

NAME OF EVENT: Immigrants & COVID-19: Adding Pandemic to a System Already in Crisis
(This event has been approved for 1 hour of California MCLE credit.)

DATE | TIME | LOCATION: April 21, 2020 | 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET | Briefing Call

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The COVID-19 pandemic is posing challenges for everyone, but the hardships it poses for immigrants and the immigration system have been especially harsh. While prisons and jails across the country move to reduce their populations, immigrants in ICE detention centers continue to fear exposure to the virus. Some immigration courts remain open for detainee hearings, but the Department of Justice has failed to set uniform policies, a cause of concern to judges, lawyers, and their clients. Citizenship ceremonies are on hold, but Customs and Border Patrol has begun to employ expedited deportation at the border. At the same time, immigrant workers are on the front lines in the battle against the virus in the health, restaurant, and other essential industries. How can we accomplish our public health goals in a manner in keeping with our laws and traditions as a nation of immigrants?

SPEAKERS' NAMES AND BIOS:

Ahilan Arulanantham, Senior Counsel, ACLU of Southern California

Jacinta Ma, Vice President of Policy & Advocacy, National Immigration Forum

Hon. Ashley Tabaddor, President, National Association of Immigration Judges

Kara Stein, Vice President of Policy and Program, ACS, *Moderator*

AGENDA OF CONFERENCE CALL:

- 3 minutes introduction
- 40 minutes speakers' presentations
- 15 minutes Q&A
- 2 minutes conclusion

MATERIALS FOR CALL:

[Class action complaint](#) filed by ACLU Foundation of Southern California in U.S. District Court for the Central District of California seeking release of detainees at Adelanto ICE Processing Center during the COVID-19 pandemic (April 13, 2020).

Hamed Aleaziz, [An Unprecedented Group of Immigration Prosecutors, Lawyers, and Judges are Calling for Courts to Be Closed](#), BuzzFeed (Mar. 15, 2020).

Bill Aseltyn, Beth Essig, Debra Zumwalt, Abbe Gluck, [There's Only One Thing Stopping Trump From Deporting Health Care Workers](#), THE NEW YORK TIMES (April 2, 2020).

Khorri Atkinson, [*Judge Wary of Halting In-Person Detention Hearings*](#), LAW360 (April 15, 2020).

Kristina Cooke, [*As Pandemic Rages, US Immigrants Detained in Areas with Few Hospitals*](#), REUTERS (April 3, 2020).

Brian Dowling, [*Judge Calls Stay On ICE Petitions a 'Luxury' Amid Virus*](#), LAW360 (April 16, 2020).

Conor Finnegan, [*75% of Migrants Deported to Guatemala on Single Flight Tested Positive for Coronavirus: Health Minister*](#), ABC NEWS (April 15, 2020).

Astrid Galvan, [*Millions of Taxpaying Immigrants Won't Get Stimulus Checks*](#), THE ASSOCIATED PRESS (April 12, 2020).

Suzanne Gamboa, [*Coronavirus May Stop Hundreds of Thousands from Becoming Citizens in Time to Vote in November*](#), NBC NEWS (April 7, 2020).

Lucas Guttentag, [*Coronavirus Border Expulsions: CDC's Assault on Asylum Seekers and Unaccompanied Minors*](#), JUST SECURITY (April 13, 2020).

Arelis Hernandez, Nick Mirotff, [*Facing Coronavirus Pandemic, Trump Suspends Immigration Laws and Showcases Vision for Locked-Down Border*](#), MSN NEWS (April 5, 2020).

Letter of New York Attorney General Letitia James to Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) Director James McHenry Re: Coronavirus, <https://www.naij-usa.org/images/uploads/newsroom/2020.04.03.01.pdf>, (April 3, 2020).

Miriam Jordan, [*Foreign Doctors Could Help Fight Coronavirus. But U.S. Blocks Many*](#), THE NEW YORK TIMES (April 13, 2020).

Kate Morrissey, [*ACLU Drops COVID-19 Lawsuit After Clients Released from Immigration Detention*](#), THE SAN DIEGO TRIBUNE (April 13, 2020).

National Association of Immigration Judges Statement Re: Coronavirus and Detained Dockets, <https://www.naij-usa.org/images/uploads/newsroom/2020.03.30.01.pdf> (Mar. 30, 2020).

[*Coronavirus and Immigrant Health Workers Infographic*](#), National Immigration Forum (April 8, 2020).

Julia Preston, [*Migrant Children Still Face Speedy Deportation Hearings in Covid-19 Hotspots*](#), The Marshall Project (April 10, 2020).

[*New York Asks Justices for Temporary Pause of "Public Charge" Rule*](#), SCOTUS BLOG (April 13, 2020).