

# Andrew K. Nietor

For AILA Board of Governors 2020

## **AILA Activities**

I have been an active member of AILA since 2005.

### **San Diego Chapter:**

- Executive Committee (2013-2018): Chapter Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary
- Committee Chair: EOIR, Criminal Defense Bar (present)
- Committee Member: Advocacy & Media (present), Website (present), Mexican Consulate, ICE-ERO

### **National:**

- EOIR Liaison Committee (present)
- Membership Committee (present)
- Speaker at Annual Conferences (2014-present)
- 2018 Midyear Conference Planning Committee
- National Day of Action (2016-present)



## **About Me and My Practice**

I practice immigration law in San Diego, CA. Originally from Queens, N.Y., I graduated from The George Washington University Law School, then worked at Federal Defenders of San Diego as a trial attorney before opening my own practice in 2004, focusing on litigation in immigration and federal courts. I also advocate for particularly vulnerable groups including respondents with mental health issues. I lecture regularly on topics including litigation, crimmigration, advocacy, technology in the courtroom, and ethics. When I'm not working? Not that we've had much of that luxury lately, but I always find time for my dog Bosco.

## **About My Goals for the Board of Governors**

If elected, here are my two main goals: 1) Provide members with resources that are valuable, practical, and accessible; 2) Make AILA a strong and relevant voice that advocates for fair immigration policies. AILA needs to focus on being responsive to the needs of regular members, through the individual chapters that best know those needs. Supporting members is particularly important at this challenging time when so many small businesses struggle to survive the economic consequences of the pandemic. Our organization should also continue to advocate zealously. Our collective voice should be one that rails against a system that is often inefficient, illogical, and inhumane, from unrealistic visa quotas, to bureaucratic red tape, to cruel detention policies. My goals for AILA focus on member benefits and advocating for our clients. I have found that AILA offers a unique opportunity to support both ideas, keeping me involved and excited since I joined in 2005. I want to bring that energy and excitement with me to our Board of Governors, as an advocate for my colleagues and for our clients. Thank you for your consideration.