



Three-Part Telephone Seminar: Physician Immigration for Experts

Speakers: Robert Aronson (Discussion Leader), Dan Berger, Kristen Harris, Matthew Shick, Heather Sivaraman, Greg Siskind, and Barry Walker.

Registration Deadline: August 11, 2015

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SEMINAR OUTLINE

FIRST Phone Session on Thursday, July 23, 2015 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. (Eastern Time)

THE ROLE OF IMG'S IN THE NATION'S HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

- What are the challenges/inadequacies in the physician workforce
- Where do IMGs fit in to address physician shortages
- What have we learned over the years on the practice patterns of IMGs

SECOND Phone Session on Thursday, August 13, 2015 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. (Eastern Time)

WORKAROUNDS FOR IMGs TO THE H-1B CAP: GETTING IMGs PLACED IN A TIMELY MANNER

- Analyzing time objectives for employer and IMG
- Workarounds to the H-1B cap

THIRD Phone Session on Thursday, September 3, 2015 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. (Eastern Time)

THE POSSIBLE FACE OF IMG IMMIGRATION IN THE FUTURE: LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM INITIATIVES

- Possible reforms to Conrad Waiver Program
- Developing new federal IGA waiver programs
- Administrative remedies of benefit to IMGs

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Robert Aronson (Discussion Leader) is the Managing Attorney at Aronson & Associates, a Minneapolis-based immigration law firm serving a national and international clientele. For over the past 20 years, he has focused his practice on immigration legal matters for international physicians, academic institutions, and biomedical researchers. He is a frequent speaker and author on immigration law, having published over 70 articles in the professional literature. He was appointed as the immigration legal consultant to the office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services in its year-long study of IMG immigration policy; he co-founded and chaired (1992-2002) the IMG Taskforce, an affinity group of immigration lawyers and medical professionals for the advancement of immigration law and practice for international physicians; he chairs the Healthcare Committee of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). Mr. Aronson is a graduate of the Indiana University School of Law and was a Fulbright Fellow at the law schools of Harvard University and Moscow State University (Russia).

Dan Berger is a frequent speaker at academic and nonprofit institutions. He won the 1995 American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) annual writing competition for an article on INS policies toward international adoptions. Dan has also been editor for the *Immigration & Nationality Law Handbook* since 2000, and edited *Immigration Options for Academics and Researchers* (2005 and 2011 editions), the *International Adoption Sourcebook*, and the *Diplomatic Visa Guide*. He has written various articles on Outstanding Researcher cases, an AILA Monograph on temporary visa (D3 waivers), and a monograph on visas for Iraqi and Afghan translators. Mr. Berger developed his interest in immigration in college, where he studied immigration history and taught English adult refugees. He is a graduate of Harvard College and Cornell Law School and an Honorary Member of the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys.



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Kristen Harris is the principal of Harris Immigration Law, LLC. She is a graduate of Yale University (B.A., M.A.) and the University of Michigan Law School. Ms. Harris currently serves as the Advocacy Co-Chair of the International Medical Graduate (IMG) Taskforce and also serves on the AILA Chicago Chapter CBP Liaison Committee. Ms. Harris was previously selected as among the top “40 Under Forty” attorneys to watch to watch by the Law Bulletin Publishing Co. from a field of 1,200 attorney nominees. Ms. Harris’ practice serves employers, professionals and families across the U.S.

Matthew Shick is the Senior Legislative Analyst of Government Relations at the Association of American Medical Colleges.

Greg Siskind is a partner with Siskind Susser, PC - Immigration Lawyers. After graduating from Vanderbilt University, he received his law degree at the University of Chicago. He created the first immigration law web site in 1994 and the first law blog in 1997. He’s written four books and currently serves on the board of governors of the American Immigration Lawyers Association. He can be reached by email at gsiskind@visalaw.com.

Heather Sivaraman is an attorney at the law offices of Dayna Kelly, P.C. She is a graduate of the University of North Carolina School of Law. She is an active member of the [North Carolina State Bar](#), the [North Carolina Bar Association](#), the [American Immigration Lawyer’s Association](#), and the [International Medical Graduate Taskforce](#). Her practice focuses exclusively on employment and family based immigration, and she has a special interest in adoption. Heather was chosen by peer review to appear in [The International Who’s Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers](#) each year since 2011, and in [The International Who’s Who of Business Lawyers](#) in 2012 and 2013. Heather is the former Chair of the [North Carolina Bar Association Immigration Law Committee](#). She is also committed to improving immigration policies at the national and state level, and currently serves as the Legislative Advocacy Chair for the Carolinas Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyer’s Association, and serves on the American Immigration Lawyer’s Association Congressional Advocacy Committee and Media Advocacy Committee. Heather has lectured on immigration law at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and North Carolina Central Schools of Law, and has appeared as a guest on WCOM LPFM 103.5 Radio Latijam, Carrboro’s community radio station. Prior to practicing immigration law, Heather served as an International Adoption Program Director at a multinational non-profit organization in Washington D.C., and as an Adoption Case Manager at an adoption agency in Raleigh, North Carolina, where she assisted families adopting children internationally from Kazakhstan and Russia. During law school, Heather was awarded a U.S. Department of State Foreign Language and Area Studies Scholarship to study Russian Language in St. Petersburg, Russia. In addition to her Juris Doctorate (JD), Heather has a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology from the University of Florida and a Master’s Degree in Social Work from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Heather lives in Carrboro with her son Arin and dog Raja.

Barry Walker was born in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, on December 23rd, 1951 and is admitted to practice in the state of Mississippi. Mr. Walker has been a practicing attorney since 1979. Since 1992, his practice has been concentrated in employment-based nonimmigrant and immigrant cases. He practices before the US Department of Labor, US Immigration Service, and US State Department. He represents employers and employees in the processing of H-1B specialty occupations, O-1 visas for persons with Extraordinary Ability, L-1 intracompany transfer, E-1/E-2 treaty trader and treaty investor nonimmigrant visa cases. He regularly represents health care facilities and foreign medical graduates in J-1 waiver cases. He processes labor certification for skilled workers and college graduates. He prepares and processes visa petitions for aliens of extraordinary ability, and outstanding professors and researchers. He has obtained approval of national interest waivers in each of the four Immigration Service Regional centers and has been successful in this procedure in over 100 cases. Attorney Walker is a regularly invited speaker on immigration matters involving Foreign Medical Graduates and is author of business employment and foreign physician immigration topics. Mr. Walker holds a Master Degree in International Law and Trade from Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana where he was a distinguished graduate. His curriculum included the study of Immigration Law. He obtained his Juris Doctor Degree from the University of Mississippi and a Bachelor of Science Degree from Mississippi State University. Mr. Walker is also fluent in spoken and written Spanish.



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