

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA**

NYYNKPAO BANYEE,

*Petitioner,*

v.

DONALD J. TRUMP, in his official capacity as President of the United States; PAMELA BONDI, in her official, in her official capacity as United States Attorney General; KRISTI NOEM, in her official capacity as Secretary of the United States Department of Homeland Security; TODD LYONS, in his official capacity as Acting Director and Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Director, United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement; PETE HEGSETH, , in his official capacity as Secretary of Defense; SAM OLSON,<sup>1</sup> in his official capacity as the St. Paul Field Office Director for United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement; ERIC TOLLEFSON, in his official capacity as the Kandiyohi County Sheriff; and MATTHEW AKERSON, in his official capacity as Kandiyohi County Jail Administrator.

*Respondents.*

Case No. 25-cv-02748 (NEB/JFD)

**PETITIONER'S STATUS  
REPORT**

1. Petitioner, Nyynkpao Banyee, respectfully submits this status report pursuant to the Court's order of July 28, 2025. ECF 11.

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<sup>1</sup> Sam Olson is the acting Field Office Director of the St. Paul Field Office and should be substituted automatically for Mr. Berg under Fed. R. Civ. P. 25(d).

2. The Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”) continues to hold Mr. Banyee in federal immigration custody at the Kandiyohi County Jail in Willmar, Minnesota.

3. The Court instructed the parties to provide updates by today, “regarding the reasonable fear interview, the receipt of a Liberian travel document, and any other information or updates DHS may have pertaining to the likelihood and timeline of Petitioner’s removal to Liberia.” ECF 11 at 3.

4. On July 31, 2025, DHS conducted a telephonic Third Country Screening interview with Mr. Banyee and his counsel. On August 8, 2025, DHS emailed Mr. Banyee and his counsel a notice regarding that July 31, 2025 interview stating DHS’s determination that “[y]ou did not establish that it is more likely than not that you will be tortured in Liberia.” *See* ECF 14-2.

5. On August 6, 2025, DHS conducted an additional telephonic Third Country Screening interview with Mr. Banyee and his counsel. On August 19, 2025, DHS emailed Mr. Banyee and his counsel an additional notice regarding that August 6, 2025 interview stating DHS’s determination that “[y]ou did not establish that it is more likely than not that you will be persecuted or tortured in Liberia.” *See* ECF 14-1.

6. The parties met and conferred in advance of submitting their respective status reports today and have agreed to request that the Court order each party to file a second status update within twenty-one days regarding DHS’s efforts to remove Mr. Banyee to Liberia.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 19, 2025

*Benjamin Casper*

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Teresa Nelson, Reg. No. 0269736

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