

Elsa Lesbia Cordova Gonzalez

NAME



PRISON NUMBER

Imperial Regional Detention Facility

PLACE OF CONFINEMENT

1572 Gateway Rd, Calexico, CA 92231

ADDRESS

**United States District Court
Southern District Of California**

ELSA LESBIA CORDOVA GONZALEZ,

(FULL NAME OF PETITIONER)

Petitioner

v.

WARDEN OF IMPERIAL REGIONAL F.,

(NAME OF WARDEN, SUPERINTENDENT, JAILOR, OR AUTHORIZED
PERSON HAVING CUSTODY OF PETITIONER, E.G. PAROLE OFFICER)

Respondent

Civil No. '26CV2476 LEK BLM

(TO BE FILLED IN BY CLERK OF U.S. DISTRICT COURT)

PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS

UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 2241

1. 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 or case number (if you know): _____

(c) Date of sentencing: _____

☒ Being held on immigration charge

☐ Other (explain): _____

2. Are you currently being held on orders by:
☒ Federal authorities ☐ State authorities ☐ Other - explain: _____
3. What are you challenging in this petition:
☐ How your sentence is being carried out, calculated, or credited by prison or parole authorities
☐ Pretrial detention
☒ Immigration detention
☐ Detainer
☐ The validity of your conviction or sentence as imposed
☐ Disciplinary proceedings
☐ Other (specify): _____
4. Provide more information about the decision or action you are challenging:
- (a) Name and location of the court or agency: U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), EOIR Imperial Immigration Court, Imperial Regional Detention Facility (IRDF), Calexico, CA.
- (b) Case number, docket number or opinion number (if you know): [REDACTED]
- (c) Decision or action you are challenging (for disciplinary proceedings, specify the penalties imposed): Continued immigration detention and denial of access to an Immigration Judge custody redetermination (bond) hearing based on DHS treating Petitioner as an applicant for admission detained under Section 1225(b)(2).
- (d) Date of the decision or action: On or about April 11, 2026, continuing to present.
5. Did you **appeal** the decision, file a grievance or seek an administrative remedy?
☐ Yes ☒ No
- (a) If your answer to 5 was "Yes," give the following information:
- (1) Name of court, agency or authority: _____
- (2) Date of filing: _____
- (3) Case number, docket number or opinion number: _____
- (4) Result: _____
- (5) Date of result: _____
- (6) Issues raised: _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

- _____
- (b) If your answer to 5 was "No," explain why you did not appeal: Petitioner is being treated categorically ineligible for an Immigration Judge bond hearing. Immigration Courts are using Matter of Yahure-Hurtado do deny bond hearing 29 I&N Dec. BIA 216 (BIA 2025).

6. After the first appeal, did you file a **second appeal** to a higher authority, court or agency?

☐ Yes ☒ No

- (a) If your answer to 6 was "Yes," give the following information:

- (1) Name of court, agency or authority: _____
- (2) Date of filing: _____
- (3) Case number, docket number or opinion number: _____
- (4) Result: _____
- (5) Date of result: _____
- (6) Issues raised: _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

- (b) If your answer to 5 was "No," explain why you did not appeal: Petitioner is being treated categorically ineligible for an Immigration Judge bond hearing. Immigration Courts are using Matter of Yahure-Hurtado do deny bond hearing 29 I&N Dec. BIA 216 (BIA 2025).

7. After the second appeal, did you file a **third appeal** to a higher authority, agency or court?

☐ Yes ☒ No

- (a) If your answer to 7 was "Yes," give the following information:

- (1) Name of court, agency or authority: _____
- (2) Date of filing: _____
- (3) Case number, docket number or opinion number: _____
- (4) Result: _____
- (5) Date of result: _____
- (6) Issues raised: _____
- _____

(b) If your answer to 7 was "No," explain why you did not appeal: Not Applicable.

8. State *concisely* every ground on which you claim that you are being held in violation of the constitution, law or treaties of the United States. Summarize *briefly* the facts supporting each ground. If necessary, you may attach pages stating additional grounds and facts supporting same.

CAUTION: In order to proceed in the federal court, you must ordinarily first exhaust your available court remedies as to each ground on which you request action by the federal court. Moreover, if you fail to set forth all grounds in this petition, you may be barred from presenting additional grounds at a later date.

You should *raise in this petition all available grounds* on which you base your allegations that you are being held in custody unlawfully.

GROUND ONE: Petitioner is being unlawfully detained under the wrong statutory authority and

unlawfully denied an Immigration Judge custody redetermination bond hearing, because DHS is treating her as an arriving alien, detained under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2) when she is eligible.

(a) **Supporting FACTS** (state *briefly* without citing cases or law) Petitioner is in DHS immigration custody at Imperial Regional Detention Facility located in Calexico, California.

ICE arrested Petitioner on the month of April 2026, and has remained detained since then.

ICE arrested Petitioner and placed her in court proceedings with the Immigration court.

Petitioner has been in the United States for more than ten (10) years and she has one (1) United States Citizen son who is 20-years-old. When Petitioner's son turns 21 he will be able to apply

to immigrate Petitioner. Petitioner will be asking asylum (I-589) and EOIR Cancellation of

Removal relief (EOIR 42B) in immigration court. Petitioner has no criminal record, has

cooperated with DHS, and is not a danger or flight risk. Petitioner seeks an order allowing DHS

to identify the statutory authority for her detention and provide a custody redetermination bond

hearing before an Immigration Judge, or alternatively, release her on reasonable conditions

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

GROUND THREE: Noncompliance with the class judgement and continued categorical no bond policy claim. DHS and Immigration Courts continue to maintain Matter of Yahure-Hurtado controls on the issue of bond hearings.

(a) **Supporting FACTS** (state *briefly* without citing cases or law): Petitioner entered without inspection, was not apprehended upon arrival, and was not subject to mandatory detention or post order detention at the time of the relevant custody determination. Petitioner meets the definition of a bond eligible class member described in the attached judgment and is being denied the bond process that applies to such detainees. (See Exhibit A, B).

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

claims.

10. Do you have any petition or appeal now pending in any court, either state or federal, as to the execution of sentence under attack?

☐ Yes ☒ No

11. Give the name and address, if known, of each attorney who represented you in the following stages of the execution of sentence attacked herein:

(a) In any post-conviction proceeding Not applicable, no criminal convictions.

(b) On appeal from any adverse ruling in a post-conviction proceeding _____

Wherefore, petitioner prays that the Court grant petitioner relief to which he may be entitled in this proceeding.

/s/ Joseph A. Mbacho

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY (IF ANY)

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on

(DATE)

SIGNATURE OF PETITIONER