

7 May 2024

To the Honorable Judge Goldsmith:

I, Usama Hamama, have been made aware of the potential agreement between the parties of Hamama v. Adducci, and as lead plaintiff, I would like to speak on behalf of myself and fellow class members about this decision.

I am in full support of closing this case with the agreed upon terms. Given that this case has been ongoing for over six years and many lives depend on its outcomes, I believe it should be closed out with these terms as quickly as possible. Since 2017, uncertainty has plagued hundreds of class members. Families ripped apart, businesses crumbled, lives lost, all at the hand of uncertainty. I appreciate the clearly defined processes and timelines for current and future individuals – it is a fair decision that will allow many to stay in this country and create lives that positively impact their communities.

Iraq continues to demonstrate that it is a country unsafe for most and too unstable to properly intake potential deportees. Indefinitely detaining individuals in holding facilities and jails while attempting to make agreements with the Iraqi government is inhumane and unconstitutional. I spent 9 months in St. Clair County Jail. Each morning, I woke up wondering if this would be my last day in America. Wondering if I would ever see my wife and children again. No human being should ever have to experience that tragedy again.

It is time to close this case and provide our immigrant population with a clear and fair process for staying in this country. Everyone deserves a chance to live out their American Dream. Since my release from detention, I was able to reopen my case in the immigration courts. I won my case, had my record expunged, and in November of 2020, became a proud citizen of the United States of America. Today, I am still in southeastern Michigan running my family business and appreciating every day I have with my wife and four beautiful children.

Thank you to all parties involved in giving me my American Dream. Thank you for fighting for what is right. I look forward to this court's decision, please reach out if you would like any additional commentary.

Sincerely,

Usama Hamama