

Case Facilitation Overview

Collaborations for Justice Across Borders

justiceinmotion™
Protecting Migrant Rights Across Borders



Collaborations through 5-Step Case Facilitation Process

1 Case Review: The Advocate needs work done in client's country of origin to support a case pending in the U.S. or Canada and contacts Justice in Motion. Justice in Motion reviews the case with the Advocate then assigns it to a Defender.

2 Agreement: The Advocate completes a one-time Advocate Agreement and the case-specific Case Facilitation Contract, which Justice in Motion and the Defender review and edit. The Advocate, Justice in Motion, and the Defender sign the contract.

3 Assignment: The Defender completes the tasks assigned for the case, maintaining direct communication with the Advocate.

4 Payment: The Defender sends an hour and expense report to Justice in Motion. Justice in Motion reviews the report, invoices the Advocate, and pays the Defender. The Advocate pays Justice in Motion after receiving the invoice.

5 Evaluation: The Advocate and Defender complete an evaluation about the Case Facilitation, and the Advocate reports the case outcome (when known) to Justice in Motion.

THE DEFENDER NETWORK

Making Justice Across Borders a Reality

Justice in Motion trains and supports more than sixty human rights advocates ("Defenders") in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Defenders have a wide range of legal and professional backgrounds and are equipped with the local knowledge and expertise necessary to provide assistance in transnational cases.

Examples of how Defenders provide case support—

– when the migrant is back home in their country of origin and has a case pending in the U.S. or Canada:

- **Locating clients:** when their lawyers lose touch
- **Facilitating communication:** via virtual interviews, delivering documents, reviewing statements, obtaining signatures on sworn declarations
- **Coordinating settlement announcements:** obtaining signatures, troubleshooting the international transfer of awards

– when the migrant is in the U.S. or Canada but has a need in their country of origin:

- **Witness affidavits:** interviewing local witnesses, preparing declarations

Prioritizing Cases Requiring Collaboration Across Borders

Rights violations: when migrants have returned to their country of origin after suffering violations of their rights in the U.S. or Canada, Defenders are available to meet them in person and help their lawyers in pending litigation.

Protection: when migrants seek protection in the U.S. or Canada through a form of humanitarian immigration relief such as asylum, Defenders are available to provide case support in the migrants' country of origin.

- **Document collection:** assisting with birth certificates and other country of origin documents
- **Service of process:** locating witnesses or opposing parties, serving documents, completing return of service



Benefits of the Case Facilitation Model

TRUSTED, LOCAL RESOURCES.

The Defenders are experienced human rights advocates who live and work in migrant countries of origin. They have deep insider knowledge of each country's geography, politics, and culture and are able to maneuver in a known local landscape.

LOW COST.

The charge for Case Facilitations is minimal compared with the cost of for-profit international litigation support, or the cost of a U.S. or Canadian lawyer traveling personally to their client's country of origin and attempting to do the work.

SMART, SUSTAINABLE SUPPORT.

The fees that Defenders are paid support their core work, which becomes an investment in civil society human rights support in migrants' countries of origin. Each time Defenders work on specific cases, they gain knowledge and skills to improve their service and advocacy within local communities.

**Ready to initiate a Case Facilitation
with a member of the Justice in Motion
Defender Network?**

Contact legalaction@justiceinmotion.org to set up an intake call. New Advocates will receive a copy of the Advocate Agreement, which outlines the terms and conditions of working with Justice in Motion and the Defender Network on Case Facilitations. Once an Advocate signs this Agreement, it endures through future Case Facilitations.

Advocate Experiences with Our Case Facilitation Model

“Justice in Motion's Defender Network is an essential resource for lawyers that represent transnational workers. By making direct connections with workers and their families in their home countries, Justice in Motion empowers migrant workers to access the justice system and enforce their basic rights.

- Equal Justice Center, Austin TX

“Our high-stakes immigration matter would not have been successful without Justice in Motion's help. Your network of Defenders made it possible to access evidence and witnesses in remote places that made a life-saving difference for ourselves and our clients.

- Reed Smith LLP, Chicago IL

“The service Justice in Motion provided was invaluable to our legal clinic. Their Defender helped us communicate and create legal documents with a client abroad. While we could communicate with our client abroad, we could not do so as efficiently and cost-effectively as Justice in Motion, and we absolutely could not have created legal documents abroad without their help. The quality of the work was outstanding and is making a meaningful difference in our ability to advocate for our client, even though she is out of the country.

- Scarborough County Legal Services, Toronto ON