

IAFL Press Release : Against Forced Separation of Children and Parents on US Border

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

20 JUNE 2018

Standing Position Of IAFL USA Chapter Against Forced Separation Of Children From Parents In Detention After Crossing US Southern Border

As passed by the Board of Managers of the USA Chapter of the International Academy of Family Lawyers:

The USA Chapter of the International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL USA Chapter) has taken a standing position against the US government's policy of forcibly separating and then keeping minor children from their parents when family units cross the southern border of the United States.

There is no law requiring the separation of children from their parents, and in fact, the government has previously detained parents and children together in immigration cases. The forcible separation of over 2,000 children from their parents in the past months is both unnecessary and cruel, and has been determined by the President of the American Academy of Pediatrics to be a form of child abuse. The IAFL USA Chapter stands for the proposition that the forced separation occurring at our southern border is not in the best interests of children, and it is not legally or otherwise necessary.

The IAFL USA Chapter respectfully calls upon President Trump, Attorney General Sessions and immigration authorities to immediately end the policy of forcibly separating minor children from their parents, reverting to the prior policy of detaining parents and children together in immigration cases, if detention is warranted.

The IAFL USA Chapter consists of 318 IAFL Fellows who practice law in the United States. The IAFL is a worldwide association of practicing lawyers who are recognized by their peers as the most experienced and skilled family law specialists in their respective countries. The IAFL was formed in 1986 as the International Academy of Matrimonial

Lawyers to improve the practice of law and administration of justice in the area of divorce and family law throughout the world. See www.iafl.com.

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