

ENTERED

March 16, 2026

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
LAREDO DIVISION**

ORLANDO LOPEZ PEREZ,
Petitioner,

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V.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 5:26-CV-00387

KRISTI NOEM, et al.,
Respondents.

ORDER

Before the Court is Petitioner’s Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, (Dkt. No. 1). Petitioner challenges the constitutionality of his detention in federal immigration custody. Petitioner names Kristi Noem, Secretary of U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Miguel Vergara, Director the Harlingen and San Antonio Field Offices, ICE ERO division; Todd Lyons, Acting Director of ICE; Pamela Bondi, U.S. Attorney General; Norval Vasquez, Warden of the Rio Grande Processing Center; and U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), as Respondents.

Based upon a review of the Petition, the Court **ORDERS** Respondents to file a response to the petition and serve their response on Petitioner **no later than March 23, 2026.** 28 U.S.C. § 2243. Respondents should attach relevant evidence from Petitioner’s A-file to support its assertions of fact. Should Petitioner wish to file a reply, they must do so **no later than March 30, 2026.**¹

Petitioner is DIRECTED to serve the petition, (Dkt. No. 1), and its attachments on Respondents via certified mail pursuant to Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and include a copy of this Order with that service. Petitioner is **ORDERED** to file proof that service was sent via certified mail to Respondents **by March 19, 2026.**

The Court further **DIRECTS** the Clerk of Court to send the Petition, (Dkt. No. 1), and this Order to the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Texas by electronic mail to USATXS.CivilNotice@usdoj.gov to provide notice of this action to

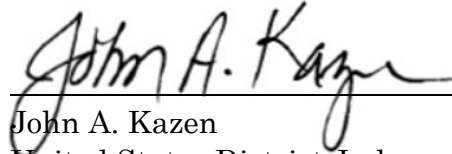
¹ Any deadlines set forth in a civil summons issued by the Clerk of Court are superseded by the deadlines set forth in this Order.

Respondents. Respondents will not be served further notice of activity on this docket automatically. Instead, they must arrange to monitor the docket themselves, either by automatic electronic service or otherwise.

Additionally, Respondents are **ORDERED** to notify Petitioner's counsel and the Court of any anticipated or planned transfer or removal of Petitioner outside of the Southern District of Texas **at least five (5) days** before any such transfer.

It is so **ORDERED**.

SIGNED on March 16, 2026.



John A. Kazen
United States District Judge