

Josh Koenigsberg was a pioneering figure in American immigration law, recognized as the **first president** of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) upon its founding in 1946. He was part of a group of 19 immigration professionals who established the association to address immigration and nationality law, based in New York.

- **Role in AILA:** As the inaugural president of AILA (then often associated with the Association of Immigration and Nationality Lawyers), Koenigsberg laid the foundation for what is now the primary organization for immigration attorneys in the U.S..
- **Historical Significance:** Records indicate he served alongside colleagues like Gaspare Cusumano (vice president) and Anita Strep (secretary) during the organization's inception in 1946.

Based on historical records, Josh Koenigsberg is often cited as a key Jewish American lawyer involved in the formation of the immigration bar.