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CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

Edwin M. Lee, Mayor Naomi Kelly, City Administrator

March 8, 2016

SAN FRANCISCO IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION STATEMENT ON 118 CITIES AND COUNTIES FILING AMICUS BRIEF IN *UNITED STATES V. TEXAS* URGING U.S. SUPREME COURT TO PERMIT PRESIDENT OBAMA'S EXECUTIVE ACTION ON IMMIGRATION TO MOVE FORWARD

Over 100 Cities & Counties Representing 55 Million People Join Amicus Brief Urging Supreme Court to End the Obstruction of President Obama's Immigration Action

The San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission commended city leaders for joining a broad coalition of cities and counties in filing a friend-of-the-court amicus brief today with the U.S. Supreme Court in *United States v. Texas*, urging the Court to overturn a lower court's decision and allow President Obama's executive action on immigration to move forward. The brief, signed by 118 cities and counties representing 35 states, argues that the nationwide injunction blocking implementation of the President's executive action on immigration was erroneously entered and should be reversed because it places millions of families in cities and counties at economic and personal risk. The coalition also includes the U.S. Conference of Mayors representing over 1,400 cities and the National League of Cities, representing more than 19,000 municipal governments nationwide.

Amici include 44 cities and counties located in states that brought or support the lawsuit, representing an estimated 55 million people, including over 15 million immigrants, more than 37% of the nation's immigrant population. These cities are also home to more than 1.5 million immigrant children and their parents who are potentially eligible for relief under President Obama's executive actions.

"As a longtime leader in providing immigrant assistance programs, San Francisco is proud of our continuing partnership with cities across the country to support the President's Executive Action and the case appeal now before the U.S. Supreme Court," said Mayor Ed Lee. "We need these Federal Government actions to ensure all people have the opportunity to thrive and contribute to our nation's success. Mayors everywhere must continue to demonstrate leadership and courage on immigration reform to make America stronger and more inclusive."

This is the fourth amicus brief to be filed by cities and counties and supported by San Francisco. Support is growing with each step in litigation: at the district court, over 30 signatories; at the 5th Circuit court of appeals, over 70 signatories; at the petition stage to the Supreme Court, over 80 signatories; and this latest brief represents 118 mayors and county leaders.

The brief demonstrates to the Court that the executive action will benefit cities and counties by keeping families together, improving the safety and welfare of all residents, increasing local tax revenue, and stimulating local economies.

"The February 2015 Executive Action injunction had an immediate and significant impact in the San Francisco Bay Area, home to over 170,000 immigrants who may be eligible for Deferred Action for Parents of Americans (DAPA) and expanded Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) programs," said Celine Kennelly, Chair of the Immigrant Rights Commission. "Withholding these programs threatens family unity, the health and welfare of children and families, public safety, and the local economy."

By filing today's brief, America's mayors and country executives are making a strong statement in support of the President's plan to grant administrative relief to over 4 million undocumented children and adults.

Emeryville, CA

Jersey City, NJ

Kansas City, MO

Cities and counties signed on to today's brief include the following local governments:

Alameda County, CA Crete, NE

Alamogordo, NM Dallas County, TX

Albany, NY Davis, CA Alexandria, VA Dayton, OH Allentown, PA Denver, CO Dolton, IL Arcata, CA Arlington County, VA Durham, NC Atlanta, GA East Lansing, MI Austin, TX Edinburg, TX Baltimore, MD El Paso County, TX

Birmingham, AL Evanston, IL

Bell, CA

Columbus, OH

Cook County, IL

Bloomington, IN Falcon Heights, MN Boise, ID Gary, IN Haledon, NJ Boston, MA Bridgeport, CT Hartford, CT Brownsville, TX Hempstead, NY Buffalo, NY Highland Park, IL Cambridge, MA Hoboken, NJ Carrboro, NC Holyoke, MA Central Falls, RI Houston, TX Chelsea, MA Huntington, WV Chicago, IL Ithaca, NY Coconino County, AZ Jackson, MS

Knoxville, TN Sacramento, CA
Livingston, CA Salt Lake City, UT
Long Beach, CA San Fernando, CA
Los Angeles County, CA San Francisco, CA
Los Angeles, CA San Jose, CA

Lucas County, OH San Mateo County, CA

Madison, WI Santa Ana, CA

Marin County, CA Santa Clara County, CA Middletown, CT Santa Cruz County, AZ

Milwaukee, WI Santa Fe, NM Minneapolis, MN Santa Monica, CA Montgomery County, MD Schenectady, NY New Haven, CT Seattle, WA New London, CT Somerville, MA New Orleans, LA Sonoma County, CA New Rochelle, NY South Bend, IN New York, NY St. Louis, MO Newark, NJ St. Paul, MN Newton, MA State College, PA

Niagara Falls, NY Sunrise, FL Oakland, CA Syracuse, NY Paterson, NJ Tacoma, WA Pembroke Pines, FL Tampa, FL Philadelphia, PA **Travis County** Pittsburgh, PA Trenton, NJ Plainfield, NJ Union City, NJ Portland, OR Union County, NJ Prince George's County, MD Washington, D.C.

Princeton, NJ West Hollywood, CA
Providence, RI Woodmere, OH
Richmond, CA Yolo County, CA
Rochester, NY Yonkers, NY
Roselle, NJ York, PA

The Immigrant Rights Commission is an appointed 15-member body that informs and advises the Mayor, Board of Supervisors and city officials on the wellbeing and integration of immigrants in San Francisco. Members of the Commission must be citizens of the United States and at least eight members must be immigrants. For more information on the IRC, contact the Office of Civic Engagement & Immigrant Affairs at civic.engagement@sfgov.org.