

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF
INDIANA, SOUTH BEND DIVISION

S.N.H. v. Brian English, Todd M. Lyons, Kristi Noem, Pamela Bondi,
and Samuel Olson

Cause No. 3:25-CV-993 DRL-SJF (N.D. Ind. Dec. 30, 2025) · No. 3:25-CV-993 DRL-SJF · Decided December
30, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana granted in part S.N.H.'s 28 U.S.C. § 2241 habeas petition challenging his continued detention after an immigration judge ordered his release on bond. The court held that 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2) did not apply to S.N.H. and determined that the 90-day automatic stay of the bond order under 8 C.F.R. §§ 1003.19(i)(2) and 1003.6(c) had expired. The court ordered respondents to allow S.N.H. to post the \$20,000 bond and to certify compliance after bond was posted.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana, South Bend Division
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Damon R. Leichty
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana, South Bend Division
DECIDED	December 30, 2025
DOCKET	3:25-CV-993 DRL-SJF
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Petition for a writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 challenging immigration detention and the automatic stay of an immigration judge's bond-release order.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished

TOPICS

- immigration detention
- removal proceedings
- administrative law
- judicial review of agency action
- due process

PRACTICE AREAS

immigration law

habeas corpus

administrative law

constitutional law

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court had jurisdiction over S.N.H.'s § 2241 habeas petition despite immigration jurisdiction-stripping provisions.
2. Whether 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2) authorized S.N.H.'s mandatory detention while his removal proceedings were pending.
3. Whether the automatic-stay provision in 8 C.F.R. § 1003.19(i)(2) was unlawful under due process principles or the Immigration and Nationality Act.
4. Whether S.N.H. was entitled to post bond after the regulatory automatic stay expired.

HOLDINGS

1. The district court had jurisdiction over S.N.H.'s habeas petition.
2. Section 1225(b)(2) did not apply to S.N.H.; therefore, respondents could not justify his continued detention on the ground that he was subject to mandatory detention as an applicant for admission under that provision.
3. The automatic stay of S.N.H.'s bond-release order had expired, and S.N.H. was entitled to post bond in accordance with the immigration judge's September 2, 2025 order.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“when “the Board has not acted on the custody appeal, the automatic stay shall lapse 90 days after the filing of the notice of appeal.””

“the court finds the automatic stay has expired and S.N.H. must be allowed to post bond in accordance with the immigration judge’s September 2, 2025 determination.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

S.N.H., a 32-year-old citizen of Pakistan, entered the United States between ports of entry on June 6, 2023, intending to seek asylum, and was later detained by DHS in New York on April 16, 2024. On September 2, 2025, an immigration judge ordered his release on a \$20,000 bond after finding that he was neither a danger to the community nor a flight risk. DHS appealed the custody determination and filed Form EOIR-43, triggering an automatic stay of the release order. The court found that the stay had expired no later than December 16, 2025, and that no further extension had been shown.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

S.N.H. filed a § 2241 habeas petition alleging that his continued immigration detention violated federal law and the Constitution. Respondents answered and S.N.H. replied. While the petition was pending, the 90-day automatic stay triggered by DHS's appeal of the immigration judge's September 2, 2025 bond order expired, and the court ordered respondents to allow S.N.H. to post bond.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- In re Yajure Hurtado, 29 I. & N. Dec. 216, 216 (BIA 2025)
- De Jesús Aguilar v. English, No. 3:25cv898, 2025 WL 3280219 (N.D. Ind. Nov. 25, 2025)
- Singh v. English, No. 3:25cv962, 2025 WL 3713715 (N.D. Ind. Dec. 23, 2025)
- Mejia Diaz v. Noem, No. 3:25cv960, 2025 WL 3640419 (N.D. Ind. Dec. 16, 2025)
- Castanon-Nava v. U.S. Dep't of Homeland Sec., __ F.4th __, No. 25-3050, 2025 WL 3552514, at 8-10 (7th Cir. Dec. 11, 2025)

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