



# 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 6, 2017

## **Media Contact**

Solace Duncan  
(703) 685-0510 ext. 246  
[sduncan@ecdcus.org](mailto:sduncan@ecdcus.org)

### **Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc. Responds to New Executive Order**

**Arlington, VA-** Today President Trump signed the revised Executive Order and travel ban. In response, Allene F. Wright, ECDC's Director of Refugee Resettlement, issued the following statement:

“While a few minor changes were made, the bottom line remains essentially unchanged, as does shutting down the arrival of already vetted refugees. ECDC believes that welcoming refugees makes America stronger and benefits communities across the nation. The impact of the revised Executive Order will be felt throughout our communities, as refugees see their travel documents expire and may well have to redo lengthy vetting processes, prolonging their time in danger and apart from their families already in the U.S.

“There are more than 21 million refugees globally. According to UNHCR, 10% of refugees are in need of resettlement yet less than 1% will be resettled. With the reduction in the number of refugees the United States will resettle this year, fewer than half of one percent will be resettled. Reducing resettlement during this worldwide crisis also greatly increases the burden carried by regional partners hosting millions of refugees.

“Above all, we know that refugees are contributing members of their communities and in many cases are helping to rebuild communities across the country. Let us recognize the value that new Americans have and have always had in our prosperity as a country.”

###

*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/>*