

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF  
CALIFORNIA

**Sukhchain S. v. Warden of the Golden State Annex Detention  
Facility, et al.**

Sukhchain S. · No. 1:25-cv-01863-TLN-DMC · Decided December 16, 2025

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**SUMMARY**

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of California construed a pro se immigration detainee’s 28 U.S.C. § 2241 habeas petition as a motion for a temporary restraining order. The court barred respondents from transferring the petitioner outside the district pending further order, set briefing deadlines, granted in forma pauperis status, and appointed counsel. The court also directed the clerk to protect the petitioner’s identity by using his first name and last initial.

**OPINION**

Sukhchain S. v. Warden of the Golden State Annex Detention Facility, et al.

PER CURIAM.

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7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

8 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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10 SUKHCHAIN S., No. 1:25-cv-01863-TLN-DMC

11 Petitioner, 12 v. ORDER

13 WARDEN OF THE GOLDEN STATE

ANNEX DETENTION FACILITY, et al., 14 Respondents. 15 16 Petitioner Sukhchain S.1  
 (“Petitioner”), an immigration detainee who is representing 17 himself, filed a petition for a writ  
 of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241. Based on the 18 substance of Petitioner’s petition  
 and the relief requested therein, the Court construes Petitioner’s 19 pleading as a motion for a  
 temporary restraining order. *Estelle v. Gamble*, 429 U.S. 97, 106 20

(1976) (stating that pleadings by pro se litigants must be held to less stringent standards than

21 formal pleadings drafted by lawyers.) 22 Respondents shall file any opposition to Petitioner's  
 Motion for Temporary Restraining 23 24 1 As recommended by the Committee on Court  
 Administration and Case Management of 25 the Judicial Conference of the United States, the  
 Court omits petitioner’s full name, using only his first name and last initial, to protect sensitive  
 personal information. See Memorandum re: Privacy 26 Concern Regarding Social Security and  
 Immigration Opinions, Committee on Court Administration and Case Management, Judicial  
 Conference of the United States (May 1, 2018), 27

cv-l-suggestion\_cacm\_0.pdf. The Clerk of Court is directed to update the docket to reflect this change accordingly. 28 1 Order by noon on December 19, 2025. Any opposition shall provide the Court with copies of all 2 referenced/relevant portions of Petitioner's A-File and any and all available records related to 3 Petitioner's allegations. Petitioner may file a reply by December 23, 2025. 4 Pending the Court's ruling on Petitioner's motion, Respondents shall not take any action 5 to transfer Petitioner out of this District. See *F.T.C. v. Dean Foods Co.*, 384 U.S. 597, 608 (1966) 6 (acknowledging the Court's "express authority under the All Writs Act to issue such temporary 7 injunctions as may be necessary to protect its own jurisdiction"). 8 Petitioner filed a motion to proceed in forma pauperis (ECF No. 2), which is granted. See 9 28 U.S.C. § 1914. Petitioner has also filed a motion for the appointment of counsel. (ECF No. 10 3.) In light of the complexity of the legal issues involved, the Court has determined that the 11 interests of justice require the appointment of counsel for Petitioner. See 18 U.S.C. § 12 3006A(a)(2)(B); see also *Weygandt v. Look*, 718 F.2d 952, 954 (9th Cir. 1983). Within seven 13 days from the date of this Order, the appointing authority for the Eastern District of California 14 shall identify counsel and send counsel's contact information to Michele Krueger, Courtroom 15 Deputy for Chief Judge Troy Nunley, via email at mkrueger@caed.uscourts.gov, who shall 16 update the docket to reflect counsel's appointment. If counsel is not a member of the Eastern 17 District of California Criminal Justice Act ("CJA") Panel, the Court hereby authorizes them to 18 serve as CJA counsel for petitioner for the duration of the proceedings in this Court pursuant to 19 Local Rule 180(b) (1). 20 In accordance with the above, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that: 21 1. Respondents shall file any opposition to Petitioner's request for injunctive relief by 22 noon on December 19, 2025; Petitioner may file a reply, if any, by December 23, 23 2025; 24 2. In order to ensure this Court's jurisdiction to resolve the pending § 2241 petition, 25 Respondent shall not transfer Petitioner to another detention center outside of this 26 judicial district, pending further order of the Court. 27 3. Petitioner's motion to proceed in forma pauperis (ECF No. 2) is granted; 28 4. Petitioner's motion to appoint counsel (ECF No. 3) is granted; Within seven days from 1 the date of this order, the appointing authority for the Eastern District of California 2 shall identify counsel and send counsel's contact information to Michele Krueger, 3 Courtroom Deputy for Chief Judge Troy Nunley, who shall update the docket to 4 reflect counsel's appointment; 5 5. The Clerk of the Court shall serve a copy of this order on the Federal Defender, 6 Attention: Habeas Appointment, along with a copy of the § 2241 petition; 7 6. The Clerk of the Court shall serve a copy of this order together with a copy of 8 Petitioner's application for a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241 on 9 the United States Attorney; and 10 7. The Clerk of Court is directed to update the docket to only list Petitioner's first name 11 and last initial. 12 IT IS SO ORDERED. 13 ||

Date: December 16, 2025 14 Lael bly

16 TROY L. NUNLEY

7 CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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