

Asylum

Contributed by Administrator
Friday, 25 January 2008
Last Updated Friday, 25 January 2008

Caroline Labib Doss, located in Jersey City, New Jersey, handles all matters involving gaining asylum in the U.S. She serves clients in Jersey City, Bayonne, Union City, and West New York and all of Hudson County. She also represents clients throughout the United States who need an Arabic speaking immigration attorney.

We assist clients with legal issues relating to seeking asylum in the U.S. Asylum seekers and refugees can gain legal residency status in the United States if they fulfill certain requirements under immigration law. The main differences between the two forms of relief are:

- Asylum seekers are already on U.S. soil, while refugees are outside of the United States; and
- Refugees seek help from the United Nations, while asylum applicants submit their petition to the U.S. government.

Although federal laws and regulations govern the asylum and refugee process, each request is determined on a case-by-case basis, meaning that an individual's application as presented to an immigration law officer is the most crucial factor in obtaining the relief sought -- asylum or refugee status.

Individuals may be granted asylum, on a discretionary basis if it is determined that the applicant has suffered past persecution or has a "well-founded fear of persecution" on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a social group, or political opinion in their country of origin. People seeking asylum must establish their persecution on at least one of these five grounds. Asylum applications must be filed within one year after entry into the United States, with some exceptions being granted for extraordinary circumstances.

Anyone whose life or freedom would be threatened in his or her own country is protected from removal under United States and international law, provided they meet the necessary requirements. The United States offers Temporary Protected Status to individuals from countries that have suffered natural disasters or that are undergoing war or severe civil unrest, forcing the displacement of citizens of that country. Temporary Protected Status is effective as long as the conditions persist in the country in question.

Withholding of Removal

Similar to asylum, Withholding of Removal allows you to temporarily stay in the United States if it is shown that it is "more likely than not" that you would be persecuted in your home country upon deportation or return. You can file for Withholding of Removal either in conjunction with asylum or separately if you are not eligible for asylum, for example if you have missed the one-year asylum filing deadline. Eligibility for Withholding of Removal is based on the same five grounds as asylum: race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.

At the law firm of Caroline Labib Doss, we have years of experience handling asylum applications for clients with families and individuals throughout New Jersey.

If you have questions or concerns regarding seeking asylum, contact us today for a consultation.