THE ADVOCATES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS & UST INTERPROFESSIONAL CENTER FOR COUNSELING AND LEGAL SERVICES PRESENT

SPRING 2021 ASYLUM CONFERENCE

THANK YOU TO OUR LEAD SPONSOR FREDRIKSON & BYRON, PA - IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2021
8:30 ZOOM OPENS

8:45 OPENING COMMENTS

9:00 - 10:30 (LEGAL TRACK)  
SUITING UP FOR COURT: STANDING ORDERS, WEBEX, E-FILING

MODERATOR: SARAH BRENES, PROGRAM DIRECTOR, ADVOCATES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
PANELIST: DAVID WILSON, IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY, WILSON LAW GROUP
PANELIST: ANU JASWAL, IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY, CONTRERAS METELSKA, PA
PANELIST: JUDGE RYAN WOOD, EOIR ASSISTANT CHIEF IMMIGRATION JUDGE

- Hear about the status of court reopening for non-detained cases and how to prepare new case flow processes when it does.
- Get tips for motion work and filings with the court as cases continue to be postponed.
- Learn about judge preferences and when/how to reach out to DHS

9:00 - 10:30 (MENTAL HEALTH TRACK)  
MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AND ASSESSMENT IN ASYLUM AND RELATED CLAIMS

MODERATOR: ANN MARIE WINSKOWSKI, PSYD, LP, PSYCHOLOGIST/DIRECTOR OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES IPC
PANELIST: ANNE SLANINA, PHD, LP, CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST
PANELIST: DAMIR URTZUN, PHD, LMFT, DAAETS, MANAGER OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, HAZELDEN BETTY FORD FOUNDATION
PANELIST: CONNOR MOLLOY, MSW, LGSW, PSYCHOTHERAPIST AT HAMM CLINIC & FORMER ASYLUM OFFICER

- Discussion related to the intersection of migration-induced trauma and co-occurring disorders
- Balancing dual roles of assessor and therapist
- Discussion of common issues and uses of assessment in asylum cases
10:40 - 12:00 (LEGAL TRACK)
YOUR CONNECTION IS UNSTABLE: NAVIGATING REGULATIONS, LITIGATION AND A NEW ADMINISTRATION TO EFFECTIVELY REPRESENT CLIENTS

MODERATOR: LINDSEY GREISING, ADVOCATES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
PANELIST: ZACHARY ALBUN, ALBERT M. SACKS CLINICAL TEACHING & ADVOCACY FELLOW, HARVARD LAW SCHOOL
PANELIST: AUDREY GILLIAM, IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY, NORTHWEST IMMIGRANT RIGHTS PROJECT

- An overview of Trump-era changes to asylum law
- Discussion of the (unstable) status of asylum law in light of litigation and the new administration
- Practice pointers on how to proceed and what to think about

10:40 - 12:00 (MENTAL HEALTH TRACK)
BENEFITS: WHO IS ELIGIBLE AND AT WHAT COST

MODERATOR: GEORGE BABOILA, MSW, LICSW, CO-DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK SERVICES, UST ICCLS
PANELIST: TERI GUHL, IMMIGRATION LAW SPECIALIST | ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND EMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS DIVISION, MN DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES
PANELIST: LAURA MELNICK, LEAD ATTORNEY, ECONOMIC JUSTICE UNIT, SOUTHERN MINNESOTA REGIONAL LEGAL SERVICES, INC.

- Eligibility requirements for state benefits
- Public Charge and the impact on changing immigration status
- What will change with a new administration

12:00 - 12:30 LUNCH BREAK
12:30 - 1:45 (JOINT SESSION)
MENTAL ILLNESS AND BRAIN INJURIES AMONG REFUGEEs: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO SUCCESSFULLY REPRESENT YOUR CLIENT

COORDINATOR: HANNE SANDISON, IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY, THE ADVOCATES
MODERATOR: AMELIA WILSON, IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY, COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL
PANELIST: DR. STEVE LOCKMAN, MD, MN NEUROREHABILITATION INSTITUTE
PANELIST: KYLE LIPINKSI, LPCC, MSS, LEDC, MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR
PANELIST: DR. JENNIFER MCQUAID, PHD, CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST

- What to expect and keep in mind in your interactions with your client
- How to determine which evaluations might best serve your client
- Understanding the interplay of trauma, brain injury, and mental illness, and what that means for your immigration case.

2:00 - 3:15 (JOINT SESSION)
WRANGLING WORK PERMITS & MAKING ENDS MEET WITHOUT THEM

MODERATOR: RACHEL AMERMAN, MSW INTERN, UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS & THE ADVOCATES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
PANELIST: ANNE RECINOS, CO LEGAL DIRECTOR, ASYLUM SEEKER ADVOCACY PROJECT
PANELIST: MIRANDA MORGAN LILLA, DEPUTY STATE DIRECTOR, CONSTITUENT SERVICES DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR TINA SMITH
PANELIST: AMY SMITH, MSW, LISW, HENNEPIN HEALTHCARE WHITTIER CLINIC

- Get a general legal overview of Work Permits and the regulatory changes that have made them more difficult to obtain
- Work Permit Adjudication Trends and frequent issues
- Wraparound resources for clients as they wait for work permit approval
3:30 - 5:00 (Joint Session)
Interprofessional Roundtable:
How Attorneys & Mental Health Professionals Work Together to Support Asylum Applicants

Moderator: Misti Allen Binsfeld, Immigration Attorney, Binsfeld Law Firm
Moderator: Malinda Schmiechen, Immigration Attorney, Aust Schmiechen, P.A.
Panelist: Jean Choe, PhD, LP, Clinical Psychologist
Panelist: Heather Tracey, MSW, LICSW, North Memorial Health Hospital

- Roles of each profession
- Setting client expectations
- Sharing information between the professionals and confidentiality
- Client interviewing techniques, both in-person and virtually
- Mandatory reporting issues