



## **Access to Counsel USCIS FOIA January 31, 2013 – Highlights**

Power Point Presentation, “USCIS Adjudicator Interaction with Private Attorneys and Representatives.” The presentation includes “Techniques for Handling Difficult Attorneys,” “Responses for Common Attorney Objections,” and hypothetical scenarios.

Memorandum entitled, “Representation of an Applicant for Admission to the United States as a Refugee During an Eligibility Hearing” (Nov. 9, 1992). This memo provides INS’s legal justification for depriving refugees the right to counsel during an eligibility hearing abroad. The memo supersedes a 1986 memo (see below) which had concluded that refugees should be afforded access to counsel.

E-mails discussing procedures in Hartford, Connecticut

Policies on interviews. This document appears to pertain to policies in the Hartford, Connecticut USCIS office and to respond to issues raised by AILA.

“Know Your Rights” materials. These documents contain information for the public about “Immigration Consultants” and suggestions to help protect individuals from becoming victims of fraud.

Memorandum entitled, “Access to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Spaces/Information” (August 3, 2009). This memo, authored by the New York District Director, describes district-wide policies on access to internal spaces and case specific information.

Email regarding policies when attorneys are late or do not appear for an interview. This email describes the policy at the Hartford, Connecticut office.

Memorandum entitled, “Role of Consultants in the Credible Fear Interview” (Nov. 14, 1997). This memo describes who may be a consultant and the consultant’s role during the credible fear interview.

Letters to officers selected to be on “the I-485 team.”

## **Access to Counsel USCIS FOIA March 20, 2013 – Highlights**

Memorandum entitled, “Representation in Section 207 Processing” (Jan. 14, 1986). This INS memo concludes that an applicant for refugee status has the right to be represented. It was superseded by a 1992 memo (see above).