

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

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the
Middle District of Georgia

LEONARDO SUAREZ CASTANEDA

Petitioner

v.

DHS / ICE
STEWART DETENTION CENTER

Respondent

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

Case No. 4:26-cv-1010-CDL-AGH
(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: Leonardo Suarez Castaneda
(b) Other names you have used: None
2. Place of confinement:
(a) Name of institution: STEWART DETENTION CENTER
(b) Address: 146 CCA ROAD LUMPKIN, GA 31815
(c) Your identification number: A#: ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
3. Are you currently being held on orders by:
☒ Federal authorities ☐ State authorities ☐ Other - explain:
ICE
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): Unlawful arrest based on legally incorrect premise: circumvention of posted bond by ICE:
prolonged detention without bond hearing: denial of medical care.

6. Provide more information about the decision or action you are challenging:

(a) Name and location of the agency or court: U.S. Department Of Homeland Security (DHS) / ICE,
ATLANTA ERO, 146 CCA ROAD LUMPKIN, GA 318115

(b) Docket number, case number, or opinion number: A# [REDACTED]

(c) Decision or action you are challenging (for disciplinary proceedings, specify the penalties imposed):
Continued immigration detention without due process, without adequate bond hearing, and without provision
of necessary medical care and without individualized justification.

(d) Date of the decision or action: 04/04/2026

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: Petitioner did not pursue an administrative appeal
because this petition challenges the legality of his ongoing immigration detention and the constitutional violations
surrounding his arrest and continued custody. Immediate judicial review is necessary.

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: No second appeal was filed because
Petitioner did not have an adequate or meaningful administrative process available to obtain prompt review of
his unconstitutional detention.

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: No third appeal was filed because
Petitioner seeks immediate federal review of unlawful custody through habeas corpus.

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: 04/04/2026

(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: UNLAWFUL ARREST AND DETENTION (FOURTH AMENDMENT VIOLATION)

(a) Supporting facts (Be brief. Do not cite cases or law.):

Federal CDL valid in all 50 states: officials incorrectly stated it was invalid in Florida. Arrest predicated on false legal premise.

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

GROUND TWO: CIRCUMVENTION OF POSTED BOND

(a) Supporting facts (Be brief. Do not cite cases or law.):

Bond was paid and release ordered; ICE intercepted petitioner before release, violating due process.

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

GROUND THREE: DENIAL OF BOND AND CONTINUED ARBITRARY DETENTION DESPITE LACK OF CRIMINAL HISTORY AND PENDING ASYLUM CLAIM

(a) Supporting facts (Be brief. Do not cite cases or law.):

Petitioner requested a bond hearing before an immigration judge, through retained counsel. Bond was denied despite the fact that petitioner has no criminal record in the United States or Colombia, has a pending asylum application (form i-589. A# [REDACTED]), was lawfully employed as a licensed commercial truck driver at the time of his arrest, and poses no demonstrated risk of danger or flight. Petitioner is 51 years old, has strong family ties in the United States, and has serious medical condition that has gone entirely untreated since his detention.

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

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GROUND FOUR: DENIAL OF MEDICAL CARE

(a) Supporting facts *(Be brief. Do not cite cases or law.)*:

Essential prescription medications denied since April 4, 2026. Serious medical condition deteriorating. Age 51.

(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: Petitioner did not present these grounds in prior appeals because this petition challenges ongoing detentive and raises constitutional violations that require immediate federal judicial review. Administrative remedies were not provide prompt and meaningful relief from unlawful detention.

Request for Relief

15. State exactly what you want the court to do: PETITIONER RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS THAT THIS COURT:

1. ORDER HIS IMMEDIATE RELEASE FROM CUSTODY: OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE
2. ORDER AND IMMEDIATE BOND HEARING BEFORE AN IMMIGRATION JUDGE: AND
3. GRANT ANY OTHER RELIEF THAT THE COURT DEEMS JUST AND PROPER.
4. ORDER STEWART DETENTION CENTER TO IMMEDIATELY PROVIDE PETITIONER WITH HIS MEDICATIONS.

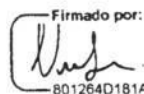
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Declaration Under Penalty Of Perjury

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: 29/06/2026

Firmado por:

 801264D181A9425...

Signature of Petitioner

Signature of Attorney or other authorized person, if any

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA — COLUMBUS DIVISION**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Nidia Vaca Saavedra, as Next Friend and spouse of Petitioner Leonardo Suarez Castaneda (A# [REDACTED]), hereby certify that on the date indicated below, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus Under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 upon the following parties by U.S. Mail, first class, postage prepaid:

1. CLERK OF COURT

U.S. District Court, Middle District of Georgia
120 12th Street, Columbus, GA 31901
(Original + 2 copies — for filing)

2. FACILITY DIRECTOR / WARDEN

Stewart Detention Center
146 CCA Road, Lumpkin, GA 31815
(Respondent)

3. FIELD OFFICE DIRECTOR, ICE ATLANTA ERO

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
180 Ted Turner Drive SW, Suite 342, Atlanta, GA 30303
(Respondent)

4. SECRETARY, U.S. DEPT. OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave SE, Washington, DC 20528
(Respondent)

5. U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL

U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20530
(Respondent)

6. U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

Middle District of Georgia
P.O. Box 1702, Macon, GA 31202
(Notice of filing)

7. PETITIONER (DETAINED)

SUAREZ CASTANEDA, Leonardo — A# [REDACTED]
Stewart Detention Center, 146 CCA Road, Lumpkin, GA 31815
(Copy via U.S. Mail / detainee mail system)

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.
29/06/2026

Executed on: _____ in Coconut Creek, Florida.

Firmado por:

801264D181A9425

VACA SAAVEDRA, Nidia
Next Friend / Spouse of Petitioner