

**United States District Court
Western District of Texas
El Paso Division**

JOSE V. PINEDA-ROMERO,
Petitioner,

v.

SAMUEL OLSON *et al.*,

Respondents.

No. 3:26-CV-00257-KC

RESPONDENTS' STATUS REPORT

Respondents file this advisory to notify the Court of Petitioner's bond hearing status, per the Court's Order of February 12, 2026. ECF No. 5. On February 19, 2026, the IJ denied the petitioner's bond request. *See* Ex. A ("IJ Order"). The IJ found that "DHS has met the burden of proof imposed on it by the District Court as to flight risk. The Respondent entered the United States without inspection in 2019. He did not seek any type of relief until January of 2026, when he filed a Form I-589. By missing the deadline for filing an asylum application by several years, the Respondent would not be eligible for asylum. If he is successful on his application for withholding of removal or CAT protection, he would be ordered removed to any country other than his home country. He has little, if any, incentive to appear in the future as required. He also has a pending criminal case for DUI. On these facts, DHS has met its burden on flight risk and a bond would not effectively ameliorate that risk." *Id.* The petitioner remains in ICE detention.

Dated: February 19, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

Justin R. Simmons
United States Attorney

By: /s/ Rissel Saucedo

Rissel Saucedo
Special Assistant United States Attorney
Texas Bar No. 24092370
126 Northpoint Drive
Houston, Texas 77060
281-931-2010
Rissel.Saucedo@usdoj.gov

By: /s/ Christina Playton

Christina Playton
Assistant United States Attorney
Texas Bar No. 24028652
601 N.W. Loop 410, Suite 600
San Antonio, Texas 78216
(210) 384-7100 (phone)
(210) 384-7118 (fax)
Christina.Playton@usdoj.gov

Attorneys for Federal Respondents