

## Cohen and Wolf Welcomes Attorney Lauren Kostas for a Conversation About the U.S. Asylum System & Recent ICE Whistleblower Complaint

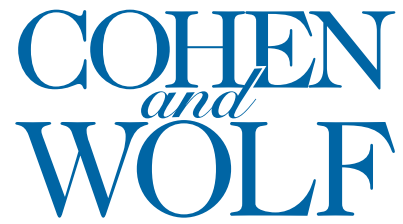
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In response to the recent whistleblower complaint regarding medical neglect and questionable hysterectomies of ICE detainees, Cohen and Wolf's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee continued its Lunch & Learn Series by hosting a Lunch & Learn on October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 which featured a discussion about the U.S. asylum system and ICE Detention Centers.

The Firm was joined by Attorney Lauren Kostas of the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project who graciously shared her experiences as an attorney working on the ground in Arizona representing individuals who are presently detained. Lauren is a Senior Attorney at the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project and has worked at the Florence Project for the past four years. Originally from Connecticut, she graduated with a B.A. in International Relations from Bucknell University in 2011 and a J.D. from the University of Connecticut School of Law in 2015. While at UConn Law, Lauren took part in the Asylum & Human Rights Clinic, interned at Human Rights First in New York working on asylum cases, and interned at Catholic Charities in New York working with unaccompanied minors.

Lauren's presentation provided attendees with detailed information about the status of the pending whistleblower complaint, the realities of the conditions within ICE Detention Centers, and what individuals living within the U.S. asylum system experience. Lauren also offered various resources to ensure attendees could pursue more information about these issues and continue the conversation.

Cohen and Wolf is exceedingly grateful to Attorney Kostas for her outstanding presentation and her contribution to the continued success of the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee's Lunch & Learn Series.



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**Attorney Lauren Kostas**

