

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Haliloglu v. Rhoney

Haliloglu · No. 26-CV-0769-MAV · Decided June 5, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Western District of New York declined to exercise jurisdiction under the Declaratory Judgment Act over claims arising from Nusret Haliloglu’s immigration detention. Because the Court had ordered a bond hearing and the Immigration Judge subsequently ordered release on bond, the Court dismissed the habeas petition without prejudice to pursuing the constitutional claims in a separate civil action and directed the Clerk to close the case.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Western District of New York
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Meredith A. Vacca
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Western District of New York
DECIDED	June 5, 2026
DOCKET	26-CV-0769-MAV
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Petition for a writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241, with accompanying constitutional and Administrative Procedure Act claims, following the issuance of a bond hearing and release on bond. The court declined to exercise jurisdiction over the request for declaratory relief and dismissed the petition without prejudice.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court exercised broad discretion under the Declaratory Judgment Act to determine whether to decline jurisdiction over the request for declaratory relief.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unpublished district court order; precedential status is not identified in the source metadata.
PARTIES	Nusret Haliloglu v. Philip Rhoney, in his official capacity as Acting Field Director of the Buffalo Field Office of United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, et al.

TOPICS

immigration detention

habeas corpus

declaratory judgment

remedies

constitutional law

PRACTICE AREAS

immigration

administrative law

constitutional law

civil procedure

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QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court should exercise jurisdiction under the Declaratory Judgment Act to issue declaratory relief after the petitioner's detention and bond-hearing issue had been resolved.
2. Whether the petition should be dismissed without prejudice after the petitioner obtained a bond hearing and release on bond.

HOLDINGS

1. The court may, in its broad discretion, decline to exercise jurisdiction over a request for declaratory relief after weighing the relevant Declaratory Judgment Act factors, and the court declined jurisdiction here.
2. The petition was dismissed without prejudice to the petitioner's pursuit of his constitutional claims in a separate civil action.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“As the Second Circuit has recognized, federal district courts have broad discretion to decline jurisdiction under the Declaratory Judgment Act (“DJA”), 28 U.S.C. § 2201, based on the consideration of the following factors:” (57 F.4th 99-100)

“It is clear, not only from the language of [§] 2241(c)(3)..., but also from the common-law history of the writ, that the essence of habeas corpus is an attack by a person in custody upon the legality of that custody, and that the traditional function of the writ is to secure release from illegal custody.” (411 U.S. 484)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Haliloglu was detained by immigration authorities without an initial bond hearing and filed a § 2241 petition challenging the legality of his detention and asserting constitutional and APA violations. The court concluded that 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a) governed the detention and ordered respondents to provide a bond hearing. After the hearing, an immigration judge ordered Haliloglu released on a \$5,000 bond, but Haliloglu continued to seek declaratory relief on his substantive due process, APA, and Fourth Amendment claims.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Haliloglu filed a verified § 2241 habeas petition alleging violations of the Fourth Amendment, Fifth Amendment, and APA. After the court ordered respondents to show cause, respondents conceded that the case presented a common question of law with *Da Cunha v. Freden*. The court determined that Haliloglu's detention was governed by 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a) and ordered a bond hearing. An immigration judge subsequently ordered Haliloglu released on a \$5,000 bond. Haliloglu continued to seek declaratory relief on constitutional and APA

claims, but the court declined jurisdiction under the Declaratory Judgment Act and dismissed the petition without prejudice.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- Da Cunha v. Freden, No. 25-CV-6532-MAV, 2025 WL 3280575 (W.D.N.Y. Nov. 25, 2025), *aff'd*, No. 25-3141-pr, 2026 WL 1146044 (2d Cir. Apr. 28, 2026)
- Admiral Ins. Co. v. Niagara Transformer Corp., 57 F.4th 85, 99-100 (2d Cir. 2023)
- Preiser v. Rodriguez, 411 U.S. 475, 484 (1973)

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