

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF
LOUISIANA, MONROE DIVISION

Tayem Tieh Isabel v. Judge S. Maurice Hicks, Jr., Warden Richwood
Correctional Center, Magistrate Judge Perez-Montes

Isabel · No. 3:26-CV-00569 · Decided April 2, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana issues a memorandum order concerning Tayem Tieh Isabel’s petition for a writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 challenging her immigration detention. The court directs service of the petition and order on the specified government respondents and requires a response with summary-judgment evidence within 21 days of service, followed by a 14-day period for petitioner’s contradictory evidence.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana, Monroe Division
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Joseph H.L. Perez-Montes
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana, Monroe Division
DECIDED	April 2, 2026
DOCKET	3:26-CV-00569
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Petitioner filed a pro se petition for a writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 seeking release from immigration detention. The court ordered the respondents to respond and directed the parties to submit summary-judgment evidence concerning the lawfulness of the detention.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court will determine after the record is complete whether genuine issues of material fact preclude summary judgment and require an evidentiary hearing.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Likely nonprecedential memorandum order; the opinion orders briefing and does not resolve the merits of the detention challenge.

PARTIES

Tayem Tieh Isabel v. Judge S. Maurice Hicks, Jr., Warden Richwood Correctional Center, Magistrate Judge Perez-Montes

TOPICS

immigration detention

federal habeas corpus

summary judgment

civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

immigration law

federal habeas corpus

civil procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court should require the respondents to respond to Isabel's § 2241 petition challenging the lawfulness of her immigration detention.
2. What briefing and evidentiary schedule should govern the parties' submissions concerning the lawfulness of the detention.

HOLDINGS

1. The court may, in its discretion, order the respondents to file an answer, motion, or other response to a habeas petition and, in this case, ordered the respondents to respond to Isabel's petition.
2. The court ordered respondents to file a response within 21 days after service, with summary-judgment evidence regarding the lawfulness of the detention, and allowed Isabel 14 days after the response to submit contradictory summary-judgment evidence.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“After the record is complete and delays have run, the Court will determine if genuine issues of material fact exist, which preclude summary judgment and necessitate an evidentiary hearing.”

“If no hearing is necessary, a Report and Recommendation will be issued without further notice.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Tayem Tieh Isabel is an immigration detainee held at Richwood Correctional Center in Monroe, Louisiana. She had been detained since January 1, 2025, was ordered removed on October 8, 2025, and appealed the removal order on October 29, 2025. No briefing schedule had been set for the removal appeal when she filed the § 2241 petition seeking release from detention.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Isabel had been detained since January 1, 2025, was ordered removed on October 8, 2025, and appealed the removal order on October 29, 2025. She then filed this § 2241 petition seeking release from detention. The court did not decide the lawfulness of the detention; instead, it directed service and set deadlines for the respondents' response and petitioner's reply.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- 552 U.S. 264, 278 (2008)
- 2018 WL 4869383, at *1 (W.D. La. 2018)
- 2008 WL 835764, at *2 (E.D. Cal. 2008)
- 162 F. Supp. 2d 575, 577 (N.D. Tex. 2001)
- 952 F. Supp. 348 (S.D.W. Va. 1997)
- 2020 WL 1848073, at *1 (E.D. La. Apr. 13, 2020)

OPINION

a UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA MONROE DIVISION TAYEM TIEH ISABEL #A221-389- CIVIL DOCKET NO. 3:26-CV-00569 645, SEC P Petitioner VERSUS JUDGE S. MAURICE HICKS, JR. WARDEN RICHWOOD MAGISTRATE JUDGE PEREZ-MONTES CORRECTIONAL CENTER, Respondents MEMORANDUM ORDER Before the Court is a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 (ECF No. 1) filed by pro se Petitioner Tayem Tieh Isabel (“Isabel”), an immigration detainee at Richwood Correctional Center in Monroe, Louisiana.

Isabel seeks release from detention.¹ A court may order a respondent to file an answer, motion, or other response, in its discretion. 28 U.S.C. § 2243; Rule 4 of the Rules Governing § 2254 Cases;; 552 U.S. 264, 278 (2008);, 6:18-CV-00544, 2018 WL 4869383, at *1 (W.D. La. 2018) (Hanna, 1 Isabel has been detained since January 1, 2025. ECF No. 1 at 4. She was ordered removed on October 8, 2025, and she appealed.

Although her appeal was filed on October 29, 2025, no briefing schedule has been set. <https://acis.eoir.justice.gov/en/caseInformation> M.J.)². And this Court has determined that a 21 day briefing schedule with seven days to reply is reasonable and appropriate in similar cases.

Accordingly, to determine whether Isabel is entitled to relief, THE CLERK IS DIRECTED to serve a summons, a copy of the Petition (ECF No. 1), and a copy of this Order, by certified mail, on: (1) the United States through the United States Attorney for the Western District of Louisiana; (2) the United States Attorney General; (3) DHS/ICE through its Office of General Counsel; and (4) the Warden where Isabel is detained.

IT IS ORDERED that a Response be filed within 21 days following the date of service, with summary judgment evidence regarding the lawfulness of her detention. IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED that Petitioner shall have 14 days following the filing of Respondents' answer to produce contradictory summary judgment evidence on the issue of the lawfulness of her detention.

After the record is complete and delays have run, the Court will determine if genuine issues of material fact exist, which preclude summary judgment and necessitate an evidentiary hearing. If no hearing is necessary, a Report and Recommendation will be issued without further notice. 2 Under Rule 1(b), the Rules Governing § 2254 Cases also apply to § 2241 habeas cases., 2008 WL 835764, *2 (E.D.

Cal. 2008);, 162 F. Supp. 2d 575, 577 (N.D. Tex. 2001);, 952 F. Supp. 348 (S.D.W. Va. 1997);, 20-CV-449, 2020 WL 1848073, at *1 (E.D. La. Apr. 13, 2020) ("District courts are therefore free to apply these rules to habeas petitions brought under 28 U.S.C. § 2241"). SIGNED on Thursday, April 2, 2026. _____ JOSEPH H.L. PEREZ-MONTES
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE