

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
US CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES  
VERMONT SERVICE CENTER**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**CLIENT**

**DECLARATION OF CLIENT IN SUPPORT OF HER APPLICATION  
FOR U NONIMMIGRANT STATUS:**

I, CLIENT, hereby state under penalty of perjury that the following information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and memory and that I incorporate the following statements into my application for U Nonimmigrant Status:

**INTRODUCTION**

1. My name is CLIENT, and I was born in COUNTRY, on DATE.
2. I have three daughters – DAUGHTERS, all of who were born in the United States and live here with me. My children are US citizens.
3. I first came to the United States in 1995. I went back and forth between COUNTRY and the US on a B1/B2 tourist visa three times to visit my aunt and cousin. My last entry into the United States was in Miami, Florida, on DATE. I have not left the United States since then.
4. In YEAR, I discovered that my husband was secretly recording explicit videos of my eldest daughter in the bathroom, exposing her genitalia and other body parts. I reported his crime to the police and assisted them ultimately leading to his conviction.

**PERSONAL BACKGROUND**

5. I was born in COUNTRY on DATE.
6. I have two sisters and one brother. I had a happy childhood even though my family was of very modest means. My father worked for a COUNTRY newspaper and my mother drove children to and from school.
7. In YEAR, I had the opportunity to visit my aunt and cousin in the United States for some months. They lived in Virginia, which is where I spent my visit.
8. While visiting my aunt and cousin in Virginia, I met a man named MAN and fell in love. We met through a mutual friend. We were both young and our relationship progressed very quickly.
9. I was very much in love with him and so when my visa was about to expire, I went back home to COUNTRY for a few months and then went back to the United States in YEAR to see MAN and my family again.

## U VISA SAMPLE DECLARATION INDIRECT VICTIM

10. Right before I was about to return to COUNTRY because my visa was expiring I found out that I was pregnant. I excitedly went to tell MAN that we were expecting a baby but he was not happy at all. A few days later, he left me.
11. I was devastated that he left me but I knew I had to be strong for my daughter's sake. I decided to stay in the United States to have my daughter there since the medical care would be so much better here. I was also nervous to travel while being pregnant. A part of me believed that MAN would come back to us.
12. My eldest daughter, DAUGHTER, was born on DATE. She was born in the United States and is a U.S. Citizen.
13. MAN came to see DAUGHTER when she was five months old, but we have not had any contact with him since then.
14. I decided to take DAUGHTER with me back to COUNTRY when she was nine months old, around DATE. I was nervous to go back to COUNTRY because I had overstayed my visa, and I was afraid I would never be able to come back to the United States. A COUNTRY friend in the US put me in contact with a COUNTRY official who backdated passports at the airport for \$300.
15. I described what I would be wearing and what I looked like and he made sure to call me over to stamp my passport with the backdated stamp.
16. I knew it was wrong, but I thought I was acting in the best interest of my daughter. I wanted her to see COUNTRY and for us to try our hand at living there but I also didn't want to give up any chance of us being able to come back to the United States because she was a citizen.
17. It was hard being a single mother in COUNTRY. I found a job working at a contraceptives company but they shut down operations in COUNTRY six months after I started working there.
18. After I lost my job, I was unable to provide for my daughter and myself. While my family tried to help me out the best that they could, I did not have enough money to feed my daughter.
19. My U.S. tourist visa from DATE was valid for ten years and so in DATE, I decided that the only way I could provide for my daughter was to go back to the United States and find work there.
20. On DATE, I left my two and a half year old daughter in the care of my mother and returned to the United States.
21. A friend from COUNTRY helped me purchase a false social security card so that I could find a job. I am not sure if the number belonged to someone else or if it was a fake number. I did not intend to steal anyone's identity and have no idea if the number belonged to a real person. I obtained the card because I was desperate for work to support myself and my child, who I had left behind with my mother.
22. At first I worked at a bakery in Chantilly, Virginia. Then I decided to apply for a job at PLACE in Herndon, Virginia, because I loved children. I also worked at a book packaging place to make extra money. I sent all the money I could to support my daughter in COUNTRY.

**MY RELATIONSHIP WITH ABUSER**

23. I met ABUSER, my daughter's abuser, in 2002. We were coworkers at PLACE in Herndon, VA. We became friends and knew each other for many years before we began to date.
24. I had always been attracted to ABUSER. After work, a group of us would often go out. ABUSER was always the life of the party. I thought he was very cool. He was very funny and always smiling. When he began to show an interest in me, I was very happy. He was so kind to me and would always say really nice things. For example, he would say that I was his queen, and that what he wanted most was to form a family with me.
25. ABUSER had two daughters around DAUGHTER's age that lived in COUNTRY and he often stated that he would never hurt any children because of how much he loved them.
26. When my mother brought DAUGHTER to live with me, ABUSER seemed to genuinely care for her. ABUSER always treated DAUGHTER as if she was his biological daughter. I thought he would be a good step-father to her.
27. ABUSER and I had a pretty good relationship. We fought sometimes but things were never too bad between us. While ABUSER had a strong temper that he could not control too well, he would calm down and be very apologetic and nice. ABUSER was not often angry but when he was, he had a very short and furious temper.
28. When ABUSER was angry, he would throw whatever items were laying around at us. We fought mostly when he would become jealous that male friends of mine would call me. One time while DAUGHTER, ABUSER, and I were driving around town one of my COUNTRY male friends who lived in North Carolina called me. ABUSER became so angry that he broke my cell phone in half. DAUGHTER was visibly scared.
29. ABUSER spent the next day apologizing and bought me the most expensive cell phone in the store. I cared deeply for him so I forgave him and things went back to normal. However, I think that DAUGHTER never looked at ABUSER the same way since that outburst of anger.
30. In 2007, I became pregnant with my second daughter, DAUGHTER. ABUSER and I decided that we should move in together so that we could really be a family. We moved in together at an apartment in Manassas, VA when I was two months pregnant with DAUGHTER.
31. After DAUGHTER was born on DATE, ABUSER and I rarely fought because we were too busy caring for our handicapped daughter. DAUGHTER has cerebral palsy and scoliosis and needs around the clock care. Up until the time that DAUGHTER was five years old, she had to be hospitalized at least three to four times a year. ABUSER and I decided that he would be the family's sole provider so that I could stay at home fulltime with DAUGHTER.
32. Learning how to take care of DAUGHTER was tremendously stressful. At four months old, she was hospitalized for over two months. I had to ask my cousin to take care of DAUGHTER while I practically lived in the hospital taking care of DAUGHTER. ABUSER was always very supportive. He learned how to do everything that was required to take care of DAUGHTER. For example, he learned how to change her feeding tubes, change her diaper, operate the suction tube, give her medications, etc.

U VISA SAMPLE DECLARATION INDIRECT VICTIM

33. Our third daughter DAUGHTER, was born on DATE. I was so busy taking care of DAUGHTER and DAUGHTER, that I did not realize I was pregnant with DAUGHTER 3 for almost five months. ABUSER took care of DAUGHTER 3 every night for her entire first month since I was busy at the hospital with DAUGHTER.
34. From the time that DAUGHTER was born until the end of our relationship, ABUSER and I only had one bad fight around the time DAUGHTER 3 was 10 months old. I don't remember why we were fighting but I do remember that ABUSER became so angry he pulled me by my hair. I was shocked because he had never put his hands on me before so I called the police.
35. The police said that they couldn't do anything because nothing serious had happened. However, they said that if I wanted them to wait until I packed my things to go stay somewhere else for the night they would. I asked them to wait while I packed all of DAUGHTER's medications and equipment and the girls' things. I took the car to my cousin's house.
36. I stayed with my cousin for 8 days. The first three days, ABUSER kept calling and leaving nasty voicemails demanding that I return the car to him. After the third day, he began calling and crying, apologizing to me and saying he would never hurt me again. He begged me to take him back because DAUGHTER needed us to be a family. I decided to forgive ABUSER because I loved him very much and I also knew that it would be almost impossible to take care of my girls without him.

**IN 2010, I DISCOVERED MY HUSBAND HAD COMPILED DOZENS OF PICTURES OF WOMEN IN BATHING SUITS, INCLUDING PHOTOGRAPHS OF MY SISTER AND 13-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER**

37. Around that same time in 2010, I asked ABUSER to look through the pictures he had taken of our baby daughter DAUGHTER 3. He handed me his USB flash drive and as I began to look through the pictures I saw that there were many pictures of women in bathing suits.
38. There was a picture of my sister in a bathing suit that ABUSER had downloaded from Facebook. There was also a picture of DAUGHTER in a bathing suit. DAUGHTER was thirteen years old at the time. ABUSER saw that I had seen these pictures and he told me that it was no big deal and that he had meant to delete them.
39. I was upset by these pictures and so I called a friend to ask her advice about what to do. I was sickened that he had these pictures not only of my sister, but of my daughter. I felt betrayed by ABUSER.
40. My friend urged me not to report this weird behavior to the police because nothing had really happened. She told me that if the police found out that we were undocumented they would deport us and the girls would be left alone.
41. I spoke to ABUSER directly about the pictures and told him that these pictures were inappropriate. He deleted them and promised it would never happen again.
42. The only other times that ABUSER would get upset would be because DAUGHTER refused to call him "Dad." She would refer to him as "ABUSER." This would make ABUSER very angry. He was extremely sensitive about not being called dad. However, he would never bring this up to DAUGHTER, he would only express his frustration to me. I would calmly tell him that he could not be angry about this because it wasn't fair to expect DAUGHTER to call him "Dad" since he wasn't her real father.

**ABUSER BEGAN TAKING EXPLICIT FILMS AND PICTURES OF MY DAUGHTER**

43. In mid-2012, my daughter DAUGHTER told me that ABUSER had left his cell phone open in the bathroom she used. DAUGHTER told me that she had seen ABUSER's cellphone in her little pink jewelry box on top of the toilet tank where she would store jewelry and hair accessories. The box was facing the shower.
44. When DAUGHTER came to me with ABUSER's cellphone, I thought that it must have been an accident. However, when I returned ABUSER's phone to him and told him that he'd forgotten it in the bathroom, ABUSER'S behavior changed and he began to act nervously. He could not look me in the eyes. This made me very suspicious but the next few weeks went by without incident. The next and final incident happened in August after a day at the beach.
45. The day went as planned with no incidents, but when we got home I saw ABUSER go into the bathroom that only DAUGHTER, DAUGHTER, and DAUGHTER's nurse used.
46. The next day, DAUGHTER came to me and told me that she had found ABUSER'S cell phone in her jewelry box again. DAUGHTER noticed a flashing light coming from the cell phone and she believed the phone was recording her.
47. I realized that if this were true I would have to take drastic action so I decided not to confront ABUSER and instead spoke with my friends and family, two pastors, and a priest. They all told me that it was most likely nothing and that regardless I should not go to the police because ABUSER would be deported and the girls and I would be left destitute and homeless since he was our only source of income.
48. Around that time, ABUSER stopped sleeping in the bedroom with me and he began sleeping in the living room with no real explanation. I noticed that he had started sitting in a spot on the couch with a direct view into DAUGHTER and DAUGHTER's room.

**AGAINST THE ADVICE OF MY LOVED ONES AND DESPITE MY FEAR OF HOW ABUSER WOULD REACT, I DECIDED I HAD TO REPORT ABUSER TO THE POLICE IN 2012**

49. I knew that no matter what my friends, family, religious advisors, or even DAUGHTER said I had to report this to the police. What he was doing was wrong. He was violating my daughter and even if we would all suffer for it, I knew that I had to get him away from DAUGHTER. I was so angry that I shook whenever I thought of it.
50. DAUGHTER told me that she did not want me to report ABUSER because she knew that if he were arrested he would be deported and then our family would be left with no financial support. Perhaps even I would be deported. I was fully aware of how terrible things might get for us but I knew I had to report him for violating my daughter. I was so disgusted and furious when I thought that he had been secretly recording DAUGHTER. It made me sick.
51. Two weeks after the incident, I asked a friend of mine to accompany DAUGHTER and me to the police station while ABUSER was at work and DAUGHTER and DAUGHTER were in the care of the day nurse that takes care of DAUGHTER in the mornings.

## U VISA SAMPLE DECLARATION INDIRECT VICTIM

52. I was very scared of how ABUSER would react when he realized that we had gone to the police, because I knew he would be extremely angry but I believed that it was the right thing to do. I did not know how he would react and that was what was so terrifying to me. I did not know what he was capable of.
53. On DATE, my daughter and I went to the Prince William County Police Department to report ABUSER'S actions.
54. I met with a social worker named NAME, and DETECTIVE, a detective in the Special Victims Unit (SVU). The very first thing that DETECTIVE told me when I explained why I was there was that if they failed to find any evidence on ABUSER'S phone, he would not be arrested and be allowed to go free. This petrified me because I could not even imagine what would happen if ABUSER would go free after I reported him to the police. I was afraid he would lose his temper so much that he would hurt us.
55. DETECTIVE works on cases involving child and adult sexual crimes. He questioned my daughter and I separately and decided to search for and detain ABUSER that same day. He also asked me about my relationship with ABUSER, his character, and his relationship with DAUGHTER, the social worker, spoke Spanish and she served as my interpreter.
56. I was so scared during my interview because all I kept thinking was what if they don't find anything. I was terrified of how ABUSER would react. I was scared he might hit me or the girls.
57. The social worker, Ms. WORKER, told me that many mothers in my position would not have reported a crime like this to the police. I told her that my children mean everything to me and I would do anything for them.
58. DETECTIVE interviewed DAUGHTER in a separate room so I'm not sure what they asked her. I'm guessing that they asked her the same things they asked me. I did not talk to DAUGHTER about the interview because I didn't want to traumatize her again. DAUGHTER doesn't talk a lot about her feelings and when she does it's always on her terms. When DAUGHTER came out of her private interview she was so nervous. I felt so terrible to see her so nervous and worried. She was biting her nails a lot. I knew she did not want to be there.
59. While we were at the police station, DETECTIVE sent police to detain ABUSER at work and bring him to the station for questioning. I cooperated with the police by giving them access to ABUSER'S computer. I gave them permission to go to my house and told them where the computer was kept. They searched my house and brought back the computer as evidence.
60. Although I was not at my house while they searched it, the nurse that was taking care of DAUGHTER told me that the police spent over two hours searching the house and measuring the bathroom.
61. When ABUSER was brought in, led DAUGHTER and me out of the police station through a back entrance so that we would not be seen by ABUSER. I asked my friend to take DAUGHTER to my cousin's house and after he dropped me off at my house I furiously began packing all of our things in case the police found no evidence. I was afraid that ABUSER would hurt my daughters and me and so I wanted to be out of the house in case he was coming back.

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62. I was ready to leave the house when DETECTIVE called me to tell me that although they had found no evidence, ABUSER had admitted to filming DAUGHTER while she was in the bathroom when he was interrogated by the police. He was detained.
63. I broke down when DETECTIVE called me. I do not remember much of how I felt, only that I felt like there was an enormous pressure crushing my chest. I did not sleep that night or for several nights after. I have not had a good night's sleep since that night.
64. Months later, DETECTIVE called me and told me that although ABUSER had deleted the files from his computer, the police had been able to retrieve them and that ABUSER had in fact filmed my daughter while she was in the shower. DETECTIVE advised me not to see the videos in question, but told me that they showed my daughter, DAUGHTER, undressing. One video was filmed from the ground up and exposed DAUGHTER's genitalia and other body parts.
65. ABUSER was put on trial for filming sexual videos of my daughter. He was found guilty and after about a year and a half of prison time, he was deported to COUNTRY.
66. DETECTIVE said that DAUGHTER and I were really cooperative with the detectives and the police throughout the investigation. DETECTIVE also said that he felt bad for me because ABUSER was my family's sole source of income and on top of the terrible incident, I have a special needs daughter who requires a lot of attention.
67. I knew that ABUSER'S deportation would lead to severe difficulties for my family and yet, looking back I had no idea how difficult things were going to be.

### **I WORK HARD, AM A GOOD MOM, AND HOPE TO CONTINUE RECOVERING FROM THE ABUSE IN THE UNITED STATES**

68. This exploitation has also taken a terrible toll on DAUGHTER. I have noticed so many changes in her since the investigation. She has had difficulty sleeping, is constantly anxious, forgets details, and seems to space out and have her head in the clouds. I am very afraid that DAUGHTER will not be able to have a normal life because of the emotional damage from this violation.
69. This terrible situation has strongly impacted my daughters and me. My life has completely changed emotionally and financially. I can no longer eat or sleep normally. I get frequent headaches from thinking about this situation. I am constantly dizzy.
70. The social worker, told me that I should see a therapist to help me cope with all the stress and trauma of the crime against my daughter. However, I do not have the time or the money to do so, since taking care of my daughters is a full time responsibility, especially taking care of my daughter DAUGHTER who cannot ever be left alone.
71. I am trying hard to be a source of strength for my family, but it is increasingly difficult in light of our financial situation. I have not been able to work since my daughter DAUGHTER was born since she needs constant care and supervision. ABUSER was the sole provider for our family. This allowed me to be able to take care of DAUGHTER.
72. Caring for DAUGHTER is like more than a full time job and now I must do it all on my own. From 6 a.m., when I give her the first dose of medication through her stomach tube, up until midnight when I deliver her last dose, I do not stop moving.

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73. I give DAUGHTER medication six times a day, and change her diaper at least three times a day. When the nurse leaves at 2 p.m., I cannot leave DAUGHTER's side for even five minutes because her mouth always needs to be suctioned. Taking care of DAUGHTER takes up so much time, that I have never had the time to process and heal from the traumatic violation of my daughter.
74. I have also been unable to be there completely for my daughter, DAUGHTER to help her heal from the emotional trauma. DAUGHTER was going to see a therapist but stopped after a few sessions because she felt uncomfortable with the therapist. I am trying to find a new therapist for her but it is quite difficult. DAUGHTER is a very sensitive and quiet girl and has only ever opened up to me and my cousin. I want to be there for her completely but I have been too overwhelmed by financial trouble.
75. After ABUSER was arrested, my family was homeless for eight months, living in a small, cramped hotel room paid for by my friend's church. This made caring for DAUGHTER nearly impossible. I had to delay a surgery DAUGHTER needed for five months because the doctor said our living situation was not stable enough for her recovery. DAUGHTER 3 has been affected by this tragedy because for so long we had to stay in such a small room with little to no social interaction.
76. Since losing her father, my youngest daughter, DAUGHTER, has lost the ability to speak. She is now in speech therapy.
77. My family's only source of income is the TANF, SSI, and food stamps I receive on behalf of my daughters. I have no other source of income. However, the constant care, supervision, and medications that DAUGHTER needs are not completely covered by what the government gives her.
78. I want to be able to move on with my life, go back to school, and get off government assistance. I want to be able to help DAUGHTER pursue her dream of becoming a doctor. I too dream of working in the medical field. I want to go back to school to be trained to work with special needs children like DAUGHTER. My dream is to be able to have a daycare center for children with special needs so that I could take care of them and make them feel special.
79. If I were able to get a U visa and work permission, it would help me change my life. It would help me work and support my children, and reduce our dependency on assistance from the government and other people. It would also relieve me from the fear and stress of the possibility of being deported to COUNTRY and having to either leave my children alone in the U.S. or take them to COUNTRY where it would be impossible to get proper care for DAUGHTER. My brother is a doctor in COUNTRY and he looked into options for DAUGHTER if we had to go back, and told me there was no way to get the same type of medical treatment that she is getting here.
80. This statement has been read to me in Spanish, my native language, and I have fully understood it.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION**

I, INTERPRETER, hereby certify under penalty of perjury that I am competent to translate the attached document from English into Spanish, and that I read each and every line of the above document aloud in Spanish to NAME, and she confirmed that she understood the contents of this statement.

Dated this DATE

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NAME