

Mimi Tsankov
Biographical Statement

Judge Mimi Tsankov is the current President of the National Association of Immigration Judges (NAIJ). She was appointed to the bench as an Immigration Judge in 2006. She has presided over detained, non-detained, juvenile, and family unit dockets. Over the past 15 years she has presided at Immigration Courts in New York, Colorado, and California, and is seated today at the New York Federal Plaza Immigration Court in Manhattan. She has served as an Immigration and Naturalization Service Assistant District counsel, a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney (EDNY), and as an Asylum Officer.

Judge Tsankov is actively involved with the legal and the non-legal community, mentoring and speaking regularly before bar associations, conferences, symposiums, organizations and schools. She has been elected to the Federal Bar Association (FBA) Board of Directors. At the American Bar Association (ABA), Judge Tsankov is Secretary of the Judicial Division National Conference of Administrative Law Judges (NCALJ), serves as Liaison to the ABA Commission on Immigration, and has an ABA Presidential Appointment to the United Nations Department of Global Communications, in her capacity as President of the NAIJ.

Judge Tsankov is co-chair of the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ) Immigration Law Committee, and Vice President of Publications, in her capacity as President of the NAIJ. She serves as an Adjunct Law Professor at Fordham Law School in New York. Judge Tsankov publishes regularly in peer-reviewed, and general interest journals.

Judge Tsankov completed her J.D. at the University of Virginia School of Law and was awarded an M.A. in International Relations at the University of Virginia Graduate School of Politics. She completed her undergraduate degree at James Madison University. She is appearing in her capacity as the President of NAIJ and not as a representative of the Department of Justice.