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**Presenters**

- Michelle Mendez, Director of CLINIC's Defending Vulnerable Populations Program, [mmendez@cliniclegal.org](mailto:mmendez@cliniclegal.org)
- Rebecca Scholtz, Senior Attorney with CLINIC DVP, [rscholtz@cliniclegal.org](mailto:rscholtz@cliniclegal.org)

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## Today's Agenda

*Today is an informational webinar  
about a legal writing course  
that begins in January 2021*

- Purpose of the legal writing course
- Who is eligible to apply for the course?
- Course details and expectations
- Application timeline and selection process
- Q&A




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## Purpose of This Course

- To help DOJ accredited representatives improve legal writing skills
  - Goal is to increase competent and zealous low- or no-cost immigration court representation
- Focus is on legal writing in immigration court proceedings
- Skills-based course, with individualized feedback
- Participants will complete writing assignments using a non-LPR cancellation of removal case file




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## Who Is Eligible to Apply?

- DOJ partial accredited representatives
- DOJ fully accredited representatives
  
- This course is not open to attorneys, but we plan to offer a legal writing course for attorneys in the future.




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## Course Components

- 5 webinars
  - Reading assignments to be completed before each webinar
- Case assessment assignment + 5 writing assignments
  - Participants will receive written feedback on the 5 writing assignments
- One-on-one live feedback session with instructor




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## Course Webinars

All from 2:00-3:30pm Eastern

- **January 13, 2021:** Overview of Legal Writing in Immigration Court; Case Assessment; Writing a Persuasive Facts Section
- **January 27, 2021:** Introduction to Legal Research; Reading a Case; Outlining a Legal Brief
- **February 10, 2021:** Basics of Constructing a Legal Argument
- **February 24, 2021:** Deconstructing the CRAC Method for Brief Writing
- **March 17, 2021:** Refining & Editing a Brief; Effective Use of Citations




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## Course Written Assignments

- Case Assessment – due January 8
- Writing Assignment #1 – due January 20
- Writing Assignment #2 – due February 3
- Writing Assignment #3 – due February 17
- Writing Assignment #4 – due March 10
- Writing Assignment #5 – due March 31




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## Course Expectations

- Complete case assessment by January 8, 2021
- Attend all webinars live
- Complete reading assignments by assigned deadline
- Complete each writing assignment by assigned deadline
- Attend one-on-one feedback session with faculty in early March




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## Application Process

- Must submit online application on CLINIC's website
- Online application will be available TODAY
  - Application includes questions about accreditation status, plans for immigration court representation, and why you are interested in this course at this time.
- Applications due by December 16, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. ET.




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## Selection Process & Timeline

- CLINIC will select 20 participants
- CLINIC to make decisions by Dec. 21, 2020
- Selected participants must then register by Dec. 23, 2020, pay registration fee (\$450), and sign agreement confirming understanding of, and commitment to meeting, course expectations
- Selected participants will get access to e-learning course website by Dec. 24, 2020
- First assignment (case assessment) due Jan. 8, 2021




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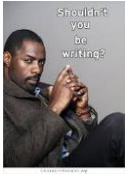
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## Questions?



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