

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
NEW YORK

Sebastian Renoj Ordonez v. Kenneth Genalo, et al.

Renoj Ordonez v. Genalo · No. 26 Civ. 407 (JPC) · Decided January 16, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of New York issued an order in a habeas action brought under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 concerning the petitioner’s detention and location. The court directed the U.S. Attorney’s Office to respond by January 22, 2026, permitted a reply by January 29, 2026, and instructed the parties to address the potential applicability of *Chen v. Almodovar*.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Southern District of New York
WRITING FOR THE COURT	John P. Cronan
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Southern District of New York
DECIDED	January 16, 2026
DOCKET	26 Civ. 407 (JPC)
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Petition for a writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241; the court issued an initial case-management order directing the Government to respond.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Nonprecedential interlocutory order
PARTIES	Sebastian Renoj Ordonez v. Kenneth Genalo, et al.

TOPICS

- federal habeas corpus
- immigration detention
- pleadings
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- Federal habeas corpus
- Immigration detention
- Federal civil procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- What is the legal basis for Petitioner’s detention and where is Petitioner being held?

2. If the Government relies on 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2)(A), whether there is a basis to distinguish *Chen v. Almodovar*.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“By January 22, 2026, the U.S. Attorney’s Office shall file an answer or other pleadings in response to the Petition, explaining the basis for Petitioner’s detention and Petitioner’s location.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Petitioner filed a petition under 28 U.S.C. § 2241. The petition concerns Petitioner’s detention, and the court directed the Government to explain both the legal basis for the detention and Petitioner’s location. The order instructed the parties to address the potential applicability of a recent decision involving detention under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2)(A).

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Petitioner filed a § 2241 petition challenging the basis and circumstances of his detention. The court ordered the U.S. Attorney’s Office to notify the Civil Division, file an answer or other responsive pleading explaining the basis for the detention and Petitioner’s location, and address the possible applicability of *Chen v. Almodovar*. Petitioner was permitted to file reply papers.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- *Chen v. Almodovar*, No. 25 Civ. 9670 (JPC), 2026 WL 100761 (S.D.N.Y. Jan. 14, 2026)