

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF
WASHINGTON

Armando Arias Maldonado v. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration
Services, et al.

Arias Maldonado · No. 2:25-cv-02145-JHC · Decided December 30, 2025

SUMMARY

The parties jointly moved to hold an immigration-related federal case in abeyance while USCIS processed the plaintiff’s adjustment-of-status application. The court granted the stipulated motion and ordered the case held in abeyance until March 6, 2026, with a status update due on or before that date.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Western District of Washington
WRITING FOR THE COURT	John H. Chun
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Western District of Washington
DECIDED	December 30, 2025
DOCKET	2:25-cv-02145-JHC
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff and Defendants jointly stipulated and moved to hold the action in abeyance while USCIS processed Plaintiff's adjustment-of-status application.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The Court stated that courts have broad discretion to stay proceedings and manage the disposition of cases on their dockets.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unknown; district court order holding case in abeyance
PARTIES	Armando Arias Maldonado v. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, et al.

TOPICS

- mandamus immigration
- immigration
- civil procedure
- administrative procedure act
- judicial review of agency action

PRACTICE AREAS

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the Court should grant the parties' stipulated request to hold the action in abeyance while USCIS processed Plaintiff's adjustment-of-status application.

HOLDINGS

1. The Court granted the stipulated request and held the case in abeyance until March 6, 2026, requiring the parties to submit a status update on or before that date.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Courts have “broad discretion” to stay proceedings.” (1)

“ “[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.” ” (1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Armando Arias Maldonado sought adjudication of an application for adjustment of status from USCIS. USCIS was processing the application but requested additional time, including because of short staffing during the holiday season. The parties anticipated that adjudication could resolve the litigation and jointly requested that the case be held in abeyance.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff filed an action under the Administrative Procedure Act and the Mandamus Act seeking, among other relief, an order compelling USCIS to adjudicate his adjustment-of-status application. Before Defendants responded to the Complaint, the parties jointly requested a stay through March 6, 2026, and the Court granted the request.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

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

OPINION

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF
WASHINGTON 8 AT SEATTLE 9 ARMANDO ARIAS MALDONADO, Case No. 2:25-cv-
02145-JHC 10 Plaintiff, STIPULATED MOTION TO HOLD 11 CASE IN ABEYANCE AND
ORDER v. 12 Noted for Consideration: U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION December 29,

2025 SERVICES, et al., 13 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 March 6, 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 adjudicate his application for adjustment of status. 20 Defendants’ response to the Complaint is currently due on January 5, 2026.

The parties are 21 currently working towards a resolution to this litigation. For good cause, the parties request that 22 the Court hold the case in abeyance until March 6, 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 is diligently working on processing Plaintiff’s application but requires more 6 time to do so, particularly given shortstaffing during the busy holiday season. Once the application 7 is adjudicated, Plaintiff will dismiss the case with each party to bear their own litigation costs and 8 attorneys’ fees.

Accordingly, the parties request this abeyance to allow USCIS more time to 9 process Plaintiff’s application and thus, the parties hope, to resolve this matter without further 10 court proceedings. 11 As additional time is necessary for this to occur, the parties request that the Court hold the 12 case in abeyance until March 6, 2026.

The parties will submit a status update on or before that 13 date. 14 // 15 // 16 // 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 1 DATED this 29th day of December, 2025. 2 Respectfully submitted, 3 CHARLES NEIL FLOYD United States Attorney 4 s/ Sarah Louise Bishop 5 SARAH LOUISE BISHOP, NY No. 5256359 Assistant United States Attorney 6 United States Attorney’s Office Western District of Washington 7 700 Stewart Street, Suite 5220 Seattle, Washington 98101-1271 8 Phone: 206-553-4063 Fax: 206-553-4067 9 Email: sarah.bishop@usdoj.gov 10 Attorneys for Defendants 11 I certify that this memorandum contains 304 words, in compliance with the Local Civil Rules.

12 13 s/ Shara Svendsen 14 SHARA SVENDSEN, WSBA No. 38151 Law Office of Shara Svendsen 15 16300 Mill Creek Blvd., Suite 206 Mill Creek, WA 98104 16 Phone: 425-361-1511 Fax: 425-953-2410 17 Email: shara@svenlaw.com 18 Attorney for Plaintiff 19 20 21 22 23 24 1 ORDER 2 The case is held in abeyance until March 6, 2026.

The parties shall submit a status update 3 or before that date. 4 It is so ORDERED. 5 6 DATED this 30th day of December, 2025 7 8 C Lehn. 4 Chur John H. Chun 9 United States District Judge

10 1] 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 STIPULATED MOTION TO HOLD CASE IN
ABEYANCE

Retrieved from lawtools.ai · <https://lawtools.ai/cases/federal/united-states-district-court-for-the-western-district-of-was/2025/armando-arias-maldonado-v-u-s-citizenship-and-immigration-o6sve2s0>