

EXHIBIT 2

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

DECLARATION OF ELMER ONAN SANCHEZ HERNANDEZ

I, Elmer Onan Sanchez Hernandez, declare as follows based upon my personal knowledge:

1. My name is Elmer Onan Sanchez Hernandez. I was born in Honduras on April 1, 1978. My wife's name is Alyse Sanchez, and we married on August 7, 2013, and live at 10225 Frederick Ave. Apt. 514. I work for a home remodeling company called Sanchez Painting and Remodeling LLC. We have two U.S. citizen children together: Aaron, who is three years old born on September 16, 2015, and Matthew who is two years old born on July 27, 2017.

2. I was ordered removed on September 6, 2005 because I was never notified of my immigration hearing. My immigration lawyer tried to reopen my case, but it was denied by the immigration court in Harlingen Texas on June 3, 2019. I have no other option to obtain a Green Card except to go through the provisional waiver process, beginning with an I-130 petition for alien relative, then file for an I-212 application for permission to reenter the U.S., and then an I-601a provisional waiver of unlawful presence. My submitted I-130 petition was received by USCIS on September 4, 2018, and on May 7, 2019 my wife and I went to the marriage interview. I have completed the I-212 documents and am planning to file it soon.

3. At the marriage interview on May 7, 2019, we were accompanied by our immigration lawyer and an interpreter so that I could fully understand all the complicated legal issues that were being explained during the interview. The USCIS officer asked us questions and approved our I-130.

4. My wife was then escorted out of the room because the USCIS officer said that he needed a supervisor to come and authenticate the case. However, instead of a supervisor, there

were ICE officers who came to arrest me. They asked how long I've lived here, which I responded saying 14 years. They put me in handcuffs and wouldn't let me see my wife or say goodbye.

5. I was brought to the Frederick County Adult Detention Center, where I was placed in solitary confinement for a few days, and I still don't know why. When I was moved to another room, I was locked up in a small jail cell that housed four of us. I was there for four or five days, and the only thing I could do was eat and sleep. Sometimes, officers would bring us food at about 5 o'clock in the morning and would be given ten minutes to eat it. Since it was so early in the morning, I was very sleepy and didn't eat the food quickly enough, so the officer would take the food and throw it in the trash.

6. I was then transferred to a detention center in Pennsylvania, and then to the Alexandria Staging Facility in Alexandria Louisiana. At the detention center in Louisiana, I was given two sandwiches in the morning, two at lunch, and two at dinner. The food was rotten and the milk that we were given to drink was spoiled. The lights were always on, they wouldn't let us shower, and it was always freezing cold because the air conditioning was turned on really high. The guards were wearing jackets and we had to use two blankets to stay warm because it felt like we were standing outside in the winter.

7. The conditions of my detention were psychological torture. I could tell ICE was deliberately making it unbearable.

8. There were television screens that constantly played videos of President Trump speaking to how he was going to deport everyone. They make you feel like you're finished, like there is no hope.

9. By the tenth day that I was in detention, I was told that I would be put on an airplane back to Honduras, and the psychological torture made thank God that I would at least be out of detention because I couldn't take it anymore.

10. After my case was filed, ICE brought me back to Maryland and released me on an order of supervision on June 19, 2019.

11. Now that I am back home, I can't really believe it's real. I am so terrified that I will be put back in immigration detention and taken away from my wife and children. When I finally came home and my kids saw me for the first time since ICE arrested me, they ran to me yelling "Papi, papi!!" They don't understand what had happened, Alyse kept telling them I was at work or that I would be home soon when they asked her why I wasn't there to tuck them in. When I was in Frederick at the immigration jail, they couldn't understand why they couldn't hug me, instead of only being able to talk to me through a glass window.

12. ICE treated me like a murderer, like I committed some horrible crime. Why am I treated that way if all I want to do is to be with my family and live here in peace?

13. Today, I feel different. I feel sad and anxious because of what happened. It's another world in immigration detention. Since coming home, I have the kids playing in another room with the television on at a low volume because I want to be able to hear what is happening outside of the apartment door. I'm petrified of being taken from my family again. That is the level of fear that I feel.

14. The detention felt like psychological torture, but being separated from my family was extremely traumatic for me. That will always stay with me.

I declare under penalty of perjury that foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on August 3, 2019



Elnor Omar Sanchez Hernandez