



ORPE HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATES

Recognition and Accreditation Program Coordinator
Office of Legal Access Programs
Executive Office for Immigration Review
5107 Leesburg Pike, Suite 2500
Falls Church, VA 22041

Date: 06/05/2021
Location: Twin Knolls Rd,
Columbia, MD 21045
Email: admin@orpe.org
Tel: 410-588-0818

RE: Request for:

1. Recognition of Orpe Human Rights Advocates, Inc.;
2. Full Accreditation of OHRA's Employee, Mr. Edward Tusamba Moises;
3. Partial Accreditation of OHRA's Employee, Ms. Zora Emanuela Moses

Dear Recognition and Accreditation Program Coordinator,

Under the orientation of the Executive Committee of the Orpe Human Rights Advocates, the Chief Operating Officer (COO) was given the responsibility of establishing this petition requesting the Office of Legal Access Program (OLAP) to grant recognition to the Office mentioned above under 8 Code of federal Regulation (CFR), Section 1292.11. Should it be relevant, to also grant Mr. Edward Tusamba Moises and Ms. Zora Moses agency staff accreditation pursuant to 8 CFR, Section 1292.12.

Orpe Human Rights Advocates (OHRA) currently provides a number of charitable social and supportive services in Maryland including referral services for immigrants and refugees. With this application, OHRA is expected to begin providing immigration legal services as the need is so much greater than the existing resources.

Orpe Human Rights Advocates is confident of having at its disposition knowledge and experience with immigration and naturalization law that may qualifies it for recognition. The knowledge and expertise upon which our organization relies upon is related to our department of immigration legal services' supervisor, Mr. Edward T. Moises whom many have testified in favor of having knowledge and litigation skills in immigration law. Moises holds a Master of Laws from Temple University Beasley School of Law with concentrations in trial advocacy and immigration litigation. After having graduated from the Jean Monnet School of Law at University of Paris XI, Moises worked as associate lawyer under the supervision of the French Law Firm Fremaux for more than 4 years. But, Moises is *not a U.S. licensed lawyer*. He attended Beasley School of Law to continue his education in "human rights law and trial advocacy". He dismissed his intent of becoming a U.S. licensed lawyer when he understood that his God-given mission was not based on practicing law in a private setting, but rather, was based on designing and implementing initiatives that further in favor of Restoring Dignity of his suffering fellow human beings". It is in this

context he co-founded a non-profit “*Orpe Human Rights Advocates*”. Those who knows Moises will share with you that he is a great soul of a higher moral character. This can immediately be proved through his humanitarian actions pointed in a direction of advocating for low-income, homeless and those who cannot assert their own fundamental rights. For example, at the moment where COVID-19 was killing thousands of fellow Americans and indigents each day because of the shortage for facemask in hospitals, under the auspices of OHRA, Moises launched the operation facemasks initiative that had resulted in donating free facemasks to hospitals, shelters for homeless, and low-income individuals (*see the process of masks distribution at the front page of OHRA website: www.orpe.org. Click the button that says “Apply for Free Facemasks”*). Based on who really he is, we suggest that Moises be granted full accreditation. This is not for his own gain, but for the sake of our fellow low-income immigrants and indigents who cannot afford the services of private attorney. (*see programs at www.orpe.uorg*). Evidence prove how Moises’ initiatives have been impacting the lives of many people and alleviated in many ways the frustrations of public institutions like UM Baltimore Washington Medical Center, John Hopkins Hospital system, Grassroots Homeless Shelter, and others institutions of a similar vocation. (*Enclosed, evidence of impact and support letters from institutions like UM Baltimore Washington Medical Center, John Hopkins Medical System ...*).

Furthermore, OHRA has developed the “Legal Services” initiative expected of assisting low-incomes facing legal challenges holding them back from moving their lives forward. Among these programs are “*Equal Access to Justice, and Immigration Legal Services*. Depending on the availability of funds associated with each program, in certain cases, OHRA may be willing to make funds available to hire the services of professional, or services of private lawyers to assist in cases requiring urgent attention. Normally, OHRA staff conducts intake and refer clients to competent organization partners.

Our agency is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a non-profit charitable organization. If OLAP would recognize OHRA and accredit its staff members, the agency would be charging clients zero or nominal fees for immigration legal services. Our services and programs are not intended to be sustained by the fee collected from the clients. Our programs are expected to be sustained by programs funded by the DHS Citizenship and Integration program (grant# PKG00267164); DHS Refugees and Asylees Integration program (grant# PKG00267186); DOS Reception and Replacement Program for Migrants (grant# SFOP0008037); DOJ Legal Assistance for Victims of Violence programs. There is also availability of other grants that correspond to some programs promoted by our organization to be explored when the time will be ripe. We’ve also putted in place fundraising platforms, online store, and thrift stores to complement revenues and uncover expenses not permitted by the above stated grant programs.

The OHRA has at its disposal knowledge, information, and experience in immigration law and procedure, as required by 8 CFR § 1292.2 (b). This agency has fulfilled that requirement through its staff member’s education and attendance at many trainings dealing with the practice of immigration law including the range of immigration benefits available and the bars to immigration.

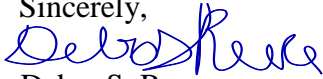
Note that, in accordance with Matter of Central California Legal Services, Inc., 26 I&N Dec. 105 (BIA 2013), staff members have recently completed formal training courses designed to give practitioners solid practical skills of the fundamentals of U.S. immigration law practice and procedure. Trainings provided

by AILA University of American Immigration Lawyers Association. Copies of training agenda and certificate of completions attached.

In regard of partial accreditation of Ms. Zora, we testify that she has handled a number of immigration benefit applications and completed training on fundamentals of U.S. Immigration law, practice, and procedure and this makes her qualified as well. As documented by letters of reference from individuals such as Pastor Suzy Fletcher, director of immigration program at Summit Ministry Center located at 2800 Westchester, Ellicott City, Ms. Zora has gained experience in handling immigration cases, including the I-130 Alien Relative Petition, the I-485 Adjustment of Status immigration benefit application, and the N-400 Naturalization Application. OHRA will also be screening every client for other potential immigration benefit eligibility, e.g., asylum, VAWA, cancellation of removal, derivative citizenship, etc.

If full accreditation granted, OHRA will start assisting indigents detainees on bond determination, bond redetermination, and low-income and indigent immigrants in removal proceedings and deportation defense before IJ. Currently, OHRA has no immigration legal services caseload. We expect beginning taking on case load once its agency site has recognition and agency's staff granted accreditations.

On behalf of our Executive Committee, we thank you for your fair and rapid consideration of our request for agency site recognition and agency's staff full and partial accreditations.

Sincerely,

Debra S. Reece
Chief Operating Officer (COO),
Orpe Human Rights Advocates

Enclosed:

- Completed Form EOIR-31 along with supporting documentation.
- Two applications (Form I-31A) for accreditation with supporting documentation.
- Copies of certificates, agendas, and other proof of trainings attended
- Three redacted writing samples demonstrating written trial and appellate advocacy skills
- Log of experiences and observations at the Immigration Court
- Two letters of support from the Executive Director of University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center
- Letters of Recommendations