

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3214

March 28, 2016

The Honorable Jeh Johnson
Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

The Honorable John Kerry
Secretary, U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Johnson and Secretary Kerry,

I have been contacted by members of the Bangladeshi-American community who believe a group of Bangladeshi individuals with legitimate claims of asylum are in imminent danger of deportation. I respectfully urge you to stop these deportations until there can be thorough assessments of the asylum claims.

I have long believed that no one should be sent into a situation where they face danger or persecution. While I do not know the details of all the individual cases, some members of the community here in the United States believe strongly that this scenario applies to those currently in detention.

The Bangladeshi-American community has raised the following questions that I believe must be answered before any further action can be taken:

- Is there concern that those scheduled for deportation, or their families in Bangladesh, will face danger, including physical violence, threats, intimidation, or political retribution?
- Are those scheduled for deportation part of a common group based on political affiliation, religion, or other characteristics?
- Have any Bangladesh nationals who were recently deported faced persecution upon their return home?
- Were any U.S. policies violated by the public release of the names and other identifying details of those scheduled for deportation?

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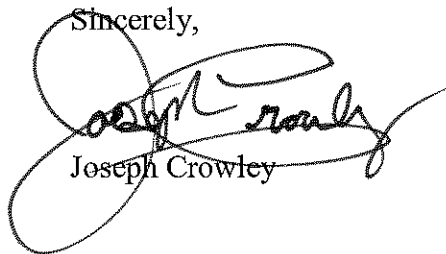
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I have long been a supporter of comprehensive immigration reform, and continue to believe that broader reform is what is needed to guide our immigration enforcement policies, including deportations. This includes a greater focus on solutions like strengthening legal representation for those requesting asylum and ensuring that our detention and adjudication policies protect civil rights. I look forward to continuing to work in Congress to move forward comprehensive immigration reform that reflects our priorities and our traditions as a nation of immigrants.

I appreciate your timely consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph Crowley", is written over the printed name. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long, sweeping tail.

Joseph Crowley