

IN THE
Supreme Court of the United States

A.A. AND F.A., PETITIONERS,

v.

JOSHUA MAST AND STEPHANIE MAST,
RESPONDENTS

*ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI
TO THE SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA*

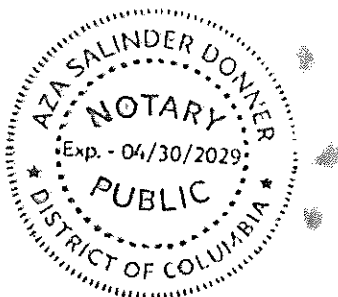
**BRIEF OF JOHN R. BASS, FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR
TO AFGHANISTAN; DONNA A. WELTON, FORMER
ASSISTANT CHIEF OF MISSION AT THE U.S. EMBASSY
IN KABUL; AND LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROSEMARY M.
REED, U.S. ARMY (RET.), AS *AMICI CURIAE* IN SUPPORT
OF PETITIONERS**

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

As required by Supreme Court Rule 33.1(h), I certify that the document contains **5,314** words, excluding the parts of the document that are exempted by Supreme Court Rule 33.1(d).

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16th day of September 2026.



A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Aza Donner", written over a horizontal line.

AZA SALINDER DONNER
NOTARY PUBLIC
District of Columbia

My commission expires April 30, 2029.