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15 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

16 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, SAN JOSE DIVISION

17 Ligia GARCIA,

18 Petitioner,

19 v.

20 SERGIO ALBARRAN, Field Office Director
of the San Francisco Immigration and Customs
21 Enforcement Office, KRISTI NOEM,
Secretary of the United States Department of
22 Homeland Security, TODD M. LYONS,
Acting Director of United States Immigration
23 and Customs Enforcement, PAMELA BONDI,
Attorney General of the United States, acting
24 in their official capacities,

25 Respondents.

Case No. 5:25-cv-10213-PCP

**PETITIONER LIGIA GARCIA'S
REPLY/TRVERSE TO RESPONDENTS'
RETURN AND OPPOSITION TO WRIT
OF HABEAS CORPUS**

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INTRODUCTION

Petitioner is an asylum seeker from Colombia who has done everything the law has asked of her. She surrendered herself to Border Patrol—who determined that she presented neither a flight risk nor a danger—and complied with every requirement imposed on her for over a year and a half. Am. Pet. for Writ of Habeas Corpus (“Pet.”) ¶ 28. Still, as she left her immigration court hearing on September 18, 2025, ICE suddenly arrested her and detained her for over 24 hours in a cold holding cell without access to her blood pressure medication.¹ Pet. ¶¶ 3, 29. Respondents assert the power to arrest and detain her again at any time.

Respondents fail to contend with the due process violation at the core of this case and merely recycle statutory arguments that this Court and hundreds of others have thoroughly rejected. Respondents’ threshold jurisdictional objections are likewise unavailing. Consistent with this Court’s prior rulings and the Due Process Clause, the Court should grant the modest relief that Petitioner seeks: the right to a hearing in front of a neutral adjudicator before the government may again restrain her liberty.

ARGUMENT

I. This Remains a Justiciable Case

A. Petitioner’s Claims Are Not Moot

As a preliminary matter, although Respondents do not argue mootness directly here, they purport to incorporate by reference all previous arguments in this case. Return at 2. This case is not moot. Respondents detained Petitioner in September 2025 and released her only following this Court’s order to do so. ECF No. 36. Respondents continue to assert the authority to re-detain Petitioner at any time without notice or a hearing, creating a substantial risk of future constitutional injury. Return at 7. *Cf. Nadeem v. Crawford*, 465 F. App’x 659, 660 (9th Cir. 2012) (“A petitioner’s release subject to an order of supervision does not render his habeas petition moot where his release may be revoked at any time in the exercise of discretion.”). Where, as here, a defendant ceases

¹ Petitioner’s amended petition contained an error at ¶ 29, which stated that she was “currently being held in a holding cell.” In fact, Petitioner was released from detention on September 19, 2025, pursuant to this Court’s temporary restraining order. *See* ECF No. 36.

1 challenged conduct only pursuant to a preliminary injunction, the voluntary cessation doctrine
2 applies and the defendant “bears a formidable burden of showing that it is absolutely clear the
3 allegedly wrongful behavior could not reasonably be expected to recur.” *Friends of the Earth, Inc.*
4 *v. Laidlaw Envtl. Servs. (TOC), Inc.*, 528 U.S. 167, 189 (2000).

5 Because Respondents continue to assert mandatory detention authority in this litigation, their
6 court-ordered release of Petitioner pursuant to this Court’s preliminary injunction does not moot her
7 claims. *Western Oil & Gas Ass’n v. Sonoma County*, 905 F.2d 1287, 1290-91 (9th Cir. 1990)
8 (“[W]hen the possibility of controversy remains, the case is not yet moot.”).

9 **B. Respondents’ Jurisdictional Arguments Fail**

10 Respondents’ jurisdictional objections, citing 8 U.S.C. §§ 1252(e)(3), (g), and (b)(9), are
11 foreclosed by binding precedent holding that district courts retain habeas jurisdiction under 28
12 U.S.C. § 2241 for challenges to immigration detention. Section 1252(e)(3) requires that systemic
13 challenges to § 1225(b) be brought in the District Court for the District of Columbia. Section
14 1252(g) limits courts’ jurisdiction over decisions to “commence proceedings, adjudicate cases, or
15 execute removal orders.” And § 1252(b)(9) consolidates review of claims arising from removal
16 proceedings into a petition for review of a final removal order.

17 None of these provisions reaches habeas challenges to detention that are independent of
18 removal proceedings or the validity or execution of a removal order. Petitioner remains in regular
19 removal proceedings and has no final order of removal. The immigration judge dismissed her case,
20 and she timely appealed to the Board of Immigration Appeals, where her case remains pending. Pet.
21 ¶ 5. The relief Petitioner requests in this habeas action would not terminate, stay, or otherwise
22 interfere with her ongoing removal proceedings.

23 The Ninth Circuit has explained that the REAL ID Act’s amendments to § 1252 were “not
24 intended to preclude habeas review over challenges to detention that are independent of challenges
25 to removal orders.” *Singh v. Holder*, 638 F.3d 1196, 1211 (9th Cir. 2011) (cleaned up); *see also*
26 *Ibarra-Perez v. United States*, 154 F.4th 989, 997 (9th Cir. 2025) (addressing § 1252(g) specifically
27 and emphasizing that it “does not prohibit challenges to unlawful practices merely because they are
28 in some fashion connected to removal orders”). Accordingly, “[i]n cases that do not involve a final

1 order of removal, federal habeas corpus jurisdiction remains in the district court . . . pursuant to 28
2 U.S.C. § 2241.” *Nadarajah v. Gonzales*, 443 F.3d 1069, 1076 (9th Cir. 2006). As explained in the
3 sections that follow, each of Respondents’ jurisdictional arguments fails.

4 **1. Section 1252(e)(3) Does Not Strip This Court of Jurisdiction**

5 Respondents mistakenly contend that § 1252(e)(3) requires that this habeas petition be
6 brought in the D.C. District Court. Return at 3. The Ninth Circuit has held that § 1252(e)(3) provides
7 only a “limited grant of jurisdiction to the D.C. district court” for challenges to regulations “entirely
8 linked” to the expedited-removal process. *Mendoza-Linares v. Garland*, 51 F.4th 1146, 1156–57
9 (9th Cir. 2022); *E. Bay Sanctuary Covenant v. Biden*, 993 F.3d 640, 666 (9th Cir. 2021). *See also*
10 *Garro Pinchi v. Noem*, No. 25-CV-05632-PCP, 2025 WL 3691938, at *11 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 19, 2025)
11 (rejecting the applicability of § 1252(e)(3) when plaintiffs did not challenge the expedited-removal
12 process); *Bautista v. Santacruz*, No. 5:25-CV-01873-SSS-BFM, 2025 WL 3713987, at *5 (C.D.
13 Cal. Dec. 18, 2025).

14 This case presents only an as-applied habeas challenge to ICE’s asserted authority to detain
15 Petitioner during regular removal proceedings without a pre-detention hearing. Petitioner does not
16 challenge any expedited removal determination or policy. There is no expedited-removal
17 determination at all for this Court to review. Border Patrol released Petitioner into the interior on
18 her own recognizance under § 1226(a), after she had voluntarily surrendered shortly after entering
19 the United States. Pet. ¶ 28. The agency issued a Notice to Appear for full removal proceedings
20 under § 1229a. *See* Pet. ¶ 2; Decl. of Michael Canning at ¶ 8. Accordingly, § 1252(e)(3) provides
21 no basis for stripping this Court of jurisdiction over Petitioner’s habeas petition.

22 **2. Section 1252(g) Does Not Bar Review of Petitioner’s Claims**

23 Respondents argue that § 1252(g) “categorically bars jurisdiction” over this habeas action
24 because Petitioner’s detention challenge “arises from” the government’s decision to commence
25 removal proceedings. Return at 4 (citing 8 U.S.C. § 1252(g) (“[N]o court shall have jurisdiction to
26 hear any cause or claim by or on behalf of any alien arising from the decision or action by the
27 Attorney General to commence proceedings, adjudicate cases, or execute removal orders against
28 any alien under this chapter.”)).

1 The Ninth Circuit has emphatically rejected this argument. It has held “from the beginning”
 2 that “§ 1252(g) does not prohibit challenges to unlawful practices merely because they are in some
 3 fashion connected to removal orders,” and has “specifically held § 1252(g) did not bar due process
 4 claims.” *Ibarra-Perez*, 154 F.4th at 997. Indeed, district courts throughout the Ninth Circuit have
 5 repeatedly rejected the government’s argument that § 1252(g) bars them from issuing injunctive
 6 relief entitling noncitizens in removal proceedings to a pre-detention hearing, recognizing that such
 7 challenges are due process claims independent of removal proceedings. *See, e.g., Aguilar Garcia v.*
 8 *Kaiser*, No. 3:25-cv-05070-JSC, 2025 WL 2998169, at *3 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 24, 2025) (“Petitioner
 9 does not seek to enjoin, or even challenge, his removal; instead, he seeks a hearing prior to his re-
 10 detention on the grounds he has a vested liberty interest in his current conditional release. Section
 11 1252(g) does not bar due process claims.”) (cleaned up); *Phakeokoth v. Noem*, No. 3:25-cv-02817-
 12 RBM-SBC, 2025 WL 3124341, at *3 (S.D. Cal. Nov. 7, 2025) (“Here, Petitioner does not challenge
 13 the legitimacy of his September 2004 order of removal. Rather, Petitioner challenges the legality of
 14 his present detention which does not require judicial review of ICE’s discretionary authority to
 15 decide ‘when’ or ‘whether’ to execute a removal order.”); *Lam v. Noem*, No. 5:25-cv-03344, 2025
 16 WL 3763372, at *2 (C.D. Cal. Dec. 18, 2025) (“[B]ecause Petitioner challenges the lawfulness of
 17 his detention during the pendency of his removal proceedings, it is not a challenge to one of the
 18 three discrete events along the road to deportation that § 1252(g) applies to.”) (cleaned up).

19 Here, Petitioner does not challenge any of the three discrete decisions enumerated in
 20 § 1252(g): she does not challenge the government’s 2023 decision to commence removal
 21 proceedings; she does not challenge any past adjudications (indeed, her appeal of the immigration
 22 judge’s dismissal remains pending before the BIA, Pet. ¶ 5); and she does not challenge the
 23 execution of any removal order. She brings only a due process challenge to the government’s
 24 detention procedures. Section 1252(g) therefore does not apply.

25 3. Section 1252(b)(9) Does Not Bar Review of Petitioner’s Claims

26 Respondents argue that § 1252(b)(9) channels *all* removal-related claims to the court of
 27 appeals. Return at 4-7. Respondents cite *Jennings v. Rodriguez*, 583 U.S. 281 (2018), to argue that
 28 “Petitioner must present her claims before the appropriate court of appeals because she challenges

1 the Government’s decision or action to detain her in the future, which must be raised before a court
2 of appeals, not this Court.” Return at 7. This argument fails.

3 In *Jennings*, the Supreme Court held that “§ 1252(b)(9) does not present a jurisdictional bar”
4 where a noncitizen is “not asking for review of an order of removal; they are not challenging the
5 decision to detain them in the first place or to seek removal; and they are not even challenging any
6 part of the process by which their removability will be determined.” 583 U.S. at 294-95. Petitioner
7 satisfies all three of these conditions. First, there is no existing removal order that Petitioner could
8 even request review of. Second, Petitioner is not challenging the government’s decision to seek her
9 removal or the fact of her past arrest. Rather, she challenges only the government’s ongoing
10 assertion that after it has decided to seek to detain her, it need not provide her with any procedural
11 safeguards. Pet. ¶ 42-43. And third, she is not challenging any procedure material to the “process
12 by which [her] removability will be determined.” *Jennings*, 583 U.S. at 294-95.

13 Respondents further claim that Petitioner challenges “the government’s decision to detain
14 her in the first place.” Return at 6. They are factually mistaken. Respondents’ arrest of Petitioner on
15 September 18, 2025, Pet. ¶ 29, took place in the middle of removal proceedings, long after her initial
16 arrest. As a legal matter, moreover, *Jennings* specifically rejected an overly broad interpretation of
17 “arising from” that would sweep all removal-related claims into § 1252(b)(9) simply because a
18 noncitizen is in removal proceedings. 583 U.S. at 293. Such an interpretation, the Court cautioned,
19 “would lead to staggering results” and render claims of unconstitutional pre-removal-order
20 detention “effectively unreviewable.” *Id.* “By the time a final order of removal [i]s eventually
21 entered, the allegedly excessive detention would have already taken place.” *Id.* Consistent with the
22 Supreme Court’s concerns, courts throughout the nation have repeatedly held that challenges to ICE
23 detention conduct are fit for district-court review in real time. *E.O.H.C. v. Sec’y U.S. Dep’t of*
24 *Homeland Sec.*, 950 F.3d 177, 186 (3d Cir. 2020) (“Under the Government’s reading [of
25 § 1252(b)(9)] . . . aliens [in prolonged detention] could get no judicial review until the Board enters
26 their final orders of removal. . . . [R]eview and relief may come too late to redress these conditions
27 of confinement.”) (cleaned up); *Rodriguez v. LaRose*, No. 3:25-CV-02940-RBM-JLB, 2025 WL
28 3456475, at *3 (S.D. Cal. Dec. 2, 2025) (“Petitioner challenges the legality of her continued

1 detention rather than a final order of removal. Accordingly, § 1252(b)(9) does not strip this Court
2 of jurisdiction.”); *You v. Nielsen*, 321 F. Supp. 3d 451, 459 (S.D.N.Y. 2018) (“[I]nterpreting
3 §§ 1252(a)(5) and (b)(9) to bar Petitioner’s claims challenging his arrest and detention unless those
4 claims were crammed into a petition for review of a removal order would render such claims
5 effectively unreviewable.”) (cleaned up); *Torres-Jurado v. Biden*, No. 19-cv-3595, 2023 WL
6 7130898, at *3 (S.D.N.Y. Oct. 29, 2023) (noting that *Jennings* forecloses a “reading of
7 § 1252(b)(9)” that “would permit ICE to arrest [and] detain” plaintiff “without any statutory or
8 constitutional constraints”).

9 Here, Petitioner’s case has been pending before the BIA since the immigration judge’s
10 dismissal. Pet. ¶ 5. If she were required to wait until the petition-for-review process to challenge the
11 legality of her confinement, the harm would be irreparable and the review meaningless. This is
12 precisely the type of effective denial of judicial review that *Jennings* rejected.

13 Respondents’ reliance on *J.E.F.M. v. Lynch*, 837 F.3d 1026 (9th Cir. 2016), in arguing that
14 § 1252(b)(9) applies, is similarly misplaced. *Jennings* is irreconcilable with *J.E.F.M.*’s
15 characterization of § 1252(b)(9) as “breathhtaking” in scope and “vise-like in grip,” “swallow[ing]
16 up virtually all claims that are tied to removal proceedings.” *J.E.F.M.*, 837 F.3d at 1031. *See*
17 *Cancino-Castellar v. Nielsen*, 338 F. Supp. 3d 1107, 1114 (S.D. Cal. 2018) (noting that *J.E.F.M.*
18 and “other pre-*Jennings* Ninth Circuit precedent” may “treat Section 1252(b)(9) too broadly in light
19 of the *Jennings* plurality’s rejection of an ‘expansive’ interpretation of ‘arising from’ that would
20 sweep a claim into Section 1252(b)(9) simply because an alien is in removal proceedings or a
21 removal action was taken”) (cleaned up). Moreover, *J.E.F.M.* is distinguishable. There, minor
22 immigrants sought appointed counsel at government expense to represent them in removal
23 proceedings—a claim the Ninth Circuit held was “part and parcel of the removal proceeding itself”
24 and “inextricably intertwined with [] the administrative process.” *J.E.F.M.*, 837 F.3d at 1033. Unlike
25 the right-to-counsel claim in *J.E.F.M.*, Petitioner’s challenge to detention procedures is independent
26 of her removal proceedings and would not affect them even if she prevails here. Section 1252(b)(9)
27 therefore does not deprive this Court of jurisdiction.

28

1 **II. Petitioner Is Not Subject to Mandatory Detention**

2 Respondents assert that “Petitioner is subject to mandatory detention as an ‘applicant for
3 admission’ under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2),” and is therefore “entitled only to the process due to her
4 under the statute.” Return at 7. Consistent with this Court’s previous rulings and hundreds of rulings
5 by other federal courts, the Court should reject the government’s newfound statutory argument. In
6 opposing this claim, Petitioner hereby incorporates and preserves all arguments presented in support
7 of her motion for temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction. As Respondents have not
8 presented any new arguments, much less any that undermine the Court’s prior reasoning, *see Pablo*
9 *Sequen v. Albarran*, No. 25-cv-06487-PCP, 2025 WL 2935630 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 15, 2025), Petitioner
10 presents only an abbreviated rebuttal here.

11 First, Respondents cannot credibly claim that Petitioner is subject to mandatory detention
12 under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2)(A) when the government *released her* in 2024 on her own
13 recognizance, long before the initiation of this litigation, under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a). Pet. ¶ 28, Ex. 1.
14 Respondents do not address this contradiction. Nor do they cite any authority permitting the
15 government to retroactively recharacterize its own prior immigration enforcement decisions for
16 litigation purposes, particularly where that recharacterization contradicts contemporaneous charging
17 and custody records. If Petitioner had been granted humanitarian parole under § 1182(d)(5), Border
18 Patrol would have issued a Form I-94 documenting the parole grant and cited 8 U.S.C. § 1182(d)(5).
19 Border Patrol did not issue such documentation because it did not grant humanitarian parole—it
20 released Petitioner on her own recognizance (i.e., under § 1226(a)), as the Form I-213 arrest report
21 indicates. Pet. Ex. 1.

22 Second, Respondents argue that Petitioner remains subject to mandatory detention under
23 § 1225(b)(2)(A) as an “applicant for admission” who is “seeking admission,” notwithstanding her
24 release into the interior and years of presence here. Return at 7 (citing § 1225(b)(2)(A)). District
25 courts throughout this Circuit have repeatedly held that § 1225(b)(2)(A) does not apply to
26 noncitizens released into the interior under § 1226(a). *See, e.g., Salcedo Aceros v. Kaiser*, No. 25-
27 cv-06924-EMC (EMC), 2025 WL 2637503, at *8 (N.D. Cal. Sept. 12, 2025); *see also Garro Pinchi*,
28 2025 WL 3691938, at *26-29 (identifying “numerous problems with DHS’s interpretation of

1 § 1225(b)(2)"). *Accord Castanon-Nava v. U.S. Dep't of Homeland Sec.*, 161 F.4th 1048, 1061 (7th
2 Cir. 2025) (rejecting argument that "an 'applicant for admission' is synonymous with a person
3 'seeking admission'"). Respondents cite no binding authority for their sweeping claim that a
4 noncitizen who is released into the interior on her own recognizance and is physically present in the
5 interior of the country for years endures indefinitely as an "applicant seeking admission." Petitioner
6 is not subject to detention under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2)(A).

7 **III. The Due Process Clause Requires a Hearing Before Re-Detention or Further**
8 **Restraint on Liberty, With the Burden on the Government**

9 Respondents conspicuously fail to directly address the central question in this case: whether
10 Petitioner is entitled to a pre-detention hearing before re-detention. Their opposition focuses
11 exclusively on jurisdiction and their assertion of mandatory detention authority under § 1225(b)(2).
12 *See generally* Return. Respondents offer no argument as to why the Due Process Clause permits
13 them to detain Petitioner without a hearing after she has enjoyed conditional liberty for over two
14 years, complying with all release conditions.

15 Petitioner prevails on the merits in any event. The Supreme Court has held that revocation
16 of conditional liberty requires "an informal hearing" because the "liberty of the parolee, although
17 indeterminate, includes many of the core values of unqualified liberty." *Morrissey v. Brewer*, 408
18 U.S. 471, 482 (1972). Petitioner's liberty interest—freedom from detention after two years of
19 compliance with release conditions—warrants at least the minimal procedural safeguards that
20 district courts in this Circuit routinely provide. Those safeguards include not only a hearing before
21 a neutral adjudicator, but also the proper allocation of the burden of proof.

22 Respondents contend that "[a]t any future hearing, Petitioner should have the burden of
23 demonstrating that [she is] not a flight risk or danger to the community." Return at 11 (citing
24 *Rodriguez Diaz v. Garland*, 53 F.4th 1189, 1210-12 (9th Cir. 2022) ("Nothing in this record suggests
25 that placing the burden of proof on the government was constitutionally necessary to minimize the
26 risk of error, much less that such burden-shifting would be constitutionally necessary in all, most,
27 or many cases.")).

28 ///

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1 *Rodriguez Diaz* is, however, inapposite. That case involved exceptional circumstances
2 absent here: a petitioner whom an immigration judge had found to have “an extensive criminal
3 history” and to present “a danger to the community due to his gang affiliation.” *Rodriguez Diaz*, 53
4 F.4th at 1193. Furthermore, the petitioner had already received one bond hearing and argued that
5 the Due Process Clause entitled him to a second. *Id.* The Ninth Circuit’s holding that burden-shifting
6 was not “constitutionally necessary” under those distinct facts does not establish a general rule
7 applicable to all detention challenges. *Id.* at 1212.

8 Absent such exceptional circumstances, “the ‘consensus view’ among District Courts
9 conclud[es] that after *Jennings* where the government seeks to detain an alien pending removal
10 proceedings, it bears the burden of proving that such detention is justified.” *Ixchop Perez v.*
11 *McAleenan*, 435 F. Supp. 3d 1055, 1062 (N.D. Cal. 2020) (cleaned up); *see also Garro Pinchi v.*
12 *Noem*, 792 F. Supp. 3d 1025, 1038 (N.D. Cal. 2025); *Calderon v. Kaiser*, No. 25-CV-06695-AMO,
13 2025 WL 2430609, at *5 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 22, 2025).

14 The Court should also enjoin Respondents from imposing additional restrictions on
15 Petitioner’s conditional liberty without a hearing. Respondents rely entirely on statutory arguments
16 that Petitioner is subject to mandatory detention; they do not contend that Petitioner poses any flight
17 risk or danger to the community. In the absence of any argument or evidence that Petitioner poses a
18 risk justifying such restrictions, the Court should enjoin Respondents from imposing electronic
19 monitoring, GPS tracking, or increased reporting requirements unless the government makes a
20 showing of necessity at a hearing.

21 District courts in this Circuit have enjoined such conduct in analogous cases. *See Espinoza*
22 *v. Kaiser*, No. 1:25-CV-01101 JLT SKO, 2025 WL 2675785, at *14 (E.D. Cal. Sept. 18, 2025)
23 (ordering that “DHS SHALL NOT impose any additional restrictions on [petitioners], such as
24 electronic monitoring, unless that is determined to be necessary at a future pre-deprivation/custody
25 hearing”); *N.Y.V.D. v. Santracruz*, No. 5:25-CV-03404-WLH-SP, 2026 WL 45268, at *3 (C.D. Cal.
26 Jan. 6, 2026) (“Respondents are enjoined from detaining N.Y.V.D., or significantly restraining
27 N.Y.V.D.’s liberty, including but not limited to using a 24/7 ankle monitor or other similar restraints,
28 including, but not limited to, requiring N.Y.V.D to be within 75 miles of her home, unless they

1 provide her with a pre-detention hearing before a neutral decisionmaker where Respondents bear
 2 the burden of demonstrating by clear and convincing evidence that N.Y.V.D. is a flight risk or a
 3 danger such that her physical custody is required.”).

4 Accordingly, Respondents should be enjoined from imposing any new restrictions on
 5 Petitioner’s liberty without first demonstrating, at a hearing before a neutral arbiter and by clear and
 6 convincing evidence, that such restrictions are necessary.

7 **IV. Respondents’ Speculative Contentions About a Hypothetical Future Removal Order**
 8 **Are Unripe and Irrelevant to the Due Process Right to a Hearing**

9 Respondents argue that “[e]ven if the Court grants Petitioner’s habeas petition, any order
 10 cannot affect the execution of any future removal order including, but not limited to, Petitioner’s
 11 mandatory detention under the INA.” Return at 13 (citing §§ 1231(a)(2)(A), 1252(g)). Respondents’
 12 concern is unripe, speculative, and unresponsive to the constitutional injury giving rise to this case.
 13 Petitioner has no final removal order—her appeal remains pending before the Board of Immigration
 14 Appeals. Pet. ¶ 5. She challenges detention without certain minimal procedural safeguards—a due
 15 process claim entirely independent of the validity of a hypothetical removal determination that may
 16 not ever issue. The Ninth Circuit has held that “§ 1252(g) does not prohibit challenges to unlawful
 17 practices merely because they are in some fashion connected to removal orders,” and has
 18 “specifically held § 1252(g) did not bar due process claims.” *Ibarra-Perez*, 154 F.4th at 997; *see*
 19 *also Aguilar Garcia*, 2025 WL 2998169 at *3 (“Petitioner does not seek to enjoin, or even challenge,
 20 his removal; instead, he seeks a hearing prior to his re-detention on the grounds he has a vested
 21 liberty interest in his current conditional release. Section 1252(g) does not bar due process claims.”)
 22 (cleaned up).

23 Courts throughout the Ninth Circuit routinely issue permanent injunctions requiring pre-
 24 detention hearings without limiting such relief to the period preceding a final removal order. *See*,
 25 *e.g., Ortega v. Bonnar*, 415 F. Supp. 3d 963, 970 (N.D. Cal. 2019); *E.A. T.-B. v. Wamsley*, 795 F.
 26 Supp. 3d 1316, 1324 (W.D. Wash. 2025); *Faizyan v. Casey*, No. 3:25-cv-02884-RBM-JLB, 2025
 27 WL 3208844, at *8 (S.D. Cal. Nov. 17, 2025); *Ledesma Gonzalez v. Bostock*, No. 2:25-cv-01404-
 28 JNW-GJL, 2025 WL 2841574, at *9 (W.D. Wash. Oct. 7, 2025); *Chaudhry v. Bondi*, No. 2:25-cv-

1 02339-DGE, 2025 WL 3706534, at *7 (W.D. Wash. Dec. 22, 2025). Should a final removal order
2 eventually issue, Respondents may move to set a hearing and demonstrate to a neutral arbiter that
3 circumstances have changed such that detention is warranted.

4 **CONCLUSION**

5 For the foregoing reasons, this Court should permanently enjoin Respondents from re-
6 detaining Petitioner or imposing new restrictions on her liberty—including electronic monitoring,
7 GPS tracking, or increased reporting requirements—unless such detention or restrictions are ordered
8 at a properly noticed custody hearing before a neutral arbiter, in which the government bears the
9 burden of proving, by clear and convincing evidence, that she is a flight risk or danger to the
10 community.

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Respectfully submitted,

DATED: January 16, 2026

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ATTESTATION

I, Jordan Wells, am the ECF user whose identification and password are being used to file the PETITIONER LIGIA GARCIA'S REPLY/TRVERSE TO RESPONDENTS' RETURN AND OPPOSITION TO WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS. In compliance with LR 5-1(i)(3), I hereby attest that all parties have concurred in this filing.

DATED: January 16, 2026

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