

YOUR CLIENT WON ASYLUM! NOW WHAT?

Training Overview

- Immigration Opportunities
 - a) Family Petitions
 - b) Travel Documents
 - c) Preparing for Residency
- 2. Miscellaneous Issues
 - a) Change of Address
 - b) Selective Service
 - c) Marijuana
- 3. Work Permits

- 4. Proving Work Authorization
 - a) Social Security Cards
 - b) Asylum Approval Letters
 - c) DMV Issues & the REAL ID
- Social Services
 - a) Refugee-Specific Resources
 - b) General Public Assistance
 - c) Referring Your Client



Post-Asylum Legal Opportunities

FOR WHAT AND WHOM CAN ASYLEES PETITION FOR?



Asylee Relative Petitions (I-730)

Who can asylees petition for?

- Spouse
 - Must have been married at the time asylum was granted
- Unmarried child/stepchild/adopted child
 - Must have been under 21 years old at the time of filing the asylum application

What is the deadline?

- Must file within 2 years of applicant being granted asylum
 - Ex: approved May 22, 2019 → can file any time before May 22, 2021

Asylee Relative Petitions (I-730)

What documents are needed?

Immigration court records

 Certified court records/no records letters for all arrests in the United States

- Proof of Relationship
 - Spouse
 - Marriage Certificate
 - Evidence of bona fide marriage
 - Divorce Certificate, if previously married

Biological Children

- Mother petitioning: children's birth certificate
- Father petitioning:
 - Married to child's parent → children's birth certificate & marriage certificate
 - Unmarried → children's birth certificate & evidence of bona fide parent-child relationship
- Stepchildren
 - Birth certificates & marriage certificate (child <18)
- Adopted Children
 - Adoption decree showing before child 16
 - Evidence resided with child for at least 2 years

Refugee Travel Documents (I-131)

Where can asylees go?

Anywhere besides their country of origin

What is the cost?

- \$220 for anyone age 15-79
- Free with residency/adjustment of status application

What is the timeline?

- Document takes ~ 3-8 months to approve
- Valid for one year



Note: absence from the country will impact the timeline for residency

Residency/Adjustment of Status (I-485)

When can asylees apply?

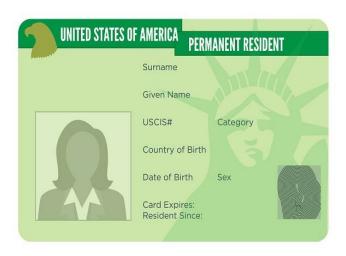
One year after being granted asylum

What is the cost?

- \$1225 (fee + biometrics fee) to DHS
- Medical Exam (~ \$100-\$600)
 - Note: Must be received within 60 days

Other issues?

- Criminal arrests/convictions after asylum grant
- One year presence requirement vs. travel



Miscellaneous legal issues



Change of Address

https://egov.uscis.gov/coa/displayCOAForm.do

Selective Service

- Males between 18 and 25
- https://www.sss.gov/Home/Registration

Marijuana Advisory

See handout in milestone packet

Proving Work Authorization

THE WORK PERMIT (EAD) AND OTHER OPTIONS

Work Permit (EAD)



How are asylees granted EADs?

Automatic issuance after affirmative grant

Mailed within 4 weeks after grant



What to do if not received?

Contact asylum office
Submit e-inquiry for mailing issues
Contact the USCIS Ombudsman's Office

Other evidence of work authorization

Unrestricted Social Security Card

- Social Security number automatically issued with work permit
- Must apply at the Social Security office to receive a card without restrictions
- Permanent evidence of right to work

Asylum Approval Letter with F94 Card

- Asylee stamp says "indefinite"
- Permanent evidence of right to work
- Note: refugees are not issued indefinite I-94

Plus photo identification (i.e. driver's license)







Asylee work authorization citations

Asylees are classified as

"aliens authorized employment incident to status"

8 C.F.R. 274a.12(a)

Asylees do not need an EAD to work

- 8 C.F.R. 274a.12(a)(5)
 - \rightarrow expiration of EAD doesn't indicate expiration of authorization

Asylees are protected from discrimination based on:

- Citizenship status
 - 8 U.S.C. § 1324b(a)(1)(B)
- Unfair documentation requirements
 - 8 U.S.C. § 1324b(a)(6)
- Unfair I-9 Verification
 - 8 U.S.C. § 1324b(a)(6)

Proving to employers

Letter from you, the attorney

See example in milestone packet

U.S. DOJ Immigrant & Employee Rights Division

- Enforces 8 U.S.C. § 1324b (28 C.F.R. Part 44)
- Hotline for immigrants 1-800-255-7688
- Hotline for employers 1-800-255-8155
- www.justice.gov/ier
 - Many fliers/documents available in English and several other languages (almost always Spanish)



Social Services for Asylees

HOW TO BEST SERVE ASYLEES WHO NEED MORE SUPPORT



Refugee-Specific Programs

Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)

- Cash assistance program for refugees* without children not otherwise eligible for cash aid
- Required to participate in employment services
 & training
- Administered by the county social services office
- Time Limit: first 8 months

Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA)

Refugee Health Assessment through local resettlement agencies

Refugee Support Services

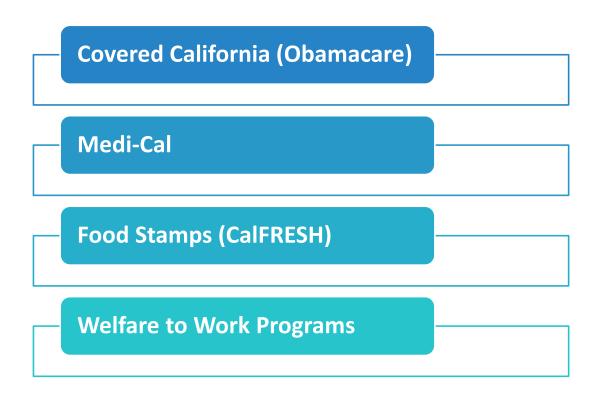
- English classes, employment support/job training, and more
- Time limit: up to 5 years

Cash Assistance for Immigrants (CAPI)

- Monthly cash benefits
- Very limited eligibility



General Social Services Programs





How to Help Your Client

SF Asylum Office Orientation

- Comprehensive overview
- English with Spanish translation
 - http://sf-cairs.org/asylum-orientation/

CDSS Refugee Programs Bureau

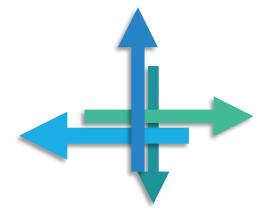
- Centralized source for CA resources
 - http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/Refugees/Programsand-Info/Asylees
 - Fact sheets in English only (at this time)

County Refugee Coordinators

- Only in "impacted counties"
 - http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/Refugees/CRCs
- Regional refugee/immigrant forums

Refugee Resettlement Organizations & Community-Based Organizations

- Administer refugee support services
- Reach out to determine the referral process
- Can find information from forums or ORR





Miscellaneous Issues

Finding mental health support

- Bay Area Resources
 - LGBTQ+ provider network Gaylesta
- SF resources
 - https://www.honeyartstherapy.com/resources
 - UCSF Trauma Recovery Center/Survivors International
- East Bay
 - Partnerships for Trauma Recovery
- San Jose/Santa Clara
 - Center for Torture Survivors in San Jose
 - Family Alliance for Counseling Tools and Resolution (Factr.org)
- California Violent Crime Victims
 - https://victims.ca.gov/victims/issues/mentalhealth/

Finding affordable housing

Burma Refugee Family Network (BRFN) training

DMV Issues: dmv@ailanorcal.com

The hype around REAL IDs...



Questions?

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