



AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYERS ASSOCIATION GA-AL CHAPTER

NEWSLETTER

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FEBRUARY 10 CHAPTER LUNCHEON RECAP



Thank you for joining us at Desta Ethiopian Kitchen for the February 10 Chapter Luncheon! Programming was provided by the Pro-bono Committee and our chapter welcomed speakers from GAIN, Team Libertad and ILRC. These wonderful organizations have lots of ways for you to get involved! Please check out the pro-bono opportunities listed in the newsletter below. We look forward to seeing you at the next chapter event!

WELLNESS WALK RECAP

Thank you to the Wellness Committee for sponsoring a wonderful Wellness Walk on Saturday, January 29. The next walk will take place at the end of February - all chapter members, family, friends, and pets are welcome to join! Details about the walk will be announced shortly!



CHAPTER LIAISON LIST

Please click [**HERE**](#) to find the Chapter Liaison List for 2022-23. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time to create our chapter subcommittees. Your efforts are invaluable and we appreciate you so much!

(UNOFFICIAL) NOTES FROM 2/15/2023 ICE OPLA STAKEHOLDER MEETING

Our very own Chapter Chair attended today's OPLA Stakeholder meeting. Please click [**HERE**](#) for the extremely unofficial meeting notes and look out for a more edited version to be released by the chapter!



CONNECT WITH US!

Like us on **Facebook**: <https://www.facebook.com/ailagaal/>

Tweet with us: <https://twitter.com/@ailagaal>

Chapter Website: www.ga-al.com

Members-Only Access - Password **GA-AL-M3MB3R5!**

We welcome suggestions for future newsletter content: Please email secretary@ga-al.com



PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES WITH GEORGIA ASYLUM AND IMMIGRATION NETWORK (GAIN)

The Afghan Temporary Protected Status (TPS) legal clinic hosted by GAIN and IRC Atlanta is scheduled for Saturday, February 25, 2023 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. The location of this clinic will be announced soon (will be close to the Stone Mountain/Clarkston area). Please find the clinic flyer attached.

During the clinic, volunteers will help Afghan parolees apply for Temporary Protected Status to extend their stay in the United States while working towards securing long-term immigration relief. Please note that these clinic participants have been pre-screened by the IRC, and clinic participation is by appointment only.

Volunteers will receive confirmation emails containing their assignment, training materials, a sample TPS application, as well as a short orientation video to view prior to the clinic. These resources will prepare volunteers for participating in the clinic. GAIN attorneys will also be available to answer any questions that may arise. Lunch will be provided.

Please sign up [HERE](#) to volunteer at the February 25 TPS clinic.

Sign up for future Saturday clinic volunteer opportunity updates [HERE](#)..

If you're an attorney interested in taking a pro bono case with GAIN, view our current opportunities [HERE](#).



PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES WITH KIDS IN NEED OF DEFENSE (KIND)

KIDS IN NEED OF DEFENSE

Kids In Need Of Defense (KIND)'s Atlanta Field Office is looking for pro bono attorneys to represent immigrant children in applying for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) and affirmative asylum. This is a great opportunity to gain experience filing dependency and custody petitions in juvenile and superior courts to obtain a predicate order with SIJS findings. KIND provides mentorship to all pro bono attorneys at every stage of the case. Below are descriptions of two of the many children in need of legal representation:

Asylum and One-Parent SIJS—(Gwinnett County Superior Court)

Veronica* is a 10-year-old girl from La Concepcion, El Salvador. She lived with her mother, her grandmother, and two younger sisters. Veronica's father came to the United States five years ago. Veronica's mother tried to come to the United States but was turned back at the border. Her mother is currently residing in Mexico. Veronica's maternal uncles and the fathers of her half-siblings have been convicted of gang-related activity in El Salvador. Veronica and her family are at risk of harm in El Salvador because of their extended family's gang involvement. Veronica entered the United States as an unaccompanied minor in August 2022. She is currently living with her father in Gwinnett County. Veronica needs the help of an attorney barred in any state to help her apply for asylum with the USCIS Asylum Office. She may need the help of a Georgia-barred attorney to file a petition for sole custody in Gwinnett County Superior Court seeking additional findings for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS).

(SIJS) (Fulton County Superior Court) and Asylum

Reyna* is a three-year-old girl from Honduras. Her biological father was abusive to her mother and threw them out of the house. Reyna's mother was raped in Honduras and her rapist threatened to take her unborn child if she did not abort. Reyna's mother fled to Mexico with Reyna where they were forced to beg on the streets. Reyna entered the United States alone and was released to her maternal aunt in Roswell. Her mother joined her a short time later. Reyna needs the help of a Georgia-barred attorney to file a one-parent custody petition in Fulton County Superior Court, where additional SIJS findings can be sought. In addition, Reyna may be eligible for asylum.

Please contact Sarah Katz at [<skatz@supportkind.org>](mailto:skatz@supportkind.org) for further information. Thank you for your support and partnership!

PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES WITH SIFI



PLEASE CONTACT MAURA FINN <maura.finn@splcenter.org> IF YOU ARE INTEREST IN HELPING OUT WITH ANY OF THESE PRO BONO CASES:

,Colombian woman released from Eloy seeking pro bono counsel. She is currently residing in Savannah, GA. She hopes to apply for asylum based on political opinion. It appears to be a strong claim; she was a long-time political worker and received threats due to her support of the president's brother's political activity. She is also a lesbian. She was released prior to being scheduled for a CFI and has not been NTA'd yet, so it is unclear if they plan to NTA her or not. Could be an affirmative asylum or could be defensive depending on what DHS decides to do. (The summary does not include whether or not she was impacted by the data breach; it's possible they won't NTA her if she was. Otherwise, it'll be a defensive asylum case).

Gibson and Dunn is looking to place an FTCA claim in federal court for a family separated at the border during Zero Tolerance. GD filed administrative claims for a couple dozen families who are now eligible to file federal complaints under the FTCA. They are looking to place a family located in Alabama with a pro bono attorney.

I-130 and Adjustment for a USC army E-3's Mexican mother with approved military parole in place. She entered EWI in 1996. No criminal history except speeding tickets that are paid off. Client is located in Augusta, GA.

I-130 and Adjustment for USC Army E-6 and Colombian Spouse. Spouse entered on a tourist visa in 1999 and overstayed. She previously had DACA but has not renewed it since 2016. Arrest for DUI in May 2015. Located in Augusta, GA.



**GA-AL AILA
Chapter**

2023 CONFERENCE

EMERGING FROM THE PANDEMIC

50+

Speakers and Experts

8

CLE Credits, including
Professionalism and
Ethics*

3

Topic Tracks: Family,
Business, & Removal

March 17, 2023

Georgia State Law Center

Register now!

REGISTER HERE

<https://ga-al.com/conference-march-2023/>

**Take advantage of Early Bird Pricing!
(Regular prices after 2/17 in parentheses):**

AILA Members - \$220 (\$250)

Non-AILA Members - \$250 (\$275)

Non-Profit Attorney/Paralegal - \$130 (\$150)

Speakers \$175 (\$200)

Law Student - \$30 (\$50)

***CLE Approval Pending**

LOOKING TO HIRE? LOOKING TO POST A RESUME?

Our chapter has transitioned our daily communications to Slack and we invite all members to check out the #employment_opportunities channel for posting resumes or looking for resumes. Meanwhile, please check out the resume of Ms. Joselyne Nicole Constante, who is looking for immigration experience by clicking [HERE](#)!



RESOURCES

American Immigration Council

<https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org>

AILA Immigrant Justice Campaign & AILA Fearless Lawyering

<https://www.aila.org/about/immigration-justice-campaign>

AILA's Immigration Practice & Professionalism Toolbox

<https://agora.aila.org/product/detail/3531>

AILA Member Benefit Guide

<https://www.aila.org/membership/benefits/membership-benefits-guide>

INFORMATION FOR JOINING CHAPTER SLACK

We have been using Slack and tested its functionality for some time now. We hope that this tool will facilitate communication and be a library of information that we can turn to as we encounter questions in our practice.

WHEN YOU ARE READY TO SIGN ON TO SLACK, PLEASE EMAIL Chapter First Vice Chair <first.vice.chair@ga-al.com> IN ORDER TO RECEIVE AN UPDATED LINK. LINKS EXPIRE AFTER 7 DAYS.

Some of you may already have experience using Slack with other organizations, for the rest of us this will take some time getting used to. In an effort to facilitate the transition. Below is a link for learning the basics of Slack. You can also review Slack Guides, which is a short encyclopedia of Slack, in addition to Slack 101.

CLICK LINK [HERE](#) FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HOW TO USE SLACK.