U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
Southern District of New York

86 Chambers Street
New York, New York 10007

August 11, 2026

VIA ECF
The Honorable Arun Subramanian
United States District Judge
Southern District of New York
500 Pearl Street
New York, NY 10007

Re: ***Fouda ex rel. E.X. and P.X v. Salazar et al.*, 26 Civ. 6559 (AS)**

Dear Judge Subramanian:

This Office represents Respondents (the "Government") in this habeas petition brought by Lauren Fouda, next friend of E.X. and P.X., who are minors ("Petitioners"). On August 10, this Court issued an order directing that "[i]f ORR has not completed its review of the sponsor application by the time of the hearing on August 12, 2026, then the principal decisionmaker with respect to the application (the "buck stops here" person) should personally attend the hearing." ECF No. 18.

I write respectfully to request that the Court allow the relevant witness, the Office of Refugee Resettlement ("ORR") Assistant Principal Deputy Director, to appear virtually. I make this request because this witness is located in Washington, D.C. and will have difficulty traveling here for an in-person appearance on relatively short notice. Petitioner's counsel respectfully does not consent to this request.

The Government thanks the Court for its consideration of this request.

Respectfully,

JAMES M. MCDONALD
United States Attorney

By: */s/ Erica Silverman*
ERICA SILVERMAN
Assistant United States Attorney
86 Chambers Street, Third Floor
New York, New York 10007
Telephone: (212) 637-2696
Email: erica.silverman@usdoj.gov

cc: Counsel of Record (via ECF)