



**NAME OF EVENT: Death by a Thousand Cuts: The Trump Administration's Proposed Rulemaking to Gut Asylum**

**DATE | TIME | LOCATION:** July 8, 2020 | 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. PT | Zoom Conference Call  
(This event has been approved for 1.25 hours of California MCLE credit.)

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:** Join the ACS Bay Area Lawyer Chapter for a discussion of a joint Notice of Proposed Rulemaking from the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Justice that would substantially revise the process for applying for asylum, withholding of removal, and protection from torture under the Convention Against Torture. The proposed Rule would constitute a marked change from longstanding precedent established by courts of appeals across the country and U.S. treaty obligations, and would make substantially more difficult for any refugee to find protection in the United States, and especially so for those arriving at the southern border.

This online panel discussion will provide an overview of the major changes the proposed Rule would impose, a historical overview of asylum law in the United States, and a discussion of conditions in some of the primary countries from which asylum seekers flee to seek protection in the United States. The panel will also provide information on how to prepare and submit a comment in response to the proposed Rule.

**FEATURED SPEAKERS:**

- **Blaine Bookey**, Legal Director, Center for Gender & Refugee Studies, UC Hastings College of the Law
- **Yael Schacher**, Senior U.S. Advocate, Refugees International
- **M. Gabriela Torres**, Professor and Chair of Anthropology; Co-Coordinator, Public Health Program, Wheaton College
- *Moderated by* **Jamie Crook**, Director of Litigation, Center for Gender & Refugee Studies, UC Hastings College of the Law

**AGENDA OF CONFERENCE CALL:**

- 15 minutes introduction
- 45 minutes speakers' presentations
- 15 minutes Q&A

**MATERIALS FOR CALL:**

- Nickole Miller, [Trump's New Rules Against Asylum Seekers are Dire. They Must be Challenged](#), Washington Post (Jun. 19, 2020).
- [Asylum in the United States](#), American Immigration Council (Jun. 11, 2020).
- Priscilla Alvarez and Geneva Sands, [Trump administration proposes sweeping changes to US asylum system in new rule](#), CNN (Jun. 10, 2020).
- Claire McMullen, Yael Schacher, and Ariana Sawyer, [Trump's cold-blooded move to shut out asylum seekers](#), CNN (Jun. 18, 2020).
- Cecilia Menjivar and M. Gabriela Torres, [Trump May Wish Guatemala Were A Safe Place for Asylum Applicants to Wait, But it's Not](#), LA Times (Jul. 25, 2019).
- Yael Schacher and Rachel Schmidtke, [Harmful Returns: The Compounded Vulnerabilities of Returned Guatemalans in the Time of Covid-19](#), Refugees International (Jun. 23, 2019).