



June 5, 2012

Respondent's address

Dear Mr. Respondent's name:

If you do **not** have a legal representative, you may qualify for free legal representation on your appeal currently pending before the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA). A volunteer attorney, BIA accredited representative, or law student with the BIA Pro Bono Project may be able to represent you.

Having a volunteer attorney may benefit your legal case. Statistics show that persons who are represented before the BIA are more likely to win their cases than those who are not represented. In addition, a well-written and well-researched brief can make a significant difference in the result of a case. A brief is the legal document that states the law and the reasons why you should not be removed from the United States. If you participate in the BIA project, the volunteer attorney will receive a copy of the record of proceeding of your Immigration Court case. To allow the volunteer attorney sufficient time to review the record of proceeding, and complete and submit a brief to the BIA, your appeal process could be extended by approximately 21-42 days.

If you want free legal representation for your appeal, you must complete the two steps on the attached sheet. **You must complete these steps immediately. If you delay, the BIA Pro Bono Project will not be able to assist you.** If you do not want representation for your appeal or if you already have an attorney, please indicate this on the attached form and return it in the envelope provided.

In order to be recognized as your official legal representative, the volunteer attorney must sign and send the enclosed form to the BIA. When this step is completed, the volunteer attorney will send you a copy of the form and a letter. Two weeks may pass before you receive this letter.

You may know people who are interested in obtaining free legal representation as well. Unfortunately, we can only try to help a few people. Therefore, please do not encourage others to contact me. I will contact those who are eligible.

Sincerely,

Lauren Graham Sullivan
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC)