

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

SILEIRI DOE,
MERYEM DOE, and
OLIVIA DOE,
on behalf of themselves and all others similarly
situated, and
VENEZUELAN ASSOCIATION OF
MASSACHUSETTS,

Plaintiffs,
v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY,
U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION
SERVICES,
KRISTI NOEM, in her official capacity as
Secretary of the Department of Homeland
Security,
JOSEPH B. EDLOW, in his official capacity as
Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration
Services, and
RODNEY S. SCOTT, in his official capacity as
Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border
Protection.

Defendants.

Civil Action
No. 1:25-cv-12245-ADB

DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR A STAY OF PROCEEDINGS

The United States hereby moves for a stay of this matter, including any existing or anticipated filing obligations, in the above-captioned case.

1. At the end of the day on September 30, 2025, the appropriations act that had been funding the Department of Justice expired and those appropriations to the Department lapsed. The same is true for the majority of other Executive agencies, including certain of the federal Defendants. The Department does not know when such funding will be restored by Congress.

2. Absent an appropriation, Department of Justice attorneys and employees of certain of the federal Defendants are prohibited from working, even on a voluntary basis, except in very limited circumstances, including “emergencies involving the safety of human life or the protection of property.” 31 U.S.C. § 1342.

3. Undersigned counsel for the Department of Justice therefore requests a stay of proceedings in this matter until Congress has restored appropriations to the Department.

4. If this motion for a stay is granted, undersigned counsel will notify the Court as soon as Congress has appropriated funds for the Department. The Government requests that, at that point, all current filing obligations for the parties be extended commensurate with the duration of the lapse in appropriations.

5. Opposing counsel object to the requested stay and intend to file an opposition.

Therefore, although we greatly regret any disruption caused to the Court and the Plaintiffs, the Government hereby moves for a stay of this matter until Department of Justice attorneys are permitted to resume their usual civil litigation functions.

CONCLUSION

Defendants respectfully request the Court stay this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

LEAH B. FOLEY
United States Attorney

Dated: October 17, 2025

By: /s/ Shawna Yen
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that this document filed through the ECF system will be sent electronically to the registered participants as identified on the Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) and paper copies will be sent to those indicated as non-registered participants.

Dated: October 17, 2025

By: /s/ Shawna Yen
SHAWNA YEN
Assistant U.S Attorney