

# POWER IN Community



## CLINIC Convening 2022

**Register Now!**  
May 16 – 19

### 2022 CLINIC Convening Final Agenda

#### Monday, May 16, 2022

##### **1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Welcome Plenary: Power in Community**

*Executive Director Anna Marie Gallagher will open CLINIC's 23rd annual Convening with reflections on the "hunger" that drives people to seek out opportunity and possibility, and the role of welcoming nations and communities. Ur Mendoza Jaddou, Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, will present a keynote address and then sit with Gallagher for a virtual "fireside chat." Gallagher is the daughter of Irish immigrants. Jaddou is the daughter of Mexican and Iraqi immigrants, and the first woman to head USCIS.*

##### **2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Break**

##### **3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Concurrent Workshops**

###### **1. Hot Topics in Immigration Law**

*The only constant in immigration law is change. This workshop will review some notable recent developments impacting immigration practitioners and our clients. Topics that may be covered include: immigration options for Ukrainians and Afghans; developments on humanitarian issues such as TPS and DACA; COVID-19 vaccines and inadmissibility determinations; the latest on implementation of Title 42 and the Migrant Protection Protocols; and other updates related to USCIS policies and adjudications. This workshop, appropriate for all levels, will review the recent headline news of 2022 and their impact on immigration practice.*

*Ilissa Mira, Staff Attorney, CLINIC*

*Jennifer Riddle, Staff Attorney, CLINIC*

###### **2. Removal Proceedings 101**

*Practitioners who do not regularly practice in immigration court or who are new to removal defense are encouraged to join us for an overview of removal proceedings. The discussion will cover how people get placed in removal proceedings, the anatomy of a removal hearing and a noncitizen's rights in removal proceedings. The session will also discuss the government's burden of proving removability and then wrap up with a brief discussion of the types of relief from removal available to noncitizens.*

*Aimee Mayer-Salins, Supervisor Senior Attorney, CLINIC*

*Sarah Bronstein, Senior Attorney, CLINIC*

###### **3. CSPA: From A – Z**

*Is this the time you finally understand the Child Status Protection Act? We will cover how the CSPA protects children in the immediate relative category, in the F-2A category, and as derivatives in all of the preference categories. You will learn the necessary mathematical calculation and understand the one-year filing requirements. We will also cover how the CSPA operates for derivatives in the DV lottery, refugee, asylee, VAWA and Afghan SIV categories.*

*Charles Wheeler, Director of Training and Legal Support, CLINIC*

*Kristina Karpinski, Managing Attorney, CLINIC*

Monday, May 16, 2022 (Continued)

**4. Power in Community: Catholics Against Racism in Immigration (60 Minute Session)**

*Join the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc., and NETWORK Lobby as they launch a new initiative: Catholics Against Racism in Immigration, or CARI. Called by and following Catholic social teaching, CARI is a broad, united Catholic task force taking action against systemic racism in the U.S. immigration system. This panel will cover why Catholics are called to take action against racism in immigration and next steps in our collective work.*

*Anna Gallagher, Executive Director, CLINIC*

*Jose Arnulfo Cabrera, Co-Executive Director, Young Latino Network*

*Mary J. Novak, Executive Director, NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice*

**5. Volunteer Engagement: A Key Method in Promoting Immigrant Integration and Inclusion**

*Immigrant integration and inclusion happen most effectively at the local level. Volunteer engagement is a key strategy available to nonprofit agencies to incorporate more community members in efforts to welcome new neighbors on a larger scale. This workshop will introduce integration basics and explore where volunteers can be used most effectively, including naturalization workshops, a variety of education programs and other welcoming initiatives. The trainers will provide information now best to manage, recruit and retain volunteers.*

*Ben Brokaw, Project Coordinator, CLINIC*

*Leya Speasmaker, Integration Program Manager/Field Support Coordinator, CLINIC*

**4:40 p.m. – 5:10 p.m. Self-Care**

1. Chair Yoga
2. Mixologist from Liquid Lab NYC

**Tuesday, May 17, 2022**

**12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. Mass Celebrated by Bishop Soto, Diocese of Sacramento**

**1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Concurrent Workshops**

**1. Understanding Motions to Rescind and Reopen in Absentia Orders of Removal**

*Where a noncitizen has been ordered removed because they did not attend their immigration court hearing, a motion to rescind and reopen may be an important tool for helping the noncitizen remain in or return to the United States. Yet drafting an effective motion to rescind and reopen requires an in-depth understanding of the procedural rules governing motions to rescind and reopen. This panel will provide an overview of the procedures for filing these motions before the immigration courts, with a special focus on recent changes to motions practice.*

*Aimee Mayer-Salins, Supervisory Senior Attorney, CLINIC*

*Katy Lewis, Senior Attorney, Mountain State Justice*

**2. Analyzing Criminal Bars to Naturalization**

*A criminal impact can have a serious impact on an applicant's eligibility for naturalization. Not only can a criminal record lead to denial of naturalization, but it can also lead to a referral to removal proceedings. In this panel, we will discuss the importance of screening clients both for eligibility for naturalization as well as for deportability. We will also discuss conditional v. permanent bars to naturalization, how the use of legal marijuana can impact a naturalization application, and how convictions for driving under the influence can impact an individual's ability to show good moral character.*

*Elizabeth Carlson, Staff Attorney, CLINIC*

Tuesday, May 17, 2022 (Continued)

**3. Taking It to the Next Level: Escalating Case Issues with DHS (60 Minute Session)**

*Join CLINIC's government relations team in conversation with Department of Homeland Security agencies on how to escalate multiple types of case issues. In this panel, learn about the roles of these agencies, what to raise to their attention and how to submit inquiries.*

*Michelle Sardone, Deputy Director of Programs, CLINIC*

*Mary Hermann, Chief, Public Services Division, U.S. Department of Citizenship and Immigration Services*

*Adrienne Chalapakorn, Chief of Casework, Office of the Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman*

*Carla Fall, Director of Case Management, U.S. Department of Homeland Security*

**4. Case Management Nuts and Bolts**

*One of the secrets to running a successful immigration legal services program is prioritizing efficiency and organization. This allows your program to keep up with unexpected challenges, while helping as many people as possible. This course covers the basic components of effective case management. Participants will learn best practices in intake procedures; opening and closing cases; case selection; maintaining case files; and much more.*

*Shaila Rahman, Field Support Coordinator, CLINIC*

**2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Break**

**3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Concurrent Workshops**

**1. Public Charge and the Affidavit of Support**

*The Biden administration has proposed formalizing the definition of public charge and accepting much of the language from the 1999 interim field guidance. The State Department will likely follow whatever definition DHS develops. This workshop will discuss the current as well as proposed public charge standard. The rest of the time will be spent reviewing the affidavit of support and offering tips on how low-income clients can satisfy those requirements.*

*Charles Wheeler, Director of Training and Legal Support, CLINIC*

*Ilissa Mira, Staff Attorney, CLINIC*

**2. Motions to Rescind and Reopen In Absentia Orders of Removal: Putting What You Learned Into Practice**

*This panel will build on the information covered in the preceding "Understanding Motions to Rescind and Reopen In Absentia Orders of Removal" session by giving participants an opportunity to apply their new motions to rescind and reopen knowledge to case-specific examples. Participants in this session will practice issue-spotting and drafting portions of a motion. CLINIC may cap the number of participants in this training.*

*Aimee Mayer-Salins, Supervisory Senior Attorney, CLINIC*

*Katy Lewis, Senior Attorney, Mountain State Justice*

**3. SIJS: Adjustment of Status and Other Updates**

*Special Immigrant Juveniles who are eligible to adjust status pursue their applications before USCIS, and in some cases, before EOIR. There are many strategic decisions to consider when pursuing adjustment and many things can happen while clients wait to become eligible to apply. Join us for a discussion of SIJS-based adjustment, including a discussion of best practices for pursuing cases before USCIS and EOIR. We will also provide updates on recent SIJS developments.*

*Joanna Mexicano Furmanska, Staff Attorney, CLINIC*

*Martin Guato, Senior Attorney, CLINIC*

Tuesday, May 17, 2022 (Continued)

#### **4. Top Ten Issues in Program Management**

*Immigration program managers share similar challenges, but often don't have the opportunity to discuss them with their peers. In this workshop, you will hear from CLINIC staff on the top 10 issues facing immigration program managers, including funding challenges, ethical issues, staffing and supervision, and more. Hypothetical scenarios will be used to guide an open discussion.*

*Silvana Arista, Attorney & Project Coordinator/Field Support Coordinator, CLINIC  
Shaila Rahman, Field Support Coordinator, CLINIC*

#### **4:40 p.m. – 5:10 p.m. Self-Care**

1. Ken Scott Virtual Magic Show
2. Chair Yoga

### **Wednesday, May 18, 2022**

**12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. Mass Celebrated by Archbishop Thomas Wenski, Archdiocese of Miami**

#### **1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Concurrent Workshops**

##### **1. Consular Processing: The Long and Winding Road**

*This workshop will review the process and steps involved in obtaining an immigrant visa and explain the roles of the National Visa Center and U.S. consulates overseas. Presenters will cover strategies for navigating consular processing, including completing forms and uploading documents onto the Consular Electronic Application Center platform. Participants will work through a series of hypothetical case scenarios to examine immigrant visa eligibility and strategies for overcoming issues that commonly arise for families during the arduous path of immigrating from abroad.*

*Charles Wheeler, Director of Training and Legal Support, CLINIC  
Jennifer Riddle, Staff Attorney, CLINIC  
Kevin Woehr, Regional Legal Supervisor, World Relief Chicagoland*

##### **2. Hot Topics in Asylum Law for the Experienced Practitioner**

*Since the start of the Biden administration, many changes have occurred in both asylum case law and regulations that can change the course of a client's asylum application and related benefits. These include the Attorney General vacating the decisions in *Matters of A-B-* and *Matter of L-E-A-*, and, more recently, the vacatur of the Aug. 25, 2020 regulations, which had severely limited access to employment authorization for asylum applicants. Despite these positive developments, however, many troubling policies remain. During this panel, we will take a look at these and other more recent developments in asylum law and include a discussion of strategies practitioners might consider in their asylum cases given the current landscape.*

*Joanna Mexicano Furmanska, Staff Attorney, CLINIC  
Elizabeth Carlson, Senior Attorney, CLINIC  
Kate Shattuck, Staff Attorney, Catholic Charities of Oregon*

##### **3. Getting the Facts: FOIA and Other Record Requests**

*You've interviewed your client and they disclosed an arrest by local law enforcement and a stop at the border. What should you do next? Whether you're new to the practice of immigration law or need a refresher, this workshop will be valuable to you in determining how and where to get the facts you need in order to counsel your client on immigration options. Topics will include FOIA requests, how to obtain FBI RAP sheets and criminal records, as well as how to analyze the results of these requests.*

*Ilissa Mira, Staff Attorney, CLINIC  
Sarah Bronstein, Senior Attorney, CLINIC*

**4. Ethical Considerations for Immigration Law Practice**

*Immigration practitioners work in a fast-paced, demanding environment but always have a duty to represent their clients ethically. They often face thorny issues, such as what to do if a conflict of interest between clients arises. Using case examples and hypothetical situations, the presenters will provide an overview of the fundamental rules of ethics and describe how they apply to both attorneys and DOJ accredited representatives.*

*Helen Chen, Field Support Coordinator, CLINIC  
Martin Guato, Senior Attorney, CLINIC*

**2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Break**

**3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Concurrent Workshops**

**1. Inadmissibility Issues at All Stages of a U Nonimmigrant Case**

*While there is a generous waiver for U nonimmigrant status applicants, inadmissibility can still cause tremendous problems. Join us for a look at how to properly screen your clients for inadmissibility issues at all stages of the U case. We will discuss how to prepare a successful waiver at initial filing, what to do if your client is ready to apply for adjustment of status and you discover grounds of inadmissibility that should have been previously waived, what to do if new grounds of inadmissibility have arisen while your client was in U status, and how to address previously waived grounds as a matter of discretion at the adjustment of status stage.*

*Sarah Bronstein, Senior Attorney, CLINIC  
Martin Gauto, Senior Attorney, CLINIC*

**2. Assisting Afghan Citizens**

*Afghan evacuees who are being resettled in the United States will require support and legal assistance over the coming months and years. The majority of evacuees arrived on parole and will need to take steps to obtain permanent legal status before the expiration of their parole documents. As these individuals have left the military bases and settled throughout the United States, the need for quality legal assistance is greater than ever. We will discuss options for obtaining permanent status for these individuals. This presentation will primarily focus on the Special Immigrant Visa process and the affirmative asylum process, and we will discuss trends in the government's adjudication of these applications for Afghan citizens.*

*Elizabeth Carlson, Staff Attorney, CLINIC  
Elnora Bassey, Policy Advocate, CLINIC  
Nubia Torres, Director of Programs, Immigration Legal Services, Catholic Charities Dallas  
Nadia Sehr Khalid, Senior Staff Attorney, Catholic Charities Dallas*

**3. Children of U.S. Citizens: Acquisition, Derivation and Naturalization**

*Has your foreign-born client been a U.S. citizen since the day she was born? Can your client apply for a certificate of citizenship or U.S. passport following the naturalization of his parent or parents? This interactive workshop, appropriate for new practitioners, will cover the requirements for acquiring U.S. citizenship at birth abroad and deriving citizenship from a U.S. citizen parent after birth. Through several possible client scenarios, we will review the requirements for children born in wedlock and out of wedlock, residence requirements for U.S. citizen parents, and the legal and physical custody requirements for derivation. Finally, the workshop will discuss Section 322 naturalization for certain children residing overseas.*

*Jennifer Riddle, Staff Attorney, CLINIC  
Kristina Karpinski, Managing Attorney, CLINIC*

Wednesday, May 18, 2022 (Continued)

**4. Addressing Complex Program Management Issues**

*The immigration field is changing rapidly, bringing more complex program management issues with it. Long-standing and experienced program managers are encouraged to bring their top challenges to brainstorm with and receive advice and insight from colleagues. CLINIC will moderate the discussion for this interactive seminar.*

*Leya Speasmaker, Integration Program Manager/Field Support Coordinator*

**5. Challenges in the DOJ Recognition and Accreditation Process: Knowledge is Power**

*As Afghan evacuees and other vulnerable populations add to legal services demands in 2022 and beyond, increasing the capacity of nonprofit legal services organizations through the Recognition & Accreditation, or R&A, program is critical to ensure those populations have access to counsel and access to justice. Join this panel to learn the nuts and bolts of the R&A process and how to navigate current challenges both as individual organizations and in systemic, collective advocacy.*

*Karen Sullivan, Attorney, Federal Advocacy and Liaison, CLINIC*

*Laura Burdick, Field Support Coordinator, CLINIC*

**4:40 p.m. – 5:10 p.m. Self-Care and Chat Room**

1. Yoga with Molly Malarkey
2. Chat Room: State and Local Advocacy Meet, Greet and Strategize! – with Viviana Westbrook

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**Thursday, May 19, 2022**

**12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. Mass Celebrated by Bishop Mario E. Dorsonville, Archdiocese of Washington**

**1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Concurrent Workshops**

**1. Clients Say the Darndest Things: Preparing Your Client to Effectively Testify in Immigration Court**

*The courtroom can be a daunting and unfamiliar place for immigrants facing removal proceedings. Effectively preparing your client to testify on direct and cross examination is critical to meeting the burden of proof and ensuring the immigration judge deems your client credible. This session will cover how best to prepare your client to take the stand in immigration proceedings and will include tips for rehabilitating testimony if things go awry.*

*Aimee Mayer-Salins, Supervisory Senior Attorney, CLINIC*

*Jennifer Bibby-Gerth, Senior Managing Attorney, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, DC*

**2. Understanding Parole**

*Parole is a vehicle through which an applicant receives permission to enter or remain in the United States without being granted admission or lawful status. There are various categories of parole under immigration law, including humanitarian parole, advance parole, and parole in place. This panel will cover the eligibility criteria for each of these categories and the application process for parole generally. We will then discuss how that procedure may differ with each of the different agencies that can adjudicate applications for parole, including USCIS, ICE and CBP. The panel will also examine which of these procedures should be followed depending on if the applicant is inside or outside the United States, or at a port of entry. Finally, participants will learn about the process of obtaining an employment authorization document based on parole and how a grant of parole may help a client qualify for adjustment of status.*

*Elizabeth Carlson, Staff Attorney, CLINIC*

*Joanna, Mexicano Furmanska, Staff Attorney, CLINIC*

*Vanessa McCarthy, VOCA Project Attorney, Florida Legal Services*

Thursday, May 19, 2022 (Continued)

**3. Representing Clients at USCIS Interviews**

*You have worked hard to prepare your client's adjustment of status or naturalization application and now your client is scheduled for an interview with USCIS. How do you prepare your client for that important day? In this workshop presenters will cover what to expect at the interview, share tips for preparing clients, and explain the role of the advocate during the interview. The session will also include a mock adjustment of status interview.*

*Jennifer Riddle, Staff Attorney, CLINIC*

*Kristina Karpinski, Managing Attorney, CLINIC*

**4. Standing in Solidarity with Underserved Communities: Challenges and Best Practices in State and Local Immigration Advocacy**

*As immigration organizations with limited resources, we may at times focus our energy advocating for particular communities (which may be the issues garnering the most media attention at the time). But who is left out and what are the consequences of this squeaky-wheel-getting-the-grease approach? Join this panel discussion to learn how to be a better ally and engage in more effective advocacy work at the state and local level.*

*Viviana Westbrook, State and Local Advocacy Attorney, CLINIC*

*Sosseh Prom, State Policy Manager, African Communities Together*

*Cindy Toledo, Indigenous Human Rights Advocate, Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim*

*Bilal Askaryar, #WelcomeWithDignity Communications Coordinator, Women's Refugee Commission*

**2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Break**

**3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Concurrent Workshops**

**1. Updates on Prosecutorial Discretion and Enforcement**

*The change in administrations in January 2021 quickly brought sweeping changes to the federal government's immigration enforcement priorities. Agencies subsequently implemented these changes in their guidelines to officers, adjudicators, and trial attorneys in removal proceedings, providing for greater prosecutorial discretion. During this session, we will look at the last year of changes in prosecutorial discretion and enforcement, focusing on the most recent updates that can affect clients in their affirmative applications, removal proceedings, or encounters with enforcement officers. We will also consider strategies practitioners can employ to achieve the best outcomes possible for their clients in light of these changes.*

*Joanna Mexicano Furmanska, Staff Attorney, CLINIC*

*Martin Gauto, Senior Attorney, CLINIC*

**2. Immigration Violations: The Three-Headed Monster**

*Clients often have previous entrances and exits into and out of the United States by the time they walk into your office. Some have been stopped by Customs and Border Protection, but it is not always clear what happened during that interaction. What do all these trips and encounters mean? This workshop, appropriate for practitioners of all levels, will explore the various ways that clients' immigration histories can lead to inadmissibility for a prior removal, unlawful presence, the permanent bar or reinstatement of a prior removal order.*

*Ilissa Mira, Staff Attorney, CLINIC*

*Sarah Bronstein, Senior Attorney, CLINIC*

**3. Petition Conversion, Revocation, Termination and Reinstatement**

*All sorts of changes can happen during the lifespan of a visa petition: the petitioner can die; the beneficiary can marry or divorce; the petitioner can naturalize; the parties can divorce in a spousal petition; and new derivative children can be born. In this workshop we will cover automatic conversion, retention of priority*

Thursday, May 19, 2022 (Continued)

*dates, revocation by failing to respond to NVC notices, and reinstatement after death of the petitioner.*

*Charles Wheeler, Director of Training and Legal Support, CLINIC*

*Kristina Karpinski, Managing Attorney, CLINIC*

**4. Strategic Issues Discussion with your FSC and CLINIC's Executive Director**

*Interested in sharing with Anna Gallagher, CLINIC's Executive Director, and Field Support Coordinators about your biggest programmatic challenges? Do you have questions about your CLINIC benefits or other CLINIC services? Come and chat with us during this open forum.*

*Anna Gallaher, Executive Director, CLINIC*

*Helen Chen, Field Support Coordinator, CLINIC*

*Laura Burdick, Field Support Coordinator, CLINIC*

*Leya Speasmaker, Integration Program Manager/Field Support Coordinator, CLINIC*

*Silvana Arista, Attorney & Project Coordinator/Field Support Coordinator, CLINIC*

*Shaila Rahman, Field Support Coordinator, CLINIC*

**4:40 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Closing Plenary with Anna Gallaher, Executive Director, CLINIC**