ADAM GORDON
United States Attorney
DANIELLE L. BROWN
Colorado State Bar No. 57814
Special Assistant U.S. Attorney
Office of the U.S. Attorney
880 Front Street, Room 6293
San Diego, CA 92101
Telephone: (619) 546-8693
Facsimile: (619) 546-7751
Email: danielle.brown2@usdoj.gov

Attorneys for Respondents

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

ISMAEL BENJAMIN DOMINGO FELIPE, Petitioner, v. PATRICK DIVVER, *Field Office Director of Enforcement and Removal Operations, San Diego Field Office, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, et al.,* Respondents.	Case No.: 26-cv-04059-RSH-JLB **RESPONSE TO PETITION**

Petitioner has filed a habeas petition under 28 U.S.C. § 2241. The government has carefully reviewed this petition and determined that the legal issues presented concern the statutory authority for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) detention of Petitioner under 8 U.S.C. §§ 1225(b)(2)(A) or 1226(a). While reserving all rights, including the right to appeal, the government respectfully submits this abbreviated response to

preserve the legal issues, to conserve judicial and party resources, and to expedite the Court's consideration of this matter.

It is the government's position that Petitioner is subject to mandatory detention under § 1225(b)(2). However, the government acknowledges that Petitioner appears to be a member of the Bond Eligible Class certified in *Maldonado Bautista v. Santacruz*, 813 F. Supp. 3d 1084 (C.D. Cal. 2025). The Ninth Circuit has stayed application of the Order beyond the Central District of California. However, Respondents acknowledge the prior orders from this District directing bond hearings pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a) in similar cases. Respondents therefore do not oppose an order from this Court directing a bond hearing be held pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a).[1]

DATED: July 21, 2026

ADAM GORDON
United States Attorney

s/ Danielle L. Brown
DANIELLE L. BROWN
Special Assistant United States Attorney

[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 order provide the government 14 days from issuance to hold such bond hearing. The Ninth Circuit has confirmed that at a bond hearing under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), the burden is on the detainee to demonstrate by a preponderance of the evidence that he is not a flight risk or danger to the community. *See Rodriguez Diaz v. Garland*, 53 F.4th 1189, 1197 (9th Cir. 2022); *see also Dos Santos v. Becerra*, No. 26-cv-01423-GPC-VET, 2026 WL 800201 (S.D. Cal. Mar. 23, 2026).