IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

JOHN DOE		
	Petitioner,	Case No. 2:26 cv-1906
v.		
J.L. JAMISON, ET AL		
	Respondents.	

EMERGENCY MOTION FOR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER

Petitioner, by and through undersigned counsel, respectfully moves this Court for a Temporary Restraining Order. In support, Petitioner states as follows:

1. Petitioner is [redacted] who lawfully entered the United States with his wife and four minor children and timely filed an affirmative application for asylum with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. While awaiting adjudication of that application, Petitioner was arrested at his residence and is now detained at the Federal Detention Center in Philadelphia.
2. Petitioner's detention serves no legitimate purpose. He presents no danger to the community and no risk of flight. His continued detention is unlawful and is causing immediate and ongoing harm, including separation from his young children and interference with his ability to pursue his pending asylum application.

3. Petitioner files this motion concurrently with his Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus and seeks immediate relief to prevent further irreparable harm.

Petitioner Is Likely to Succeed on the Merits

4. As set forth in the Petition, immigration detention is civil in nature and must bear a reasonable relationship to a legitimate governmental purpose. Petitioner presents no danger to the community and no risk of flight. He entered lawfully, filed a timely asylum application, and has been residing with his family.
5. Under these circumstances, his continued detention is arbitrary and violates due process.

Petitioner Faces Irreparable Harm Absent Immediate Relief

6. Petitioner is currently detained and separated from his wife and four minor children, all under the age of eleven. This harm is immediate and ongoing.
7. Detention is also impairing Petitioner's ability to prepare and pursue his asylum application, including gathering evidence and communicating with counsel.
8. Additionally, there is a substantial risk that Petitioner may be transferred to a detention facility outside this District. Such a transfer would interfere with Petitioner's access to counsel and could frustrate this Court's jurisdiction, rendering habeas relief ineffective.
9. These harms cannot be remedied after the fact.

The Balance of Equities Favors Relief

10. Petitioner poses no danger and no risk of flight. The government has no legitimate interest in detaining a compliant asylum applicant under these circumstances.

11. By contrast, Petitioner faces significant harm from continued detention

The Public Interest Supports Relief

12. The public interest favors adherence to constitutional limits on civil detention and the preservation of meaningful access to the asylum process established by Congress.

RELIEF REQUESTED

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests that this Court:

(a) Issue a Temporary Restraining Order directing Respondents to immediately release Petitioner from custody;

(b) In the alternative, enjoin Respondents from transferring Petitioner outside the jurisdiction of this Court pending resolution of this Petition;

(c) Schedule an expedited hearing on the Petition; and

(d) Grant such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Date: March 24, 2026

/s/Michelle S Payne

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ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

JOHN DOE	:	
	Petitioner,	: Case No. 2:26-cv- 1906
v.		:
J.L. JAMISON, ET AL		:
	Respondents.	:

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Michelle S Payne, Esquire, attorney for the Petitioner, *hereby certify that on this 24th day of March 2026, I served a true copy of the* following documents by electronic filing and USPS first class mail upon the parties named below:

MOTION FOR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER and

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/s/ Michelle S Payne

Date: March 24, 2026

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