UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS BROWNSVILLE DIVISION

STATE OF TEXAS, et al.,	
Plaintiffs,	
v.	Case No. 18-cv-00068
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al.,	
Defendants,	
and	

KARLA PEREZ, et al.,

Defendant-Intervenors.

FEDERAL DEFENDANTS' RESPONSE
TO DEFENDANT-INTERVENORS' LETTER [ECF No. 550]

Federal Defendants agree with Defendant-Intervenors that President Biden's Memorandum may "impact the substantive and procedural aspects of this litigation" and agree that a status conference is appropriate. As Defendant-Intervenors note, the Memorandum instructs that "[t]he Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Attorney General, shall take all actions he deems appropriate, consistent with applicable law, to preserve and fortify DACA." Memo § 2.

Federal Defendants respectfully request that the status conference be scheduled in 60 days to allow new officials at the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Justice to become familiar with the issues in this case and to provide time for the Secretary of Homeland Security to begin the process of consulting with the Attorney General and determining the next steps. As yet, President Biden's nominees for Secretary and Attorney General have not been confirmed by the Senate. Providing this 60-day window would serve the interest of judicial economy because the Secretary may take actions on DACA that are relevant to the arguments before the Court.

For the foregoing reasons, Federal Defendants join Defendant-Intervenors' request for a status conference and respectfully ask the Court to set a status conference for 60 days from the date it issues an order on Defendant-Intervenors' request.

Dated: January 22, 2021

BRIAN M. BOYNTON Acting Assistant Attorney General Civil Division

AUGUST E. FLENTJE Special Counsel Civil Division

WILLIAM C. PEACHEY

Respectfully submitted,

JEFFREY S. ROBINS Attorney-in-Charge Deputy Director

/s/ James J. Walker
JAMES J. WALKER
Senior Litigation Counsel
U.S. Department of Justice
Civil Division
Office of Immigration Litigation

Director, Office of Immigration Litigation District Court Section District Court Section P.O. Box 868, Ben Franklin Station Washington, D.C. 20044 Phone: (202) 532-4468

Fax: (202) 305-7000

Email: james.walker3@usdoj.gov

Attorneys for Federal Defendants

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on January 22, 2021, this document was electronically filed with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system, which will send notification of such filing to all counsel of record.

<u>/s/ James J. Walker</u> JAMES J. WALKER