



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | NOVEMBER 18, 2019

CONTACT: Danny Hajjar  
[dhajjar@mrss.com](mailto:dhajjar@mrss.com), 339-499-8101

## TAHIRIH STATEMENT ON “SAFE THIRD COUNTRY” INTERIM FINAL RULE

Today, the administration announced a new [interim final rule](#) to implement “safe third country” agreements with the Northern Triangle countries. It goes into effect tomorrow, even before public comments are received.

“We are strongly opposed to the rule released this morning that allows the government to remove almost everyone seeking asylum in the United States to Guatemala, El Salvador, or Honduras,” said Richard Caldarone, Tahirih Litigation Counsel. “The rule flatly violates federal law and makes a mockery of our national obligation not to return asylum seekers to violence and persecution. And if fully implemented, it will effectively end asylum and related protections in the United States for everyone except unaccompanied children. We intend to challenge the rule by any and all possible means”.

*Richard Caldarone 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 a national, nonprofit organization that serves immigrant women and girls seeking safety and justice. We amplify the voices of survivors in communities, courts, and Congress to create a world where women and girls enjoy equality and live in safety and with dignity.