

FILED

Name: RISHABH PRAKASH MALIK

A Number: 

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EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
BY  DEPUTY CLERK

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

RISHABH PRAKASH MALIK

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Petitioner,

v.

Warden of the Golden State Annex
Detention Facility, Current or Acting Field
Office Director, San Francisco Field Office,
United States Immigration and Customs
Enforcement; Current or Acting Director,
United States Immigration and Customs
Enforcement; Current or Acting Secretary,
United States Department of Homeland
Security; and Current or Acting United
States Attorney General.

Respondents.

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CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
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Case No. 1:25cv01607 TLN AC (H)

Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus

PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS
PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 2241

Petitioner respectfully petitions this Honorable Court for a writ of habeas corpus to remedy Petitioner's unlawful detention by Respondents, as follows:

INTRODUCTION

1. Petitioner¹ is currently detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") at the Golden State Annex detention center pending removal proceedings.

2. Petitioner has been detained in immigration custody for over 7 **months** even though no neutral decision maker ---whether a federal judge or immigration judge ("I.J") - has conducted a hearing to determine whether this lengthy incarceration is warranted based on danger or flight risk.

3. Petitioner's prolonged detention without a hearing on danger and flight risk violates the Due process Clause of the Fifth Amendment.

4. Petitioner therefore respectfully requests that this Court issue a writ of habeas corpus, determine that Petitioner's detention is not justified because the government has not established by clear and convincing evidence that Petitioner presents a risk of flight or danger in light of available alternatives to detention, and order Petitioner's release, with appropriate conditions of supervision if necessary, taking into account Petitioner's ability to pay a bond.

5. Alternatively, Petitioner requests that the Court issue a writ of habeas corpus and order Petitioner's release within 30 days unless Respondents schedule a hearing before an IJ where: (1) to continue detention, the government must establish by clear and convincing evidence that Petitioner presents a risk of flight or danger, even after consideration of alternatives to detention that could mitigate any risk that Petitioner's release would present; and (2) if the government cannot meet its burden, the IJ shall order Petitioner's release on appropriate conditions of supervision, taking into account Petitioner's ability to pay a bond.

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- Petitioner respectfully requests that the Court use his initials, rather than his full last name, in any opinion in his case, as suggested by the Committee on Court Administration and Case Management of the judicial Conference of the United States. See Memorandum Re; Privacy Concern Regarding Social Security & Immigration Opinions(May 1, 2018) available at https://www.uscourts.gov/sites/default/files/18-cv-1-suggestion_cacm_0.pdf ; see also *Jorge M.F. v.Jennings*, 534 F. Supp. 3D 1050 n.1 (N.D. CAL. Apr. 14. 2021)

JURISDICTION

6. Petitioner is detained in the custody of Respondents at Golden State Annex detention center.

7. This action arises under the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Jurisdiction is proper under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 (federal question), 2241 (habeas corpus); U.S. Const. art. I, § 2; (Suspension Clause); and 5 U.S.C. § 702 (Administrative Procedure Act. This Court may grant relief under the habeas corpus statutes, 28 U.S.C. § 2241 *et seq.*, the Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2201 *et seq.*, and the All Writs Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1651.

8. Congress has preserved judicial review of challenges to prolonged immigration detention. *See Jennings v. Rodriguez*, 138 S. Ct. 830, 839- 841 (2018) (holding that 8 U.S.C. §§ 1226(e), 1252 (b)(9) do not bar review of challenges to prolonged immigration detention); *see also id* at 876 (Breyer, J., dissenting). (“8 U.S.C. § 1252(b)(9)... by its terms applies only with respect to review of an order of removal”) (internal quotation marks and brackets omitted).

VENUE

9. Venue is proper in this District because this is the district in which Petitioner is confined. *See Doe v. Garland*, 109 F.4th 1188, 1197-99(9th Cir.2024)

REQUIREMENTS OF 28 U.S.C. § 2243

10. The court must grant the petition for writ of habeas corpus or issue an order to show cause (“OSC”) to Respondents “forthwith,” unless Petitioner is not entitled to relief. 28U.S.C. § 2243. if the Court issues an OSC, it must require Respondents to file a return “within *three days* unless for good cause additional time, not exceeding twenty days, Is allowed,” *Id.* (emphasis added).

11. Courts have long recognized the significance of the habeas statute in protecting individuals from unlawful detention. The Great Writ affords “*a swift and imperative remedy* in all cases of illegal restraint or confinement.” *Fay v. Noia*, 372 U.S. 391, 400(1963) (emphasis added); *see also yong v. LNS*, 208 F.3d 1116, 1120 (9th Cir. 2000) (explaining that habeas statute requires expeditious determination of petitions).

PARTIES

12. Petitioner is a noncitizen currently detained by Respondents pending ongoing removal proceedings.

13. Respondent Warden of the Golden State Annex Detention Facility is Petitioner’s immediate custodian at the facility where Petitioner is detained. *See Doe*, 108 F. 4th at 1194-97.

14. Respondent Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”), an agency of the United States, is responsible for the administration of the immigration laws. 8 U.S.C. § 1103(a). They are a legal custodian of Petitioner. They are named in their official capacity.

15. Respondent Acting or Current Attorney General of the United States is the most senior official in the U.S. Department of Justice (“DOJ”). They have the authority to interpret the immigration laws and adjudicate removal cases. They delegate this responsibility to the Executive Office for Immigration Review (“EOIR”), which administers the immigration courts and the Board of Immigration Appeals (“BIA”). They are named in their official capacity.

16. Respondent Acting or Current Field Office Director of the San Francisco ICE Field Office is responsible for the San Francisco Field Office of ICE with administrative jurisdiction over Petitioner’s case. They are a legal custodian of Petitioner and are named in their official capacity.

17. Respondent Acting or Current Director of ICE is responsible for ICE’s policies, practices, and procedures, including those relating to the detention of immigrants. They are a legal custodian of Petitioner and are named in their official capacity.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

18. Petitioner is a noncitizen currently detained by Respondents pending immigration removal proceedings. Petitioner is pursuing the following claims in removal proceedings.

Application for Asylum, Withholding of Removal and the Convention Against Torture.

19. Petitioner has been detained in DHS custody since 04/07/2025.

20. Petitioner has not been provided a bond hearing before a neutral decision maker to determine whether their prolonged detention is justified based on danger or flight risk.

21. The immigration court lacks jurisdiction and authority to provide Petitioner with a bond hearing to determine whether Petitioner's detention is justified. See 8 U.S.C. §§ 1225(b); 1226(c). There is no statutory or regulatory pathway for Petitioner to seek a bond hearing before a neutral decisionmaker.

22. Absent intervention by this Court, Petitioner cannot and will not be provided with a bond hearing by a neutral decisionmaker to assess the propriety of Petitioner's continued detention.

23. Additional facts that support Petitioner's entitlement to relief are :

Petitioner identifies as Gender Queer - LGBTQIA++ and prefers pronouns they/them. Detention facility is not equipped for detaining such people even for short periods of time keeping in mind their safety concerns from both officers and other detainees.

Petitioner has been detained for over 7 months in ICE Detention at Golden State Annex.

Petitioner was made fun of by duty officer and lieutenant for seeking information on "Transgender" card that officers keep around their neck. Petitioner was made extremely uncomfortable due to lack of proper training of officers on this issue which led to further mental isolation and fear from the system for the petitioner. Detention facilities are not adequate for such people who require a different social environment for their safety.

Petitioner faces inadequate physical medical care : they have had to wait 6-7 days for a response from the medical team and most times they are only seen by a nurse and no doctor. They are further given tylenol medicine for most complaints and are told they need to be detained for 6 months or more for additional medical services that seem necessary at the moment. They have still not been treated for their sinus problems despite mentioning at 7 months ago. Petitioner suffers from severe migraine attacks lasting for weeks on end and they are not provided any relief in terms of solitary confinement away from noise and light even after many requests.

Petitioner was scolded by lieutenant for crying for feeling alone and isolated, and was told by the lieutenant that they were disturbing the normal functioning of the facility. They were threatened with being "written up" and escalated if they continued with this behavior.

Petitioner has been racially insulted and ridiculed for being a non-native English speaker despite being an educated person. Facility officer told them one time at chow that they "did not deserve" the meal that they were receiving that evening. Being made fun of is common at this detention and officers are very insensitive to the troubles that detainees might be facing. Petitioner has been hooted at, made sounds at, and denied proper diet at several occasions.

Petitioner has been served expired milk, chicken at chow. There are instances of hair, insects and other foreign objects in food served at chow. They have received duplicate items of toothpaste and shampoo ordered from commissary. They have also received expired food like cereal and biscuits ordered from commissary.

Petitioner has been denied bond by Immigration Judge on account of them being an "arriving alien" even though Petitioner flew in on a valid B1/B2 visa and expressed fear of returning at the airport during screening. They were told that they are not eligible for a bond. Petitioner only requested once and on being told they are ineligible, they did not try again.

The cleanliness of the dorm is bad. Detainees are expected to do the major cleaning themselves, even of the toilets. Toilets are mostly unsanitary, leaking, overflowing or clogged. There is lack of rules and proper management of facilities.

Detention sometimes gets too cold, sometimes gets too hot, and the clothing and blankets provided are poor quality made of polyester which cause skin rashes and irritation. Oftentimes, requests for new clothes are ignored if old ones are torn or stolen and the staff is very rude.

Time for yard to walk outside in the sun is often restricted and canceled. It has been reduced from 4 hours to 2 hours per day and often it clashes with timings of chow wherein we have to choose to either get food or go outside in the sun.

Access to library is restricted to one hour per day, there is no internet access, library available only on the weekdays, and there are no meaningful ways once can occupy themselves so as to endure the lengthy and unreasonable detention.

Detention has made the petitioner feel as if they are losing track of time, being away from loved ones. The facility for making calls is very expensive as well.

ICE Officer refused parole 4-5 times on account that "they are not giving any parole to anybody". They also do not provide documents on time, try to rush detainees to sign without providing proper translation services and oftentimes provide no meaningful answers to the queries raised. They are working as adversaries to the detainees who are even seeking asylum through legitimate ways.

Due to improper management of the detainee population, there is constant noise even from 10pm to 2am. Lights are on 24x7. These things cause severe trouble in the quality of sleep and hamper the cognitive abilities of an individual. They are even more pronounced for the Petitioner on account of them being severed from their family and friends and lack of trust in officers and other detainees.

Detention centers are hostile environments where fights break out among detainees very frequently over limited resources such as 1 microwave oven for 80 people, lack of proper guides and rules to use tablets for phone calls, lack of TV schedules, etc. Such a hostile environment is further accentuated by general hooliganism and petty thefts by detainees which are not inquired into by the population.

Petitioner suffers from anxiety, depression and other mental health problems on account of persecution due to their LGBTQIA++ identity in their home country but they were told that Detention is

a forensic facility and not a community help facility and so the site psychiatrist's only prerogative is to "stabilize" the detainees and not to "help" them as they would otherwise have received if not detained. For these reasons, petitioner feels a grave loss of trust in the detention facility's objective and actions if petitioner faces an acute episode of emotional and psychological distress and the consequences the petitioner may face, legal and medical, during a time of such acute vulnerability.

Petitioner fears being abused and/or being sexually violated by the detainee population if such population is made aware of their LGBTQIA++ identity and the vulnerability of their situation due to loss of familial and friendly connections. Such abuse and violation feared is very real and very close in physical reality and petitioner hopes that they are released before any such incident.

Petitioner would be able to gather evidence and secure legal assistance if released from detention that could significantly positively impact their claim for asylum. While detained, they are alone, isolated and without the requisite support they need for such a situation. The detainee population is unsurprisingly insensitive to LGBTQIA++ reality and although petitioner has been able to "hold it in and hide" for over 7 months now, it is definitely extremely difficult to continue doing so without compromising the integrity of their mental status. In this stark way, detention mimics the conditions of their torture in their home country and such prolonged detention has become extremely difficult to endure for the petitioner.

Petitioner has been grateful for the US immigration and justice system, however, above mentioned points highlight the gap in their gratitude and the reality of situation wherein additional steps are needed to secure the justice and relief that the petitioner seeks from the US government.

Petitioner is a law abiding person and there are no criminal records against them in any country.

Petitioner has their final court hearing on December 10, 2025, however, due to the conditions of their case, and detention, they do not have legal counsel, finances or other legal, psychological, mental health, human resources to assist them in their legal journey of claiming asylum on the basis of their LGBTQIA++ identity in a meaningful manner. Petitioner is in dire need of resources – both psychological and material, emotional and financial, to be able to continue their legal request for asylum, which could become actualized if released from detention, through LGBTQ centers, NGOs and other opportunities that petitioner may be able to avail for themselves.

Petitioner has already had 4-5 master calendar hearings and thrice their judge has been changed.

Petitioner hopes to find safety and belonging in a LGBTQIA++ friendly environment. They have been "on edge" for too long and hope to find balance, stability and love among community and nature. They hope to find a house, start a job, save some money and continue to understand, love, grow and share meaning and truth as derived from their own struggles and journey of self discovery through the lens of alternative sexual and gender identity and reality. They hope to expand their skills as an artist and share their art with the world. USA has brilliant artists and institutions that enable and encourage a reasoned approach to spirituality through work, experiments and adventure. Petitioner feels very excited with the slightest hope they feel after years of living in a hopeless and desolate world. Petitioner hopes to make San Francisco their home and is in the process of finding resources that can assist them for their housing upon release, however, petitioner is hopeful that they can find such help definitely once on the ground.

Petitioner has a bachelor's degree in business and master's degree in finance. They have 8 years of experience working as a tax and statutory auditor. They are also a self taught photographer with 6 years of experience and have worked with international publications on themes of climate, culture and humanity. They hope to grow as a human and find comfort in their own being enabled by the love, safety and comfort of a loving community that they hope to find – their chosen family.

Petitioner mentions their intention and willingness to attend all immigration requirements in the form of hearings, check-ins and otherwise, as needed. They are also willing to accept electronic monitoring or other alternatives to detention if released.

Petitioner is in contact with a few local organizations that are trying to secure housing, medical etc for petitioner on release. They are also assisting them for securing other LGBTQ resources that are extremely urgent for their claim to asylum.

If not released, Petitioner may still be detained for 1 or more year taking into account any appeals that may arise during the immigration proceedings. This is a very long time for someone who is not a criminal.

LEGAL BACKGROUND

24. “ it is well established that the Fifth Amendment entitles [noncitizens] to due process of law in deportation proceedings. ” *Demore v. Kim*, 538 U.S. 510, 523 (2003) (quoting *Reno v. Flores*, 507 U.S. 292, 306 (1993)). “ Freedom from imprisonment – from government custody, detention, or other forms of physical restraint – lies at the heart of the liberty” that the Due Process Clause protects. *Zadvydas v. Davis*, 533 U.S. 678, 690 (2001); *see also id.* At 718 (Kennedy, J., dissenting) (“Liberty under the Due Process Clause include protection against unlawful or arbitrary personal restraint or detention.”). This fundamental due process protection applies to all noncitizens, including both removable and inadmissible noncitizens. *See id.* at 721 (Kennedy, J., dissenting) (“[B]oth removable and inadmissible [noncitizens] are entitled to be free from detention that is arbitrary or capricious”)

25. Due process requires “adequate procedural protections” to ensure that the government’s asserted justification for physical confinement “outweighs the individual’s constitutionally protected interest in avoiding physical restraint.” *Zadvydas*, 533 U.S. at 690 (internal quotation mark omitted). In the immigration context, the Supreme Court has recognized only two valid purposes for civil detention – to mitigate the risks of danger to the community and to prevent flight. *Id.*; *Demore*, 538 U.S. at 528.

26. Due process requires that the government provide bond hearing to noncitizens facing prolonged detention. “The Due Process Clause foresees eligibility for bail as part of due process” because “[b]ail is basic to our system of law.” *Jennings*, 138 S. Ct. at 862 (Breyer, J., dissenting) (internal quotation mark omitted). While the Supreme Court upheld the mandatory detention of a noncitizen under Section 1226(c) in *Demore*, it did so based on the petitioner’s concession of deportability and the Court’s understanding at the time that such detention are typically “brief.” *Demore*, 538 U.S. at 522 n.6, 528. Where a noncitizen has been detained for a prolonged period or is pursuing a substantial defense to removal or claim to relief, due process requires an individualized determination that such a significant deprivation of liberty is warranted. *Id.* at 532 (Kennedy, J., concurring) (“[I]ndividualized determination as to his risk of flight and dangerousness” may be warranted “if the continued detention became unreasonable or unjustified”); *see also Jackson v. Indiana*, 406 U.S. 715, 733 (1972) (holding that detention beyond the “initial commitment” requires additional safeguards); *McNeil v. Dir., Patuxent Inst.*, 407 U.S. 245, 249-50 (1972) (holding that “lesser safeguards may be appropriate” for “short-term confinement”); *Hutto v. Finney*, 437 U.S. 678, 685-86 (1978) (holding that, in the Eighth Amendment context, “the length of confinement cannot be ignored in deciding whether [a] confinement meets constitutional standards”); *Reid v. Donelam*, 17 F.4th 1, 7 (1st Cir. 2021) holding that “the Due Process Clause imposes some

form of reasonableness limitation upon the duration of detention” under section 1226 (c)) (internal quotation marks omitted).

A. Detention That Exceeds Six Months Without A Bond Hearing Is Unconstitutional

27. Detention without a bond hearing is unconstitutional when it exceeds six months. *See Demore*, 538 U.S. at 529-30 (upholding only “brief” detentions under Section 1226(c), which last “roughly a month and half in the vast majority of cases in which it is invoked, and about five months in the minority of cases in which the [noncitizen] chooses to appeal”); *Zadvydas*, 533 U.S. at 701 (“Congress previously doubted the constitutionality of detention for more than six month.”); *Rodriguez Diaz v. Garland*, 53 F.4th 1189, 1091 (9th Cir. 2022) (“[O]nce the [noncitizen] has been detained for approximately six months, continuing detention becomes prolonged” (cleaned up) (quoting *Diouf v. Napolitano*, 634 F.3d 1081, 1091 (9th Cir. 2011))); *Rodriguez v. Nielsen*, Case No. 18-CV-04187-TSH, 2019 WL 7491555, at *6(N.D. Cal. Jan. 7, 2019) (“[D]etention becomes prolonged after six months and entitles [Petitioner] to a bond hearing”).

28. The recognition that six months is a substantial period of confinement – and is the time after which additional process is required to support continued incarceration – is deeply rooted in our legal tradition. With few exception, “in the late 18th century in America crimes triable without a jury were for the most part punishable by no more than a six- month prison term.” *Duncan v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S. 145, 161 & n.34 (1968). Consistent with this tradition, the Supreme Court has found six months to be the limit of confinement for a criminal offense that a federal court may impose without the protection afforded by jury trial. *Cheff v. Schnackenberg*, 384 U.S. 373, 380 (1966) (plurality opinion). The Court has also looked to six months as a benchmark in other contexts involving civil detention. *See McNeil v. Dir., Patuxent Inst.*, 407 U.S. 245, 249, 250-52 (1972) (recognizing six month as an outer limit for confinement without individualized inquiry for civil commitment). The Court has likewise recognized the need for bright line constitutional rules in other areas of law. *See Maryland v. Shatzer*, 559 U.S. 98, 110 (2010) (holding that 14 days must elapse following invocation of *Miranda* rights before re-interrogation is permitted); *Cnty. of Riverside v. McLaughlin*, 500 U.S. 44, 55-56 (1991) (holding that a probable cause hearing must take place within 48 hours of warrantless arrest).

B. Even Absent A Bright-Line Six-Month Standard, An Individualized Bond Hearing Is Required When Detention Becomes Unreasonably Prolonged.

29. Petitioner's detention, without any individualized review, is unreasonable under the *Mathews v. Eldridge* due process test. Alternatively, Petitioner prevails under the multi-factor reasonableness test the Third Circuit adopted in *German Santos v. Warden Pike Correctional Facility*, 965 F.3d 203, 211 (3d Cir. 2020).

30. Each year, thousands of noncitizens are incarcerated for lengthy periods pending the resolution of their removal proceedings. See *Jennings*, 138 S. Ct. at 860 (Breyer, J., dissenting) (observing that class members, numbering in the thousands, had been detained "on average one year" and some had been detained for several years). For noncitizens who have some criminal history, their immigration detention often dwarfs the time spent in criminal custody, if any. *Id.* ("between one-half and two-thirds of the class served [criminal] sentences less than six months").

31. Petitioner faces severe hardships while detained by ICE. Petitioner is held in a locked down facility, with limited freedom of movement and access to Petitioner's family or support network: "[T]he circumstances of their detention are similar, so far as we can tell, to those in many prisons and jails." *Jennings*, 138 S.Ct. at 861 (Breyer, J., dissenting); accord *Chavez-Alvarez v. Warden York Cnty. Prison*, 783 F.3d 469, 478 (3d Cir. 2015); *Ngo v. INS*, 192 F.3d 390, 397-98 (3d Cir. 1999); *Sopo v. U.S. Att'y Gen.*, 825 F.3d 1199, 1218, 1221 (11th Cir. 2016). "And in some cases the conditions of their confinement are inappropriately poor" including, for example, "invasive procedures, substandard care, and mistreatment, e.g., indiscriminate strip searches, long waits for medical care and hygiene products, and in the case of one detainee, a multiday lock down for sharing a cup of coffee with another detainee." *Jennings*, 138 S.Ct. at 861 (Breyer, J., dissenting) (citing Press Release, Off. of Inspector Gen., Dept. of Homeland Sec., *DHS OIG Inspection Cites Concerns With Detainee Treatment and Care at ICE Detention Facilities* (Dec. 14, 2017)); see also Tom Dreisbach, *Government's own experts found 'barbaric' and 'negligent' condition in ICE detention*, NRP (Aug. 16, 2023, 5:01 AM) reporting on the " 'negligent' medical care (including mental health care), 'unsafe and filthy' condition, racist abuse of detainees, inappropriate pepper-spraying of mentally ill detainees and other problems that, in some cases, contributed to detainee deaths" contained in inspection reports prepared by expert from the Department of Homeland Security's Office for Civil Right and Civil Liberties after examining detention facilities between 2017 and 2019). Individuals at Golden Sate Annex Detention Facility have described receiving food contaminated with insects (including cockroaches, flies, and spiders), hair, and other foreign objects. See California Collaborative for Immigrant Justice, *Starving for justice: The Denial of proper Nutrition in*

immigration Detention, at p. 7 (April 2022), available at https://www.ccijustice.org/files/ugd/733055_c43b1cbbdda341b894045940622a6dc3.pdf. At Mesa Verde Detention Facility, over 80% of detained individuals who responded to one survey said they had received expired food. *Id.*

32. The *Mathews* test for procedural due process claims balances: (1) the private interest threatened by government action; (2) the risk of erroneous deprivation of such interest and the value of additional or substitute safeguards; and (3) the government interest. *Mathews v. Eldridge*, 424 U.S. 319 335 (1976); *see also sho v. Current or Acting Field Off, Dir.*, No. 1:21- CV-01812 TLN AC, 2023 WL 4014649, at *3 (E.D. Cal June 15, 2023), *report and recommendation adopted*, No. 1:21- CV-1812- TLN-AC, 2023 WL 4109421 (E.D. Cal. June 21, 2023) (applying *Mathews* factors to a habeas petitioner's due process claims and collecting cases doing the same). Here, each factor weighs in Petitioner's favor, requiring this Court to promptly hold a hearing to evaluate whether the government can justify their ongoing detention.

33. First, Petitioner indisputably has a weighty interest in their liberty, the core private interest at stake here. *Zadvydas*, 533 U.S. at 690 ("Freedom from imprisonment... Lies at the heart of the liberty [the Due Process Clause] protects."). Petitioner, who is being held in "incarceration-like conditions," has an overwhelming interest here, regardless of the length of his immigration detention, because "any length of detention implicates the same" fundamental right. *Rajnish v. Jennings*, No. 3:20-cv-07819-WHO, 2020 WL 7626414, at * 6 (N.D. Cal. Dec 22, 2020).

34. Second, Petitioner will suffer the erroneous risk of deprivation of their liberty without an individualized evidentiary hearing. The risk of erroneous deprivation of their liberty is high, as they have been detained since 04/07/2025 without any evaluation of whether the government can justify detention under their individualized circumstance. "[T]he risk of an erroneous deprivation of liberty in the absence of a hearing before a neutral decisionmaker is substantial." *Diouf*, 634 F.3d at 1092. Conversely, "the probable value of additional procedural safeguards an individualized evaluation of the justification for his detention is high, because Respondents have provided virtually no procedural safeguards at all." *Jimenez v. Wolf*, No. 19-cv-07996-NC, 2020 WL 510347, *3 (N.D. Cal. Jan. 30, 2020) (granting habeas petition for person who had been detained for one year without a bond hearing).

35. Third, the government's interest is very low in continuing to detain Petitioner without providing any neutral review. *See Mathews*, 424 U.S. at 335. The specific interest at stake here is not the government's ability to continue to detain Petitioner, but rather the government's ability to continue to detain them for months

on end without any individualized review. See *Marroquin Ambriz v. Barr*, 420 F. Supp. 3d 953, 964 (N.D.Cal.2019); *Henriquez v. Garland*, No. 5:22- CV-00869-EJD, 2022 WL2132919, at *5 (N.D. Cal. June 14, 2022). The cost of providing an individualized inquiry is minimal. See *Henriquez*, 2022 WL2132919, at *5. The government has repeatedly conceded this fact. See *lopez Reyes v. Bonnar*, 362 F. Supp. 3d 762, 777 (N.D. Cal. 2019); *Singh v. Barr*, 400 F Supp. 3d 1005, 1021 (S.D Cal. 2019); *Marroquim Ambriz*, 420 F. Supp. 3d at 964.

36. In sum, the *Mathews* factors establish that Petitioner is entitled to an evidentiary hearing before a neutral adjudicator. Unsurprisingly, courts applying these standards in this Circuit have repeatedly held that prolonged detention without a hearing before a neutral adjudicator violates procedural due process. See, e.g., *Romero Romero v. Wolf*, No. 20-CV- 08031- TSH, 2021 WL 254435, at *2, *5 (N.D. Cal. Jan. 26, 2021) holding that the petitioner's detention of just over one year without a custody hearing was "not compatible with due process" and granting habeas); *Jimenez*, 2020 WL 510347, at *1, *2, *4 (holding that the petitioner's detention of just over one year without a custody hearing violated his due process right and granting habeas); *Gonzalez v. Bonnar*, No. 18-CV-05321-JSC, 2019 WL 330906, at *1, *5 (N.D. Cal. Jan. 25. 2019) (holding that the petitioner's detention for just over one year without a custody hearing violates his due process rights and granting habeas); see also *singh v. Garland*, No. 1:23-cv-01043- EPG-HC, 2023 WL 5836048, at *6 (E.D. Cal. 2023); *Sho v. Current or Acting Field Office Director*, No. 1:21-cv-01812-TLN-AC,2023 WL 4014649 (E.D. Cal. 2023). This Court should so hold as well.

37. *Rodriguez Diaz v. Garland*, 53 F.4th 1189 (9th Cir. 2022), does not disturb this result. In *Rodriguez Diaz*, the Ninth Circuit applied the *Mathews* test to hold that the detention of a noncitizen detained under a different detention statute, 8 U.S.C. § 1226 (a), did not violate procedural due process. 53 F.4th at 1195. Unlike Sections 1225(b) and 1226(c), § 1226(a) mandates that detained individuals receive an individualized bond hearing at the outset of detention and provides for further bond hearings upon a material change in circumstances. See 8 C.F.R. § 1003. 19(e). The panel's decision in *Rodriguez Diaz* was predicated on the immediate and ongoing availability of this administrative process under § 1226(a). 53.F.4th at 1202 ("Section 1226(a) and its implementing regulation provide extensive procedural protections that are unavailable under other detention provisions....."). Unlike the petitioner in *Rodriguez Diaz*, Petitioner has no statutory access to individualized review of his detention.

38. Alternatively, courts that apply a reasonableness test have conceded four non-exhaustive factors in determining whether detention is reasonable. *German Santos v. Warden Pike Cnty. Corr. Facility*, 965 F.3d 203, 210-22(3d Cir. 2020). The reasonableness inquiry is "highly fact-specific." *Id.* at210. "The most important factor is the duration of detention." *Id.* at211; see also *Gonzalez v Bonnar*, No. 18-CV-05321-JSC, 2019 WL

330906, at *1, *5 (N.D. Cal. Jan. 25, 2019) (concluding that the petitioner's detention for just over one year without a custody hearing weighed strongly in favor of finding detention unreasonable, and violated his due process right and granting habeas). Duration is evaluated along with "all the other circumstances," including (1) whether detention is likely to continue, (2) reasons for the delay, and (3) whether the conditions of confinement are meaningfully different from criminal punishment. *Id.* at 211.

39. As noted, Petitioner has been detained for a substantial length of time, *supra* ¶ 20 and Petitioner's detention is likely to continue as Petitioner asserts their right to seek immigration relief, *supra* ¶ 19. Noncitizens should not be punished for pursuing "legitimate proceedings" to seek relief. *See Masood v. Barr*, No. 19-CV-07623- JD, 2020 WL 95633, at *3 (N.D. Cal. Jan. 8, 2020) ("[I]t ill suits the United States to suggest that [Petitioner] could shorten his detention by giving up these rights and abandoning his asylum application."). Thus, courts should not count a continuance against the noncitizen when they obtained it in good faith to prepare their removal case, including efforts to obtain counsel. *See Hernandez Gomez*, 2023 WL 2802230, at *4 ("The duration and frequency of these requests [for continuance] do not diminish his significant liberty interest in his release or his irreparable injury of continued detention without a bond hearing."). Moreover, Petitioner's confinement and experiences at a facility operated by a private, for-profit prison contractor, demonstrate that their conditions of confinement are not meaningfully different from those of criminal punishment. *See supra* ¶¶ 10, 24, 32.

C. At Any Hearing, The Government Must Justify Ongoing Detention By Clear And Convincing Evidence.

40. At a bond hearing, due process requires certain minimum protections to ensure that a noncitizen's detention is warranted: the government must bear the burden of proof by clear and convincing evidence to justify continued detention, taking into consideration available alternatives to detention; and, if the government cannot meet its burden, the noncitizen's ability to pay a bond must be considered in determining the appropriate conditions of release.

41. To justify prolonged immigration detention, the government must bear the burden of proof by clear and convincing evidence that the noncitizen is a danger or flight risk. *See Singh v. Holder*, 638 F.3d 1196, 1203 (9th Cir. 2011); *Aleman Gonzales v. Barr*, 955 F.3d 762, 781 (9th Cir. 2020), *rev'd on other grounds by Garland v. Aleman Gonzalez*, 142 S.Ct. 2057, 213 L. Ed. 2d 102 (2022) ("Jennings's rejection of layering [the

clear and convincing burden of proof standard] onto § 1226(a) as a matter of statutory construction cannot... undercut our constitutional due process holding in *Singh*.”); *Sho*, 2023 WL 4014649, at *5 (applying *Singh* and holding that the government shall bear the burden in a constitutionally required bond hearing to remedy detention under a different statutory provision); *Singh*, 2023 WL 5836048, at *9 (same); *Doe v. Garland*, No. 3:22-CV-03759-JD-2023 WL 1934509, at *2 (N.D. Cal. Jan. 10, 2023) (same); *pham v Becerra*, No. 23-CV-01288-CRB, 2023 WL 2744397, at *7 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 31, 2023) (same); *Hernandez Gomez v. Becerra*, No. 23-CV-01330-WHO, 2023 WL 2802230, at *4 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 4, 2023) (same); *Martinez leiva v. Becerra*, No. 23-CV-02027-CRB, 2023 WL 3688097, at *9 (N.D. Cal. May 26, 2023); *I.E.S. v. Becerra*, No. 23-CV-03783-BLF, 2023 WL 6317617, at *10 (N.D. Cal. Sept. 27, 2023) (same); *Singh Grewal v Becerra*, No. 23-CV-03621-JCS, 2023 WL 6519272, at *8 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 4, 2023) (same); *Gomez v. Becerra*, No. 23-CV-03724-JCS, 2023 WL 6232236, at *9 (N.D. Cal. Sept. 25, 2023) (same); *Henriquez v. Garland*, No. 23-CV-01025-AMO, 2023 WL 6226374, at *4 (N.D. Cal. Sep. 25, 2023) (same); *Rodriguez Picazo v. Garland*, No. 23-CV-02529-AMO, 2023 WL 5352897, at *7 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 21, 2023) (same).

42. Where the Supreme Court has permitted civil detention in other contexts, it has relied on the fact that the Government bore the burden of proof by at least clear and convincing evidence. *See United States v. Salerno*, 481 U.S. 739, 750, 752 (1987) (upholding pre-trial detention after a “full-blown adversary hearing” requiring “clear and convincing evidence” and “a neutral decisionmaker”); *Foucha v. Louisiana*, 504 U.S. 71, 81-83 (1992) (striking down civil detention scheme that placed burden on the detainee); *Zadvydas*, 533 U.S. at 692 (finding post-final-order custody review procedures deficient because, *inter alia*, they placed burden on detainee).

43. The requirement that the government bear the burden of proof by clear and convincing evidence is also supported by application of the three-factor balancing test from *Mathews v. Eldridge*, 424 U.S. 319, 335 (1976). First, “an individual’s private interest in ‘freedom from prolonged detention’ is ‘unquestionably substantial.’” *See Rodriguez Diaz*, 53 F.4th at 1207 (citing *Singh*, 638 F.3d at 1208). Second, the risk of error is great where the government is represented by trained attorneys and detained noncitizens are often unrepresented and may lack English proficiency. *See Santosky v. Kramer*, 455 U.S. 745, 763 (1982) (requiring clear and convincing evidence at parental termination proceedings because “numerous factors combine to magnify the risk of erroneous fact-finding” including that “parents subject to termination proceedings are often poor, uneducated, or members of minority groups” and “[t]he State’s attorney usually will be expert on the issues contested”). Moreover, detained noncitizens are incarcerated in prison-like conditions that severely hamper their ability to obtain legal assistance, gather evidence, and prepare for a bond hearing. *See supra* ¶32. Third, placing the burden on the government imposes minimal cost or inconvenience to it, as the government has access to the noncitizen’s

immigration records and other information records and other information that it can use to make its case for continued detention.

D. Due Process Requires Consideration Of Alternatives To Detention

44. Due process also requires consideration of alternatives to detention. The primary purpose of immigration detention is to ensure a noncitizen's appearance during civil removal proceedings. *Zadvydas*, 533 U.S. at 697. Detention is not reasonably related to this purpose if there are alternative conditions of release that could mitigate risk of flight. See *Bell v. Wolfish*, 441 U.S. 520, 538-39 (1979) (civil pretrial detention may be unconstitutionally punitive if it is excessive in relation to its legitimate purpose). ICE's alternatives to detention program – the Intensive Supervision Appearance Program – has achieved extraordinary success in ensuring appearance at removal proceedings, reaching compliance rates close to 100 percent. *Hernandez v. Sessions*, 872 F.3d 976, 991 (9th Cir. 2017) (observing that ISAP "resulted in a 99% attendance rate at all EOIR hearing and a 95% attendance rate at final hearings"). Thus, alternatives to detention must be considered in determining whether prolonged incarceration is warranted.

45. Due process likewise requires consideration of a noncitizen's ability to pay a bond. "Detention of an indigent 'for inability to post money bail' is impermissible if the individual's 'appearance at trial could reasonably be assured by one of the alternate forms of release.'" *Hernandez*, 872 F.3d at 990 (quoting *Pugh v. Rainwater*, 572 F.2d 1053, 1058 (5th Cir. 1978) (en banc)). Therefore, when determining the appropriate conditions of release for people detained for immigration purpose, due process requires "consideration of financial circumstances and alternative conditions of release." *Id.*; see also *Marinez v. Clark*, 36 F.4th 1219, 1231 (9th Cir. 2022) ("While the government had a legitimate interest in protecting the public and ensuring the appearance of noncitizens in immigration proceedings, we held [in *Hernandez*] that detaining an indigent alien without consideration of financial circumstances and alternative release conditions was 'unlikely to result' in a bond determination 'reasonably related to the government's legitimate interest.' (citation omitted).")

CLAIM FOR RELIEF

**VIOLATION OF THE DUE PROCESS CLAUSE OF THE FIFTH AMENDMENT TO THE U.S.
CONSTITUTION**

46. Petitioner re-alleges and incorporates by reference the paragraphs above.

47. The Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment forbids the government from depriving any “person” of liberty “without due process of law.” U.S. Const. amend. V.

48. To justify Petitioner’s ongoing prolonged detention, due process requires that the government establish, at an individualized hearing before a neutral decisionmaker, that Petitioner’s detention is justified by clear and convincing evidence of flight risk or danger, taking into account whether alternatives to detention could sufficiently mitigate that risk.

49. For these reasons, Petitioner’s ongoing prolonged detention without a hearing violates due process.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests that this Court:

- 1) Assume jurisdiction over this matter;
- 2) Issue a Writ of Habeas Corpus, hold a hearing before this Court if warranted, determine that Petitioner’s detention is not justified because the government has not established by clear and convincing evidence that Petitioner presents a risk of flight or danger in light of available alternatives to detention, and order Petitioner’s release (with appropriate conditions of supervision if necessary), taking into account Petitioner’s ability to pay a bond;
- 3) In the alternative, issue a Writ of Habeas Corpus and order Petitioner’s release within 30 days unless Respondents schedule a hearing before an immigration judge where: (1) to

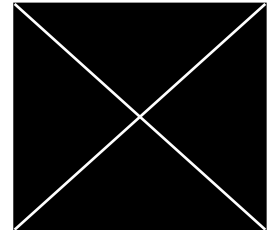
continue detention, the government must establish by clear and convincing evidence that Petitioner presents a risk of flight or danger, even after consideration of alternatives to detention that could mitigate any risk that Petitioner's release would present; and (2) if the government cannot meet its burden, the immigration judge order Petitioner's release on appropriate conditions of supervision, taking into account Petitioner's ability to pay a bond;

- 4) Issue a declaration that Petitioner's ongoing prolonged detention violates the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment;
- 5) Award Petitioner his costs and reasonable attorneys' fees in this action as provided for by the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412; and
- 6) Grant such further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Date: 11/13/2025

RISHABH PRAKASH MALIK

Signature:



Detained in ICE Custody at: **Golden State Annex**, 611 Frontage Road, McFarland, CA 93250