

EXHIBIT A

1 **KARA HARTZLER**

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2 **FEDERAL DEFENDERS OF SAN DIEGO, INC.**

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8 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
9 **SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
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11 **MARIA LUCIA GUADALUPE**
12 **PIMENTEL,**

13 **Petitioner,**

14 **v.**

15 **MARKWAYNE MULLIN, Secretary of**
16 **the Department of Homeland Security,**
17 **TODD BLANCHE, Attorney General,**
18 **TODD M. LYONS, Acting Director,**
19 **Immigration and Customs Enforcement,**
JESUS ROCHA, Acting Field Office
Director, San Diego Field Office,
JEREMY CASEY, Warden at Imperial
Regional Detention Facility,

20 **Respondents.**
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Civil Case No.: 26-cv-4717-DMS-AHG

**Declaration in Support of Petition
for a Writ of Habeas Corpus**

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2 I, Maria Lucia Guadalupe Pimentel, declare:

- 3 1. I was born in Mexico on [REDACTED] As a child, I was adopted by
4 two U.S. citizens when I was six or seven years old. I have lived here ever
5 since. I have never been deported.
- 6 2. On January 27, 2026, I was walking down the street with my boyfriend in
7 Westmorland, California, where we live. Several agents pulled up in a car
8 in front of us so that we were forced to stop. At least one of them seemed to
9 be an ICE agent. The agents started asking us our names, where we were
10 born, and how many last names we had. I told them I was born in Mexicali,
11 and they said they'd have to take me in.
- 12 3. They transferred me to the Imperial Regional Detention Center, where I am
13 still detained. I was never shown a warrant or any other paperwork for my
14 arrest. I have never received any paperwork from ICE explaining why I was
15 detained.
- 16 4. After I was arrested, I was placed in removal proceedings. My next master
17 hearing calendar date is September 10, 2026.
- 18 5. I do not speak English and do not have money to hire a lawyer.

19 I, Kara Hartzler, declare under penalty of perjury that Maria Lucia Guadalupe
20 Pimentel certified that the above statements are true and correct.

21 Date: August 26, 2026

Signed: /s/ Kara Hartzler