

2026 Immigration Court Observation - INDIVIDUAL / MERIT Hearing

Date: _____ Observer: _____

1. A#: _____ IJ didn't say full A# 2. Country of origin: _____

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

4. Judge (IJ): Carr Ivany Mazzie Miller Sardelli Other: _____ IJ remote from other court

5. DHS Attorney: _____ Inaudible Didn't state name on record Didn't appear

6. Was the respondent represented today? Yes: name: _____ No, pro se Atty failed to appear

7. DOCKET: Non-detained IHP (prison) ICE detention Unsure Comment: _____

LANGUAGE

8. Respondent's best language: _____

9. Interpreter in best language? Yes No, language provided: _____ N/A – R speak English

10. Did IJ ask attorney to waive interpretation? N/A No Yes Comment: _____

11. Interpretation: No problems Problem Comment: _____

MERITS

12. Was there a motion to pretermit the case? Yes No Unsure Judge action: Pretermit/removal order
 Hearing proceeds Comment: _____

13. Was there mention of ACA/ Safe 3rd Country? Yes No Unsure Judge action: Advise refile app
 Removal home Removal 3rd country Hearing proceeds Comment: _____

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

Adjustment of status I-589: Asylum / WOR / CAT Waiver (I-601)
 Cancellation: 42A (LPR) 42B Termination Dismissal Other _____
 Cuban Adjustment Act Voluntary Departure Unsure _____

15. Comment re evidence submitted by respondent: _____

16. Comment re evidence submitted by DHS: _____

17. Testimony/ witnesses- (check all that apply) Respondent Family Country expert
 Other supporter Medical Mental health

18. Did Judge place any constraints on testimony? Yes No Comment: _____

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

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 history23. 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, R's attorney, or witnesses:

25. Describe the main argument of DHS 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?

<input type="checkbox"/> Bipolar	<input type="checkbox"/> PTSD	<input type="checkbox"/> Traumatic brain injury
<input type="checkbox"/> Chemical dependency	<input type="checkbox"/> Sexual assault survivor	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Cognitive impairment	<input type="checkbox"/> Schizophrenia	<input type="checkbox"/> None
<input type="checkbox"/> Depression/ anxiety	<input type="checkbox"/> Torture survivor	

Comment: _____

CONCLUSION

29. Judge's action:

<input type="checkbox"/> Case cont'd for testimony	<input type="checkbox"/> Relief denied- removal order	<input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary departure
<input type="checkbox"/> Case cont'd for oral decision	<input type="checkbox"/> Relief granted	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
<input type="checkbox"/> Will issue written decision	Relief type: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Comment, include country of removal if relief denied: _____

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

31. If judge made final decision did parties reserve appeal? Not applicable Check if IJ noted filing fee for appealDHS: Yes No, waived Respondent: Yes No, waived Judge didn't ask Unsure

32. Other comments, impressions, concerns: