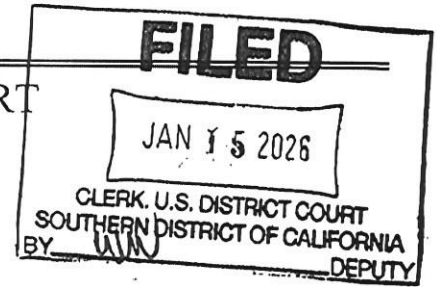


AO 242 (Rev. 09/17) Petition for a Writ of Habeas Corpus Under 28 U.S.C. § 2241

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
for the



Vinod Kumar

Petitioner

v.

Pam Bondi, Attorney General; Kristi Noem, Secretary of
Homeland Security; S. Dinh, ICE Field Office Director;
Christopher J. LaRose, Warden of Adelanto ICE
Processing Detention Facility.

Respondent

(name of warden or authorized person having custody of petitioner)

Case No. **'26CV0337 RBM MMP**
(Supplied by Clerk of Court)

PETITION FOR A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 2241

Personal Information

1. (a) Your full name: Vinod Kumar
(b) Other names you have used: n/a
2. Place of confinement:
(a) Name of institution: Otay Mesa Detention Center
(b) Address: 7488 Calzada de la Fuente, San Diego, CA 92154
- (c) Your identification number: [REDACTED]
3. Are you currently being held on orders by:
☒ Federal authorities ☐ State authorities ☐ Other - explain:

4. Are you currently:
☐ A pretrial detainee (waiting for trial on criminal charges)
☐ Serving a sentence (incarceration, parole, probation, etc.) after having been convicted of a crime
If you are currently serving a sentence, provide:
(a) Name and location of court that sentenced you: _____
(b) Docket number of criminal case: _____
(c) Date of sentencing: _____
☒ Being held on an immigration charge
☐ Other (explain): _____

Decision or Action You Are Challenging

5. What are you challenging in this petition:
☐ How your sentence is being carried out, calculated, or credited by prison or parole authorities (for example, revocation or calculation of good time credits)

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- ☐ Pretrial detention
☒ Immigration detention
☐ Detainer
☐ The validity of your conviction or sentence as imposed (for example, sentence beyond the statutory maximum or improperly calculated under the sentencing guidelines)
☐ Disciplinary proceedings
☐ Other (explain): _____

6. Provide more information about the decision or action you are challenging:

(a) Name and location of the agency or court: U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), San Diego Field Office.

(b) Docket number, case number, or opinion number: 

(c) Decision or action you are challenging (for disciplinary proceedings, specify the penalties imposed):
Prolonged and indefinite detention without an individualized bond hearing in violation of the Fifth Amendment Due Process Clause

(d) Date of the decision or action: 12/01/2025

Your Earlier Challenges of the Decision or Action

7. **First appeal**

Did you appeal the decision, file a grievance, or seek an administrative remedy?

☐ Yes ☒ No

(a) If "Yes," provide:

(1) Name of the authority, agency, or court: _____

(2) Date of filing: _____

(3) Docket number, case number, or opinion number: _____

(4) Result: _____

(5) Date of result: _____

(6) Issues raised: _____

(b) If you answered "No," explain why you did not appeal: _____

8. **Second appeal**

After the first appeal, did you file a second appeal to a higher authority, agency, or court?

☐ Yes ☒ No

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(a) If "Yes," provide:

(1) Name of the authority, agency, or court: _____

(2) Date of filing: _____

(3) Docket number, case number, or opinion number: _____

(4) Result: _____

(5) Date of result: _____

(6) Issues raised: _____

(b) If you answered "No," explain why you did not file a second appeal: _____

9. **Third appeal**

After the second appeal, did you file a third appeal to a higher authority, agency, or court?

☐ Yes

☒ No

(a) If "Yes," provide:

(1) Name of the authority, agency, or court: _____

(2) Date of filing: _____

(3) Docket number, case number, or opinion number: _____

(4) Result: _____

(5) Date of result: _____

(6) Issues raised: _____

(b) If you answered "No," explain why you did not file a third appeal: _____

10. **Motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255**

In this petition, are you challenging the validity of your conviction or sentence as imposed?

☐ Yes

☒ No

If "Yes," answer the following:

(a) Have you already filed a motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 that challenged this conviction or sentence?

☐ Yes

☐ No

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If "Yes," provide:

(1) Name of court: _____

(2) Case number: _____

(3) Date of filing: _____

(4) Result: _____

(5) Date of result: _____

(6) Issues raised: _____

- (b) Have you ever filed a motion in a United States Court of Appeals under 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b)(3)(A), seeking permission to file a second or successive Section 2255 motion to challenge this conviction or sentence?

☐ Yes

☒ No

If "Yes," provide:

(1) Name of court: _____

(2) Case number: _____

(3) Date of filing: _____

(4) Result: _____

(5) Date of result: _____

(6) Issues raised: _____

- (c) Explain why the remedy under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 is inadequate or ineffective to challenge your conviction or sentence: _____

11. **Appeals of immigration proceedings**

Does this case concern immigration proceedings?

☒ Yes

☐ No

If "Yes," provide:

(a) Date you were taken into immigration custody: 12/01/2025

(b) Date of the removal or reinstatement order: N/A- Case terminated on 05/03/2024

(c) Did you file an appeal with the Board of Immigration Appeals?

☐ Yes

☒ No

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If "Yes," provide:

(1) Date of filing: _____

(2) Case number: _____

(3) Result: _____

(4) Date of result: _____

(5) Issues raised: _____

(d) Did you appeal the decision to the United States Court of Appeals?

☐ Yes

☒ No

If "Yes," provide:

(1) Name of court: _____

(2) Date of filing: _____

(3) Case number: _____

(4) Result: _____

(5) Date of result: _____

(6) Issues raised: _____

12. **Other appeals**

Other than the appeals you listed above, have you filed any other petition, application, or motion about the issues raised in this petition?

☐ Yes

☒ No

If "Yes," provide:

(a) Kind of petition, motion, or application: _____

(b) Name of the authority, agency, or court: _____

(c) Date of filing: _____

(d) Docket number, case number, or opinion number: _____

(e) Result: _____

(f) Date of result: _____

(g) Issues raised: _____

Grounds for Your Challenge in This Petition

13. State every ground (reason) that supports your claim that you are being held in violation of the Constitution, laws, or treaties of the United States. Attach additional pages if you have more than four grounds. State the facts supporting each ground. Any legal arguments must be submitted in a separate memorandum.

GROUND ONE: My continued detention by ICE is unlawful and violates the Fifth Amendment Due Process Clause because my underlying immigration removal proceedings have been terminated.

(a) Supporting facts *(Be brief. Do not cite cases or law.):*

On May 3, 2024, Immigration Judge Colin Eichenberger issued an order sua sponte terminating my removal proceedings without prejudice. The Court found that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) failed to meet its initial burden to establish my alienage or removability under the charged grounds. The Judge specifically noted that DHS failed to provide sufficient evidence to sustain the charges against me. Despite the termination of all proceedings against me on May 3, 2024, I remain in physical custody at the Otay Mesa Detention Center (or your current facility).

(b) Did you present Ground One in all appeals that were available to you?

☐ Yes

☒ No

GROUND TWO: The Constitution protects all persons in the U.S. from arbitrary imprisonment. Detention is only legal if it serves a specific government purpose, such as ensuring you appear for court.

(a) Supporting facts *(Be brief. Do not cite cases or law.):*

(b) Did you present Ground Two in all appeals that were available to you?

☒ Yes

☐ No

GROUND THREE:

(a) Supporting facts *(Be brief. Do not cite cases or law.):*

(b) Did you present Ground Three in all appeals that were available to you?

☐ Yes

☐ No

GROUND FOUR:

(a) Supporting facts *(Be brief. Do not cite cases or law.)*:

(b) Did you present Ground Four in all appeals that were available to you?

☐ Yes

☐ No

14. If there are any grounds that you did not present in all appeals that were available to you, explain why you did not:

Request for Relief

15. State exactly what you want the court to do:

I request that the Court grant a Writ of Habeas Corpus and order my immediate release from custody. My immigration removal proceedings were terminated by an Immigration Judge on May 3, 2024, because the government failed to prove I am removable. Therefore, the government lacks any statutory or constitutional authority to continue my detention. In the alternative, I request an immediate bond hearing before an Immigration Judge where the government must prove by clear and convincing evidence that my continued detention is justified.

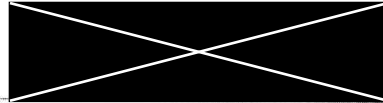
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Declaration Under Penalty Of Perjury

If you are incarcerated, on what date did you place this petition in the prison mail system:

I declare under penalty of perjury that I am the petitioner, I have read this petition or had it read to me, and the information in this petition is true and correct. I understand that a false statement of a material fact may serve as the basis for prosecution for perjury.

Date: 01/12/2026



Signature of Petitioner

Signature of Attorney or other authorized person, if any

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