



## U.S. Department of Justice

Executive Office for Immigration Review

*Office of the Chief Immigration Judge*

*August 2009*

5107 Leesburg Pike, Suite 2500  
Falls Church, Virginia 22041

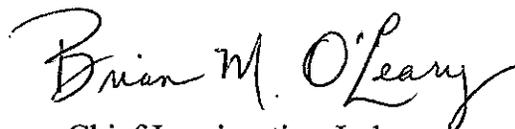
### **The Immigration Court Practice Manual**

In 2006, the Attorney General instructed the Director of the Executive Office for Immigration Review, in consultation with the Immigration Judges, to issue a practice manual for the parties who appear before the Immigration Courts. This directive arose out of the public's desire for greater uniformity in Immigration Court procedures and a call for the Immigration Courts to implement their "best practices" nationwide.

Accordingly, the Office of the Chief Immigration Judge published the Immigration Court Practice Manual in February 2008. The Practice Manual is a comprehensive guide that sets forth uniform procedures, recommendations, and requirements for practice before the Immigration Courts. The requirements set forth in this manual are binding on the parties who appear before the Immigration Courts, unless the Immigration Judge directs otherwise in a particular case. The Practice Manual does not limit the discretion of Immigration Judges to act in accordance with law and regulation.

The Practice Manual is intended to be a "living document," and the Office of the Chief Immigration Judge updates it in response to changes in law and policy, as well as in response to comments by the parties using it. We welcome suggestions and encourage the public to provide comments, to identify errors or ambiguities in the text, and to propose revisions. Information regarding where to send your correspondence is included in Chapter 13 of the Practice Manual.

The Office of the Chief Immigration Judge has made the Immigration Court Practice Manual available through the EOIR website at [www.usdoj.gov/eoir](http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir). We encourage you to share the Practice Manual with any individuals or organizations that may benefit from it.

  
Chief Immigration Judge