

DECLARATION OF HAKIM OUANSAFI

I, HAKIM OUANSAFI, do declare and would competently testify as follows.

1. I am the Chairman of The Muslim Association of Hawaii, Inc. (“MAH”). I have held this position for approximately 15 years. I have been in the United States since 1986 and a resident of Hawaii since 1998.
2. I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth in this declaration.
3. I am aware that on September 24, 2017, President Trump issued a proclamation (“EO-3”) that bars from the U.S. millions of people from Muslim-majority countries Chad, Iran, Libya, Syria, Yemen, and Somalia, as well as people from North Korea and Venezuela.
4. The MAH is a non-profit entity incorporated under the laws of the State of Hawaii. It is the only formal Muslim organization in the State of Hawaii serving Muslims statewide. Dr. Elshikh, a plaintiff in this case, is the Imam (minister) of the Association.
5. The Association serves approximately 5,000 Muslims, with approximately 4,500 of them on Oahu and 500 on the other islands. The Association runs the Mosques on Oahu, Kauai and Maui.
6. We hold Friday prayer gatherings at the above referenced Mosques every week. Typically, 300-400 Muslim worshipers attend the Oahu Mosque each week. I attend every prayer gathering except when I am traveling.

7. As Chairman of the MAH, I am the official contact person for any matters affecting the Association and the Muslim community.
8. Having lived in Hawaii for nearly 20 years, with much of that time as Chairman of the Association, I have come to know our members well.
9. It is part of my responsibility as Chairman to greet any newcomers and visitors to our Association. Through such interactions, I generally come to learn the circumstances under which our worshipers not already from Hawaii have come to be in Hawaii, whether for the long-term or short-term.
10. As Muslims, it is part of our religious practice, and our Holy text, to visit each other to connect with our Islamic brothers and sisters. Verses of the Noble Quran and various Hadeeth of the Prophet call strongly for the upholding of kinship ties and encourage this by offering worldly and religious rewards. EO-3 will interfere with this religious exercise by preventing Muslims from the affected countries from coming to Hawaii to visit their family members, the majority of whom are American citizens, and consequently interfere with these families' ability to fulfill this specific religious requirement.
11. Over the last decade the Association has continually drawn on new arrivals to Hawaii from Middle Eastern and African countries to add to our community of worshipers, including persons immigrating as lawful permanent residents

and shorter-term visitors coming to Hawaii for business, professional training, university studies, and tourism.

12. New arrivals who decide to reside in Hawaii automatically become members of the Association and include, in the last decade, foreign-born individuals from Syria, Somalia, Iran, Yemen, and Libya who are now naturalized U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents.
13. EO-3, however, will make it more difficult for the Association to have new members from the affected countries in the future. If people from the affected countries cannot come to Hawaii, they cannot become members of the Association.
14. EO-3 will deter our current members from remaining in Hawaii because they cannot receive visits from their family members and friends from the affected countries if they do. I personally know of at least one family who made that difficult choice and left Hawaii and know of others who have talked about doing the same.
15. EO-3 will harm the members of our Association who do remain in Hawaii because they cannot receive visits from their family members and friends from the affected countries. I am aware of a few families who are directly affected by this EO.

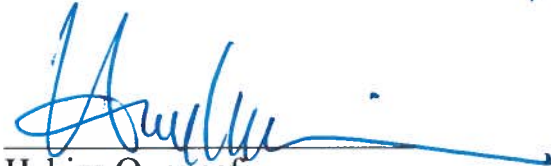
16. The travel bans are affecting travel from other Muslim-majority countries, and not just those designated by the ban. I am aware of four families from Morocco who canceled plans to come to Hawaii because they were afraid that they might become subject to the travel bans in the future, or be discriminated against because of their faith.
17. I am also aware of at least one family of four who was told by the embassy in Morocco in early August 2017 that their visitor visa has been approved and requested passports. The family purchased non-refundable tickets to Hawaii but unfortunately and as of the date of this statement, the visa was not granted and the embassy still holds their passports.
18. With EO-3 in place, the Association's membership will likely decrease over time, which will negatively impact the ability of the Association to continue to serve the Muslim community in Hawaii. By systematically – and indefinitely – banning people from the affected countries, EO-3 will harm the ability of Muslims in Hawaii to continue to worship together.
19. The Association's only source of income is from charitable contributions from its members and from visitors to the Mosque to support its operations. The likely decrease in the Association's membership and in visitors due to EO-3 will harm the Association's finances.

20. The anti-Muslim animus underlying EO-3 and the two travel bans before it inflicts a stigmatic harm on our members. We are being made to feel by our own government like we are less than other Americans because of our religion. The travel bans have led to an increase in violence, threats of violence, harassment, and verbal insults against Muslims in Hawaii. I strongly believe that increased acts of hatred, insults, threats and violence in the United States including Hawaii are the result of the President's statements about Muslims and Islam.
21. Our children and their parents are living in fear because of the travel bans. That fear has led to, by way of example, children wanting to change their Muslim names and parents wanting their children not to wear head coverings to avoid being victims of violence. Some of our young people have said they want to change their religion because they are afraid to be Muslims.
22. There is real fear within our community especially among our children and American Muslims who were born outside the United States because we take very seriously the countless words and statements by President Trump that threaten us and our religion, including his call for a Muslim ban, his pledge to kick out all Syrian refugees, and his statements that he would look into the idea of closing Mosques in the United States and creating a Muslim database.

23. The ban is cruel and arbitrary. If our loved ones happen to be from one of the affected countries, we are unable to have them visit us to celebrate important events or to grieve losses with us, while our neighbors whose loved ones are from non-affected countries do not suffer the same harm.
24. Especially because it is permanent, EO-3 has—even more than its predecessor bans—caused tremendous fear, anxiety, and grief for our members.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on October 9, 2017, in Honolulu, Hawaii.


Hakim Ouansafi