

Rivas & Associates Takes Immigration Cases to Federal Court Over Agency Delays, Detention, and Decisions

Rivas & Associates, a national immigration law firm, spotlights their use of federal litigation strategy to demand answers for immigrant families.

TULSA, OK, UNITED STATES, September 10, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Rivas & Associates](#), a national immigration law firm with offices in Tulsa and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Fort Smith, Arkansas, is highlighting its growing [federal litigation](#) practice, including legal actions involving DHS, ICE, USCIS, and other federal immigration agencies when questions arise over agency delays, detention, or compliance with federal law and required procedures.



Elissa Stiles, Lorena Rivas, & Team Members from Rivas & Associates

"Federal law provides avenues for individuals to seek judicial review when an immigration matter raises questions that extend beyond the administrative process," said Lorena Rivas, founding attorney at Rivas & Associates. "When appropriate, our role is to use those legal tools and ask the courts to review the government's actions."

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Our responsibility is to evaluate the facts and law in each case, determine what legal remedies may be available, and pursue federal court review when the circumstances warrant it.”

Lorena Rivas

It starts with delays. When an immigration application, petition, or other matter remains pending beyond what may be considered a reasonable period, federal litigation can provide a potential avenue for seeking action. An [appeal](#) may remain pending for an extended period. A naturalization decision may not be issued following an

interview. An I-130 petition may remain unresolved despite the case moving through required steps. Depending on the circumstances, Rivas & Associates' immigration attorneys may file a mandamus action, a federal lawsuit asking a court to require an agency to take action on a pending matter. A mandamus action generally does not ask the court to approve the underlying immigration benefit; it asks the court to address the agency's duty to act.

Immigration detention can raise a different set of federal legal questions. Cases involving prolonged detention, access to bond proceedings, or other questions concerning the legal basis for continued custody may be challenged through a petition for habeas corpus. This federal court filing asks a judge to review whether an individual's detention is lawful, separate from the ultimate outcome of the underlying immigration case.

Final removal orders follow another path. In certain circumstances, review may be sought directly before a federal Court of Appeals through a petition for review, subject to strict filing deadlines and jurisdictional requirements. When a legal challenge concerns an agency rule, policy, or administrative action rather than the outcome of an individual case, litigation may also be brought under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA). The APA provides a framework for courts to review certain federal agency actions and determine whether they comply with applicable statutory and procedural requirements.

"Federal litigation is an important part of the immigration legal system because it provides a process for courts to review certain agency actions and decisions," Rivas said. "Our responsibility is to evaluate the facts and law in each case, determine what legal remedies may be available,



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Abogada Lorena® Rivas, Senior Attorney & CEO of
Rivas & Associates

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Rivas & Associates is a nationally recognized immigration law firm headquartered in Oklahoma and serving individuals and families across the United States. Led by award-winning immigration attorney Lorena Rivas (Abogada Lorena®), the firm provides representation across a wide range of immigration matters, from family-based petitions to deportation defense, complex litigation, and federal appeals. Since 2020, Rivas & Associates has helped immigrant families pursue their American Dream with Spanish-speaking attorneys and staff, as well as language-access support. For questions or to speak with an experienced immigration attorney, contact Rivas & Associates at (844) 37-RIVAS or visit us at <https://www.rivasassociates.com/>.



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