

WAGAFE v. TRUMP
PUBLIC NOTICE TO POSSIBLE CLASS MEMBERS OF SETTLEMENT

Wagafe, et al. v. Trump, et al., No. 2:17-cv-00094 (W.D. Wash.), is a class action lawsuit challenging the Controlled Application Review and Resolution Program (“CARRP”), which United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (“USCIS”) applies to process certain applications for immigration benefits. The lawsuit alleges that the application of CARRP to naturalization (citizenship) and adjustment of status (green card) applications has caused unreasonable delays and denials in violation of the U.S. Constitution, the Immigration and Nationality Act, and the Administrative Procedure Act.

Two classes of plaintiffs, the Naturalization Class and the Adjustment Class, have been certified in the lawsuit. These plaintiff classes are described below. The Second Amended Complaint filed in the lawsuit (docket entry 47), which is the operative complaint asserting claims on behalf of class members, can be found [here](#).

On January 17, 2025, a federal district court issued an order on the parties’ motions for summary judgment, which had sought to resolve claims in the lawsuit without trial. In this order, the court decided nearly all the claims of the Naturalization Class. The court’s order, which is docket entry 679, can be found [here](#).

The court ruled for the Naturalization Class on one claim: that the federal government violated the Administrative Procedure Act when it implemented CARRP. Specifically, the court ruled that the federal government’s decision to implement CARRP violated the Administrative Procedure Act because it was “arbitrary and capricious.” For procedural reasons, the court did not decide one of the Naturalization Class’s claims: that CARRP violates class members’ Fifth Amendment right to substantive due process because it arbitrarily denies class members immigration benefits for which they are eligible under law. The court ruled against the Naturalization Class on its other claims, which are described below.

The court’s summary judgment order did not decide the remaining claims of the Adjustment Class, because those claims were, and currently are, stayed (i.e., paused).

On March 4, 2026, the attorneys for both sides of the lawsuit signed a proposal to settle the case. Under the proposed settlement, the federal government will not

appeal the court's ruling that CARRP violates the Administrative Procedure Act. The federal government will also rescind the CARRP policy, meaning the government will cancel the policy. This remedy—rescinding (i.e., cancelling) CARRP—will apply equally to the Naturalization and Adjustment classes, even though the court did not rule on the Adjustment Class's claims.

In exchange, the Naturalization and Adjustment classes will not appeal the rest of the court's rulings. They will also release their remaining claims—in other words, they will agree not to pursue any more litigation on the claims that remain in the lawsuit after the court's ruling.¹

The Adjustment Class will release :

- Claim 5, that Defendants violated the Fifth Amendment's Due Process Clause when they engaged in unauthorized and indefinite suspension of class members' green card applications under CARRP;
- Claim 6, that Defendants violated the Fifth Amendment's Due Process Clause by indefinitely suspending adjudication of class members' green card applications on the basis of their country of origin under CARRP;
- Claim 7, that CARRP creates additional, non-statutory adjudicatory criteria that are not permitted under the Immigration and Nationality Act and its implementing regulations;
- Claim 8, that CARRP is arbitrary and capricious under the Administrative Procedure Act; and
- Claim 9, that CARRP violates the Administrative Procedure Act because it was implemented without notice and comment.

The Naturalization Class will release:

- Claim 5, that Defendants violated the Fifth Amendment's Due Process Clause when they engaged in unauthorized and indefinite suspension of class members' citizenship applications under CARRP; and

¹ The court previously dismissed the Adjustment Class's Claim 4, that Defendants violated the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment by failing to give class members notice that CARRP was applied to them, an explanation for why CARRP was applied to them, and any process for challenging CARRP's application to them. That dismissal can be found on page 17 of docket entry 69, dated June 21, 2017. As part of the proposed settlement, the Adjustment Class will not appeal the dismissal of its Claim 4.

- Claim 8, that CARRP is arbitrary and capricious under the Administrative Procedure Act.

These claims are listed on pages 47 to 50 of the Second Amended Complaint, linked above.²

On March 23, 2026, the Court directed that potential *Wagafe* class members be notified of the settlement proposal through this public notice. *Wagafe* class counsel are publicly posting this notice on March 25, 2026.

An individual is a *Wagafe* class member if:

1. The individual's naturalization application has been pending for six months and is subject to CARRP; or
2. The individual's adjustment of status application has been pending for six months and is subject to CARRP.

Accordingly, if your naturalization or adjustment of status application has been pending for six months or more, you may be a member of the *Wagafe* class. Individuals whose applications have already been approved or denied by USCIS are not class members. USCIS will not confirm or deny whether an individual is a class member, or whether the individual's application was subject to CARRP. Under a court order, *Wagafe* class counsel are prohibited from disclosing whether an individual is a class member, or whether the individual's application was subject to CARRP.

That said, if you believe you are a *Wagafe* class member, and you have comments about the fairness, reasonableness, or adequacy of the attached, proposed settlement agreement, you may convey those comments to *Wagafe* class counsel by mail or email to the address for class counsel listed below. While they will not be able to provide you any information about your application, or advise whether you are a class member, they will submit all comments to the Court for the Court's consideration. You should submit your name and A number with your comment so that Class Counsel can advise the Court if you are a class member; again, because

² In its summary judgment order, the court ruled that the first three claims in the Second Amended Complaint were moot. Those claims were not brought on behalf of the Naturalization and Adjustment classes, and they were based on Executive Orders that have since been repealed.

of a court order, this information may not be made public. Your comment must be submitted to class counsel in writing by May 24, 2026. The Court will consider the comments conveyed by class counsel in conjunction with a hearing to be scheduled concerning the fairness of the proposed settlement agreement.

This fairness hearing will be open to the public. However, the court may close parts of the hearing discussing specific comments that could reveal whether a particular individual is a class member, limiting attendance to counsel and court staff.

The hearing has not yet been scheduled, but it will occur 30 days or more after May 24, 2026. Should you wish to attend the fairness hearing and want to know the exact date, time, and location of the hearing, this information will be available at <https://www.nwirp.org>. This information will also be available via the Court's website at <https://www.wawd.uscourts.gov/calendar/all>, where the Court's schedule for the current week and following week appears.

Following the fairness hearing, the Court may approve the settlement agreement, thereby binding the parties—including all class members—to its terms and thus foreclosing all future claims covered under the agreement by class members.

You may contact *Wagafe* class counsel at:

Northwest Immigrant Rights Project
615 2nd Ave, Ste 400
Seattle, WA 98104

Email: wagafe@nwirp.org