

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

Hector H.G. v. Warden of the Golden State Annex Facility, et al.

Hector H.G. · No. 1:26-cv-00198-TLN-SCR · Decided January 12, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of California grants Hector H.G.’s motion for a temporary restraining order challenging his immigration detention. The Court orders his immediate release, requires constitutional safeguards before any re-arrest or re-detention, grants in forma pauperis status and appointed counsel, and issues an order to show cause regarding a preliminary injunction.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Troy L. Nunley
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
DECIDED	January 12, 2026
DOCKET	1:26-cv-00198-TLN-SCR
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Petitioner filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus challenging his immigration detention. The court construed the pleading as a motion for a temporary restraining order and granted the TRO, along with petitioner's motions to proceed in forma pauperis and for appointed counsel.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	A TRO requires a showing that the movant is likely to succeed on the merits, likely to suffer irreparable harm absent relief, that the balance of equities favors relief, and that an injunction is in the public interest. The court also applied the procedural due process framework requiring identification of a protected liberty interest and evaluation of the procedures required under the three Mathews v. Eldridge factors.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Nonprecedential district court order granting a temporary restraining order.
PARTIES	Hector H.G. v. Warden of the Golden State Annex Facility, et al.

TOPICS

immigration detention

procedural due process

injunctions

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PRACTICE AREAS

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immigration detention

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QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether petitioner was entitled to a temporary restraining order against his immigration detention.
2. Whether petitioner was likely to succeed on a procedural due process claim based on detention without a bond or custody redetermination hearing.
3. Whether the court could order petitioner's immediate release and prohibit re-arrest or re-detention absent specified constitutional protections.
4. Whether the bond requirement under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(c) should be waived.

HOLDINGS

1. Petitioner satisfied the applicable TRO requirements because he showed a likelihood of success on the merits, irreparable harm, that the balance of equities favored him, and that relief was in the public interest.
2. Petitioner was likely entitled to procedural due process consisting of a hearing before a neutral decision-maker to determine whether his detention was warranted.
3. The court ordered petitioner released immediately and enjoined respondents from re-arresting or re-detaining him absent constitutional protections, including seven days' notice and a hearing before a neutral fact-finder under specified conditions.
4. The court waived the security requirement under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(c).

KEY QUOTATIONS

“On balance, the Court finds the Matthews factors demonstrate Petitioner is entitled to due process – a hearing to determine whether his detention was warranted.” (at 4)

“Therefore, the Court GRANTS Petitioner’s request for immediate release.” (at 6)

“Respondents are ENJOINED and RESTRAINED from re-arresting or re-detaining Petitioner absent compliance with constitutional protections, including seven-days’ notice and a hearing before a neutral fact-finder” (at 7)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Petitioner, an asylum seeker who entered the United States on June 5, 2024, was released by ICE on his own recognizance subject to reporting conditions and electronic monitoring. He reportedly complied with those conditions for more than a year before ICE detained him at a scheduled in-person check-in on October 29, 2025, allegedly because he submitted required photographs late. He was not given a pre-deprivation or prompt post-

deprivation opportunity to contest the detention before a neutral decision-maker, and the detention separated him from his partner and three minor children.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Petitioner was detained by ICE after appearing for a scheduled check-in and filed this action challenging the lawfulness of his detention. The district court construed the petition as a TRO motion, found that the Winter factors favored petitioner, ordered his immediate release, imposed constitutional prerequisites on any re-arrest or re-detention, and ordered respondents to show cause why a preliminary injunction should not issue.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Estelle v. Gamble, 429 U.S. 97, 106 (1976)
- Winter v. Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc., 555 U.S. 7, 20 (2008)
- Alliance for the Wild Rockies v. Cottrell, 632 F.3d 1127, 1134-35 (9th Cir. 2011)
- Hernandez v. Sessions, 872 F.3d 976, 990, 995 (9th Cir. 2017)
- Zadvvydas v. Davis, 533 U.S. 678, 693-94 (2001)
- Kentucky Department of Corrections v. Thompson, 490 U.S. 454, 460 (1989)
- Rico-Tapia v. Smith, No. CV 25-00379 SASP-KJM, 2025 WL 2950089, at *8 (D. Haw. Oct. 10, 2025)
- Doe v. Becerra, 787 F. Supp. 3d 1083, 1093 (E.D. Cal. 2025)
- Bernal v. Albarran, No. 25-CV-09772-RS, 2025 WL 3281422, at *6 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 25, 2025)
- Mathews v. Eldridge, 424 U.S. 319, 335 (1976)
- Manzanarez v. Bondi, No. 1:25-CV-01536-DC-CKD (HC), 2025 WL 3247258, at *4 (E.D. Cal. Nov. 20, 2025)
- R.D.T.M. v. Wofford, No. 1:25-CV-01141-KES-SKO (HC), 2025 WL 2617255, at *4 (E.D. Cal. Sept. 9, 2025)
- Garcia v. Andrews, No. 2:25-CV-01884-TLN-SCR, 2025 WL 1927596, at *5 (E.D. Cal. July 14, 2025)
- Melendres v. Arpaio, 695 F.3d 990, 1002 (9th Cir. 2012)
- Elrod v. Burns, 427 U.S. 347, 373 (1976)
- National Urban League v. Ross, 484 F. Supp. 3d 802, 807 (N.D. Cal. 2020)
- Drakes Bay Oyster Co. v. Jewell, 747 F.3d 1073, 1092 (9th Cir. 2014)
- Zepeda v. U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, 753 F.2d 719, 727 (9th Cir. 1983)
- Diaz v. Kaiser, No. 3:25-CV-05071, 2025 WL 1676854, at *3 (N.D. Cal. June 14, 2025)
- Diaz v. Brewer, 656 F.3d 1008, 1015 (9th Cir. 2011)

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