

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF
WASHINGTON

Yara F. Abdulla Buker v. Kristi Noem, et al.

Buker · No. 2:25-cv-02215-LK · Decided December 19, 2025

SUMMARY

The parties jointly move to hold an Administrative Procedure Act and Mandamus Act case in abeyance while USCIS conducts and adjudicates the plaintiff’s asylum interview and application. The court grants the stipulated motion, holds the case in abeyance until May 28, 2026, and requires a status update.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Western District of Washington
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Lauren King
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Western District of Washington
DECIDED	December 19, 2025
DOCKET	2:25-cv-02215-LK
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff and Defendants jointly stipulated and moved to hold the case in abeyance while USCIS completed Plaintiff's asylum interview and adjudicated her asylum application.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	A district court has broad discretion to stay proceedings in order to control the disposition of matters on its docket and promote economy of time and effort.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential

TOPICS

- immigration
- asylum
- mandamus immigration
- administrative procedure act
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- immigration
- administrative law
- remedies

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court should exercise its discretion to stay the proceedings and hold the case in abeyance while USCIS conducts Plaintiff's asylum interview and adjudicates her asylum application.

HOLDINGS

1. The court granted the stipulated motion and held the case in abeyance until May 28, 2026.

KEY QUOTATIONS

"[T]he power to stay proceedings is incidental to the power inherent in every court to control the disposition of the causes on its docket with economy of time and effort for itself, for counsel, and for litigants." (at 1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Plaintiff sought to compel USCIS to schedule an interview and adjudicate her asylum application. The parties represented that USCIS would complete the asylum interview on January 28, 2026, and would diligently work to complete adjudication within 120 days absent unforeseen or exceptional circumstances. The parties were working toward resolution and requested an abeyance to permit USCIS to process the application.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff brought an action under the Administrative Procedure Act and the Mandamus Act seeking, among other relief, an order compelling USCIS to schedule an asylum interview and adjudicate her application. Before Defendants responded to the complaint, the parties jointly requested a stay while working toward resolution. The court granted the stipulated motion and held the case in abeyance until May 28, 2026.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Clinton v. Jones, 520 U.S. 681, 706 (1997)
- Landis v. North American Co., 299 U.S. 248, 254 (1936)

OPINION

Buker

PER CURIAM.

1 The Honorable Lauren King 2 3 4 5 6

7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

8 AT SEATTLE

9 YARA F. ABDULLA BUKER, Case No. 2:25-cv-02215-LK 10 Plaintiff, STIPULATED
MOTION TO HOLD

11 CASE IN ABEYANCE AND

v.

[PROPOSED] ORDER

12 KRISTI NOEM, et al., Noted for Consideration:

13 December 18, 2025.

Defendants. 14 15 Plaintiff and Defendants, by and through their counsel of record, pursuant to Federal Rule 16 of Civil Procedure 6 and Local Rules 7(d)(1), 10(g) and 16, hereby jointly stipulate and move to 17 stay these proceedings until May 28, 2026. Plaintiff brought this litigation pursuant to the 18 Administrative Procedure Act and Mandamus Act seeking, inter alia, to compel U.S. Citizenship 19 and Immigration Services (“USCIS”) to schedule an interview and adjudicate her asylum 20 application. Defendants’ response to the Complaint is currently due on January 23, 2026. The 21 parties are currently working towards a resolution to this litigation. For good cause, the parties 22 request that the Court hold the case in abeyance until May 28, 2026. 23 Courts have “broad discretion” to stay proceedings. *Clinton v. Jones*, 520 U.S. 681, 706 24 (1997). “[T]he power to stay proceedings is incidental to the power inherent in every court to 1 control the disposition of the causes on its docket with economy of time and effort for itself, for 2 counsel, and for litigants.” *Landis v. N. Am. Co.*, 299 U.S. 248, 254 (1936); see also Fed. R. Civ. 3 P.1. 4 With additional time, this case may be resolved without the need of further judicial 5 intervention. USCIS will complete Plaintiff’s asylum interview on January 28, 2026. USCIS 6 agrees to diligently work towards completing the adjudication of her application within 120 days, 7 absent unforeseen or exceptional circumstances that would require additional time for 8 adjudication. If the adjudication is not completed within that time, USCIS will provide a status 9 report to the Court. 10 Once the application is adjudicated, Plaintiff will dismiss the case with each party to bear 11 their own litigation costs and attorneys’ fees. Accordingly, the parties request an abeyance until 12 120 days from Plaintiff’s interview date, to allow USCIS to process her asylum application. 13 // 14 // 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 1 DATED this 18th day of December, 2025.

2 Respectfully submitted,

3 CHARLES NEIL FLOYD

United States Attorney 4 s/ Sarah Louise Bishop

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206-553-4067 9 Email: sarah.bishop@usdoj.gov 10 Attorneys for Defendants 11 I certify that this memorandum contains 294 words, in compliance with the Local Civil Rules. 12 13 14 s/Kelly Vomacka

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1 fPROPOSEDTL ORDER

2 The case is held in abeyance until May 28, 2026. The parties shall submit a status update 4 It is
so ORDERED. 1962) favor a stay, and therefore GRANTS the stipulated motion. 5 6 DATED this
19th day of December , 2025. 7 Joannier?

9 LAUREN KING

United States District Judge 10 1] 12 13 14 15 16 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

STIPULATED MOTION TO HOLD CASE IN ABEYANCE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
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