Military Legal Assistance: Immigration Issues

3.25 Credit hours of CLE has been requested

WHAT: This is an educational program for lawyers on current developments in the areas of military and veterans’ law. This program will examine immigration law for members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families. This will review immigration law practice in a military setting, focusing on naturalization options for servicemembers, along with immigration paths for their families, including requirements for military survivor immigration benefits. Participants will also learn about recent immigration policy developments.

See page 2 for the detailed program schedule.

WHO: This program is designed for military attorneys working in legal assistance as well as civilian lawyers whose practices involve military-connected clients or issues.

WHERE: Webinar

WHEN: Friday, March 13, 2020
1:15–4:45 p.m. ET


COST: For this 3.25-hour CLE: $45 for ABA members; $60 for non-members.

FREE for all military attorneys (Judge Advocates), military paralegals, and civilians employed by the military.

MATERIALS: Participants are encouraged to download CLE program materials, beginning March 11. Registrants will be emailed instructions for downloading materials.
Program Schedule – Friday, March 13, 2020
1:15–4:45 p.m. ET

Moderator: Ms. Dawn Du Verney, ABA LAMP Member

1:15–3:00 p.m. – Immigration Benefits and Policy Developments for Servicemembers and their Families
This esteemed panel will cover a variety of issues involving immigration benefits, a current and important legal concern for many servicemembers and their families. Participants will learn how servicemembers may be eligible for expedited naturalization and streamlined citizenship, along with immigration options available to their families. This will also focus on military survivor immigration benefits and its strict requirements. In addition, this session will explore new policy developments in immigration effecting the military, along with collaboration with other state agencies, including the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and U.S. Department of State, and recent changes to overseas processes and services.

- Ms. Melissa Halsey, Legal Assistance Policy Division, Washington, DC
- Mr. Peter Katson, Pentagon Joint Legal Assistance Office, Washington, DC
- Ms. Zaira Solano, Solano Law Firm LLC, Atlanta, GA

3:00–3:15 p.m. – Break

3:15–4:45 p.m. – Immigration Law Practice in a Military Setting
The panel will continue to examine immigration law for members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families, further exploring naturalization options, along with paths to a Green Card for military family members, while also focusing on the unique immigration challenges—and benefits—experienced by immigrants in the U.S. Military and their families.

- Ms. Melissa Halsey, Legal Assistance Policy Division, Washington, DC
- Mr. Peter Katson, Pentagon Joint Legal Assistance Office, Washington, DC
- Ms. Zaira Solano, Solano Law Firm LLC, Atlanta, GA

Registration Deadline: March 12, 2020

Cosponsors: ABA Standing Committee on Legal Assistance for Military Personnel; Standing Committee on Armed Forces Law; Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service; Solo, Small Firm and General Practice Division; Commission on Immigration

CLE CREDIT: The ABA will seek 3.25 hours of CLE credit in 60-minute states, and 3.9 hours of CLE credit for this program in 50-minute states. Credit hours are estimated and are subject to each state’s approval and credit rounding rules. Please visit the program website at https://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_assistance_military_personnel/events_cle/ for program CLE details or visit www.americanbar.org/mcle for general information on CLE at the ABA.