



IMMIGRANT LEGAL ADVOCACY PROJECT

FORM I-589 “APPLICATION FOR ASYLUM AND WITHHOLDING OF REMOVAL”

The purpose of this guide is to make it easier for you to fill out your asylum application. However, it is still your responsibility to ensure that the application is filled out correctly. This information was last updated on 06/16/2023 and cannot be guaranteed to be accurate after this date.

The Form I-589 called “Application for Asylum and Withholding of Removal” is one of the most important documents that asylum applicants must give to the U.S. government. The current version of Form I-589 being used by the U.S. government has an expiration date. Go to <https://www.uscis.gov/i-589> to download the most recent version of the form. You should use the form on this website, even if it is already expired.

Please read the instructions below to learn more about how to complete the Form I-589. Also review the U.S. government instructions on completing Form I-589, which can be found online here: <https://www.uscis.gov/i-589>.

The asylum application (I-589 form) is used to not only apply for asylum, but for withholding of removal and protection under the Convention Against Torture.

BEFORE YOU START: TIPS ON COMPLETING FORM I-589

- You may find it helpful to write your declaration or story before answering the questions asked in Part B of Form I-589.
- Read each question very carefully. Make sure you understand the question before you answer it.
- Make sure all answers are complete, accurate and truthful.
- The application must be written or typed in English: If you do not write or speak English you will need the help of a good translator to translate your application. The translator or interpreter does not need to be a professional but avoid using online translation services like Google Translate, as they are not always accurate and can cause errors.
- Type your answers on a computer or write them by hand using a BLACK PEN, not pencil. Sign your name with a BLUE PEN.
- Write in capital letters if your handwriting is hard to read.
- To check off a box use: an ‘X.’
- If you do not know the answer to a question, write “Unknown” or “I do not know.” Do not guess.

- Do not leave any questions blank or your application may be rejected. If a question does not apply to you, write “N/A,” which means “not applicable.”
- At the end of the asylum application, you will see two pages called Supplement A and Supplement B. You can use these pages or a blank piece of paper if you do not have enough room to completely answer a question in the asylum application. If you use Supplement A and B, make sure you type or write your name, date, and Alien Registration Number (“A Number”) at the top and sign in BLUE INK. If you instead choose to use a blank piece of paper when you don’t have enough room to answer a question completely on the asylum application, write the number of the question you are answering, and, at the top of the form, type or write in BLACK INK your Alien Registration Number (“A Number”), if you have one, your name and the date. If you do not end up using Supplement A or B, still fill out the top part of the page as if you were using it, by signing it in BLUE INK and filling out your name, Alien Registration Number, and the date. In the spaces below, however, simply put “N/A” to indicate you have no response.

QUESTION BY QUESTION INSTRUCTIONS FOR FORM I-589:

PAGE 1:

Check the box stating that you want to apply for withholding of removal under the Convention Against Torture.

Part A1: Information about you

1. Alien Registration Number (“A Number”): This is the number that the U.S. government uses to identify you. It is the letter A followed by 8 or 9 numbers. If you do not know your number write “unknown”. It may be possible that the US government has not yet given you an Alien Registration Number. If so, simply write “None”; you will be assigned an A Number after you submit your application.

2. U.S. Social Security Number: If you have a VALID social security number from the Social Security Administration, write it here. If not, write “None.” If you have used a false number or someone else’s number in the past, write “None.”

3. USCIS Online Account Number: If you have a USCIS Online Account Number include it here. If you do not have one, write “N/A.” Do not worry if you do not have one – not everyone has one.

4. Complete Last Name: Write your Family Name. If you have more than one family name, like

“Garcia Morales,” write them both.

5. First Name: This is your given or first name. Use your legal name. Do not use a nickname.

6. Middle Name: If you have a middle name, write it here. If you don’t have one, write, ‘N/A.’

Tip: If your name is different from the name listed on your passport or visa be prepared to explain that in your asylum interview or in court. On the I-589, make sure your name is spelled the correct way.

7. Other names: List any nicknames, maiden name, and/or any other name you may have used to identify yourself.

8. Residence in the U.S.: Write down where you are physically living in the U.S. Also provide your current phone number if you have one.

9. Mailing address: Write down where you receive your mail. If someone else collects your mail, write their address and fill in their name where it states, ‘In care of.’

10. Gender: Check “male” or “female”

11. Marital Status: If you are not married, check “single.” If you are legally married, check “married.” If you were legally married, but have been legally divorced, check “divorced.” If you were legally married, but your spouse has died, check “widowed.”

Your marriage must be recognized as legal in the country where you were married. If you were married without a marriage certificate, you may want to provide additional evidence that you were married such as photographs or written statements from family or friends who witnessed the marriage. Know that the U.S. does not consider a marriage to more than one spouse at the same time to be legal.

12. Date of Birth: Use eight numbers to show your Date of Birth. It should be in this order: month, date, and then year. For example, if you were born on March 1, 1978, you would write 03/01/1978.

13. City and Country of Birth: Write the city and country in which you were born.

14. Present Nationality: Write the country or countries where you are currently a citizen.

15. Nationality at Birth: Write the country where you were a citizen on the day you were born.

16. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group: Some people belong to tribal groups, such as “Tutsi” or “Hutu.” If you do not have a distinct tribal group, list your race, such as “White/Caucasian,” “Latino,” “Black,” and so on.

17. Religion: If you follow a religion, such as Christianity, Judaism, Islam, or any other religion, write that here.

18. Check the box that applies: If you have never been in immigration proceedings, required to attend court hearings in front of an Immigration Judge, or been given papers to attend immigration court, write “X” in box 18(a). If you are currently in Immigration Court proceedings, even if you have not yet attended your court hearing, write an “X” in box 18(b). If you are not currently in Immigration Court proceedings, but have been in the past, write an “X” in box 18(c).

19. Complete (a) through (c).

(a) When did you last leave your country: Write the date on which you left your country of citizenship (the country from which you seek asylum). Use the same eight number format as your birth date (month/day/year). If you do not remember the exact date, you may write the month and year only.

(b) What is your current I-94 Number: If you entered the U.S. on a visa or through the Visa Waiver Program, you can find your I-94 number online at: <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/i94/#/home>. This will tell you your most recent date of arriving in the United States and the history of your arrivals and departures to and from the U.S. You can print your I-94 and use it as evidence that you legally entered the U.S. Please visit the above website for more detailed information on how to get your I-94.

If you entered the U.S. without a visa but still had contact with U.S. immigration authorities when entering, look through all the documents you received from immigration, as you may have received a card with your I-94 number on it. If you entered the US illegally without any contact with U.S. immigration authorities or did not receive an I-94 card when you entered, write “none” here.

(c) U.S. Entry History: Begin with your last entry into the U.S. It does not matter if you entered legally or illegally.

Date: For each entry into the US, write the date you entered the U.S. Use the month/day/year format. This date can be found in your passport and/or on your I-94 document, if you have one. If you are not sure of the exact date, you can either write the month and year, or just the year. **Place:** For each entry into the US, write where you entered the U.S. (city, state). If you are not sure where, you can look at your I-94 record (see above, 19(b) for how to find it) or write “I

don't know.”

Status: For each entry into the US, if you came into the U.S. on a visa, write the type of visa you used, such as B-1, B-2, F-1, “tourist,” “student,” etc. If you did not enter with a visa but presented yourself to U.S. immigration authorities, look at the documents you received from U.S. immigration to determine what your status was. (For example, if, amongst the documents you received, you see that the U.S. government granted you parole, you would indicate that here.) If, when entering, you did not enter legally and did not present yourself to U.S. immigration authorities, write “entered without inspection.”

Date Status Expires: Write the date your Form I-94 or authorized stay expires, NOT the date your US visa expires. This is the date that tells how long you could stay in the U.S. The U.S. government wrote this in your passport when you entered the U.S. (if you entered the US with a passport) or on your I-94 card (if you have one.) If the U.S. government wrote ‘D/S,’ that means “duration of status.” Write ‘D/S’ in this box. If you entered without documents or permission and the US government did not give you a time limit for how long you could stay, write, ‘N/A.’

Continue to write the above information for each time you entered the U.S., legally or illegally. If you do not have enough space, use supplement B to include the rest of your entries.

20. What country issued your last passport or travel document: Write the country that issued you the passport you used to leave your country and/or enter the U.S. If you do not have a passport, write ‘N/A’ for questions 20 and 21.

If you obtained a false passport that you used to travel to the U.S., you may want to consult with an experienced immigration attorney about answering this question and about any consequences.

21. Passport and travel document number: Your passport number is the number used to identify your passport. It is typically found on the same page in your passport as your picture. If you came to the U.S. without a passport, you may have a travel document number and you should write ‘N/A’ for your passport number but write in the travel document number. If you do not have either of these numbers or documents, write “N/A.” If you have lost these documents since coming to the U.S., or don't know the numbers, write “Unknown.”

22. Expiration Date: Write the date on which your passport or travel document expires. This is also typically found on the picture page of your passport. Be sure to follow the month/day/year format.

23. What is your native language: Your native language is considered your first language, the language you speak best, or the language you spoke growing up. If you speak a certain dialect of that language, write it here.

24. Are you fluent in English: If you speak English fluently, place an “X” in the box “Yes.” If you do not speak English fluently, place an “X” in the box “No.” If you speak English but not fluently, you should place an “X” in the box “No.”

25. What other language do you speak fluently: Write other language(s) that you speak here.

Leave blank “For EOIR use only” and “For USCIS use only.” That is for USCIS or Immigration Court to fill out.

PAGES 2 & 3:

Part A.II.: Information About Your Spouse and Children

This section asks questions about your current marriage (if any) and your children (if any).

Your spouse

Your spouse is your current husband or wife. If you are not married, place an “X” in the box that states “I am not married” and write “N/A” in all of the boxes asking questions about your spouse. Then go on to the next set of questions entitled “Your Children.”

If you are married, you must complete this section, whether or not your spouse is in the U.S. Provide the information about your spouse that is requested. If you do not know the answer to something, write ‘Unknown.’ If you are divorced or widowed, you do not have to include your divorced or widowed spouse. Place an “X” in the box that states “I am not married” and write “N/A” in all of the boxes asking questions about your spouse. Then go on to the next set of questions entitled “Your Children.”

If your current spouse is included on the application, they will also be granted asylum status if they are in the U.S. and if your asylum is approved. For any spouse with you in the U.S. for whom you want to receive asylum if you are granted asylum, you must, in addition to your asylum application, submit the following:

- Copies of documents, along with English translations of the documents, showing you are married (for example, your marriage certificate). You will also want to include a certificate of translation for each document you submit that has been translated into English, filled out by the individual who translated the document. Do not send originals of these documents, just a copy of them. However, you will want to bring originals to your asylum interview or to Immigration Court in case anyone wants to see them.

NOTE: If you do not have or cannot get these documents, you may mail or bring to your hearing “secondary” evidence of your marriage, such as religious records, wedding announcements, or photos of your wedding. You can also mail a written statement from at least one person who witnessed the event. (For example, a letter from someone who attended your wedding.) Written statements may be provided by relatives or others, and they do not need to be U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents. The statements must be translated if they are not in English and should include a Certificate of Translation.

Your Children

If you do not have any children, place an “X” in the first box “I do not have any children”, and write “N/A” in all of the boxes asking questions about your children. Then go on to the questions in Part A.III. ‘Information About Your Background’ beginning on Page 4 of Form I-589.

If you do have children, place an “X” in the second box, “I have children”, and write how many children you have next to “Total number of children.” **Include ALL biological, adopted, and stepchildren** regardless of their age, whether or not they are in the United States, and marital status.

- **Adopted Children:** An adopted child means a child who was under the age of 16 at the time the legal, foreign adoption took place and who has lived with you and of whom you have had legal custody for at least two years. It is important to list ALL children. There is space for four children on this section of the form. If you have more than four children, you can list your additional children on “Supplement A, Form I-589.”

Although you must list all your children on the asylum application, whether they are residing in the U.S. or not, only children who are under 21 years of age, unmarried, and in the United States can be given asylum status if you, yourself, receive it. For those of your children who are unmarried, less than 21 years old, in the U.S., and for whom you also want to receive asylum status based on your own status, include, in addition to your asylum application, the following for each child:

- Copies of evidence of your relationship with the child (for example, a birth certificate, adoption certificate, etc.)

NOTE: If you do not have or cannot get these documents, you may mail (or bring to your hearing or interview) “secondary” evidence of the parent-child relationship, such as medical records, religious records, birth announcements, or school records that demonstrate that you are the parent of that child. You can also mail a written statement from at least one person who witnessed the event. (For example, a letter from an individual who witnessed the birth.) Written

statements may be provided by relatives or others, and they do not need to be U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents. Any statements must be translated if they are not in English and should include a Certificate of Translation.

Fill in all the information requested for each child. If you do not know something about a particular child, write 'Unknown' and if something is not applicable to a particular child, write, 'N/A.' Again, make sure you list all children, whether or not they are residing here in the US. If you have more than 4 children, use Supplement A at the end of the asylum application to list the remaining children. If you have less than 4 children, use what space you need to list each of your children and fill-out the requested information for each child and, in the remaining spaces, write or type 'N/A.'

PAGE 4:

Part A.III.: Information About Your Background:

This section asks about where you have lived, your education, and your employment history, both in the U.S. and your home country. For these questions, list your most recent information at the top. (i.e.: start with your most recent address, school, or job first in the top box of each section, and then write the rest in reverse order, from most recent to oldest.)

1. List the address and dates of residence where you lived just BEFORE coming to the U.S.

If you resided in a country other than your home country before coming to the US, list the address in that country in the top box in this section and, in the second box below the first, list the last address you resided at in your home country. If you did not reside in any country outside of your own before coming to the US, just list your last address in your home country in the top box. Include the dates you lived at the residences listed, in the month/year format.

- If you were hiding for a period of time immediately before entering the U.S., you should list that address, including a hotel, friend's house, etc.

2. List each of your residences for the past five years, including the dates of residence for each place.

You must account for all residences where you resided within the last 5 years. Start with where you live now in the U.S., then list your address before that, then the one before that until you have covered the last five years. It is very important to list ALL residences, even if you only lived there for a short time like a homeless shelter or the place you were in hiding. The address(es) you included in Question 1 above should also be listed in this response. If you have lived in more than five places in the past five years, use Supplement B at the end of the asylum application to add your remaining addresses. Do your best to remember the addresses where you lived. If you do not remember the number or street where you lived write 'Unknown,' in the

box. If the address where you lived does not include the number or name of a street, write 'N/A.' Fill in the city or town in which the residence was located, however.

3. List all of the schools you have attended, including dates of attendance and starting with the most recent school. This includes all levels of education you have received and any education either in the U.S. or abroad. If you have attended more than four schools in your lifetime, list the rest of the schools on Supplement B.

4. List each of your places of employment for the past five years. If you are working in the U.S., start with the job you have now or your most recent job and provide the name and address of the employer, your job title and dates of employment. If you have had more than 3 jobs in the last 5 years, list the rest of the jobs on Supplement B.

5. List information about your parents, brothers and sisters, including their name, city/town and country where they were born, and their current location. Include parents and siblings who are no longer living and write "Deceased" if they have passed away. If they are still living, you MUST indicate their current location. If you do not, your application will be returned to you. If you do not know where any of your parents, brothers, and sisters are living or where they were born, write "Unknown." If you have more than four siblings, use Supplement B to add information about your remaining siblings. You must list all siblings, including half-siblings and siblings who are deceased.

PAGE 5:

Part B. Information About Your Application:

This section asks for information about why you are seeking asylum. Be sure to read each question carefully and include information on what happened to you or your family in the past that now makes you afraid to return to your home country, why you and/or your family were harmed, who harmed you and what you believe will happen to you if you return to your home country now.

NOTE: You can choose to submit your Declaration at the same time that you submit your asylum application or at a later date, when you submit the rest of the evidence in your case. Many people, especially those in Immigration Court, do not submit their Declaration until later, when they submit the rest of the evidence for their case. You may want to talk to an attorney about what is best for your situation.

- a) **If you are submitting your Declaration at the same time as your asylum application:**
You should answer the questions in Part B in one to three sentences that summarize

what you write in your Declaration. Be sure that what you put in your Declaration matches your answers in Part B of the asylum application. Following your answers, you should include this sentence, "Please see my Declaration submitted with this Form I-589 for more information." Include this statement only if you are including your Declaration along with your asylum application. Do not include this statement if you are not including your declaration with your asylum application.

- b) **If you plan to submit your Declaration later:** Do not refer to or mention your declaration in any of these answers (since you are not including it.) You'll want to answer each question about the harm or threats you suffered or the harm and torture you fear will happen, by explaining briefly what happened, who harmed you or will harm you, when it happened, and why you believe it occurred or will occur. Your answers should be short and concise as you don't need to include extensive details because you will discuss more fully what happened in Immigration Court, at the Asylum interview, and in your future Declaration, should you choose to submit one. If you run out of space and need more room to answer any of these questions in this and other sections, you may add additional pages to your Form I-589 or use Supplement B at the end of the Form I-589. If you attach additional pages, be sure each additional page includes your first and last name, A number, if any, the date and your signature in BLUE PEN.

1. I am seeking asylum or Withholding of Removal based on: Check the box(es) for all of the reasons that apply to your case. If you checked the box on Page 1 related to the Convention Against Torture, check the Torture Convention box here on Page 5, as well. Note: It is strongly recommended that you check this box along with the box at the top of the first page of your asylum application indicating that you would like to apply for protection under the Convention Against Torture as this will preserve your right to apply for other forms of protection in addition to asylum should you lose your asylum case.

1(A): If you, your family, close friends or colleagues have experienced harm, mistreatment, or threats in the past, check "Yes" and then explain briefly what happened. You might want to include who harmed you, what happened, when it happened, and why you believe you were harmed. You may also write "Please see my personal Declaration for more information" if you have included a Declaration but **do not write this unless you have included your Declaration, or your asylum application will be rejected.** If you check "No" because you or family members did not experience harm, threats, or mistreatment, write "N/A" in the box following the question.

1(B): If you fear you will be harmed in the future if you return to your home country, check "Yes" and then explain briefly why you fear this harm. You might want to include information on who you think may harm you in the future, what they might do to you, why you believe they

want to harm you and why you think they will be able to harm you. You may also write "Please see my personal Declaration for more information" if you have included your Declaration with your submission. If you check "No", write "N/A" in the box following the question.

PAGE 6:

Part B. Information About Your Application (Continued)

2. Have you or your family members ever been accused, charged, arrested, detained, interrogated, convicted and sentenced, or imprisoned in any country other than the United States? Check "Yes" or "No." If you check "No," write "N/A" or 'Not Applicable' in the box following the question. If you check "Yes," explain what happened and why. If you were detained, make sure you mention that here.

3(A) and 3(B): Both of these questions ask about any group that you or your family may have belonged to in your home country. For example, if you were a member of a political party, church group, social group, etc., in your home country, you should check "Yes" and include that information here.

- Include any organizations, movements, or other groups you have been a part of in the past and/or continue to be a part of now. These may include: religious groups, military or paramilitary groups, guerilla organizations, ethnic groups, student groups, labor groups or unions, human rights groups and any other organization of which you consider yourself a member or participant.
- **If you believe you were or might be harmed in your home country because of your participation in one of these groups, explain that in response to this question.**
- If you check "No", write "N/A" in the box following both questions 3A and 3B. Note: if you state in your Declaration that you were involved in certain groups, these groups should be included here.
- If you checked "Yes" in Question 3A and you or your family continue to be involved in these groups, check "Yes" in response to Question 3B and explain briefly. You may also write "Please see my personal Declaration for more information" if you are submitting your declaration along with your asylum application. If you and your family are no longer involved in the groups you listed in Question 3A, check "No" in response to Question 3B and write "N/A" in the box following the question.

WARNING: If you ever belonged to or were associated with a paramilitary or guerilla organization, or any armed group, consult an experienced immigration lawyer before submitting your Form I-589 to get advice about whether your activities might affect your eligibility for asylum in the U.S.

4. Are you afraid of being subjected to torture in your home country or any other country to which you may be returned? If you are afraid you could be tortured if you return to your home country, or to any other country, check “Yes” and explain what harm you fear, why you fear that harm and who you believe might cause the harm. You can also add “Please see my personal Declaration for more information” only if you include a Declaration. If you check “No,” write “N/A” in the box following the question.

PAGE 7-8:

Part C. Additional Information About Your Application:

Part C asks questions to ensure that you are eligible for asylum in the U.S. and have not done anything that makes you ineligible. Like the rest of the application, it is very important to answer these questions truthfully and accurately. If you answer ‘Yes,’ to any of the questions in Part C, provide the requested details in the box below the question. If you answer ‘No’ to these questions, write ‘N/A’ in the box below.

Consult an experienced immigration lawyer BEFORE you submit your asylum application if you answer “Yes” to any of the questions in section C on pages 7-8.

PAGE 9:

Part D. Your Signature:

- In the box that says “Print your complete name,” on the application, you should handwrite your name as it appears in English. In the box that says, “Write your name in your native alphabet,” you should write your name as you do in your native language. For example, if you speak Chinese, you would write your name in English in the box that says “Print your complete name” and in the box that says “Write your name in your native alphabet” you would write your name in Chinese.
- Check “Yes” or “No” to say if a spouse, parent or child(ren) assisted you in preparing the Form I-589 and give the information requested about that person.
- Check “Yes” or “No” about whether you were given a list of persons, such as attorneys, who may be available to assist you, at little or no cost, with your asylum application.
- Before signing your application, review all of the questions and make sure they are truthful and complete and that you understood them. If someone translated your answers into English for you, you should have them read the answers back to you, in your native language, so that you can ensure that the answers are accurate and correct

and that there are no mistranslations. By signing the Form I-589, you are swearing that everything in the application is true, to the best of your knowledge.

- Use a BLUE PEN TO SIGN the application and date it on the day you signed.

Part E. Declaration of Person Preparing Form, if Other Than Applicant, Spouse, Parent or Child:

If someone who is not a family member helped you fill out your Form I-589, **they must fill out this section** and then sign their name using a BLUE pen. If no one assisted you in completing your Form I-589, write “N/A” in all of the boxes to indicate it is not applicable to you.

PAGE 10:

Part F. To Be Completed at Asylum Interview, if Applicable:

Do not write in this section of the Form I-589 at this time. You will complete this at your Asylum Interview if you have one.

Part G. To Be Completed at Removal Hearing, if Applicable:

Do not write in this section of the Form I-589 at this time. This will be completed when you have your court hearing, if you have one.

SUPPLEMENT A:

Fill out this page only if you have more than 4 children total and you were unable to include all your children on pages 2 and 3 of the asylum application. You can use this page to include additional children. If you run out of space on this page, you can make as many copies of the page as necessary to include all your children. For each ‘Supplement A’ page that you submit, ensure that you fill out your ‘A’ or immigration number and name at the top of the page and sign and date the page.

If you do not need to use this page for additional children, simply fill out the top of the page with your ‘A’ number and name and date and sign the page in blue ink. In the boxes below, write ‘N/A.’

SUPPLEMENT B:

Use this page only if you have information for which you could not include on the rest of the asylum application due to lack of space. For example, if you have more than 4 siblings and you could not list all of your siblings on page 4 of the application due to lack of space, you can list the remaining siblings here. For each item that you answer, write the question number that you

are answering and the Part in the application where the question is found. If you need more space than what is allotted, make as many copies of Supplement B as you need. For each Supplement B page that you submit, however, write your 'A' or immigration number, name, and date at the top of the page and sign in blue ink.

If you do not need to use this page, simply fill out the top of the page with your 'A' number and name and sign and date the page. In the spaces and box below, write 'N/A.'

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:

You would also include copies of any additional documents mentioned above in the 'Part A.II: Information About your Spouse and Children' section of these instructions, such as copies of documents that prove that you are married to your spouse and that you are the parent of your child or children. Remember, do not send originals – send copies! In addition, any documents that are not in English must be translated into English and you should include a copy of the version of the document in the foreign language, an English translation, and a Certificate of Translation filled out by the individual who has translated the document, showing the identity of the individual who translated it. Remember, you and anyone who is a party to your asylum application cannot translate the documents yourselves. They must be translated by an outside party.

If you are able to, you should include copies of every page of everyone's passports if the family entered the US with **valid** passports. However, you should consult with an attorney before submitting copies of any passports that were obtained fraudulently. If you or any family members included in your application received I-94 cards when entering the U.S., you should include a copy of this as well with your submission. Information about your I-94 card can be found here: <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/i94/#/home>. As always, make sure you bring the originals or copies of any documents you submit with your application with you to the asylum interview or immigration court, as officials may want to inspect and verify them.

You should also make a copy of what you submit for yourself, to keep for your records. Keep this copy with any receipts you obtain when mailing your application, so you will have a record of not only what you mailed, but the date when you mailed it and the address to which it was mailed.

Where you send your application will depend on whether you have a case in Immigration Court and which Court you are scheduled in or whether you are applying for asylum with the Asylum Office.

You have finished the Form I-589. Review the document to make sure you completed each question honestly and accurately.

You may also want to compare your answers with the documents you are sending, such as marriage and birth certificates, your Declaration, and any other evidence you are preparing for your case to ensure that what you say in your asylum application is the same as what the documents and evidence indicate. If there are differences, you will have to be prepared to explain the reasons during your Asylum Interview or in Immigration Court.