

Judge Orders Trump Administration to Release List of Individuals Detained After Court Order Suspended Muslim Ban

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW HAVEN, CT – Today, U.S. District Court Judge Carol Bagley Amon ordered the Trump Administration to produce a list of individuals detained pursuant to the Administration’s Executive Order banning nationals from seven Muslim-majority countries. The court’s order comes in *Darweesh v. Trump*, the first case to challenge the Muslim Ban and to suspend parts of its implementation in airports nationwide after Judge Ann Donnelly, another federal judge, stayed implementation of the order. Judge Donnelly’s stay prevented the removal of arriving immigrants subject to the ban and ordered the government to produce a list of detainees. Judge Amon’s new order now requires the Administration to provide a list of all potential *Darweesh v. Trump* class members that were detained pursuant to the Executive Order during the period immediately following the court order and throughout the next day.

The order represents an important win for the class members in *Darweesh v. Trump*, who include doctors, refugees, and students suddenly subject to the Administration’s Muslim Ban on January 27, 2017. As the plaintiffs’ court filings establish, many class members were victims of coercive tactics employed by Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers at airports nationwide, who used the Executive Order to force nationals from the seven banned countries to agree to departure from the United States. Judge Amon’s order now allows advocates and attorneys to reach out to those affected by the ban and ensure that they can seek return to the United States, as required by court orders in other cases around the country.

“For over three weeks, the Trump Administration refused to comply with a direct court order to produce a list of names of those detained under the Executive Order. Today’s order represents an important step in the fight to repair the damage done by the Muslim ban,” said Healy Ko, a law student intern at the Worker and Immigrant Rights Advocacy Clinic (WIRAC) at Yale Law School, one of the organizations representing the individuals who brought the *Darweesh* case. “We are aware of reports that CBP officers deliberately ignored the court’s order in the hours after the decision came down, and are confident that the court’s decision will help to identify individuals that were unlawfully removed and provide them a chance to return to the United States.”

In today’s decision, the court rebuffed the government’s argument that it had complied with the order by providing a “snapshot” of detainees nearly a week and half after Judge Donnelly’s order – a list that did not include any individuals. The court also rejected the government’s argument that no one was “detained” pursuant to the Muslim Ban, concluding that Judge Donnelly’s order included all “those being held for questioning pursuant to the EO.”

WIRAC is co-counsel with the National Immigration Law Center, the International Refugee Assistance Project, the American Civil Liberties Union, the New York Civil Liberties Union, and Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP in *Darweesh v. Trump*.

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For more information on the WIRAC litigation, visit <http://bit.ly/2ktJWJW>.