

2025 Immigration Court Observation -MERIT Hearing

Date: _____ Observer: _____ In Person WebEx

GENERAL

1. 9 digit A# or last 3: _____ 2. Country of origin : _____

3. Gender: Male Female Trans/ non-binary Unsure Didn't appear, reason: _____

4. Judge: Carr Ivany Mazzie Miller Sardelli Wood Zaske Other: _____

5. DHS Attorney: _____ didn't appear

6. Was the respondent represented today? Yes No, pro se Attorney failed to appear

Comment (incl. atty name): _____

7. Has the respondent been deemed incompetent by the court ? Yes No Unsure

8. Is today's hearing a continuation of a previously commenced merits hearing? Yes No Unsure

9. **DOCKET:** Non-Detained IHP (prison) ICE detention Unsure; Comment: _____

LANGUAGE

10. Respondent's preferred language: _____

11. Did court find interpreter in preferred language?: Yes No; If no, what language provided? _____

12. Interpretation: No problems Problem; Comment: _____

MERITS

13. **Relief being sought/ application being heard** (check all that apply)

- Adjustment of status
- I-589: Asylum / WOR / CAT
- Other _____
- Cancellation: 42A (LPR) 42B
- Termination Dismissal
- Unsure
- Voluntary Departure

14. Comment re evidence submitted by Respondent: _____

15. Comment re evidence submitted by DHS: _____

16. Testimony/ Witnesses- (check all that apply) Respondent Family Country Expert
 Other Supporter Medical Mental Health

17. Did judge place any constraints on testimony? Yes No; Comment: _____

18. Comment about testifiers/ testimony: _____

19. Were there supporters present (court / webex) who did not testify? no yes, family yes, other supporters

Presence in country

20. Respondent's entry date/ length of time in the US: _____ Unknown

21. Does respondent have family in the US? Yes No Unknown If family present, who and what status in US: _____

Background

22. What was said about conditions in home country? _____

Not discussed

Criminal history

23. Arrests or convictions? Not Discussed No criminal Hx Has at least one arrest Has at least one conviction

Comments: _____

Legal argument

24. Describe the main argument of respondent (or attorney): _____

25. Describe the main argument of government attorney: _____

26. Describe main questioning / reasoning of Judge: _____

27. Did judge make an adverse credibility or character finding? Yes No Unsure; Comment: _____

Health

28. Was there mention of respondent having the following medical/ mental health issues?

- Bipolar Depression/ Anxiety Schizophrenia Other
- Chemical Dependency PTSD Torture Survivor None
- Cognitive Impairment Sexual assault survivor Traumatic Brain injury

Comment: _____

CONCLUSION

29. Judge's action:

- Case Cont'd for testimony Relief Denied Voluntary departure
- Case Cont'd for oral decision Relief Granted Unsure
- Will issue written decision Relief type: _____ Other: _____

Comment: _____

30. If continued, next hearing Date: _____ Time: _____

31. If removal order, did judge give advisal about consequences of unauthorized return, bars to relief, fines for non-cooperation? Yes No Unsure Comment: _____

32. Did parties reserve appeal of decision? NA (no decision today) DHS: Yes No Respondent: Yes No

Comment: _____

33. Other comments, impressions, concerns:

34. How long did hearing last? less than 2 hours 2-3 hours 3-4 hours More than 4 hours