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## **TAHIRIH STATEMENT ON EXPANDED EXPEDITED REMOVAL**

Today, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit [reversed](#) a preliminary injunction that halted the expansion of expedited removal—a policy that will begin to quickly deport people all over the U.S. before they have had a chance to see a judge. The expansion of expedited removal was [first announced](#) in July 2019 but had been blocked since September 27, 2019. Expedited removal can now be applied to anyone arrested by federal immigration officers, anywhere in the United States, who cannot show that they have been in the U.S. continuously for more than two years.

“This policy places countless people at a greater risk of imminent deportation, even if they would be eligible to receive legal status in the United States,” said Richard Caldarone, Tahirih Litigation Counsel. “Every ICE and CBP agent will now have discretion to swiftly deport anyone who cannot convince the agent that they have been in the U.S. for two years. The policy will severely affect survivors of human trafficking, domestic violence, and sexual assault, who—as Congress has recognized—often lack ready access to documents proving their presence in the United States.”

The policy exacerbates the climate of fear and could force immigrant survivors to weigh the need for medical care, legal assistance, and other critical services against the possibility of encounters that will lead to deportation. Tahirih will continue to support the litigation against the expansion of expedited removal. Expedited removal was created by Congress in the mid-1990s and has since been overused and expanded to deny due process and justice to those who should be provided an opportunity to seek asylum. We continue to seek its repeal.

*Richard Caldarone is available for comment on this topic. Please contact [rachelp@tahirih.org](mailto:rachelp@tahirih.org) 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.