

IMMIGRATION POLICY UPDATES

FEDERAL

PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE ASYLUM

The Trump administration proposed an expansive rule that would rewrite asylum law. The rule would create several new bars on asylum. It would also redefine what asylum means by changing the definition of "persecution" and "membership in a particular social group." There would also be procedural changes, including allowing judges to deny a person their day in court. The rule is not expected to go into effect until late fall.

"The goal of this proposed regulation – far from reshaping the system to improve it – is to make asylum impossible to obtain"

-Beth Werlin

INDEFINITE CLOSURE OF THE SOUTHERN BORDER

On May 19th, the Trump administration announced the indefinite closure of the southern border. Non-essential travel along the border has been restricted since March 20th, resulting in the expulsion of over 41,000 migrants. Only 2 people have been allowed to seek humanitarian protection since then. This bar on asylum blatantly violates both international treaty obligations and U.S. law.

FAMILY SEPARATION 2.0

In May, ICE agents presented detained parents with the unconscionable choice to either separate from their children or to remain detained together indefinitely during a pandemic. This happened at 3 different detention facilities across the country. Families were presented with forms in English and were denied the opportunity to speak with their lawyers.



[Click here for more information on DACA](#)

SUPREME COURT TO DECIDE ON DACA

The Supreme Court is set to rule on the Trump administration's attempts to end the DACA program any day now. While DACA recipients and their families await this decision, Congress can and must pass permanent protection for Dreamers. June 4th marked 1 year since the passage of the Dream and Promise Act, H.R. 6, in the House of Representatives.

COVID-19 IN IMMIGRATION DETENTION

Over 2,000 immigrants held in detention have tested positive for COVID-19, including 45 people detained in Pulaski County Detention Center in Illinois. There are also reports of detention centers spraying harmful chemicals to disinfect and reports of detainees being forced to clean facilities.



St. Francis
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