



# Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc.

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*Empowering refugees and immigrants since 1983*

## **For Immediate Release**

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### **ECDC Applauds Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Decision to Uphold Stay on Refugee Travel Ban**

**Arlington, VA-** ECDC applauds the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals' decision to uphold the stay on the President's refugee travel ban. This decision is a reminder of the strength of checks and balances in America's system of democracy. With this U.S. Court of Appeals' decision, the country has reclaimed a place of leadership on this important humanitarian issue. We are again welcoming those who seek safety and freedom. We are showing that supporting refugees and a commitment to American security can coexist.

ECDC's President Dr. Tsehaye Teferra reflected, "The court's decision should hearten us all in our appreciation for the strong systems in our democracy. This decision has immense, lifesaving impact on refugees. ECDC is grateful to be able to continue the work that we have been doing for over 26 years, empowering refugees and immigrants."

Refugees continue to be an asset to their new communities. Those in danger, now due to arrive in the United States, will have the same opportunity as refugees before them to rebuild their lives. ECDC will continue the work of providing new arrivals with the skills and support to become self-sufficient Americans contributing to their new communities.

For further information, contact:

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*ECDC is one of nine voluntary agencies working in partnership with the Department of State and the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) to provide initial placement and support services to refugees being resettled in the United States. With a special focus on African refugees, ECDC promotes cultural, educational and socio-economic development programs to assist refugees and immigrants in becoming productive members of their new homeland.*