

CAM Background Briefing for RAD

Applicant Claims:

- All approved applicants were approved on the basis of persecution on account of a particular social group.
- The majority were on the basis of the particular social group of family. In these cases the applicant was harmed or threatened with significant harm due to their relationship to a family member.
- A small number of cases were approved on the basis of the particular social group of children lacking effective familial protection. Those applicants have suffered abuse within their families.

Percentage of Applicants Found Eligible for Refugee Status:

- Of the 90 cases interviewed in July, 11 were tentatively approved for refugee resettlement. USCIS recommended parole for 76 of the cases that did not qualify for refugee resettlement. One case was denied. The remaining two cases are pending further review.

Asylum Approval Rates for Unaccompanied Children (UACs):

- For FY 2014 the asylum grant rates for UACs? For each country were:
 - El Salvador, 54.7%
 - Honduras, 59.4%
 - Guatemala, 46.0%

Comparison of CAM Statistics to Asylum Statistics for UACs:

- One reason may be the basis of harm asserted in the CAM claims.
- Based on a review of asylum grants for unaccompanied children in the first three quarters of FY14 (through approximately mid-July), the USCIS Asylum Division determined that of 90 applications reviewed, 75 were granted on the basis of membership in a particular social group (PSG). Of those, almost half of the claims were based on harm in the form of domestic violence or abuse within the family. In contrast, of the 95 individuals interviewed during the CAM circuit ride, only two described past domestic abuse.
- This could be because of the select group eligible for the CAM program. Qualified minors must have at least one parent lawfully residing in the United States with a status allowing for work authorization in the United States, and the parent is aware of the program and able to pay the cost of DNA testing. The qualifying minors interviewed were all accompanied to the interview and cared for by caring adults in the home country and were being assisted financially by the parent in the United States. This profile may be