

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

Yuridiana Cardenas Hidalgo v. Eliseo Ricolcol

No. 5:25-cv-362-WLH-RAO (C.D. Cal. Aug. 4, 2025) · No. 5:25-cv-362-WLH-RAO · Decided August 4, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Central District of California summarily dismissed Yuridiana Cardenas Hidalgo’s 28 U.S.C. § 2241 petition seeking immediate release under the Federal First Offenders Act. The court held that the petition was moot because Petitioner had been released from Bureau of Prisons custody. The petition was dismissed without prejudice, and pending motions were denied as moot.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Central District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Wesley L. Hsu
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Central District of California
DECIDED	August 4, 2025
DOCKET	5:25-cv-362-WLH-RAO
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Petitioner filed a 28 U.S.C. § 2241 habeas petition seeking immediate release based on asserted eligibility for supervised release under the Federal First Offenders Act. Respondent moved to dismiss or alternatively transfer the matter to the sentencing court for treatment as a 28 U.S.C. § 2255 motion. After learning that Petitioner had been released from custody, the court dismissed the petition as moot.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court independently assessed whether an Article III case or controversy remained and whether the petition had become moot.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished
PARTIES	Yuridiana Cardenas Hidalgo v. Eliseo Ricolcol, Warden

TOPICS

- federal habeas corpus
- subject matter jurisdiction
- post-conviction relief
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

federal habeas corpus

constitutional law

civil procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Petitioner's release from federal custody rendered her § 2241 petition seeking immediate release moot.
2. Whether the court should dismiss the moot petition without prejudice and deny pending motions as moot.

HOLDINGS

1. A habeas petition seeking immediate release from federal custody becomes moot when the petitioner is released and has thereby obtained the relief sought, because no live controversy remains for the court to adjudicate.
2. The petition must be dismissed without prejudice once the court determines that it is moot, and pending motions are denied as moot.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“A federal court’s jurisdiction is limited to actual cases or live controversies.” (at 1)

“Because she has obtained the relief she sought by initiating this action—namely, release from BOP custody—the matter no longer involves a “live controversy” and is therefore moot.” (at 2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Petitioner was a federal inmate at FCI Victorville Medium I when she filed a § 2241 petition seeking immediate release and claiming eligibility for supervised release under the Federal First Offenders Act. While the case was pending, Bureau of Prisons records showed that she was released from custody on May 30, 2025. Because release provided the principal relief sought in the petition, the court concluded that no live controversy remained.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Petitioner filed the § 2241 petition on February 7, 2025. Respondent moved to dismiss on March 21, 2025. The court issued a report and recommendation recommending dismissal for failure to prosecute and failure to comply with court orders, but ultimately independently verified that Petitioner had been released from Bureau of Prisons custody and dismissed the action as moot.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- United States v. Yepez, 108 F.4th 1093, 1099 (9th Cir. 2024)

- Lewis v. Cont'l Bank Corp., 494 U.S. 472, 477 (1990)
- Genesis Healthcare Corp. v. Symczyk, 569 U.S. 66, 71-72 (2013)
- Chafin v. Chafin, 568 U.S. 165, 172 (2013)
- Rosemere Neighborhood Ass'n v. EPA, 581 F.3d 1169, 1173 (9th Cir. 2009)
- Pub. Util. Comm'n v. FERC, 100 F.3d 1451, 1458 (9th Cir. 1996)
- Peneueta v. Ricolcol, No. 2:23-cv-6361-PA-JC, 2024 WL 2884218, at *5 (C.D. Cal. May 21, 2024)
- Burnett v. Lampert, 432 F.3d 996, 1000-01 (9th Cir. 2005)

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