

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
TEXAS, CORPUS CHRISTI DIVISION**

Jose Angel Valadez Diaz v. Eric Guerrero

Diaz · No. 2:26-CV-00018 · Decided January 13, 2026

SUMMARY

The court transfers a habeas action under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 from the Corpus Christi Division to the McAllen Division of the Southern District of Texas. Because the petitioner was convicted in Hidalgo County, the court concludes that the McAllen Division is more convenient and that transfer serves the interests of justice. Pending motions are denied as moot and may be renewed after transfer.

OPINION

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT January 13, 2026 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
Nathan Ochsner, Clerk CORPUS CHRISTI DIVISION JOSE ANGEL VALADEZ DIAZ, § §
Petitioner, § § VS. § CIVIL ACTION NO. 2:26-CV-00018 § ERIC GUERRERO, § § Respondent.
§ OPINION AND ORDER OF TRANSFER This is a habeas action filed on January 12, 2026, by
a state prisoner incarcerated at the Garza West Unit in Beeville, Texas, which is located in Bee
County.

(D.E. 1). In his complaint, Plaintiff challenges his December 9, 2022 Hidalgo County, Texas
convictions, seeking relief pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254. (D.E. 1). A habeas action may be filed
either in the district where petitioner is in custody or in the district in which petitioner was
convicted. 28 U.S.C. § 2241(d); Wadsworth v. Johnson, 235 F.3d 959 (5th Cir.

2000). Petitioner's place of incarceration is in the Corpus Christi Division of the Southern District
of Texas and he was convicted by a court located in the McAllen Division of the Southern District
of Texas. 28 U.S.C. § 124(b)(7).

For the convenience of parties and witnesses, in the interest of justice, a district court may transfer
any civil action to any other district or division where it might have been brought. 28 U.S.C. §§
1404(a) and 1406(a). A habeas application may be transferred in furtherance of justice to the
district court within which the state court was held which 1 / 2 convicted and sentenced the
petitioner.

28 U.S.C. § 2241(d). Because Petitioner was convicted in Hidalgo County, it is more convenient
and would further the interests of justice for this action to be handled in the McAllen Division of
the Southern District of Texas.

The records of his conviction and the prosecutor and defense lawyers are all located in the McAllen Division of the Southern District of Texas. Accordingly, it is ORDERED that this case be transferred to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, McAllen Division. All pending motions are DENIED as moot and are subject to renewal after the case is transferred.

ORDERED on January 13, 2026. C Jason & Libby Z United States Magistrate Judge 2/2

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