

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND, SOUTHERN DIVISION**

J.O.P., *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY, *et al.*

Defendants.

Case No. 8:19-cv-01944-SAG

**JOINT STATUS REPORT IN RESPONSE TO THE COURT’S
JULY 22, 2025 ORDER**

On July 22, 2025, the Court issued an order directing the parties to file a weekly joint status report apprising the Court of developments in the parties’ discussions regarding the return of Cristian to the United States for an adjudication on the merits of his asylum application by USCIS. *See* ECF No. 358.

Defendants’ Position

Cristian has not expressed a present interest to return to the United States from his native Venezuela. Accordingly, Defendants filed their motion to vacate this Court’s April 23, 2025, order, ECF No. 254, as to facilitation on Friday, August 22, 2025. ECF No. 386.

On September 24, 2025, Plaintiffs’ Counsel informed Defendants’ Counsel that they do not have any updates regarding Cristian’s decision to return to the United States since the last joint status report filed on September 19. ECF No. 404. Plaintiffs’ counsel informed Defendants via email on September 24, 2025, that “[they] have not had further communication from Cristian...” It is Defendants’ understanding that Class Counsel, despite efforts to communicate with Cristian, last successfully contacted him a week prior to filing of the August 29, 2025, Joint Status Report. ECF No. 388.

Class Counsel's Position

Class Counsel agreed with Defendants to postpone the parties' weekly meet and confer unless the government had a new position to provide. To date, there has been no movement in the government's unwillingness to consider alternatives to detention that would better approximate restoring Cristian to the status quo ante if he returns, and thus, no new information for Class Counsel to relay to Cristian to consider. Further, despite Class Counsel's efforts, Class Counsel has not been able to speak with Cristian since approximately August 12 and are concerned about his safety and well-being.

DATED: September 26, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on September 26, 2025, I served an electronic copy of the foregoing on counsel for the Plaintiffs via the Court's CM/ECF system.

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