

Representing Asylum Seekers

Navigating the arduous and tortuous road to a safe haven

Political activists, Afghan citizens who supported the U.S. military and internal NGOs who fled the Taliban, women and children fleeing familial violence and entering the U.S. on the southern U.S. border, and LGBTQ+ persons escaping draconian laws that punish sexual orientation—there are many reasons for asking for legal protection in the United States. The needs of brave asylum seekers are often highly complex, and they may require a wide-range of legal services.

This program provides an orientation to immigration law that is useful for lawyers who are interested in developing an immigration practice and for anyone who wants to effectively represent an asylum seeker in an immigration case. The faculty includes the director of the asylum office, experienced practitioners from the private bar, a doctor specializing in trauma, and knowledgeable attorneys from the private sector and legal services organizations. These experts teach you how to prepare an asylum application under the immigration law, how the law defines past persecution, where to file an asylum case, and how to comply with court and administrative procedures. They explain how to work with your client to build the strongest possible case and how to avoid common pitfalls like an adverse credibility finding.

Agenda

- Law and Basis for Seeking Asylum and Theories of the Case
- A Guide to Asylum Practice and Procedure
- Special Populations in Asylum Law
- Interviewing the Client, Client Credibility, and Documenting the Claim
- Insights on Using Medical and Psychological Evaluations
- Procedure After Winning Asylum
- Techniques and Deadlines When Filing an Appeal
- “Ask the Experts” Q&A Session

Political Asylum/Immigration Representation (PAIR) Project

PAIR coordinates a panel of over 600 volunteer attorneys representing asylum seekers. Other organizations in Boston also rely on volunteer attorneys. *If you are willing to join a legal services pro bono/volunteer lawyers panel and accept one case within the next year, your reduced tuition is \$65. After the program, MCLE will forward your name to the cosponsoring organization, and you will be contacted regarding your panel assignment.*

Faculty

Anita P. Sharma, Esq., *PAIR Project, Boston, Chair*

Meghann W. Boyle, Esq., *Director, Asylum Sub-Office Boston, U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, Boston*

Sondra S. Crosby, MD, *Boston University School of Medicine, Boston*

Ilana E. Greenstein, Esq., *Senior Technical Assistance Attorney, Immigration Justice Campaign, American Immigration Lawyers Association, Washington, DC*

David K. McHaffey, Esq., *McHaffey & Nice LLC, Boston*



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Dates & Location

LIVE WEBCAST

Wednesday, October 27, 2021
1:00 pm–5:00 pm

Register at www.mcle.org
Program Number: 2220174WBC

REBROADCAST

Friday, November 12, 2021
9:30 am–1:30 pm

Register at www.mcle.org
Program Number: 2220174RBC

REBROADCAST

Monday, November 22, 2021
1:00 pm–5:00 pm

Register at www.mcle.org
Program Number: 2220174RB1

ON DEMAND WEBCAST

View after Monday, November 22, 2021

Register at www.mcle.org
Program Number: 2220174WBA

Tuition *(includes written materials)*

- \$125
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- \$93.75 New Lawyers admitted to law practice after 2018, Pending Admittees, Law Students, and Paralegals

To apply for a need-based scholarship, email scholarships@mcle.org.

Materials

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Also, there is no need to take extensive notes. Two weeks after the live webcast, all registrants receive a link to a verbatim transcript of this program.

CLE Credits

Earn up to 4 CLE credits

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For course agendas, hours, fees, and discounts, please refer to the respective seminar pages. The fee includes program instruction and all electronic written materials unless otherwise noted.

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 - 6-10 250
 - 11-25... 500
 - 26-75... 1,000
 - 76-150 ... \$ 2,500
 - 151-250 .. 3,500
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REFERENCE # 22-020

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