MORNING: UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN (UAC) ISSUES

8-8.40 Check-in.

8.40 Introduction by Geoffrey A. Hoffman, Director - University of Houston Immigration Clinic

8.50 Opening remarks by Leonard M. Baynes, Dean - University of Houston Law Center

8.55-9.15 The TVPRA (Naomi Bang)

9.15-10.15 Trafficking and Crime Victim Visas and Other Possible Relief (Janet Beck, Susham Modi)

10.15-10.30 Special Immigrant Juveniles (Veronica Bernal)

10.30-11.00 UAC Asylum Claims (Geoffrey A. Hoffman)*
Session includes 15 minutes of Ethics.

11.00-Noon Psychological Trauma as it Relates to the Child Client in Asylum Cases (Rosalie Hyde, LCMSW)

Noon- 12.45 Lunch

* Sessions containing 15 minutes of Ethics, for a total of 1 hour of Ethics.
AFTERNOON: ASYLUM

12.45-1.30 Right to Counsel Issues-Asylum (Maurice Hew)

1.30-2.15 How to Avoid Pitfalls in the Preparation of the I-589 and Affidavit; Preparation for Affirmative asylum interview (Wafa Abdin and Brian Schaeffer)*
   Session includes 15 minutes of Ethics.

2.15-2.30 Break

2.30-2.45 Research: How to Get Up to Speed on Asylum Issues. CIS Asylum Adjudicators Manual, EOIR Practice Manual, EOIR Benchbook, AIC Practice Advisories (Brian Schaeffer)

2.45-3.30 Preparing for the Hearing on the Merits—Direct, Cross, Objections (Geoffrey A. Hoffman, Janet Beck, and Susham Modi) *
   Session includes 15 minutes of Ethics.

3.30-4.15 Mock Hearing— (Janet Beck, Susham Modi, Honorable Judge Rose and Honorable Judge Zimmer (invited)

4.15-4.45 Practical Tips from the Bench (Honorable Judges Rose and Zimmer (invited)
   Session includes 15 minutes of Ethics.

4.45-5 Questions and Answers (Moderator: Geoffrey Hoffman)

* Sessions containing 15 minutes of Ethics, for a total of 1 hour of Ethics.
Wafa Abdin, Esq., Catholic Charities-Legal Director

Wafa Abdin is Vice President for Immigration Legal Services at Catholic Charities Cabrini Center for Immigrant Legal Assistance, which is the largest non-profit provider of immigration legal services for low-income and indigent non-citizens in Houston. She represents detained adults and juveniles, asylum seekers and victims of human trafficking and other serious crimes before the Department of Homeland Security, the Immigration Court, and the Board of Immigration appeals. Ms. Abdin is a frequent lecturer at Immigration conferences and has written several articles and papers on Immigration law topics, including: Asylum, Special Registration, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status and “U” Visas.

In recognition of her outstanding work and dedication, Ms. Abdin was awarded the Chrys Dougherty Legal Services Award in 2010 by the Texas State Bar. She also received the University of Houston Law Center Public Interest Fellowship. She is a former President of the Arab American Cultural Center and is also the local AILA asylum Liaison and a member of the USCIS Liaison Committee- Benefit Policy and the Human Trafficking Rescue Alliance (HTRA).

Naomi Jiyoung Bang, Director, South Texas College of Law Asylum and Human Trafficking Clinic

Naomi Bang is a clinical adjunct professor of STCL’s Asylum and Human Trafficking Clinic, and Senior Attorney in federal litigation at FosterQuan. Ms. Bang is a founder of Lawyers Against Human Trafficking and Mountainchild, and was appointed to the Houston Mayor’s Human Trafficking Committee. She is a former Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, and attorney trainer with several USAID-funded human rights projects in Southeast Asia. Ms. Bang graduated from Georgetown Law Center, and Northwestern University.
Janet B. Beck, Clinical Supervising Attorney and Clinical Assistant Professor, UH Immigration Clinic

Janet B. Beck has been Board Certified in Immigration and Nationality law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization since 1995 and has been practicing immigration law since 1987. She is currently Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of Houston Law Center Immigration Clinic. At UHLC she has taught courses on Immigration Law and Business as well as co-taught Immigration and Family Law. Ms. Beck was the attorney on the 2010 Board of Immigration Appeals precedent decision Matter of M-A-M. Her publications include “Representing Clients with Mental Competency Issues under Matter of M-A-M.” (American Immigration Council Practice Advisory, Nov. 2011); “Human Trafficking and the T Visa Process,” (Texas Bar Journal, Nov. 2012); “Myths About Immigration Law” (The Houston Lawyer, 2009) and “Beyond ‘I Do’ for a Green Card” (Texas Lawyer 2014).

Ms. Beck is co-chair of the American Immigration Law Association (AILA) Houston Task Force on Unaccompanied Alien Children. She has spoken at numerous immigration conferences as well as at the Harris County Attorney’s immigration seminar in July 2014, the Harris County Public Defender’s Office, the Houston Bar Association, the Houston Association of Women Attorneys, the University of Texas Estate Planning, Guardianship and Elder Law Conference, the Harris County Juvenile Law Conference and the Center for Victims of Torture. Ms. Beck received a B.A. from New York University, an M.S.W. from the University of Chicago and a J.D. from the University of Houston. She served as a Peace Corps volunteer for 3 years in Colombia, South America and is fluent in Spanish.

Veronica E. Bernal, Clinical Supervising Fellow, UH Immigration Clinic.

Veronica E. Bernal is currently a Clinical Supervising Fellow at the University of Houston Law Center’s Immigration Clinic. In this capacity, she is responsible for supervising immigration clinic students working on various pro bono immigration cases, which include cases involving immigrants who are victims of crimes, immigrants who are victims of domestic violence, special immigrant juveniles, and asylum cases. Bernal has participated in various outreach programs throughout the Houston area on the subject of deferred action for childhood arrivals, special immigrant juveniles, naturalization, and family based petitions. She conducted a presentation on Issues at the Intersection of Immigration and Human Rights Law during the Migration Without
Boundaries Conference at Michigan State University relating to the issue of Mexican asylum seekers and children who are subject to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction.

Bernal also provides direct pro bono legal representation to immigrant victims of crime, domestic violence, and human trafficking under a grant from the Office of the Attorney General Crime Victims Services Division. Bernal graduated with honors from the University of Texas Pan American in Edinburg, Texas with a B.A.’s in Political Science and Sociology, and received her J.D. from The University of Houston Law Center in Houston, Texas where she was one of five students from the graduating class to receive the Distinguished Service Award during the graduation ceremony. She also worked as a student attorney in the University of Houston Immigration Clinic where she worked on an asylum case involving an issue of first impression before the United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Geoffrey A. Hoffman, Director, UH Immigration Clinic

In 2014 Professor Geoffrey Hoffman received the Elmer Fried Excellence in Teaching Award from the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). Professor Hoffman heads the UH Immigration Clinic and specializes in immigration-related federal court litigation, deportation defense, asylum cases, and appeals before the Board of Immigration Appeals. He has served as counsel or co-counsel in over 40 appellate and trial court cases. Professor Hoffman served as co-counsel before the Supreme Court of the United States in the precedent-setting immigration case, Carachuri-Rosendo v. Holder. Prior to joining the Clinic, he practiced immigration law at Kurzban Kurzban Weinger & Tetzeli, P.A. in Miami.

Previously, Professor Hoffman was a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois, held the Forrester Fellowship at Tulane Law School and was a Lecturer at the University of Miami. In addition to his practice and teaching experience, Professor Hoffman served as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Paul V. Gadola, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan for a two-year term 1998-2000. Professor Hoffman has also published articles on immigration, international law, international human rights, and racial profiling, most recently, "The War on Terror as a Metaphor for Immigration Regulation," appearing in the University of
Iowa’s Journal of Gender, Race and Justice, coauthored with Susham Modi in 2012. In addition, Professor Hoffman’s article, "Immigration Form I-864 (Affidavit of Support) and Efforts to Collect Damages as Support Obligations Against Divorced Spouses—What Practitioners Need to Know" appeared in the Florida Bar Journal.

Susham M. Modi, Adjunct Professor of Law and Clinical Supervising Attorney, UH Immigration Clinic

Susham Modi is a clinic supervising attorney at the University of Houston Law Center’s Immigration Clinic. In this capacity, he is responsible for supervising upper-level students working on various pro bono immigration cases which include cases involving immigrants who are victims of crimes, immigration-related federal court litigation, appeals before the Board of Immigration Appeals, asylum cases, and removal defense cases before immigration courts.

He received a B.A., magna cum laude, from the University of Texas at Arlington and a J.D. from Penn State. As a law student at Penn State, he was active in Penn State’s Center for Immigrants’ Rights clinic and worked on complex immigration matters at Holland & Knight’s Community Services Team. He is the recipient of The D. Arthur Magaziner Human Services Award (awarded to the senior who has demonstrated good character, sound academic performance, high ethical standards, fidelity to the highest goals of the profession and commitment to selfless human service), the Miller Center Public Interest Certification, was named the Public Interest Law Fund Fellowship Chair, and assisted with coaching various mock trial and moot court competitions.

Immediately prior to joining the University of Houston, he worked as an Advocate/Attorney at Harvard Law School’s Immigration and Refugee Clinical Program. At Harvard, he worked on complex asylum, CAT, withholding of removal and U visa cases, supervised law students in the creation of “know-your-rights” presentation materials for undocumented students, assisted with a Second Circuit amici curiae brief signed by approximately 70 law professors, scholars and practitioners regarding the weight the BIA is affording to State Department reports and assisted in preparing classroom materials and trainings to law students enrolled in Harvard’s seminar course of Immigration and Refugee Advocacy.
Maurice Hew, Jr., Clinic Director and Associate Professor, Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Maurice Hew, Jr., is an Associate Professor of Law and the Director of Clinical Legal Education at Texas Southern University’s Thurgood Marshall School of Law. Professor Hew’s interests are in the immigration clinic, where he prepares and trains his students to be practice ready immigration lawyers through the use of live clients. He is Board Certified in Immigration and Nationality Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization and serves on the State of Texas’s committee which drafts and administers the specialization examination. He is licensed in Texas, Louisiana, and before several Federal Courts. Under his supervision, his clinic is a past recipient of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC), national Pro Bono Award for appellate immigration litigation. He is a frequent speaker at immigration and nationality CLE courses and his immigration writings have appeared in the University of Connecticut, Boston College, Memphis, TSU, and District of Columbia Law Reviews.

Rosalie Hyde, Licensed Social Worker, LCMSW

Rosalie W. Hyde has been a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a therapist in private practice for almost 3 decades. With a specialty in trauma related disorders, she is co-founder and faculty of The Houston Galveston Trauma Institute, a training institute for mental health professionals and other front line workers working with traumatized people. She works within a psychodynamic frame, through the lens of traumatic loss. Rosalie is an approved State of Texas Supervisor for Clinical Social Workers working toward licensure and is case consultant to mental health clinicians. In addition to her training and consultation of mental health clinicians, she sees individuals and couples in therapy with a focus on couples’ therapy and attachment trauma.

Her other passion and subspecialty is refugees and non-refugee international trauma. She is trained by Physicians for Human Rights as an expert witness and mental health evaluator for persons seeking asylum. She has furthered her specialty in global mental health with certification by the Harvard Refugee Trauma Global Mental Health Certificate Program.
The Honorable Howard E. Rose (personal capacity)

*United States Immigration Judge, retired*

Judge Rose was appointed as an immigration judge in September 2006. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1966 from Gannon University and a Juris Doctorate in 1974 from Cleveland Marshall College of Law, Cleveland State University. From 1982 to September 2006, Judge Rose served with the Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (formerly the Immigration and Naturalization Service) in several capacities: From 1987 to September 2006 as a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney with the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Texas; from 1983 to 1987 as District Counsel in Miami; and from 1982 to 1983 as a trial attorney in Miami. From 1976 to 1978, and 1980 to 1982, Judge Rose served as an assistant county prosecutor for the Cuyahoga County (Ohio) Prosecutor’s Office. He served as an assistant attorney general in the Attorney General’s Office, Territory of Guam, from 1978 to 1980. Judge Rose served as a law clerk and assistant director of law in the City of East Cleveland Law Director’s Office from 1972 to 1976. He served in the U.S. Army from 1966 to 1971 and in the U.S. Army Reserve from 1971 to 1994. Judge Rose is a member of the Ohio Bar.

**Brian Schaeffer, Social Responsibility Director, Immigration Legal Services, YMCA International Services**

Brian Schaeffer is the Immigration Legal Services Director of YMCA International Services in Houston, Texas. YMCA International Services provides direct representation and legal information to over 6,000 individuals per year, including the Houston Pro Bono Asylum Project. Prior to joining YMCA International Services, he was in private practice in Houston, Texas focusing exclusively in immigration law. He received his J.D. for the University of Houston Law Center and his B.A. from Mississippi College. He is a native of New Orleans, Louisiana.
The Honorable William K. Zimmer (personal capacity)

*United States Immigration Judge, retired*

Judge Zimmer was appointed as an immigration judge in September 1995, presiding in Houston, Texas from March 1997 to 2012 and in Miami, Florida from 1995 to 1997. From 1987 to September 1995, Judge Zimmer served with the Litigation and Legal Advise Staff, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (formerly the Immigration and Naturalization Service) in several capacities: From 1994 to 1995 as Deputy District Counsel; and from 1987 to 1994 as assistant district counsel. Judge Zimmer served as an assistant district attorney in the Montgomery County District Attorney Office, 9th Judicial District of Texas, from 1985 to 1987. He served as a customs inspector in the Treasury Department from 1974 to 1985. Judge Zimmer is a member of the Texas State Bar. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1973 from Wayne State University and a Juris Doctorate in 1984 from the South Texas College of Law.