



NIABA NEWS

Men and women sharing a common heritage in a chosen profession

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AS THE TORCH PASSES

Dear Fiends, Amici, e Paesani:

Since my term as President will end in June 2017, I think it appropriate to reflect on our efforts over the last two years as well as dreams for the future.

I look back at successful meetings in Naples (FL), Los Angeles, Orange County (CA), Chicago, Phoenix, White Plains (NY), and our first CLE program in Rome, Italy. NIABA is on the move to strengthen our national and international presence throughout the Italian diaspora. Ad astra ad aspera.

I am especially proud of our outreach efforts to bring back into the fold our brethren in California and Illinois, which groups had separated from us a number of years ago. We are again planning great events for the future in Fort Lauderdale (June 1-4) and in Rome in late September 2017.

I urge all members of the Italian-American legal community to support our march and progress, and to participate actively in the organization. Our plans are to make the organization a powerful legal force, increase our national and international presence, and to foster remembrance of our common ancestry, origins, culture, and values. Don't forget our law Journal, published due to the fine work of Syracuse Law School, our scholarship to a deserving law student in conjunction with the Sons of Italy, and our advocacy efforts for deserving efforts of Italian-American lawyers and jurists.

Auguri e benvenuti a tutti.

Joseph A. Sena, Jr., Esq.
President of NIABA



JOIN US IN FORT LAUDERDALE

Fort Lauderdale is famous for its beaches, arts, culture and events – from shopping on Las Olas Boulevard, to gondola rides on the canals, to a historic riverfront. And for a few days in early June, Fort Lauderdale will also feature our spring NIABA meeting!

Members and guests are welcome to join us for the social events that will be held in conjunction with our board meetings. These include:

Thursday, June 1st
6 p.m. Welcome Dinner
Details TBA.

Friday, June 2nd
1:30 p.m. Presentation by the
Broward County Commission
Details TBA.

6 p.m. **Café Vico** More like the bustling Italian restaurants in New York's famed Little Italy, with all the linens, delicious

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Italian food and excellent service you expect. *Cost TBA.*

Saturday, June 3rd
1 p.m. Louie Bossi Pizzeria

Growing up in an Italian household in New York, Louie

Bossi taught himself to cook at age eight and in the years since has become a Master Pizza Maker. *Cost TBA.*

6 p.m. Installation Dinner
Join us at the Wild Sea Oyster

Bar & Grille, inside the Riverside Hotel, to mingle with movers and shakers in the local Italian-American community as we install our new President, Paul Finizio, and the 2017-2018 NIABA Board of Directors. *Cost is \$55 for NIABA members and \$75 for guests. Dress code is cocktail attire.*

For those coming from out-of-town, discounted rates are available for a limited time at the **Riverside Hotel**, 620 E. Las Olas Blvd. The hotel offers convenient amenities including a palm-fringed pool; fitness room featuring the latest Cybex equipment; and nearby shopping, entertainment and

Fort Lauderdale Beach. We have negotiated a special rate of \$99 plus tax for a Classic guest room or \$129 plus tax for the Executive Tower room. This rate will be available only until May 9th. Reserve your room [online](#) or by phone at 844-467-0671 (mention the National Italian American Bar Association).

[Make your reservations](#) now on our website for any – or all – of these gatherings. Or call 414-750-4404 to let our administrator know you plan to attend. Don't miss this chance to meet, network, and celebrate with other NIABA members and area attorneys and judges!

NIABA BOARD SLATE OF NOMINEES ANNOUNCED

Based on nominations we received, which were reviewed by the Nominating Committee, the following slate is put forth for a vote. Please note that there were no nominations of more than one person for each position. Pursuant to the NIABA bylaws section 4.01, "The Board of Directors shall be elected by majority vote of the General Membership in attendance" at the June 2nd meeting in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

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Canada
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By Antonietta Brancaccio-Balzano, Esq.

Members of the European Parliament have called for the European Commission to impose visas on U.S. citizens visiting Europe amid an ongoing dispute over visa restrictions against five EU nations. MEPs called on Washington to grant the same visa free program to nationals of Bulgaria, Croatia, Poland, Romania and Cyprus as enjoyed by citizens of the other 23 EU nations. EU rules require equal treatment for all member states. U.S. citizens can currently visit all EU nations without a visa under the visa waiver program.

The Commission discovered three years ago that the US was not meeting its obligations under the reciprocity agreement but has not yet taken any legal action. The latest vote, prepared by the civil liberties committee and approved by a plenary session of parliament, gives the Commission two months to act before MEPs can consider action in the European Court of Justice.

The Commission is legally obliged to act to suspend the visa waiver for Americans, but the European Parliament or the Council of the European Union have the chance to object to the “delegated act” it uses to do so.

EUROPEAN UNION MOVES TO IMPOSE VISAS ON U.S. CITIZENS

If applied, it would temporarily impose visa requirements on US travelers until full visa reciprocity is achieved. But EU nations would stand to lose out if tourism and business travel from the United States were impacted.

Migration Commissioner Dimitris Avramopoulos warned of “consequences”, including potential “retaliation” and a drop in visitor numbers precipitating substantial losses for the continent’s tourism industry.

Just days ago the Council said it would liberalize the visa regime for citizens of Georgia travelling into the EU. Georgians can now, subject to final approval of the regulation, stay in any EU

country for 90 days in any period of 180 days without needing a visa.

The European Commission has been working toward a resolution of the visa dispute. A European Commission report cited the US Department of Homeland Security as saying that the five EU nations concerned were not meeting requirements set out under US law on visa refusals, and so were not eligible to join the visa waiver program.

"The Department of Homeland Security also reiterated that temporarily suspending the visa waiver for U.S. citizens would be highly counterproductive to the achievement of a reciprocal visa waiver," the report said.

The European Commission said it would re launch its efforts "without delay" once US President Donald Trump's administration was fully in place and noted that the US Congress would also have a central role to play in resolving the situation. Immigration minister Robert Goodwill told Parliament the EU was discussing the possibility of introducing a version of America’s Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA). EU officials have been in contact with the Trump administration “to push for full visa reciprocity” ahead of a joint meeting in June.

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Brancaccio & Associates is a Florida firm focusing on Italian law and U.S. immigration law.

IN MEMORY



Paulo (Paul) Vitrano passed away on March 18th. Paul was a former NIABA board member and a past president of the Italian American Bar Association of Michigan. He was active in the leadership of both organizations for decades including planning and participating in IABAM'S annual golf outings and baseball games against the Polish and Irish Bar Associations. Paul loved music and played clarinet. He is remembered as smiling, friendly and always welcoming. Paul inspired others to stay connected to their Italian roots.

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Richard Cacioppo, Sr. passed away in April. Formerly practicing in California, Richard was more recently the director of the Institute For Public Pool Studies in Princeton, NJ and administrative counsel at Water Tech Corp. He was a founding member of NIABA and the third president of the Italian American Lawyers Association - Los Angeles Chapter.

MEMBER NEWS

Antonietta Brancaccio has announced that her firm, Brancaccio & Associates, will now focus solely on U.S. immigration law and Italian law – offering assistance with gathering Italian citizenship in light of the new European laws.

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Morris J. "Mickey" Busca has been selected by the American Arbitration Association to join its roster of Employment Law Neutrals. Mickey has served as a Lemon Law arbitrator for the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection and as an arbitrator for the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. He is also a commercial arbitrator for the American Dispute Resolution Center, Inc.

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Marco Cercone was named an owner of his law firm, Rupp Base Pfalzgraf Cunningham LLC, effective January 1st. He practices in Buffalo, NY and specializes in civil litigation with a focus on first-party insurance claim investigation and litigation handling.

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Domenick Lazzara was awarded the American Bar Association, Young Lawyers Division, Star of the Quarter at the 2017 ABA Midyear Meeting in Miami. Domenick serves as the 2016-2017 co-chair and senior content editor for the American Bar Association, Young Lawyers Division, Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Committee.

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Lydia Liberio, Esq., MBA conducted a breakout session at the Los Angeles Superior Court's Young Women's Leadership Conference; presented a paper on "Trade Group Best Practices: Community and Social Media" at the Region 7 Leadership Summit – Project Management Institute (PMI); and received publication credit as a contributor/reviewer for PMI's *The Standard for Program Management—Fourth Edition*.

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Cristina Salamone's firm, Zangari Cohn, has added two new named partners and opened a Hartford (CT) office. The firm's roots – providing business transactional and litigation legal solutions to clients since 1946 – remains unchanged.

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Matthew Ungarino has changed the name of his firm at Ungarino & Maldonado, LLC. The practice has offices in five locations in Louisiana and Mississippi.



Isabella M. Squicciarini, a litigation partner with Carmody Torrance Sandak & Hennessey, and **Marianne Barbino Dubuque**, a partner whose practice focuses on commercial real estate and land management, were recently sworn in and admitted to the Bar of the United States Supreme Court.

Along with other members of the Waterbury (CT) Bar Association, Isabella and Marianne traveled to Washington, D.C. to be sworn in during a ceremony held at the nation's highest court. The group was presented before the Supreme Court by Judge Salvatore Agati of Waterbury. Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. granted their admission.

"As the granddaughter of Italian immigrants, admission to the U.S. Supreme Court has a special significance to me. It validates the difficult decision of my grandparents to leave their respective homes and families in Italy to come to the U.S. in pursuit of a better life," says Marianne. She adds, "It was also especially thrilling to see the Supreme Court justices and to stand in front of the building that is our nation's symbol for equal justice."

As a first generation American on her father's side, Isabella shares in the pride of representing her family and acknowledging the sacrifices they made when they came to the U.S. "I'm named after my grandmother, and to have our name called before the Supreme Court was a way to honor her memory. She had the courage to leave her country, and when I stood before the Court I stood for both of us."

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Send your news to NIABA Administrator [Dana Robb](#). We will use items as space permits.



By Giuditta Petreni

In Italy, healthcare is considered a right. The comprehensive national health system is designed to provide assistance for all Italian citizens and residents, including foreign citizens who are legal residents of Italy. Foreigners registered with the National Health Service (Servizio Sanitario Nazionale - SSN) are guaranteed full assistance under the same conditions as Italian citizens.

The Italian Healthcare System at a Glance

- The SSN is a regionally organized service though general objectives and fundamental principles are ensured at national level.
- Each region (such as Lombardy, Tuscany, etc.) is responsible for organizing and delivering health care through geographically based local health authorities (Aziende Sanitarie Locali/ASL - often referred to by their former name Unità Sanitaria Locale/USL)
- Local health authorities (ASL) deliver public health, community health services and primary care services.
- Secondary and specialist care is provided either through public hospitals or accredited private providers
- Inpatient hospital care is delivered through a network of hospitals, which can be either public or private

HEALTHCARE RIGHTS IN ITALY FOR U.S. EXPATS AND VISITORS

- The SSN provides hospitalisation and treatment (including tests, surgery and medication during hospitalisation), visits to family doctors/paediatricians (GPs), specialist medical assistance, discounted medicines, laboratory services, appliances, ambulance services.
- Healthcare facilities may vary in terms of quality in different regions of Italy.
- Most care is free or low-cost. All patients (including foreigners legally resident) are asked to pay a co-pay fee (called “ticket”) before undergoing specialist examinations and for medicines. Exemptions exist for reasons such as chronic diseases, low income patients, etc..
- urgent and essential services are guaranteed to anyone, also to irregular immigrants. Temporary visitors can receive health services by paying for the costs of treatment.

Can I benefit from the healthcare public services if I am visiting Italy as a tourist?

You have certain health care rights during a temporary stay. You can access both emergency and standard healthcare services. In the first case, payment must be corresponded upon hospital discharge. In case of “non-emergency” treatment, advanced payment is required.

Are US citizens residing in Italy eligible for public healthcare coverage? Yes, under certain conditions. Depending on the type of

residence permit a foreigner holds, registration with SSN can be for free (also called “mandatory” registration or “entitled by right” registration) or subject to an annual registration fee (“voluntary” registration). Regardless of this, co-payment is required for visits and medical examinations as well as for medicines, calculated on the basis of the individual’s income.

Who is eligible for free “mandatory”/“entitled by right” registration?

Generally speaking, the following categories are entitled to free registration:

- Foreign citizens in possession of a permit who regularly work as employees/self-employees (*lavoro subordinato, lavoro autonomo*) in Italy or are enrolled with government employment agency
- Foreign citizens in possession of or waiting for renewal of a permit for employment, self-employment, family reasons, asylum, adoption/custody, citizenship acquisition, religious reasons
- Dependent family members of all the above categories

Under which conditions can a foreigner be granted access to the services provided through the national Healthcare System?

As a general rule, every foreign citizen can enjoy public health benefits in Italy but with different conditions depending on the type of permit they hold. Three options are possible: 1. Free/by right registration

- with National Health Service (holders of one of the permits listed above)
- 2. Voluntarily registration with National Health Service.
- 3. Private health insurance to cover sanitary expenses (no registration with SSN)

It is to be noted that any foreign citizens – may he/she be visitor or resident – must be adequately covered under a health insurance. Those not entitled to free/by right registration with the Italian National Health Service are required to either have private comprehensive health insurance coverage or apply for “voluntary” registration with SSN.

I am not entitled to “free” registration and I have a private health insurance. Can I still be treated in a public hospital?

Yes. In this case, the full fee required for the treatment is due upon hospital discharge. Even if not registered, in principle one can still access to public hospitals services by paying the relevant fee applied for each service and ask to be refunded by the private health insurance policy. Further to receiving the payment, the hospital will issue an invoice and – upon request - a copy of the relevant medical record.

Your private health policy conditions should foresee the possibility of paying directly the fee applied by Italian public hospitals in case of emergency medical care or hospitalization, with no limitations or exceptions and for the whole duration of

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the required hospitalization (to prevent the foreign national becoming a burden for the Italian national health system). The health insurance policy can be purchased in home country or in Italy with an Italian company (for instance, National institute of Insurance Istituto Nazionale delle Assicurazioni -INA has an agreement with Italian Ministry of Health and offers dedicated insurance policies to cover medical assistance); in both cases, it must not have any limitations or exceptions with regards to the expenses which may arise for urgent hospitalization during the whole period of stay.

What is meant by “voluntary” registration with SSN?

If you are not eligible for “free” registration, an alternative to the private

health coverage is “voluntary” registration with SSN. The registration requires the payment of a yearly lump sum (valid from January 1st to December 31st of each year) calculated on the basis of the applicant’s previous year income (either in Italy or abroad).

The lump sum should be calculated on the basis of instructions provided by the Health Ministry. Parameters:

- 7,50% rate up to an income equal to € 20.658,28
- 4% rate on any amounts exceeding € 20.658,28 and up to a limit of € 51.645,69.

Holders of study permit/au pairs do pay a fixed lump sum. Once registered you will be guaranteed full assistance under the same conditions as Italian citizens.

I have a permit as a worker temporarily assigned to an Italian entity. My employer remains abroad and I do not have a local contract. Do I have the right to register “for free”?

This falls within the so called “particular cases” of Italian Immigration law. The Intra Company Transfer is the most common procedure used by multinational groups for its employees.

This option is reserved to experienced executives/highly skilled foreign nationals assigned to work at an Italian company for a limited period of time, remaining employed with the home country employer.

The permit issued to this category of workers is not - technically - for “subordinate work” but for “work-particular cases art. 27” meaning that are issued pursuant to art. 27 of Italian immigration law which sets exceptions to the quota based Italian immigration system.

The status of foreign workers entered in Italy pursuant to art. 27 c.1 letter a) applications is that of workers temporarily seconded to an Italian branch, employed by a foreign employee and not by the Italian entity with an Italian job contract.

In fact, a section of the law on Immigration (DPR 31/8/1999, n. 394) clarifies that foreign citizens entered in Italy with art. 27 letter (a) applications do not automatically have the right to free healthcare registration. However, the law also clarifies that exceptions may apply if the individual is subject to “imposta sul reddito

delle persone fisiche (IRPEF)”. IRPEF is a direct tax applied to personal income. If expats are able to show the payment of this tax in Italy, then they shall be able to register for free.

Is registration with SSN an easy process?

Foreigners may experience difficulties when attempting to register with or even obtain information from the Health authorities. This is because rules are often applied unevenly throughout Italy or even within the same region, sometimes due to the lack of clarity and sometimes because the public office staff is insufficiently trained. It is very common to receive adverse information on the matter. Each local health office may apply different interpretations especially with regards to those categories who are not automatically entitled to free health registration. It may happen that those who do not in theory have the right to free enrolment are surprisingly registered for free, mainly because local staff is not aware of the law provisions. Be aware that things may suddenly change!

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Giuditta Petreni is a senior immigration consultant at Mazzeschi Srl, a boutique firm specialized in Italian business, immigration and citizenship law. She has over eight years of experience in assisting companies and business investors with relocation of managers and staff to Italy. Giuditta has extensive experience advising corporate and private clients on a full range of Italian immigration categories.

SONS OF ITALY FOUNDATION'S 29TH ANNUAL NATIONAL EDUCATION & LEADERSHIP AWARDS GALA

MAY 25, 2017

WASHINGTON, D.C. ★ OMNI SHOREHAM HOTEL
VISIT WWW.OSIA.ORG FOR UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Featuring a silent auction, Venetian hour, cocktail reception, dinner, dancing, music and more!

The signature Washington event will honor Hon. Jessica Garfola Wright, Rear Admiral Margaret DeLuca "Peg" Klein, humanitarian Anthony J. Cancelosi, and past OSIA president Robert A. Messa. In addition, the SIF's national scholarship recipients – including the NIABA scholarship winner – will be showcased.

Reserve tickets, sponsorships, and complete details are available at <https://www.osia.org/news/nela-gala>.

CONGRATULATIONS CRISTINA DICKOS

NIABA & SONS OF ITALY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP WINNER



Cristina Dickos was selected as the recipient of the NIABA & Sons of Italy Foundation (SIF) Scholarship for 2017. Christina will be entering her third and final year of law school at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law this upcoming fall, where she serves as a chief managing editor of The Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law.

She also currently represents the law school as a senator on the Inter-Professional Council, the student government for the university's six professional colleges. This summer, Cristina will be working as a summer associate at the Columbus office of Dickinson Wright PLLC. Following is the essay she wrote to accompany her application for the scholarship.

During my first year of law school, I became overwhelmed with the task of distinguishing myself from my peers. Although my classmates were generally a friendly bunch, I could not help but sense that

the competitive spirit was alive and well. We had all achieved great success in our undergraduate years, and now we were competing against each other to achieve similar success in law school.

To distinguish oneself at an institution as large as The Ohio State University is no easy feat, but I welcomed the challenge. I was elected by my peers to represent the law school as a senator on the Inter-Professional Council, the student government of the university's six professional colleges. I was one of five finalists in the search for the next Graduate/Professional Student Trustee on The Ohio State University Board of Trustees. I was selected by university administration to assist in the revision of the university's Code of Student Conduct. Yet, when I began interviewing for jobs, these accomplishments seemed to pale in comparison to another achievement of mine, one that I had never taken the time to highlight: my Italian minor.

As an undergraduate student, I chose to pursue an Italian minor to learn the language of my ancestors and be able to converse with my Nonno and Nonna in their native tongue. I had not anticipated utilizing my minor beyond that, so you can imagine my surprise when one interviewer singled out my Italian language skills as a factor that distinguished me from the other candidates. As

my interviewer explained, he was working on a project for a client in Italy and believed my proficiency in Italian would be beneficial to this client relationship to ensure nothing was lost in translation. My interviewer expressed genuine excitement at the thought of bringing me on board to work with him and his Italian client, and his enthusiasm was contagious.

This interview renewed my desire to study Italian. My interviewer recognized my foreign language skills as a valuable asset, and perhaps I was extended a job offer for that very reason. Regardless, I am proud to say I will be working for that interviewer's law firm this summer.

Completing an Italian minor was a goal I set for myself as an undergraduate student. Now with this educational foundation, I am compelled to further my Italian language skills through real-world application. After years of thinking my Italian minor was something I would only use with my grandparents, I now have the chance to use it to assist my employer and the client in Italy. But my contribution to this client relationship will be more than just translating words. I hope to provide the client with a sense of comfort and respect as we work to more fully understand his experience through his native language.

We live in a multicultural society, and studying Italian has equipped me with a unique cultural awareness. Global clients call for a global mindset, and foreign language skills play a critical role in achieving that. Rather than force foreign clients to learn English, why not put aside the pride and make the effort to become familiar with the client's language and culture? I am proud to be an Italian-American who understands the challenge of learning a foreign language and who has been given the unique opportunity to improve a client relationship by overcoming a language barrier. I am thankful that interviewer saw potential in me and provided me with a way to stay connected to my culture and heritage as I begin my legal career.

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Each year, NIABA and the SIF co-sponsor a scholarship for a worthy law school student. To make a donation to NIABA's scholarship fund, visit our [website](#).

Cristina and other SIF scholarship recipients will be honored at the Sons of Italy Foundation's 29th Annual National Education & Leadership Awards Gala on May 25th in Washington, DC. For more information about the event, visit the OSIA [website](#).

DIFFERENT RULES FOR OBTAINING ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP THROUGH PATERNAL & MATERNAL BLOODLINES



By Massimiliano Castellari

On March 17th, 1861, the Kingdom of Italy (Regno d'Italia) united. Since then, Italian citizenship has been an irrevocable right granted to all of its subjects, and is passed onto to future generations by bloodline (*iure sanguinis*), in contrast to receiving citizenship based upon the country of birth (*jus soli*).

Any Italian male, who was born or dies after March 17th, 1861 will always be considered Italian, except if he becomes a citizen of another country. He passes this right onto all of his decedents, regardless of how many generations have passed. For example, if you are an American with a single male Italian ancestor who died in 1862, you could apply for Italian citizenship through the Italian Consulates. Assuming that you can provide sufficient documentation proving your status, they may not reject you citizenship on the grounds of bloodline.

Before January 1st, 1948, citizenship could not pass through the maternal

bloodline. If a child had an Italian mother and a non-Italian father, the Consulate would not consider the child Italian. Moreover, if an Italian woman changed her citizenship due to marriage, she would automatically forfeit her Italian citizenship. These rules clearly discriminated against women. During the seventies and eighties, the Italian Constitutional Court recognized these rulings as unconstitutional, and overturned them.

- Accordingly, mothers can pass on their Italian citizenship to their descendants through the Italian Consulates, but only if they were born after January 1st, 1948 — the date the Italian Constitution was created.
- However, because the Constitution was not in effect before January 1st, 1948, Italian women (or their descendants) born before this date do not have an automatic right to citizenship. They need to get their right to citizenship through the Courts.
- The rules regarding maternal lineage are referred to as The Rule of 1948, which is found under Law 555 of 1912.
- The Rule of 1948 even covers historic cases in which the child was born from an Italian mother before 1912, when the Civil Code of 1865 was in force. In this light, Italian bloodlines are arising even in the 19th century, and

descendants are still entitled to obtain Italian citizenship.

When to apply through the Italian Courts.

The applicant only needs to apply for citizenship through the courts when the case is complex. This includes maternal line cases, where the descendant was born before January 1st, 1948. For other cases, the applicant goes to the Italian Consulate.

The Italian legal system does not follow the principle of *stare decisis* (binding precedent) as it does in common law countries such as the United States. This means that even if the Courts have ruled hundreds of times in favor of the previous dual-citizenship applications, future applicants who have the exact same circumstances as prior approved candidates still need to obtain approval through judicial rulings.

How the courts usually rule.

The Courts have recently determined that the Constitution's mandate concerning citizenship should extend to the time before January 1st, 1948, the time of its creation (*ratione temporis*). Because of this, the counterparty, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, usually defaults and the Court rules in favor of the applicant requesting citizenship.

Nowadays, if the applicant opens the lawsuit and provides all of the appropriate documents, the chance of

getting a positive ruling is extremely high.

Exception regarding application through the paternal line in the U.S.

Sometimes, an Italian immigrates to the United States for employment reasons and then naturalizes. If an Italian father has children before the naturalization process finishes, the descendants are entitled to Italian citizenship. However, if the children are born after the father's naturalization, the descendants may not apply though the paternal line. In such a case, the descendants still have the option to apply through the maternal line as it falls into the scope of the "Rule of 48". This loophole exists because when the lawmakers created the law, it was uncommon for Italian women to naturalize.

Previous Lawsuits.

The following cases show how the Italian courts have rules on citizenship cases in the past:

An Italian woman married to foreign citizen

Miss Carmela Bianco, from Reggio Calabria, immigrated to the U.S. with her parents in 1920. In 1940, she got married to US citizen Steven Jessup. Because of the local laws, as soon as she got married, she lost her Italian citizenship under Article 10 of Law 555 of 1912 — and her children and grandchildren were unable to obtain Italian citizenship. Due to the recent changes in Italian

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Citizenship, continued from page 8

case law, she was able to have her citizenship recognized, and for it to be passed onto future generations.

The Rule of 1948 (maternal lineage) under Law 555 of 1912

Miss Giovanna Rossi is the daughter of two Italian citizens who immigrated to the US in 1915. Miss Rossi had two children with a US citizen: Sandra was born in 1946 and Michael in 1950. Before,

Michael was entitled to obtain Italian citizenship through the Consulate while Sandra was not, since she was born from an Italian woman before January 1st, 1948. The change in Italian case law means that Sandra now has the right to obtain Italian citizenship and pass it on to her descendants.

Italian citizenship for the descendants in case of extramarital births

Mario Rossi migrated to the

US and had a child, Joseph Rossi, without being married to Joseph's mother. The descendants are entitled to obtain Italian citizenship, even if they do not have a document signed by Joseph's parents, in which they declare their son legitimate.

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Massimiliano Castellari is the founder and managing director of Castellari Law, an international boutique Firm

seated in Bogotá and Santiago de Chile. He practices international corporate law and private international law. He has worked extensively in matters involving foreign investments, SME's market entry in Latin America, overseas acquisitions and joint ventures. The Firm is a Top5 worldwide on the practice of Italian Citizenship through the courts.

WELCOME NEW NIABA MEMBERS

Welcome to the following members, who joined NIABA between December 29, 2016 and April 23, 2017.

Paul Atanasio

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NIABA "MERCH" AVAILABLE

Show your NIABA pride with our oversize coffee mug and full-color lapel pin. The mug holds a generous 22 oz. and is perfect for coffee, tea, soup, or tortellini! The lapel pin is professional, attractive, and easy to read. Both are available on our [website](#) -- \$15 for the mug, \$6 for the pin, postage included -- or as our gift with a donation to the scholarship fund of \$100 or more.



Affiliate Reports

West Chapter



Elaine Rooper, Guadalupe Lopez-Lozano, Gareth Facciano, Damian Capozzola, Roberta Gentilli Purcell, and Natale Messina at Arizona Summit Law School.

In March, NIABA hosted a successful lunchtime seminar for students at Arizona Summit Law School in Phoenix. The topic was “The Value of Bar Associations” and we discussed how NIABA and other bar associations could help law students and young lawyers network, get jobs, develop clients, expand their substantive knowledge, and otherwise transition to successful attorneys. NIABA members Damian Capozzola, Roberta Gentilli Purcell, and Natale Messina lectured, and NIABA member and Summit law student Gareth Facciano

organized the event. NIABA thanks the Summit Law School Sports & Entertainment Association and Women Law Students Association for sponsoring the lunch.

President Sena will leave his presidency in May with a strong and growing West Region – there are now active groups in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Orange County, and San Diego, and the potential for establishment of yet another group in Arizona as a result of the connections and excitement generated at the Phoenix Board Meeting.



Southern California presidents Daral Mazzarella (San Diego), Domenic Rainone (Orange Co.), and Lydia Liberio (Los Angeles) at the February IALOC event.

This January, NIABA West Region Vice President Damian Capozzola attended the inaugural meeting of the Italian American Bar Association of San Diego. President Daral Mazzarella and the rest of the newly-minted IABA-SD Officers welcomed approximately 50 local Italian-American lawyers and judges for a terrific social hour capped off by his speech about his visions for the group and aspirations for the future!

The next day, the focus shifted to Phoenix for the NIABA

Winter Board Meeting. (See details and photos on pages 12 and 13).

The momentum out west continued in February as NIABA President, Joe Sena, continued his superstar farewell tour with back-to-back dinner meetings with the Los Angeles and Orange County groups. Both were very well attended and Sena entertained and informed the crowd as he spoke on immigration issues, an especially timely topic in today’s political environment.

Justinian Society (Chicago)



Richard Caifano, John Grieco, President Frank A. Sommario, and Hon. Gloria Coco enjoy a game of bocce.

The Justinian Society of Lawyers held its annual Bocce Tournament in February at Pinstripes in Oak Brook, which has been the site for the last two years. Three teams competed for the championship. This year’s Justinian President, Frank A. Sommario, and his team ultimately won. That team

consisted of Sommario, Angie Alioto, Peter Curielli, and Patrick Serowka. Several current Justinian Officers and Past Presidents were in attendance at this fun event.

The 2017 Justinian Society Children’s Endowment Fund (CEF) dinner was held in

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March at Lux Bar in Chicago. Each year the CEF presents a grant to a different charitable organization. This year Justinian President, Frank A. Sommario, and CEF Founder, Antonio M. Romanucci, presented sizable grants of \$3,625 each to the Reflections Foundation and to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The Reflections Foundation assists African American and Latina girls in becoming better communicators at home, in school and the future workplace. St. Jude Children's Hospital leads the way the world understands, treats and defeats childhood cancer and other deadly diseases.

Over 60 Justinians attended including all of the current officers and eight past presidents.

Tampa Chapter



In January, the Tampa Chapter of NIABA celebrated "Un Nuova Anno Presso L'Unione Italiana!" A New Year at the Italian Club! The event – hosted by Lee & Lazzara, PLLC – featured a guided tour of the historic L'Unione Italiana, great food, and wine to go around! It was another big success for this local chapter that is gaining momentum in an area with rich Italian cultural history. For more information, contact [Domenick Lazzara](#).

NIABA HEADS WEST

PHOENIX MEETING INCLUDED THE WILD & NOT-SO-WILD



The Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort provided tremendous accommodations for the NIABA Winter Board Meeting in Phoenix. Senior U.S. District Judge Neil Wake and his family helped welcome NIABA on Thursday night with a fantastic dinner at Marcellino Restorante. co-hosted by NIABA member, Roberta Gentilli Purcell. After the Friday board meeting, we were welcomed to the Rawhide Steakhouse for some down-home

Western cooking punctuated by stunts and comedy from the Rawhide entertainers.

Following the Saturday board meeting, it was time for the weekend's gala event as well over 200 people – including State Senators Andrea Dallesandro and Martin Quezada as well as leadership from the Italian Association of Arizona – turned out to welcome NIABA to the Arizona American Italian Club for an evening of rousing speeches and Italian food, music, and dancing!

Carl "Tony" Capozzola – one of the founders of the Los Angeles Italian American Lawyers Association back in 1977 – told the crowd the origin story of the Los Angeles group (involving a substantial donation from Frank Sinatra himself!). In many ways this is now the origin story of more than just the Los Angeles group, as they later gave rise to the Orange Co. chapter and, more recently with the help of NIABA, a new group in San Diego. Who knows, perhaps Arizona next?



more photos available on [our website](#)

NIABA MEMBERS: REGISTER NOW!



ROME, ITALY CLE SEPT 25-27 2017



NIABA Members throughout the USA and Italy are invited to attend a CLE program in Rome, Italy, on Monday-Wednesday, September 25-27, 2017. The program will feature two 2-hour lectures in English each day -- one from 10 a.m. to noon and the second from 4 to 6 p.m. Each lecturer will be an attorney practicing in Italy

who will provide an outline in advance to qualify the lecture for CLE credits if desired.

The following topics were selected to appeal to U.S. attorneys who have clients needing legal assistance in Italy:

1. Tax structures and loopholes in Italy.
2. Family law issues between Italy and the U.S. – case studies.
3. Emerging opportunities for lawyers.
4. Dual citizenship for Italian Americans.
5. How to navigate the Italian court system in litigation.
6. Italian heritage and Italian inheritance. How to deal with Italian probate proceeding.

The lectures will be held in the congress hall of a 4-star hotel. Following each afternoon session there will be a cash bar “meet and greet” for participants and companions. The contacts you make should be invaluable. The room price of the hotel will include breakfast for guests. Several programs and tours will be proposed to the participants who want to attend.

Terms of participation:

- 2017 NIABA dues must be paid in full
- Payment of the \$300 registration fee must be made to NIABA before June 1, 2017
- Hotel reservations should be made with the NH Leonardo Da Vinci Hotel directly at 1-855-215-4084.
- Airfare should be booked separately

Questions? Contact Valerio Spinaci,
NIABA VP for Italy, at valeriospinaci@gmail.com

Name _____

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Register online at www.niaba.org or
mail this form and payment to NIABA
2020 Pennsylvania Ave., NW • PMB 932
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Notes from the NIABA Office

Dues Are Due

NIABA membership fees for 2017 are now passed due. Please check your dues status by logging into your account on our [website](#). Dues may be paid online or by phone (414-750-4404) with your credit card, by mail with a check in dollars or euros. Contact our [office](#) if you didn't receive your notice, need help logging in, or have any other questions. **Those who do not renew by May 1 will be considered inactive and removed from our mailing list.** Don't let that happen to you!

* * * * *

Can We Refer You?

Is your profile up-to-date on the NIABA [website](#)? If not, you may be missing valuable referrals! Members of the public use the Lawyer Search function, and sometimes contact us directly, looking for an attorney. The more information in your profile, the more likely they will choose you. Don't miss valuable opportunities. Login and update your profile now.

* * * * *

NIABA Brochures

An electronic version (PDF) of the NIABA membership brochure is available on our [website](#). We encourage

you to share the brochure with anyone who might be interested in joining NIABA. For hard copies to distribute to your colleagues or group, please contact the NIABA [office](#).

* * * * *

Member Logo Available

It's easy to show your NIABA affiliation on your firm's website or marketing materials. Contact the NIABA [office](#) and we will send you a file that is suitable for online or print use.



* * * * *

Reaching Out to Law Students

NIABA membership is free for law students and first-year attorneys. If you know of groups or events that we should reach out to, please contact the NIABA [office](#) and we will provide brochures or other information to the organization you recommend.

* * * * *

How to Contact Us

NIABA Administrator Dana Robb can be reached at 414-750-4404 or dana@barefoot-marketing.com.

GRAZIE TO NIABA'S SUPPORTERS

Our special thanks to those members who are supporting NIABA beyond their regular membership dues this year.

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National Italian American Bar Association - Application for Membership

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You can also apply online at www.niaba.org

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In which states and/or countries are you licensed to practice law? _____

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Membership Status: Attorney Judge Retired Law student

Membership Level & Dues: Regular (\$50) Sponsor (\$100) Patron (\$250) Judge (\$25) Law student/1st year atty (free)

How did you learn about NIABA? Local Association Web Site The Digest Law Journal Referral Other

Would you like to make a contribution to the NIABA Scholarship Fund? \$100 or more \$50 \$25 Other

Include your check, made payable to NIABA Scholarship Fund

I certify that I am at least one of the following: a lawyer of Italian birth or extraction; a lawyer related by marriage to a person of Italian birth or extraction; a lawyer who is willing to support the purposes and objectives of NIABA. I further certify that I have been admitted to practice law and am in good standing in any country or jurisdiction; or have been granted and possess a law degree from a college of law in any jurisdiction and would qualify for admission to practice law; or am currently a law student in an accredited law school in any country or jurisdiction. All information I have provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please mail this form along with your membership dues and any other amounts listed above. Make checks payable to NIABA.

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