

7/16/17

**Regarding the Deportation Hearing for Muhammad Zahid Chaudhry**

Dear Judge Paul deFonzo,

These are trying times, with perpetual wars in the Middle East, tensions with North Korea and fears of repeated terrorists attack throughout the European Union.

Here at home the constant news of violent world events have created unreasonable domestic fears that too often have turned to xenophobic rhetoric. Reasonable people understand we live in a diverse United States, a nation made up of immigrants from all over the world and who have come here for a better life.

Muhammad Zahid Chaudhry came to this country legally and made it his home, married an American citizen and he and Ann Chaudhry have been married for sixteen years. He proudly joined the the United Stated Army serving ten plus years during which time he suffered non-combat injuries that have left him bound to a wheelchair. Mr. Chaudhry has not let his disabilities hinder his continued service to this nation and his community as a model citizen who volunteers his time to help veterans suffering with various traumas as they transition back into society.

I have only known Zahid and his wife Ann personally for only a few months but have known of him and his work with veterans for many years through my Northwest network of veterans and friends.

I am a combat Vietnam Marine veteran who believed we fought for the very things that we hold dear in this country, justice and equally for all under a democratic constitution by the people and for the people. I hold anyone who served in our military as someone who holds these same values and what I know of Mr. Chaudhry is that he deserves to be naturalized as a citizen of United States, he has earned that right by his military and community service. He is not someone who should be facing the possibility of deportation.

I am hopeful your honor, that you too will see, you have before you an extraordinary disabled veteran, a person we can all be proud to call brother, a man that is a positive contributor to his family, friends and community.

Sincerely

**Daniel Shea**

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