

# EXECUTIVE ORDER

2017-01

By: **ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR**

## **Reinforcing and Expanding City Immigration Policy for All Columbus Residents**

**WHEREAS**, Columbus is America's Opportunity City and that means opportunity for all who reside here; and

**WHEREAS**, for over 200 years, the fabric of our city has been woven by immigrants and refugees from around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, Columbus neighborhoods – from German Village to American Addition and Highland West to Northland – reflect the waves of migration and immigration throughout our history, and those neighborhoods make us stronger as a city; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the responsibility of municipal leaders to protect the well-being and safety of all people residing in their cities; and

**WHEREAS**, our city will be best served by reinforcing and instituting strong public policies that respect the rights of all individuals, regardless of national origin or immigration status, and promote strong police-community relations; and

**WHEREAS**, whether we are native born or New American, we all have a responsibility to actively engage in the success of our city; and

**WHEREAS**, Columbus' future is big enough, bright enough, and safe enough for everyone; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Andrew J. Ginther, Mayor of the City of Columbus, declare and institute this Executive Order in furtherance of the foregoing:

1. It shall be policy of the City of Columbus to actively support, to the greatest extent practicable, the placement or settlement in this jurisdiction of aliens eligible to be admitted to the United States as refugees. City staff are hereby authorized and directed to cooperate to the greatest extent practicable with federal and state officials in such placement or settlement.
2. No city department or employee may use city moneys, equipment, or personnel for the sole purpose of detecting or apprehending persons based on suspected immigration status, unless in response to a court order. In furtherance of this policy, no city office or employee shall request information about or otherwise investigate or assist in the investigation of a person's immigration status unless a warrant exists, a criminal violation was reported, or an arrest was made.

3. No city department or employee shall deny equal access to city services based on immigration status unless required by law or court order. Such denial of access shall include, but shall not be limited to, soliciting immigration status in any application for city services; predicating the provision of services on the immigration status of any person; or delaying the provision of services based solely on immigration status.
4. It shall be the policy of the City of Columbus to vigorously oppose any effort to require the use of local taxpayer resources for the enforcement of federal immigration policy.

This order shall be in full force and effect after my signature is affixed to this document.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set  
My hand and caused the Great Seal of the Mayor  
of the City of Columbus, Ohio, to be hereto  
affixed this 3rd day of February, 2017.

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Andrew J. Ginther  
Mayor