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Experience

Scott D. Pollock & Associates, P.C., Chicago, IL
April 2005 to present, Attorney.

- Represent non-citizens before the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Executive Office for Immigration Review (Immigration Court & Board of Immigration Appeals), U.S. District Courts, U.S. Courts of Appeals, and U.S. Department of State with regards to asylum, protection of victims of violence, deportation defense, immigrant detention issues, immigration consequences of criminal convictions, family-based immigration, consular processing, waivers, non-immigrant visas, employment-based immigration, naturalization and federal court litigation.

Significant cases:

Kholyavskiy v. Schlecht, 479 F. Supp. 2d 897 (E.D. WI 2007).

Kazarov v. Achim, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 14001 (N.D. IL. 2007).

O'Sullivan v. United States Citizenship & Immigration Services, 372 F.Supp. 2d 1097 (N.D. Ill. 2005).

Midwest Immigrant & Human Rights Center, now National Immigrant Justice Center, Chicago, IL;

May 2001 to April 2005, Supervising Attorney, Detention Project.

- Represented detained immigrants in removal proceedings in their applications for asylum, withholding of removal, relief under Convention Against Torture, cancellation of removal, relief under 212(c), acquisition and derivation of citizenship, adjustment of status and other deportation defense;
- Represented detained immigrants in bond re-determination hearings and motions to terminate removal proceedings;
- Represented long-term detainees in advocating for their release under orders of supervision from the Chicago District or release with Washington Headquarters under the Supreme Court decision, *Zadvydas v Davis*, 533 U.S. 678 (2001);
- Represented detainees in U.S. District Court via petitions for writ of habeas corpus and before the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals via petitions for review;
- Represented non-detained immigrants in court proceedings; prepared Violence Against Women Applications;

- Supervised two attorneys practicing in the Executive Office for Immigration Review and in preparation of motions, briefs, document submissions & hearings;
- Provided legal access to those detained during “Know Your Rights” presentations prior to detained immigration court, as well as through collect telephone intake and mail correspondence;
- Legally advised state and federal defenders representing immigrants in criminal proceedings;
- Panel Speaker at various trainings covering many subjects in Immigration Law.

Significant cases:

Ali v. Achim, 342 F. Supp. 2d 769 (N.D. Ill. 2004);

Ali v. Achim, 2004 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 17352 (N.D. Ill. 2004);

Ramirez-Vicario v. Achim, 2004 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 2798 (N.D. Ill. 2004);

Kazarov v. Achim, 2003 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 22407 (N.D. Ill. 2003);

Hmaidan v. Ashcroft, 258 F. Supp. 2d 832 (N.D. Ill. 2003);

Gill v. Ashcroft, 2002 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 9821 (N.D. Ill. 2002).

Asylum and Immigration Clinic, DePaul University College of Law, Chicago, IL,
September 2000 to May 2001.

- Representation of asylum seekers before the Chicago and Harlingen Texas Immigration Courts.
- Provided legal assistance to immigrant organizations throughout the Chicago Community (such as Apna Ghar, World Relief, Centro Romero);
- Conducted trainings on acquisition and derivation of citizenship and “T” and “U” visas.

Lawyers Committee for Human Rights (LCHR), now Human Rights Now, New York City, NY,
June 2000 through August 2000.

Business and Human Rights Intern. Participated in three aspects of the Business and Human Rights Program at LCHR.: (1) Aided a staff attorney in her preparation for a coalition-building trip to Cambodia; (2) Worked on the negotiation of the Fair Labor Association’s (FLA) Monitoring Document, solicited the expansion of the FLA Advisory Council and researched the application of FLA principles to other LCHR programs; 3) Solely responsible for conducting research on international health and safety law in the garment and footwear industries, namely in China, Cambodia and Mexico, identifying issues which the LCHR could effectively address and then facilitating coalition building between LCHR and environmental organizations regarding these health, safety and environmental factory conditions.

DePaul College of Law, International Human Rights Law Institute, Chicago, IL,
Legal Research Assistant for Professor M. Cherif Bassiouni,
May 1999 to May 2001.

- Researched the scope of, and legal instruments which, prohibit sexual trafficking of women and children;

- Coordinated the beginning stages of a research grant to assess the extent, type and harm of trafficking of women and children in the Americas from the Office of Women of the Office of American States;
- Attended the United Nations Preparatory Committee for the Commission on the Status of Women in March of 2000, representing the International Human Rights Law Institute;
- Chaired a Panel on the trafficking of women and children at the First International Congress of the Young Penalists Section of the International Association of Penal Law in Siracusa, Italy.

Munday & Nathan, Chicago, IL,
Law Clerk, summer 1997.

Drafted answers to discovery and interrogatories, assisted attorneys in preparing a civil rights case for trial, filed pleadings and motions, and abstracted depositions.

Education

DePaul University, College of Law, Chicago, IL,

Transfer student, Juris Doctor and International Law Certificate received, May 2001;
Jeanne & Joseph Sullivan Fellowship, International Human Rights Law Institute, 2nd & 3rd Years;
Cali Award Winner, Asylum & Immigration Clinic, Fall 2000; Labor Law, Fall 1999;
Member of the DePaul College of Law Clemency Project;
International Law Digest, Editor;
International Law Society, member;
National Lawyers Guild, member.

Loyola University Chicago, School of Law, Chicago, IL,

First Year, September to May, 1998-1999.
International Law Society, member;
Public Interest Law Society, member.

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI,

Bachelor of Arts with honors in History, May 1998.
Overall GPA: 3.5; Major in History GPA: 3.8; Class Honors, four semesters.

Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland,

Attended Hilary Term, January to April 1997.
Studied in the History Department: Irish & Continental European History and European Political Thought.

Bar Admissions

State of Illinois Supreme Court;
U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit;
U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois;

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin.

Professional Memberships

Member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) 2002 – present;

AILA Chicago Liaison Committee Chairs/Memberships:

DHS-ICE ERO Committee Chair 2007-2008, Co-Chair 2008-2009; 2009-2010; 2010-2011; Member 2012-2013, 2018-2019.

Asylum Committee Co-Chair 2006-2007; member 2018-2019.

EOIR Committee Member 2004-2005; 2013-2014.

DHS-ICE Office of Chief Counsel Committee Member 2018-2019.

Litigation Committee Member 2006-2007.

AILA National Asylum Committee Member 2007-2008.

Member of the Hellenic Bar Association of Illinois;

Member of the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement National Working Group, January 2008 to present.

Mentor, DePaul University College of Law, Immigration and Asylum Clinic, 2018 to present.

Honors and Recognition

Ms. Relias has been selected for inclusion in Illinois Super Lawyer – Rising Stars Editions 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and Leading Lawyers, Emerging Lawyers 2015, 2016, 2017.

Articles

“Preparing for an Individual Calendar Hearing,” Todd Becraft, Brian Murray, Anne G. Relias, and Michelle Rivero, June 2017.

“Shelter from the Storm: Temporary Protected Status,” James Austin and Anne G. Relias, AILA Immigration and Nationality Law Handbook, June 2009.

Speaker, Trainer and Panelist Appearances

Speaker, American Immigration Lawyers Association Fall Family & Removal Conference, “Hair on Fire: BIA & AG Updates,” November 9, 2018.

Speaker, American Immigration Lawyers Association Midwest Regional Conference, Chicago, Illinois, “Expedited Removal: Issues under the New Administration,” March 12, 2018.

Discussion Leader, American Immigration Lawyers Association Annual Conference, “Preparing for an Individual Calendar Hearing,” New Orleans, LA, June 24, 2017.

Trainer, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, “The Nuts and Bolts of Applying for Asylum,” Chicago, Illinois, June 10, 2014.

Speaker, American Immigration Lawyers Association Chicago Chapter Educational Presentation, “Litigation Update,” Chicago, Illinois, August 12, 2013.

Trainer, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, “Legal Research,” August 19, 2013.

Trainer, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, “Consular Processing,” Chicago, Illinois, December 2, 2011.

Speaker, Hellenic Bar Association, Career Day, September 21, 2011.

Panelist, AILA Midwest Regional Conference, “CIS/CBP/ICE Inter-Agency Panel,” Chicago, Illinois, March 28, 2011.

Presenter, AILA Chicago Chapter Educational Presentation, “Summary of Padilla v. Kentucky, new Supreme Court decision requiring that criminal defense counsel advise non-citizens of immigration consequences of their criminal pleas under the Sixth Amendment,” Chicago, Illinois, April 19, 2010.

Panelist, ILW National Teleconference, “Removal for Experts,” April 15, 2010.

Speaker, AILA Chicago New Members Division, “Basic Asylum Procedure and Introduction to Emerging Legal Issues,” Chicago, Illinois, October 12, 2009.

Speaker, City of Chicago, Legal Division, “Relief for Victims of Violence: VAWA, T and U Visas,” Chicago, Illinois, July 30, 2009.

Speaker, AILA Annual National Conference, “Shelter from the Storm: Temporary Protected Status Workshop,” Las Vegas, Nevada, June 5, 2009.

Speaker, Daughters of the American Revolution, Midwest Chapter, “Immigration Myths and Legislation,” Wilmette, Illinois, April 16, 2009.

Speaker, DePaul University College of Law, Asylum and Immigration Clinic, “Crimes of Moral Turpitude and Matter of Silva-Trevino,” Chicago, Illinois, February 25, 2009.

Speaker, Chicago Bar Association, Immigration and Nationality Committee, “Expert Testimony in Removal Proceedings,” Chicago, Illinois, February 21, 2008.

Trainer, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights and the Catholic Legal Immigrant Network, “Adjustment of Status and Conditional Residence,” Chicago, Illinois, November 5, 2007.

Participant in Mock Immigration Court Hearing for Catholic Legal Immigrant Network Training, "Court Skills Training," Chicago, Illinois, September 20, 2007.

Speaker, American Immigration Lawyers Association Midwest Regional Conference, "Selected Topics in Family Immigration Law: K visas, Conditional Residents and Adjustment of Status," Chicago, Illinois, April 17, 2007.

Speaker, Young Lawyers Division of the Chicago Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, "Aggravated Felonies and Immigration Consequences," Chicago, Illinois, January 8, 2007.

Speaker, DePaul University College of Law, Asylum and Immigration Law Clinical Class Training, "Complex Naturalization Issues," Chicago, Illinois, December 1, 2006.

Speaker, Young Lawyers Division of the Chicago Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, "Red Flags for Young Immigration Practitioners regarding Clients with Criminal Convictions," Chicago, Illinois, June 12, 2006.

Trainer, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights in partnership with Catholic Legal Immigrant Network, "Non Lawful Permanent Resident Cancellation of Removal and Lawful Permanent Resident Cancellation of Removal," Chicago, Illinois, May 15, 2006.

Panelist, DePaul Asylum & Immigration Clinic, "Practicing Immigration Law: Transition from Non-Profit to Private Practice," Chicago, Illinois, April 26, 2006.

Trainer, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights in partnership with Catholic Legal Immigrant Network, "Grounds of Inadmissibility & Grounds of Deportability," Schaumburg, Illinois, March 31, 2006.

Panelist, American Immigration Lawyers Association Fall Workshop: Admissibility, Crimes and Litigation Strategies for Family and Business Practitioners, "Working with your client to determine criminal arrests and convictions: Best practices for family/removal practitioners," Chicago, Illinois, September 22, 2004.

Panelist, Immigration and Nationality Law Committee, Chicago Bar Association, "Immigration Consequences of Criminal Convictions, Chicago, Illinois, February 27, 2004.

Speaker, Illinois Public Defenders Association Fall Seminar, "Immigration Consequences of Criminal Convictions," Champaign, Illinois, November 1, 2003.

Speaker, Defending Immigrants Partnership, The Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago, Cook County Public Defender, Illinois Federal Defender Program, American Immigration Lawyers Association & the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild, present: Immigration Consequences of Criminal Convictions

Training Conference, “Immigration Violations I: Crimes Involving Moral Turpitude, Fraud Good Moral Character – and alternatives,” Chicago, Illinois, September 4, 2003.

Speaker, Midwest Immigrant & Human Rights Center, “Pro Bono Orientation for Visiting Immigration Detention Facilities,” Jenner & Block, Chicago, Illinois, July 16, 2003.