

1 ADAM GORDON
United States Attorney
2 HUNTER V. NORTON
Assistant U.S. Attorney
3 Washington, D.C. Bar No. 1780736
Office of the U.S. Attorney
4 880 Front Street, Room 6293
San Diego, CA 92101-8893
5 Telephone: (619) 546-8592
Email: Hunter.Norton2@usdoj.gov

6 Attorneys for Respondent
7

8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
9 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
10

11 ANTONIO DE JESUS MENDEZ,

12
13 Petitioner,
14

15 v.

16 MARKWAYNE MULLIN, Secretary of the
Department of Homeland Security; *et al.*,

17 Respondents.
18
19

Case No. 26-cv-02963-BAS-AHG

RETURN TO PETITION FOR
WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS

20 Petitioner appears to be a member of the Bond Eligible Class certified in *Maldonado*
21 *Bautista v. Santacruz*, No. 5:25-CV-01873-SSS-BFM, --- F. Supp. 3d ---, 2025 WL
22 3288403 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 25, 2025). The Ninth Circuit later stayed application of the Order
23 beyond the Central District of California. However, Respondents acknowledge the prior
24 orders from this District directing bond hearings pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a) in similar
25 cases.¹
26

27
28 ¹ To the extent the Court issues an order directing a bond hearing under 1226(a),
considering heavy caseloads and staffing levels, Respondents respectfully request that such

1 Respondents therefore do not oppose an order from this Court directing a bond
2 hearing be held pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a).

3
4 DATED: June 3, 2026

ADAM GORDON
United States Attorney

5
6 s/ Hunter Norton
HUNTER V. NORTON
7 Assistant United States Attorney
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26

27 _____
28 order provide the government 14 days from issuance to hold such bond hearing.