

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
EL PASO DIVISION**

BUDUDE ALLISON ZAWU ROBERTS,)

Petitioner,)

v.)

MARY DE ANDA-YBARRA, *in her official*)
capacity as Field Office Director of)
Enforcement and Removal Operations, El)
Paso Field Office, Immigration and Customs)
Enforcement; Warden of ERO El Paso Camp)
East Montana;)

TODD M. LYONS, *in his official capacity* as)
Acting Director, Immigration and Customs)
Enforcement, U.S. Department of Homeland)
Security;)

MARKWAYNE MULLIN, *in his official*)
capacity as Secretary, U.S. Department of)
Homeland Security;)

and)

TODD BLANCHE, *in his official capacity* as)
Acting Attorney General of the United)
States;)

Respondents.

C/A No.

3:26-cv-00377-DCG

EMERGENCY MOTION
FOR TEMPORARY
RESTRAINING ORDER

Agency #



EMERGENCY MOTION FOR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER

For the reasons set forth in the accompanying memorandum, Petitioner Budude Allison Zawu Roberts hereby moves immediate and emergency basis for a Temporary Restraining Order prohibiting Respondents from removing Petitioner from the United States.

Petitioner is a Liberian national who has resided in the United States since 1999. On January 17, 2026, Respondents took Petitioner into custody in Minnesota and immediately transferred Petitioner to the Camp East Montana in El Paso, Texas, where she remains.

On February 8, 2026, Petitioner filed a Writ of Habeas Corpus to challenge the lawfulness of her detention. The case remains pending. Petitioner respectfully moves for an injunction prohibiting her transfer outside the United States while her habeas petition remains pending, as such removal would result in irreparable harm. Petitioner was granted withholding of removal in 2003 from Liberia. Respondents have not stated intention of reopening proceedings to challenge that grant. 8 C.F.R. § 208.24. (requiring formal reopening of proceedings and an opportunity to respond before a grant of withholding of removal can be terminated). Therefore, removal to Liberia is a legal impossibility.

Respondents did not provide Petitioner with notice of their intentions to remove her to Sierra Leone, yet Respondents informed the Court on Wednesday

that Petitioner is scheduled to be removed “on or about middle of May.” *See* ECF Doc. 10. If they intend to do so, Respondents must provide Petitioner with an opportunity to seek withholding from that country. *Guzman Chavez v. Hott*, 940 F.3d 867, 879 (4th Cir. 2019) (citing *Kossov v. INS*, 132 F.3d 405, 409 (7th Cir. 1998)), rev’d on other grounds, *Johnson v. Guzman Chavez*, 594 U.S. 523 (2021).

Petitioner hereby moves as follows:

1. Petitioner seeks a Temporary Restraining Order enjoining Respondents from removing Petitioner from the United States.
2. Order Respondents to show cause for their continued detention of Petitioner within three days pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2243.
3. Order Petitioner’s release from custody under an order of supervision or other condition as set by the Court.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests this Court:

- A. Grant this injunction; and,
- B. Grant such other and further relief as justice may require.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ David L. Wilson

May 1, 2026

David L. Wilson

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Admitted to the Western District of Texas

Attorney for the Petitioner

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on May 1, 2026, I filed the foregoing pleading electronically through the CM/ECF system, which caused all parties and counsel of record to be served, as more fully reflected on the Notice of Electronic Filing.

/s/ David L. Wilson
David L. Wilson
Attorney for Petitioner