

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

Tou Pao Lee,

Petitioner,

v.

PAMELA BONDI,
ATTORNEY GENERAL;
KRISTI NOEM,
SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
HOMELAND SECURITY;
RYAN SHEA,
FREEBORN COUNTY SHERIFF
TODD M. LYONS,
DIRECTOR OF ICE FOR THE WASHINGTON,
D.C. HEADQUARTERS

Respondents

Civil No. 0:25-cv-02923-PSJ-SGE

**PETITIONER'S REPLY TO FEDERAL RESPONDENT'S RESPONSE TO PETITION FOR
WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS**

Petitioner, Tou Pao Lee, filed this petition for a writ of habeas corpus to seek release from detention by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") pending his removal from the country. Dkt. 1. Petitioner also filed for a temporary restraining order, asking the Court to block Petitioner's removal from Minnesota while this case and Petitioner's case in Immigration Court are ongoing. Dkt. 9. Federal Respondent filed their response and a Supplemental Response along with a Supplemental Declaration from Officer John D. Ligon. Dkt. 19, 22 and 23. In the Supplemental Declaration Officer Ligon attests under oath that Petitioner will be removed from the U.S. on or before August 15, 2025 as ICE has received travel documents for Respondent. Dkt 23 No. 5. Taking Officer Ligon at his word, Petitioner concedes that if ICE does have travel documents for him from Laos then Petitioner's argument based on Zadvydas v. Davis, 533 U.S. 678 (2001) is no longer sufficient to warrant his release as ICE would have a justifiable reason to hold Petitioner if his removal is indeed imminent. Consequently, Petitioner's request for a Temporary Restraining Order would also fail as there is no longer a likelihood of success on the merits for Petitioner's petition for a writ of habeas corpus. Petitioner concedes these points based solely on Officer Ligon's sworn statement.

WHEREFORE Petitioner respectfully requests that this Honorable Court keep this case open until Federal Respondent files proof of Petitioner's removal with this Honorable Court and that in the event that on Monday August 18, 2025 if Petitioner is still in ICE detention that this Honorable Court schedule an immediate hearing to determine whether or not Petitioner should be released.

Respectfully submitted,
The Defendant,
By his Attorney,

s/Patrick J. McKeon
Patrick J. McKeon BBO: 704707
Louis S. Haskell, BBO:550818
16 Pine Street Suite 2
Lowell, MA 01851
Tel: (978) 459 - 8359
Fax: (978) 453 - 1753
Email: cases@attorneyhaskell.com

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