

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW
IMMIGRATION COURT
HYATTSVILLE, MARYLAND**

IN THE MATTER OF	IN REMOVAL PROCEEDINGS
MR	A# A NUMBER

The Honorable Judge XXX Next Individual Calendar Hearing March 1, 2023

RESPONDENT'S EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF ASYLUM APPLICATION

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW
IMMIGRATION COURT
HYATTSVILLE, MARYLAND**

IN THE MATTER OF	*	In removal proceedings
	*	
	*	A#
MR	*	
	*	

EXHIBIT LIST IN SUPPORT OF RESPONDENT’S APPLICATION FOR ASYLUM

TAB	PAGES
<p>A. Sworn Statement of MR with certificate of translation. In her statement, Ms. RA explains the horrific gender-based violence she endured in El Salvador, including being sexually assaulted as a child and suffering domestic violence by the father of her older son, O. She then discusses the domestic violence that she endured by HP, the father of her daughter K. She met H in 2013 and they began a relationship. He became abusive after she became pregnant and he tried to force her to have an abortion, which she did not want to do. In 2014 H fled to the United States to escape sexual assault charges in El Salvador relating to the rape of a child. In 2017, H was deported and imprisoned in El Salvador. However, he continued his persecution of Ms. RA, calling her from prison and threatening to kill her if she did not come visit him. When she was forced to visit him, he would rape and beat her in front of prison guards. Ms. RA fled to the United States in early 2019.</p> <p>B. Psychosocial evaluation conducted by AC Associate Professor, Department of Social Work, XXX University confirming that Ms. R developed PTSD from having suffered through numerous violent events: multiple rapes and beatings by her ex-boyfriend; multiple death threats; and the feeling of helplessness and horror as she was physically forced into a room to be sexually assaulted while prison guards did nothing to assist her.</p> <p>C. Evaluation of Ms. RA conducted by Dr. XX, PhD Counseling Education & Supervision, Clinical Assistant Professor, XXX University. Dr. B conducted an evaluation of Ms. RA, which included a discussion of her medical and psychiatric history and her traumatic experiences suffered in El Salvador, including a history of having suffered domestic violence and multiple instances of rape and sexual assault, primarily by her daughter’s father. Dr. B diagnoses Ms. RA as suffering from PTSD in remission.</p> <p>D. Records for Ms. RA from federal district court in Texas, confirming that she was convicted of 8 USC 1325(a), misdemeanor illegal entry, when she entered the United States in 2019. She was sentenced to time served and a fine of \$10.00.</p>	

- E. Identity documents for Ms. RA and her children, including birth certificate for Ms. RA, with certified translation, birth certificate with certified translation for Ms. RA's son, O, and daughter K, who both remain in El Salvador.
- F. ICE press release, confirming the deportation of HP in 2017 and that he was wanted in El Salvador for charges related to child molestation.
- G. Medical records for Ms. RA relating to cervical procedure she underwent in El Salvador in 2018 after suffering multiple rapes and sexual assaults by her ex-partner, HP.
- H. Receipts for payments Ms. RA was forced to make to HP in 2017 and 2018 when he was detained at two separate correctional facilities in El Salvador.

Country Conditions Materials

- I. **Expert Declaration of Mneesha Gellman, Associate Professor of Political Science at Emerson College in Boston, Massachusetts.** Professor Gellman explains her years of work on issues relating to gendered violence in El Salvador. She explains that women and girls are primary targets of control by men in El Salvador, as El Salvador's patriarchal structure prioritizes male power over female rights. Historically and contemporarily, El Salvador has an abysmal human rights record protecting women. Violence against women is regularly ignored by the police, the legal system, politicians, and religious leaders. Rape and sexual violence are regular violations for many girls. In addition, contemporary gangs in El Salvador are powerful political actors that exert subnational control through terrorization of and violence towards Salvadoran citizens.
- J. **Expert report of Eric Hershberg, Director of the Center for Latin American and Latino studies, Professor of Government, American University, Washington, DC.** This expert report explains gang-related factors that causes individuals and families to flee El Salvador. He writes that El Salvador is one of the most violent countries in the western hemisphere. Gang members there serve as the *de facto* government in certain areas of El Salvador. Women in El Salvador are prone to suffering extreme violence, especially single women who are particularly vulnerable to threats and violence.
- K. **Expert report of Aracely Bautista, Salvadoran lawyer and specialist in the human rights of women, children, family and the migrant population of El Salvador.** Ms. Bautista describes her experience working to advance the rights of women in El Salvador, including through drafting legislation to protect victims of domestic violence. She describes that "machismo" is entrenched in Salvadoran culture and that women are expected to be subservient to men. Society accepts and tolerates men's aggression towards their families. Gangs often view women as the property of men. Gang members commit violence towards women for the same reasons that other individuals do, but the impact is more severe because of the easy

accessibility of weapons and access to a vast criminal network. Gang members frequently target women and tell them they must have sex with a jailed gang member or be killed. Enforcement of laws relating to domestic violence is lacking.

- L. El Salvador’s Femicide Crisis, The Yale Review of International Studies, March 2020, Sophie Huttner.** This article explains that Salvadoran femicides are notable for the shocking impunity with which they are carried out. A 2018 study found that only 5% of femicide cases brought to court end in a sentence and only 3% of cases carry a guilty verdict. El Salvador’s femicide crisis is fueled by an ingrained culture of virulent machismo, high levels of gang and narco-violence, and a corrupt, unaccountable police force, untrained in the appropriate handling of gender violence cases. Machismo permeated every sector of society.
- M. State Department 2021 Human Rights Report, El Salvador.** This report confirms that violence against women and girls was infrequently addressed by the authorities. Impunity persisted for crimes that were committed. Laws against domestic violence remain poorly enforced and violence against women, including domestic violence, remained a widespread and serious problem.
- N. Gang Culture and Violence Against Women in El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala, Immigration Briefings 17-03, March 2017, Thomas Boerman and Jennifer Knapp.** This article describes that the northern Triangle countries of Central America, including El Salvador, are male-dominated societies in which young girls and women are subject to the psychologically, physically, and sexually coercive behavior of males. Females are also frequent victims of femicide, the gender-based killing of girls and women. Impunity for these crimes remains high. El Salvador is recognized as one of the most dangerous countries in the world for women. Police fail to respond adequately to violence against girls and women
- O. Kids in Need of Defense, Neither Security nor Justice: Sexual and Gender-based Violence and Gang Violence in El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala.** This report draws on interviews to demonstrate the ways in which sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and gang violence intersect to threaten the lives of thousands of children and families in El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW
IMMIGRATION COURT**

HYATTSVILLE, MARYLAND

IN THE MATTER OF	*	In removal proceedings
	*	
	*	A# A NUMBER
MR	*	
	*	

PROOF OF SERVICE

On February 10, 2023, I, , served a copy of the Respondent’s additional evidence in support of asylum application via the ECAS case portal. The opposing party is a registered user in ECAS. Therefore, no service is needed.

Date

ATTORNEY NAME AND ADDRESS