

November 22, 2021

United States Department of Homeland Security
Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services
Arlington Asylum Office
1525 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22209

Re: ██████████ ██████████ *Request to Expedite Asylum Application, A-209490203*

Dear Sir or Madam:

I respectfully request that USCIS expedite the processing of Mr. ██████████ affirmative application for asylum based on urgent humanitarian grounds. I am making this request because he is facing acute medical hardship and economic hardship while his asylum case is pending.

As explained in the attached Affidavit of Ms. Kristen Jarvis (Attachment 1), Mr. ██████████ is immunocompromised and the effects of such a diagnosis are exacerbated by stress. The lack of progress with respect to his asylum case and the indefinite nature of the process has resulted in high levels of stress for Mr. ██████████ and such stress “has become detrimental to his immune system and overall mental and physical health.” Having applied for asylum in 2016, this stress has been building over the last five years. These effects are similarly stated in attached Affidavit of Dr. Bennie Taylor II (Attachment 2). Dr. Taylor provides that Mr. ██████████ has been subject to an immense level of stress as a result of the delay in his asylum case that “affects his underlying health.” Dr. Taylor notes that the stress is also impacting Mr. ██████████ performance at work in addition to his health.

The best hope for remedying Mr. ██████████ medical hardship is for his application for asylum to be expedited. *See* Attachment 1 (noting that “[Mr. ██████████ overall condition would be benefitted by him becoming a citizen and having access to more healthcare options.”). If Mr. ██████████ request for expedited processing were approved, the progress made with respect to the case would reduce Mr. ██████████ stress levels, which would have a positive impact on his mental and physical health. *See* Attachment 1 (stating that “the stress of his interminable asylum case and the lack of progress has become detrimental to his immune system and overall mental and physical health.”). Until then, Mr. ██████████ will continue to suffer medical hardship.

In addition to health concerns, Mr. ██████████ is also struggling financially while his case is pending in part due to the medication required for his medical condition. Prior to his arrival in the United States, Mr. ██████████ worked as an accountant. He had received a degree in accounting and finance from the University of East London (Attachment 3), but to meet

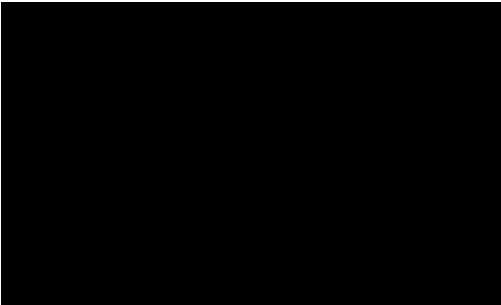
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Maryland's certified public accountant requirements, Mr. [REDACTED] is required to take additional accounting courses in the United States (see Attachment 4 (Maryland CPA requirements) and Attachment 5 (transcript)). Mr. [REDACTED] applied for an was accepted into the Management-Human Resources program in The Graduate School at University of Maryland University College (Attachment 6).

However, in order to attend, the University of Maryland requires that Mr. [REDACTED] provide a permanent residency card (Attachment 7), which he is unable to provide as his asylum case continues to remain pending. Similarly, both government and private financial aid providers also require a permanent residency card to be eligible to receive financial aid (see Attachment 8 (University of Maryland Financial Aid Requirements) and Attachment 9 (PNC Student Loan Requirements)).

If Mr. [REDACTED] request for expedited processing were approved and his request for asylum granted, he would be able to attend classes at the University of Maryland, satisfy Maryland's certified public requirements, and practice as an accountant in the United States. Until then, Mr. [REDACTED] will continue to struggle financially while his case is pending.

I therefore respectfully request that USCIS process Mr. [REDACTED] application for asylum as soon as possible.



Attachments:

1. Affidavit of Ms. Kristen Jarvis
2. Affidavit of Dr. Bennie Taylor II
3. Degree from University of East London
4. Maryland CPA Requirements
5. Mr. [REDACTED] Transcript
6. Acceptance Letter from University of Maryland
7. University of Maryland Admission Requirements
8. University of Maryland Financial Aid Requirements
9. PNC Bank Student Loan Requirements