

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

LUIS I. A.,

Case No. 26-cv-585 (LMP/DTS)

Petitioner,

v.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

DAVID EASTERWOOD, *Director of St. Paul Field Office, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement*; KRISTI NOEM, *Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security*; and PAMELA BONDI, *Attorney General of the United States, in their official capacities,*

Respondents.

Petitioner Luis I. A. is a citizen of Ecuador who entered the United States without inspection in 2007. ECF No. 1 ¶ 14. He was arrested by immigration officers on January 23, 2026, and remains in the custody of United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement. *Id.* ¶¶ 15, 17. He asserts that Respondents (the “Government”) have detained him pursuant to the mandatory detention provisions of 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2). *See id.* ¶ 18. Luis I. A. contends that he is not subject to mandatory detention under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2) but instead is entitled to a bond hearing under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a). *See id.*

This Court has concluded that noncitizens similarly situated to Luis I. A. are not subject to mandatory detention under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2) and are entitled to a bond hearing under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a). *See Roberto M. F. v. Olson*, No. 25-cv-4456 (LMP/ECW), 2025 WL 3524455, at *4 (D. Minn. Dec. 9, 2025); *Victor Hugo D. P. v.*

Olson, No. 25-cv-4593 (LMP/DTS), 2025 WL 3688074, at *2–3 (D. Minn. Dec. 19, 2025). Luis I. A. raises the same legal issues and largely requests the same relief granted in those cases—namely, an order requiring the Government to conduct a bond hearing. *See* ECF No. 1 at 11.

This Court will not depart from its reasoning in *Robert M. F. and Victor Hugo D. P.* Accordingly, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that:

1. The Government is directed to file an answer to Petitioner Luis I. A.’s Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (ECF No. 1) on or before Tuesday, January 27, 2026, certifying the true cause and proper duration of Luis I. A.’s confinement and showing cause why the writ should not issue in this case;
2. The Government’s answer must include:
 - a. Such affidavits and exhibits as are needed to establish the lawfulness and correct duration of Luis I. A.’s detention in light of the issues raised in his Petition;
 - b. A reasoned memorandum of law and fact explaining the Government’s legal position on Luis I. A.’s claims;
 - c. The Government’s recommendation on whether an evidentiary hearing should be conducted; and
 - d. A good-faith argument as to whether—and if so, why—this matter is *materially* distinguishable, either factually or legally, from *Roberto M. F. and Victor Hugo D. P.*;

3. If Luis I. A. intends to file a reply to the Government's answer, he must do so on or before Thursday, January 29, 2026;¹
4. No further submissions from the parties will be permitted except as authorized by Court order;
5. Luis I. A.'s Motion for a Temporary Restraining Order (ECF No. 3) is **GRANTED IN PART**. The Government is **ENJOINED** from moving Luis I. A. outside of the District of Minnesota during the pendency of these proceedings, so that Luis I. A. may consult with his counsel and participate in this litigation while the Court considers his Petition. *See Francisco T. v. Bondi*, No. 25-cv-03219 (JMB/DTS), 2025 WL 2629800, at *2 (D. Minn. Aug. 13, 2025); and
6. If Luis I. A. has been removed from the District of Minnesota, the Government is **ORDERED** to immediately return Luis I. A. to Minnesota.

Dated: January 23, 2026
Time: 2:22 p.m.

s/ Laura M. Provinzino

Laura M. Provinzino
United States District Judge

¹ The Court reserves the right to grant the Petition before Luis I. A. files his reply brief if the Government's answer plainly demonstrates that Luis I. A. is entitled to relief.