



Immigrant Justice Corps Statement on the Ninth Circuit Ruling in *Washington v. Trump*

Yesterday the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (“Ninth Circuit”), upheld district court Judge Robart's temporary restraining order preventing the Trump administration from enforcing key provisions of its January 27th Executive Order entitled "Protecting the Nation from Terrorist Entry into the United States." The executive order prevented citizens of seven Muslim-majority countries – Syria, Yemen, Iran, Iraq, Somalia, Sudan or Libya – from entering the United States as refugees, to be processed for green cards, or as temporary visa holders.

While acknowledging the broad powers of the President to enact immigration policy, the Ninth Circuit found that the public “has an interest in free flow of travel, in avoiding separation of families, and in freedom from discrimination.”

Immigrant Justice Corps (“IJC”) fellows represent clients from six of the seven affected countries - with over 100 clients from Syria and Yemen.

IJC exists to provide legal representation to immigrants, recognizing the fundamental role they play in our country, and the critical rights to be defended before immigration courts and agencies.

IJC staff and fellows applaud the decision, which reaffirms the important function that the federal courts play in providing checks and balances on the power of the President to unilaterally change policy by executive edict. The Ninth Circuit stated unequivocally, “the Supreme Court has repeatedly and explicitly rejected the notion that the political branches have unreviewable authority over immigration or are not subject to the Constitution when policymaking in that context.”

In January 2017, the President issued three executive orders which will have a profound impact on immigration, and more may be on the way. IJC stands ready to defend immigrants due process and equal protection rights and continue to advocate for just and humane immigration laws.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Jojo Annobil", is written over a solid black horizontal line.

Jojo Annobil
Executive Director on behalf of the Staff
and Fellows of Immigrant Justice Corps