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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE**

**HASSAN AMHIRRA,**

*Petitioner,*

Case No.: 2:25-cv-01376-TL

v.

**WARDEN, Northwest Detention  
Center,**

*Respondent.*

**PETITIONER'S RESPONSE TO GOVERNMENT'S STATUS REPORT**

PETITIONER'S RESPONSE TO  
GOVERNMENT'S STATUS  
REPORT

1

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1           Petitioner Hassan Amhirra respectfully submits this response to the Government's  
2 September 17, 2025 Status Report (Dkt. 26).

3           **I. Government's Mischaracterization of Interpreter's Ability to**  
4           **Communicate**

5           The Government asserts that "the interpreter could communicate with Amhirra when  
6 asked to do so by the immigration judge" ECF 26 at 1. That statement is contradicted by  
7 the Government's own audio recording of the September 12, 2025 hearing. At the 3:10  
8 minute mark of the recording, the interpreter states on the record:

9           **Court Interpreter:** "Your honor, this is the interpreter speaking. We.  
10           Actually, he. I am able to understand him, but I don't think he's able to  
11           understand my dialect, your honor."

12           *See* Hearing Audio Recording at 3:10 (Sept. 12, 2025) (on file with the Court). The judge  
13 immediately inquired further, and the interpreter admitted:

14           **Interpreter:** "I understand a little bit, yes, ma'am." *See* Hearing Audio at 3:27.

15           This exchange confirms that the interpreter herself recognized the inability to effectively  
16 interpret between Mr. Amhirra and the Court. The Government's suggestion that there was  
17 effective communication is not supported by the actual record. Evidently, she could not  
18 reliably interpret Mr. Amhirra's testimony or ensure he understood the proceedings.

19           **II. Confirmation of Multiple Dialects of Tamazigh**

20           The interpreter further acknowledged on the record that "for Tamazigh, there is  
21 more than 15 dialects," and that her dialect was not understood by Mr. Amhirra. *See*  
22 Hearing Audio Recording at 3:26 and at 3:36 . The Government's Status Report omits this

1 admission, which is central to why the hearing could not proceed with meaningful  
2 interpretation.

3 **III. Confirmation by the Court of Interpretation Difficulties**

4 During the hearing, the interpreter shifted between Arabic, French, Berber, and  
5 Tamazigh in an attempt to locate a language that Mr. Amhirra might understand. The  
6 judge herself acknowledged the difficulties, noting to counsel that the Court would  
7 “continue to search for a correct interpreter.” This judicial acknowledgment underscores  
8 that the interpretation was inadequate, contrary to the Government’s characterization.

9 **IV. Independent Verification by Third Parties**

10 Following the hearing, Mr. Amhirra’s counsel convened three independent  
11 individuals with proficiency in Arabic, French, Berber, and Tamazigh. Each confirmed  
12 that during the 2:15 to 3:07 segment, the exchange between the interpreter and Mr.  
13 Amhirra was not translated to the Court, leaving the record incomplete and misleading.  
14 The interpreter asked if Mr. Amhirra spoke other languages and was using a hodgepodge  
15 of languages to attempt to communicate.

16 **V. Conclusion**

17  
18 The Government’s Status Report minimizes the interpretation breakdowns and  
19 misrepresents the actual record. The audio recording clearly demonstrates that the  
20 interpreter could not provide effective interpretation, and the Immigration Judge herself  
21 recognized the need to secure a new interpreter. Accordingly, Petitioner respectfully  
22 requests that this Court reject the Government’s assertion that communication was

1 achieved at the September 12, 2025 hearing and recognize that the proceedings were  
2 fundamentally flawed due to inadequate interpretation and as such the Mr. Ahmirra's  
3 prolonged detention pending constitutionally void proceedings will be violate due process  
4 protections under the Fifth Amendment of the US Constitution.

5 Dated: September 18, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,

6 /s/ Rafael Ureña

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*Local Counsel for Petitioner*

**Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that on September 18, 2025, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system. Service of the motion is being made upon all Respondents by operation of the Court's ECF notification system to Respondents' counsel of record.

Dated: September 18, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Rafael Ureña

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