

**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,¹ 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 August 20, 2025. ECF 17.

¹ 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, for a period that will reach nine months tomorrow.

3. The Court previously instructed the parties to provide status updates by August 19, 2025, “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 on August 19, 2025, and 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. The Court granted that request and set a due date of today, September 10, 2025, to file status reports. ECF 17.

7. Counsel for the parties have met and conferred again this week. Respondents have represented that arrangements are in place for Mr. Banyee's removal to take place within six weeks from today. ECF 18. Based on the conferral with Respondent's counsel, including Respondents' representations regarding the timing of Mr. Banyee's planned removal to Liberia, Petitioner joins Respondents in requesting that this Court enter an order requiring the parties to file additional status reports no later than six weeks from today.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 10, 2025

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