

Elon Musk says he's hopeful more changes to immigration ban are coming

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Elon Musk, who promised to use his spot on a Trump Administration business advisory council to request alterations to the president's controversial Muslim immigration ban, said he was encouraged by recent changes to the order — and expected more to come.

Friday evening, he tweeted, "There has already been and there will be progress on this matter," and then elaborated, in response to Twitter user @mcun1 (who describes himself as a Vancouver-based musician), that he was referring to "the ban."

"Green cards & dual citizens already ok. Work & spousal visas not yet, but hopefully soon. This is separate from judicial action."

U.S. District Senior Judge James Robart of Seattle on Friday issued a nationwide restraining order blocking the indefinite ban on Syrian refugees and temporary halt to residents from seven predominantly Muslim countries put in place by President Trump last week. The White House said it would fight the judge's order.

The executive order, which went into effect with little preamble a week ago, created havoc at airports as Customs and Border Protection agents — often confused about its scope and implementation — tried to put it into effect. Earlier this week, the White House said it would not apply to U.S. green card holders or individuals with dual citizenships from one of the restricted nations and a non-restricted one, like Canada. Tens of thousands of visas were revoked.

Attorneys general from several states, including Hawaii, Massachusetts and New York have challenged the order.

The administration has defended the decision as necessary to keep potential terrorists out of the country. Some Republicans supported the motivation of the order but criticized the way it was carried out. A report from the libertarian Cato Institute found that immigrants from the seven countries have posed little terrorism risk in the U.S. based on an analysis of past attacks.

The executive order, which affected nearly 200 Google employees and 76 at Microsoft, prompted varying degrees of consternation from the tech industry, which counts many immigrants among its founders and staff.

Musk has maintained that it's better to work with the Trump administration than protest it from afar, though he was criticized by some peers for remaining on the advisory council and a separate manufacturing group working with the new administration.

Uber CEO Travis Kalanick removed himself from the council on Thursday after intense protests from both Uber customers and drivers.