

This guide is an introduction to the basic resources and materials used in immigration legal research. In general, books on immigration and nationality are shelved on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Law Library between call numbers KF4800 - KF4830.

### Background Information

The following resources may be helpful to gain a general understanding of immigration law before moving on to more specialized sources:

*AILA's Asylum Primer 6<sup>th</sup> ed. - A practical guide to U.S. asylum law and practice*  
Legal Aid Clinic KF4836.Z9 G47 2010

A good introductory text to asylum law. Covers asylum, withholding of removal, convention against torture, and expedited removal. Several appendices include interview checklists, sample forms, and lists of Asylum and INS offices and detention centers.

Bowell, Richard  
*Essentials of Immigration Law*  
KF 4819 B67 2009

Offers a practical overview of the entire area of U.S. immigration law including deportations, removal, inadmissibility, waivers, asylum, visas, citizenship, naturalization, and administrative/judicial review.

Johnson, Kevin  
*Understanding Immigration Law*  
Reserve KF4819.U53 2009

General overview of immigration law including immigrant and nonimmigrant visas, admission, inadmissibility grounds and waivers, removal, rights of immigrants, and citizenship.

Weissbrodt, David S.  
*Immigration Law and Procedure in a Nutshell, 6<sup>th</sup> ed.*  
Reserve KF4819.3 W4 2011

A concise overview of immigration law and procedure. Older copies are shelved in the library stacks.

## Primary Sources

Both the U.S. Code and Code of Federal Regulations are also available online at GPO Access: [www.gpo.gov/fdsys](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys)

*United States Code* (including USCS and USCA)

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--Title 8, *Aliens and Nationality*, codifies the Immigration and Nationality Act, Pub. L. 414, ch. 477, 66 Stat. 163, with subsequent amendments. The basic source of immigration law.

--Title 22, *Foreign Affairs*, covers the laws regulating the activities of U.S. consulates issuing visas.

*Code of Federal Regulations*

UI Law Library Stacks

--Title 8, *Aliens and Nationality*, provides regulations interpreting the Immigration & Nationality Act.

--Title 20, *Employee's Benefits*, See especially ch. 656 concerning alien labor certification, Schedules A and B.

--Title 22, *Foreign Relations*, covers regulations providing procedures and guidelines to U.S. consulates for issuing visas and passports.

The following resources report changes and amendments to the Title 8 of the U.S. Code and portions of the C.F.R. affecting immigration.

--*Bender's Immigration and Nationality Act Service.*

KF4819.G64

This release reports additions and changes to the Immigration and Nationality Act made by legislation since the last release was issued.

--*Bender's Immigration Regulations Service.*

KF4819.G63

This release reports additions and changes to regulations issued by the Dept. of State, Dept. of Labor, Dept. of Justice, and the Dept. of Health and Human Services affecting immigration law and policy.

## Administrative Decisions

*Administrative Decisions Under Immigration & Nationality Laws*

KF4812.A2 U5

Dept. of Justice. This is the official edition of selected decisions of the Board of Immigration Appeals and the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Since

2001, administrative decisions are only available on the CIS web site (*See Electronic Resources*).

*Administrative Decisions Under Employer Sanctions & Unfair Immigration-Related Employment Practices Laws.*

KF4812.A2 U56

Precedent decisions issued by the Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer. 1994 - May 2000. Also available on the EOIR web site (*See Electronic Resources*).

## Reporters and Citators

*Bender's Immigration Case Reporter*

KF4819.G61

Provides the full text of selected federal court cases, all BIA and AAU precedent decisions, selected BIA and AAU non-precedent decisions, BALCA, OCAHO, and Dept. of Labor decisions. Updated monthly. Law Library holdings begin with vol. 21 (1999).

*Patel's Citations of Administrative Decisions Under Immigration & Nationality Laws*

KF4812.5 P37

Traces the history and treatment of all reported (precedent) administrative decisions under immigration and nationality laws, at both the administrative and judicial levels. Updated annually. Law library holdings begin with 1994.

## Treatises

Fragomen, Austin T., and Steven C. Bell, et. al.

*Immigration Fundamentals: A Guide to Law and Practice*

KF4819.F73 1996 (updated annually)

A looseleaf handbook covering immigrant and non-immigrant visas, asylum, deportation, administrative and judicial review, and naturalization and citizenship. Includes an appendix with sample forms. Numerous citations to cases, statutes, and regulations.

Gordon, Charles and Stanley Mailman

*Immigration Law and Procedure*

KF4819.G6 1966 (updated annually)

Twenty-volume looseleaf on immigration law and procedure including practice tips, case reports, and primary materials. Includes Operations Instructions,

Foreign Affairs Manual, Asylum Basic Law Manual, and United Nations Documents and Treaties. Also available online through Lexis.

Ignatius, Sarah

*Immigration Law and the Family*

KF4819 I36

One-volume looseleaf from the National Lawyers Guild. Includes chapters on Immigration Based on Marriage, Adoption and Orphan Cases, Waivers, the preference system, and sample cover letters and forms.

Kurzban, Ira J.

*Immigration Law Sourcebook: A Comprehensive Outline and Reference Tool*

Legal Aid Clinic KF4819.3 K87

A one-volume annotated outline leading the reader to statutes, regulations and case law. Considered by many to be an indispensable resource for immigration law. Older editions shelved in Law Library.

Loue, Sana

*Immigration Law and Health*

KF4819 L68

Contains interesting chapters such as Nonimmigrant VISA Options for the Health Professional, Immigrant Options for the Health Professional, Medical Examinations, and Eligibility for Health Care Services.

National Lawyers Guild

*Immigration Law and Crimes*

KF4819.I472 1984 (updated annually)

Looseleaf treatise addressing those aspects of immigration law and practice which pertain to the impact of criminal activity on immigrants and non-immigrants. Topics include foreign convictions, domestic violence, deportability for crimes of moral turpitude, post-conviction remedies, waivers, selected statutes, model pleadings, and sample forms. Numerous citations to cases, statutes, and regulations.

National Lawyers Guild

*Immigration Law and Defense*

KF4819.I473 1988 2 vols. (updated annually)

This two-volume looseleaf treatise is designed to give the reader a broad view immigration law. The chapters are laid out in the order through which a typical immigration case might progress (from applying for status to exclusion, deportation, hearing, relief, appeal, and federal review) in vol. 1. Vol. 2 covers citizenship and naturalization, asylum, employer sanctions, and several

appendices of sample forms, motions, and contact information. Numerous citations.

## Handbooks and Manuals

*Affirmative Asylum Procedures Manual: Office of International Affairs, Asylum Division*

Legal Aid Clinic KF4836 A33 2003

A manual on how to process an affirmative asylum application with an asylum office. Reprinted by AILA.

*Aggravated Felonies: instant access to all cases defining aggravated felonies*

KF4819 A57 T65 2003

Includes a short overview of the law of aggravated felonies followed by numerous case annotations. By Norton Tooby.

*AILA Immigration Practice Toolbox: nuts and bolts for the general immigration lawyer.*

Legal Aid Clinic KF4819.3 A55 2005

Offers practical advice on how to manage an immigration law office, the basics of immigrant and nonimmigrant visas, labor certification, family and employment based petitions, and H-1Bs. Includes CD-ROM.

*Crimes of Moral Turpitude*

KF4819.A57 T66 2005

Intended to aid immigration lawyers by providing comprehensive information on the immigration consequences of crimes of moral turpitude and how to determine when a conviction is a crime of moral turpitude. Many citations to federal and immigration court cases.

*Criminal Defense of Immigrants*

KF9645 T66 2007 2 vols.

Covers representing noncitizens in juvenile court, immigration consequences of criminal cases, firearms cases, drug cases, aggravated felonies, domestic violence, crimes of moral turpitude, naturalization, and vacating convictions. By Norton Tooby.

*The Criminal Lawyer's Guide to Immigration Law: Questions & Answers*

Legal Aid Clinic KF4819 M39 2005

*The Department of Homeland Security: A compilation of government documents relating to executive reorganization.*

KF4850 D47 2003

This is an on-going compilation of selected government documents relating to the massive reorganization involved in creating the Department of Homeland Security. Also includes a bibliography of related documents and websites.

*Essentials of Removal and Relief: representing individuals in immigration proceedings*  
KF4819 V35 2006

Provides a fundamental understanding of the strategies and procedures for representing clients facing removal. Includes checklists.

*Guide to Homeland Security*  
KF4850 A29 G85

Contains the complete (and footnoted) text of the Homeland Security Act, USA PATRIOT Act, and Bioterrorism Preparedness Act, with subsequent amendments. Also reprints several ALR annotations, an AmJur 2d article on Terrorism, and three U.S. Supreme Court decisions.

*H-1B Handbook*  
KF4829.F74

Contains all the rules, regulations, forms, supporting documentation, legal discussion, and citations to case law needed to obtain H-1B status.

*Immigration & Nationality Law Handbook*  
Legal Aid Clinic KF4819.A2 A415 2 vols.

Vol. 1 covers general immigration, removal and relief, and asylum; Vol. 2 covers employment-based immigration, naturalization & citizenship, and judicial review.

*Immigration Case Summaries*  
KF4814 A3537

A digest of significant federal circuit court and U.S. Supreme Court decisions. Vol.1 (2003-2004), Vol.2 (2004-2005).

*Immigration Consequences of Criminal Activity*  
KF4819 K73 2008

Includes chapters on defining conviction, removal, detention, specific criminal activity, waivers, fashioning a plea, and visas for cooperating witnesses.

*Immigration Practice*  
KF4819 I4838

In addition to covering the basics of immigrant/non-immigrant visas, refugees/asylum, deportability, etc., this book also includes chapters on how to interview clients and dealing with agencies, and a CD-ROM with sample forms, checklists, and government offices information.

*Immigration Procedures Handbook*

KF4819.A2 A417 2 vols.

Detailed sourcebook presenting the how, where, and why of filing immigration petitions and applications. Contains numerous sample forms with detailed instructions.

*Labor Certification Handbook*

KF4829 L324

Practical guidance through the entire process of obtaining labor certification. Includes sample forms, cases, regulations, addresses and phone numbers, and special state requirements.

*Litigating Immigration Cases in Federal Court*

KF8925 E4 P38 2007

Provides "how-to" guidance for filing immigration suits in federal court including difficult jurisdictional issues.

*Naturalization and U.S. Citizenship: the essential legal guide*

Legal Aid Clinic KF4710.Z9 N37 2008

Overview of naturalization, legal requirements, and the application process; permanent residence requirements; special categories for spouses, children, military personnel, and U.S. nationals; denials and appeals.

*Post-Conviction Relief for Immigrants*

KF4842 Z9 T66 2004

Includes chapters on evaluating the chances for obtaining relief, investigating the case, vehicles and grounds for vacating a conviction, reducing the sentence, checklists, intake forms, and a basic immigration status questionnaire. By Norton Tooby.

*Safe Havens: how to identify and construct non-deportable convictions*

KF4819 T66 2005

Provides examples of defenses against all grounds of deportation, including crimes of moral turpitude and aggravated felonies. By Norton Tooby.

## Periodicals & Current Awareness

### *Bender's Immigration Bulletin*

KF4819.G62

This bulletin is published twice a month as a supplement to the *Immigration Case Reporter*. Each bulletin discusses recent topics in immigration law, new precedent decisions, and other recent developments in the area of immigration.

### *Georgetown Immigration Law Journal*

Published quarterly by the Georgetown University Law Center. Shelved in the Law Library Periodicals collection.

### *Immigration and Nationality Law Review*

Published annually. Available through "Hein Online" on the Law Library website.

### *Immigration Briefings*

KF4802.I463

Monthly publication. Each Briefing focuses on one issue in immigration law. Law library holdings begin with Sept. 2002.

### *Interpreter Releases*

JK1751.C55

Weekly publication. Covers legislation, administrative decisions, and case law; contains digests of agency and court decisions, citations to law review articles, and releases from various agencies. Law Library holdings begin with vol. 79 (2002).

### *Siskind's Immigration Bulletin*

Online Publication ([www.visalaw.com](http://www.visalaw.com))

Published weekly. This bulletin is billed as one of the world's most popular sources on immigration. Each bulletin contains information on new court cases, new bills introduced in Congress, international and national news, developments in immigration law, and a "how-to" section on the ABC's of Immigration.

## Electronic Resources

**Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS)** – CIS is responsible for the administration of immigration benefits and services including naturalization, asylum and refugee applications, adjustment of status, and processing family-based and employment-based immigration petitions. The CIS web site provides

an enormous amount of information including statutes, regulations, BIA decisions, releases, and downloadable forms. <http://www.uscis.gov>

**Customs and Border Protection (CBP)** - Combines some functions of the Dept. of Agriculture, the former INS, Border Patrol, and U.S. Customs service into one bureau under the Directorate of Border and Transportation Security within the Dept. of Homeland Security. Oversees the day-to-day entry and exit of persons and goods to and from the U.S. [www.cbp.gov](http://www.cbp.gov)

**Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)** - This bureau falls under the Directorate of Border and Transportation Security within the Dept. of Homeland Security. ICE is responsible for the enforcement of immigration and customs laws, including investigation violations of the INA, detention and removal of criminal/illegal aliens, and the dissemination of immigration intelligence. [www.ice.gov](http://www.ice.gov)

**U.S. Department of Homeland Security** - After March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003, the Dept. of Homeland Security (DHS) will be responsible for overseeing virtually all functions of immigration law enforcement and immigration services. Complete reorganization should be completed by September 2003. [www.dhs.gov](http://www.dhs.gov)

**U.S. Department of Justice** - The Executive Office of Immigration Review (EOIR) falls under the authority of the Attorney General of the United States within the Dept. of Justice. EOIR oversees the administration of the immigration courts including the Board of Immigration Appeals, immigration judges, and administrative law judges. [www.justice.gov/eoir](http://www.justice.gov/eoir)

**U.S. Department of Labor** - Foreign Labor Certification  
Provides information on hiring foreign workers, applying for labor certification, processing times, and printable forms and instructions. [www.foreignlaborcert.doleta.gov](http://www.foreignlaborcert.doleta.gov)

**U.S. Department of State** - provides an online version of *Country Background Notes*, a good source of country information when preparing asylum applications. Also has important information relating to visas and visa application forms. [www.state.gov](http://www.state.gov)

**Board of Immigration Appeals** - Official site for BIA decisions beginning with Volume 8. Part of the EOIR Virtual Law Library. [www.justice.gov/eoir/biainfo.htm](http://www.justice.gov/eoir/biainfo.htm)

**EOIR Virtual Law Library** - provides online access to AG/BIA and OCAHO decisions, Title 8 CFR, Federal Register, recent immigration legislation, and

online practice manuals including the BIA Practice Manual, Ethics Manual, Immigration Court Practice Manual, and Immigration Judge Benchbook.  
[www.justice.gov/eoir/vll/libindex.html](http://www.justice.gov/eoir/vll/libindex.html)

**Office of Administrative Law Judges Law Library - Immigration Collection**  
Provides access to cases, newsletters, Board of Alien Labor Certification Appeals caselist, selected statutes and regulations, and more.  
[www.oalj.dol.gov/LIBINA.HTM](http://www.oalj.dol.gov/LIBINA.HTM)

**VISALAW.com** - The website of the law firm of Siskind Susser. Siskind's main page provides extensive information on immigration law and policy.  
[www.visalaw.com](http://www.visalaw.com)

## Databases

**AILA Link** - [www.ailalink.org](http://www.ailalink.org)  
Fully searchable immigration law library. Includes the full text of such treatises as *Kurzban's Immigration Law Sourcebook*, *Immigration & Nationality Law Handbooks*, and other AILA publications. Also includes primary source materials such as the text of the INA, BIA decisions, federal court decisions, and forms. Password required for access.

**Lexis** - [www.lexisnexis.com](http://www.lexisnexis.com)  
Search the Immigration library for information on federal case law, BIA decisions, BALCA decisions, OCAHO decisions, U.S. code sections, CFR, Federal Register, law reviews and journals, and the full-text of *Immigration Law and Procedure* (Gordon/Mailman).

**Westlaw** - [www.westlaw.com](http://www.westlaw.com)  
Search the Immigration database for information on federal case law, BIA decisions, BALCA decisions, OCAHO decisions, U.S. Code sections, CFR, Federal Register, law reviews and journals, the BALCA deskbook, and the full text of *Steel on Immigration Law*.