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10 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
11 **SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

12 LEONEL AMILCAR GOMEZ
13 CABRERA,

14 Petitioner,

15 v.

16 MARKWAYNE MULLIN, Secretary of
17 the Department of Homeland Security,
18 TODD BLANCHE, Acting Attorney
19 General, TODD M. LYONS, Acting
20 Director, Immigration and Customs
21 Enforcement, JESUS ROCHA, Acting
22 Field Office Director, San Diego Field
23 Office, JEREMY CASEY,
24 Warden at Imperial Regional Detention
25 Center,

26 Respondents.

No.: 26-cv-2330-BTM-DEB

**Unopposed motion to file
documents under seal**

27 Mr. Gomez Cabrera requests the lodged unredacted document, proposed
28 Exhibit C to his petition, be filed under seal. Exhibit C contains excerpts of his
withholding of removal application, as well as the resolution of that application.
The government does not oppose.

There are “compelling reasons” for a narrowly tailored sealing order as to
only Exhibit C, “supported by specific factual findings that outweigh the general
history of access and the public policies favoring disclosure, such as the public

1 interest in understanding the judicial process.” *Kamakana v. City & Cnty. of*
 2 *Honolulu*, 447 F.3d 1172, 1178–79 (9th Cir. 2006).

3 “Information contained in or pertaining to any application for asylum,
 4 withholding of removal under section 241(b)(3) . . . , or protection under
 5 regulations issued pursuant to the Convention Against Torture’s implementing
 6 legislation . . . shall not be disclosed without the written consent of the applicant,”
 7 as a general matter. 8 C.F.R. § 208.6. Mr. Gomez Cabrera’s Exhibit C contains
 8 excerpts regarding the exact details of his application. Other information relevant
 9 to the petition is filed publicly the other exhibits and referred to as relevant in the
 10 petition in a general way that is narrowly tailored.

11 Specific information in an asylum application is sealed in federal court
 12 because it could “subject [petitioners] to physical harm if made publicly
 13 available.” *Andres-Lucas v. Mayorkas*, No. 21-cv-01121-BEN-WVG, 2021 WL
 14 3929686, *4 (S.D. Cal. Sept. 2, 2021). “[R]etaliation from a foreign government
 15 is recognized by the Ninth Circuit and other district courts as a sufficient basis” to
 16 proceed via sealing. *Poozesh v. Pompeo*, No. 19-cv-1466-LJO-SKO, 2019 WL
 17 6052363, *2 (E.D. Cal. Nov. 15, 2019) (allowing parties to proceed
 18 pseudonymously in even more extreme circumstances than those present here).
 19 *See also Sakoyan v. Noem*, No. 25-cv-3406-BAS, ECF No. 8 (S.D. Cal. Dec. 4,
 20 2025) (granting motion to seal a motion to seal and unredacted declaration
 21 containing information about a habeas petitioner’s grant of withholding of
 22 removal); *Ndandu v. Noem*, No. 3:35-cv-02939-RBM-MSB, ECF No. 2 at 3, 6
 23 (S.D. Cal. Nov. 14, 2025) (granting in part petitioner’s motion to seal documents
 24 containing information related to his asylum and CAT protection applications);
 25 *Doe v. Andrews*, 25-cv-00755-CDB, 2025 WL 2991186, *1 (E.D. Cal. Sept. 26,
 26 2025) (granting respondent’s request to file documents under seal pursuant to 8
 27 C.F.R. § 208.6); *Doe v. Becerra*, No. 25-cv-00647-DJC-DMC, 787 F.Supp.3d
 28 1083, 1096 (E.D. Cal. Mar. 3, 2025) (ordering that any information related to the

1 Petitioner's asylum application be filed under seal due to its potential to identify
2 Petitioner and the sensitive nature of their allegations); *Kharis v. Sessions*, No.
3 18-cv-04800-JST, 2018 WL 5809432, *3 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 6, 2018) (granting
4 habeas petition and unopposed motion to seal portions of asylum application
5 pertaining to other individuals' applications based on compelling reasons to keep
6 information confidential, given the sensitive nature of asylum applications
7 alleging fear of persecution or harassment).

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10 Respectfully submitted,

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12 Dated: April 30, 2026

s/ Jessie Agatstein

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