

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED
SOCIETIES, *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ADAM WOLFSON, in his official
capacity as Acting Chairman of the
National Endowment for the Humanities,
et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 1:25-cv-03657

Consolidated with No. 1:25-cv-03923

DECLARATION OF JULIE M. WEISE

I, Julie M. Weise declare as follows:

1. I, Julie M. Weise, am an Associate Professor of History at the University of Oregon (UO). I received my Ph.D. in History from Yale University in 2009 and taught at California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) for four years before joining the faculty at UO. My focus is on the history of Latinos in the United States as well as global migration history. My first book, *Corazón de Dixie: Mexicanos in the U.S. South since 1910* (University of North Carolina Press, 2015) was the first to document the histories of Mexican workers in places like Louisiana, Mississippi, and Georgia over more than a century. This book was researched, written, and brought to the public with crucial support from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). My disciplinary research expertise, developed during the writing of my dissertation, two books (including one in-progress), and numerous articles, enables me to effectively teach both large and small classes in which I engage public university students from a wide range of economic backgrounds in learning

how to think about the past, interpret primary sources, and conduct their own historical research. Additionally, I use my expertise to train graduate students who go on to careers in public education, museums, and university teaching.

2. I am a member of the American Historical Association (AHA).

3. As was outlined in my prior declaration in this case, the NEH has been an indispensable funder of my research since 2010, allowing me to research, write, and widely disseminate my findings from *Corazón de Dixie*. My prior declaration also detailed how NEH helped my book to have a significant reach beyond academia and into the public, particularly in the U.S. South.

4. My prior declaration also explains that I have been working on my current project, “Guest Worker: Lives across Borders in an Age of Prosperity. 1919-75” for more than ten years. In December 2024, I was awarded a \$60,000 NEH fellowship grant to help support this project.

5. In April 2025, my fellowship from NEH was abruptly canceled. Notwithstanding the lack of explanation of an appeals process, I appealed the termination on April 30, 2025 via a letter to the Senior Deputy Chairman submitted via email as well as the eGMS Reach system. I also submitted a FOIA request to NEH on April 28, 2025, seeking more information about the process and rationale that led to my grant’s termination. I have not received a response to either.

6. After a decade of work and dozens of successful and unsuccessful grant applications, the NEH fellowship was supposed to be my final grant funding for this project. When it was terminated, I had to once again turn to writing more grant applications. Within days of the NEH fellowship’s termination, I applied to my university for an internal grant

that could release me from 50% of my usual teaching load. I also reapplied for a fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS). These two applications took me a total of 20 hours to complete. I received the internal grant and I currently await results from the ACLS. I do not have high hopes given that last year, only 3% of ACLS applications (62 projects out of more than 2,300 applications) were funded (according to the rejection letter I received last year). Based on these numbers, even if the ACLS wanted to replace every terminated NEH fellowship, their annual number of awards would not allow it.

7. In my previous declaration, I explained that, as a result of the termination, I would be unable to meet my current 2026 deadline with my publisher and expected that my manuscript would go into the first two rounds of peer review in late 2027 at the earliest, with a projected publication date of 2029 at the earliest. In contrast, with the NEH fellowship in place, it would have gone to peer review shortly after the close of the fellowship, in late Summer 2026. This would have put me on track to see the book's publication in Fall 2027 or Spring 2028.

8. Since submitting my previous declaration, I received an internal grant that reduced my teaching load by 50%, thus reducing but not eliminating the harm to my progress. I now anticipate that I can submit my manuscript to peer review in April 2027, six months later than I would have with the fellowship, but six months sooner than I originally feared. I hope that it would then be published in Fall 2028.

9. If my fellowship were restored before the end of this year, I would be able to take a full year's leave from teaching to complete the manuscript more quickly, send it into peer review, and then complete revisions more quickly and thoroughly since I would not be teaching and doing university service at the same time. This should allow the book to be published in

Spring 2028, the outer edge of my original timeline. I would also be able to use the time during peer review to begin planning and executing public history engagements to make my work accessible to a wider audience, just as I did with my first book (as described in my prior declaration).

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

Executed on March 2, 2026, in Seattle, WA.



Julie M. Weise
Associate Professor of History
University of Oregon