

## **Core Qualifications**

- Knowledgeable about immigration law
- Understands the impact criminal convictions can have on lawful permanent residency
- Ability to represent clients with compassion and understanding
- Thorough understanding of ICE deportation proceedings
- Ability to provide strong advocacy both prior to and during hearings
- Bilingual in Portuguese, French, and English

## **Experience**

### **Immigration Advocate - Orpe Human Rights Advocates 2017-Present** *Helped for free Pro Se Clients -with Immigration Benefits*

- OHRA provides a variety of free and trauma-informed services to indigent immigrants and survivors of violence, human rights abuses, and their families. OHRA specializes in serving survivors who face additional barriers, such as language, cultural, and economic, by working to create connections to the supports survivors need to rebuild their lives through a continuum of options. With a commitment to social and economic justice, OHRA takes a comprehensive approach to addressing challenges within the context of family, culture, and community. Within this goal in mind, Moises in some circumstances helps in guiding on Pro Se basis indigent immigrants who cannot afford the services of a private lawyer to prepare and file immigration forms on their own. Moises has helped on Pro Se basis with the preparation of various types of immigration applications, including family-based petitions (I-130s and I-601 waivers), employment authorization documents, naturalization applications, travel document requests, TPS applications.

### **Immigration Advocates (In-House Clinics)**

**0718/2017-Present**

**Orpe Human Rights Advocates**

**6701 Bay Meadow Drive, Ste B. MD 21060**

#### **Knowledgeable and skill about immigration law:**

- Ability to prepare bond submission
- Ability to represent clients in bond hearing
- Ability to assist client seeking release from the Immigration Detention
- Ability to represent and get release of a Detained Asylee Seeker
- Ability to prepare and represent client for Individual Hearing
- Ability to prepare expert witness; conduct Direct/ Cross Examinations
- Ability to assist client in “Well-Founded Fear Interview” before an Asylum Officer
- Ability to assist client in “Credible and Reasonable Fear Interview”
- Understands the impact criminal convictions can have on lawful permanent residency
- Ability to represents clients with compassion and understanding
- Thorough understanding of ICE deportation proceedings
- Ability to provide strong advocacy both prior to and during hearings

**Immigration Advocate**  
**6/1/2003– 7/1/2005**  
**Law Office of Ngwana**  
**Silver Spring, Maryland**

- Under the supervision of the attorney, assisted with the preparation of various types of immigration applications, including family-based petitions (I-130s and I-601 waivers), employment authorization documents, naturalization applications, asylum claims, TPS applications, travel document requests, etc.
- Gained experience in conducting legal research; interviewing clients; writing declarations; affidavits; pleadings; and motions; preparing clients for immigration court hearings; and observing proceedings before the IC.
- Regularly, observed master calendar hearings, individual hearings for clients of the Law Firm.
- Gained experience in preparation of the letters to government agencies on behalf of clients requesting information about pending cases and assisted clients in completing application forms by providing instructions and explanations when necessary.
- Maintained current knowledge of changes in U.S. immigration laws and regulations through attendance at continuing education seminars and consultation with attorney supervisor as needed when questions arise regarding specific situations or issues pertaining to individual cases.
- Worked on reuniting families separated due to immigration issues.
- Assisted clients and families in completing all necessary paperwork required by the Immigration and Naturalization Service
- Helped clients navigate the complex immigration system.
- Regularly, observed clients at deportation hearings and naturalization hearings.
- Helped clients reunite with deported spouses by assisting them in legally immigrating

### **Apprenticeship & Practice of Trial Advocacy**

12/18/2003-11/9/2004

Temple University Beasley School of Law; Philadelphia, PA

#### **Skills Gained:**

- **Opening statement skill:** ability of presenting a non-argumentative overview of what the jury will see, often in the context of attorney's theme, theory of the case and story.
- **Direct examination skill:** ability to direct examine to eliciting evidence from one's own witnesses through non-leading questions.
- **Cross examination skill:** ability to cross examine witnesses offered by the opposing party who may be hostile or uncooperative.
- **Closing argument skill:** ability of using argument to create within the jurors a perception of that what they have seen and heard that influences them to find facts in favor of attorney's client.
- **Persuasion**
- **Trial strategy:** Ability of organizing a case into a clear and complete presentation: **a) Case Diagrams** (in which the attorney charts the elements he / she intends to prove (or attack) and the evidence that will support each. These ensures the case is comprehensively addressed), and **b) Theme and Theory:** The theme is a sound bite that captures the emotional appeal of the case, and the theory which is an explanation of events. All of these are abilities that serve as strategic focal points, allowing individual actions (opening, examination of each witness, etc.) to be united with a common focus, and in a way that clarifies and reinforces the perception of the case the attorney wants the jury or judge to adopt.

### **Criminal Defense Internship (2008)**

Office of Public Defender for the City of Alexandria

- Accepted in the internship program of Criminal Defense Internship at the Office of Public Defender for the City of Alexandria. Program was under supervision of the Attorney Melinda Douglas. The program was composed of three related components (1) a classroom section, (2) a mock and moot trial practice, and (3) a field study experience. A field study experience subjected participants to meet for the practical component once each week at the Office of the Public Defender for the City of Alexandria, Virginia (AOPD) for trial skills instruction from the AOPD attorneys. As part of the practical component, I performed in the capacity of a defense attorney in simulated cases where I was responsible for preparation and trial presentations, including developing case theory; interviewing and examining witnesses; working through evidentiary issues; and presenting closing arguments to a jury. The second portion of this program was a 20- hour weekly internship. At least 10, of the 20, hours was spent at the Alexandria PD's office over 2 days each week. Program was under the supervision of the Attorney Melinda Douglas. During the internship, I was working with attorneys in the office and participated in work with clients and witnesses and in preparation of motions and trials. I was also subjected to research issues in criminal law and procedure and participated in case investigations in Alexandria, Virginia Public Defender Supervised Internship, and Trial Advocacy: Criminal Defense Internship

#### **Advocacy, Research, & Writing Skills**

- Working under the supervision of immigration attorney at the Law Firm of Ngwana for nine months, gained experience

needed for full accreditation.

- Four years practicing law under the supervision of attorney (Maitre Fremaux) at the Law Firm Fremaux et Associe in Paris-France (1994-1999).
- Gained experience in conducting legal research; interviewing clients; writing declarations; affidavits; pleadings; and motions; preparing clients for immigration court hearings; and observing proceedings before the IC.
- Regularly, observed master calendar hearings, individual hearings for clients of the Law Firm.
- Performed and applied litigation techniques and strategies in mock cases, interviewing clients, documents.
- Gained trial advocacy skills with the program of LL.M at temple University Beasley School of Law.

### **Education**

- **LL.M.** Temple University Beasley School of Law; Philadelphia, PA - January 25,2005
- **DU in Law (JD):** Jean Monnet School of Law; University of Paris-SUD at Sceaux; France - 1994.
- **Ph.D.:** International Relations and Diplomacy; Ecole de Hautes Etudes Internationales de Paris, France -1999.

### **Immigration Trainings**

#### **A. Training on Fundamentals of U.S. Immigration Law**

*Certificate of Completion awarded by AILA University; May 14, 2021.*

Professional Development Training Program. 11 credits course program tailored for new immigration advocates in 11 modules, combining a focus on the law itself as well as practice skills. The course includes immigration law content related to humanitarian and asylum issues, family, business, adjustment of status and consular processing, removal and relief, and naturalization and citizenship. It also features three modules which involve skills that are crucial to immigration practice: ethics, client management, and law practice management. Training begins with an overview, followed by the ethics module. The training information is provided via video instruction, articles and practice advisories, sample forms and letters, and quick-reference resources such as charts, checklists, or templates. The training includes interactive elements such as discussion questions, exercises for hands-on practice, quizzes, and tests at the end of each module.

#### **B. Training on Removal Defense (Litigation and Advocacy Skills)**

*Certificate of Training Completion awarded by AILA University; 11/29/2022*

The training provides a high-level resource for Removal Defense practitioners to help them navigate the many ins and outs of removal defense practice. The 7 course modules take participants through the removal defense journey, from custody and bond issues, through motions to reopen and reconsider. In each module, participants learned from instructive videos, articles and practice advisories, sample forms and letters, and quick reference resources such as charts, checklists, or templates. The course provides hands-on engagement via interactive elements such as discussion questions, practice exercises, quizzes, and tests at the end of each module. Training's modules focus on custody, bond, and bond appeals; analyzing the Notice to Appear (NTA); pretrial practice and motions; criminal removability with the categorical and modified categorical approach; waivers and relief (technical aspects impacting eligibility); and Appeals (preparing the record and presenting the case for BIA and Circuit Court Review).

#### **C. Training on Asylum (Concentrated program)**

*Certificate of Training Completion awarded by AILA University; 11/19/2022*

Training covers the legal standards for asylum and eligibility. Deepened the skills in area such as protected grounds and nexus, bars and alternative forms of relief, considerations for mental health, asylum procedure, border issues, and post-asylum issues.

#### **D. Other Trainings - Advocacy Skills**

- Removability and Inadmissibility, (webinar); AILA
- Written and Oral Advocacy in Immigration Court; (webinar), AILA- 04/08/2021
- Challenging the Government's Case in Immigration Court, (webinar), AILA - 03/22/2021

- The Federal Rules of Evidence-webinar, (webinar), AILA. 03/07/2021
- Representing Clients in Removal Proceedings; AILA
- Mock Court Appearance Demonstrating Trial or Courtroom Etiquette (webinar), AILA; 05/14/2021
- Pleadings and Application for Relief (webinar); AILA; 05/07/2021
- Mock Bond Hearing: Getting Clients Released on Bond (webinar); AILA; 05/03/2021

**E. In-House Trainings (Workshops Provided by the Department of Immigration Legal Services of OHRA)**

<b>Asylum</b>	<b>Non-LPR Cancellation of Removal</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representing a Detained Asylee Seeker</li> <li>• Preparing for Individual Hearing</li> <li>• TIPS on Preparing for Individual Hearing</li> <li>• Direct Examination</li> <li>• Well-Founded Fear (Affirmative Asylum)</li> <li>• Defensive Asylum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Master Calendar Hearing Preparation</li> <li>• Documenting the case</li> <li>• Preparing Evidence and Brief</li> <li>• Non-LPR Cancellation Hearing</li> </ul>
<b>Bond</b>	<b>Credible and Reasonable Fear of Interview</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparing Bond Submission</li> <li>• Representing Client in Bond Hearings</li> <li>• Seeking Release from Immigration Detention</li> <li>• Bond Hearing</li> <li>• Bond proceedings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding what happens during the Credible and Reasonable Fear interview</li> <li>• The Asylum Officer Note and Summary of Credible Fear Interview.</li> </ul>
<b>Immigration Court Practice</b>	<b>Motion to Reopen</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EOIR E-Registry</li> <li>• Form EOIR-28</li> <li>• Preparing for Master Hearing</li> <li>• Mock Calendar Hearing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific Tools that help for preparing Motion to Reopen</li> <li>• Drafting Motion to Reopen</li> <li>• Assembling Motion with Accompanying Documents</li> <li>• Motion to Reopen and to Reconsider</li> </ul>
<b>Parole and Release</b>	<b>Board of Immigration Appeals</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview and Eligibility</li> <li>• Gathering Documents</li> <li>• Writing and Submission</li> <li>• After parole</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board of Immigration Appeals</li> <li>• EOIR E-registry</li> <li>• Form EOIR-27</li> <li>• Filing the Notice of Appeals</li> <li>• Drafting the Brief</li> </ul>

**Special Skills**

- Fluent in Portuguese, French, and English