

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES  
VERMONT SERVICE CENTER  
ST. ALBANS, VT

IN THE MATTER OF: )  
 )  
CLIENT )  
 )  
Applicant )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

**DECLARATION OF CLIENT**  
**IN SUPPORT OF HER APPLICATION FOR T NONIMMIGRANT STATUS**

I, CLIENT, hereby state under penalty of perjury that the following statements are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, and that I incorporate the following statements into my application for a T-Visa.

**INTRODUCTION**

1. My name is CLIENT, and I was born in COUNTRY in DATE. I currently live in CITY, Maryland.
2. I entered the United States on DATE, on what I believe was a work visa as a domestic worker for EMPLOYER, whom I believe studied at the University of STATE in CITY, STATE and for whom I had previously worked as a domestic worker in CITY.
3. I was required to share a room with the couple’s five children, I did not have a key to the house and I was not allowed to go out, and I had to work about 17 hours a day. I was not paid at all for two months of work. I was required to bathe, dress, feed, and clean the couple’s twins and thoroughly clean the couple’s home every day. I also had to do laundry every day. The children kept me up, harassing me, almost all night. I was denied medical care when I fell on the ice taking out the trash, and I still have

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pain as a result of my injuries. I was afraid to leave the home because I was afraid of being sent back to COUNTRY. Eventually, I escaped because there were two instances in which I was very fearful that I was about to be sexually assaulted by EMPLOYER, and I was very afraid of being raped in the future.

4. I am terrified to return to COUNTRY. If I returned to COUNTRY, I would be put in jail for leaving the country without permission according to very harsh COUNTRY law. I fear that I would be tortured and raped in prison. I am also afraid that I would be jailed and tortured for my membership, and my brother's membership, in the opposition political party in COUNTRY.

**MY EARLY LIFE IN COUNTRY AND MY COUNTRY**

5. I was born in XXX, a village about 2.5 hours from XXX, COUNTRY, in DATE. I do not know the exact date of my birth, and no birth certificate exists for my birth. It is common in the village where I am from not to have a birth certificate, no one that I know there has or has needed a birth certificate. Once I had a COUNTRY identification card, I was also told by others around me that I did not need a birth certificate.
6. In YEAR, my family fled the war between COUNTRY and COUNTRY and left for COUNTRY. My mother, myself, and my six brothers and sisters all went to COUNTRY together. My father stayed behind. He later went to Saudi Arabia, but I do not know when he went there.
7. In COUNTRY, my family had to say my birth date was in MONTH so that I could get an identity card and go to school. For that reason, all of my papers say that I was

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born in MONTH. I never needed a birth certificate in COUNTRY; I received my COUNTRY identification card there and that was all one needed in the refugee areas.

8. Around YEAR, I was enrolled in school in an area called SCHOOL. I stayed in school for about six years.
9. In YEAR, I married a man named HUSBAND in CITY. We had a traditional marriage, my father agreed that I should be married to HUSBAND without asking for my thoughts on the marriage or my consent to it. HUSBAND and I did not meet until the day of our wedding. I was fifteen when we were married, and he was thirty. He was generally nice to me, but I am not sure I can say that I was happy.
10. Around YEAR, my family, including myself and my husband, moved back to COUNTRY. At the time, I was pregnant. We moved back to COUNTRY because the war had ended around YEAR and we wanted to go back to our homeland. My brother stayed in COUNTRY because he was still in school there.
11. Once we arrived back in COUNTRY, my son SON was born on DATE
12. Soon after my son was born, I became pregnant again. When I was pregnant, I asked for a divorce because HUSBAND never provided for me or our son. He was not responsible toward our family; he worked but never gave us money for food or other necessities.
13. I gave birth to my daughter DAUGHTER on DATE.
14. In YEAR, my husband and I divorced. The divorce was just announced, there is no paper establishing the divorce. This was not strange at all, because there was no paper establishing the marriage either. My family was against this divorce, as in our culture it is not really acceptable for a woman to be divorced. After the divorce, HUSBAND

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left and I have had no contact with him since, I believe he went back to COUNTRY. There has been tension with my family since the divorce, they often worried about how I would support the children alone.

**MY TIME WORKING IN THE COUNTRY A**

15. In YEAR, I went to COUNTRY A to look for work because I had to find some way to provide for my two children, whom I left living with my family. About a month after I arrived in COUNTRY A, I found a job as a domestic worker in City, in COUNTRY A, through a recruiting office.
16. About one month after I arrived in COUNTRY A, I had to go back to HOME COUNTRY to get a passport (during the YEAR, I believe). I was able to get a passport because I only needed my identification card issued by the local government in COUNTRY to get the passport. I was able to get a clearance to get a passport by showing that I had lived there and was considered, at that time, to be a resident of COUNTRY.
17. I went to the COUNTRY A directly from COUNTRY, and I was at that time permitted to leave the country because I had the clearance from my time in COUNTRY and I would be obligated to pay high taxes from the COUNTRY A to maintain my permission to reside outside of COUNTRY and later return to COUNTRY.
18. I gave my passport to the recruitment office when I arrived in COUNTRY A, which was the normal practice for domestic workers. I believe the recruitment office then gave my passport to the family with whom I would work in CITY, because this was the normal practice in the COUNTRY A.

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19. When I arrived in CITY, I worked for a family there. I was required to care for their children. They never paid me. They had a son who was 18 years old who would knock on my door every night, always asking me for things. I would never open my door because I was afraid of what he would do to me.
20. I went to the recruitment agency in CITY who had found me this job and told the recruiter that the family was not paying me. I believe the name of the recruitment agency was the Office of AZ General Services. The recruiter told me that they could not help and that if I told anyone else about what was happening, the agency would send me back to COUNTRY.
21. Another woman I knew there had the same problem, and she suggested that we go to CITY 2. We left together with a friend of my friend, who knew an Ethiopian in CITY 2, and that Ethiopian picked us up at the bus station and found me work with a AB family in CITY 2. I did not get my passport back from the family with whom I worked in CITY 1 before moving to CITY 2.
22. The AB family I worked for in CITY 2 was very nice. They paid me 600 Durham per month, and they always paid me as promised. I worked for them for about six years with no problem. I did not have a passport at all during this time.

**RETURNING TO COUNTRY AND COUNTRY**

23. In about YEAR, I decided that I wanted to go back to COUNTRY because I really missed my children. There was a sort of amnesty in the CITY 2, allowing all workers who fled their sponsor to get their passport back and leave for their home countries. I went to the immigration authorities in CITY 2 and told them that I needed to return to COUNTRY and that to do so I needed my passport back. About two weeks later, the

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authorities returned my passport to me – I believe the recruitment office in Al Ain got my passport back from the family and gave it to the immigration authorities.

24. I returned to COUNTRY and stayed there until about YEAR, and then I went to CITY to work as a domestic worker again. I stayed there for about one month working with a family that had four children and many other relatives. I had no time to myself, so I left and returned to COUNTRY.
25. My family had land in COUNTRY, so I lived in the village and worked on the farm to get by until about YEAR. I wanted to work outside of farming, but there was no other work in COUNTRY for me. COUNTRY has a law that prevents women who are under 47 from leaving the country in most circumstances, so I was not permitted to leave my country. Instead, I had to be smuggled into COUNTRY in YEAR in order to find work to provide for my children as a single mother.
26. I had been able to leave COUNTRY before because I was previously considered a resident of COUNTRY. I have been able to return to COUNTRY from CITY 2 because while in CITY 2 I paid taxes to the COUNTRY government as required. However, after having lived in COUNTRY from YEARS I was no longer considered a resident of any other country and I was therefore subject to the mandatory conscription law and not allowed to leave the country legally. I knew by being smuggled into COUNTRY in YEAR I was taking a big chance, because I would not be able to return to COUNTRY without facing jail and torture, but I felt I had no other way to provide for my children, whom I left behind with my mother in COUNTRY.
27. When I arrived in COUNTRY, authorities whom I think were immigration authorities held me for about eight hours in a room that looked like a small office. They held me

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because I had been smuggled into the country. They interrogated me for the eight hours they held me, and at the beginning they searched me completely.

28. I begged the officials not to send me back to COUNTRY because I would be in danger there, and I told them that my brother was in COUNTRY and in the COUNTRY opposition party. They allowed me to contact to the COUNTRY opposition party and through them I was able to find a sponsor for me to stay in COUNTRY for a short period.
29. I went to CITY and lived with my brother. My brother had a job, so I was safe there. I stayed with my brother for about one year. I stayed in COUNTRY longer than I was supposed to because I was terrified of being sent back to COUNTRY and facing jail and torture and forced military service, including forced sex with military officers. I was desperate to avoid that fate.
30. I could not look for work in CITY because any work that could be found there did not pay enough to support myself, much less my children at home in COUNTRY with my mother. Instead, I decided that I needed to try to return to CITY and work again as a domestic worker.

**MEETING MY TRAFFICKER, EMPLOYER, AND AGREEING TO WORK IN CITY**

31. As part of my effort to find work, I gave a copy of my passport to a friend who told me that she could help me. As far as I understand it, my friend gave the copy of my passport to other friends, and eventually a man named EMPLOYER's driver saw the copy of my passport and passed it along to EMPLOYER's pregnant wife. EMPLOYER and his wife lived in CITY.

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32. I believe that eventually EMPLOYER's wife, WIFE, was interested in having me work for the family. WIFE called me, and told me that she was pregnant with twins, and she wanted assistance with the twins once they were born. WIFE told me that before the twins were born, I would care for the other children. I believe that I agreed to work for WIFE during our first phone call, but she called me about three times before I received the permit to travel. We did not talk about living conditions, how many people would be in the house, or any other details about my work. WIFE only told me that I would be paid like the other servants, and that if I did good work, I might get a raise.
33. I think that EMPLOYER arranged for my travel to CITY and that WIFE got my visa to live there legally. I think that WIFE then gave the visa to the driver, who faxed a copy of the visa to my brother. The visa would give me permission to live in CITY for three months and then I would go through the required process in CITY to get a work permit that would last one year and be renewable each year.
34. I needed about 2,150 CITY Reals to get a required medical exam, and ticket. I had to go to a police center in COUNTRY, where I had to pay a special fine to leave. I asked my brother for a loan to pay these expenses, and then WIFE repaid him when I arrived in CITY.
35. I did not have a contract for my work in CITY, all of our agreements were oral. Honestly, I did not really know the terms of my employment in CITY. I was only told that I would get what other servants got, and I did not give much thought to how much that would be – I simply assumed it would be enough. I knew that the going rate for



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maids in CITY was about 500-600 CITY Reals, and I was excited about the possibility of getting a raise if I did good work, like WIFE promised.

**MY LIFE WORKING FOR EMPLOYER AND WIFE IN CITY**

36. I arrived in CITY in DATE. When I arrived, WIFE was still pregnant with the twins, so there were three children in the family. When I arrived in CITY, the children were about thirteen, ten, and seven years old.
37. When I first arrived, I lived with EMPLOYER's family in WIFE's mother's house. There, seven people, all of us maids, slept in one room the size of a small office. We slept on mattresses on the floor, the room was too small for anyone to have a bed.
38. In WIFE's mother's house, I worked from about five in the morning until everyone went to sleep after midnight. I had to take care of the older children and ride back and forth to school with them and the driver. I had to ride with the driver because it was forbidden for women to be alone with the male driver. Sometimes WIFE would be with the children during the ride, and I had to stay in the car so that WIFE would not be alone with the driver. It was ok for me to be alone with the driver, but it was not ok for the women of the X family to be alone with him.
39. After WIFE gave birth to the twins, we moved to EMPLOYER's parents' house and I began taking care of the twins all day every day. WIFE taught English in CITY and so she was not around. I did everything: I changed the twins' diapers, fed them, bathed them, played with them, and put them to sleep. At first, I was surprised by this because WIFE only worked from about 7 or 8 in the morning until 2 in the afternoon.

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I learned that in the X culture, the nanny does everything. Even if WIFE was at home, she never took care of the twins – they were my responsibility.

40. In EMPLOYER's parents' house there were many domestic servants. Four of us, all women, slept in a very small room. Each of us had our own mattress, but we did not have a bed.
41. I did not have any days off, even when I needed to go to the bathroom I had to wait until I could find another servant to watch the twins briefly. I expected to work hard in CITY, but I thought my days might be about 12 hours long, not sixteen.
42. Throughout the time that I was in CITY, EMPLOYER or WIFE always held onto my passport. I understood the law in CITY to be that anyone working in my situation could not carry their own passport.
43. I did not have a key to the house in CITY. I was never allowed to leave the grounds of the house, not even with the twins. I could only play with the twins in the garden at the house. I accepted these conditions because it was just how things were done. What was most important to me was to make money so that I could send it home to my children to pay for their food, clothes, and school expenses. When I first started working in CITY, my children were living in COUNTRY with my mother. After some time, my son moved to X to live with my brother.
44. Usually WIFE or EMPLOYER gave my salary to the driver, and then the driver would send it to my brother. Sometimes they handed me the money directly, but usually it went through the driver. WIFE did sometimes pay me extra for good work. About three months after WIFE delivered the twins, she gave me a bonus of about 500 X Real, which was at the time about \$300. I think she gave me two other bonuses of

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about 200 X Reals each, but WIFE never gave me a sustained raise the way she promised. Once in a while, WIFE also gave me 50 X Reals to call my family.

45. I was very aware that I had to stay with the X family no matter what in CITY. It is well known that the X government deports individuals who leave their jobs in the country. I was very afraid of being deported to COUNTRY, because I also knew that the COUNTRY government would likely put me in jail for having left COUNTRY illegally. I know that conditions in COUNTRY jails are very bad, and I was afraid that I would be tortured if I was sent home.

46. I worked for the family for about one year and eight or nine months in CITY. Then, EMPLOYER and WIFE and the children left for the United States for the first time. While they were in the United States, I was charged with taking care of WIFE's grandmother, who was in the hospital. Along with two other servants, I would take 12-hour shifts staying with WIFE's grandmother at the hospital.

**COMING TO THE UNITED STATES WITH EMPLOYER AND WIFE**

47. After I had spent about two months of caring for WIFE's grandmother, EMPLOYER and his family returned to CITY and told me to come to the United States with them. They did not give me a choice: they told me that either I had to go to the United States to work for them or they would send me back to COUNTRY. I was very afraid to go back to COUNTRY because I had been smuggled out of the country illegally. WIFE knew the details about why I was afraid to return to COUNTRY: that I had been smuggled out of the country and would be placed in prison if I went back. I asked if I could stay in CITY, and I even asked if WIFE and EMPLOYER could help me look

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for another sponsor, but EMPLOYER told me that since he got my visa, I had no choice but to work for them in the United States.

48. EMPLOYER told me that we needed a contract so that I could get a visa to come to the United States. In the car on our way to the U.S. embassy, EMPLOYER gave me a copy of the contract to read in Arabic and I read it. At the embassy, we talked to a consular officer and an X staff member asked me if I had read the contract. I told the consular officer that I understood the contract, and EMPLOYER and I both signed the contract there. People at the embassy gave me some other papers to EMPLOYER, which he gave to me, and I kept them with my contract.
49. Although I understood most of the contract, the contract included information that I did not really understand about the minimum wage in many states in the United States. The contract did not specify exactly how much EMPLOYER would pay me as I understood it. We agreed orally that EMPLOYER would pay me \$400 per month by a wire transfer to my brother in CITY.
50. WIFE and EMPLOYER also promised me that they would raise my salary and provide me with my own room in the United States. They told me that I would share a television with the children, and that they would buy me clothes in the United States too.
51. We traveled together to the United States on a ticket that EMPLOYER had purchased for me. I arrived in the United States on DATE at an airport in Oregon. I do not remember the exact name of the city where I arrived, but as far as I remember it was about a two hour drive to the house.

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52. At first, I thought that America was very beautiful. I hoped that things would be the same as in CITY; that I would work very hard but that I would also earn money that I could send home to my children.

**MY LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS IN THE UNITED STATES**

53. My living conditions in the house in CITY were very uncomfortable. The house had two floors. I slept in a very small room with all of the five children. I shared a mattress on the floor with the two twins, who were about a year and a half when I arrived in the United States. This sleeping arrangement surprised me, because the family had promised me my own room in the United States. In fact, the family did not keep their other promises either—they did not buy me clothes beyond a scarf here or provide a television for me to share with the children.
54. I did not have a key to the house in CITY, nor did I know its address. There was a Safeway grocery store and a pizzeria near the house. I believe the house was far from the university, and I know that EMPLOYER had to drive to the university. I was not allowed to have any contact with the neighbors, though I sometimes saw them from the garden. I had no freedom because the kids were always with me, I even used to have to tell WIFE if I needed to go to the bathroom, to get her to watch the twins.
55. EMPLOYER kept my valid passport once I arrived in the United States. I was able to keep my expired COUNTRY passport, which I still have. I never asked for my passport from EMPLOYER, because in COUNTRY it was normal and required by law for the boss to keep the domestic worker's passport. I assumed that things were the same in the United States.

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56. I also assumed that, like in X, I would be deported if I left EMPLOYER and WIFE's house. WIFE had told me that they had a Phillipina maid that they caught on the phone talking to a man, and that they had her deported right away. I knew that the couple had had three or four maids deported before, so even though they did not directly threaten to deport me, I was afraid of being sent back to COUNTRY.
57. I worked about 17 hours a day in the United States. I had to wake up when the children woke up, around 7 in the morning or so, and take care of bathing and feeding them. WIFE told me that I needed to wake up at this time. I also had to take care of the household laundry and cleaning. I had to do laundry every day – there was a lot of laundry because it was a big family, and I also had to fold everything. I also had to prepare all of the food for the twins.
58. I had to clean the house top to bottom most days. The house had three bathrooms and five other rooms. I had to vacuum the carpet, mop the floors, wipe and dust all surfaces, and scrub the toilets with bleach every day. Most days, I also had to scrub the walls in the bedroom. About one time per week I had to clean and wipe all the walls in the house, clean the windows with glass cleaner, and scrub the doors.
59. I only left the house with the children. I worked every day of every week, and I never had a holiday. I had to keep the children upstairs all the time, away from EMPLOYER and WIFE, who usually slept in the living room downstairs. WIFE's brother also lived with the family. WIFE's oldest daughter, who was about fourteen at the time, would tell me that I took too many breaks to go to the bathroom. WIFE knew about this and never tried to stop her.

**I SUFFERED EMOTIONAL ABUSE BY THE COUPLE’S ELDEST DAUGHTER**

60. The Xs’ oldest daughter also used to torment me all the time. She would often call me racist names. In Arabic, she would call me a very offensive name that I think is about the same as saying “Nigger” in English. She would also call me “stinky,” and she would call me a “witch.” Calling someone from Africa a witch is very offensive, it carries a lot of weight, particularly among Arabs, so these names would always bother me. I never told WIFE about it, because I thought it would only cause more trouble in my life. I knew that whenever the eldest daughter tormented the younger siblings, WIFE believed the eldest, so I saw no reason she would believe me if I said something to her.
61. During the night, WIFE’s eldest daughter would constantly ask me to get up and turn the lights off and on and open and close the door. I was never able to get any rest because I had so few hours to sleep to begin with, and this girls’ behavior kept me from sleeping even then.

**I WAS DENIED MEDICAL CARE WHEN I FELL TAKING OUT THE TRASH**

62. I could only speak to my family when WIFE bought me phone cards and helped me to call them. I did not tell them about what was happening to me because I did not want to worry them. However, I asked my brother to try to help me connect with some other Arabs in the US, hoping that maybe they would know something about the laws in the United States and what I could do about what was happening to me.
63. In about DATE, I slipped on the ice one day while I was taking out the trash. I hurt my back and my left wrist and hand very badly. I had a lot of trouble moving for two weeks because of my back injury, and I could not lift the twins at all during that time.

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I begged to see a doctor, but EMPLOYER would not allow it. WIFE always said, “We’ll take you tomorrow.” This lasted for two weeks, but they never took me.

64. While I was injured and in bed, WIFE’s eldest daughter would come to tell me to get out of bed. She would give me instructions to take care of the other children and tell me that I could not rest any longer. WIFE knew that she was doing this.

65. Eventually, my back healed on its own but my left wrist never healed properly. Even today, my left wrist continues to hurt me and I have trouble lifting heavy items, or even a teapot, which my left hand.

**MY TRAFFICKERS REFUSED TO PAY ME FOR TWO MONTHS OF WORK**

66. For the first two months, I was paid by wire transfers of \$400 per month to my brother, just as we had agreed.

67. During the third month, March, WIFE gave me two payments of \$200 each which she called gifts. She transferred those amounts to my brother in X. Even though WIFE called these gifts, because the gifts added up to \$400 and were the only money I received during the month of March, I considered those gifts to be my salary for the month of March.

68. In April and May, the Xs did not pay me at all. In the earlier months, they told me when they were paying me and asked whether I wanted the money sent to my brother. In April and May they did not ask me. My brother told me that he did not receive any money from them those months either.

69. In COUNTRY, I never had to ask them to pay me, they always just paid me the way that they were supposed to. In the United States, I could just feel that WIFE was angry when I asked about getting paid. She would tell me that her husband owed



money to his family in COUNTRY, and that they would pay me later when they received more money. She even promised that they would sell their car and then pay me, but I knew they could not survive without the car.

**MY FEAR OF SEXUAL ABUSE AND RAPE AND MY DECISION TO ESCAPE**

70. In late May, the situation in the home also became more uncomfortable for me. One night, I woke up in the middle of the night and saw EMPLOYER standing in the doorway in his underwear. When I woke up, EMPLOYER told me that he had heard one of the twins crying, but the twins were both fast asleep and I was on the same mattress with them—I knew there was no way that they were crying.
71. Some time later, I was saying my morning prayers when EMPLOYER came into the room and said, “I want you, come with me right now.” I immediately remembered the time EMPLOYER came into my room in his underwear and felt afraid. This situation made me very uncomfortable, and I thought EMPLOYER might try to force me to do something sexual that I did not want to do. He smelled of alcohol, so I quietly told him that he would wake the children and I jumped between his two daughters, asleep on one of the mattresses in the room. Then EMPLOYER said, “Forgive me,” and left.
72. Even though EMPLOYER did not touch me during these instances, I felt very uncomfortable. I tried to avoid being alone with EMPLOYER after that, and I only showered or used the bathroom when WIFE was home or the house was full with the older children.
73. Because of these incidents, along with the fact that the family had stopped paying me, I began to think about leaving—although initially I did not know how I would escape. I had thought about escaping earlier, but I always had the twins and I was afraid to

leave them alone. I even had to work hard to find a chance to go to the bathroom; it seemed impossible to leave. I was also afraid, because I had no idea where to go if I did leave since I was not allowed to leave the house on my own.

**MY ESCAPE FROM EMPLOYER AND WIFE AND TRAVEL TO THE EAST COAST**

74. EMPLOYER and WIFE kept telling me that they were going to pay me “tomorrow,” but they never did. Finally, they told me they would pay me on June 6<sup>th</sup>. By June 8<sup>th</sup>, I knew they were never going to pay me. WIFE promised they would sell the car, but I knew that they could not sell the car because EMPLOYER needed it to get to the university.
75. On DATE, in the afternoon, WIFE and EMPLOYER were out of the house, I don’t know where they went. The eldest kids, then about fourteen and twelve, were watching television downstairs. I fed the twins their bottles and let them fall asleep with the older children. I left the house, not allowing the children to see me leave. I felt very badly for leaving the children, but I knew that the twins would be ok because the older children were there, so I knew it was my opportunity to escape.
76. When I left the house, I felt very afraid. I did not know how to talk to people, how to speak English, or who would approach me. I walked to the Safeway grocery store, the only place I knew. I was very afraid that EMPLOYER and WIFE would follow me with their car. I was too afraid to call the police, because in the X states like X, the police do not ask any questions—they immediately decide you are the criminal if you have left your job. I didn’t know that things were different here in the United States.
77. When I got to the Safeway, I looked for someone with dark skin like me, because I was afraid of asking the wrong person for help and I did not know what else to look

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for. I found a guy with dark skin and greeted him in Arabic, I think he was Somali.

He responded in Arabic, and I asked if I could use his phone. He agreed, and I used a phone card that I had to call my brother. The guy helping me listened to what I was saying to my brother, and then he spoke with my brother. The guy told me about a COUNTRY family in CITY, Oregon who could help me, and he took me to them.

78. I stayed with the COUNTRY family, whose names were X, for about three weeks, and then they told me that Philadelphia has a big COUNTRY population and a family there was willing to help me. They put me on a bus and wrote a note about where I was going in English. They talked to the bus driver, and he found another passenger going from CITY to Philadelphia. That other passenger helped me get to Philadelphia, and the next family met me at the bus station.

79. I stayed with this family in Philadelphia for about one month. The father of this family was named X and the mother's name was X. I think their last name was X. Eventually, they talked about me to a friend of theirs, and they connected me with another friend in City, Maryland. The family in Philadelphia paid for my bus ticket to Maryland, and I arrived in Maryland around DATE. I asked this family to write a letter for my application, but they said that they were afraid to become involved and did not want any trouble.

**REPORTING WHAT HAPPENED TO ME TO THE US GOVERNMENT AND  
PROSECUTOR**

80. Once I got settled in Maryland, in about DATE, I decided to call an 800 number in the papers that the US Embassy had given me in CITY. I never believed before that I could call this number, because in the Gulf organizations claim they will help people

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like me, but then they don't. I decided finally to call because I was desperate, I was moving from one home to the other, and I felt I had nothing left to lose.

81. I called and said, "Help me, I speak Arabic," in English. They had me wait for a translator. When they found a translator, I told them I had been in State, that now I was in Maryland, and that I needed help. They told me they would look for someone who could help me and contact me again. I was afraid to tell them too much information, but when they asked me why I left the family I told them that it was because they were not paying me for my work.
82. Eventually, they called me back and gave me a number for an organization near me, in Virginia. I called that organization, the Tahirih Justice Center.
83. I told my lawyer that I was willing to help in the prosecution of my case, even though I am afraid that reporting what the family did to me could end WIFE and EMPLOYER's marriage and because of my religion I feel that forgiveness is important. I was afraid that talking about EMPLOYER coming into my room in his underwear would cause WIFE to question her marriage and ruin the children's lives. Still, I gave my lawyer my permission to send information about what happened to me to a prosecutor. My lawyer told me she passed that information along to the prosecutor and contacted the prosecutor after that, but the prosecutor has not yet contacted me.
84. I remain willing and able to assist in an investigation and prosecution of my traffickers. I am willing to be interviewed and testify against my traffickers if there is a trial.

**I CANNOT RETURN TO COUNTRY, WHERE I WOULD FACE PRISON FOR LEAVING THE COUNTRY AND BEING A MEMBER OF THE OPPOSITION PARTY, AND TORTURE AND RAPE**

85. I am terrified of returning to COUNTRY. I left COUNTRY illegally in YEAR, and I would be put in jail for leaving COUNTRY illegally if I were forced to return to the country. COUNTRY laws prohibit people under age 47 from leaving the country, and I broke that law. COUNTRY prisons are very dangerous places. I am afraid that I would be tortured and raped in jail there. I have a cousin who was arrested and then simply disappeared twelve years ago. Six or seven years after he was taken away, he sent a letter from jail to our family. We have heard nothing since, and I assume he is dead.
86. Because I left the country illegally, I also lost my right to any of the land that my family owns. I would also be unable to work in COUNTRY. Two of my sisters have died, one of my sisters is living with my mother and her children. My family could try to help me, but in reality they have nothing to spare for me and my children. My family in COUNTRY is taking care of my daughter now, but they have nothing to spare. They are just barely surviving, I have heard they eat meat only once per month because they cannot afford it.
87. I am also a member of the opposition party. My biggest fear is that I will be raped if I am forced to go back to COUNTRY, especially by members of the army. They could rape me to punish me for being in the opposition party or send me to jail for twenty or more years, and torture and rape me there. My brother is active in the opposition in COUNTRY, and that only increases the risk to me.

*Sample T Visa (I-914) Declaration – Labor Trafficking*

88. I never had an opportunity to return to COUNTRY or leave the United States between when I escaped from EMPLOYER and WIFE's house in DATE and today. Even though people helped me move within the United States, no one offered to help me leave the United States and I have no money and no valid passport to leave on my own.
89. EMPLOYER called my brother once after I escaped. EMPLOYER told my brother that I had left, and that he had my passport and money. My brother told him that he should wire the money to my brother as he always does, and that he could also send my passport to my brother. EMPLOYER refused and said the only way I would be able to get my money or my passport back would be to go back to his house. My brother told me this, but I was too afraid to go back to EMPLOYER's house. I believe this was just a trick by EMPLOYER to try to get me back to his house in State. My brother did not tell EMPLOYER where I am, and EMPLOYER told my brother that he had reported me to the police.
90. I believe EMPLOYER and WIFE probably looked for me in the area near their house in State, because I do not think they would just let me go. My brother did not tell EMPLOYER where I am now, because he knew that I was afraid of EMPLOYER. I believe the reason that I have been safe is because EMPLOYER does not know where to find me.
91. I am afraid that EMPLOYER has called the police or immigration and reported something about me, using my passport. However, I believe no one would know where to find me even if they were looking for me, because I have been very careful.

*Sample T Visa (I-914) Declaration – Labor Trafficking*

92. I do not have legal status in any other country, or an opportunity to go to another country and be safe.
93. I have heard from other domestic workers in WIFE and EMPLOYER's home in CITY that they have gone back to CITY and are looking for me. One of my friends recently asked for my address, which I think was a trap so that WIFE could send someone to find me. I did not tell her my address.

**MY LIFE AND GOALS IN THE UNITED STATES**

94. I am enrolled in English classes and am slowly learning the language. It is hard for me, but it's very exciting to start to understand things and be able to say small things in English.
95. I hope to bring my children to the United States and be together again. I have submitted what I believe are my children's birth certificates – they are the immunization records also and they are the only papers that the government in COUNTRY has that are similar to birth certificates.
96. I would like to become a nurse someday. I enjoy helping sick people, and I would like to work with the elderly. I think I would be very good at that.
97. I have never been arrested or committed any crimes for which I have not been arrested in the United States. The only laws I have ever broken are immigration laws, when I entered COUNTRY unlawfully in YEARS and overstaying my visa in the United States after I escaped my traffickers.
98. This statement has been read to me in Arabic, and I understood it and swear that it is true.

*Sample T Visa (I-914) Declaration – Labor Trafficking*

Signed under the pains and penalties of perjury.

\_\_\_\_\_

CLIENT

\_\_\_\_\_

Date