

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF
WASHINGTON

Fawan Hassan Fadul Mohamed v. Immigration and Customs
Enforcement Field Office Director and Facility Administrator

Fadul Mohamed · No. 2:26-cv-00181-TL · Decided January 20, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Western District of Washington denied as moot the petitioner's motion to expedite the government's response because the court's scheduling order already provided expedited deadlines. The court denied the petitioner's motion for a temporary restraining order, with leave to refile, finding that he had not shown a likelihood of success on the merits or likely irreparable harm from a transfer.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Western District of Washington
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Tana Lin
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Western District of Washington
DECIDED	January 20, 2026
DOCKET	2:26-cv-00181-TL
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Petitioner filed a proposed petition for a writ of habeas corpus, a motion for a temporary restraining order, and a motion to expedite the government's response. The district court addressed both motions before Respondents filed their return.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	A TRO is an extraordinary remedy governed by the four Winter factors: likelihood of success on the merits, likelihood of irreparable harm absent relief, balance of equities, and the public interest. All four elements must be satisfied.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished

TOPICS

- federal habeas corpus
- immigration detention
- injunctions
- removal proceedings
- immigration

PRACTICE AREAS

immigration law

federal habeas corpus

injunctive relief

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the motion to expedite the government's response should be granted when the court's existing scheduling order already provided the requested relief.
2. Whether Petitioner was entitled to a temporary restraining order preventing his transfer from Tacoma based on the Winter factors.

HOLDINGS

1. The motion to expedite was denied as moot because the existing scheduling order already provided the requested expedited schedule.
2. The motion for a TRO was denied because Petitioner failed to establish the required likelihood of success on the merits and likelihood of irreparable harm.
3. A future TRO motion must provide sufficient information concerning Petitioner's circumstances and the reasons for relief and must comply with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65 and Local Civil Rule 65.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“A party seeking a TRO must establish: (1) a likelihood of success on the merits; (2) a likelihood of irreparable harm in the absence of the preliminary relief; (3) a balancing of equities tips in favor of the injunction; and (4) the injunction is in the public interest.” (at 2)

“Motions for temporary restraining orders should be reserved for matters where the petitioner alleges imminent, irreparable harm, such as imminent removal from the United States.” (at 3)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Petitioner was apparently detained by immigration authorities in Tacoma, Washington and sought habeas relief. He asked the court to prohibit his transfer from Tacoma until he was removed from the United States or released, but he provided no information showing a likelihood of success on the habeas petition or that the government planned to move him.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On January 16, 2026, Petitioner filed an application to proceed in forma pauperis, a proposed federal habeas petition, and several motions, including motions for a TRO and to expedite the government's response. The court granted in forma pauperis status, entered a scheduling order requiring Respondents' return by January 30, 2026, and required advance notice before Petitioner could be moved or removed. The habeas petition was served electronically on Respondents. The court denied the motion to expedite as moot and denied the TRO with leave to refile.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Winter v. Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc., 555 U.S. 7, 20, 24 (2008)
- Stuhlberg International Sales Co. v. John D. Brush & Co., 240 F.3d 832, 839 n.7 (9th Cir. 2001)
- hiQ Labs, Inc. v. LinkedIn Corp., 31 F.4th 1180, 1188 (9th Cir. 2022)

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