

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

Marco Antonio Rene Huertas Falcon v. Jonathan Florentino, et al.

Huertas Falcon v. Florentino · No. 1:25-cv-17164 (MW) · Decided January 6, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the District of New Jersey grants Respondents’ motion to seal Exhibit A, the credible fear packet filed with the answer to an amended petition. The Court finds that the exhibit contains pervasive sensitive personal information protected by federal immigration confidentiality regulations and that sealing is necessary because redaction would be insufficient.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the District of New Jersey
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the District of New Jersey
DECIDED	January 6, 2026
DOCKET	1:25-cv-17164 (MW)
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Respondents moved to seal Exhibit A, a Credible Fear Packet, attached to their answer to the amended habeas petition.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The Court applied the standards governing public access to judicial records and sealing under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 5.2 and Local Civil Rule 5.3(c), requiring a clearly defined and serious injury and a narrowly tailored sealing order.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential
PARTIES	Marco Antonio Rene Huertas Falcon v. Jonathan Florentino, et al.

TOPICS

- civil procedure
- asylum
- immigration

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- immigration
- habeas corpus

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Exhibit A to Respondents' Answer should be filed and maintained under seal because it contains pervasive sensitive personal information protected by federal confidentiality provisions.

HOLDINGS

1. Exhibit A must be filed and maintained under seal because disclosure would create a clearly defined and serious injury, the materials are subject to federal confidentiality protections, and sealing rather than redaction is necessary and narrowly tailored.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Redaction alone would be insufficient to protect these interests because the sensitive information is pervasive throughout the filing.”

“Consistent with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 5.2 and Local Civil Rule 5.3(c), the Court finds that sealing is necessary and narrowly tailored.”

“IT IS THEREFORE on this te day of January, 2026, ORDERED that Respondents’ Motion to Seal (ECF No, 10) is GRANTED”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Exhibit A to Respondents' Answer contained Petitioner's sensitive personal information. The information was pervasive throughout the filing, making redaction insufficient or infeasible. Disclosure could expose Petitioner to serious risk and would conflict with federal confidentiality protections applicable to credible-fear materials.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

In this federal habeas proceeding, Respondents filed an Answer to the Amended Petition and moved to file Exhibit A under seal. The District Court reviewed the exhibit and relevant authorities and granted the motion.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- In re Cendant Corp., 260 F.3d 662 (3d Cir. 2019)