

Working with Immigrants: The Intersection of Basic Immigration, Housing, and Domestic Violence Issues in California 2018

San Francisco, Live Webcast and www.pli.edu, April 30, 2018

Why You Should Attend

You should attend this training if you would like to provide pro bono services to immigrant clients in the areas of housing, immigration, or domestic violence or you would like to improve your representation of immigrant clients generally. Many immigrant clients require assistance with a constellation of related yet distinct issues. This day-long program attempts to address these particular areas of overlap, develops the practitioner's understanding of the role that immigration law plays in the representation, and provides concrete examples. Experienced practitioners in the areas of immigration, family law, and housing will share their expertise by providing insight into cultural issues that arise when working with immigrant clients, how these areas of law overlap to provide special protections and remedies to immigrants and domestic violence survivors, and how immigration status impacts eligibility for federally subsidized housing.

What You Will Learn

- Cultural issues to be aware of when working with immigrant clients generally and specific issues that arise in housing and domestic violence cases
- What is domestic violence and how does it impact immigrant and LGBT communities
- How immigration status affects eligibility for federally subsidized housing
- Fair Housing laws that protect immigrants and domestic violence survivors
- Special housing protections for domestic violence survivors in the Violence Against Women Act and other California laws
- What family law issues are implicated when working with immigrant survivors of domestic violence
- How to get your client legal immigration status based on domestic violence
- Confidentiality and safety planning for immigrants, both documented and undocumented.

Who Should Attend

Legal aid and private practitioners who work with immigrant clients or who would like to provide pro bono services to immigrant clients in the areas of immigration, housing, or domestic violence would benefit from attending this program.

AGENDA

Morning Session:

9:00

Opening Remarks

Protima Pandey, Linda Tam

9:15

Client Counseling & Advocacy: The Role of Race, Class and Culture in the Elimination of Bias

The goal of this session is to explore the lawyer-client relationship with a focus on the role of race, class and culture. The session will look at the nature of discrimination and how culture operates on the cognitive, affective, and behavior levels in order to increase our own cultural literacy and empathy in order to address and eliminate bias experienced by minority and foreign-born clients (and advocates) in legal counseling and representation.

Protima Pandey, Linda Tam

10:15 Networking Break

10:30

Orientation to Domestic Violence

This session provides an overview of what is domestic violence, types of abuse, the cycle of violence, why individuals stay in abusive relationships, cultural contexts of domestic violence, and special considerations relating to same-sex domestic violence relationships.

Nancy K.D. Lemon

11:00

Family Law and Immigration (TRO, Custody, Divorce)

This session addresses common family law issues that arise when immigrants are dealing with domestic violence, such as restraining orders, custody, and divorce matters.

Trina Chatterjee, Nicole Ford

12:00 Lunch

Afternoon Session:

1:15

Getting Legal Status Based on Domestic Violence

This session will cover the most common forms of immigration relief for undocumented survivors of domestic violence to gain legal status: political asylum, U visas, T visas, and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) applications.

Eunice Lee, Cindy C. Liou, Catherine Seitz

2:45

Housing and Immigration

This session covers cultural competency and fair housing issues that arise when representing immigrant clients on housing issues in addition to how immigration status affects eligibility for subsidized housing.

Katherine Chu, Jason Luu

3:45 Networking Break

4:00

Domestic Violence and Housing

This session covers how the Violence Against Women Act and Fair Housing laws protect survivors of domestic violence from evictions and denial of housing with a special emphasis on working with immigrant clients.

Brenda Star Adams, Karlo Ng

5:00 Adjourn

Faculty:

Co-Chairs:

Protima Pandey

Regional Counsel for Immigration and Managing Attorney,
San Mateo County
Bay Area Legal Aid
San Mateo, California

Linda Tam

Director, Immigration Practice
East Bay Community Law Center
Berkeley, California

Trina Chatterjee

Partner
MVTC Family Law
Oakland, California

Katherine Chu

Staff Attorney
Asian Law Caucus
San Francisco, California

Nicole Ford

Law Offices of Nicole Ford
San Jose, California

Eunice Lee

Co-Legal Director
Center for Gender & Refugee Studies
University of California, Hastings College of the Law
San Francisco, California

Nancy K.D. Lemon

Director, Domestic Violence Practicum
University of California, Berkeley School of Law
Co-Founder and Legal Director, Family Violence Appellate Project
Berkeley, California

Cindy C. Liou

Deputy Director of Legal Services
Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)
San Francisco, California

Jason Luu

Staff Attorney
Bay Area Legal Aid
San Francisco, California

Karlo Ng

Supervising Attorney
National Housing Law Project
San Francisco, California

Catherine Seitz

Legal Director
Legal Services for Children
San Francisco, California

Program Attorney: Christina Thompson