

## Temporary Restraining Order Blocks Trump's Travel Ban on Designated Muslims Nationwide

By <u>Stephen Lendman</u> Global Research, February 04, 2017 Region: <u>USA</u> Theme: <u>Law and Justice</u>, <u>Terrorism</u>

Affecting Muslims from seven countries, a previous article explained Trump's entry into America and extreme vetting order is unrelated to border and national security protection.

It's all about politics, a racist unconstitutional order, largely targeting Muslims from nations where America's imperial wars rage, or in the case of Iran, its longstanding hostility toward a nation for its sovereign independence and to please Israel.

**The best way to protect America is by ending its imperial madness,** its raping and destroying one country after another, its ruthless quest for unchallenged global dominance.

In his inaugural address remarks, Trump pledged "an oath of allegiance to all Americans...a new vision," adding:

We will seek friendship and goodwill with the nations of the world...We do not seek to impose our way of life on anyone. (Ordinary Americans) will never be ignored again.

In his first two weeks in office, he largely hasn't done a very good job of things, just the opposite, including his unconstitutional travel suspension on Muslims from designated countries – perhaps intending permanency in a later executive order.

Muslims are human beings, not terrorists. **The only terrorist threat Americans face is from their own government, not to mention US intelligence which covertly supports Al Qaeda and the ISIS**. The notion of gun-toting, bomb-throwing Muslims is racist, Trump's order a political act, issued for no other reason.

On Friday, senior US District Judge for the Western District of Washington James Robart imposed a nationwide temporary restraining order (TRO) on Trump's order – siding with suits by Washington and Minnesota challenging it.

"The state has met its burden in demonstrating immediate and irreparable injury," Robart ruled. "This TRO is granted on a nationwide basis" – effective immediately.

Robart ordered federal defendants "and their respective officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys and persons acting in concert or participation with them are hereby enjoined and restrained from" enforcing the executive order.

An unnamed State Department official said "(w)e are working closely with the Department of Homeland Security and our legal teams to determine how this affects our operations. We

will announce any changes affecting travelers to the United States as soon as that information is available."

Around 60,000 foreign nationals from the seven predominantly Muslim countries had their visas cancelled by Trump's order, according to the State Department. A Justice Department lawyer said 100,000 visas were revoked.

Washington's Attorney General Robert Ferguson praised Judge Robart's ruling, saying "(t)he Constitution prevailed today...It is our president's duty to honor this ruling, and I'll make sure he does."

The TRO remains in place until the judge decides whether or not to make it permanent, according to Ferguson, adding he's "prepared for this case to go all the way to the Supreme Court," depending on how the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals rules, anticipating a White House challenge.

Late Friday, Trump's press secretary Sean Spicer issued a statement, saying the administration "will file an emergency stay of this outrageous order and defend the executive order of the President, which we believe is lawful and appropriate."

Judge Robart's ruling is likely heading for a prompt Ninth US Circuit Court of Appeals hearing. The firestorm Trump's outrageous order created isn't likely to subside soon.

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