

US Immigration Law Resources

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----------|
| Secondary Sources | 2 |
| <i>Overviews</i> | <i>2</i> |
| <i>Scholarly Research--Online Resources</i> | <i>3</i> |
| <i>Practitioner--Online Resources</i> | <i>3</i> |
| <i>Immigration Law Treatises--Scholarly</i> | <i>4</i> |
| <i>Immigration Law Treatises--Practitioners</i> | <i>5</i> |
| <i>Immigration Law Journals--Scholarly</i> | <i>6</i> |
| <i>Immigration Law Serials--Practitioners</i> | <i>6</i> |
| Primary Sources | 6 |
| <i>Statutes.....</i> | <i>6</i> |
| <i>Proposed Federal Legislation.....</i> | <i>7</i> |
| <i>Regulatory Materials.....</i> | <i>7</i> |
| <i>Administrative Law Decisions--Board of Immigration Appeals Decisions</i> | <i>7</i> |
| <i>Administrative Law Decisions issued by the U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Administrative Appeals Unit ("AAU"). Office of Administrative Appeals</i> | <i>7</i> |
| <i>Administrative Law Decisions: OCAHO EFOIA Decisions (Immigration-related decisions issued by the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer of the US DOJ)</i> | <i>7</i> |
| <i>Administrative Law Decisions: Board of Alien Labor Certification Appeals Decisions</i> | <i>8</i> |
| <i>OALJ Law Library Immigration Collection (Office of Administrative Law Judges, Department of Labor).....</i> | <i>8</i> |
| <i>Standard United States Federal Case Law.....</i> | <i>8</i> |
| Legislative Histories..... | 8 |
| General Research Aids..... | 9 |

Secondary Sources

Overviews

Basic Immigration Law (published by the Practising [sic] Law Institute [PLI]) Law Stacks KF4819.3 .B28 2007. We update annually; use the most recent year. The 2007 edition has an introductory chapter entitled “Overview of U.S. Immigration Law.”

Immigration Made Simple: An Easy-to-Read Guide to the U.S. Immigration Process (by Barbara Brooks Kimmel, published by Next Decade) Law Stacks KF4819.6 .K56 2006. Item is particularly strong on visa categories; includes sample forms.

Immigration Law and Procedure in a Nutshell (by David S. Weissbrodt, published by Thomson West) Law Reserve KF4819.3 .W4 2005. Very good overview of general policy considerations. Item is very policy oriented, with strong sections on inadmissibility and removal. It also has a good history of the classes of immigrants admitted to the USA.

Immigration Law and Procedure: Desk Edition (by Stanley Mailman, published by Lexis) Law Stacks KF4815 .M35 1980. Concise, one-volume item covering all the key areas of immigration law. Contains appendices with forms and other practical information.

Homeland Security Deskbook (James T. O’Reilly, general editor; published by LexisNexis) Law Stacks KF4850 .H65 2004. Takes a business-oriented approach on such issues as employment of foreigners in the US, foreign trade, government contracts, and terror insurance.

Homeland Security Law Handbook (Published by ABS Consulting) Law Stacks KF4850 .H66 2003. A self-study course covering Department of Homeland Security laws, regulations, and policies/procedures.

User’s Guide to the USA Patriot Act and Beyond (by Robert P. Abele) Law Stacks KF4850 .A92 2005. Includes immigration-specific information on new/changing procedures for recruiting and bringing into the USA non-citizen workers and students.

AGENCY WEBSITES (if not using as link, type into search engine as exact phrase)

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). This is the post-September 11 version of the former Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS).

USCIS Forms. Excellent table of official government forms, downloadable as PDFs and with accompanying descriptions of applicability.

USCIS Glossary. Excellent glossary of immigration terms and usage.

United States Customs and Border Protection. Use the link for “CPB Fact Sheets” to get information on, inter alia: Arrivals in the US, agriculture issues, border security, port security, secure freight initiatives, and the CPB Field Operations Academy.

United States Department of Homeland Security. Click the homepage link entitled “About the Department of Homeland Security.” Relevant links include organization chart, the Homeland Security Act of 2002, Homeland Security Forms, and Homeland Security Regulatory Comments.

United States Department of Labor. Click on A-Z Index, then on the following links for the relevant Department of Labor nexes with immigration issues: Immigration and Nationality Act; Immigration Nursing Relief Act.

United States Department of State. Click on “Issues and Press” tab, then on “A-Z Index.” The consular materials are very helpful on this website. Also, the Department of State conducts the Annual “Diversity Lottery” for immigrants; relevant information can usually be accessed by clicking on the streaming link on the main webpage.

United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Click on the “Public Information” link to learn about the following topics and more: Child exploitation, cyber crimes, the Fugitive Operations Program, human smuggling/trafficking, and detention facilities and removal offices.

Scholarly Research--Online Resources

Center for Immigration Studies

<http://www.cis.org>. A think tank focusing on research and policy analysis of the economic, social, demographic, and fiscal effects of immigration to the United States.

Ellis Island Website

<http://www.ellisland.org/>

The Ellis Island Website continues to be updated and enriched. It has used much information made available from the archives of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

FamilySearch (International database of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints)

<http://www.familysearch.org/>

This website is not merely a repeat of the Ellis Island website. There is comprehensive domestic coverage here as well, i.e., it is possible to trace some immigrants’ movements once they settled in the USA. Also, this website makes available data on overseas citizens as well, i.e., some immigrants’ families overseas may be traceable by using this website.

The Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR)

<http://www.fairus.org/> . Non-profit public interest group advocating reform of the immigration status quo. Website is a good source for policy arguments and for networking.

Immigration and Ethnic History Society

<http://www.iehs.org/> . Good resources for policy information from an historic perspective.

U.S. Committee for Refugees

<http://www.refugees.org/> . Good source for those immigrants either in refugee status or *forced* to emigrate from other countries.

Practitioner--Online Resources

ABA Commission on Immigration Policy, Practice and Pro Bono

<http://www.abanet.org/immigration/> . Limited listings of pro bono briefs; information on meetings and outreach; publication ordering information; listings of immigration legal services.

The American Immigration Law Foundation

<http://www.aifl.org/> . Non-profit organization; website provides information on AILF's Legal Action Center (conducting impact litigation); AILF's Immigration Policy Center (a think-tank); AILF's Public Education Program.

American Immigration Lawyers Association

<http://www.aiala.org>

This is the premier website (and association) for members of the immigration bar. Most of the material is limited to member access, but the site includes excellent coverage of immigration case law, important recent decisions, policy papers, and practice forms, tips, letters, and materials.

Visalaw.com - The Immigration Law Portal

<http://www.visalaw.com/>

Sponsored by the law firm of Siskind Susser, specializing in “arts, fashion, and sports immigration.” Very good links to immigration law definitions, explanations of various immigration forms and their use, and flowcharts.

Immigration Law Treatises--Scholarly

Dialogues on Migration Policy (published by Lexington Books) Law Stacks JV6271 .D53 2006. Item contains four “dialogues,” each consisting of two chapters debating an issue (or “dialoguing”), and a chapter commenting on the dialogue, for a total of twelve chapters. Topics include the relationship between migration, politics, the economy, and culture.

The Founders on Citizenship and Immigration: Principles and Challenges in America (by Edward J. Erler, published by the Claremont Institute) Law Stacks JV6465 .E75 2007. The authors draw upon the writings of the USA’s founders in order to advocate considering “merit and character” when admitting immigrants to the USA. The authors critically assess the early twentieth century “Progressives,” and their flawed race-based treatment of immigration. The authors contend that merit and character cannot be considerations due to the dogged influence of the Progressives’ bad policies.

Immigration and America’s Future: A New Chapter: Report of the Independent Task Force on

Immigration and America’s Future (published by the Migration Policy Institute) Law Stacks JV6465 .I45 2006. Immigration information, analyses, and proposals from such institutions as the Smithsonian’s Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and the Manhattan Institute. Topics include immigration enforcement and national security, labor markets, and immigrant integration.

Immigration and Refugee Law and Policy (by Stephen H. Legomsky, published by Thomson West) Law Stacks KF4818 .L43 2005. A report by the Migration Policy Institute’s Independent Task Force on Immigration.

Immigration and the Constitution (edited by Gabriel J. Chin, et.al., published by Garland Publishing) Law Stacks KF4819.A2 I4265 2001. A three volume work on constitutional interpretation of immigration issues.

The New Americans: A Guide to Immigration Since 1965 (published by Harvard University Press) Law Stacks JV6455.N49 2007. An academic anthology on immigration and its effects on topics including refugees, politics, family relations, the economy, assimilation, and education.

Probationary Americans: Contemporary Immigration Policies and the Shaping of Asian American Communities (by Edward J.W. Park and John S.W. Park, published by Routledge) Law Stacks JV6483 .P37

2005. A study arguing that race and class still affect immigration policies, with a focus on Latino and Asian immigration.

Immigration Law Treatises--Practitioners

A Guide for Immigration Advocates (published by the Immigrant Legal Resources Center) Law Stacks KF4819 .G85 2006 (this is an annual; use most recent edition). A practical guide (includes various immigration forms). Gives easy-to-read break down of the current immigration "division of labor" among federal departments; discusses the various visas such as "U," "K," and "V" visas; discusses immigration issues related to such federal legislation as the Child Citizenship Act and the Violence Against Women Act.

The AILA Litigation Toolbox (published by the American Immigration Lawyers Association) Law Stacks KF4819.3 .A355 2005 (on order). Sample motions, pleadings, and memoranda dealing with immigration litigation.

Bender's Immigration Case Reporter (published by Lexis-Matthew Bender) Law Stacks KF4819 .I45 (Law Library has current subscription). Full text of selected federal court cases, all US Department of Justice (DOJ) Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) and US Citizenship and Immigration Services Administrative Appeals Unit (AAU) decisions from 1984 to the present; selected BIA and AAU non-precedent decisions, and selected decisions of the US Department of Labor's (DOL) Board Alien Labor Certification Appeals (BALCA), DOJ's Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer (OCAHO), DOL's Employment and Training Administration's (ETA) PERM (permanent labor certification employment program).

Bender's Immigration and Nationality Act Service (published by Lexis-Matthew Bender) Law Stacks KF4806.54 .M38 1999 (Law Library has current subscription to print edition). Also available on Lexis ([Legal > States Legal - U.S. > Arkansas > Search Analysis & CLE Materials > Immigration > Bender's Immigration and Nationality Act Service](#)). A continuously updated looseleaf service on the Act, set out according to its statutory title and chapter arrangement. Good topical index.

Bender's Immigration Regulations Service (published by Lexis-Matthew Bender) Law Stacks KF4819 .I45 1985 (Law Library has current subscription to print edition). Also available on Lexis ([Legal > Secondary Legal > Matthew Bender\(R\) > By Area of Law > Immigration > Bender's Immigration Regulations Service](#)). Regularly updated looseleaf with all federal immigration-related regulations from CFR Title 8 (Aliens and Nationality) and the Departments of State, Justice, Labor, and Health and Human Services.

Immigration Law Service Second (published by Thomson West) Law Stacks KF4815 .I45 2004 (Law Library has current subscription to print edition). Also available on Westlaw (IMMLS2D).

Immigration Procedures Handbook (published by Clark Boardman) Law Stacks KF4819 .F73. Outlines the standard immigration process; provides details on the special procedures such as the expedited process for business immigrants; more than 70 sample forms provided.

Immigration Act of 1990 Today: Current State of the 1990 Changes in Immigration and Nationality Law (Published by West Group) Law Stacks KF4806.58.A19 I46 (Law Library has current subscription to print edition). Also available on Westlaw (IMACT). Topics covered include per-country limits, family-sponsored immigration, non-immigrant visas, and deportation.

J Visa Guidebook: The Complete Resource for Exchange Visitor Programs and Participants (published by Lexis-Matthew Bender) Law Stacks KF4827 .S5. A comprehensive guidebook covering the procedures and regulations regarding the Exchange Visitor Non-Immigrant Visa Program.

Immigration Law Journals--Scholarly

Georgetown Immigration Law Journal. Law Stacks K7 .E665 (Law Library has current subscription to print edition). Also available on Lexis, Westlaw (GEOILJ), and HeinOnLine.

Harvard Human Rights Journal. Law Stacks JX1 .H34 ((Law Library has current subscription to print edition). Also available on Lexis, Westlaw (HVHRJ), and HeinOnLine.

Immigration and Nationality Law Review. Law Stacks K9 .M543 (Law Library has current subscription to print edition). Also available on HeinOnLine.

Immigration Law Serials--Practitioners

Bender's Immigration Law Bulletin (published by LexisNexis) Law Stacks KF4819 .I45 1985 Bulletin (Law Library has current subscription). Also available on Lexis ([Legal](#) > [Area of Law - By Topic](#) > [Homeland Security](#) > [Search Analysis, Law Reviews & Journals](#) > [By Subtopic](#) > [Immigration](#) > [Bender's Immigration Law Bulletin](#)). Provides the latest in immigration news, case digests, regulations, and government documents. Includes practice-oriented articles by immigration law experts.

Immigration Briefings (published by Thomson West) Law Stacks KF4802 .I463 (Law Library has current subscription to print edition). Also available on Westlaw (see IMMIGRBRIEF). Experts provide coverage on topics such as foreign adoptions, immigration investors, adjustment of (immigration) status. Includes thorough bibliographic information.

Immigration Law Today (published by the American Immigration Lawyers Association) Law Stacks KF4802 .A54. AILA's bi-monthly publication with immigration news and analysis for the immigration practitioner.

Interpreter Releases (published by Thomson West) Law Stacks KF4802 .I58 (Law Library has current subscription to print edition). Also available on Westlaw (INTERREL). Weekly report of all significant immigration law developments. New rules, significant new judicial and administrative decisions, the latest information on pending immigration bills. Finding aids include tables of contents, cases, and legislation, as well as a topical index.

Interpreter Releases Daily (Available on Westlaw (INTERREL-DAILY)).

Primary Sources

Statutes

- *United States Code*, Core 2 and 3
- *United States Code Annotated*, Core 2 and 3(also available on Westlaw)
- *United States Code Service*, Core 2 and 3 (also available on Lexis)
- *United States Statutes at Large*, Core 2 and 3

Proposed Federal Legislation

- Thomas <http://thomas.loc.gov>
- Lexis (Legal > Legislation & Politics - U.S. & U.K. > U.S. Congress > Congressional Full Text Bills - Current Congress)
- Westlaw (FIM-BILLTXT)

Regulatory Materials

- *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR), Core 2 and 3. Also available on Lexis and Westlaw.
- *Annotated Title 8 (Immigration) of CFR*, Core 2 only. Also available on Westlaw.
- Lexis (Legal > Areas of Law-By Topic > Immigration > Administrative Materials & Regulations > CFR-Immigration Titles).
- Westlaw (FIM-CFR).
- GPO Access <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/>
- e-CFR <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/ecfr>
- *Federal Register*, Core 2 only
- Lexis (Legal > Areas of Law-By Topic > Immigration > Administrative Materials & Regulations > Federal Register and CFR-Immigration)
- Westlaw (FIM-FR)
- *Federal Register* on GPO Access <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html>

Administrative Law Decisions--Board of Immigration Appeals Decisions

- <http://uscis.gov/graphics/lawsregs/biadec.htm> (from vol. 16, 1976)
- http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir/vll/intdec/lib_indecitnet.html (from vol. 10, 1962)
- Lexis (Legal > Areas of Law -By Topic > Immigration > Administrative Materials & Regulations > Agency Decisions > Immigration Precedent Decisions) (from August 29, 1940)
- Lexis (Legal > Areas of Law-By Topic > Immigration > Administrative Materials & Regulations > Agency Decisions > Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) & AAU Non-Precedent Decisions)
- Westlaw (FIM-BIA) (from August 1940)

Administrative Law Decisions issued by the U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Administrative Appeals Unit ("AAU"). Office of Administrative Appeals

- <http://uscis.gov/graphics/lawsregs/admindec3/index.htm> (after July 31, 2000, selected)
- <http://uscis.gov/graphics/lawsregs/admindec/index.htm> (prior to July 31, 2000, selected)
- Lexis (Legal > Areas of Law-By Topic > Immigration > Administrative Materials & Regulations > Agency Decisions > Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) & AAU Non-Precedent Decisions)
- Westlaw (FIM-AAU) (from 1989)

Administrative Law Decisions: OCAHO EFOIA Decisions (Immigration-related decisions issued by the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer of the US DOJ)

- <http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir/OcahoMain/OCAHOEFOIADecisions.htm> (alphabetical by case name)
- <http://www.usdoj.gov/eoir/OcahoMain/ocahosibpage.htm> (scroll to the bottom, arranged by volume)
- Lexis (Legal > Areas of Law-By Topic > Immigration > Administrative Materials & Regulations > Agency Decisions> Office of Chief Administrative Hearing Officer Immigration Review Decisions) (from March 1988)

- Westlaw (FIM-OCAHO) (from March 1988)

Administrative Law Decisions: Board of Alien Labor Certification Appeals Decisions

- Lexis (Legal > Areas of Law-By Topic > Immigration > Administrative Materials & Regulations > Agency Decisions > Board of Alien Labor Certification Appeals Decisions) (from Feb. 1987)
- Westlaw (FIM-BALCA) (from November 1987)

OALJ Law Library Immigration Collection (Office of Administrative Law Judges, Department of Labor)

- <http://www.oalj.dol.gov/libina.htm>

Standard United States Federal Case Law

United States Immigration Law is generally governed by detailed regulations and administrative procedures handled by federal agencies. In addition, most judicial proceedings begin at the agency administrative court level, with hearings conducted and decisions made by administrative law judges (ALJs).

However, access to the United States federal courts is available, generally once all administrative remedies have been exhausted. The United States federal court structure and relevant federal case reporters are as follows:

- Trial Court: United States District Court [Case Reporters: Federal Supplement (F. Supp.) and Federal Supplement Second Series (F. Supp. 2d)]
- Appellate Court: United States Court of Appeals for relevant appellate circuit [Case Reporters: Federal Reporter (F.); Federal Reporter Second Series (F. 2d); Federal Reporter Third Series (F. 3d)]
- Highest Court: United States Supreme Court [Case Reporters: United States Reports (U.S.); United States Supreme Court Reports, Lawyers' Edition (L. Ed.); United States Supreme Court Reports, Lawyers' Edition, Second Series (L. Ed. 2d); Supreme Court Reports (S. Ct.); United States Law Week (U.S.L.W.)]

Legislative Histories

Immigration and Nationality Acts. 2nd Series: Legislative Histories and Related Documents (published by W.S. Hein, 1997-1998) Law Stacks KF4806.55 .A15 1979 2nd series 1997.

Immigration Reform Law of 1986: Analysis, Text, and Legislative History (published by the Bureau of National Affairs) Law Stacks KF4806.56.A16 M66 1987.

IIRAIRA: Selected Legislative History of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (published by the American Immigration Lawyers Association) Law Stacks KF4819 .I38 1997.

Legislative History of American Immigration Policy, 1798-1965 (by Edward Prince Hutchinson, published by the Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies) Law Stacks KF4805.8 1981.

Legislative History of Naturalization in the United States (by Frank George Franklin, published by Arno Press) Law Stacks JK1814.F4 1969.

Selected legislative History of the Immigration Act of 1990 (published by the American Immigration Lawyers Association) Law Stacks KF4806.57 .S45 1991.

General Research Aids

Legal Research Methodology (from the Harvard Law Library Website)

Library of Congress Call Numbers for Law (from the University of Washington Gallagher Law Library Website)