From Removal

- Voluntary Departure- pre-hearing vs. post-hearing, benefits
- Asylum, withholding of removal, relief under the Convention Against Torture – eligibility, discretion, bars
- Cancellation of Removal (LPR vs. non-LPR) - eligibility, bars, discretionary factors
- Adjustment of status- jurisdiction of IJ, requirements, discretion
- Waivers- 212(h), 237(a)(1)(H), 212(i)
- NACARA- who is eligible and the latest developments
- TPS- circumstances where TPS can be granted by an IJ and eligibility requirements
- Other potential relief in removal proceedings

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[] CD April 15 [] CD May 20 [] CD June 10 2.00pm to 3.30pm ET (11.00am to 12.30pm PT)

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(→ see next page for speaker bios)



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About the Speakers

Scott Bratton (Discussion Leader) is a Partner at Margaret Wong and Associates Co, LPA. His practice includes removal defense, political asylum, federal litigation, consular processing, criminal law, and assistance in business and family based visas. Mr. Bratton received his BA in Business Management from Ohio Northern University in 1993 and his JD from the University of Cincinnati College of Law in 1997. Prior to joining our firm, Mr. Bratton was a partner in the law firm of Bratton & Ratliff Co., LPA, where he practiced federal and state criminal law. He has been named a Leading Lawyer by Inside Business Magazine and an Ohio Super Lawyers Rising Star by Cincinnati Magazine, which is an honor reserved for the top 2.5% of young lawyers in Ohio. He has practiced immigration law for almost six years and has been the attorney of record on numerous precedent-setting cases, including *Liao v. Rabbett*, 398 F.3d 389 (6th Cir. 2005), *Singh v. Gonzales*, 451 F.3d 400 (6th Cir. 2006), and *Iao v. Gonzales*, 400 F.3d 530 (7th Cir. 2005), which was discussed in a December 2005 article in the New York Times. He has also spoken at numerous immigration conferences and has been quoted in several newspaper articles, including a June 2006 story on immigration court that ran in newspapers across the country.

Wayne Benos of Wayne F. Benos Attorney & Counselor at Law, LLC, is engaged in a diverse practice of law which includes the representation of individuals in removal proceedings and related immigration matters. Wayne has been engaged in the practice of law since 1980 and has extensive experience in many areas of law, especially litigation. From 1986 through 2001 he was a managing partner in the law firm of Benos, Cummings, Mann & Valenti, Co. LPA where he litigated for individuals and major corporations in a variety of legal matters that included multimillion-dollar toxic tort and construction defect cases. His trial court experience has given Wayne a well rounded and in depth perspective on the intricacies of the litigation process. Prior to setting up his own practice in 2006, Wayne served as Assistant Chief Counsel for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). As an ICE trial attorney he represented the United States Government in all manner of proceedings, including Deportation, Removal, Bond, Asylum, Cancellation of Removal, and Adjustment of Status, in Immigration Court and before the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA). Wayne received several achievement awards while in government service and his ICE trial attorney experience afforded him the opportunity to become familiar with the government's point of view on immigration matters. In addition to his law practice, Wayne is also active in civic and public service organizations. He is the immediate past president of the Cuyahoga Valley Chamber of Commerce and has been a board member and officer of the Cleveland Rape Crises Center and the Toscana Mutual Benefit Association, and has provided Pro Bono representation through the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland.

Philip Eichorn is the principal and founding attorney of Philip Eichorn Co., LPA; an immigration firm located in Cleveland, Ohio with offices throughout the U.S. Philip was an assistant county prosecutor prior to practicing immigration law. He has successfully defended non-citizens across the country in a variety of removal actions, represented criminal defendants in state and federal court actions, and counseled employers on potential criminal liability and sanctions.

Nikki Mehrpoo Jacobson is a founding partner of Jacobson & Han LLP. She is an experienced attorney and immigration rights advocate. Ms. Jacobson has been practicing law since 1997 and has successfully represented hundreds of clients before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS – formerly INS), the United States Federal Courts and the Superior Courts of California. Ms. Jacobson has extensive experience in Immigration Law; including, deportation and removal proceedings before the Immigration Court, Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. She has successfully represented clients in political asylum, withholding of deportation, cancellation of removal, and criminal and fraud waiver cases. Additionally, she represents clients from all over the world before the USCIS, U.S. Embassies, and Consulates assisting them with consular processing, visas, adjustment of status, citizenship, naturalization hearings, various waivers, corporate immigration and employment matters, labor certifications, non-immigrant visas, and permanent residency options.

Matthew Kriezelman is an associate attorney with the law firm of Kriezelman Burton & Associates, LLC. He is admitted to the Illinois Bar. He has successfully represented numerous clients before the USCIS offices for adjustment of status and citizenship interviews. He also practices before the Immigration Courts, the Board of Immigration Appeals and the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Matthew concentrates in Deportation/Removal defense work, family-based immigration, federal court litigation as well as Employment based immigration. He is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, the Illinois State Bar Association and the Chicago Bar Association.

Patricia S. Mann is Of Counsel at Cyrus D. Mehta & Associates. Before joining the firm, she worked for a small boutique firm doing circuit court briefs, primarily for Chinese clients with family planning cases, and she represented clients in immigration court who had experienced persecution as a consequence of grass roots political activism in China. Prior to receiving her J.D. in 2005 from New York University, she received a Ph.D. from Yale University and taught social and political philosophy. She is admitted to practice in the Second Circuit, as well as the Eastern and Southern Districts, and is a member of the AILA, as well as the National Immigration Project, and the City Bar Committee on Immigration and Nationality Law.

Steven C. Thal is an attorney practicing immigration law in Minnetonka, Minnesota. He is a 1982 graduate cum laude of the University of Minnesota Law School. Prior to law school he spent two years in the Peace Corps in Ecuador, South America. He received a Bachelor of Elected Studies Degree from the University of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts in 1977. He is a past Chair of the Immigration Section of the Minnesota State Bar Association. He is a past Chair of the Minnesota/Dakotas American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) Chapter and has previously served as Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer. He has served on various AILA National Committees including USCIS liaison, Nebraska Service Center Liaison, Essential Workers, Family Committee and has served on Conference Committees for various AILA CLE's including the Annual Conference for 2009. He is an AILA mentor and has served as an AILA mentor on immigration issues to Congressional offices. Mr. Thal edits articles for AILA's publication, Immigration Law Today as part of the editorial advisory board. He is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, Minnesota State Bar Association, Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights and various other professional and civic groups. Mr. Thal holds an "A-V" rating from Martindale-Hubbell and is listed in their Directory of Preeminent Lawyers. Minneapolis-St. Paul Magazine and Twin Cities Business Monthly have recognized him as a "Super Lawyer" in immigration law. He has received the AILA National Presidential Commendation for "creative and tireless advocacy" on behalf of immigrants. He is a Trustee Emeritus of the Board of Trustees of the American Immigration Law Foundation.