



## For Immediate Release

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## On World Refugee Day Executive Order Jails Immigrant Families, Violates Asylum Law

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (June 20, 2018)

The Advocates for Human Rights is deeply disappointed in today's announcement by the White House, which condemns families to indefinite detention in jails and threatens the right to seek asylum from persecution. The president's order, "Affording Congress an Opportunity to Address Family Separation [sic]," doubles down on the detention of families, calls for undermining a long-standing court settlement protecting children from being detained by federal immigration officials, and continues to illegally prosecute people who seek asylum.

"U.S. statute and international refugee law are clear that people have the right to seek asylum from persecution," says Robin Phillips, executive director of The Advocates for Human Rights. "It is particularly offensive that the president chose today, World Refugee Day, to announce his efforts to advance his anti-immigrant legislative agenda instead of fixing the crisis his mandatory prosecution policies have created,"

The Advocates for Human Rights has represented asylum seekers since 1983 and is the largest provider of free legal services to asylum seekers in the region. The mission of The Advocates for Human Rights is to implement international human rights standards to promote civil society and reinforce the rule of law. By involving volunteers in research, education, and advocacy, it builds broad constituencies in the United States and select global communities.

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