



U.S. Department of Justice
Executive Office for Immigration Review
Office of Policy
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NOTICE

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EOIR Announces 32 New Immigration Judges

FALLS CHURCH, VA – The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) today announced the appointment of 32 immigration judges to courts in California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, New York, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

EOIR continues to work to expand its immigration judge corps and welcomes qualified candidates from all backgrounds to join the agency. In addition to making a difference through service to our Nation, immigration judges join a diverse and inclusive workforce. Individuals interested in these critical positions are invited to [sign up for job alerts](#) that are sent when new opportunities become available.

After a thorough application process, Attorney General Merrick B. Garland appointed Anna M. Adams, Lydia Nance Adams, Vikram K. Badrinath, Lucy Baez, Scott E. Bratton, Richard B. Cato, Shuting Chen, Howard R. Davis, John E. DeCure, Chloe S. Dillon, Jeffrey S. Frederick, Denise M. Hunter, Joseph S. Kassell, David K.S. Kim, Michelle L. Lakomy, Ana M. Mencini, Carol A. Moore, Dania Nassar, Marlem Nava, Karen Nazaire, Becca A. Niburg, Alec J. Niziolek, Tiesha R. Peal, Danny Razo, Jonathan A. Reingold, Gina L. Reynolds, Benjamin D. Rosen, Kenneth W. Shahan, Suzette A. Smikle, Kevin E. Stanley, Joseph A. Weiner, and Ann M. Welhaf.

Biographical information follows:

Anna M. Adams, Immigration Judge, Orlando Immigration Court

Anna M. Adams was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Adams earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1992 from the University of Central Florida and a Juris Doctor in 1996 from the Florida State University College of Law. From 2007 to 2022, she served as an assistant chief counsel, Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, in Orlando, Florida. From 2006 to 2007, she was associate attorney with Perla & Associates, PA in Orlando. From 1998 to 2006, she was an associate attorney with Tangel-Rodriguez & Associates in Orlando. From 1996 to 1998, she served as a staff attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit in Orlando. Judge Adams is a member of the Florida Bar.

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Lydia Nance Adams, Immigration Judge, Memphis Immigration Court

Lydia Nance Adams was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Nance Adams earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in 1986 from Western Michigan University and a Juris Doctor in 1990 from Michigan State University College of Law (formerly Detroit College of Law). From 1997 to 2022, she served as a judge at the 36th District Court in Detroit. From 1995 to 1996, she served as an assistant corporation counsel for the City of Detroit. From 1992 to 1995, she served as a regulation agent and a departmental analyst for the Michigan Department of Commerce. From 1991 to 1992, she was a corporate and legal affairs manager at Detroit Public Television (WTVS). Judge Nance Adams is a member of the State Bar of Michigan.

Vikram K. Badrinath, Immigration Judge, Sacramento Immigration Court

Vikram K. Badrinath was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Badrinath earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1992 from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and a Juris Doctor in 1995 from the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law. Since 2001, Judge Badrinath has been a certified specialist in Immigration and Nationality Law from the State Bar of California, Board of Legal Specialization. From 1998 to 2022, he was a senior immigration attorney in private practice in Tucson, Arizona, representing individuals before the immigration court, Board of Immigration Appeals, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, U.S. District Courts, and Federal Circuit Courts of Appeal. From 1997 to 1998, he served as a managing attorney with a Phoenix-based immigration law firm in Tucson. From 1996 to 1997, he was an associate immigration attorney in private practice in Tucson. Judge Badrinath is a member of the State Bar of Arizona, the State Bar of California, the District of Columbia Bar, the Hawaii State Bar, and is admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States.

Lucy Baez, Immigration Judge, Sterling Immigration Court

Lucy Baez was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Baez earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2003 from Fordham University and a Juris Doctor in 2007 from Fordham University Law School. From 2021 to 2022, she served as a supervisory attorney advisor with the Board of Immigration Appeals, Executive Office for Immigration Review, Department of Justice in Falls Church, Virginia. From 2019 to 2021, she served as a supervisory immigration services officer with the External Affairs Directorate with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), Department of Homeland Security in New York. From 2016 to 2019, she served as an asylum officer and supervisory asylum officer with the Refugee Asylum and International Operations Directorate with USCIS in Lyndhurst, New Jersey and Bethpage, New York, respectively. From 2012 to 2016, she was first a staff attorney and then a supervising staff attorney for Church World Service in New York. From 2011 to 2012, she was an attorney for the New York Legal Assistance Group. From 2009 to 2011, she was the staff attorney for Central American Refugee Center in Hempstead, New York. Judge Baez is a member of the New York State Bar.

Scott E. Bratton, Immigration Judge, New York – Broadway Immigration Court

Scott E. Bratton was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Bratton earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in 1993 from Ohio Northern University and a Juris Doctor in 1997 from the University of Cincinnati College of

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Law. From 2020 to 2022, he served as a partner at Martin Jolic & Bratton, LLC in Independence, Ohio. From 2004 to 2020, he was a partner at Margaret Wong & Associates LLC, where he was also an associate attorney from 2001 to 2004. From 1997 to 2001, Judge Bratton was in private practice in Cincinnati. Judge Bratton is a member of the Ohio State Bar.

Richard B. Cato, Immigration Judge, Orlando Immigration Court

Richard B. Cato was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Cato earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1980 from the University of Florida and a Juris Doctor in 1986 from Florida State University College of Law. From 2008 to 2022, he was a hearing officer and administrative judge with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Hearings and Appeals, National Appeals Division. From 2001 to 2008, he worked for the State of Florida Department of Children and Families in the following roles: staff attorney (2001-2005); deputy chief legal counsel Orange County (2005-2007); and chief legal counsel Polk County (2007-2008). Also, from 2001 to 2008, he was appointed by the State of Florida Office of the Attorney General to accept periodic case assignments as a board arbitrator for the Florida New Motor Vehicle Arbitration Board. From 1998 to 2001, he was the managing attorney for Greater Orlando Area Legal Services (GOALS). From 1989 to 1998, he was in private practice. From 1988 to 1989, he was an associate attorney with Perry & Lamb, PA. From 1986 to 1988, he was a GOALS staff attorney and office manager. Judge Cato is a member of the Florida Bar.

Shuting Chen, Immigration Judge, San Francisco Immigration Court

Shuting Chen was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Chen earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2006 from the University of Oklahoma and a Juris Doctor in 2009 from Harvard Law School. From 2020 to 2022, she served as a staff attorney in the immigration unit of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, in San Francisco. From 2011 to 2020, she was an immigration attorney in private practice. From 2010 to 2011, she was an associate at Fulbright & Jaworski LLP, in Washington, D.C. Judge Chen is a member of the State Bar of California.

Howard R. Davis, Immigration Judge, San Francisco Immigration Court

Howard R. Davis was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Davis earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1978 from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Juris Doctor in 1992 from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles. From 2019 to 2022, he was an associate attorney with Nalbandian Law, APC in Glendale, California. From 2006 to 2019, he was a solo practitioner in Los Angeles and Santa Monica, California. From 2000 to 2006, he was an attorney with Davis, Miller & Neumeister in Van Nuys, California. From 1998 to 2000, he was an attorney with Rose, Rose & Davis in Los Angeles. From 1994 to 1998, he was a solo practitioner in Los Angeles. From 1993 to 1994, he was an associate attorney with Robert Reeves, PC in Pasadena, California. Judge Davis is a member of the State Bar of California.

John E. DeCure, Immigration Judge, New York – Varick Immigration Court

John E. DeCure was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge DeCure earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1981 from California State University, Fullerton, and a Juris Doctor in 1990 from Southwestern Law School. From 2020 to 2022, he served as an appeals referee for the Appeals Division, Department of Labor in Connecticut. From 2014 to

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2020, he served as an administrative Law judge for the Office of Administrative Hearings in California. From 1999 to 2014, he served as a deputy attorney general for the State of California Department of Justice. From 1993 to 1998, he served as a deputy trial counsel for the State Bar of California. From 1991 to 1993, he served as a staff attorney with Dependency Court Legal Services, County of Los Angeles. Judge DeCure is a member of the State Bar of California.

Chloe S. Dillon, Immigration Judge, San Francisco Immigration Court

Chloe S. Dillon was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Dillon earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2000 from Dartmouth College, a Master of Arts in 2003 from the University of California at Berkeley, and a Juris Doctor in 2010 from the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law. From 2012 to 2022, Judge Dillon was a trial attorney at Federal Defenders of San Diego Inc. From 2010 to 2012, she served as an attorney advisor at the Los Angeles Immigration Court. Judge Dillon is a member of the State Bar of California.

Jeffrey S. Frederick, Immigration Judge, Orlando Immigration Court

Jeffrey S. Frederick was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Frederick earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1994 from Syracuse University and a Juris Doctor in 1999 from the State University of New York at Buffalo. From 2013 to 2022, he served as an assistant chief counsel, Office of the Principal Legal Advisor (OPLA), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in Los Angeles. From 2009 to 2013, he served as an assistant chief counsel, OPLA, ICE, DHS, in Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona. From 2000 to 2009, he served as a criminal defense lawyer and first assistant public defender in Oneida County, New York. Judge Frederick is a member of the Florida Bar and the New York State Bar.

Denise M. Hunter, Immigration Judge, Sacramento Immigration Court

Denise M. Hunter was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Hunter earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2006 from Wesley – Delaware State University (formerly Wesley College) and a Juris Doctor in 2011 from The George Washington University Law School. From 2021 to 2022, she was the LGBTQ+ Program Legal Director at California Rural Legal Assistance. Inc., in Modesto, California, and served on the Board of AsylumWorks in Washington, D.C. From 2017 to 2021, she was senior staff attorney – immigration at Whitman-Walker Health (WWH) in Washington, D.C. From 2015 to 2017, she was staff attorney – immigration at WWH. From 2014 to 2015, she was an immigration staff attorney at Ayuda in Washington, D.C. From 2012 to 2014 she was staff attorney at Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington, Hogar Immigrant Services, in Falls Church, Virginia. Judge Hunter is a member of the District of Columbia Bar.

Joseph S. Kassell, Immigration Judge, Richmond Immigration Adjudication Center

Joseph S. Kassell was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Kassell earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2008 from the College of New Jersey and a Juris Doctorate in 2011 from Rutgers Law School. From 2021 to 2022, he served as a senior legal advisor to the Chief Appellate Immigration Judge at the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), Executive Office for Immigration Review, Department of Justice. From 2021 to 2015, he was an attorney advisor with the BIA. From 2013 to 2015, he served as a judicial law clerk with

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the BIA, entering on duty through the Attorney General's Honors Program. From 2011 to 2013, he served as a judicial law clerk at the Eloy Immigration Court, entering on duty through the Attorney General's Honors Program. Judge Kassell is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar.

David K. S. Kim, Immigration Judge, New York – Federal Plaza Immigration Court

David K. S. Kim was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Kim earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1990 from Emory University, a Master of Public Administration in 1997 from West Virginia University, and a Juris Doctor in 2001 from Brooklyn Law School. From 2011 to 2022, he was in private practice as the Founder and Principal Attorney of the Law Office of David K. S. Kim PC, in Flushing, NY, where his practice was exclusively devoted to immigration and nationality law. From 2006 to 2011, he was a senior associate at Bretz & Coven, LLP in New York City. From 2003 to 2006, he was an associate at Kurzban, Kurzban, Weinger, and Tetzeli P.A. in Miami. From 2001 to 2003, he served as a staff attorney law clerk for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Judge Kim is a member of the New York State Bar.

Michelle L. Lakomy, Immigration Judge, Annandale Immigration Court

Michelle L. Lakomy was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Lakomy earned a Bachelor of Science in 1994 from Rutgers College and a Juris Doctor in 1997 from Rutgers School of Law-Newark. From 2018 to 2022, she served as Resident Legal Advisor at the Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (OPDAT), Department of Justice, at the U.S. Embassy in Tirana, Albania, and from 2012 to 2018, she served as Resident Legal Advisor at the OPDAT office at the U.S. Embassy in Pristina, Kosovo. From 2011 to 2012, she served as Civil Response Corps International Rule of Law Advisor at the OPDAT office in Washington, D.C. From 1999 to 2011, she served as an assistant prosecutor at the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office in Jersey City, New Jersey. From 1997 to 1999, she was an associate attorney at Shea & Novy, Attorneys-at-Law. Judge Lakomy is a member of the New Jersey State Bar and the New York State Bar.

Ana M. Mencini, Immigration Judge, Chicago Immigration Court

Ana M. Mencini was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Mencini earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1990 from Lake Forest College, a Master of Arts in 1993 from DePaul University, and a Juris Doctor in 2001 from Chicago-Kent College of Law. From 2014 to 2022, she was in private practice at the law offices of Ana M. Mencini & Associates PC in Itasca, Illinois. From 2011 to 2014, she was an assistant clinical professor of law at Chicago-Kent College of Law in Chicago, Illinois. From 2004 to 2011, she was in private practice at the law offices of Ana M. Mencini & Associates PC. From 2002 to 2004, she was an associate attorney with A. Traub & Cadiz PC in Lombard, Illinois. From 2001 to 2004, she was a legal editor with Lexis-Nexis. Judge Mencini is a member of the Illinois State Bar.

Carol A. Moore, Immigration Judge, New York – Federal Plaza Immigration Court

Carol A. Moore was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Moore earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1992 from Bernard Baruch College and a Juris Doctor in 1995 from Rutgers Law School. From 2003 to 2022, she served as an assistant chief counsel, Office of Chief Counsel, Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, in New York. From 2002 to 2003, she served

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as an assistant district counsel with the former Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice in New York. From 1997 to 2002, she was a staff attorney at the Legal Aid Society, Criminal Defense Division in Brooklyn, New York. Judge Moore is a member of the New York State Bar.

Dania Nassar, Immigration Judge, New York – Federal Plaza Immigration Court

Dania Nassar was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Nassar earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2007 from the University of Texas at Austin and a Juris Doctor in 2011 from South Texas College of Law in Houston. From 2021 to 2022, Judge Nassar served as a supervising administrative law judge and from 2017 to 2021, she served as an administrative law judge at the New York State Office of Children and Family Services – Bureau of Special Hearings in New York City. From 2014 to 2017, Judge Nassar served as an agency attorney for the New York City Administration for Children's Services in Brooklyn, New York. From 2013 to 2014, she was of counsel to a private immigration law firm in New York City. In 2011, she was a legal fellow at Amnesty International – USA in New York City. Judge Nassar is a member of the New York State Bar and the State Bar of Texas.

Marlem Nava, Immigration Judge, San Francisco Immigration Court

Marlem Nava was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Nava earned a Bachelor of Science in 1997 from DePaul University and a Juris Doctor in 2002 from University of Illinois Chicago School of Law (formerly known as the John Marshall Law School). From 2016 to 2022, she served as an assistant chief counsel, Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, in San Francisco. From 2015 to 2016, she was an associate attorney with the Salgado and Associates law firm in San Francisco. From 2013 to 2015, she was in private practice. From 2003 to 2013, she served as an assistant state's attorney with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office in Chicago. Judge Nava is a member of the Illinois State Bar.

Karen Nazaire, Immigration Judge, New York – Federal Plaza Immigration Court

Karen Nazaire was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Nazaire earned two Bachelor of Arts in 2007 from Kean University, a Juris Doctor in 2011 from Mississippi College School of Law, and a Master of Laws in 2012 from American University Washington College of Law. From 2021 to 2022, she served as an assistant chief counsel, Office of the Principal Legal Advisor (OPLA), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in Arlington, Virginia. From 2017 to 2021, she served as an assistant chief counsel, OPLA, ICE, DHS, in Phoenix. From 2012 to 2017, she served as an assistant deputy public defender with the New Jersey Office of the Public Defender. During that time, from 2012 to 2016, she provided in-house consultations and training on criminal immigration matters to staff and contract attorneys statewide. Judge Nazaire is a member of the New Jersey State Bar and New York State Bar.

Becca A. Niburg, Immigration Judge, Hyattsville Immigration Court

Becca Niburg was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Niburg earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2000 from the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, and a Juris Doctor and Master of Arts in European Studies in 2003 from Washington University in St. Louis. From 2020 to 2022, she operated her own law firm, Elpis Legal LLC,

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and during this time in 2021, Judge Niburg worked as Managing Attorney of Esperanza Center, an arm of Catholic Charities in Baltimore. From 2018 to 2020, she worked at Kids in Need of Defense (KIND) in Washington, D.C. From 2017 to 2018, she worked at the Greene Law Firm in Columbia, Maryland. From 2015 to 2017, she served as a supervisory immigration services officer with the Potomac Service Center, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), Department of Homeland Security (DHS). From 2008 to 2015, she served as an appeals officer with the Administrative Appeals Office, USCIS, DHS. From 2006 to 2008, she served as a trial attorney at the Office of Immigration Litigation, Civil Division, Department of Justice. From 2004 to 2006, she was an associate attorney with Tuggle Duggins in Greensboro, North Carolina. From 2003 to 2004, she clerked with the Maryland Court of Special Appeals for the Honorable Ellen Hollander. Judge Niburg is a member of the District of Columbia Bar and the Maryland State Bar.

Alec J. Niziolek, Immigration Judge, Orlando Immigration Court

Alec J. Niziolek was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Niziolek earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1999 from Utica College of Syracuse University and a Juris Doctorate in 2002 from the Indiana University-Bloomington Maurer School of Law. From 2006 to 2022, he was an assistant chief counsel, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, in Arizona, and during this time from 2020 to 2022 he served as the embedded attorney with Homeland Security Investigations. From 2003 to 2006, he was an associate attorney with Collins & Martin, PC, in Wethersfield, Connecticut. Judge Niziolek is a member of the Connecticut Bar.

Tiesha R. Peal, Immigration Judge, New York – Federal Plaza Immigration Court

Tiesha R. Peal was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Peal earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1999 from Syracuse University and Juris Doctor in 2004 from Rutgers-Newark School of Law. From 2016 to 2022, she served as an assistant district attorney at the Bronx District Attorney's Office. From 2014 to 2016, she was a staff attorney at District Council 37 Municipal Employees Legal Services. From 2006 to 2014, she was a staff attorney at Essex-Newark Legal Services. Judge Peal is a member of the New York State Bar and the New Jersey State Bar.

Danny Razo, Immigration Judge, Laredo Immigration Court

Danny Razo was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Razo earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2000 from the University of Texas at El Paso, and a Doctor of Jurisprudence in 2003 from Texas Tech University School of Law. From 2007 to 2022, he was in private practice in El Paso, Texas. From 2004 to 2007, he served as a staff attorney at a local nonprofit in El Paso. Judge Razo is a member of the State Bar of Arizona and State Bar of Texas.

Jonathan A. Reingold, Immigration Judge, New York – Federal Plaza Immigration Court

Jonathan A. Reingold was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Reingold earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2004 from Bard College and a Juris Doctor in 2007 from New York Law School. From 2010 to 2022, he was an immigration lawyer in private practice in Seattle. From 2020 to 2022, he also worked as a commercial portfolio manager and then staff counsel at a regional property management and asset management company in

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Portland, Oregon. From 2008 to 2009, he was a staff attorney at CAMBA Legal Services Inc., in Brooklyn, N.Y. From 2007 to 2008, he was a fellow in New York City Law at New York Law School. Judge Reingold is a member of the New Jersey State Bar, New York State Bar, Oregon State Bar, and Washington State Bar, as well as the Western District of Washington and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Gina L. Reynolds, Immigration Judge, Chicago Immigration Court

Gina L. Reynolds was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Reynolds earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1999 from the University of Pittsburgh and a Juris Doctor in 2004 from the University of Notre Dame Law School. From 2009 to 2022, she was an attorney at Hernandez & Reynolds LLC (formerly known as Moises Hernandez, Esq. LLC) in Chicago, and a partner at the same from 2014 to 2022. From 2006 to 2008 she was in private practice in Chicago. From 2003 to 2004 she was a law clerk at the Notre Dame Legal Aid Immigration & Asylum Clinic. Judge Reynolds is a member of the Illinois State Bar and the New York State Bar.

Benjamin D. Rosen, Immigration Judge, Orlando Immigration Court

Benjamin D. Rosen was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Rosen earned a Bachelor of Science in 1999 from Bradley University and a Juris Doctor in 2002 from the American University Washington College of Law. From 2003 to 2022, he served as an assistant chief counsel (ACC), Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, in Miami. From 2010 to 2013, while an ACC, he served as a special assistant United States Attorney, at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida. From 2002 to 2003, he served as an assistant district counsel with the former Immigration and Naturalization Service, in Miami, entering on duty through the Attorney General's Honors Program. Judge Rosen is a member of the Missouri Bar.

Kenneth W. Shahan, Immigration Judge, Fort Worth Immigration Adjudication Center

Kenneth W. Shahan was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Shahan earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in 1991 from the University of Oklahoma, a Juris Doctor in 1995 from The University of Oklahoma College of Law, and a Master of Laws in Military Law in 2004 from the Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School in Charlottesville, Virginia. From 1995 to 2022, Judge Shahan served as a judge advocate in the U.S. Army, culminating with him serving as a circuit judge from 2014 to 2022, in the following locations: Fort Hood, Texas; Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington; Wheeler Army Airfield, Hawaii; and Rose Barracks, Germany. Judge Shahan is a member of the Oklahoma Bar.

Suzette A. Smikle, Immigration Judge, Atlanta - W. Peachtree Street Immigration Court

Suzette A. Smikle was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Smikle earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1997 from Georgetown University and a Juris Doctor in 2002 from Harvard Law School. From 2019 to 2022, she served as an assistant U.S. attorney (AUSA) at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida; and from 2010 to 2019, she served as an AUSA at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia. From February 2015 to September 2016, while on a temporary detail, Judge Smikle served as the Resident Legal Advisor for the United States Embassies in Bujumbura, Burundi

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(February-August 2015) and Niamey, Niger (August 2015 to September 2016) through the Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training, Department of Justice. From 2008 to 2010, Judge Smikle served as a regional legal officer with the U.S. Agency for International Development, in Washington, D.C., and Lima, Peru; and from 2003 to 2008, she served as a trial attorney with the Consumer Protection Branch of DOJ in Washington, D.C. From 2002 to 2003, before beginning her service as a trial attorney, Judge Smikle was a judicial law clerk in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida. She is a member of the District of Columbia Bar, the Florida Bar, and the State Bar of Georgia.

Kevin E. Stanley, Immigration Judge, Orlando Immigration Court

Kevin E. Stanley was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Stanley earned a Bachelor of Science in 1998 from the University of Central Florida and a Juris Doctor in 2001 from the Florida State University College of Law. From 2018 to 2022, he served as a deputy chief counsel, Office of the Principal Legal Advisor (OPLA), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Department of Homeland Security, in Orlando, Florida. From 2008 to 2018 he served as an assistant chief counsel, OPLA, ICE in Orlando. From 2001 to 2008, he served as an assistant state's attorney with the Office of the State Attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit in Orlando. Judge Stanley is a member of the Florida Bar.

Joseph A. Weiner, Immigration Judge, Los Angeles – Olive Street Immigration Court

Joseph A. Weiner was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Weiner earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1999 from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Juris Doctor in 2004 from the Santa Clara University School of Law. From 2012 to 2022, he was a staff attorney and then a senior staff attorney with the Immigrants' Rights Project at Public Counsel in Los Angeles. From 2010 to 2012, he was an immigration staff attorney at the HIV and AIDS Legal Services Alliance in Los Angeles. From 2009 to 2010, he was in private practice in Los Angeles. From 2005 to 2009, he was an associate attorney at the Law Offices of Richard D. Fraade in Beverly Hills, California. Judge Weiner is a member of the State Bar of California.

Ann M. Welhaf, Immigration Judge, Hyattsville Immigration Court

Ann M. Welhaf was appointed as an Immigration Judge to begin hearing cases in October 2022. Judge Welhaf earned a Bachelor of Science in 1986 from the University of Alabama and a Juris Doctor and Master of Laws in 1990 from the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. From 2008 to 2021, she served as a trial attorney at the Office of Immigration Litigation, Civil Division, Department of Justice. From 1990 to 2003, she served as a trial attorney for the Internal Revenue Service, Office of Chief Counsel, in Phoenix, and Washington, D.C., and, from 2004 to 2008, she served as managing counsel of the Washington, D.C. Field Litigation Office. Judge Welhaf is a member of the Colorado Bar.

— EOIR —

The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) is an agency within the Department of Justice. EOIR's mission is to adjudicate immigration cases by fairly, expeditiously, and uniformly interpreting and administering the Nation's immigration laws. Under delegated authority from the Attorney General, EOIR conducts immigration court proceedings, appellate reviews, and administrative hearings. EOIR is committed to ensuring fairness in all cases it adjudicates.