



Immigration

Recent key developments on immigration



November 20, 2017

Acting Secretary of Homeland Security **Elaine Duke announced the termination of the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designation for Haiti**, which allowed Haitians to live and work in the US after the 2010 earthquake that devastated Haiti.



December 11, 2017

Following a botched terror attack carried out by a Bangladeshi immigrant near the Manhattan Times Square subway station, **President Trump called for an end to immigration preferences for family members of legal US residents, commonly referred to as chain migration**, as well as enhanced immigration security.



December 22, 2017

A three-judge panel of the **9th Circuit Court of Appeals issued a unanimous decision stating that the latest version of President Trump's travel ban should be partially blocked**. However, this will have no immediate effect because of the temporary Supreme Court ruling earlier in December allowing the administration to fully implement the ban as it appealed injunctions issued against the policy.

Potential actions

- Although the Trump administration has resumed refugee admissions, it has stated that nationals from 11 countries will face tougher scrutiny. The administration has yet to identify which countries these are
- Congress will need to address DACA before President Trump's memo goes into effect on March 5, 2018. Trump tweeted on December 29th that any DACA deal must include the building of a wall with Mexico and an end to chain migration and the visa lottery program
- Congress has until July 2019 to reverse the Trump administration's decision to end protected status for Haitians residing in the United States

Legislative timeline

January 2017

Trump issues executive orders that begin the process of building the Mexico-US border wall, expand the powers of ICE, deny federal funding to sanctuary cities, suspend immigration from seven Muslim-majority countries and limit the number of refugees admitted to US; these EOs are later blocked by federal judges

September 2017

The Trump administration announces it will be rescinding the Deferred Action on Childhood Arrivals program started under President Obama. The memo rescinding the program does not go into effect until March 5, 2018

October 2017

President Trump signs a new executive order allowing government agencies to resume processing refugees, following the 120-day ban on all refugee admissions. Although admissions have resumed, the administration has stated that it will cap them at 45,000 refugees for 2018

Sources: Bob Dane, "Davis-Oliver Act would make Trump's immigration agenda law of the land," The Hill, June 1, 2017, Josh Gerstein, "Trump Justice budget targets illegal immigration," Politico, May 23, 2017, USA Today, June 26, 2017; Priscilla Alvarez, "Could Trump's immigration agenda ever get through Congress?," The Atlantic, July 28, 2017, Jordan Fabian and Jordain Carney, "Trump, GOP senators unveil measure to cut legal immigration," The Hill, August 2, 2017, Tal Kopan, "Trump's DACA decision looms," CNN, August 29, 2017, "Timeline of federal policy on immigration, 2017-2020," Ballotpedia.