

1 ADAM GORDON
United States Attorney
2 Hunter V. Norton
Assistant U.S. Attorney
3 Washington D.C. Bar No. 1780736
Office of the U.S. Attorney
4 880 Front Street, Room 6293
San Diego, CA 92101-8893
5 Telephone: (619) 546-8592
Facsimile: (619) 546-7751
6 Email: Hunter.Norton2@usdoj.gov

7 Attorneys for Respondents

8
9 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

10 **SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

11 EDUARDO MEJIA-ECHAVARRIA,

12
13 Petitioners,

14 v.

15 CHRISTOPHER LAROSE, et al.,

16 Respondents.
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

Case No.: 26-cv-00129-BJC-DDL

RESPONSE TO PETITION

1 Petitioner appears to be a member of the Bond Eligible Class certified in *Maldonado*
2 *Bautista v. Santacruz*, No. 5:25-CV-01873-SSS-BFM, --- F. Supp. 3d ---, 2025 WL
3 3288403 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 25, 2025). The *Bautista* court has entered final judgement as to
4 the Bond Eligible Class. *Bautista*, ECF No. 94. Accordingly, Respondents acknowledge
5 that Petitioner is detained under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a) and is entitled to an order from this
6 Court directing a bond hearing be held pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a).¹

7 Respondents reserve the right to supplement this response in the event of a stay of
8 enforcement of the *Bautista* final judgment, appellate relief, or a change in DHS policy.

9
10 DATED: January 18, 2026

ADAM GORDON
United States Attorney

11 *s/Hunter V. Norton*
12 HUNTER V. NORTON
13 Assistant United States Attorney
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

26 _____
27 ¹ To the extent the Court issues an order directing a bond hearing under 1226(a),
28 considering heavy caseloads and staffing levels, Respondents respectfully request that such
order provide the government 14 days from issuance to hold such bond hearing.