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## Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein Welcomes Latest Court Victory Against Trump Administration

*Federal court ruling blocks Trump administration from demanding citizenship information in 2020 Census*

**COLUMBUS, OH**—In May 2018, Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein announced that the City of Columbus was joining the State of New York in a lawsuit to prevent the Trump administration from demanding citizenship information in the 2020 U.S. Census. Today, the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York ruled in New York and Columbus' favor, stating that the federal government's decision to include citizenship information in the census questionnaire was "unlawful for a multitude of independent reasons."

**"The court's decision ruling against the Trump Administration speaks volumes about their attempt to add a citizenship question to the 2020 Census," said City Attorney Zach Klein. "From the beginning, it was clear that this was a thinly-veiled attempt at harming immigrant populations in cities like Columbus. We've always argued that the population data collected in the census results in critical millions of dollars in federal grant money for our city, and we're proud to have done our part in stopping this detrimental action in order to protect our most vulnerable communities."**

For several decades, there has been bipartisan recognition from Republican and Democratic presidents that the federal government demanding citizenship information would lead to greatly depressed census participation in communities with large immigrant populations, potentially threatening critical federal funds and fair representation in Congress and the Electoral College. In 2017, Columbus received nearly \$100 million in federal grant programs, many of which relied on the population figures collected in the census.

Prior to the Trump administration's attempt last year, the U.S. Census Bureau had not sought citizenship information on the decennial census form since 1950. In a reversal of nearly seven decades of settled practice, the bureau also departed from the long-standing and well-established processes for revising the decennial census questionnaire. Decisions to change questions on the decennial census typically have taken several years to test, evaluate and implement.

A copy of the court's decision is available [online](#).

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