UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION

Gonzalez Cruz, Fernando Petitioner, v. SAM OLSON Field Office Director of Enforcement and Removal Operations, Chicago Field Office, Immigration and Customs Enforcement; Kristi NOEM, Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY; Pamela BONDI, U.S. Attorney General; EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW, WARDEN DOE, Warden of Broadview Processing Center Respondents.	Case No.: 1:25-cv-13713 **PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS** **ORAL ARGUMENT REQUESTED**

INTRODUCTION

1. Petitioner Fernando Gonzalez Cruz ("Petitioner" or "Mr. Gonzalez Cruz") is in the Physical custody of Respondents at the Broadview Processing Center in Chicago, Illinois. He now faces unlawful detention because the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Executive Office for Immigration Review ("EOIR") of the Department of Justice (DOJ) have erroneously concluded Petitioner is subject to mandatory detention.

2. Petitioner is charged with, *inter alia,* having entered the United States without valid documents. 8 U.S.C *§* 1182*(a)(7)(A)(i)(I).*

3. On information and belief, based on this allegation in Petitioner's removal proceedings, DHS has denied Petitioner release from immigration custody, consistent with a new DHS policy issued on July 8, 2025, instructing all Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) employees to consider anyone inadmissible under § 1182(a)(7)(A)(i)(I) to be an "applicant for admission" under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b) (2)(A) and therefore subject to mandatory detention.

4. Any request by Petitioner for bond determination before EOIR would be futile. DHS's policy states that it was developed "in coordination with the Department of Justice," and in a recent published decision by the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), *Matter of Yajure Hurtado,* 29*I&N* Dec. 216 *(*BIA 2025*).* Respondent EOIR adopted the same position as DHS, classifying

noncitizens like Petitioner as applicants for admission and statutorily ineligible for bond under *§ 1225(b)(2)(A)*.

5. Petitioner's detention on this basis violates the plain language of the Immigration and Nationality Act Section 1225 (b)(2)(A) and does not apply to individuals like Petitioner who previously entered and are now residing in the United States. Instead, such individuals are subject to a different statute, INA § 1226(a), which allows for release on conditional parole or bond.

6. Further, Plaintiff fears that he will be transferred to another jurisdiction by Respondents in an effort to move him away from legal counsel,[1] which also threatens to separate him from his family, community, and his participation as a plaintiff in a federal lawsuit which is presently proceeding in the Northern District of Illinois.

7. Accordingly, Petitioner seeks an order prohibiting Respondents from transferring Petitioner outside of the state of Illinois, holding that to do so would be a violation of the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution and also an Order to Show Cause requiring that the Petitioner be released unless Respondents provide a bond hearing under § 1226 (a) within fourteen days.

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[1] Eric Levenson and Gloria Pazmino, *Why ICE Is Really Moving Detainees Over A Thousand Miles from Where They Were Arrested*, CNN, (Apr. 10, 2025), https://www.cnn.com/2025/04/10/us/immigration-detainees-trump-ice-students-visa;

JURISDICTION

8. Petitioner is in the physical custody of Respondents. Petitioner is detained at the Broadview Processing Center, located at 1930 Beach Street in Broadview, Illinois.

9. This Court has the jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C § 1331 (federal question), and Article I, section 9, clause 2 of the United States Constitution (the Suspension Clause).

10. This Court may grant relief pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241, the Declaratory Judgement Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2201 et seq., and the All Writs Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1651.

VENUE

11. Pursuant to *Braden v. 30th Judicial Circuit Court of Kentucky,* 410 U.S 484, 493 500 (1973), venue lies in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, the judicial district in which Petitioner currently is detained.

12. Venue is also properly in the Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(e) because Respondents are employees, officers, and agencies of the United States, and because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims occurred in the Northern District of Illinois.

REQUIREMENTS OF 28 U.S.C. § 2243

13. The court must grant the petition for writ of habeas corpus or order Respondents to show cause "forthwith," unless the petitioner is not entitled to relief. 28 U.S.C. § 2243. If an order to show cause is issued, the Respondents must file a return "within three days unless for good cause additional time, not exceeding twenty days, is allowed." *Id.*

14. Habeas corpus is "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." *Fay v. Noia,* 372 *U.S.* 391, 400 (1963) (emphasis added). "The application for the writ usurps the attention and displaces the calendar of the judge or justice who entertains in and receives prompt action from him within the four corners of the *application." Yong v. I.N.S., 208 F.3d 1116, 1120 (9th Cir. 2000) (citation omitted).*

PARTIES

15. Petitioner is a citizen of Mexico who has been in immigration detention since November 7, 2025, after ICE officials arrested Petitioner at a gas station while he was on his way to work. On information and belief, Mr. Gonzalez Cruz is currently detained at the Broadview Processing Center in Broadview, Illinois, under the direct control of Respondents and their agents.

16. Respondent SAM OLSON is the Director of the Chicago Field Office of ICE's Enforcement and Removal Operations division. As such, Respondent Olson is Petitioner's immediate custodian and is responsible for Petitioner's detention and removal. He is named in his official capacity.

17. Respondent KRISTI NOEM is the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. She is responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), and oversees ICE, which is responsible for Petitioner's detention. Ms. Noem has ultimate custodial authority over Petitioner and is sued in her official capacity.

18. Respondent U.S DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY ("DHS") is the federal agency responsible for implementing and enforcing the INA, including the detention and removal of noncitizens.

19. Respondent PAMELA BONDI is the Attorney General of the United States. She is responsible for the Department of Justice, of which the Executive Office for Immigration Review and the immigration court system it operates is a component agency. She is sued in her official capacity.

20. Respondent EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW is the federal agency responsible for implementing and enforcing the INA in removal proceedings including for custody redetermination in bond hearings.

21. On information and belief Respondent WARDEN DOE is employed by the Department of Homeland Security as Warden of the Broadview Processing Center, located at 1930 Beach Street in Broadview, Illinois, where Petitioner is detained. This individual has immediate physical custody of Petitioner. Respondent WARDEN DOE is sued in their official capacity.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

22. The INA prescribes three basic forms of detention for the vast majority of noncitizens in removal proceedings.

23. First, 8 U.S.C. § 1226 authorizes the detention of noncitizens in standard removal proceedings before an immigration judge ("IJ"). See U.S.C. § 1229a. Individuals in § 1226(a) detention are generally entitled to a bond hearing at the outset of their detention, see 8 C.F.R. §§ *1003.19(a), 1236.1(d),* while noncitizens who have been arrested, charged with, or convicted of certain crimes are subject to mandatory detention, *see* 8 U.S.C. § 1226*(c).*

24. Second, the INA provides for mandatory detention of noncitizens subject to expedited removal under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(1) and for other recent arrivals seeking admission referred to under *§ 1225(b)(2).*

25. Last, the INA also provides for detention of noncitizens who have been ordered removed, including individuals in withholding-only proceedings, *see* 8 U.S.C. § 1231 (a) – (b).

26. This case concerns the detention provisions at §§ 122 (a) and 1225(b) and 1225(b)(2).

27. The detention provisions at § 1226(a) and § 1225 (b)(2) were enacted as part of Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (IIRIRA) of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-–208, Div. C, §§ 302–03, 110 Stat. 3009-546, 3009–582 to 3009–583, 3009–585. Section 1226(a) was most recently amended earlier this year by the Laken Riley Act, Pub. L. No.119-1, 139 Stat. 3 (2025).

28. Following the enactment of the IIRIRA, EOIR drafted new regulations explaining that, in general, people who entered the country without inspection were not considered detained under § 1225 and that they were instead detained under § 1226(a). *See* Inspection and Expedited Removal of Aliens; Detention and Removal of Aliens; Conduct of Removal Proceedings; Asylum Procedures, 62 Fed. Reg. 10312, 10323 (Mar. 6, 1997).

29. Thus, in the decades that followed, most people who entered without inspection and were placed in standard removal proceedings received bond hearings, unless their criminal history rendered them ineligible. That practice was consistent with many more decades of prior practice, in which noncitizens who

were not deemed "arriving" were entitled to a custody hearing before an IJ or other hearing officer. See 8 U.S.C. § 1252(a) (1994); see also H.R. Rep. No. 104-469, pt. 1, at 229 (1996) (noting that § 1226(a) simply "restates" the detention authority previously found at § 1252(a).

30. In the present case, Petitioner was arrested and detained without probable cause while present in the United States. Petitioner was targeted and apprehended while he was pumping gas at a gas station, raising serious concerns of racial profiling and discriminatory enforcement in violation of the Fourth and Fifth Amendments. The arresting officers lacked any specific, articulable facts suggesting that Petitioner had committed an offense or was subject to removal, making the arrest unlawful and the resulting detention constitutionally infirm. 31. Under the Fourth Amendment, an arrest made without probable cause is per se unreasonable, and evidence or proceedings flowing from such an arrest are subject to challenge. Furthermore, racial or ethnic profiling in enforcement actions violates the Equal Protection and Due Process Clauses of the Fifth Amendment. 32. Habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 provides a remedy for individuals unlawfully detained under color of federal authority. Where a petitioner demonstrates that their detention stems from an unlawful arrest, absence of probable cause, or a constitutional violation such as racial discrimination, the writ is both appropriate and necessary to remedy the unlawful restraint of liberty.

33. Because Petitioner's arrest lacked probable cause and was tainted by discriminatory enforcement, his ongoing detention violates both the INA and the Constitution. Accordingly, he is entitled to habeas relief and immediate release, or, in the alternative, an individualized bond hearing under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a).

FACTS

34. Petitioner is a 33-year-old citizen of Mexico who has resided in the United States since 1996. He was brought to the United States as a child and has never left since this initial entry.

35. On November 7, 2025, Petitioner was arrested by ICE at a gas station near South Holland, Illinois, by ICE officers, without a warrant, without confirming his identity, and potentially in violation of the *Nava* Settlement.

36. As of November 7, 2025, Petitioner is detained at the Broadview Processing Center, located at 1930 Beach Street in Broadview, Illinois.

37. Petitioner has been employed as a manager at Express Way Car Wash in South Holland, Illinois, for the past 8 years. He has limited criminal history including a misdemeanor conviction for marijuana possession prior to turning 18 years old.

38. Petitioner is neither a flight risk nor a danger to the community. He is engaged to a U.S. citizen, and they have one U.S. citizen daughter that is 8 year old and suffers from severe autism.

39. Following Petitioner's arrest and incarceration at the Broadview Processing Center, he has not been given the opportunity to post bond or be released on other conditions.

40. As a result, Petitioner remains in mandatory detention. Absent relief from this Court, he faces the prospect of months, or even years, in immigration custody, separated from his community, and without the ability to prosecute the civil rights claims currently pending before a court in this district while being deprived an individualized hearing justifying his detention in violation of Due Process.

CLAIMS FOR RELIEF

COUNT I

Violation of the INA

41. Petitioner incorporates by reference the allegations of fact set forth in the preceding paragraphs.

42. The mandatory detention provision at 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2) does not apply to all noncitizens residing in the United States who are subject to the grounds of inadmissibility. As relevant here, it does not apply to those who previously entered the country and have been residing in the United States prior to being apprehended and placed in removal proceedings by Respondents. Such noncitizens are detained under § 1226(a), unless they are subject to § 1225(b)(1), § 1226(c), or § 1231.

43. The application of § 1225(b)(2) to Petitioner unlawfully mandates his continued detention and violates the INA.

COUNT II

Violation of Due Process

44. Petitioner repeats, re-alleges, and incorporates by reference each and every allegation in the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

45. The government may not deprive a person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law. U.S. Const. amend. V. "Freedom from imprisonment—from government custody, detention, or other forms of physical restraint—lies at the heart of the liberty that the Clause protects." *Zadvydas v. Davis,* 533 U.S. 678, 690, 121 S.Ct. 2491, 150 L.Ed.2d 653 (2001).

46. Petitioner has a fundamental interest in liberty and being free from official restraint.

47. The government's detention of Petitioner without a bond redetermination hearing to determine whether he is a flight risk or danger to others violates his right to due process.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Petitioner prays that this Court grant the following relief:

a. Assume jurisdiction over this matter;

b. Issue an Order to Show Cause ordering Respondents to show cause why this Petition should not be granted within three days.

c. Declare that transfer of Petitioner outside of the jurisdiction of the United States and the state of Illinois violates the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment, and 8 U.S.C. § 1229a(b)(4)(A), 8 U.S.C. § 1362, 8 C.F.R. § 292.5, 8 C.F.R. § 1292.1, and, 8 C.F.R. § 1003.61.

d. Issue a Writ of Habeas Corpus requiring that Respondents release Petitioner provide Petitioner with a bond hearing pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a) within three days;

e. Award Petitioner attorney's fees and costs under the Equal Access to Justice Act ("EAJA"), as amended, 28 U.S.C. § 2412, and on any other basis justified under law; and

f. Grant any other and further relief that this Court deems just and proper.

Dated: November 7, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Yacoob Meah

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VERIFICATION PURSUANT 28 U.S.C. § 2242

I represent Petitioner, Fernando Gonzalez Cruz, and I submit this verification on his behalf. I hereby verify that the factual statements made in the foregoing Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Dates this 7th day of November, 2025

Attorney for the Petitioner