Petitioner EDUARDO GARCIA SILVA petitions this Court for a writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 to remedy Respondents' detaining him unlawfully, and states as follows:

INTRODUCTION

- 1. Petitioner, EDUARDO GARCIA SILVA ("Mr. Hernandez Colis" or "Petitioner"), by and through his undersigned counsel, hereby files this petition for writ of habeas corpus and complaint for declaratory and injunctive relief to compel his immediate release from immigration detention where he has been held by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) since being detained on June 11, 2025. Petitioner is in the physical custody of Respondents at the Otay Mesa Detention Center in Otay Mesa, California.
- 2. Petitioner is unlawfully detained. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) have improperly concluded that Petitioners, despite being physically present within the interior of and residing in the United States and being arrested in San Diego County, California, should be deemed to be seeking admission to the United States and therefore subject to mandatory detention pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2)(A).
- 3. DHS has placed Petitioner in removal proceedings pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1229a and has charged Petitioner with being present in the United States without admission and therefore removable pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(6)(A)(i).

- 4. Based on the charge of removability, DHS has denied Petitioner's release from immigration custody, pursuant to a new DHS policy issued on July 8, 2025, 1 instructing all Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) employees to consider anyone inadmissible under 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(6)(A)(i) i.e., present without admission to be an "applicant for admission" under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2)(A) and therefore subject to mandatory detention during the removal hearing process.
- 5. Petitioner sought bond hearings before an immigration judge (IJ), and the IJ accepted jurisdiction and granted bond over DHS' objection. The IJ rejected DHS' legal analysis as set forth in the new DHS policy. Indeed, the DHS policy states it was issued "in coordination with the Department of Justice (DOJ)." IJs function within EOIR which is a component of the Department of Justice. DHS reserved appeal and filed Form EOIR-43, Notice of Service of Intent to Appeal Custody Redetermination. This notice not only appeals any IJ decision granting bond but also triggers and automatic stay of the bond decision during the appeal, resulting in the continued unlawful detention of Petitioner to date. See § 1003.19(i)(2). The "auto-stay" provision of 8 C.F.R. § 1003.19(i)(2) prevents noncitizens from posting bond and being released even though the IJ has rejected DHS' unlawful reinterpretation of § 1225(b)(2) and has granted bond. DHS subsequently filed an appeal with the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), which is presently pending adjudication. Other IJs in

¹ "Interim Guidance Regarding Detention Authority for Applicants for Admission", ICE, July 8, 2025. Available at: https://immpolicytracking.org/policies/ice-issuesmemo-eliminating-bond-hearings-for-undocumented-immigrants/#/tab-policydocuments.

this district and other districts nationwide have recently concluded that notwithstanding individuals similarly situated to Petitioner, present and residing within the United States, should be deemed "applicants for admission" who are "seeking admission" and subject to mandatory detention under $\S 1225(b)(2)(A)$.

- 6. Petitioner's detention on this basis violates the plain language of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), 8 U.S.C. § 1101 et seq. Section 1225(b)(2)(A) does not apply to individuals like Petitioner who previously entered and are now present and residing in the United States. Instead, such individuals are subject to a different statute, § 1226(a), that allows for release on conditional parole or bond. That statute expressly applies to people who, like Petitioner, are charged as removable for having entered the United States without inspection and being present without admission.
- 7. Respondents' new legal interpretation of the INA is plainly contrary to the statutory framework and contrary to decades of agency practice applying § 1226(a) to people like Petitioner who are present within the United States.
- 8. In addition to Petitioner's statutory right to a bond hearing under § 1226(a), individuals within the United States have constitutional rights. "[T]he Due Process Clause applies to all 'persons' within the United States, including aliens, whether their presence here is lawful, unlawful, temporary, or permanent." Zadvydas v. Davis, 533 U.S. 678, 693 (2001).
- 9. Accordingly, Petitioners seek a writ of habeas corpus requiring that they be released unless Respondents provide a bond hearing under § 1226(a).

JURISDICTION

- 10. Jurisdiction is proper and relief is available pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (federal question), 28 U.S.C. § 1346 (original jurisdiction), 5 U.S.C. § 702 (waiver of sovereign immunity), 28 U.S.C. § 2241 (habeas corpus jurisdiction), and Article I, Section 9, clause 2 of the United States Constitution (the Suspension Clause).
- 11. This Court may grant relief pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241, the Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2201 et seq., and the All Writs Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1651.

VENUE

- 12. Pursuant to *Braden v. 30th Judicial Circuit Court of Kentucky*, 410 U.S. 484, 493- 500 (1973), venue lies in the United States District Court for the Central District of California, the judicial district in which Petitioners are currently detained.
- 13. Venue is also properly in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(e) because Respondents are employees, officers, and agencies of the United States, and because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims occurred in the Southern District of California.

PARTIES

14. Petitioner EDUARDO GARCIA SILVA was arrested by Border Patrol agents on June 11, 2025 in close to the San Diego and Orange County line, in California while driving north on Interstate 5 Freeway. He has been in immigration

detention since that date. After arresting Petitioner, ICE did not set bond and Petitioner requested review of his custody by an IJ. On July 18, 2025, after considering all the information, evidence, and arguments presented by the parties, the Immigration Judge found that the Petitioner demonstrated that he neither poses a danger to the community nor such a significant flight risk that he could not be released after payment of a bond and with the imposition of other mitigating conditions. Accordingly, the Court granted the Petitioner's request for a change in his custody status, allowing his release upon payment of a \$2,000 bond.

- 15. Respondent Patrick DIVVER is the Field Office Director of ICE in San Diego, California and is named in his official capacity. ICE is the component of the DHS that is responsible for detaining and removing noncitizens according to immigration law and oversees custody determinations. In his official capacity, he is the legal custodian of Petitioner.
- 16. Respondent Todd M. LYONS is the Acting Director of ICE and is named in his official capacity. Among other things, ICE is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the immigration laws, including the removal of noncitizens. In his official capacity as head of ICE, he is the legal custodian of Petitioner.
- 17. Defendant Sirce OWEN is the Acting Director of EOIR and has ultimate responsibility for overseeing the operation of the immigration courts and the Board of Immigration Appeals, including bond hearings. Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) is the federal agency responsible for implementing and enforcing the

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INA in removal proceedings, including for custody redeterminations in bond hearings. She is sued in her official capacity.

- 18. Respondent Kristi NOEM is the Secretary of the DHS and is named in her official capacity. DHS is the federal agency encompassing ICE, which is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the INA and all other laws relating to the immigration of noncitizens. In her capacity as Secretary, Respondent Noem has responsibility for the administration and enforcement of the immigration and naturalization laws pursuant to section 402 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, 107 Pub. L. No. 296, 116 Stat. 2135 (Nov. 25, 2002); see also 8 U.S.C. § 1103(a). Respondent Noem is the ultimate legal custodian of Petitioner.
- 19. Respondent Pam BONDI is the Attorney General of the United States and the most senior official in the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and is named in her official capacity. She has the authority to interpret the immigration laws and adjudicate removal cases. The Attorney General delegates this responsibility to the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), which administers the immigration courts and the BIA.
- 20. Respondent Christopher LAROSE is the Warden of the Otay Mesa

 Detention Center where Petitioner is being held. Respondent Christopher LaRose
 oversees the day-to-day operations of the Otay Mesa Detention Center and acts at
 the Direction of Respondents Divver, Lyons and Noem. Respondent Christopher
 LaRose is a custodian of Petitioner and is named in their official capacity.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- 21. The INA prescribes three basic forms of detention for the vast majority of noncitizens in removal proceedings conducted pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1229a.
- 22. First, 8 U.S.C. § 1226 authorizes the detention of noncitizens in § 1229a removal proceedings before an IJ. Individuals covered by § 1226(a) detention are generally entitled to a bond hearing at the outset of their detention, see 8 C.F.R. §§ 1003.19(a), 1236.1(d), while certain noncitizens who have been arrested, charged with, or convicted of certain crimes are subject to mandatory detention. See 8 U.S.C. § 1226(c).
- 23. Second, the INA provides for mandatory detention of noncitizens subject to an Expedited Removal order imposed pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(1) and for other noncitizen applicants for admission to the U.S. who are deemed not clearly entitled to be admitted. See 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2).
- 24. Last, the INA provides for detention of noncitizens who have been ordered removed, including individuals in withholding-only proceedings. See 8 U.S.C. § 1231(a)–(b).
- 25. This case concerns the detention provisions at 8 U.S.C. §§ 1226(a) and 1225(b)(2).
- 26. The detention provisions at § 1226(a) and § 1225(b)(2) were enacted as part of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (IIRIRA) of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104--208, Div. C, §§ 302-03, 110 Stat. 3009-546, 3009-582 to

3009–583, 3009–585. Section 1226(a) was most recently amended in early 2025 by the Laken Riley Act, Pub. L. No. 119-1, 139 Stat. 3 (2025).

- 27. Following the enactment of the IIRIRA, EOIR drafted new regulations applicable to proceedings before immigration judges explaining that, in general, people who entered the country without inspection also referred to as being "present without admission" were not considered detained under § 1225 and that they were instead detained under § 1226(a). See Inspection and Expedited Removal of Aliens; Detention and Removal of Aliens; Conduct of Removal Proceedings; Asylum Procedures, 62 Fed. Reg. 10312, 10323 (Mar. 6, 1997).
- Thus, in the decades that followed, most people who entered without inspection and were placed in standard § 1229a removal proceedings received bond hearings before IJs, unless their criminal history rendered them ineligible. That practice was consistent with many more decades of prior practice, in which noncitizens who were not deemed "arriving" were entitled to a custody hearing before an IJ or other hearing officer. See 8 U.S.C. § 1252(a) (1994); see also H.R. Rep. No. 104-469, pt. 1, at 229 (1996) (noting that § 1226(a) simply "restates" the detention authority previously found at § 1252(a)).
- 29. This practice both pre- and post-enactment of IIRIRA is consistent with the fact that noncitizens present within the United States as opposed to noncitizens present at a border and seeking admission have constitutional rights.

 "[T]he Due Process Clause applies to all 'persons' within the United States, including

aliens, whether their presence here is lawful, unlawful, temporary, or permanent." Zadvydas v. Davis, 533 U.S. 678, 693 (2001).

- 30. On July 8, 2025, ICE, "in coordination with" the Department of Justice, announced a new policy that rejected the well-established understanding of the statutory framework and reversed decades of practice.
- 31. The new policy, entitled "Interim Guidance Regarding Detention Authority for Applicants for Admission," claims that all noncitizens present within the United States who entered without inspection shall now be deemed "applicants for admission" under 8 U.S.C. § 1225, and therefore are subject to mandatory detention under § 1225(b)(2)(A). The policy applies regardless of when a person is apprehended and affects those who have resided in the United States for months, years, and even decades.
- 32. In a May 22, 2025 unpublished decision by the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), EOIR adopted this same position.³ That decision holds that all noncitizens who entered the United States without admission or parole and who are present within the United States are considered applicants for admission and ineligible for IJ bond hearings.
- 33. ICE and EOIR have adopted this position even though federal courts have rejected this exact conclusion. For example, after IJs in the Tacoma,

² Available at: https://immpolicytracking.org/policies/ice-issues-memoeliminating-bond-hearings-for-undocumented-immigrants/#/tab-policy-documents.

³ Available at https://nwirp.org/our-work/impact-litigation/assets/vazquez/59-1%20ex%20A%20decision.pdf.

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Washington, immigration court stopped providing bond hearings for persons who entered the United States without inspection and who have since resided here, the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington found that such a reading of the INA is likely unlawful and that § 1226(a), not § 1225(b), applies to noncitizens who are not apprehended upon arrival to the United States. *Rodriguez* Vazquez v. Bostock, --- F. Supp. 3d ---, 2025 WL 1193850 (W.D. Wash. Apr. 24, 2025); see also *Gomes v. Hyde*, No. 1:25-CV-11571-JEK, 2025 WL 1869299, at * (D. Mass. July 7, 2025) (granting habeas petition based on same conclusion). This Court has reached the same conclusion. See Maldonado Bautista et al. v. Santacruz, et al., No. 5:25-cv-01873-SSS-BFM (C.D. Cal. July 28, 2025), Order Granting Temporary Restraining Order, Dkt. 14 at 9 (TRO issued after DHS adopted "Interim Guidance" Regarding Detention Authority for Applicants for Admission."); Ceja Gonzalez, et al. v. Noem, et al., No. 5:25-cv-02054-ODW-BFM (C.D. Cal. August 13, 2025), Order Granting Ex Parte Application for TRO and OSC, Dkt. 12 (Same).

34. Finally, two days prior to the filing of this petition, on September 5, 2025, the BIA issued a published decision in *Matter of Jonathan Javier YAJURE HURTADO, Respondent*, 29 I&N Dec. 216 (BIA 2025), doubling down on its prior unpublished decisions finding that all persons who entered without inspection (all those who are present without having been admitted), are subject to mandatory detention under INA 235(b)(2), specifically holding, *"Based on the plain language of section 235(b)(2)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. §*

1225(b)(2)(A) (2018), Immigration Judges lack authority to hear bond requests or

to grant bond to aliens who are present in the United States without admission."

ourt explained, the plain text of the statutory provisions demonstrates that § 1226(a), not § 1225(b), applies to people like Petitioners. Section 1226(a) applies by default to all persons "pending a decision on whether the [noncitizen] is to be removed from the United States." *Rodriguez Vazquez*, 2025 WL 1193850 at *12. See also *Maldonado Bautista*, No. 5:25-cv-01873-SSS-BFM (C.D. Calif July 28, 2025) Order Granting Temporary Restraining Order, Dkt. 14 at 9 ("[T]he Court finds that the potential for Petitioners' continued detention without an initial bond hearing would cause immediate and irreparable injury, as this violates statutory rights afforded under § 1226(a)."); *Ceja Gonzalez*, No. 5:25-cv-02054-ODW-BFM (C.D. Cal. August 13, 2025), Order Granting Ex Parte Application for TRO and OSC, Dkt. 12 at 7 (§ 1226 applies to aliens present in the United States.)

36. Other portions of the text of § 1226 also explicitly apply to people charged as being inadmissible, including those who entered without inspection. See 8 U.S.C. § 1226(c)(1)(E). Subparagraph (E)'s reference to inadmissible individuals makes clear that, by default, inadmissible individuals not subject to subparagraph (E)(ii) are afforded a bond hearing under subsection (a). As the *Rodriguez Vazquez* court explained, "[w]hen Congress creates "specific exceptions" to a statute's applicability, it "proves" that absent those exceptions, the statute generally applies.

Rodriguez Vazquez, 2025 WL 1193850, at *12 (citing Shady Grove Orthopedic

Section 1226 therefore leaves no doubt that it applies to noncitizens

By contrast, § 1225(b) applies to people arriving at U.S. ports of entry or

who are present without admission and who face charges in removal proceedings of

who recently entered the United States and are encountered at or near the border.

The statute's entire framework is premised on inspections at the border of people

who are "seeking admission" to the United States. 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2)(A). Indeed,

the Supreme Court has explained that this mandatory detention scheme applies "at

the Nation's borders and ports of entry, where the Government must determine

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whether a[] [noncitizen] seeking to enter the country is admissible." *Jennings v. Rodriguez*, 583 U.S. 281, 287 (2018).

Assocs., P.A. v. Allstate Ins. Co., 559 U.S. 393, 400 (2010)).

being inadmissible to the United States.

39. Accordingly, the mandatory detention provision of § 1225(b)(2) does not apply to people like Petitioner who have already entered and were residing in the United States at the time they were apprehended.

FACTS

40. Petitioner EDUARDO GARCIA SILVA resides in San Diego, California. He has no criminal record and no previous contact with immigration authorities.

Petitioner is a 31-year-old native and citizen of Mexico who was brought to the United States when he was a 7-year-old child. Petitioner arrived in the United States

on September 17, 1999. Petitioner, along with his two siblings last entered the United States by riding in the back seat of a vehicle from Sonora, Mexico, driven by a U.S. citizen (with his spouse in the front passenger seat), who presented at the port of entry, presented some documents, and they were then waived through.

- 41. Petitioner and his family members fled Mexico after Petitioner's father was killed in that country. Petitioner has never departed the United States after his aforementioned initial arrival and he has not been part of any previous immigration proceedings. Petitioner, who has a high school GED diploma, has previously attempted to apply for DACA, but due to intervening court orders prohibiting DHS from accepting new applications, he was prevented from doing so.
- 42. Petitioner was arrested and placed in removal proceedings on or about June 11, 2025, after being pulled over by DHS agents when he was driving on the freeway. This was Peittioner's first ever arrest by any law enforcement agency as he has no criminal record.
- 43. On July 18, 2025, after considering all the information, evidence, and arguments presented by the parties, the Immigration Judge Court found that the respondent demonstrated that he neither poses a danger to the community nor such a significant flight risk that he could not be released after payment of a bond and with the imposition of other mitigating conditions. Accordingly, the Court granted the respondent's request for a change in his custody status, allowing his release upon

payment of a \$2,000 bond. The IJ accepted jurisdiction and granted bond over DHS' objection. The IJ rejected DHS' legal analysis as set forth in the new DHS policy. Indeed, the DHS policy states it was issued "in coordination with the Department of Justice (DOJ)." IJs function within EOIR which is a component of the Department of Justice. DHS reserved appeal and filed Form EOIR-43, Notice of Service of Intent to Appeal Custody Redetermination. This notice not only appeals any IJ decision granting bond but also triggers and automatic stay of the bond decision during the appeal, resulting in the continued unlawful detention of Petitioner to date. See § 1003.19(i)(2). The "auto-stay" provision of 8 C.F.R. § 1003.19(i)(2) prevents noncitizens from posting bond and being released even though the IJ has rejected DHS' unlawful reinterpretation of § 1225(b)(2) and has granted bond. DHS subsequently filed an appeal with the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), which is presently pending adjudication.

44. Any appeal to the BIA by the Petitioner is futile. ICE's new policy was issued "in coordination with DOJ," which oversees the immigration courts. Further, as noted, the most recent published BIA decision on this issue held that persons like Petitioner are subject to mandatory detention as applicants for admission. In the *Rodriguez Vazquez* litigation, where EOIR and the Attorney General are defendants, DOJ has affirmed its position that individuals like Petitioners are applicants for admission and subject to detention under § 1225(b)(2)(A). See Mot. to Dismiss,

Rodriguez Vazquez v. Bostock, No. 3:25-CV-05240-TMC (W.D. Wash. June 6, 2025), Dkt. 49 at 27–31. DOJ has taken the same position in the Maldonado Bautista litigation, see Opp. to Ex Parte TRO Application, Maldonado Bautista, No. 5:25-cv-01873-SSS-BFM, (C.D. Cal. July 24, 2025), Dkt. 8, and in the Ceja Gonzalez litigation. See Opp. to Ex Parte TRO Application and OSC, Ceja Gonzalez, No. 5:25-cv-02054-ODW-BFM (C.D. Cal. August 8, 2025), Dkt. 7 at 17-21.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Petitioner's Detention is in Violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a)

- 45. Petitioner incorporates by reference the allegations of fact set forth in the preceding paragraphs.
- 46. The mandatory detention provision at 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2) does not apply to Petitioner who is present and residing in the United States and has been placed under § 1229a removal proceedings and charged with inadmissibility pursuant 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(6)(A)(i). As relevant here, § 1225(b)(2) does not apply to those who previously entered the country and have been present and residing in the United States prior to being apprehended and placed in removal proceedings by Respondents. Such noncitizens may only be detained pursuant to § 1226(a), unless subject to § 1226(c), or § 1231.
- 47. The application of § 1225(b)(2) to Petitioner unlawfully mandates his continued detention without a bond hearing and violates 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a).

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SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Petitioners' Detention Violates the Administrative Procedure Act,

5 U.S.C. § 706(2)

- 48. Petitioner incorporates by reference the allegations of fact set forth in the preceding paragraphs.
- 49. Under the Administrative Procedure Act, a court must "hold unlawful and set aside agency action" that is "arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, or otherwise not in accordance with the law," that is "contrary to constitutional right [or] power," or that is "in excess of statutory jurisdiction, authority, or limitations, or short of statutory right." 5 U.S.C. § 706(2)(A)-(C).
- 50. Respondents' detention of Petitioner pursuant to § 1225(b)(2) is arbitrary and capricious. Respondents' detention of Petitioner violates the INA and the Fifth Amendments. Respondents do not have statutory authority under § 1225(b)(2) to detain Petitioner.
- 51. Petitioner's detention is arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, violative of the Constitution, and without statutory authority in violation of 5 U.S.C. § 706(2).

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Petitioners' Detention Violates Their Fifth Amendment Right to Due Process

without due process of law. U.S. Const. amend. V. "Freedom from imprisonment-

from government custody, detention, or other forms of physical restraint—lies at the

heart of the liberty that the Clause protects." Zadvydas v. Davis, 533 U.S. 678, 690

bond redetermination hearing to determine whether he is a flight risk or a danger to

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Petitioner incorporates by reference the allegations of fact set forth in the

The Government may not deprive a person of life, liberty, or property

Petitioners have a fundamental interest in liberty and being free from

The Respondents' detention of Petitioner without providing Petitioner a

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preceding paragraphs.

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this matter and grant the following relief:

a. Issue a Writ of Habeas Corpus requiring Respondents to release

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully asks that this Court take jurisdiction over

Petitioner or provide Petitioner as an IJ has already held a bond hearing pursuant to

U.S.C. § 1226(a) and granted Petitioner bond;

others violates their right to Due Process.

b. Award Petitioners' attorney's fees and costs under the Equal Access to

	Case 3:25-cv-02329-JES-KSC	Document 1 20	Filed 09/07/25	PageID.19	Page 19 of
1	Justice Act ("EAJA"), as amended, 28 U.S.C. § 2412, and on any other				
2	basis justified under law; and				
3	c. Grant any other and further relief that this Court deems just and				
4	proper.				
5					
6	Dated: September 7, 2025		Respectfully submitted,		
7			Dec /s / De alvier	Claratial and	
8	9	By: /s/ Bashir Ghazialam Bashir Ghazialam			
9	Attorney for Petitioner				
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VERIFICATION PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. 2242

I am submitting this verification on behalf of the Petitioner because I am Petitioner's attorney. I have discussed with the Petitioner the events described in the Petition. Based on those discussions, I hereby verify that the factual statements made in the attached Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Executed on this September 7, 2025, in San Diego, California.

/s/ Bashir Ghazialam Bashir Ghazialam Attorney for Petitioner