

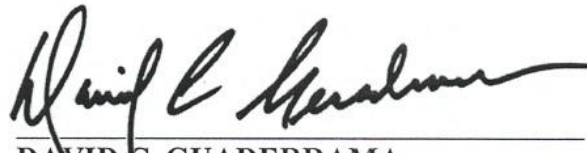
to expedite trial and eliminate unnecessary repetition and confusion.”⁵ The Fifth Circuit has urged district judges “to make good use of Rule 42(a)” under appropriate circumstances.⁶ Finally, “[a] district court is permitted to order consolidation pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 42(a) *sua sponte*.”⁷

Both Petitions implicate the same question of law: whether the Government is unlawfully detaining Petitioner. However, the Petitions were filed by different attorneys. The Court finds that this is an appropriate occasion to order consolidation under Rule 42 and thereby eliminate unnecessary repetition or confusion.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the two cases be consolidated. The *other* case (3:26-cv-00195) shall be the lead case. All future pleadings, motions, or other documents should be filed under that cause number.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all counsel representing Petitioner in these cases confer and, **no later than February 20, 2026**, file an amended Petition reflecting the attorney(s) who will remain counsel of record in the newly consolidated case.

So ORDERED and SIGNED this 12th day of February 2026.



DAVID C. GUADERRAMA
SENIOR U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE

⁵ *Miller v. USPS*, 729 F.2d 1033, 1036 (5th Cir. 1984).

⁶ *In re Air Crash Disaster at Fla. Everglades on Dec. 29, 1972*, 549 F.2d 1006, 1013 (5th Cir. 1977).

⁷ *Lester v. Exxon Mobil Corp.*, 879 F.3d 582, 592 (5th Cir. 2018).