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1 - DECLARATION OF RAYMOND EARL KNAEBLE IV
In Support of Plaintiffs' Cross-Motion for Partial Summary Judgment and
In Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Partial Summary Judgment

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF OREGON
PORTLAND DIVISION

AYMAN LATIF, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ERIC H. HOLDER, JR., et al.,

Defendants.

Case No.: 10-cv-750 (BR)

**DECLARATION OF
RAYMOND EARL KNAEBLE IV
IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS'
CROSS-MOTION FOR PARTIAL
SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND IN
OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANTS'
MOTION FOR PARTIAL
SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

I, Raymond Earl Knaeble IV, hereby declare and state as follows pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746:

1. I submit this declaration based on my personal knowledge in support of Plaintiffs' cross-motion for partial summary judgment and in opposition to Defendants' motion for partial summary judgment in the above-captioned case.

2. I am a U.S. citizen and U.S. Army veteran.

3. I was born in California and raised in California and Texas. I now live in Chicago, Illinois.

4. In 2006, I moved to Kuwait to work for ITT Systems Corporation ("ITT Systems"), a multinational company specializing in global defense and security.

5. In March 2010, ITT Systems offered me a position in Qatar. My employment was contingent upon passage of a pre-employment medical exam. ITT Systems indicated that a

medical exam administered in the United States would be processed more quickly than one administered in a foreign country.

6. I accepted the ITT Systems position and scheduled my physical examination to take place in Killeen, Texas on March 16, 2010.

7. Shortly before my scheduled physical examination, I flew from Kuwait to Bogota, Colombia so that I could marry my wife, a Colombian citizen, and spend some time with extended family there. I planned to fly to the United States after the wedding so that I could take my physical examination and spend some time with my mother and daughter.

8. Prior to March 14, 2010, I never experienced a problem when flying.

9. On March 14, 2010, however, I was denied boarding on my flight from Bogota to Miami. An airline official told me that no airline would permit me to board a U.S.-bound flight.

10. I felt humiliated that everyone near me in the airport, including other travelers and airline officials, could see that I was denied boarding on my flight. I felt like I was being treated like a suspected terrorist. I felt that my reputation as an Army veteran was tarnished.

11. Two FBI agents subsequently questioned me numerous times in Colombia.

12. On April 13, 2010, I received a letter from ITT Systems. It indicated that because I had not taken the required physical exam in Killeen, the firm had withdrawn the offer for a position in Qatar.

13. I tried to find an alternative way to travel to the United States without flying directly there. I purchased tickets to fly from Santa Marta, Colombia to Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, with stops in Bogota and Mexico City. I hoped to enter the United States by traveling over land across the U.S.-Mexico border.

14. On May 11, 2010, I flew to Mexico City. Mexican government agents met me at the gate of the plane, questioned me for more than three hours, detained me for fifteen hours, and refused to allow me to board my flight to Nuevo Laredo or to travel by bus or any other means to the U.S.-Mexico border. The agents placed me on a flight back to Bogota the following day.

15. I was desperate to return to the United States. I searched for ways to travel there by boat and over land.

16. I ultimately returned to the United States in August 2010 by traveling for twelve days, mostly over land, from Santa Marta to Mexicali, California. I flew from Santa Marta to Panama City, Panama. I then took buses from Panama City to Mexicali.

17. This journey was fraught with peril and made me fear for my safety. Honduran and El Salvadoran authorities interrogated, detained, and searched me on three occasions. In Guatemala I was followed and questioned. These experiences caused me to fear for my safety. Every time foreign authorities stopped me or subjected me to questioning and searches, I did not know if they would permit me to proceed or would detain me.

18. Until I returned to the United States in August 2010, I had been in involuntary exile from my country for almost five months.

19. Because I am on the No Fly List, I was unable to travel from Bogota to the United States to take a required medical examination and consequently lost my job with ITT Systems.

20. My placement on the No Fly List has also prevented me from traveling from the United States abroad. I would like to travel to Colombia to be with my wife and extended family. I would also like to travel to Saudi Arabia to perform the *hajj* pilgrimage, an Islamic religious obligation. But, because I am on the No Fly List, I have no practical means of traveling to either location.

21. Traveling from Illinois to Colombia or Saudi Arabia over land and by ship would be prohibitively expensive, time consuming and dangerous. I fear that traveling through other countries to get from the United States to Colombia or Saudi Arabia would place me at risk of interrogation and detention by foreign authorities.

22. I have no idea why the government has put me on the No Fly List. I have never been charged, indicted, or convicted of a terrorism crime in a U.S. or foreign court. No government official has ever told me why I was denied boarding or why I would be included in the No Fly List. Because of this, I simply do not know how to explain that I should not be on the No Fly List, or what information I should provide in my defense.

23. I do not pose a threat to civil aviation or national security. I would be willing to undergo any suitable screening procedures in order to be permitted to board planes.

24. I declare and state under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Executed on March 21, 2013


RAYMOND EARL KNAEBLE

3-21-13

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In Support of Plaintiffs' Cross-Motion for Partial Summary Judgment and
In Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Partial Summary Judgment