



February 14, 2018

President's Waypoint: Update on Sanctuary Amicus Brief

In September of 2017, I reported to you that the Board of Trustees delegated to me the decision of whether or not to join an amicus curiae (friend of the court) brief, supporting the City and County of San Francisco and the County of Santa Clara in a law suit against the Trump Administration. The suit sought a permanent injunction of an Executive Order, preventing the administration from making federal funding a condition of immigration enforcement. The Executive Order was an attempt to shut down "Sanctuary City" efforts. The Trump Administration lost the case in the lower court and has appealed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Today, at this very minute with related debates in Washington D.C., our continued support of San Francisco and Santa Clara in an amicus brief is more important than ever for our DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) students. Accordingly, I have recommitted to joining other institutional amici in symbolic unity for our students. You will see in the attached brief, Santa Barbara City College is proudly listed with a handful of other leading colleges that have taken a strong public stand on this topic.

As I have mentioned at other times, our joining in support of San Francisco and Santa Clara in this amicus brief conveys a positive message of hope to a vulnerable and frightened student population on our campus. These students have spent their whole lives here in the U.S., and it would be inhuman and unjust to send them to a foreign country, where they have never been before. They have grown up here, with us, like us. Our mission at SBCC has always been one of inclusion, supporting all those who come through our doors. A community college education has no nexus to immigration enforcement. Certainly, our faculty, staff, and administrators will not be conscripted into becoming immigration agents. It's not what we do; it's not who we are! We stand in solidarity with San Francisco and Santa Clara.

Together forward,