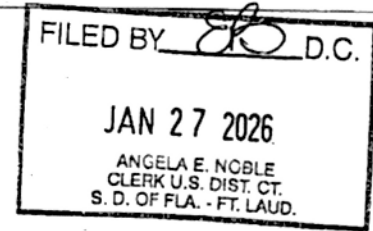


CASE No. 25-CV-62457-JB

From: Karim Soubakhsh  
BROWARD TRANSITIONAL CENTER  
3900 N. POWERLINE RD  
NA POMPANO BEACH, FL 33073



Date: 1/16/2026

Response to To: JUAN F. GONAZALEZ, Assistant Field Office Director at Broward Transition  
CASE No. 25-CV-62457-JB

Clerk of Court

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida

Fort Lauderdale Division

299 East-Broward-Boulevard, Room 108

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

### **Introduction**

This reply addresses the Government's Response to the Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus in Case No. 25-cv-62457-JB. The amended petition is now properly before the Court, signed by the detainee, curing the standing defect identified in the Court's prior order. The Government's remaining arguments rely on factual inaccuracies and speculative assertions that do not satisfy the standards required under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 or *Zadvydas v. Davis*, 533 U.S. 678 (2001).

### **Standing and Jurisdiction**

The Government argues that the Court lacks jurisdiction because the original petition was not signed by the detainee. This issue is now resolved. The amended petition is signed directly by the detainee, Karim Soubakhsh, and therefore satisfies 28 U.S.C. § 2242. The Court may now proceed to the merits.

### **Final Order of Removal and Withholding of Removal**

The Government asserts that the existence of a final order of removal defeats the petition. This misstates the nature of withholding of removal. While withholding does not confer lawful status, it does prohibit removal to the country of persecution—in this case, Iran. DHS must therefore identify a lawful receiving country before removal can occur. The existence of a final order does not authorize indefinite detention.

### **Third-Country Removal and the UAE Sponsorship System**

The Government's claim that removal is foreseeable because the detainee "previously had residency" in the United Arab Emirates is factually incorrect. The UAE does not grant permanent residency to foreign nationals. All legal presence in the UAE is based on employer or individual sponsorship. When a sponsor dies or cancels sponsorship, the foreign national's legal status terminates automatically.

The detainee's prior sponsor in the UAE is deceased. He has no remaining contacts, employer relationships, or family ties in the UAE. Without an active sponsor, there is no legal mechanism for

CASE No. 25-CV-62457-JB

---

The detainee's prior sponsor in the UAE is deceased. He has no remaining contacts, employer relationships, or family ties in the UAE. Without an active sponsor, there is no legal mechanism for him to obtain entry or residency in the UAE. The Government has provided no evidence of any current sponsor, visa pathway, or diplomatic acceptance.

CASE No. 25-CV-62457-JB

him to obtain entry or residency in the UAE. The Government has provided no evidence of any current sponsor, visa pathway, or diplomatic acceptance.

### **Lack of Evidence of Any Third-Country Acceptance**

The Government has not produced:

- Any communication with UAE authorities
- Any diplomatic inquiry
- Any acceptance letter
- Any evidence of a sponsor
- Any evidence of a visa pathway

~~Speculation about possible acceptance does not satisfy the Government's burden under *Zadvydas*.~~

### **Zadvydas Analysis**

Under *Zadvydas*, detention beyond six months is presumptively unreasonable unless DHS demonstrates a significant likelihood of removal in the reasonably foreseeable future. The detainee was taken into custody on June 25, 2025. His detention is approaching the six-month threshold, and by the time the Court rules, it will likely exceed it.

Even before the six-month mark, courts may grant relief where removal is clearly not foreseeable. DHS has not identified any country willing to accept the detainee. Removal to Iran is prohibited by withholding of removal. Removal to the UAE is legally impossible without a sponsor. No other country has been identified.

### **Conclusion**

The amended petition is properly before the Court. The Government's arguments rely on incorrect assumptions about UAE residency and fail to establish any realistic prospect of removal. Continued detention is not authorized under *Zadvydas* or the INA. The Court should grant the writ and order the detainee's release under appropriate supervision.

### **Additional Context on Iran and Legal Status**

Iran is currently experiencing a major rally against the government, a status that has remained largely unchanged for the last 40 years. This ongoing political situation supports the validity of Karim Soubakhsh's legal status and the basis for withholding of removal. Therefore, his legal status remains valid, and removal to Iran is not appropriate at this time.

Karim Soubakhsh

Signature: 