

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF
GEORGIA, COLUMBUS DIVISION

A.M.G.F. v. Warden, Stewart Detention Center, et al.

No. 4:26-cv-21-CDL-ALS (M.D. Ga. Jan. 20, 2026) · No. 4:26-cv-21-CDL-ALS · Decided January 20, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Middle District of Georgia granted habeas relief to the extent that Respondents must provide the petitioner, an immigration detainee, with a bond hearing. The court held that the petitioner was detained under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), rather than mandatory detention provisions of 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2), and therefore could be considered for release on bond.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Middle District of Georgia, Columbus Division
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Clay D. Land
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Middle District of Georgia, Columbus Division
DECIDED	January 20, 2026
DOCKET	4:26-cv-21-CDL-ALS
DISPOSITION	writ_granted
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Petitioner sought habeas corpus relief under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 from immigration detention and requested a bond hearing and the opportunity for pre-removal release.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished district court order
PARTIES	A.M.G.F., Petitioner v. Warden, Stewart Detention Center, et al., Respondents

TOPICS

immigration detention federal habeas corpus removal proceedings immigration

PRACTICE AREAS

immigration law federal habeas corpus immigration detention

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Petitioner was subject to mandatory detention under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(1) or § 1225(b)(2).
2. Whether Petitioner was entitled to a bond hearing under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a).

HOLDINGS

1. Petitioner was detained under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a) and therefore was not subject to mandatory detention under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2).
2. Respondents must provide Petitioner with a bond hearing to determine whether Petitioner may be released on bond under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a)(2) and the applicable regulations.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“The Court finds that Petitioner is currently detained under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a) and therefore not subject to mandatory detention as required by 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(2).” (at 1)

“Accordingly, Petitioner’s application for habeas corpus relief is granted to the extent that Respondents shall provide Petitioner with a bond hearing to determine if the Petitioner may be released on bond under § 1226(a)(2) and the applicable regulations.” (at 1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Petitioner was detained at the Stewart Detention Center while awaiting removal proceedings. Respondents refused to provide a bond hearing or an opportunity for pre-removal release, asserting that mandatory detention provisions applied. The court concluded that Petitioner was instead detained under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a).

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

A.M.G.F., detained at the Stewart Detention Center while awaiting removal proceedings, filed an application for habeas corpus relief challenging the refusal to provide a bond hearing. Respondents argued that detention was mandatory under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(1) and/or § 1225(b)(2). The district court determined that Petitioner was detained under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a) and granted relief to the extent of requiring a bond hearing.

DISPOSITION

writ_granted

REMAND INSTRUCTIONS

Respondents shall provide Petitioner with a bond hearing to determine whether Petitioner may be released on bond under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a)(2) and the applicable regulations.

CASES CITED

- J.A.M. v. Streeval, No. 4:25-CV-342-CDL, 2025 WL 3050094 (M.D. Ga. Nov. 1, 2025)
- P.R.S. v. Streeval, No. 4:25-CV-330-CDL, 2025 WL 3269947 (M.D. Ga. Nov. 24, 2025)

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