

Judge Paul deFonzo
Immigration Court
1000 Second Ave, Suite 2500
Seattle, WA 98104

July 16th, 2017

Dear Honorable Judge deFonzo:

We write in support of Muhammed Zahid Chaudhry, our beloved community member, Veteran, and friend.

Zahid has been a support and inspiration to so many people in our city of Olympia, WA. Mr. Chaudhry has been an invaluable member in the community – offering his time and talents to many organizations. He has volunteered with the Red Cross, local fire department, Habitat for Humanity, and The Evergreen State College. He has amplified the work of young people fighting for a more just community.

We have gotten to know Zahid as a participant in Olympia SURJ (Showing Up For Racial Justice). Most notable is his commitment to bringing people together; his search for understanding; his desire to connect others with one central goal: well-being for all who seek it.

Zahid served the United States and was permanently disabled due to his service. Upon his Honorable Discharge, he committed to advancing the community through a life of community service and relationship building. He is also a husband, father and grandfather, loved by many.

Zahid is married to a US Citizen and served this country. He has requested citizenship and we urge you to grant this request in honor of his life-changing and ongoing commitment to the United States. We urge you to consider our comments, as concerned community members. Deportation of Zahid would be a devastating loss for our community.

Sincerely,

Core Organizers of Olympia Showing Up For Racial Justice

Olympia, WA
olympiasurj@gmail.com

Mara Brennan-Magidson

Alexis Cariello

Caitlin Krenn

Christa Lessen

Kayla Mahnke

Emily Pieper

Sarah Stockholm

Madeline Weltchek