

1 ADAM GORDON
United States Attorney
2 DOUGLAS D. NELSON
Assistant U.S. Attorney
3 California Bar No. 177643
Office of the U.S. Attorney
4 880 Front Street, Room 6293
San Diego, CA 92101-8893
5 Telephone: (619) 546-8909
Facsimile: (619) 546-7751
6 Email: Douglas.Nelson@usdoj.gov

7 Attorneys for Respondents

8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
9 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

10 JOAQUIN CARRILLO,
11 Petitioner,

12 v.

13
14 MARKWAYNE MULLIN, in his official
capacity as Secretary of Homeland Security,
15 *et al.*,

16 Respondents.

Case No.: 26cv03627 JAO DEB
RESPONSE TO PETITION

17
18 Petitioner has filed a habeas petition under 28 U.S.C. § 2241. The government has
19 carefully reviewed this petition and determined that the legal issues presented concern the
20 statutory authority for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) detention of
21 Petitioner under 8 U.S.C. §§ 1225(b)(2)(A) or 1226(a). While reserving all rights, including
22 the right to appeal, the government respectfully submits this abbreviated response to
23 preserve the legal issues, to conserve judicial and party resources, and to expedite the
24 Court's consideration of this matter.

25 It is the government's position that Petitioner is subject to mandatory detention under
26 § 1225(b)(2). However, the government acknowledges that this Court, and Courts in this
27 District, have repeatedly reached the opposite conclusion under the same and/or similar
28 facts. *See, e.g., Arias Torres v. Bondi*, No. 25-cv-2457-BAS-MSB, 2025 WL 3214773

(S.D. Cal. Nov. 18, 2025); *Martinez Lopez v. LaRose*, No. 25-cv-2717-JES-AHG, 2025 WL 3030457 (S.D. Cal. Oct. 30, 2025); *Beltran v. Noem*, No. 25cv2650-LL-DEB, 2025 WL 3078837 (S.D. Cal. Nov. 4, 2025); *Garcia v. Noem*, 803 F. Supp. 3d 1064 (S.D. Cal. 2025); *Esquivel-Ipina v. LaRose*, No. 25-CV-2672 JLS (BLM), 2025 WL 2998361 (S.D. Cal. Oct. 24, 2025); *Lucas-Miguel v. LaRose*, No. 25-cv-3022-RSH-JLB, 2025 WL 3251580 (S.D. Cal. Nov. 21, 2025); *Vasquez-Diaz v. LaRose*, No. 25-cv-3038-TWR-JLB, ECF No. 6 (S.D. Cal. Nov. 13, 2025); *Cardoso v. LaRose*, No. 25-cv-3043-BJC-VET, ECF No. 7 (S.D. Cal. Dec. 12, 2025); *Maceda-Garcia v. Noem*, No. 25-cv-2968-JO-JLB, ECF No. 9 (S.D. Cal. Nov. 13, 2025); *A.S. v. LaRose*, No. 25-cv-2876-RBM-VET, ECF No. 9 (S.D. Cal. Nov. 19, 2025); *Prieto-Cordova v. LaRose*, No. 25-cv-2824-CAB-DDL, 2025 WL 3228953 (S.D. Cal. Nov. 19, 2025); *Lagarda-Vega v. Noem*, No. 25-cv-2970-GPC-DDL, 2025 WL 3558931 (S.D. Cal. Dec. 11, 2025); *Nayyer v. LaRose*, No. 25-cv-3111-AGS-DDL, ECF No. 7 (S.D. Cal. Dec. 12, 2025); *Amaya v. Noem*, No. 25cv2892-BTM-DEB, 2025 WL 3182998 (S.D. Cal. Nov. 13, 2025).

The government acknowledges that this Court's prior decisions will control the result here if the Court adheres to its prior decisions, as the facts are not materially distinguishable for purposes of the Court's decision, and on that basis the government does not oppose the petition and defers to the Court on the appropriate relief.¹

DATED: June 29, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

ADAM GORDON
United States Attorney

¹ To the extent the Court issues an order directing a bond hearing under 1226(a), considering heavy caseloads and staffing levels, Respondents respectfully request that such order provide the government 14 days from issuance to hold such bond hearing. Respondents also respectfully note that the Ninth Circuit has confirmed that at a bond hearing under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), the burden is on the detainee to demonstrate by a preponderance of the evidence that he is not a flight risk or danger to the community. *See Rodriguez Diaz v. Garland*, 53 F.4th 1189, 1197 (9th Cir. 2022); *see also Dos Santos v. Becerra*, No. 26-cv-01423-GPC-VET, 2026 WL 800201 (S.D. Cal. Mar. 23, 2026).

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s/ Douglas D. Nelson
DOUGLAS D. NELSON
Assistant United States Attorney
Attorneys for Respondents