

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

Saul Membreno Pineda,

*

Petitioner,

*

Case No. 1:26-cv-00533-MJM

v.

*

Vernon Liggins, *et al.*,

*

Respondents.

*

* * * * *

JOINT NOTICE

Petitioner and Respondents (the “Parties”), by and through their respective undersigned counsel, hereby jointly submit the following Notice to the Court regarding the Petition for Habeas Corpus (ECF No. 1), and state in lieu of further briefing:

1. This matter arises out of Petitioner’s Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, which challenges Petitioner’s custodial detention under 8 U.S.C. §1225 (requiring mandatory detention) instead of under 8 U.S.C. § 1226 (providing for discretionary detention after a bond hearing). *See generally*, ECF No. 1.

2. The Parties agree that the factual and legal arguments presented in this case do not materially differ from those presented in many similar cases before this Court, including, for example, *Velasquez v. Noem*, No. 25-cv-3215-GLR, 2025 WL 3003684 (D. Md. Oct. 27, 2025); *Villanueva Funes v. Noem*, No. 25-cv-3860-TDC, 2026 WL 92860 (D. Md. Jan. 13, 2026); and, *Leal-Hernandez v. Noem*, No. 25-cv-02428-JRR, 2025 WL 2430025 (D. Md. Aug. 24, 2025). As in those cases, this Petition concerns whether Petitioner, a noncitizen who entered the United States

without inspection and was recently detained, is subject to mandatory detention under 8 U.S.C. § 1225 or discretionary detention under § 1226(a).

3. Given that the Respondents have previously briefed the question of mandatory or discretionary detention and any related jurisdictional issues in numerous cases, including those referenced above, Respondents hereby incorporate the arguments raised those cases in lieu of further briefing.

4. Petitioner also asserts that he is a member of the class in *Maldonado Bautista v. Noem*, No. 5:25-cv-01873-SSS-BFM, (C.D. Ca. Dec. 18, 2025). ECF No. 1, ¶ 4. Respondents contend that *Maldonado* is not binding on this Court for reasons set forth in prior briefs, which are incorporated as if fully set forth herein, including in *Bautista Villanueva v. Bondi, et al.*, United States District Court for the District of Maryland, Case No.: 1:25-cv-4152-ABA, ECF No. 8, pp. 18-23, but recognize that several judges in this District have found that even if *Maldonado* is not binding or controlling, they would adopt and incorporate *Maldonado's* reasoning in deciding the merits of claims like Petitioner's.

5. As such, the Parties jointly agree and assert that no further briefing is necessary and that the Petition can be decided without a hearing.

6. If the Court orders a bond hearing pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1226, then the Parties jointly request that the Court include the following in any such Order:

- a. Petitioner is detained under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a) and Respondents are enjoined from detaining Petitioner under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b);
- b. Petitioner is entitled to a bond hearing consistent with 8 C.F.R. §§ 236.1(d), 1003.19 and 1236.1(d), which shall be held within 14 days of the **Petitioner's filing of a motion with the Immigration Court;**
- c. The bond hearing may be conducted by any Immigration Judge having jurisdiction or administrative control over Petitioner's detention or having administrative control over Petitioner's immigration case or removal

proceedings and need not take place in Maryland; but, Petitioner must be present (in person or by video) and able to participate in the hearing;

- d. Petitioner shall file a status report with this Court if a bond hearing is not held by an Immigration Judge within 14 days of his filing of a motion for a bond hearing;
- e. Petitioner shall file a status report with this Court upon the conclusion of the bond hearing;
- f. Any request for attorney's fees and costs is denied.

WHEREFORE, the Parties request that the Court consider the Petition fully briefed; that no hearing is necessary; and, that if the Court orders relief from of a bond hearing under 8 U.S.C. § 1226, it include the aforementioned terms in any such order.

Respectfully submitted,

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