

NAFTA, H-2A Immigration, and ALRB

Friday, April 13, 2018

Kalmanovitz Appellate Courtroom, UC Davis Law School

This conference examines labor-related issues in California and US agriculture. Labor-intensive fruit and vegetable crops are almost over 85 percent of California crop sales and 40 percent of US crop sales. Farm worker employment has been increasing and the state's mostly unauthorized farm workers are aging and settling in one place with families that include US-born children, reducing migrancy.

Four timely issues will be discussed: First, the re-negotiation of the NAFTA agreement that lowered barriers to trade and investment between Canada, Mexico, and the US; second, the rapid growth in the H-2A program which certified 200,000 jobs to be filled by guest workers in 2017, including 15,000 in California; third, the effects of changing immigration policies on agriculture, farm workers, and agricultural communities; fourth, an update on ALRB activities and court decisions that affect mandatory mediation and conciliation and union abandonment.

Agenda

- 8:15AM **CHECK-IN AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**
- 8:45AM **WELCOME**
Philip Martin, UC Davis
Daniel Sumner, UC Agricultural Issues Center and UC Davis
- 9:00AM **NAFTA RENEGOTIATIONS: IMPLICATIONS FOR CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURE**
Chair: Philip Martin, UC Davis
Daniel Sumner, UC Agricultural Issues Center and UC Davis
Roberta Cook, UC Davis
Jamie Johnson, Simpatica
Soren Bjoren, Driscoll's
- 10:30AM **BREAK**
- 10:45AM **FARM LABOR: THE RISE OF H-2A WORKERS**
Chair: Tim Beatty, UC Davis
Philip Martin, UC Davis
Ileana Arvizu, ISA
Steve Scaroni, Fresh Harvest
Ruben Lugo, WHD
Richard Mines, DOL-ret
- 12:15PM **LUNCH**
- 1:15PM **IMMIGRATION AND AGRICULTURE**
Chair: Philip Martin, UC Davis
What's next for immigration? Kevin Johnson, UC Davis
Immigration and Farm Workers, Ed Kissam, WKF
Discussants: Amagda Perez, UC Davis; Cynthia Rice, CRLA;
Paulette Nwaogu and Sir Streeter, DHS ICE
- 2:45PM **BREAK**
- 3:00PM **ALRB ISSUES**
Chair: Genevieve Shiroma, Chairwoman ALRB
Julia Montgomery, ALRB GC
Ed Blanco, ALRB
Jim Wolpman, ALRB
Tom Sobel, ALRB
- 4:30PM **ADJOURN**

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