

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA  
25-cv-3811 (ECT-LIB)

Ramon RUELAS-Castellano,

Petitioner,

v.

PAMELA BONDI et. al.,

Respondents.

**DECLARATION OF  
JOHN D. LIGON**

John D. Ligon, Deportation Officer, United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), for his declaration under 28 U.S.C. § 1746, hereby states as follows:

1. The following declaration is based on a review of the Petitioner's alien file, statements, and e-mails.

2. I am and have been employed with ICE and the former Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) since July 22, 2002. I began my career as a Border Patrol Agent, later promoted to a Supervisory Border Patrol Agent, transferred to ICE as an Immigration Enforcement Agent, and was then promoted to a Deportation Officer. I have been a Deportation Officer since October 11, 2009.

3. As a Deportation Officer, my assigned duties are to identify, locate, and arrest aliens illegally present in the United States. Additionally, I am charged with the responsibility of overseeing the cases of aliens in removal proceedings. These duties include reviewing alien files for sufficiency, reviewing the detention and release of aliens

in ICE custody, monitoring the progress of cases through the hearing process, and enforcing the immigration court's decision, including executing removal orders. I am also responsible for presenting criminal immigration cases to the United States Attorney's Office for possible criminal prosecution.

4. Ramon RUELAS-Castellano ("RUELAS") is a native and citizen of Mexico. On or about July 14, 2001, RUELAS entered the United States near Nogales, AZ, without admission or parole. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a true and accurate copy of the I-213 for Ruelas.

5. On August 2, 2025, ERO St. Paul encountered RUELAS in Minneapolis, Minnesota via a traffic stop. RUELAS identified himself and admitted to illegal entry and no legal status to reside in the United States. RUELAS was arrested and detained

6. He was charged the same day with being present in the United States without inspection, admission or parole under 8 U.S.C. §§ 1221(a)(6)(A)(i). Attached hereto as Exhibit B is a true and accurate copy of the Notice to Appear.

7. On August 25, 2025, DHS served RUELAS an I-261, charging removability under Section 212(a)(7)(A)(i)(I) of the INA. Attached hereto as Exhibit C is a true and accurate copy of the I-261.

8. On August 26, 2025, EOIR Fort Snelling conducted an immigration hearing and bond hearing. An Immigration Judge denied RUELAS' request for a change in custody status. RUELAS reserved appeal. Attached hereto as Exhibit D is a true and accurate copy of the IJ's order.

9. On September 11, 2025, RUELAS filed a bond appeal with the BIA.

10. On October 15, 2025, an Immigration Judge ordered RUELAS removed to Mexico. RUELAS reserved appeal, which is due November 14, 2025.

11. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

JOHN D LIGON Digitally signed by JOHN D LIGON  
Date: 2025.10.22 20:03:10 -05'00'

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John D. Ligon, Deportation Officer  
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

October 22, 2025