

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION

JOSE VIDAL HERRERA-NARANJO,

Petitioner,

v.

BRYAN UHLS, *et al.*,

Respondents.

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Civil Action No. 4:25-CV-05756

**THE FEDERAL RESPONDENTS' RESPONSE TO THE HABEAS PETITION
AND ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE**

Respondents Bret Bradford, Kristi Noem, and Pamela Bondi (collectively, the “Federal Respondents”)¹ file this Response to the habeas petition (ECF No. 1) and the Court’s show cause order (ECF No. 3) with respect to the propriety of Petitioner’s detention.

Petitioner brings this habeas petition contending that his detention is unlawful because he is entitled to a bond hearing under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a). The Government maintains that his detention is lawful because, as Petitioner does not deny, he entered the United States without inspection. *See* ECF No. 1 ¶ 1 (admitting that he entered “without lawful authorization”). He has never been admitted into the United States, and as an alien present in the United States who has not been admitted, he is deemed an applicant for admission under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(a) and subject to mandatory detention under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2)(A). As such, detention is not

¹ Petitioner alleges that he is being detained at the Joe Corley Processing Center in Conroe, Texas. ECF No. 1 ¶ 5. This facility operates under the direction of the Federal Government; as such, it is the Federal Respondents, not the named warden in this case, who makes the custodial decisions regarding aliens detained in immigration custody under Title 8 of the United States Code. Therefore, the Federal Respondents respond herein as the real party in interest.

only permitted, it is the only legally permissible course of action. The Court should therefore deny the habeas petition.

Dated: December 10, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

NICHOLAS J. GANJEI
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on December 10, 2025, the foregoing was filed and served on counsel for
Petitioner via the Court's CM/ECF service.

/s/ Shawn D. Ren
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