



## IMMIGRATION LAW SECTION

### MINUTES January 25, 2023 Via [Zoom](#)

- I. Meeting called to order at 12:08pm
- II. Recording Secretary called roll of Council members
  - 18 of 18 council members present. Quorum reached.
  - The following Council members were in attendance:
    - Bradley Maze
    - Abril Valdes Siewert
    - Kimberly Buddin
    - Farah Hobballah
    - Arturo Alfaro
    - Christopher Dutot
    - Ruby Robinson
    - Marva De Armas
    - Alexander Gibson Vernon
    - Jonathan Contreras
    - Elisheva "Ellie" Mosko
    - Rebeca Ontiveros-Chavez
    - Sarah Yore- Van Oosterhout
    - Caterina Amaro-Luedtke
    - Kirista Hurst
    - Mani Khavajian
    - Rebecca Olszewski
    - Robert Mirque
  - The following Council members were absent:
    - None
  - General membership attendance: 40 section members present
- III. [Minutes](#) from Annual Meeting, October 28, 2022 approved unanimously
- IV. Agenda approved unanimously
- V. Membership open comment
  - Lighthouse is discussing with Samaritas on several issues and is also :
    - Reparole for Afghan refugees
    - Asylum for Ukrainian

- There is a quota cap on Humanitarian parole and Lighthouse is providing services remotely and taking cases currently.

## VI. Reports

### ● Chair Report

- Welcome and welcome back
  - Meet our Council: [Council Bios](#)
  - Please reach out to E-board if you have any ideas for the section this year!
- State Bar Journal immigration issue/Publications
  - Feature for 2023– collecting articles for SBM
  - Collecting articles to publish throughout the year
  - Final drafts to E-board [April 1st](#)
  - SBM deadline to send for publication is [June 15](#)
  - 2500 words per article
  - If you are interested in writing, reach out to Brad ([brad@palmerrey.com](mailto:brad@palmerrey.com)) with article topic and author(s) name
  - An email will be sent to those interested with more details, re citation format etc
  - MIRC article re: policy priorities: (1)Drivers Licenses for All, 2)New Americans Fund, 3)Language Access,4)Justice for Injured Workers, or 5) Fairness in Sentencing. Who would we connect with about this?
  -
- Section collaborations
  - Young Lawyers Section for young lawyers with 5 years or less experience to get involved with immigration law
  - Criminal Law Section- interested in doing another collaboration
  - Children's Law Section- Abril and Elly (MIRC) will be presenting on [March 23](#)
- Talking series
  - We would like a broad scope of speakers to come to meetings for 30 minutes
  - Previous talks: PTSD and preparing them for court
  - Any ideas? Email Brad
- Scholarship Awards
  - See Treasurer report below
- Annual meeting/social event
  - Annual meeting must occur before Oct. 1. Planning for sometime in [September](#)
  - Criminal Law Section is hosting an all day annual meeting in person in Lansing and is interested in collaborating
    - We have collaborated with CLS for two meetings previously
    - Would like to create a section only social event as well
  - We need buy in and help from board members

### ● Vice Chair Report

- E-board will be reaching out to those who submitted articles in the past

- Interested in an Immigration 101?
  - Perhaps as CLE for the section
  - Federal law updates? – A lot of other national entities (ILRC, AILA) are doing this. Perhaps uplifting these
  - What are good upcoming trainings we should consider attending, or available resources?
  - Perhaps we need a listserv. divided into
  - Exec. committee will discuss at next meeting
- **Treasurer**
  - Budget Overview and Updates
    - 350 memberships between Oct.-December
    - Current Balance: \$42,572.36
      - Processing
        - MIRC and Lighthouse contributions (non-profit awards from last year)
        - Annual meeting expense
    - FY 23 Balance: approx. \$31,000
    - Annual meeting will cost more this year
    - If you are interested in running an idea, send an idea to the E-board about the information, budget request, attendance anticipation, expenses, in person or virtual, goals for the event, target audience, etc. for consideration.
      - If questions, email Arturo ([AAlfaro@plunkettcooney.com](mailto:AAlfaro@plunkettcooney.com)) who will send over the bullet points for consideration
  - Scholarship Awards
    - Working on determining criteria for candidates
    - Would like to consider extracurricular activities
    - Welcoming feedback, ideas, etc. on the criteria
- **Section Representatives**
  - *Please let the E-board know if you are interested in serving as a section representative*
    - Solo/Small Practice Section - TBD
    - Family Law Section - Pamela Wall
    - Criminal Law Section - TBD
    - Employment Law Section - TBD
  - No reports at this time.
- **Subcommittees**
  - We will need to discuss how the committees will work– whether adhoc or running through our program priorities this year. No reports at this time.
- **Congressional Liaison**
  - Senator Stabenow is leaving and we don't know who will take her place yet or their agenda.
  - Perhaps invite some folks to our meetings to discuss priorities

- Anyone interested in serving on Congressional Liaison Committee, please email Sarah Yore ([syore@lia-michigan.org](mailto:syore@lia-michigan.org))

VII. Next Meeting: February 22, 2023

VIII. Adjourned at 12:58pm