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8 **United States District Court**
9 **Central District of California**
10 **Western Division**
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12 KELVIN HERNANDEZ ROMAN, *et al.*,

ED CV 20-00768 TJH

13 Petitioners-Plaintiffs,

14 v.

Order

15 CHAD T. WOLF, *et al.*,

[1030]

16 Respondents-Defendants.
17

18 The Court has received and considered the Notice of Death of Class Member
19 Martin Vargas Arellano filed by Class Counsel on March 19, 2021.

20 Based on the Notice of Death, it appears that Mr. Arellano died from
21 complications due to COVID-19 on March 8, 2021, and that the Government failed to
22 notify his family, his counsel, or the Court regarding the progression of his illness or
23 of his death. Further, based on the Notice of Death, it appears that the Government
24 actively concealed the seriousness of Mr. Arellano's condition, and his subsequent
25 death, from his counsel and the Court by reporting that Mr. Arellano was released from
26 detention on March 5, 2021.

27 The Court has significant concerns regarding the Government's actions and lack
28 of candor based on the disturbing facts reported in the Notice of Death.

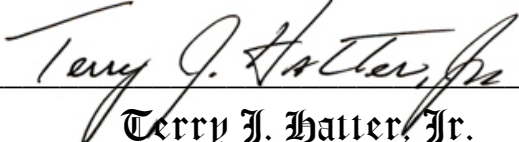
1 Consequently, the Government shall file a written response to the Notice of Death
2 by Noon on Tuesday, March 23, 2021.

3 The Government's response shall provide a detailed explanation, supported by
4 declarations, of what happened to Mr. Arellano, starting from the presentation of his
5 initial symptoms related to COVID-19 to his death. The response shall provide, *inter*
6 *alia*:

- 7 1. A detailed history of the progression of Mr. Arellano's illness, including
8 all medical care provided to him, whether at the Adelanto Detention
9 Center, St. Mary's Hospital in Apple Valley, California, St. Jude's
10 Hospital in Fullerton, California, or at any other facility;
- 11 2. A detailed explanation substantiating the actions taken, or not taken, by
12 employees or agents of the Government and/or the GEO Group, whether
13 or not set forth in the Notice of Death, that are related to Mr. Arellano's
14 illness, death, or the reporting of his "release;"
- 15 3. A detailed explanation as to why the Government reported Mr. Arellano
16 as being released from detention; and
- 17 4. A detailed explanation as to why the Government did not notify Mr.
18 Arellano's family, attorneys, or the Court as to the progression of his
19 COVID-19-related illness, the significant deterioration of his health, or his
20 death.

21
22 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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24 Date: March 20, 2021

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27 Terry J. Hatter, Jr.
28 Senior United States District Judge