

# Immigration Law Clinic

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## Type of Work

Students of the Immigration Law Clinic represent clients in cases involving:

- Affirmative and defensive asylum requests where clients seeking asylum have suffered persecution in their home countries on account of a protected ground, and fear persecution if forced to return to their countries.
- Waiver of deportation where the client faces removal from the U.S. because of a minor criminal history or because undocumented, and is eligible to seek a waiver based on the number of years the client has been in the United States (and other factors, such as strong family ties and hardship to the family in the U.S.).

## Clinic Numbers

Quarters offered:	2 (Winter and Spring)
Credits:	8 (4 credits per quarter)
Students:	8
Advanced Clinic students:	3
Independent Study students:	2
Number of cases:	8 new clients for 2010 -'11 school year; 8 continuing clients from previous years

## Clients' Countries & Languages

New clients from:	Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Mexico, and Sudan.
New clients spoke:	Amharic, English, Fulani, Soninke, and Spanish.

Continuing clients from: China, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Jamaica, Laos, and Mexico.

Continuing clients spoke: Amharic, English, Lao, Mandarin, Spanish, and Tigrinya.

## Notable Accomplishments

- The clinic focused primarily on the cases of individuals detained at the NW Detention Center in Tacoma; approximately 90% of those detained in Tacoma have no legal representation.
- Every student team appeared in Immigration Court (this accomplishment is challenging to orchestrate, and depends on the Court's docket, students' schedules, and events in clients' lives).
- All of this year's clients prevailed at their respective deportation hearings—they were all granted permission to remain in the United States.
- Clinic students successfully defended a 33 year-old detained man from being removed to Sudan, where he feared he would be tortured. In granting our client protection under the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment the immigration judge cited "...respondent's past experience in Sudan, his current mental health problems related to his past experiences, and the widespread and egregious human rights violations occurring in Sudan..."

