

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MARYLAND**

Edin Josue MEJIA ACOSTA

Petitioner,

No. **MJM-26-86**

v.

Kristi Noem, et. al

Respondents.

PETITIONER'S STATUS REPORT

Pursuant to this Honorable Court's Order of January 20, 2026 (ECF No. 10), the Petitioner hereby submits this Status Report and states as follows:

1. On January 20, 2026, this Honorable Court held that Petitioner is detained under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a) and that Petitioner should be afforded an immigration bond hearing consistent with 8 C.F.R. 236.1(d), 1003.19, and 1236.1(d).
2. Today, February 9, 2026, the Immigration Court conducted a bond hearing and determined that Petitioner was a flight risk because no application for relief had yet been filed.
3. Petitioner intends to apply for asylum, withholding of removal, and protection under the Convention Against Torture. Due to Petitioner's detention and the need to expedite

bond proceedings, Petitioner has not yet submitted his asylum application, but intends to in the near future.

4. Petitioner believes that it is a violation of due process for the immigration judge to deny bond where Petitioner has no criminal record, has been in the United States for approximately 7 years, has stable employment, and has deep roots in the community, including his spouse and child, with whom he would reside upon his release.
5. Accordingly, Petitioner respectfully requests that this Honorable Court order Petitioner's immediate release from custody because he is not subject to mandatory detention under 8 U.S.C. § 1225.

Dated: February 9, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Ronald D. Richey
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