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12	LUIS ALBERTO YBOY FLORES,	No. 2:25-cv-07882-JWH-AJR	
13	Petitioner,	RESPONDENTS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION TO DISMISS	
14	V.	PETITION	
15	ERNESTO SANTACRUZ, in his official capacity. Acting Director, U.S>	Hearing Date: Hearing Time:	October 27, 2025 1:30 p.m.
16	official capacity, Acting Director, U.S> Immigration and Customs Enforcement, et al.,	Hearing Place:	Roybal Courthouse 255 E. Temple St.
17	Respondents.		Courtroom 780
18		Honorable A. Joel Richlin United States Magistrate Judge	
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### NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION TO DISMISS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on October 27, 2025, or as soon thereafter as they may be heard, the Respondents will, and hereby do, move this Court for an order dismissing Petitioner Luis Alberto Yboy Flores' habeas petition [Dkt. 1]. This motion will be made before the Honorable A. Joel Richlin, United States Magistrate Judge, at the Edward R. Roybal Federal Building and United States Courthouse located at 255 East Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012, Courtroom 780, 7th Floor.

Respondents move to dismiss the Petition on the grounds that (1) Petitioner's claim is speculative and unripe at this juncture, since he has not been redetained by ICE, he has already attended the physical appointment at issue, and he now has obtained a stay of removal from the BIA; and (2) to the extent Petitioner complains that he may in the future nonetheless be redetained, the Hon. Judge Hatter has already set the specific conditions under which those class members (like Petitioner) that Judge Hatter had ordered released on bail in the *Roman* class action may be redetained via approving the class-wide settlement agreement with detailed provisions on when the government's redetention of class members who had been released on bail is permitted, as well as setting the procedure for how such redetention may be contested. Judge Hatter's order regarding the scope and procedure of any potential redetention of individuals who (like Petitioner) he had ordered released on bail in the *Roman* class action may not be derogated and countermanded via an individual habeas petition, like this one, that attempts to force a conflicting secondary hearing before another judge.

This motion is made based upon this Notice, the attached Memorandum of Points and Authorities, all pleadings, records, and other documents on file with the Court in this action, and upon such other evidence and oral argument as the Court may consider.

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This motion is made pursuant to the conference of counsel pursuant to Local Rule 7-3, which took place on September 17, 2025. Petitioner's counsel opposed dismissal of this Petition, contending that it was not moot, and that the class settlement agreement in Roman v. Hernandez was not sufficient for Petitioner's desire to avoid any potential future redetention via additional judicial proceedings.

Dated: September 24, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

BILAL A. ESSAYLI

Acting United States Attorney

Acting United States Attorney
DAVID M. HARRIS
Assistant United States Attorney
Chief, Civil Division
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/s/ Daniel A. Beck
DANIEL A. BECK
Assistant United States Attorney

Attorneys for Respondents

### MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

### I. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

On August 21, 2025, Petitioner Luis Alberto Yboy Flores filed a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus and Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief [Dkt. 1]. That same day, Petitioner also filed an "Ex Parte Motion for Temporary Restraining Order" [Dkt. 2]. Because Petitioner the next day obtained a stay of removal from the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), however, ICE agreed that it would not detain him at his upcoming appointment on August 25, 2025, and on August 22, 2025, Petitioner withdrew the Ex Parte application [Dkt. 8]. Petitioner has not been arrested since, with no injunctive relief in place.

This Petition is thus effectively moot, since the concern it had raised regarding Petitioner's upcoming physical appointment on August 25, 2025 has come and gone, and the operative stay on his removal makes his claim of being potentially subjected to a future wrongful redetention both unduly speculative and unripe.

Unfortunately, however, Petitioner appears to insist on using his Petition to secure broader relief against *any possible future detention* beyond what he (as a class member) was already granted by Judge Hatter in the class action case of *Kelvin Hernandez Roman et al. v. Chad F. Wolf et al.*, 5:20-cv-00768-TJH-PVC, which Judge Hatter had ordered Petitioner released on bail pursuant to.<sup>1</sup>

Because Judge Hatter had granted a class-wide bail motion for class members in *Roman* (including Petitioner) due to the concerns over extreme COVID-19 risk prevalent at that time in the Adelanto detention facility [see Roman Dkt. 118], the scope of the potential redetention of such *Roman* class members who were released on bail was thereafter extensively litigated. Detailed terms under which the government could redetain these class members, relative to their bail release status, were negotiated by the parties as part of their proposed classwide settlement agreement, which was then

Undersigned counsel was counsel of record for the government in *Roman*.

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presented to Judge Hatter for his review in connection with a motion for approval of the settlement following full class action process. *See Roman*, <u>Dkt. no. 2636-2</u>, Settlement Agreement, Section III. A full copy of the *Roman* Settlement Agreement is attached as Exhibit A to this brief.

After that class action procedure, including a notice and objection period, Judge Hatter ultimately approved the Settlement Agreement by order dated June 2, 2025. See Roman Dkt. no. 2704. Because the class members in Roman had been ordered released on bail by Judge Hatter due to a temporary health risk crisis at Adelanto—specifically, the early COVID-19 pandemic—the Roman Settlement Agreement included extremely detailed provisions specifying how their future redetention could occur. See Settlement Agreement, Section III, pp. 9-13. It further included provisions addressing how any disputes regarding such redetention may be resolved. Id. pp. 17-19. It provided that Judge Hatter retained continuing jurisdiction over these issues. Id. p. 19.

Unhappy with the *Roman* Settlement Agreement's extremely detailed terms delineating the permissible scope of redetention of the class members and the procedures for contesting their redetention, however, Petitioner complains he may nonetheless be detained again in the future, because the *Roman* Settlement Agreement's provisions and procedures governing the redetentions of class members are too limited for his tastes. The Settlement Agreement indeed does not bar all potential redetentions of class members without mandating that another judicial hearing be held for every specific class member. But those procedures and limitations are *exactly what Judge Hatter gave Petitioner and all the other class members as their remedy, following Judge Hatter's prior orders requiring their release on bail.* The issue was thus already addressed by a neutral decision maker, who provided due process. Petitioner is not entitled to now get *another judge* to impose a different and more stringent set of redetention limitations that he would prefer. Relative to his release as ordered by Judge Hatter [*Roman Dkt. no.*] 500], he has already received due process from a neutral decision-maker—Judge Hatter himself—setting terms under which he might be taken back into redetention, including

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limits imposed on the government's ability to do so. To the extent Petitioner may have wanted even stronger limitations imposed on any potential future revocation of the release that Judge Hatter had ordered, then as a *Roman* class member he was able to communicate any such concerns to his class counsel at the time, or to object to the Settlement Agreement during its notice and objection period. He did neither. He cannot now, via a habeas petition, belatedly countermand the *Roman* Settlement Agreement's explicit provisions delineating the circumstances when class members who were released from detention by that Court may, or may not, be detained.

In sum, the Petition should be dismissed because it is unduly speculative and unripe at this juncture, and also because insofar as Petitioner seeks to circumvent the *Roman* Settlement Agreement's terms for the potential redetention of class members who had been ordered released in *Roman*—instead imposing his own more stringent preferences for additional process limitations—that is impermissible, it does not identify a due process violation, and it is devoid of legal merit.

#### II. PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

The *Roman* class action was initially filed as a habeas petition back on April 13, 2020 [*Roman* Dkt. no. 1], along with a motion to certify a class of Adelanto detainees who alleged risk of harm from COVID-19 exposure [*Roman* Dkt. no. 5].

On April 23, 2020, Judge Hatter issued a provisional class certification order. [Roman Dkt. no. 52]. Full class certification was eventually granted by an order issued on September 22, 2020 [Roman Dkt. no. 562].

In the meantime, class counsel in *Roman* moved for a class-wide bail order. On June 16, 2020, Judge Hatter granted that motion [*Roman* Dkt. no. 118]. Judge Hatter specifically explained that his authority to grant bail for the detainees pending resolution of the action was justified by the COVID-19 pandemic, noting that:

The Ninth Circuit has recently held that the COVID-19 pandemic is, indeed, a special circumstance that satisfies the first prong of Land. United States v. Dade,-- F.3d --, 2020 WL 2570354, at \*2 (9th Cir. May 22, 2020).

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Id.

Pursuant to that grant of class-wide bail for the Adelanto detainees, Judge Hatter thereafter ordered numerous class members released on bail, pending resolution of the class action. Among those class members, Petitioner Flores filed a bail application on September 10, 2020, along with various sealed materials regarding his putative health risks from COVID-19 [Roman Dkt. no. 480].

On September 11, 2020, Judge Hatter granted Petitioner's bail application, providing that he shall be released "pending further order of this Court." [Roman Dkt. no 500] (a copy is attached as Exhibit C to this brief). The Court ruled that:

The Court finds that the Class Member has established that his case is extraordinary, involves special circumstances, and has a high probability of success. See Land v. Deeds, <u>878 F.2d 318, 318</u> (9th Cir. 1989); United States v. Dade, – F.3d –, <u>2020 WL 2570354</u>, at \*2 (9th Cir. May 22, 2020). The Court, further, finds that the Class Member has established, by a preponderance of the evidence, that he will not be a flight risk, will not be a danger to public safety, has a stable location to reside while released, and has transportation available to that stable location.

Id.

Again, it was thus clear that Judge Hatter had retained jurisdiction over the terms of Petitioner's release on bail, which he had ordered in connection with the *Roman* class action. That release was not delegated to other judges, or to "neutral decision makers" of the class members' individual preference.

Petitioner's bail order provided that "It is further Ordered that Respondents shall not arrest or re-detain the Class Member without first obtaining an order from this Court." *Id.* Judge Hatter (and not other judges) thus retained the authority to delineate when the *Roman* Respondents could, and could not, arrest or re-detain Petitioner.

The *Roman* class action was then litigated exhaustively for years, generating an enormous docket. But the COVID-19 epidemic eventually changed for the better, and came largely under control. Accordingly, the parties ultimately negotiated an extremely detailed resolution of the dispute, as embodied in a proposed class-wide settlement

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agreement. Among the many terms that were negotiated and delineated were *extremely* detailed terms specifying when the class members could be redetained, thereby ending the prior bar on any redetention set forth in the individual bail orders that Judge Hatter had issued earlier in the case. *See Roman*, Dkt. no. 2636-2, Settlement Agreement, Section III, pp. 9-13 (attached as Exhibit A hereto). Furthermore, a specific process for contesting any such redetentions was also set forth in that Settlement Agreement. *Id.*, pp. 17-19. Finally, the District Court, meaning Judge Hatter, retained continuing jurisdiction over any such disputes. *Id.*, p. 19.

After full class action process, including a public notice and objection procedure, Judge Hatter approved the Settlement Agreement by order dated June 2, 2025. *See Roman*, Dkt. no. 2704.

### III. THE INSTANT HABEAS PETITION

On August 21, 2025, Petitioner filed his Petition [Dkt. 1] and an "Ex Parte Motion for Temporary Restraining Order" [Dkt. 2]. The Petition alleges that it was brought "to prevent Respondents .... from unlawfully re-detaining him at a scheduled appearance in Los Angeles on August 25, 2025, or thereafter, in violation of his due process rights." Petition, ¶ 1. The Petition argues that there is not a legitimate reason to re-arrest Petitioner, and that "due process prohibits Respondents from re-detaining Mr. Yboy Flores without notice and a hearing, prior to any re-detention, at which he would be afforded the opportunity to advance his arguments as to why his bail would not be revoked." Petition, ¶ 8.

The Petition alleges that in 2022 he filed a motion to reopen and rescind his removal order, contending his underlying conviction was invalid. While such convictions are commonly 'invalidated' by state authorities long after the full criminal sentence is served pursuant to a relatively perfunctory state court process (a process designed, in part, to defeat federal immigration law), the important part is that on August 22, 2025, the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) granted a stay of removal for the Petitioner. *See* Exhibit B hereto (stay order). Accordingly, the BIA has determined that

Petitioner should not be removed until the reopening issue is resolved.

Because Petitioner had obtained a stay of removal from the BIA, ICE agreed that it would not detain him at his upcoming appointment on August 25, 2025. On August 22, 2025, Petitioner therefore withdrew the *Ex Parte* Application [Dkt. 8]. Petitioner went to his physical scheduled appointment on August 25, 2025 without incident, and he has not been arrested since, despite the lack of injunctive relief.

The Petition does not identify any other upcoming incidents in which he is likely to be arrested, nor does it allege why that would plausibly happen given his stay.

#### III. ARGUMENT

A. Given the BIA's Grant of a Stay of Removal and the Lack of a
Proximate Issue, Petitioner Lacks Standing to Assert Speculative and
Unripe Claims Regarding a Potential Future Redetention

Claims by released immigrants asserting a fear of future redetention have been split in their results relative to the proximity of redetention. While some District Courts have found standing where a physical appointment is imminent and no barriers to redetention are in place, that is different from when redetention is *possible* in the future, depending on circumstance.

Here, the Petition was filed on August 21, 2025. Petitioner has not since been arrested by ICE (or any other governmental agents, to the Respondents' knowledge), despite there being no injunctive relief in place. As discussed above, that is because the BIA issued a stay of his removal. *See* Exhibit B.

Having resolved the actual concrete grievance his Petition had raised, and having not been arrested afterwards even when no injunctive relief was in place, Petitioner suggests he nonetheless should now still be able to continue to litigate his claim even further, so as to secure further injunctive relief going forward. But he does not present evidence sufficient to establish that he is at any imminent risk of any unlawful arrest.

District Courts have rejected claims for injunctive relief by released detainees as immigration habeas petitions when the threat of unlawful action is unripe and too

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speculative relative to the current custody circumstances. *See Hai Chieu Dam v. Timothy Robbins et al.*, 2:25-cv-08133-JWH-MAA, "Order Denying Plaintiff's Application for Temporary Restraining Order" [Dkt. 7] (Hon. Judge Holcomb); *J.P. v. Ernesto Santacruz Jr. et al.*, 8:25-cv-01640-FWS-JC, "Order Denying Motion for Preliminary Injunction Following Order to Show Cause," [Dkt. 20] (Hon. Judge Slaughter).

Article III of the Constitution requires district courts to adjudicate only actual cases or controversies. See U.S. Const. art. III, § 2, cl. 1. "A suit brought by a plaintiff without Article III standing is not a 'case or controversy,' and an Article III federal court therefore lacks subject matter jurisdiction over the suit." Cetacean Cmty. v. Bush, 386 F.3d 1169, 1174 (9th Cir. 2004). To establish standing, a plaintiff must show he "(1) suffered an injury in fact, (2) that is fairly traceable to the challenged conduct of the defendant, and (3) that is likely to be redressed by a favorable judicial decision." Spokeo, Inc. v. Robins, 578 U.S. 330, 338 (2016). "[A]t an irreducible minimum, Art. III requires the party who invokes the court's authority to 'show that he personally has suffered some actual or threatened injury as a result of the putatively illegal conduct of the defendant . . . [.]" Valley Forge Christian College v. Americans United for Separation of Church & State, Inc., et al., 454 U.S. 464, 472 (1982) (quoting Gladstone, Realtors v. Village of Bellwood, 441 U.S. 91, 99 (1979)). To establish injury in fact, a plaintiff must show he suffered "an invasion of a legally protected interest" that is "concrete and particularized" and "actual or imminent, not conjectural or hypothetical." Lujan v. Defs. of Wildlife, 504 U.S. 555, 560 (1992) (internal quotations omitted). A plaintiff is required to show he is "immediately in danger of sustaining some direct injury." City of Los Angeles v. Lyons, 461 U.S. 95, 102 (1983).

A separate component of the Article III case-or-controversy requirement is ripeness, *see Bova v. City of Medford*, 564 F.3d 1093, 1095-96 (9th Cir. 2009), which, rather than addressing "who is a proper party to litigate a particular matter, [] addresses when that litigation may occur." *Lee v. Oregon*, 107 F.3d 1382, 1387 (9th Cir. 1997) (emphasis in original). "A claim is not ripe for adjudication if it rests upon contingent

future events that may not occur as anticipated, or indeed may not occur at all." *Texas v. United States*, <u>523 U.S. 296, 300</u> (1998) (internal quotation marks and citation omitted).

Here, Petitioner essentially seeks a guarantee that he will never be arrested. But that may not happen regardless of this Petition. He has a motion to reopen on file, and a stay of removal in place. He has not identified any plausible imminent future situation in which he would be arrested and redetained. It is *possible* that depending upon how his removal proceedings is ultimately resolved, he could eventually lose his stay. But that is not a concrete issue now, and he would be removable in that situation anyways.

Any remnant habeas claim is thus not sufficiently concrete at this juncture, nor ripe, and it should not be litigated in the abstract. If some proximate future dispute arises, he could file a new habeas petition regarding it. At this juncture, his Petition should be dismissed without prejudice for being too speculative and unripe.

B. Via the District Court's Approval of the *Roman* Settlement Agreement,
Petitioner Has Already Received Due Process From a Neutral DecisionMaker on the Terms By Which the Government May Redetain Him, as
a *Roman* Class Member, Following his Prior Release on Bail

The Petition should also be dismissed because Petitioner fails to identify an actionable due process violation that he is putatively exposed to. Petitioner suggests that he is entitled to receive due process attention from a neutral decision maker on whether and when his release on bail by Judge Hatter should end. But Petitioner *already* received that due process—from Judge Hatter. Addressing his classwide bail program and the class members, like Petitioner, who he had ordered released under that program, Judge Hatter approved the *Roman* Settlement Agreement, which contains detailed provisions on when future redetention of class members is permissible and when it is not. *See Roman*, Dkt. no. 2636-2, Settlement Agreement, Section III, pp. 9-13 (Exhibit A hereto). Those terms were established by the Court in fairly exhaustive detail, going page after page, provision after provision. *Id.*, pp. 9-13.

The Roman Settlement Agreement further contains provisions for resolving any

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disputes regarding the redetentions of the released class members. *Id.*, pp. 17-19. Judge Hatter also retained continuing jurisdiction over the releases. *Id.*, p. 19. The terms of the *Roman* Settlement Agreement thus replaced and modified the terms of the individual bail orders issued to the class members, which had provided they were valid and that the release would continue until there was a further order from the Court on the subject (i.e., Judge Hatter *retained* jurisdiction over his own bail orders, rather than simply ordering a release with no continuing jurisdiction like an Immigration Judge might have done).

Petitioner complains that the *Roman* Settlement Agreement does not bar all potential future redetentions of the *Roman* class members, including him, and so it does not provide him with all assurances against any potential future immigration arrest and detention that Petitioner would like to receive. Judge Hatter indeed did not grant permanent amnesty from future redetention to all class members who he had granted bail to, but that does not somehow constitute a due process violation. Judge Hatter himself had originally granted the class-wide bail motion in *Roman* because the COVID-19 pandemic was raging at the time, as was explicitly referenced in his order, and which was the specific extraordinary circumstance that he cited as providing him authority to grant the release on bail. *See Roman*, Dkt. 118. The bail program was thus expressly based on *active real-world* concern with the current COVID-19 circumstances creating a uniquely extreme contingent health risk at the Adelanto facility, as had been raised in a certified class action. Judge Hatter did not simply establish an alternative bond process to the Immigration Court.

Several years later, in approving the Settlement Agreement in June of 2025, Judge Hatter then modified his grant of bail by imposing the detailed terms that delineated when redetentions of the released class members would be permissible, and how disputes over such redetention could be resolved. There was thus a further order of the Court on that subject, just as the bail orders had provided. That determination of the appropriate limitations on redetentions of *Roman* class members was due process, provided by the same judge who had ordered the releases on bail in the first place. Furthermore, there

was a public notice and objection period for the Settlement Agreement. Petitioner, although an active individual participant in the *Roman* litigation, did not object.

Petitioner argues that other judges might conceivably grant him an even more elaborate and individualized hearing process, in which he could voice additional reasons why he—unlike other class members—should not be redetained. He argues that he does not now have any *outright bar* on his potential future redetention under the terms of the *Roman* Settlement Agreement, and therefore he could be arrested in the future. But that does not countermand the fact that Petitioner had been released from detention by grant of bail *pending resolution of the class action*, which Judge Hatter resolved by approving the Settlement Agreement. This is not a case where one judge had ordered release, without retaining jurisdiction, and then years later the government—with no further involvement or consideration from the judge who had ordered the release, or any other judge—redetains them. Here, Judge Hatter expressly retained jurisdiction over Petitioner's release on bail, including authority to later consider the scope of its permissible termination and delineate the appropriate limitations on rearrests by resolving the active class action, which is what he did.

Petitioner cannot misuse habeas jurisdiction to make an end-run around that process by taking all the upside he received by the class-action—his release on bail pursuant to the grant of a class-wide bail motion based on extreme prevalent COVID-19 risk—while rejecting any downside—that this was in fact a specific delineated bail process in connection with a class action that the District Court had always retained authority to later end under specified conditions, pursuant to a class-action procedure, which is what happened.

Petitioner's effort to negate the specific conditions set by the District Court in *Roman* under which released class members may be redetained should be rejected.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

The Petition should be dismissed without prejudice.

Dated: September 24, 2025 Respectfully submitted, 1 BILAL A. ESSAYLI 2 Acting United States Attorney DAVÍD M. HARRIS 3 Assistant United States Attorney Chief, Civil Division DANIEL A. BECK 4 Assistant United States Attorney 5 Chief. Complex and Defensive Litigation Section 6 /s/ Daniel A. Beck 7 DANIEL A. BECK Assistant United States Attorney 8 Attorneys for Respondents 9 10 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH L.R. 11-6.2 11 The undersigned, counsel of record for the Respondents, certifies that the 12 memorandum of points and authorities contains 3,531 words, which complies with the 13 word limit of L.R. 11-6.1. 14 /s/ Daniel A. Beck 15 DANIEL A. BECK Assistant United States Attorney 16 Attorneys for Respondents 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

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