



U.S. Department of Justice
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NOTICE

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EOIR Announces 14 New Immigration Judges

FALLS CHURCH, VA – The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) today announced the investiture of 14 Immigration Judges.

After a thorough application process, Attorney General William P. Barr appointed Erin L. Alexander, Mark K. Brooks, John P. Burns, Richard H. Drucker, Ravit R. Halperin, Samuel Y. Kim, Dawn M. Kulick, Shirley Lazare-Raphael, Robert M. Lewandowski, Jason R. Masterson, Jeffrey V. Muñoz, Donald Pashayan, Maria T. Ubarri, and Hayden Windrow to their new positions.

Biographical information follows:

Erin L. Alexander, Immigration Judge, New York – Broadway Immigration Court

Attorney General William P. Barr appointed Erin L. Alexander as an Immigration Judge in December 2020. Judge Alexander earned a Bachelor of Science in 2004 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a Master of Engineering in 2009 from Pennsylvania State University, and a Juris Doctor in 2010 from Georgetown University Law Center. From 2014 to 2020, she served as an assistant district attorney in the New York County District Attorney's Office. From 2012 to 2014, she was in private practice in the District of Columbia. From 2004 to present, she has served in the U.S. Navy, in active duty and reserve capacities, as a nuclear engineer, a civil engineer, and a judge advocate in the U.S., Afghanistan, and Italy. Judge Alexander is a member of the New York State Bar.

Mark K. Brooks, Immigration Judge, Harlingen Immigration Court

Attorney General William P. Barr appointed Mark K. Brooks as an Immigration Judge in December 2020. Judge Brooks earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1982 from Columbia Union College (now Washington Adventist University) and a Juris Doctor in 1986 from the Antioch School of Law. From 2019 to 2020, he served as a special trial attorney, Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in Arlington, Virginia, on detail from U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS), DHS. From 2017 to 2020, he served as an immigration officer, Fraud Detection National Security Directorate, USCIS, DHS. From 2012 to 2016, and previously from 1986 to 2001, he was engaged in litigation practice in the District of Columbia and Maryland. From 2005 to 2012, he served as an attorney advisor, Office of Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS, in the District of Columbia. From 2001 to 2004, he served as an assistant state attorney with the Prince George's County State's Attorney's Office, in Upper Marlboro,

Maryland. Judge Brooks is a member of the District of Columbia Bar and Maryland State Bar.

John P. Burns, Immigration Judge, New York – Broadway Immigration Court

Attorney General William P. Barr appointed John P. Burns as an Immigration Judge in December 2020. Judge Burns earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2004 from Beloit College and a Juris Doctor in 2009 from Fordham University School of Law. From 2016 to 2020, he served as an assistant chief counsel, Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, in New York. During this time, from 2016 to 2017, he deployed to Kuwait and Iraq in support of Operation Inherent Resolve and Operation Spartan Shield. From 2010 to 2016, he served as an attorney at the Social Security Administration. Since 2013, he has served as an officer in the Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps of the New York Army National Guard. Judge Burns is a member of the New York State Bar.

Richard H. Drucker, Immigration Judge, New York – Varick Immigration Court

Attorney General William P. Barr appointed Richard H. Drucker as an Immigration Judge in December 2020. Judge Drucker earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1978 from Ohio State University and a Juris Doctor in 1981 from Cleveland State University, Cleveland Marshall College of Law. From 2016 to 2020, he was an associate attorney with Margaret W. Wong and Associates, in Cleveland. From 1981 to 2016, he was an attorney with Richard H. Drucker LPA, in Cleveland. Judge Drucker is a member of the Ohio State Bar.

Ravit R. Halperin, Immigration Judge, Adelanto Immigration Court

Attorney General William P. Barr appointed Ravit R. Halperin as an Immigration Judge in December 2020. Judge Halperin earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1989 from the State University of New York in Stony Brook and a Juris Doctor in 1992 from the City University of New York Law School. From 2008 to 2020, she was in private practice as the founder of Immigration Law Offices of R. Rae Halperin, in Adelanto and Lancaster, California. From 2000 to 2008, she served as a staff attorney for ASK Law Group, in Sherman Oaks, California. Judge Halperin is a member of the Utah State Bar.

Samuel Y. Kim, Immigration Judge, San Francisco Immigration Court

Attorney General William P. Barr appointed Samuel Y. Kim to begin hearing cases in December 2020. Judge Kim earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2000 from Vanderbilt University and a Juris Doctor in 2004 from Washington University in Saint Louis School of Law. From 2018 to 2020, and previously from 2013 to 2014, he was in private practice in San Francisco. From 2014 to 2018, he served as an assistant chief counsel, Office of the Principal Legal Advisor (OPLA), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in San Francisco. From 2011 to 2013, he served as an assistant chief counsel, OPLA, ICE, DHS, in Los Angeles. From 2006 to 2011, he served on active duty as a judge advocate for the Marine Corps Forces Reserve, in New Orleans. From 2004 to 2005, he was in private practice in Saint Louis. Judge Kim is a member of the State Bar of California and the Missouri State Bar.

Dawn M. Kulick, Immigration Judge, New York – Broadway Immigration Court

Attorney General William P. Barr appointed Dawn M. Kulick as an Immigration Judge in December 2020. Judge Kulick earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1992 from Chatham College and a Juris Doctor in 2003 from New York Law School. From 2016 to 2020, she served as an assistant chief counsel, Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, Immigration and Customs Enforcement,

Department of Homeland Security, in Miami and Philadelphia. From 2014 to 2016, she served as a judicial law clerk in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida for U.S. Magistrate Judge Andrea M. Simonton, in Miami. For eight years, she served as an assistant state attorney, felony division chief, and homicide prosecutor in the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office. For two years, she worked as a business development specialist, National Litigation Practice Group, Greenberg Traurig PA, in Miami. Prior to law school, she worked in the corporate world for eight years, in New York. Her experience there includes HarperCollins Publishers, Children's Books, and the Business Affairs Department, International Division of Sony Music Entertainment Inc. Judge Kulick is a member of the Florida State Bar.

Shirley Lazare-Raphael, Immigration Judge, New York – Broadway Immigration Court

Attorney General William P. Barr appointed Shirley Lazare-Raphael as an Immigration Judge in December 2020. Judge Lazare-Raphael earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in 1996 from the City University of New York, Bernard M. Baruch College, and a Juris Doctor in 2000 from Brooklyn Law School. From 2019 to 2020, she served as an assistant chief counsel, Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, in New York. From 2005 to 2019, she was in private practice as an assistant litigation attorney with Frenkel, Hershkowitz & Shafran LLP. From 2001 to 2004, she was in private practice in Brooklyn and New York. Judge Lazare-Raphael is a member of the New York State Bar.

Robert M. Lewandowski, Immigration Judge, Falls Church Immigration Adjudication Center

Attorney General William P. Barr appointed Robert M. Lewandowski as an Immigration Judge in December 2020. Judge Lewandowski earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1986 from the University of Pittsburgh and a Juris Doctor in 1989 from the College of William and Mary. From 2004 to 2020, he served as chief of staff, special assistant, and senior advisor, U.S. Border Patrol, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in the District of Columbia. From 1996 to 2004, he served as sector counsel for the Laredo, Texas Sector, U.S. Border Patrol, CBP, DHS. From 1986 to 2020, he served as a judge advocate in the U.S. Marine Corps on both active duty and in the reserve in the following locations: Parris Island, South Carolina; Jacksonville, North Carolina; Quantico, Virginia; El Toro, California; San Antonio, Texas; New Orleans; District of Columbia; and Oahu, Hawaii. While serving as a marine judge advocate, he served in various positions including trial counsel, defense counsel, legal assistance officer, special assistant U.S. attorney, inspector, deputy staff judge advocate, staff judge advocate, and officer-in-charge/deputy director. Judge Lewandowski is a member of the District of Columbia Bar, Pennsylvania State Bar, and Virginia State Bar.

Jason R. Masterson, Immigration Judge, San Francisco Immigration Court

Attorney General William P. Barr appointed Jason R. Masterson as an Immigration Judge in December 2020. Judge Masterson earned a Bachelor of Arts in 2003 from the University of Cincinnati, a Juris Doctor in 2010 from the University of Cincinnati College of Law, and a Master of Arts in 2000 from the Naval War College. From 2011 to 2020, he served as an active duty judge advocate in the U.S. Navy in the following roles and locations: from March to September 2020, deputy staff attorney for all U.S. Forces Afghanistan and the NATO Resolute Support mission, Afghanistan, and chief of Leahy Law and Gross Violations of Human Rights, Afghanistan; from 2018 to 2020, staff attorney and probable-cause hearing officer, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic, Norfolk, Virginia; from 2015 to 2018, deputy staff attorney, Naval Special

Warfare, Virginia Beach, Virginia, including deployments to the Republic of Korea and southern Philippines; from 2013 to 2015, defense counsel, Gulfport, Mississippi; and from 2011 to 2013, prosecutor and special assistant to the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of California, San Diego. From 2009 to 2010, he worked in the Cincinnati Prosecutor's office. From 2008 to 2009, he was a fellow with the Ohio Innocence Project. From 2004 to 2007, he served as a substance abuse and mental illness case manager for a Cincinnati-area nonprofit. Judge Masterson is member of the Ohio State Bar.

Jeffrey V. Muñoz, Immigration Judge, Imperial Immigration Court

Attorney General William P. Barr appointed Jeffrey V. Muñoz as an Immigration Judge in December 2020. Judge Muñoz earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1995 from Northwestern University and a Juris Doctor in 2003 from the University of Arizona College of Law. From 1995 to 2020, he served on active duty in the U.S. Marine Corps first as a ground supply officer and then, as a criminal defense attorney, prosecutor, staff judge advocate (general counsel), and military trial judge in the Navy-Marine Corps Trial Judiciary. He has deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, in Afghanistan. Judge Muñoz is a member of the State Bar of California.

Donald Pashayan, Immigration Judge, Cleveland Immigration Court

Attorney General William P. Barr appointed Donald Pashayan as an Immigration Judge in December 2020. Judge Pashayan earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1994 from Boston College and a Juris Doctor in 1999 from the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. From 2012 to 2020, he served as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force of the District of Arizona and also served as a district opioid co-coordinator. From 2003 to 2012, he served as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Southern District of Ohio and the Middle District of Florida. In 2002, he worked as a litigation associate at Frantz Ward LLC, in Cleveland. From 1999 to 2002, he served on active duty as a judge advocate in the U.S. Navy at Naval Station Mayport, Florida, and Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Florida. In 2019, he retired from the Naval Reserves. From 1994 to 1999, he served as a police officer with the Avon Lake Police Department, in Ohio. Judge Pashayan is a member of the Arizona State Bar and Ohio State Bar.

Maria T. Ubarri, Immigration Judge, New York – Federal Plaza Immigration Court

Attorney General William P. Barr appointed Maria T. Ubarri as an Immigration Judge in December 2020. Judge Ubarri earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1988 from Boston University, a Juris Doctor in 1991 from the University of Puerto Rico School of Law, and a Master of Laws in 1994 from Georgetown University Law Center. From 2010 to 2020, she served as a state trial court judge, in Fajardo and Humacao, Puerto Rico. From 1995 to 2010, she was in private practice, in Humacao and San Juan, Puerto Rico. From 1994 to 1995, she served as a federal policy advisor for the Governor of Puerto Rico. In 1993, she served as a legislative assistant for the Honorable Carlos A. Romero-Barcelo, Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico, U.S. House of Representatives. Judge Ubarri is a member of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Bar.

Hayden Windrow, Immigration Judge, Seattle Immigration Court

Attorney General William P. Barr appointed Hayden Windrow as an Immigration Judge in December 2020. Judge Windrow earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1998 from Columbia University, a Masters of Arts in 2000 from the University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies, and a Juris Doctor in 2005 from the New York University School of Law. In 2020, he served as a trial attorney, District Court Section, Office of Immigration Litigation, Department of Justice, in

the District of Columbia. From 2015 to 2020, he served as an assistant chief counsel, Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, in New York. From 2005 to 2015, he served as a judicial law clerk at multiple Article III Courts. Judge Windrow is a member of the New York State Bar.

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