CGRS MCLE Webinar: Dealing with Circularity in Particular Social Group Definitions

What is “circularity,” and why can it pose challenges in defining a cognizable particular social group? Are circular groups ever permissible? Come learn how to navigate this important aspect of social group cognizability. CGRS attorneys will discuss relevant case law on circularity and provide examples of common fact patterns. The webinar will discuss strategies for formulating non-circular social groups, tips on building a strong evidentiary record, and rebuttals to common arguments on circularity.

This webinar is suitable for participants with a basic understanding of particular social group (PSG) cognizability and will build upon CGRS’s August 3, 2023, webinar on Introduction to Asylum Claims Based on Particular Social Groups. Registrants are encouraged to submit questions in advance of the webinar on the registration form by Tuesday, September 12, 2023.

Date: Thursday, September 14, 2023

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

PDT Presenters: Neela Chakravartula, CGRS Managing Attorney; and Anne Dutton, CGRS Staff Attorney

Location: Zoom (link will be sent after registration)

MCLE: 1.5 General California MCLE credit

RSVP at least one hour prior to the webinar to receive the Zoom link. This webinar will be recorded. All registrants will receive the recording and any materials after the webinar.
Refresh Your Practice: Holistic and Trauma-Informed Representation of Immigrant Survivors (September 6 - 7, 2023)

The court’s backlog has grown to 27,000 pending cases, nearly double from two years ago. The court is still understaffed, so expect delays.

This 2-day virtual conference is intended for new and intermediate attorneys, DOJ Accredited Representatives, paralegals, and other legal advocates who have some experience working with survivor cases but are seeking a refresher on the fundamentals or have questions about the latest legal requirements for immigrant survivor remedies, navigating barriers to relief, and intersections with other forms of humanitarian relief.

Participants will review how to identify survivor-based immigration remedies, conduct trauma-informed representation, assess a client’s facts to determine eligibility and identify red flags, and consider the intersections of immigrant survivor relief with other humanitarian relief applications in light of recent developments and policy changes. Throughout the conference, participants will have the opportunity to practice these skills through hands-on activities.

Speakers include national experts from ASISTA, Mariposa Legal, and National Immigration Project (NIPNLG).

Session Information: All sessions have a 1-hour break between sessions, for a total of 8 hours.