



Three-Part Telephone & E-mail Seminar:  
PERM: An Up To The Minute Course

Speakers: Joel Stewart, R. Blake Chisam, Peter Han, Edward Litwin, Lori S. Melton, Sheela Murthy, Sherry L. Neal, Michael E. Piston, Edwin R. Rubin Richard J. Tasoff, and Sofia M. Zneimer.

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*Disclaimer: participation in this seminar does not create an attorney-client relationship with the speakers.*

**Seminar Outline**

**FIRST Phone Session on Aug 25:**

- Backlog Update
- Recent changes in PERM: regulations, memos, FAQ's,
- Comparative practice update nationwide perspective.
- Problems with electronic filing.
- Review of Practice tools
- Attorney/Agent/Preparer Issues
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**SECOND Phone Session on Sep 22:**

- DOT/SOC Issues
- Prevailing Wage
- Minimum/Special/Restrictive Requirements
- Specificity in Ads, Notice, Posting, Job Orders
- Form 9089: Special Problems/Inconsistencies
- Drafting PERM for 1st, 2nd & 3rd Preference Categories

**THIRD Phone Session on Oct 13:**

- Professionals: Additional recruitment requirements
- Recruitment Procedures: Resumes, Interviews, Results
- Issues likely to result in Audits
- Supervised Recruitment/Denials/Refiling
- Nuances from Balca
- Review of Civil and Criminal Labor Certification Cases

**SPECIAL NOTE:** For information on The PERM Book Editor: Joel Stewart, [see here](#).

**Signup**

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Aug 25 Tape     Sep 22 Tape     Oct 13 Tape    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

[Joel Stewart](#) practices exclusively in the area of immigration law. Mr. Stewart lives in Miami and is a partner in the Miami law firm of Fowler, White, Burnett, P.A. He is Past President of the South Florida Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and is a nationally recognized authority on employment-based immigration matters and a popular speaker at immigration seminars for national and local bar associations throughout the United States. Mr. Stewart has written the monthly Administrative Law Case Summaries since 1986 for the Board of Alien Labor Certification Appeals (BALCA) as well as substantive articles on Labor Certification and BALCA decisions for AILA, Immigration Briefings, ILW.COM, and other professional associations. Mr. Stewart acted as Co-Chair of the National Labor Certification Committee of AILA and the local AILA chapter in South Florida, and is considered to be the foremost authority on Labor Certification and BALCA appeals under the Federal Regulations at 20 CFR 656, precursor to the PERM regulations issued on December 27, 2004. Mr. Stewart has also authored the Visa Processing Guide for Procedures at U.S. Consulates and Embassies in Brazil and Portugal and specialized in Romance and Slavic Linguistics before receiving a J.D. from the University of Connecticut School of Law, and is fluent in Portuguese, Spanish, French, and Russian. Mr. Stewart is also the editor of [The PERM Book](#).

[R. Blake Chisam](#) practices exclusively in the area of Immigration and Nationality Law as a partner in the firm of Chisam & Majid. He advises organizations with respect to immigration-related policy, employment, civil rights, and health care law matters, including related white-collar criminal and regulatory compliance issues. Mr. Chisam is an active member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association ("AILA"), for which he currently serves on its Business Litigation committee, and the American Bar Association ("ABA"). In October 2000, Mr. Chisam and his partner Jasmine A. Majid were awarded the prestigious Meritorious Public Service Award from the Director of the U.S. Department of Justice's Executive Office for Immigration Review, which was presented by then-Attorney General Janet Reno, in recognition of their "tireless and distinguished pro bono efforts on behalf of unrepresented aliens detained by the ... Immigration and Naturalization Service." Mr. Chisam has lectured on immigration law to law students at universities across the U.S., and he is a frequent author and lecturer to professional associations, academic symposia and community groups. He is admitted to practice in New York, Maryland, Pennsylvania and a host of federal courts. He is currently revising the 2005- 2006 Editions of Business Immigration Practice and [Immigration Practice](#).

[Peter Han](#) is an associate at Goldblum & Hess, whose practice is limited exclusively to immigration and nationality law. His practice covers a wide variety of employment based immigration issues, with a particular concentration on PERM cases, and he has represented clients in the electronics, semiconductor and pharmaceutical industries. Mr. Han is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and the Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA). He is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Mr. Han, who received his bachelor's degree in International Relations from the University of Pennsylvania, obtained his law degree from the Villanova University School of Law in 2003. During law school, he was an intern for the Honorable John P. Fullam, Senior Judge for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

[Edward Litwin](#) is a nationally recognized immigration law expert and is certified by the California State Bar Board of Legal Specialization as a Specialist in Immigration and Nationality Law. He concentrates in the area of labor certifications and business visas, in addition to providing other immigration services. He is a graduate of Hastings College of Law and has been in practice since 1975. His past and present professional affiliations, activities, and accomplishments include: published articles in the Immigration Journal, Personnel News, and Immigration Law and Procedure; speaker at advanced immigration seminars throughout the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico under the auspices of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, Practising Law Institute, California State Bar, and various other bar associations; Adjunct Professor, teaching Immigration and Nationality Law at the University of San Francisco Law School and the McGeorge School of Law; Member: American Immigration Lawyers Association and elected member of its board of Governors, San Francisco Bar Association, Christian Legal Society, Federal Bar Association, and American Bar Association. He is included in the Best Lawyers in America (Seventh Edition), An International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers, Who's Who in American Law (Ninth Edition), Who's Who in Executives and Professionals (1999-2000 edition), and National Registry of Who's Who (life member), Strathmore's Who's Who (life member).

[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.

[Sheela Murthy](#) has been on the Executive Committee of the Washington D.C. Chapter of AILA. Before that, she was the Chair of the Liaison Committee to the Department of Labor for Maryland, Virginia and Washington D.C. for the AILA D.C. Chapter. She is Co-Chair for the American Immigration Law Foundation (AILF)'s Annual Immigrant Achievement Awards program, which selects and recognizes brilliant immigrants who have made outstanding contributions to American life. Ms. Murthy is regularly interviewed by television network affiliates to discuss immigration law issues. She is also featured in many international publications for her worldwide practice in U.S. immigration law. Ms. Murthy has been on the Board of Governors of the Harvard Club of Maryland (2001-2002). She is a member of the American Bar Association (ABA) and has been a Member of the Immigration Law Coordinating Committee of the ABA (1999-2001). She is AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell.

[Sherry L. Neal](#) is a Partner in the Cincinnati, Ohio office of Hammond Law Group. She has been practicing immigration law for more than ten years. She represents corporations, staffing companies and universities throughout the U.S. on employment-based immigration cases. She is the Chair of the Ohio Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association and member of the national Healthcare Committee (non-physicians) of AILA, and co-founder of the Foreign Nurse Taskforce/Coalition for Improved Healthcare Staffing which was instrumental in getting legislation passed for an additional 50,000 visas for Schedule A occupations. Ms. Neal is a frequent speaker and author on employment immigration law. Her articles have appeared in national and international publications such as Talent Economy, Irish Nurse, Immigration Law Today, International Journal of Nursing Practice, Business Courier as well as the recent PERM Book published by ilw.com. She can be reached at [sln@hammondlawfirm.com](mailto:sln@hammondlawfirm.com)



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[Michael E. Piston](#) has been practicing exclusively in the field of U.S. immigration law since 1986. His firm specializes in the representation of foreign professionals and their employers, particularly in the software and engineering consulting fields.

[Edwin R. Rubin](#) practice is limited to immigration and nationality law with special emphasis on corporate and employment based immigration matters. Mr. Rubin's practice has been limited to immigration and nationality matters for over 32 years. He served as National President of the American Immigration Lawyer's Association (AILA) in 1990-91 and has been a member of AILA's Board of Governors since 1982. He served as AILA Chapter Chair in both Philadelphia and New Jersey. Mr. Rubin is currently Vice President of the New Jersey Immigration Policy Network, Inc. He was Senior Editor of and Contributing Author to, "Immigration & Nationality Law," AILA, (two volumes annually), 1985-1990 and has been Editor Emeritus since 1990. He was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Labor to serve two terms as one of the sixteen members of the Federal Advisory Committee on the Immigration Nursing Relief Act of 1989. He was the 1993 recipient of AILA's Edith Lowenstein Memorial Award for Excellence in Advancing the Administrative Practice of Immigration Law and recipient of the 2001 AILA Mentor Award. He established the AILA Mentor program during his term as AILA President. Mr. Rubin is a frequent author and lecturer on immigration issues. He is listed in the "Martindale-Hubbell Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers", "Best Lawyers in America", "An International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers (where he was rated as one of the top 23 immigration lawyers in the U.S.)" and "Superlawyers".

[Richard J. Tasoff](#) graduated from the University of Southern California School of Law, Richard has practiced immigration law for over 20 years and is certified as an Immigration Law Specialist by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization. Richard has worked extensively with HR managers, corporate lawyers, and business owners on the transferring of personnel by multinational companies, obtaining professional working visas and gaining employment-based immigrant status. "I enjoy working with business and professionals but I equally enjoy helping newlyweds and families through the immigration process." Richard works for Tasoff & Tasoff, P.C. founded in 1949, by Lloyd A. Tasoff and one of the oldest immigration law firms in California. Richard and his brother, Ron Tasoff, continue the immigration practice. Both attorneys have been rated AV by Martindale-Hubbell, and have been chosen as Southern California Super Lawyers (R) for 2004, and 2005.

[Sofia M. Zneimer](#) is the managing attorney of our office 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, Chicago Bar Association, American Trial Lawyers Association, and the Federal Bar Association. Sofia speaks Bulgarian and Russian.