



Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

USCIS
Form I-589
OMB No. 1615-0067
Expires 09/30/2027

START HERE - Type or print in black ink. See the instructions for information about eligibility and how to complete and file this application.

NOTE: Check this box if you also want to apply for withholding of removal under the Convention Against Torture.

Part A.I. Information About You			
1. Alien Registration Number(s) (A-Number) (if any) 241147606		2. U.S. Social Security Number (if any) N/A	
3. USCIS Online Account Number (if any) N/A			
4. Complete Last Name Gualli Guaminga		5. First Name Hector Javier	
		6. Middle Name N/A	
7. What other names have you used (include maiden name and aliases)? N/A			
8. Residence in the U.S. (where you physically reside)			
Street Number and Name 56 Maple Ave			Apt. Number N/A
City Irvington	State New Jersey	Zip Code 07111	Telephone Number (862) 279-2937
<i>(NOTE: You must be residing in the United States to submit this form.)</i>			
9. Mailing Address in the U.S. (if different than the address in Item Number 8)			
In Care Of (if applicable): Guilherme Castilho Zaia			Telephone Number (267) 6376123
Street Number and Name 11810 Grand Park Ave			Apt. Number Ste 500
City North Bethesda	State MD	Zip Code 20852	
10. Sex <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female		11. Marital Status: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed	
12. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) 11/08/1999		13. City and Country of Birth Guamote, Ecuador	
14. Present Nationality (Citizenship) Ecuadorian		15. Nationality at Birth Ecuadorian	16. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group Indigenous Kichwa
17. Religion Christian			
18. Check the box, a through c, that applies: a. <input type="checkbox"/> I have never been in Immigration Court proceedings. b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am now in Immigration Court proceedings. c. <input type="checkbox"/> I am not now in Immigration Court proceedings, but I have been in the past.			
19. Complete 19 a through c.			
a. When did you last leave your country? (mm/dd/yyyy) 07/28/2023		b. What is your current I-94 Number, if any? N/A	
c. List each entry into the U.S. beginning with your most recent entry. List date (mm/dd/yyyy), place, and your status for each entry. (Attach additional sheets as needed.)			
Date 08/27/2023	Place Lukeville, Arizona	Status EWI	Date Status Expires N/A
Date N/A	Place N/A	Status N/A	
Date N/A	Place N/A	Status N/A	
20. What country issued your last passport or travel document? Ecuador		21. Passport Number B0421917	22. Expiration Date (mm/dd/yyyy) 12/11/2034
		Travel Document Number B0421917	
23. What is your native language (include dialect, if applicable)? Kichwa - Guamote dialect		24. Are you fluent in English? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	25. What other languages do you speak fluently? Spanish



Part A.II. Information About Your Spouse and Children

For EOIR use only.	For USCIS use only.	Action: Interview Date: _____ Asylum Officer ID No.: _____	Decision: Approval Date: _____ Denial Date: _____ Referral Date: _____
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Your spouse I am not married. (Skip to **Your Children** below.)

1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any) N/A	2. Passport/ID Card Number (if any) N/A	3. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A	4. U.S. Social Security Number (if any) N/A
5. Complete Last Name N/A	6. First Name N/A	7. Middle Name N/A	8. Other names used (include maiden name and aliases) N/A
9. Date of Marriage (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A	10. Place of Marriage N/A	11. City and Country of Birth N/A	
12. Nationality (Citizenship) N/A		13. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group N/A	14. Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
15. Is this person in the U.S.? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Complete Blocks 16 to 24.) <input type="checkbox"/> No (Specify location): N/A			
16. Place of last entry into the U.S. N/A	17. Date of last entry into the U.S. (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A	18. I-94 Number (if any) N/A	19. Status when last admitted (Visa type, if any) N/A
20. What is your spouse's current status? N/A	21. What is the expiration date of his/her authorized stay, if any? (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A	22. Is your spouse in Immigration Court proceedings? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	23. If previously in the U.S., date of previous arrival (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A
24. If in the U.S., is your spouse to be included in this application? (Check the appropriate box.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			

Your Children. List all of your children, regardless of age, location, or marital status.

I do not have any children. (Skip to Part A.III., Information about your background.)
 I have children. Total number of children: _____.

(NOTE: Use Form I-589 Supplement A or attach additional sheets of paper and documentation if you have more than four children.)

1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any) N/A	2. Passport/ID Card Number (if any) N/A	3. Marital Status (Married, Single, Divorced, Widowed) N/A	4. U.S. Social Security Number (if any) N/A
5. Complete Last Name N/A	6. First Name N/A	7. Middle Name N/A	8. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A
9. City and Country of Birth N/A	10. Nationality (Citizenship) N/A	11. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group N/A	12. Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
13. Is this child in the U.S. ? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Complete Blocks 14 to 21.) <input type="checkbox"/> No (Specify location): N/A			
14. Place of last entry into the U.S. N/A	15. Date of last entry into the U.S. (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A	16. I-94 Number (If any) N/A	17. Status when last admitted (Visa type, if any) N/A
18. What is your child's current status? N/A	19. What is the expiration date of his/her authorized stay, if any? (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A	20. Is your child in Immigration Court proceedings? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
21. If in the U.S., is this child to be included in this application? (Check the appropriate box.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			



Part A.II. Information About Your Spouse and Children (continued)

1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any) N/A	2. Passport/ID Card Number (if any) N/A	3. Marital Status (Married, Single, Divorced, Widowed) N/A	4. U.S. Social Security Number (if any) N/A
5. Complete Last Name N/A	6. First Name N/A	7. Middle Name N/A	8. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A
9. City and Country of Birth N/A	10. Nationality (Citizenship) N/A	11. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group N/A	12. Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
13. Is this child in the U.S.? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Complete Blocks 14 to 21.) <input type="checkbox"/> No (Specify location): N/A			
14. Place of last entry into the U.S. N/A	15. Date of last entry into the U.S. (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A	16. I-94 Number (If any) N/A	17. Status when last admitted (Visa type, if any) N/A
18. What is your child's current status? N/A	19. What is the expiration date of his/her authorized stay, if any? (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A	20. Is your child in Immigration Court proceedings? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
21. If in the U.S., is this child to be included in this application? (Check the appropriate box.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any) N/A	2. Passport/ID Card Number (if any) N/A	3. Marital Status (Married, Single, Divorced, Widowed) N/A	4. U.S. Social Security Number (if any) N/A
5. Complete Last Name N/A	6. First Name N/A	7. Middle Name N/A	8. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A
9. City and Country of Birth N/A	10. Nationality (Citizenship) N/A	11. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group N/A	12. Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
13. Is this child in the U.S.? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Complete Blocks 14 to 21.) <input type="checkbox"/> No (Specify location): N/A			
14. Place of last entry into the U.S. N/A	15. Date of last entry into the U.S. (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A	16. I-94 Number (If any) N/A	17. Status when last admitted (Visa type, if any) N/A
18. What is your child's current status? N/A	19. What is the expiration date of his/her authorized stay, if any? (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A	20. Is your child in Immigration Court proceedings? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
21. If in the U.S., is this child to be included in this application? (Check the appropriate box.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any) N/A	2. Passport/ID Card Number (if any) N/A	3. Marital Status (Married, Single, Divorced, Widowed) N/A	4. U.S. Social Security Number (if any) N/A
5. Complete Last Name N/A	6. First Name N/A	7. Middle Name N/A	8. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A
9. City and Country of Birth N/A	10. Nationality (Citizenship) N/A	11. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group N/A	12. Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
13. Is this child in the U.S.? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Complete Blocks 14 to 21.) <input type="checkbox"/> No (Specify location): N/A			
14. Place of last entry into the U.S. N/A	15. Date of last entry into the U.S. (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A	16. I-94 Number (If any) N/A	17. Status when last admitted (Visa type, if any) N/A
18. What is your child's current status? N/A	19. What is the expiration date of his/her authorized stay, if any? (mm/dd/yyyy) N/A	20. Is your child in Immigration Court proceedings? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
21. If in the U.S., is this child to be included in this application? (Check the appropriate box.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			



Part A.III. Information About Your Background

1. List your last address where you lived before coming to the United States. If this is not the country where you fear persecution, also list the last address in the country where you fear persecution. (List Address, City/Town, Department, Province, or State and Country.)
(NOTE: Use Form I-589 Supplement B, or additional sheets of paper, if necessary.)

Number and Street (Provide if available)	City/Town	Department, Province, or State	Country	Dates	
				From (Mo/Yr)	To (Mo/Yr)
109 Bolivar	Tixán	Chimborazo	Ecuador	02/2004	07/2023
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

2. Provide the following information about your residences during the past 5 years. List your present address first.
(NOTE: Use Form I-589 Supplement B, or additional sheets of paper, if necessary.)

Number and Street	City/Town	Department, Province, or State	Country	Dates	
				From (Mo/Yr)	To (Mo/Yr)
56 Maple Ave	Irvington	New Jersey	United States	02/2026	PRESENT
425 Golden State Ave	Bakersfield	California	United States	07/2025	02/2026
60N Central Avenue	Buffalo	New York	United States	04/2024	07/2025
50 Glenwodst St	Brockton	Massachusetts	United States	10/2023	04/2025
109 Bolivar	Tixán	Chimborazo	Ecuador	02/2004	07/2023

3. Provide the following information about your education, beginning with the most recent school that you attended.
(NOTE: Use Form I-589 Supplement B, or additional sheets of paper, if necessary.)

Name of School	Type of School	Location (Address)	Attended	
			From (Mo/Yr)	To (Mo/Yr)
U.E. González Suárez	High School	R532+CWQ, Alausí, Ecuador	06/2016	06/2018
U.E Juan Francisco Yerovi	High School	V624+HV, Tixán, Ecuador	09/2015	06/2016
U.E Juan Francisco Yerovi	Elementary School	V624+HV, Tixán, Ecuador	09/2012	06/2015
Escuela Luz Elisa Borja	Elementary School	Tixán, Alausí, Ecuador	09/2006	06/2012

4. Provide the following information about your employment during the past 5 years. List your present employment first.
(NOTE: Use Form I-589 Supplement B, or additional sheets of paper, if necessary.)

Name and Address of Employer	Your Occupation	Dates	
		From (Mo/Yr)	To (Mo/Yr)
Stellar Roofing - Buffalo, NY, USA	Roofer	07/2024	07/2025
Home Improvement Sunrise - Brockton, MA, USA	Assistent	11/2023	07/2024
Glory Store Mundo de Mochilas - Tixan, Ecuador	Client Assistance	05/2021	02/2023

5. Provide the following information about your parents and siblings (brothers and sisters). Check the box if the person is deceased.
(NOTE: Use Form I-589 Supplement B, or additional sheets of paper, if necessary.)

	Full Name	City/Town and Country of Birth	Current Location	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased	
Mother	Maria Rosario Guaminga Marcatoma	Tixán, Ecuador	<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased	Tixán, Ecuador
Father	Julio Gualli Guaman	Guamote, Ecuador	<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased	Tixán, Ecuador
Sibling	Edgar Daniel Gualli Guaminga	Guamote, Ecuador	<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased	Tixán, Ecuador
Sibling	Noemi Alexandra Gualli Guaminga	Tixán, Ecuador	<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased	Tixán, Ecuador
Sibling	Blanca Lizhth Gualli Guaminga	Tixán, Ecuador	<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased	Tixán, Ecuador
Sibling	N/A	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased	N/A



Part B. Information About Your Application

(NOTE: Use Form I-589 Supplement B, or attach additional sheets of paper as needed to complete your responses to the questions contained in Part B.)

When answering the following questions about your asylum or other protection claim (withholding of removal under 241(b)(3) of the INA or withholding of removal under the Convention Against Torture), you must provide a detailed and specific account of the basis of your claim to asylum or other protection. To the best of your ability, provide specific dates, places, and descriptions about each event or action described. You must attach documents evidencing the general conditions in the country from which you are seeking asylum or other protection and the specific facts on which you are relying to support your claim. If this documentation is unavailable or you are not providing this documentation with your application, explain why in your responses to the following questions.

Refer to Instructions, Part 1: Filing Instructions, Section II, "Basis of Eligibility," Parts A - D, Section V, Completing the Form," Part B, and Section VII, "Additional Evidence That You Should Submit," for more information on completing this section of the form.

1. Why are you applying for asylum or withholding of removal under section 241(b)(3) of the INA, or for withholding of removal under the Convention Against Torture? Check the appropriate box(es) below and then provide detailed answers to questions A and B below.

I am seeking asylum or withholding of removal based on:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Race | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political opinion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religion | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Membership in a particular social group |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nationality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Torture Convention |

- A. Have you, your family, or close friends or colleagues ever experienced harm or mistreatment or threats in the past by anyone?

No Yes

If "Yes," explain in detail:

1. What happened;
2. When the harm or mistreatment or threats occurred;
3. Who caused the harm or mistreatment or threats; and
4. Why you believe the harm or mistreatment or threats occurred.

I was persecuted on account of my Indigenous Kichwa identity and my opposition to the systemic ethnic discrimination and mistreatment directed at my community. Beginning in November 2022, after I started helping my parents defend our family's lawful ownership of our land against efforts to take it from us for a parking lot project, Lorena Garzón (a non-Indigenous Ecuadorian woman with local political influence and president of the San Francisco de Tixán Civic Front) and other non-Indigenous people connected to her began targeting me with repeated death threats, racist insults, surveillance, and violence. They targeted me not only because I am Indigenous Kichwa, but also because I opposed their attempts to take my family's land and used legal means to defend our rights, which made me the main obstacle to their objective. They said they would "take care of me" if I continued. They also insulted me because I am Indigenous, calling me an "Indian" and telling me to "go back to the mountain to raise animals." On July 12, 2023, a man with his face covered tried to stab me while I was on my way home. Later that same month, my two dogs were killed, and threatening notes were left with my name, including the phrase "we are coming for you." People also looked for me at my workplace and at my home, asking whether I was there and whether we had dogs or security cameras. My family asked the police for help, but they did not protect us. I believe I was persecuted because I am Indigenous Kichwa and because I opposed, through legal means, the effort to dispossess my family of our land. Further details are included in my declaration.

- B. Do you fear harm or mistreatment if you return to your home country?

No Yes

If "Yes," explain in detail:

1. What harm or mistreatment you fear;
2. Who you believe would harm or mistreat you; and
3. Why you believe you would or could be harmed or mistreated.

I fear serious harm and mistreatment if I return to Ecuador. I was targeted by Lorena Garzón and non-indigenous people, and they made it clear they would harm or kill me if I continued helping my family defend our land. I am especially afraid of being killed or physically attacked. I also fear they could attack, or kill my parents or other family members to force us to give up the land or punish our family. The land dispute is still ongoing, and there is still a legal case about the property, so the conflict has not ended. People in the community still ask about me and say that if I return they will go after me, and they could easily find me because they know my family, my community, and where I lived and worked. My fear arises not only from the threats and violence I received, but also from the lack of government protection. The people who threatened us acted with impunity, and this left my family vulnerable. Indigenous Kichwa communities have been historically discriminated against and treated unfairly by authorities and others in society. Thus, if I go back to Ecuador, I would face the constant threat of being harmed simply because of my ethnic identity. Returning to Ecuador would put my life in immediate danger, because my indigenous identity makes me a permanent target in my home country. Further details are included in my declaration.



Part B. Information About Your Application (continued)

2. Have you or your family members ever been accused, charged, arrested, detained, interrogated, convicted and sentenced, or imprisoned in any country other than the United States (including for an immigration law violation)?

No Yes

If "Yes," explain the circumstances and reasons for the action.

N/A

- 3.A. Have you or your family members ever belonged to or been associated with any organizations or groups in your home country, such as, but not limited to, a political party, student group, labor union, religious organization, military or paramilitary group, civil patrol, guerrilla organization, ethnic group, human rights group, or the press or media?

No Yes

If "Yes," describe for each person the level of participation, any leadership or other positions held, and the length of time you or your family members were involved in each organization or activity.

I, my parents, and my other immediate family members are members of the Indigenous Kichwa ethnic group in Ecuador. I have been a member of the Kichwa ethnic group since birth and will continue to carry this identity throughout my life. My identity is deeply rooted in the traditions, values, language, and history of the Kichwa people, and this connection is an integral part of who I am.

- 3.B. Do you or your family members continue to participate in any way in these organizations or groups?

No Yes

If "Yes," describe for each person your or your family members' current level of participation, any leadership or other positions currently held, and the length of time you or your family members have been involved in each organization or group.

I, my parents, and my immediate family members will always be members of the Indigenous Kichwa ethnic group. The connection to its values, traditions, language, and history is a core part of our identity and will remain so for the rest of our lives.

4. Are you afraid of being subjected to torture in your home country or any other country to which you may be returned?

No Yes

If "Yes," explain why you are afraid and describe the nature of torture you fear, by whom, and why it would be inflicted.

I am afraid of being subjected to torture if I return to Ecuador. Based on the threats and violence I already experienced, including written threats, the killing of my dogs, people surveilling my house, an attempted attack against me, and the overall impunity for ethnic crimes, I fear being further threatened, beaten, or even killed as punishment for refusing to give in to pressure to surrender my family's property. Because of the influence Lorena Garzón has in the community, I fear that any attempt to report or seek help could expose me to further abuse. I also belong to the Indigenous Kichwa community, which has historically been excluded, threatened, and removed from its lands by non-Indigenous Ecuadorians. We are targets of violence and oppression simply for maintaining our identity, our language, and our traditions, and the government does not provide us with adequate protection, making me a permanent target for discrimination and torture by non-governmental as well as governmental actors. Further details are included in my declaration.



Part C. Additional Information About Your Application

(NOTE: Use Form I-589 Supplement B, or attach additional sheets of paper as needed to complete your responses to the questions contained in Part C.)

1. Have you, your spouse, your child(ren), your parents or your siblings ever applied to the U.S. Government for refugee status, asylum, or withholding of removal?

No Yes

If "Yes," explain the decision and what happened to any status you, your spouse, your child(ren), your parents, or your siblings received as a result of that decision. Indicate whether or not you were included in a parent or spouse's application. If so, include your parent or spouse's A-number in your response. If you have been denied asylum by an immigration judge or the Board of Immigration Appeals, describe any change(s) in conditions in your country or your own personal circumstances since the date of the denial that may affect your eligibility for asylum.

- 2.A. After leaving the country from which you are claiming asylum, did you or your spouse or child(ren) who are now in the United States travel through or reside in any other country before entering the United States?

No Yes

- 2.B. Have you, your spouse, your child(ren), or other family members, such as your parents or siblings, ever applied for or received any lawful status in any country other than the one from which you are now claiming asylum?

No Yes

If "Yes" to either or both questions (2A and/or 2B), provide for each person the following: the name of each country and the length of stay, the person's status while there, the reasons for leaving, whether or not the person is entitled to return for lawful residence purposes, and whether the person applied for refugee status or for asylum while there, and if not, why he or she did not do so.

I traveled by land through Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, and Mexico, before entering the United States on August 27, 2023. I stayed only a few days in each country because I was fleeing danger in Ecuador and trying to reach a safe place. I did not hold legal status or am entitled to return for lawful residence purposes in any of these countries. I did not apply for refugee status or asylum in these countries because I was not safe there. This entire journey was marked by constant insecurity and danger. I was repeatedly threatened and extorted. The police themselves extorted us, demanding bribes in exchange for safe passage, which made it clear that I could not rely on the authorities for protection. While in Mexico, I was kidnapped, confined in a house, and threatened. When I was finally able to escape, I was desperate for safety, and remained in constant fear that my kidnapers would locate me and carry out their threats. I was not safe while I remained in the country. My only real option for protection was to reach the United States as quickly as possible. In addition to this, indigenous people face severe discrimination and mistreatment in those countries, and I feared being targeted because of my ethnicity. As an Indigenous Kichwa person, I am not safe in the countries I passed through, and any attempt to seek protection there would have been futile. Further details are included in my declaration.

3. Have you, your spouse or your child(ren) ever ordered, incited, assisted or otherwise participated in causing harm or suffering to any person because of his or her race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or belief in a particular political opinion?

No Yes

If "Yes," describe in detail each such incident and your own, your spouse's, or your child(ren)'s involvement.



Part C. Additional Information About Your Application (continued)

4. After you left the country where you were harmed or fear harm, did you return to that country?

No Yes

If "Yes," describe in detail the circumstances of your visit(s) (for example, the date(s) of the trip(s), the purpose(s) of the trip(s), and the length of time you remained in that country for the visit(s).)

5. Are you filing this application more than 1 year after your last arrival in the United States?

No Yes

If "Yes," explain why you did not file within the first year after you arrived. You must be prepared to explain at your interview or hearing why you did not file your asylum application within the first year after you arrived. For guidance in answering this question, see Instructions, Part 1: Filing Instructions, Section V. "Completing the Form," Part C.

Although I entered the United States on August 27, 2023, I was granted parole upon my release on October 19, 2023, pursuant to section 212(d)(5)(A) of the INA. Maintaining parole constitutes an extraordinary circumstance to the one-year deadline for applying for asylum, according to 8 C.F.R. § 1208.4(a)(5)(iv). Therefore, I respectfully request my delay be accepted based on this exceptional circumstance. In addition, my first years in the United States were compounded by the severe trauma resulting from the persecution I suffered in Ecuador and the kidnapping I experienced in Mexico. I suffered from severe anxiety, insomnia, and difficulty concentrating, which significantly impaired my ability to focus on my immigration process. My primary concern during that time was stabilizing my life and regaining a sense of safety in the country. Furthermore, no one explained to me that I had to file a separate asylum application within one year, and I believed that I only needed to wait for my hearing in 2026. I also had language difficulties, did not understand the documents I was given, and could not afford a lawyer. I tried to obtain legal help, but it was futile. In an effort to seek protection, I was informed that no removal proceedings had been initiated against me and that, as a result, I could not file an asylum claim. This left me confused, genuinely believing that there was no legal avenue available for me. Later, on July 13, 2025, I was arrested by ICE, and remained in custody for more than six months, during which time I was transferred repeatedly between several states and became ill while in detention. Despite these circumstances, I actively pursued protection and tried to prepare my application alone, but lost some pages of my Form I-589 during one of the transfers, which made it even more difficult to prepare and file my application. I was released by court order on February 6, 2026, and only then was I finally able to focus on completing my asylum application. I am now prepared to present my case and provide all supporting evidence needed. Further details are included in my declaration.

6. Have you or any member of your family included in the application ever committed any crime and/or been arrested, charged, convicted, or sentenced for any crimes in the United States (including for an immigration law violation)?

No Yes

If "Yes," for each instance, specify in your response: what occurred and the circumstances, dates, length of sentence received, location, the duration of the detention or imprisonment, reason(s) for the detention or conviction, any formal charges that were lodged against you or your relatives included in your application, and the reason(s) for release. Attach documents referring to these incidents, if they are available, or an explanation of why documents are not available.

When I entered the United States on August 27, 2023, through Lukeville, Arizona, I was detained for approximately two months and later released me on parole on October 19, 2023. My detention occurred as part of the immigration process, and I did not commit any crimes in the United States. Later, on July 13, 2025, I was detained again by ICE in Buffalo, New York, solely because of my immigration status. I was later transferred through multiple detention facilities. On February 6, 2026, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California granted a preliminary injunction, found my detention unlawful, and ordered my immediate release after I filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus. My sole purpose in coming to the United States was to escape the severe threats and persecution I suffered in Ecuador and to seek safety and I have not committed any crimes in the country.



Part D. Your Signature

I certify, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America, that this application and the evidence submitted with it are all true and correct. Title 18, United States Code, Section 1546(a), provides in part: Whoever knowingly makes under oath, or as permitted under penalty of perjury under Section 1746 of Title 28, United States Code, knowingly subscribes as true, any false statement with respect to a material fact in any application, affidavit, or other document required by the immigration laws or regulations prescribed thereunder, or knowingly presents any such application, affidavit, or other document containing any such false statement or which fails to contain any reasonable basis in law or fact - shall be fined in accordance with this title or imprisoned for up to 25 years. I certify that I am physically present in the United States or seeking admission at a Port of Entry when I execute this application. I authorize the release of any information from my immigration record that U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) needs to determine eligibility for the benefit I am seeking.

WARNING: Applicants who are in the United States unlawfully are subject to removal if their asylum or withholding claims are not granted by an asylum officer or an immigration judge. Any information provided in completing this application may be used as a basis for the institution of, or as evidence in, removal proceedings even if the application is later withdrawn. Applicants determined to have knowingly made a frivolous application for asylum will be permanently ineligible for any benefits under the Immigration and Nationality Act. You may not avoid a frivolous finding simply because someone advised you to provide false information in your asylum application. If filing with USCIS, unexcused failure to appear for an appointment to provide biometrics (such as fingerprints) and your biographical information within the time allowed may result in an asylum officer dismissing your asylum application or referring it to an immigration judge. Failure without good cause to provide DHS with biometrics or other biographical information while in removal proceedings may result in your application being found abandoned by the immigration judge. See sections 208(d)(5)(A) and 208(d)(6) of the INA and 8 CFR sections 208.10, 1208.10, 208.20, 1003.47(d) and 1208.20.

Print your complete name. Hector Javier Gualli Guaminga	Write your name in your native alphabet. N/A
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Did your spouse, parent, or child(ren) assist you in completing this application? No Yes (If "Yes," list the name and relationship.)

N/A (Name)	N/A (Relationship)	N/A (Name)	N/A (Relationship)
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Did someone other than your spouse, parent, or child(ren) prepare this application? No Yes (If "Yes," complete Part E.)

Asylum applicants may be represented by counsel. Have you been provided with a list of persons who may be available to assist you, at little or no cost, with your asylum claim? No Yes

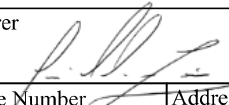
Signature of Applicant (The person in Part A.I.)

→ [] 03/04/2026

Sign your name so it all appears within the brackets Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Part E. Declaration of Person Preparing Form, if Other Than Applicant, Spouse, Parent, or Child

I declare that I have prepared this application at the request of the person named in Part D, that the responses provided are based on all information of which I have knowledge, or which was provided to me by the applicant, and that the completed application was read to the applicant in his or her native language or a language he or she understands for verification before he or she signed the application in my presence. I am aware that the knowing placement of false information on the Form I-589 may also subject me to civil penalties under 8 U.S.C. 1324c and/or criminal penalties under 18 U.S.C. 1546(a).

Signature of Preparer 		Print Complete Name of Preparer Guilherme Castilho Zaia	
Daytime Telephone Number (267) 6376123		Address of Preparer: Street Number and Name 11810 Grand Park Ave	
Apt. Number Ste 500	City North Bethesda	State MD	Zip Code 20852

To be completed by an attorney or accredited representative (if any).	<input type="checkbox"/> Select this box if Form G-28 is attached.	Attorney State Bar Number (if applicable) 334469	Attorney or Accredited Representative USCIS Online Account Number (if any) 0 6 9 0 1 5 9 2 4 6 1 6
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Part F. To Be Completed at Asylum Interview, if Applicable

NOTE: You will be asked to complete this part when you appear for examination before an asylum officer of the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

I swear (affirm) that I know the contents of this application that I am signing, including the attached documents and supplements, that they are all true or not all true to the best of my knowledge and that correction(s) numbered ____ to ____ were made by me or at my request. Furthermore, I am aware that if I am determined to have knowingly made a frivolous application for asylum I will be permanently ineligible for any benefits under the Immigration and Nationality Act, and that I may not avoid a frivolous finding simply because someone advised me to provide false information in my asylum application.

Signed and sworn to before me by the above named applicant on:

Signature of Applicant

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Write Your Name in Your Native Alphabet

Signature of Asylum Officer

Part G. To Be Completed at Removal Hearing, if Applicable

NOTE: You will be asked to complete this Part when you appear before an immigration judge of the U.S. Department of Justice, Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), for a hearing.

I swear (affirm) that I know the contents of this application that I am signing, including the attached documents and supplements, that they are all true or not all true to the best of my knowledge and that correction(s) numbered ____ to ____ were made by me or at my request. Furthermore, I am aware that if I am determined to have knowingly made a frivolous application for asylum I will be permanently ineligible for any benefits under the Immigration and Nationality Act, and that I may not avoid a frivolous finding simply because someone advised me to provide false information in my asylum application.

Signed and sworn to before me by the above named applicant on:

Signature of Applicant

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Write Your Name in Your Native Alphabet

Signature of Immigration Judge





Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal Supplement A

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

USCIS
Form I-589
OMB No. 1615-0069
Expires 09/30/2027

A-Number <i>(If available)</i> 241147606	Date 03/04/2026
Applicant's Name Hector Javier Gualli Guaminga	Applicant's Signature

List All of Your Children, Regardless of Age or Marital Status
(NOTE: Use this form and attach additional pages and documentation as needed, if you have more than four children)

1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) <i>(if any)</i> N/A	2. Passport/ID Card Number <i>(if any)</i> N/A	3. Marital Status <i>(Married, Single, Divorced, Widowed)</i> N/A	4. U.S. Social Security Number <i>(if any)</i> N/A
5. Complete Last Name N/A	6. First Name N/A	7. Middle Name N/A	8. Date of Birth <i>(mm/dd/yyyy)</i> N/A
9. City and Country of Birth N/A	10. Nationality <i>(Citizenship)</i> N/A	11. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group N/A	12. Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
13. Is this child in the U.S.? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>(Complete Blocks 14 to 21.)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>(Specify location):</i> N/A			
14. Place of last entry into the U.S. N/A	15. Date of last entry into the U.S. <i>(mm/dd/yyyy)</i> N/A	16. I-94 Number <i>(If any)</i> N/A	17. Status when last admitted <i>(Visa type, if any)</i> N/A
18. What is your child's current status? N/A	19. What is the expiration date of his/her authorized stay, if any? <i>(mm/dd/yyyy)</i> N/A	20. Is your child in Immigration Court proceedings? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
21. If in the U.S., is this child to be included in this application? <i>(Check the appropriate box.)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) <i>(if any)</i> N/A	2. Passport/ID Card Number <i>(if any)</i> N/A	3. Marital Status <i>(Married, Single, Divorced, Widowed)</i> N/A	4. U.S. Social Security Number <i>(if any)</i> N/A
5. Complete Last Name N/A	6. First Name N/A	7. Middle Name N/A	8. Date of Birth <i>(mm/dd/yyyy)</i> N/A
9. City and Country of Birth N/A	10. Nationality <i>(Citizenship)</i> N/A	11. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group N/A	12. Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
13. Is this child in the U.S.? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>(Complete Blocks 14 to 21.)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>(Specify location):</i> N/A			
14. Place of last entry into the U.S. N/A	15. Date of last entry into the U.S. <i>(mm/dd/yyyy)</i> N/A	16. I-94 Number <i>(If any)</i> N/A	17. Status when last admitted <i>(Visa type, if any)</i> N/A
18. What is your child's current status? N/A	19. What is the expiration date of his/her authorized stay, if any? <i>(mm/dd/yyyy)</i> N/A	20. Is your child in Immigration Court proceedings? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
21. If in the U.S., is this child to be included in this application? <i>(Check the appropriate box.)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			



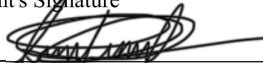


Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal Supplement B

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

USCIS
Form I-589
OMB No. 1615-0069
Expires 09/30/2027

Additional Information About Your Claim to Asylum

A-Number (if available) 241147606	Date 03/04/2026
Applicant's Name Hector Javier Gualli Guaminga	Applicant's Signature 

NOTE: Use this as a continuation page for any additional information requested. Copy and complete as needed.

Part N/A

Question N/A

N/A



Proof of Service

On this date, I, Guilherme Castilho Zaia, served a copy of the following documents:


**RESPONDENT'S APPLICATION FOR ASYLUM AND FOR
WITHHOLDING OF REMOVAL – FORM I-589**

To the following:

Office Location:	Mailing Address:
Office of the Principal Legal Advisor Department of Homeland Security 970 Broad Street, Room 1300 Newark, NJ 07102	US Immigration and Customs Enforcement US Department of Homeland Security Office of the Principal Legal Advisor 970 Broad Street, Room 1300 Newark, NJ 07102

by:

- Through the EOIR Courts and Appeals System (ECAS), which will automatically send service notification to both parties that a new document has been filed.



Guilherme Castilho Zaia (Bar N. 334469)
Attorney at Law
11810 Grand Park Ave, Ste 500
North Bethesda, MD 20852
Counsel for Respondent