Advancing Justice - Atlanta Applauds DOJ's Filing of Emergency Motion to Lift District Court Injunction in DACA/ DAPA Case

Atlanta, GA, March 12, 2015 — Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta, the first nonprofit law center dedicated to promoting the rights of Asian immigrants and refugees in Georgia and the Southeast, applaud the Department of Justice’s filing today of an emergency motion to stay in response to Texas District Court Judge Hanen’s decision to issue a preliminary injunction ordering a temporary halt to President Obama’s expansion of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) initiative and the creation of the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Legal Residents (DAPA) initiative.

"We support the Department of Justice’s decision to request an expedited response and lift of Judge Hansen’s temporary injunction blocking expanded DACA and DAPA while the appeal to the Circuit Court is pending. Expanded DACA and DAPA when available will benefit more than 5 million immigrant parents and young people currently living in America,” said Helen Ho Executive Director of Advancing Justice - Atlanta.

The DOJ’s emergency motion requests the court to respond to its motion within the next 14 days. An excerpt of the DOJ motion is below:

"The district court's order is unprecedented and wrong. The Constitution does not entitle States to intrude into the uniquely federal domain of immigration enforcement. See Arizona v. United States, 132 S. Ct. 2492 (2012). Yet the district court has taken the extraordinary step of allowing a State to override the United States' exercise of its enforcement discretion in the immigration laws."

"In short, the preliminary injunction is a sweeping order that extends beyond the parties before the court and irreparably harms the Government and the public interest by preventing DHS from marshalling its resources to protect border security, public safety and national security, while also addressing humanitarian interests. In contrast, [Texas and the other plaintiffs] will suffer no cognizable harm if a stay is granted."

"In light of the urgent circumstances and critical federal interests at issue, including the need to protect national security, public safety, and the integrity of the border, the Government now seeks a stay from this Court. The Court should stay the injunction in its entirety or, at the very least, stay it with respect to implementation in States other than Texas, or States that are not parties to this suit. We request that the appellees be directed to respond within 7 days after the filing of this motion and that the Court act on the motion within 14 days after the filing of the motion."

The DOJ Emergency Motion and other important information on DACA and DAPA will be provided tonight at our DACA and DAPA Informational Session at Northview High School in Johns Creek. The session is open to the public and Korean and Spanish translators will be provided.

About Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta

Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta (formerly Asian American Legal Advocacy Center or AALAC) is the first non-profit law center dedicated to Asian immigrants and refugees (“Asian Americans”) in the Southeast.
Our goal is to engage, educate and empower under-represented Asian Americans to greater civic participation.

We are one of five independent organizations that make up the national Asian Americans Advancing Justice. Together with our affiliates in Chicago, DC, Los Angeles and San Francisco, we bring more than 100 years of collective experience in addressing the civil rights issues faced by Asian Americans and other vulnerable and underserved communities. Visit www.advancingjustice-atlanta.org.