

DEPORTATION DEFENSE HOUSTON

Since Deportation Defense Houston began accepting cases in June 2018, we have:

Represented **44** people in their immigration cases before an immigration judge

Represented **16** people in other matters (e.g. motions to reopen or appeals)

Represented **30** people in their requests for bond

Won **12** merits cases, including asylum, cancellation of removal, and other types of relief

Received **60+** referrals from the Immigrant Rights Hotline

Screened **80+** individuals and provided brief information on their eligibility for relief

CLIENT STORIES

Kikio, a transgender woman, fled persecution in Central America based on her gender identity. After a long and difficult journey, she arrived in the U.S. only to be detained by immigration officials and transferred to a Houston-area detention center. Kikio was referred to the DDH project through the Immigrant Rights Hotline. Kikio spent nearly a year in detention, where she was harassed by other detained individuals and guards because of her gender identity; she also faced challenges regularly accessing her medical treatment. With the hard work and advocacy of the DDH Team as well as Kikio's courage and resilience, Kikio won her asylum claim in October 2018. She now lives in Houston, where she is excited to begin a safe and secure life.

"Rosie" was wrongfully deported despite her pending immigration case. Rosie, a longtime resident of Houston with several children, has multiple claims for relief. Rosie was also actively assisting Houston police in the investigation of two serious crimes. Her DDH attorney, with the assistance of a University of Houston professor, is fighting the wrongful removal. If ICE does not do the right thing, DDH will file litigation in federal district court to compel ICE to return Rosie to Houston.

"Jeff" was born abroad and raised in the U.S. by his U.S. citizen father. Jeff's father never ensured that his son, who was born out of wedlock, received U.S. citizenship. His father passed away and when Jeff tried to prove his relationship to a U.S. citizen, he no longer was able to show DNA evidence linking him to his father. Jeff was transferred to a Houston area detention center after serving a federal sentence. He was connected to a DDH attorney, who was able to obtain evidence that was the son of a U.S. citizen – giving him derivative citizenship. Jeff's deportation case was terminated, and he was released from detention as a U.S. citizen.