

WORKING WITH IMMIGRANT CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES TOWARD STABILITY AND PERMANENCY

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, NEW
JERSEY TASK FORCE ON CHILD ABUSE AND
NEGLECT, BIENNIAL CONFERENCE 2013

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Goals of Presentation



- Help child welfare workers . . .
 - Understand the immigration enforcement/services system as it relates to children,
 - Timely identify possible immigration relief available to child clients,
 - Use interdisciplinary resources to help children obtain immigration relief and stability, and
 - Locate experienced immigration representation for children in New Jersey

Introduction

Immigrant Children and Youth in New Jersey

Table

Paths to U.S. citizenship



- By being **born** in the U.S.;
- By **acquiring** citizenship at birth based on the citizenship status of one or both parents;
- By **deriving** citizenship because one or both of a green card holders parents is a citizen or becomes a citizen through the naturalization process; and
- By **naturalizing**

Some Immigration Statuses



- **Lawful permanent resident** (“LPR”, “green card holder”)
- **Temporary visa holder** (business, tourist, student)
- **Refugee/asylee**
- **“Undocumented Individual”**
 - ▣ Never had a valid visa “EWI”
 - ▣ Overstayed or violated terms of visa
 - ▣ Entered using false documents

Migration by children: snapshots

Why?	Who decided?	Who traveled with you?	How did you travel?	What happened?
domestic violence	I was too young to know	Traffickers Smugglers	Ticketed passenger	Lack of basic necessities
persecution	It was up to my parents.	Guide/ coyote	Cargo/freight	Debt incurred
poverty no caretaker	I decided for myself; my family was [not] opposed.	Friends Strangers	Rail Motor vehicle Boat On foot	Hazards of route (desert, river, traffic)
separation from family	I left without telling anyone.	Family	Valid papers No papers Invalid papers	Crime: assault, sexual assault, kidnapping

How do children migrate to the US?



Q: When you got to the border, how did you get across?

A: I was in the trunk of the car.

Q: But weren't you...

A: Pregnant, yes.

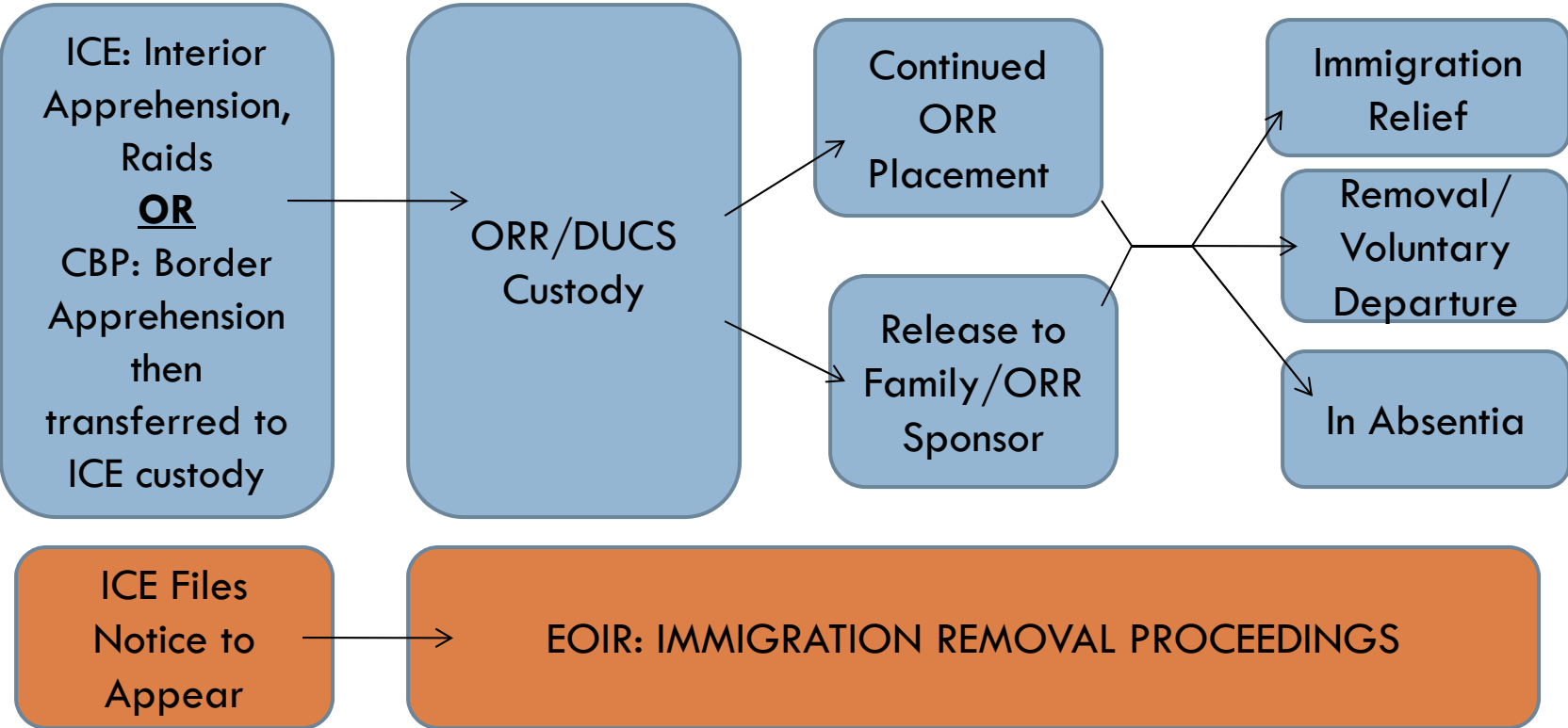


“Unaccompanied alien child,” as defined at 6 USC §279(g)

- no lawful immigration status
- has not attained 18 years of age
- no parent or legal guardian in the United States . . . available to provide care and physical custody



How does a child's case get to immigration court in New Jersey?



Special Legal Provisions for “Unaccompanied Alien Children”

- Implications of UAC definition
 - ▣ Substantive and procedural protections (e.g. impact on asylum deadline and filing)
 - ▣ Special custody provisions – “unaccompanied” children must be transferred out of ICE custody into the custody of Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) within 72 hours

(Un)accompanied children & SIJS



- Special Immigrant Juvenile Status provides protection and a pathway to legal status to eligible children
- Meeting UAC definition is neither necessary NOR sufficient to qualify as a “special immigrant” juvenile, defined at INA 101 §(a)(27)(J)
- May apply for SIJ status before age 21



WHO ARE THE PLAYERS?

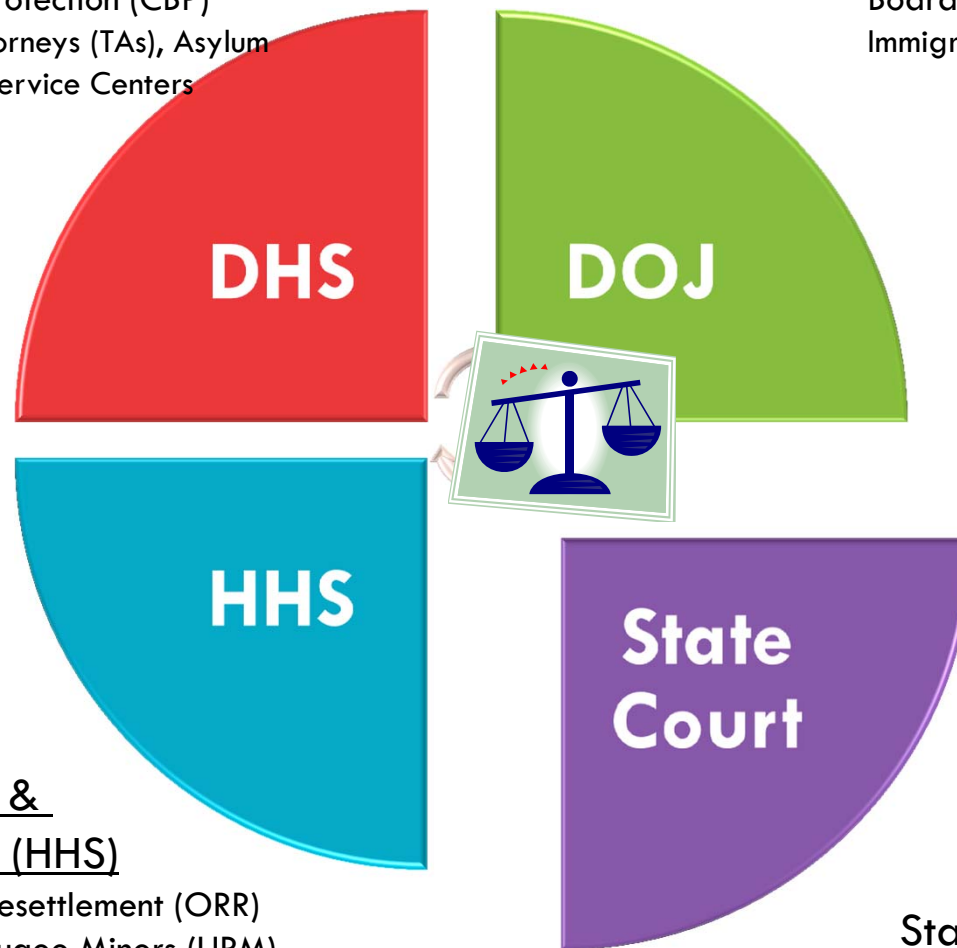


Dept. of Homeland Security

Citizenship & Immigration Services (CIS)
Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE)
Customs & Border Protection (CBP)
ICE Officers, Trial Attorneys (TAs), Asylum
Office Interviewers, Service Centers

Dept. of Justice

Executive Office for Immigration Review
(EOIR)
Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA)
Immigration Judges (IJs)



Dept. of Health &
Human Services (HHS)

Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)
Unaccompanied Refugee Minors (URM)
Div. Of Unaccompanied Children's Services (DUCS)
Shelter Workers, Therapists, Field Coordinators

State Courts

Juvenile Court: family part, juvenile
delinquency

DHS:

Department of Homeland Security

- **Customs & Border Protection (CBP)** – responsible for border security; most often the agency that encounters the children
- **Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE)** – responsible for the detention and removal of immigrants, as well as representing DHS in immigration court
- **Citizenship & Immigration Services (CIS)** – responsible for granting immigration benefits, including Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, Asylum and Legal Permanent Residency



DHHS: Department of Health and Human Services

- Responsible for the detention of unaccompanied alien children once they are apprehended by DHS
- **Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)**
 - ▣ **Division Of Unaccompanied Children's Services (DUCS)** – responsible for the detention of UACs in removal proceedings, as well as the process of releasing them to a sponsor
 - ▣ **Unaccompanied Refugee Minors (URM)** – responsible for providing housing/assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors and some qualifying UACs



DOJ: Department of Justice



- **Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR)**
- **Immigration Judges (IJs)** – responsible for conducting removal proceedings against immigrants
- **Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA)** – the appellate body above the Immigration Judges

New Jersey State Juvenile Courts



- Not specifically connected to Removal Proceedings, however one immigration benefit (Special Immigrant Juvenile Status) can only be obtained through the involvement of a state juvenile court
- In New Jersey, a “juvenile court” includes Family Part, Superior Court

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Immigration Relief for Children and Youth

Main Forms of Relief

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- Special Immigrant Juvenile Status
- T visa
- U visa
- VAWA
- Asylum
- Prosecutorial Discretion
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (“DACA”)
- Voluntary departure
- Temporary Protected Status
- Family immigration

Special Immigrant Juvenile Status

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- Involves a State Juvenile Court (in NJ the *Family Part*)
- “Visa Status” that the child has until the age of 21
- Once granted, child becomes eligible to apply for Legal Permanent Residency (which would allow the child to stay past 21)
- If a child is granted SIJ status, *many* of the grounds of inadmissibility are waived

Special Immigrant Juvenile Status Requirements

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- the child must be **under 21** years of age;
- the child must be **unmarried**;
- the child must either be **declared dependent** on a juvenile court, **OR placed** by a juvenile court in the custody of a State agency or a person or entity appointed by a State or juvenile court;
- **reunification with one or both of the child's parents must not be viable** due to abuse, neglect, abandonment, or a similar basis found under State law; and
- it must have been determined in administrative or judicial proceedings that it would **not be in the child's best interest to be returned to his or her country.**

T Visa: Eligibility

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- Physically present in U.S. on account of trafficking
- A past/present victim of **severe form of trafficking** in persons; and
- Would suffer **extreme hardship** involving unusual and severe harm upon removal from U.S.; and
- Has complied with any reasonable request of law enforcement officials to assist in investigation or prosecution of trafficking

Trafficking of Minors

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- Domestic servants / child care
- Forced prostitution / sex slave in home
- Drug mules (across border or within US)
- Forced participation in extortion of family members
- Peonage/debt bondage by coyotes (with employment in various industries)
- Forced employment in commercial cleaning businesses, construction/house painting, agricultural/fishing/crabbing work

T Visas: Differences for Minors

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- Force, Fraud or Coercion
 - ▣ A child under the age of 18 yrs old does not have to establish force, fraud, or coercion in relation to a commercial sex act (presumption that a minor can't consent)
 - ▣ Force, fraud or coercion may look very different for a child than it would for an adult in the forced labor context (think “eggshell skull” rule in torts)
- Reporting/Cooperation with Law Enforcement
 - ▣ A child under age 18 is exempted from reporting and cooperation
- Extreme Hardship
 - ▣ May also look very different for a child: availability of a caregiver, access to support services and education, and likelihood of future exploitation may also figure more prominently in a child's case

Trafficking Certification Letters / URM Program

U Visas: Minor Victims of Crime

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Created in 2000 by Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act (VTVPA)

Common crimes in minors' cases include:

- ❑ Felonious assault (often by peers) – simple assault does not qualify
- ❑ Domestic violence
- ❑ Kidnapping/abduction/held hostage
- ❑ Statutory rape/carnal knowledge
- ❑ Sexual assault/abusive sexual contact

U Visa: Eligibility

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- Victim of qualifying criminal activity
- Criminal activity violated US law or occurred in the US
- Has suffered substantial physical or mental abuse
- Possesses information about the criminal activity
- Has been helpful, is helpful, or is likely to be helpful to law enforcement, judge or other agency with responsibility for investigation/prosecution

U Visas: Differences for Minors

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□ Substantial Harm

- The standard for substantial harm is the same for minors, but in practice, it is generally easier to show the negative effects of a crime on a child
- General studies showing the impact of a certain crime on a child victim may be helpful

□ Cooperation with Law Enforcement

- If a victim is under age 16, his/her parent, guardian or next friend may fulfill the cooperation requirement

VAWA: Background

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- Enacted in 1994
- Allows otherwise eligible individuals with USC or LPR family members to self-petition
- Eligible based on physical or mental abuse
- Amended in 1996, 2000, 2006 and 2008 under Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act
- If abuser is USC, authorizes green card
- If abuser is LPR, deferred action until “priority date” is current

VAWA: Minor Victims of Domestic Violence

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- Child – unmarried and under 21 yrs old
 - Abused by a parent
 - Abuser is (or was) an LPR or a USC
 - Child lives (or lived) with abuser
 - Battered or victim of “extreme cruelty”
 - ▣ Physical and sexual abuse
 - ▣ Emotional abuse and control
 - ▣ Abuse of immigration process
 - Good moral character
- * Remember, a child under 18 may have married a USC or an LPR and be eligible for VAWA as a spouse.

VAWA: Who is a child?

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- Children born in wedlock
- Step-children (born in or out of wedlock), if the marriage creating step-relationship occurred before child's 18th birthday
- Adopted children, if adoption finalized before child's 16th birthday
 - ▣ VAWA 2005 removed 2 year custody/residency requirement for self-petitioning children
- Child born out of wedlock, if legitimated by father

Asylum: Definition

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- An individual is eligible for asylum if she meets the definition of a refugee. Immigration & Nationality Act (INA) § 208(b)(1)(A).
 - ▣ A refugee is “any person who is outside any country of such person’s nationality . . . and who is unable or unwilling to return to, and is unable or unwilling to avail himself or herself of the protection of that country because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.” INA § 101(a)(42)(A)
- Definition based on international law: UN Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees, Art I(2)
- Statutory and regulatory standards: INA § 208; 8 CFR § 208

Asylum: Elements

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- Well-Founded Fear”
- of “Persecution”
- Perpetrated by the government or an entity the government cannot control
- On account of the following factor(s)
 - ▣ Race
 - ▣ Religion
 - ▣ Nationality
 - ▣ Political Opinion
 - ▣ Membership in a Particular Social Group

Asylum: Eligibility

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- No “aggravated felony”/”particularly serious crime” conviction
- Discretion

Asylum: Practice

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- Must be filed within one year of entry to US unless “changed circumstances”
 - ▣ Otherwise only eligible for “withholding of removal” under INA 243(b)(3) – higher standard, no benefits
 - ▣ Application of deadline to minors/ “unaccompanied minors” – see recent USCIS memos
- May be filed affirmatively with USCIS or defensively in Immigration Court
- Only 30-40% approval rate nationwide
- Work authorization only if application pending for more than 180 days
- Eligible for green card after one year

Asylum: Practice, cont.

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- Special rules for unaccompanied minors
 - ▣ May file application with USCIS even if child is in removal proceedings

Prosecutorial Discretion: Generally

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- Temporary relief for individuals currently in removal proceedings
- Authorized by Obama administration via two memos (Morton memo June 17, 2011 and Napolitano memo August 18, 2011)
- Goal: alleviate court caseloads by administratively closing low priority cases
- No regulations – in NJ request made in writing to District Counsel
- If granted, court file is administratively closed. No status or other benefits granted

Prosecutorial Discretion: Eligibility

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Preference given to

- Veterans and members of the US army
- Minors and the elderly
- Long term residents of US with USC or LPR family members and strong community ties
- Individuals who came to US before age 16 and have completed high school in US and have attended college or are working
- Victims of DV
- Individuals with serious health conditions or mental or physical disabilities

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals



- On **June 15, 2012** Janet Napolitano, Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, issued a memorandum authorizing DHS components to exercise prosecutorial discretion.
- In that memo, the secretary articulates the basic criteria to guide USCIS and ICE in granting **deferred action**.
 - **DACA is not a statute, regulation, nor is it an Executive Order.**

DACA

Benefits

1. Temporary Relief from Removal
2. Temporary Employment Authorization
3. May be extended beyond initial 2 years
4. Presence during term of deferred action can help prevent accrual of unlawful presence
5. May travel with special “Advanced Parole” from USCIS

Drawbacks

1. Temporary Relief
2. Must be renewed every two years
3. Does NOT confer immigration status
4. No benefits for immediate family
5. Does NOT cure prior unlawful presence
6. Individual is now “known” to DHS

Who Qualifies for DACA?



- Was under the age of 31 on **June 15, 2012**;
- Arrived in the U.S. before his or her 16th birthday;
- *Continuously resided* in the U.S. from **June 15, 2007** to the present;
- Was physically present in the U.S. on **June 15, 2012** and on the date he/she applied for DACA;
- Entered EWI before **June 15, 2012** or his/her lawful immigration status expired before **June 15, 2012**;
- (No substantial criminal record)

Temporary Protected Status

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- Allows a group of persons temporary refuge in the United States.
- AG may designate nationals of a country eligible for TPS with a finding that conditions in that country pose a danger to personal safety due to ongoing armed conflict or an environmental disaster.
- Grants of TPS are initially made for periods of 6 to 18 months and may be extended depending on the situation.
- Provides work authorization.
- Removal proceedings are suspended against aliens while they are in Temporary Protected Status
- Removing proceedings will be commenced if TPS application is denied

Family Immigration

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- USC (age 21+) can sponsor:
 - ▣ “immediate relatives”: spouse, parent, unmarried minor child, and
 - ▣ “family preference”: adult child, married minor child, or sibling

- LPR (age 21+) can sponsor:
 - ▣ Spouse or unmarried child

Family Immigration: Adoption

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- Definition of “child” under INA § 101(b)(1)(E) :
 - Parent must have adopted child before his or her 16th birthday AND
 - Parent must have had legal and physical custody of the child for at least two years while the child was a minor (waived for certain abused children)

Family Immigration: Adoption, cont.

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- Child is still considered an adopted child if:
 - adopted after 16th birthday but before 18th birthday AND
 - is the “birth sibling” of another child who was adopted by the same parent(s)
 - before the sibling’s 16th birthday, and
 - the sibling immigrated through the Immediate Relative Process

Case Study #1:

- Triana, a 14-year-old girl enters the U.S. from Liberia on a tourist visa.
- In Liberia, she lived in a rural village and was a member of a tribe. As a member of the tribe, she was required to follow the orders of the leaders of the tribe.
- At the age of 9, she was forced to undergo genital mutilation, over the objection of her parents.
- At the age of 14, she was due to be married to a much older man, who was a cousin, already married, and physically abusive to his current wife. Once again, her parents objected. However, their objections were overruled by the tribe.
- She is brought to the U.S. by her mother to escape the dictates of the tribe, particularly the arranged marriage.

Case Study #1 continued:



- Triana's mother remains in the U.S. for one week and then leaves Triana with a Liberian family in New Jersey, who are strangers to Triana and her parents.
- Triana's mother returns to Liberia.
- Two years later, the caregiver of Triana and Triana approach an immigration attorney. Her tourist visa has long expired and they wonder what can be done to stabilize her immigration status.

REPRESENTING IMMIGRANT
CHILDREN IN NEW JERSEY
FAMILY COURT AND SPECIAL
IMMIGRANT JUVENILE STATUS
RELIEF



What is SIJS?



- Federal Law that helps certain undocumented youth obtain lawful immigration status

Special Immigrant Juvenile 1990



An immigrant who has been declared dependent on a juvenile court located in the United States and has been deemed eligible by that court for long-term foster care.

8 USC § 1101(a)(27)(J); INA
§ 101(a)(27)(J)

Special Immigrant Juvenile 1997



An immigrant who has been declared dependent on a juvenile court located in the United States and has been deemed eligible by that court for long-term foster care ***due to abuse, neglect or abandonment.***

8 USC § 1101(a)(27)(J); INA § 101(a)(27)(J)

Special Immigrant Juvenile TVPRA/2008

An immigrant who has been declared dependent on a juvenile court located in the United States ***or whom such a court has legally committed to, or placed under the custody of, an agency or department of a State, or an individual or entity appointed by a State or juvenile court*** located in the United States, and ***whose reunification with 1 or both of the immigrant's parents is not viable*** due to abuse, neglect, abandonment, ***or a similar basis found under State law***

8 USC § 1101(a)(27)(J); INA § 101(a)(27)(J)

Special Immigrant Juvenile – 2008

cont'd



- PLUS a state court finding that it is not in the child's best interest to return to his/her country of origin

SIJS PROCESS:



3 STEPS:

- ▣ 1: State court → obtain the Special Findings Order
- ▣ 2: USCIS → Special Immigrant Juvenile Status Visa
- ▣ 3: Immigration Court or USCIS → Lawful Permanent Residency

Necessary Factual Findings



- Under 21
- Not married
- Declared dependent on a juvenile court, OR placed by a juvenile court in the custody of an individual
- Reunification with one or both parents not viable due to abuse, neglect, abandonment, or something similar
- Not in youth's best interest to return to country of origin

Obtaining Special Findings Orders



- Age of the child?
- Family court jurisdiction?
- Is DCP&P involved? Will DCP&P involvement help resolve the immigration issues?
- Is the child living with a caregiver willing to file for and accept custody?
- Child's best interest to maintain current custody arrangement?

Dependent Upon Court - Which Family Courts can help?

- **FN** - DCP&P litigation concerning child abuse & neglect (CIC - Children In Court cases) (could be under Title 9 or Title 30)
- **FG** – DCP&P litigation concerning termination of parental rights/guardianship proceedings
- **FC** – DCP&P litigation concerning older youth; Child Placement Review
- **FD** – custody, parenting time, & child support
- **FJ** – juvenile delinquency cases

Other Family Courts (not as likely)



- **FL** – kinship legal guardianship (KLG)
- **FV** – domestic violence restraining orders; minors can seek orders under certain conditions
- **FO** – violations of restraining orders
- **FM** – marriage dissolution (filing fee \$250/\$275)
- **FA** – contested adoptions

FN Docket/ DCPD (DCP&P)Litigation

- Process to obtain special findings
 - ▣ Requires coordination with Office of the Attorney General (DAG) and/or Office of the Law Guardian because the Division and child are parties to these proceedings
 - ▣ Special findings can be obtained in the context of Title 9 or Title 30 litigation so long as there is some finding that reunification with one or both parents is not viable due to abuse, neglect, abandonment, or some similar basis

FN Docket/DCPP litigation – Title 9

- Standard – Is this an abused or neglected child?
 - Statutes
 - ▣ NJSA 9:6-8.21 Definition of an abused child
 - Under 18
 - Parent, guardian or other person having care & control
 - Non-accidental physical injury
 - Commits sexual abuse or allows to be committed
 - Physical, mental or emotional condition impaired or imminent danger of becoming impaired
 - Adequate maintenance (food, clothing, shelter, etc.)
 - Substantial risk of harm
 - Willfully abandoned
- ALSO NJSA 9:6-1; NJSA 9:6-8.9

FN Docket/ DCPD Litigation-Title 30

- Standard – Is this a family in need of services?
- “Title 30 finding” under NJSA 30:4C-12
- Not a finding that the child is abused, neglected or dependent– thus, may not be helpful for a SIJS special findings order
- But if the court placed the child in the custody of someone else due to the continuing “Title 30” concerns, likely sufficient under SIJS new language

FN Docket – process cont.



- Order from Fact Finding (FF) hearing under Title 9 may be sufficient for SIJS
- If FF has occurred and language is insufficient, (1) discuss with OAG/OLG about obtaining a modification of the FF order; or (2) whether a notice of motion for special findings should be brought
- Will depend on preference of counsel and judge

FD Docket/Custody



- Standard – best interest of the child

- Statutes
 - ▣ NJSA 9:2-9 AND 9:2-10 Third party applications
 - ▣ NJSA 9:2-3 AND 9:2-4 Parents living separately

Components of a Custody Complaint Filing



- Notice of Motion
- Complaint for Custody
- Brief in Support of Complaint
- Certifications
- Evidence/Exhibits
- Proposed Order

Special Findings - Issues to Consider



- Confidentiality
- FJ docket (juvenile delinquency) – coordination with Office of the Public Defender, Juvenile Rights Divisions
- FG, FC and FL dockets- prior Fact Finding order (from even years earlier) might be sufficient if it was a Title 9, or if custody was transferred under Title 30
- Both FV and FM dockets will address custody matters

Challenges/Issues



**Jurisdictional Issues – Approaching
or Over the Age of 18**

Challenges/Issues cont'd



**Does the matter really need the
Court's attention?**

Challenges/Issues cont'd

Proving Abuse, Neglect, Abandonment or Something Similar?

- What if abuse or neglect happened a long time ago?
- Is there any tangible evidence besides the youth's story?
- What if the concerns are more community conditions?
- Is the death of both parents abandonment or "something similar"?
- How is Abandonment defined – deportation, detention or other consequences from immigration not seen as abandonment
- Is sending a child here to escape abuse in the home country abandonment – consider Triana's story

Challenges/Issues cont'd

The Role of the State Court (Family Court) Judge

- Judges are sometimes troubled because they feel as if they are being asked to rule on immigration decisions (especially because one of the findings asks the court to consider if it would not be best for the child to be returned to his/her country of origin)
- Judges sometimes confuse their role and authority and act as if they are being asked to make the ultimate immigration decision

Challenges/Issues cont'd

□ One Parent SIJS –

What is the meaning of “***reunification with one or both of the immigrant's parents is not viable . . . ?***”

Case Study #2: Jessica

- Jessica is a twelve-year-old girl who is the subject of a DCP&P complaint due to allegations of ongoing physical abuse by her mother. Jessica's mother often drinks too much, and when she does, she can become violent toward Jessica.
- Because of the alleged abuse, Jessica and her younger sister were removed from her mother's home and placed into foster care with an aunt and uncle.
- Prior to being placed into foster care, she was living with her mother and sister.
- The whereabouts of Jessica's father are unknown. It is believed that he lives in Honduras. Jessica talks with him on occasion. She has not seen him since she left Honduras many years ago. He does not provide any financial support to Jessica.

Case Study #2 continued:

- After four months in foster care, a fact finding hearing is held and it is determined that Jessica's mother did physically abuse her and that her sister was at risk of harm.
- Right after the fact finding hearing, the Court also finds that it would not be safe to return Jessica to her mother's care. The case continues. DCP&P is ordered to provide therapeutic services to Jessica and her mother. And the mother is ordered to comply.
- During the course of litigation, it is learned that Jessica is undocumented, having been brought to this country when she was 5 years-old. At that time, Jessica and her mother left Honduras. Jessica's mother was fleeing an abusive relationship with Jessica's father.

Case Study #2 continued:



- What can be done to stabilize Jessica's immigration status?
- When should these steps be taken? Do we need to wait to see if reunification with Jessica's mother can be achieved?
- How should these steps be taken?

Case Study #3: Miguel

- Miguel was stopped crossing the border into the United States in February of last year, when he was 16. He was placed in removal proceedings before being released to the custody of his mother in New Jersey.
- Miguel now lives in Atlantic City with his mother, who is undocumented. Miguel is enrolled in high school.
- Miguel's father was a gang member in El Salvador who was violent towards Miguel and Miguel's mother. He was convicted of murdering an opposing gang member when Miguel was 5 and served seven years in prison.
- Miguel's father has not attempted to contact him since he was imprisoned, nor has his father provided Miguel with any financial support since that time.
- His mother came to the U.S. four years ago, leaving Miguel in the care of her mother. She regularly sent money to support him, but he missed her and decided to try to join her in the U.S. after his grandmother passed away.

Consider



- Is Miguel eligible for any forms of immigration relief?
- What challenges might he face in establishing his eligibility for relief?
- How might a child welfare worker assist him with his immigration case?

Case Study #4: Nicole

- ❑ Nicole is a 16 year old girl from Trinidad.
- ❑ She came to the United States on a tourist visa one year ago to visit her aunt and uncle and ended up moving in with them and enrolling in high school in New Jersey. Her aunt and uncle are both green card holders.
- ❑ Nicole's father is dead and her mother has been in and out of drug treatment programs in Trinidad.
- ❑ Nicole is pregnant. The father of her baby is 24.
- ❑ Nicole was recently arrested and charged with shoplifting.

Consider



- Is Nicole eligible for any forms of immigration relief?
- What challenges might she face in establishing her eligibility for relief?
- How might a child welfare worker assist her with her immigration case?



Resources

Immigration Legal Services for Children in New Jersey

Non-profits

- American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)
 - 973-643-1924
- Camden Center for Law and Social Justice (CCLSJ)
 - 856-583-2950
- Kids in Need of Defense (KIND) (will connect unaccompanied kids with pro bono attorney if child meets eligibility requirements and is within one of the counties served by KIND)
 - Sarah Plastino, splastino@supportkind.org
- Legal Services of New Jersey(LSNJ)
 - (732) 572-9100
- Rutgers-Camden Immigrant Justice Clinic
 - Prof. Joanne Gottesman jgottesm@camden.rutgers.edu
- Rutgers-Newark Immigrant Rights Clinic (973) 353-5292
 - Prof. Anju Gupta agupta@kinoy.rutgers.edu
- Child Advocacy Clinic (for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status cases) (973)-353-3196
 - Prof. Randi Mandelbaum Rmandelbaum@kinoy.rutgers.edu

Private attorneys (may provide pro-bono assistance to children, but should check for prior experience, AFSC has list of experienced pro bono counsel)

- American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)
 - <http://www.ailalawyer.com/>

Other resources

- SIJ : See Immigrant Legal Resource Center website and Special Immigrant Juvenile Status Handbook at <http://www.ilrc.org/resources/Special-immigrant-juvenile-status-sijs>
- VAWA, T, and U visas: see Assista website at <http://www/assistahelp.org/>
- Living in the US: A Guide for Immigrant Youth (2007) available in English, Spanish and Korean at <http://www.ilrc.org/for-immigrants-para-inmigrantes/living-in-the-us-guide>