## Immigration Judge Gita Vahid-Tehrani (personal capacity)

Immigration Judge Vahid-Tehrani was appointed to the bench on January 2002 as the 1<sup>st</sup> Iranian-American Immigration Judge and has been serving as an Immigration Judge at the Los Angeles Immigration Court since her appointment. In such capacity, she has been presiding over several thousands of removal and relief from removal hearings. She is the recipient of 2 Outstanding Mentoring Awards from Attorney Generals Holder and Mukasey for mentoring other Immigration Judges, Attorney Advisors and Judicial Law Clerks. She is the former Chair of the "BIA Precedent Decision Committee." She has been a "Subject Matter Mentor" for the Immigration Judge Practice Manual. She has led several Court Evaluation Teams for the nationwide evaluation of Immigration Courts and has served on the Immigration Judge Benchbook Committee.

Prior to taking the bench, she served as an Assistant Chief Counsel (formerly known as Assistant District Counsel/Trial Attorney with the legacy INS). Besides representing the Government daily in thousands of immigration matters for over 10 years, she was involved with Worksite Enforcement Litigation and Represented the Government in Merit System Protection Board (MSPB) hearings. She also worked closely with the US Attorney's Office on Mandamus Actions and assisted in the Recruitment/Interviewing process of the Office of Chief Counsel. She also trained and mentored numerous incoming attorneys and worked on Litigation Reports for the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit.

Former Member of the ABA and IALA.

Whittier College School of Law-JD –Dean's List, Member of the Whittier Law Review

**University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA)-BA** in Economics- Involved with Government Internship Program and the International Student Center