

July 19, 2025

Hon. Judge Daniel D. Domenico
Alfred A. Arraj United States Courthouse
U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado
901 19th Street
Denver, CO 80294

Re: Batooie v. Ceja, et al.
Case No. 1:25-cv-025059-DDD-STV
Emergency Notice of Respondents' Violation of TRO

Dear Judge Domenico:

I write on behalf of Petitioner, Hossein Batooie, in the above-captioned matter to notify the Court that Respondents have knowingly violated this Court's Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) issued on July 3, 2025, ECF No. 10, and extended by this court on July 9, 2025, ECF No. 19. That order explicitly prohibits the removal of Mr. Batooie from the District of Colorado. See ECF No. 10 at p. 3 ("Defendants SHALL NOT REMOVE Petitioner Hossein Batooie from the District of Colorado").

On July 18, 2025, despite the clear terms of the Order, **which Mr. Batooie provided to the ICE officials attempting to process his transfer and apparently was reviewed by a supervisor**, Respondent ICE nonetheless elected to transfer Mr. Batooie to the Natrona County Detention Center (NCDC) in Casper, Wyoming. His multiple requests to various ICE officials, GEO staff, and NCDC staff to be allowed to contact his attorney were refused. He was only able to contact a family member late in the morning on July 19, who was then able to contact undersigned counsel who was on her way to the GEO facility to visit Mr. Batooie. Undersigned counsel verified his transfer and related events before reaching out to opposing counsel this afternoon. Respondents' counsel have not yet replied.

Currently, Mr. Batooie remains detained in ICE custody at the NCDC in Casper, Wyoming.

On the morning of July 18, Mr. Batooie was called out of his housing unit at the ICE GEO Aurora Processing Facility and told he was being released. He was directed to pack up and taken to Intake. There, he was informed that he was not being released, rather he was being transferred to Wyoming. Upon hearing this news, Mr. Batooie requested to call his attorney but was denied. He repeated his request approximately ten times over the next few hours but was denied by multiple ICE and GEO staff.

While in intake, Mr. Batooie spoke directly and at length with the ICE officer who was tasked with processing his transfer. He politely told the officer that under the TRO issued by this Court, he could not legally be transferred out of Colorado. Mr. Batooie handed the ICE

officer a physical copy of the Court's order. The officer took the copy of the TRO and said he would speak to his supervisor. He returned 15–20 minutes later, stating that "Casper, Wyoming is in the District of Colorado" and therefore the order did not prevent his transfer.

Mr. Batooie again insisted that, per advice of counsel, he was to not to consent to being moved due to the TRO. The ICE official told Mr. Batooie that if he refused to cooperate with the transfer, he and his fellow ICE officers would use force. Mr. Batooie again asked to be allowed to contact his attorney, showing the ICE officer undersigned counsel's name on the pleadings, as well as another paper with her contact information. The ICE officer took a photo of the information but again refused to allow Mr. Batooie to call undersigned counsel.

When Mr. Batooie stated for the second time that he would not agree to the transfer, the ICE officer told him that he would be forcibly strapped to a chair, shackled, and nonetheless loaded onto the bus. Fearing for his safety and concerned for his cardiac condition, Mr. Batooie complied under duress.

Mr. Batooie was shackled for the duration of an approximately 5 hour transport to the NCDC in Casper, Wyoming. When he arrived at the facility that evening, he again asked various officers and officials to be allowed to contact his attorney or a family member. His requests were again denied. The following morning, during the one hour per day he is allowed to be out of his small cell, he was able to use a free 5 minute call to alert a family member, who in turn contacted undersigned counsel. Mr. Batooie has not been told when, or even if, he would be returned to the jurisdiction of this Court. Counsel was able to arrange for a legal call to verify the events and has contacted opposing counsel.

In addition to the stress of the transfer, this again impacted Mr. Batooie's medical care, disrupting his scheduled prescriptions, as Respondent ICE has done on three prior occasions. He has experienced chest pain and shortness of breath, which he attributes to the disruption of his regular medication and extreme anxiety.

Respectfully submitted,

Counsel for Petitioner

/s/ Laura L. Lichter
Laura L. Lichter

/s/ Mark R. Barr
Mark R. Barr