



Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc.

901 S. Highland St. ▪ Arlington, Virginia 22204 ▪ Tel. (703) 685-0510 ▪ Fax (703) 685-0529

Empowering refugees and immigrants since 1983

For Immediate Release

March 16, 2017

Media Contact

Solace Duncan
(703) 685-0510 ext. 246
sduncan@ecdcus.org

Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc. Welcomes Decision

By Hawaii and Maryland Federal Judges to Halt Revised Travel Ban

Arlington, VA- Yesterday, the Hawaii Federal District court issued a temporary restraining order on President Trump's revised Executive Order and travel ban, and this morning the Maryland Federal District court issued a preliminary injunction on the travel ban. In response, Allene F. Wright, ECDC's Director of Refugee Resettlement, issued the following statement:

“ECDC welcomes the timely decision of the Federal courts to issue a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction on key provisions of the revised Executive Order and travel ban. This decision could not be more significant, as it allows us to continue to serve one of the world's most vulnerable populations, refugees. This ruling saves lives.

“The revised Executive Order paused the Refugee Admissions Program, reduced the number of refugees to be admitted and imposed a travel ban on individuals from six Muslim-majority countries. The effects of these provisions would have been devastating for those refugees who have time sensitive security checks and remain in danger's way.

“Throughout its 37- year history, the refugee program has enjoyed bipartisan support, as a humanitarian priority for the American people. The overwhelming recent public support for welcoming refugees illustrates that this is still a humanitarian priority for Americans. We urge the administration to continue this bipartisan view of the program.”

###

ECDC is one of nine voluntary agencies working in partnership with the Department of State and the Office of Refugee Resettlement to provide initial placement and support services to refugees being resettled in the United States. With a special focus on African refugees, ECDC promotes cultural, educational and socio-economic development programs to assist refugees and immigrants in becoming productive members of their new homeland. For more information about ECDC visit <http://www.ecdcus.org/>