HUMANITARIAN IMMIGRATION LAW CLINIC
Immigration Law Seminar: April 28-29th 2011

Presentations: Humanitarian Visas—Victims of Trafficking & Crime; Unauthorized Practice of Law

Joe Kernan is presently the USCIS District Community Relations Officer for USCIS District 8 in Atlanta, with responsibilities to train and engage with immigrant communities, local and state governments, other Federal agencies, the legal community, consular offices, law enforcement, and all other stakeholders in Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Joe began his career in the immigration field as a volunteer immigration defense attorney with the Archdiocese of Miami and AmeriCorps, and later as a supervisory attorney with Catholic Charities. He has also served as an Asylum Officer and performed the full range of duties in that position, including: hearing asylum claims, performing asylum and torture pre-screenings in immigration detention facilities and family detention centers, and on overseas refugee missions in the former Soviet republics and the Caribbean. In another life, Joe also worked briefly for the Department of Defense and for FEMA.

Presentation: Evidentiary Challenges with Refugee/ Asylee Relative Petitions

Heather Scavone is the Clinical Practitioner in Residence for the Humanitarian Immigration Law Clinic at Elon University School of Law. The clinic represents refugees, asylees, asylum seekers, parolees, certified victims of trafficking, and Iraqi/Afghani Special Immigrants with immigration benefits applications including adjustment of status, affirmative asylum, family reunification and naturalization. Prior to joining Elon, Heather directed the statewide Immigration Legal Services program of Lutheran Family Services in the Carolinas, which provided representation to hundreds of refugees and political asylees each year. Scavone chaired the North Carolina State Refugee Office’s Immigration Committee from 2005-2011. She is a cum laude graduate of North Carolina Central University School of Law, where she earned a J.D., and from Guilford College, where she earned a B.A. in French. Scavone is fluent in both the Italian and French languages.
Presentation: Secure Communities and 287(g)

Marty Rosenbluth is an immigration attorney and the Executive Director of the North Carolina Immigrant Rights Project. He is a nationally recognized expert on Secure Communities and 287(g) and has attended meetings both at the White House and ICE headquarters to discuss these programs with government officials. He is also the Chair of the Civil Rights Section of the North Carolina Advocates for Justice and is a member of the Orange County Human Rights and Human Relations Commission. Prior to attending law school, Marty worked as a human rights researcher for Al-Haq, the West Bank affiliate of the International Commission of Jurists, was a foreign affairs advisor the General Federation of Palestinian Trade Unions, and was Amnesty International’s Country Specialist for Israel and the Occupied Territories for over a dozen years. He is a graduate of the UNC School of Law.

Presentation: Immigration Consequences of Crimes and Immigration Reform Possibilities

Gerry Chapman has been a Board Certified Immigration Specialist since 1997. He graduated from UNC-CH in 1973 with a BA in International Studies, and in 1978 he received his JD, cum laude, from the University of Georgia School of Law. He is a past Trustee of the American Immigration Law Foundation (2004-2008). He served as Chair of the Carolinas Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), as a member of AILA’s Board of Governors from 1998-2000, and as Chair or Co-Chair of three national AILA Committees: the Immigrant Investor Visa Committee (1990-93), the Committee on Intracompany Transferees and International Managers and Executives (1993-94), the Essential Worker Committee (1999-2004). More recently he served on AILA’s Liaison Committee with the DHS Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), and on AILA’s Essential Worker Committee (2007-08), and as a Mentor for AILA (2003-present), and on the 2008 Strategic Planning Committee to evaluate Missions, Goals and Programs for AILA. He currently is a member of AILA’s H-2B committee. Mr. Chapman has authored articles in several AILA publications, co-edited an AILA workbook, and has lectured at immigration seminars in the United States and abroad. He has been heavily involved in AILA’s efforts to secure immigration reform on a national level. He is included in the 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010 editions of The Best Lawyers in America, in the specialty of Immigration Law. He has also been chosen for inclusion in the 2008 Super Lawyers list for immigration specialists in North Carolina. He is conversant in Spanish.

Presentation: Gender Based Asylum Claims

Lindsay M. Harris is an Equal Justice Works Fellow and Immigration Staff attorney at the Tahirih Justice Center, a non-profit organization protecting immigrant women and girls facing gender-based violence and assisting them in achieving justice in the United States. Lindsay leads the African Women’s Empowerment Project, conducting outreach in the African community and representing African women survivors of gender-based violence living in the D.C. metro area in immigration proceedings. Prior to joining Tahirih, Lindsay clerked for Ninth Circuit Judge Harry Pregerson, where she focused on immigration and asylum cases. Lindsay has previously worked with African refugee communities in
Ghana, South Africa, and in California. After college Lindsay managed a fair trade non-profit organization working with artisan women in 7 African countries. At Berkeley Law, Lindsay led the student-run California Asylum Representation Clinic and the Boalt Hall Committee for Human Rights. Lindsay has also worked with HIV Positive Immigrants with the East Bay Community Law Center, with the Center for Gender and Refugee Studies, and with African women survivors of gender-based violence with Lawyers for Human Rights in South Africa.

**Presentation: Advanced Issues in Terrorism Related Inadmissibility Grounds**

Ron Rosenberg became the Director of the USCIS Asylum Office in Arlington, VA in March 2011. From 2008 to 2011, Ron served as Special Assistant to the Associate Director of Refugee, Asylum, and International Operations (RAIO), within the Department of Homeland Security’s U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). In that capacity and in addition to other duties, Ron chaired a working group charged with resolving over 5000 immigration cases impacted by broad anti-terrorism provisions enacted after 9/11. He also led a RAIO team working to transform USCIS from paper files and stovepipe systems towards an integrated, electronic operating environment. From 2006 to 2008, Ron was the USCIS Field Office Director at the U.S. Interests Section in Havana, Cuba, where he managed refugee resettlement and other immigration operations. From 2000 to 2006, he served as Associate Counsel with the Refugee and Asylum Law Division of the USCIS Office of the Chief Counsel (previously INS General Counsel), providing counsel, outreach, and training on domestic and international protections, including asylum, refugee status, withholding of removal, Temporary Protected Status, and Article 3 of the Torture Convention. He also represented DHS-USCIS in litigation as well as in interagency and foreign consultations. From 1999-2000, Ron served as attorney advisor to the Executive Office for Immigration Review (DOJ-EOIR) in Miami, Florida. Ron has a B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin, a J.D. from the University of Virginia, and a M.A. in international affairs from the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy at Tufts University.

**Presentation: Gang-Based Asylum Claims**

Prof. Helen Grant is an expert in international refugee and asylum law and professor of law at Elon University School of Law. She joined the Elon faculty from the Indiana University Law School - Indianapolis, and the University of Louisville (Ky.), where she was Distinguished Visiting Professor of Law. A native of Australia, Grant was a member of the law faculty for 11 years at the University of Queensland, Brisbane, where she received numerous awards for excellence in teaching. In legal practice, she was the presiding legal member of the Mental Health Review Tribunal in Brisbane, and also spent two years as a legal officer in the Office of the Special Prosecutor in Brisbane, investigating cases of official corruption and prosecuting government officials. Grant has bachelor's and master's degrees from the Queensland University of Technology and a doctorate in law from the University of Queensland.
**Presentation: Human Trafficking Awareness**

Tommy Sluder is a Detective with the Guilford County Sheriff’s Office. Detective Sluder is one of two full time local human trafficking investigators in the state of North Carolina. Detective Sluder has over 9 years of law enforcement experience that include patrol, school resource officer, internet crimes against children investigator and human trafficking. Detective Sluder educates community groups and law enforcement officers about human trafficking awareness in addition to investigating potential human trafficking situations in and around Guilford County.

**Presentation: Relief from Removal**

Jeremy L. McKinney practices exclusively in the area of Immigration and Naturalization and is a North Carolina Board Certified Immigration Law Specialist. Mr. McKinney is a former Chair of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) Carolinas Chapter, and is a current member of AILA’s Amicus and EOIR Liaison Committees. He also teaches Immigration Law at Elon University School of Law as an Adjunct Professor, and serves on the North Carolina State Bar’s Immigration Specialization Committee. He has previously litigated Immigration matters before the Board of Immigration Appeals, USCIS Administrative Appeals Office, Federal District Courts in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, and Courts of Appeal in Richmond, Atlanta, and Chicago. Mr. McKinney graduated *magna cum laude* with a Bachelor of Arts in English from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1993 and later received his Juris Doctorate from Campbell University School of Law in 1996. He is a former Captain and Judge Advocate in the North Carolina Army National Guard and, in 2003, was deployed to the Middle East in connection with the Iraq War.