U.S. Department of Homeland Security
1200 Wall St West
Fourth Floor
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071-0000

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Date: [redacted]

[redacted]

RE: [redacted] A[redacted]

Asylum Approval

Dear Ms. [redacted]

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) previously issued to you a Notice of Intent to Deny your application for asylum. You were given the opportunity to submit an argument in rebuttal to the proposed grounds for denial. After careful consideration of your rebuttal materials, USCIS has determined that you are eligible for asylum in the United States.

As of [redacted] you have been granted asylum in the United States pursuant to section 208 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). Your derivatives listed above – who are present in the United States, who were included in your asylum application, and for whom you have established a qualifying relationship – are granted derivative asylum. Enclosed with this letter you will find a completed Form I-94, *Arrival-Departure Record*, for you and each of your derivative family member(s) listed above. Please retain this document.

Asylum is authorized for an indefinite period, but asylum status does not give you the right to remain permanently in the United States. Asylum status may be terminated pursuant to section 208(c)(2) of the INA if you no longer have a well-founded fear of persecution because of a fundamental change in circumstances, you have obtained protection from another country, or you have committed certain crimes or engaged in other activity that makes you ineligible to retain asylum status in the United States.

Now that you are an asylee, you may apply for certain benefits listed below. You are responsible for complying with applicable laws and regulations explained in this letter. In addition to your Form I-94, *Arrival-Departure Record*, we recommend that you retain the original of this letter as proof of your status and that you submit copies of this letter when applying for any of the benefits or services listed below.

You may obtain any of the USCIS forms mentioned in this letter on the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov, through the National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283, or at a local USCIS office.

Benefits

1. Employment Authorization

You are authorized to work in the United States for as long as you remain in asylum status. Your derivative family member(s) listed above are also authorized to work in the United States, so long as they retain

derivative asylum status. To demonstrate employment authorization to prospective employers, you must show certain documentation such as an unrestricted Social Security card, a state-issued driver's license, or an unexpired employment authorization document (EAD) issued by USCIS. For a list of all documents that employers may accept as proof of employment authorization, consult the USCIS Form I-9, *Employment Eligibility Verification,* available on the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov/I-9CentralMany employers also use E-Verify to electronically check your employment eligibility. You can learn your E-Verify rights and responsibilities by visiting www.uscis.gov/E-Verify.

USCIS will mail to the last address you provided to USCIS a secure Form I-766, *Employment Authorization Document* (EAD), which will be valid for two years. USCIS will also mail EADs to your derivative family member(s) listed above who previously submitted their biometrics (e.g., fingerprints, photo and signature) at a USCIS Application Support Center (ASC). If you or your derivative family member(s) do not receive the EAD(s) in the mail **within 14 business days** of the issuance of your asylum approval letter, please contact the Asylum Office listed above that issued your grant of asylum.

Contact information for asylum-based EAD questions is available on www.uscis.gov/asylum (see "Asylum Employment Authorization and Clock Contacts"). If your initial EAD is lost or stolen, you may apply for a replacement card by submitting Form I-765, *Application for Employment Authorization*, to the address listed on the online "FORMS" page on the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov.

2. Derivative Asylum Status

You may request derivative asylum status for your spouse and/or any unmarried child(ren) under 21 years of age who are not included in this decision and with whom you have a qualifying relationship, whether or not that spouse or child is in the United States. To request derivative asylum status, you must submit Form I-730, *Refugee/Asylee Relative Petition*, to the address listed on the online "FORMS" page on the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov **within two years** of the date you were granted asylum status. USCIS may extend the two-year filing period in certain cases for humanitarian reasons.

3. Social Security Cards

You and any of your derivative family members listed above may apply immediately for an unrestricted Social Security card at any Social Security office. For more information or to obtain a Form SS-5, *Application for a Social Security Card,* visit the Social Security Administration's website at www.ssa.gov, call their toll-free number 1-800-772-1213, or visit a local Social Security office. When you go to a Social Security office to apply for a Social Security card, you must take your Form I-94, *Arrival-Departure Record,* to demonstrate that you have been granted asylum. If available, you should also take photo-identity documentation, such as an EAD or passport. For directions to the Social Security office nearest to you, call the Social Security Administration toll-free number or visit the website listed above.

4. Assistance and Services through the Office of Refugee Resettlement

You and any of your derivative family members listed above may be eligible to receive assistance and services through the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). ORR funds and administers various programs run by state and private, non-profit agencies throughout the United States. These programs include cash and medical assistance, employment preparation and job placement, and English language training. Many of these programs have time-limited eligibility periods that begin from the date you were granted of asylum. Therefore, to take advantage of these programs, you must contact ORR as soon as possible after receipt of this letter. For more information about these programs, where to go for assistance and services in your state, visit

the ORR website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr.

5. Employment Assistance

You and any of your derivative family members listed above are eligible to receive certain employment services – including job search assistance, career counseling, and occupational skills training – through One-Stop Career Centers. To find the center nearest you, call 1-877-US2-JOBS or visit America's Service Locator at www.servicelocator.org.

6. Adjustment of Status to Lawful Permanent Resident Status

After you and any of your derivative family members listed above have been physically present in the United States for one year from the date you were granted asylum, you may apply for lawful permanent resident status by submitting a separate Form I-485, *Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status*, for yourself and each qualifying family member to the address listed on the online "FORMS" page on the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov.

Responsibilities

1. Travel Outside of the United States

If you, or your family member(s) with derivative asylum status, plan to travel outside of the United States, you must each request permission to return to the United States before you leave this country by obtaining a refugee travel document. A refugee travel document is valid for one year and is issued to an asylee to allow his or her return to the United States after temporary travel abroad. If you, or your family member(s) with derivative asylum status, do not request a refugee travel document in advance of your departure from the United States, you may be unable to re-enter the United States or you may be placed in removal proceedings before an immigration judge. You and your derivative family member(s) listed above may apply for a refugee travel document by submitting Form I-131, *Application for Travel Document*, for each individual to the address listed on the online "FORMS" page on the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov.

WARNING: If you return to the country of claimed persecution, you may be questioned as to why you were able to return to the country of claimed persecution, and your asylum status may be terminated pursuant to section 208(c)(2) of the INA. Returning to one's country of claimed persecution may demonstrate a change of circumstances in the country of claimed persecution, show fraud in the initial asylum application, or demonstrate you have voluntarily availed yourself of the protection of the country of claimed persecution.

2. Changes of Address

You must notify the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) of any change of address within ten days of such change by submitting Form AR-11, *Alien's Change of Address Card*, to the address listed on the online "FORMS" page on the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov. You may obtain Form AR-11 at a U.S. Post Office, a USCIS office, or online at www.uscis.gov. You may also submit a change of address electronically at www.uscis.gov.

3. Selective Service Registration

All male asylees between the ages of 18 and 26 must register for the Selective Service. Failure to do so may affect your ability to obtain certain benefits in the United States or obtain U.S. citizenship in the future. For more information about the Selective Service and how to register, visit the Selective Service website at www.sss.gov or obtain a Selective Service "mail-back" registration form at a U.S. Post Office.

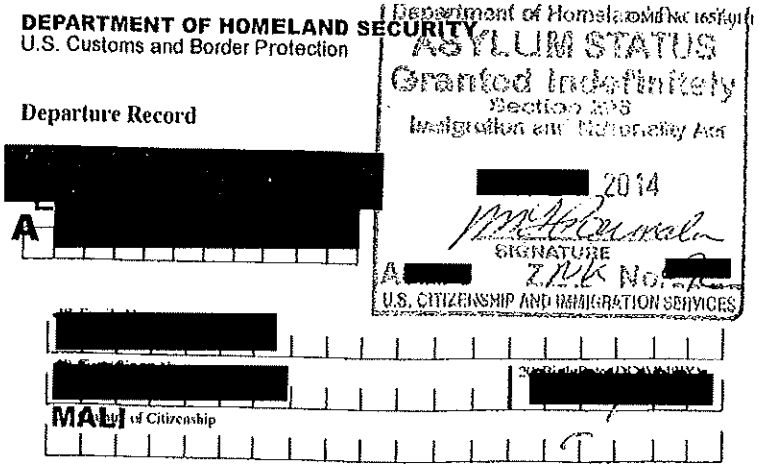
Note: Please write your full name, date of birth, and A-number on any correspondence you have with DHS.

Sincerely,

for Susan Raufer
Director
NEWARK ASYLUM OFFICE

CC: SAYONI MAITRA
30 WALL STREET 8TH FLR
NEW YORK, NY 10005

Enclosures: ____ Form I-94, *Arrival-Departure Record(s)*
____ Translated Summary of This Approval Letter After NOID


DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Departure Record

[redacted]

A[redacted]

Department of Homeland Security
ASYLUM STATUS
Granted Indefinitely
Section 208
Immigration and Nationality Act
[redacted] 2014
SIGNATURE
A[redacted] I-94 No. [redacted]
U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES

[redacted]

[redacted]

MAL of Citizenship

See Other Side

CBP Form I-94 (05/08)
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