



RESTORATION IMMIGRATION LEGAL AID

Information for Volunteer and Pro Bono Attorneys Partnering with RILA

What is RILA?

Restoration Immigration Legal Aid (RILA) is an incorporated 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that aims to support immigrants in the DC area by providing excellent, pro bono immigration legal assistance to those who are most vulnerable and who have the fewest resources. RILA is also a Department of Justice Recognized Organization and an affiliate of Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC).

Partnering with RILA is an opportunity to:

- Provide legal assistance to the most vulnerable immigrant families in our neighborhoods who are in critical need of justice and protection.
- Leverage skills to help asylum seekers and abandoned or abused juveniles who would otherwise have no one to advocate on their behalf.
- Give our clients, most of whom have undergone unspeakable trauma, the chance to live free from fear and rebuild their lives.

How can volunteer and pro bono attorneys help?

- Write a legal brief in support of an asylum case
- Prepare an asylum-seeker for their final hearing and represent them in Immigration Court
- Write an appeal to the Board of Immigration Appeals on behalf of an asylum-seeker
- Write a Motion to Reopen on behalf of an asylum-seeker

How does RILA work with outside attorneys and law firms?

RILA attorneys provide case supervision, including:

- A case outline, including identified legal arguments.
- Brief-writing training opportunities in support of asylum cases.
- Opportunities to shadow a RILA attorney at Immigration Court.

RILA staff will also provide:

- Sample briefs, other relevant sample documents, practice advisories, and country conditions resources.
- Support for evidentiary documents, translations, witness affidavits, etc.
- Facilitation of client communication

Client/Attorney meetings are held virtually or at Restoration Anglican Church, and interpreters will be provided (if needed).

Contact: Melissa Chang (mel@restorationimmigration.org) for more information.

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