

THE GLOBE

The newsletter of the ISBA's Section on International & Immigration Law

September 2016, vol. 54, no. 1

Message from the Chair

By

Patrick M. Kinnally

The first thing I would like to say is that my role for the International and Immigration Section Council is not to be “the chair.” Where that titular noun originated, escapes me as I am sure it does you. Hopefully, I can be a guide and a resource.

My membership in the ISBA started when I was in law school as a night student at John Marshall in 1978. During the day and on weekends, my job was working for INS at its Chicago office and at O'hare Airport and sometimes checking ships on Lake Michigan on the weekends. I attended the Border Patrol Academy at Los Fresnos, Texas for immigrant inspector training and worked on the border at Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan. My career has included being an adjunct professor at Northern Illinois University Law School for 15 years, teaching trial skills, immigration law, and Civil Practice courses. My firm is a small, mainly plaintiff's personal injury and worker's compensation litigation. Also, we represent Kane County and the Kane County Forest Preserve.

My tenure on this Council spans two decades. Ask Lew Matuszewich. I did not ask for this job, but welcome it. Your help is needed.

We have a great roster. But we need players who not only want to be in the mix but whom are willing to partake. Please join us. Here are my goals.

Juliet Boyd is our CLE coordinator. She is a very capable person, with South African flair. She has put together good programs on educating lawyers about why immigration law matters to the general practitioner. This year hopefully she will put together a program on family law which will touch VAWA, U-Visas, and Special Immigrant Juveniles. I intend to help. Will you?

My good colleague Cindy Buys and yours truly will attempt to persuade our General Assembly to revisit 725 ILCS 5/113-8 and put some teeth into a law we thought made state trial court admonitions mandatory [See: “Aliens, Guilty Please and the Risk of Deportation: Time for Legislative Action, Illinois Bar Journal (2001) Vol.89 99 194-198. Unfortunately, the Illinois Supreme Court gutted this statute in *People v. Delvillar* 235 Ill. 2d 507 (2009) as well as *People v. Carrera* (2010) 239 Ill 2d 241. Cindy's expert is making legislation happen will help our clients and our society. Please enlist.

Unfortunately, we are entering a political season where some politicians seek to divide our polity into “we and they,” based on immigration. If this is government then it is a front we need to resist. Yet, we cannot ignore it. Deportations under the current administration have increased. We need people, true statesmen and stateswomen who strive to bring people together, not divide us. I wish Daniel Patrick Moynihan were still with us.

To do this we need to inform those whom do not know why a plurastic society matters. We need to write articles, formulate education programs, speak at our law schools, colleges and high schools

about why, our melting pot, this country, is as great as it is. We all know that, let's bring it back to where it should be.

That's my goal. It cannot be done alone. Get involved. We need you.

With a wish that is best.

Patrick M. Kinnally

Kinnally Flaherty Krentz Loran Hodge & Masur PC
2114 Deerpath Road
Aurora, IL 60506-7945
Pkinnally@kfkllaw.com v