

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
LOUISIANA

Ingris Estella Hernandez-Murillo v. Shad Rice

Hernandez-Murillo v. Rice · No. 25-2570 · Decided January 2, 2026

SUMMARY

The Eastern District of Louisiana considers a 28 U.S.C. § 2241 habeas petition challenging the petitioner’s detention at a facility in Basile, Louisiana. The court determines that jurisdiction lies in the Western District of Louisiana and transfers the matter there under 28 U.S.C. § 1406(a) in the interest of justice.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana
DECIDED	January 2, 2026
DOCKET	25-2570
DISPOSITION	transferred
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Petitioner filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 challenging her detention. The court sua sponte considered whether the Eastern District of Louisiana was a proper district to hear the petition and transferred the matter to the Western District of Louisiana.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court conducted a sua sponte jurisdictional and venue review before reaching the merits.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unpublished district court order; limited precedential value.
PARTIES	Ingris Estella Hernandez-Murillo v. Shad Rice

TOPICS

- immigration detention
- venue
- civil procedure
- due process

PRACTICE AREAS

- federal habeas corpus
- immigration detention
- federal venue and transfer
- due process

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the Eastern District of Louisiana could entertain a § 2241 habeas petition challenging detention at a facility located in the Western District of Louisiana.
2. Whether the petition should be transferred in the interest of justice to the district in which it could properly have been brought.

HOLDINGS

1. The Eastern District of Louisiana lacked authority to entertain the petition because the petitioner was confined in Basile, Louisiana, which is located in the Western District of Louisiana.
2. The matter should be transferred to the Western District of Louisiana because transfer was in the interest of justice and that district was one in which the petition could have been properly brought.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“The only district that may consider a habeas corpus challenge to present physical confinement pursuant to § 2241 is the district in which the prisoner is confined”

“In light of the seriousness of Petitioner’s claim that she is being unlawfully detained, and in the interest of justice so that this matter may be expeditiously considered, the matter is being transferred to the district court in which it could have been properly brought.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Hernandez-Murillo was detained at the South Louisiana ICE Processing Center in Basile, Louisiana. She alleged that her detention was unlawful and violated her due process rights. Because Basile is located in the Western District of Louisiana, the court concluded that the petition challenged physical confinement in a district other than the Eastern District.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Ingris Estella Hernandez-Murillo filed a § 2241 habeas petition challenging her detention at the South Louisiana ICE Processing Center in Basile, Louisiana. The Eastern District of Louisiana determined that Basile is within the Western District of Louisiana and that the petition therefore could not be entertained in the Eastern District. In the interest of justice, the court transferred the matter to the Western District of Louisiana rather than dismissing it.

DISPOSITION

transferred

REMAND INSTRUCTIONS

The matter was immediately transferred to the United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana for consideration.

CASES CITED

- United States v. McPhearson, 451 F. Appx 384 (5th Cir. 2011)
- Rumsfeld v. Padilla, 542 U.S. 426, 442-43 (2004)

OPINION

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA INGRIS ESTELLA HERNANDEZ-MURILLO CIVIL ACTION VERSUS NO. 25-2570 SHAD RICE SECTION: D (5) ORDER AND REASONS Before the Court is a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus Under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 filed by Ingris Estella Hernandez-Murillo challenging the validity of her detention at South Louisiana ICE Processing Center in Basile, Louisiana.¹ Petitioner claims that her due process rights have been violated by her unlawful detention.² Before reaching the merits of Petitioner's claim, this court sua sponte determines whether it has jurisdiction.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 2241(d), an application for a writ of habeas corpus made by a person in custody "may be filed in the district court for the district wherein such person is in custody."³ Petitioner alleges that she is in custody in a detention facility in Basile, Louisiana.⁴ Basile, Louisiana is located within the Western District of Louisiana.

Accordingly, this court has no authority to entertain Petitioner's claim for relief. 1 R. Doc. 1. 2 Id. 3 28 U.S.C. § 2241(d). Also see United States v. McPhearson, 451 F. Appx 384 (5th Cir. 2011).("The only district that may consider a habeas corpus challenge to present physical confinement pursuant to § 2241 is the district in which the prisoner is confined," citing Rumsfeld v. Padilla, 542 U.S. 426, 442-43 (2004).)

4 R. Doc. 1 at p. 1. In light of the seriousness of Petitioner's claim that she is being unlawfully detained, and in the interest of justice so that this matter may be expeditiously considered, the matter is being transferred to the district court in which it could have been properly brought.[®] Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the above-captioned matter is immediately transferred to the United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order be sent by email to Tiffany@tiffanywalkerlaw.com. New Orleans, Louisiana, January 1, 2026. WENDY B. VMITTER UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE 5 28 U.S.C. §1406(a) (The district court of a district in which is filed a case laying venue in the wrong division or district shall dismiss, or if it be in the interest of justice, transfer such case to any district or division in which it could have been brought.")