



COMMUNITY
LEGAL SERVICES
IN EAST PALO ALTO

PRO BONO
Opportunities

Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto (CLSEPA) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing legal assistance to low-income individuals and families in the East Palo Alto and surrounding communities.

With a focus on social justice, CLSEPA offers services in areas such as **immigration, housing, and record clearance**. We aim to empower community members by providing them with the legal tools and knowledge necessary to navigate complex legal systems and advocate for their rights.

By collaborating with local partners and leveraging volunteer resources, CLSEPA strives to create a more equitable society, ensuring that all individuals, regardless of their economic status, have access to quality legal representation and support.



Individual Case Placements- Immigration

U Visa

- Immigration remedies for crime victims aiding law enforcement
- require about 40 hours to prepare applications, which may remain pending for up to 5 years for visa availability.
- No interview or court appearance is necessary

Asylum

- Assist families escaping persecution due to gangs or political issues.
- Process may take 60-80 hours or more before a hearing, involving preparation of forms, declarations, briefings, and country conditions evidence.
- Cases can proceed to merits in a few months or may face a wait of 2 years or longer, depending on the docket.

What Kind of Support Does CLSEPA Offer?

- On demand mentorship via Zoom for comprehensive guidance from CLSEPA attorneys
- MCLE credit training
- Access to redacted samples for forms, motions, briefs, country conditions, and more
- Review of filings prior to submission



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Immigration Clinic Opportunities

Limited Scope Opportunities
Available Virtually via Zoom, or
In Person

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Renewal

Assist current DACA holders
with renewal. Via Zoom.

Adjustment of Status

Assist asylees, SIJS, and U visa
holders with applications for
permanent resident status. In
person clinic opportunity.

Pro Se I-589 (Asylum)

Assist asylum seekers with filing
timely I-589 applications before
the Immigration Court. Via Zoom.

I-765 Employment Authorization

After asylum seekers have filed I-
589 and cases remain pending,
assist with filing I-765 application
for work permit. Via Zoom.



Economic Advancement: Record Dismissal Clinics

Assist clients with post-conviction relief through RAP sheet review and declaration drafting



Phase I: RAP Sheet Review

- Review a client's criminal conviction history ("RAP sheet") and determine whether the client is eligible to expunge their record and what remedies are available for the client
- Draft summary of the RAP sheet and completed judicial council forms for the eligible petitions for dismissal. Time commitment: estimated 3 hours



Phase II: Declaration Drafting

- Interview a client, and obtain pertinent facts and supporting documents to produce a persuasive declaration of rehabilitation that can be filed with their petitions for dismissals to the Court.
- Declarations are reviewed by CLSEPA attorneys who then file the petitions
- Estimated clinic time commitment: 4 hours



Housing Opportunities



Clinic
Mandatory Settlement Conference

- **REQUIREMENTS, TRAINING, AND COMMITMENT**
 - Must be barred in CA
 - Clinic is held **Tuesday mornings 8:30 am-12:15 pm**. We ask that you commit to a minimum of 3 clinics (dates subject to your availability and our clinic needs).
 - Negotiate settlement in eviction cases
 - Counsel client and negotiate with opposing counsel
 - Brief court appearance to provide status update; no formal argument



Connect with Us to Learn More and Get Involved

Want to learn more about taking on a pro bono case or participating in a limited scope clinic?

Contact probono@clsepa.org

Get added to our mailing list! Receive all the most up to date information regarding all our pro bono opportunities.

Mailing list link: shorturl.at/QV039

<https://clsepa.org/>