Immigration law is a rewarding, but complex and changing area of the law. You will want to access the many helpful resources available to the immigration law lawyer.

**The Importance of Immigration Colleagues**

One cannot stress it enough: immigration is hard to practice in a vacuum. Reach out to other local immigration law lawyers. Be sure to join the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). You will find that the fellow lawyers you meet in the national AILA organization and Oregon Chapter of AILA will become invaluable to you.

The Oregon Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association has a Chapter Library with free resources available to chapter members. These resources include immigration statutes, codes, regulations, manuals, handbooks, and Kurzban’s. The Chapter Library is housed at Catholic Charities Immigration Legal Services (2740 SE Powell Blvd. Portland, OR, 97202). The Oregon AILA Chapter also an AILALink account available to all Chapter members from their own computers. AILALink has a wide variety of immigration resources, including many publications, statutes, memos, and access to FastCase Premium, a searchable database of case law. Many of the resources listed below are also available on AILALink. The Oregon AILA Chapter also holds regular free CLEs and “lunch and learn” sessions on a variety of immigration topics.

**Commonly Used Resources to Review**

Here are some, but not all, of the resources that you will want to become familiar with.

**Publication**

Kurzban’s Immigration Law Sourcebook is the indispensable bible of immigration law. An updated version is published approximately every two years. The 15th Edition, published in June 2016, *see* <https://agora.aila.org/product/detail/2885> is available in many law libraries in Oregon. The 16th edition is coming late June 2018.

**Statute and Regulations**

* **Immigration and Nationality Act** (INA), 8 U.S.C. 1101 *et.seq*., *see* <https://www.uscis.gov/legal-resources/immigration-and-nationality-act>
* **Regulations** are found at: 6 C.F.R. et.seq. (Homeland Security); 8 C.F.R. et.seq. (Aliens & Nationality - Part 1 - Definitions, Part 2 - Authority of the Secretary of Homeland Security & Part 3 - Executive Office for Immigration Review (Immigration Court)): 20 C.F.R. et.seq. (Employee Benefits (Department of Labor)); 22 C.F.R. et.seq. (Foreign Relations (State Department/Consular operations)); 28 C.F.R. et.seq. (Judicial Administration), and 42 C.F.R et.seq. (Public Health) *see* <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/cfr/>

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration (USCIS) Legal Resources, *see* <https://www.uscis.gov/legal-resources>

for a variety of resources including:

* Published USCIS regulations in Title 8 of the Code of Federal Regulations (8 CFR), *see* <https://www.uscis.gov/laws/8-cfr/title-8-code-federal-regulations>
* Statutes governing immigration law in the Immigration and Nationality Act, *see* <https://www.uscis.gov/legal-resources/immigration-and-nationality-act>
* U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Federal Register Announcements, including notices, proposed, interim, and final rules, *see* <https://www.uscis.gov/legal-resources/uscis-federal-register-announcements>
* USCIS Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) Non-Precedent Decisions, *see* <https://www.uscis.gov/about-us/directorates-and-program-offices/administrative-appeals-office-aao/aao-non-precedent-decisions>
* USCIS Immigration Handbooks, Manuals, and Guidance, *see* <https://www.uscis.gov/laws/immigration-handbooks-manuals-and-guidance>

The Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) is contained in the Title 8 of the United States Code (U.S.C.) Title 8 covers "Aliens and Nationality." has been amended many times over the years and contains many of the most important provisions of immigration law. The INA contains many of the most important provisions of immigration law. *See* <https://www.uscis.gov/legal-resources/immigration-and-nationality-act>

### Organizations

American Immigration Lawyers Association

AILA, the national association of immigration lawyers established in 1946, promotes justice by advocating for fair immigration law and policy, advancing the quality of immigration law and practice, and fostering the professional development of its members. The organization provides members with extensive resources including its research library InfoNet containing over 28,000 primary source documents, conferences and CLEs, practice assistance, publications, newsletters, and the AILA8 immigration news aggregator. Members further their networking opportunities by becoming active in local chapters, sections, interest groups, and committees. *See* [*https://aila.org/membership/benefits#chapter*](https://aila.org/membership/benefits#chapter)

It is hard to practice immigration law competently without being a member of AILA.

**American Immigration Lawyers Association**

**Suite 300, 1331 G Street, N.W.**

**Washington, DC 20005-3142**

**Phone: 202-507-7600**

**Fax: 202-783-7853**

**Web site:** [**www.aila.org**](http://www.aila.org)

American Immigration Lawyers Association - Oregon Chapter

Resources related to immigration issues in Oregon: *see* www.ailaoregon.org. The AILA Oregon Chapter has monthly meetings and periodic liaison meetings with local DHS agencies including CIS, CBP, and ICE. The Oregon Chapter also participates in the AILA Northwest Conference along with the Washington AILA Chapter every year. Usually, the two-day conference is held in Portland or Seattle during the early spring.

**Government Web Sites**

Department of Homeland Security (DHS) – *see* [www.dhs.gov](http://www.dhs.gov)

DHS agencies, which were formerly part of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) include:

* U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS or CIS) - This provides services under the INA. Its invaluable Web site includes forms, statutes, regulations, processing times, individual case status, Administrative Appeals Office decisions, filing instructions, on-line filing (limited), office locator, and many other resources. *See*  [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov).
* U.S. Customs and Border Protection (USCBP or CBP). This oversees the admission of persons to the U.S. at various ports-of-entry. Its Web site includes forms and agency contacts. *See* [www.cbp.gov](http://www.cbp.gov).
* U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (USICE or ICE) - This is the enforcement agency under the INA (and many other non-immigration laws). Its attorneys prosecute removal (deportation) cases. Its Web site includes forms, agency contacts and an on-line library. *See* [www.ice.gov](http://www.ice.gov).

Department of State

A comprehensive resource which includes the Foreign Affairs Manual, (FAM), which guides consular officers and is an authoritative source which can be cited, information on visas, U.S. passports, travel warnings, emergency services for U.S. citizens, and URLs for consulates around the world. See www.state.gov

Department of Justice

[Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR)](http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir/) - Immigration Court.

* Main Web site: [www.justice.gov/eoir/](http://www.justice.gov/eoir/)
* Immigration Court Practice Manual: <https://www.justice.gov/eoir/office-chief-immigration-judge-0>
* Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) Virtual Law Library: <https://www.justice.gov/eoir/virtual-law-library>

* [Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) Precedent Decisions](http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir/vll/intdec/lib_intdecnet_vol.html) and Practice Manual: <https://www.justice.gov/eoir/board-of-immigration-appeals>
* Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer ([OCAHO) Decision Index](http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir/efoia/ocaho/ocmnind.htm) – jurisdiction over: (1) employer sanctions for employment of unauthorized aliens - INA §274A; (2) immigration-related unfair employment practices - INA §274B; and (3) immigration-related document fraud - INA §274C. *See*  <https://www.justice.gov/eoir/office-of-the-chief-administrative-hearing-officer-decisions>

Department of Labor (DOL)

Includes Board of Alien Labor Certification Appeals (BALCA) cases (related to certain employment-based immigration benefits), wage data, occupational information and forms: [www.dol.gov](http://www.dol.gov)

* U.S. Department of Labor Law Library - Immigration Collection:
includes statutes, regulations, policies, and general information for aliens and employers, case decisions and Immigration Collection: Board of Alien Labor Certification Appeals and Office of Administrative Law Judges: [www.oalj.dol.gov/LIBINA.HTM](http://www.oalj.dol.gov/LIBINA.HTM).

**Forms**

AILA InfoNet Research Library provides documents by topic *see* <https://www.aila.org/infonet/topics>, resources by state *see* <https://www.aila.org/infonet/state>, processing time reports for USCIS service centers, the National Benefits Center, EB-5, AAO, and DOL *see* [*https://www.aila.org/infonet/processing-time-reports*](https://www.aila.org/infonet/processing-time-reports)*, and* web resources *see* <https://www.aila.org/infonet/web-resources>. You do not need to be an AILA member to access these materials.

**Ninth Circuit Immigration Outline**

The Ninth Circuit Immigration Outline, updated February 2019, is a valuable resource to assist immigration lawyers in analyzing petitions for review. Topics covered include: jurisdiction, standards of review, relief from removal (asylum, cancellation of removal or adjustment of status), motions to reoppen or reconsider, criminal issues, due process, and attorney fees. When using this resource, like others, you should conduct your own independent research and verify that cited decisions are still good law. *See* <https://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/guides/immigration_outline.php>

**Web Resources**

The AILA URL provides links to web resources, including these topics:

[http://www.aila.org/infonet/web-resources](http://www.aila.org/infonet/web-resources%20) (available to non-members).

* [Legal Research](http://www.aila.org/content/default.aspx?docid=1180#legal);
* [Executive Office & Relevant Agencies](http://www.aila.org/content/default.aspx?docid=1180#exec);
* [Government Information](http://www.aila.org/content/default.aspx?docid=1180#govt);
* [Immigration-Related Organizations](http://www.aila.org/content/default.aspx?docid=1180#immig);
* [Policy Research](http://www.aila.org/content/default.aspx?docid=1180#policy);
* [Legislative Research](http://www.aila.org/content/default.aspx?docid=1180#legis);
* [Judicial & Administrative Research](http://www.aila.org/content/default.aspx?docid=1180#judicial);
* [Human Rights, Civil Rights, and Refugees](http://www.aila.org/content/default.aspx?docid=1180#human);
* Children’s Issues;
* [Law and Professional Associations](http://www.aila.org/content/default.aspx?docid=1180#law);
* [International](http://www.aila.org/content/default.aspx?docid=1180#intern);
* Pro Bono; and
* General Litigation Resources.

**Web Sites Providing Immigration Law Developments and News**

AILA

[www.aila.org/](http://www.aila.org/).

LexisNexis -- Immigration Law Community

Daily news updates, emerging issues analysis and guest commentaries, podcasts and LexisNexis resources in Immigration Law. Register for excellent daily e-mail updates. <http://bit.ly/2jAfCrD>

Thomson Reuters "Interpreter Releases"

Weekly reports on and analysis of up-to-the-minute information covering all aspects of immigration law. Weekly issues are available on Westlaw® in the INTERREL database; articles are posted to INTERREL-DAILY daily, Monday through Friday. http://legalsolutions.thomsonreuters.com/law-products/Newsletter/Interpreter-Releases/p/100029523

ILW.com

General immigration law news and resources.

<http://www.ilw.com>.

Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC)

General immigration law news and resources.

<http://www.ilrc.org/>.

**Publications**

AILA Publications, *supra.*

Immigrant Legal Resources Center

Multiple other immigration law publications including

Defending Immigrants in the Ninth Circuit: Impact of Crimes under California and Other State Laws, https://www.ilrc.org/publications

LexisNexisImmigration Law eCatalog

Multiple publications including treatises, publications on specialized immigration topics and practice guides: <http://bit.ly/2jAhHUB>. The eCatalog includes:

* Immigration Law & Procedure – 21-volume treatise on Immigration Law published by LexisNexis: <https://store.lexisnexis.com/categories/product/immigration-law-procedure-skuusSku10420> Available in some law libraries in Oregon.

Thomson Reuters Catalog

Multiple publications including treatises, publications on specialized immigration topics, and practice guides: <http://legalsolutions.thomsonreuters.com/law-products/search?q=immigration&r=13001&s=KEYWORDSEARCH>.

**Resource Web Sites – Non-Issue Specific**

Legal Action Center (LAC) of the American Immigration Council

(Formerly known as the American Immigration Law Foundation). LAC engages in impact litigation, and appears as amicus curiae before administrative tribunals and federal courts, serve as a point of contact for lawyers conducting or contemplating immigration litigation and provides resources for immigration litigation and policy and publishes practice advisories on immigration law. LAC works with other immigrants’ rights organizations and immigration attorneys across the United States to promote the just and fair administration of our immigration laws. <http://www.legalactioncenter.org/>.

National Immigration Project

Provides legal assistance and technical support to immigrant communities, legal practitioners, and advocates of the rights of non-citizens. <http://www.nationalimmigrationproject.org/>.

Catholic Immigration Network (CLINIC)

Provides updates, trainings, and resources for community-based immigration programs. Many resources are on-line. <http://www.cliniclegal.org/>.

ILW.com

General immigration law resources, <http://www.ilw.com>.

Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC)

Provides legal trainings, technical assistance to practitioners, educational materials (publications and extensive on-line resources), and advocacy on immigration issues. ILRC has listservs on various areas of immigration law. <http://www.ilrc.org/>.

**Resource Web Sites – Issue Specific Resources**

Asylum

[Department of State Report on Human Right](http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/index.htm)s – Country Reports on Human Rights Practices

<http://bit.ly/R2jmou> and <http://bit.ly/2jSDKXN>.

[Department of State Report on International Religious Freedo](http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/index.htm)m – <http://bit.ly/2jSxDoE>

Refworld - <http://www.refworld.org/>.

[United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)](http://www.unhcr.org/) – U.N. Refugee Agency <http://bit.ly/1c9lvGY>.

Amnesty International Online – <http://www.amnesty.org/>.

Human Rights Watch – <http://www.hrw.org/>.

Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs – scales of justice – Directory of search engines and searchable databases <http://bit.ly/2kNIHBU>.

[Immigration Advocates Network](http://www.immigrationadvocates.org/) – network that supports legal advocates working on behalf of immigrants' rights. <http://www.immigrationadvocates.org/>.

USCIS Asylum Division Training Programs – <http://bit.ly/2kNDyK5>

[U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants](http://www.refugees.org/abou) – [www.refugees.org](http://www.refugees.org)

World Organization Against Torture – [www.omct.org](http://www.omct.org)

Also, see country-specific human rights organizations.

Criminal

[National Immigration Project](http://www.nationalimmigrationproject.org/) – (expanded access for members)

https://nationalimmigrationproject.org/practice.html.

Oregon Justice Resource Center, Immigrant Rights Project: <https://ojrc.info/immigrantrightsproject/>

Washington Defender Association Immigration Project serves as the voice for the public defense community and provides support for zealous advocacy to vindicate a client’s cause or endeavor. *See* <https://defensenet.org/case-support/immigration-project/>

See also, PLF practice aid, *Immigration Consequences of Criminal Activity, Immigration Attorney Referral Checklist* available in the Criminal Law category of practice aids. *See* [www.osbplf.org](http://www.osbplf.org) the Practice Management > Forms > Criminal Law.

Victims

ASISTA – Resources for advocacy for immigrant survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Listserv available. [http://www.asistahelp.org/](http://asistahelp.org/).

##### International

Embassies – [www.embassy.org](http://www.embassy.org).

Foreign Consulates

In the United States – <https://www.infoplease.com/world/international-relations/foreign-embassies-united-states>

**IMPORTANT NOTICES**

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