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DETAINED-DELANEY HALL

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

Shenghai WANG,)	
A )	
Petitioner,)	Civil Action No.
)	
v.)	
)	
PAM BONDI,)	
Attorney General of the)	
United States of America, and,)	Hon.
)	
KRISTI NOEM,)	
Secretary of the Department of)	
Homeland Security, (DHS) and,)	
)	
TODD LYONS, Acting Director,)	
United States Immigration and)	
Customs Enforcement (ICE), and,)	
)	
JOHN TSOUKARIS, Warden,)	
Delaney Hall Detention Facility,)	
)	
Respondents.)	
)	

VERIFIED HABEAS CORPUS PETITION

INTRODUCTION

1. The Petitioner, a 50-year-old male native and citizen of the People’s Republic of China who has been detained at the Delaney Hall Detention Facility since his arrest by ICE on October 23, 2025, and may be removed out of the jurisdiction, hereby petitions the U.S. District Court to declare his mandatory detention

without bond unlawful and stay his removal outside of the New Jersey jurisdiction.

2. The Petitioner was detained at the ICE Field Office at 26 Federal Plaza, New York, New York at his annual check-in appointment.
3. Upon information and belief, he has no criminal arrest, offense or adjudication of an underlying offense in any jurisdiction in the United States.
4. He is now placed in the detained docket and has proceedings pending before the Immigration Court at 26 Federal Plaza, New York, NY.
5. Due to a new policy adopted by Respondents in July of 2025, all aliens such as Petitioner (who have not been admitted to the U.S.) are now subject to mandatory detention without bond. And even though the New Jersey District Court (Hon. Katharine Hayden) has already ruled that application of this new policy is unlawful as applied to aliens such as the Petitioner, who have resided in the U.S., the Respondents have unlawfully detained Petitioner pursuant to the same mandatory detention policy while his removal proceedings are pending.
6. Thus, Petitioner petitions this Court for an order declaring his mandatory detention unlawful.

JURISDICTION

7. This action arises under the United States Constitution and the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. §§ 1101 et seq.. This Court has habeas corpus jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241 et. seq., and Art. I & 9, Clause 2 of the United States Constitution (Suspension Clause).

8. Petitioner is detained at the Delaney Hall Detention Center, Newark, New Jersey under the authority of the United States in violation of the Constitution and laws of the United States.

VENUE

9. Venue lies with this Court because Petitioner is detained at the Delaney Hall Detention Center in Newark, New Jersey.

PARTIES

10. Petitioner is a 50-year-old married male, native and citizen of the People's Republic of China, who has been detained at the Delaney Hall Detention Facility since October 23, 2025. He seeks issuance of a writ of habeas corpus.
11. Respondent Pam Bondi is sued in her official capacity as the Attorney General of the United States. In this capacity she is responsible for administering and enforcing the immigration laws pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1103 and is the Petitioner's legal custodian.
12. Respondent Kristi Noem is sued in her official capacity as Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, the agency in charge of administering and enforcing the immigration laws in New Jersey and is the Petitioner's legal custodian.
13. Respondent Todd Lyons is sued in his official capacity as the Acting Director of the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) the department within the Department of Homeland Security and, in this capacity, he is

responsible for administering and enforcing the immigration laws in New Jersey and is Petitioner's legal custodian.

14. Respondent John Tsoukaris is sued in his official capacity as the Warden of the Delaney Hall Detention Facility and, in this capacity, he is the Petitioner's actual physical custodian.

FACTS

15. Petitioner, Shanghai WANG, is a 50-year-old male, native and citizen of the People's Republic of China who entered the United States without inspection on October 31, 2023 at or near the California border and has not left since.
16. The Petitioner is married and has two children. He was born in Jiangsu, China. His wife and two children reside in China.
17. He resided at [REDACTED] before his detention.
18. The Petitioner filed for asylum on Form I-589 on or about April 12, 2024. This application remains pending.
19. Nonetheless, on October 23, 2025, ICE agents arrested the Petitioner at his scheduled check-in appointment after he received a letter in the mail informing him to appear.
20. He is detained solely based on a new policy adopted by DHS in July of 2025 which now subjects all aliens living in the U.S. who have not been admitted to mandatory detention even those such as Petitioner who have lengthy ties to the U.S. and no criminal record.

21. In Removal Proceedings, the Petitioner will apply for asylum, withholding of removal, and relief under the Convention Against Torture. Upon information and belief, his asylum application was timely filed.
22. At the time of his arrest and detention, Petitioner was scheduled for a merits hearing before Hon. Gioia MAIELLANO at the New York Immigration Court on November 20, 2026 at 9AM. These proceedings will now be adjourned to the detained docket.
23. However, given this new mandatory detention policy and the practice by ICE of removing aliens to distant parts of the U.S., the Petitioner faces a violation of his constitutional and due process and statutory rights under the INA and seeks immediately release from mandatory detention a detention statute, INA 235, that clearly does not apply to him.
24. The Petitioner has no criminal record.
25. The Petitioner does not have a final order of removal.
26. The Petitioner's removal proceedings are presumably now pending before the Elizabeth Immigration Court.
27. The Petitioner has no warrants or negative criminal history that would cause him to be a flight risk or danger to society.
28. Petitioner has exhausted all administrative remedies because the Immigration Courts are bound by this new policy and cannot consider constitutional claims.
29. In a similar case last month, Judge Katharine Hayden ruled that this new mandatory detention policy is unlawful as applied to individuals such as the Petitioner who are not seeking admission at the border, but Respondents

nonetheless seek to continue to detain Petitioner under this illegal application of the incorrect statute.

30. Thus, Petitioner has exhausted his administrative remedies and seeks a habeas order from this Court finding that his detention under 235 of the INA (a statute that is normally applied to aliens at the border who have never entered the U.S.) is illegal as applied to him.

31. Petitioner's removal from the United States cannot be effectuated in the reasonably foreseeable future. Absent judicial review of his custody claim, Petitioner will suffer irreparable injury by being deprived of his physical liberty without due process and in violation of the INA. He seeks the only avenue of judicial review available to him, habeas review. He also seeks injunction relief or restraints given that this issue has been exhaustively litigated in a similar case before another Judge in this district court and application of the INA 235 statute is clearly illegal as applied to the Petitioner.

COUNT I

32. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 31 above are repeated and realleged as though fully set forth herein. Petitioner's continued detention violates the Due Process clause of the United States Constitution.

COUNT II

33. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 31 are repeated and realleged as though fully set forth herein. Petitioner's detention is not authorized by the Immigration and Nationality Act.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Petitioner prays that this Court:

1. Issue a Writ of Habeas Corpus directed to Respondents requiring them to immediately release the Petitioner from custody or hold a bond hearing.
2. Award Petitioner costs and attorney's fees pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412.
3. Grant any other and further relief that this Court may deem necessary and proper.

s/ Regis Fernandez
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Dated: November 10, 2025

VERIFICATION

I, Shanghai WANG, declare under penalty of perjury in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746 as follows:

1. I am the plaintiff-petitioner in this matter and am personally familiar with the facts of my case;
2. I have read the allegations contained in the foregoing Complaint and to the best of my knowledge, those allegations are true based upon my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Executed on November 10, 2025

s/Shenghai Wang
SHENGHAI WANG

VERIFICATION BY COUNSEL

I, Regis Fernandez, declare under penalty of perjury in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746 as follows:

1. I am the attorney for plaintiff-petitioner in this matter and am personally familiar with the facts of his case;
2. I have read the allegations contained in the foregoing Complaint and to the best of my knowledge, those allegations are true based upon my personal knowledge, information and belief.
3. I have also reviewed the documents attached to this habeas petition and confirm that they are true copies of the originals and that all the facts or allegations ascertained therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and experience.

Executed on November 10, 2025

s/ Regis Fernandez
REGIS FERNANDEZ, ESQ.