



**Mayor's Office of
Immigrant Affairs**

Bitta Mostofi
Commissioner

July 6, 2020

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Chad F. Wolf
Acting Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
245 Murray Lane, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20528

Joseph Edlow
Deputy Director for Policy
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Department of Homeland Security
20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20529

Dear Acting Secretary Wolf and Deputy Director Edlow,

As the Commissioner of the New York City Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs, I write today to urge the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services ("USCIS") to honor the Supreme Court's June 18, 2020, decision in *Department of Homeland Security et al. v. Regents of the University of California et al* and restore the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals ("DACA") program to how it was being administered before DHS's 2017 decision to terminate the program.

New York City has long supported the DACA program, as DACA recipients and DACA eligible individuals are integral to our communities and have significantly contributed to our City's culture and economy. In our City alone, there are approximately 30,000 young immigrants who have benefited from the program as well as an additional 45,000 who could become eligible to apply. The City has had the privilege of witnessing firsthand the enormous contributions of DACA recipients and eligible individuals—including as our public school teachers, nurses at our hospitals, business owners, and as City government employees.

The Supreme Court recognized in its decision that not only have individual DACA recipients relied on the program—but further, this reliance has "radiate[d] outward" to encompass families, schools, businesses, and cities like ours. *DHS v. Regents of the University of California*, 591 U.S. ___, *24 (2020). The decision rightfully restores the DACA program to its original state in 2012. DHS and USCIS must abide by this decision and immediately reinstate the DACA program by accepting and processing initial applications as well as advance parole applications.

As part of the reinstatement, USCIS must immediately issue clear guidance and accompanying instructions on how it plans to accept and process initial DACA and advance parole applications. USCIS must also conduct extensive outreach and education about its plans to current DACA recipients, DACA eligible individuals, and others impacted by this decision such as local governments, educational institutions, and employers. Such outreach efforts should include mechanisms for addressing feedback like stakeholder calls and a stakeholder roundtable with legal services providers and members of the impacted community.

The Supreme Court's decision leaves no room for doubt that the DACA program must be reinstated fully and entirely to its original condition. DHS and USCIS must commit to following and implementing this clear decision immediately not only because the rule of law demands it, but also because the DACA program is an incredibly successful policy that improves the lives of young immigrants and benefits employers, communities, and cities across the nation.

Sincerely,



Bitta Mostofi
Commissioner, Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

July 10, 2020

Ms. Bitta Mostofi
Commissioner
Office of Immigrant Affairs
253 Broadway
14th Floor
New York, NY 10007

Dear Ms. Mostofi:

Thank you for your suggestions and comments in your July 6, 2020 letter related to the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) implementation of the Supreme Court's ruling in *Department of Homeland Security v. Regents of the University of California* regarding the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. Acting Secretary Wolf asked that I respond on his behalf.

Reaffirming Acting Secretary Wolf's statement on the Supreme Court's decision, DACA recipients deserve closure and finality surrounding their status here in the United States. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will work with DHS on next steps regarding the Court's decision and will consider your views during this process.

Thank you again for your letter and interest in this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Edlow".

Joseph Edlow
Deputy Director for Policy