

DECLARATION OF
PEGAH JALALI
ASHEGHABADI

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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON**

STATE OF WASHINGTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DONALD TRUMP, et al.,

Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 2:17-cv-00141-JLR

**DECLARATION OF PEGAH JALALI
ASHEGHABADI**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746(2), I, Pegah Jalali Asheghabadi, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am over the age of eighteen and competent to testify herein.
2. I live in Washington State.
3. I am a US F-1 visa holder.
4. I am a student at the University of Washington. I am a PhD student at the School of Environmental and Forest Sciences. My research focuses on water economics and policy. I hope to use my skills and knowledge after graduation to help restore water bodies in regions they've dried out, and design better policies to manage water demand in dry cities.
5. If the President's September 24, 2107 Proclamation is implemented, then I will not be able to travel to my country and visit my family, since my multiple entry visa has expired. My mother has been recently diagnosed with breast cancer, and is going through

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chemotherapy sessions and dealing with painful side effects. I cannot be with my family during this difficult time. During the past five months, my grandmother and one of my uncles passed away, and I could not be there for my father since I wasn't sure if I could come back to school if I leave the country.

I have three more years to finish my PhD, and during this time even my family won't be able to visit me. My parents are getting old and I worry every day what I'm going to do if something happens to them. I have a friend who lost her father, but didn't go to Iran because she had worked so hard on her project here and didn't want to throw all her work away. I think about such things every day. What if it happens to me? Do I go back and forget about finishing my PhD? Or do I stay here and suffer alone, away from my loved ones?

6. I hope to become a university professor, or work on water-related issues as a researcher at a private or public institute. With the new presidential order, there will be no prospect of getting a work visa for me, and in order to be able to work here, I should never leave the country since I won't be issued a visa to come back. This doesn't make any sense to me. I'm just a scientist; I haven't done anything wrong and I can't live like a prisoner trapped here.

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

Executed on 9th day of October, 2017



Pegah Jalali Asheghabadi