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HuffPost: Mancheno '13 Battles Muslim Ban

March 15, 2017

Luis Mancheno '13, who led the fight against the Trump Administration's Muslim Ban, says America saved his life -- and he wants to make sure it saves other people too.



From THE HUFFINGTON POST: "The Gay Refugee Lawyer Who Helped Fight The Muslim Ban" by Christopher Mathias, Omar Kasrawi

NEW YORK, March 15, 2017 — Luis Mancheno [RWU Law '13] remembers the moment he knew he had to get out of Ecuador.

[...] First on a student visa to Willamette University in Oregon, where he learned he could claim asylum in the U.S. as a refugee fleeing persecution. (He was granted asylum in 2009.) And then to Roger Williams University School of Law in Rhode Island on a full scholarship, where he became involved in representing low-income clients in immigration court.

Mancheno said that going through the asylum application process taught him what "a huge difference" immigration lawyers can make. (There's no right to a lawyer in immigration court, and immigrants in deportation proceedings are at least twice as likely to be deported when they don't have an attorney.)

Mancheno said he wanted to "help the next Luis Mancheno that comes down the line, who needs a lawyer, who doesn't have all the privileges that I had." [...]

For full story, click here.