

DECLARATION OF JOSEPH E. FAHEY

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

STATE OF WASHINGTON; STATE OF CALIFORNIA; STATE OF MARYLAND; COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS; STATE OF NEW YORK; and STATE OF OREGON,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DONALD TRUMP, in his official capacity as President of the United States; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY; ELAINE C. DUKE, in her official capacity as Acting Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security; REX TILLERSON, in his official capacity as Secretary of State; and the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Defendants.

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

DECLARATION OF JOSEPH E. FAHEY, CORPORATION COUNSEL, CITY OF SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746(2), I, Joseph E. Fahey, hereby declare as follows:

1. The city of Syracuse has been economically enriched by the proportion of New Americans who have been active members of our academic and business community. With many families starting businesses, these immigrants are reshaping our commerce.

2. Our city is currently home to more than 17,000 foreign-born individuals, according to the U.S. Census. Of those, more than 75% are active members of the labor force and 34% have a college degree or higher educational attainment.

1 3. New Americans are involved in every professional field, with representatives in the
2 public sector, private industry, and the largest drivers of our local economy: healthcare and
3 education.

4 4. At Syracuse University, there are more than 4,000 international students currently
5 enrolled. These are students who come from across the globe and make our community their
6 home. They eat in our restaurants and shop at our stores; international students hold internships
7 learning valuable experiences in local businesses and government agencies, including the City
8 of Syracuse.

9 5. Additionally, the SUNY Upstate Medical University states they have 170 international
10 students who are studying medicine and the health sciences. These students can help fill the
11 doctor shortage that many Upstate New York communities face. These professionals will be
12 the next generation of research scientists and medical providers, and it is our hope that they
13 will continue their careers in our community.

14 6. Syracuse has always been a welcoming community. Since our earliest days, Syracuse
15 was a sanctuary for runaway slaves, a frequent stop on the Underground Railroad, and helped
16 escaped slaves make their way to Canada after the Fugitive Slave Act was passed in 1850.

17 7. During World War II, the only site in the United States which accepted Jewish refugees
18 fleeing Europe was Fort Ontario, located in Oswego, New York just forty-five minutes north of
19 the City of Syracuse.

20 8. Today, local resettlement agencies – Catholic Charities and InterFaith Works – provide
21 services to thousands of people from broken universes from across the globe; people from war-
22 torn nations, including those repeatedly threatened by the current Administration’s refugee
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1 resettlement policies, have come to make Syracuse their safe haven. Each of these agencies
2 resettle between 500 and 700 refugees each year, most of whom reside in the City of Syracuse.
3 Many of these individuals go on to obtain citizenship and continue to make the city their home
4 for many years.

5
6 9. The newly announced executive actions restricting the entry of international visitors
7 and foreign-born residents to and from the city of Syracuse will result in damage to our local
8 economy in the millions of dollars as a result of decreased spending from tourism. It impairs
9 the city's economy and workforce. It undermines the spirit and values that the City of Syracuse
10 has always upheld and fostered.

11
12 10. While nominally different from the President's proposed "travel ban" earlier this year,
13 under the September 27th ban, we will continue to be harmed by these failed policies which are
14 contrary to our history and run afoul to our community's values.

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16 11. The City of Syracuse, to continue the positive economic and social momentum gained
17 in the last several years, must continue to welcome refugees and New Americans to our
18 community.

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

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21 _____
22 Joseph E. Fahey, Esq.
23 Corporation Counsel for the City of Syracuse
24 Affirmed on October 12, 2017
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