



**WASHINGTON**  
IMMIGRANT NETWORK

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Welcome to our September meeting!

# Agenda

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12:00 - Opening / Ice-Breaker

12:10 – Announcement

12:15 – My Immigrant Story

12:35– Subcommittee Meeting – Breakout Rooms

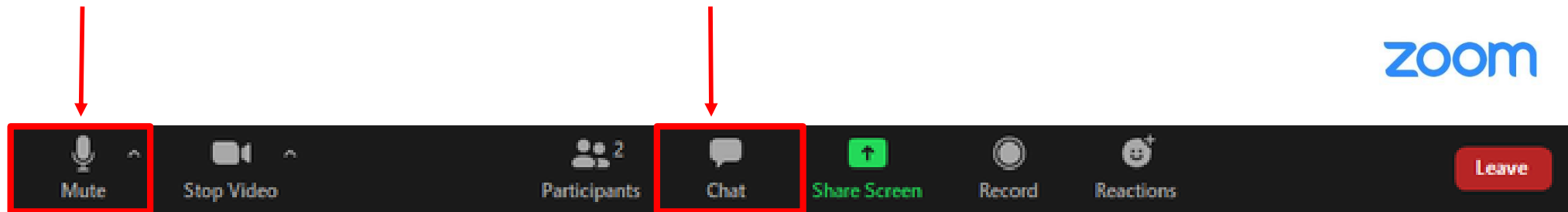
12:50 – Subcommittee Report Out

1:00 – Wrap Up – Next meeting Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 12PM

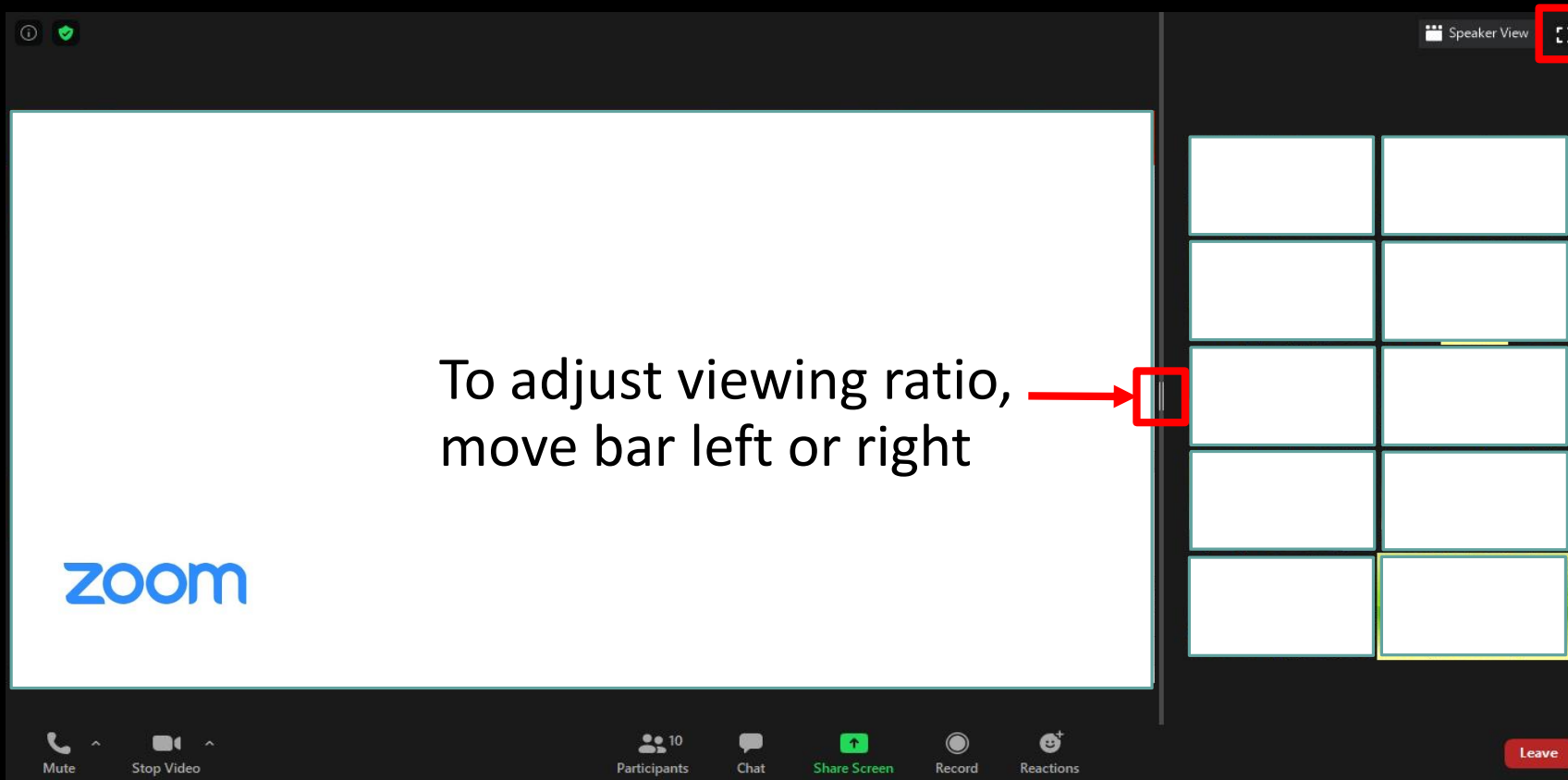
# Zoom Desktop Instructions

Please mute microphones when not speaking

To ask questions, type into the chat



# Zoom Desktop Instructions



To view full screen

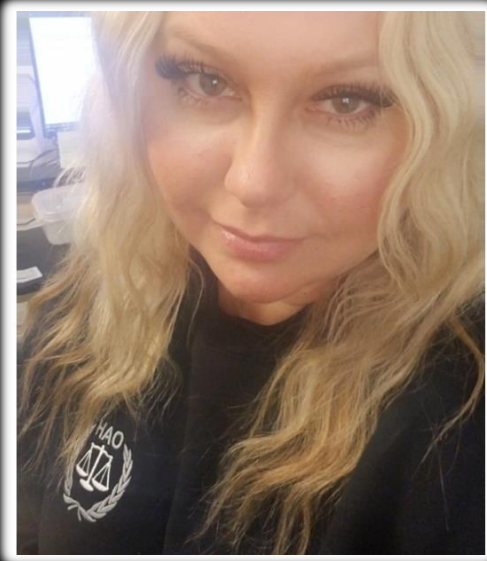
To adjust viewing ratio,  
move bar left or right

# Ice Breaker – Kim Sauer

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*What is your dream job?*

# My Immigrant Story



**Yelena Kazatskaya**  
**Office of Administrative Hearings**  
Legal Administrative Manager

*"There is no class so intensely patriotic...as the naturalized citizen and his child, for little does the native-born citizen know of the value of rights which have never been denied."*

ANDREWCARNEGIE

# Background

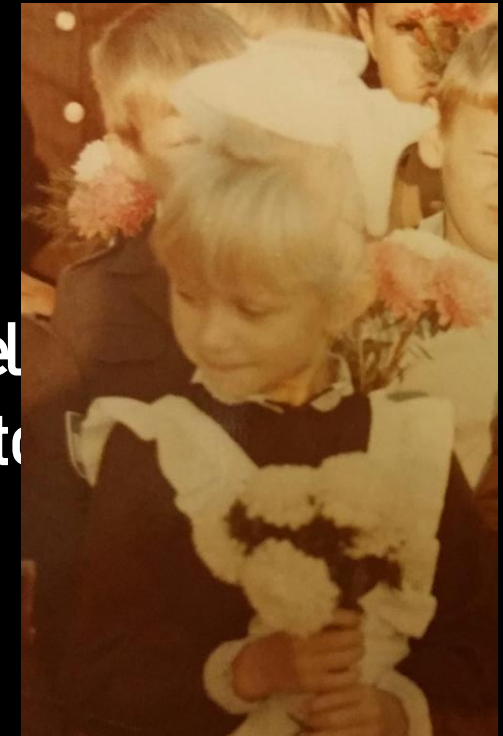


## Growing up in former USSR



From early childhood it felt like we were “programmed” to grow up and become workers or collective farmers, or so it felt. I don’t remember ever being encouraged to become a lawyer or a doctor.

“Worker and Collective Farmer” Monument



# Background

Mariupol', Port City by the Sea of Azov in Ukraine



Mariupol' is a city of regional significance in south eastern Ukraine, situated on the north coast of the Sea of Azov. It is the tenth-largest city in Ukraine and the second largest in the Donetsk region with a population of 449,498. The city is largely and traditionally Russian-speaking, while ethnically the population is divided about evenly between Ukrainians and Russians. There is also a significant ethnic Greek minority in the city. Mariupol was founded in 1778. It has been a center for the grain trade, metallurgy, and heavy engineering, including the Illich Steel & Iron Works and Azovstal'. Mariupol has played a key role in the industrialization of Ukraine.



# Background

First Career  
Crane Operator at  
"Azovstal" factory



# Education

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They say, "you are a product of your environment" and you are but then you are not at the same time.



Spokane Community College  
Paralegal Degree (2005)  
Program (2013)



University of Washington  
Private Investigation Certification

# Career



- ❖ Spokane City Public Defender's Office, Spokane WA - 2005
  - Legal Assistant
- ❖ DSHS, Home and Community Services – 2006
  - Bilingual Customer Service Specialist
- ❖ Attorney General's Office -2006 -2007
  - Legal Assistant
- ❖ Various non-profit and private legal companies -2007 - 2011
  - Paralegal
- ❖ Office of Administrative Hearings – 2011 - Present
  - Legal Assistant 2
  - Legal Assistant 3/Lead
  - Administrative Legal Manager



# Conclusion

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- ❖ Story
- ❖ Immigration Impact
- ❖ Opportunities
- ❖ Lessons
- ❖ Achievements
- ❖ Future



# Bonus/Fun Facts (No, Russians do not keep bears as pets)

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## Stereotypes

- Yes, it is cold but not always, only for 3 months in a year, unless you are in Siberia, then you definitely need a warm coat
- Yes, we are very direct, blunt and serious (my sense of humor was developed much later, as a defense mechanism)
- Yes, we are always overdressed
- Yes, we consume a lot of tea
- Yes, babushkas (grandmas) are real, they feed you all the time, just ask my kids.
- Yes, we were raised very patriotic, we are talking shooting range classes in elementary school type of patriotic 😊

# Breakout Sessions – Subcommittees

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Membership/Recruitment – Led by Anu and Amel

Career Development – Led by Alejandro and Allison

After-Hour Networking – Led by Joanne and Kim

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Thank you for  
joining us!

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