U.S. Department of Justice
Executive Office for Immigration Review
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NOTICE

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EOIR Announces 47 Immigration Judges and 6 Temporary Immigration Judges
Biographical Information

Immigration Judges

John C. Allison, Immigration Judge, New York – Federal Plaza Immigration Court
John C. Allison was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Allison earned a Bachelor of Science in 2004 from the University of California, San Diego, a Juris Doctor in 2009 from the University of St. Thomas School of Law, and a Master of Laws in 2020 from The Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School. From November 2025 to July 2026, he served as a general attorney in the Office of Chief Counsel, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, in Buffalo, New York. Since October 2023, he has also served as a judge advocate in the U.S. Army Reserve. From February 2010 to September 2023, he served on active duty as a judge advocate in the U.S. Army in positions including deputy command judge advocate, brigade judge advocate, senior trial counsel, chief of client services, chief of national security law, chief of administrative law, and trial counsel. Judge Allison is a member of the Minnesota State Bar.

Dana D. Babbin, Immigration Judge, Chelmsford Immigration Court
Dana D. Babbin was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Babbin earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1992 from the University of Notre Dame and a Juris Doctor in 1996 from the Syracuse University College of Law. From January 2013 to August 2026, she served as an associate and consultant with the National Criminal Justice Training Center for the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program. From May 2011 to January 2013, she was a sole practitioner legal consultant to entities such as district attorneys' offices. From August 2007 to March 2010, she served as an assistant district attorney and coordinator of the Cyber Protection Program at the Middlesex County District Attorney's Office in Woburn, Massachusetts. From May 2003 to August 2007, she served as the Massachusetts Internet Crimes Against Children prosecutor with the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office in Boston. From August 2002 to May 2003, she served as the visiting associate professor of law for the Prosecutor Program at Boston University School of Law. From October 1999 to August 2002, she served as an assistant district attorney with the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office in Boston. Judge Babbin is a member of the Massachusetts Bar and New York State Bar.

Jackson Beach, Immigration Judge, Seattle Immigration Court
Jackson Beach was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Beach earned a Bachelor of Arts, cum laude, in 2010 from the University of Washington and a Doctor of Jurisprudence, magna cum laude, in 2015 from Indiana University. From 2019 to 2025, he served on active duty as a judge advocate with the U.S. Navy where he held the roles of appellate defense counsel in Washington, D.C., and senior legal advisor in San Diego. From 2016 to 2017, he was a law clerk with the U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico. When not in public service he practiced business law. Judge Beach is a member of the Washington State Bar.

Jeannette M. Bernstein, Immigration Judge, Los Angeles – West Los Angeles Immigration Court
Jeannette M. Bernstein was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Bernstein earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1976 from the University of California, Los Angeles, and a Juris Doctor in 1979 from the University of California, Los Angeles. From March 1981 to August 2026, she was a deputy district attorney for the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office. From October 1979 to February 1981, she was a law clerk for the Los Angeles Superior Court. Judge Bernstein is a member of the State Bar of California.

Brian J. Boyd, Immigration Judge, New York – Federal Plaza Immigration Court
Brian J. Boyd was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Boyd earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2005 from the University of Florida, a Master of Science in 2008 from the University of Cincinnati, and a Juris Doctorate in 2017 from New York Law School. From February 2022 to September 2026, he was a trial attorney with the Constitutional and Specialized Tort Litigation Section, Department of Justice, in Washington, D.C. From May 2019 to February 2022, he served as an attorney advisor with the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, in Washington, D.C. From September 2017 to March 2019, he was an associate at Kasowitz LLP in New York, New York. Prior to becoming an attorney, Judge Boyd served as a law enforcement officer in the State of Florida from August 2005 through May 2014. Judge Boyd is a member of the New York State Bar.

James J. Cavagnaro, Immigration Judge, Orlando Immigration Court
James J. Cavagnaro was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Cavagnaro earned Bachelor of Arts in 1986 and a Master of Science in 1993 (on completion) from the University of Rochester, and a Juris Doctor in 1993 from the California Western School of Law. From July 2024 to September 2026, he served as a supervisory immigration services officer, and from March 2022 to July 2024, he served as an immigration services officer, at the Orlando Field Office, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), Department of Homeland Security (DHS). From January 2020 to March 2022, he served as an asylum officer at the Newark Asylum Office, USCIS, DHS. From February 2014 to January 2020, he served as a field examiner with the Veterans Benefit Administration throughout Florida. From July 2007 to January 2014, he was a flight instructor/commercial pilot in Osan, South Korea; Macon, Georgia; and Vero Beach, Florida. From June 2006 to June 2007, he served as an international law and agreements attorney

at Headquarters, 7th Air Force, Osan Air Base, South Korea. From May 1986 to June 2006, he was with the U.S. Marine Corps serving in various assignments as both an infantry officer and as a judge advocate with worldwide assignments and deployments with the Fleet Marine Force. Judge Cavagnaro is a member of the State Bar of California and the Colorado Bar.

Loren Craft, Immigration Judge, Salt Lake City Immigration Court
Loren Craft was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Craft earned a Bachelor of Science in 1997 from Middle Tennessee State University and a Juris Doctor in 2001 from the University of Houston Law Center. From November 2001 to August 2026, she was in private practice in Houston. Judge Craft served on active duty in the U.S. Army Infantry during Operation Desert Storm and is a member of the State Bar of Texas.

Jordan D'Angelo, Immigration Judge, Richmond Immigration Adjudication Center
Jordan D'Angelo was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge D'Angelo earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2005 from Benedictine College, and a Juris Doctor in 2008 and a Master of Public Administration in 2012 from University of Missouri – Kansas City. From September 2019 to August 2026, he was an administrative law judge with the Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals, Health and Human Services (HHS), in Kansas City, Missouri. From 2012 to 2019, he served as a presidential management fellow and hearing officer with HHS in Baltimore and Raleigh, North Carolina, an advisor with the Department of Labor in Kansas City, Missouri, a judge advocate with the U.S. Army with mobilizations to the Middle East and Arlington, Virginia, and a paralegal with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security at the National Records Center. Judge D'Angelo is a member of the Missouri Bar.

Ernie Dukes, Immigration Judge, Elizabeth Immigration Court
Ernie Dukes was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Dukes earned a Bachelor of Science in 2001 from Jacksonville State University and a Juris Doctor in 2004 from Florida Coastal School of Law. From April 2024 to September 2026, he was an associate attorney at Morgan & Morgan in Jacksonville, Florida. From April 2022 to April 2024, he was director of the criminal law division at Phillips & Hunt in Jacksonville, Florida. From March 2010 to April 2022, he served as an assistant state attorney at the Office of the State Attorney, Fourth Judicial Circuit, in Jacksonville, Florida. From 2004 to 2010, he was a sole practitioner in Jacksonville, Florida. Judge Dukes is a member of the Florida Bar.

Samantha Diane Ellis, Immigration Judge, Annandale Immigration Court
Samantha Diane Ellis was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Ellis earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2004 from the University of South Florida and a Juris Doctor in 2007 from Florida Coastal School of Law. From August 2022 to September 2026, she served as chief of Navy legal assistance policy, and from September 2014 to August 2022, she served as a supervisory civilian subject matter expert, with the Naval Legal Service Command, Department of the Navy in Pensacola, Florida. with Naval Legal Service Command, Department of the Navy in Pensacola, Florida. From July 2011 to

September 2014, she was a partner and senior managing attorney at McDaniel & Ellis PA in Pensacola, Florida. From July 2010 to July 2011, she was an associate attorney at Perry & Young PA in Panama City, Florida. From January 2008 to July 2010, she served as an assistant state attorney at the Bay County State Attorney's Office in Panama City, Florida. Judge Ellis is a member of the Florida Bar.

Daniel Fellhauer, Immigration Judge, New York – Federal Plaza Immigration Court
Daniel Fellhauer was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Fellhauer earned a Bachelor of Science in 1996 from Eastern Michigan University and a Juris Doctor in 2000 from the University of Toledo College of Law. From 2005 to 2026, he served as an assistant prosecutor and chief deputy of the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney for Scott County, Virginia, in Gate City, Virginia. He also served as the interim Scott County Commonwealth's Attorney in 2018 and again in 2020 and 2021. From 2003 to 2006, he was an associate attorney at Boucher, Hutton, Kelly, and Graham PC in Abingdon, Virginia. From 2002 to2003, he served as a judicial law clerk with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Ohio in Toledo. Judge Fellhauer is a member of the State Bar of Michigan and Virginia State Bar.

Zachary N. Godsey, Immigration Judge, New York – Federal Plaza Immigration Court
Zachary N. Godsey was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Godsey earned a Bachelor of Science in 2011 from Pennsylvania State University and a Juris Doctorate in 2015 from Florida State University College of Law. He is currently pursuing his Master of Laws from the University of Florida College of Law. From July 2023 to August 2026, he served as the senior supervising attorney (civilian) for the Navy's Judge Advocate General Corps' Regional Legal Service Office Southeast in Pensacola, Florida. From December 2017 to July 2023, he served in the Coast Guard's Judge Advocate General Corps in various roles, including: government appellate prosecution (Headquarters; Washington, D.C.); special victims' counsel (Base Alameda; Alameda, California); and U.S. Coast Guard Academy (U.S. Coast Guard Academy; New London, Connecticut). From July 2015 to December 2017, he worked as a civil litigation attorney in Jacksonville, Florida. Judge Godsey currently serves as a lieutenant commander in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve's Port Security Unit 308 and has served in various other legal roles, including deputy of Pacific Area Legal (Alameda, California) and staff attorney in the Coast Guard's Heartland District (New Orleans). Prior to his Coast Guard career, he received an Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, serving his last tour as a non-commissioned officer in 20th Group Special Forces (Airborne). Judge Godsey is a member of the Florida Bar.

Andrea Goode, Immigration Judge, San Diego Immigration Court
Andrea Goode was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Goode earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2000 from the College of Charleston, a Doctor of Jurisprudence in 2003 from St. Mary's University School of Law, and a Master of Laws in 2014 from the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General Legal Center and School. From January 2024 to September 2026, she was an attorney-advisor with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (National Disaster Response). From October 2003 to October 2023, she served on active duty with the U.S. Marine Corps as a judge advocate. In 2023, she

retired as a general court-martial judge for the Western Judicial Circuit Navy-Marine Corps Court Trial Judiciary. Judge Goode is a member of the State Bar of California.

Robert L. Gray Jr., Immigration Judge, Memphis Immigration Court
Robert L. Gray Jr. was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Gray earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1996 from Mercer University and a Doctor of Jurisprudence in 1999 from the Mississippi College School of Law. From April 2024 to September 2026, he served as deputy general counsel with the Mississippi Army National Guard in Jackson, Mississippi. From May 2020 to April 2024, he served as a special victims' counsel at the National Guard Bureau in Honolulu. From May 2019 to May 2020, he served as a brigade judge advocate at the U.S. Army, 401st Army Field Support Brigade, at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, where he also served temporarily as a staff judge advocate at the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait. From September 2016 to March 2019, he served as a private practice attorney at Gray Law PLLC in Batesville, Mississippi. From July 2013 to August 2016, he served as a judge advocate at the U.S. Army Reserve, 412th Theater Engineer Command, in Vicksburg, Mississippi. From February 2012 to July 2013, he served as a judge advocate at the Mississippi Army National Guard in Jackson, Mississippi. From September 1999 to February 2012, he served as a private practice attorney at Gray-Wade PLLC in Jackson, Mississippi; Robert L. Gray, Attorney at Law, in Ridgeland, Mississippi; and Houston & Gray PLLC in Jackson, Mississippi. Judge Gray is a member of the Mississippi Bar.

Luis R. Guzman, Immigration Judge, Indianapolis Immigration Court
Luis R. Guzman was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Guzman earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1999 from Princeton University and a Juris Doctorate in 2002 from Emory University School of Law. From November 2025 to September 2026, he served as an attorney at Cornerstone Law Firm in Winter Springs, Florida. From December 2024 to November 2025, he served as a senior commercial litigation attorney at ByrdCampbell PA, in Winter Park, Florida. From 2002 to 2024, he served in various positions in criminal and civil litigation, including serving as an assistant state attorney for the Florida Eighteenth Circuit State Attorney's Office, an assistant county attorney for the Florida counties of Volusia and Lake, and an assistant attorney general for the Florida Attorney General's Office. Judge Guzman is a member of the Florida Bar.

M. Keiling (Keil) Hackley, Immigration Judge, San Antonio Immigration Court
M. Keiling (Keil) Hackley was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Hackley earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1983 from the University of Maryland and a Juris Doctor in 1986 from the University of Baltimore. From June 2020 to December 2025, she served as of counsel with Kosobucki & Tessier PLLC in Daytona Beach, Florida. From January 1998 to June 2020, she was in private practice with Hackley & Robertson PA and its predecessor firms. From June 1992 to June 1998, she served with the Department of Justice and the former Immigration and Naturalization Service and served as an asylum officer, trial attorney, assistant district counsel, and deputy chief counsel in Miami. Judge Hackley is a member of the District of Columbia Bar and the Maryland Bar.

Shawn P. Hammond, Immigration Judge, Orlando Immigration Court
Shawn P. Hammond was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Hammond earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1991 from Augusta State University and a Juris Doctor in 1996 from the University of Mississippi School of Law. From January 2026 to September 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 Columbia, South Carolina. From 1996 to 2026, he worked in private practice managing his own law firm in Augusta, Georgia while also serving in the U.S. Army from 1985 to 2016, as both an enlisted soldier, and a commissioned infantry officer, on both active duty and in the Reserves. During his military service he served in U.S. Military operations in Afghanistan, Iraq, Kuwait, Bolivia, Panama, Honduras, and other countries. Judge Hammond is a member of the State Bar of Georgia.

Melissa Handke, Immigration Judge, Dallas Immigration Court
Melissa Handke was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Handke earned a Bachelor of Science in 2001 from the University of Phoenix and a Juris Doctor, cum laude, in 2003 from Oklahoma City University School of Law. From August 2023 to September 2026, she served as the district attorney for the Twentieth Judicial District of the State of Oklahoma. From December 2021 to August 2023, she served as first assistant district attorney for the Office of the District Attorney for the Twentieth Judicial District in Carter County, Oklahoma. From January 2015 to December 2021, she served as a prosecutor in Carter County, Oklahoma. From February 2013 to December 2014, she worked as an associate attorney for Massad Evans & Kent in Frederick Oklahoma. From December 2011 to February 2013, she worked as an associate attorney for Haiges Coury & Associates in Edmond, Oklahoma. From December 2008 to December 2011, she worked as in-house counsel for Allstate Insurance Company in Oklahoma City. From July 2007 to December 2008, she was an associate at Amerisafe Risk Services in Yukon, Oklahoma. From February 2005 to July 2007, she was in private practice for the Handke Law Firm PLLC in Minco, Oklahoma. From April 2004 to February 2005, she was an associate at Scott Daniel & Associates in Oklahoma City. Judge Handke is a member of the Oklahoma Bar.

Hector Hernandez Jr., Immigration Judge, Orlando Immigration Court.
Hector Hernandez Jr. was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Hernandez earned a Bachelor of Science in 2005 from the State University of New York and a Juris Doctor in 2011 from Florida A&M College of Law. From December 2025 to September 2026, he served as an attorney with the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, in Orlando. From July 1987 to July 2007, he served as a law enforcement officer with the New York City Police Department. From July 1982 to May 1986, he served as a soldier in the U.S. Army, Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Judge Hernandez is a member of the Florida Bar.

Felicia Holloman, Immigration Judge, Orlando Immigration Court
Felicia Holloman was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in

September 2026. Judge Holloman earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2010 from Florida State University and a Juris Doctor in 2013 from the University of Florida Levin College of Law. From October 2024 to August 2026, she served as an assistant city attorney at the City of Fort Pierce, Florida. From March 2014 to September 2024, she served as an assistant state attorney at the State Attorney's Office of the 19th Judicial Circuit of Florida. Judge Holloman is a member of the Florida Bar.

Natasha Howard, Immigration Judge, San Diego Immigration Court
Natasha Howard was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Howard earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1996 from Hobart & William Smith Colleges and a Juris Doctor in 2002 from Southwestern Law School. From September 2005 to September 2026, she was with the Office of the Attorney General, California Department of Justice, serving in the following positions: supervising deputy attorney general, Special Prosecutions Section, San Diego (November 2024-September 2026); deputy attorney general, Special Prosecutions Section, Los Angeles (July 2022-October 2024); deputy attorney general, Cybercrimes Section, Los Angeles (December 2011-June 2022); and deputy attorney general, Division of Medi-Cal Fraud & Elder Abuse, Burbank (September 2005-November 2011). From September 2003 to August 2005, she served as a deputy district attorney with the Ventura County District Attorney's Office in Ventura, California. Judge Howard is a member of the State Bar of California.

David W. Illingworth II, Immigration Judge, San Diego Immigration Court
David W. Illingworth II was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Illingworth earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2002 from the University of St. Thomas and a Juris Doctor in 2006 from the Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law. From December 2025 to September 2026, he served as a counsel with the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, in Oklahoma City. From November 2023 to December 2025, he was in private practice as a sole practitioner in Woodland Park, Colorado. From August 2018 to November 2023, he served as a deputy district attorney for the Fourth Judicial District Attorney in Colorado Springs, Colorado. From September 2012 to July 2018, he served as an assistant district attorney for the Oklahoma County District Attorney in Oklahoma City. From January 2007 to July 2011, he served in the U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps as an assistant staff judge advocate in the following locations: Kadena Air Base, Japan; FOB Union III, Iraq; and the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado. Judge Illingworth is a member of the Colorado Bar and Virginia State Bar.

Adam J. Jaffe, Immigration Judge, Los Angeles – Van Nuys Boulevard Immigration Court
Adam J. Jaffe was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Jaffe earned Bachelor of Arts in 1996 from Boston University, a Master of Business Administration in 2003 from the University of Phoenix, a Juris Doctor in 2006 from Thomas Jefferson School of Law, and a Master of Arts in 2021 from the U.S. Naval War College. From October 2025 to September 2026, he served as the general counsel with the Sea Services Leadership Association in Arlington, Virginia. From June 2023 to February 2024, he served as an attorney advisor with the Board of Veteran's Appeals, Department of

Veteran's Affairs, in Washington, D.C. From January 2022 to June 2023, he served as a senior associate at Gordon, Rees, Scully & Mansukhani in San Diego. From July 2020 to January 2022, he served as a Coast Guard judge advocate as a special victims counsel, Office of Member Advocacy, Coast Guard Island, in Alameda, California. From January 2018 to June 2020, he served as a Coast Guard judge advocate with the Office of General Law, Coast Guard Headquarters, in Washington, D.C. From June 2007 to January 2018, he was the principal at Jaffe Law Corporation in San Diego. Judge Jaffe is a member of the State Bar of California.

Fahimeh Kennedy, Immigration Judge, Chelmsford Immigration Court
Fahimeh Kennedy was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Kennedy earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2011 from Virginia Commonwealth University and a Juris Doctor in 2015 from William & Mary Law School. From November 2025 to September 2026, she served as the executive director of the Ohio Oil & Gas Commission in Columbus. From April 2023 to November 2025, she served as an assistant attorney general with the Ohio Attorney General's Office in Columbus. From October 2017 to April 2023, she served as a judge advocate with the U.S. Army in Camp Humphreys, South Korea, and Fort Shafter, Hawaii. From February 2016 to September 2017, she served as a consultant for the National Center for State Courts in Arlington, Virginia. From September 2015 to January 2016, she served as a post graduate fellow in the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Judge Kennedy is a member of the Ohio State Bar.

Shelly M. Kennedy, Immigration Judge, Detroit Immigration Court
Shelly M. Kennedy was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Kennedy earned a Bachelor of Science in 2002 from the University of Cincinnati and a Juris Doctor in 2005 from the University of Toledo College of Law. From February 2019 to August 2026, she served as an assistant attorney general with the Office of the Ohio Attorney General. From February 2013 to February 2019, she served as a staff attorney with the Ohio Sixth District Court of Appeals in Toledo. From May 2005 to February 2013, she served as staff attorney and part-time magistrate at the Lucas County Court of Common Pleas in Toledo. Judge Kennedy is a member of the Ohio State Bar.

Christy J. Kisner, Immigration Judge, Sterling Immigration Court
Christy J. Kisner was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Kisner earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1995 from West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia, a Juris Doctorate in 1999 from West Virginia University, College of Law, Morgantown, West Virginia, and a Master of Laws in Military Law from The Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School (Army) in Charlottesville, Virginia. From September 2017 to August 2021, and from January 2023 to September 2026, she served as an instructor with U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security in location, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Glynco, Georgia. From August 2021 to December 2022, she worked for the Federal Aviation Administration, Washington, D.C. From June 2017 to September 2017, she was served as a staff attorney with the Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, Savannah, Georgia. From February 2013 to January 2017, she was an acquisition attorney with the Department of the Air Force

at Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland. From March 2012 to February 2013, she served as an acquisition attorney with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, Washington, D.C. From September 2001 until October 2011, she was a judge advocate with the Air Force, during which time she deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. Prior to her active-duty service, she clerked for the Honorable Judge Stucky, Kanawha County Circuit Court, Charleston, West Virginia. Judge Kisner is a member of the Maryland State Bar and the District of Columbia Bar.

Dennis B. Kohlhoff Jr., Immigration Judge, Sterling Immigration Court
Dennis B. Kohlhoff Jr. was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Kohlhoff earned a Bachelor of Science in 2009 from Texas A&M University and a Juris Doctor in 2016 from Barry University School of Law. From September 2022 to September 2026, he served as an attorney-advisor with the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, U.S. Army Materiel Command Legal Center, Department of the Army, in Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. During this time, he also served concurrently as a special assistant U.S. attorney with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland, Department of Justice, in Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. From June 2020 to August 2022, he served as an assistant criminal district attorney with the Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney's Office in Fort Worth, Texas. From October 2019 to June 2020, he served as an assistant criminal district attorney with the Kaufman County Criminal District Attorney's Office in Kaufman, Texas. From January 2017 to October 2019, he served as an assistant state attorney with the Office of the State Attorney for the Twentieth Judicial Circuit of Florida in Fort Myers, Florida. Judge Kohlhoff is a member of the Florida Bar and the State Bar of Texas.

William R. LaFleur II, Immigration Judge, Imperial Immigration Court
William R. LaFleur II was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge LaFleur earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2004 from the University of Notre Dame and a Doctor of Jurisprudence in 2013 from the Indiana University Maurer School of Law. From September 2025 to September 2026, he was an assistant general counsel at U-Haul International Inc. in Phoenix. From September 2023 to September 2025, he served as a staff attorney with the Office of General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, in Phoenix. From June 2022 to September 2023, 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 Phoenix. From February 2022 to June 2022, he served as an inspector general for the 56th Fighter Wing at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona. From November 2018 to January 2022, he served as a deputy prosecuting attorney for the Elkhart County Office of the Prosecuting Attorney in Elkhart, Indiana. From January 2017 to November 2018, he served as a deputy prosecuting attorney for the St. Joseph County Prosecuting Attorney in South Bend, Indiana. From January 2014 to January 2017, he served as an assistant director of admissions for Notre Dame Law School. Judge LaFleur is a member of the State Bar of Arizona, the Florida Bar, and the Indiana State Bar.

David S. Lo, Immigration Judge, New York – Federal Plaza Immigration Court
David S. Lo was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Lo earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2006 from Washington University in St. Louis

and a Juris Doctorate in 2011 from Thomas M. Cooley Law School. From March 2024 to September 2026, he was an in-house counsel for Allstate in New York, New York. From January 2023 to March 2024, he was an in-house counsel for The Hartford in New York, New York. From February 2019 to January 2023, he was an in-house counsel for Liberty Mutual in New York, New York. From June 2016 to January 2019, he was a litigator at Boyko & Associates, PC in New York, New York. From August 2012 to June 2016, he held various legal compliance positions in New York, New York. Judge Lo is a member of the New York State Bar.

Debbie López-Carr, Immigration Judge, Fort Worth Immigration Adjudication Center
Debbie López-Carr was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge López-Carr earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1982 from Marymount College at Fordham University and a Juris Doctor in 1992 from the City University of New York School of Law. From August 2019 to November 2025, she served as an assistant chief counsel with the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor (OPLA), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in Houston, and from November 2025 to September 2026, she served as counsel for OLPA, DHS, in Dallas. From September 2007 to June 2019, she served as managing attorney for López-Carr & Associates, PLLC. From December 1999 to June 2004, she served as a senior assistant city attorney for the City of Irving, Texas, and from 1994 to 1999, as an assistant city attorney for the City of Dallas. Judge López-Carr is a member of the State Bar of Texas.

Jared L. Matte, Immigration Judge, Baton Rouge Immigration Court
Jared L. Matte was appointed as immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Matte earned a Bachelor of Science in 2017 from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and a Juris Doctor in 2020 from the Louisiana State University, Paul M. Hebert Law Center. From 2025 to August 2026, he was an associate at Brown Sims PC in New Orleans. From April 2025 to November 2025, he served as an assistant attorney general with the Louisiana Department of Justice in Baton Rouge. From 2020 to April 2025, he served as a staff attorney with the Office of Administrative Law Judges, Department of Labor, in Covington, Louisiana. Judge Matte is a member of the Louisiana State Bar.

Rory McGarry, Immigration Judge, Chicago Immigration Court
Rory McGarry was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge McGarry earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2009 from the University of Wisconsin – Madison and a Juris Doctorate in 2015 from the University of Wisconsin – Madison Law School. From June 2019 to September 2026, he served as a deputy and assistant district attorney for the State of Wisconsin. From January 2016 to June 2019, he served as an assistant general counsel for the Wisconsin Public Service Commission. Since June 2019, he has served as a judge advocate for the Wisconsin Army National Guard. From 2003 to 2016, he served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. Judge McGarry is a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin.

Reynaldo Padilla Morin, Immigration Judge, Fort Worth Immigration Adjudication Center
Reynaldo Padilla Morin was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Morin earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1990 from St. Mary's University and a Juris Doctorate in 1993 from Marquette University Law School. From February 2023 to September 2026, he was an assistant United States attorney at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Texas. From January 2013 to February 2023, he was a sole practitioner at the Law office of Reynaldo P. Morin PLLC. From September 2001 to December 2012, he was an assistant U.S. attorney at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Texas. From April 2000 to September 2001, he was an assistant U.S. attorney at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Texas. From May 1994 to April 2000, he was an assistant district attorney for the 81st Judicial District Attorney's Office. Judge Morin is a member of the State Bar of Texas.

James C. Plott, Immigration Judge, Adelanto Immigration Court
James C. Plott was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Plott earned a Bachelor of Science in 2000 from the University of Washington and a Juris Doctor in 2004 from the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. From December 2022 to September 2026, he served as a detail administrative law judge with the Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Small Business Administration. From June 2016 to December 2022, he served as a supervisory administrative law judge with the Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. From August 2004 to June 2016, he was in private practice in Edwards, Colorado. Judge Plott is a member of the State Bar of California.

Latosha M. Powell, Immigration Judge, Stewart Immigration Court
Latosha M. Powell was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Powell earned a Bachelor of Science in 2010 from Tennessee State University and a Juris Doctor in 2013 from Samford University, Cumberland School of Law. From September 2020 to September 2026, she served as counsel with the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, in Atlanta. From September 2015 to September 2020, she served as a hearing official for the Tennessee Department of Human Services. Judge Powell is a member of the Tennessee Bar.

Yeshaya Poyurs, Immigration Judge, New York – Federal Plaza Immigration Court
Yeshaya Poyurs was appointed as an immigration judge in September 2026 after serving as a temporary immigration judge since February 2026. Judge Poyurs earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1989 from Union College (Schenectady, New York), a Juris Doctor in 2002 from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University, and a Master of Arts in 2018 from the Fletcher School of Law and International Relations, Tufts University. From 2024 to 2025, he mobilized as an Army Reserve judge advocate to serve as a deputy associate general counsel in the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Army, the Pentagon. From 2022 to 2024, he served as an attorney adviser for the Disability Evaluation System Counsel Program, U.S. Navy, Washington Navy Yard. From 2020 to 2022, he served as an attorney adviser in the Alternative Dispute Resolution program, Whistleblower Reprisal Investigations

Directorate, Office of Inspector General, Department of Defense, Alexandria, Virginia. From 2019 to 2020, he mobilized to Poland in support of Atlantic Resolve as an International Law Officer for the 407th Civil Affairs Battalion. From 2015 to 2019, he served as an attorney adviser for the Office of Soldiers Counsel, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington. From 2002 to 2014, he primarily worked in private practice. Judge Poyurs holds the rank of lieutenant colonel in the Judge Advocate Corps, Army Reserve. Judge Poyurs is a member of the Maryland State Bar, the Massachusetts Bar, and the New York State Bar.

Veronika N. Rabon, Immigration Judge, Houston – S. Gessner Road Immigration Court
Veronika N. Rabon was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Rabon earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1995 from the Rostov State University and a Juris Doctor in 2011 from the Thomas Goode Jones School of Law, Faulkner University. From September 2025 to September 2026, she served as a counsel with the Office of Principal Legal Advisor, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in New Orleans. From June 2022 to September 2025, she served as an asylum officer and later as a supervisory asylum officer with the New Orleans Asylum Office, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, DHS, in New Orleans. From September 2011 to June 2022, she served as an attorney advisor with the Office of Hearing Operations, Social Security Administration, in Atlanta, and Metairie, Louisiana. Judge Rabon is a member of the Alabama State Bar.

Laura Allison Ramos, Immigration Judge, Harlingen Immigration Court
Laura Allison Ramos was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Ramos earned a Bachelor of Science in 2007 from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and a Doctor of Jurisprudence in 2011 from St. Mary's University School of Law. From May 2012 to September 2026, she served as a Criminal Justice Act panel attorney with the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas. From November 2011 to September 2026, she was an attorney with the Law Office of Laura Allison Ramos in Corpus Christi, Texas. From November 2011 to September 2026, she served as an indigent defense panel attorney in Nueces County, Texas. Judge Ramos is a member of the State Bar of Texas.

Kristina Reeves, Immigration Judge, San Diego Immigration Court
Kristina Reeves was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Reeves earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1997 from the University of California, Los Angeles, and a Doctor of Law in 2003 from the University of Chicago Law School. From July 2019 to January 2021, she was a constitutional and appellate law attorney at Gillespie Shields in Phoenix. From July 2018 to July 2019, she was a partner and founder at Reeves Maxwell Law PLLC in Phoenix. From May 2015 to July 2018, she served as an assistant attorney general in the Capital Litigation Section, Solicitor General's Office, Arizona Attorney General's Office. Judge Reeves left the practice of law from 2010 to 2015. From June 2003 to October 2010, she served as an officer in the Judge Advocate General's Corps of the U.S. Navy. As a JAG officer, she served as military assistant to the general counsel in the Office of the General Counsel in the Department of Defense, appellate defense counsel at the Navy-Marine Corps

Appellate Review Activity in Washington, D.C., and as a criminal prosecutor in San Diego. Judge Reeves retired at the rank of lieutenant commander, and prior to joining the JAG Corps, she served as a surface warfare officer. Judge Reeves is a member of the State Bar of Arizona.

Michele M. Renteria, Immigration Judge, San Antonio Immigration Court
Michele M. Renteria was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Renteria earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2008 from the University of Texas at Dallas and a Doctor of Jurisprudence in 2012 from St. Mary's University School of Law. From August 2019 to September 2026, she served as counsel with the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, in Chaparral, New Mexico. From October 2015 to August 2019, she served as an assistant attorney general with the Office of the Texas Attorney General in El Paso, Texas. Judge Renteria is a member of the State Bar of Texas.

Jose G. Rodriguez-Rosado, Immigration Judge, Chelmsford Immigration Court
Jose G. Rodriguez-Rosado was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Rodriguez-Rosado earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2005 from the University of Puerto Rico, Ponce Campus, a Juris Doctor in 2008 from the Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico, School of Law, Ponce, and a Master of Military Operational Art and Science in May 2025 from the Air Command and Staff College (In Residence), Maxwell Air Force Base. From November 2023 to September 2026, he was an attorney advisor for the Board of Veterans Appeals in Washington, D.C. From August 2010 to November 2023, he was a sole litigating attorney before administrative agencies including the Department of Labor, Department of Consumer Affairs, and the Child Support Administration in Puerto Rico, and the Puerto Rico's Commonwealth Court System and the U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico. Judge Rodriguez Rosado received a direct commission as a judge advocate general (JAG)in the U.S. Army in February 2016 and served as a defense counsel with the Puerto Rico Army National Guard before becoming senior defense counsel with the Trial Defense Service Detachment. From July 2018 to December 2018, he was detailed as a special assistant U.S. attorney with the U.S. Attorney's Office in Laredo, Texas. In September 2019, he transitioned to the U.S. Air Force through a direct commission into the reserve component, where he has since served as the deputy staff judge advocate for the 156 WG at Muñiz NGB. Judge Rodriguez-Rosado is a member of the Puerto Rico Bar.

Thomas G. Shaia, Immigration Judge, Indianapolis Immigration Court
Thomas G. Shaia was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Shaia earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1985 from George Mason University and a Juris Doctor in 1988 from Case Western Reserve School of Law. From September 2020 to September 2026, he was a managing partner at Shaia's Law PLLC in Mechanicsville, Virginia. From September 2019 to October 2021, he served as the director of investigations for Queens of Virginia, in Richmond, Virginia. From February 2016 to September 2019, he served as a deputy commonwealth's attorney for the City of Suffolk, Virginia. From August 2006 to February 2016, he served as a deputy commonwealth's attorney for the County of Spotsylvania, Virginia. From July 2004 to August 2006, he served

as an assistant commonwealth's attorney for the County of Spotsylvania, Virginia. From July 2002 to July 2004, served as an assistant attorney general for the Commonwealth of Virginia, City of Richmond, Virginia. From March 1994 to June 2002, he served as an assistant commonwealth's attorney for the County of Henrico, Virginia. From October 1993 to March 1994, he served as an attorney with the law offices of Thomas H. Roberts in Richmond, Virginia. From December 1988 to October 1993, he served as an assistant commonwealth's attorney for the city of Richmond, Virginia. Judge Shaia is a member of the Virginia State Bar.

Kerry Anne Vales, Immigration Judge, Indianapolis Immigration Court
Kerry Anne Vales was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Vales earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2006 from Barry University and a Juris Doctor in 2009 from the St. Thomas University School of Law. From October 2025 to September 2026, she served as counsel with the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in Miami. From August 2018 to October 2025, she was with the Oakland Park Field Office, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, DHS, in Oakland Park, Florida, serving in the following positions: program manager (November 2023-October 2025); acting section chief (June 2022-October 2023); supervisory immigration services officer (February 2022-October 2023); and immigration services officer (August 2018-February 2022). From October 2017 to August 2018, she served as an asylum officer at the Miami Asylum Office, USCIS, DHS, in Miami. From September 2014 to October 2017, she served as a police officer with the City of Hollywood Police Department, in Hollywood, Florida. From May 2012 to September 2014, she was a managing partner at the Luque and Donohue Law firm in Naples and Weston, Florida. From October 2011 to May 2012, she was an associate attorney at the Hermanni Law Group in Coral Gables, Florida. From October 2009 to October 2011, she was in private practice in Davie, Florida. Judge Vales is a member of the Florida Bar.

Anthony C. Williams, Immigration Judge, Chicago Immigration Court
Anthony C. Williams was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Williams earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1988 from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a Juris Doctor in 1991 from DePaul University College of Law. From June 2023 to August 2026, he was the managing partner at Williams Stone PC in Stafford, Virginia. From June 2020 to June 2023, he served as the managing partner at Williams Stone Carpenter Buczek PC in Stafford, Virginia. From January 2008 to June 2020, he served as the owner of Anthony C. Williams & Associates PLLC in Stafford, Virginia. From July 1992 to December 2007, he served as a judge advocate, including as civil litigation attorney, deputy circuit judge, senior appellate defense attorney, plans and policies attorney, senior defense counsel, deputy staff judge advocate, and prosecutor, with the Office of the Judge Advocate General, U.S. Marine Corps, Department of the Navy, at the Washington Navy Yard, Okinawa Japan, Iwakuni Japan, Marine Corps Base Quantico Virginia, and Camp Pendleton California. From 1989 to 1992, he served as a law clerk at Greenbaum & Leavitt in Chicago. Judge Williams is a member of the Virginia State Bar.

Traci L. Winder, Immigration Judge, Tacoma Immigration Court
Traci L. Winder was appointed as an immigration judge in September 2026. She served as a temporary immigration judge from October 2025 through April 2026. Judge Winder earned a Bachelor of Science in 1997 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Juris Doctorate in 2000 from Campbell University, Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law. From 2007 to 2026, she has served as a judge advocate general (JAG) with the U.S. Air Force Reserves at various locations. From 2011 to 2012, she served as a staff attorney with the Office of General Counsel, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Northwest, Bangor, Washington. From 2007 to 2011, she served as a staff attorney, Assistant Chief Counsel, U.S. Customs and Border Protection in Tucson, Arizona. From 2003 to 2007, she served as a JAG with the U.S. Air Force at various locations. Judge Winder is a member of the Florida Bar, North Carolina Bar, and Washington State Bar.

Chak L. Wong, Immigration Judge, Newark Immigration Court
Chak L. Wong was appointed as an immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Wong earned a Bachelor of Science in 2007 from Stony Brook University and a Juris Doctor in 2011 from the University at Buffalo School of Law. From 2021 to August 2026, he served as a supervisory immigration services officer with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, at the Newark Field Office, HART Service Center, and Queens Field Office. From 2015 to 2021, he served as an asylum officer and immigration services officer with USCIS, DHS, in New York, New York. From 2011 to 2015, he was in private practice at law firms in New Jersey and New York. Judge Wong is a member of the New Jersey State Bar and the New York State Bar.

Margaret L. Wright, Immigration Judge, Detroit Immigration Court
Margaret L. Wright was appointed as an immigration judge and began hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Wright earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1988 from Randolph-Macon Woman’s College in Lynchburg, Virginia, and a Juris Doctor in 1991 from the Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University in Macon, Georgia. From February 2023 to September 2026, and previously from February 2013 to May 2016, she served as a complaints manager for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers (FLETC) in Glynco, Georgia. From April 2017 to February 2023, she served as a senior policy advisor and project analyst at FLETC, and from July 2016 to April 2017, she served as the chief of staff. She served as senior policy advisor in Chief Financial Officer Directorate at FLETC from May 2016 to July 2016. She also served as an attorney-advisor in the FLETC Office of Chief Counsel from August 2005 to February 2013 and as a senior legal instructor at FLETC from September 2002 to August 2005. From 1993 to 2000, served as an assistant district attorney with the Glynn County District Attorney’s Office for the Brunswick Judicial Circuit. From April 2000 to September 2002, she served as a magistrate judge in Glynn County, Georgia, and practiced law as a private attorney in Brunswick, Georgia. Judge Wright is a member of the State Bar of Georgia.

Temporary Immigration Judges

Mark D. Baker, Temporary Immigration Judge, Richmond Immigration Adjudication

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Mark D. Baker was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Baker earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1994 from Hope College and a Juris Doctor in 1998 from the Wayne State University Law School. From June 2016 to August 2026, he served as an administrative law judge with the Social Security Administration in Richmond, Virginia. From June 2013 to June 2016, he served as senior counsel to the Office of Inspector General at the Federal Housing Finance Agency in Washington, D.C. Judge Baker holds the rank of captain in the U.S. Navy. Judge Baker is a member of the State Bar of Michigan.

Thomas P. Belsky, Temporary Immigration Judge, Newark Immigration Court
Thomas P. Belsky was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Belsky earned his Bachelor of Arts in 1993 from the University of Scranton and a Juris Doctor in 1996 from Saint Louis University School of Law. From May 2013 September 2026, he served as a public defender with the New Jersey Office of the Public Defender. From 2003 to 2013, he served as an assistant federal public defender, first in the District of Connecticut and then in the District of New Jersey. From 1998 to 2003, he served on active duty in the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps. He continues to serve in the Navy as a reservist and holds the rank of captain. Judge Belsky is a member of the New Jersey State Bar.

Jeremy R. Brooks, Temporary Immigration Judge, Annandale Immigration Court
Jeremy R. Brooks was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Brooks earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2000 from Michigan State University, a Juris Doctor, *cum laude,* in 2004 from Michigan State University College of Law, and a Master of Laws in 2012 from Chicago-Kent College of Law. From June 2023 to August 2026, he served a deputy director with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of War for Industrial Base Policy at the U.S. Department of War in Alexandria, VA. From June 2021 to June 2023, he served as a senior legal and policy advisor with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of War for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict at the U.S. Department of War in Arlington, Virginia. From October 2018 to June 2021, he served as an assistant general counsel with the Office of General Counsel at the Defense Intelligence Agency in Washington, D.C. From August 2017 to October 2018, he served as an assistant general counsel with the Office of General Counsel at the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C. From September 2015 to August 2017, he served as a senior appellate counsel with the Office of the Judge Advocate General of the U.S. Navy in Washington, D.C. Judge Brooks holds the rank of commander in the U.S. Navy. Judge Brooks is a member of the Illinois State Bar and the State Bar of Michigan.

Brian T. Frees, Temporary Immigration Judge, Salt Lake City Immigration Court
Brian T. Frees was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Frees earned a Bachelor of Science in 2005 from the University of Phoenix and a Juris Doctor in 2010 from Thomas M. Cooley Law School. Since November 2001, he has served in various enlisted and commissioned officer roles in the U.S. Navy Reserve, most recently as a staff attorney with the Navy Reserve Region Legal Service Office in San Diego. From May 2011 to August 2026, he was the owner of Frees Law PLLC

in Sandy, Utah. Judge Frees holds the rank of lieutenant. Judge Frees is a member of the Utah State Bar.

Kevin L. Hoffman, Temporary Immigration Judge, New York – Federal Plaza Immigration Court

Kevin L. Hoffman was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Hoffman earned a Bachelor of Science in 2006 from Brigham Young University, a Juris Doctor in 2009 from Brigham Young University, and a Master of Laws in 2018 from the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School. From August 2022 to August 2026, he was owner of Hoffman Law PLLC in Jacksonville, North Carolina. Since August 2022, he has served as a reserve judge advocate in the following assignments: II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, August 2022 to April 2023; individual ready reserve, May 2023 to June 2024; Marine Forces Reserve, New Orleans, Louisiana, June 2024 to October 2025; Joint Task Force 84-2, October 2025 to March 2026; and returning to Marine Forces Reserve, March 2026 to present. From July 2020 to August 2022, he served as staff judge advocate, Marine Corps Air Station New River, Jacksonville, North Carolina. From July 2018 to July 2020, he served as staff judge advocate for the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. From April 2014 to July 2017, he served as deputy staff judge advocate and law program manager, Marine Corps Recruiting Command, Quantico, Virginia, including an operational law deployment to Iraq from September 2016 to March 2017. From June 2013 to February 2014, he served as an operational law and command services attorney, II Marine Expeditionary Force, in Afghanistan. From November 2010 to April 2013, he served as a legal assistance attorney, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, Camp Lejeune, and as trial counsel, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, North Carolina. Judge Hoffman holds the rank of lieutenant colonel in the Marine Corps Reserve. Judge Hoffman is a member of the North Carolina Bar.

Jesse Schaefer, Temporary Immigration Judge, New York – Federal Plaza Immigration Court

Jesse Schaefer was appointed as a temporary immigration judge to begin hearing cases in September 2026. Judge Schaefer earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2004 from North Carolina State University and a Juris Doctor in 2012 from the Campbell University Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law. From August 2012 to August 2026, he was an associate and then partner with the law firm Womble Bond Dickinson in Raleigh, North Carolina. From May 2004 to September 2026, he served as a naval officer in various locations throughout the world. Judge Schaefer holds the rank of commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve. Judge Schaefer is a member of the North Carolina Bar.

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