KNOW YOUR RIGHTS:
IMMIGRATION AND ASYLUM IN THE U.S.
UNDER THE EXECUTIVE ORDER
JUNE 2017
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Thomson Reuters Foundation is immensely grateful to the International Refugee Assistance Project, Journey’s End Refugee Services, and important law firm partners for dedicating their time and expertise to making this Guide possible.

The International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP) organizes law students and lawyers to develop and enforce a set of legal and human rights for refugees and displaced persons. Mobilizing direct legal aid and systemic policy advocacy, IRAP serves the world’s most persecuted individuals and empowers the next generation of human rights leaders.

Journey’s End Refugee Services is a not-for-profit refugee resettlement agency that provides social and legal services to refugees and low-income immigrants in Upstate New York. The Immigration Legal Services Program at Journey’s End provides comprehensive low-cost and pro bono immigration legal services to refugees, asylees, parolees, and other low-income immigrants.
DISCLAIMER

This Guide, and the information it contains, is provided for general informational purposes only. It has been prepared in May 2017 as a tool to assist the public, particularly current and potentially impacted individuals, in understanding the travel and refugee bans of the current Executive Order Restricting Travel to the U.S. from Certain Countries and Imposing Refugee Restrictions. The Guide does not constitute, and must not be relied or acted upon as, legal advice or create an attorney-client relationship with the Thomson Reuters Foundation, the International Refugee Assistance Project, Journey’s End Refugee Services, or any law firm partners. Neither the Thomson Reuters Foundation, the International Refugee Assistance Project, Journey’s End Refugee Services, nor any law firm partners accept any responsibility or liability for losses that may arise from reliance upon the information contained in this Guide or any inaccuracies therein. Legal advice should be obtained from legal counsel qualified in the relevant jurisdiction(s) when dealing with specific circumstances.
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INTRODUCTION

On March 6, 2017, the President of the United States issued an Executive Order that, among other actions, temporarily suspended the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program for 120 days and banned people from six majority-Muslim countries—Syria, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, and Yemen—from entering the United States for 90 days (“Executive Order Restricting Travel to the U.S. from Certain Countries and Imposing Refugee Restrictions,” referred to unofficially as the “Muslim ban”). However, on March 15 and 16, 2017, federal district courts in Maryland and Hawai’i issued orders temporarily blocking the enforcement of these provisions. On May 25, 2017, the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals issued a decision refusing to lift the nationwide injunction issued by the federal district court in Maryland. As of the time of publication, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has not yet issued a decision on the government’s appeal of the nationwide injunction issued by the federal district court in Hawai’i. On June 1, 2017, the government asked the U.S Supreme Court to hear the government’s appeal of the Fourth Circuit’s decision. The government also asked the Supreme Court to stay the Maryland and Hawai’i injunctions until the case is resolved so that the Executive Order can be enforced while the Supreme Court decides the case. As of the time of publication, the Supreme Court has not yet issued a decision on granting either of the government’s requests. The Executive Order also formally revoked the previous executive order on the same topics, which was issued in January; this revocation was not affected by the federal court orders.

In partnership with the Thomson Reuters Foundation and with the assistance of Journey’s End Refugee Services (JERS), the International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP) and important law firm partners have prepared this “Know-Your-Rights Guide” to assist the public, particularly current and potentially impacted individuals, in understanding the travel and refugee bans of the current Executive Order. This “Know-Your-Rights Guide” is written in a question-and-answer format and divided into three sections: (1) the scope of the Executive Order’s travel and refugee bans; (2) the implementation of the Executive Order’s travel and refugee bans; and (3) rights and legal recourse for impacted individuals.

This “Know-Your-Rights Guide” is meant to provide a high-level overview for informational purposes only and is not meant to provide legal advice. For legal assistance for affected individuals, we recommend reaching out to the contacts identified in Appendix A. Please note that the situation is very fluid at this time and could change quickly. Thomson Reuters Foundation and IRAP will undertake every effort to keep this document up to date as the situation develops.
GENERAL INFORMATION

1. What is the Muslim ban and what are its main terms?

On March 6, 2017, President Trump issued “Executive Order Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States” (the “EO” or the “Executive Order”). The EO revoked the previous Executive Order 13769, which had been issued on January 27, 2017, and enjoined by federal courts, and replaced it with revised provisions affecting travel and refugee resettlement. The EO provisions affecting travel and refugee resettlement were to take effect on March 16, 2017, at 12:01 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time (the “Effective Date”).

Among other things, the EO imposed the following restrictions beginning as of the Effective Date: (a) a 90-day suspension on “unrestricted entry” into the United States of nationals from the following countries: Syria, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, and Yemen (collectively, the “Restricted Countries”); (b) “additional scrutiny” and “thorough review” of applications for visas and any other admission to the United States by Iraqi nationals; and (c) 120-day suspension of the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (“USRAP”) (i.e., until July 14, 2017). Generally, the unofficial term “travel ban” refers to the 90-day suspension on arrivals of nationals of the Restricted Countries, and the unofficial term “refugee ban” refers to the 120-day suspension on the USRAP. The unofficial term “Muslim ban” refers collectively to these provisions in the Executive Order.

On March 15, 2017—the day before the Effective Date of the EO—the U.S. District Court in Hawai’i issued a temporary restraining order, later converted into a preliminary injunction, enjoining the federal government from “enforcing or implementing Sections 2 and 6 of the Executive Order across the Nation. Enforcement of these provisions in all places, including the United States, at all United States borders and ports of entry, and in the issuance of visas is prohibited, pending further orders from this Court.” In the early morning of March 16, 2017—the Effective Date for the EO—a U.S. District Court in Maryland issued a preliminary injunction enjoining the enforcement of solely Section 2(c) of the EO, which provides for the travel ban. The government appealed both decisions issuing the injunctions. On May 25, 2017, the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals issued a decision refusing to lift the nationwide injunction issued by the federal district court in Maryland. As of the time of publication, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has not yet issued a decision on the government’s appeal of the nationwide injunction issued by the federal district court in Hawai’i. As a result, Section 2 and Section 6 of the EO remain enjoined. On June 1, 2017, the government asked the U.S Supreme Court to hear the government’s appeal of the Fourth Circuit’s decision. The government also asked the Supreme Court to stay the Maryland and Hawai’i injunctions until the case is resolved so that the Executive Order can be enforced while the Supreme Court decides the case. As of the time of publication, the Supreme Court has not yet issued a decision on granting either of the government’s requests.

The Executive Order contains significant other provisions that may have long-term effects on travel, visa issuance, immigration, and refugee resettlement. These include sections on vetting standards, terrorism-related inadmissibility grounds, a Biometric Entry-Exit Tracking System, visa interview security, and visa validity reciprocity. This “Know-Your-Rights Guide” is limited to the Muslim ban.
2. Who is covered by the Muslim ban?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, the travel ban would have applied to nationals from the Restricted Countries (i.e., Syria, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, and Yemen); provided that each such individual (a) is outside the United States as of the Effective Date of the EO; (b) did not have a valid visa at 5:00 pm Eastern Standard Time on January 27, 2017; and (c) does not have a valid visa as of the Effective Date. Further exceptions are detailed below.

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court order, the refugee ban would have applied to all refugees seeking to resettle in the United States.

TRAVEL BAN: Temporary Suspension of Entry for Nationals of Restricted Countries

- Does the travel ban apply to all non-immigrants and immigrants who are foreign nationals of the Restricted Countries?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, the travel ban would have applied to all nationals of the Restricted Countries trying to enter the United States except:

- lawful permanent residents of the United States (i.e., green card holders);
- foreign nationals “admitted to or paroled into the United States” on or after the Effective Date;
- foreign nationals holding other valid types of travel documents that allow entry into the United States (e.g., advance parole document);
- dual nationals of the Restricted Countries so long as such individuals are traveling on a passport or other travel documents issued by a country other than the Restricted Countries;
- those individuals traveling on certain limited visas (diplomatic visas, North Atlantic Treaty Organization visas, C-2 visas for travel to the United Nations, and G-1, G-2, G-3, and G-4 visas for employees of designated international organizations); and
- foreign nationals who:
  i. have been granted asylum;
  ii. are refugees already admitted to the United States, and/or
  iii. have been granted withholding of removal, advance parole or protection under the Convention Against Torture (“CAT”).

In addition to these exceptions to the EO’s travel ban, the EO provides that the Department of Homeland Security and the State Department, on a case-by-case basis, can review individual cases and grant waivers if (1) that individual demonstrates that his or her entry into the United States is “in the national interest;” (2) such individual does not pose a national security threat; and (3) denying entry during the suspension period will cause undue hardship to such individual. The scope of what might be considered “in the national interest” or an “undue hardship,” as well as the scope of the agencies’ discretion to offer such a waiver, is discussed in Questions 11 and 20 below.
- Does the travel ban apply to other foreign nationals of the Restricted Countries who have other status such as Temporary Protected Status or other travel documents such as Refugee Travel Documents?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, as written, the EO exempts from the travel ban “any foreign national who has a document other than a visa, valid on the effective date of this order or issued on any date thereafter, that permits him or her to travel to the United States and seek entry or admission....”\(^1\)

Returning refugees and asylees, (i.e., people who have already been granted such status in the United States), would also be exempt from the EO if it were in effect. First-time entry for refugees is discussed in the refugee ban section below.

- Does the travel ban apply to dual nationals (United States citizenship and citizenship from one of the Restricted Countries)?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, as written, the EO does not apply to dual nationals of the Restricted Countries “when the individual is traveling on a passport issued by a non-designated country.”\(^2\) Accordingly, if the travel ban were in effect, a traveler presenting a passport issued by the United States or another non-restricted country should not be subject to detention or denied entry to the U.S. under the ban alone.

- Can the travel ban apply to persons who have traveled to the Restricted Countries even if they are not citizens or nationals of those countries?

No. Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, as written, the travel ban applies only to nationals of the Restricted Countries.\(^3\) However, nationals of countries participating in the Visa Waiver Program who have traveled to the Restricted Countries, as well as Iraq, at any time on or after March 1, 2011, may be subject to heightened scrutiny by customs officials or if attempting to enter without a visa, be found inadmissible as Visa Waiver Program violators.


- How will the refugee ban affect refugees outside of the United States who have refugee resettlement applications pending with USRAP?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court order, the refugee ban would have applied to all refugees seeking to resettle in the United States and would have suspended refugee admissions and refugee adjudications for 120 days while capping the total number of refugees allowed to enter in Fiscal Year 2017.

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\(^1\) EO, Section 3(b)(iii).
\(^2\) EO, Section 3(b)(iv).
\(^3\) EO, Section 2(c).
Although it is currently enjoined by federal court order, during the refugee ban’s 120-day suspension, individuals could receive waivers to be admitted as refugees on a case-by-case basis. In guidance issued along with the EO, the Trump Administration stated that, during the 120-day suspension of USRAP, the “Departments of Homeland Security and State will conduct [refugee] interviews as appropriate and consistent with the Executive Order.” However, few interviews have taken place.

After the 120-day suspension, travel would resume only for stateless persons and nationals of countries for which the Trump Administration has determined that procedures in place are adequate to ensure the security and welfare of the U.S. Following the 120-day suspension, refugee applicants who were already in the USRAP process would have been adjudicated according to any such revised procedures.

Finally, the refugee ban would have capped the number of refugees who may enter the United States in Fiscal Year 2017 at 50,000 people (a reduction of over 50% from 110,000 people as proposed by President Obama). As of April 30, 2017, 42,414 refugees had been admitted into the United States, meaning that fewer than 8,000 more refugees could be admitted to the United States for the remainder of this fiscal year.

- Does the suspension of refugee travel apply to all refugees who have already entered the United States?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, as written, the travel ban would not have applied to “any refugee who has already been admitted to the United States.” Refugees who are already in the United States would not have their travel restricted under the EO and would not have been subject to detention or deportation under it. Additionally, the refugee ban would not have applied to “refugee applicants who, before the effective date of this order, have been formally scheduled for transit by the Department of State.”

3. What is the current status and enforceability of the Muslim ban across the U.S.?

The travel and refugee ban provisions of the Muslim ban are currently enjoined by orders issued by federal district courts in Hawai’i and Maryland. These federal court orders apply “in all places, including the United States, at all United States borders and ports of entry, and in the issuance of visas.” The government appealed both decisions. On May 25, 2017, the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals issued a decision refusing to lift the nationwide injunction issued by the federal district court in Maryland. As of the time of publication, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has not yet issued a decision on the government’s appeal of the nationwide injunction issued by the federal district court in Hawai’i. As a

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4 See Q&A: Protecting the Nation From Foreign Terrorist Entry To The United States, Question 26 (March 6, 2017), https://www.dhs.gov/news/2017/03/06/qa-protecting-nation-foreign-terrorist-entry-united-states.
7 EO, Section 3(b)(vi).
8 EO, Section 6(a).
result, Section 2 and Section 6 of the EO remain enjoined. On June 1, 2017, the government asked the U.S Supreme Court to hear the government’s appeal of the Fourth Circuit’s decision. The government also asked the Supreme Court to stay the Maryland and Hawai’i injunctions until the case is resolved so that the Executive Order can be enforced while the Supreme Court decides the case. As of the time of publication, the Supreme Court has not yet issued a decision on granting either of the government’s requests.
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EXECUTIVE ORDER

**Immigrants and Non-Immigrants**

4. How does the travel ban apply to individuals who have been issued valid immigrant or non-immigrant visas who will be entering the US for the first time?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, as written, the EO would not apply to nationals from the Restricted Countries who either (a) were issued valid visas prior to 5:00 pm EST on January 27, 2017; or (b) have a valid visa on the Effective Date.  

5. How does the travel ban apply to immigrants and non-immigrants who are currently in the U.S.?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, as written, the EO would not apply to immigrants and non-immigrants who are in the U.S. on the Effective Date (i.e., March 16, 2017).

6. How does the travel ban apply to lawful permanent residents who are currently outside the U.S. or who are in the U.S. but planning to travel abroad and return?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, as written, the EO would not apply to “any lawful permanent resident of the United States,” including those from the Restricted Countries. A lawful permanent resident (i.e., “green card holder”) from a Restricted Country who is validly in the U.S. and who leaves and tries to return to the U.S. should not be subject to detention and deportation under the provisions of the travel ban. However, green card holders, regardless of whether they are from the Restricted Countries, may still be subject to increased scrutiny at the U.S. border pursuant to a Presidential Memorandum directing the Secretary of Homeland Security, among other agency heads, to “rigorously enforce all existing grounds of inadmissibility.”

7. How does the travel ban apply to individuals who are in the process of applying for immigrant or non-immigrant visas?

The federal court orders prohibit enforcement of the EO’s travel ban, including “in the issuance of visas.” Currently, while the travel ban is not in effect, an individual that is a national of a Restricted Country can seek to enter the United States and apply for and be granted U.S. visas subject to standard policies and procedures, including heightened screening and vetting of visa applications and admissibility at ports of entry.

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3 EO, Section 3(a).
4 EO, Section 3(b)(i).
6 Cite HI / MD PI's
If the travel ban were in effect, based on State Department guidance, previously scheduled visa appointment would not be cancelled, and “any individual who believes he or she is eligible for a waiver or exemption should apply for a visa and disclose during the visa interview any information that might qualify the individual for a waiver/exemption.” The guidance notes that a consular officer would make determinations on waiver or exemption eligibility.

Apart from the travel ban, all visa applications may be subject to new “protocols and procedures…that will enhance the screening and vetting of applications for visas and all other immigration benefits.” According to Department of State cables published by Reuters, consular officers are instructed to “not hesitate to refuse any case presenting security concerns under [INA] §221(g) …in order to explore all available local leads and pending the outcome of [a Security Advisory Opinion] as appropriate, or issue any other refusals or take other precautionary actions pursuant to any applicable ground of inadmissibility under the INA. …A consular officer should refuse under §214(b) of the INA any nonimmigrant visa applicant whom the consular officer believes may fail to abide by the requirements of the visa category in question.”

The cables also show that Consular Chiefs have been directed to convene working groups to “develop a list of criteria identifying sets of post applicant populations warranting increased scrutiny,” to identify individuals falling within those population sets during the course of consular visa interviews, and to “consider sending a discretionary Donkey Security Advisory Opinion (SAO) request” for any visa applicants that are otherwise eligible for a visa. A “Donkey Security Advisory Opinion request” means that a consular officer sends a request to the Department of State’s headquarters in Washington, D.C., to investigate an individual’s case for possible ties to certain prohibited or concerning activities (e.g., espionage, terrorism, and illegal export of technology out of the United States) based on such individual’s name and/or certain nationalities.

Furthermore, parts of the EO not currently enjoined by federal court orders authorize heightened screening for Iraqi nationals. According to the leaked cables, consular officers adjudicating applications from an Iraqi national applying with an Iraqi passport “must consider whether the applicant was ever present in a territory at the time it was controlled by ISIS. If so, post must submit a Donkey Security Advisory Opinion (SAO) for these applicants, except those applying for an A/G/C-2/C-3/NATO visa.”

The cables also call for mandatory social media checks for any applicant who post determines may have ties to ISIS or other terrorist organizations or has ever been present in an ISIS-controlled territory.

In addition, the cables confirm that all embassies and consulates have been directed to limit the number of interviews scheduled per consular adjudicator per day, which “may cause interview appointment backlogs to rise.”

13 Cite, Reuters cables
14 Id. at Section 2.
15 17 STATE 25814 ¶ 4.
16 Id. ¶¶ 6-7.
17 Id. ¶ 12.
18 Id. ¶ 13.
8. How does the travel ban apply to previously admitted non-immigrants who are currently outside the U.S. or who are planning to travel abroad and return on their current non-immigrant visa?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, under the EO, previously admitted non-immigrants who have valid multiple entry visas on the Effective Date would have been permitted to travel abroad and return on that visa. However, the visa must be valid upon re-entry to the United States. An individual whose visa would have expired while abroad “must obtain a new valid visa prior to returning to the United States.”

In addition, a Presidential Memorandum directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to “enhance the screening and vetting” of immigration benefits, likely including entry to the United States, by implementing protocols and procedures that focus on “ensuring the proper collection of all information necessary to rigorously evaluate all grounds of inadmissibility or deportability.” Although details on how U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (“CBP”) is implementing this Presidential Memorandum are not available, an increase in findings of inadmissibility and removals appears likely.

Any foreign nationals, including those of the Restricted Countries, who have a valid single entry visa may not re-enter the United States on that visa, regardless of the travel ban.

**Dual Nationals**

9. How does the travel ban apply to dual nationals who are currently in the U.S.?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, the travel ban would not affect dual nationals currently in the United States, unless and until the dual national seeks to leave and re-enter the United States.

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, as written, the travel ban would not apply to dual nationals of the Restricted Countries “when the individual is traveling on a passport issued by a non-designated country.” Accordingly, if upon leaving and seeking to re-enter the U.S. on a valid visa, the dual national presented a passport issued by a non-restricted country, such dual national should not be subject to detention or denied admission solely because of the travel ban.

10. Can a dual national who holds nationality with a Restricted Country and is currently overseas, apply for an immigrant or nonimmigrant visa to the United States?

Although the EO is currently enjoined by federal court orders, State Department guidance indicates “embassies and consulates around the world will process visa applications and issue nonimmigrant

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19 See Q&A: Protecting the Nation From Foreign Terrorist Entry To The United States at Question 5.
20 See id. at Question 6.
21 Presidential Memorandum on Implementing Immediate Heightened Screening and Vetting of Applications for Visas and Other Immigration Benefits, § 2.
22 See Q&A: Protecting the Nation From Foreign Terrorist Entry To The United States at Question 4.
23 EO, Section 3(b)(iv).
and immigrant visas to otherwise eligible visa applicants who apply with a passport from an unrestricted country, even if they hold dual nationality from one of the six restricted countries.”

11. In what circumstances might the Administration issue a travel ban waiver?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, as written, Section 3(c) of the EO provides that waivers to the travel ban would be available on a case-by-case basis, in the discretion of a consular officer or CBP. Consular officers or CBP might grant a waiver if they are satisfied that (a) denying entry during the suspension period would cause undue hardship; (b) the foreign national’s entry would not pose a threat to national security; and (c) the foreign national’s entry would be in the national interest. According to the Trump Administration, waivers for overseas travelers without a valid visa would be adjudicated by the State Department in conjunction with a visa application. Waivers issued as part of the visa issuance process would be effective for the issuance of the visa and subsequent entries on that visa, although other requirements for admission or entry might still apply. According to Section 3(c) of the EO, a waiver would be appropriate in the following cases:

- Foreign nationals who have previously been admitted to the United States for work, study, or other long-term activity;
- Foreign nationals who have previously established significant contacts with the United States but are outside the United States on the Effective Date;
- Foreign nationals seeking to enter the United States to visit or reside with a close family member (spouse, child, parent) who is a U.S. citizen, lawful permanent resident, or alien admitted on a valid nonimmigrant visa, and denial of entry would cause undue hardship;
- Foreign nationals who are infants, young children, or adoptees, who need urgent medical care, or whose entry is otherwise justified by special circumstances;
- Foreign nationals who have been employed by, or on behalf of, the U.S. Government (or are eligible dependents of such employees) and the employee can document that they provided faithful and valuable service to the U.S. Government;
- Foreign national who are traveling for purposes related to an international organization designated under the International Organizations Immunities Act (“IOIA”), traveling for purposes of conducting meetings or business with the U.S. Government, or traveling to conduct business on behalf of an international organization not designated under the IOIA;
- Foreign nationals who are landed Canadian immigrants who apply for a visa within Canada; and/or
- Foreign nationals who are traveling as a U.S. Government-sponsored exchange visitor.

According to the cables published by Reuters, consular officers were directed that “determining that a case falls under any [listed] circumstance …is a sufficient basis for concluding a waiver is in the national interest. Determining that a case falls under some of these circumstances may also be a sufficient basis for concluding that denying entry during the 90-day suspension would cause undue hardship.”

The cables also listed additional circumstances that might be appropriate for a waiver:

- “The applicant is a high-level government official traveling on official business who is not eligible for the diplomatic visa normally accorded to foreign officials of national governments (e.g., A or G visas). Examples include governors and other appropriate members of sub-
national (state/local/regional) governments; and members of subnational and regional security forces;
- The applicant is traveling to participate in a Department of Defense ("DoD") program that DoD deems mission critical;
- The applicant is traveling to participate in a major cultural, media, and other national event such as a U.S. Olympic Committee sponsored competition that would support U.S. government objectives; and
- Cases where all three criteria [national interest, undue hardship, and no threat to national security] are met and the Chief of Mission or Assistant Secretary of a Bureau supports the waiver."\(^{25}\)

However, following the orders from the District Courts in Hawai’i and Maryland, a subsequent cable instructed that these waiver processing instructions, along with visa suspension pursuant to the EO, "must not be implemented."\(^{26}\)

**Refugees, Asylum Seekers, Asylees, and Other Humanitarian Programs**

12. How would the EO affect previously admitted refugees, asylees, or persons under other humanitarian programs who are currently outside the U.S., or who are in the U.S. but planning to travel abroad and return?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, if the EO were in effect, the travel and refugee bans would not apply to individuals who have already been granted asylum, as the EO provides an explicit exception for "any foreign national who has been granted asylum; any refugee who has already been admitted to the United States; or any individual who has been granted withholding of removal, advance parole, or protection under the Convention Against Torture."\(^{27}\) The EO’s travel ban section makes an express exception for “any foreign national who has a document other than a visa, valid on the effective date of this order or issued on any date thereafter, that permits him or her to travel to the United States and seek entry or admission, such as an advance parole document."\(^{28}\)

Accordingly, asylees or refugees who obtain the appropriate Refugee Travel Document or individuals with withholding of removal or CAT protections with the appropriate Advance Parole Document should be not be affected by the EO and can travel according to existing requirements.\(^{29}\)

It is important, however, for refugees and asylees to understand that they should not travel without their Refugee Travel Document. Additionally, those individuals with withholding of removal, with CAT protections, or that are asylum applicants should not travel without an Advanced Parole Document. Individuals apply for Refugee Travel Documents and Advancement Parole Documents using Form I-131, preferably no less than 60 days before leaving the United States. A person who has already

\(^{25}\) Id.

\(^{26}\) Id. 17 STATE 24800 at ¶ 1.

\(^{27}\) EO, Section 3(b)(vi); see also EO, Section 12(e).

\(^{28}\) EO, Section 3(b)(iii).

\(^{29}\) See Q&A: Protecting the Nation From Foreign Terrorist Entry To The United States at Question 9.
applied for asylum and leaves the United States without first obtaining advance parole will be presumed to have abandoned the asylum application.

In addition, the Presidential Memorandum directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to “enhance the screening and vetting” of immigration benefits, likely including entry to the United States, by implementing protocols and procedures that focus on “ensuring the proper collection of all information necessary to rigorously evaluate all grounds of inadmissibility or deportability.” Refugees and others may therefore face additional screening and risks in the re-entry process.

13. How are the spouses and children of refugees and asylees who are potential or current beneficiaries of refugee follow-to-join visas affected by the refugee and travel bans?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court order, the refugee ban would have impacted some refugee family members applying through the refugee/asylee follow-to-join process, which consists of an I-730 petition, followed by applications for either a follow-to-join visa for the family members of a refugee (known as a Visa 93) or a follow-to-join visa for the family members of a asylee (known as a Visa 92).

According to State Department cables, the 120-day suspension of refugee admissions would mean that follow-to-join visas for the family members of refugees (Visa 93s) would not be processed or issued because refugee follow-to-join family members are admitted to the United States as refugees. The National Visa Center would have been instructed to not forward any Visa 93 cases to posts for processing. The State Department cable does not clarify whether follow-to-join visas for the family members of asylees (Visa 92s) would have been processed and issued and stated only that “Guidance on V92 cases will follow.”

According to DHS guidance, the refugee ban’s exception for refugee admission would not have been available for I-730 cases.

14. How will the Executive Order affect humanitarian parole applicants or holders of advanced parole documents?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court order, the EO’s travel ban section makes an express exception for “any foreign national who has a document other than a visa, valid on the effective date of this order or issued on any date thereafter, that permits him or her to travel to the United States and seek entry or admission, such as an advance parole document.” It does not appear that the EO affects I-131 travel document application processing at USCIS. In all cases, heightened screening directed by the Presidential Memorandum would likely apply.

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20 Presidential Memorandum on Implementing Immediate Heightened Screening and Vetting of Applications for Visas and Other Immigration Benefits, § 2.
21 See Q&A: Protecting the Nation From Foreign Terrorist Entry To The United States at Question 27.
22 EO, Section 3(b)(i)(ii).
15. Will the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (“UNHCR”) refer refugees to the U.S. during the 120-day period? Will UNHCR re-submit to other resettlement countries (e.g., Canada, Australia) the cases of refugees who were previously referred by UNHCR to the U.S. for refugee resettlement but are now delayed significantly due to the suspension?

The EO does not directly require UNHCR, an international organization, to take any particular action. After the EO of January 27, 2017, was in effect, UNHCR suspended new resettlement referrals to the US. Although the EO is currently enjoined by federal court order, UNHCR has generally not referred any new cases to USRAP. UNHCR has encouraged refugees to contact their UNHCR office in the country in which they are located if protection or assistance issues arise. Currently, UNHCR is not resubmitting most applicants with pending USRAP cases to other resettlement countries due to extremely limited resettlement availability, although it can do so in the case of life-threatening emergencies or other urgent circumstances.

16. Will the U.S. accept new USRAP refugee cases—such as from refugees who can apply to USRAP through open access Priority 2 categories such as the Direct Access Program for US-affiliated Iraqis, or through Priority 3 family reunification or other Priority 1 referrals—and how will pre-interview USRAP processes be affected?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, the refugee ban of the EO would suspend “travel of refugees into the United States under the USRAP, and ... decisions on applications for refugee status.” If the EO were in effect, initial applications could still be accepted, but the administration has not issued guidance related to new applications. USCIS has not confirmed publicly if the processing of Affidavits of Relationship by the Refugee Access Verification Unit (“RAVU”) related to Priority 3 processing is affected. However, the EO does not appear to affect the vetting of qualifications for USRAP access.

Pre-interview processing at Resettlement Support Centers should also be able to continue. However, given that USCIS has suspended refugee corps circuit rides, newly applying refugees should expect substantial wait periods, potentially beyond USCIS’s previously stated average processing times of 18-24 months.

17. Does the EO affect the processing of I-130 petitions on behalf of Iraqi and Syrian refugees seeking to apply through the Direct Access Program for Iraqi and Syrian I-130 beneficiaries?

Regardless of the fact that the EO is currently enjoined by federal court orders, USCIS processing of I-130 petitions for alien relatives should not be affected by the EO. As noted above, access to new USRAP applications, including as an Iraqi or Syrian refugee who is the beneficiary of an approved I-130, should not be precluded by the EO. However, the travel ban would affect family-based visa applications for Syrians, and the refugee ban would suspend refugee interviews and all travel of refugees through USRAP.

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33 EO, Section 6(a).
18. Can United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (“USCIS”) continue refugee interviews?

Before the federal court order blocking enforcement of the refugee ban, the Trump Administration stated that the “Departments of Homeland Security and State will conduct [refugee] interviews as appropriate and consistent with the Executive Order.”34 However, if the EO were in effect, decisions on applications for refugee status would have been suspended for 120 days, absent a waiver. Section 6(c) of the EO permits the case-by-case admission of refugees for whom denial of entry would cause undue hardship and the entry is in the national interest and does not pose a threat to the “security or welfare” of the United States. Although the EO is enjoined, including its cap of refugee admission at 50,000 individuals, almost no refugee interviews have taken place since January 2017.35

19. Can the U.S. admit refugees pursuant to an international agreement?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, the EO would allow for the case-by-case admission of refugees where “the individual's entry would enable the United States to conform its conduct to a preexisting international agreement or arrangement.”36 The Trump Administration has yet to define what constitutes a “preexisting international agreement,” but it could include refugee applications processed in Nauru and Manus Island in accordance with the U.S.-Australian resettlement agreement, and in Malta under the U.S.-Malta agreement.

20. Can the U.S. admit refugees who face life-threatening emergencies? How would a refugee in USRAP processing request a waiver for refugee admission due to emergency circumstances?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, if the refugee ban were in effect, in limited circumstances, the U.S. could resettle refugees in emergency situations. Section 6(c) of the EO provides that the Secretaries of State and Homeland Security “may jointly determine to admit individuals to the United States as refugees on a case-by-case basis, in their discretion, but only so long as they determine that the entry of such individuals as refugees is in the national interest and does not pose a threat to the security or welfare of the United States.” This provision would apply to situations where “the denial of entry would cause undue hardship,” which would likely include a life-threatening emergency.37

Refugees in USRAP should contact their local Resettlement Support Center and the UNHCR office in the country they are located regarding any protection concerns they are facing.

34 Id.
36 EO, Section 6(c).
37 EO, Section 6(c).
21. Is Request for Reconsideration (“RFR”) processing affected by the EO?

Although the Trump Administration has not spoken on this issue, it appears that reviews of RFRs would continue if the EO were in effect, although adjudications would likely be suspended.

22. Is processing of I-602 waivers or TRIG exemptions affected by the EO?

Although the Trump Administration has not spoken on this issue, it appears that I-602 waivers would not be directly affected by the EO, although heightened scrutiny, as directed by the Presidential Memorandum, would apply.

TRIG exemptions are directly referenced by Section 7 of the EO, which remains in force and is not currently blocked by any court order. In Section 7 of the EO, the President calls for the Secretary of State and Secretary of Homeland Security to, in consultation with the Attorney General, “consider rescinding the exercises of authority permitted by section 212(d)(3)(B) of the INA… relating to the terrorism grounds of inadmissibility, as well as any related implementing directives or guidance.” There has been no public disclosure as to whether any such rescission has occurred yet.

23. Is Afghan or Iraqi SIV processing affected by the EO?

Generally, SIV processing should not be directly affected by the EO because SIV recipients are not admitted as refugees and would not be barred entry under the refugee ban and neither Afghanistan nor Iraq are not included in the list of Restricted Countries in the current EO (although Iraq was a listed country in the rescinded January 27, 2017 EO). The March 6, 2017 EO. does indicate that Iraqi visa applicants should receive “additional scrutiny.”

While the State Department had announced that visa allocations were going to run out and had halted Afghan SIV interviews, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017, signed into law on May 5, 2017, provided for 2,500 additional visas for the Afghan Special Immigrant Visa program. The bill immediately added the new visas to the program. Derivative family members (spouse and minor children) do not count toward the 2,500 limit. Afghan SIV applicants may also be subject to the Presidential Memorandum’s directions to increase scrutiny for visa applicants, and Iraqis applying for SIVs will be subject to heightened scrutiny under the EO.

24. How does the travel ban and/or the refugee ban affect individuals who are currently outside the U.S. and fear persecution?

While the travel and refugee bans are both currently blocked, as written, the EO provides that individuals who fear persecution in their home country may still request a credible fear interview upon arrival to the United States. Therefore, regardless of whether they are from the Restricted Countries, individuals who are at a port of entry should be allowed to seek asylum if they are faced with a threat of

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38 EO, Section 7.
39 EO, Section 1(g).
40 Consolidated Appropriations Act, H.R.244, Section 7083 (2017).
return, and request protection from return due to fear of persecution. Individuals requesting credible fear at ports of entry will be detained pending the interview. While detained, asylum-seekers have a right to contact family members and to obtain counsel before the interview. Individuals who are admitted to the United States can also file for asylum within a year of admission if they fear persecution in their home country.

The Trump Administration interpreted Executive Order 13769, in Washington v. Trump, as not affecting the processing of asylum applications from nationals of the Restricted Countries. Although the current EO states that nothing in the EO “shall be construed to limit the ability of an individual to seek asylum,” asylum seekers should note that a separate executive order, the “Executive Order on Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements,” may make it more difficult to receive a credible fear determination. That executive order aims to “end the abuse of parole and asylum provisions.” DHS interprets that executive order to “enhanc[e]” credible fear determinations by requiring USCIS officers to “conduct credible fear interviews in a manner that allows the interviewing officer to elicit all relevant information from the alien as is necessary to make a legally sufficient determination” (emphasis added). Individuals who fear persecution in their home country but who have not yet entered the United States should maintain access to all relevant information about their claim.

Because individuals without valid visas are not allowed to board planes and thus are unable to reach the United States, the vast majority of individuals who fear persecution cannot practically apply for asylum in the United States. The United States resettles refugees who are outside of the United States through USRAP. Only an extremely small number of refugees worldwide are resettled—usually less than one percent in any year. Refugees can apply for resettlement for USRAP after: 1) being referred by the UNHCR, a U.S. Embassy, or designated non-governmental organizations; 2) qualifying as a member of a designated group of special humanitarian concern; or 3) qualifying through refugee family reunification processes. Refugees who have fled from their home country can register with the UNHCR for protection and in a very small number of cases, resettlement referrals to countries like the United States that have refugee resettlement programs.

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42 EO, Section 12(e).
44 Id. at 8795.
WHAT ARE YOUR RIGHTS?

25. What are the rights of persons detained under the Executive Order?

The EO is currently blocked, but if you or someone you know is detained at a U.S. port of entry for reasons unrelated to the EO, you should contact a local immigration organization with expertise in this area, many of which provide legal services free of charge.\(^45\)

Unfortunately, the law is not settled regarding the appropriate scope of authority for the CBP at the border and other U.S. points of entry. CBP officials are not allowed to perform more invasive searches, such as body cavity searches, without a warrant. However, some attorneys practicing within this field believe that all individuals, including non-U.S. citizens, additionally have the right to an attorney if asked any non-basic questions, such as political beliefs or the contents of electronic devices. Because the law is not settled, persons undergoing primary and secondary inspection should exercise extreme caution when interacting with U.S. Customs and Border Protection. Persons sent to detention centers are allowed access to counsel, but at their own expense (i.e., a lawyer is not provided by the government).

CBP may only hold an individual for as long as it is necessary to process, transfer, or release an individual. According to CBP policy, “[d]etainees should generally not be held for longer than 72 hours in [CBP] hold rooms or holding facilities.”\(^46\)

CBP standards lay out the minimal conditions required for detainees. These conditions include:

- Basic personal hygiene items;
- Emergency medical care and U.S.-prescribed medication;
- Clean blankets (when available, for adults);
- Meals at regular intervals and drinking water; and
- Restroom facilities.

In addition, any person who has a credible fear of persecution, harm, or torture if returned to his or her country has the right to request a credible fear interview to begin the asylum process.

26. What are the rights of persons at a port of entry who are denied entry into the U.S. and subject to removal/deportation under the Executive Order?

Regardless of the EO, non-U.S. citizens generally do not have the right to enter the U.S., even if they present a valid visa. Based on comments by CBP to the American Immigration Lawyers Association (“AILA”) regarding the first travel ban/refugee ban executive order, expedited removal—a form of summary deportation—may be used for immigrants or non-immigrants who are found inadmissible and do not withdraw their application for admission at a port of entry. An expedited removal order generally bars an individual from returning to the United States for at least five years.

\(^{45}\) See Appendix A.

Persons subject to expedited removal have no right to an appeal. However, they may submit a challenge to CBP within 30 days of removal. Persons subject to deportation following an order by an immigration judge do have a right to an appeal.

If threatened with removal or attempts of coercion to sign any documents, green card holders should ask to speak with their lawyer and demand to see an immigration judge. Green card holders should neither sign an I-407 (Record of Abandonment of Lawful Permanent Residence) nor surrender their lawful permanent resident status without consulting an attorney. According to AILA, furthermore, “[n]either failure to sign nor abandonment is grounds for detention.”

**27. What legal recourse do immigrants and non-immigrants have in response to the Executive Order at the border if faced with denial of entry, detention and/or deportation from the U.S.?**

Regardless of whether the EO is in effect, anyone subjected to denial of entry, detention, and/or deportation—whether they are in the United States or outside of it—should report any denial of entry, detention, or deportation to an organization with expertise in this area, many of which provide legal services free of charge.

As noted, the EO does not apply to lawful permanent residents. Nevertheless, lawful permanent residents may still be subject to heightened scrutiny in admissibility decisions under other new administration policies and practices. When traveling internationally, lawful permanent residents should always consider the effects of travel outside the U.S. on their permanent resident status and be sure to have the appropriate documents needed to re-enter the U.S., including evidence demonstrating that the lawful permanent resident’s absence was temporary. If threatened with removal or attempts of coercion to sign any documents (such as an abandonment of lawful permanent resident status or withdrawal of application for admission), lawful permanent residents should ask to speak to their lawyer and demand to see an immigration judge. Lawful permanent residents can make their case to an immigration judge.

Immigrants and non-immigrants who are removed may be able to re-enter the U.S. by petitioning for a new visa and applying for an I-212 waiver for permission to re-apply for admission. Travelers whose visas were revoked may also be able to appeal that revocation, but should consult with an immigration attorney.

Consult with a lawyer if you believe you were harmed by discriminatory policies or practices, such as unlawful detention, at a port of entry. For information on how to seek pro bono legal assistance, see Appendix A.

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Id. § 1235.3(b)(2)(ii).

See Appendix A for more information.
28. What legal recourse do immigrants and non-immigrants applying for visas overseas have in response to the Executive Order?

Although it is currently enjoined by federal court orders, if the EO were in effect, immigrants and non-immigrants from the Restricted Countries who were outside of the U.S. and did not have a valid visa after the Effective Date might be able to apply for a waiver to the travel ban in conjunction with their visa applications. For more information on travel ban waivers (see Questions 11 and 20). Since the EO is currently blocked, all immigrants and non-immigrants may apply for a visa, although visa applications will likely be subject to heightened screening and vetting protocols in accordance with the Presidential Memorandum issued on March 6, 2017.

If the EO is reinstated, they should contact the Department of State for information about how the EO applies to visa applicants. In addition, nationals of the Restricted Countries who are also landed Canadian immigrants would be “eligible to apply for a visa, and coordinate a waiver, at a location within Canada.” As for other immigrants and non-immigrants, visa application denials might be appealable in certain cases.

Consult with a lawyer if you believe your visa application was wrongfully denied. For information on how to seek pro bono legal assistance, see Appendix A.

29. What are the rights of persons who have valid visas that were revoked or cancelled due to the first Executive Order of January 27, 2017?

Regardless of whether the EO is in effect, visas revoked or cancelled pursuant to the now-revoked Executive Order 13769 of January 27, 2017, should be valid, so long as they have not expired. In guidance interpreting the new EO, which is currently blocked, the Trump Administration stated that “[v]isas which were provisionally revoked solely as a result of the enforcement of Executive Order 13769 are valid for purposes of administering this Executive Order.” The second EO states that “[a]ny individual whose visa was marked revoked or marked canceled as a result of Executive Order 13769 shall be entitled to a travel document confirming that the individual is permitted to travel to the United States and seek entry.” The Trump Administration has yet to announce how to acquire this travel document.

Furthermore, the second EO provides that “[a]ny prior cancellation or revocation of a visa that was solely pursuant to Executive Order 13769 shall not be the basis of inadmissibility for any future determination about entry or admissibility.” While visas that were canceled or revoked solely because of the previous Executive Order 13769 shall not be used as the basis of inadmissibility, CBP may still consider other factors in making determinations about entry or admissibility.

Consult with a lawyer if your visa was revoked pursuant to the first EO and you are seeking assistance with obtaining a new visa. For information on how to seek pro bono legal assistance, see Appendix A.

See Q&A: Protecting the Nation From Foreign Terrorist Entry To The United States at Question 29.

Id. at Question 24.

EO, Section 12(d).

EO, Section 12(d).
Refugees & Humanitarian Programs

30. What legal recourse do individuals who fear persecution have if detained or threatened with return at the border in response to the Executive Order?

Anyone subjected to denial of entry, detention, and/or deportation—whether they are in the United States or outside of it—should report violations to an immigration organization with expertise in this area, many of which provide legal services free of charge.\(^\text{53}\)

- **Returning Refugees or Asylees.** If it were in effect, the EO would not deny entry to returning refugees or asylees.

- **Arriving Refugees.** If it were in effect, the EO would not apply to refugees who, before March 16, 2017, were already formally scheduled for transit by the Department of State. If a refugee applicant is present at a U.S. port of entry but has never been admitted to the United States, was not already formally scheduled for transit, or has not acquired a waiver, and is detained or threatened with return, she should state that she has the right to apply for asylum.\(^\text{54}\)

- **Asylum seekers and other individuals seeking fear-based relief.** Individuals have a right to seek asylum (subject to certain exceptions) if they have a credible fear of persecution in their home country. Although it is currently blocked, the EO states that it does not limit the ability of an individual to seek asylum, withholding of removal, or protection under the CAT. Asylum seekers that request a credible fear interview, where they have a right to counsel, should be aware that they will be detained pending the interview. If they pass the credible fear interview, an immigration judge will adjudicate their claim and the asylum seeker may appeal any denial of protection.

- **SIV-holders.** If it were in effect, the EO would not bar the entry or admission of SIV-holders. However, Iraqi SIV-holders will be subject to heightened scrutiny under the EO when applying for admission at ports of entry. Afghan SIV-holders are likely to also face heightened scrutiny at ports of entry. Any SIV-holder who is detained and threatened with deportation has a right to seek asylum, under the processes described above for “Asylum seekers and other individuals seeking fear-based relief.”

31. What legal recourse do individuals who fear persecution have if they are outside of the United States and impacted by the Executive Order?

- **Asylees or Previously Admitted Refugees Without a Refugee Travel Document.** If it were in effect, the EO would not deny entry to returning refugees or asylees. As noted above in Question 12 refugees or asylees should obtain a Refugee Travel Document before leaving the

\(^\text{53}\) See Appendix A for more information.

\(^\text{54}\) See 8 U.S.C. § 1158(a)(1) (providing that, subject to certain limitations and exceptions, “[a]ny alien who is physically present in the United States or who arrives in the United States . . . irrespective of such alien’s status, may apply for asylum”).
U.S. individuals outside the U.S. with valid refugee or asylee status, or lawful permanent residents whose status is a direct result of refugee/asylee status, should consult a lawyer to obtain assistance with potentially applying for a Refugee Travel Document, which must be filed within 1 year of the applicant's last departure from the U.S., and should include an explanation of why the applicant did not apply for the Refugee Travel Document in advance of departure.

- **Refugees in USRAP Seeking Refugee Ban Waivers.** Although it is currently blocked, if it were in effect the refugee ban section of the EO provides that “the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Homeland Security may jointly determine to admit individuals as refugees on a case-by-case basis, in their discretion, so long as they determine that the entry of such individuals as refugees is in the national interest and does not pose a threat to the security or welfare of the United States.”\(^55\) The EO states that such waivers might be appropriate when “the individual’s entry would enable the United States to conform its conduct to a preexisting international agreement or arrangement, or the denial of entry would cause undue hardship.”\(^56\) Refugees with a current resettlement case with the United States should also contact the Resettlement Support Center in their region for updated information, to keep their RSC updated on their protection situation and if the EO becomes effective, to request information about a waiver.

- **Advance Parole Travel Documents.** In very extraordinary circumstances, individuals outside the U.S. may be granted an Advance Parole Document for urgent humanitarian reasons or for significant public benefit.

32. Can individuals in the United States who fear persecution enter Canada and claim asylum?

The Safe Third Country Agreement allows Canada to turn away refugees who come from other countries via the U.S. Although Canadian government has faced calls to repeal the agreement since the first EO was signed, it has not done so.\(^57\) The Agreement provides exceptions for unaccompanied minors and refugee claimants with “anchor relatives” in Canada, among other cases.

For individuals inside the U.S. who fear persecution and wish to seek asylum, the EO does not affect the right to seek asylum, and the current EO states that nothing in the EO “shall be construed to limit the ability of an individual to seek asylum.”\(^58\)

\(^{55}\) EO, Section 6(c).
\(^{56}\) EO, Section 6(c).
\(^{58}\) EO, Section 12(e).
33. For refugees outside of the United States, do other countries offer refugee resettlement to those refugees affected by the ban?

For the most part, the UNHCR is not redirecting refugees in the U.S. program to other resettlement countries, stating that it would be impossible to submit large numbers of additional refugees from the United States to other countries. In certain cases where the refugee has extreme and urgent protection concerns and appear stuck in the USRAP pipeline because of the EO, UNHCR may re-refer to other countries. Refugees should contact their nearest UNHCR office if they need protection or assistance and generally to keep UNHCR updated on their protection situation. Refugees with a USRAP case should also contact the Resettlement Support Center in their region for updated information, and keep their RSC updated on their protection situation.

No other countries have offered alternatives to directly to refugees affected by the EO. In general, 36 other countries offer resettlement programs, but less than one percent of all refugees in the world are resettled. Slots in the United States generally account for 75% of those resettlement numbers, and the chances of being resettled to another resettlement country are extremely small.
To seek further assistance, different agencies and groups will be most appropriate depending on what assistance is needed and the affected person’s location. Please see the contact lists below for: lawyers seeking detailed guidance, travelers affected by the executive order, refugees in the United States seeking guidance, and refugees outside of the United States seeking guidance.

For Lawyers Seeking Detailed Guidance


For Travelers Affected by the Executive Order

- International Refugee Assistance Project, airport@refugeerights.org
- AILA Immigration Lawyer Search: http://www.ailalawyer.org/
- National Lawyers Guild Chapter List: https://www.nlg.org/chapters/
- List of Pro Bono Immigration Legal Services Providers from the Department of Justice: https://www.justice.gov/eoir/list-pro-bono-legal-service-providers-map
- ACLU Local Affiliates List: https://www.aclu.org/about/affiliates
- Council on American-Islamic Relations Chapter List: https://www.cair.com/cair-chapters.html

For Refugees in the United States Seeking Guidance

- Refugee Center Online, KYR Materials, https://therefugeecenter.org/resources/rights_laws/
- Refugee Center Online, Local Resources, https://therefugeecenter.org/in-your-city/
- Office of Refugee Resettlement, State Programs Director, https://www.acf.hhs.gov/orr/state-programs-annual-overview

For Refugees Outside of the United States Seeking Guidance

- UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, http://www.unhcr.org/en-us
- International Refugee Assistance Project, https://refugeerights.org/contact-us/

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69 In addition, a directory of local organizations that serve low-income individuals is available at www.immigrationlawhelp.org, and a directory of immigration lawyers through the American Immigration Lawyers Association (“AILA”) is available at www.ailalawyer.com. If you otherwise need a referral to a lawyer, please email airport@refugeerights.org.