

interfaithimmigration.org



**Call and Webinar on
Monday, February 23rd at 4 p.m. EST**

***“The Recent Texas Court Ruling,
& Faith Roles to Support Executive Action
and Prepare Community Members NOW!”***

AGENDA



4:00 Welcome & Overview--Dr. Sharon Stanley-Rea, Director, Refugee & Immigration Ministries Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

4:05 National State of Play and Things to Know on TX Court Ruling--Jen Smyers, Associate Director, Immigration & Refugee Policy Church World Service

4:15 Legal Perspectives on Court Ruling—Nora Preciado, Staff Attorney, National Immigration Law Center

4:25 Messaging and Talking Points--Lynn Tramonte, Deputy Director America's Voice

4:35 Educate the Community--Rev. Dr. Sharon Stanley- Rea

4:40 Q&A/Discussion

Defending Our Victory



Republican efforts to attack executive action

- Use DHS Appropriations bill to block administrative relief
 - Several bad amendments passed the House
- *Texas v. US*, multi-state lawsuit led by Texas to block the President's actions on immigration reform
- Recent threats by Congress to sue the President over immigration
- Create confusion and fear in the community to sabotage program

National State of Play

- HR 240 passed the House, is meant to nullify Executive Action and mandate S-COM, the Senate Democrats are filibustering and the White House has issued a Veto threat.
- Court ruling – Judge Hanen- Texas
- DOJ to petition stay of court Injunction
- Appeal to 5th Circuit Court

5 Things to Know TX Ruling

1) Individuals who currently have DACA are not impacted. They can, and should, still apply for DACA renewal. The 2012 executive action on DACA was not challenged by this lawsuit or impacted by the injunction.

Things to Know- TX Ruling

2) This is temporary. The White House has promised that the Justice Department will appeal the judge's decision, and we are confident that this temporary injunction will be reversed and that implementation will move forward. Although this could delay the start of when DHS accepts applications for DAPA and expanded DACA, it is expected to be a minor delay until the higher 5th Circuit court can rule.

Things to Know- TX Ruling

- His opinion is far outside of the legal mainstream and highly likely to be reversed. It's important to note that the ruling does not challenge the legal authority of the president to make these executive actions, but claims that they did not go through the public notice and comment period that changes in statute often involve. The President's actions were consistent with his constitutional authority to set immigration enforcement priorities and apply prosecutorial discretion, which every president before him has done.

Things to Know- TX Ruling

3) We can and must continue to prepare for DAPA and expanded DACA. The injunction only impacts the government's ability to process applications. We are concerned how media reports might instill fear in those eligible. Our community education and preparation sessions should not be cancelled or delayed - there is more need for community education than ever to debunk the misinformation that is going around about this process. Service providers are still encouraged to meet with individuals and help them prepare their applications and gather documents so that as soon as the injunction is lifted individuals can immediately send in their applications and get relief as soon as possible

Things to Know- TX Ruling

4) The Texas court case and injunction do not impact all of the President's executive actions. The injunction only refers to the most recent announcement of DAPA and expanded DACA. It does not stop the important changes to enforcement priorities or the replacement of the Secure Communities (SCOM) Program with the Prioritized Enforcement Program (PEP). This means that individuals who will likely qualify for DACA and DAPA remain non-priorities for enforcement, and should not be put into removal proceedings, detained or deported. In the interim before implementation, ICE offices have been instructed to flag cases that would potentially qualify for DACA and DAPA and not pursue enforcement action against them.

Things to Know- TX Ruling

- If you know of anyone in your community who might qualify for expanded DACA or DAPA and is placed into removal proceedings or detained, please notify Jen Smyers (jsmyers@cwsglobal.org) immediately, immediately, providing the individual's full name, date of birth, city and state, alien number, and other important case details. The court ruling also does not impact in any way the state side waiver expansion for spouses and minor children of green card holders and adult sons or daughters of U.S. citizens.

Things to Know- TX Ruling

- 5. There is a lot we can do to influence what happens next.**

We need to stand strong with the administration and urge them to take bold, swift action to seek an emergency stay of the injunction, which would allow implementation to move forward. We also need to educate our public officials on the importance of DAPA and expanded DACA. Actions are being planned across the country to protest the court ruling and urge officials to stand with their communities in opposing the injunction and seeking full and immediate implementation of DAPA and expanded DACA. Reach out to your local, state and national policy makers to voice your support for DACA and DAPA and urge them to stand with you and the community to support these programs and educate the public about their importance.

Texas v. U.S.

- President's Executive Action Nov. 20, 2014
 - Expanded DACA
 - DAPA
 - Expansion of provisional waivers
 - Work authorization to spouses of certain H1-B visa holders

Texas v. U.S.

- Challenge to expanded DACA and DAPA programs
 - Dec. 2014 in district court in Texas
 - Texas and 25 states
 - Various claims
 - Ask for preliminary injunction: hearing Jan. 19th

Texas v. U.S.

- Monday, Feb. 16, 2015: temporary injunction blocking expanded DACA and DAPA program from implementation
 - Court found that TX has standing to sue
 - Court found that federal government violated the APA

Texas v. U.S.

- Department of Justice today filed a notice of appeal
- Department of Justice also filed today an emergency expedited motion to stay
 - DOJ said: it has a substantial likelihood of prevailing on their appeal, the government will be irreparably harmed if a stay is not granted, the public interest favors a stay, and the plaintiffs will not be harmed by a stay
 - In the alternative, the government argues the injunction is overbroad and should be geographically limited to the state of Texas

General Message

- *This is the beginning of the legal process, not the end of the road.* We're confident our position will prevail because we have the law and justice on our side.
- *Pivot to the people. Who are we talking about?* They are mothers and fathers. Workers. Relatives, neighbors, and friends. Immigrants who have lived here so long, this is their truly home. They are Americans in every way but their paperwork.

General Message (Cont'd)

- *Our ask.* Stop playing politics with people's lives. To the states: drop this harmful, frivolous lawsuit. To the Congress: stop attacking our families and get to work on real immigration reform. To the Administration: fight these Republican attacks tooth and nail.
- *Own the power.* Our communities are ready for justice and we're not going to stop organizing until all of our families are safe and together.

Evidence and Key Points

- Every president since Eisenhower has taken administrative action on immigration
- 12 states, dozens of mayors/police chiefs, and hundreds of legal experts agree that these policies are both smart and legal
- CAP has state fact sheets on positive economic impact of DACA/DAPA

Evidence and Key Points (Cont'd)

- Judge Hanen is an activist judge, hand-selected to hear this case by opponents of immigration; Judge Howell in DC rejected a similar case
- If case gets to SCOTUS, helpful to remember that they already threw out much of AZ anti-immigration law

Evidence and Key Points (Cont'd)

- Remember, we're talking about people who have lived in the U.S. for *decades*, and the parents of *U.S. citizens*
- GOP immigration attacks = 2016+ political problem (Latino, APIA, immig, other voters)
- For resources on all of these points, see:
<http://americasvoice.org/research/executive-action-resources-2/>

Continue to Prepare

- Advocates and the federal government feel confident that higher courts such as the Fifth Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court will allow these initiatives to take full effect. Community members should continue to prepare to apply for these initiatives by gathering the necessary paperwork they will need to submit and by getting money together for application fees so that they can apply once the initiatives are fully implemented.

Crucial Roles of Faith Partners:

Educate the Community

SHARE

- Accurate information about Court Ruling and help
- Where to find qualified help.
- Warnings about unauthorized providers
 - Report scams (www.uscis.gov/avoidscams)
- How to prepare (see iAmerica.org and nilc.org)
 - Documentation, Fees, Eligibility, To Do/Not Do
 - NILC’s “Top 10 Ways You Can Prepare for Executive Action on Immigration” w/ graphics
- How to avoid notario scams and fraud (nilc.org, stopnotariofraud.org)



Crucial Roles of Faith Partners: Educate the Community

HELP GATHER



- Checklists for Eligibility & Potential Applicants
iAmerica.org, nilc.org, cliniclegal.org (what to do and NOT do)
- Checklist for How to [☑]Help Your Community
Prepare for Administrative Relief (instead of giving legal advice) www.cliniclegal.org/adminrelief
--stay informed, report scams, get legal assistance, file taxes, gather records, study English, begin saving money

Crucial Roles of Faith Partners:

Educate the Community

SPEAK, RECRUIT, HOST, CONTACT



- Disseminate materials, faith talking points
- Inform about iAmerica.org, other resources
- Author op-eds, drafts soon to come
- Host info sessions and clinics
- Recruit volunteers to help with outreach and application tool navigation
- Contact your denominational/faith office to for specific resources/event schedules/requests re:
Exec Action

Contact eva.bonime@seiu.org for more info on partnering with iAmerica

IIC Contacts by organization

- **African American Ministers in Action:** Leslie Malachi, lmalachi@pfaw.org
- **American Baptist Home Mission Societies of the American Baptist Churches, USA:** Aundreia Alexander, Aundreia.Alexander@abhms.org
- **American Friends Service Committee:** Lia Lindsey, llindsey@afsc.org
- **American Jewish Committee:** Chelsea Hanson, hansonc@ajc.org
- **Bread for the World Institute:** Andrew Wainer, awainer@bread.org
- **Christian Church (Disciples of Christ):** Sharon Stanley, sstanley@dhm.disciples.org
- **Christian Reformed Church**
Kris Van Engen, kvanengen@crcna.org
- **Church of the Brethren:** Nate Hosler, nhosler@brethren.org
- **Church World Service:** Jen Smyers, jsmyers@cwsglobal.org
- **Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach:** Chloe Schwabe, cschwabe@columban.org
- **Conference of Major Superiors of Men:** Eli McCarthy emccarthy@cmsm.org
- **Daughters of Charity:** Mary Ellen Lacey, Maryellen.lacy@doc.org
- **Episcopal Church:** Katie Conway, kconway@episcopalchurch.org
- **Franciscan Action Network:** Marie Lucey, lucey@franciscanaction.org
- **Friends Committee on National Legislation:** Ruth Flower, flower@fcn1.org
- **HIAS:** Liza Lieberman, liza.lieberman@hias.org
- **Interfaith Worker Justice:** Michael Livingston, mlivingston@iwj.org
- **Irish Apostolate USA:** Geri Garvey, administrator@usairish.org
- **Islamic Information Center:** (currently no contact available)
- **Jesuit Refugee Service/USA,** Mary Small, msmall@jesuit.org
- **Jewish Council for Public Affairs:** Jill Borak, jborak@thejcpa.org
- **Leadership Conference of Women Religious:** Ann Scholz, SSND ascholz@lcwr.org
- **Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service:** Brittney Nystrom, Bnystrom@lirs.org
- **Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns:** Judy Coode, jcoode@maryknoll.org
- **Mennonite Central Committee:** Tammy Alexander, TammyAlexander@mcc.org
- **Muslim Public Affairs Council:** Hoda Elshishtawy, hoda@mpac.org
- **Sisters of the Good Shepherd:** Larry Couch, lclobbyist@gsadvocacy.org
- **National Council of Churches:** Russell Meyer, rmeyer@floridachurches.org
- **National Council of Jewish Women:** Madeline Shepherd, madeline@ncjwdc.org
- **NETWORK Lobby:** Laura Peralta-Schulte LPeralta@networklobby.org
- **Pax Christi:** Anne-Louise Nadeau, anadeau@paxchristiusa.org
- **PICO:** Gordon Whitman, gwhitman@piconetwork.org
- **Presbyterian Church, USA:** Teresa Waggener, Teresa.Waggener@pcusa.org
- **Sisters of Mercy of the Americas:** Ryan Murphy, rmurphy@sistersofmercy.org
- **Sojourners:** Ivone Guillen, iguillen@sojo.net
- **3P Human Security:** Tom Brenneman, cooperativebydesign@gmail.com
- **T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights,** Rabbi Rachel Kahn-Troster rkahntroster@truah.org
- **Union for Reform Judaism:** Jonathan Edelman jedelman@rac.org
- **Unitarian Universalist Association:** Jen Toth, JToth@uua.org
- **United Church of Christ:** Rev. Mari Castellanos, castellm@ucc.org
- **United Methodist Church:** Bill Mefford, bmefford@umc-gbcs.org
- **UNITED SIKHS:** Anisha Singh, anisha.singh@unitedsikhs.org
- **U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops:** Kevin Appleby, kappleby@usccb.org
- **U.S. Jesuit Conference,** Shaina Aber, saber@jesuit.org
- **World Relief:** Jenny Hwang jhwang@worldrelief.org