

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS **FILED**

SAN ANTONIO DIVISION

JAN 12 2026

CAMPOS LAHERA, MAYELIN

A#

Petitioner,

CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
BY DEPUTY CLERK

v.

Warden, Karnes County Immigration Processing Center

ICE Field Office Director, San Antonio Field Office

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Respondents.

Case No.: **SA26CA0116 XR**

PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS

(28 U.S.C. § 2241)

I. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. This Petition is filed pursuant to **28 U.S.C. § 2241**, which authorizes federal courts to grant writs of habeas corpus to persons held in custody in violation of the Constitution or laws of the United States.

2. Petitioner **Mayelin Campos Lahera** is currently detained by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") at the **Karnes County Immigration Processing Center**, located in Karnes City, Texas, within the jurisdiction of the **Western District of Texas**.
3. Venue is proper in this Court because Petitioner is detained within this District, and Respondents exercise custody and control over Petitioner here.

II. PARTIES

4. Petitioner:

Mayelin Campos Lahera

A-Number: [REDACTED]

Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

Country of Birth: Cuba

5. Next Friend / Family Contact:

Luis J. Lahera

[REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

6. Respondents:

- a. Acting Director, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- b. Warden, Karnes County Immigration Processing Center
- c. U.S. Department of Homeland Security

III. STATEMENT OF FACTS

7. Petitioner is a Cuban national who entered the United States and is currently in **removal proceedings before the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR)**, where she has a **pending asylum application**.
8. Petitioner has **never missed an immigration court hearing**, has complied with all reporting requirements, and has previously been released under **Form**

I-220A.

9. On or about **December 2025**, Petitioner was taken into ICE custody following a court appearance, despite her history of compliance and absence of flight risk.
10. Petitioner submitted a **humanitarian parole / release request**, supported by extensive documentation including:
 - Serious medical conditions (including hypertension and cardiac symptoms),
 - Evidence of trauma and psychological harm,
 - Proof of strong family ties in the United States,
 - Evidence that her minor daughter remains in the United States without her mother.
11. ICE **denied parole** in a discretionary decision without an individualized custody hearing and without considering less restrictive alternatives to detention.
12. Petitioner remains detained while awaiting a **rescheduled immigration court hearing on January 23, 2026**, despite no final order of removal.

IV. GROUNDS FOR RELIEF

COUNT I

Unlawful Prolonged Detention Without Adequate Process

13. Petitioner's continued detention violates the **Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment**.
14. ICE has failed to provide a meaningful custody determination assessing:
 - Flight risk,
 - Danger to the community,

- Availability of alternatives to detention.

15. Detention without such review is unlawful under **Zadvydas v. Davis**, **Demore v. Kim**, and subsequent federal precedent.

COUNT II

Failure to Follow ICE Parole Directive 11002.1

16. ICE Directive **11002.1** requires individualized parole determinations, particularly for detainees with medical vulnerabilities and humanitarian concerns.

17. ICE failed to properly weigh:

- Petitioner's medical risk,
- Her role as the sole parent of a minor child,
- Her long-standing compliance with immigration proceedings.

18. This failure constitutes arbitrary and capricious agency action.

COUNT III

Excessive and Punitive Civil Detention

19. Immigration detention is civil, not punitive.

20. Continued detention under these circumstances constitutes **punishment without adjudication**, violating constitutional protections.

V. IRREPARABLE HARM

21. Petitioner suffers from documented medical conditions that place her at heightened risk while detained.
22. Detention has caused severe emotional distress to Petitioner and her minor daughter.
23. Continued detention risks permanent harm that cannot be remedied after the fact.

VI. REQUEST FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests that this Court:

- A. Issue a **Writ of Habeas Corpus** ordering Respondents to release Petitioner immediately;
- B. Alternatively, order an **individualized custody hearing** before a neutral decision-maker;
- C. Enjoin Respondents from continuing unlawful detention absent due process;
- D. Grant any other relief the Court deems just and proper.

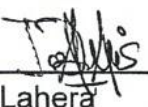
VII. VERIFICATION

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Executed this 17 day of December, 2025.

Mayelin Campos Lahera
Petitioner

OR



Luis J. Lahera
Next Friend