

July 17, 2017

Kimberly Parsons
Lacey, WA 98516

The Honorable Paul deFonzo
Immigration Court
1000 Second Ave, Ste 2500
Seattle WA 98104

Re: Zahid Chaundry

Dear Honorable deFonzo:

I am writing on behalf of keeping Zahid Chaundry in the United States and granting him citizenship.

I have known Zahid for several months now. I can attest to the content of his character. I met Zahid during various meetings I attended. I noticed he was always there, always smiling and interacting with others.

Zahid has an ebullient personality. His ever-present smile is a part of him. He is always ready to share a story, to advocate for a group or cause that he believes in. And he has many stories to share.

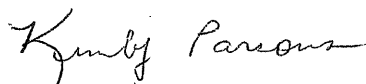
Zahid is the type of person you want to be around. His belief in the United States is not only shown through his past service in the Armed Forces, but in his everyday activism. He is always willing to help, to make suggestions, to advocate for the causes he obviously holds dear.

And almost always by his side is his wife, Ann. A quiet presence, but obviously a strong person. It is obvious they are a great team.

In all the time I have known Zahid, I've never known him to complain. He rarely speaks of himself, rather focusing on the needs of others. To find out he was not already a citizen was a shock. Zahid is more a US citizen to me than most natural-born citizens. He exemplifies what it means to be American – patriotic, altruistic, involved, encouraging, engaged. The fact he has not only been denied citizenship for all these years, but that we are holding a deportation hearing is appalling. He entered legally, served and sacrificed, is married to a citizen, and is a model for what we should all aspire to.

I often hear the phrase "Would you let 'them' live with you?" In Zahid's case, it would be the opposite – he would be the first to offer someone a place to live. But if I were pressed to answer, I would unequivocally say YES! Allow Zahid to stay and grant him citizenship.

Sincerely,



Kimberly Parsons