

# AILA Texas Chapter

**Jacqueline L. Watson**  
CHAIR

**Jason Mills**  
VICE CHAIR

**Maggie Murphy**  
TREASURER

**Olsi Vrapı**  
SECRETARY

**Kelli Stump**  
IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR

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AILA Texas Chapter Minutes  
2015 AILA Annual Conference  
Washington, D.C.  
June 19, 2015 at 12:00 pm

- Call to order at 12:18
- Treasurer's Report - Jason Mills, outgoing Treasurer
  - Chapter finances are in good shape.
  - We made approximately \$32,000 from our SF conference
  - The chapter gave out 115K in donations
  - Chapter books are balanced
- AIC update - AILA National AIC Representative
  - Rick Gump spoke briefly about AIC and its importance.
  - Patrick Turrell - representative from AIC gave an update on AIC's activities and efforts recently. AIC is involved in several actions/impact litigation such as TX v. U.S., the CBP Tucson freezing conditions for immigrants, long pending EADs etc. Patrick also stated that AIC has a business litigation fellow and if anyone is litigating business issues they can reach out to Leslie Dellon at AIC for support as co counsel, amicus briefs, or whatever else may be needed.
  - Chapter got two extra tickets for our table, which were returned by the previous holders. They were given out at the meeting.
- Introduction of officers - Kelli Stump, Outgoing Chapter Chair
  - Kelli Stump introduced new chapter officers: Jacqueline Watson - Chair
    - Vice Chair - Jason Mills
    - Treasurer - Maggie Murphy
    - Secretary - Olsi Vrapı
- Recognition and thanks to Kelli Stump - Jacqueline Watson, Chair
  - Chair recognized Kelli Stump's contribution to the chapter and presented Kelli with gifts of appreciation.
- The Chair expressed her goals for the chapter this year.
  - Get someone on the AILA Board of Governors. Sarah Brown did not win her election and our chapter does not have anyone on the Board except for Doug as an ex-President and our Chapter Chair.

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CHAIR

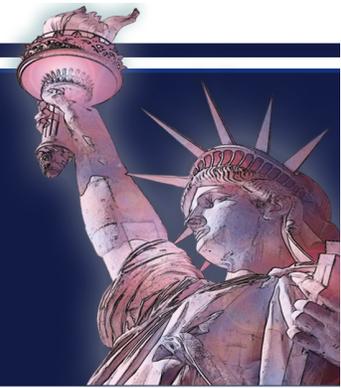
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- Continue to build Kelli's good work
- Mentoring new members - most of our members are new members. It is important to continue to build new membership packets and basic training
- Liaison building, especially with CBP since our Chapter comprises a good section of the border.
- Unlawful Practice of Law - go after *notarios* as a chapter. AILA national will help.
- Continue doing what we do best, provide great CLEs, newsletters, etc.
  
- Old Business
  - Motion to adopt minutes by Michelle Rodriguez, seconded by Jeff Zimskind. Motion carried.
  
- Membership report.
  - We have over 1,300 members. We are the second largest. We are approximately 300 members behind NY.
  - A brief discussion ensued about how to increase numbers. Jeff Zimskind (from Philadelphia) said he joined because he was invited to speak at our Santa Fe conference in April 2015, really enjoyed our chapter and decided to join. Olsi Vrapı made a suggestion that we can provide perks that may encourage members outside the geographical limits of our chapter to join such offer free conference recordings.
  
- No national report
  
- Update on fall conference - Olsi Vrapı
  - We have a contract to review but have not signed it yet. The dates are November 19-21 (weekend before thanksgiving). We picked this date since it does not conflict with any other conferences such as the Latin America chapter conference in Brazil or the CA chapters conference.
  - We got very good room rates, lots of perks, free golf, etc. The most important concession we received is that if the hotel offers special rates that are below our negotiated rates anyone who books under those special rates will still be counted in our block.
  - We do not have a travel agent this time which brought down the prices some because there is no commission to be paid.
  - Flight study was done and average price from anywhere in the chapter is about \$650.
  
- AILA National Advocacy Department - Greg Chen, AILA national
  - Introduced new grassroots associate - Molina Rocha
  - Big picture
    - Legislatively - great deal of partisanship, with presidential campaign going on no compromise is happening.

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- Amendments restricting immigration being added to move bills.
  - i.e. Border land bill so CBP can have no restrictions to go over federal lands without regard to environment issues, etc.
  - 3 programs are set to sunset on 9/30/15 EB-5, CONRAD 30 and religious workers. E-Verify supposed to sunset as well on 9/30.
    - E-Verify has support
    - EB-5 will likely be changed to add protections in light of the OIG report re Mayorkas improprieties. Grassley putting forward a lot of changes however he is pushing for too many to realistically pass.
- DACA DAPA being monitored
- Family detention - AILA has been very energized and coming out in force to represent families in detention.
  - Information on how to partner with AILA.
- New business - none
- Motion to adjourn - Michelle Rodriguez Saenz, seconded Andrew Gee. Motion carried.
- Adjourned at 1:05 PM.