

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

Jacinto Taron Robinson v. Warden, FCI-Mendota

No. 1:25-cv-01189-SKO (HC) · No. No. 1:25-cv-01189-SKO (HC) · Decided September 16, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of California dismissed Jacinto Taron Robinson’s 28 U.S.C. § 2241 habeas petition because it lacked an original signature and failed to state a discernible cognizable claim. The court granted Robinson thirty days to file a signed First Amended Petition addressing the deficiencies and directed the Clerk to provide a blank § 2241 form.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Sheila K. Oberto
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
DECIDED	September 16, 2025
DOCKET	No. 1:25-cv-01189-SKO (HC)
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Federal prisoner filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241. On preliminary review, the court dismissed the petition for failure to state a cognizable claim and failure to include an original signature, while granting leave to file a first amended petition.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Under Habeas Rule 4, the court must conduct a preliminary review and dismiss a petition if it plainly appears from the petition that the petitioner is not entitled to relief. A habeas petition should not be dismissed without leave to amend unless no tenable claim for relief could be pleaded if leave were granted.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished
PARTIES	Jacinto Taron Robinson v. Warden, FCI-Mendota

TOPICS

- federal habeas corpus
- post-conviction relief
- pleadings
- due process
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

federal habeas corpus

prisoner litigation

post-conviction relief

civil procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the petition should be dismissed at preliminary review because it failed to state a cognizable habeas claim.
2. Whether the petition should be dismissed because it lacked the petitioner's original signature under penalty of perjury.
3. Whether Robinson should be granted leave to file an amended petition.

HOLDINGS

1. The petition failed to state a discernible, cognizable claim for relief because it did not identify how the alleged conduct violated Robinson's constitutional rights and lacked sufficient factual support.
2. The petition was defective because it did not contain an original signature under penalty of perjury.
3. The petition was dismissed with leave to file a first amended petition within thirty days.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“A petition for habeas corpus should not be dismissed without leave to amend unless it appears that no tenable claim for relief can be pleaded were such leave granted.” (at 1)

“the essence of habeas corpus is an attack by a person in custody upon the legality of that custody” (at 1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Robinson, a federal prisoner, challenged a January 24, 2025 disciplinary hearing concerning possession of drugs in prison. He alleged that he lost 41 days of time credits in retaliation for pursuing administrative remedies and raised additional, unclear challenges concerning testing, statements by prison agents, the timing of punishment, and the actions of another inmate. He did not allege specific constitutional violations or attach the disciplinary hearing report, and the petition lacked an original signature.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Robinson filed the § 2241 petition on September 12, 2025, challenging a prison disciplinary finding involving possession of drugs and a 41-day loss of time credits. The court conducted preliminary review and found that the petition was unsigned and that its claims were insufficiently detailed and did not identify a discernible constitutional violation. The court dismissed the petition with thirty days to amend.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- *Hendricks v. Vasquez*, 908 F.2d 490, 491 (9th Cir. 1990)
- *Jarvis v. Nelson*, 440 F.2d 13, 14 (9th Cir. 1971)
- *Preiser v. Rodriguez*, 411 U.S. 475, 484 (1973)

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