



Three-Part Telephone & E-mail Seminar:

Preparing The Asylum Case: The Key Issues

Speakers: David L. Cleveland, Elizabeth Barna, Danielle Beach, Regina Germain, Lisa Koop, Jeffrey Martins and Linette Tobin

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Disclaimer: participation in this seminar does not create an attorney-client relationship with the speakers.

Seminar Outline

FIRST Phone Session on July 26: Harm And Motive

- Economic harm
- Emotional harm
- Physical harm
- Future harm
- Harm not considered to be persecution
- Internal relocation
- Race, religion, political opinion, nationality as motives
- Proving motive of the persecutor

SECOND Phone Session on August 16: Particular Social Groups And Bars To Asylum

- My husband punched me
- FGM
- Recruitment by a gang
- Juveniles
- Other particular social groups
- The one-year deadline
- Firm resettlement

THIRD Phone Session on September 13: Preparing The Application

- Persecutor of others
- Material support
- How to get letters from the old country
- Country conditions information from where?
- How to interrupt the Asylum Officer
- FOIA?
- Objections to DHS documents
- Overcoming Dandan case
- DHS attorney and IJ relations

Signup

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[] July 26 CD [] August 16 CD [] September 13 CD 2.00pm to 3.30pm ET (11.00am to 12.30pm PT)

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(→ see next page for speaker bios)

About the Speakers

David L. Cleveland (Discussion Leader) is a full-time, volunteer staff attorney at Catholic Charities of Washington DC. He is a graduate of the University of Rochester and of Case Western Reserve University School of Law. After being a college instructor in Indonesia for three years, David was a defense attorney for the District of Columbia, where he conducted over 40 civil jury trials. He joined Catholic Charities of Washington DC in 1998, specializing in asylum. In 2004, he was selected out of 275,000 candidates to be the "National Catholic Charities Volunteer of the Year." He served as the AILA representative to the US-CIS Asylum Office from 2003-2006; and as the Chair of the AILA Asylum Committee from 2004-2005. Articles and chapters by David have been published by AILA, Bender's Immigration Bulletin, and ILW.COM.

Elizabeth Barna, Esq. practices law in New York City, NY.

Danielle Beach, Esq. practices law in Washington, D.C.

Regina Germain, author of AILA's Asylum Primer and an asylum attorney with over 17 years of experience. She is currently Legal Director at the Rocky Mountain Survivors Center and has previously served as UNHCR's Senior Legal Counselor in its Washington, DC office.

Lisa Koop, Esq. is the supervising attorney for the National Immigrant Justice Center's Asylum Project in Chicago, Illinois. She represents asylum-seekers, trains pro bono attorneys to handle asylum cases and teaches an asylum externship to Chicago-area law students. Before joining NIJC, Lisa completed a two-year fellowship at the Notre Dame Legal Clinic, where she taught and supervised law students who handled immigration cases. Lisa graduated magna cum laude from Indiana University School of Law in Indianapolis in 2004.

Jeffrey Martins, Esq. practices law in San Francisco, CA.

Linette Tobin is a graduate of UC Berkeley, Boalt Hall and has practiced immigration law for 12 years. She began her immigration career working for CARECEN in San Francisco and continues to collaborate closely with non-profit community organization in the Washington, DC area. She has also done volunteer human rights and election work in Central America and more recently in Iraq. Although her practice includes all aspects of immigration law, she specializes in asylum law. She is a solo practitioner in Maryland.