**ASYLUM BAR QUESTIONS**

Below are examples of questions asked of all asylum applicants in order to assess whether a statutory bar to asylum exists. This is a non-exhaustive list and a sample of potential questions that may be asked of your client during the asylum interview. Most often, these questions come at the end of the substantive questioning regarding the asylum claim and are marked by a clear transition when the officer states, “Now I am going to ask you questions that I need to ask everyone”. Officers expect “yes” or “no” responses and will solicit additional information as applicable.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Have you ever been citizen or national of a country other than [home country]? |  |
| Have you traveled to anywhere other than [home country] |  |
| Have you ever applied for refugee status or asylum anywhere other than the United States? |  |
| Have you ever applied for a U.S. visa and been denied? |  |
| Ever been given legal immigration status in any other country? |  |
| Have you worked or gone to school in any other country? |  |
| Have you ever belonged to a group or organization?  |  |
| Does the group use weapons? |  |
| Have you ever been in the police, military or a soldier for any group? |  |
| Have you ever received any military type training? (ie. learned to shoot a gun or build a bomb?) |  |
| Have you ever worked for a government?  |  |
| Have you ever hurt or harmed anyone or used violence against anyone for any reason? |  |
| Have you ever hurt anyone because of nationality or race? |  |
| …because of political opinion? |  |
| …because of religion? |  |
| Have you ever assisted anyone hurt someone else? |  |
| Have you ever been convicted of a crime in any country anywhere in the world? |  |
| Have you ever committed a crime in country anywhere in the world including US? |  |
| Have you ever been arrested or detained anywhere in the world? |  |
| Has anyone ever called you a terrorist? |  |
| Have you ever threatened or attempted an act of terrorism including high jacking or kidnapping? |  |
| Have you ever been a member of a group that uses violence? |  |
| Have you ever provided support to a group that uses violence or given money to them, even if you didn’t want to? |  |
| Have you ever publically stated that you support terrorism, on Facebook, the radio, newspaper or anywhere else? |  |
| Have you ever been a member of an armed group? |  |
| Have you ever been a member of or supported a group that would harm the US? |  |
| Have you ever given false information to a government official, even unknowningly? |  |
| Is there anything else I should know? |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |