

REFUGEE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
EDUCATIONAL

Statelessness, Citizenship, Domestic Law Expert Opinions,
LSO Complaint Process [tentative]

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

December 5, 2019; 5:00 PM - 8:15 PM

LOCATION

Centre for Social Innovation (CSI): 192 Spadina Ave (Queen & Spadina)

CPD Hours: To be Confirmed

AGENDA

5:00 pm - 5:15 pm: Welcome - Introduction to Speakers

Panel I: 5:15 pm - 6:15 pm

- Joshua Blum, Jared Will & Associates
- Constance Nakatsu, Barrister and Solicitor
- **Topic: Statelessness and Citizenship (Joshua Blum)**
 - How does statelessness occur?
 - Difference between *de jure* statelessness and *de facto* statelessness
 - Country of former habitual residence
 - Issues and Strategies for Palestinians, including the right of return
 - Obtaining identity documents for stateless persons
 - Removal Issues
- **Topic: Citizenship (Constance Nakatsu)**
 - Country of Nationality - what does this mean?
 - The obligation to seek citizenship of a second country
 - Navigating potential citizenship by virtue of *jus sanguinis*
 - The impact of rendering individuals stateless before seeking citizenship of a second country
 - Issues and Strategies for Tibetans

6:15 pm - 6:25 pm

- Questions and answers for Panel One

6:25 pm - 6:45 pm - **BREAK: Light Dinner to be Served**

Panel II: 6:45 pm - 7:45 pm

- **Panelists:**
 - Sandra M. González Ponce, Barrister and Solicitor
 - LSO representative [tentative]
- **Topic: Domestic Law Expert Opinions** (Sandra M. González Ponce)
 - Intersections between child protection, criminal law, and refugee law
 - Race, status, and child protection proceedings
 - The obligation to obtain advice from lawyers in other practise areas where there will be an impact on a refugee proceeding
- **Topic: LSO Complaint Process**
 - What is the process for an LSO complaint, particularly within the investigative process?
 - Is there an obligation for investigators to interview clients or the impugned counsel?
 - What are the timelines for a complaint and is the situation of the client taken into consideration i.e. is the LSO process faster if the client is about to face removal?
 - Does the LSO take into consideration the nature and number of past complaints against the impugned counsel when assessing new complaints against the impugned counsel?
 - What is the line between a frivolous and non-frivolous complaint?

7:45 pm - 7:55 pm

- Questions and answers for Panel Two

7:55 - 8:15 pm - Annual General Meeting of the RLA