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 10 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

11 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
 12 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

13 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

14 Plaintiff,

15 v.

16 JOSE ANTONIO BONILLA,

17 Defendant.

No. 2:25-CR-00259-WLH

GOVERNMENT'S OPPOSITION TO  
DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS  
INDICTMENT<sup>1</sup> UNDER 8  
U.S.C. § 1326(d); DECLARATION OF  
LINDSAY M. BAILEY

Hearing Date: May 28, 2025  
 Time: 10:30 a.m.

21 Plaintiff United States of America, by and through its counsel  
 22 of record, the United States Attorney for the Central District of  
 23 California and Assistant United States Attorneys Lindsay M. Bailey  
 24 and Alix R. Sandman, hereby submits its opposition to defendant JOSE  
 25  
 26

27  
 28 <sup>1</sup> Defendant's motion is titled "Motion to Dismiss Information."  
 (Dkt. 39.) However, defendant was charged by Indictment, not  
 Information, in this case.



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**MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

By his motion, defendant impermissibly seeks to expand the scope of 8 U.S.C § 1326(d) to allow this Court jurisdiction to review the denial of his application for temporary protected status ("TPS"). Not only is his request foreclosed by statute, defendant failed to timely petition the Court of Appeals for relief. He therefore cannot establish that he was deprived of the opportunity for judicial review. Nor can he establish that the entry of his deportation order was fundamentally unfair. As such, defendant's motion should be denied.

**II. BACKGROUND**

Defendant first entered the United States illegally in 2000. (Def. Ex. I at USAO\_00043.) On April 29, 2001, defendant applied for and received TPS. (Declaration of Lindsay M. Bailey [Bailey Decl.], Ex. 1 at USAO\_000168.) On April 22, 2010, defendant was convicted of molesting a child, in violation of California Penal Code § 647.6. (Def. Ex. J at USAO\_001299.)

On August 10, 2012, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services ("USCIS") withdrew defendant's application for TPS on the basis of his conviction, which they classified as an aggravated felony.<sup>1</sup> (Def. Ex. C; Bailey Decl., Ex. 1.) On December 7, 2012, the Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") commenced removal proceedings against defendant for remaining in the United States

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<sup>1</sup> Defendant reapplied for TPS on August 1, 2013, during the pendency of his removal proceeding, which was later granted through March 9, 2015; however, in March 2015, when defendant applied for re-registration, USCIS denied his application based on their discretion. (Bailey Decl., Ex. 2, Ex. 3 at USAO\_001028; Def. Ex. G.)

1 without being admitted or paroled, in violation of 8 U.S.C. §  
2 212(a)(6)(A)(i). (Bailey Decl., Ex. 4.) During his initial removal  
3 proceeding on June 27, 2013, defendant admitted his alienage, that he  
4 entered the country without inspection, and that he was subject to  
5 removal under § 212(a)(6)(A)(i). (Ex. 4; Bailey Decl., Ex. 5 at  
6 USAO\_000998.) Defendant does not challenge any of these findings.

7 In 2017, the immigration court held a series of proceedings to  
8 evaluate defendant's request for TPS, asylum, protection under the  
9 Convention Against Torture ("CAT"), and withholding of removal under  
10 § 241(b)(3). During these proceedings, the Immigration Judge ("IJ")  
11 took testimony from defendant and admitted into evidence certain  
12 materials from defendant's 2010 conviction. (Def. Ex. J.) On  
13 January 9, 2018, the IJ found that defendant "ha[d] not been a  
14 credible witness," ultimately exercising the Attorney General's  
15 discretion in denying defendant's request for TPS, in large part  
16 based on defendant's "absence of candor" and "efforts to blame the  
17 victim" in his underlying criminal case. (Def. Ex. I at 9.) The IJ  
18 also denied defendant's requests for asylum, CAT protection, and  
19 withholding of removal. (Id. at 10-19.) Finally, the IJ ordered  
20 defendant to voluntarily depart within 60 days of the date of the  
21 order, with an alternative order of removal to El Salvador. (Id. at  
22 21.)

23 Defendant subsequently appealed to the Board of Immigration  
24 Appeals ("BIA"), which upheld the IJ's decision and ordered defendant  
25 removed on July 10, 2019. (Bailey Decl., Ex. 6 at USAO\_000033.) On  
26 August 12, 2019, defendant filed his appeal with the Ninth Circuit  
27 Court of Appeals, two days after his statutory deadline. (Def. Ex. J  
28

1 at USAO\_000922.) Upon a motion by the government, defendant's appeal  
2 was dismissed as untimely. (Id.)

3 **III. LEGAL STANDARD**

4 A non-citizen charged with illegal reentry has a "limited right"  
5 to collaterally attack the validity of a removal order underlying a  
6 charged violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1326. See 8 U.S.C. § 1326(d). "That  
7 section provides that a defendant charged with unlawful reentry may  
8 not challenge their underlying removal orders unless they demonstrate  
9 that three conditions are met: (1) they have exhausted any  
10 administrative remedies, (2) they were deprived of the opportunity  
11 for judicial review, and (3) the entry of the order was fundamentally  
12 unfair." United States v. Palomar-Santiago, 141 S.Ct. 1615, 1620-21  
13 (2021) (internal quotations removed). "These requirements are  
14 connected by the conjunctive 'and,' meaning defendants must meet all  
15 three." Id.

16 **IV. ARGUMENT**

17 **A. Defendant Cannot Collaterally Attack His TPS Determination**

18 As an initial matter, defendant does not challenge the validity  
19 of his deportation order, nor does he claim some defect in the  
20 process of his removal. Rather, his focus is solely on USCIS's  
21 initial withdrawal of his TPS application and the IJ's subsequent  
22 discretionary denial of TPS. In essence, defendant claims that, but  
23 for the initial purported wrongful denial of his TPS application,  
24 defendant would not have been subject to deportation and placed in  
25 removal proceedings. (Mot. at 8:15-17.) He therefore does not  
26 contest the validity of his deportation order, but the fact that he  
27 was placed in deportation proceedings at all.

28 8 U.S.C. § 1326(d), however, allows only for a "collateral

1 attack on [an] underlying deportation order.” (emphasis added).  
2 Indeed, the plain text of the statute only contemplates a challenge  
3 against “the validity of the deportation order” that is the basis of  
4 the criminal proceeding, and defendant is tasked with establishing  
5 that “the entry of the order was fundamentally unfair.” Id.  
6 (emphasis added). Courts have similarly held that such a right is  
7 limited to “review of whether the prior deportation order was  
8 lawful,” noting that “[i]t is an overly expansive, and in fact, an  
9 incorrect, reading of Mendoza-Lopez to suggest that that the  
10 Constitution requires ‘meaningful review’ of any and all  
11 administrative procedures.” Smith v. Ashcroft, 295 F.3d 425, 431  
12 (2002) (quoting United States v. Mendoza-Lopez, 481 U.S. 828 (1987)).

13 Defendant makes no attempt to argue that the denial of his TPS  
14 application is equivalent to an Order of Removal, nor can he. See,  
15 e.g., United States v. Guzman-Velasquez, 919 F.3d 841, 846 (11th Cir.  
16 2019) (“As [defendant] acknowledges, § 1326(d) offers him no refuge:  
17 its plain text limits collateral challenges to *removal orders*, and  
18 [defendant] does not question the validity of his removal order. He  
19 instead challenges USCIS’s *denial of TPS* as violative of the Due  
20 Process Clause...” (emphasis in original). As such, he is precluded  
21 from making such a claim under the plain text of § 1326(d).

22 **B. Defendant Was Not Deprived of Judicial Review**

23 Assuming, arguendo, that defendant could challenge his TPS  
24 determination under § 1326(d), defendant’s claim that he was deprived  
25 the opportunity for judicial review is without merit. “[W]here the  
26 defendant has failed to identify any obstacle that prevented him from  
27 obtaining judicial review of a deportation order, he is not entitled  
28 to such review as part of a collateral attack under 8 U.S.C. §

1 1326(d).” United States v. Gonzalez-Villalobos, 724 F.3d 1125, 1132  
2 (9th Cir. 2013).

3 After defendant’s initial TPS application was withdrawn, he  
4 sought review from the IJ, the BIA, and the Ninth Circuit. His Ninth  
5 Circuit appeal was ultimately dismissed as untimely, but defendant’s  
6 failure to timely file his appeal is a problem of his own making.  
7 Defendant acknowledges that he waited until just *two days* before the  
8 deadline to send the appeal via mail, taking the risk that he was not  
9 allowing sufficient time for his appeal to be received and filed by  
10 the Court. Nor is this the first time that defendant was cautioned  
11 regarding the importance of timeliness. On August 15, 2017, the IJ  
12 warned defendant of the importance of punctuality, admonishing  
13 defendant that failure to timely appear at future proceedings could  
14 result in adverse consequences. (Bailey Decl., Ex. 7 at USAO\_001129-  
15 USAO\_001130.) Still, defendant made the decision to wait until the  
16 last minute to mail his appeal, assuming the risk that it would not  
17 be processed by the filing deadline.

18 Although the Ninth Circuit has since determined that the 30-day  
19 filing deadline was non-jurisdictional, this alone is not  
20 dispositive. The 30-day deadline remains statutorily mandated and  
21 “govern[s] how courts and litigants operate within” the bounds of a  
22 court’s authority to adjudicate cases. Santos-Zacaria v. Garland,  
23 598 U.S. 411, 416 (2023). Though a mandatory claims processing rule  
24 can be subject to waiver and forfeiture, it is “unalterable” if  
25 properly raised by the opposing party. Nutraceutical Corp. v.  
26 Lambert, 586 U.S. 188, 192 (2019) (citing Manrique v. United States,  
27 581 U.S. 116, 121 (2017)). Here, unlike in Alonso-Juarez v. Garland,  
28 80 F.4th 1039, 1043 (9th Cir. 2023), defendant’s petition for review

1 was untimely, and the government did move to dismiss, thereby  
2 preserving the argument for the court's review. As such, the Ninth  
3 Circuit's dismissal was appropriate.

4 **C. Defendant's Deportation Order Was Not Fundamentally Unfair**

5 Defendant cannot establish that the entry of his deportation  
6 order was fundamentally unfair. A removal order qualifies as  
7 fundamentally unfair only "when the deportation proceeding violated  
8 the [non-citizen]'s due process rights and the [non-citizen] suffered  
9 prejudice as a result." United States v. Reyes-Bonilla, 671 F.3d  
10 1036, 1043 (9th Cir. 2012) (quoting United States v. Arias-Ordonez,  
11 597 F.3d 972, 976 (9th Cir. 2010)). Here, defendant cannot establish  
12 either that the initial denial of his TPS nor the Court's  
13 consideration of impeachment evidence resulted in a proceeding that  
14 was fundamentally unfair.

15 1. Defendant's Due Process Rights Were Not Violated  
16 Through Denial of TPS

17 a. *TPS is a Discretionary Privilege*

18 Even assuming defendant can challenge the denial of TPS as part  
19 of his deportation order, TPS is discretionary relief that is  
20 ultimately vested with the Attorney General. 8 U.S.C. §  
21 1254a(a)(1)(A) ("the Attorney General, in accordance with this  
22 section -- may grant the alien temporary protected status...")  
23 (emphasis added); see also Mejia-Rodriguez v. U.S. Dept. of Homeland  
24 Sec., 562 F.3d 1137, 1143 (11th Cir. 2009) ("The ultimate decision of  
25 whether to grant TPS to an alien is undisputedly within the  
26 discretion of the Secretary [of Homeland Security]"). "Since  
27 discretionary relief is a privilege created by Congress, denial of  
28 such relief cannot violate a substantive interest protected by the

1 Due Process clause.” Munoz v. Ashcroft, 339 F.3d 950, 954 (9th Cir.  
2 2003) (citing INS v. Yang, 519 U.S. 26, 30 (1996)). “Because there  
3 is no constitutionally protected liberty interest in the  
4 discretionary privilege of [temporary protected status], the due  
5 process claim fails.” Tovar-Landin v. Ashcroft, 361 F.3d 1164, 1167  
6 (9th Cir. 2004).

7 Defendant’s repeated cites to the “deliberate indifference”  
8 standard set forth in Dent v. Sessions, 900 F.3d 1075 (9th Cir.  
9 2018), are misplaced. In Dent, the Court found that a petitioner  
10 could establish a due process violation specifically when showing  
11 that the INS was “deliberately indifferent to whether [defendant’s]  
12 application [for citizenship] was processed.” Id. at 1083 (citing  
13 Brown v. Holder, 763 F.3d 1141, 1150 (9th Cir. 2014)) (emphasis  
14 added). This is because the defendant “had a right to apply for  
15 citizenship, established by federal law,” and therefore his  
16 constitutional right to due process was violated if the INS  
17 “arbitrarily and intentionally obstructed his application.” Brown v.  
18 Holder, 763 F.3d 1141, 1148-49 (9th Cir. 2014).

19 Defendant’s statutory eligibility for TPS does not equate to an  
20 entitlement as it does with citizenship; indeed, during the  
21 underlying immigration proceedings, the parties assumed that  
22 defendant was statutorily eligible for TPS and therefore proceeded  
23 solely on the issue of whether he should receive relief under the  
24 Attorney General’s discretion. (Ex. 3, USAO\_001029; Def. Ex. I at 4-  
25 5.) Defendant has not and cannot cite to any case law establishing  
26 that he has due process rights or is entitled to this discretionary  
27 form of immigration relief such that the “deliberate indifference”  
28

1 standard would apply. Rather, the law is clear that defendant is not  
2 entitled to due process protections for discretionary privileges.

3 *b. Defendant Was Not Statutorily Eligible for TPS*

4 Defendant is also incorrect in asserting that he was statutorily  
5 eligible for TPS following his conviction. While the Ninth Circuit  
6 has held that defendant's statute of conviction, Cal. Penal Code §  
7 647.6(a), is not a *categorical* match to the federal definition of  
8 sexual abuse, it has also repeatedly held that the statute is  
9 divisible such that the modified categorical approach applies.

10 United States v. Pallares-Galan, 359 F.3d 1088, 1102-03 (9th Cir.  
11 2004) ("Because we conclude that § 647.6(a) reaches not only conduct  
12 that would constitute the aggravated felony of 'sexual abuse' but  
13 conduct that would not, we next apply the 'modified categorical'  
14 test, under which we look to the pertinent documents in the record in  
15 order to determine whether the government has shown that [defendant]  
16 pled guilty to conduct comprehended within the scope of the federal  
17 provision."); see also Nicanor-Romero v. Mukasey, 523 F.3d 992, 999  
18 (9th Cir. 2008) ("To determine if his misdemeanor conviction under §  
19 647.6(a) is a conviction for a 'crime involving moral turpitude,' we  
20 apply the categorical and modified-categorical approaches.").

21 In using the modified categorial approach, courts may look  
22 beyond the plain language of the statute and instead examine  
23 "documentation or judicially noticeable facts" to determine whether  
24 the conviction is, in fact, a match to the federal statute.  
25 Pallares-Galan, 359 F.3d at 1099 (quoting United States v. Rivera-  
26 Sanchez, 247 F.3d 905, 908 (9th Cir.2001) (en banc)). Such documents  
27 include "the judgment of conviction, jury instructions, a signed  
28 guilty plea, or the transcript from the plea proceedings." Tokatly

1 v. Ashcroft, 371 F.3d 613, 620 (9th Cir. 2004). The Ninth Circuit  
2 has further held that a “stipulation (that the police reports  
3 contained a factual basis for [defendant’s] plea) incorporated the  
4 police reports into the plea colloquy,” and thus could properly be  
5 relied on by the district court in conducting the modified  
6 categorical approach. United States v. Almazan-Becerra, 537 F.3d  
7 1094, 1098 (9th Cir. 2008) (citing Parilla v. Gonzales, 414 F.3d  
8 1038, 1044 (9th Cir. 2005)).

9 On March 15, 2010, defendant pleaded nolo contendere to a  
10 violation of Cal. Penal Code § 647.6(a)(1). During the plea  
11 colloquy, the Court asked if the parties would “stipulate to a  
12 factual basis based on the information contained in the police  
13 reports,” and defense counsel so stipulated. (Def. Ex. J,  
14 USAO\_001320). The Court therefore found a factual basis for the plea  
15 based on the parties’ stipulation. (Id.) The immigration judge  
16 could therefore rely on the police report in determining whether  
17 defendant’s conviction was an aggravated felony under the modified  
18 categorical approach.

19 Under 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(43)(A), a deportable aggravated felony  
20 includes the “murder, rape, or sexual abuse of a minor.” The generic  
21 federal definition of sexual abuse includes “illegal sexual acts  
22 performed against a minor by a parent, guardian, relative, or  
23 acquaintance.” Pallares-Galan, 359 F.3d at 1100. Cal. Penal Code §  
24 647.6(a) does not categorically fit this definition because the  
25 statute prohibits conduct that would be merely irritating or  
26 annoying, such as propositioning a minor for sex without actually  
27 touching the minor. Id. The factual basis supporting defendant’s  
28 plea, however, includes the fact that defendant “reached over [and]

1 forcibl[y] grabbed [the 15-year-old minor's] penis over his pants and  
2 squeezed." (Def. Ex. J at USAO\_1309). This "indisputably falls  
3 within the common, everyday meaning" of the words "sexual," "abuse,"  
4 and "minor." Pallares-Galan, 359 F.3d at 1100 (quoting United States  
5 v. Baron-Medina, 187 F.3d 1144, 1147 (9th Cir. 1999)). It is  
6 therefore a match for "sexual abuse of a minor" under the modified  
7 categorical approach. Defendant's misdemeanor conviction was  
8 therefore an aggravated felony under 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(43)(A),  
9 making him statutorily ineligible for TPS. See United States v.  
10 Alvarez-Gutierrez, 394 F.3d 1241, 1242 (9th Cir. 2005) (holding that  
11 misdemeanor offenses may qualify as "aggravated felonies" under 8  
12 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(43)(A)). USCIS was within its right to withdraw  
13 defendant's TPS application.

14 c. *Defendant was not prejudiced by USCIS's*  
15 *withdrawal of his Temporary Protected Status*

16 In order to establish prejudice from an alleged due process  
17 violation under § 1326(d), the alien must show a "'plausible grounds  
18 for relief' from the removal order, that is, more than a theoretical  
19 possibility of relief." United States v. Flores, 901 F.3d 1150, 1162  
20 (9th Cir. 2018) (quoting United States v. Raya-Vaca, 771 F.3d 1195,  
21 1205-07 (9th Cir. 2014)). Where the relevant form of relief is  
22 discretionary, the alien must "show that, in light of the factors  
23 relevant to the form of relief being sought, and based on the 'unique  
24 circumstances of [the alien's] own case,' it was plausible (not  
25 merely conceivable)" that discretion would be exercised in the  
26 alien's favor. See United States v. Barajas-Alvarado, 655 F.3d 1077,  
27 1089 (9th Cir. 2011) (quoting United States v. Corrales-Beltran, 192  
28 F.3d 1311, 1318 (9th Cir. 1999)). Here, defendant can make no such

1 showing. Not only did USCIS properly classify defendant's conviction  
2 as an "aggravated felony," making him statutorily ineligible for TPS,  
3 the IJ chose not to exercise discretion on defendant's behalf. He  
4 cannot show prejudice as a result.

5 2. The IJ Did Not Violate Defendant's Due Process Rights  
6 by Impeaching Defendant with his Underlying Conviction  
7 Documents

8 a. *Impeachment Evidence Is Admissible During*  
9 *Immigration Proceedings*

10 It is well settled that the Federal Rules of Evidence do not  
11 apply in immigration removal proceedings. Trias-Hernandez v. INS,  
12 528 F.2d 366, 369 (9th Cir. 1975). Instead, immigration courts may  
13 consider "all reliable information," including "information outside  
14 the confines of a record of conviction," (Anaya-Ortiz v. Holder, 594  
15 F.3d 673, 677 (9th Cir. 2010) (quoting Matter of N-A-M-, 24 I. & N.  
16 Dec. 336, 342 (B.I.A. 2007)), so long as it "is probative and its  
17 admission is fundamentally fair" (Sanchez v. Holder, 704 F.3d 1107,  
18 1109 (9th Cir. 2012) (per curiam) (quoting Espinoza v. INS, 45 F.3d  
19 308, 310 (9th Cir. 1995)). When making discretionary determinations,  
20 such as a grant of TPS, IJs may consider evidence of "unfavorable  
21 conduct, including criminal conduct which has not culminated in a  
22 final conviction." Matter of Tomas, 21 I&N Dec. 20, 3 (1995).

23 "The burden of establishing a basis for exclusion of evidence  
24 from a government record falls on the opponent of the evidence, who  
25 must come forward with enough negative factors to persuade the court  
26 not to admit it." Espinoza, 45 F.3d at 310. Where an alien "has  
27 offered no evidence to show that the form contains material errors,"  
28 there is no right to demand cross-examination. Espinoza, 45 F.3d at  
310; cf. Bogle v. Garland, 21 F.4th 637, 651 (9th Cir. 2021) ("In

1 looking at whether proceedings were fundamentally fair ..., courts  
2 may consider whether a petitioner had 'ample opportunity to  
3 challenge' the evidence against him but did not." (quoting Wang v.  
4 Attorney Gen., 898 F.3d 341, 350 (3d Cir. 2018)). Moreover, none of  
5 defendant's cited cases require cross examination of witnesses  
6 underlying impeachment documents, but rather have found that using  
7 defendant's own statements for impeachment "did not render his  
8 hearing fundamentally unfair." Saidane v. I.N.S., 129 F.3d 1063,  
9 1066 (9th Cir. 1997).

10 Here, the IJ made clear that the arrest report and probation  
11 report were being admitted purely for purposes of evaluating whether  
12 defendant warranted a "favorable exercise of discretion and for  
13 purposes of impeachment." (Def. Ex. I at USAO 000040.) In doing so,  
14 he also indicated that the unavailability of the witnesses whose  
15 statements were reflected in the reports would be factored into the  
16 weight that the Court gave such evidence. (Bailey Decl., Ex. 8 at  
17 USAO\_001008-USAO\_001009; Ex. 3 at USAO\_001050-USAO\_001056.)  
18 Defendant, for his part, introduced no evidence to cast doubt on the  
19 reliability of the documents, nor to rebut the factual statements  
20 contained therein, other than his own self-serving testimony in which  
21 he effectively claimed that all of the witnesses in the reports,  
22 including the minor victim and the investigating officer, were lying.  
23 Defendant's testimony, impeached by his own prior statements and  
24 otherwise unsupported, is not sufficient to show material errors in  
25 the underlying reports such that exclusion was warranted. Sanchez v.  
26 Holder, 704 F.3d 1107, 1109 (9th Cir. 2012) (holding that Sanchez was  
27 not entitled to cross-examine the Form I-213 preparer because "she  
28 provided no basis for the IJ to ... conclude" that the form was

1 inaccurate); cf. Angov v. Lynch, 788 F.3d 893, 902-04 (9th Cir.  
2 2015) (holding that the agency could reasonably credit a document,  
3 even though it lacked certain indicia of reliability, because of the  
4 "almost complete absence of rebuttal evidence" offered by the alien).

5       Regardless, the IJ was, in fact, permitted to rely on the arrest  
6 report in making his determination; as discussed above, the arrest  
7 report was incorporated into the factual basis for defendant's plea  
8 as stipulated by the parties. (Def. Ex. J at USAO\_001319-  
9 USAO\_001321.) It was therefore part of the conviction record in his  
10 criminal case and admissible in the immigration proceeding.

11 Accordingly, the IJ did not err in considering these documents in  
12 determining whether defendant warranted the Attorney General's  
13 discretionary grant of TPS.

14               *b. Defendant did not suffer prejudice from the IJ's*  
15               *consideration of law enforcement reports related*  
16               *to his conviction*

17       Once again, defendant cannot show prejudice. Defendant's  
18 speculation that the IJ would have granted defendant temporary  
19 protected status but for this alleged violation is belied by the  
20 record. At no time throughout the underlying proceedings did  
21 defendant offer any credible evidence to undermine the description of  
22 the offense conduct contained in the reports, and his statements were  
23 directly contradicted by his crime of conviction. (Ex. 6 at  
24 USAO\_000034); Matter of M-H-, 26 I&N 46, 50-51 (BIA 2012) (holding  
25 that an IJ may predicate an adverse credibility finding regarding the  
26 events underlying a crime where the respondent's testimony is  
27 inconsistent with the elements of the offense, and rejecting the  
28 respondent's claims that he only pled guilty to bring his criminal  
proceedings to a conclusion); see also Matter of D-R-, 25 I&N Dec.

1 445. 454 (BIA 20 I 1) (explaining that an IJ is not required to  
2 accept a respondent's assertions, even if plausible, where there are  
3 other permissible views of the evidence based on the record),  
4 remanded on other grounds, Radojkovic v. Holder, 599 F. App'x 646  
5 (9th Cir. 2015). There is ultimately no "plausible" basis to believe  
6 that the IJ would have reached any other conclusion with respect to  
7 defendant's request for TPS. See Hernandez v. Garland, 52 F.4th 757,  
8 768 (9th Cir. 2022); Espinoza, 45 F.3d at 311; Sanchez, 704 F.3d at  
9 1109.

10 **V. CONCLUSION**

11 Defendant cannot collaterally challenge the withdrawal of his  
12 TPS in a motion under 8 U.S.C. § 1326(d), nor can he show that he was  
13 deprived of judicial review. Even overcoming those threshold  
14 matters, defendant cannot establish that his due process rights were  
15 violated for the withdrawal of a discretionary privilege, nor can he  
16 establish prejudice. Accordingly, defendant's motion should be  
17 denied.

**CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned, counsel of record for plaintiff United States of America, certifies that this brief contains 3,667 words, which complies with the word limit set by court order dated April 23, 2025.

Dated: May 21, 2025

  
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Assistant United States Attorneys  
  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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**DECLARATION OF LINDSAY M. BAILEY**

I, Lindsay M. Bailey, declare as follows:

1. I am an Assistant United States Attorney for the Central District of California. I am one of the attorneys assigned to represent the United States in this matter.

2. Attached hereto as Exhibit 1 is a true and correct copy of defendant's Application for Temporary Protected Status signed on March 26, 2001, as it appears in defendant's Alien File ("A-File).

3. Attached hereto as Exhibit 2 is a true and correct copy of the I-797A, Notice of Action, valid from January 8, 2014 through March 9, 2015, as it appears in defendant's A-File.

4. Attached hereto as Exhibit 3 is a true and correct copy of the Transcript of Hearing for Removal Proceedings dated July 14, 2017.

5. Attached hereto as Exhibit 4 is a true and correct copy of the Notice to Appear dated December 7, 2012, as it appears in defendant's A-file.

6. Attached hereto as Exhibit 5 is a true and correct copy of the Transcript of Hearing for Removal Proceedings dated June 27, 2013.

7. Attached hereto as Exhibit 6 is a true and correct copy of the Decision of the Board of Immigration Appeals, dated July 10, 2019, as it appears in defendant's A-file.

8. Attached hereto as Exhibit 7 is a true and correct copy of the Transcript of Hearing for Removal Proceedings dated August 15, 2017.

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1 9. Attached hereto as Exhibit 8 is a true and correct copy of  
2 the Transcript of Hearing for Removal Proceedings dated October 7,  
3 2016.

4 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United  
5 States of America that the foregoing is true and correct and that  
6 this declaration is executed at Los Angeles, California, on May 21,  
7 2025.

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9 \_\_\_\_\_  
LINDSAY M. BAILEY  
Declarant

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