



Immigration Attorneys — Temple Terrace, FL

Asylum (Form I-589)

A Plain-Language Document Checklist

If you're seeking asylum in the United States, USCIS or the immigration court will expect strong documentation of what happened to you and why. This checklist walks you through what you'll typically need to gather, in plain English.

This is general information, not legal advice. Every asylum case depends heavily on individual facts and country conditions — that's exactly what a consultation is for.

Identity & Entry Documents

- ☐ Passport — copy of every page, including visa stamps
- ☐ Birth certificate (certified copy; translated into English if needed)
- ☐ I-94 entry/exit record or other proof of when and how you entered the U.S.

The One-Year Filing Deadline

- ☐ Proof of your date of entry into the U.S. (passport stamp, I-94, plane ticket)

You generally must file for asylum within one year of arriving in the U.S. Very few exceptions apply — don't wait to get this filed.

Evidence of Past Harm or Fear of Harm

- ☐ Police reports, medical records, or hospital records documenting harm
- ☐ Threatening letters, messages, or photos
- ☐ Witness statements or affidavits from people who know what happened to you

Evidence About Your Home Country

- ☐ News articles or reports describing conditions for people like you in your home country
- ☐ Any documentation showing why you were targeted — political activity, religion, ethnicity, or membership in a particular social group

Supporting Character Evidence

- ☐ Letters of support from employers, clergy, or community members
- ☐ Any medical or psychological evaluation documenting the effects of what you experienced

If You Have Family Members Applying With You

- ☐ Birth certificate for each child included on your application
- ☐ Marriage certificate, if your spouse is included

A Simple Timeline

As soon as possible: Confirm your one-year filing deadline and don't let it pass.

60 days before filing: Start gathering identity documents and any evidence of what happened to you.

30 days before filing: Collect country-conditions evidence and any witness statements.

Filing day: Submit your complete I-589 application.

After filing: Watch for your receipt notice, biometrics appointment, and eventual interview or hearing date.

A note from Ahmad

Asylum cases are decided on credibility and documentation. Small inconsistencies or missing evidence can undermine an otherwise strong case. I personally review every case at our firm to make sure your story is presented clearly and supported as fully as possible.

Ready to talk about your case?

Schedule a consultation at americandreamlawoffice.com

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