

## Immigration Law Career Panel

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### Featuring:

- Marjorie Baltazar, Sidley Austin
- Aneesha Gandhi, National Immigrant Justice Center
- Laura Grover, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
- Caroline Shoenberger, Chicago Legal Clinic
- Charles Wintersteen, Charles Wintersteen & Associates

### General Career Resources

- **Symplicity** (<http://law-kent-csm.symplicity.com/students>) is Chicago-Kent 's job posting database for students and alumni. Job postings are searchable by several categories, and are updated daily. The **Chicago Area Law Firm List**, located in the Symplicity's Document Library, contains a listing of all the law firms in Chicago with 4 or more attorneys. Firms are searchable by practice area.
- **American Immigration Lawyers Association** (AILA) membership provides education, career, and networking opportunities. AILA Law Student Members enjoy reduced dues.
- **Chicago Bar Association** offers law students the opportunity to learn about the actual practice of law through committee participation, seminars, publications, volunteer projects, and networking opportunities.
- **Chicago-Kent's Immigration Law Society** is here to support your interest in immigration law and policy issues. Join our email list today!

### Legal Aid and Non-Profit

- **PSJD** ([www.psjd.org](http://www.psjd.org)) has a comprehensive listing of public interest legal positions, including volunteer opportunities, paid summer positions, and post-graduate positions and fellowships.
- **Illinois Legal Advocate** ([www.illinoislegaladvocate.org](http://www.illinoislegaladvocate.org)) has useful tools for law students including a directory of all of the legal aid organizations in Illinois, as well as job postings for paid positions with legal aid organizations.
- **Illinois Pro Bono** (<http://lawstudents.illinoisprobono.org/>) posts articles, information, and pro bono opportunities for law students.
- **Idealist** ([www.idealists.org](http://www.idealists.org)) has a comprehensive listing of public service positions, both legal and non-legal, in over 140 countries. This is an especially good site for post-graduate job listings.
- **PILI's Law Student Internship Program** ([www.pili.org](http://www.pili.org)) connects law students from across the country with legal service agencies in Illinois. The PILI application is open to 2L's now; 1L's can apply beginning December 1st. Among PILI's partner agencies, the following have an immigration focus:
  - **National Immigrant Justice Center** provides direct legal services to and advocates for immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers.
  - **LAF's** Immigrants & Workers' Rights program has three areas of focus — employment, immigration, and migrant legal assistance, including: VAWA, U-Visa, and T-Visa applications (victims of trafficking) as well as legal needs of migrant agricultural and landscape workers throughout Illinois.
  - **Chicago Legal Clinic** provides direct representation to immigration clients through its Pilsen Office.
  - **Legal Counsel for Health Justice** (formerly AIDS Legal Counsel of Chicago) provides legal help to immigrants with HIV who want to normalize their status in the United States.

- **Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF)** is a national advocacy organization dedicated to preserving and expanding civil rights of Latinos in areas of immigration rights, education, political access, employment and public resource quality. MALDEF does impact litigation to challenge divisive and unconstitutional anti-immigrant ordinances across the nation.
- **Other Non-Profit Organizations:**
  - **World Relief's** Immigrant Legal Services (ILS) provides affordable immigration-related legal assistance and representation to low income immigrants and refugees in the Chicago metropolitan area.
  - **Centro Romero's** Latin American Legal Assistance Services Program (LALAS) provides direct service representation, immigration education, and advocacy services to low-income, primarily Spanish-speaking immigrant community members.
  - **Latinos Progresando's** Family Services helps families reunite through legal immigration. The Domestic Violence Program empowers people who are experiencing domestic violence to free themselves from dependency on a resident or citizen abuser. Legal Services educates clients to assess their experiences with the legal system, and to identify their options.
  - **Catholic Charities of Chicago** provides assistance to U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents going through the immigration process through a variety of programs and services.
  - **Farmworker and Landscaper Advocacy Project (FLAP)** works to improve working conditions for migrant and seasonal workers in the agricultural and landscaping industries in Illinois.

## Government

- **Attorney General's Honors Program** (<http://www.usdoj.gov/oarm/arm/hp/hp.htm>) is the only way that the Department of Justice hires entry-level attorneys. This is the mechanism through which new law graduates can be hired to clerk at Immigration Courts.
- **Summer Law Intern Program** (<http://www.usdoj.gov/oarm/arm/sp/sp.htm>) is the Department of Justice's site for its competitive recruitment program for compensated summer internships. This includes summer opportunities clerking with the Immigration Court.
- **FedJobs.com & USAJobs.gov** have a comprehensive listing of government jobs. Also includes software, publications and services to give job seekers advice and how-to information they can use to land jobs in the federal government.
- **U.S. Department of Justice, Chicago Immigration Court:** See Symplicity in December for summer positions
- **U.S. Department of Homeland Security, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services:** See Symplicity in February for fall positions; October for spring positions.
- **U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Immigration Customs Enforcement:** See Symplicity in February for summer and fall positions; October for spring positions.