

APPENDIX A

Template Release Request to Field Office Juvenile Coordinator (FOJC)

This template should be sent by email to the field office juvenile coordinator in your jurisdiction, ideally at least two weeks before the child's 18th birthday. This template is not intended as, nor does it constitute, legal advice.

My name is _____, and I represent [NAME/A NUMBER]. [NAME] is a seventeen-year-old unaccompanied child who is currently detained at [ORR shelter or foster care]. [She/he] turns 18 on [DATE].

Please consider [NAME] for placement in the least restrictive setting available once s/he turns 18, as required by 8 U.S.C. 1232(c)(2)(B), the [permanent injunction](#) and [order](#) in *Garcia Ramirez v. ICE*. Please make alternatives to detention available to [NAME], which may include release on his/her own recognizance, placement with an individual or organizational sponsor, or placement in a supervised group home. In [NAME's] case, we believe the least restrictive setting is [list any potential individual or organizational sponsors. Include all possible sponsors if there are more than one.]

Alternative 1: There is nothing to indicate that [NAME] is a danger to himself/herself, to the community, or a flight risk. [Note if s/he has an application for immigration benefits on file; i.e., asylum.] [NAME] has no criminal history, nor has she/he had any behavioral issues while in ORR custody. Therefore, we ask that you release [NAME] on his/her own recognizance. In the alternative, please consider other alternatives to detention or an ICE bond.

Alternative 2: While [NAME] may present some indicia of [danger to self, danger to community, or flight risk], it is mitigated by release to a [sponsor / group home]. [Detail here what NAME has done to address these concerns, and what plans are in place to address them upon release. Provide any other context and mitigating factors that address concerns about flight risk and danger. For more guidance, see FAQ Nos. 17 (flight risk); 22 (danger to others)]

In support of this request, please find attached [letters of support or other documentation showing potential sponsorship from individual or organizational sponsor and evidence of mitigating factors if your client presents some indicia of danger to self, danger to the community, or flight risk].

Please let me know if you have any additional questions or concerns and thank you for your consideration of this request.