

ZANDRA L. LOPEZ
California State Bar No. 216567
FEDERAL DEFENDERS OF SAN DIEGO, INC.
225 Broadway, Suite 900
San Diego, California 92101-5030
Telephone: (619) 234-8467
Facsimile: (619) 687-2666
Zandra_Lopez@fd.org

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

ILIJAS DUKA,

Petitioner,

v.

CHRISTOPHER LAROSE, Warden,
Otay Mesa Detention Center, et al.,

Respondents.

CASE NO.: 26-cv-3564-AGS-DEB

Status Report

On July 14, 2026, this Court referred this petition to Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc., and requested Federal Defenders to file a notice addressing whether it accepts appointment, and if so, file an amended petition by July 21, 2026. On July 14, a notice of appearance was filed for undersigned counsel but undersigned counsel could not access a sealed document that was part of the record. Through the assistance of the Court, counsel was provided with the sealed document on the evening of July 21, the date the status report and any amended petition was due to the Court. Unfortunately, Counsel inadvertently missed requesting the additional time necessary to properly evaluate the case and now files this status report and request for amended briefing schedule.

1 Federal Defenders has completed a preliminary evaluation and is willing
2 and able to represent Mr. Duka in this matter. The parties have met and conferred
3 and have agreed upon a proposed briefing schedule, as follows: Petitioner's
4 Amended Habeas Petition filed by July 28, 2026, Respondent's Response filed by
5 August 4, 2026, and Petitioner's reply due no later than August 11, 2026. Thus, it
6 is requested that the Court grant the proposed briefing schedule.

7
8 Respectfully submitted,

9 Dated: July 22, 2026

s/ Zandra Luz Lopez

ZANDRA LUZ LOPEZ

Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc.

Email: Zandra_Lopez@fd.org