



DALLAS HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION STATEMENT ON DACA

September 5, 2017

Contact: Isaac Faz
law@isaacfaz.com

Dallas, TX – Today President Trump ordered the elimination of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (“DACA”) and called on Congress to replace the policy with legislation before it expires on March 5, 2018. These are steps in the wrong direction.

The Dallas Hispanic Bar Association (“DHBA”) stands in support of DACA, a policy that has given recipients, who were brought by their parents at a very young age to our great country, work permits, opportunities to seek higher education, and a shield from deportation.

“DACA has provided a sense of security, allowing students to continue their education that in turn provides them the opportunity to obtain a good job,” stated DHBA President Angelina LaPenotiere. “DACA recipients pay taxes, contribute significant revenue to our local and state economy, all while being ineligible for legal permanent resident status or federal benefits.”

“The overwhelming number of DACA recipients in Dallas and across the state call Texas home,” stated DHBA President Elect Isaac Faz. “This is the only place they know, the only national anthem they sing, and the only pledge they take.”

The fate of approximately 800,000 “Dreamers” deserves more than a temporary hiatus during uncertain Congressional deliberations. We, along with businesses across the country, support DACA and will continue to monitor changes to the program.

DHBA asks Congress to act quickly with compassion and clarity, and asks our President to reconsider his decision. Additionally, the DHBA asks the State of Texas Attorney General to cease any legal proceedings against the United States regarding DACA.

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The Dallas Hispanic Bar Association (DHBA) is the leading Hispanic attorney association in North Texas committed to providing a forum through which Hispanic attorneys can come together to exchange ideas and to pursue common goals. DHBA promotes the social, economic, educational, and civic advancement of the Dallas-Ft. Worth area Hispanic community by making the legal system more accessible to the Hispanic community and more responsive to its needs.