

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

**Gnadjil Lazare v. Warden, Otero County Processing Center, Mary De Anda-Ybarra, Todd Lyons, Current Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and Pamela Bondi**

Lazare · No. Civ. No. 26-0808-KG-KK · Decided March 18, 2026

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SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the District of New Mexico orders the respondents to answer Gnadjil Lazare’s 28 U.S.C. § 2241 petition challenging his continued immigration detention. The court grants Lazare’s motion to proceed in forma pauperis and directs the Clerk’s Office to add the identified respondents to the case.

OPINION

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO  
GNADJIL LAZARE, Petitioner, v. Civ. No. 26-0808-KG-KK WARDEN, Otero County Processing Center, MARY DE ANDA-YBARRA, Field Office Director of Enforcement and Removal Operations, El Paso Field Office, Immigration and Customs Enforcement; TODD LYONS, Acting Director Immigration and Customs Enforcement; CURRENT SECRETARY, U.S. Department Of Homeland Security; AND PAMELA BONDI, U.S. Attorney General, Respondents,<sup>1</sup> ORDER TO ANSWER This matter is before the Court on the Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus Under 28 U.S.C. § 2241.

(Doc. 1) (Petition). Petitioner is an immigration detainee at the Otero County Processing Center and is proceeding pro se. He challenges his continued immigration detention, and it is unclear what process he has received.

The Court will require an answer to the Petition. The Clerk’s Office has electronically served Respondents by Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) using the Case Management and Electronic Case Filing (CM/ECF) system. (Doc. 3).

The Court will also grant Petitioner’s Motion to Proceed In Forma Pauperis (Doc. 2), which reflects he cannot prepay the filing fee. 1 The Court will add the above-mentioned parties as Respondents. See *Torres-Torres v. Miller*, 2020 WL 4430519 (D.N.M. July 31, 2020) (discussing the respondents in an immigration habeas case); *Lowmaster v. Dir., Bureau of Prisons*, 2024 WL 5135970, at \*1 (D.

Kan. Dec. 17, 2024) (“the Court notes that it routinely substitutes the” proper parties as “respondent in habeas cases”); *Danderson v. Page*, 2024 WL 3913051, at \*2 (E.D. Okla. Aug. 20, 2024) (substituting the proper party respondent in a habeas case). IT IS ORDERED that: 1.

The United States Attorney’s Office must answer the Petition within ten (10) business days of entry of this Order. 2. If Petitioner wishes to file an optional reply, he must do so within seven (7) business days after the response is filed. 3.

The Motion to Proceed In Forma Pauperis (Doc. 2) is granted. 4. The Clerk’s Office shall update CM/ECF to include the Respondents added by this Order. /s/Kenneth J. Gonzales\_\_\_\_\_ CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE • Please note that this document has been electronically filed.

To verify its authenticity, please refer to the Digital File Stamp on the NEF (Notice of Electronic Filing) accompanying this document. Electronically filed documents can be found on the Court’s PACER public access system.