

IMMIGRATION POLICY IN THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Day 3, Session 1: Building Power During the Biden Administration -- Inside vs. Outside Advocacy

Nana Gyamfi – Moderator

Nana Gyamfi is the Executive Director of Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI), the largest Black-led social justice organization representing the nearly 10 million Black immigrants, refugees, and families living in the U.S. She previously served as BAJI's Board Vice-Chair and Managing Director.

A Movement attorney for the past 25 years, Nana is co-founder of Justice Warriors 4 Black Lives and Human Rights Advocacy, both dedicated to fighting for human rights and Black liberation. She has served as the Executive Director of Black Women's Forum, an organization co-founded by Congresswoman Maxine Waters, who serves as its President. Nana is also a former professor in the Pan African Studies Department at California State University Los Angeles. She has repeat appearances in documentaries and other media, including Tales of the Grim Sleeper and Democracy Now with Amy Goodman, and she hosts her own weekly radio show “Conversations On the Way: The Asafo Edition.”

Erika Andiola – Panelist

Erika Andiola is the Chief Advocacy Officer for RAICES and former Press Secretary for Latino Outreach for Bernie 2016. She started her community organizing experience when she co-founded the Arizona Dream Act Coalition. She then served in the National Coordinating Committee and the Board of Directors for the United We Dream Network. Her personal struggle as an undocumented woman herself, with an undocumented family, has given her the drive and the passion to keep fighting for immigrant and human rights.

Angelica Salas – Panelist

Angelica Salas is an immigrant from Durango, Mexico. She came to the United States as a child to reunite with her parents, who came to provide a better life for their family. Angelica comes to her understanding of immigrants and immigration firsthand, she and her entire family lived in the country undocumented, experienced deportation, and were able to legalize their status. In 2008, Angelica became a U.S. citizen. She is married to Mayron Payes, an immigrant from El Salvador, and they have two children.

Angelica joined CHIRLA in 1995 and became CHIRLA's Executive Director in 1999. She has grown CHIRLA into one of the nation's largest and most effective immigrant rights organizations that organize, advocates, educates, and provides legal services to all immigrants. Among her achievements include: winning in-state, financial aid and grant programs for California's

undocumented students, establishing day-laborer centers that become national models, winning drivers' licenses for undocumented drivers, decoupling local police departments from immigration enforcement, expanding access to immigrant legal services and winning Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).

She graduated from Occidental College with a B.A. in History and a B.A. in Sociology in 1993. In 2007, Occidental College awarded her an Honorary Doctorate for her many contributions making her one of the youngest persons to earn such an honor in the college's history.

Stephanie Valencia – Panelist

Stephanie Valencia is co-founder and president of EquisLabs, and a national leader at the nexus of politics, technology, and leadership development.

She recently served as Political Director at Investing In.U.s, a political venture capital fund focused on disruptive platforms and initiatives to enhance civic participation, and earlier ran Strategic Partnerships and Outreach at Google.

Stephanie is among a small group of advisers who served President Barack Obama in senior roles through his presidential campaign and both terms in office. She served as an aide to the president at the White House Office of Public Engagement; as Deputy Chief of Staff to U.S. Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker; and as Deputy Latino Vote Director on the 2008 campaign.

Prior to joining the campaign, Stephanie served in leadership roles for a number of lawmakers on Capitol Hill, including as Press Secretary to U.S. Senator Ken Salazar (D-CO), Press Secretary to Congressman John Larson (D-CT), Member Services for the House Democratic Caucus Chair, Rahm Emanuel (D-IL), and Press Secretary to Congresswoman Linda Sanchez (D-CA).

Building a leadership bench is a core passion for Stephanie. In addition to mentoring many young Latinos and Latinas, she is a co-founder of The Latino Talent Initiative, The Latina Collective, and Latinos44, the alumni association representing the hundreds of Hispanic appointees from the Obama Administration. Stephanie also serves on the boards of Civic Nation, Center for Community Change Action, and The Latino Victory Project.

She is co-author of *West Wingers: Stories from the Dream Chasers, Change Makers, and Hope Creators Inside the Obama White House* and is co-host of the podcast *Finding 46*, about the road to the White House in 2020.

Day 3, Session 2: The Role of Congress in Shaping Pro-Immigrant Legislation: A Conversation with Senator Alex Padilla

The Honorable Alex Padilla

Senator Alex Padilla is the proud son of Mexican immigrants, his father a short-order cook and his mother a housekeeper. Alex attended Los Angeles public schools and is a graduate of MIT where he studied mechanical engineering. After graduating from MIT, Alex was elected to the Los Angeles City Council where he served as the youngest Council President in Los Angeles history and provided citywide leadership at critical times, including serving as acting Mayor during the tragedy of September 11, 2001. Alex was elected to the State Senate in 2006 to represent the more than 1.1 million people in the San Fernando Valley. As a State Senator, Alex passed more than 70 bills, including landmark legislation to combat climate change, and was named as one of Sacramento's "most effective legislators."

Alex was sworn in as California's first Latino Secretary of State on January 5, 2015 and was re-elected in 2018, receiving the most votes of any Latino elected official in the United States. As Secretary of State, Alex worked to make our elections more accessible and inclusive, while fighting to protect the integrity of our voting systems. In December 2020 Alex was appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom to finish the term of Vice President-elect Kamala Harris.

Alex lives in the San Fernando Valley with his wife Angela and their three sons.

Day 3, Session 3: Congress, the Courts, and the President: Who Should Do What, and When, to Protect Immigrant Rights?

Chris Newman – Moderator

Chris Newman is the Legal Director & General Counsel for the National Day Laborer Organizing Network (NDLON) based in its Los Angeles office. He has worked with day laborers since 2002, and was hired as NDLON's first attorney in 2004. Since then, he has helped develop and coordinate NDLON's work to defend and advance day laborers' civil, workplace, and human rights. Before working at NDLON, he was the founding coordinator of the Wage Clinic and Legal Program at El Centro Humanitario para los Trabajadores, a day laborer worker center in Denver, CO. He is the recipient of an Academy of Educational Development New Voices Fellowship and is a Transatlantic Forum on Migration and Integration fellow at the German Marshall Fund. He earned his J.D. with honors from the University of Denver College of Law.

Sirine Shebaya – Panelist

Sirine Shebaya is the Executive Director of the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild. She is a longtime immigrant rights advocate who focuses on combining litigation and public campaign strategies to defend and advance the rights of immigrant communities of color. She is one of the lead attorneys litigating COVID-related detention issues nationwide. She was one of the organizers of a movement of lawyers, organizers, translators, and concerned citizens doing rapid-response work at Dulles Airport in the aftermath of the Muslim Ban. She has litigated several high-profile cases alongside and on behalf of communities impacted by family separation, discriminatory police practices, immigration detention and enforcement issues, and the Muslim Ban. In partnership with local community groups, she led a campaign that resulted in eliminating ICE holds in most jurisdictions in Maryland. Sirine previously worked at the Capital Area Immigrant's Rights Coalition and at the ACLU of Maryland. She has experience in litigation, public education campaigns, and advocacy focused on immigration detention and criminal legal system issues.

Sirine's work with immigrant communities has been honored with the Capital Area Muslim Bar Association Award for Outstanding Pro Bono Service and Commitment to Advancing Justice, the Americans for Democratic Action Winn Newman Equality Award, and the NIPNLG Daniel Levy Award.

Lorella Praeli – Panelist

Lorella is a freedom fighter, movement builder, and adaptive athlete. She currently serves as the Co-President of Community Change and its sister organization, Community Change Action.

Lorella is passionate about building collective power to win transformative policy change at all levels of government so that people can thrive.

Most recently, she was the ACLU's Deputy National Political Director, where she fought to defend and expand the rights of immigrants and refugees.

Prior to joining the ACLU, Lorella mobilized the Latinx vote as Hillary Clinton's National Latino Vote Director and served as United We Dream's Director of Advocacy and Policy, where she led the campaign to implement DACA and was part of the team that persuaded the Obama administration to protect four million undocumented Americans through DAPA.

Anil Kalhan – Panelist

Anil Kalhan is a Professor of Law at the Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law. He currently is a Visiting Scholar at the Center for the Study of Law and Society at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law, where he also was in residence in 2015 and 2017. He also is an Affiliated Faculty Member at the University of Pennsylvania South Asia Center and a Faculty Advisory Board member for the Drexel University Center for Mobilities Research and Policy. From 2015 to 2018, he served as chair of the New York City Bar Association's International Human Rights Committee.

Professor Kalhan's scholarly and teaching interests lie in the areas of immigration law, U.S. and comparative constitutional law, international human rights law, privacy and surveillance, criminal law, and law and South Asian studies. His scholarship has appeared in publications including the Columbia Law Review Sidebar, Columbia Journal of Asian Law, Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics, Maryland Law Review, Ohio State Law Journal, UC Davis Law Review, UCLA Law Review Discourse, Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law, and edited volumes published by Cambridge University Press, Routledge, and the University of Pittsburgh Press. He has been a contributing writer for Dorf on Law, AsiaMedia, and SAJAforum, and a guest contributor for the ImmigrationProf Blog, Yale Journal on Regulation Notice & Comment, the American Constitution Society Expert Forum, and Chapati Mystery. His writing has also appeared in publications including BusinessWeek, Express Tribune (Pakistan), Foreign Affairs, Herald (Pakistan), New America Media, Newsweek, and Washington Monthly, and he is a member of the Scholars Strategy Network.

In 2018, Professor Kalhan was selected by the Conference of Asian Pacific American Faculty to receive its Chris Kando Iijima Teacher and Mentor Award. He was the recipient of a SAJA Journalism Award from the South Asian Journalists Association in 2008, and was again a finalist for SAJA Journalism Awards in 2011 and 2013.

Professor Kalhan has held appointments as a Visiting Professor of Law at Washington University School of Law in St. Louis, an Adjunct Professor of Law at New York University School of Law, a Visiting Assistant Professor of Law at the Fordham University School of Law, and an Associate in Law at Columbia Law School. He previously worked as a litigation associate at Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton, where he also served as co-coordinator of the firm's immigration and international human rights pro bono practice group, and with the ACLU Immigrants' Rights

Project in New York. He also served as law clerk to the Hon. Chester J. Straub (U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit) and the Hon. Gerard E. Lynch (U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York).

Professor Kalhan currently serves on Committee A on Academic Freedom and Tenure of the American Association of University Professors and the Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure of the Association of American Law Schools, and in 2019 he served on the Law and Society Association's Task Force on Academic Freedom. He previously served as Chair of the AALS Section on Immigration Law and is a co-founder and former Chair of AALS Section on Law and South Asian Studies. He also has served on the executive committees of the AALS Section on International Human Rights and Section on Comparative Law, and on numerous committees of the New York City Bar Association, including its Task Force on the Rule of Law, Immigration and Nationality Law Committee, International Human Rights Committee, International Law Committee, Task Force on National Security and the Rule of Law, and Task Force on Puerto Rico.

Professor Kalhan holds a J.D. from Yale Law School, an M.P.P.M. from the Yale School of Management, and an A.B. from Brown University. Before attending law school, he worked for Cable News Network, PBS's MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour, and the New York City Department of Transportation.