

**THE LEGAL ADVOCATE'S PERSPECTIVE:
Board of Immigration Appeals Recognition and Accreditation
&
Immigration Legal Services for Battered Immigrants**

**Presented by the
U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), in partnership with
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC) and ASISTA Immigration Assistance**

March 10-11, 2015

Hyatt Place Atlanta Perimeter Center

1005 Crestline Parkway

Atlanta, GA 30328

(770) 730-9300

*** Registration Deadline is February 20, 2015***

This two-day course is geared towards non-lawyer legal advocates who will be or are currently working with immigrant survivors of domestic violence (DV) or sexual assault (SA). Trainers will combine a basic overview of immigration law with an introduction to legal and case management skills critical to becoming an effective immigration law advocate. This training is designed to help prepare legal advocates to become Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) accredited. BIA accreditation allows non-lawyers to practice immigration law and assist survivors with obtaining lawful immigration status without the abuser's knowledge or consent.

Topics covered shall include: an overview of the immigration system and laws, immigrating through marriage and other family relationships, grounds of inadmissibility and removability, immigration remedies under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA and U status), adjustment of status, BIA recognition and accreditation and ethical considerations in working with immigration cases.

The training will be interactive with group and individual exercises and several opportunities for discussion and information sharing. Participants will also have the opportunity to sign up to receive an individual consultation on assembling their BIA recognition and accreditation applications. This is a two-day training, and participants will be required to attend both days of the training.

Faculty members include Silvana Arista, Kristina Karpinski, and Susan Schreiber of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC) and Gail Pendleton of ASISTA Immigration Assistance. CLINIC and ASISTA assists DV and SA advocates with obtaining

This project is supported by Grant No. 2014-TA-AX-K028 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this program are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

BIA recognition for their agency and BIA accreditation for themselves as staff working for those agencies.

This training is open to Legal Assistance for Victims, Rural Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence and Stalking grantees and partners, as well as recipients of the STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program (STOP) sub grantees. The grantees referenced above will have priority for the training. If OVW Technical Assistance providers and other OVW grantees are interested in participating, they will be admitted if space is available. Registration is limited to 38 participants. Up to two participants from the same organization/agency are permitted to register. If there are more than two participants from the same organization/agency interested in attending, we will place them on a waiting list and contact them if additional spaces become available.

Please note that this training is open solely to *non-lawyer* legal advocates.

***** If you are interested in this training but the date does not work for your schedule, please note that we will host this same training again in late September 2015 in either the Midwest or in the Pacific Northwest*****

Please register no later than February 13, 2015 at:

<https://cliniclegal.org/civicrm/event/info?id=264&reset=1>

Please let us know in the registration form if you need any accommodations, such as wheelchair access, spoken language or ASL interpreters, large font handouts, or any other assistance.

If you have any questions about the training or registration form, please contact: Silvana Arista of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network Inc. (CLINIC) at 301-565-4827 or via Email at sarista@cliniclegal.org.

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