



**U.S. Department of Justice**

United States Attorney's Office  
District of New Jersey  
*Civil Division*

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February 2, 2026

**Via Electronic Filing**

Hon. Michael E. Farbiarz, U.S.D.J.  
U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey  
Frank R. Lautenberg Post Office & Courthouse  
2 Federal Square  
Newark, NJ 07101

**Re: *Kumar v. Soto et al.*, No. 26-cv-777**  
**Status Report on Petitioner's Detention Location**

Dear Judge Farbiarz:

This Office represents Respondents in the above habeas matter. We write to respectfully inform the Court that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") transferred Petitioner to the Port Isabel Service Detention Center in Los Fresnos, Texas on January 31, 2026, after the Court issued an order on January 26, 2026, prohibiting Petitioner's transfer from the District of New Jersey. *See ECF 3.*

On January 26, 2026, our Office notified ICE of the Court's order enjoining Respondents from removing Petitioner from this District or causing his removal. Our Office first received notice of Petitioner's transfer today, February 2, 2026, at 4:49 p.m., via Petitioner's letter filed on the docket. *See ECF No. 9.* We contacted ICE at 4:59 p.m. to request confirmation of Petitioner's transfer, and reiterated that Petitioner was not to be removed from this District. ICE confirmed at 5:07 p.m. that it transferred Petitioner to Port Isabel on January 31, 2026, but that it is facilitating Petitioner's return to New Jersey.

Our Office has been in contact with Petitioner's counsel, and we will keep Petitioner's counsel and the Court informed of any developments.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

TODD BLANCHE  
U.S. Deputy Attorney General

JORDAN FOX  
Chief of Staff & Associate Deputy  
Attorney General  
Special Attorney

By: / s / Jessica L. Guarracino  
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cc: Counsel of Record via ECF