

PREFACE

Wherever immigration law erects a barrier, immigration attorneys are tasked with figuring out whether there is a way to get the government to exercise its discretion to clear the path, and how best to make that happen. The solution path is often challenging, and the available relief may be the only chance for a client to remain with family, preserve status, and move forward with their lives. Practitioners are at the forefront of translating complex statutory rules and discretionary frameworks into meaningful opportunities for relief. The contributors to *The Waivers Book: Strategies for Overcoming Inadmissibility, Removability, and Other Barriers to Immigration Benefits* are deeply committed to that work. They are knowledgeable, trusted, and above all, dedicated to supporting their clients, fellow practitioners, and the broader field of immigration law.

Drawing on both historical context and practical guidance, this edition provides an in-depth exploration of waivers under the INA, while also addressing “waiver-like” forms of relief, including cancellation of removal, late-filed requests for change or extension of status, the special rules that apply to employment-based adjustment of status applicants, humanitarian reinstatement of revoked I-130 petitions, waivers of the I-751 joint filing requirement, F-1 reinstatement, accommodations for naturalization applicants who cannot take tests or the oath, and more.

To enhance usability and logical flow, the articles have been reorganized with a solutions-based focus that mirrors what practitioners seek to achieve for their clients. In addition, a small selection of sample documents—available as a digital add-on with the book—offer real-life examples of some of the concepts and strategies discussed throughout the articles.

The Waivers Book comes at a moment of unprecedented change in immigration law and policy. The practice landscape is continuously reshaped by shifts in politics, agency priorities, and federal court rulings. Effective advocacy requires vigilance, adaptability, and creativity, and this book aims to provide both the grounding and flexibility practitioners need; it is intended to serve as both a reference and a toolbox, helping practitioners turn what may appear to be dead ends into viable paths forward.

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CAVEAT: Readers should be aware that this publication addresses topics that are in a state of flux. The Trump Administration continues to implement immigration-related changes, which can be heavily challenged and litigated, on an ongoing basis. As a result, *it is imperative that practitioners supplement the information provided in this publication in order to keep up to date.* In addition to primary sources of law, practitioners are encouraged to review AILA’s website for the latest information and developments in immigration law and policy.