



BOSTON BAR ASSOCIATION IMMIGRATION LAW SECTION COVID-19 RESOURCE GUIDE

FEDERAL RESOURCES:

- Center for Disease Control and White House Coronavirus Task Force: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novelcoronavirus-2019>
- U.S. Federal Government Information Page: <https://www.usa.gov/coronavirus>
- Food and Drug Administration: <https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-andresponse/mcm-issues/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>
- Federal Trade Commission: <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/coronavirus-scams-whatftc-doing>

STATE/LOCAL RESOURCES:

- Commonwealth of Massachusetts: <https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>
- City of Boston, Public Health Commission: <https://www.boston.gov/news/coronavirusdisease-2019-covid-19-boston>
- Massachusetts Courts:
 - News and information on actions being taken by Massachusetts state courts in response to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic: <https://www.mass.gov/guides/court-system-response-to-covid-19>

AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (AILA) - NATIONAL:

- Resource Center: Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19): <https://www.aila.org/advo-media/issues/all/covid-19>
 - Practice Pointers from remote Form I-9's to fulfilling DOL LCA postings to consular post closures
 - Sample/Template Resources (i.e., Motion for Continuance, Request for Release)
 - Law Firm Planning Resources (i.e., Pandemic Proof Your Practice including Emergency Family and Medical Leave, Paid Sick Leave, Tax Credits to Maintain Business Continuity)
 - Advocacy Resources to Protect Immigrant Rights during COVID-19
 - Congressional Efforts
 - Presidential Proclamations
 - Government Announcements and Alerts (CBP, DHS, DOS, EOIR, ICE, USCIS)

AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (AILA) – NEW ENGLAND:

- <https://www.ailane.org/covid-19-updates/> (member only access)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE:

- Consular Post Closures and Reduction in Visa Services:
<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/COVID-19-Country-Specific-Information.html>
 - In response to worldwide challenges related to the outbreak of COVID-19, the Department of State is suspending routine visa services in most countries worldwide. Embassies and consulates in these countries will cancel all routine immigrant and nonimmigrant visa appointments as of March 18, 2020.
 - Department of State has compiled a list of embassy websites for country-specific information concerning COVID-19 at the link above. This page provides links to the COVID-19 dedicated page for each nation's embassy which includes information concerning health services, recommendations, and in some cases, information concerning a reduction or temporary suspension of visa services.

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION:

- **CBP Boston Logan, JFK and Newark Airport Extending Visa Waiver Program (VWP) during COVID-19**
 - If your client lives in the jurisdiction covered by Boston Logan Deferred office and is in the US under the Visa Waiver Program (VWP), where their 90 day duration of stay is due in the next 14 days or less, CBP at Boston Logan confirmed that they will review and grant Satisfactory Departure on a case by case basis.
 - **CBP Logan Process (for now):** If individuals were admitted under the VWP/ESTA program **AND** are unable to depart the U.S. before their current period of admission (must be within the 14 days or less from the date of request) because of COVID-19 related issues such as, believe that they may have been exposed to COVID-19 OR are not able to board a flight because they are experiencing ANY flu-like symptoms (such as a runny nose, headache, cough, sore throat or fever) OR No available flights, OR other related health reasons, may submit a request (individually or through their attorney) to CBP Logan Deferred Inspection office via email: cbp.boston.i94@cbp.dhs.gov, with the following information:
 - **Subject line:** VWP Satisfactory Departure
 - **Body of Email:** Individual's name; Date of Birth (DOB); Passport Number; I-94 number and expiration date; Reason for request
 - **Attach to the email:** Passport biographic Page; I-94; Original departure flight itinerary along with the new flight itinerary, if available; Evidence to support the request, if available
 - Please do not call Deferred Inspection office to follow up. Each individual will be notified of their decision.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY:

- COVID-19 Resource Page: <https://www.dhs.gov/coronavirus-news-updates>

U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES:

- COVID-19 Resource Page: <https://www.uscg.mil/Coronavirus/>
- USCIS Temporarily Closing Offices to the Public March 18-April 1: <https://www.uscis.gov/news/alerts/uscis-temporarily-closing-offices-public-march-18-april-1>
 - USCIS Field Offices: Will send notices to applicants and petitioners with scheduled appointments and naturalization ceremonies impacted by this closure. Also check the case status online as many note a cancellation.
 - Asylum Offices: USCIS asylum offices will send interview cancellation notices and automatically reschedule asylum interviews. When the interview is rescheduled, asylum applicants will receive a new interview notice with the new time, date and location of the interview.
- USCIS Suspending Premium Processing Service on ALL Form I-129 and I-140 Petitions (as of 03/20/20): <https://www.uscis.gov/working-united-states/temporary-workers/uscis-announces-temporary-suspension-premium-processing-all-i-129-and-i-140-petitions-due-coronavirus-pandemic>
- USCIS Announces Flexibility in Submitting Required Signatures During COVID-19 National Emergency (as of 3/21/20): <https://www.uscis.gov/news/alerts/uscis-announces-flexibility-submitting-required-signatures-during-covid-19-national-emergency>

EOIR:

- EOIR has cancelled all non-detained hearings from now until at least April 10 (both MC and individual). For a complete list of every court: <https://www.justice.gov/eoir/eoir-operational-status-during-coronavirus-pandemic>.
 - Note: The Boston immigration court remains open (for now) and will continue to accept any filings
- Policy Memorandum - Immigration Court Practices During the Declared National Emergency Conferencing the COVID-19 Outbreak (posted 3/18/20): <https://www.justice.gov/eoir/file/1259226/download>

EOR:

- U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is working closely with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and other federal, state, and local agencies to facilitate a speedy, whole-of-government response in confronting Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), keeping everyone safe, and helping detect and slow the spread of the virus. We know that during this time there are a lot of questions about how interactions with ICE officers are being impacted during this public health crisis. The public, media, family members with those in custody, and all other stakeholders are encouraged to revisit this site as often as possible for any updates to this extremely fluid situation. <https://www.ice.gov/covid19>
- Immigration Enforcement Check-Ins: Individuals should contact their local field office for additional guidance prior to their scheduled appointment.

- EOR field offices information: <https://www.ice.gov/contact/ero>

OTHER RESOURCES:

- Lawyers for Civil Rights Boston: http://lawyersforcivilrights.org/wpcontent/uploads/2020/03/KYRCOVID19.pdf?mc_cid=ae2553a390&mc_eid=fa9ec32849

LAW FIRM GUIDANCE:

- Mintz: <https://www.mintz.com/insights-center/coronavirus>
- Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP: <https://www.orrick.com/Coronavirus-COVID-19>
- Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP: <https://www.fragomen.com/about/news/immigration-update-coronavirus>
- McDermott Will & Emery: <https://www.mwe.com/insights/privacy-hipaa-security-and-gdpr-covid-19-considerations/>
- Covington & Burling: <https://www.cov.com/en/news-and-insights/insights/2020/03/covid-19-evolving-considerations-for-global-business>
- WilmerHale: <https://www.wilmerhale.com/en/insights/events/20200319-the-coronavirus-what-should-your-company-do-now>
- Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman: <https://www.pillsburylaw.com/en/news-and-insights/covid-19-threats-raise-pressure-on-it-systems-and-cybersecurity-readiness.html>

RESOURCE GUIDE AUTHORS:

Mary E. Walsh – Iandoli Desai & Cronin P.C. (Immigration Section Co-Chair)

Attorney Walsh has practiced U.S. immigration law since 2006, and prior to attending law school Mary worked as an immigration paralegal in San Francisco and Cambridge for several years. Mary concentrates her practice in business and family-based immigration matters, with a specialization in obtaining visas and legal permanent resident status for research scholars, scientists, artists and athletes including O-1 Extraordinary Ability, EB-1A Extraordinary Ability, EB-1B Outstanding Professors and Researchers, and National Interest Waivers. Please see complete bio at: <http://iandoli.com/attorneys>.

Alexandra Peredo Carroll – Kids In Need of Defense (KIND)

A 2006 graduate of Suffolk University Law School, Alexandra has been practicing immigration law since 2009. From 2009-2011 she worked as an associate at an immigration firm in San Juan, Puerto Rico, handling mostly removal defense and family-based cases while managing the litigation side of the firm. Alex opened a solo immigration practice in Boston in 2011 and her practice slowly evolved to focus on the representation of children in removal proceedings. Prior to her career in immigration law, Alex was a staff attorney at Massachusetts Advocates for Children representing parents of children with special education needs. Alex is an active member of AILA and the Boston Bar Association. While in law school, Alex was president of the Latin American Law Students Association. Please see complete bio at: <https://supportkind.org/who-we-are/our-people/boston/>.

Magaly R. Cheng – Clark Lau LLC

Janeth Moreno is admitted to practice law in Mexico and in the State of New York, she was born in Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico, and moved to Boston to continue her legal studies where she completed the LL.M. program at Suffolk University Law School. She is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), the New York Bar Association, the Boston Bar Association (BBA), the Massachusetts Bar Association, the United Nations Association New York Chapter (UNA), and a board member of the Massachusetts Association of Hispanic Attorneys (MAHA). She is experienced in international law, human rights, and immigration law, with a strong interest in refugee protection, migration, global affairs, and gender equality. She participated as a delegate for the 58th session of UN Women's Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations Headquarters in New York in March 2014. In April 2014, she obtained a certificate from the Worldview Institute at the United Nations Association in New York where she completed an executive program in International law and human rights. Please see complete bio at: <https://www.clarklau.com/our-team/magaly-r-cheng-n%C3%A9e-rojas-navarro>

Erin Brummer – Fragomen

Erin is an Associate in Fragomen's Boston office, where she works with clients across a variety of industries, including premier high-technology corporations. She has represented corporate and individual clients on a wide array of immigration matters, encompassing nonimmigrant petitions for a number of visa categories, and employment and family-based immigrant visa applications. Prior to joining the firm, Erin worked with a Boston-based law firm, where she focused on preparing extraordinary ability and outstanding researcher petitions, national interest waivers, nonimmigrant visa petitions and adjustment of status applications. She has experience working with clients spanning a broad range of industries, including healthcare, research and development organizations, and retail fashion conglomerates. Please see complete bio at: <https://www.fragomen.com/people/erin-brummer>

Janeth Moreno – Moreno Law

Janeth Moreno Esq. LL.M. is the founding and managing attorney at Moreno Law, a boutique law firm located in the heart of Boston's legal and financial community that provides full professional advice and representation in matters related to business immigration, removal defense, family reunification, family-based immigration and naturalizations. She is the President of the Massachusetts Association of Hispanic Attorneys (MAHA), member of the Immigration Law Section at the Boston Bar Association, and an active member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), the New York Bar Association, and the United Nations Association New York Chapter (UNA) since 2014. She is experienced in international law, human rights, and immigration law, with a strong interest in refugee protection, migration, global affairs, and gender equality. She participated as a delegate during the Commission on the status of Women 58th session at the United Nations Headquarters in New York in March 2014. Attorney Moreno has also published many articles, including Ninez Migrante, ABC Legal Defense by Nexus Magazine, Frontera Caotica by El Pais, El Muro Alterno en EU, by El Economista and Immigration Litigation in the US by Reforma. She was appointed under the program Legal Assistance for Mexican Nationals, as the Immigration Attorney of the Consulate General of Mexico in Boston since 2015 and appointed as the Of

Counsel for the Consulate of Colombia in Boston since January 2019. For more information on Moreno Law please visit, morenoimmigration.com.

Please see complete bio at: <https://morenoimmigration.com/janeth-moreno/>.