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## **TAHIRIH STATEMENT ON TEMPORARY STAY RULING IN REMAIN IN MEXICO LAWSUIT**

The Tahirih Justice Center is disappointed by the decision of the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit to keep the 'Remain in Mexico' policy in effect while it reviews the District Court's preliminary injunction.

"The Administration makes it seem as though returning asylum seekers to Mexico is a well-organized operation. The small number of shelters that were previously functioning are either no longer open or cannot be trusted due to safety concerns," said Archi Pyati, the Tahirih Justice Center's Chief of Policy. "Asylum seekers have already been killed and harmed while in Tijuana. It is shocking that the government, knowing these risks, continues to push for this course of action."

Earlier this month, Judge Seeborg in the District Court for the Northern District of California granted a preliminary injunction in the lawsuit challenging the 'Remain in Mexico' policy, for which Tahirih is a named plaintiff. The preliminary injunction brought the policy to a halt while the lawsuit moved forward.

The decision from the Court of Appeals will put asylum seekers who will be forced back to Mexico to await their immigration court hearings at risk. Tahirih staff who have been to Tijuana, one of the cities asylum seekers have been sent to, confirm that there is inadequate access to legal, social, and medical services, as well as shelter. Over the last few years, Tahirih has witnessed the grave consequences of policies targeting asylum seekers. This decision will aggravate this concerning trend.

Despite this temporary setback, Tahirih is hopeful that the Court of Appeals' ultimate decision will find that the policy is against the rule of law.

*Archi Pyati is available for comment on this topic. Please contact [dhajjar@mrss.com](mailto:dhajjar@mrss.com) to arrange an interview.*

### **About the Tahirih Justice Center**

The Tahirih Justice Center is the largest national direct service and policy advocacy organization focused on assisting immigrant women and girls fleeing violence. The organization has five offices across the country and is headquartered in the Washington DC area. Tahirih monitors policy shifts that impact women and girls fleeing violence and advocate for the United States to honor its legal obligations to protect those fleeing human rights abuses.

*Tahirih Justice Center is a national non-profit that protects courageous immigrant women and girls who refuse to be victims of violence through free legal and social services, public policy advocacy, and training and education. Visit [www.tahirih.org](http://www.tahirih.org) for more information.*