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U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT ORAL ARGUMENT IN PHILADELPHIA ON JULY 13, 2010 PROTECTING CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS HAVE TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS

July 12, 2010, Newark, NJ- Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark's lead Immigration Attorney, Rex Chen, has oral arguments before the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia on Tuesday July 13, 2010. This case is noteworthy because it will ask the court to resolve a question about protecting children whose parents now reside in the U.S. and were granted temporary protected status for which the Fourth and Ninth Circuit Courts have issued conflicting rulings. Our office is handling one of three cases in the United States that have been consolidated for appeal.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) allows people from countries facing devastation to remain in the United States until the conditions in their home country improve. For instance, after the earthquake in Haiti, the U.S. extended the TPS deadline date for Haitians to stay in the U.S. What we see happening, however, is that minor children of parents who are currently in the U.S. and have TPS cannot come later and join their parents. This is forcing parents to choose between staying in the U.S. where they can work and returning to their devastated home countries to be with their children.

The cases before the Third Circuit next week all involve children whose parents left devastated countries and were granted TPS in the U.S. The children initially remained in El Salvador and other Latin American countries but now have fled the harsh conditions there to be with their parents who now live in the U.S. Our clients fled from El Salvador for the U.S. in 1999, where they qualified for and received TPS. Family members came to the U.S. in 2006 to join them. Now, the U.S. government wants to separate her from her young daughters by deporting them back to El Salvador.

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark is a non-sectarian, not-for-profit social service Agency of the Roman Catholic Church within the Archdiocese of Newark. As one of New Jersey's oldest and largest Agencies, Catholic Charities serves approximately 69,000 individuals and families each year who need assistance, and provides a greater sense of self worth and dignity to those it serves. Catholic Charities is a Ministry of the Church, a concrete illustration of the Church's commitment to ease suffering and bring social justice and hope to all, without regard to religion, race or culture.

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