**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
**FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA**

JAMES, Phillip Michael Thomas,
a.k.a. SIAGHA-COKE, Felibi Biladi,

*Petitioner,*

v.

ENGLISH, Brian, et al.

*Respondents.*

Case No. 26-cv-1225

**PETITIONER'S APPLICATION FOR AN ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE**

1. Petitioner Phillip Michael Thomas James, a.k.a. Felibi Biladi Siagha-Coke, respectfully requests that this Court issue an order to Respondents Brian English, Markwayne Mullin, and Todd Blanche to show cause why the Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus should not be granted and why Respondents should not be directed to release Mr. James from their custody. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2243 (instructing habeas courts to either "award the writ or issue an order directing the respondent[s] to show cause why the writ should not be granted").

2. Respondents currently detain Mr. James at the Miami Detention Facility, in Bunker Hill, Indiana. *See* Pet. for Writ of Habeas Corpus, ECF No. 1 ¶ 3. Respondents alleged that Mr. James is not a national of the United States and presently exercise their civil immigration detention under Title VIII of the U.S. Code to detain Mr. James.

3. But Mr. James is a U.S. citizen. He was born in Orange County, Florida. *See* Pet. for Writ of Habeas Corpus, ECF No. 1 ¶ 14; ECF No. 1-4, Cert. of Birth; *see also* U.S. Const. amend. XIV, § 1; *Trump v. Barbara*, 146 S. Ct. 2438, 2458 (2026). Respondents cannot therefore hold Mr. James under an immigration detention statute. *See, e.g.*, 8 U.S.C. §§ 1225, 1226, 1231

(only permitting the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to detain noncitizens); 18 U.S.C. § 4001. Mr. James suffers ongoing harm for each day that Respondents erroneously detain him.

4. Based on the foregoing, the facts alleged in his Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, and the exhibits he supplied with his petition, Mr. James respectfully requests this Court issue an Order to Show Cause to Respondents. Such an order should instruct Respondents to file a return "within three days," unless they can show good cause for additional time "not exceeding twenty days." 28 U.S.C. § 2243. Given Mr. James's lengthy time in detention and the exigent nature of his claims, he respectfully requests this Court to rigorously assess any requests by Respondents for additional time. *See Fay v. Noia*, 372 U.S. 391, 400 (1963) (designating writs of habeas corpus as "perhaps the most important writ known to the constitutional law . . . affording as it does a *swift and imperative* remedy in all cases of illegal restraint or confinement") (emphasis added).

Respectfully Submitted,

DATED: Aug. 31, 2026
New York, NY

*/s/ Nhu-Y Ngo*

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* Application for Admission Pending