



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Executive Office for Immigration Review  
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# PRESS RELEASE

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April 8, 2026

## **EOIR Announces 15 Immigration Judges and 17 Temporary Immigration Judges**

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) today announced the investiture of 15 immigration judges and 17 temporary immigration judges who will join immigration courts in California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Washington.

EOIR Director Daren K. Margolin delivered remarks, and Chief Immigration Judge Teresa L. Riley administered the oath of office during the investiture, which was held today at the Department of Justice’s Great Hall in Washington, D.C.

“EOIR remains committed to reducing the immigration court backlog and unwinding the policies of the Biden Administration that included a *de facto* open border and amnesty,” said Director Margolin. “These new highly qualified immigration judges have sworn to decide the cases before them based on the law – that is, the laws passed by the United States Congress.”

After a competitive application process, the Attorney General appointed Julie Adams, Meghan C. Buhl-Madsen, Christopher Cooper, Andrew Galvao, Nathan M. Hansen, Anthony J. Hurst, Scott Ison, John F. Jakubowski, Lenka J. Koss, Brandon Lee Lettunich, Susanna Martinez, Joshua D. Rosen, Christopher J. Stephens, Matthew E. Sweet, and Michael Paul Taylor to their new positions as immigration judges, and Thomas C. Allmond, David G. Beyleryan, Benjamin Sky Brown, Lory G. Brown, Ryan J. Clark, Melissa L. Isaak, Matthew S. Johnson, Brandon Alexander “Alex” Kennedy, Matthew A. Kozyra, Eric Levinson, Peter T. McCary, Robert C. O’Neil, Joshua D. Quidley, Andrew J. Slitt, Dat T. Vo, Shayne M. Welling, and Rachel L. Wilson to their new positions as temporary immigration judges.

Since January 20, 2025, EOIR has reduced the backlog by over 380,000 cases, and our intent is to reduce that backlog from a high of over 4 million cases during the Biden Administration to a reasonable level. These new immigration judges, who have undergone a robust training program, are joining an immigration judge corps that is committed to upholding the rule of law and executing that mission.

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Biographical information for the newly appointed immigration judges and temporary immigration judges follows:

#### **Julie Adams, Immigration Judge, Baltimore Immigration Court**

Julie Adams was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Adams earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2005 from the University of Houston Clear Lake and a Juris Doctor in 2008 from St. Thomas University College of Law. From November 2022 to March 2026, she served as a trial attorney with the Capital Case Section and Office of Enforcement Operations, Criminal Division, Department of Justice. From December 2020 to November 2022, she served as an associate deputy general counsel with the Office of General Counsel, Department of War. From June 2013 to December 2020, she served in various capacities on active duty in the U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps including, inter alia, as an attorney advisor with the Trial Judiciary of the Office of Military Commissions, chief commissioner with the U.S. Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals, and special assistant U.S. attorney with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Texas. From April 2009 to June 2013, she served as an assistant city attorney with the City Attorney's Office in Hollywood, Florida. Judge Adams deployed to Afghanistan in 2015. After separating from active duty, Judge Adams transferred to the Air National Guard. She was recently selected for promotion to lieutenant colonel. Judge Adams is a member of the Florida Bar.

#### **Meghan C. Buhl-Madsen, Immigration Judge, Aurora Immigration Court**

Meghan C. Buhl-Madsen was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Buhl-Madsen earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2012 from Colorado State University and a Juris Doctor in 2015 from the University of Wyoming College of Law. From September 2017 to March 2026, she served as an attorney advisor at the Denver Immigration Court, Executive Office for Immigration Review, Department of Justice. From September 2015 to September 2017, she served as a judicial law clerk and attorney advisor at the Denver and Aurora immigration courts entering on duty through the Attorney General's Honors Program. Judge Buhl-Madsen is a member of the Colorado Bar.

#### **Christopher Cooper, Immigration Judge, Detroit Immigration Court**

Christopher Cooper was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Cooper earned a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and a Juris Doctor in 1995 from New England School of Law. From January 1999 to March 2026, he was in private practice primarily in the federal courts in Illinois and Indiana. From January 1995 to 1996, he served as a public defender pursuant to the New York State "Student Practice Rule." Additionally, Judge Cooper defended police officers as a Fraternal Order of Police Legal Defense Plan attorney. Also, from May 2017 to 2023, he served as a judge pro tem in Lake Superior Court (Indiana), primarily in a felony courtroom, on as needed basis. Judge Cooper is a member of the Illinois State Bar and Indiana State Bar.

**Andrew Galvao, Immigration Judge, Harlingen Immigration Court**

Andrew Galvao was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Galvao earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2013 from Bridgewater State University and a Juris Doctor from New England Law | Boston (formerly New England School of Law). From 2023 to 2026, he served as an assistant chief counsel with the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in the following locations: Houston (2025-2026); and Los Fresnos, Texas, at the Port Isabel Detention Center (2023-2025). In 2025, he served as a general attorney with the Office of Chief Counsel, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, DHS, in Laredo, Texas. From 2022 to 2023, he was an associate attorney in private practice at Morrison Mahoney LLP in Fall River, Massachusetts. Judge Galvao is a member of the Massachusetts Bar and Rhode Island Bar.

**Nathan M. Hansen, Immigration Judge, Fort Snelling Immigration Court**

Nathan M. Hansen was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Hansen earned a Bachelor of Political Science in 1998 from the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities and a Juris Doctor in 2003 from the University of North Dakota School of Law. From 2003 to March 2026, he was in private practice as a solo practitioner in Minneapolis-St. Paul. Judge Hansen is licensed to practice in the State of Minnesota.

**Anthony J. Hurst, Immigration Judge, Cleveland Immigration Court**

Anthony J. Hurst was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Hurst earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2013 from Xavier University and a Juris Doctor in 2016 from Cleveland State University College of Law. From April 2019 to March 2026, he was with the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court in Cleveland serving in the following roles: magistrate (May 2021-March 2026); and staff attorney (April 2019-February 2023). From October 2020 to February 2023, he served as an assistant prosecuting attorney with the Adams County Prosecutor's Office in West Union, Ohio. From October 2017 to March 2019, he served as an assistant prosecuting attorney with the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office. From May 2014 to October 2017, he was with the Geauga County Probate/Juvenile Court in Chardon, Ohio, serving in the following roles: staff attorney (May 2017-October 2017); and law clerk (May 2014-May 2017). Judge Hurst is a member of the Ohio State Bar.

**Scott Ison, Immigration Judge, Kansas City Immigration Court**

Scott Ison was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Ison earned a Bachelor of Science in 1997 from the University of Central Missouri and a Juris Doctor in 2000 from Washburn University School of Law. From July 2021 to March 2026, he served as the chief counsel of infrastructure and recreation and as an assistant prosecuting attorney for the City of Lee's Summit, Missouri. From December 2017 to July 2021, he served as the city attorney and prosecuting attorney for the City of Republic, Missouri. From October 2013 to December 2017, he served as an assistant prosecuting attorney in Lafayette County, Missouri. From April 2008 to September 2014, he served as an assistant prosecuting attorney and special assistant

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prosecuting attorney in Clay County, Missouri. From March 2007 to April 2008, he served as an assistant prosecuting attorney in Henry County, Missouri. Judge Ison is a member of the Missouri Bar.

#### **John F. Jakubowski, Immigration Judge, Concord Immigration Court**

John F. Jakubowski was appointed as an immigration judge and began hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Jakubowski earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Business Administration from Aquinas College in 1981, a Juris Doctor from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in 1985, and a Master of Science in National Security Strategy from the National War College in 2000. From July 2006 to December 2022, he served as a senior supervisory attorney at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center in Monterey, California, where he advised senior Department of War leaders on immigration-related issues, including H-1B visa compliance. Judge Jakubowski served as a director of rule of law and senior legal advisor at the Afghanistan Ministry of Defense from April 2019 to May 2020 and from April 2011 to May 2012. In these roles, he advised U.S., NATO, Department of Justice, and Afghan officials on corruption, administrative due process, and military justice matters, and evaluated evidence and credibility issues in support of Special Immigrant Visa applications. From July 2005 to June 2006, he served as chief counsel and director of small business at the Defense Microelectronics Activity in Sacramento, California. From June 1991 to Jun 2005, he served as a senior Army attorney and legal advisor with U.S. Army's Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command. He served as a judge advocate in the U.S. Army from June 1985 to July 2015, including active and reserve service, and retired with the rank of colonel. Judge Jakubowski is a member of the State Bar of Michigan.

#### **Lenka J. Koss, Immigration Judge, Annandale Immigration Court**

Lenka J. Koss was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Koss earned a Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude, in International Relations and Foreign Languages (German) in 1999 from West Virginia University and a Juris Doctor in 2002 from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. From 2020 to March 2026, she was with the Board of Immigration Appeals, Executive Office for Immigration Review, Department of Justice, in Falls Church, Virginia, serving in the following roles: senior attorney advisor (October 2024-March 2026); and attorney advisor (2020 to October 2024). From 2009 to 2020, she served as an attorney advisor in several components of the Social Security Administration, including the Office of Hearings and Appeals and the Office of Chief Administrative Law Judge where she earned the 2019 Team Honor Award for Outstanding Performance of Special Review Cadre. From 2003 to 2007, she was an associate attorney at a private law firm where she worked on bankruptcy and commercial law litigation. Judge Koss is a member of the Maryland State Bar.

#### **Brandon Lee Lettunich, Immigration Judge, El Paso Immigration Court**

Brandon Lee Lettunich was appointed as a immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April of 2026. Judge Lettunich earned a Bachelor of Agbusiness in 1999 from Texas Tech University and a Juris Doctor in 2003 from Texas Wesleyan University School of Law. From March 2026 to March 2022, he was the staff attorney for Stuart C. Cox,

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Standing Chapter 13 Bankruptcy Trustee, in El Paso, Texas. From February 2022 to April 2008, he was in private practice as a solo practitioner in El Paso, Texas. From November 2003 to March 2008, he served as an assistant district attorney for the 34th Judicial District in El Paso, Texas. Judge Lettunich is a member of the State Bar of New Mexico and State Bar of Texas.

#### **Susanna Martinez, Immigration Judge, El Paso Immigration Court**

Susanna Martinez was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Martinez earned a Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Minor in Legal Reasoning in 2004 from the University of Texas at El Paso, and a Juris Doctor in 2011 from the University of Arizona, James E. Rogers College of Law. From October 2025 to March 2026, she served as an assistant chief counsel with the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, in El Paso, Texas. From August 2020 to October 2025, she served as a criminal assistant U.S. attorney for the Western District of Texas, El Paso Division, and from July 2014 to August 2020, she served as a criminal assistant U.S. attorney for the District of Arizona, Tucson Division. From May 2013 to May 2014, she was an associate attorney in civil practice with Schneider & Onofry PC in Phoenix. From November 2011 to May 2013, she was an associate attorney in civil practice with Wade & Nysather in Phoenix. Judge Martinez is a member of the State Bar of Arizona.

#### **Joshua D. Rosen, Immigration Judge, Tacoma Immigration Court**

Joshua D. Rosen was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Rosen earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1997 from Franklin & Marshall College, a Juris Doctor in 2000 from Samford University's Cumberland School of Law, and a Master of Strategic Studies in 2019 from the U.S. Air War College. From 2025 to 2026, he was in private practice in Tacoma, Washington. From 2024 to 2025, he served as an administrative law judge with the U.S. Department of the Interior. From 2009 to 2024, he served as an attorney and a trial judge with the U.S. Air Force in Italy, Germany, Qatar, and four stateside assignments. In 2024, he retired at the rank of colonel having last served as a chief district military judge with the Air Force Trial Judiciary. From 2006 to 2009, he served as a public defender in Seattle and as a federal public defender in Spokane, Washington. From 1998 to 2006, he served in the U.S. Marine Corps at Parris Island, South Carolina; Okinawa, Japan; and the Northwest Frontier Province, Pakistan. Judge Rosen is a member of the State Bar of Georgia and the Washington State Bar.

#### **Christopher J. Stephens, Immigration Judge, New York – Broadway Immigration Court**

Christopher J. Stephens was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Stephens earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1989 from Yale University, a Master of Philosophy in 1991 from the University of Oxford, and a Juris Doctor in 1996 from Georgetown University Law Center. From September 2022 to March 2026, he served as a hearing officer at the New York City Housing Authority. From December 2018 to March 2020, he served as hearing officer at Metro-North Railroad in New York. From March 2016 to December 2018, he served as a workers compensation judge at the New York State Workers Compensation Board in New York. From February 2015 to

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December 2015, he served as lead hearing officer at Amtrak in New York. From June 2003 to April 2013, he served as an administrative law judge at the New York City Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings. From August 1997 to June 1998, he was an associate at Becker, Glynn, Melamed and Muffly in New York. Judge Stephens is a member of the District of Columbia Bar and the New York State Bar.

#### **Matthew E. Sweet, Immigration Judge, Annandale Immigration Court**

Matthew E. Sweet was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Sweet earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2014 from the State University of New York at Buffalo and a Juris Doctor in 2018 from Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University. From 2020 to 2026, he served as an assistant chief counsel with the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, in Arlington and Annandale, Virginia. During that time, he specialized in immigration matters relating to appellate litigation, criminal law, human rights violators, and national security. From 2018 to 2020, he served as a presidential management fellow at the Library of Congress. From 2016 to 2018, he served as a U.S. congressional law clerk for the House Committee on Small Business, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, the House Judiciary Committee, and the Senate Judiciary Committee on behalf of the Honorable Senator Orrin Hatch. Judge Sweet is a member of the District of Columbia Bar and U.S. Supreme Court Bar.

#### **Michael Paul Taylor, Immigration Judge, Baltimore Immigration Court**

Michael Paul Taylor was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Taylor earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1998 from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and a Juris Doctor in 2002 from the University of Maryland School of Law. From July 2022 to March 2026, he served as the chief administrative hearing officer, and from July 2020 to July 2022, he served as a hearing officer, at the Environmental Control Board of Baltimore City, in Baltimore. From August 2016 to March 2026, he was a principal at the Law Office of Michael P. Taylor LLC in Baltimore. From June 2011 to August 2016, he was a principal and managing partner at the Law Office of Taylor & Taylor LLC in Baltimore. From November 2005 to June 2011, he was a principal at the Law Office of Michael P. Taylor LLC in Baltimore. From June 2003 to November 2005, he served as an assistant state's attorney at the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office in Baltimore. Judge Taylor is a member of the Maryland State Bar and the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland.

#### **Thomas C. Allmond, Temporary Immigration Judge, Orlando Immigration Court**

Thomas C. Allmond was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Allmond earned a Bachelor of Science in 2008 from Middle Georgia State University and a Juris Doctor in 2013 from Mercer University Law School. From 2025 to March 2026, he was a partner at Chartwell Law in Tampa, Florida. From 2022 to 2025, he was a trial partner at Lydecker LLP in Tampa, Florida. Judge Allmond has served in the Navy since 2007, initially enlisting as an intelligence specialist and later accepting a commission in 2012. He holds the rank of commander in the U.S.

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Navy Reserve and is assigned to the Navy Reserve Pacific Fleet Unit. Judge Allmond is a member of the Florida Bar and North Carolina Bar.

#### **David G. Beyleryan, Temporary Immigration Judge, Dallas Immigration Court**

David G. Beyleryan was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Beyleryan earned a Bachelor of Science in 2007 from Texas A&M University – Commerce and a Juris Doctor in 2011 from Oklahoma City University School of Law. From September 2016 to April 2026, he served as an assistant staff judge advocate in the U.S. Air Force. From June 2016 to April 2026, he was a supervising attorney at Lone Star Legal Aid in Houston. From July 2014 to June 2016, he served as an assistant attorney general for the State of Texas. From June 2013 to July 2014, he was a managing attorney at Legal Aid Service of Oklahoma in Oklahoma City. Judge Beyleryan is a member of the Oklahoma Bar and State Bar of Texas.

#### **Benjamin Sky Brown, Temporary Immigration Judge, Houston – Greenspoint Park Immigration Court**

Benjamin Sky Brown was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Brown earned a Bachelor of Science in 2007 from Texas A&M University, a Master of Public Service and Administration in 2009 from the George Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University, and a Juris Doctor in 2011 from South Texas College of Law Houston. From 2016 to 2026, he served as an assistant judge advocate with the U.S. Air Force Reserve at various locations. From May 2025 to March 2026, he was senior legal counsel at Academy Sports and Outdoors Inc., in Houston. From September 2022 to March 2025, he was senior legal counsel at Southwest Key Programs LLC in Houston. From October 2019 to September 2022, he was an attorney at Stress Engineering Inc., in Houston Texas. From May 2018 to October 2019, he was an associate counsel at Segal McCambridge Singer & Mahoney, in Houston. From July 2013 to May 2018, he was a senior compliance officer at J.P. Morgan Chase, in Houston. From May 2012 to July 2013, he was an associate counsel at Mabry Herbeck & Roberts, Texas City, Texas. Judge Brown is a member of the State Bar of Texas and holds the rank of major.

#### **Lory G. Brown, Temporary Immigration Judge, Baltimore Immigration Court**

Lory G. Brown was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Brown earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1999 from Spelman College, a Juris Doctor in 2002 from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, and a Master of Laws in 2016 from the University of Arkansas School of Law. From July 2024 to March 2026, she served as a senior investigator for the Office of Inspector General, Department of War, in Alexandria, Virginia. From March 2021 to July 2024, she served as an administrative investigator with the Office of Human Resources, Department of Labor, in Washington, D.C. From September 2018 to January 2021, she served as an attorney advisor with the Disability Evaluation System Counsel Program, Department of the Navy, in Washington, D.C. From January 2006 to August 2013, she served on active duty as a judge advocate in the U.S. Marine Corps. Judge Brown is a member of the Louisiana State Bar.

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#### **Ryan J. Clark, Temporary Immigration Judge, Portland Immigration Court**

Ryan J. Clark was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Clark earned a Bachelor of Science in 2012 from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a Juris Doctor in 2015 from Florida Coastal School of Law. From November 2015 to March 2026, he served with the Office of Hearings Operations, Social Security Administration in Billings, Montana, in several roles, including supervisory attorney, senior attorney, and attorney advisor. From October 2024 to March 2026, he served as a judge advocate in the Montana National Guard at Fort Harrison, Montana. Judge Clark is a member of the State Bar of Montana.

#### **Melissa L. Isaak, Temporary Immigration Judge, Atlanta – W. Peachtree Street Immigration Court**

Melissa L. Isaak was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April of 2026. Judge Isaak earned a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice in 1999 from Troy State University, a Master of Science in Counseling Psychology in 2001, and a Master of Science in Criminal Justice in 2002, both from Troy State University, and a Juris Doctor in 2007 from Barry University School of Law. From 2009 to March 2026, she was in private practice at Isaak Law Firm in Alabama focusing on civil litigation and appellate work. From 2007 to 2009, she was an attorney at Brock & Stout in Enterprise in Alabama. From 2002 to 2007, prior to attending law school, Judge Isaak was a child and adolescent therapist in both a residential and outpatient setting clinical settings. She holds the rank of major in the U.S. Army Reserve. Judge Isaak is a member of the Alabama State Bar, District of Columbia Bar, Florida Bar, and the Northern and Middle Districts of Alabama.

#### **Matthew S. Johnson, Temporary Immigration Judge, Annandale Immigration Court**

Matthew S. Johnson was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Johnson earned a Bachelor of History in 2008 from the U.S. Naval Academy and a Juris Doctor in 2020 from the University of Virginia School of Law. From July 2023 to December 2025, he was a litigation associate at Fish & Richardson PC in Minneapolis and Washington, D.C. From January 2021 to June 2023, he was an associate at Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner LLP. From March 2016 to January 2021, he served as a surface warfare officer reservist in the U.S. Navy. From May 2008 to February 2016, he served as a nuclear surface warfare officer in the U.S. Navy. Since January 2021 he has served as a judge advocate in the U.S. Navy Reserve. Judge Johnson is a member of the Minnesota State Bar Association and the Virginia State Bar.

#### **Brandon Alexander “Alex” Kennedy, Temporary Immigration Judge, Cleveland Immigration Court**

Brandon Alexander “Alex” Kennedy was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Kennedy earned a Bachelor of Science in 2012 from Liberty University and a Juris Doctor in 2015 from Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law. From May 2023 to March 2026, he served as the assistant chief of the criminal justice section at the Office of the Attorney General of Ohio in Columbus,

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Ohio. From June 2021 to April 2023, he served as the senior special victim counsel for the Pacific Region in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. From July 2020 to June 2021, he served as an administrative law attorney and magistrate for the 25th Infantry Division in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. From June 2019 to July 2020, he served as a trial counsel/military justice advisor for the 2nd Infantry Division in Camp Humphreys, Korea. From August 2015 to July 2018, he served as an assistant attorney general of Ohio in the criminal justice section of the Office of the Attorney General of Ohio in Columbus, Ohio. He holds the rank of major in the U.S. Army Reserve. Judge Kennedy is a member of the Ohio State Bar, the Southern and Northern Districts of Ohio, and the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals.

#### **Matthew A. Kozyra, Temporary Immigration Judge, Orlando Immigration Court**

Matthew A. Kozyra was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Kozyra earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2008 from the University of Florida and a Juris Doctor in 2011 from the University of Florida Levin College of Law. From January 2023 to March 2026, he was a litigation attorney at DeBevoise & Poulton PA in Orlando, Florida. From August 2018 to January 2023, he served as an assistant state attorney with the Office of the State Attorney, Ninth Judicial Circuit, in Orlando and Kissimmee, Florida. From January 2018 to June 2018, he was an associate attorney at Culbertson Law Group PLLC in Orlando, Florida. From October 2011 to December 2017, he served as an active-duty judge advocate in the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps in the following locations: Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D.C.; Naval Air Station Sigonella, Italy; and Naval Station Mayport, Jacksonville, Florida. He holds the rank of lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve. Judge Kozyra is a member of the Florida Bar.

#### **Eric Levinson, Temporary Immigration Judge, Charlotte Immigration Court**

Eric Levinson was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Levinson earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance, *cum laude*, in 1989 from the University of Georgia and a Juris Doctor in 1992 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. From July 2023 to March 2026, he served as a certified mediator for Superior Court civil cases and other conflicts. From 2009 to September 2023, he served with the Superior Court, North Carolina Judicial Branch, in the following positions: emergency commission Superior Court judge (2019-2023) and resident Superior Court judge (2009-2019). In 2008, he served as a rule of law consultant for Checchi and Co. under a USAID contract in Kabul, Afghanistan, and in 2007, he served as the justice attaché to Iraq for the Department of Justice in Baghdad, Iraq. From 2003 to 2007, he served as an associate judge with the North Carolina Court of Appeals. From 1996 to 2003, he served as a family and district court judge in North Carolina, and from 1992 until 1996, he served as an assistant district attorney in North Carolina. During 2021, he participated on a teaching team with the U.S. Defense Institute of International Legal Studies. Judge Levinson holds the rank of captain in the U.S. Army Reserve Judge Advocate General's Corps and is currently attached to the 501st Military Intelligence Brigade at Camp Humphreys, Korea. Judge Levinson is the senior coach and advisor for the Davidson College Moot Court team and is a member of the North Carolina Bar.

**Peter T. McCary, Temporary Immigration Judge, Elizabeth Immigration Court**

Peter T. McCary was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge McCary earned a Bachelor of Arts, summa cum laude, in 2007 from Duke University and a Juris Doctor in 2010 from Duke University School of Law. From 2010 to March 2026, he served with the Office of the Chief Counsel, Internal Revenue Service, in various positions, including most recently as a senior counsel from April 2023 to March 2026, attorney (tax litigation), senior attorney, and general attorney (tax). His awards at the IRS include the IRS Excellence Award (2025), a Lucite Award (2024), and Treasury Legal Team of the Year (2019). Since 2019, he has served as a judge advocate in the U.S. Army Reserve in various locations, with positions including international law officer, acting chief of national security law, national security law attorney, trial counsel, and administrative law attorney. He holds the rank of captain. Judge McCary is a member of the Florida Bar and the State Bar of Georgia.

**Robert C. O'Neil, Temporary Immigration Judge, Los Angeles – West Los Angeles Immigration Court**

Robert C. O'Neil was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge O'Neil earned a Bachelor of Science in 2006 from the University of Connecticut, a Juris Doctor in 2011 from Golden Gate University School of Law, and a Master of Laws in 2012 from UCLA School of Law. From November 2014 to March 2026, he served as a deputy city attorney with the Office of the City Attorney in Los Angeles. From August 2023 to March 2026, he served as a judge advocate at Fort Shafter in Oahu, Hawaii. From February 2020 to August 2023, he served as a judge advocate at Joint Forces Training Base in Los Alamitos, California. From October 2012 to November 2014, he served as a state attorney at the State Compensation Insurance Fund in Glendale, California. From January 2012 to October 2012, he was an attorney for Lowe & Associates in Los Angeles. Judge O'Neil holds the rank of captain in the U.S. Army Reserve. Judge O'Neil is a member of the State Bar of California.

**Joshua D. Quidley, Temporary Immigration Judge, Baltimore Immigration Court**

Joshua D. Quidley was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Quidley earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2004 from Elizabeth City State University and a Juris Doctorate in 2007 from North Carolina Central University School of Law. From January 2019 to March 2026, when not serving in a uniform military capacity, he served as a disability evaluation system counsel at the U.S. Navy's Office of the Judge Advocate General in Portsmouth, Virginia. From April 2025 to March 2026, he served as an attorney advisor at the Defense Logistics Agency, Joint Reserve Force, J-9. From October 2023 to March 2025, he served as a team chief/staff officer at the 134th Legal Operations Detachment in Garner, North Carolina. From October 2022 to September 2023, he served as a deputy chief of labor and employment law at the U.S. Army Reserve Command in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. From July 2017 to January 2019, he served as a chief of military justice and chief of operational law at the U.S. Army Reserve Command, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. From September 2016 to July 2017, he served as a special assistant U.S. attorney at the XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. From 2014 to 2016, he served as a civilian defense counsel in private practice, providing services in Northeastern North Carolina. From 2007 to

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2014, he served as an assistant district attorney for the 1st Judicial District of North Carolina. He holds the rank of lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve. Judge Quidley is a member of the North Carolina Bar.

#### **Andrew J. Slitt, Temporary Immigration Judge, Hartford Immigration Court**

Andrew J. Slitt was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Slitt earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1992 from the University of Connecticut and a Juris Doctor in 1999 from the University of Connecticut School of Law. From December 2021 to March 2026, he served as supervisory assistant state's attorney at the Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice assigned to the Office of Inspector General. From September 2008 to December 2021, he served as senior assistant state's attorney at the Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice in the Windham Judicial District. From 2000 to 2008, Judge Slitt served on active duty in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps, and as chief of criminal law at Fort Meade, Maryland, as a trial counsel, chief of claims, and administrative law attorney with the 1st Armored Division in Wiesbaden, Germany, and as a defense counsel at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Since 2012, he has served in the U.S. Army Reserve as a regional defense counsel, 154th Legal Operations Detachment (New Orleans), deputy commander at the 3d Legal Operations Detachment (Boston), chief of administrative law at the Army Reserve Aviation Command (Fort Knox, Ky.), and brigade judge advocate, 302d Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (Chicopee, Mass.), and holds the rank of lieutenant colonel. Judge Slitt is a member of the Connecticut bar.

#### **Dat T. Vo, Temporary Immigration Judge, Houston – S. Gessner Road Immigration Court**

Dat T. Vo was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Vo earned a Bachelor of Science in 2000 and a Master of Business Administration in 2007 from the University of Massachusetts Boston, a Juris Doctor in 2016 from South Texas College of Law Houston, and a Master of Laws from the University of Houston Law Center. From 2024 to 2026, he served as an estate and gift tax attorney for the Internal Revenue Service. Since 2022, Judge Vo has served in both active and reserve duty in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps. Prior to that, he worked for an investment bank in Houston for 16 years, holding various positions including team lead, manager and vice president in production management. He holds the rank of captain. Judge Vo is a member of the State Bar of Texas.

#### **Shayne M. Welling, Temporary Immigration Judge, Sterling Immigration Court**

Shayne M. Welling was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Welling earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1999 from West Liberty University and a Juris Doctor in 2002 from West Virginia University College of Law. From July 2003 to March 2026, he served as a judge advocate with the West Virginia Army National Guard in the following locations: Baghdad, Iraq; Camp Dawson, West Virginia; Stuttgart, Germany; Poznan, Poland; Pirbright, England; Price Barracks, Belize; Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Tikrit, Iraq; and Eleanor and Charleston, West Virginia. From June 2004 to May 2025, he was at the First Judicial Circuit Public Defender Corporation in Wheeling, West Virginia, serving in the following roles: chief

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public defender (November 2009-May 2025); and assistant public defender (June 2004-November 2009). From August 2002 to June 2004, he served as a judicial clerk at the Ohio County Circuit Court in Wheeling, West Virginia. He holds the rank of colonel. Judge Welling is a member of the West Virginia State Bar.

#### **Rachel L. Wilson, Temporary Immigration Judge, Memphis Immigration Court**

Rachel L. Wilson was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in April 2026. Judge Wilson earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1994 from William Carey University, a Juris Doctor in 2000 from Mississippi College School of Law, and a Master of Arts in English Education in 2019 from William Carey University. From April 2016 to March 2026, she was with the Mississippi Commission on Judicial Performance in Jackson, Mississippi, serving in the following roles: executive director (July 2020-March 2026); and senior staff attorney (April 2016-July 2020). From April 2005 to April 2016, she was a sole practitioner in private practice in central Mississippi. From June 2002 to April 2005, she was an associate at Markow Walker PA in Ridgeland, Mississippi, and from May 1998 to June 2002 served as a law clerk and counsel for the Mississippi attorney general. From 2014 to 2016, Judge Wilson served as an assistant staff judge advocate in the Army National Guard. Since 2016, Judge Wilson has also served with the 172 Airlift Wing, in Jackson, Mississippi, and is currently the wing staff judge advocate, after serving as the assistant staff judge advocate then deputy staff judge advocate. She holds the rank of lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force. Judge Wilson is a member of the Mississippi Bar.

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