

Local News

Attorney says Somali asylum cases are now being fast-tracked after judge temporarily pauses termination of TPS



By [Ubah Ali](#), The Associated Press

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In a statement, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security said the ruling by a judge appointed by former President Barack Obama is the latest example of preventing Trump from "restoring integrity" to the U.S. immigration system.

"Temporary means temporary," the statement said. "Country conditions in Somalia have improved to the point that it no longer meets the law's requirement for Temporary Protected Status. Allowing Somali nationals to remain temporarily in the United States is contrary to our national interests. The Trump administration is putting Americans first."

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Dhawan-Maloney says she now has 40 hearings scheduled in the next six months. All Somali asylum cases.

She says these cases are very complex. Often requiring months if not years to gather evidence, secure documentation and prepare clients.

Now, she says they are being pushed through the system at a pace that is concerning and some

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Dhawan-Maloney said the judges hearing these cases have a high denial rate. She believes there is a deliberate effort to funnel Somali cases to a specific docket and ultimately find ways to deny the cases.

Court observers also say they are being shut out of these hearings that are happening online and being heard by out-of-state judges.

Madeline Lohman is the Advocacy and Outreach Director at The Advocates for Human Rights and says court observers log into these virtual hearings but are never let in.

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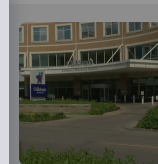
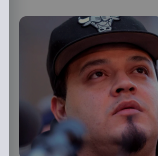
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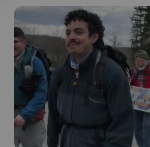
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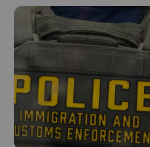
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In: [Somalia](#) [Immigration](#)

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