

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 23, 2016 Contact: Yazmin Contreras, yazmin@adelantealabama.org, 205.706.7007

ADELANTE REACTS TO SUPREME COURT'S 4-4 SPLIT IN US V. TEXAS

BIRMINGHAM, AL—Today the Supreme Court made the disappointing announcement that it would let the injunction stand in *U.S. v. Texas*, the lawsuit challenging the President's executive actions (known as DAPA and expanded DACA) granting temporary deportation relief to millions of undocumented immigrants.

Cesar Mata, Adelante Board Member and Immigrant Community Activist responded:

"I have lived in Alabama for 16 years, but I would not have benefited from the DAPA program, and there are millions of others like me that would have been left out. But I have family and friends that had the hope of getting relief and living in peace. The community in Alabama is in disagreement with the Supreme Court announcement. These political games encourage the nativism and racism that has dominated the news lately with the threat of a Trump presidency, but that we have been facing our whole lives here in Alabama. Our community has suffered countless persecutions since the anti-immigrant law HB56 went into effect. We have never sat idly by waiting for anything to be handed down to us. We have always had to push back and fight against the separation of families, and we will continue to organize our communities against mass detention and deportations. In the spirit of *la lucha* (the struggle), we ask that you help us stop the deportation of our brother in the struggle Pedro Maradiaga, whose baby is due next month. We do not want to see not one more family separated."

Jessica Vosburgh, Adelante Executive Director and Attorney stated:

"We are dismayed but not surprised to see the result today from the Supreme Court. We were even more dismayed to hear President Obama's response in which he continued to justify increasing border militarization, deportations, and immigration policies that distinguish between the 'deserving' and 'undeserving' by relying on our country's fundamentally flawed criminal justice system. The problem is bigger than DAPA and DACA. Even if we had DAPA, we would still have thousands of immigrants locked up in horrific detention centers like the Etowah jail in Gadsden, Alabama. Even if we had DAPA, ICE would still be trying to deport people like Birmingham community member Pedro Maradiaga. Our struggle continues."

Sign and share the petition to stop Pedro Maradiaga's deportation: http://bit.ly/BabyDue

Adelante is a community organization that unites day laborers, domestic workers, and other low-wage and immigrant workers and their families in the Birmingham area to defend our rights, promote our dignity, and pursue justice for all.