



Angela M. Lopez
Shareholder

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Practice Areas

- Immigration

Practice Emphasis

Angela M. Lopez is a shareholder and Section Head of the Cowles and Thompson Immigration Practice Group. Angela has been practicing exclusively in the field of immigration law since 2002. She has developed a large national practice representing numerous foreign nationals and their employers in obtaining temporary employment nonimmigrant visas and permanent residence. She has represented numerous hospitals, healthcare systems, medical providers, university medical centers, physicians, and allied staff (nurses, physical therapists, and medical technologists).

Angela's extensive experience includes J-1 two-year foreign residency waiver applications for physicians, H-1B professional worker visas, O-1 extraordinary ability visas, E-1/E-2 treaty investor, L-1 transfer visas, TN temporary work visa for citizens of Canada & Mexico, E-3 professional worker visas for Australian nationals, and permanent residence applications based upon labor certification, extraordinary ability aliens, national interest waivers, multinational managers and executives, and EB5 investor immigrant visas.

In addition, Angela has represented hundreds of individuals and their families in obtaining legal permanent residence ("green card"), successfully overcoming the challenges of the US immigration system and keeping families united.

Angela began her career in 1989 as a Deputy District Attorney and Town Solicitor in Colombia, South America. In 1993, she worked with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in Hampden County, as a Family Service Officer, gaining experience in Family Law, mediation and investigative services. In 1997, she was a founding partner in "Mediation Works," a mediation center and dispute resolution service in Springfield, MA. In 1998, Angela relocated to Texas and completed her Masters in International and Comparative Law (LLM) at SMU in Dallas. During and after her Masters studies, she worked with Alcon Laboratories, a Fortune 500 Company, in their International Legal Department, assisting Alcon affiliates worldwide on a broad range of issues related to International Business transactions.

Publications and Speaking Engagements

- "H-1B Compliance and the Hire American Executive Order," co-presenter, Cowles & Thompson webinar, May 2017
- "Physicians Immigration," webinar presenter, National Association of Physicians Recruiters (NAPR), April 2017
- "Immigration 101," presenter, United Dallas, April 2017
- "Alternatives to the H-1B Visa," co-presenter, Cowles & Thompson webinar, April 2017
- "Immigration Under a Trump Administration," co-presenter, Cowles & Thompson seminar, Brookhaven College, Dallas, TX, March 2017
- "The State of US Immigration Under a Trump Administration," co-presenter, Cowles & Thompson webinar, Dallas, TX, March 2017

- “J-1 Waiver Options & Executive Order Impact,” co-presenter, Cowles & Thompson webinar, Dallas, TX, February 2017
- Plano Citizenship Day, volunteer attorney, Plano, TX, February 2017
- “The New Form I-9 and Compliance,” co-presenter, Cowles & Thompson webinar, Dallas, TX, January 2017
- “Inmigración Bajo la Administración Trump,” co-presenter, Cowles & Thompson seminar, Brookhaven College, Dallas, TX, December 2016
- “The Upcoming USCIS Deadline and How to Prepare,” co-presenter, Cowles & Thompson webinar, Dallas, TX, December 2016
- “Practical Tools for Global Development,” panelist, International Business Summit, New Crossroads for Latin America-Asia Trade, Dallas, TX, October 2016
- Dallas Latina Leadership (NHBA), participant/organizer, SMU, Dallas, TX, October 2016
- Women in Education Forum, co-presenter, AMEP/UTD, September 2016
- “Alternatives to H-1B Visa,” presenter, Cowles & Thompson webinar, Dallas, TX, May 2016
- “H-1B Visas - Proving Your Case,” speaker, Dallas Bar Association, Immigration Law Section, Dallas, TX, January 2016
- “5 Major Mistakes Business Owners Make that Expose Their Businesses to Huge Legal Risk, Severe Financial Loss, and Bad Publicity,” speaker, Frisco Chamber of Commerce, November 2015
- Immigration and Citizenship Workshop, speaker, Richland College, August 2015
- “EB-5 Investor Visas: Permanent Residence in the U.S.,” speaker, Brazil, June 2015
- “Top 6 Alternatives To H-1B Visas for Foreign National Professionals,” speaker, June 2015
- “Proving and Winning Your H-1B Case in 2015,” speaker, January 2015
- Executive Action Immigration Workshop, presenter, December 2014
- Immigration Workshop, presenter, El Centro College, August 2014
- “Avoiding Workplace Pitfalls: Domestic and Foreign Employee Compliance,” speaker, Frisco Chamber of Commerce, July 2014
- “Secrets to Winning a Green Card for Top International Professionals,” presenter, July 2014
- “Secrets to Winning A Green Card Through PERM Labor Certification,” presenter, June 2014
- “Immigration Pitfalls To Avoid In Family Law And Employment Law,” speaker, February 2014
- “H-1B Compliance: H-1B Compliance. 9 Costly H-1B Mistakes Employers Can Make and How to Avoid Them,” speaker, February 2014
- “H-1B Visas: Proving Your Case in 2014,” speaker, January 2014
- Immigration and Citizenship Workshop, speaker, Richland College, August 10, 2013
- “What Every International Graduate Student Should Know,” speaker, Texas Christian University, July 26, 2013
- Updates from the AILA National Annual Conference, speaker, AILA Dallas Chapter, July 23, 2013
- Immigration Update, speaker, Tri-County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Addison, July 11, 2013
- “H-1B Compliance: 9 Costly Mistakes Employers Make,” presenter, webinar, June 12, 2013
- “Immigration Reform, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Family Unity Waivers,” (Spanish), speaker, Iglesia Misión Cristiana Nuevo Pacto, Garland, April 26, 2013
- “Immigration Reform, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Family Unity Waivers,” speaker, March 27, 2013
- “Immigration Reform, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Family Unity Waivers,” speaker, Collin County Community College (Frisco Campus), March 23 and March 27, 2013
- “Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), Advance Parole, and Legalization,” speaker, DREAMers Immigration Workshop, El Centro Community College, February 20, 2013
- “Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA),” speaker, North Lake Community College, DREAMers Immigration Workshop, October 20, 2012
- Immigration and Citizenship Workshop, speaker, Richland College, August 17, 2012
- Citizenship Workshop, volunteer attorney, Plano Multi-Cultural Outreach Roundtable (MCOR), March 10, 2012

- “H-1B Visas: Proving Your Case in 2012,” presenter, webinar, January 25, 2012
- “7 Secrets You Must Know to Win a Green Card Through PERM Labor Certification,” presenter, webinar, November 10, 2011
- 2011 Citizenship and Immigration Workshop, speaker, Richland College, August 13, 2011
- “9 Critical Immigration Rules IMG Residents/Fellows Must Know to Practice Medicine in the U.S.,” presenter, July 23, 2011
- “How to Get a Green Card Through the EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program”, speaker, Plano Latin American Rotary Club, July 7, 2011
- “EB-5 Immigrant Investor Webinar,” presenter, May 19, 2011
- Committee Immigration, CLE, Tarrant County Bar Association, April 2011
- “Immigration Prescription,” presenter, Physician Tele-seminar series, 2006-2010
- EB5 Investor Seminar in Quito and Guayaquil, Ecuador, speaker, City of Dallas Regional Center, October 2010
- “What You Really Need to Know About Immigration & Citizenship in 2010!,” speaker, August 28, 2010
- “9 Critical Immigration Rules IMG Residents/Fellows Must Know to Practice Medicine in the U.S.,” presenter, Physician Tele-Seminar, June 2010
- “Hablemos el Mismo Idioma,” presenter, tele-seminar for Spanish-speaking physicians, March, June, September, & December 2010
- “How to Emigrate Your Workforce from Mexico,” presenter, Hispanic Marketing and Sales Megatrends 2010, 2nd Annual Summit, October 2009
- “The I-9 Audit and How to Prepare for It,” Collin County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, September 2009
- “I-9 Audits and Avoiding the High Cost of Noncompliance,” CLE, speaker, September 2009
- “10 Immigration Rules Every Physician Recruiter Should Know,” presenter, February 2009
- “Sponsoring Foreign Workers,” speaker, US-Mexico Chamber of Commerce, New Business Forum, Dallas, TX, January 2009
- Lawful Immigration Symposium, speaker, US-Mexico Chamber of Commerce, Dallas, TX, October 2008
- Educational Series Panelist, Hispanic Women’s Network of Texas, Richland College, Dallas, TX, September 2008
- International Business Summit Conference, speaker, Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Dallas, TX, August 2008
- “I-9 Compliance and E-verify Seminar,” CLE, speaker, July 2008
- Immigration Workshop, presenter, Hispanic Contractors Association of DFW, Dallas, TX, January 2008
- “Hot Topics in I-9 Compliance,” speaker, November 2007
- Day Coordinator, American Immigration Lawyers Association, National Conference, July 2007
- “Critical Immigration Issues for Employers, Retaining Foreign Workers and I-9 Compliance,” speaker, Collin County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Plano, TX, 2007
- “Protecting Your Practice: Immigration Pitfalls to Avoid,” speaker, Dallas Bar Association, Minority Development Program (CLE), Dallas, TX, 2006
- “Strategies for Success: How to Win the Race to Secure H-1B Visas,” presenter, tele-seminar, February 2006
- “Immigration Issues and Pending Legislation Before Congress,” speaker, The International Group Of Dallas (GID), Dallas, TX, 2006
- “Visa Options for Foreign Students,” speaker, The Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting (ALPFA), 2005

Education

- L.L.M. (Masters in International and Comparative Law), Southern Methodist University (SMU), School of Law, 2000
- J.D., Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana (UPB), Colombia, 1988

Court Admissions

- Admitted to the State Bar of New York, 2001
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas, 2007

Memberships

- Dallas Bar Association Immigration Section, Vice-Chair
- State Bar of New York
- American Bar Association
- Dallas Bar Association
- Uplift Williams Preparatory, Advisory Council member