

1 Siovhana Ayala
AYALA LAW OFFICE, PC
2 70 W. Franklin St. / P.O. Box 18986
Tucson, AZ 85701 / 85731
3 siovhansheridan@gmail.com
520.202.0391
4 *Attorney for Petitioner-Plaintiff*

5 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
6 FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA
7

8
9 Jose Antonio Najarro Zuniga

10 Petitioner-Plaintiff,

11 v.

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13 Pam Bondi, in her Official Capacity,
14 Attorney General of the United States; et
al.

15 Respondents-Defendants.
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Case No.

A- 

**MOTION FOR
TEMPORARY
RESTRAINING ORDER**

**POINTS AND
AUTHORITIES IN
SUPPORT OF EX PARTE
MOTION FOR
TEMPORARY
RESTRAINING ORDER
AND MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY
INJUNCTION**

Challenge to Unlawful Incarceration
Request for Declaratory and
Injunctive Relief

NOTICE OF MOTION

1
2 Petitioner Jose Antonio Najarro Zuniga applies to this honorable Court for a
3 temporary restraining order enjoining Respondents Department of Homeland
4 Security (DHS), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and Pam
5 Bondi, in her official capacity as the U.S. Attorney General, (1) from continuing to
6 detain Petitioner based on an unlawful action by ICE, (2) ordering his immediate
7 release from immigration detention; and (3) from removing Petitioner from the
8 United States.

9 If the Court deems oral argument necessary, Petitioner requests to appear by
10 video.

11 Dated: November 7, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

12 /s/ Siovhana Ayala

13 Siovhana Ayala

14 Attorney for Petitioner-Plaintiff Client

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1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 Respondents unlawfully detain Petitioner, Jose Antonio Najarro Zuniga,
3 under a mistaken assertion that INA § 235(b)(2) requires mandatory detention of
4 individuals who entered without inspection. Petitioner entered the United States on
5 2003 and has lived in Arizona for more than two decades. He is not an “arriving
6 alien” at the border but a long-term resident, properly detained under INA § 236(a),
7 which authorizes bond hearings.

8 The Board of Immigration Appeals’ recent decision in *Matter of Yajure*
9 *Hurtado*, 29 I&N Dec. 216 (BIA 2025), does not compel a different result. Federal
10 habeas courts are not bound by BIA precedent, and numerous courts, including in
11 this Circuit have rejected DHS’s attempt to expand § 235(b)(2) to the interior.
12 Because DHS has improperly invoked § 235(b)(2), Petitioner has been deprived of
13 the opportunity for an individualized bond hearing and remains in unlawful
14 detention in violation of the INA, the APA, and the Constitution.

15 Petitioner meets the TRO standard. He is likely to succeed on the merits, he
16 faces immediate and irreparable harm from unlawful detention, and the equities and
17 public interest weigh heavily in his favor.

18
19 **II. STATEMENT OF FACTS AND CASE**

20 Petitioner is a native and citizen of Guatemala. He entered the United States
21 without inspection on or about 2003, more than twenty seven years ago and has
22 resided in the U.S for more than twenty seven years. During this time, he established
23 strong family and community ties.
24

25 Petitioner applied for release on bond before the Immigration Court on
26 October 28, 2025. His request was denied on the ground that he classified as subject
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1 to mandatory detention under INA § 235(b)(2) under *Matter of Yajure.*, making him
2 categorically ineligible for a bond hearing.

3
4 Historically, individuals in Petitioner’s position—those who entered without
5 inspection but were apprehended years later inside the United States—were detained
6 under § 236(a) and provided bond hearings before an Immigration Judge. For
7 decades, immigration judges adjudicated such custody matters under § 236(a).
8 Indeed, the BIA in *Yajure* acknowledged this longstanding practice, noting that
9 immigration courts have historically granted bond hearings to noncitizens
10 apprehended in the interior who had entered without inspection. *Id.* at 225.

11
12 Petitioner has been detained without the opportunity for a bond hearing. He has
13 requested relief through counsel, but DHS continues to maintain that his custody is
14 mandatory and that the court has no jurisdiction. Without judicial intervention, he
15 faces indefinite detention without due process, despite his long-standing residence
16 in the United States and his eligibility for release on bond under § 236(a).

17
18 **LEGAL STANDARD**

19
20 Petitioner is entitled to a temporary restraining order if he establishes that he
21 is “likely to succeed on the merits, . . . likely to suffer irreparable harm in the
22 absence of preliminary relief, that the balance of equities tips in [his] favor, and that
23 an injunction is in the public interest.” *Winter v. Nat. Res. Def. Council, Inc.*, 555
24 U.S. 7, 20 (2008); *Stuhlberg Int’l Sales Co. v. John D. Brush & Co.*, 240 F.3d 832,
25 839 n.7 (9th Cir. 2001) (noting that preliminary injunction and temporary
26 restraining order standards are “substantially identical”). Even if Petitioner does not
27 show a likelihood of success on the merits, the Court may still grant a temporary
28 restraining order if he raises “serious questions” as to the merits of his claims, the

1 balance of hardships tips “sharply” in his favor, and the remaining equitable factors
2 are satisfied. *Alliance for the Wild Rockies v. Cottrell*, 632 F.3d 1127 (9th Cir.
3 2011). As set forth in more detail below, Petitioner overwhelmingly satisfies the
4 standards for a temporary restraining order.

5
6 **III. ARGUMENT**

7 **A. PETITIONER WARRANTS A TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER**

8 A temporary restraining order should be issued if “immediate and irreparable
9 injury, loss, or irreversible damage will result” to the applicant in the absence of an
10 order. Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(b). The purpose of a temporary restraining order is to
11 prevent irreparable harm before a preliminary injunction hearing is held.
12 *See Granny Goose Foods, Inc. v. Bhd. Of Teamsters & Auto Truck Drivers Local*
13 *No. 70 of Alameda City*, 415 U.S. 423, 439 (1974). Petitioner is likely to remain in
14 unlawful custody in violation of his due process rights without intervention by this
15 Court. Petitioner will continue to suffer irreparable injury if he continues to be
16 detained without due process.
17

18 **1. Petitioner is Likely to Succeed on the Merits of His Claim That He be Released from Detention**

19 Petitioner is likely to succeed on his claim that, in his particular
20 circumstances, his current detention is unlawful because the Due Process Clause
21 and the statute.
22

23 The District of Arizona has recognized that when the government seeks to
24 revoke or stay a noncitizen’s release from custody, due process under the Fifth
25 Amendment requires a meaningful opportunity to be heard before the deprivation
26 occurs. *See Organista v. Sessions*, No. CV-18-00285-PHX-GMS (D. Ariz. Feb. 8,
27 2018). Applying the familiar three-factor test from *Mathews v. Eldridge*, 424 U.S.
28 319 (1976), the court weighed 1) the private liberty interest at stake; 2) the risk of

1 erroneous deprivation; and 3) the burden on the government – “the fundamental
2 requirement of due process – the opportunity to be heard at a meaningful time and
3 manner.” *Organista*, No. CV-18-00285-PHX-GMS, at 4.; *City of Los Angeles v.*
4 *David*, 538 U.S. 715, 717 (2003). In weighing the *Matthews* factors, the court
5 declared that “there is no meaningful dispute that Petitioner has a liberty interest in
6 being heard before the BIA can prolong his detention.” *Organista*, No. CV-18-
7 00285-PHX-GMS, at 4.

8 Likewise, federal district courts in California have repeatedly recognized
9 that the demands of due process and the limitations on DHS’s authority to revoke a
10 noncitizen’s bond or parole set out in DHS’s stated practice and *Matter of Sugay*
11 both require a pre-deprivation hearing for a noncitizen on bond, like Petitioner
12 before ICE re-detains him. *See, e.g., Ortega v. Bonnar*, 415 F. Supp. 3d 963 (N.D.
13 Cal. 2019); *Vargas v. Jennings*, No. 20-CV-5785-PJH, 2020 WL 5074312, at *3
14 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 23, 2020); *Jorge M. F. v. Wilkinson*, No. 21-CV-01434-JST, 2021
15 WL 783561, at *2 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 1, 2021);); *Romero v. Kaiser*, No. 22-cv-
16 02508-TSH, 2022 WL 1443250, at *3-4 (N.D. Cal. May 6, 2022) (Petitioner would
17 suffer irreparable harm if re-detained, and required notice and a hearing before any
18 re-detention); *Enamorado v. Kaiser*, No. 25-CV-04072-NW, 2025 WL 1382859, at
19 *3 (N.D. Cal. May 12, 2025) (temporary injunction warranted preventing re-arrest
20 at plaintiff’s ICE interview when he had been on bond for more than five years).
21 *See also Doe v. Becerra*, No. 2:25-cv-00647-DJC-DMC, 2025 WL 691664, *4
22 (E.D. Cal. Mar. 3, 2025) (holding the Constitution requires a hearing before any re-
23 arrest).
24

25 Courts analyze procedural due process claims such as this one in two steps:
26 the first asks whether there exists a protected liberty interest under the Due Process
27 Clause, and the second examines the procedures necessary to ensure any
28

1 deprivation of that protected liberty interest accords with the Constitution. *See*
2 *Kentucky Dep't of Corrections v. Thompson*, 490 U.S. 454, 460 (1989).

3 **a. Petitioner Has a Protected Liberty Interest in His**
4 **Conditional Release**

5 Petitioner's liberty from immigration custody is protected by the Due Process
6 Clause: "Freedom from imprisonment—from government custody, detention, or
7 other forms of physical restraint—lies at the heart of the liberty that [the Due
8 Process] Clause protects." *Zadvydas v. Davis*, 533 U.S. 678, 690 (2001).

9 Since 2003, Petitioner has lived continuously in the U.S, where he has
10 worked, supported his family, and built enduring community ties. He was
11 apprehended more than two decades after his entry, far from the border. Despite
12 these circumstances, DHS has categorized him as an "applicant for admission"
13 under § 235(b)(2) and placed him in mandatory detention, denying him the
14 opportunity for an individualized bond hearing. Accordingly, he retains a weighty
15 liberty interest under the Fifth Amendment in avoiding continued incarceration. *See*
16 *Young v. Harper*, 520 U.S. 143, 146–47 (1997); *Gagnon v. Scarpelli*, 411 U.S. 778,
17 781–82 (1973); *Morrissey v. Brewer*, 408 U.S. 471, 482–83 (1972).

18 In *Morrissey*, the Supreme Court examined the "nature of the interest" that a
19 parolee has in "his continued liberty." 408 U.S. at 481-82. The Court noted that,
20 "subject to the conditions of his parole, [a parolee] can be gainfully employed and
21 is free to be with family and friends and to form the other enduring attachments of
22 normal life." *Id.* at 482. The Court further noted that "the parolee has relied on at
23 least an implicit promise that parole will be revoked only if he fails to live up to the
24 parole conditions." *Id.* The Court explained that "the liberty of a parolee, although
25 indeterminate, includes many of the core values of unqualified liberty and its
26 termination inflicts a grievous loss on the parolee and often others." *Id.* In turn,
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1 “[b]y whatever name, the liberty is valuable and must be seen within the protection
2 of the [Fifth] Amendment.” *Morrissey*, 408 U.S. at 482.

3 This basic principle—that individuals have a liberty interest in their
4 conditional release—has been reinforced by both the Supreme Court and the circuit
5 courts on numerous occasions. *See, e.g., Young v. Harper*, 520 U.S. at 152 (holding
6 that individuals placed in a pre-parole program created to reduce prison
7 overcrowding have a protected liberty interest requiring pre-deprivation process);
8 *Gagnon v. Scarpelli*, 411 U.S. at 781-82 (holding that individuals released on felony
9 probation have a protected liberty interest requiring pre-deprivation process). As
10 the First Circuit has explained, when analyzing the issue of whether a specific
11 conditional release rises to the level of a protected liberty interest, “[c]ourts have
12 resolved the issue by comparing the specific conditional release in the case before
13 them with the liberty interest in parole as characterized by *Morrissey*.” *Gonzalez-*
14 *Fuentes v. Molina*, 607 F.3d 864, 887 (1st Cir. 2010) (internal quotation marks and
15 citation omitted). *See also, e.g., Hurd v. District of Columbia*, 864 F.3d 671, 683
16 (D.C. Cir. 2017) (“a person who is in fact free of physical confinement—even if
17 that freedom is lawfully revocable—has a liberty interest that entitles her to
18 constitutional due process before he is re-incarcerated”) (citing *Young*, 520 U.S. at
19 152, *Gagnon*, 411 U.S. at 782, and *Morrissey*, 408 U.S. at 482).

21 In fact, it is well-established that an individual maintains a protectable liberty
22 interest even where the individual obtains liberty through a mistake of law or fact.
23 *See id.; Gonzalez-Fuentes*, 607 F.3d at 887; *Johnson v. Williford*, 682 F.2d 868, 873
24 (9th Cir. 1982) (noting that due process considerations support the notion that an
25 inmate released on parole by mistake, because he was serving a sentence that did
26 not carry a possibility of parole, could not be re-incarcerated because the mistaken
27 release was not his fault, and he had appropriately adjusted to society, so it “would
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1 be inconsistent with fundamental principles of liberty and justice” to return her to
2 prison) (internal quotation marks and citation omitted).

3 Here, when this Court ““compares the release in Petitioner’s case, with the
4 liberty interest in parole as characterized by *Morrissey*,”” they bear similar features
5 in liberty interests. *See Gonzalez-Fuentes*, 607 F.3d at 887. Just as in *Morrissey*,
6 Petitioner’s release “enables him to do a wide range of things open to persons,”
7 including to live at home, work, care for his family, for whom he is the financial
8 provider, and “be with family and friends and to form the other enduring
9 attachments of normal life.” *Morrissey*, 408 U.S. at 482.

10
11 **b. Petitioner’s Liberty Interest Mandates His Release from**
12 **Unlawful Custody**

13 “Adequate, or due, process depends upon the nature of the interest affected.
14 The more important the interest and the greater the effect of its impairment, the
15 greater the procedural safeguards the [government] must provide to satisfy due
16 process.” *Haygood v. Younger*, 769 F.2d 1350, 1355-56 (9th Cir. 1985) (en banc)
17 (citing *Morrissey*, 408 U.S. at 481-82). This Court must “balance [Petitioner’s]
18 liberty interest against the [government’s] interest in the efficient administration of”
19 its immigration laws to determine what process he is owed to ensure that ICE does
20 not unconstitutionally deprive him of his liberty. *Id.* at 1357. Under the test set forth
21 in *Mathews v. Eldridge*, this Court must consider three factors in conducting its
22 balancing test: “first, the private interest that will be affected by the official action;
23 second, the risk of an erroneous deprivation of such interest through the procedures
24 used, and the probative value, if any, of additional or substitute procedural
25 safeguards; and finally the government’s interest, including the function involved
26 and the fiscal and administrative burdens that the additional or substitute procedural
27 requirements would entail.” *Haygood*, 769 F.2d at 1357 (citing *Mathews v.*
28

1 *Eldridge*, 424 U.S. 319, 335 (1976)).

2 The Supreme Court “usually has held that the Constitution requires some
3 kind of a hearing *before* the State deprives a person of liberty or property.”
4 *Zinermon v. Burch*, 494 U.S. 113, 127 (1990) (emphasis in original). Only in a
5 “special case” where post-deprivation remedies are “the only remedies the State
6 could be expected to provide” can post-deprivation process satisfy the requirements
7 of due process. *Zinermon*, 494 U.S. at 985. Moreover, only where “one of the
8 variables in the *Mathews* equation—the value of deprivation safeguards—is
9 negligible in preventing the kind of deprivation at issue” such that “the State cannot
10 be required constitutionally to do the impossible by providing deprivation process,”
11 can the government avoid providing pre-deprivation process. *Id.*

12 Because, in this case, the provision of a bond hearing is both possible and
13 essential to preventing an erroneous deprivation of liberty, ICE is required to
14 provide Petitioner the opportunity for an individualized bond determination before
15 a neutral decisionmaker. *See Morrissey*, 408 U.S. at 481-82; *Haygood*, 769 F.2d at
16 1355-56; *Jones*, 393 F.3d at 932; *Zinermon*, 494 U.S. at 985; *see also Youngberg v.*
17 *Romeo*, 457 U.S. 307, 321-24 (1982); *Lynch v. Baxley*, 744 F.2d 1452 (11th Cir.
18 1984) (holding that individuals awaiting involuntary civil commitment proceedings
19 may not constitutionally be held in jail pending the determination as to whether they
20 can ultimately be recommitted). Under *Mathews*, “the balance weighs heavily in
21 favor of [Petitioner’s] liberty” and requires a deprivation hearing before a neutral
22 adjudicator.
23

24 **i. Petitioner’s Private Interest in His Liberty is**
25 **Profound**

26 The private interest at stake, freedom from physical restraint, is “at the core
27 of the liberty protected by the Due Process Clause.” *Foucha v. Louisiana*, 504 U.S.
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1 71, 80 (1992); see also *Zadvydas v. Davis*, 533 U.S. 678, 690 (2001) (“Freedom
2 from imprisonment—from government custody, detention, or other forms of
3 physical restraint—lies at the heart of the liberty that [the Due Process] Clause
4 protects.”).

5 Petitioner entered the United States without inspection on 2003 and has lived
6 continuously in the U.S for more than twenty-seven years. During this time, he has
7 worked, supported his family, and formed enduring ties in his community. He was
8 apprehended more than two decades after his entry, not at the threshold of the
9 border.

10 As the Supreme Court recognized in *Morrissey v. Brewer*, 408 U.S. 471,
11 482–83 (1972), even conditional liberty carries profound constitutional
12 significance. A person who is free in the community “can be gainfully employed
13 and is free to be with family and friends and to form the other enduring attachments
14 of normal life.” *Id.* The Court further noted that terminating such liberty “inflicts a
15 grievous loss on the parolee and often others,” and emphasized that “[b]y whatever
16 name, the liberty is valuable and must be seen within the protection of the [Fifth]
17 Amendment.” *Id.*

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20 So too here. Petitioner’s long-standing residence, family responsibilities, and
21 deep community ties reflect a profound liberty interest that cannot lawfully be
22 extinguished through misclassification as an “applicant for admission” under §
23 1225(b)(2). By detaining him without any opportunity for an individualized custody
24 determination, Respondents have arbitrarily deprived him of the very liberty the
25 Constitution protects..

26
27 **ii. The Government’s Interest in Continued**
28 **Incarceration of Petitioner is Low and the Burden**

**on the Government to Refrain from Releasing Him
is Minimal**

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3 The government's interest in maintaining mandatory detention and without
4 allowing a bond hearing hearing is low, and when weighed against Petitioner's
5 significant private interest in his liberty, the scale tips sharply in favor of enjoining
6 Respondents from keeping him in unlawful custody. It becomes abundantly clear
7 that the *Mathews* test favors Petitioner when the Court considers that the process he
8 seeks—a bond proceeding to which he is entitled to—is a standard course of action
9 for the government. Providing Petitioner with a bond hearing before this Court (or
10 a neutral decisionmaker) to determine whether there is clear and convincing
11 evidence that Petitioner is a flight risk or danger to the community would impose
12 only a *de minimis* burden on the government, because the government routinely
13 provides this sort of hearing to individuals like Petitioner. Continuing to detain him
14 under § 235(b)(2), despite his eligibility for a bond hearing under § 236(a), is
15 unlawful

16 As immigration detention is civil, it can have no punitive purpose. The
17 government's only interest in holding an individual in immigration detention can
18 be to prevent danger to the community or to ensure a noncitizen's appearance at
19 immigration proceedings. *See Zadvydas*, 533 U.S. at 690. In this case, the
20 government cannot plausibly assert that it has any basis for detaining Petitioner
21 under the mandatory detention provisions of § 235(b)(2), because he entered the
22 United States more than two decades ago and was apprehended in the interior, not
23 at the border. He properly falls under § 236(a), which authorizes a bond hearing
24 The government's interest in detaining Petitioner at this time is extremely low.
25 Moreover, the "fiscal and administrative burdens" that his immediate release is
26 nonexistent in this case. *See Mathews*, 424 U.S. at 334-35. Petitioner does not seek
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1 a unique or expensive form of process, but rather release from unlawful detention,
2 where removal is not reasonably foreseeable.

3 As the Ninth Circuit noted in 2017, which remains true today, “[t]he costs to
4 the public of immigration detention are ‘staggering’: \$158 each day per detainee,
5 amounting to a total daily cost of \$6.5 million.” *Hernandez*, 872 F.3d at 996.

6 Releasing Petitioner from unlawful custody and enjoining Petitioner’s
7 continued detention is far *less* costly and burdensome for the government than
8 keeping him detained. *Hernandez*, 872 F.3d at 996.

9 Due process also requires consideration of alternatives to detention at any
10 custody redetermination hearing that may occur. The primary purpose of
11 immigration detention is to ensure a noncitizen’s appearance during removal
12 proceedings. *Zadvydas*, 533 U.S. at 697. Detention is not reasonably related to this
13 purpose if there are alternatives to detention that could mitigate risk of flight. *See*
14 *Bell v. Wolfish*, 441 U.S. 520, 538 (1979). Accordingly, alternatives to detention
15 must be considered in determining whether Petitioner’s continued incarceration is
16 warranted.
17

18 As the above-cited authorities show, Petitioner is likely to succeed on his
19 claim that the current detention is unlawful. And, at the very minimum, he clearly
20 raises serious questions regarding this issue, thus also meriting a TRO. *See*
21 *Alliance for the Wild Rockies*, 632 F.3d at 1135.

22 **2. Petitioner Will Suffer Irreparable Harm Absent** 23 **Injunctive Relief**

24 Petitioner will suffer irreparable harm were he to remain detained after being
25 deprived of his liberty and subjected to unlawful incarceration by immigration
26 authorities without being provided the constitutionally adequate process that this
27 motion for a temporary restraining order seeks. Detainees in ICE custody are held
28 in “prison-like conditions.” *Preap v. Johnson*, 831 F.3d 1193, 1195 (9th Cir. 2016).

1 As the Supreme Court has explained, “[t]he time spent in jail awaiting trial has a
2 detrimental impact on the individual. It often means loss of a job; it disrupts family
3 life; and it enforces idleness.” *Barker v. Wingo*, 407 U.S. 514, 532-33 (1972);
4 accord *Nat’l Ctr. for Immigrants Rights, Inc. v. I.N.S.*, 743 F.2d 1365, 1369 (9th
5 Cir. 1984). Moreover, the Ninth Circuit has recognized in “concrete terms the
6 irreparable harms imposed on anyone subject to immigration detention” including
7 “subpar medical and psychiatric care in ICE detention facilities, the economic
8 burdens imposed on detainees and their families as a result of detention, and the
9 collateral harms to children of detainees whose parents are detained.” *Hernandez*,
10 872 F.3d at 995. The government itself has documented alarmingly poor conditions
11 in ICE detention centers. *See, e.g.*, DHS, Office of Inspector General (OIG),
12 Summary of Unannounced Inspections of ICE Facilities Conducted in Fiscal Years
13 2020-2023 (2024) (reporting violations of environmental health and safety
14 standards; staffing shortages affecting the level of care detainees received for
15 suicide watch, and detainees being held in administrative segregation in
16 unauthorized restraints, without being allowed time outside their cell, and with no
17 documentation that they were provided health care or three meals a day).¹

19 As detailed *supra*, Petitioner contends that his continued detention violates
20 his due process rights under the Constitution. It is clear that “the deprivation of
21 constitutional rights ‘unquestionably constitutes irreparable injury.’” *Melendres v.*
22 *Arpaio*, 695 F.3d 990, 1002 (9th Cir. 2012) (quoting *Elrod v. Burns*, 427 U.S. 347,
23 373 (1976)). Thus, a temporary restraining order is necessary to prevent Petitioner
24 from suffering irreparable harm by being subject to unlawful and unjust detention.

25 26 **3. The Balance of Equities and the Public Interest Favor 27 Granting the Temporary Restraining Order**

28 ¹ Available at <https://www.oig.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/assets/2024-09/OIG-24-59-Sep24.pdf>
(last accessed Feb. 6, 2024).

1 The balance of equities and the public interest undoubtedly favor granting
2 this temporary restraining order.

3 First, the balance of hardships strongly favors Petitioner. The government
4 cannot suffer harm from an injunction that prevents it from engaging in an unlawful
5 practice. *See Zepeda v. I.N.S.*, 753 F.2d 719, 727 (9th Cir. 1983) (“[T]he INS cannot
6 reasonably assert that it is harmed in any legally cognizable sense by being enjoined
7 from constitutional violations.”). Therefore, the government cannot allege harm
8 arising from a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction ordering it to
9 comply with the Constitution.

10 Further, any burden imposed by requiring the ICE to release Petitioner from
11 unlawful custody is both *de minimis* and clearly outweighed by the substantial harm
12 he will suffer as if he is detained. *See Lopez v. Heckler*, 713 F.2d 1432, 1437 (9th
13 Cir. 1983) (“Society’s interest lies on the side of affording fair procedures to all
14 persons, even though the expenditure of governmental funds is required.”).

15 A temporary restraining order is in the public interest. First and most
16 importantly, “it would not be equitable or in the public’s interest to allow [a party]
17 . . . to violate the requirements of federal law, especially when there are no adequate
18 remedies available.” *Ariz. Dream Act Coal. v. Brewer*, 757 F.3d 1053, 1069 (9th
19 Cir. 2014) (quoting *Valle del Sol Inc. v. Whiting*, 732 F.3d 1006, 1029 (9th Cir.
20 2013)). If a temporary restraining order is not entered, the government would
21 effectively be granted permission to detain Petitioner in violation of the
22 requirements of Due Process. “The public interest and the balance of the equities
23 favor ‘prevent[ing] the violation of a party’s constitutional rights.’” *Ariz. Dream*
24 *Act Coal.*, 757 F.3d at 1069 (quoting *Melendres*, 695 F.3d at 1002); *see also*
25 *Hernandez*, 872 F.3d at 996 (“The public interest benefits from an injunction that
26 ensures that individuals are not deprived of their liberty and held in immigration
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1 detention because of bonds established by a likely unconstitutional process.”); *cf.*
2 *Preminger v. Principi*, 422 F.3d 815, 826 (9th Cir. 2005) (“Generally, public
3 interest concerns are implicated when a constitutional right has been violated,
4 because all citizens have a stake in upholding the Constitution.”).

5 Therefore, the public interest overwhelmingly favors entering a temporary
6 restraining order and preliminary injunction.

7 **. Federal Courts have rejected DHS’s position.**

8 Recent federal court decisions confirm that Respondents’ reliance on §
9 1225(b)(2) to detain Petitioner without a bond hearing is unlawful. In *Cuevas*
10 *Guzman v. Andrews*, 2025 WL 2617256, at *3 n.4 (E.D. Cal. Sept. 9, 2025), the
11 district court expressly distinguished *Matter of Yajure Hurtado*, it rejected its
12 sweeping application of § 1225(b)(2) and held that noncitizens apprehended in the
13 interior after long residence in the United States are properly detained under §
14 236(a), not § 1225(b)(2). *Cuevas Guzman* reaffirmed the longstanding rule that
15 entry without inspection does not permanently bar a person from eligibility for bond
16 once they are living in the country. That holding directly applies here.

17 Similarly, in *Zaragoza Mosqueda v. Noem*, 2025 WL 2591530, at *7 (C.D.
18 Cal. Sept. 8, 2025), the court recognized that the BIA’s interpretation in *Yajure*
19 forecloses administrative relief, rendering exhaustion futile. The same is true for
20 Petitioner, who cannot meaningfully seek bond redetermination before EOIR given
21 that the IJ held that he had no jurisdiction.

22 Finally, in *Rodriguez Vazquez v. Bostock*, 779 F. Supp. 3d 1239 (W.D. Wash.
23 2025), the district court issued a preliminary injunction requiring ICE to provide a
24 bond hearing to a petitioner detained under § 1225(b)(2), holding that custody in
25 such circumstances falls under § 1226(a). That decision confirms that habeas relief
26 is the proper vehicle and that this Court has the authority to order the same remedy
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1 for Petitioner.

2 These cases establish that DHS's reliance on § 1225(b)(2) for long-term
3 residents like Petitioner is inconsistent with statutory text, contrary to constitutional
4 protections, and already rejected by multiple courts within this Circuit.

5 In *Singh v. Lewis*, No. 4:25-cv-96 (W.D. Ky. Sept. 22, 2025), the district
6 court granted a habeas petition and ordered release, finding that DHS's
7 reclassification of interior arrests under § 1225(b)(2) violated both the INA and due
8 process. The court rejected the government's reliance on *Matter of Yajure Hurtado*,
9 concluding that "an individual is not 'seeking admission' when he never attempted
10 to do so," and held that detention must proceed under § 1226(a). The court further
11 found that the automatic-stay regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 1003.19(i)(2) unlawfully
12 deprived the petitioner of liberty without due process and ordered his immediate
13 release upon posting bond.

14 Similarly, in *Beltrán Barrera v. Tindall*, No. 3:25-cv-541 (W.D. Ky. Sept.
15 19, 2025), the court held that DHS's blanket application of § 1225(b)(2) to
16 individuals apprehended years after entering the United States was contrary to the
17 statutory text and structure of the INA. The court emphasized that Congress
18 intended § 1225 to govern only applicants for admission encountered at the border,
19 and it therefore ordered the petitioner's release under § 1226(a)

20 Finally, in *Benítez-Cornejo v. Cantu*, No. CV-25-03672-PHX-JJT (ESW) (D.
21 Ariz. 2025), the District of Arizona granted habeas relief on the same statutory
22 question presented here, holding that individuals arrested in Arizona after years of
23 residence fall under § 1226(a) and must receive individualized bond hearings. The
24 court rejected DHS's reliance on *Yajure Hurtado* as inconsistent with the Ninth
25 Circuit's due-process jurisprudence and the statutory framework of the INA

26
27 Aside from the Ninth Circuit, numerous district courts have disagreed with
28

1 the BIA's analysis in *Matter of Yajure Hurtado* and granted habeas relief to
2 petitioners similarly situated to Petitioner, recognizing that custody in such cases
3 properly falls under § 236(a).

- 4 • **First Circuit:** *Sampiao v. Hyde*, 2025 WL 2607924 (D. Mass. Sept. 9, 2025)
5 (expressly disagreeing with BIA's analysis in *Yajure Hurtado*); *Jimenez v.*
6 *FCI Berlin, Warden*, No. 25-cv-326-LM-AJ (D.N.H. Sept. 8, 2025); *Doe v.*
7 *Moniz*, 2025 WL 2576819 (D. Mass. Sept. 5, 2025); *Romero v. Hyde*, 2025
8 WL 2403827 (D. Mass. Aug. 19, 2025); *Martinez v. Hyde*, 2025 WL 2084238
9 (D. Mass. July 24, 2025); *dos Santos v. Noem*, 2025 WL 2370988 (D. Mass.
10 Aug. 14, 2025); *Gomes v. Hyde*, 2025 WL 1869299 (D. Mass. July 7, 2025).
- 11 • **Second Circuit:** *Lopez Benitez v. Francis*, 2025 WL 2371588 (S.D.N.Y.
12 Aug. 13, 2025); *Samb v. Joyce*, 2025 WL 2398831 (S.D.N.Y. Aug. 19, 2025).
- 13 • **Fourth Circuit:** *Leal-Hernandez v. Noem*, 2025 WL 2430025 (D. Md. Aug.
14 24, 2025).
- 15 • **Fifth Circuit:** *Kostak v. Trump*, 2025 WL 2472136 (W.D. La. Aug. 27,
16 2025).
- 17 • **Sixth Circuit:** *Pizarro Reyes v. Raycraft*, 2025 WL 2609425 (E.D. Mich.
18 Sept. 9, 2025) (rejecting BIA's analysis in *Yajure Hurtado*); *Lopez-Campos*
19 *v. Raycraft*, 2025 WL 2496379 (E.D. Mich. Aug. 29, 2025).
- 20 • **Eighth Circuit:** *Carmona-Lorenzo v. Trump*, 2025 WL 2531521 (D. Neb.
21 Sept. 3, 2025); *Cortes Fernandez v. Lyons*, 2025 WL 2531539 (D. Neb. Sept.
22 3, 2025); *Palma Perez v. Berg*, 2025 WL 2531566 (D. Neb. Sept. 3, 2025);
23 *O.E. v. Bondi*, 2025 WL 2466670 (D. Minn. Aug. 27, 2025); *Jacinto v.*
24 *Trump*, 2025 WL 2402271 (D. Neb. Aug. 19, 2025); *Maldonado v. Olson*,
25 2025 WL 2374411 (D. Minn. Aug. 15, 2025); *Garcia Jimenez v. Kramer*,
26 2025 WL 2374223 (D. Neb. Aug. 14, 2025); *Anicasio v. Kramer*, 2025 WL
27
28

1 2374224 (D. Neb. Aug. 14, 2025).

- 2 • **Ninth Circuit:** *Caicedo Hinestroza v. Kaiser*, 2025 WL 2606983 (N.D. Cal.
3 Sept. 9, 2025). *Hernandez Nieves v. Kaiser*, 2025 WL 2533110 (N.D. Cal.
4 Sept. 3, 2025). *Vasquez Garcia et al. v. Noem*, 2025 WL 2549431 (S.D. Cal.
5 Sept. 3, 2025). *Arrazola-Gonzalez v. Noem*, 2025 WL 2379285 (C.D. Cal.
6 Aug. 15, 2025). *Rosado v. Figueroa*, 2025 WL 2337099 (D. Ariz. Aug. 11,
7 2025).

8 Because multiple courts have already recognized the unlawfulness of DHS's
9 reliance on § 1225(b)(2) to deny bond hearings. Petitioner's claim for relief thus
10 aligns with an established and growing consensus.

11 **IV. CONCLUSION**

12 For all the above reasons, this Court should find that Petitioner warrants a
13 temporary restraining order and a preliminary injunction ordering that Respondents
14 (1) release him from his unlawful custody; and (2) refrain from sending him to any
15 place outside of the United States.

16 Dated: November 7, 2025,

Respectfully submitted,

18 /s/ Siovhana Ayala

19 Siovhana Ayala
20 Attorney for Petitioner-Plaintiff