UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

PATSY WIDAKUSWARA, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

 $\mathbf{v}.$

Case No. 1:25-cv-1015-RCL

KARI LAKE, in her official capacity as Senior Advisor to the Acting CEO of the U.S. Agency for Global Media, et al.,

The starter

Defendants.

ORDER

For the reasons contained in the accompanying Memorandum Opinion, the plaintiffs' Motion for a Preliminary Injunction [ECF No. 17]¹ is **GRANTED** as follows:

The Court will preliminarily enjoin the defendants, pending further order of this Court, to:

1) take all necessary steps to return USAGM employees and contractors to their status prior to the March 14, 2025 Executive Order 14238, "Continuing the Reduction of the Federal Bureaucracy," including by restoring all USAGM employees and personal service contractors, who were placed on leave or terminated, to their status prior to March 14, 2025; 2) restore the FY 2025 grants with USAGM Networks Radio Free Asia and Middle East Broadcasting Networks such that international USAGM outlets can "provide news which is consistently reliable and authoritative, accurate, objective, and comprehensive," 22 U.S.C. § 6202(a), (b), and to that end, provide monthly status reports on the first day of each month apprising the Court of the status of the defendants' compliance with this Order, including documentation sufficient to show the

¹ The plaintiffs sought emergency relief by filing a motion (styled as a proposed order to show cause) for a preliminary injunction. *See* Proposed Order to Show Cause with Emergency Relief, ECF No. 15; Mem. in Support of Proposed Order to Show Cause, ECF No. 17.

disbursement to RFA and MBN of the funds Congress appropriated; and 3) restore VOA programming such that USAGM fulfills its statutory mandate that VOA "serve as a consistently reliable and authoritative source of news," 22 U.S.C § 6202(c). The Court **DENIES** the Motion for a Preliminary Injunction, at this time, as it relates to RFE/RL and OTF, in light of their current status.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Date: 4-22-25

Royce C. Lamberth United States District Judge