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Court Extends Pause on Termination of TPS for Somalia Pending U.S. Supreme Court Decision

(Boston, M.A.)— On Friday, May 1, a federal judge in Massachusetts extended the pause of the effective termination date of Somalia's Temporary Protected Status (TPS). The order ensures Somali TPS holders maintain their status until the U.S. Supreme Court issues a ruling concerning TPS holders from Syria and Haiti, which could have broader implications for the future of the TPS program as a whole.

The court's order further pauses efforts by the Administration to end TPS protections for Somalis as part of its broader campaign to strip immigrants from non-European, predominantly non-white countries of their legal status and make them deportable. As the Administration doubles down on discriminatory [immigration enforcement](#) and [fast-track removals](#) targeting Somalis, the district court's order continues to protect Somali TPS holders from the risks of immigrant confinement and deportation. It also ensures Somali TPS holders can continue working and have access to health care and other related benefits.

"The court's order temporarily preserves our clients' TPS status and ensures that families are not forcibly separated and uprooted from their lives as integral community members in the U.S.," said Sadaf Hasan, Staff Attorney at **Muslim Advocates**. "The stakes couldn't be higher—TPS holders face the threat of being forcibly deported to the ongoing armed conflict and humanitarian crisis in Somalia. While the stay ensures stability for now, it does not resolve the underlying legal questions in our challenge to the government's procedurally improper and discriminatory termination of TPS for Somalia. Whatever the outcome from the Supreme Court, we're committed to the fight to secure long-term safety, protection, and dignity for all Somali TPS holders and applicants."

"Any amount of relief, including temporary relief, is critical for communities facing the type of danger and uncertainty that Somali communities have been facing. We are affirmed by this decision to continue protecting Somali TPS holders while our lawsuit continues. The attempt to delegatize hundreds of Somalis living in the U.S. is motivated not by fact, but by xenophobia and racism. We will continue to ensure that we stand for protecting our Somali neighbors and stand for a more just immigration system." - Diana Konaté, Deputy Executive Director, Policy & Advocacy, **African Communities Together**.

"Our community came from war zones and really unsafe places, and going back just isn't safe for them. For many, it's not just instability, it's fear of persecution and real danger waiting for them. TPS



has been what's kept them protected and allowed them to build some kind of stable life here. We're talking about families who have worked hard, raised their kids, and become part of our communities. Sending them back into that kind of situation would be devastating," said Rahmo Abdi, Director of Organizing and Campaigns with the **Partnership for the Advancement of New Americans (PANA)**.

"This stay gives Somali TPS holders and their families a moment to breathe, but it does not undo the harm of an administration that has made stripping legal status from Black, brown, and Muslim immigrants a defining feature of its agenda. The communities CUSP represents - African, Afro-Caribbean, Arab and Middle Eastern, and Asian and Pacific Islander TPS holders - have watched this administration come for us country by country. We are not interchangeable, and we will not be picked off one at a time. Whatever the Supreme Court decides in the Haiti and Syria cases, we will keep fighting in the courts, in Congress, and in our communities until every TPS holder has permanent status and the freedom to stay, work, and thrive in the country they call home," said Carolyn Tran, Executive Director of **Communities United for Status & Protection (CUSP)**.

"The Trump administration's discriminatory and xenophobic campaign to end TPS aims to deny Black immigrants their constitutional rights. While the Court has provided Somali TPS holders a reprieve, there is much more work to do to ensure that the Somali community and all Black immigrants are free from racial targeting," said **Kacey Mordecai, Senior Counsel at the Legal Defense Fund**. "We will continue to tirelessly defend the Somali community, and all Black immigrants, from discrimination."

Last week, the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in [Mullin v. Dahlia Doe](#) and [Trump v. Miot](#), two class-action lawsuits challenging the Trump administration's attempts to terminate TPS for hundreds of thousands of people from Syria and Haiti. The decision could also impact more than 1.3 million TPS holders from all 17 currently TPS-designated countries.

Media Contact:

Sadaf Hasan, Muslim Advocates, sadaf@muslimadvocates.org

Troi Barnes, Legal Defense Fund, media@naacpldf.org

Erik Crew, Haitian Bridge Alliance, media@haitianbridge.org

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COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR
STATUS AND PROTECTION HAITIAN BRIDGE
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The Bridge LDF Legal
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Communities United for Status & Protection (CUSP) is a national collaborative of grassroots immigrant-led organizations working to win permanent status for TPS holders and build a more inclusive immigrant rights movement that centers African, Afro-Caribbean, Afro-Latinx, Arab/Middle Eastern, and Asian & Pacific Islander immigrants

African Communities Together (ACT) is an organization of African immigrants fighting for civil rights, opportunity, and a better life for our families here in the U.S. and worldwide

Partnership for the Advancement of New Americans (PANA) advocates for the full economic, social, and civic inclusion of refugees and displaced populations in the San Diego region, throughout California, and across the country.

Muslim Advocates is a social justice and legal advocacy organization that works with and for Black, African, Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, South Asian, and other historically marginalized communities to build community power, dismantle systemic discrimination, and demand shared wellbeing by using litigation, policy engagement, and communications strategies.

Haitian Bridge Alliance (HBA) advocates for fair and humane immigration policies and provides migrants and immigrants with humanitarian, legal, and social services, with a particular focus on Black people, the Haitian community, women and girls, LGBTQIA+ individuals, and survivors of torture and other human rights abuses.

Legal Defense Fund (LDF), founded in 1940, is the nation's first civil rights legal organization. LDF has been completely separate from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) since 1957, though it was founded under the leadership of Thurgood Marshall while he was at the NAACP. LDF's Thurgood Marshall Institute (TMI) is a division of LDF that undertakes innovative research and houses LDF's archive. In all media attributions, please refer to us as the Legal Defense Fund or LDF (do not include NAACP) and refer to the Institute as LDF's Thurgood Marshall Institute or TMI.