

Honorable James L. Robart

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

Juweiya Abdiaziz ALI, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Donald TRUMP, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No.: 2:17-cv-00135-JLR

**DECLARATION OF OLAD ISSA OMAR
IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS**

I, Olad Issa Omar, declare under penalty of perjury as follows:

1. I am over the age of eighteen, am competent to testify to the matters below, and make this declaration based on personal knowledge.

2. I am a United States citizen. I live in Tukwila, Washington. I am a self-employed.

3. I came to the United States when I was about 28 years old from Kenya as a refugee. I became a citizen of the U.S. on April 05, 2005.

4. I have three children who live in Kenya, Nairobi. My daughter Faduma Olad Issa is 19 years old. My daughter F [REDACTED] O [REDACTED] I [REDACTED] is 17 years old. My son S [REDACTED] O [REDACTED] I [REDACTED] is 12 years old.

5. I came to the United States after my second child, F [REDACTED], was born. She was born on May 17, 1999. I left my children in around June 1999 with their mother to find better life and work for them.

1 6. I went back to Kenya in 2004 to see my children and their mother. In 2004 my wife
2 became pregnant and gave birth to our third child, S [REDACTED], on January 29, 2005. After I came
3 back to America my wife at the time, and their mother, left our children in Kenya and asked me
4 to divorce her in 2008. She left the three children and I begged their grandfather, their mother's
5 father, to look after my children. Seven years later, on April 4, 2015, my children's grandfather
6 passed away. My children didn't have close family to look after them. Their neighbors were
7 watching after my children and helping them out with groceries and shopping.
8

9 7. I reach my children by phone, I call them every day ask their day and health. They
10 currently live by themselves in Kenya, Nairobi. I have visited my children's three times in 2013,
11 beginning 2016, and middle of 2016.

12 8. I have filed the visa immigration petition on May 23, 2014 for my three children and I
13 paid the filing fee for each. Two months later I got a letter that said approved on July 27, 2014.
14 They have taken their medical examination test on October 24, 2016 because they had an
15 interview appointment in November 2016, but that was cancelled. They were then scheduled for
16 an interview on March 20, 2017.

17 9. Their interview appointment that was scheduled for March 20, 2017, was then canceled
18 based on the executive order signed on January 27, 2017. I received an email on January 28,
19 2017 canceling their upcoming visa appointment in compliance with the new executive order
20 directives.

21 10. I did not receive any notice from the consulate since the day they canceled my children's
22 interviews. I tried calling and I also sent emails to the U.S. Consulate in Nairobi asking about my
23 children's case. They had not responded to me until I was forced to hire an attorney for help. My
24 attorney sent a request for a follow up and the U.S. Consulate finally responded.
25

26 11. I was able to schedule an immigrant visa appointment for my three children for March
27 13, 2017.
28

1 12. Now that there is a new executive order that I understand will be in effect on March 16,
2 2017, three days after my children's immigrant visa appointment, I feel scared. Everytime we
3 hear about what the President is doing, I get terrified. I do not want this new executive order to
4 affect my children's case.

5 13. I received an email from the U.S. Consulate on March 7, 2017 telling me that there was a
6 new executive order. My children were born in Kenya, but are citizens of Somalia. They are
7 impacted by this order. The U.S. Consulate asked me to review the information at this link:
8 <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/news/important-announcement.html>.

9 14. The email is confusing, it does not tell me my children can still go to their appointment
10 on March 13, 2017.

11 15. The last time I have seen my children was in August 2016. I want my three children to
12 be here in America because I want them to live in a peaceful country. I want my children to learn
13 and get their education. They are feeling scared, lonely, and I'm scared for them how Nairobi is
14 changing. The environment where they lives is not safe, there are a lot of robberies and they have
15 been targeted when I send money to them. My two oldest daughters can't be out by themselves,
16 the neighbors are looking after my three children. I can't go back to them again because it's
17 expensive and I need to work to send them money while they can come here with me. I already
18 went to Nairobi three times.

19 20 16. When I heard about the March 6, 2017 executive order, I was scared for my health. I
21 could not sleep for two nights thinking about my children and our separation. I can't go be with
22 them because I need to work to provide financially for them. I need them here with me.

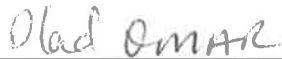
23 17. I would kindly really appreciate if my children process goes faster so they could live with
24 their family, with their little sister and their two step-brothers. I always get scared when they call
25 me at midnight (because it's day time for them). But I ask myself before I answer, "Are they
26 doing okay?" My second daughter has been sick for a while now. I need my children's because I
27 always encourage them talking to them every day so they don't feel lonely. I want my children to
28

1 be here with my family members. I have been separated from my children since 1999. I have
2 seen them three times in 2013 and 2016 two times.

3 18. I want the judge to know that I want my children desperately with me. They are the only
4 family I have in Nairobi. They are by themselves. My youngest daughter wishes their three older
5 siblings to be here with her. She always gets sad she sees other kids with older siblings playing. I
6 wish the ban can be stopped. Someone who is a U.S. citizen does not deserved to be banned from
7 bringing their family together. We are Muslims. We are peaceful humans. We have the right to
8 be with our families too.
9

10
11 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is
12 true and correct to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief.
13

14 Executed on this 9th the day of March, 2017, in Seattle, Washington.
15

16 
17 _____
18 Olad Issa Omar
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28