



PAIR Project

PAIR Abstracts – September 2023

1. **GYCA (Honduras). Defensive. DOE: 06/08/2022. One Year Deadline: 06/07/2022.**

Client is a twenty-nine-year-old woman from Honduras who fears returning due to the violence she suffered at the hands of her former partner. Client's ex-partner physically, psychologically, and verbally abused her multiple times a week. He would control her actions and deny her contact with family and friends. When Client fled to her grandmother's house, her ex-partner continued to threaten her and would not allow her to see other men. Before she left for the U.S., Client attempted to report her abuse to the police and to a local judge, but they were not helpful. Client and her two daughters are terrified to return to Honduras and fear that he would continue to abuse and threaten them.

2. **JBL (Honduras). Defensive Asylum. DOE: 6/1/2021; I-589 timely filed by PAIR. 1st MCH: January 2, 2024, 9:00 AM, IJ Ahmed. \*Client has a minor child who is a derivative and may be eligible for SIJS.**

Client is a 29-year-old Garifuna man who fled Honduras with his son because of threats they had received on account of their family member's political activism and his own political work surrounding issues facing Garifuna people in Honduras. Client's uncle was an activist and leader in the Garifuna community who worked to uplift Black Honduran issues and support Garifuna communities. Additionally, Cis is a renowned drummer and played Garifuna music throughout Honduras, often receiving mistreatment, threats and abuse for being Black. John's uncle was murdered in front of his store, and soon after, the family began to receive threats. John had lived next door to his uncle and was known in the community to be his nephew. Feeling threatened as the well-known family member of his uncle, John fled with his son to the United States to seek asylum. John's son may also be eligible for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status based on the neglect of his mother.

3. **RCP (Guatemala). Defensive Asylum. DOE: 7/16/2021; I-589 timely filed by PAIR. Next MCH: September 13, 2023, 8:30 AM, IJ Masters. \*Client has a minor child who is a derivative and may be eligible for SIJS.**

Client is a 26-year-old Indigenous woman who fled a sexual abuse and domestic violence that were exacerbated by her indigenous identity. Growing up, she was verbally and emotionally abused in school because she is indigenous and her fluent language is Q'eqchi, a Mayan dialect. Client is also the survivor of incest and was sexually abused by a family member. She met her child father when she was around 19. He was incredibly abusive to Client and beat her, even when she was pregnant. When she tried to leave him, he would tell her that she had to be with him and threatened to kill her if she was with someone else. Since she is Mayan and had experienced years of racism, Client knew Guatemalan authorities would not help her. Terrified for her safety and the safety of her child, she fled to the United States to seek asylum. Client's son may also be eligible for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status based on the abuse and neglect of his father.

4. **FJ (Haiti). Defensive. DOE: 8/26/2022, timely filed pro se I-589.. MCH: 10/24/2024 in Atlanta (waiting to do COV/COA to Boston when he hits 180 days on his clock, asylum EAD filed pro se). Client also has a pending TPS application.**

Client is a gay man from Haiti who knew he was gay at young but did not tell anyone because, in the town where he grew up, gay men were hunted down and killed because of their sexual orientation. Even though he was not out, many assumed he was gay. His lack of interest in dating made his family members and friends suspicious; at school, he was bullied and received threats for being assumed to be gay. In 2015, conditions in Haiti were very bad due to gangs and political instability, and client left for Brazil for his safety thinking that he thought he would be safe there. In Brazil, he attended secondary school, and later worked as a building maintenance person at a health clinic. Unfortunately, the situation in Brazil was equally difficult. Because of societal homophobia, Client never felt safe to come out or openly date another man. To make things worse, Brazilians were hostile to Haitians and overtly racist. Client decided he could not live in Brazil and fled to the U.S. on or around 12/31/2021, but was expedited removed to Haiti after spending 13 days in detention. Fearing for his life, he again fled Haiti on 1/28/2022, traveled through the Dominican Republic and entered Mexico, where he stayed for 4 months before entering the U.S. for the second time on 8/26/2022, when he was paroled in. Client fears returning to Haiti.

5. **HB (Uganda). Affirmative. DOE: 11/4/21; filed I-589 pro se on 11/1/22, but it was receipted on 11/16/2022-- will need to inform the Asylum Office about the 11/1/2022 filing and evidence the filing date**

Client is a 44-year-old Ugandan woman who has been targeted and attacked by the Ugandan Government for her political views, activities, and affiliations. Client is a member of and "strongly supported" the National Unity Platform (NUP), an opposition party of the current ruling party, the National Resistance Movement (NRM). She suffered threats, an attack on her home, abduction, beatings, and sexual violence by government agents for her political views and

membership in the NUP. After an attack in 2021, she fled Uganda and came to the U.S. Client still opposes the Museveni regime and supports the NUP, but has become an inactive member since coming to the U.S. She is terrified of returning to Uganda.

**6. \* GF & DG (Russia). Defensive. DOE 1/21/2023, 1-year deadline is 1/20/2024. MCH: 11/12/2024, 9 am IJ Masters [\*Married to DG- please place together]**

Client is a thirty-year-old man from Russia who fears returning to Russia because he is openly gay and lives with his husband (he and his partner were married in Mexico before they came to the U.S.). Client believes Russia is a homophobic country and it is dangerous to be part of the LGBTQ community. He has experienced severe bullying, threats, and mental harassment for being gay. He recalls being verbally harassed for being gay as a teenager. He has been harassed in many different places he goes because people suspect or can tell he is part of the LGBTQ community, including constant and severe bullying at work by colleagues who made homophobic comments all the time. Client and his partner decided to flee their home and lives in Russia and go somewhere where they could openly live and love one another. Client has started a vlog on YouTube where he is open about his sexual orientation, but has received a lot of online hatred, saying things like they want to vanish him, and he is afraid. He isn't sure exactly where the people are from but thinks at least some are from Russia. Client and his partner are terrified of returning to Russia and do not believe they are safe anywhere in their home country.

**7b. \*DG & GF (Russia.) Defensive. DOE 1/21/2023, 1-year deadline is 1/20/2024. MCH: 11/12/2024, 9 am IJ Masters [\*Married to GF, please place together]**

Client is a twenty-two-year-old man from Russia who fears returning to his country because he is gay and in a same-sex relationship. Homophobic laws in Russia make life very difficult for members of the LGBTQ community there. Client's difficult experiences growing up in Russia and seeing how the society reacts to gay people makes him terrified of returning because of the violent homophobia and criminalization of same-sex relationships. Client held several jobs in Russia where all of his co-workers were men, such as construction and plumbing, and his co-workers would say things in front of him such as gay people should not exist and told stories about beating up gay people. He had to quit jobs because of complications with his managers who client believes suspected he was gay. Client believes that if he and his husband stayed in Russia, or had to return, they would be harmed or must hide their relationship. Gay marriage is illegal in Russia. Client is terrified to return to Russia and believes that it is possible he could be arrested if he returned to Russia solely based on his sexual orientation and status as a man married to another man.