

SECOND
DECLARATION OF
SADAF AMIN

**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.

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

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.

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

1. I am a resident of New York, and I have Iranian citizenship.
2. I am a PhD Student at Weill Cornell Medicine-Medical College of Cornell University. I moved to New York City in August 2011 from my hometown of Tehran, Iran with the goal of engaging in cutting edge biomedical research.
3. Currently, I am conducting research on stem cells to develop new models and drug candidates for diabetes which will pave the way to use precision medicine for the treatment of this devastating disease.

- 1 4. However, I had to make sacrifices on the way. I have not seen my family in Iran since
2 2011 because, as a holder of a single entry F-1 student visa, if I leave the United States I
3 need to obtain authorization to reenter the country. Based on the experiences of fellow
4 international students, I know that this process can take weeks if not months. I could not
5 risk such delays since, among other things, the extended absence could jeopardize my
6 research.
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- 8 5. The travel bans on Iranian nationals implemented pursuant to the March 6, 2017 Executive
9 Order and the recent Presidential Proclamation have created an even greater emotional
10 burden. Whereas I had been willing to make the personal sacrifice of not seeing my family
11 for some time to achieve my goal of advancing research on diabetes, I never understood or
12 expected this sacrifice to be permanent. While I am not sure that I can remain in this
13 country under such circumstances, I also cannot move to Canada or Europe without
14 upending my family because my fiancé is a U.S. citizen.
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- 16 6. The March 6, 2017 Executive Order prevented me from visiting my family as I was not
17 eligible for a new visa to return to my life, my fiancé, and my research in the United
18 States.
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- 20 7. Nor was my immediate family, who live in Iran, able to come visit me because of the entry
21 restrictions on Iranian nationals under that Executive Order. My mother had been planning
22 to visit me over the summer in New York, but cancelled her plans after the Executive
23 Order was issued.
- 24 8. My mother remains in Iran and has applied for a visa to come to the United States. She
25 was interviewed for the visa in June 2017, but has not yet received it.
26

1 9. On September 27, 2017, the Executive Order’s “temporary ban” on entry of Iranian
2 nationals into the United States become an indefinite ban pursuant to Presidential
3 Proclamation.

4
5 10. After September 27th, I inquired about the status of my mother’s visa application. I was
6 told that the application was still being processed.

7 11. Because the baseline rule under the September 27th Proclamation is that no Iranian
8 nationals will be granted immigrant or nonimmigrant visas, with the exception of some
9 student visas, I am doubtful that my mother will be granted a visa. I do not know whether
10 or when she could receive a waiver and be permitted to visit me. The possibility that she
11 will be unable to visit me for the indefinite future is distressing and contributes to my
12 uncertainty about whether to remain in the United States.

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

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16 Executed on this 11th day of October, 2017

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18 _____
19 /s
20 Sadaf Amin
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