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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JOSE ORLANDO CANCINO
CASTELLAR et al.,

Plaintiff-Petitioners,

v.

JOHN F. KELLY, Secretary of Homeland
Security, et al.,

Defendant-Respondents.

Case No. 3:17-cv-00491-BAS-BGS

**PLAINTIFF-PETITIONERS'
OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANT-
RESPONDENTS' MOTION TO
DISMISS COMPLAINT**

Date: July 10, 2017
Time: TBD
Courtroom: 4B (Schwartz)
Judge: Hon. Cynthia
Bashant

**NO ORAL ARGUMENT UNLESS
REQUESTED BY JUDGE**

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Constitution rests on the principle that government may not deprive individuals of liberty without robust procedural safeguards. Due process mandates a prompt hearing before a neutral adjudicator for any person detained for a significant time. The Fourth Amendment separately requires the government to obtain prompt judicial review of the basis for that detention. These principles distinguish a constitutional republic from a police state.

This case arises from the government's disregard of those principles. Defendants routinely imprison individuals for one to three months, and sometimes longer, without a prompt hearing or judicial review of probable cause. The first hearing in removal proceedings is especially important for detainees, most of whom lack access to counsel or familiarity with English. ECF No. 1 ¶¶ 5, 29. The first hearing notifies them of the charges; facilitates access to pro bono counsel; and provides them an opportunity to contest detention, seek a bond hearing, and request the evidence against them. ECF No. 1 ¶¶ 3, 27-34. To deny a prompt hearing or judicial review of probable cause strips immigration detainees of critical protections against arbitrary deprivation of liberty.

The Court has jurisdiction to decide this case because it challenges only an aspect of detention during removal proceedings, not the removal proceedings themselves. This case does not arise from any decision "to commence proceedings, adjudicate cases, or execute removal orders." 8 U.S.C. § 1252(g). It does not challenge any of those case-by-case "discretionary determinations." *Reno v. Am.-Arab Anti-Discrimination Comm.*, 525 U.S. 471, 485 (1999). Instead, it challenges only the class-wide policy and practice of denying a hearing or judicial review of probable cause for months after the decision to charge and detain has been made. This case also does not require "judicial review of an order of removal" or "aris[e] from any action taken or proceeding brought to remove an alien from the United States." 8 U.S.C. §§ 1252(a)(5), (b)(9). As the Ninth Circuit has confirmed, sections 1252(a)(5) and (b)(9) do not apply to issues "independent of or collateral to the removal process." *J.E.F.M. v. Lynch*, 837

1 F.3d 1026, 1032 (9th Cir. 2016). The legality of detention without a prompt hearing or
2 judicial review is independent of removal itself. This Court therefore retains jurisdiction
3 to decide the merits.

4 On the merits, the facts pleaded state a claim that Defendants are unlawfully
5 detaining individuals for one to three months, sometimes more, without a hearing or
6 judicial review. First, extended detention without a hearing violates both procedural
7 and substantive due process. As courts have held, similar or shorter delays in providing
8 a hearing violate the Constitution in both civil and criminal contexts. Second, extended
9 detention without prompt judicial review of the basis for detention violates the Fourth
10 Amendment in both civil and criminal cases. It is misleading to suggest the Supreme
11 Court has approved immigration detention without judicial review. The Court expressly
12 declined to decide that issue because it was “expressly disavowed” in the trial court.
13 *Abel v. U.S.*, 362 U.S. 217, 230 (1960). Third, Defendants are violating the relevant
14 statutes, which can and must be construed in light of constitutional requirements to
15 require a prompt hearing and judicial review once the government has elected to detain
16 individuals pending removal proceedings.

17 Defendants cannot prevail by mischaracterizing Plaintiffs’ position. This case
18 does not require the Court to “strike down” any statute “in its entirety as
19 unconstitutional.” ECF No. 28-1 at 20:3-4. It is Defendants’ policies and practices that
20 are unconstitutional, not the statutes on their face. Although the statutes raise
21 constitutional concerns, they may easily be construed to preserve their validity.
22 Plaintiffs do not necessarily assert the right to an “initial master calendar hearing” or
23 judicial review of probable cause “within 48 hours of detention.” ECF No. 28-1 at
24 1:13-14. Though the proposed class includes individuals detained more than 48 hours
25 after arrest, the Complaint demands only a “prompt” hearing and judicial review. ECF
26 No. 1 ¶¶ 68, 78-79, 82-83. The 48-hour mark represents the time by which DHS has
27 made its “initial determination” that class members “will remain in custody.” ECF No.
28 28-1 at 4:13-14. Although 48 hours after arrest is the presumptive time limit for a

probable cause determination in criminal cases, *Cnty. of Riverside v. McLaughlin*, 500 U.S. 44, 57 (1991), the administrative and procedural differences between criminal and immigration cases may or may not result in a different standard of promptness in this case, depending on the facts developed in discovery. However, those differences do not justify categorically exempting immigration detention from the constitutional requirements of a prompt first hearing and judicial review of probable cause. Under any standard of promptness in any context, a delay of one to three months before first hearing or judicial review cannot be considered prompt.

The government's position ultimately reduces to magical thinking that immigration detention is somehow exempt from the constitutional rules that apply to all other forms of detention. But detention is detention, and immigration powers remain "subject to important constitutional limitations." *Zadhydas v. Davis*, 533 U.S. 678, 695 (2001). On the facts pleaded, Defendants are violating those limits, a result they cannot escape by labeling immigration detention as "civil." *Padilla v. Kentucky*, 559 U.S. 356, 365 (2010) (though deportation is "not, in a strict sense, a criminal sanction," it is "a particularly severe 'penalty'").

Plaintiffs therefore state a claim for declaratory and injunctive relief under the Court's inherent equitable power to cure constitutional violations. The Court may also issue a writ of habeas corpus to cure "custody in violation of the Constitution or laws ... of the United States." 28 U.S.C. § 2241(c)(3). Finally, because the facts pleaded show that the policy and practice at issue represents final agency action, Plaintiffs state a claim under the Administrative Procedure Act ("APA"). For these reasons, the Court should deny the motion to dismiss.

II. FACTS

A. Defendants' Policies and Practices of Extended Detention without Prompt Presentment to a Neutral Adjudicator or Judicial Review of Probable Cause.

Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") has a policy and practice of incarcerating individuals alleged to be removable for one to three months before

1 presenting them before a neutral adjudicator such as an immigration judge (“IJ”). ECF
 2 No. 1, ¶¶ 1, 5, 47-49; *see* ECF No. 28-2 (Defs. Resp’ts’ Ex. Index) Exs. C, D, F, J, O, R.
 3 During that time, DHS does not obtain judicial review of whether detention is justified
 4 by probable cause. ECF No. 1 ¶¶ 1, 63. Defendants place no special emphasis on first
 5 appearance or judicial review of confinement and make no effort to provide them
 6 promptly. *Id.* ¶¶ 6, 28, 62-76.

7 In this district, immigration detainees are held in one of two facilities maintained
 8 by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”) or one of several short-term
 9 facilities operated by Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”). *Id.* ¶¶ 59-60. During
 10 confinement of detainees in these remote, jail-like facilities, DHS does not set
 11 automatic custody review hearings before an IJ or inform detainees of their rights in
 12 their native language. *Id.* ¶¶ 29, 43, 50-60, 63. DHS does not file a charging document,
 13 called a Notice to Appear (“NTA”), with the immigration court for a significant period
 14 of time after detention, often for days or weeks after it is issued. *Id.* ¶¶ 47-48. When
 15 DHS does file it, it sets no date for first appearance, relying on Defendant EOIR to do
 16 it instead. *Id.* ¶ 64. The immigration court does not set first appearances any more
 17 promptly than other hearings. *Id.* ¶¶ 28, 65. As a result, detainees languish in detention
 18 for months before any neutral adjudicator advises them of their rights, explains the
 19 removal process, discusses how they can seek release on bond or expedite proceedings,
 20 or reviews the lawfulness of their detention.

21 **B. Legal Framework for Civil Immigration Arrest, Continued** 22 **Detention, and Removal Proceedings.**

23 A DHS agent may arrest a person on an administrative warrant, signed by a
 24 DHS official, 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), 8 C.F.R. § 1236.1(b), or without a warrant if the
 25 individual “is entering or attempting to enter the United States” in violation of
 26 immigration law or the agent “has reason to believe” the individual is in violation of
 27 immigration law. 8 U.S.C. § 1357(a)(2); 8 C.F.R. § 287.3(d). As Defendants
 28 acknowledge, “reason to believe” means “probable cause.” ECF No. 28-1 at 4:3-4.

1 DHS must take arrestees “without unnecessary delay” to be examined by
 2 another immigration officer, not a judge, “having authority to examine aliens as to their
 3 right to enter or remain in the United States,” 8 U.S.C. § 1357(a)(2), who, absent
 4 emergencies, must make a decision “within 48 hours of the arrest” whether to keep the
 5 person in custody and issue an NTA for removal proceedings. 8 C.F.R. § 287.3(d).

6 With limited exceptions, removal proceedings are conducted by an IJ.¹ ECF No.
 7 1 ¶ 21. Although the Immigration and Nationality Act (“INA”) states only that a
 8 removal “hearing” will be held, Defendants have a policy and practice of providing one
 9 or more “master calendar hearings” (“MCHs”), as a “pre-trial docket,” prior to the
 10 hearing on the merits. *Id.* ¶¶ 27, 32.

11 At the initial MCH, with an interpreter if necessary, the IJ advises individuals of
 12 their rights, explains the charges in plain language, and verifies proper service of the
 13 NTA, which may contain errors. *Id.* ¶¶ 29-30. The initial MCH also provides the first
 14 meaningful opportunity for a detainee to challenge DHS’s custody authority or request
 15 a hearing to do so, and it results in the placement of unrepresented detainees on a list
 16 sent to organizations that provide pro bono representation. *Id.* ¶¶ 31, 33. Because it
 17 “may take more than one master calendar session to get a case ready,” a series of
 18 MCHs may be held to narrow the issues, until one or more “merits” hearings are held
 19 to decide removability and any eligibility for relief from removal. *Id.* ¶ 27.

20
 21
 22
 23 ¹ Individuals arriving at a port of entry without valid documentation for admission, or
 24 who are apprehended within 14 days of entering the U.S. without being admitted or
 25 possessing valid documentation for admission, generally receive so-called “expedited
 26 removal” orders under 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b), for which Congress has authorized a hearing
 27 before an immigration judge in limited circumstances. ECF No. 1 ¶ 23. However, when
 28 such an individual expresses a fear of persecution if removed, as did Plaintiff Gonzalez,
 expedited removal is not permitted, and he or she is referred for a credible fear
 interview. *Id.* If DHS determines that there is a credible fear, the case is referred to an
 IJ through the filing of an NTA, at which point the case proceeds through ordinary
 removal proceedings. *Id.* In the case of a negative credible fear determination, the
 applicant may seek “prompt review by an immigration judge” of the determination, to
 be “concluded as expeditiously as possible, to the maximum extent practicable within
 24 hours, but in no case later than 7 days.” 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(1)(B)(iii)(III).

1 Congress does not require detention of anyone in removal proceedings except
 2 certain noncitizens who are seeking admission to the United States or have specified
 3 criminal or national security histories. 8 U.S.C. §§ 1225(b), 1226(c). Many detainees are
 4 eligible to seek a custody review or “bond” hearing, ECF No. 1 ¶ 31, which must be set
 5 “*as promptly as possible*” before the IJ as an “impartial arbiter.” *Matter of Chirinos*, 16 I. &
 6 N. Dec. 276, 277 (BIA 1977) (emphasis in original). Even those ineligible for bond may
 7 ask for a hearing to challenge DHS’s legal authority for detention. ECF No. 1 ¶ 31
 8 (citing *In re Joseph*, 22 I. & N. Dec. 799, 800 (BIA 1999)). By failing to provide a prompt
 9 first hearing that notifies detainees of these rights, Defendants are significantly
 10 prolonging the detention of many individuals who qualify for release.

11 **C. Plaintiffs’ Experiences of Extended Detention Before Hearing** 12 **Pursuant to Defendants’ Policies and Practices.**

13 Plaintiffs’ experiences are typical of the extended detention without a prompt
 14 hearing or judicial review that results from Defendants’ policies and practices.

15 **1. Jose Cancino Castellar**

16 Jose Orlando Cancino Castellar is eligible for Deferred Action for Childhood
 17 Arrivals, a form of deferred action from removal that would allow him to remain in the
 18 United States if granted. ECF No. 1 ¶ 47. DHS detained him on February 17, 2017 and
 19 four days later decided to charge and detain him by issuing him an NTA and refusing
 20 to release him.² *Id.* He told DHS he wanted an IJ to review that decision, but neither a
 21 bond hearing nor an MCH was held by the time the Complaint was filed on March 9,
 22 2017. *Id.*

23 According to Defendants, DHS filed the NTA with the immigration court seven
 24 days after he was taken into custody and three days after its issuance. ECF 28-2, Ex. A.
 25 The NTA did not set a date for his initial MCH. *Id.* Mr. Cancino Castellar eventually

26
 27 ² Defendants glibly assert Mr. Cancino Castellar was held “as a ‘Room and Board’”
 28 during a holiday weekend. ECF No. 28-1, at 7 n.8. However, a holiday weekend is not
 an extraordinary circumstance, *U.S. v. Pimental*, 755 F.3d 1095, 1104 (9th Cir. 2014), and
 the harsh conditions of confinement belie the attempt to whitewash his detention, ECF
 No. 1 ¶¶ 50-60.

1 had his first appearance on March 23, 2017, 34 days after DHS took him into custody.
 2 *Id.* Ex. C. He had a bond hearing two business days later on March 27, 2017, where the
 3 IJ overruled DHS's custody determination and ordered him released on \$3500 bond.
 4 *Id.* Ex. E. He was released the next day after 39 days of custody, though a mere 5 days
 5 after his first appearance. *Id.*

6 **2. Ana Maria Hernandez Aguas**

7 Ana Maria Hernandez Aguas is a mother of two U.S. citizen children who was in
 8 DHS custody for 31 days without a first appearance or judicial review of probable
 9 cause when the Complaint was filed. ECF No. 1 ¶ 48. She is eligible for cancellation of
 10 removal, which would permit her to remain lawfully in the U.S. *Id.*; 8 U.S.C. § 1229b(b).

11 Ms. Hernandez Aguas was taken into DHS custody on February 7, 2017. *Id.*;
 12 ECF No. 28-2, Ex. F. DHS first detained her in a Border Patrol station in Chula Vista
 13 for five days, then transferred her to the San Luis Regional Detention and Support
 14 Center in San Luis, Arizona for another three days, and eventually sent her to the Otay
 15 Detention Facility in Otay Mesa, California on February 15, 2017. ECF No. 1 ¶ 48. At
 16 the time the Complaint was filed, she had not yet been provided with copies of any
 17 NTA, administrative warrant, or documents indicating DHS's custody determination,
 18 and no date had yet been scheduled for her first appearance. *Id.* Her immigration
 19 attorney scheduled a bond hearing for March 13, 2017, the earliest date the
 20 immigration court would provide. *Id.*

21 According to Defendants, the government issued an NTA for Ms. Hernandez
 22 Aguas on February 7, 2017, but did not file it with the immigration court until 14 days
 23 later. ECF No. 28-2, Ex. I. The NTA did not set a date for her initial MCH. *Id.* At her
 24 custody review hearing, the IJ overruled DHS's determination that she must remain in
 25 custody and ordered her released on \$2500 bond. *Id.* Ex. L. She was released the next
 26 day, after 35 days of confinement, though just one day after her first appearance. *Id.*
 27 Ex. M. She still has not had her first MCH. *Id.* Ex. J.

3. Michael Gonzalez

Michael Gonzalez claims U.S. citizenship, which DHS disputes. ECF No. 1 ¶ 49. At the time the Complaint was filed, he had been in DHS custody for 113 days without a first appearance or judicial review of probable cause. *Id.* On November 17, 2016, he presented himself at the San Ysidro Port of Entry and expressed a fear of persecution in Mexico. *Id.* On November 18, 2016, DHS issued him a “determination of inadmissibility” that commenced expedited removal proceedings. ECF No. 28-2, Ex. N. DHS detained him in an unknown location for several days until he was transferred to the Otay Detention Facility on November 23, 2016, where he remains. ECF No. 1 ¶ 49. On December 16, 2016, 29 days after he was detained, DHS interviewed him and determined he had a credible fear of persecution, signifying he had a significant chance of prevailing on his asylum claim. *Id.* DHS did not transfer his case to ordinary removal proceedings through an NTA until 20 days later, 49 days after he was taken into custody. *Id.* On January 30, 2017, his first MCH was scheduled for April 5, 2017. *Id.*

According to the government, the NTA was filed with the immigration court on January 19, 2017, two weeks after it was issued.³ ECF No. 28-2, Ex. O. Mr. Gonzalez’s April 5, 2017 MCH was changed to March 14, 2017. He was detained for 117 days before his first appearance and remains in detention. ECF No. 28-2, Ex. U.

III. STANDARD OF REVIEW

A motion to dismiss under Rule 12(b)(1) may be based on the complaint or extrinsic evidence. *Safe Air for Everyone v. Meyer*, 373 F.3d 1035, 1039 (9th Cir. 2004). Although the government submitted extrinsic evidence, the Court need not resolve any disputed facts and should therefore treat the motion as a facial attack, taking the facts pleaded as true. *Courthouse News Serv. v. Planet*, 750 F.3d 776, 780 (9th Cir. 2014).

³ DHS never issued or “revoked” an “order of expedited removal” against Mr. Gonzalez, ECF No. 28-1 at 9:16. DHS only provided Mr. Gonzalez with a “determination of inadmissibility,” but the portion of the form issuing an expedited “order of removal” is not filled out, ECF No. 28-2, Ex. N, nor could it be, since Mr. Gonzalez asked for asylum. 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(1)(A)(i).

1 In deciding a motion to dismiss under Rule 12(b)(6), the court takes the facts
 2 pleaded as true, along with matters subject to judicial notice, drawing all inferences in
 3 the light most favorable to the plaintiff to determine if the complaint states a plausible
 4 claim. *OSU Student Alliance v. Ray*, 699 F.3d 1053, 1058 (9th Cir. 2012); *Barker v. Riverside*
 5 *Cnty. Office of Educ.*, 584 F.3d 821, 824 (9th Cir. 2009); *United States v. Ritchie*, 342 F.3d
 6 903, 908 (9th Cir. 2003). If alternative explanations are plausible, the court may not
 7 dismiss the complaint. *Starr v. Baca*, 652 F.3d 1202, 1216 (9th Cir. 2011). Leave to
 8 amend must be granted unless amendment is futile. *Nat’l Council of La Raza v. Cegarske*,
 9 800 F.3d 1032, 1041 (9th Cir. 2015).

10 IV. ARGUMENT

11 The Court should deny the motion to dismiss. First, the Court has jurisdiction to
 12 decide the legality of extended detention without a hearing or judicial review. The
 13 jurisdictional statutes cited by Defendants do not bar this case because it challenges
 14 matters independent of the commencement or resolution of removal proceedings.
 15 Second, Plaintiffs state claims that the challenged detention violates both the
 16 Constitution and relevant statutes. Defendants cannot plausibly justify extended
 17 detention without a hearing or judicial review and instead misrepresent Plaintiffs’
 18 position. Plaintiffs do not mount a facial attack on any part of the INA or necessarily
 19 seek presentment or judicial review within 48 hours of arrest. Instead, they seek only
 20 “prompt judicial presentment” and “prompt judicial determination of whether
 21 probable cause justifies detention.” ECF No. 1 ¶¶ 78, 82. Regardless of whether the
 22 standard of promptness in immigration detention requires presentment or judicial
 23 review within 48 hours of arrest, a delay of one to three months is not prompt under
 24 any reasonable standard. Properly construed, the detention statutes do not allow such
 25 prolonged delays. Plaintiffs therefore state claims for both constitutional and statutory
 26 violations that justify relief under the Court’s equitable power, the habeas statute, and
 27 the Administrative Procedure Act.

A. The Court Has Jurisdiction Over Plaintiffs' Claims, Which Do Not Implicate any Case-by-Case Decisions and Remain Independent of Removal Proceedings Themselves.

As interpreted in binding precedent, the relevant statutes do not deprive the Court of jurisdiction to decide that Defendants have an unlawful policy and practice of detaining individuals for an extended time without a prompt hearing or judicial review. Nothing cited by Defendants deprives the Court of power to decide the merits or overcomes the “the strong presumption in favor of judicial review of administrative action.” *INS v. St. Cyr*, 533 U.S. 289, 298 (2001)

1. This Case Does Not Implicate Discretionary Case-by-Case Decisions, and Therefore 8 U.S.C. § 1252(g) Does Not Deprive This Court of Jurisdiction.

This case does not fall within the statute stripping jurisdiction over claims “arising from the decision or action by the Attorney General to commence proceedings, adjudicate cases, or execute removal orders” 8 U.S.C. § 1252(g). That statute “applies only to three discrete actions” not at issue here: the “discretionary determinations” to “*commence* proceedings, *adjudicate* cases, or *execute* removal orders.” *Am.-Arab Anti-Discrimination Comm.*, 525 U.S. at 482, 485 (emphasis in original); *see also Barabona-Gomez v. Reno*, 236 F.3d 1115, 1121 (9th Cir. 2001) (section 1252(g) “applies only to the three specific discretionary actions mentioned in its text, not to all claims relating in any way to deportation proceedings”). This case does not challenge any of those discretionary decisions. Instead, Plaintiffs challenge a class-wide policy and practice of extended post-arrest detention without prompt hearing or judicial review. That policy and practice impacts detainees only after DHS has already decided to commence proceedings, and it is independent of the adjudication of their immigration cases or ultimate execution of any removal orders.

When “narrowly construed” as it must be, *Kwai Fun Wong v. United States*, 373 F.3d 952, 964 (9th Cir. 2004), section 1252(g) does not cover a challenge to the extended detention at issue here, which is entirely separate from the discretionary decisions “to commence proceedings, adjudicate cases, or execute removal orders.”

1 *Walters v. Reno*, 145 F.3d 1032, 1052 (9th Cir. 1998) (section 1252(g) did not apply
 2 where plaintiffs did not seek “judicial review of the merits of their INS proceedings,
 3 but rather to enforce their constitutional rights to due process” by making “collateral
 4 challenges to unconstitutional practices and policies”); *cf. Texas v. United States*, 809 F.3d
 5 134, 164-65 (5th Cir. 2015), *aff’d by equally divided Court*, 136 S. Ct. 2271 (2016) (section
 6 1252(g) did not bar challenge to agency action “on a class-wide basis” that did not
 7 involve “case-by-case decisions” to commence proceedings).

8 Plaintiffs do “not ask the district court to block a decision ‘to commence
 9 proceedings, adjudicate cases, or execute removal orders against any alien.’” *Parra v.*
 10 *Perryman*, 172 F.3d 954, 957 (7th Cir. 1999) (quoting 8 U.S.C. § 1252(g)). Instead, their
 11 “claim concerns detention while the administrative process lasts, and it may be resolved
 12 without affecting pending proceedings. Section 1252(g) therefore does not foreclose
 13 review.” *Id.*; *see also Zhislin v. Reno*, 195 F.3d 810, 814 (6th Cir. 1999) (section 1252(g) did
 14 not bar action that “challenge[d] neither the constitutionality of the deportation order
 15 nor the right of the Attorney General to execute the order” but instead challenged “the
 16 right of the Attorney General to detain [petitioner] indefinitely”).

17 Defendants find no comfort in *Sissoko v. Rocha*, 509 F.3d 947, 950 (9th Cir.
 18 2007). In that case, the plaintiff asserted a “damages claim for false arrest” due to the
 19 initiation of expedited removal proceedings. *Id.* at 948-49. Section 1252(g) applied
 20 because the plaintiff’s “claim directly challenge[d] [defendant’s] decision to commence
 21 expedited removal proceedings.” *Id.* at 950. In this action, by contrast, Plaintiffs are not
 22 challenging the initial decision to charge and detain them for removal proceedings,
 23 expedited or otherwise. Instead, Plaintiffs are challenging their treatment *after* DHS has
 24 made the “initial determination” to charge and detain them.⁴ ECF No. 28-1 at 4:13.

26 ⁴ This case does not involve “challenges to expedited removal orders,” ECF No. 28-1
 27 at 15 n.12. The class does not include persons “with final removal orders,” expedited or
 28 otherwise. ECF No. 1 ¶ 68. This challenges only extended detention without prompt
 presentment or judicial review before a final order is entered. It is not barred by 8
 U.S.C. §§ 1252(e)(2), (e)(5) because Plaintiffs do not seek “review of whether [any] alien
 is actually inadmissible or entitled to any relief from removal.”

1 The Court may rule on that challenge without calling into question the decision
 2 to commence proceedings. Therefore, section 1252(g) does not bar this case. *Cf. Wong*,
 3 373 F.3d at 964 (section 1252(g) did not bar action where plaintiff “disclaims any
 4 challenge to the execution of the removal itself, but rather asserts that her claims
 5 implicate only actions *other than* that removal, or the commencement of proceedings, if
 6 any, leading to that removal”) (emphasis in original); *Diaz-Bernal v. Myers*, 758 F. Supp.
 7 2d 106, 125 (D. Conn. 2010) (section 1252(g) did not bar challenge to “conditions of
 8 the plaintiffs’ arrest and confinement, including their lack of access to counsel, their
 9 lack of information about their rights, and their being coerced to sign documents that
 10 they may not have understood,” because those claims “do not deal with the defendants’
 11 commencement of proceedings against the plaintiffs, the adjudication of their cases, or
 12 the execution of their removal”).

13 Defendants are wrong that after the decision to charge and detain has been
 14 made, the policy and practice of extended detention without prompt hearing or judicial
 15 review “cannot be divorced from the decision to commence proceedings.” ECF No
 16 28-1 at 16:14. Indeed, immigration court regulations recognize that decisions on
 17 continued custody or bond “shall be separate and apart from, and shall form no part
 18 of, any deportation or removal hearing or proceeding.” 8 C.F.R. § 1003.19(d).

19 Defendants’ other authority is similarly beside the point. In *Wang v. United States*,
 20 No. CV 10-0389 SVW (RCX), 2010 WL 11463156 (C.D. Cal. Aug. 18, 2010), the
 21 plaintiff sought damages for “false imprisonment” due to an allegedly improper
 22 decision to charge him as “an ‘arriving alien.’” *Id.* at *4. As a result, the plaintiff
 23 necessarily challenged “the decision to initiate removal proceedings against him,” and
 24 the case was barred by section 1252(g). *Id.* at *6. In *MacDonald v. United States*, No. 11-
 25 CV-1088-IEG BLM, 2011 WL 6783327 (S.D. Cal. Dec. 23, 2011), the court lacked
 26 jurisdiction over the claim that plaintiff was initially “arrested and incarcerated on a
 27 legally invalid basis,” because that claim “challenges the very decision to commence the
 28 removal proceedings” against him. *Id.* at *6. Here, by contrast, Plaintiffs challenge not

1 the initial decision to charge and detain them but rather the government's treatment of
 2 them following that decision. Indeed, *MacDonald* supports Plaintiffs' position. 2011 WL
 3 6783327, at *5 (noting "§ 1252(g) does not bar judicial review of decisions or actions
 4 that occur during the formal adjudicatory process or of due process violations that
 5 occur before and during the removal proceedings") (citation omitted).

6 In addition, Plaintiffs seek a writ of habeas corpus, among other remedies, and
 7 section 1252(g) does "not strip the district court of jurisdiction over [Plaintiffs'] habeas
 8 petition." *Magana-Pizano v. I.N.S.*, 200 F.3d 603, 609 (9th Cir. 1999); *see also Ly v. Hansen*,
 9 351 F.3d 263, 266 (6th Cir. 2003) (section 1252(g) does not "extend to the habeas
 10 power of federal courts, in order to avoid the constitutional issue of whether or not
 11 such a limitation would violate the Suspension Clause of the Constitution"); *Duong v.*
 12 *I.N.S.*, 118 F. Supp. 2d 1059, 1062 (S.D. Cal. 2000) (section 1252(g) "does not prevent
 13 the Court from exercising jurisdiction over the Petitioner's constitutional claims").

14 **2. This Case Pleads Claims Collateral to Removal Proceedings,**
 15 **and Therefore 8 U.S.C. §§ 1252(a)(5) and (b)(9) Do Not**
Deprive This Court of Jurisdiction.

16 The other statutes cited by Defendants likewise do not deprive this Court of
 17 jurisdiction. Plaintiffs seek only a judgment against extended detention without prompt
 18 hearing or judicial review. That judgment would neither require "judicial review of an
 19 order of removal" nor "aris[e] from any action taken or proceeding brought to remove
 20 an alien from the United States." 8 U.S.C. §§ 1252(a)(5), (b)(9). These statutes "channel
 21 judicial review over final orders of removal to the courts of appeals," but they do not
 22 apply to "claims that are independent of or collateral to the removal process." *J.E.F.M.*,
 23 837 F.3d at 1032; *see also Martinez v. Napolitano*, 704 F.3d 620, 622 (9th Cir. 2012) ("The
 24 statute, by its plain language, applies only to 'judicial review of an order of removal' and
 25 does not eliminate the ability of a court to review claims that are 'independent of
 26 challenges to removal orders.'"); *Aguilar v. ICE*, 510 F.3d 1, 10 (1st Cir. 2007) (section
 27 1252(b)(9) does not "swallow all claims that might somehow touch upon, or be traced
 28 to, the government's efforts to remove an alien").

1 Plaintiffs challenge their extended post-arrest detention without prompt hearing
 2 or judicial review. That claim is independent of the removal process because it is
 3 “collateral to their substantive eligibility for relief.” *J.E.F.M.*, 837 F.3d at 1032.
 4 Accordingly, this Court retains jurisdiction to decide the merits. As Defendants
 5 acknowledge, section 1252(b)(9) does not apply to detention challenges because they
 6 are “collateral to the removal process.” ECF No. 28-1 at 12 n.10 (citing *Nadarajah v.*
 7 *Gonzales*, 443 F.3d 1069, 1075 (9th Cir. 2006)). Because detention claims “are
 8 independent of removal proceedings,” it is clear that “district courts retain jurisdiction
 9 over challenges to the legality of detention” such as the claims in this case. *Aguilar*, 510
 10 F.3d at 11. If courts retain jurisdiction over “constitutional challenges regarding the
 11 availability of bail” for immigration detainees, *id.*, then this Court has jurisdiction over
 12 Plaintiffs’ challenge to extended detention without a prompt hearing or judicial review.
 13 In both cases, the “substance of the relief” Plaintiffs seek does not directly or
 14 “indirectly challenge a removal order.” *Martinez*, 704 F.3d at 622.

15 Furthermore, section 1252(b)(9) does not bar claims that cannot be meaningfully
 16 heard in the administrative process. Defendants are wrong that “Plaintiffs may raise
 17 their claim ... before an immigration judge, and again to the BIA, and ultimately ... the
 18 Ninth Circuit.” ECF No. 13:16-20. Removal “proceedings are confined to determining
 19 whether a particular alien should be deported. While legal and factual issues relating to
 20 that question can be raised in removal proceedings and eventually brought to the court
 21 of appeals for judicial review, certain claims, by reason of the nature of the right
 22 asserted, cannot be raised efficaciously within the administrative proceedings delineated
 23 in the INA.” *Aguilar*, 510 F.3d at 11. That is the case here. Even if a request for custody
 24 review is successful, which can take weeks, ECF No. 1 ¶ 48, it cannot cure the harm
 25 caused by the government’s failure to ensure a prompt hearing or judicial review of
 26 probable cause before that time. Those issues would then become moot on entry of a
 27 removal order and could not be subject to “judicial review of a final order” on “petition
 28 for review.” 8 U.S.C. § 1252(a)(5), (b)(9); *cf. Flanagan v. United States*, 465 U.S. 259, 266

(1984) (noting that “[a]n order denying a motion to reduce bail ... becomes moot if review awaits conviction and sentence”); *United States v. Weissberger*, 951 F.2d 392, 396 (D.C. Cir. 1991) (“[a]n order requiring pretrial detention ... becomes moot upon conviction and sentence”). To require Plaintiffs to exhaust the administrative process “would foreclose them from any meaningful judicial review” of the claims in this case. *Aguilar*, 510 F.3d at 11. Where a plaintiff “would have had no legal avenue to obtain judicial review” of his claims, section 1252(b)(9) does not bar those claims. *J.E.F.M.*, 837 F.3d at 1032.

Although some of the benefits of a prompt hearing may be relevant to the merits, as discussed below, a challenge to the denial of a prompt hearing is not “part and parcel of the removal proceeding itself.” ECF No. 28-1 at 13:2 (quoting *Aguilar*, 510 F.3d at 13). In *Aguilar*, the court found that “right-to-counsel” claims are not “sufficiently separate from removal proceedings to be considered either ‘independent’ or ‘collateral,’” because “such claims are often featured in petitions for judicial review of removal orders.” 510 F.3d at 13. Here, by contrast, the detention claims are collateral to removal and cannot be raised in a petition for review of a removal order. To decide those claims in this action would not result in “fragmented litigation,” *id.*, because nothing in this case requires the Court to review the decision of an immigration judge in any individual case. Instead, this case asks the Court only to require that Defendants bring detainees promptly before immigration judges and ensure prompt judicial review of detention. Those issues are entirely collateral to the merits of removal proceedings, and this Court therefore has jurisdiction.

B. Plaintiffs State Constitutional and Statutory Claims Against Extended Detention of One to Three Months Without a Prompt Hearing or Judicial Review.

On the merits, Plaintiffs state claims that extended detention without a prompt hearing or judicial review of probable cause violates the Constitution and relevant statutes. The Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment prohibits civil or criminal detention of any individual without a prompt hearing before a neutral adjudicator.

After an arrest, the Fourth Amendment requires prompt review by a neutral adjudicator of the basis for the arrest. Properly construed, the INA incorporates both of those requirements, and Defendants are engaging in unlawful agency action under the APA. The Court should therefore deny the motion to dismiss.

1. To Detain Allegedly Removable Individuals for Over a Month Without a Hearing Violates Procedural and Substantive Due Process.

In the United States, “liberty is the norm, and detention prior to trial or without trial is the carefully limited exception.” *United States v. Salerno*, 481 U.S. 739, 755 (1987). The Supreme Court “repeatedly has recognized that civil commitment for any purpose constitutes a significant deprivation of liberty that requires due process protection.” *Addington v. Texas*, 441 U.S. 418, 425 (1979). For immigration detainees as with other civil detainees, “[f]reedom from imprisonment—from government custody, detention, or other forms of physical restraint—lies at the heart of the liberty” protected by the Due Process Clause. *Zadvydas v. Davis*, 533 U.S. 678, 690 (2001). While immigration authorities may subject non-citizens to removal hearings and “restrain them of their liberties for enforced deportation after hearing, detention for long and unreasonable periods before hearing is illegal.” *Carlson v. Landon*, 186 F.2d 183, 186 (9th Cir. 1950).

Accordingly, immigration detention is contingent on a prompt judicial hearing, as with other forms of detention, criminal or civil. *Salerno*, 481 U.S. at 747 (mandatory pretrial detention legal if prompt adversarial detention hearing is provided); *Schall v. Martin*, 467 U.S. 253, 269-70 (1984) (civil detention of juveniles pending delinquency proceedings requires prompt presentment and probable cause hearing). The failure to provide such a hearing violates both procedural and substantive due process.

a. Defendants’ Practices Violate Procedural Due Process.

The Due Process Clause guarantees essential “procedural safeguards” against arbitrary deprivation of liberty. *McNabb v. United States*, 318 U.S. 332, 347 (1943). Because “freedom from incarceration is a vital liberty interest ... the state may not incarcerate any individual randomly and without specific protective procedures.” *Oviatt*

1 *v. Pearce*, 954 F.2d 1470, 1476 (9th Cir. 1992). Accordingly, “due process requires
2 adequate procedural protections to ensure that the government’s asserted justification
3 for physical confinement outweighs the individual’s constitutionally protected interest
4 in avoiding physical restraint.” *Prieto-Romero v. Clark*, 534 F.3d 1053, 1065 (9th Cir.
5 2008).

6 “At a minimum, due process requires notice and a hearing where the individual
7 has a meaningful opportunity to confront the evidence against him.” *Brady v. Gebbie*,
8 859 F.2d 1543, 1554 (9th Cir. 1988). Ordinarily, “an adversary hearing is not required”
9 before an arrest. *Baker v. McCollan*, 443 U.S. 137, 143 (1979). However, a “prompt post-
10 deprivation hearing” is required “at which some showing of the probable validity of the
11 deprivation must be made.” *Comm’r of Internal Revenue v. Shapiro*, 424 U.S. 614, 629
12 (1976). The procedural due process analysis involve “three distinct factors: First, the
13 private interest that will be affected by the official action; second, the risk of an
14 erroneous deprivation of such interest through the procedures used, and the probable
15 value, if any, of additional or substitute procedural safeguards; and finally, the
16 Government’s interest, including the function involved and the fiscal and
17 administrative burdens that the additional or substitute procedural requirement would
18 entail.” *Mathews v. Eldridge*, 424 U.S. 319, 335 (1976); *see also Oviatt*, 954 F.2d at 1475-76
19 (applying *Mathews* to determine 114-day delay in detainee’s first appearance violated due
20 process). Under that framework, detention of one to three months without a hearing
21 violates due process because (1) the individual’s interest in freedom from restraint is
22 paramount; (2) the risk of erroneous detention is significant when an initial appearance
23 is not promptly provided, and a prompt hearing would significantly reduce that risk;
24 and (3) the government has no legitimate interest in delaying first appearance, and any
25 burdens in ensuring a prompt appearance would be minimal and insufficient to defeat
26 the right to a prompt hearing.

1 First Mathews Factor: Individual Interest in Liberty

2 The individual's paramount interest in liberty demands a prompt hearing after
3 arrest. "Freedom from bodily restraint has always been at the core of the liberty
4 protected by the Due Process Clause." *Foucha v. Louisiana*, 504 U.S. 71, 80 (1992).
5 Courts require prompt hearings for less severe deprivations of liberty. *See, e.g., N.*
6 *Georgia Finishing, Inc. v. Di-Chem, Inc.*, 419 U.S. 601, 607 (1975) (garnishment statute
7 violated due process without any "provision for an early hearing"); *Krimstock v. Kelly*,
8 306 F.3d 40, 61 (2d Cir. 2002) (prompt hearing required after impoundment of motor
9 vehicle); *Campbell v. Burt*, 141 F.3d 927, 929 (9th Cir. 1998) (due process "guarantees
10 prompt post-deprivation judicial review in child custody cases").

11 "Promptness is the touchstone" of due process "analysis into the timeliness of
12 post-deprivation review." *Jordan v. Jackson*, 15 F.3d 333, 349 (4th Cir. 1994). In the
13 context of removal from parental custody, a deprivation of liberty "less comprehensive
14 in scope than that resulting from an arrest," a delay of 65 hours before an initial hearing
15 "is near, if not at, the outer limit of permissible delay between a child's removal from
16 his home and judicial review." *Id.* at 350-51 (emphasis added). By necessity, therefore,
17 Defendants violated due process in detaining Plaintiffs for one to three months or
18 more without providing them any hearing. Depending on the facts developed in
19 discovery, perhaps a hearing is not always required within 48 hours of arrest. *Cf. id.* at
20 350 (delay of hearing beyond 48 hours of child's removal from home was
21 "constitutionally permitted as a consequence of the differences between the criminal
22 processes and the civil removal processes"). But a delay of one to three months cannot
23 be prompt under any standard.

24 Defendants find no support in *Reno v. Flores*, 507 U.S. 292 (1993). That case
25 involved children taken into the government's care when "unaccompanied by a parent,
26 guardian, or other related adult." *Id.* at 295. The government was required to "assure
27 itself that someone will care for those minors pending resolution of their deportation
28 proceedings" when "the parents or guardians of that child are nonexistent or

unavailable.” *Id.* at 295, 304. If not immediately placed with a parent, guardian, relative, or other accepted caregiver, the children were cared for in “facilities that meet state licensing requirements for the provision of shelter care, foster care, group care, and related services to dependent children.” *Id.* at 298. Observing that “‘juveniles, unlike adults, are always in some form of custody,’” the Court noted “[l]egal custody’ rather than ‘detention’ more accurately describes the reality of the arrangement.” *Id.* at 298, 302. On those facts, the Court rejected a “facial challenge” to rules that did not require automatic custody hearings, noting that most juveniles “will have been in telephone contact with a responsible adult outside the INS—sometimes a legal services attorney,” and declined to assume “an excessive delay will invariably ensue—particularly since there is no evidence of such delay.” *Id.* at 309. On that facial challenge, the Court held procedural “due process is satisfied by giving the detained alien juveniles the *right* to a hearing before an immigration judge.” *Id.* (emphasis in original). Here, by contrast, Plaintiffs make an as-applied challenge to policies and practices denying a prompt hearing and plead abundant facts showing lack of access to counsel and excessive delay during confinement in prison-like conditions. In addition, the denial of a prompt first hearing in this case involves much more than denying review of “initial deportability and custody determinations.” *Id.* at 308. To deny a prompt hearing deprives detainees of notice and advice of essential rights and impedes access to counsel. ECF No. 1 ¶¶ 3, 27-34. As a result, *Flores* does not preclude this case.

Second Mathews Factor: Risk of Error and Value of Additional Safeguards

The second factor “has two components: the risk that the procedures used will erroneously deprive plaintiff of his liberty interest, and the value of additional or alternate procedural safeguards.” *Oviatt*, 954 F. 2d at 1476. Here, there is a significant risk of erroneous deprivation of physical liberty, because detainees who have legitimate claims to release are not given a hearing to assert them for one to three months. The risk of error is further magnified by language barriers, lack of sophistication regarding complex immigration laws, and lack of notice of the specific procedures for seeking a

1 bond hearing. *See Rodriguez v. Robbins*, 804 F.3d 1060, 1085 (9th Cir. 2015), *cert. granted*,
 2 136 S. Ct. 2489 (2016) (“*Rodriguez III*”) (“Detainees, who typically have no choice but to
 3 proceed *pro se*, have limited access to legal resources, often lack English-language
 4 proficiency, and are sometimes illiterate. As a result, many class members are not aware
 5 of their right to a bond hearing and are poorly equipped to request one.”); *cf. Oviatt*, 954
 6 F.2d at 1476 (where “inmates were mentally impaired” or “did not speak English and
 7 were unlikely to know of their legal rights” or “were not in contact with their families
 8 or lawyers,” [t]he risk of an erroneous deprivation of plaintiff’s liberty interest was
 9 enormous”).

10 On the other hand, the value of a prompt first appearance is unquestionable.
 11 The common law has long recognized the paramount importance of prompt judicial
 12 presentment as a check on abuse of power. *Corley v. U.S.*, 556 U.S. 303, 309 (2009). It is
 13 not “just some administrative nicety,” but is “one of the most important” protections
 14 “against unlawful arrest.” *Id.* at 320. The same is true in immigration cases. An initial
 15 hearing is the first time the IJ will review the NTA to make sure it was properly served,
 16 contains no defects, and names the correct respondent; the first meaningful time many
 17 detainees will be able to challenge the government’s detention authority or request a
 18 more robust custody review hearing if one has not been provided; the first time
 19 detainees will have a neutral adjudicator explain their rights, including their right to
 20 counsel and to see the evidence against them, with the help of a translator if needed
 21 and in plain language; the first time a neutral adjudicator will determine whether the
 22 detainees have properly received a list of available free legal service providers; and the
 23 first time a neutral adjudicator will observe detainees’ mental health and capacity to
 24 represent themselves. ECF No. 1 ¶¶ 3, 27-34. Without these minimal safeguards, there
 25 is a significant risk of erroneous detention.

26 In asserting there is no evidence that prompt presentment to an IJ “would
 27 meaningfully reduce the risk of erroneous detention,” ECF No. 28-1 at 21:7-9,
 28 Defendants ignore the cardinal rule that the complaint must be taken as true and

1 construed in Plaintiffs' favor. Defendants also ignore their own evidence regarding Mr.
 2 Cancino Castellar and Ms. Hernandez Aguas. Both spent over 30 days in custody prior
 3 to first appearance, based solely on DHS's unilateral decision to deny release on bond.
 4 ECF No. 28-2, Exs. D, G. Then, within days of their first hearing, they were released
 5 by judges who disagreed and set low bond amounts. In any event, due process does not
 6 excuse the failure to provide a prompt first appearance even for individuals
 7 presumptively ineligible for release, due to the paramount interest in personal liberty.

8 Defendants ignore the importance of a neutral decision-maker, a core element of
 9 "adjudicative proceedings" in "both civil and criminal cases" that the Supreme Court
 10 has "jealously guarded" to prevent "unjustified or mistaken deprivations" of liberty
 11 based on "an erroneous or distorted conception of the facts or the law." *Marshall v.*
 12 *Jerrico, Inc.*, 446 U.S. 238, 242 (1980). The decision of immigration enforcement officers
 13 to arrest and detain cannot substitute for a prompt neutral hearing. *Armentero v. I.N.S.*,
 14 412 F.3d 1088, 1088 (9th Cir. 2005) (Ferguson, J., concurring) ("Administrative agents
 15 cannot be vested with the authority to render decisions concerning the length of
 16 detention. Such decision-making power rests in the hands of a judicial officer.");
 17 *Krimstock*, 306 F.3d at 53 ("warrantless arrest by itself does not constitute an adequate,
 18 neutral 'procedure' for testing the City's justification for continued and often lengthy
 19 detention of a vehicle" pending forfeiture proceedings). If a hearing is required "at an
 20 early point after seizure" of a vehicle "in order to minimize any arbitrary or mistaken
 21 encroachment upon plaintiffs' use and possession of their property," *Krimstock*, 306
 22 F.3d at 53, then an early hearing is necessarily required to justify deprivation of liberty
 23 in immigration proceedings.

24 Although detainees in theory can request a custody review hearing before initial
 25 presentment, they often lack knowledge of that right. *Rodriguez III*, 804 F.3d at 1085
 26 (immigration detainees are generally "not aware of their right to a bond hearing and are
 27 poorly equipped to request one") In any event, the Due Process Clause does not allow
 28 the government to shift the burden of requesting a hearing to persons deprived of

liberty. *Oviatt*, 954 F.2d at 1476 (in delayed presentment case, “[t]he risk of an erroneous deprivation of plaintiff’s liberty interest was enormous” where “[t]he only check on clerical errors” before initial hearing “is protestation by the prisoner, his family, or his lawyer”); *Doe v. Gallinot*, 657 F.2d 1017, 1023 (9th Cir. 1981) (civil commitment decisions “were highly error-prone, especially where review of those decisions depended on the initiative and competence of the persons committed”). To condition the right to a prompt hearing “on the request of the individual reverses the usual due process analysis in cases where potential deprivation is severe and the risk of error is great.” *Doe v. Gallinot*, 486 F. Supp. 983, 993 (C.D. Cal. 1979), *aff’d*, 657 F.2d 1017 (9th Cir. 1981). “It is inconceivable that a person could be arrested on criminal charges and held for up to 17 days without a hearing unless he requested it.” *Id.* The same is true for immigration detention. “Even in civil cases where the deprivation is of property rather than liberty, the State must initiate the hearing and justify the deprivation.” *Id.* Therefore, Defendants must bear the burden to provide a prompt initial hearing. *See Fuentes v. Shevin*, 407 U.S. 67, 80 (1972) (striking down statute that “allows a post-seizure hearing if the aggrieved party shoulders the burden of initiating one”).

Astonishingly, Defendants contend that prompt presentment may harm detainees for want of time to “obtain an attorney or collect documentation and evidence” for a custody review hearing, implying that IJs will force detainees to proceed when they are not prepared. ECF No. 28-1 at 21:9-14. The Complaint contains no facts supporting that speculation, which is sufficient to reject it. In any event, it is implausible to assert that IJs with the obligation to assist *pro se* litigants will force unprepared detainees to proceed. *See Agmeyan v. I.N.S.*, 296 F.3d 871, 883-84 (9th Cir. 2002). If the concern is access to counsel, it makes no sense to delay an initial hearing that facilitates access to counsel. ECF No. 1 ¶¶ 3, 29, 33, 34. In any event, Plaintiffs do not ask this Court to require that the first appearance necessarily be a custody review

1 hearing. Plaintiffs simply seek a prompt first hearing, at which detainees may request
2 custody review either immediately or later. ECF No. 1 ¶ 8.

3 *Third Matthews Factor: The Government's Interests*

4 The government has no legitimate justification for delaying a first appearance for
5 one to three months. Assuming facts not pleaded, Defendants speculate that to
6 guarantee a prompt initial hearing will “take time away from immigration judges’ ability
7 to provide prompt hearings” for other detainees seeking subsequent MCHs or merits
8 hearings. ECF No. 28-1 at 22:18-22. At best, Defendants assert disputed facts that
9 cannot be considered on a motion to dismiss. In any event, even if requiring prompt
10 presentment might result in a brief “catch-up” period, it would have no lasting impact
11 once the docket normalizes. *See Armstrong v. Squadrito*, 152 F.3d 564, 572 (7th Cir. 1998)
12 (“[W]hen a state provides for a first appearance, it would place a small burden on the
13 state to ensure the timeliness of that appearance.”).

14 Reading the Complaint in Plaintiffs’ favor, the Court must find the asserted
15 interest in delay is insubstantial on the facts pleaded, especially when compared to the
16 overwhelming interest in liberty from detention. *Gallinot*, 657 F.2d at 1024 (“We do not
17 believe that the [government’s] speculations ... suffice to demonstrate an
18 administrative burden substantial enough to outweigh the interests served by a
19 mandatory hearing.”).

20 As the Ninth Circuit has held, “‘administrative convenience’ is a thoroughly
21 inadequate basis for the deprivation of core constitutional rights.” *Lopez-Valenzuela v.*
22 *Arpaio*, 770 F.3d 772, 785 (9th Cir. 2014). Although it may impose “some costs in time,
23 effort, and expense” to ensure prompt hearings, “these rather ordinary costs cannot
24 outweigh the constitutional right” to due process. *Fuentes*, 407 U.S. at 92 n.22. Any
25 “additional expense” of prompt hearings “does not justify denying a hearing meeting
26 the ordinary standards of due process.” *Goldberg v. Kelly*, 397 U.S. 254, 261 (1970).

27 Even if there might be some impact on the immigration court’s workload, it is a
28 problem of Defendants’ own making, since they largely control the number of people

they choose to detain. As Defendants acknowledge, release or parole is permitted by statute for many detainees. ECF No. 28-1 at 5:7 & n.5 (citing 8 U.S.C. §§ 1182(b)(5), 1226(a)). As DHS itself has found, there are abundant alternatives to detention at significantly less expense.⁵ While perhaps occasional delays might be permissible due to unforeseeable exigent circumstances, the Court should not tolerate chronic, systemic delays. *See United States v. Minero-Rojas*, No. 11CR3253-BTM, 2011 WL 5295220, at *7 (S.D. Cal. Nov. 3, 2011) (first appearances may not be “systematically delayed” because of “process that no longer is effective to protect” detainees’ rights). Plaintiffs therefore state a claim that their delayed presentment violates procedural due process.

b. Detention for Over a Month Without a Hearing Violates Substantive Due Process.

Due process includes “a substantive component, which forbids the government to infringe certain ‘fundamental’ liberty interests *at all*, no matter what process is provided.” *Flores*, 507 U.S. at 302. Substantive due process prohibits extended detention without prompt appearance before a judge. *Hayes v. Faulkner County*, 388 F.3d 669, 673 (8th Cir. 2004). A prompt first appearance “serves to enforce or give meaning to important individual rights that are either expressly granted in the Constitution or are set forth in Supreme Court precedent.” *Coleman v. Frantz*, 754 F.2d 719, 724 (7th Cir. 1985). An extended detention without judicial presentment “substantially impinges upon and threatens” all of those specific rights. *Id.*; *see also Lopez-Valenzuela*, 770 F.3d at 777-80 (summarizing law of substantive due process as applied to pretrial detainees). “The first appearance has such great value in protecting numerous rights that its denial presumptively disrupts those rights. Therefore, as a matter of constitutional

⁵ DHS Office of Inspector General, *OIG-15-22 U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s Alternatives to Detention (Revised)* at 4 (Feb. 4, 2015) (concluding alternatives to detention are effective and estimating costs of electronic monitoring to be roughly \$13/day per participant), https://www.oig.dhs.gov/assets/Mgmt/2015/OIG_15-22_Feb15.pdf; DHS Office of Inspector General, *OIG-14-116 (Revised), ICE’s Release of Immigration Detainees* at 7 (Aug. 2014) (“ICE’s budget assumes detention beds cost \$122 a day on average.”), https://www.oig.dhs.gov/assets/Mgmt/2014/OIG_14-116_Aug14.pdf.

1 prophylaxis, the denial of a first appearance offends the Due Process Clause.”
 2 *Armstrong*, 152 F.3d at 573. Accordingly, the right to prompt presentment after arrest is
 3 fundamental, as further evidenced by its universal codification in federal and state law.
 4 *Corley*, 556 U.S. at 306. Such unanimity confirms that the denial of prompt first
 5 appearance “offends some principle of justice so rooted in the traditions and
 6 conscience of our people as to be ranked as fundamental.” *Schall*, 467 U.S. at 268.

7 Defendants cannot avoid that principle by drawing an arbitrary distinction
 8 between criminal and civil detention.⁶ The right to a prompt hearing applies equally to
 9 both, because detention equally impinges on the fundamental right to liberty no matter
 10 the justification. In determining that substantive due process requires prompt
 11 presentment after arrest under a civil “body attachment writ,” the *Armstrong* court
 12 noted the writ’s “shared characteristics” with a criminal warrant. 152 F.3d at 574.
 13 Finding that both types of arrest result in similarly severe deprivations of liberty, the
 14 court found a substantive due process right to prompt presentment in the civil
 15 detention context, because the plaintiff “face[d] the same sort of ultimate sanction as if
 16 he defended himself from a criminal charge—the loss of liberty.” *Id* at 575. Thus,
 17 whether in the civil or criminal context, “due process simply does not permit the state
 18 to detain an arrestee indefinitely without procedural protections.” *Id*. As with other
 19 detainees, immigration detainees are “treated much like criminals serving time.”
 20 *Rodriguez III*, 804 F.3d at 1073. For these reasons, a substantive due process right to
 21 prompt presentment exists in the immigration context.

22 Given that such a right exists, the question is whether delays of one to three
 23 months violate that right. Courts have held that delays of similar or lesser duration
 24 violated substantive due process. *Hayes*, 388 F.3d at 673 (38 days); *Armstrong*, 152 F.3d
 25

26
 27 ⁶ Plaintiffs do not seek “the full trappings of legal protections” in criminal cases. ECF
 28 No. 28-1 at 22:27-23:2. They seek only a prompt hearing and judicial review of
 probable cause, not, for instance, the right to remain silent, the right to appointment of
 counsel, or the right to jury trial, much less application of the Federal Rules of
 Evidence or Criminal Procedure.

at 567 (57 days); *Coleman*, 754 F.2d at 723-24 (18 days). While those cases depended on “deliberate indifference,” *see, e.g., Armstrong*, 152 F.3d at 577, no such finding is required because the substantive due process rights of civil detainees in this Circuit do not depend on deliberate indifference. *Jones v. Blanas*, 393 F.3d 918, 933 (9th Cir. 2004). Instead, the Court need only balance the Plaintiffs’ “liberty interests in freedom from incarceration” against “the legitimate interests of the state.” *Or. Advocacy Ctr. v. Mink*, 322 F.3d 1101, 1121 (9th Cir. 2003). That balance favors Plaintiffs, because Defendants can assert no legitimate interest in delaying first judicial appearance for one to three months and sometimes longer.

Indeed, they can only defend their practice by misstating the law, contending that “the purpose of immigration detention is ... to put an end to a continuing violation of the immigration laws.” ECF No. 28-1 at 24:9-13 (citing *INS v. Lopez-Mendoza*, 468 U.S. 1032, 1039 (1984)). The Supreme Court said no such thing in *Lopez-Mendoza* or anywhere else. Instead, the Court discussed “[t]he purpose of *deportation*.” *Lopez-Mendoza*, 468 U.S. at 1039. By contrast, the purpose of immigration *detention* is to mitigate risk of flight or danger while proceedings are pending. *Demore v. Kim*, 538 U.S. 510, 528 (2003); *Zadvydas*, 533 U.S. at 679. To delay first judicial appearance for one to three months serves no legitimate interest, particularly when such an appearance provides the first meaningful opportunity to request a neutral determination, either immediately or promptly thereafter, whether detention is warranted.

Even if deliberate indifference is required, Plaintiffs state a claim. The facts pleaded allege that DHS makes a decision to detain without regard for when detainees may be presented for judicial appearance, leaving that responsibility entirely to a busy immigration court system to which it delegates the responsibility of setting a first hearing. ECF No. 1 ¶¶ 6, 62, 64. Those facts state a claim for deliberate indifference. *Hayes*, 388 F.3d at 674 (“Because the County’s policy here attempts to delegate the responsibility of bringing detainees to court for a first appearance and ignores the jail’s authority for long-term confinement, the policy is deliberately indifferent to detainees’

1 due process rights.”); *Armstrong*, 152 F.3d at 577-78 (“[T]he jail did not consider itself
 2 responsible for getting someone like Armstrong to the court. In other words, the jail’s
 3 policy was that once it placed a detainee’s name on the will call list, the jail left the
 4 matter in the hands of the court.”). Such a choice represents “conscious disregard of
 5 known or obvious dangers” or “a deliberate choice to avoid an obvious danger” and
 6 constitutes deliberate indifference. *Armstrong*, 152 F.3d at 577.

7 As with procedural due process, *Reno v. Flores* does not preclude Plaintiffs’
 8 substantive due process claim. On the facts of *Flores*, the Court found no substantive
 9 due process right of an unaccompanied child “not to be placed in a decent and humane
 10 custodial institution if there is available a responsible person unwilling to become the
 11 child’s legal guardian but willing to undertake temporary legal custody,” because
 12 maintaining “decent and humane” custody of children with “no available parent, close
 13 relative, or legal guardian” was properly justified by the legitimate interest in
 14 “preserving and promoting the welfare of the child.” *Flores*, 507 U.S. at 303. That
 15 holding cannot apply to extended detention of adults in prison-like settings without a
 16 prompt hearing or judicial review, which is not justified by any legitimate interest.

17 Finally, the substantive due process right to prompt presentment of detainees is
 18 not “novel.” ECF No. 28-1 at 23:21-27. It descends from the common law and
 19 expressly applies to civil detention. *Corley*, 556 U.S. at 306; *Armstrong*, 152 F.3d at 574.
 20 Even if Plaintiffs’ “claim does not fall within the four corners of our prior case law,”
 21 that “does not justify dismissal under Rule 12(b)(6),” because such “dismissals are
 22 especially disfavored in cases where the complaint sets forth a novel legal theory that
 23 can best be assessed after factual development.” *McGary v. City of Portland*, 386 F.3d
 24 1259, 1270 (9th Cir. 2004). Accordingly, Plaintiffs state a substantive due process claim.

25 **2. Detention Without Prompt Judicial Review of Probable Cause** 26 **Violates The Fourth Amendment.**

27 The Fourth Amendment requires a finding of probable cause to justify arrest,
 28 either through judicial warrant before arrest or judicial determination promptly after

1 arrest, either of which may be made “without an adversary hearing,” though it can be
 2 combined with first appearance. *Gerstein v. Pugh*, 420 U.S. 103, 120 (1975). Defendants
 3 violate that rule by detaining individuals without any review of probable cause by a
 4 neutral and detached magistrate, before or after arrest. ECF No. 1 at ¶ 4, 46. “The
 5 Fourth Amendment does not contemplate the executive officers of Government as
 6 neutral and disinterested magistrates.” *United States v. U.S. Dist. Court for E. Dist. of Mich.,*
 7 *S. Div.*, 407 U.S. 297, 317 (1972); *see also Coolidge v. New Hampshire*, 403 U.S. 443, 450
 8 (1971) (even if “authorized as a justice of the peace to issue warrants under then
 9 existing state law,” Attorney General was not “neutral and detached magistrate,”
 10 because “prosecutors and policemen simply cannot be asked to maintain the requisite
 11 neutrality with regard to their own investigations”). Given the high stakes of
 12 “prolonged detention” after arrest, “the detached judgment of a neutral magistrate is
 13 essential if the Fourth Amendment is to furnish meaningful protection from
 14 unfounded interference with liberty,” and therefore “the Fourth Amendment requires a
 15 judicial determination of probable cause as a prerequisite to extended restraint of liberty
 16 following arrest.” *Gerstein*, 420 U.S. at 114. That principle necessarily applies to
 17 immigration detention, like any form of civil detention. *See Schall*, 467 U.S. at 274-77
 18 (citing *Gerstein* in assessing the constitutionality of pretrial detention in the civil juvenile
 19 delinquency context). If *Gerstein* did not apply in civil contexts, then *Schall* would have
 20 had no reason to rely on it.

21 The Supreme Court did not address much less decide that issue in *Abel*. As the
 22 Court declared, “[t]he claim that the administrative warrant by which petitioner was
 23 arrested was invalid” under the Fourth Amendment “is not entitled to our
 24 consideration” because “[i]t was not made below” and “indeed, it was expressly
 25 disavowed.” *Abel*, 362 U.S. at 230. The Court discussed “historical evidence” only to
 26 support its conclusion that “petitioner’s disavowal of the issue below calls for no
 27 further consideration.” *Id.* at 234. Accordingly, *Abel* stands only for the proposition that
 28

petitioner forfeited the question whether the administrative warrant for his arrest was valid, and it cannot bear the weight placed on it by the government.⁷

To say “[t]he Fourth Amendment was tailored explicitly for the criminal justice system,” *Gerstein*, 420 U.S. at 125 n.27, does not mean it has no application to civil detention. As the Court said, “the key factor” requiring judicial review “is significant restraint on liberty.” *Id.* at 125 n.26. Civil detention imposes just as “significant [a] restraint on liberty” as does criminal detention. It is not disputed that the Fourth Amendment requires probable cause to make an immigration arrest. ECF No. 28-1 at 4:3-4. Indeed, DHS’s predecessor acknowledged it was “clearly bound” by judicial “interpretations” regarding “arrest and post-arrest procedures,” including “those set forth in *Gerstein v. Pugh*, 420 U.S. 103 (1975).” INS, Final Rule-Making, “Enhancing the Enforcement Authority of Immigration Officers,” 59 FR 42406-01, 42411 (1994). If so, there is no principled reason to contend the Fourth Amendment does not require prompt judicial review of probable cause after an immigration arrest.

The Ninth Circuit so held in *Rhoden v. U.S.*, 55 F.3d 428 (9th Cir. 1995). In that case, the court held that “the government’s six-day detention” of an individual on immigration grounds “without a hearing must also be tested against constitutional limits,” in particular the “Fourth Amendment protection against unlawful seizures.” *Id.* at 432. Plaintiffs therefore state a claim that it violates the Fourth Amendment to detain them for one to three months without judicial review. *Cf. United States v. Tejada*, 255 F.3d 1, 4 (1st Cir. 2001) (“where the delay in bringing the alien before a magistrate is so unnecessarily long that it effects a constitutional deprivation, the alien may petition for habeas corpus relief”).

The Fourth Amendment “requires a timely judicial determination of probable cause” that is made “promptly after arrest.” *Gerstein*, 420 U.S. at 125-26. The fact that

⁷ Even if *Abel* allows detention without judicial review of probable cause under the Fourth Amendment, it does not apply to the separate question whether the Due Process Clause requires prompt presentment to a neutral magistrate for other purposes, such as notice of charges, advice of rights, and opportunity to request a bond hearing.

1 Congress provided for administrative review of immigration arrests, 8 U.S.C. §
 2 1357(a)(2), does not preclude this Court from enforcing the constitutional requirement
 3 of judicial review. The courts, not Congress, ultimately interpret and enforce the
 4 Fourth Amendment, and “no Act of Congress can authorize a violation of the
 5 Constitution.” *Almeida-Sanchez v. United States*, 413 U.S. 266, 272 (1973). In criminal
 6 cases, “the promptness requirement of *Gerstein*” ordinarily requires “judicial
 7 determinations of probable cause within 48 hours of arrest.” *McLaughlin*, 500 U.S. at 56.
 8 In this case, there may be disputed facts whether immigration or “border detentions
 9 involve a distinct set of considerations and require different administrative procedures”
 10 such that the 48-hour rule does not apply “as a matter of law” at this stage. *Rhoden*, 55
 11 F.3d at 432 n.7. However, Defendants are not at liberty to disregard the Fourth
 12 Amendment and categorically substitute administrative review of probable cause for
 13 that of a neutral and detached magistrate. Plaintiffs therefore state a claim under the
 14 Fourth Amendment.

15 3. **The “Entry Fiction” Does Not Deprive Arriving Noncitizens** 16 **of Constitutional or Statutory Rights Against Extended** **Detention Without Prompt Hearing or Judicial Review.**

17 When the government detains an individual alleged to be a noncitizen “who
 18 arrives in the United States,” 8 U.S.C. § 1225(a)(1), such as Plaintiff Gonzalez, that
 19 individual retains the due process right to presentment and judicial review of probable
 20 cause promptly after detention, which is independent of the question of “admission or
 21 exclusion.” ECF No. 28-1 at 18:17. As a result, the so-called “entry fiction” does not
 22 prevent Plaintiffs from stating a claim as to noncitizens arriving in the United States.

23 The “Due Process Clause applies to all who have entered the United States—
 24 legally or not,” even those who have only “run some fifty yards into the United States.”
 25 *U.S. v. Raya-Vaca*, 771 F.3d 1195, 1203 (9th Cir. 2014). Under the “entry fiction,” a
 26 noncitizen “seeking admission” to the United States—such as an arriving asylum seeker
 27 detained at a port of entry—“has not ‘entered’ the United States, even if the alien is in
 28 fact physically present” in the country, detained or otherwise. *Wong*, 373 F.3d at 971.

1 The entry fiction pertains to “the narrow question of the scope of procedural
 2 rights available in the admissions process, and is not necessarily applicable with regard
 3 to other constitutional rights.” *Id.* Therefore, it “is best seen ... as a fairly narrow
 4 doctrine that primarily determines the *procedures* that the executive branch must follow
 5 before turning an immigrant away. Otherwise, the doctrine would allow any number of
 6 abuses to be deemed constitutionally permissible merely by labelling certain ‘persons’ as
 7 non-persons.” *Id.* at 973. It does not “deny all constitutional rights to non-admitted
 8 aliens” or affect rights that are collateral to and separate from the question of
 9 admissibility, such as the right to prompt presentment after detention. *Id.* at 971; *Cf.*
 10 *Rosales-Garcia v. Holland*, 322 F.3d 386, 412-14 (6th Cir. 2003) (holding that although
 11 “excludable aliens do not have a constitutional right to enter or be admitted to the
 12 United States ... the indefinite detention of excludable aliens does raise constitutional
 13 concerns”); *Lynch v. Cannatella*, 810 F.2d 1363, 1373 (5th Cir.1987) (holding the entry
 14 fiction “determines the aliens’ rights with regard to immigration and deportation
 15 proceedings,” but “does not limit the right of excludable aliens detained within United
 16 States territory to humane treatment.”). While perhaps Mr. Gonzalez’s ultimate “right
 17 to enter the United States” on the merits of his asylum claim “depends on the
 18 congressional will,” *Shaughnessy v. United States ex rel. Mezei*, 345 U.S. 206, 216 (1953), his
 19 right to a prompt hearing and judicial review of the justification for his detention does
 20 not.

21 This case does not concern “the validity of the procedures used to admit or
 22 exclude” an individual from the United States, and therefore, for purposes of this case,
 23 “an excludable alien is a ‘person’ for purposes of the Fifth Amendment,” entitled to
 24 prompt presentment and judicial review of the basis for detention. *Chi Thon Ngo v.*
 25 *I.N.S.*, 192 F.3d 390, 396 (3d Cir. 1999). The class excludes anyone “with final removal
 26 orders,” ECF No. 1 ¶ 68, and does not involve anyone detained after having been
 27 “ordered excluded and deported” after hearings on the merits. *Barrera-Echavarria v.*
 28 *Rison*, 44 F.3d 1441, 1443 (9th Cir. 1995). Even aliens held as enemy combatants

1 outside the United States have a constitutional right to challenge the legality of their
2 detention. *Boumediene v. Bush*, 553 U.S. 723, 734 (2008). If so, Mr. Gonzalez may
3 challenge the legality of his detention without a prompt hearing or judicial review.

4 Even if the “entry fiction” does apply to the procedural due process right to
5 prompt presentment of Mr. Gonzalez and others like him, a proper construction of the
6 relevant statutes protects allegedly removable noncitizens, arriving and otherwise, from
7 extended detention of one to three months without a prompt hearing or judicial review
8 of probable cause. Generally, “an alien may be arrested and detained pending a decision
9 on whether the alien is to be removed from the United States.” 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a). The
10 government “shall take into custody” noncitizens with certain criminal histories
11 pending removal proceedings. 8 U.S.C. § 1226(c). Arriving noncitizens who have “a
12 credible fear of persecution ... shall be detained for further consideration of the
13 application for asylum,” and in the case of “an applicant for admission, if the
14 examining immigration officer determines that an alien seeking admission is not clearly
15 and beyond a doubt entitled to be admitted, the alien shall be detained” for removal
16 proceedings. 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b)(1)(B)(ii), (b)(2)(A).

17 Although these statutes do not expressly require a prompt post-arrest hearing or
18 judicial review of probable cause, that does not end the matter. Without such a
19 requirement, the statutes “would raise a serious constitutional problem,” *Zadvydas*, 533
20 U.S. at 690, because they apply to individuals not subject to the entry fiction. In
21 particular, the statute for detention of “arriving aliens,” 8 U.S.C. § 1225(b), applies both
22 to persons who have never entered the United States and to persons who have
23 previously resided here and are therefore not subject to the “entry fiction.” *Rodriguez v.*
24 *Robbins*, 715 F.3d 1127, 1141 (9th Cir. 2013). Accordingly, even if the “entry fiction”
25 deprives “arriving aliens” of the constitutional rights to a prompt post-arrest hearing
26 and judicial review of probable cause, the statute governing their detention must be
27 read to guarantee those rights, because “where one possible application of a statute
28 raises constitutional concerns, the statute as a whole should be construed through the

1 prism of constitutional avoidance.” *Id.* (citing *Clark v. Martinez*, 543 U.S. 371, 380
 2 (2005)); *see also Nadarajah*, 443 F.3d at 1078 (section 1225(b) cannot be read as “treating
 3 some detentions authorized by the same statute differently, depending on the identity
 4 and status of the detainee”).

5 The Court must presume that a statute is not “intended to infringe
 6 constitutionally protected liberties.” *Edward J. DeBartolo Corp. v. Florida Gulf Coast*
 7 *Building & Constr. Trades Council*, 485 U.S. 568, 575 (1988). When a statute “raises a
 8 serious doubt as to its constitutionality,” the Court must “ascertain whether a
 9 construction of the statute is fairly possible by which the question may be avoided,”
 10 because an interpretation “that avoids invalidation best reflects congressional will.”
 11 *Zadvydas*, 533 U.S. at 689. If one “construction of a statute would raise serious
 12 constitutional problems,” and a fair alternative would not, courts “are obligated to
 13 construe the statute to avoid such problems.” *St. Cyr*, 533 U.S. at 300.

14 This Court therefore has “the power to adopt narrowing constructions of federal
 15 legislation” and “the duty to avoid constitutional difficulties by doing so if such a
 16 construction is fairly possible.” *Boos v. Barry*, 485 U.S. 312, 331 (1988). Here, such a
 17 construction is fairly possible, because the statutes give no “clear indication of
 18 congressional intent” to preclude prompt hearing or judicial review and thus do not
 19 foreclose interpretation to avoid unconstitutionality. *Zadvydas*, 533 U.S. at 697. When
 20 necessary, the Supreme Court has “read significant limitations into other immigration
 21 statutes in order to avoid their constitutional invalidation.” *Id.* at 689 (reading “implicit
 22 limitation” into detention statute to confine “an alien’s post-removal-period detention
 23 to a period reasonably necessary to bring about that alien’s removal from the United
 24 States”). The Ninth Circuit has done the same. For example, where “prolonged
 25 detention without adequate procedural protections would raise serious constitutional
 26 concerns,” the court construed section 1226(a) as requiring a bond hearing to avoid a
 27 “constitutionally doubtful” construction of the statute. *Casas-Castrillon v. Dep’t of*
 28 *Homeland Sec.*, 535 F.3d 942, 950-51 (9th Cir. 2008).

1 That principle applies here. Without the “adequate procedural protections” of
 2 prompt post-arrest hearing and judicial review of probable cause, the detention statutes
 3 “would raise serious constitutional concerns,” which the Court can and must avoid by
 4 reading those protections into the statutes. *Id.* at 950. If the Constitution can “require
 5 the addition of an element or elements to the definition of a criminal offense in order
 6 to narrow its scope,” *Ring v. Arizona*, 536 U.S. 584, 606 (2002), it certainly requires the
 7 more modest step of reading detention statutes to ensure a prompt post-arrest hearing
 8 and judicial review of probable cause. *Cf. United States v. Shields*, 522 F. Supp. 2d 317,
 9 336 (D. Mass. 2007) (construing civil commitment statute “to contain an implicit
 10 requirement that an opportunity for a probable cause hearing before a neutral
 11 decisionmaker be afforded within a reasonable period of time after any detention”).

12 Congress did not require otherwise by stating that “[i]n order that an alien be
 13 permitted the opportunity to secure counsel before the first hearing date in proceedings
 14 under section 1229a of this title, the hearing date shall not be scheduled earlier than 10
 15 days after the service of the notice to appear, unless the alien requests in writing an
 16 earlier hearing date.” 8 U.S.C. § 1229(b)(1). Properly construed to avoid constitutional
 17 problems, the term “hearing” in that statute means the ultimate merits hearing on
 18 removal, not the initial hearing. That is consistent with normal practice in immigration
 19 courts. ECF No. 28-1 at 7:3-12 (distinguishing between “initial master calendar
 20 hearing” and “separate hearing called a merits hearing ... to determine any issues of
 21 removability”); *Maringo v. Holder*, 364 F. App’x 903, 906 (5th Cir. 2010) (treating
 22 “removal hearing” on the merits as “the first hearing date” under section 1229(b), as
 23 opposed to an earlier “initial calendar hearing”). Given that the initial MCH exists in
 24 part to facilitate access to pro bono counsel, ECF No. 1 ¶¶ 3, 29, 33, it would
 25 “unreasonably impute to Congress ... a Kafkaesque sense of humor about aliens’
 26 rights” to construe the statute as requiring delay in scheduling the first MCH. *Dent v.*
 27 *Holder*, 627 F.3d 365, 374 (9th Cir. 2010). Accordingly, the Complaint states a statutory
 28 claim as to all Plaintiffs, including alleged arriving noncitizens such as Mr. Gonzalez.

1 **4. Plaintiffs State Claims for Equitable and Habeas Relief as**
 2 **well as Claims under the APA.**

3 Because the policy and practice of extended detention without a prompt hearing
 4 or judicial review of probable cause violates the Constitution and applicable statutes,
 5 Plaintiffs state a claim for equitable relief or writ of habeas corpus. 5 U.S.C. § 702
 6 (waiving sovereign immunity for “relief other than money damages”); 28 U.S.C. §
 7 2241(c)(3) (authorizing writ for “custody in violation of the Constitution or laws or
 8 treaties of the United States”); *Armstrong v. Exceptional Child Ctr., Inc.*, 135 S. Ct. 1378,
 9 1384 (2015) (court may enjoin “violations of federal law by federal officials”); *Solida v.*
 10 *McKelvey*, 820 F.3d 1090, 1096 (9th Cir. 2016) (discussing “equitable relief against the
 11 federal government”); *Magana-Pizano*, 200 F.3d at 609 (section 2241 “habeas review
 12 extends to both constitutional and statutory questions”). Plaintiffs also state a claim
 13 under the APA. By detaining individuals without a prompt hearing or judicial review of
 14 probable cause, DHS has engaged in final agency action subject to judicial review and
 15 injunction under the APA. 5 U.S.C. §§ 702, 704, 706.

16 **a. The Detention of Plaintiffs Is Agency Action.**

17 Under the APA, “agency action” includes a “sanction.” 5 U.S.C. §§ 551(13),
 18 701(b)(2). A “sanction” is any “prohibition, requirement, limitation, or other condition
 19 affecting the freedom of a person” or taking “restrictive action.” 5 U.S.C. §§ 551(10),
 20 701(2). The detention of Plaintiffs is a “sanction” because it “‘affects’ their freedom, as
 21 well as constitutes ‘restrictive action.’” *Muniz-Muniz v. U.S. Border Patrol*, No. 3:09 CV
 22 2865, 2012 WL 5197250, at *5 (N.D. Ohio Oct. 19, 2012), *rev’d on other grounds*, 741 F.3d
 23 668 (6th Cir. 2013) (“restraining, interrogating, and arresting individuals” by DHS
 24 agents in Border Patrol is agency action).

25 **b. The Detention of Plaintiffs Is Final Agency Action.**

26 Plaintiffs state a claim that the policy and practice of detention without prompt
 27 hearing or judicial review of probable cause is “final agency action for which there is no
 28 other adequate remedy in a court.” 5 U.S.C. § 704. The finality inquiry is “pragmatic

and flexible.” *Rhea Lana, Inc. v. Dep’t of Labor*, 824 F.3d 1023, 1027 (D.C. Cir. 2016) (internal citation and quotation omitted). Read favorably to Plaintiffs, the facts plead state a claim that Defendants have made a conscious decision to arrest and detain individuals without providing a prompt hearing or judicial review of probable cause. ECF No. 1 ¶¶ 1, 6, 63-67. Under the pragmatic definition of finality, that policy represents the “consummation of the agency’s decision making process” from “which rights or obligations have been determined, or from which legal consequences flow.” *Muniz-Muniz*, 2012 WL 5197250 at *5 (citing *Bennett v. Spear*, 520 U.S. 154, 177–78 (1997)). The policy “need not be in writing to be final and judicially reviewable.” *R.I.L.-R v. Johnson*, 80 F. Supp. 3d 164, 184 (D.D.C. 2015) (unwritten ICE detention policy subject to APA review).

The “adequate remedy” provision does not “defeat the central purpose of providing a broad spectrum of judicial review of agency action.” *Bowen v. Massachusetts*, 487 U.S. 879, 903 (1988). It simply avoids “duplicating previously established special statutory procedures for review of agency actions.” *Darby v. Cisneros*, 509 U.S. 137, 146 (1993). While regulations may allow custody review in individual cases, they offer “no adequate remedy for the period of unlawful detention members of the class suffer *before* receiving this review—the central injury at issue in this case.” *R.I.L.-R.*, 80 F. Supp. 3d at 185. Additionally, the APA does not require individuals to exhaust optional procedures. *Darby*, 509 U.S. at 147. Finally, an administrative remedy is inadequate where “the relief would be individualized, not class wide” and the challenge focuses on illegal agency procedures rather than a decision to detain a particular individual. *Cohen v. United States*, 650 F.3d 717, 732 (D.C. Cir. 2011) (*en banc*).

c. The Detention of Plaintiffs Is Unlawful Agency Action.

Under the APA, the Court shall “hold unlawful and set aside agency action” that is “contrary to constitutional right, power, privilege, or immunity” or “in excess of statutory jurisdiction, authority, or limitations, or short of statutory right.” 5 U.S.C. § 706(2). As explained above, Plaintiffs state a claim that their extended detention

1 without a prompt hearing or judicial review of probable cause violates the Constitution
2 and applicable statutes. Accordingly, Plaintiffs state a claim under the APA.

3 **V. CONCLUSION**

4 For the foregoing reasons, the Court should deny the motion to dismiss.

5
6 Dated: June 12, 2017

ACLU FOUNDATION OF SAN DIEGO
& IMPERIAL COUNTIES

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document has been served on June 12, 2017 to all counsel of record who are deemed to have consented to electronic service via the Court's CM/ECF system per Civ LR 5.4(d). Any other counsel of record will be served by U.S. mail or hand delivery.

S/David Loy

DAVID LOY