

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

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the
Eastern District of New York

VENANCIO DE JESUS ESPINAL FRIAS

Petitioner

v.

Raul Maldonado Jr.; Todd Lyons; Kristi Noem; Pamela Bondi

Respondent

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

Case No. 1:26-cv-1810

(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: VENANCIO DE JESUS ESPINAL FRIAS
(b) Other names you have used: N/A
2. Place of confinement:
(a) Name of institution: MDC BROROKLYN
(b) Address: 80 29th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11232
(c) Your identification number: 
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: _____

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

(c) Decision or action you are challenging (for disciplinary proceedings, specify the penalties imposed): _____

(d) Date of the decision or action: _____

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: The current policy is to ignore Maldonado Bautista.

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: 01/28/2026

(b) Date of the removal or reinstatement order: _____

(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: _____

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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: Petitioner is a member of the Maldonado Bautista Cass.(a) Supporting facts (*Be brief. Do not cite cases or law.*):

1. Petitioner entered the US without inspection in 2005.

2. Petitioner was not detained upon entry.

3. Petitioner was never ordered removed.

4. Petitioner is eligible for Cancellation of Removal under EOIR 42B, and has an approved I-130 by his USC wife.

5. Petitioner is not subject to mandatory detention.

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

☐ Yes☐ No**GROUND TWO:** EOIR Issues nationwide Guidance on Maldonado Bautista(a) Supporting facts (*Be brief. Do not cite cases or law.*):

On January 12, 2026, Chief Immigration Judge Teresa L. Riley issued a nationwide guidance instructing all immigration judges that: "Maldonado Bautista is not a nationwide injunction and does not vacate, stay or enjoin Yajure Hurtado." Immigration judges are instructed to follow the BIA's decision in matter of Yajure Hurtado as binding precedent. As such, although the petitioner is scheduled for a bond hearing on 3/31/2026 with the immigration judge, such efforts are futile in light of nationwide guidance issued in Matter of Maldonado-Bautista

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

☐ Yes☐ No**GROUND THREE:** Petitioner is not a flight risk or a danger to the community. Although he was arrested once, this arrest resulted only in a disorderly conduct violation.(a) Supporting facts (*Be brief. Do not cite cases or law.*):

The petitioner is married to a United States citizen. He has an approved I-130 Petition on his behalf by his wife.

The petitioner also has a cancellation of removal case pending before the immigration court.

Although, the petitioner was arrested once, this arrest resulted in a disorderly conduct violation. He is not a danger to the community and has never had any other encountered with the law enforcement. Petitioner has 2 lawful permanent resident children, and has filed taxes for over 10 years. Petitioner has strong ties to the U.S.

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

☐ Yes☐ No

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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: Ensure that I m not removed from the jurisdiction and if I am demand my immediate return to this jurisdiction. Order petitioner's immediate release from ICE custody or in the alternative order that the immigration judge assert jurisdiction under Maldonado Bautista

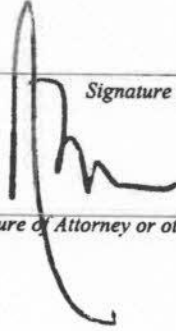
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Declaration Under Penalty Of Perjury

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: 03/26/2026



Signature of Petitioner

Signature of Attorney or other authorized person, if any