

Securing Asylum for Afghanistan Students from Asian University for Women

News

October 17, 2023

Jenner & Block lawyers from across the firm represented a cohort of Afghanistan students from the Asian University for Women that caught one of the last flights out of Kabul as the city fell to the Taliban in 2021. These women were forced to flee their homes in Afghanistan fearing for their lives because of their gender, ethnicity, or political opinion opposing the Taliban regime, among other things. Most of them experienced acts of violence and persecution during several harrowing attempts at escape.

On October 17, our final client from the group received notice that she had been officially granted asylum in the United States. Now, all four students have been granted asylum and are free to live their lives without fear of persecution or danger.

The different teams that represented these women include Partner Michael Ross, Associate Jessica Sawadogo, and former Associate Jonathan Steinberg; Partner Reid Schar and Associates Sophia Cai and Tal Ratner Solovey; Client Contracts Counsel Michael DeMar, Associate Emily Merrifield, and former Partner Gay Sigel; Associate Zach Cohen, who led the efforts for his client with support from Partners Laurie Edelstein and Todd C. Toral, and Associate Sam White.

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