

Pastor Kaji Douša sues federal government

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Kaji Douša, a Manhattan pastor, has filed a federal lawsuit alleging that US officials violated her religious freedom when she was put on a watchlist because of her ministry to migrants at the border.

Senior pastor of Park Avenue Christian Church and longtime advocate for immigrants' rights, Douša was the only clergy member listed in a government database created to collect information on the caravan of Central American migrants that traveled through Mexico toward the US border last fall.

Her lawsuit against the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and US Customs and Border Protection argues that placing her on the watchlist and surveilling her violated her First Amendment rights and the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. —Religion News Service