

# **Working with Domestic Violence Immigrant Survivors: The Intersection of Basic Family Law, Immigration, Benefits, and Housing Issues in California 2021**

## **Live Webcast**

**All Faculty Presenting Remotely via Zoom**

**April 21, 2021**

**9:00 am – 5:10 pm (Pacific Time)**

## **Why You Should Attend**

You should attend this training if you would like to provide pro bono services to immigrant domestic violence survivors. Immigrant domestic violence survivors may require assistance with a constellation of related yet distinct legal issues, more commonly in the areas of family law, domestic violence, housing, and public benefits. While it may be difficult for a single attorney or legal service provider to provide all of these services, it is important to understand the comprehensive and holistic legal needs of an immigrant domestic violence survivor, and the intersectionality between these legal matters. This day-long program will develop the practitioner's understanding of how to provide culturally and linguistically responsive services to immigrant survivors, and provide guidance on how to issue spot various legal issues for immigrant survivors of domestic violence. Experienced domestic violence advocates and legal practitioners in the areas of immigration, family law, public benefits, and housing will share their expertise by providing insight into 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 availability of safety net programs for housing, public benefits and healthcare.

## **What You Will Learn**

- Cultural and linguistic issues to be aware of when working with immigrant clients generally and specific issues that arise in working with immigrant survivors of domestic violence
- What is domestic violence and how it impacts immigrant communities
- What family law issues are implicated when working with immigrant survivors of domestic violence
- What immigration legal remedies and benefits are available for immigrant domestic violence survivors, and recent immigration updates impacting immigrant domestic violence survivors

- How immigration status can impact access to public benefits
- Special housing protections for immigrant domestic violence survivors in the Violence Against Women Act, Fair Housing laws, and other California laws

### **Who Should Attend**

Legal aid, nonprofit and private practitioners who work with and/or would like to provide pro bono legal services for domestic violence survivors and immigrant communities.

## **AGENDA**

Morning Session:

9:00

### **Opening Remarks**

***Cindy C. Liou, Erin Orum, Morgan M. Weibel***

9:05

### **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***

10:05

### **Providing Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Services for Immigrant Survivors of Domestic Violence in the Elimination of Bias**

The goal of this session is to explore how factors affecting work with immigrant survivors of domestic violence such as culture, language, race and immigration status affect the advocate-client relationship.

The session will focus on how to use cultural and linguistic responsiveness to become better advocates and focus on how to eliminate bias experienced by immigrant clients.

***Elisabet Medina, Hedianana Utarti***

11:05 Break

11:15

### **Immigration Legal Remedies and Recent Legal and Policy Updates for Immigrant Domestic Violence Survivors**

This session will cover the most common forms of immigration relief for undocumented survivors of domestic violence to gain legal status: asylum, Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) self-petitions, U nonimmigrant status, and T nonimmigrant status. It will also cover emerging, recent issues related to these forms of relief, such as recent polices, regulations, procedures, and best practices in light of the ever-changing legal landscape.

***Christine Lin, Cindy C. Liou, Catherine Seitz, Morgan M. Weibel***

12:45 Lunch

Afternoon Session:

1:45

**Public Benefits and Immigration**

This session covers issues that arise when representing immigrant clients seeking public benefits and how new public benefits policies and regulations may impact future eligibility for domestic violence survivors and mixed status families.

***Tanya Broder, Lisa M. Newstrom***

2:45

**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***

3:45 Break

3:55

**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.

***Kemi Mustapha, Renee Williams***

5:10 Adjourn

**Faculty:**

**Co-Chairs:**

**Cindy C. Liou**

State Policy Director  
Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)  
San Francisco, California

**Erin Orum**

Regional Counsel for Family Law  
Bay Area Legal Aid  
Redwood City, California

**Morgan M. Weibel**

Executive Director  
Tahirih Justice Center  
San Bruno, California

---

**Tanya Broder**

Senior Staff Attorney  
National Immigration Law Center  
San Francisco, California

**Trina Chatterjee**

Partner  
MVTC Family Law  
Oakland, California

**Nicole Ford**

Law Offices of Nicole Ford  
San José, 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

**Christine Lin**

Director of Training and Technical Assistance  
Center for Gender & Refugee Studies  
University of California, Hastings College of the Law  
San Francisco, California

**Elisabet Medina**

Program Manager  
San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing  
San Francisco, California

**Kemi Mustapha**

Senior Staff Attorney  
Bay Area Legal Aid  
San José, California

**Lisa M. Newstrom**

Managing Attorney, Santa Clara County  
Bay Area Legal Aid  
San José, California

**Catherine Seitz**

Legal Director  
Immigration Institute of the Bay Area  
San Francisco, California

**Hediana Utarti**

Anti-Trafficking Program Coordinator/Community Advocate  
Asian Women's Shelter  
San Francisco, California

**Renee Williams**

Senior Staff Attorney  
National Housing Law Project  
San Francisco, California

**Senior Pro Bono Program Attorney: Christina Thompson**