

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
FLORIDA

Roberto Reyes Medina Carcamo v. Krome North Service Processing
Center

Medina Carcamo · No. 26-cv-20079-ALTMAN · Decided January 29, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida dismissed without prejudice a pro se petition for a writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 because it did not state specific grounds or facts supporting relief. The court granted the petitioner until February 27, 2026, to file an amended petition and either pay the \$5 filing fee or submit a sufficient application to proceed in forma pauperis. The court administratively closed the case pending compliance.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Roy K. Altman
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida
DECIDED	January 29, 2026
DOCKET	26-cv-20079-ALTMAN
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	A federal immigration detainee filed a pro se petition for a writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 challenging his detention and requesting release. The court found the petition facially deficient, dismissed it without prejudice, granted leave to amend, and administratively closed the case pending a compliant amended petition and resolution of the filing-fee issue.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Facial sufficiency review of a habeas petition; a petition that is legally insufficient on its face may be summarily dismissed.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished district-court order
PARTIES	Roberto Reyes Medina Carcamo v. Krome North Service Processing Center

TOPICS

federal habeas corpus

immigration detention

pleadings

procedural due process

civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

immigration law

federal habeas corpus

civil procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the § 2241 petition was legally sufficient when it requested release or bond but identified no specific constitutional ground for relief and alleged no facts showing that the detention was unreasonable.
2. Whether the court should dismiss the facially deficient petition or permit the petitioner to file an amended petition satisfying the applicable habeas pleading requirements.
3. Whether the petitioner was required to pay the \$5 filing fee or file a legally sufficient motion to proceed in forma pauperis.

HOLDINGS

1. The petition was facially deficient because it did not specify any ground for habeas relief, state facts supporting such a ground, or allege facts showing that the petitioner's immigration detention was unreasonable or that due process required a bond hearing.
2. The court dismissed the petition without prejudice but granted the petitioner one opportunity to file an amended § 2241 petition that complies with the applicable pleading and form requirements.
3. The petitioner had to pay the \$5 filing fee or submit a legally sufficient motion to proceed in forma pauperis, including the required financial affidavit and six-month account statement.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“The problem with Medina Carcamo’s Petition is that he hasn’t stated any grounds for relief—nor has he outlined any facts on which those grounds might be based.”

“But we’ll give Medina Carcamo one more chance to file an amended § 2241 petition that corrects the deficiencies we’ve outlined in this Order.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Roberto Reyes Medina Carcamo was detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement for nearly four months while pursuing an appeal in his immigration case. He alleged that he had previously participated in a parole program under supervision, attended appointments, maintained good behavior, posed no danger to society, and did not intend to abscond. His petition nevertheless did not identify a constitutional ground for relief or provide facts explaining why his detention was unreasonable or why due process required a bond hearing.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Medina Carcamo filed a § 2241 petition asserting that he had been detained by immigration authorities for nearly four months and requesting bond or release. The court concluded that he had not identified a ground for

habeas relief or supplied facts showing that his detention was unreasonable or that due process required a bond hearing. The court dismissed the petition without prejudice, ordered an amended petition and payment of the filing fee or a legally sufficient IFP motion by February 27, 2026, and administratively closed the case.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- Chavez v. Sec'y, Fla. Dep't of Corr., 647 F.3d 1057, 1061 (11th Cir. 2011)
- Borden v. Allen, 646 F.3d 785, 810 (11th Cir. 2011)
- Blankenship v. Hall, 542 F.3d 1253, 1270 (11th Cir. 2008)
- Oscar v. Ripe, 751 F. Supp. 3d 1324, 1332 (S.D. Fla. 2024)
- J.N.C.G. v. Warden, 2020 WL 5046870, at *7 n.5 (M.D. Ga. Aug. 26, 2020)
- Paez v. Sec'y, Fla. Dep't of Corr., 947 F.3d 649, 653 (11th Cir. 2020)
- Orr v. United States, 800 F. App'x 705, 707 (11th Cir. 2020)
- Castro v. Director, F.D.I.C., 449 F. App'x 786, 788 (11th Cir. 2011)
- Lowery v. Ala. Power Co., 483 F.3d 1184, 1219 (11th Cir. 2007)

OPINION

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA CASE NO. 26-cv-20079-ALTMAN ROBERTO REYES MEDINA CARCAMO, Petitioner, v. KROME NORTH SERVICE PROCESSING CENTER, Respondent. _____/

ORDER TO AMEND PETITION The Petitioner, Roberto Reyes Medina Carcamo, has filed a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241, challenging his detention in the custody of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”).

See Petition [ECF No. 1]. In essence, Medina Carcamo asks us to release him so that he “can continue [his] case outside while out of custody.” See *id.* at 7. After careful review, we find the Petition facially deficient but grant Medina Carcamo leave to file an amended petition. Rule 2(c) of the Rules Governing § 2254 Cases requires a movant to, among other things, “specify all the grounds for relief available” and “state the facts supporting each ground[.]” R. Governing § 2254 Cases 2(c).1 Under the heightened pleading standard that governs habeas cases, a movant’s “allegations must be factual and specific,” and “[c]onclusory allegations are simply not enough to warrant a hearing.” Chavez v. Sec’y, Fla. Dep’t of Corr., 647 F.3d 1057, 1061 (11th Cir.

2011) (citations omitted); see also Borden v. Allen, 646 F.3d 785, 810 (11th Cir. 2011) (noting that habeas petitions call for “fact pleading” as opposed to the “notice pleading” contemplated under Federal Rule 1 “The district court may apply [the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases] to a [section 2241] habeas corpus petition[.]” Rule 1(b), Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases (cleaned

up). of Civil Procedure 8(a)). “It is the petitioner’s burden to establish his right to habeas relief and he must prove all facts necessary to show a constitutional violation.” *Blankenship v. Hall*, 542 F.3d 1253, 1270 (11th Cir.

2008) (citations omitted). The problem with Medina Carcamo’s Petition is that he hasn’t stated any grounds for relief— nor has he outlined any facts on which those grounds might be based. He begins by telling us that he’s “been detained by immigration [sic] [authorities] for nearly 4 months” and that he has a pending appeal in his immigration case. Petition at 1 (cleaned up).

But, when the Petition asked him to “state every ground... that supports your claim that you are being held in violation of the Constitution,” Medina Carcamo didn’t tell us anything. See *id.* at 6-7. Instead, he wrote only this: I would like to humbly request, on behalf of my family and myself, that you grant Bail so that I can continue my case outside while out of custody.

During the parole program, I was always unde[r] supervision, I attended all my appointments, and I maintained good behavior throughout those 3 years. I have no intention of escaping, nor do I consider myself a danger to society. *Id.* at 7. Medina Carcamo may have offered some reasons for an immigration judge to release him on bond. But he hasn’t suggested that his detention is unreasonable—or that due process mandates a bond hearing in his case—which is what he must show in a § 2241 petition.

See *Oscar v. Ripe*, 751 F. Supp. 3d 1324, 1332 (S.D. Fla. 2024) (Middlebrooks, J.) (considering whether the § 2241 petitioner’s “continued detention without a bond hearing violates his due process rights”) After all, the most we could do in this § 2241 proceeding is order the immigration judge to give Medina Carcamo a bond hearing—not release him from ICE custody.

See *ibid.* (denying the petitioner’s “request for release from custody... because ‘[t]he consensus is that ordering a bond hearing is the appropriate remedy when the length of detention has become unreasonable’” (quoting *J.N.C.G. v. Warden*, 2020 WL 5046870, at *7, n.5 (M.D. Ga. Aug. 26, 2020))). Since Medina Carcamo fails to offer any facts for his view that his detention is unreasonable, his Petition is facially deficient.

See *Paez v. Sec’y, Fla. Dep’t of Corr.*, 947 F.3d 649, 653 (11th Cir. 2020) (“If a petition does not set forth a sufficient factual basis for habeas relief, the petition is legally insufficient on its face.” (cleaned up)). It’s well settled that “[f]ederal district courts must ‘dismiss summarily any habeas petition that appears legally insufficient on its face.’” *Orr v. United States*, 800 F. App’x 705, 707 (11th Cir.

2020) (quoting *Borden*, 646 F.3d at 810). But we’ll give Medina Carcamo one more chance to file an amended § 2241 petition that corrects the deficiencies we’ve outlined in this Order. Medina Carcamo’s amended petition must meet the pleading standard of Rule 2(c), must be legible, and must be submitted on our court-approved form for § 2241 petitions. See S.D.

FLA. L.R. 88.2(a). We warn Medina Carcamo that, if he fails to timely file a sufficient amended § 2241 petition, we'll dismiss this case without further notice. See FED. R. CIV. P. 41(b). One more thing. Medina Carcamo hasn't paid the Clerk's filing fee or filed a motion to proceed in forma pauperis ("IFP"). "Parties instituting a civil action in district court are required to pay filing fees, and each district court, by local rule, may require advance payment of such fees." *Castro v. Director, F.D.I.C.*, 449 F. App'x 786, 788 (11th Cir.

2011) (citing 28 U.S.C. § 1914(a), (c)). The filing fee for a petition for writ of habeas corpus is \$5.00. See 28 U.S.C. § 1914(a). Of course, if a litigant cannot afford to pay a filing fee, he or she may apply to proceed without paying—also known as proceeding IFP. See *id.* § 1915(a)(1)–(2). A § 2241 petitioner seeking to proceed IFP must file "the affidavit required by 28 U.S.C. § 1915" and "a certificate from the warden or other appropriate officer of the place of confinement showing the amount of money or securities that the petitioner has in any account in the institution." Rule Governing § 2254 Cases 3(a)(2).

We can't adjudicate Medina Carcamo's Petition until he's either paid the Clerk's filing fee of \$5.00 or submitted a legally sufficient IFP motion under Rule 3(a) of the Rules Governing § 2254 Cases. So, when Medina Carcamo files his amended petition, he must also resolve the filing-fee issue—or we'll dismiss this case without further notice. * * * We therefore ORDER AND ADJUDGE as follows: 1.

The Petition [ECF No. 1] is DISMISSED without prejudice. By February 27, 2026, the Petitioner must file an amended petition under 28 U.S.C. § 2241. The amended petition must be no longer than 20 double-spaced pages and signed under the penalty of perjury.

The Petitioner must comply with Rule 2(c) of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases in the District Courts by sufficiently stating (in a legible manner) the facts that support the grounds for relief available to him.

The Clerk is DIRECTED to provide the Petitioner with a copy of this Court's approved form for 28 U.S.C. § 2241 petitions. 2. The amended petition must be labeled "Amended Petition" and must include the case number referenced above, so that it will be filed in this case.

The amended petition will be the sole, operative pleading in this case, and only the claims listed in the amended petition will be addressed. See *Lowery v. Ala. Power Co.*, 483 F.3d 1184, 1219 (11th Cir. 2007) ("[A]n amended complaint supersedes the initial complaint and becomes the operative pleading in the case.").

The Petitioner may not incorporate by reference any past claims. See S.D. FLA. L.R. 5.1. 3. By February 27, 2026, the Petitioner shall either pay the Clerk's filing fee of \$5.00 or, in the alternative, file a motion to proceed in forma pauperis ("IFP motion"). If he files an IFP motion, he

must include a supporting financial affidavit and his six-month account statement in accordance with Rule 3(a) of the Rules Governing § 2254 Proceedings in the District Courts.

The Clerk is DIRECTED to provide the Petitioner with a copy of our “Application to Proceed in District Court Without Prepaying Fees or Costs (Long Form).” 4. If the Petitioner fails to file the amended petition and resolve the filing fee issue on time and in compliance with our orders, we’ll dismiss this case for failure to prosecute or failure to comply with court orders.

See FED. R. CIV. P. 41(b). 5. The Clerk shall administratively CLOSE the case. We’ll reopen this case once the Petitioner files his amended petition in compliance with this Order. DONE AND ORDERED in the Southern District of Florida on January 29, 2026. ROY K. ALTMAN UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE cc: Roberto Reyes Medina Carcamo, pro se