

DECLARATION OF JOHN DOE # 4

I, John Doe 4, do declare and would competently testify as follows.

1. I was born in Iran in 1985. I am a citizen of Iran.
2. I am a professor of Engineering at a university in the American West.
3. I received my undergraduate and masters degrees in Iran and my PhD from the University of California. I also pursued my post-doc work in California.
4. I have lived in the United States since 2010. I received my green card in October 2015. Before that, I had only a single-entry F-1 student visa.
5. I am aware that President Trump issued an executive order on January 27, 2017, which temporarily banned travel from seven Muslim-majority countries, including Iran. I am also aware that on March 6, 2017, President Trump issued a new executive order that temporarily banned travel from six Muslim-majority countries, including Iran. I also understand that on September 24, 2017, President Trump issued a “Presidential Proclamation Enhancing Vetting Capabilities and Processes for Detecting Attempted Entry Into the United States by Terrorists or Other Public-Safety Threats,” which imposes restrictions on entry into the United States by nationals of eight countries, including Iran.
6. I was personally impacted by the first travel ban. Just after that ban went into effect, there was a conference in Iran in February, 2017, that many in

my field were scheduled to attend. The travel was already arranged and organizers had promised to cover the expenses. But none of the professionals in the United States – even the U.S. citizens – went to this event because of the confusion and delay caused by the first order. In fact, a highly respected member of the National Academy of Sciences, himself Iranian, personally advised me not to attend. I did not attend. The risk in traveling outside the United States was too great.

7. My parents both have pending tourist visa applications. Both of them are Iranian. Both were interviewed at the U.S. Embassy in Dubai in the summer of 2017. My mother received an offer for a visa but at the time my father did not. My father's visa was referred for further processing.
8. My parents both have health issues and neither can travel such a long distance alone. Therefore my mother requested that her visa application be held until my father's visa application was completed. At this time we are still waiting for them to be issued tourist visas so they can come to the United States and see me.
9. I came to the United States hoping for a better life. This country has offered me so much and I had always hoped to stay here. I love this country and it is my home.

10. As I look back now, I think about the losses I've faced in my life when I could not travel. When I was a student in the United States, I missed so many critical family events because I had only a single-entry visa and could not risk the uncertainty involved with whether I would be able to return to my studies.

11. I missed so many things with my family: my sister got married in Iran and I could not attend. My father and mother both developed serious health issues and I could not go back to support them. My grandparents died and I could not attend the funeral nor mourn together with my family. All those years I hoped for a better future, when my travel status would be assured.

12. Now, with the third travel ban announced, I feel like that hope is gone. I question whether living in the United States is still the best option and decision for my life. I face the same problem as so many others: my parents are getting older, and I wonder how many more years they will be with me. The third travel ban makes it difficult if not impossible for my family members to visit me. As a result I have thought seriously about moving to another country where my family would be free to visit me.

13. I am married. My wife is also Iranian. Her application for a green card is pending. She has a serious medical condition and I cannot leave her alone.

14. Because I have a green card, I know that I can travel in and out of the United States under the new travel ban. But, practically speaking, I cannot, because I cannot leave my wife. If my parents cannot visit me here, then I will be entirely cut off from my family.

15. I am personally aware of the impact the travel bans have had on the university community. At my university, I have seen several good students, all Iranians, decide against attending school in the United States. Instead they are choosing to pursue their studies elsewhere, primarily in Canada and Australia.

16. I have requested that this declaration be filed anonymously because I am afraid that if I identify myself, I may be subject to public reprisals. I am also afraid that my family's pending visa or green card applications might be negatively impacted.

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

DATED: [REDACTED] October 5, 2017.

[REDACTED]
JOHN DOE 4/