

PREFACE

Welcome to the new *Immigration Practice Pointers*, the advanced-level handbook prepared as a supplement to this year's annual conference. This book replaces the *Immigration & Nationality Law Handbook* we have published each summer for the last two decades. As you scroll through the pages of this book, you will see that we have dispensed with most of the traditional conference articles of years' past and replaced them with more streamlined practice pointers instead.

The practice pointers in this book are not merely shorter versions of the traditional articles. Instead, our intention in proposing the new format was to better and more efficiently assist you in your day-to-day practice. Thus, each panel's goal in preparing these practice pointers was to provide a more concise, informative guide to a particular topic, based on the bullet points for the panel (as listed in the annual conference program). The form each practice pointer took—whether formal practice advisory, informal Q&A, FAQs, etc.—was left up to each panel to decide.

We hope you will find that, despite the change in format, these practice pointers still present the same high-quality information you've come to rely on as a supplement to the sessions and presentations held during the annual conference. As in the past, this book collects a wealth of information and practical advice from some of the foremost authorities in the various subject areas. The handbook begins with more than 20 advisories on law practice management, ethics, and pro bono. Following that, you'll find expert analysis and guidance on the substantive law, including labor certification applications and PERM, the various family- and employment-based paths to immigrant and nonimmigrant visas, humanitarian issues, admissibility, waivers, litigation issues, and worksite enforcement, among many topics.

The articles in this handbook were written by panelists from the advanced and masters track sessions for the 2010 AILA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., with contributions by several other authors writing on topics of current interest. Beginning practitioners and others seeking an understanding of the basic concepts underlying particular areas of immigration law should refer to this book's conference companion—*Navigating the Fundamentals of Immigration Law: Guidance and Tips for Successful Practice*. AILA offers that tome, updated by panelists from the annual conference fundamentals track sessions, to complement the more advanced-level and specialized articles contained in this handbook.

Thanks go out to all the contributing authors for finding time within their busy work days to make this book happen. Thanks also are owed to the peer reviewers of the articles—Greg Adams, Dan Berger, Jan Brown, Leigh Cole, Jason Eyster, Carl Falstrom, Ester Greenfield, Romy Kapoor, Rodney Malpert, Nancy-Jo Merritt, Allen Orr, Jack Pinnix, Rita Sostrin, Bill Stock, Doug Stump, Cletus Weber, and Dev Viswanath. These colleagues of yours volunteer their time and expertise to ensure the articles you read are of the highest quality. Thanks also to my colleagues in the AILA Education department—especially Grace Akers, Barry Collins, and Betsy Lawrence—for organizing the lineup of speakers. Special thanks go to my colleagues in AILA Publications—Tatia L. Gordon-Troy, Danielle Polen, and Kathy Frazier—who assisted me in editing this book and preparing it for publication. Finally, thanks again to Kathy Frazier and to Mark Ryscavage, as well, whose meticulous work maintaining the AILA*Link* database behind the scenes proved indispensable to my research during the editing process.

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Managing Editor
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