

DECLARATION OF
PARISA
HOSSEINZADEH

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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 PARISA
HOSSEINZADEH**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746(2), I, Parisa Hosseinzadeh, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am over the age of eighteen and competent to testify herein.
2. I live in Washington State. I am a US Legal Permanent Resident.
3. I am an Iranian postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Biochemistry at the University of Washington. As a member of institute for protein design, I work on developing new computational and biochemical tools that can help generate better more efficient drugs.
4. My current research is supported by the National Institutes of Health as well as the Washington Research Foundation (WRF). The WRF's forming vision is to capture and

1 enhance the value of intellectual property arising from Washington State's research
2 institutions in order to support additional research and scholarship. My research
3 contributes to this advancement in important technology for Washington State and the
4 health of everyone through more efficient drugs.

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- 6 5. I came to the US in 2010 to pursue my PhD in Biochemistry at the University of
7 Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. I then moved to Seattle in the beginning of 2016 to learn
8 about protein design and engineering.
- 9
- 10 6. The events of this last year have sparked some doubts in me. I was planning to go back
11 home for our new year celebration right when travel ban 1.0 happened. Although I am a
12 permanent legal resident of the US, I didn't feel safe going back, so I decided to stay
13 despite all the planning I had done for being home and celebrating the new year with
14 my family after 7 years. It was devastating. I was sitting home looking at all the
15 souvenirs I bought for my family members, and sobbing in silence. I was basically
16 non-functional those days. Everyday I would catch myself crying in a corner in the lab.
17 I finally went back home in May 2017 and it helped me immensely to have been able to
18 have contact with my parents and my sister. When I got back, I no longer felt depressed
19 and I managed to finish up my work and submit my research paper to Science
20 magazine for publication.
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- 22 7. My mom retired in September 2017 and we were planning for her and my dad to visit
23 me in Seattle in Spring 2018. But then she called me and asked me about the new travel
24 ban. I didn't know about it then and when I read it I was extremely sad and angry. My
25 mother and other family members do not have visas to visit me and will not have them
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1 by October 18, 2017. This new travel ban means that my parents, my only sister, and
2 everyone else from my family can never visit me, NEVER. I cannot understand how
3 this makes sense. Even prisoners with highest charges have visitors. I cannot call a
4 place home where my beloved ones are prohibited from entering it.
5

- 6 8. Right now, I am thinking seriously about leaving the US. It is a hard decision to make. I
7 have many friends here and I am well attuned to the culture, environment, and work.
8 The US is somewhat my home. I came here when I was 20 years old and I practically
9 got socially mature here. I would not want to leave here if it were not for the travel ban.
- 10 9. I think no one should need an explanation as to why they want their family to be able to
11 visit them. Here are just a few reasons: 1. I want to have them in my life and want them
12 to be able to attend important events in my life, such as birth of my children. 2. I need
13 to know there is a way for my family to come visit me in case of emergency. Life is not
14 always rosy. 3. I want to be able to bring my family here to be with them when they
15 need me without leaving my job for a long time. 4. I cannot call a place home where
16 my parents are prohibited from entering it. 5. Parents never feel you are safe in a place
17 until they see that place and live in there for a while themselves. 6. It simply feels good
18 to take your parents for a walk in your neighborhood and show them around.
19
- 20 10. Because of the travel ban, I will not be able to function efficiently. I will have to fear
21 everyday that maybe the next ban will force me out. I will have to live like a second-
22 tier resident deprived of essential rights as a human. I will have to face my kids and try
23 to explain why they are being treated differently just because of their parents' place of
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1 birth. I believe that a relaxed and healthy mental state is essential for productivity. The
2 new travel ban 3.0 will definitely take that away from me and my work.
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5 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.
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7 Executed on this ____ day of October, 2017
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10 _____

11 Parisa Hosseinzadeh
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