

1 Jeffrey M. Davidson (Bar No. 248620)  
2 Alan Bersin (Bar No. 63874)  
3 COVINGTON & BURLING LLP  
4 One Front Street, 35th Floor  
5 San Francisco, CA 94111-5356  
6 Telephone: + 1 (415) 591-6000  
7 Facsimile: + 1 (415) 591-6091  
8 Email: jdavidson@cov.com,  
9 abersin@cov.com

6 Lanny A. Breuer  
7 Mark H. Lynch  
8 Alexander A. Berengaut  
9 Megan A. Crowley  
10 Ashley Anguas Nyquist  
11 Ivano M. Ventresca  
12 (*pro hac vice* applications forthcoming)  
13 COVINGTON & BURLING LLP  
14 One CityCenter  
15 850 Tenth Street, NW  
16 Washington, DC 20001-4956  
17 Telephone: + 1 (202) 662-6000  
18 Facsimile: +1 (202) 662-6291  
19 E-mail: lbreuer@cov.com, mlynch@cov.com,  
20 aberengaut@cov.com, mcrowley@cov.com,  
21 anyquist@cov.com, iventresca@cov.com

Attorneys for Plaintiffs  
THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY  
OF CALIFORNIA and JANET NAPOLITANO,  
in her official capacity as President of the  
University of California

[Additional Counsel Listed on Next Page]

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF  
CALIFORNIA and JANET NAPOLITANO,  
*in her official capacity as President of the  
University of California,*

Plaintiffs,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND  
SECURITY and ELAINE DUKE, *in her  
official capacity as Acting Secretary of the  
Department of Homeland Security,*

Defendants.

Charles F. Robinson (Bar No. 113197)  
Margaret Wu (Bar No. 184167)  
Julia Friedlander (Bar No. 165767)  
Sonya Sanchez (Bar No. 247541)  
Norman Hamill (Bar No. 154272)  
Harpreet Chahal (Bar No. 233268)  
Michael Troncoso (Bar No. 221180)  
University of California  
Office of the General Counsel  
1111 Franklin Street, 8th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94607-5200  
Telephone: + 1 (510) 987-9800  
Facsimile: + 1 (510) 987-9757  
Email: charles.robinson@ucop.edu

Civil Case No.:

**COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY AND  
INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

**ADDITIONAL COUNSEL OF RECORD**

Mónica Ramírez Almadani (Bar No. 234893)  
COVINGTON & BURLING LLP  
1999 Avenue of the Stars  
Los Angeles, CA 90067-4643  
Telephone: + 1 (424) 332-4800  
Facsimile: + (424) 332-4749  
Email: mralmadani@cov.com

Erika Douglas (Bar No. 314531)  
COVINGTON & BURLING LLP  
333 Twin Dolphin Drive, Suite 700  
Redwood Shores, CA 94061-1418  
Telephone: + 1 (650) 632-4700  
Facsimile: + 1 (650) 632-4800  
Email: edouglas@cov.com

Attorneys for Plaintiffs THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA and JANET NAPOLITANO, in her official capacity as President of the University of California

1 Plaintiffs The Regents of the University of California (“UC” or “the University”), on its own  
2 behalf and on behalf of all students currently enrolled at the University, and Janet Napolitano, in her  
3 official capacity as President of the University of California (together “Plaintiffs”), bring this action for  
4 declaratory and injunctive relief against the Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”) and Acting  
5 Secretary of Homeland Security, Elaine Duke (together, “Defendants”), and allege as follows:

## 6 INTRODUCTION

7 1. This lawsuit, brought under the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment to the  
8 United States Constitution and the Administrative Procedure Act (“APA”), 5 U.S.C. § 706, challenges  
9 Defendants’ unlawful decision to rescind the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (“DACA”)  
10 program, which protected from deportation nearly 800,000 individuals brought to this country as  
11 children, known as Dreamers. Under DACA, the Dreamers, who came to the United States through no  
12 choice of their own, who have clean records, and who have lived continuously in the United States since  
13 2007, were permitted to live, work, and study in this country without fear of deportation. The United  
14 States, and the University, have benefited enormously from the presence of the Dreamers, accomplished  
15 young men and women who are our students, and colleagues, and neighbors. They are Americans, a  
16 fact that Defendants’ precipitous decision cannot change.

17 2. As a result of Defendants’ actions, the Dreamers face expulsion from the only country  
18 that they call home, based on nothing more than unreasoned executive whim. The University faces the  
19 loss of vital members of its community, students and employees. It is hard to imagine a decision less  
20 reasoned, more damaging, or undertaken with less care. As explained below, Defendants’ capricious  
21 rescission of the DACA program violates both the procedural and substantive requirements of the APA,  
22 as well as the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment. Accordingly, Defendants’ unconstitutional,  
23 unjust, and unlawful action must be set aside.

24 3. On June 15, 2012, former Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano announced  
25 that individuals who arrived in the United States as children and met certain criteria, and who otherwise  
26 satisfied DHS’s exercise of discretion, could apply for deferred action for two-year periods, subject to  
27 renewal. *See* Memorandum from Janet Napolitano, Sec’y of Homeland Security, to Alejandro  
28 Mayorkas, Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Servs. et al., Exercising Prosecutorial Discretion

1 With Respect to Individuals Who Came to the United States as Children (June 15, 2012) (“DACA  
2 Memorandum”). DACA allowed these individuals to live, study, and work in the United States without  
3 fear that they could be arrested and deported at any time. Because of the program, DACA recipients  
4 were able to pursue opportunities in higher education, to more readily obtain driver’s licenses and access  
5 lines of credit, to obtain jobs and access to certain Social Security and Medicare benefits, and to  
6 contribute to their communities and American society in countless ways.

7 4. The University directly benefited from the DACA program, in its capacities as educator  
8 and employer. UC has approximately 4,000 undocumented students, a substantial number of whom are  
9 DACA recipients. Many of its staff members are also DACA recipients. These individuals make  
10 important contributions to University life, expanding the intellectual vitality of the school, filling crucial  
11 roles as medical residents, research assistants, and student government leaders, and increasing the  
12 diversity of the community.

13 5. Over the past five years, DACA recipients have structured their lives—and the University  
14 has made significant investments—on the government’s express assurances that if they self-identified,  
15 registered with federal law enforcement agencies, and passed an extensive background investigation,  
16 they would be shielded from deportation and allowed to work in the United States for renewable two-  
17 year periods. Yet despite the substantial and well-founded reliance that these individuals and the  
18 University placed in the continuation of the DACA program, on September 5, 2017, Defendants  
19 suddenly and unilaterally rescinded it. *See* Ex. A, Memorandum on Rescission Of Deferred Action For  
20 Childhood Arrivals (Sept. 5, 2017) (hereinafter the “Rescission”).

21 6. The Rescission, which renders DACA recipients once more subject to deportation, has  
22 profound consequences for the University and its students. As a result of Defendants’ actions, DACA  
23 recipients face the loss of their livelihood, education, and country. The University and all of its students  
24 will lose the contributions of valued colleagues and employees. The University also will lose  
25 intellectual capital and productivity, as DACA recipients are deprived of the work authorizations needed  
26 to serve in the professional roles in which both they and the University have so heavily invested.

27 7. In the Rescission, Defendants offered no reasoned basis for their cancellation of DACA,  
28 instead merely pointing to the purported illegality of another program known as Deferred Action for

1 Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (“DAPA”), and stating that in light of the Fifth  
2 Circuit’s conclusion that DAPA is unlawful, “it is clear that [DACA] should be terminated.” As  
3 explained below, rescinding DACA on this specious basis was procedurally and substantively invalid  
4 under the APA and violated the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment.

5 8. Agency action is invalid under the APA if it is “arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of  
6 discretion, or otherwise not in accordance with law,” or if it is taken “without observance of procedure  
7 required by law.” 5 U.S.C. § 706(2). To survive judicial review under the APA, an agency must  
8 “articulate a satisfactory explanation for its action including a ‘rational connection between the facts  
9 found and the choice made.’” *Motor Vehicle Mfrs. Ass’n of the U.S., Inc. v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins.*  
10 *Co.*, 463 U.S. 29, 43 (1983). In determining whether an agency has complied with this requirement, a  
11 court must conduct a “thorough, probing, in-depth review” of the agency’s reasoning and a “searching  
12 and careful” inquiry into the factual underpinnings of the agency’s decision. *Citizens to Preserve*  
13 *Overton Park, Inc. v. Volpe*, 401 U.S. 402, 415–16 (1971). Here, in multiple respects, Defendants failed  
14 to “articulate a satisfactory explanation” for their action that would enable a court to conclude that the  
15 decision was “the product of reasoned decisionmaking.” *State Farm*, 463 U.S. at 52.

16 9. As an initial matter, Defendants’ reliance on the purported illegality of DAPA is an  
17 entirely insufficient basis on which to terminate DACA. DAPA is a separate program from DACA.  
18 The two programs were governed by different sets of rules, applied to different individuals, and  
19 conferred different benefits. Therefore, the alleged illegality of DAPA does not justify the rescission of  
20 DACA, and Defendants’ failure to recognize the many differences between the programs renders their  
21 decision unreasonable.

22 10. Because the Rescission is based on an incorrect legal premise—the purported illegality of  
23 DACA—it cannot survive judicial review under the APA. *See, e.g., Massachusetts v. EPA*, 549 U.S.  
24 497, 532 (2007) (holding that action was unlawful under the APA because agency based its decision on  
25 incorrect legal conclusion); *Safe Air For Everyone v. EPA*, 488 F.3d 1088, 1101 (9th Cir. 2007)  
26 (“Because that flawed premise is fundamental to EPA’s determination . . . EPA’s outcome on those  
27 statutory interpretation questions is arbitrary, capricious, or otherwise not in accordance with law.”).

1           11.     Despite Defendants’ conclusory assertion that DACA “has the same legal and  
2 constitutional defects” as DAPA, no court has held that DACA is unlawful. Instead, DHS has  
3 previously concluded that programs like DACA are a lawful exercise of the Executive Branch’s broad  
4 statutory authority to administer and enforce the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1101, *et*  
5 *seq.* See Brief for Petitioners, *United States v. Texas*, 2016 WL 836758 (2016) (No. 15-674). Similarly,  
6 the Department of Justice’s Office of Legal Counsel (“OLC”)—whose legal advice is binding on the  
7 Executive Branch—provided a thoughtful and nuanced analysis of DAPA in 2014, concluding that  
8 DAPA, as well as DACA, was a lawful exercise of the Executive Branch’s prosecutorial discretion.  
9 Dep’t of Homeland Sec.’s Auth. to Prioritize Removal of Certain Aliens Unlawfully Present in the  
10 United States & to Defer Removal of Others, 2014 WL 10788677 (O.L.C. Nov. 19, 2014).

11           12.     The Rescission fails to acknowledge—let alone explain—the government’s departure  
12 from its own prior interpretations of the law. Indeed, DHS vigorously defended the legality of DAPA in  
13 the Supreme Court less than two years ago. See Brief for Petitioners, *supra*. Yet in making the  
14 unfounded assertion that DACA is illegal for the same reasons that DAPA is illegal, Defendants neither  
15 addressed the compelling arguments set forth in DHS’s own brief before the Supreme Court and in  
16 OLC’s 2014 Opinion, nor offered a reasonable explanation for why their current view of the law is  
17 superior to the view they and OLC previously espoused. Those failures, standing alone, are enough to  
18 render their decision unlawful under the APA.

19           13.     Defendants compound the irrationality of their decision by failing to acknowledge the  
20 profound reliance interests implicated by DACA and the hundreds of thousands of individuals,  
21 employers, and universities who will be substantially harmed by the termination of the program. The  
22 Supreme Court has emphasized that the presence of serious reliance interests requires an agency to  
23 proffer a “more substantial justification” than otherwise would be required when the agency changes  
24 course. See *Perez v. Mortg. Bankers Ass’n*, 135 S. Ct. 1199, 1209 (2015); *FCC v. Fox Television*  
25 *Stations*, 556 U.S. 502, 515 (2009). Here, Defendants entirely failed to comply with that directive.

26           14.     Defendants did not analyze the actual costs and benefits of allowing DACA recipients to  
27 live and work in this country, nor did they acknowledge the manifold benefits that have resulted from  
28 the program or the harm that institutions like the University—as well as its students—would suffer as a

1 result of the Rescission. By failing to consider these factors and the interests at stake, Defendants have  
2 failed to satisfy the APA's requirement of reasoned decision-making.

3 15. The Rescission also should be set aside because it is procedurally invalid. By prohibiting  
4 DHS from granting advance parole or renewing recipients' DACA status after October 5, 2017, the  
5 Rescission circumscribes DHS's discretion and therefore constitutes a substantive rule. *See W.C. v.*  
6 *Bowen*, 807 F.2d 1502, 1505 (9th Cir. 1987), *opinion amended on denial of reh'g*, 819 F.2d 237 (9th  
7 Cir. 1987) ("Rules which substantially limit an agency's discretion are generally substantive rules.").  
8 Additionally, in contrast to the case-by-case assessment of individual applicants provided under DACA,  
9 the Rescission is a categorical rule, which applies to all DACA recipients. This too underscores the  
10 substantive nature of the Rescission, which is subject to the full range of the APA's rulemaking  
11 requirements, including the notice-and-comment requirement of 5 U.S.C. § 553. *See Paulsen v.*  
12 *Daniels*, 413 F.3d 999, 1003-04 (9th Cir. 2005) (holding that Bureau of Prisons "plainly violated the  
13 APA" by promulgating a rule that barred category of prisoners from relief without notice). Defendants'  
14 failure to abide by these mandatory procedural requirements renders their action unlawful.

15 16. Finally, in rescinding DACA, Defendants violated the Due Process Clause of the United  
16 States Constitution by failing to provide the University with any process before depriving it of the value  
17 of the public resources it invested in DACA recipients, and the benefits flowing from DACA recipients'  
18 contributions to the University. More fundamentally, they failed to provide DACA recipients with any  
19 process before depriving them of their work authorizations and DACA status, and the benefits that flow  
20 from that status.

## 21 THE PARTIES

22 17. Plaintiff The Regents of the University of California is a California public corporation,  
23 authorized and empowered to administer a public trust known as the University of California, pursuant  
24 to Article IX, Section 9, subdivisions (a) and (f) of the California Constitution. Its principal place of  
25 business is in Oakland, Alameda County, California. The University brings this complaint on behalf of  
26 itself and on behalf of all students currently enrolled at the University. Approximately 4,000  
27 undocumented students are enrolled at the University, a substantial number of whom are DACA  
28 recipients. Some of these recipients are also employed by the University.





1 **BACKGROUND**

2 **A. *The DACA Program***

3 25. On June 15, 2012, the Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano announced that  
4 individuals who arrived in the United States as children and met certain criteria could apply for deferred  
5 action for two-year periods, subject to renewal. *See* DACA Memorandum. In establishing the program,  
6 the Secretary elected to extend deferred action to “certain young people who were brought to this  
7 country as children and know only this country as home.” *Id.* The Secretary emphasized that federal  
8 immigration laws are “not designed . . . to remove productive young people to countries where they may  
9 not have lived or even speak the language. Indeed, many of these young people have already  
10 contributed to our country in significant ways.” *Id.* This program is known as Deferred Action for  
11 Childhood Arrivals (“DACA”).

12 26. Individuals were eligible for the program if they (1) came to the United States when they  
13 were under the age of sixteen; (2) continuously resided in the United States since June 15, 2007, and  
14 were present in the United States on June 15, 2012, and on the date they requested DACA; (3) were  
15 currently in school, had graduated from high school, had obtained a general education development  
16 certificate, or were an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United  
17 States; (4) had not been convicted of a felony, a significant misdemeanor, or three or more other  
18 misdemeanors, and otherwise did not pose a threat to national security or public safety; (5) did not have  
19 lawful immigration status on June 15, 2012; and (6) were under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012. *See*  
20 *id.*; *see also* Ex. B, U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Servs.: Consideration of Deferred Action for  
21 Childhood Arrivals Process (Aug. 26, 2017) (hereinafter “USCIS FAQs”). Individuals who met these  
22 criteria were then eligible for an exercise of prosecutorial discretion, following an individualized review  
23 of their applications. *See* DACA Memorandum.

24 27. When they applied for admission to the program, DACA recipients were required to  
25 disclose sensitive, personal information to Defendants, including their lack of lawful immigration status  
26 as of June 15, 2012, their date of initial entry into the United States, their country of birth, their current  
27 and previous mailing addresses, and other contact information. *See* USCIS Form I-821D; USCIS Form  
28 I-821D Instructions.

1           28. Continuing their longstanding practice with respect to deferred-action applications,  
2 Defendants repeatedly promised DACA applicants that the information they submitted as part of their  
3 applications would not be used for civil immigration enforcement purposes against DACA applicants or  
4 their families. *See* USCIS FAQs; Form I-821D Instructions. Because only individuals who might be  
5 subject to removal proceedings would apply for DACA, this promise was necessary for individuals to  
6 submit applications without fear that the Executive Branch was using DACA as a way to find and  
7 remove undocumented immigrants.

8           29. Individuals who received deferred action under DACA were not subject to removal for a  
9 period of two years, subject to renewal. *See* DACA Memorandum.

10           30. DACA recipients also were eligible for work authorizations that allowed them to work  
11 legally in the United States, pursuant to a long-standing federal regulation. *See id.*; 8 C.F.R. §  
12 274a.12(c)(14) (providing that “an alien who has been granted deferred action” may obtain work  
13 authorization upon demonstrating economic necessity); USCIS FAQs (“Under existing regulations, an  
14 individual whose case has been deferred is eligible to receive employment authorization for the period  
15 of deferred action, provided he or she can demonstrate ‘an economic necessity for employment.’”). An  
16 individual’s work authorization expires at the same time as his or her DACA status and could be  
17 renewed upon a renewal of DACA status.

18           31. Individuals with DACA status were “not considered to be unlawfully present during the  
19 period in which deferred action [was] in effect.” USCIS FAQs.

20           32. Since the program was first introduced in 2012, nearly 800,000 individuals received  
21 DACA status. This includes an estimated 242,339 residents of the State of California. *See* Number of I-  
22 821D, Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals by Fiscal Year, Quarter, Intake,  
23 Biometrics and Case Status: 2012-2017 (Mar. 31, 2017); Carolyn Jones, California Colleges Undaunted  
24 by Trump’s Decision to Phase out DACA, EDSOURCE (Sept. 1, 2017),  
25 <https://edsource.org/2017/california-colleges-undaunted-by-trumps-threat-to-end-daca/586746>.

26           ***B. The Many Benefits of DACA***

27           33. As noted above, DACA recipients have contributed in innumerable ways to the  
28 intellectual and social fabric of the University.

1           34. As an institution whose core mission is serving the interests of the State of California, the  
2 University seeks “to achieve diversity among its student bodies and among its employees.” *See*  
3 Academic Senate of the Univ. of Cal., *Regents Policy 4400: Policy of University of California Diversity*  
4 *Statement*, UNIV. OF CAL.: BOARD OF REGENTS, [http://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/](http://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/governance/policies/4400.html)  
5 [governance/policies/4400.html](http://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/governance/policies/4400.html). The University recognizes the importance of diversity to its academic  
6 mission, as it allows “students and faculty [to] learn to interact effectively with each other, preparing  
7 them to participate in an increasingly complex and pluralistic society.” *Id.* The educational experience  
8 of all University students is fuller and more enriching when ideas are “born and nurtured in a diverse  
9 community.” *Id.* DACA students at the University are an integral part of that community. Their talent,  
10 perspectives, and experiences are invaluable contributions to University life.

11           35. DACA recipients also make significant contributions to University life in their role as  
12 employees. They work at UC campuses and in UC medical centers as teaching assistants, research  
13 assistants, post-docs, and health care providers. DACA recipients often possess valuable foreign  
14 language skills. By allowing DACA recipients to work lawfully, DACA moved recipients out of the  
15 informal economy, increasing the pool of talent from which UC could fill positions at the University.

16           36. Additional DACA recipients who are enrolled as students support themselves and cover a  
17 portion of their tuition through their part-time work for the University. For many of these students,  
18 DACA work authorization plays a significant role in their ability to attend UC and continue each year  
19 with their chosen program of study.

20           37. The University has invested considerable resources in recruiting and retaining these  
21 individuals—as students and employees. It has made scarce enrollment space available to these students  
22 on the basis of their individual achievements. It also has invested substantial time, financial aid,  
23 research dollars, housing benefits, and other resources in them on the expectation that these students will  
24 complete their course of study and become productive members of the communities in which the  
25 University operates, and other communities throughout the nation. The University has significant  
26 interests in retaining this wealth of talent and in continuing to enjoy the many benefits of their  
27 participation in University life.  
28

1           38.     Furthermore, by allowing recipients to receive deferred action and obtain work  
2 authorization, DACA opened myriad opportunities to them. As noted above, DACA recipients became  
3 eligible for federal work authorization, which significantly improved their opportunities for employment  
4 and higher paying jobs. Under the program, DACA recipients received social security numbers and  
5 therefore were able to access credit more easily. DACA also enabled recipients to obtain driver's  
6 licenses in a number of states where they otherwise could not. It also protected these individuals' right  
7 to travel freely by making them eligible to receive "advance parole," which allowed them to travel  
8 abroad temporarily for humanitarian, educational, or employment purposes, and to return to the United  
9 States lawfully. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 212.5(f); USCIS FAQs.

10           ***C. Defendants Unlawfully Rescind DACA***

11           39.     As recently as February 20, 2017, Defendants had reaffirmed the administration's  
12 commitment to DACA, *see* Memorandum from John Kelly, Sec'y of Homeland Security, Enforcement  
13 of the Immigration Laws to Serve the National Interest, at 2 (Feb. 20 2017), and up until September 5,  
14 2017, Defendants had continued to approve DACA requests and renewals. Despite President Trump's  
15 claim that DACA recipients "shouldn't be very worried" and that the Administration would treat DACA  
16 recipients "with great heart," on September 5, 2017, Defendants announced that they were rescinding  
17 the program. *See* Transcript: ABC News anchor David Muir interviews President Trump, ABC NEWS  
18 (Jan. 25, 2017) [http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/transcript-abc-news-anchor-david-muir-interviews-](http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/transcript-abc-news-anchor-david-muir-interviews-president/story?id=45047602)  
19 [president/story?id=45047602](http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/transcript-abc-news-anchor-david-muir-interviews-president/story?id=45047602); *see also* Madeline Conway, Trump Tells Dreamers To "Rest Easy,"  
20 Politico.com (Apr. 21, 2017), [http://www.politico.com/story/2017/04/21/trump-dreamers-rest-easy-](http://www.politico.com/story/2017/04/21/trump-dreamers-rest-easy-immigration-237463)  
21 [immigration-237463](http://www.politico.com/story/2017/04/21/trump-dreamers-rest-easy-immigration-237463).

22           40.     Defendants announced their decision on the same day as a "deadline" imposed by ten  
23 states that threatened to sue the Trump administration if DACA were not rescinded. *See* Letter from  
24 Gov. Abbott to U.S. Att'y General Sessions (June 29, 2017). The Rescission expressly states that this  
25 threat—rather than any reasoned evaluation of the legality and merits of the program—provoked the  
26 decision to terminate DACA.

27           41.     Prior to DHS's issuance of the Rescission, Attorney General Jeff Sessions held a press  
28 conference in which he asserted that "[o]ur collective wisdom is that the policy is vulnerable to the same

1 legal and constitutional challenges that the courts recognized with respect to the DAPA program.” *See*  
2 Ex. C, Attorney General Sessions Delivers Remarks On DACA (Sept. 5, 2017),  
3 <https://www.justice.gov/opa/speech/attorney-general-sessions-delivers-remarks-daca> (“Press  
4 Conference”). Similarly, a September 4, 2017 letter from the Attorney General to Acting Secretary of  
5 DHS Duke reiterated that DACA “was effectuated . . . without proper statutory authority” and “was an  
6 unconstitutional exercise of authority by the Executive Branch.” *See* Ex. D, Letter from Att’y General  
7 Sessions to Acting Sec’y of DHS Duke (Sept. 4, 2017). The Attorney General also noted the potential  
8 of litigation from several states and that DACA was “likely” to be enjoined in that yet-to-be-filed  
9 litigation.

10 42. In addition, in his press conference Attorney General Sessions alleged, without offering  
11 any evidence, that DACA had “denied jobs to hundreds of thousands of Americans by allowing those  
12 same jobs to go to illegal aliens.” He also made the specious claim that DACA “contributed to a surge  
13 of unaccompanied minors on the southern border that yielded terrible humanitarian consequences.” *See*  
14 Press Conference. That claim is facially false. DACA by its terms applies only to individuals resident  
15 in the United States since June 15, 2007—five years before the program began.

16 43. After the press conference, Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Duke, purporting to  
17 act “[i]n the exercise of [her] authority in establishing national immigration policies and priorities,”  
18 formally rescinded the DACA Memorandum. The Rescission states that “it is clear” that DACA  
19 “should be terminated” in light of the Fifth Circuit’s ruling in *Texas v. United States*, 809 F.3d 134 (5th  
20 Cir. 2015), regarding DAPA, the Supreme Court’s non-precedential affirmance of that ruling by an  
21 equally divided court, and the Attorney General’s September 4 letter.

22 44. The President, however, does not appear to share the views of DHS or his Attorney  
23 General regarding the legality of DACA. In direct contradiction to Defendants’ and Attorney General  
24 Sessions’ position that the prior administration had exceeded the authority of the Executive Branch in  
25 establishing DACA, *see* Ex. A and Press Conference, the President tweeted on the night of the  
26 Rescission, “Congress now has 6 months to legalize DACA (something the Obama Administration was  
27 unable to do). If they can’t, I will revisit this issue!” *See* Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump),  
28 Twitter (Sep. 5, 2017, 8:38 PM), <https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/905228667336499200>.

1           45.     Although the Rescission concludes that DACA is unlawful, it does not immediately  
2     revoke any individual’s DACA status or work authorization. Instead, it instructs that “the Department  
3     will provide a limited window in which it will adjudicate certain requests for DACA and associated  
4     applications.” Specifically, the Rescission explains that DHS will adjudicate pending DACA requests  
5     and associated work authorization applications that already had been accepted by the agency as of  
6     September 5, 2017, but will reject new requests and applications filed after September 5, 2017. It  
7     further states that DHS will adjudicate pending renewal requests and applications from current DACA  
8     recipients, as well as renewal requests and applications from current DACA recipients for grants of  
9     deferred action that expire between September 5, 2017, and March 5, 2018, and that are accepted by the  
10    agency as of October 5, 2017. Any renewal requests filed after October 5, 2017, or any renewal requests  
11    for benefits that expire after March 5, 2018, will be rejected. DHS will not terminate the current grants  
12    of deferred action to DACA recipients, but instead will allow individuals’ DACA status to expire. DHS  
13    will not approve any new applications for advance parole and will administratively close all pending  
14    applications for advance parole. *See* Ex. A at 4-5.

15           46.     Defendants’ decision to rescind the program will have immense and devastating effects  
16    on the University and all of its students. As a result of the termination of the program, the University  
17    and its students will lose the vital contributions that DACA recipients have made as students and  
18    employees. *See Washington v. Trump*, 847 F.3d 1151, 1160 (9th Cir. 2017) (“[S]chools have been  
19    permitted to assert the rights of their students.”). The civic life of the school will be diminished, the  
20    exchange of ideas will be reduced, teaching and research will be impaired, and diversity will be more  
21    difficult to achieve. The University and its students benefit from cohesive family units, robust civic  
22    participation, and the strength of social and educational communities. The Rescission damages each of  
23    these interests, in California and nationwide.

24           47.     Moreover, UC students and employees have friends or family members who are DACA  
25    recipients, and the University will have to expend resources to address the detrimental effects that the  
26    rescission of DACA will have on these individuals’ lives. The University also will lose the resources it  
27    has spent educating students who ultimately do not graduate.









1 opportunities in higher education, to more readily obtain driver's licenses and access lines of credit, to  
2 obtain jobs, and to access certain Social Security and Medicare benefits.

3 71. The Rescission and actions taken by Defendants to rescind DACA unlawfully deprive the  
4 University and its students of these and other constitutionally-protected interests without due process of  
5 law. Such deprivation occurred with no notice or opportunity to be heard.

6 72. Defendants therefore have violated the Fifth Amendment to the United States  
7 Constitution.

8 73. The University and its students were harmed and continue to be harmed by these  
9 unlawful acts.

10 **RELIEF REQUESTED**

11 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court:

12 A. Vacate and set aside the Rescission and any other action taken by Defendants to  
13 rescind DACA;

14 B. Declare that the Rescission and actions taken by Defendants to rescind DACA are  
15 void and without legal force or effect;

16 C. Declare that the Rescission and actions taken by Defendants to rescind DACA are  
17 arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, otherwise not in accordance with law, and without  
18 observance of procedure required by law in violation of 5 U.S.C. §§ 702-706;

19 D. Declare that the Rescission and actions taken by Defendants to rescind DACA are  
20 in violation of the Constitution and contrary to the laws of the United States;

21 E. Preliminarily and permanently enjoin and restrain Defendants, their agents,  
22 servants, employees, attorneys, and all persons in active concert or participation with any of  
23 them, from implementing or enforcing the Rescission and from taking any other action to rescind  
24 DACA that is not in compliance with applicable law;

25 F. Grant such further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

26 DATED: September 8, 2017

COVINGTON & BURLING LLP

27 By: \_\_\_\_\_  
28 Jeffrey M. Davidson (Bar No. 248620)  
One Front Street, 35th Floor

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

San Francisco, CA 94111-5356  
Telephone: + 1 (415) 591-6000  
Facsimile: + 1 (415) 591-6091  
Email: jdavidson@cov.com

Attorneys for Plaintiffs THE REGENTS OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA and JANET  
NAPOLITANO, in her official capacity as  
President of the University of California