



THE FLORIDA BAR  
INTERNATIONAL LAW SECTION

**AGENDA**

**MIDYEAR MEETING 2021 AT JUNGLE ISLAND**

International Law Section Executive Council Meeting

1111 Parrot Jungle Trail, Miami, FL 33132

**Thursday, March 11, 2021**

**4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

- I. **Call To Order** – Robert J. Becerra, Chair
  
- II. **Secretary Report** – Rafael R. Ribeiro, Secretary (**Attachment A**)
  - a. Minutes – June 19, 2020 (*attachment*)
  - b. Minutes – November 7, 2020 (*attachment*)
  
- III. **Treasurer Report** – Jacqueline Villalba, Treasurer
  - a. Financial Statement – January 2021 (**Attachment B**)
  - b. Sponsorship Report (**Attachment C**)
  
- IV. **General Matters**
  - a. ILS Bylaw Amendments
  - b. Select Committee Reports (**Attachment D**)
    - i. Asia Committee and Subcommittees – Susanne Leone (*attachment*)
    - ii. International Tax Committee – Jeff Hagan (*attachment*)
    - iii. Women in International Law – Jacqueline Villalba
    - iv. Foreign Legal Consultant Committee – Jacqueline Villalba
    - v. Public International Law, Human Rights & Global Justice – Emercio Aponte (*attachment*)
    - vi. CLE Initiatives – Katherine Sanoja (*attachment*)
    - vii. Legislative Committee Update – Carlos Osorio (*attachment*)
    - viii. ILS Gazette & Membership – Davide Macelloni
    - ix. ILQ – Ana M. Barton, Laura M. Reich (*attachment*)
    - x. Amicus Committee – Gerald Cope, Jr.
    - xi. White Collar Crime Committee – Robert Becerra
    - xii. USCIS, ICE, CBP, EOIR, Labor and State Department Liaison – Larry Rifkin (*attachment*)
    - xiii. NAFTA Committee – William H. Hill, Jr. (*attachment*)
    - xiv. Arbitrators Committee – James P.S. Leshaw / Gary Birnberg
    - xv. Law School Liaison Committee – Prof. Manuel A. Gomez
    - xvi. Mediation Committee – Gary Birnberg / Gerald Cope, Jr.
  - c. Litigation and Arbitration Certification – Gary Davidson
  - d. International Law Certification – Jennifer Diaz

- e. International Deskbook – Pamela Seay (*attachment*)
- f. Richard DeWitt Memorial Vis Pre-Moot Steering Committee – Adrian Nunez (*attachment*)
- g. iLaw Steering Committee – Cristina Vicens
- h. ILS Lunch & Learn Report- Bob Becerra
- i. Foreign In-house Counsel Committee – Christopher Johnson
- j. International Construction Law Committee – Mariela Malfeld
- k. Website – Richard Montes de Oca

**V. Chair’s Report**

- a.

**VI. Informational**

- a. 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.      Cocktail Reception

**VII. Next Executive Council Meeting**

**Thursday, June 10, 2021**

- 8:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.      ILS Reception in Chair’s Suite

**Friday, June 11, 2021**

- 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.      2021 – 2022 ILS Committee Meetings
- 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.      ILS Annual Executive Council Meeting
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.      ILS Luncheon

**VIII. Meeting Adjournment**



THE FLORIDA BAR  
INTERNATIONAL LAW SECTION

# EXHIBIT A

## **MINUTES**

Friday, June 19, 2020

International Law Section Executive Council Zoom Meeting

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Attendees are notified that meeting is being recorded and no objection is made

### **In Attendance Members and Guests:**

1. Clarissa Rodriguez
2. Robert J. Becerra
3. James M. Meyer
4. Rafael R. Ribeiro
5. Carlos F. Osorio
6. Ana Barton
7. Phillip A. Buhler
8. Gerald B. Cope Jr.
9. Gary E. Davidson
10. Kristin Drecktrah Paz
11. Fabio Giallanza
12. Prof. Manuel A. Gomez
13. Omar K. Imbrahem
14. Christopher N. Johnson
15. Richard Montes de Oca
16. Penelope Perez-Kelly
17. Laura Reich
18. Andres Sandoval
19. Katherine A. Sanoja
20. Pamella A. Seay
21. Grant Smith
22. Cristina Vicens
23. Jacqueline Villalba
24. Gary Birnberg
25. Susanne Leon
26. David Macelloni
27. Adrian Nunez
28. Alvin F. Lindsay
29. Peter A. Quinter
30. Larry S. Rifkin
31. William H. Hill, Jr.
32. Elina Santana
33. Michael R. Jackson
34. Valeria Angelucci
35. Tiffany Compres
36. Neha Dagley
37. Evelyn Barroso
38. Takashi Yokoyama
39. Stephani Traband
40. Paul Carrier
41. Ana del Valle Aguilera
42. Rafael Prado
43. Gabriel Fernandez
44. Luis Sotelo
45. Angie Froelich
46. Jeff Hagen
47. Dr. Carolina Obarrio
48. Sheridan Hughes
49. Simon Lai
50. Raul Reichard
51. Rodolfo M. Blanco
52. Francesca Russo
53. Deborah Mastin
54. Melissa Ferrari
55. Maryanne Genevieve Mundy

**I. Call to Order – Clarissa Rodriguez, Chair**

Section Chair Clarissa Rodriguez opened the meeting with a call to order and warm welcome. She confirmed quorum was present and members were informed that both the meeting audio and chat boxes were being recorded. There were no objections to the recording.

**II. Secretary Report – James M. Meyer, Secretary**

Minutes of Executive Council Meeting held February 27, 2020 were unanimously approved by motion, which was seconded.

**III. Treasurer Report – Rafael R. Ribeiro, Treasurer (Exhibit B of Attachment)**

Rafael R. Ribeiro reported the Section was in good financial standing with an ending fund balance of \$146,832 and a current membership of 908 individuals. Sponsorships saw a small increase compared to last year despite having lost 2 Global Sponsors. Rafael reported a total of \$63,750 in sponsorships. He also thanked Harper Meyer for their continued support as a Global Sponsor. Additionally, Rafael reported iLaw was very successful with \$18, 500 worth of sponsorships. Carlos Osorio and Al Lindsey were thanked for their commitment and donations to Vis Pre-Moot. Current financial statement and budget were unanimously approved by motion, which was seconded.

**IV. Presentation of Gary Lesser – Running for Board of Governors for The Florida Bar.**

Mr. Gary Lesser introduced himself and announced his running for President-Elect of the Florida Bar. He elaborated on his position and what he values as part of the Florida Bar, specifically its role as a service organization for its members. Mr. Lesser also mentioned his opponent, Steve Davis from Miami. Section Chair Clarissa thanked Gary for his time.

**V. General Matters**

**a. iLaw2020 Report (Attachment C) – Cristina Vicens**

Cristina Vicens reported a great year for iLaw. She stated the amount received was in fact higher than amount mentioned by Rafael, about \$27,000, with 162 registrations, historically high numbers for the conference. Harout Samra from DLA Piper and Lauren Bengochea from MDO will be co-chairs next year alongside Cristina. They hope to host the next iLaw in person and at same hotel around the same date. Section Chair Clarissa commended Cristina for her hard work and added that every year for the past 10 years, the iLaw conference has been improving and building up from its predecessor. Clarissa was also happy to announce that this year's iLaw was profitable, making around \$10,000, a first for the conference and a big win for the section. Clarissa highlighted importance of sponsorship including vendor and track sponsorships (Corporation, Arbitration, and Litigation), for which she thanked and credited Cristina Vicens and Omar Ibrahim. Clarissa thanked Cristina and the whole faculty for their efforts in planning such a successful conference.

b. **Richard DeWitt Memorial Vis Pre-Moot Competition Report (Attachment D)**

Adrian reported a very successful year for the Vis Pre-Moot Competition. For many of the participants it was the only in-person competition for the year, so students were very appreciative. The committee goal of expanding the Pre-Moot was reached and Hogan Lovells and JAMS were thanked for their support and facilities, which allowed for more schools and students to participate. Adrian reported participation from 8 laws schools, including two new ones and one foreign school, and a total of 10 teams. Unfortunately, UF and Emory were not able to participate this year but that they have both preliminarily committed for next year. Adrian thanked the Council Members who served as judges. He also thanked JAMS for sponsoring the 1<sup>st</sup> place and 2<sup>nd</sup> place awards and MIAS for the Best Oralists Awards. Additionally, very positive feedback from students and professors was reported. Overall, they are very happy with the outcome and expansion of the program and hope to continue improving and growing. Section Chair Clarissa included that the Vis is an “all hands-on deck” conference put together to give back to the community and law students. Members were reminded that a stipend is offered at the conference to Florida Schools for travel to Vienna. She thanked Hogan Lovells and JAMS for their contributions. Clarissa thanked and commended Adrian and everyone involved in planning and hosting the Vis Pre-Moot.

c. **Select Committee Reports** - Chair Rodriguez requested that select committees provide brief reports to keep the meeting on schedule, keeping in mind that written reports were already attached to the Agenda. (Attachment E)

i. **Asia Committee and Subcommittees** – Susanne Leone (attachment)

Committee Chair Susanne Leone announced that the Asia Committee and India Sub-Committee are in the process of planning a webinar with Indian lawyer’s association and some Australian lawyers. However, she could not discuss the topic in detail as the proposal was still being drafted. Section Chair Clarissa mentioned the hard work of this committee is one and its collaboration with other sections and other Bars, making ILS look very good. Clarissa then thanked Susanne, Neha, Gaston, and others involved in the committee for all their work and outreach. The floor was given to Bob who discussed the Hong Kong Round Table and the bar’s cooperation in Hong Kong. Bob mentioned letter received from the Law Society of Hong Kong aimed at understanding a national security legislation being considered by the government to enhance national security in Hong Kong. Bob explained this legislation would restrict rights we consider our “normal” constitutional rights but would most likely be passed regardless. Bob and other along Asian committee members will continue to work closely with the Law Society of Hong Kong in keeping up with their mission of human rights and due process. Section Chair Clarissa thanked everyone in the committee again for their hard work and efforts.

ii. **International Tax Committee** – Jeff Hagen (attachment)

Clarissa introduced committee chair Jeff Hagen. Jeff reported the committee is in the process of acquiring a Florida Bar sponsored CLE on new laws regarding COVID and digital tax. He predicted International tax, especially digital tax, is going to be very important in the coming years, since tax weaves itself into every aspect of international law. Jeff announced he will begin working with Fabio and Margarita soon to make next year's programming more robust. The committee is looking forward to having another panel at the next iLaw and hopes for increased membership/interest. Clarissa thanked Jeff and members for their interest and hard work.

iii. **Women in International Law** – Jacqueline Villalba

Committee chair Jackie announced no major updates since the previous meeting. The committee's spring event was unfortunately canceled due to COVID-19. However, Jackie remains hopeful they will be able to host an even in the late fall and are looking for alternatives should it have to be held virtually. Additionally, the committee's contributions to Dress for Success this year were very successful and were distributed before the pandemic. Section Chair Clarissa added that this the committee has been a great way of getting more women involved in the section. This year, there has been a larger, stronger presence of women both in the committees and in leadership positions, a first for the Section. Clarissa thanked Jackie and the committee members for all their efforts.

iv. **Foreign Legal Consultant Committee** – Jacqueline Villalba

Jackie reported a very active year for the committee. They continue the process of reviewing files and applications for foreign legal consultant certification. While the backlog is not completely eliminated, Jackie is hopeful they will get through it all by the end of the summer. The Committee would like to reduce application time, although this depends on the NCDE who produce very detailed background checked on each applicant. Jackie also announced the largest year for the committee in terms of members. This year, section officers participated in a training of application review/ candidate vetting help committee with the backlog. Section Chair Clarissa thanked Jackie for her hard work and emphasized the difficulty of the task since applications and documents are often in foreign languages. She also highlighted the importance of this committee, as a service offered to the FL Bar by the section. Jackie and committee members were thanked for all their hard work and efforts.

v. **Public International Law, Human Rights & Global Justice**

Section Chair Clarissa Rodríguez reported on behalf of the Committee Chair Dr. Emericio Aponte who was unable to attend. Clarissa emphasized the importance of the committee and its publications and cited

the most recent publication “Power and Tyranny in Latin America,” which included scholarship from all around the world. Clarissa thanked the members of the committee for all their work, outreach, and their engagement with people all over the world and is hopeful the committee will continue with their publications and virtual roundtables. Secretary Jim Meyer proposed the idea that Susanne and Neha reach out to committee members regarding the Hong Kong Letter mentioned by Bob. He suggested this as a way for them to get in contact with professors and scholars from all over the world who might be interested in pursuing the matter.

vi. **CLE Initiatives – Katherine Sanoja (attachment)**

CLE Chair Katherine reported a great year for CLE and an especially active last few months due to Covid-19. This year, over 75 credit hours were offered to section members. Katherine thanked everyone who provided relevant content for CLE webinars in a timely manner and especially thanked Angie who helped move things along swiftly. Very positive feedback from webinar attendees was reported and members were informed the webinars remain online for those who missed them or are interested. Katherine mentioned a recently circulated survey regarding the topics that were covered in the CLE’s offered and said the committee is working on bringing even more content based on the feedback received. Members were asked to please email her or Angie with any ideas for future webinars. Katherine announced the committee is preparing a program for those seeking Board Certification and asked for help and input from anyone in the section who has received the certification and can help. Clarissa thanked all those who participated and Katherine and Angie for their hard work. Members were encouraged to send Angie or Katherine content and ideas for future webinars.

vii. **Legislative Committee Update – Carlos Osorio (attachment)**

Carlos began his report by emphasizing the committee’s need for new members. He highlighted the importance of training the “next generation,” for when he and his colleagues step down. Two important ILS positions on record were mentioned: 1) The ILS’s opposition to a term limit on judges and 2) the section’s support of amending chapter 48, in favor of making it easier to serve internationally. It was noted that the ILS website needs to be updated as it contains outdated information and positions. Committee Chair Carlos commemorated the importance of Juneteenth, especially given the current social climate. He proposed the section take a position on the matter in solidarity with the Black Community. He suggested the section’s statement be based on that of the Business Section. Section Chair Clarissa recognized and commended the committee and its efforts to oversee the section and thanked all the members. Clarissa recognized Carlos’ proposal and asked members if any edits or changes



should be made to the statement/language presented by Carlos. Phil asked members a general question regarding the correctness of taking a position on a matter while the issues are still making their way through the legal system. A suggestion was made to modify the language in the statement to read “any unjust killings” as opposed to “these unjust killings,” to considered and adjust for Phil’s concern. Kristin agreed with the comments made and proposed the statement mention not just the section’s support for the black community, but also their plan and commitment to the inclusion and the eradication of bias is the legal profession. Members agreed if a statement were put out, it would have to be follow by action promoting inclusion and diversity. Section chair Clarissa set forth a motion to vote on whether a position should be taken. Motion was seconded and passed with no opposition. Laura proposed a motion to table the “tweaking” of the statement language and for board to decide on the change and present to the executive committee for a vote at a later time via email. Motion was seconded and passed with no opposition.

viii. **ILS Gazette – Davide Macelloni**

Davide thanked Clarissa for her outstanding job as Section Chair during the year and recognized she was instrumental to the success of the section. He reported that the Gazette is in great standing. Currently there are about 2,700 members in the mailing list who receive ILS news weekly. Davide is hopeful this number will continue to rise. Member contribution to the Gazette has also been increasing with many articles submitted by different members of the section. Members were encouraged to submit articles for publication. Section Chair Clarissa recognized the Gazette and Davide’s as tireless work year-round and thanked Davide and all those that have contributed to the Gazette.

ix. **ILQ – Ana M. Barton / Laura M. Reich**

Ana reported the ILQ is still on track for the year despite COVID. However, the Spring 2020 edition, normally a hard copy, will be a digital edition this year since meetings will be held virtually. This edition is currently with the designer but should be finalized soon. Two new columns were added to the ILQ this year - the first regarding best practices, practice management, and wellness, and the second was described as a “Quick Take” column which offers a brief description of new, complex legal issues. That ILQ’s next publication will be in the fall of this year and its topic will be Customs and Trade. Ana welcomed any articles or submissions on this topic and announced the deadline for same will be set for August. Jeff Hagen was welcomed as the new Special Features editor and open positions for a World Round-Up editor and a Circulation and Advertising editor were announced. Ana stated a goal of increasing circulation and including some advertising to help make the ILQ “revenue-neutral” or maybe even generate

revenue for the section. Finally, members were asked to send Ana pictures of ILQ events to be included in the ILQ quarterly. Laura took picture of the Zoom meeting for same, and asked members to submit pictures at their workstation to document this unusual, time in everyone's career. Section chair Clarissa thanked Ana and Laura for their work and reminded everyone that CLE credits are available for publishing an article in the ILQ.

x. **Amicus Committee – Gerald Cope, Jr.**

No report was given.

xi. **White Collar Crime Committee – Robert Becerra**

Bob reported the committee has not been able to do much the past few months because of COVID-19. However, he reported a successful panel on compliance and M&A in the previous iLaw. The committee will be working to prepare their content and programming for the next iLaw panel for the remainder of the year. Bob encourage members interested in joining the committee to contact him.

xii. **USCIS, ICE, CBP, EOIR, Labor and State Department Liaison – Larry Rifkin (attachment)**

Larry announced a webinar scheduled for June 24<sup>th</sup> on Public Charge Provisions and its impact on Immigrant and Non-immigrant visas and encouraged those interested to register. Another webinar was announced for Fall of this year entitled "Immigration Law for the International Practitioner, a Beginner's Guide and the Red Flags." Section chair Clarissa thanked Larry for all his work and dedication to the section and for always providing the members relevant and important articles and information.

xiii. **NAFTA Committee – William H. Hill, Jr. (attachment)**

Section Chair Clarissa prefaced Bill's report by mentioning that the NAFTA Committee was originally set to sunset until Bill put together a group of people to who brought it back. She added that Bill and the other members worked very hard to keep the committee going and were even able to set up a full day conference in Orlando, which was unfortunately canceled due to COVID-19. Bill thanked Clarissa for her remarks. He explained the conference was schedule for April 8 and 9, but 3 weeks prior they were notified the Akerman Offices, where the conference was to be held, were closed. Regarding Quebec, he said the committee was contacted twice by representatives of the Bureau de Quebec to make plans for a future conference. He also mentioned the intended purposes of the conference was to complete a new collaboration agreement with Quebec, which they continue working on despite the cancellation. Members interested in the committee were encouraged to join

xiv. **Arbitrators Committee – James P.S. Leshaw**

No Report was given

xv. **Faculty Committee – Prof. Manuel A. Gomez**

Committee Chair Professor Gomez began his report with an announcement of a new a mentorship program aimed at helping current law students find summer clerkships/ opportunities etc. While this program was started at FIU, Prof. Gomez would like it to be a statewide initiative, with increased outreach to students outside metropolitan areas. He encouraged members to join and offer their knowledge to the program. Additionally, Professor Gomez spoke about “Law Path,” a project started at FIU. The program’s purpose is to aid and increase the application and enrollment of under-represented, low-income minority students into law school. Section Chair Clarissa emphasized the importance of Law students to the section, as volunteers, interns, in research, and publishing etc. Richard proposed a possible internship to provide students a “hands-on-deck” experience. Laura agreed, and added how important law students have been to the ILQ.

xvi. **Mediation Committee – Gary Birnberg**

Gary reported a very big year for mediation and for the committee. He recounted a successful panel and discussion regarding the Singapore Convention in this year’s iLaw. A webinar was announced entitled “Expanding the Dispute Resolution Toolbox to Keep Clients Profitable in Times of Crisis,” was announced, it will be held on July 16<sup>th</sup> and moderated by Section Chair Clarissa. Gary explained this webinar would look at dislocations caused by the pandemic through the eyes of those effected and propose ways legal practitioners can better provide services. All members were encouraged to participate and watch. Clarissa thanked Gary for is work and invited anyone interested to sign up for the webinar.

xvii. **Litigation and Arbitration Certification – Gary Davidson**

Gary Davidson reported an interesting yet good year for the committee. The certification exam has been postponed but he remains hopeful all those signed up will take it. The committee anticipates a challenging rest of the year in terms of getting members for the committee and getting members certified, but the deadline for the application will remain sometime in October. Members interested in applying for certification were encouraged to do so early since it is a complicated, time-consuming process. Additionally, Gary announced he was designated as Vice-President of the committee by the FL Bar. Section Chair Clarissa encouraged all members to seek certification.

xviii. **International Deskbook 2020 – Pamella Seay (Attachment F)**

Pam announced the book is completed and will be going to press in the coming week. She encouraged all to buy it as it is a very useful tool, and since all the proceeds go straight to the section. The process of putting together the next edition will begin soon, and Pam stated she is looking for new writers and topics including a new chapter on tax. Section Chair Clarissa thanked Pam and all the writers for their hard work. Committee members and authors will receive complimentary copies of the book. Clarissa echoed Pam's comments and encouraged all members to purchase a copy of the book.

xix. **ILS Gazette & Membership – Davide Macelloni**

Section Chair Clarissa tabled this discussion until further notice.

xxx. **Website - James M. Meyer**

Section Chair Clarissa table this discussion, but quickly mentioned that, as other members also pointed out, the website needs updating to reflect the sections positions/interests and will be done soon

xxxi. **ILS Lunch & Learn Report- Bob Becerra**

Bob described the event as one of most dynamic, fun events put on by section. He mentioned the most recent was via Zoom due to COVID and the next one is being planned for September and then monthly from there either by Zoom or in person. Clarissa encouraged members to join these lunches.

**VI. Chair's Report – Clarissa Rodriguez**

a. **2019-2020 Section Accomplishments / Chair's Special Appreciation**

Section Chair Clarissa presented recognition plaques that will be sent to members who have gone above and beyond for the section. First, she recognized Cristina Vicens for her leadership and success in the iLaw conference, and her commitment to the section. Next, Clarissa recognized Adrian Nunez for his hard work, dedication, and huge contributions to the to the Vis Pre Moot. Next, Davide was thanked and congratulated for his hard work and dedication to the ILS Gazette. Larry Rifkin was recognized for all the ILS webinars and his continued commitment to the section. Then Laura and Ana were recognized for their skills and effort in making the ILQ so special and great. Jackie Villalba was thanked for her huge commitment and dedication of long hours to the review of applications. Lastly, Katherine was recognized and thanked for all her work in organizing presentations especially during this time.

b. **2020 – 2021 Proposed Executive Council (Attachment G)**

Considering economic uncertainties due to Covid-19, a new, vice-treasure position was added to the ballot. Jackie Villalba and Richard Montes de Oca were

proposed for Treasurer and Vice-Treasurer respectively. The proposed new members for Executive Council were: Novel Gonzalo, Neha Deagly, Susanne Leone, and Lauren Bengochea.

c. **Election of Executive Council Members & Officers**

Members were asked to review the ballot and a vote was taken. Treasurer and Vice treasurer were approved with no opposition. Proposed Executive Council was approved with no opposition. Clarissa congratulated the new members of the Executive Council, and then turned the meeting over to new Section Chair Bob Becerra.

**VII. Incoming Chair's Welcome Remarks – Robert Becerra, 2020 – 2021 Chair**

a. **Presentation of Award to Previous Chair**

Bob and Angie presented an award to Clarissa for her outstanding leadership of the section, especially during Covid-19. Clarissa was gifted the International Law Section Eagle of Freedom for her hard work.

b. **Where the Section Is Headed**

Bob gave his first speech as the new Section Chair

**VII. Meeting Adjournment**

New Section Chair Bob moved to adjourn the meeting, this was seconded by Clarissa and the meeting was adjourned.

## **MINUTES**

**Saturday, 7 November 2020**

International Law Section Executive Council Zoom Meeting

International Law Section Retreat—Bonita Springs, Florida

8:30 a.m.—10:00 a.m.

Zoom meeting was recorded

### **In Attendance Members and Guests (Live—“L”)(Virtual—“V”)**

1. Robert J. Becerra (L)
2. James M. Meyer (L)
3. Rafael R. Ribeiro (L)
4. Jacqueline Villalba (V)
5. Richard Montes de Oca (L)
6. Clarissa Rodriguez (V)
7. Eduardo Palmer (V)
8. Arnoldo Lacayo (V)
9. Peter Quinter (L)
10. Alvin F. Lindsay (L)
11. J. Brock McClane (V)
12. Francesca Russo (V)
13. Ana Barton (V)
14. Phillip A. Buhler (V)
15. Gary E. Davidson (V)
16. Kristin Drecktrah Paz (V)
17. Omar K. Ibrahim (V)
18. Nouvelle Gonzalo (V)
19. Christopher N. Johnson (V)
20. Laura Reich (V)
21. Yine Rodriguez-Perez (V)
22. Andres Sandoval (V)
23. Pamella A. Seay (L)
24. Grant Smith (V)
25. Cristina Vicens (V)
26. David Macelloni (V)
27. Adrian Nunez (L)
28. Larry S. Rifkin (V)
29. William H. Hill, Jr. (V)
30. Neha Dagley (V)
31. Diane Fischer (L)
32. Frederick Roquefort-Pabon (V)
33. L. Janá Sigars (V)
34. Gilbert Lee Sandler (V)
35. Sherman Humphrey (L)
36. Angie Froelich (L)

#### **I. Call to Order—Robert J. Becerra, Chair**

Section Chair Becerra opened the meeting with a call to order and warm welcome. He confirmed quorum was present.

#### **II. Amendments to ILS Bylaws**

Pursuant to the Agenda circulated to the Executive Council members, the Executive Council considered proposed amendments to Articles II, III, and V of the ILS's By-laws (*see* Attachment A). After discussion, revisions were made to Articles II, III, and V. The revised

amendments then were approved by a majority of the Executive Council. Finally, Section Chair Becerra noted that the revised, approved amendments would be sent to The Florida Bar for approval (the revised, approved amendments are attached as Attachment B).

### **III. Upcoming Meetings of the ILS**

Section Chair Becerra led a discussion of future Section events in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **IV. Meeting Adjournment**

Section Chair Becerra moved to adjourn the meeting, this was seconded by an Executive Council member, and the meeting was adjourned.

## Article II – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility. Any member in good standing of The Florida Bar, and any law faculty affiliate under Rule 1-3.9, interested in the purposes of this section, is eligible for membership in the section upon application and payment of the section's dues. Any regular member of the section who ceases to be a member of The Florida Bar, (or ceases law faculty affiliate status) shall no longer be a member of the International Law Section. Law faculty affiliates who are regular members of the section shall not be eligible to serve as officers of this section as defined in Article III, Section 1. below.

Section 2. Affiliate Membership. Affiliate membership provides a method by which persons who are not members of The Florida Bar can be involved in activities of the section and receive information and publications from the section.

The executive council may, at its sole discretion, accept as an affiliate member of this section, upon application and payment of the prescribed dues, any of the following:

- (a) persons admitted to practice law and in good standing in any jurisdiction outside Florida, including other states, territories and foreign nations;
- (b) Full-time law students at any ABA-accredited law school in the United States; or
- (c) Full-time law faculty at any ABA-accredited law school in the United States.

**(d) Licensed professionals in good standing who customarily provide professional services to persons admitted to practice law in any jurisdiction.**

Any affiliate member who ceases to fall within one of the **four** aforementioned categories shall cease to be an affiliate member of the International Law Section.

Affiliate members shall have all the privileges of membership in this section, except that they may not:

- (a) Hold any office in the section, including service on the executive council, whether elected or appointed;
- (b) Vote or participate in the election of any officers of the section; or
- (c) Vote on the adoption, change or revision of any provision of these bylaws.

Section 3. Administrative Year. The administrative year of the section shall run concurrently with the administrative year of The Florida Bar.

Section 4. Annual Dues. The annual dues for members of this section (other than affiliate members) shall be fixed by the executive council and approved by the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar. The annual dues for affiliate members shall likewise be fixed by the executive council, and approved by the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar, on an annual basis. There shall be no proration of annual dues. Upon becoming a member of the section, dues shall be payable thereafter in advance of each membership year. Any member whose



dues are in arrears for a period of 3 months shall thereupon cease to be a member of this section.

### **Article III – OFFICERS**

Section 1. The officers of this section shall be a chair, chair-elect, secretary, a treasurer, **and vice-treasurer, elected by the executive council.**

Section 2. Executive Council. There shall be an executive council composed of not less than 15 or more than 24 members of this section, including the chair, chair-elect, secretary, treasurer, **vice-treasurer** and immediate past chair. All other past chairs of the International Law Section are voting ex-officio members of the executive council.

Section 3. Duties of Officers. The duties of the officers shall be as follows:

(a) Chair. The chair shall preside at all meetings of the section and at all meetings of the executive council. The chair shall appoint all committees and committee chairs with the approval or concurrence of the executive council, be responsible for all reports to be submitted to The Florida Bar or to the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar, and shall perform such other duties as customarily pertain to the office of chair. The chair shall be an ex-officio member of each committee of the section.

(b) Chair-elect. Chair-elect shall become chair in the event of death, resignation or failure of the chair to serve for whatever reason; provided, however, that in case of temporary disability or absence of the chair, the chair-elect shall serve as acting chair only for the duration of the chair's disability or absence. The chair-elect shall be responsible for such other duties as the chair may designate. The chair-elect shall be an ex-officio member of each committee of the section.

(c) Secretary. The secretary shall be responsible for all permanent files and records of the section, including minutes of the meetings of the section, the executive council and all committee reports. The secretary shall keep accurate minutes of the proceedings of all meetings of the section and the executive council and shall furnish copies of said minutes to the executive director of The Florida Bar.

**(d) Treasurer.** The treasurer shall have the responsibility of accounting for all funds of the section and shall prepare annual financial statements under the supervision of the executive council.

**(e) Vice-Treasurer.** **The vice-treasurer shall assist the treasurer with his/her responsibilities.**

Section 4. Term of Office.

(a) Chair. The term of office of the chair shall begin at the conclusion of each annual meeting of the executive council during which he or she was elected chair and shall end at

the conclusion of the next annual meeting of the executive council, at which time he or she shall be automatically succeeded by the chair-elect.

(b) Chair-elect. The term of office of the chair-elect shall run concurrently with that of the chair, beginning at the conclusion of the annual meeting of the executive council during which he or she was elected chair-elect, and ending at the conclusion of the next annual meeting of the executive council when he or she becomes chair.

(c) Secretary. The term of office of the secretary shall begin at the conclusion at the annual meeting of the executive council during which the secretary was elected and shall end at the conclusion of the next annual meeting of the executive council when he or she becomes chair-elect.

(d) Treasurer. The term of office of the treasurer shall begin at the conclusion of the annual meeting of the executive council during which the treasurer was elected treasurer and shall end at the conclusion of the next annual meeting of the executive council when he or she becomes Secretary.

(e) Vice-Treasurer. The term of office of the vice-treasurer shall begin at the conclusion of the annual meeting of the executive council during which the vice-treasurer was elected and shall end at the conclusion of the next annual meeting of the executive council.

(f) Executive Council. All members of the executive council shall serve for a term of 3 years, the terms of the members of the council being staggered so that one-third of the members shall take office at each annual executive council meeting, said terms commencing with the conclusion of the annual meeting of the executive council following their election and ending at the conclusion of the annual meeting of the executive council three years thereafter.

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## **Article V – NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Section 1. Election of Officers. The chair, chair-elect, treasurer, secretary, and vice-treasurer, shall be elected by the executive council by majority vote at its annual meeting to be held at the annual meeting of The Florida Bar.

Section 2. Election of Executive Council. Nominations of the members of the executive council shall be submitted by the nominating committee. The nominating committee shall consist of the officers of the Section. Election will be by secret ballot and shall be elected by the majority of those in attendance at the annual section meeting.

Section 3. Vacancies. If at any time during a term of office an officer or a member of the executive council, such office shall become permanently vacant by reason of death, resignation, ineligibility or other reason, such office shall be filled for the balance of such term by vote of the executive council at the next meeting of the executive council unless otherwise provided herein.



THE FLORIDA BAR  
INTERNATIONAL LAW SECTION

# EXHIBIT B



THE FLORIDA BAR  
INTERNATIONAL LAW SECTION

**2020 – 2021**  
**International Law Section**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

**JANUARY 2021**

<b>Beginning Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$131,143</b>
Total Revenue	\$69,564
Total Expenses	(\$80,872)
Net Operations	(\$11,308)
<b>Ending Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$119,835*</b>

*\* See attached Statement of Operation*

**MEMBERSHIP**

Current Membership	828
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**THE FLORIDA BAR**  
**International Law Section**  
**For Month January 31, 2021**

	January	YTD 2021	FY 20-21 Budget	Prior Year January	YTD 2021
3001-Annual Fees	\$100	\$38,200	\$42,900		\$39,400
3002-Affiliate Fees		\$1,045	\$1,100	\$60	\$1,290
<b>Total Fee Revenue</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>\$39,245</b>	<b>\$44,000</b>	<b>\$60</b>	<b>\$40,690</b>
3301-Registration-Live		\$2,205	\$45,000	\$16,369	\$16,369
3331-Registraton Ticket			\$5,900		\$3,635
<b>Total Registration Revenue</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$2,205</b>	<b>\$50,900</b>	<b>\$16,369</b>	<b>\$20,004</b>
3351-Sponsorships		\$7,500	\$101,000	\$25,000	\$54,750
					\$9,000 sponsorships in February
3391 Section Profit Split	(\$173)	\$731	\$500	(\$49)	\$435
3392-Section Differential		\$100	\$250		\$50
<b>Other Event Revenue</b>	<b>(\$173)</b>	<b>\$8,331</b>	<b>\$101,750</b>	<b>\$24,951</b>	<b>\$55,235</b>
3511- Sales-Published Materials	\$99	\$1,683			
<b>Advertising &amp; Subscription Reve</b>	<b>\$99</b>	<b>\$1,683</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
3561-Advertising			\$1,500		
<b>Advertising &amp; Subscription Reve</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
3899-Investment Allocation	(\$667)	\$18,100	\$6,187	(\$1,298)	\$6,335
<b>Non-Operating Income</b>	<b>(\$667)</b>	<b>\$18,100</b>	<b>\$6,187</b>	<b>(\$1,298)</b>	<b>\$6,335</b>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>(\$641)</b>	<b>\$69,564</b>	<b>\$204,337</b>	<b>\$40,082</b>	<b>\$122,264</b>
4134-Web Services	\$2,595	\$8,424	\$15,000	\$1,250	\$9,814
4311-Office Supplies		\$15	\$500		\$291
4999-Other Office Expense					
<b>Total Staff &amp; Office Expense</b>	<b>\$2,595</b>	<b>\$8,439</b>	<b>\$15,500</b>	<b>\$1,250</b>	<b>\$10,105</b>
5031-AV Services			\$8,900		
5051-Credit Card Fees	\$8	\$326	\$1,950	\$733	\$956
5101-Consultants	\$3,130	\$5,980	\$10,000		\$2,400
5121-Printing-Outside	\$1,232	\$1,232	\$6,400		\$1,750
<b>Total Contract Services</b>	<b>\$4,370</b>	<b>\$7,538</b>	<b>\$27,250</b>	<b>\$733</b>	<b>\$5,106</b>
5501-Employee Travel		\$1,861	\$3,433		\$1,676
5531-Board/Off/Memb Travel	\$300	\$300	\$4,000		\$4,163
<b>Total Travel</b>	<b>\$300</b>	<b>\$2,161</b>	<b>\$7,433</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$5,839</b>
					Bob's Suite at Retreat
6001-Post 1st Class/Bulk	\$31	\$345	\$450		\$97

6021-Post Express Mail					\$4	
6301-Mtgs TFB Annual Meeting			\$8,000			
6311-Mtgs General Meeting	\$16	\$22	\$750		\$57	
6319-Mtgs Other Functions	\$35,109	\$38,885	\$49,000		\$43,023	Retreat Hyatt Hotel
6321-Mtgs Meals			\$38,000			
6325-Mtgs Hospitality	\$6,314	\$6,314	\$30,000		\$6,286	Holiday Party
6531-Brd/Off Special Projects		\$1,904	\$9,000		\$4,113	
7001-Grant/Award/Donation		\$90	\$1,500		(\$310)	
7999-Other Operating Exp			\$750	\$1,000	\$1,000	
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>\$41,470</b>	<b>\$47,560</b>	<b>\$137,450</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$54,270</b>	
8011-Administrative CLE		\$250				
8021-Section Admin Fee	\$54	\$14,364	\$15,840	\$36	\$14,742	
8101-Printing In-House		\$60	\$500		\$107	
8171-Course Approval Fee			\$150	\$150	\$150	
<b>Total Admin &amp; Internal Expense</b>	<b>\$54</b>	<b>\$14,674</b>	<b>\$16,490</b>	<b>\$186</b>	<b>\$14,999</b>	
9692-Council of Sections		\$500	\$500		\$300	
<b>Total InterFund Transfers Out</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$300</b>	
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$48,789</b>	<b>\$80,872</b>	<b>\$204,623</b>	<b>\$3,169</b>	<b>\$90,619</b>	
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(\$49,430)</b>	<b>(\$11,308)</b>	<b>(\$286)</b>	<b>\$36,913</b>	<b>\$31,645</b>	
2001-Fund Balance, Beginning		\$131,143			\$150,610	
<b>Fund Balance, Ending</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$119,835</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$182,255</b>	



THE FLORIDA BAR  
INTERNATIONAL LAW SECTION

# EXHIBIT C



<b>NAME</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>SPONSORSHIP TYPE</b>
James Michael Meyer	4500	2/9/2021	ILS Global Level Sponsorship 20-21
Clarissa Ane Rodriguez	3000	2/3/2021	ILS Hemispheric Level Sponsorship 20-21
Eisner Amper	500	12/7/2020	ILS Leadership Retreat Participation Fee
Eisner Amper	500	12/21/2020	ILS Leadership Retreat Participation Fee
Geoffrey Mark Wayne	2500	7/24/2020	ILS Regional Level Sponsorship 20-21
Larry Scott Rifkin	2500	11/18/2020	ILS Regional Level Sponsorship 20-21
Carlos Federico Osorio	1500	2/4/2021	ILS Regional Level Sponsorship 20-21
Leonard Paul Feldman	1500	2/22/2021	ILS Regional Level Sponsorship 20-21
Robert John Becerra	1500	9/22/2020	ILS Strategic Level Sponsorship 20-21

**TOTAL** **\$18,000**

Report Date: 3/8/2021



THE FLORIDA BAR  
INTERNATIONAL LAW SECTION

# EXHIBIT D

## **ASIA COMMITTEE REPORT**

The India Subcommittee co-sponsored a webinar titled Mediation, Arbitration and “Mixed Modes”: Whether, When, and How? The event took place on January 12, 2021 and was the result of a collaboration between the Indian Association of Legal Professionals (INALP) and JAMS. Additionally, the subcommittee is planning a webinar for April 2021 related, in part, to the Vodafone-India tax arbitration case.

The Asia committee is planning to support a webinar that is currently in the works to further relationships between Japan and the U.S./Miami. The webinar will take place on April 30, 2021 at 9 AM ET (10 PM Japan). The webinar will include current topics and issues related to Japanese companies engaged in doing business in the US (Florida) and the Japanese legal system including current developments in litigation and arbitration.

Chair: Susanne Leone

China subcommittee chair: Gaston Fernandez

South Korea subcommittee chair: Alvin Lindsay

India subcommittee chair: Neha Dagley



Tax Committee Report  
International Law Section of the Florida Bar  
Mid-Year Executive Council Meeting  
March 11, 2021

*by Jeff Hagen, Harper Meyer LLP*

The Tax Committee has been active since June 2020 when considering the limitations for in-person engagement.

On October 20, 2020, Jeff Hagen, Fabio Giallanza, and Leopoldo Escobar were featured panelists for the Florida Bar CLE Webinar, *Tax Tips for International Arbitration*, providing content that was useful and informative for ILS members.

Tax Committee members have also been published in both the International Law Quarterly and in the ILS Gazette recently:

- *Transfer Pricing Challenges in 2020*, International Law Quarterly, Hagen, Fall 2020.
- *“Accidental Italians” and the U.S.-Italy Estate Tax Treaty Exemption*, ILS Gazette, Giallanza, January 2021.

The Tax Committee had hoped to organize a panel for the transactional track for iLaw 2021 and will strive to do so when iLaw makes its eventual and glorious return.

## **Report of the International Law Section's Committee for Human Rights, Public International Law:**

2020 was a very difficult year due to COVID-19, which affected the activities planned for the year. During the last months of 2020 two zoom meetings were held with some members of the Committee.

On January 14, 2021, a Zoom: Video conference was held with the personnel of a NGO in Orlando entitled: Past-Persecution and Future Persecution. Venezuela: Crimes Against Humanity. This Video conference will be offered during this month of march for attorneys as a part of the proposal of a Monthly 60-minute Zoom: Video conference that the committee is going to implement this year.

The committee is planning to have monthly zoom meetings to build a strong sense of membership and discuss ideas and topics of interest. Finally, a zoom meeting is planned for March 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss and plan our 2021 activities.

Emercio Jose Aponte, *JSD*

## **International Law Section - CLE Committee Report**

Below is a brief update from the International Law Section's CLE Committee. We have had a year-long of webinar offering since the pandemic started. Our upcoming spring seminars, including a 3-part series (yet to be announced) in collaboration with the Rome Bar.

For the spring, the ILS is planning to advance the following webinars, including:

- **Part 1 of Rome Collaboration Series: *The Practice of In-Bound Real Estate Investments in Florida and Italy – Leveraging Opportunities and Avoiding Pitfalls* Wednesday, March 31, 9-a.m. (ET).**

This webinar will cover real estate investments focusing on the opportunities while avoiding pitfalls when investing in Italy and Florida.

Speakers: Antonino Galletti (President, Consiglio Ordine Avvocati Roma); Alessandro Graziani (Treasurer Consiglio Ordine Avvocati – Roma) (Cristina Tamburro (Council Member Ordine Avvocati Roma) (Harper Meyer LLP); Fabio Giallanza (Salcedo Attorneys PA) and Luca Bagnasco

### ***Routes and Realities of Enforcing Arbitral Awards in India: An In-Depth Talk on Vodafone, Devas and Cairn* Thursday, April 8, 2021: Time TBD**

The webinar will focus on the basics of enforcing an arbitral award in India focusing on three prominent cases to guide the discussion.

Speakers: Kshama Loya (Nishith Desai Associates); Edmund J. Kronenburg (Braddel Brothers); Speakers from UK and Netherlands (pending confirmation)

### ***PPE Transactions in a Pandemic: Achieving Compliance and Identifying Fraud*, Thursday April 22, 2021, Noon – 1:30 P.M.**

This webinar will discuss the pandemic phenomena of fraud in the purchase and sale and distribution of Personal Protective Equipment – which has become a multi-billion dollar market during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Moderated by: Robert J. Becerra (Becerra Law, P.A)

Speakers: Collete Durst (Assistant Chief IP Counsel and Chief Trademark Counsel, 3M Innovative Properties Company); Dan Harris (Managing Partner, Harris Bricken, Seattle, Washington); James M. Meyer (Harper Meyer LLP); Dan Pak (Vice President Supply Chain Management Harford Healthcare), Peter A. Quinter (GrayRobinson, P.A) and Tucker Thoni (Senior Associate, GrayRobinson P.A.)

## **Recent Webinars:**

On **January 12, 2021**, we co-sponsored the following webinar:

*Mediation, Arbitration and “Mixed Modes”*: *Whether, When and How?*

With Introduction by Manuj Bhardwaj (International Lawyer and Executive Secretary, INALP- New Delhi). Moderator was Prachi Mehta (TAG ADR Group- New Delhi) and Speakers: Hiro N. Aragaki, FCI Arb – JAMS, Moazzam Kan- Nishith Desai Associates, Chitra Narayan -Daksha Fellowship and Thomas J. Stipanowich – JAMS.

On **Feb 24, 2021** we presented *H-1B Visas – New Procedures and Policies*, which focused on the new policies and procedures with regard to successfully preparing H-1B visa petitions. This webinar was presented by Juan Carlos Freire, Larry S. Rifkin and Elaine Weiss. Course continues available On-Demand – Course # 4350.

At our Annual Retreat on **November 7, 2020**, Eisner Amper LLP presented *Advising Clients Around the Risks of Fraud During the Pandemic* – this was part of our Luncheon Program. This live/webcast discussed the latest trends during the pandemic of cybercrime, PPE and PPP loan forgiveness. It also focused on fraud and mitigation procedures that can be implemented as well as what advise should be given to clients in order to mitigate fraud risks.

If you have topic ideas or are interested in speaking on a panel, please contact Katherine Sanoja - (305) 856-7723 or [katherine.sanoja@gstllp.com](mailto:katherine.sanoja@gstllp.com).

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**  
**CHAIR: CARLOS F. OSORIO, BCS**

The Legislative Committee Reports as follows. Kindly include this report in the packet of material for our meeting. I thank you for this opportunity to serve. I have been heading the legislative committee for some time after having been mentored by Past Chair Eduardo Palmer and am prepared to continue to serve until a suitable vice-chair is selected and trained.

- I first report that the regular legislative session has begun in Tallahassee and runs from today, March 2, 2021 through April 30, 2021. We have not detected any bills of concern / interest to our Section but we will be on the look out. It is quite common for our committee to be contacted by legislative staffers, analysts, lobbyists, and legislative committees from other Sections (such as Business Law (BLS), Family, Appellate) to request our take on pending bills. If anyone in our Section detects a bill of interest that may require the Section to take a position for/against, please contact me so we can discuss further and make appropriate study and potential recommendation to the EC and/or Exec Board, time and circumstances permitting.
- Second, I report that the legislative committee continues with its initiative to reform Chapter 48, Florida Statutes, as to aspects of international service of process. The committee has a Section-approved draft bill meant to create a new approach to international service of process akin to Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The current statutes that deal with international service of process are scattered and cumbersome. This has been a multi-year initiative but we have made progress. We are working closely with the Business Law Section's Legislative Committee to have our initiative made part of a bill that BLS is working on for a future legislative session intended to overhaul Chapter 48. Our proposed re-work of international service would be a part of the BLS's proposed bill, and so far BLS is working towards including our initiative in their proposed bill. More work and study needs to be done in collaboration with BLS. Past years of goodwill built-up with BLS have made this possible.
- And lastly, the legislative committee is always looking for committee members. Anyone interested please contact me at [cosorio@osorioint.com](mailto:cosorio@osorioint.com).

Carlos F. Osorio



**Report of the International Law Quarterly Committee:**

- The ILQ committee is pleased to distribute the **Winter 2021 International Law Quarterly, Focus on Digital Law**, in connection with the Mid-Year ILS executive council meeting. This edition represents the dedicated efforts of over a dozen people—article authors, World Round-Up authors, editors, and staff—all of whom gave their time and attention to the ILQ under difficult circumstances. The Winter 2021 edition will be distributed in hard copy, electronically, and posted on the ILS website.

- The ILQ editors have also issued a **call for articles** for the International Law Quarterly – Spring 2021 edition, which will focus on predictions and expectations regarding **Shifts in International Law and Principles under the Biden Administration**. Possible topics include (but are not limited to):

- effects of rejoining the Paris Climate Agreement, the WHO, etc.,
- any expected changes to treaties or trade partnerships (is the TPP coming back?),
- impacts of the new administration on immigration policy,
- expected changes to the tax code,
- foreign policy predictions,
- expectations for new policies towards Cuba,
- and so much more!!

PLEASE NOTE, timely articles not specifically dealing with the Biden Administration will be considered for inclusion in this edition. Please submit a short Statement of Interest in writing an article on a specific topic to the ILQ Editors at [EditorsILQ@gmail.com](mailto:EditorsILQ@gmail.com).

- The two new ILQ columns, added almost a year ago, have been well received: “Best Practices,” a practice management and wellness column, and “Quick Take,” an executive summary of complex issues addressed in an easily understandable and practical format.

- The ILQ committee has **achieved** its goal is to continue to publish a FULL ILQ edition for distribution at the (1) ILS Fall Retreat, the (2) ILS Winter Meeting/iLaw/Vis, and the (3) Spring Florida Bar/ILS Annual Meeting. We continue to work towards a fourth virtual-only summer edition with law student assistance.

- The ILQ committee has also **achieved** its stated goal to have distribution to all law schools in Florida.

- We continue working to add advertising to the ILQ, with the initial goal of making it revenue neutral and the long-term goal of making it revenue-generating. To this end, if anyone would like to serve as “Advertising Editor,” please reach out!

- If anyone would like to have creative and editorial control over a future edition as a Guest Editor, please do not hesitate to reach out for more information.

- Please remember to send us pictures and summaries of any ILS events. We will publish them in the “Section Scene” portion of the ILQ.

Respectfully submitted by the ILQ Editorial Team,

Ana Barton  
Neha Dagley  
Jeff Hagen  
Laura Reich

# **THE FLORIDA BAR INTERNATIONAL LAW SECTION:**

## **USCIS, ICE, CBP, EOIR, LABOR, AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT** **COMMITTEE REPORT**

Submitted by Committee Chair Larry S. Rifkin

February 26, 2021

During the past 8 months the Committee continues in its liaison, on a limited basis due to the pandemic, with USCIS, ICE, CBP, EOIR, Labor and the State Department. With regard to keeping members of the Bar up to date on current immigration issues, the Committee published two (2) articles in the International Law Quarterly: “The Public Charge Maze: How to Navigate the New Frontier” in the Spring 2020 edition and “Immigration Law for the International Practitioner- A Beginner’s Guide and the Red Flags” in the Fall 2020 edition. We also held two (2) webinars that complimented the articles which were held on June 24, 2020 and October 28, 2020. Additionally, on February 17, 2021, the Committee held its first webinar of 2021 titled “H-1B Visas- New Procedures and Policies”. This webinar will have a complimenting article published in the upcoming International Law Quarterly.

## **NAFTA and other Country Committee Report**

We are proposing to replace the witness line of the English version of the Cooperation Agreement with the following:

*This Agreement was negotiated prior to the advent of the COVID-19 Pandemic and concluded and executed virtually this 11th day of March, 2021 by the Chairman of the International Section of the Florida Bar, Robert J. Becerra.*

The French version shall be adjusted likewise to reflect the virtual execution date under the authority of Caroline Gagnon, current President of the Quebec Bar

Thereafter we will attempt to develop a workshop/forum on subjects and at a time and place mutually agreed by the parties.

William Hill

## IL DESKBOOK COMMITTEE

Due to unforeseen circumstances (as if we haven't had enough?) there have been some delays on the IL Deskbook and its proposed Webinar.

For now, the plan is awaiting the next steps, but in essence the plan is as follows:

1. Marketing plan and strategy
  - a. To include promo pages for connected webinars
  - b. Law schools, to place a text in each library
  - c. iLaw promos
  - d. promoting webinar through social media, ILQ, and Gazette
2. Webinar
  - a. Initial proposed date had been December
  - b. Revised date t/b/d
  - c. Format: ZOOM
3. Revised 1<sup>st</sup> edition
  - a. Remove "2020" from title
  - b. Revise cover accordingly
  - c. Correct typos
4. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition
  - a. Target date: late 2021 (possibly early 2022)
  - b. Add new chapters
    - i. Immigration: Larry Rifkin
    - ii. Ethics: Laura Reich
    - iii. Aviation Law: Pam Seay
    - iv. Banking and Finance: Jim Meyer, Bob Becerra, Richard Montes deOca
    - v. Tax: NEED AUTHOR
    - vi. Possibly Family Law
5. Future editions
  - a. No more often than 3 years
  - b. Add chapters as needed
  - c. Update and revise as needed

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pamella Seay

## **Florida Bar International Law Section Richard DeWitt Memorial Vis Pre-Moot**

### **2021 Committee Report**

**Chair:** Adrian Nuñez

**Committee Members:**

Alicia Menendez  
Andres Sandoval  
Margaret Poppe  
Michael Hoffman  
Natalia Nincevic  
Priscila Bandeira  
Sherman Humphrey

The Committee held another successful pre-moot competition on February 27, 2021 hosting virtually – for the first time – its most diverse pre-moot yet with teams from Turkey, China, Mozambique, Russia, Brazil, Ukraine, Germany, Poland, Canada, Guatemala, Italy, France and the United States of America. Twenty teams in total competed including five Florida schools: FIU, FSU, St. Thomas, Stetson, and UM, doubling the number of teams from 2020. Each of the participating Florida schools will receive a stipend of \$1,750.

As in prior years, JAMS co-hosted the event and provided the Zoom virtual platform. Because it was the first virtual pre-moot, the Committee had to build the pre-moot from the ground up planning the format for the virtual event, solving technical issues and devising the logistics to manage over 200 participants virtually. New Rules & Procedures and a Participant Directory were created to help orient the law schools and volunteer arbitrators. Arbitrator registrations were done electronically and an e-Scoring Form was created to permit arbitrators to submit all scores and comments electronically. Additionally, the Committee virtually held four team practice sessions and one arbitrator practice two weeks prior to the event to provide an orientation for all participants. Overall, 232 participants (students, coaches or judges) took part in the pre-moot, along with Committee members and guests.

Holding the pre-moot virtually attracted many foreign schools that otherwise would not be able to afford attending in person. Over 35 applications were received. From the U.S., New York Law School withdrew after initially accepting a position in the pre-moot. From abroad, the University College of London also withdrew due to a conflict after accepting a spot. Additional foreign schools from mainland China, Hong Kong, India, Poland and Germany, among others, expressed interest in the pre-moot. Unfortunately, due to anticipated difficulties in managing a significant number of teams and recruiting volunteer arbitrators, the Committee capped the competition at 20 teams. Nonetheless, doubling our team participation and hosting thirteen foreign schools was a great achievement for the pre-moot.

As for sponsors, JAMS not only co-hosted but once again sponsored the first place prize of \$500. The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators rejoined the pre-moot and sponsored the second place

prize of \$250. The Miami International Arbitration Society (MIAS) again sponsored the best oralist prize awarding the recipient the “Burt Landy Best Oralist Award” and a prize of \$1,000 to that student’s school.

The Committee hopes that interest by foreign schools in the pre-moot will further grow, particularly after the exposure it received this year. Although the Vis itself plans to return to an in-person format in 2022, the Committee should explore the benefits of a hybrid format whereby it may continue to attract foreign participation in the pre-moot.

I congratulate the Committee Members for their dedication and hard work, making this year’s pre-moot a success.

*Adrian Nuñez*