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Detained

Attorney for Petitioner Hadi Kavosi

7 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
8 **FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

9 In the Matter of:

) Case No: 3:25-cv-03288-BAS-MMP

10)
11 **HADI KAVOSI**

) **PETITIONER’S TRAVERSE IN**
) **SUPPORT OF HIS PETITION**
) **FOR WRIT OF HABEAS**
) **CORPUS**

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v.

CHRISTOPHER J. LAROSE, Senior
Warden of the Otay Mesa Detention
Center; PATRICK DIVVER, Field
Office Director, San Diego Office of
Detention and Removal, U.S.
Immigration and Customs
Enforcement; TODD M. LYONS,
Acting Director, U.S. Immigration;
and Customs Enforcement, U.S.
Department of Homeland Security;
and KRISTI NOEM, Secretary, U.S.
Department of Homeland Security

Respondents – Defendants.

PETITIONER’S TRAVERSE TO RESPONDENT’S RETURN

Petitioner, Hadi Kavosi, through undersigned counsel, respectfully submit this Traverse to Respondent’s Return and in support of his Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus.

I. INTRODUCTION

Petitioner submits this Traverse in response to Respondent’s Opposition to his Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus. The Court is respectfully urged to grant the Petition because Petitioner’s detention, which followed his lawful inspection and placement into removal proceedings under 8 U.S.C. § 1229a, lacks a valid statutory basis, rests on an unlawful and retroactive expansion of 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2)(A), and violates the Due Process Clause and the Administrative Procedure Act (“APA”).

Petitioner challenges only the lawfulness and duration of his detention. He does not ask this Court to adjudicate the merits of his underlying removal case or his asylum claim. Success on this habeas petition would result in Petitioner’s immediate release, or at minimum a prompt custody redetermination hearing, and therefore directly alters the fact and length of custody. This is precisely the type of claim that falls within the core of 28 U.S.C. § 2241 as recognized in longstanding Supreme Court and Ninth Circuit authority.

Since the filing of the Petition and Return, the legal landscape regarding 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2)(A) and *Matter of Yajure Hurtado* has shifted significantly. On November 20, 2025, the United States District Court for the Central District of California, in *Maldonado Bautista v. Santacruz*, 5:25-cv-01873 (C.D. Cal. 2025) granted partial summary judgment and certified a nationwide “Bond Eligible Class,” issuing declaratory relief rejecting the government’s new interpretation of § 1225(b)(2)(A) and *Matter of Yajure Hurtado* as contrary to the INA and confirming that class members are detained under 8 U.S.C. § 1226 and entitled to bond consideration. The court’s statutory analysis and declaratory judgment substantially undermine Respondent’s reliance on *Matter of Yajure Hurtado* and their assertion that § 1225(b)(2)(A) mandates his detention without bond.

1 **II. FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

2 Petitioner is a 39-year-old citizen and national of Iran. He and his immediate family fled
3 Iran after suffering persecution on account of his conversion from Islam to Christianity,
4 including harassment, surveillance, detention, and threats by Iranian authorities because he
5 attended Christian services and wore a cross. He traveled through several countries in search of
6 protection and ultimately sought entry to the United States through the CBP One process. Upon
7 arrival around July 8, 2024, he was inspected by DHS officers, allowed to enter. On or about
8 July 9, 2025, he was served a Notice to Appear charging him as inadmissible under 8 U.S.C. §
9 1182(a)(7)(A)(i)(I).
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11
12 DHS initiated full removal proceedings under 8 U.S.C. § 1229a. Petitioner complied with all
13 requirements, appeared for hearings, and in February 2025 filed a Form I-589 Application for
14 Asylum, Withholding of Removal, and protection under the Convention Against Torture, listing
15 his wife and two children as derivatives. Those § 240 proceedings, and the asylum claim,
16 remain pending.
17

18 For many months, Petitioner lived in the community with his family, attended immigration
19 court, and continued to pursue his asylum case. Then, in or about June 22, 2025, DHS abruptly
20 re-detained him and by about June 26, 2025, he was transferred to the Otay Mesa Detention
21 Center in this District and his case was reassigned to the Otay Mesa Immigration Court. On
22 August 14, 2025, he re-filed an amended asylum application with that court. When Petitioner
23 requested a custody redetermination, the Immigration Judge and government counsel indicated
24 on August 18, 2025, that they believed Petitioner would be ineligible for bond under 8 U.S.C. §
25 1225 and *Matter of Yajure Hurtado*, leading counsel to withdraw the bond request. Petitioner
26 has remained detained in Otay Mesa ever since.
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1 In the Petition, Petitioner alleges that DHS re-detained him not because of any
2 individualized concern about danger or flight but as part of a broader policy to leverage
3 detention and expanded expedited-removal powers to pressure asylum seekers. He alleges that
4 DHS's sudden invocation of § 1225(b) and mandatory detention is unlawful, retroactive as
5 applied to his July 2024 entry and existing § 240 proceedings, and inconsistent with
6 longstanding statutory and regulatory practice under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a). He further alleges that
7 DHS failed to provide notice, an opportunity to be heard, or any individualized determination
8 before revoking his release, in violation of his due process rights and the APA.
9

10 III. LEGAL STANDARD

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12 A writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 permits a federal court to inquire into the
13 legality of an individual's detention. Relief is appropriate where a petitioner demonstrates that
14 he is "in custody" under the authority of the United States and that such custody violates the
15 Constitution, laws, or treaties of the United States. 28 U.S.C. § 2241(c). The Supreme Court has
16 repeatedly recognized that noncitizens may invoke § 2241 to challenge immigration detention.
17 In *Demore v. Kim*, 538 U.S. 510 (2003), the Court acknowledged habeas jurisdiction over a
18 lawful permanent resident who contested his detention under the INA. In *Zadvydas v. Davis*,
19 533 U.S. 678 (2001), the Court similarly reviewed the lawfulness of post-removal-order
20 detention and construed the statute to avoid serious constitutional questions.
21

22
23 The Ninth Circuit has explained that the key inquiry in determining whether a claim sounds
24 in habeas is whether success on the claim would necessarily result in "immediate or speedier
25 release" from custody. *Nettles v. Grounds*, 830 F.3d 922, 934 (9th Cir. 2016). In *Pinson v.*
26 *Carvajal*, 69 F.4th 1059, 1072 (9th Cir. 2023), the court reaffirmed that § 2241 is the proper
27 vehicle where the petitioner challenges the legality or duration of confinement, as opposed to
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1 conditions that would not alter custody. That principle applies equally in the immigration
2 context: habeas remains available to test whether detention is authorized by statute and
3 comports with due process, even when judicial review of the underlying removal order is
4 channeled to the courts of appeals. *See Dep't of Homeland Sec. v. Thuraissigiam*, 591 U.S. 103,
5 117 (2020).
6

7 In resolving a habeas petition, the Court accepts Petitioner's factual allegations as true
8 unless contradicted by uncontested evidence, and then determines whether, under those facts,
9 detention is authorized by a valid statute and implemented in a constitutionally permissible
10 manner. Where detention lacks statutory basis, exceeds lawful authority, or is imposed in
11 violation of due process, the Great Writ provides a remedy.
12

13 IV. ARGUMENT

14 A. Habeas Jurisdiction Is Proper Under 28 U.S.C. § 2241

15 1. Petitioner Challenges Detention, Not Removal

16 Petitioner's habeas petition challenges only the legality of his present detention. He does
17 not seek review of any final order of removal, any merits determination on his asylum claim, or
18 any discretionary decision regarding commencement or adjudication of removal proceedings.
19 Instead, he contends that Respondents lack authority to detain him under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2)(A),
20 that their reliance on *Matter of Yajure Hurtado* and the January 2025 policy is unlawful, and that
21 his ongoing incarceration without access to a bond hearing violates the Constitution and the APA.
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23 Success on these claims would directly result in Petitioner's release from custody or, at
24 minimum, a prompt bond/custody redetermination hearing that could lead to his release. Under
25 *Nettles* and *Pinson*, that is sufficient to bring the case within habeas. Respondents' reliance on
26 cases such as *Gusel'nikov v. Noem*, No. 25-cv-1971-BTM-KSC, 2025 WL 2300873 (S.D. Cal.
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1 Aug. 8, 2025) and *Giron Rodas v. Lyons*, No. 25cv1912-LL-AHG, 2025 WL 2300781 (S.D. Cal.
2 Aug. 1, 2025) is misplaced, because those decisions involved petitions that did not genuinely
3 contest the legality of custody or that sought relief which, even if granted, would not necessarily
4 shorten detention. Here, Petitioner’s challenge goes to the heart of his confinement.
5

6 Moreover, there is no serious dispute that Petitioner satisfies Article III standing. He is
7 currently “in custody” in ICE detention, which constitutes a concrete and ongoing injury in fact.
8 That injury is fairly traceable to Respondents’ decision to detain him under 8 U.S.C. §
9 1225(b)(2)(A) and their refusal to provide access to a bond hearing, and it is redressable by the
10 relief sought, an order declaring his detention unlawful and directing his release or a prompt
11 custody redetermination hearing. *See Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 504 U.S. 555, 560–61 (1992).
12 Because Petitioner remains detained and continues to suffer the very harm he challenges, this case
13 has not “lost its character as a present, live controversy” and is not moot. *See, e.g., Am. Rivers v.*
14 *Nat’l Marine Fisheries Serv.*, 126 F.3d 1118, 1123 (9th Cir. 1997).
15

16 Respondents’ characterization of the Petition as asserting “improper and inconsistent”
17 factual allegations is also incorrect. The Petition consistently alleges a single, ongoing injury,
18 Petitioner’s continued detention without access to bond, and advances alternative legal theories
19 under which that detention is unlawful. That is fully consistent with habeas pleading and Article
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21 III.

22
23 2. Sections 1252(g) and 1252(b)(9) Do Not Strip This Court of Jurisdiction

24 Respondents contend that 8 U.S.C. §§ 1252(g) and 1252(b)(9) deprive this Court of
25 jurisdiction. But those provisions do not bar traditional habeas review of detention. Section
26 1252(g) limits jurisdiction over claims arising from “the decision or action by the Attorney
27 General to commence proceedings, adjudicate cases, or execute removal orders.” The Supreme
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1 Court has emphasized that § 1252(g) is narrow and applies only to “three discrete actions,” not to
2 every circumstance tangentially related to removal. *Reno v. American-Arab Anti-Discrimination*
3 *Comm.*, 525 U.S. 471, 482–83 (1999). Petitioner does not ask this Court to stop DHS from
4 commencing proceedings, to adjudicate his removal case, or to enjoin execution of a removal
5 order. He challenges only the basis and constitutionality of his current detention. That type of
6 claim falls outside § 1252(g)’s narrow scope.

8 Section 1252(b)(9) is likewise a channeling provision, not an across-the-board
9 jurisdictional bar. It provides that judicial review of all questions of law and fact “arising from
10 any action taken or proceeding brought to remove an alien” shall be available only upon judicial
11 review of a final removal order. The Ninth Circuit has described § 1252(b)(9) as “breathtaking in
12 scope and vise-like in grip,” but nonetheless recognized that it channels removal challenges, not
13 pure detention challenges, into petitions for review. *J.E.F.M. v. Lynch*, 837 F.3d 1026, 1031–32
14 (9th Cir. 2016). Reading § 1252(b)(9) to extinguish all habeas review of detention would render
15 *Demore*, *Zadvydas*, and numerous recent district court decisions hearing § 2241 immigration
16 detention cases inexplicable and would raise serious Suspension Clause concerns. Congress
17 preserved judicial review of constitutional claims and questions of law in 8 U.S.C. §
18 1252(a)(2)(D), further confirming that federal courts retain authority to adjudicate whether
19 detention comports with the statute and the Constitution.

22 To the extent Respondents argue that Petitioner was required to exhaust some further
23 administrative remedy, such as additional bond requests or appeals, that argument is unavailing.
24 Petitioner’s ability to seek bond has been effectively foreclosed by the government’s legal
25 position that immigration judges lack bond jurisdiction under § 1225(b)(2)(A) and *Matter of*
26 *Yajure Hurtado*. In these circumstances, the exhaustion requirement is prudential, not
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1 jurisdictional, and is excused where resort to administrative processes would be futile or
2 inadequate to prevent ongoing unlawful detention.

3 **B. Petitioner’s Detention Lacks a Valid Statutory Basis Under 8 U.S.C. §**

4 **1225(b)(2)(A)**

5
6 1. Petitioner’s Custody Is Properly Governed by 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a)

7 Respondents assert that Petitioner is mandatorily detained under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2)(A)
8 as an “applicant for admission,” pointing to 8 U.S.C. § 1225(a)(1), which deems certain non-
9 admitted individuals “applicants for admission.” They argue that, under *Matter of Yajure Hurtado*
10 and *Matter of Q. Li*, immigration judges lack bond authority over such individuals. That position
11 ignores the posture of Petitioner’s case and decades of statutory and regulatory practice.
12

13 Petitioner was inspected upon arrival pursuant to the CBP One process, charged under 8
14 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(7)(A)(i)(I), and placed directly into full removal proceedings under 8 U.S.C. §
15 1229a. He was then released from custody and allowed to pursue his asylum claim in the
16 community. For many years, DHS and EOIR understood that individuals in this posture, even
17 those who had entered without inspection, were detained, if at all, under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), not
18 under § 1225(b). EOIR’s 1997 regulations implementing IIRIRA explicitly treated noncitizens in
19 § 240 proceedings as detained under § 1226(a), with the availability of bond hearings before
20 immigration judges. 62 Fed. Reg. 10312, 10323 (Mar. 6, 1997). It was only in 2025, via an ICE
21 memorandum and *Matter of Yajure Hurtado*, that the government attempted to collapse this
22 structure and invoke § 1225(b)(2)(A) as a mandatory detention authority for virtually everyone
23 who had not been “admitted,” regardless of their placement into § 240 proceedings and prior
24 release.
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27 Once DHS elected to process Petitioner through § 1229a proceedings, allow him into the
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1 community, and accept his asylum filing in that forum, the detention statute that governs his
2 custody pending a decision on removal is § 1226(a). That statute authorizes arrest and detention
3 “pending a decision on whether the alien is to be removed from the United States,” and by
4 regulation provides for custody redetermination hearings before immigration judges. 8 U.S.C. §
5 1226(a); 8 C.F.R. §§ 236.1(d), 1236.1(d), 1003.19. Respondent’s effort to retroactively reclassify
6 Petitioner’s custody as mandatory under § 1225(b)(2)(A) is inconsistent with the statutory scheme
7 and the regulatory framework long recognized by EOIR itself.

9 2. The January 2025 Expedited Removal Designation Cannot Be Applied Retroactively

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11 Petitioner’s habeas petition also challenges Respondent’s attempt to apply the January
12 2025 expedited removal designation to his July 2024 entry and ongoing § 240 proceedings. That
13 designation dramatically expanded the class of noncitizens who could be placed into expedited
14 removal, but it did not state that it would apply retroactively to individuals already in § 240
15 proceedings prior to the effective date.

16
17 Under *Landgraf v. USI Film Products*, 511 U.S. 244 (1994), and *INS v. St. Cyr*, 533 U.S.
18 289 (2001), rules and statutes must not be given retroactive effect unless Congress, or the agency
19 speaks in unmistakably clear terms. A new measure that attaches new legal consequences to past
20 events, such as stripping a noncitizen already in § 240 proceedings of the rights to a full asylum
21 hearing, to present evidence, and to pursue appeals, cannot be applied retroactively absent a clear
22 statement. Neither 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(1)(A)(iii) nor the January 2025 designation contains such
23 a statement. Applying the designation to Petitioner would therefore impermissibly attach new
24 adverse legal consequences to his prior lawful CBP One entry and lawfully initiated § 240
25 proceedings.
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3 3. Maldonado Bautista and Subsequent Orders Reject the Government’s Yajure-Based
4 Theory
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6 Since Respondents filed their Return, the government’s reliance on *Matter of Yajure*
7 *Hurtado* and its expansive reading of § 1225(b)(2)(A) has been squarely rejected in federal court.
8 In *Maldonado Bautista v. Santacruz*, 5:25-cv-01873 (C.D. Cal. 2025), a nationwide class action
9 challenging the new mandatory detention policy, the Central District of California considered
10 DHS and EOIR’s position that individuals who entered without inspection and were later arrested
11 in the interior are “applicants for admission” subject to mandatory no-bond detention under §
12 1225(b)(2)(A), with immigration judges lacking bond authority. On November 20, 2025, the court
13 issued a partial summary judgment order concluding that individuals who are present in the
14 United States and have not been inspected and authorized by an immigration officer are subject
15 to detention under § 1226, not § 1225(b)(2)(A). On November 25, 2025, the court granted class
16 certification and extended that declaratory relief to a nationwide “Bond Eligible Class,” defined
17 as noncitizens without lawful status who entered without inspection, were not apprehended upon
18 arrival, and are not subject to detention under 8 U.S.C. §§ 1226(c), 1225(b)(1), or 1231 at the
19 time of the initial custody determination.
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22 As of November 25, 2025, the district court “granted nationwide class certification and
23 partial summary judgment on behalf of the class, rejecting *Matter of Yajure Hurtado* and the
24 predecessor ICE policy applying 235(b)(2)(A) detention without bond to all persons who entered
25 without admission/inspection,” and class members now have a binding judgment declaring that
26 they are detained under INA § 236 and are entitled to be considered for release on bond.
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1 *Maldonado Bautista's* legal reasoning and declaratory judgment are highly persuasive
2 here. The court examined the same statutory text, structure, and history relied upon by Petitioner
3 and concluded that the government's recent attempt to use § 1225(b)(2)(A) as a broad mandatory
4 detention authority, implemented through *Yajure Hurtado*, is unlawful and incompatible with the
5 INA. Respondents may no longer credibly characterize *Yajure Hurtado* as the unquestioned
6 controlling interpretation of § 1225(b)(2)(A); a federal district court has now rendered a contrary
7 interpretation and issued nationwide declaratory relief limiting DHS and EOIR's reliance on that
8 decision.
9

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11 4. Constitutional Avoidance and Due Process Require Applying § 1226(a)

12 Even if there were ambiguity about whether § 1225(b)(2)(A) could be stretched to cover
13 someone in Petitioner's position, who was inspected, placed into § 240 proceedings, and then re-
14 detained after release, constitutional avoidance and due process principles would compel this
15 Court to reject Respondent's expansive reading.

16
17 The Supreme Court has explained that "freedom from imprisonment, from government
18 custody, detention, or other forms of physical restraint, lies at the heart of the liberty" protected
19 by the Due Process Clause. *Zadvydas*, 533 U.S. at 690. Noncitizens physically present in the
20 United States, regardless of status, are entitled to due process protections. *Id.* at 693; *Reno v.*
21 *Flores*, 507 U.S. 292, 306 (1993). Once DHS released Petitioner into the community and allowed
22 his life to be structured around that liberty, he acquired a substantial liberty interest in remaining
23 out of custody. Recent district court decisions, including *Garro Pinchi v. Noem et al*, No.
24 5:2025cv05632-Document 33 (N.D. Cal. 2025), and *Garcia Barrera v. Andrews et al*, No.
25 1:2025cv01006-Document 15 (E.D. Cal. 2025), recognize that individuals released from
26 immigration detention possess a protected interest in remaining free and that the government must
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1 provide adequate process, including notice and an opportunity to be heard, before re-detaining
2 them.

3 Respondent's interpretation of § 1225(b)(2)(A) would allow the government to revoke
4 that liberty interest at any time, without individualized findings of danger or flight risk, based
5 solely on a broad and retroactive legal theory. That is the kind of arbitrary, categorical detention
6 that due process forbids. To avoid serious constitutional doubts, § 1225 should not be construed
7 to authorize Petitioner's prolonged no-bond detention. The more plausible and constitutionally
8 sound reading is that § 1226(a), with its provisions for individualized custody redetermination,
9 governs his detention.
10

11
12 5. Respondent's "Entry Fiction" and IIRIRA "Anomaly" Arguments Do Not Justify
13 Petitioner's Detention Under § 1225(b)(2)(A)

14 Respondents invoke the "entry fiction" doctrine and IIRIRA's goal of eliminating an
15 "anomaly" in prior law to justify applying § 1225(b)(2)(A) to Petitioner. But those principles do
16 not support the sweeping mandatory detention theory they advance here. The entry fiction
17 historically applies to "arriving" aliens at the threshold of the country and to individuals paroled
18 into the United States who remain, for limited purposes, as if at the border, not to noncitizens who
19 have been inspected, placed into full removal proceedings under § 240, released into the interior,
20 and allowed to organize their lives and families in the community. Even *Thuraissigiam*, on which
21 Respondents rely, recognized that noncitizens physically present in the United States possess due
22 process protections, particularly outside the narrow expedited-removal context. 591 U.S. at 139–
23 40.
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25
26 Similarly, properly reading § 1226(a) to govern detention of individuals like Petitioner,
27 who have been in § 240 proceedings and living in the community, does not recreate the pre-
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1 IIRIRA “anomaly” in which some EWIs had more procedural protections than arriving aliens at
2 ports of entry. It simply preserves the basic distinction Congress drew: § 1225 regulates initial
3 inspection and detention of “applicants for admission” at the threshold, while § 1226 governs
4 interior arrest and detention “pending a decision on whether the alien is to be removed from the
5 United States.” 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a). Once DHS elected to place Petitioner in § 240 proceedings
6 and release him into the community, his subsequent custody falls within § 1226, not §
7 1225(b)(2)(A).
8

9 **C. Petitioner’s Detention Violates the Fifth Amendment and the Administrative**
10 **Procedure Act**
11

12 Petitioner’s continued detention, beyond lacking a statutory basis, also violates the Due
13 Process Clause and the APA. As alleged in the Petition, Petitioner was not provided notice that
14 DHS intended to revoke his release and re-detain him, nor was he given an opportunity to contest
15 his re-detention on the basis of his individual circumstances. There is no indication that DHS
16 made any findings that he is dangerous or a flight risk, and Respondent’s Return does not identify
17 any such findings.
18

19 Under *Mathews v. Eldridge*, 424 U.S. 319 (1976), due process requires, at a minimum,
20 notice and a meaningful opportunity to be heard before a legally protected interest is taken away.
21 Here, Petitioner’s interest in remaining out of custody after being released is substantial. The risk
22 of erroneous deprivation is high when detention is imposed categorically based on a new statutory
23 theory, without considering an individual’s history of compliance with court appearances, family
24 ties, or other equities. Petitioner has continued to attend his court appearances, both while
25 detained and while not, and Petitioner’s wife and two children are here in the United States. The
26 government’s interest in detaining Petitioner without individualized assessment is comparatively
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1 weak, particularly where there has been no showing of danger or flight risk. On balance, the
2 Mathews factors favor a finding that the procedures used to re-detain Petitioner were
3 constitutionally deficient.

4
5 Respondents' reliance on cases such as *Demore v. Kim*, *Carlson v. Landon*, 342 U.S. 524,
6 538 (1952) and *Banyee v. Garland*, 115 F.4th 928 (8th Cir. 2024) does not cure the defects in
7 Petitioner's detention. Those decisions upheld particular detention schemes in significantly
8 different contexts, most notably brief, categorical detention of certain criminal noncitizens under
9 8 U.S.C. § 1226(c), where Congress expressly mandated custody during removal proceedings and
10 the Court emphasized the relatively short duration of confinement. They did not endorse
11 prolonged, retroactive, no-bond detention of asylum seekers who have been released into the
12 community, complied with proceedings, and are later re-detained without individualized findings
13 of danger or flight risk. Petitioner does not dispute that Congress may authorize detention during
14 removal proceedings, he challenges the way Respondents have applied their newly minted §
15 1225(b)(2)(A) theory to him, in a manner that is inconsistent with the INA, deprives him of a
16 meaningful opportunity to seek release, and ignores basic due process and APA requirements.

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19 The APA independently requires that agency action not be "arbitrary, capricious, an abuse
20 of discretion, or otherwise not in accordance with law," and that agencies provide a reasoned
21 explanation when changing course. 5 U.S.C. § 706(2)(A)–(D). In Petitioner's case, DHS reversed
22 its earlier determination that he could safely live in the community without explaining what, if
23 anything, had changed in his circumstances. It failed to consider reliance interests arising from
24 his prior release and ongoing pursuit of asylum, contrary to the principles articulated in *Motor*
25 *Vehicle Manufacturers Association v. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Co.*, 463 U.S. 29
26 (1983), and *Department of Homeland Security v. Regents of the University of California*, 591 U.S.
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1 1 (2020). As the Petition explains, recent district court decisions in immigration detention cases
2 have recognized that categorical revocations of release and new detention policies implemented
3 without individualized consideration or acknowledgment of reliance interests are arbitrary and
4 capricious.

5
6 Because Petitioner's re-detention and continued incarceration lack a valid statutory
7 foundation, violate due process, and reflect arbitrary and capricious agency action, the APA and
8 the Constitution both support habeas relief.

9
10 **D. Relief Sought Would Directly Affect Custody**

11 Finally, Respondents suggest that some of Petitioner's claims and requested relief are
12 improper in habeas. To the contrary, Petitioner seeks relief that directly affects the fact and
13 duration of his confinement, a declaration that his detention under § 1225(b)(2)(A) is unlawful,
14 an order recognizing that § 1226(a) governs his custody, and either immediate release or a prompt
15 custody redetermination (bond) hearing with appropriate procedural protections. Granting this
16 relief would terminate or shorten his detention and thus fully satisfies the requirement that habeas
17 relief under § 2241 must alter custody.

18
19 To be clear, Petitioner does not ask this Court to second-guess any discretionary bond
20 determination insulated by 8 U.S.C. § 1226(e). He asks the Court to decide the antecedent
21 questions of statutory authority and due process, and, if § 1226(a) governs, to order the
22 government to provide a custody redetermination hearing with minimally adequate procedures.
23 That is squarely within the scope of habeas review recognized in *Jennings v. Rodriguez*, 583 U.S.
24 281 (2018).

25
26 **V. CONCLUSION AND PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

27 For the foregoing reasons, as well as those set forth in the underlying Petition, Petitioner
28

1 respectfully requests that this Court assume jurisdiction, reject Respondent’s jurisdictional
2 defenses, and grant the Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus.

3 Petitioner asks the Court to declare that his current detention is not authorized by 8 U.S.C. §
4 1225(b)(2)(A), to hold that his custody is governed by 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), and to order his
5 immediate release from DHS custody. In the alternative, Petitioner requests that the Court order
6 Respondents to provide him with a prompt bond and custody redetermination hearing within
7 fourteen days before an Immigration Judge, and to enjoin his transfer from this District without
8 prior Court approval. Petitioner further prays for such other and further relief as this Court
9 deems just and proper.
10
11

12 Respectfully Submitted,

13 //S// John Wells

14 DATED: December 11, 2025

15 _____
16 John Wells,
17 Attorney for Petitioner,
18 Hadi Kavosi
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