

Mark Fleming Selected for National Award for Excellence in Immigration Litigation

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The American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) has selected Partner [Mark Fleming](#) as the recipient of its 2012 Jack Wasserman Memorial Award for Excellence in Litigation in the field of immigration law. The award is a recognition of Fleming's pro bono work in *Judulang v. Holder*, a Supreme Court case that Fleming argued and won and that has been recognized as one of the most significant decisions in the field in 2011.

Judulang involved a challenge to a policy of the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) denying certain lawful permanent residents the opportunity to seek relief from deportation – an issue that had divided the federal courts of appeals. Leading the WilmerHale team, Fleming argued the case on October 12, 2011. In a unanimous decision, the Court described the BIA's approach as "headscratching," compared it to a "coin flip," and invalidated it as "arbitrary and capricious" – an unprecedented result in an immigration case. A transcript of the oral argument is available [here](#).

This award is the latest in a string of recognitions Fleming has received over the past year. He was recently recognized by *Law360* as an "MVP of the Year" with distinction in appellate law, selected by *Benchmark Litigation* 2011 as a "Future Star," and named *National Law Journal's* "Appellate Lawyer of the Week" in June 2011.

The AILA Executive Committee will present the award to Fleming at a special ceremony on Thursday, June 14 during its Annual Conference on Immigration Law in Nashville.