

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
LAREDO DIVISION

JOSE PADRON COVARRUBIAS, §
Petitioner, §
v. § CIVIL ACTION NO. 5:25-CV-112
MIGUEL VERGARA, ET AL., §
Respondents. §

**JOINT ADVISORY
REGARDING STATUS OF CASE**

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

COME NOW the Parties herein, Jose Padron Covarrubias, Petitioner, by and through his attorneys, and Miguel Vergara, U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) Field Office Director, San Antonio ICE Detention and Removal, Kristi Noem, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Pamela Jo Bondi, Attorney General of the United States, Juan S. Diaz, Warden, Laredo Processing Center, Corrections Corporation of America, and Susan Aikman, Assistant Chief Counsel, Office of ICE Chief Counsel, Respondents, in their official capacities, by and through the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Texas, and hereby file their Joint Advisory Regarding Status of Case:

1.) Petitioner Jose Padron Covarrubias (Padron) filed a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus challenging his continuing civil immigration detention pending his removal proceedings. Through his Petition, Padron contends that as an alien apprehended after 23 years of continuous presence in the United States, he is not subject to mandatory detention under INA Section 235 (8

U.S.C. § 1225) but rather is eligible for release on bond pending his removal proceedings pursuant to INA Section 236 (8 U.S.C. § 1226).

2.) On October 8, 2025, the Court entered a Memorandum Opinion and Order holding that § 1226 was the applicable detention authority and ordering the Respondents to release Padron unless he is provided a bond hearing under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a) by October 17, 2025. Moreover, the Respondents were ordered to notify Padron's counsel of the exact time and location of Padron's release no less than two hours before his release. The Parties were further ordered to provide the Court with a status update concerning the results of any bond hearing conducted, or if no bond hearing was held, advise the Court regarding Padron's release by October 21, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. Finally, the Parties were also ordered to notify the Court if the Government sought a stay of the Immigration Judge's bond decision under 8 C.F.R. § 1003.19(i). This Joint Advisory is responsive to that Order.

3.) On October 15, 2025, Padron was provided a bond hearing before an Immigration Judge (IJ) at which the IJ set a \$6,000.00 bond for Padron. On October 16, 2025, the Government filed an Emergency Motion to Stay Custody Determination with the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 1003.19(i)(1). On October 21, 2025, the Government withdrew that motion, without the BIA having ruled on said motion.

4.) On October 21, 2025, Padron's family was able to post the \$6,000.00 bond through ICE's "Cebonds" online system. The bond was posted in New Orleans, Louisiana, and ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) in Laredo, Texas received final bond approval from ERO New Orleans and have begun processing Padron's release from the Rio Grande Processing Center in Laredo. The Parties expect that Padron will be released within the next twenty-four hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

O'CONNOR & ASSOCIATES

"S/" Stephen O'Connor
STEPHEN O'CONNOR
Attorney at Law
7703 N. Lamar Blvd.
Suite 300
Austin, Texas
State Bar No. 24060351
Fed. Adm. No. 1129996
(512) 617-9600
Steve@oconnorimmigration.com
ATTORNEY IN CHARGE
FOR PETITIONER

Respectfully Submitted,

NICHOLAS J. GANJEI
United States Attorney

"S/" Hector C. Ramirez
HECTOR C. RAMIREZ
Assistant United States Attorney
11204 McPherson Road
Suite 100A
Laredo, Texas 78045
State Bar No. 16501850
Fed. Adm. No. 18155
(956) 723-6523
hector.ramirez@usdoj.gov
ATTORNEY IN CHARGE
FOR RESPONDENTS