

Paul R. Almanza

Paul Almanza has been an Administrative Law Judge (“ALJ”) with the Department of Labor (“DOL”) since January 2013, and became the Associate Chief ALJ for Longshore and Immigration in January 2017. Before joining DOL, he briefly was an ALJ with the Social Security Administration.

From 2002 to 2012, he was with the Department of Justice (“DOJ”). He held a variety of senior DOJ positions, including National Coordinator for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction in the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, Chief of Staff and Senior Counsel in the Office of Legal Policy, and Deputy Chief in the Criminal Division’s Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section. Before joining DOJ, he was an associate with a firm in Washington, D.C., where he handled a variety of matters involving government contracting, criminal defense, and commercial litigation. His first job out of law school was with a firm in Los Angeles, California, where he focused primarily on environmental law matters.

From 1996 to 2001, he served on active duty in the U.S. Army as a judge advocate in a variety of positions including prosecutor, administrative law/claims attorney, public defender, and appellate government counsel. Before going on active duty, he served as a reserve military intelligence officer, and since leaving it he served as a reserve judge advocate until his military retirement in 2016. His last reserve assignment was as a military judge, during which time he presided over many active duty courts-martial, briefly served as a judge on the Army Court of Criminal Appeals, and was the investigating officer in *U.S. v. PFC Bradley Manning*, the Wikileaks case.

Judge Almanza received an A.B. in Politics from Princeton University in 1988 and a J.D. from U.C. Berkeley’s Boalt Hall School of Law in 1992.