

## **IMMIGRATION TERMS**

### ***Refugee***

A foreign-born person who is not a U.S. citizen, is residing outside of his or her country of nationality, and who is unable or unwilling to return to his or her country of nationality or last residence because of persecution or the well-founded fear of persecution on account of that person's race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion. Refugees are required to apply for Legal Permanent Resident status one year after entry into and physical presence in the United States. A refugee receives this status *prior to* entering the U.S.

### ***Asylee***

An alien who flees his or her country of nationality due to persecution or with a well-founded fear of persecution because of race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a social group and who is *already present* in the United States at the time he/she seeks and obtains asylum. One seeks asylum from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

### ***Parolee***

An alien, who, appears to be inadmissible to the inspecting USCIS Officer but is allowed to enter the United States under *emergency* (humanitarian) conditions or when that individual's entry is determined to be in the public interest. Under the immigration laws, parole does not constitute a formal admission to the United States and confers only a temporary status to the parolee, requiring him or her to depart the U.S. when the conditions supporting the parole cease to exist (600 INA 212 (d) (5) (a)).

### ***Victim of Severe Trafficking***

A person who is brought across international borders and subjected to force, fraud, or coercion, for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation or forced labor (involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery).

### ***Amerasian***

A person fathered abroad by U.S. servicemen to women of Asian nationalities.

### ***Cuban and Haitian Entrant***

A person granted parole status (by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)) as (a) a Cuban/Haitian Entrant (Status Pending) or granted any other special status subsequently established under the immigration laws for nationals of Cuba or Haiti, regardless of the status of the individual at the time assistance or services are provided and (b) Any other national of Cuba or Haiti who: (i) was paroled into the United States and has not acquired any other status under the INA; (ii) is the subject of exclusion or deportation proceedings under the INA; or (iii) has an application for asylum pending with (DHS); and with respect to whom a final, nonappealable, and legally enforceable order of deportation or exclusion has not been entered. 45 CFR § 401.2.

### ***Special Immigrant***

An Iraqi or Afghan immigrant granted Special Immigrant Status under section 101(a)(27) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) and their spouses and unmarried children under the age of 21 years. Many of the principal Iraqi and Afghan special immigrants were translators employed by the U.S. military.