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### **Muslim American Activists Host Rally Against Trump's "Muslim Ban" Policies; Call on DC Government to Protect Marginalized Communities**

Where: John A. Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW DC

When: Thursday, January 26, 2017, 4:30-6:00 PM

Washington, DC — On Thursday, January 26 from 4:30-6:00 pm, activists will protest the Executive Order that President Trump is expected to sign. The order will include halting refugee admissions for at least 4 months, banning entry to the U.S. from several Muslim majority countries, and implementing intensive screenings of immigration applicants. Staging the protest outside of a DC government building (the Wilson Building), activists will call upon the D.C. government to protect Muslim and immigrant communities that the Trump administration is targeting. The event is being organized by the Muslim American Women's Policy Forum.

Organizers are calling on Muslims, refugees, immigrants and allies to join them in urging the DC Council to make a clear statement that they will protect these threatened despite pressure from the Trump administration.

"It's important we reject Islamophobia, xenophobia and anti-refugee violence," said Darakshan Raja, Co-director of Justice for Muslims Collective based in DC. She added, "In this moment we have to show up, resist and center leadership of directly impacted folks."

"It is unfortunate, yet not unexpected that President Trump is moving forward with his plan to not only ban immigrants from certain Muslim countries, but to also deny refugees, specifically Muslim refugees, entry into the United States," said Dr. Maha Hilal, Co-Director of Justice for Muslims Collective. "This collective punishment of Muslims represents the newest era of the War on Terror that is fundamentally racist, xenophobic, and Islamophobic, while failing to address the root causes of forced migration - which in many cases is a direct result of U.S. intervention."