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Fed. Court Opens Door for Guatemalan Asylum Claim

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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SAN FRANCISCO (AP) -- A court ruling Monday created the possibility that all Guatemalan women could qualify for political asylum in the U.S. because of the high female murder rate in the Central American country.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals issued a strongly worded ruling reversing the deportation orders of two **immigration** courts that such a claim applies too broadly. The San Francisco-based court ordered the immigration judges to reconsider granting asylum to Lesly Yajayra Perdomo, an illegal immigrant who settled in Reno, Nev.

Perdomo applied for asylum in 2004 citing Guatemala's poor record of investigating and solving the hundreds of murders of women annually.

The case is now before the Board of Immigration to determine if Perdomo should be granted asylum.

http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2010/07/12/us/AP-US-Asylum-Guatemalan-Women.html?_r=1&ref=news