A Strategic Look at Today’s Immigration Landscape
Join us for an in-depth and practical program covering key immigration law topics for today’s employers.

September 26-27, 2019
Thursday, September 26, 2019

4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Registration

5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Reception, Special Guest Speaker, and Dinner
Welcome to Austin! Join us for a relaxing opening reception, followed by dinner and an informative presentation by our special guest speaker.

Immigration Policy and Reform Under the Trump Administration
During the Trump administration, there has been much partisan debate, issuance of executive orders, litigation, and other activity in the areas of U.S. immigration policy and reform. So where do we currently stand, and what can we expect during the remainder of the current term? Join our special guest speaker as he shares his “inside the Beltway” insights for employers on these key topics.

Speaker: Jon Baselice, Executive Director, Immigration Policy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Friday, September 27, 2019

7:45 – 8:30 a.m. Registration and Breakfast

8:30 – 8:45 a.m. Opening and Welcome
Moderator: James M. McGrew (Atlanta)

8:45 – 9:30 a.m. The Agile Corporate Immigration Program
From pre-hire considerations to the timing of permanent residency initiation, many factors impact the development of an agile corporate immigration policy—with adaptability to changing conditions being more important than ever. Employers should establish policy pillars that provide structure for both HR managers and employees and that also serve as resources in the event of disputes or a management change. Join this opening session for a discussion of how to create a nimble immigration policy that has needed structure, as well as flexibility.

Speakers: Ceridwen J. Koski (Denver) • Marifrances Morrison (Raleigh) • Martin Rodriguez, Senior Corporate Counsel – Employment Law, Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.

9:30 – 10:15 a.m. Strategies for a Successful H-1B Visa Program
The annual H-1B cap season is typically a frenetic and challenging experience for immigration professionals. In this session, we will discuss new obstacles and resolutions for posting requirements, third-party placement of H-1B employees, and job occupation codes. We will also review successful strategies for responding to the increasing numbers of requests for evidence issued for H-1B filings. Finally, we will take a look at the future of the H-1B program—including what to expect under the new electronic filing system for the H-1B lottery in 2020.

Speakers: Brian D. Bumgardner (Raleigh) • Jennifer R. Shapiro, Executive Director and Assistant General Counsel, JPMorgan Chase & Co. • Caroline Tang (Austin)

10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Break
10:45 – 11:30 a.m.  Verification Is Very Important—Shaping Your Culture
Worksite enforcement issues garner big headlines as the government continues its focus on immigration compliance in the workplace. This session will discuss Homeland Security Investigations’ three-prong approach to worksite enforcement and how these tenets play out in corporate operations. Attendees will learn how to set up a cutting-edge compliance program that aligns best practices with government expectations for E-Verify, document review and retention, and other exacting issues. Our speakers will also examine important impending developments such as Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s plans to increase investigations and restructure the civil fines matrix.

Speakers: Leigh N. Ganchan (Houston) • Stephen H. Smalley (Raleigh)

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  Networking Lunch

1:00 – 1:45 p.m.  The Impact of Corporate Changes on Immigration Strategy
Whether in response to reductions in force, mergers and acquisitions, or the establishment of new facilities in the United States and globally, changes in the workforce due to corporate structuring can have a big impact on immigration planning and strategy. In this session, we will cover how immigration professionals can prepare for, adapt to, and respond to these events across the globe, as well as engage in a discussion on how Brexit has impacted corporate operations.

Speakers: Shafeeqa W. Giarratani (Austin) • Jacquelyn P. Maroney (Austin)

1:45 – 2:30 p.m.  Maximizing Global Mobility Assignments: Strategies and Best Practices
In today’s global economy, having the appropriate talent in the right place at the right time is key to success. Whether it’s a short-term visit, a temporary assignment, or a long-term foreign transfer, the movement of employees around the world is accelerating. Careful analysis of the myriad legal issues involved is a critical first step to successfully managing mobility. This session will discuss the major issues involved with the development and coordination of a global mobility strategy and will provide best practices for optimizing global mobility processes and limiting potential liability arising from international assignments.

Speaker: Silke Dundon, Global Immigration Sr. Manager, Dell
Bernhard Mueller (Columbia) • Rodrigo de la Concha Alvarez (Mexico City)

2:30 – 2:45 p.m.  Break

2:45 – 3:45 p.m.  Hot Takes in Immigration
Join our final, fast-paced session for some “hot takes” on timely immigration topics. Learn key information and test your knowledge via polling devices on important areas such as L-1 filings, labor certifications, alternative temporary visa options, visitor visas, the green card process, immigration processing delays, challenges with expedited requests, and more.

Moderator: James J. Plunkett (Washington, D.C.)
Speakers: Curtis Y. Chow (Columbia); John T. Combs (Denver)
Amy R. Dalal (Raleigh) • Andrew W. Merrills (Raleigh)

3:45 – 4:00 p.m.  Closing and Prize Drawing
LOCATION
InterContinental Stephen F. Austin
701 Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701
(512) 457-8800

DATE AND TIME
Thursday, September 26, 2019
5:30 p.m. Reception and Dinner
(Registration will open at 4:30 p.m.)

Friday, September 27, 2019
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Program
(Registration and breakfast will begin at 7:45 a.m.)

COST
$295
(A breakfast, lunch, cocktail reception, dinner, and program materials are included.)

Hotel rooms are available for $239 per night.

REGISTRATION
To register, please visit www.ogletree.com or contact our Events Team at ODEvents@ogletree.com.

HRCI, SHRM, and CLE credit is anticipated for this program. To confirm whether CLE is available in your state, please email cle@ogletree.com in advance.