



Anastasia Tonello

Partner

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With diverse experience from successfully managing immigration practices in New York and London, Anastasia Tonello is well placed to counsel clients on the commercial and practical issues facing overseas businesses as they expand into the United States. She has extensive experience guiding individuals, including entrepreneurs, high-net-worth individuals, entertainers, and artists, and has been consulted on investor, extraordinary ability, family-based petitions, and complex United States citizenship issues. Anastasia has held numerous leadership roles with the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), including serving as president, charter officer of AILA's Rome District—European, Middle East, and Africa Chapter, and chair of AILA's Department of State Committee.

Anastasia is frequently quoted in the media, including in *The New York Times* and *The Independent* and has been broadcast on *BBC World News, New York 1/Spectrum News, i-24 Tel Aviv* and *New York, Al-Jazeera America*, and *NPR's All Things Considered*. She is a regular speaker at professional conferences, training events, and leading business and law schools. An internationally recognized practitioner, she is listed in leading legal directories including *Legal 500 UK Edition*, *Chambers Global*, *Chambers USA*, *Chambers UK*, *Super Lawyers*, *Who's Who Legal Corporate Immigration*, and *The Best Lawyers in America*®.

Education

- Indiana University (B.A., 1995)
- University of Notre Dame Law School (J.D., 1998)
- BPP University Law School (QLTT, 2003)

Admissions

- New York
- England & Wales
- United States District Court - Southern District of New York
- United States District Court - District of Columbia

Services & Industries

- Immigration
- Labor & Employment
- U.S. Immigration
- U.S. Immigration for Doctors & Other Healthcare Workers

Professional Affiliations

- American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA): 72nd President; Founding Officer of AILA's Rome District—European, Middle East, and Africa Chapter; Past Chair of AILA's Department of State Committee; Inaugural Co-Chair of the Standing Committee on Political Engagement
- Society of Trusts and Estate Practitioners, Membership Committee

Awards & Honors

- *Chambers USA* America's Leading Lawyers for Immigration: Business, 2019–2026; Ranked in Band 1 for Immigration in New York, 2020–2026
- New York *Super Lawyers*, 2013–2014, 2016–2025
- New York *Super Lawyers* Rising Stars, 2011–2012
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Immigration Law, 2016–2026
- *Lawdragon* 100 Leading Immigration Lawyers, 2023–2026
- Citywealth Leaders list, 2019–2020
- The *Legal 500* United States, 2019–2020
- *Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers* Global Elite Thought Leader, 2020–2023
- American Immigration Lawyers Association RDC-EMEA Chapter, Ed Gudeon Memorial Service Award, June 2014

Community Involvement

- Board Member, St. George's Society of New York
- Board Member, National Immigration Litigation Alliance

Thought Leadership

July 7, 2026

Indiana Senate Bill 76 Takes Effect: What Employers Need to Know

May 26, 2026

USCIS Emphasizes Discretion in Adjustment of Status Adjudications

January 12, 2026

The Gold Card Immigration Program

Experience

Anastasia has experience in all areas of immigration law, including employment, family and investor-based nonimmigrant and immigrant petitions, consular visa applications, including waivers of inadmissibility, complex nationality and residency issues, including the transmission and loss of citizenship, and maintenance of residence. This includes:

- Employment-based nonimmigrant and immigrant visas for highly skilled foreign professionals, including corporate managers and executives, engineers, entrepreneurs, business leaders, artists and entertainers, researchers, and scientists.
- Extraordinary ability, outstanding researchers and professors, and national interest waiver petitions for entrepreneurs, business leaders, researchers, entertainers, artists, and other professionals.

- E-1/E-2 Treaty Trader and Investor visas for businesses and entrepreneurs trading with and investing in the United States.
- Nonimmigrant waivers of inadmissibility for foreign executives, managers, entertainers, professionals, and others inadmissible to the United States.
- Consular representation at United States embassies and consulates worldwide, including applications for immigrant and nonimmigrant visa waivers and citizenship issues.
- Complex citizenship and nationality matters, including applications for initial N-400s, Consular Reports of Birth Abroad, and applications based on 319j(b) and the Child Citizenship Act.
- Consulting on the maintenance and loss of lawful permanent residence status and renunciation of citizenship.
- Counseling families, journalists, and members of the press on immigrant and nonimmigrant visa options.
- EB-5 immigrant investors visas based on individual, TSA, and regional center investments.
- Options for support personnel for United States citizens and nonimmigrants.

Speaking Engagements

- "Hot Topics in Consular Processing" AILA Chicago Midwest Regional Conference, March 2025
- "Traversing the Complexities of the Adjustment of Status and Immigrant Visa Landscapes" AILA Midwinter Conference, January 2025
- "Department of State Update" AILA Canada Chapter Annual Conference, January 2025
- "Citizenship and Naturalization Update" Practising Law Institute (PLI) 57th Annual Immigration and Naturalization Institute, December 2024
- "J-1 visa & other visa possibilities" Swedish American Chamber of Commerce Summit, September 2024
- "Consular Processing," AILA New York Chapter Meeting, March 2024
- "Nonimmigrant Work Visas," NYC Navigator Team Training, February 2024
- "Creative Immigration Strategies When Your Typical Immigration Strategy Won't Work," Practising Law Institute (PLI) 56th Annual Immigration and Naturalization Institute, December 2023
- "Complex Maintenance of Status Issues in Business Immigration," 22nd Annual AILA New York Chapter Immigration Law Symposium, December 2023
- Panelist, "New York Migration Crisis," Israel Business Beat with Sarah Martinez, September 2023
- "Obtaining the Elusive NIV Consular Appointment and What to Do Once You Get It," 2023 AILA Annual Conference on Immigration Law, June 2023
- Panelist, "DHS Civil Rights, Community Engagement Round Table," May 2023
- "Visas for Diplomats, Foreign Government Officials," Hospitality Committee for United Nations Delegations Diplomatic Spouse Career Group, January 2023
- "Citizenship and Nationality Issues," Practising Law Institute (PLI) 55th Annual Immigration and Naturalization Institute, November 2022
- "A Year in Review: The Biggest 10 Updates That Occurred in 2021," AILA Canada Chapter Annual Conference, January 2021
- "E Visa Issues: Are We Swimming in Crocodiles or Crocodile Dundees?," AILA Asia-Pacific Chapter Annual Conference, May 2021
- "Global Mobility Series: US," PCD Club, March 2021

- “Regulation and Litigation: Schoolhouse Rock Edition,” AILA National Midwinter Conference, March 2021
- “State Department/Consular Affairs Update,” PLI 53rd Annual Immigration and Naturalization Institute, New York, December 2020
- “Hot Topics,” AILA RDC- EMEA Chapter Conference, November 2020
- “Family Office Summit: Structuring a New Family Office in the US and Challenges in Advising Existing Multinational Families,” STEP New York, October 2020
- “Immigration and the 2020 Elections,” AILA Virtual Annual Conference, July 2020
- “Gems in the FAM and Pitfalls in Consular Interviews,” AILA Latin American Caribbean Chapter Conference, November 2019