Case 4:25-cv-00558-O

- The present action is currently pending in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas.
- 2. Transfer of this action to the District of Guam is appropriate and necessary for the following reasons:
- 3. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1406, in a "district court of a district which is filed a case laying venue in the wrong division or district" the court "shall dismiss, or if it be in the interest of justice, transfer such case to any district or division in which it could have been brought."
- 4. The Northern District of Texas is now "the wrong . . . district" for Petitioner's habeas corpus writ, because Petitioner is not confined in the Northern District of Texas. Trump v. J.G.G., 145 S. Ct. 1003, 1006 (2025) ("[W]e hold that venue lies in the district of confinement."); see also Rumsfeld v. Padilla, 542 U.S. 426, 449–50 (2004) (noting how "the dissent cannot cite a single case in which we have deviated from the longstanding rule we reaffirm today—that is, a case in which we allowed a habeas petitioner challenging his present physical custody within the United States to name a respondent someone other than the immediate custodian and to file somewhere other than the district of confinement"); cf. Boumediene v. Bush, 553 U.S. 723, 796 (2008) (noting that if "a detainee files a habeas petition in another judicial district in which a proper respondent can be served, see [Padilla, 542 U.S. at 435–36], the

Government can move for change of venue to the court that will hear these petitioners' cases").

- 5. According to controlling case law and § 1406, the U.S. District of Guam is the necessary venue for this action because Petitioner is detained in Guam; he is no longer detained in the Prairieland Detention Center or the Bluebonnet Detention Center, and therefore his petition must be amended or re-filed to contain his present custodian, presumably, the warden or director of the Hagatna Detention Facility in Guam, and he must, moreover, assert his petition in the district of confinement, which is now the U.S. District Court of Guam.
- 6. If the Court dismisses for lack of venue, it should do so *without* prejudice and if it should choose to do so, we respectfully ask that it do so with all due haste. *See Padilla*, 542 U.S. at 451 (remanding to dismiss without prejudice).
- 7. Moreover, failing to expeditiously grant this motion would irreparably harm

  Petitioner-Plaintiff, by potentially destroying the U.S. judiciary's ability to hear
  his case or to effectively provide a functional remedy should the court find that
  the Government's detention, removal, disappearance, or extraordinary
  rendition of Petitioner-Plaintiff was wrong.
- 8. Conversely, moving venue would not prejudice the Government, because the Government chose to move Petitioner-Plaintiff to Guam over the motions and arguments of Petitioner-Plaintiff, and, thereby, constructively consented to

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venue in the U.S. District of Guam in full knowledge of the decision in J.G.G. regarding venue in a very similar case.

- 9. The Government was contacted by email and phone regarding its position to this emergency motion, and undersigned counsel has not received a response as of filing this motion.
- 10.It is in the interest of justice to immediately transfer venue to the U.S. District of Guam, because he is in imminent risk of being removed during the pendency of this action, which would destroy the function of the writ of habeas corpus according to Boumediene, 553 U.S. at 786 (requiring that "the writ of habeas corpus, or its substitute, to function as an effective and proper remedy").
- 11.Petitioner is in custody in Guam, which is between seven to eight thousand miles away from Dallas, Texas (according to Google Maps) and which is better suited to adjudicate the custodians in its jurisdiction. *Padilla*, 542 U.S. at 449– 50 (noting not one case that could be cited for an alternative).
- 12. The District of Guam is also the proper venue for this action because the Petitioner is now in the custody of a detention facility in Guam and unlikely to be returned, by the Government at least, to the Northern District of Texas, and Petitioner was originally transferred into the Northern District of Texas from outside this District such that the initial arrest and detention of Petitioner did not occur in this District. This aligns with the general venue provisions set forth in 28 U.S.C. § 1391.

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|----|--|---------------------|----------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
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| 5  | Attorney for Nou Xiong next friend of V.L. and V.L.                                      |                     |          |            |                       |                       |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6  |  |                     |          |            |                       |                       |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7  |  |                     |          |            |                       |                       |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8  | UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT   |                     |          |            |                       |                       |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9  | NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS   |                     |          |            |                       |                       |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 |  |                     |          |            |                       |                       |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11 | NOU XIONG next on his own behalf a   | friend for V.L.; V  | 7.L.,    | Case No.   | .:4:25-cv-            | 558-O                 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12 | others similarly situ  | ated                |          |            | ONER-PLAI             | NTIFF'S<br>SUPPORT OF |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13 |  | Petitioner-Pla      | intiff,  | MOTIO      | N FOR CLA<br>FICATION |                       |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 20 | DETITINED_DI   | AINTIFE'S ME        | MOR      | ANDUM      | OF LAW IN             | SUPPORT OF            |  |  |  |  |  |
| 21 | PETITINER-PLAINTIFF'S MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF EMERGENCY MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE |                     |          |            |                       |                       |  |  |  |  |  |
| 22 | <u> Divi</u>   | ERGENCT MO          | HOIN     | TO TRAIL   | STER VEIV             |                       |  |  |  |  |  |
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|    | PETITIONER-PLA   | INTIFF'S MEMORAN    | DUM IN   | SUPPORT OF | MOTION TO TRA         | NSFER VENUE           |  |  |  |  |  |

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## INTRODUCTION

According to 28 U.S.C. § 1406(a), in a "district court of a district in which is filed a case laying venue in the wrong division or district shall dismiss, or if it be in the interest of justice, transfer such case to any district or division in which it could have bene brought." Moreover, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1406(c), the Court can transfer venue under this section to "the District Court of Guam." Finally, the U.S. Supreme Court recently decided in a similar case as this one: "[W]e hold that venue lies in the district of confinement." Trump v. J.G.G., 145 S. Ct. 1003, 1006 (2025); see also Rumsfeld v. Padilla, 542 U.S. 426, 449–50 (2004); cf. Boumediene v. Bush, 553 U.S. 723, 796 (2008) (noting that if "a detainee files a habeas petition in another judicial district in which a proper respondent can be served, see [Padilla, 542 U.S. at 435–36], the Government can move for change of venue to the court that will hear these petitioners' cases").

## BACKGROUND

Counsel is aware that Petitioner-Plaintiff ("Petitioner") is now held in a detention facility in Guam. Att'y Decl. Petitioner's online ICE tracking signature indicates he is in Guam. Counsel emailed Guam officials and confirmed they are detaining Petitioner in their detention facility in Guam. And Petitioner called counsel when he was removed from his plane, confirming he was being separated from his proposed class in Guam. And Petitioner called his wife Nou Xiong indicating he is being detained in Guam twice.

Over the motions and arguments made by Petitioner, the Government moved Petitioner to a detention facility within the jurisdiction and venue of the U.S. District of Guam. They knowingly did this after the U.S. Supreme Court clarified the matter of venue in cases like this one in *J.G.G.* The Government intends to and will remove Petitioner from the United States imminently. Counsel called and emailed the Government for their position regarding this motion and they have yet to reply.

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ARGUMENT

According to 28 U.S.C. § 1406(a), the Northern District of Texas is the "wrong" district, because Petitioner's custodians are in Guam. Therefore, this Court "shall" either dismiss this matter without prejudice, or if it is in the interest of justice transfer the matter to the proper district where an action could have been brought. Controlling U.S. case law requires that venue in a federal habeas corpus writ be filed in the district where the petitioner is detained. Trump v. J.G.G., 145 S. Ct. 1003, 1006 (2025).

Continuing this matter in the wrong district will result in ultimate dismissal under *J.G.G.* and proceeding U.S. Supreme Court cases. *Id.*; Rumsfeld v. Padilla, 542 U.S. 426, 449–50 (2004); Boumediene v. Bush, 553 U.S. 723, 796 (2008) (directing future courts to grant motions to transfer to the correct venue). There is no need to guess about this. It would clearly be a waste of judicial economy and resources to continue hearing this writ in the Northern District of Texas as this District is no longer correct pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1406. *J.G.G.*, 145 S. Ct., at 1006.

Interests of justice require the court to transfer venue to the U.S. District of Guam to protect the function of the writ according to *Boumediene*'s controlling requirements that pursue "fidelity to freedom's first principles." *Boumediene*, supra, 797. The function of the writ is to provide effective process to collaterally challenge unlawful, unconstitutional, and unjust detentions. *See, e.g.*, Estep v. United States, 327 U.S. 114, 141 (1946) (Frankfurter, J., concurring). Under present circumstances effective process can no longer be provided in the Northern District of Texas.

Petitioner now resides in Guam. Also he only transiently resided in the Northern District of Texas as his original arrest at a scheduled ICE check-in occurred in Oklahoma. It, therefore, appears that there is no basis to keep venue generally in the Northern District of Texas pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391.

Petitioner would be irreparably harmed if this motion is denied, because he is at imminent risk of removal, disappearance, or extraordinary rendition by the

Government, which would effectively undermine his ability to challenge such an action by this writ. The consequences could be fatal. Conversely, no prejudice would come to the Government if this motion is granted. Over the motions and arguments of Petitioner, the Government knowingly and intentionally moved Petitioner to Guam where he is now detained. The Government did this after *J.G.G.* was decided, which clearly holds that venue is proper where the Petitioner is detained. *J.G.G.*, 145 S. Ct., at 1006.

This is an emergency motion, because Plaintiff is at risk of imminent removal from the United States, which would obstruct the function of the writ as defined in *Boumediene v. Bush. Boumediene*, 553 U.S. at 786 (requiring that "the writ of habeas corpus, or its substitute, to function as an effective and proper remedy"). The Government intends to and will remove Petitioner from the United States. If the court should choose to dismiss this petition pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1406, it should do so without prejudice and it should do so quickly so that Petitioner can file his writ in the proper venue while he is still in the United States.

## CONCLUSION

The Court should grant this Emergency Motion to Transfer Venue and transfer this action to the United States District Court for the District of Guam.

Respectfully Submitted on May 28, 2025

/s/ Joshua J. Schroeder
Joshua J. Schroeder
SchroederLaw
Attorney for Nou Xiong next
friend of V.L., and V.L.

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## DECLARATION OF ATTORNEY JOSHUA J. SCHROEDER IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE

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I, Joshua J. Schroeder, declare under penalty of perjury that the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

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1. I am an attorney duly licensed to practice law in the State of California and the State of Oregon, and the Central District of California, and several other U.S. Districts, the Ninth Circuit, and the U.S. Supreme Court, and serve as counsel at SchroederLaw where I represent Nou Xiong and V.L. in their habeas corpus proceedings. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein and if called to testify, I could and would competently testify hereto.

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2. Petitioner was initially arrested at a scheduled ICE check-in in Oklahoma.

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3. Petitioner was transferred into the Northern District of Texas in an apparent preparation for his removal only some days before departing to Hagatna

Detention Facility in Guam, where he presently resides.

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4. At 4:56 PM, 4:58, and 5:01 PM, Pacific Standard Time, on May 26, 2025, I was contacted by V.L., apparently, from a detention facility in Guam.

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5. In these phone calls that lost reception twice, V.L. indicated that he was separated from his proposed class by being removed from the plane that was bound somewhere outside of the United States due to a court order that was then in force in this case requiring the U.S. government to keep V.L. in the United States.

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 Subsequently, Nou Xiong called me and indicated that on May 26, 2025 and May 27, 2025 she was called by V.L. who indicated he was held in detention in Guam.

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7. Counsel emailed the detention facility known as Hagatna Detention Facility in Guam and was informed that V.L. is presently detained there in U.S. custody.

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| Ca | se 4:25-cv-00558-O   | Document 20-3 | Filed 05/28/25   | Page 2 of 2     | PageID 208     |  |  |  |  |  |
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|    | CDDEDED.   |               | f C T  | C C T           | d HC D'        |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1  | <b>ORDERED</b> that Petitioners' Motion for Transfer of Venue to the U.S. District |               |  |                 |                |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2  | of Guam is hereby GRANTED. All other dates and orders scheduled in the             |               |  |                 |                |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3  | captioned matter are   | vacated.      |  |                 |                |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4  |  |               |  |                 |                |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5  | DATED: May,  | 2025          |  |                 |                |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6  |  |               | U.S. District Co   | ourt Judge Ree  | ed O'Connor    |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7  |  |               |  |                 |                |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8  |  |               | Pr   | epared by:      |                |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9  |  |               |  | /s/ Joshua J. S | chroeder       |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 |  |               |  | Joshua J. Schr  |                |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11 |  |               |  | SchroederLaw    | Nou Xiong next |  |  |  |  |  |
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