



Protecting Migrant Rights Across Borders

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**No Justice Without Services: Justice in Motion asks court to enforce provision of family separation settlement agreement**

*Statement by Justice in Motion*

NEW YORK – Justice in Motion strongly supports the [ACLU's call for court intervention to enforce the US government's obligations under the family separation settlement agreement](#).

Eight years since it enacted a zero-tolerance policy to forcibly separate thousands of migrant children from their parents, the Trump administration has terminated the federal contract that ensures critical legal services for these impacted families. The administration [abruptly notified the Acacia Center for Justice](#), the main contractor that oversees the legal services program serving those clients, that it does not intend to renew its contract.

Unless the court intervenes, this essential contract will expire on April 30, stripping hundreds of families of the legal support promised to them under the 2023 settlement.

“As the organization that has spent the last eight years mobilizing our Defender Network to locate and support separated families across borders, we are deeply troubled by the termination of these critical legal services. The settlement benefits are not acts of generosity – they are the bare minimum of what justice demands,” said Justice in Motion Executive Director Cathleen Caron. “Without legal services, many families will lose their lifeline to safety, stability, and reunification. The federal government must be held accountable to its commitments.”

For years, Justice in Motion has worked across the United States, Mexico, and Central America to find and support separated families. We have witnessed firsthand the deep, long-lasting harm inflicted by this cruel policy – and the hope and healing that can begin when families are finally reunited and supported.

We join our partners in calling on the court to uphold the settlement agreement. The government must not be allowed to walk away from its responsibilities.

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*Justice in motion protects migrant rights by ensuring justice across borders. Our unique network of on-the-ground human rights defenders in Mexico and Central America partner with US advocates to make sure that wherever migrants go, their rights will follow.*