

The Saget v. Trump Litigation Team of Kurzban Kurzban Tetzeli & Pratt recognized as Pro Bono Champion (AILA National).

The AILA National Pro Bono Services Committee's Pro Bono Champion Award recognizes AILA members, community groups, local firms or organizations that have made an impact through their pro bono services.

The team from Kurzban, Kurzban Tetzeli & Pratt were pro bono lead counsel in nationwide class action lawsuit challenging the Trump administration's unlawful revocation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haiti. As a result, a federal judge issues a nationwide injunction on April 11, 2019, against DHS generally, and Donald J. Trump, specifically, barring termination of TPS for Haitians.

As summarized in a press release from the National Lawyers Guild:

In 2017, Trump announced that TPS for Haitian nationals would end on July 22, 2019, endangering the lives of over 50,000 Haitians and their 27,000 U.S. citizen children. Judge Kuntz's ruling roundly rejects the lawlessness of that action.

The court's reasoning included that the White House pressured federal agencies to change their longstanding practices to reach a decision sought by the Administration for its own purposes (plaintiffs argued those purposes included racial animus); and that these same federal agencies manipulated facts and processes to justify a predetermined decision to end Haiti's TPS status.

This 150-page decision is a long and thorough missive on government manipulation. It exposes at the highest levels the government's unlawful dismantling of the TPS program, and its discriminatory purposes in doing so. It also vindicates the brave struggle of Haitian TPS holders who challenged Trump, because the law was on their side.

