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7 **IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA**
8 **IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF COCONINO**

9 Jose Montelongo-Morales, as an
10 individual, and on behalf of all others
11 similarly situated,

12 Plaintiff,

13 v.

14 James Driscoll, et al.

15 Defendants.
16

Case No. S0300CV2019-00012

PLAINTIFF’S MOTION FOR:

**TEMPORARY RESTRAINING
ORDER OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE,
PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION, AND**

**APPLICATION TO ACCEPT SPECIAL
ACTION JURISDICTION AND FOR
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE**

17
18 Plaintiff, Jose Montelongo-Morales (“Plaintiff” or “Montelongo”), pursuant to
19 A.R.S. §§ 12-1801 and 12-1831, Rules 4 and 6, Ariz. R. P. Spec. Act., and Ariz. R. Civ.
20 P. 65, moves this Court to order injunctive, declaratory, and special action relief.

21 **INTRODUCTION**

22 This motion seeks to ensure the timely release of Jose Montelongo-Morales, a
23 longtime Flagstaff resident who is currently in the custody of the Coconino County
24 Sheriff’s Office (“CCSO”) and facing an almost certain unlawful prolongation of his
25 detention absent intervention by this Court. CCSO maintains a policy of re-arresting

1 certain individuals after the relevant superior court, justice court, or city court releases
2 them based solely on a “detainer” request from the federal Immigration and Customs
3 Enforcement (“ICE”) alleging that the individual is a non-citizen subject to deportation.
4 In Arizona, such re-arrests are unlawful because Arizona law does not grant authority to
5 Arizona law enforcement officers to conduct civil immigration arrests. CCSO’s policy
6 thus causes the systematic jailing of individuals after the state-law basis for their
7 detention has expired.

8 Plaintiff’s case illustrates CCSO’s typical practice when it receives an ICE
9 detainer request. On December 28, 2018, Flagstaff police arrested Montelongo for a local
10 violation. Within hours of his booking, ICE became aware that he was in CCSO custody
11 and sent CCSO two documents: an ICE detainer request (Form I-247A) and an
12 “administrative warrant” (Form I-205). These two documents informed CCSO that ICE
13 suspected that Montelongo is an “alien subject to removal” from the United States.
14 Pursuant to its written policy, CCSO initiated steps to ensure that Montelongo’s eventual
15 release would be delayed for up to 48 additional hours to allow ICE to take custody of
16 him. CCSO’s policy requires this delayed release even without probable cause that a
17 crime has been committed and even though no federal or state law requires local law
18 enforcement agencies to accommodate detainer requests.

19 This is not the first case to challenge CCSO’s policy. In 2018, another jail detainee
20 sued Defendants based on a similarly unlawful prolonged detention. U.S. District Court
21 Judge David Campbell preliminarily declined to grant the injunctive relief sought in that
22 case, indicating that a ruling one way or the other required “a more thorough exploration”
23 of certain state law matters. *Tenorio-Serrano v. Driscoll*, 324 F. Supp. 3d 1053, 1062 (D.
24 Ariz. 2018). Calling the plaintiff’s arguments “credible” and noting that he “raise[d]
25 serious questions that require further litigation,” *id.* at 1064, Judge Campbell denied the

1 preliminary injunction, in part, because “the parties have not briefed the history of the
2 [Arizona] constitutional provisions at issue, the intent of the drafters [of the Arizona
3 Constitution], or the common law roots” of the authority of Arizona sheriffs. *Id.* at 1062.
4 The more “thorough exploration” of these issues never occurred because CCSO released
5 the plaintiff into ICE custody shortly after that ruling, thereby mooted the case. This
6 motion addresses those issues, among others.

7 In short, Arizona sheriffs lack state law authority to prolong jail detention in
8 circumstances like Plaintiff’s. Holding jail detainees after the state-law reason for
9 detention has ended violates Arizona law and causes irreparable harm to Plaintiff and
10 putative class members. The Court’s intervention is needed to prevent such harm.

11 **LEGAL STANDARDS**

12 **Temporary Restraining Order and Preliminary Injunction**

13 A court may issue a temporary restraining order and/or preliminary injunction if
14 the moving party establishes: 1) a strong likelihood of success on the merits; 2) the
15 possibility of irreparable injury if the relief is not granted; 3) a balance of hardships in the
16 moving party’s favor; and 4) public policy favors the relief. *Smith v. Ariz. Citizens Clean*
17 *Elections Comm’n*, 212 Ariz. 407, 410 ¶ 10 (2006) (citation omitted). Arizona courts
18 apply this standard using a sliding scale: “the moving party may establish either 1)
19 probable success on the merits and the possibility of irreparable injury; or 2) the presence
20 of serious questions and that the balance of hardships tips sharply in favor of the moving
21 party.” *Id.* at 411 ¶ 10 (internal marks and citations omitted). In other words, “[t]he
22 greater and less reparable the harm, the less the showing of a strong likelihood of success
23 on the merits need be.” *Id.*

1 In this case, Plaintiff has a strong likelihood of success because, under Arizona
2 law, Defendants lack any basis for holding Plaintiff and putative class members in jail
3 after their conditions of release, set by state or local courts, have been satisfied.
4

5 **Special Action**

6 Special action relief is appropriate where, as here, there is no “equally plain,
7 speedy, and adequate remedy by appeal”; where a defendant, acting in an official
8 capacity, has “failed to perform a duty required by law as to which he has no discretion”;
9 or where a defendant “has proceeded or is threatening to proceed without or in excess of
10 jurisdiction or legal authority.” Ariz. R. P. Spec. Act. 1(a), 3(a), 3(b). Defendants’
11 threatened unlawful detention of Plaintiffs justifies special action relief .
12

13 **Ripeness**

14 “[T]he ripeness doctrine prevents a court from rendering a premature judgment or
15 opinion on a situation that may never occur.” *Winkle v. City of Tucson*, 190 Ariz. 413,
16 415 (1997). The doctrine prevents actions that are so “premature” that “no basis exist[s]
17 to conclude” the anticipated future event will ever occur. *Santa Fe Ridge Homeowners’*
18 *Ass’n v. Bartschi*, 219 Ariz. 391, 397 (Ct. App. 2008). Plaintiff seeks immediate relief to
19 prevent a harm almost certain to befall him absent this Court’s intervention.
20

21 **ARGUMENT**

22 **Plaintiff is entitled to preliminary injunctive relief because he is likely to**
23 **succeed on the merits, he will suffer irreparable harm, and there is no harm**
24 **to Defendants.**
25

1 Plaintiff can demonstrate both a likelihood of success on the merits and a
2 probability of irreparable harm if the Court does not enjoin Defendants’ unlawful policy
3 and practice. Furthermore, there will be great harm to Plaintiff absent injunctive relief.
4

5 **1. Plaintiff is likely to succeed on the merits.**

6 State law governs whether a law enforcement agency has the authority to detain a
7 person and on what grounds. *Lunn v. Commonwealth*, 477 Mass. 517, 527 (2017);
8 *Martinez-Medina v. Holder*, 673 F.3d 1029, 1037 (9th Cir. 2011). Plaintiff is likely to
9 succeed on the merits of his claims because Defendants can point to no provision of
10 Arizona law that provides the authority to prolong a person’s detention based on an
11 immigration detainer.
12

- 13 a. *Defendants’ written policy requires jail staff to prolong Plaintiff’s*
14 *detention, which is an independent arrest for purposes of state law.*

15 Just as continuing to detain an individual in a traffic stop scenario requires
16 the officer to have “additional suspicion of criminality”, *Melendres v. Arpaio*, 695 F.3d
17 990, 1001 (9th Cir. 2012), continuing to hold a jail detainee based on an immigration
18 detainer after the state-law justification for detention has expired constitutes a new arrest.
19 *See Lunn*, 477 Mass. at 527; *accord Roy v. Cty. of Los Angeles*, 2018 WL 914773, at *23
20 (C.D. Cal. Feb 7, 2018). Sheriffs in other states have acknowledged this principle. *E.g.*,
21 *Cisneros v. Elder*, No. 2018-cv-30549 (Colo. D. Ct. Mar. 19, 2018) (attached as Exhibit
22 A) (“Sheriff Elder also conceded [that to] keep prisoners in custody, who would
23 otherwise be released, constitutes a new arrest.”). Thus, the question is whether Arizona
24 officers may effectuate a new arrest based exclusively on a suspected *civil* immigration
25 violation. As explained below, they cannot.

1 b. *Arizona law does not authorize arrests for civil violations of federal*
2 *immigration law.*

3 “Because mere unauthorized presence is not a criminal matter, suspicion of
4 unauthorized presence alone does not give rise to an inference that criminal activity is
5 ‘afoot.’” *Melendres*, 695 F.3d at 1001; *see Arizona v. United States*, 567 U.S. 387, 407
6 (2012) (“[I]t is not a crime for a removable alien to remain present in the United States.”).
7 Indeed, the two ICE documents at issue in this case do not mention the words “felony” or
8 “misdemeanor” [Complaint, ¶ 42], or make any allegations of criminal wrongdoing
9 [Complaint, ¶ 41].

10 Arizona law enforcement officers may arrest when there exists probable cause of a
11 federal *crime*, *Whitlock v. Boyer*, 77 Ariz. 334, 338 (1954), but not where there is a
12 suspicion of only a federal civil immigration violation. *Gonzales v. City of Peoria*, 722
13 F.2d 468, 476 (9th Cir. 1983), *overruled on other grounds by Hodgers-Durgin v. de la*
14 *Vina*, 199 F.3d 1037 (9th Cir. 1999); *see also Melendres*, 695 F.3d at 1001 (“if the
15 [sheriff’s department is] to enforce immigration-related laws, they must enforce only
16 immigration-related laws that are criminal in nature.”) Indeed, the U.S. Supreme Court
17 permanently enjoined as preempted the only Arizona provision purporting to authorize
18 arrests for civil immigration offenses, *Arizona*, 567 U.S. at 410 (enjoining A.R.S. § 13-
19 3883(A)(5)), and Defendants previously acknowledged that that provision “would not
20 authorize the detentions at issue” even if the statute had not been struck down. *Tenorio*,
21 324 F. Supp. 3d at 1053.

22 A growing number of state courts have found that local officials must possess state
23 law arrest authority to prolong jail detention at the request of ICE. *Lunn*, 477 Mass. at
24 518; *People ex rel. Wells v. DeMarco*, 88 N.Y.S.3d 518, 530 (N.Y. App. Div. 2018);
25 *Cisneros v. Elder*, No. 18-cv-30549 (Colo. D. Ct. Mar. 19, 2018). These courts have
found their respective state statutes lacking such authority. *Id.* The only published

1 decision to hold otherwise involves a Texas statute with no Arizona counterpart. *City of*
2 *El Cenizo v. Texas*, 890 F.3d 164, 185 (5th Cir. 2018) (finding state statutory authority
3 where state law dictates that local officials “shall . . . comply” with ICE detainer
4 requests); *see Tenorio*, 324 F. Supp. 3d at 1064 n.2 (noting the inapplicability of *City of*
5 *El Cenizo* in Arizona). Indeed, Arizona’s closest cousin to the Texas law, A.R.S. § 11-
6 1051 (known as S.B. 1070), “does not appear to be an affirmative grant of authority” nor
7 “to supply the express [arrest] authorization.” *Tenorio*, 324 F. Supp. 3d at 1064.

8 *c. Defendants’ arrest authority is narrowly limited to those situations*
9 *prescribed by Arizona statute*

10 The Arizona Constitution provides that the authority of the sheriff and his
11 deputies is defined by statute. *See* Ariz. Const. art. XII, § 4 (providing that the “powers”
12 of sheriffs “shall be as prescribed by law”). This provision of the Arizona Constitution,
13 which remains unchanged since the original 1910 Constitutional Convention, shares its
14 origins with parallel provisions that similarly confer powers on other public officials “as
15 prescribed by law.” Ariz. Const. art. V, § 9 (powers of state elected officers); Ariz. Const.
16 art. VI, § 3 (powers of state board of education). In interpreting these constitutional
17 provisions, Arizona courts have repeatedly explained that that phrase – “as prescribed by
18 law” – means “statutory law of the State,” not judicially created common law. *Ariz. State*
19 *Land Dep’t v. McFate*, 87 Ariz. 139, 142 (1960); *see State ex rel. Frohmiller v. Hendrix*,
20 59 Ariz. 184, 188 (1942) (commenting that the Arizona Constitution requires courts to
21 “refer to the statutes in order to ascertain what powers and duties the legislature has
22 conferred”); *Cecil v. Gila Cty.*, 71 Ariz. 320, 322 (1951) (“[The Constitution] does not
23 detail the duties of county officers It left such task to the legislature.”)

1 Although no relevant notes survive from the 1910 Constitutional Convention,¹
2 other evidence strongly indicates that the delegates to the convention intended “as
3 prescribed by law” to mean only that law created “by legislative act.” *Shute v.*
4 *Frohmler*, 53 Ariz. 483, 495 (1939). The delegates to the 1910 Convention are
5 presumed to have intended the then-commonly understood meaning of specific terms,
6 *Kriz v. Buckeye Petroleum Co.*, 145 Ariz. 374, 377 (1985), a rule of construction already
7 in place at the time of the convention, *Stokes v. Territory*, 14 Ariz. 242, 249 (1912). In
8 the territorial period, there already existed a common understanding of the term
9 “prescribed by law.” *Simms v. Simms*, 5 Ariz. 212, 219 (1897) (observing a person’s
10 failure to follow the proper procedures “as prescribed by law,” that is, pursuant to
11 territorial statute); *see also Territory v. Delinquent Tax List of Apache Cty. for 1887*, 3
12 Ariz. 69, 77 (1889) (“We must conclude that the term ‘fixed by law’ must be the regular
13 term of court as fixed by statute.”).

14 In addition to this common understanding, the convention delegates similarly
15 understood that the powers of public officials and public bodies “are defined solely by the
16 legislature” and that “resort can alone be had to our own legislative enactments” to
17 determine the scope of a public official’s authority. *History Co. v. Dougherty*, 3 Ariz.
18 387, 392 (1892); *see also Haupt v. Maricopa Cty.*, 8 Ariz. 102, 105 (1902) (noting that
19 the “powers” of the county boards of supervisors are “as specified in this act”); *Nat’l*
20 *Metal Co. v. Greene Consol. Copper Co.*, 9 Ariz. 192, 195 (1905) (finding that a
21 territorial court “has no power” to hear cases absent a “provision of the statute”).
22 Moreover, Arizona in 1910 had already had in place for at least twenty-seven years a

24 ¹ John D. Leshy, *The Arizona State Constitution: A Reference Guide* (1993), at 8 (“The
25 delegates compiled no official complete record of the convention proceedings. Almost
nothing is available about the deliberations of the committees, where much of the actual
drafting was done”).

1 statutory framework narrowly circumscribing local law enforcement officers’ arrest
2 authority. *Whitlock v. Boyer*, 77 Ariz. 334, 337 (1954) (noting that the session laws of
3 1883 prescribed the duties of a police chief and limited his “power to arrest” to some
4 degree).

5 Following adoption of the Arizona Constitution, state judges similarly understood
6 that the powers of county elected officers “depends upon the terms of the statute.”
7 *Kenney v. Bank of Miami*, 19 Ariz. 338, 342 (1918); *see also State Bd. of Control v.*
8 *Buckstegge*, 18 Ariz. 277, 282 (1916) (concluding that elected county officers “can
9 exercise no powers except those specifically granted by the statute and in no other way
10 than that fixed by the statute”). Just as during the territorial era, the term “prescribed by
11 law” continued during early statehood to mean only that law “prescribed” by the
12 legislature. *Ariz. Corp. Comm’n v. Heralds of Liberty*, 17 Ariz. 462, 469 (1916) (finding
13 that the constitutional provision granting an entity the power to “issue licenses . . . as may
14 be prescribed by law” grants the entity such authority as to license applicants “that the
15 Legislature may prescribe”). Thus, county sheriffs, who are governed by the same
16 constitutional provision as all other elected county officers, derive their powers from the
17 same source – the statutes. *Bd. of Sup’rs of Maricopa Cty. v. Woodall*, 120 Ariz. 391, 394
18 (App. 1978), *rev’d on other grounds*, 120 Ariz. 379 (1978) (noting that, where the board
19 of supervisors possesses only those powers “delegated to it by the legislature,” it “would
20 logically follow” that the same rule apply to the county attorney); *accord State v. Jamali*,
21 2013 WL 2325613, at *2 n.5 (Ariz. Ct. App. May 28, 2013) (observing that Ariz. Const.
22 art. 12, § 4 uses the same phrase to define the powers of sheriffs and county attorneys).

23 Likewise, a sheriff’s arrest authority is defined in the same manner as the arrest
24 authority of all other state peace officers: by statute. *Miles v. Wright*, 22 Ariz. 73, 81
25 (1920) (“[u]nder the statute [a sheriff’s deputy] has authority to make an arrest without a

1 warrant”); *see also Bonebrake v. Hunt*, 11 Ariz. 98, 99 (1907) (noting that the arrest
2 authority of a territorial-era deputy is limited to the same extent as all other “peace
3 officers”). Arizona courts do not infer arrest authority where such authority is not explicit
4 in statute. *Erickson v. City Ct. of Phoenix*, 105 Ariz. 19, 20 (1969) (explaining that arrest
5 was unlawful “in the absence of a statute” authorizing it); *State v. Garcia-Navarro*, 224
6 Ariz. 38, 41 (Ct. App. 2010) (finding an unlawful arrest where “[t]he legislature did not
7 display any intent” to grant such authority).

8 *Merrill v. Phelps* – the only known Arizona case suggesting that sheriffs possess
9 extra-statutory powers – addresses neither a sheriff’s arrest authority nor a sheriff’s
10 management over jails. In *dicta*, the *Merrill* court stated that “the power exercised by the
11 sheriff under the common law still pertains to our sheriff, except in so far as it has been
12 modified by constitutional and statutory provisions.” *Merrill v. Phelps*, 52 Ariz. 526, 530
13 (1938). The dispute in *Merrill* – whether a sheriff or a judge has the authority to appoint
14 court officers – was decided on statutory grounds. *Id.* at 531 (“these provisions have
15 appeared in our statutes since early territorial days”). To the extent that *Merrill* explored
16 common law principles, it was to resolve a statutory conflict underlying the dispute in
17 that case. *Clark v. Campbell*, 219 Ariz. 66, 72, ¶ 22-23 (App. 2008) (noting that *Merrill*
18 “examined the interplay between the [statutory] authority of a superior court judge and a
19 county sheriff”). Even if territorial-era sheriffs possessed common law authority – which
20 they did not – such powers were modified by the Arizona Constitution. *Gorenc v. Futch*,
21 876 F.2d 896 (9th Cir. 1989) (citing *Merrill* for the proposition that “[t]he duties and
22 powers of sheriff officers are defined by statute”).
23
24
25

1 In sum, if Defendants have the authority to prolong the detention of Plaintiff and
2 others similarly situated, it must be found in an Arizona statute.²

3 d. *There exists no Arizona statute authorizing Plaintiff's arrest for an alleged*
4 *civil violation of federal immigration law*

5 For the most part, Arizona statutes authorize warrantless arrests only for criminal
6 violations. A.R.S. § 13-3883(1), (2), (4) (providing that peace officers may arrest without
7 warrant for felonies and misdemeanors).³ As noted above, however, ICE detainers and
8 their accompanying administrative warrants request that local officers make arrests for
9 *civil* immigration violations. In the rare circumstances in which Arizona officers are
10 permitted to effectuate warrantless *civil* arrests, the authority is explicitly granted by
11 narrow statutes. *See, e.g.*, A.R.S. § 36-525(B) (psychiatric commitment); A.R.S. § 8-
12 303(C) (juvenile delinquents and runaways); A.R.S. § 36-2026(A) (emergency
13 intoxication commitment). As *Lunn* observed with regard to Massachusetts law, “none of
14

15
16 ² Nor do Arizona sheriffs possess any “inherent authority to enforce the civil provisions
17 of federal immigration law.” *United States v. Arizona*, 641 F.3d 339, 362 (9th Cir. 2011),
18 *aff'd in relevant part*, 567 U.S. 387 (2012).

19 ³ An administrative arrest warrant as does not qualify as a “warrant” for purposes of
20 Arizona law. *See, e.g.*, A.R.S. § 13-3897 (“When the arrest by virtue of a warrant occurs
21 . . . the officer making the arrest shall without unnecessary delay take the person arrested
22 before the magistrate who issued the warrant[.]”) (emphasis added); A.R.S. § 13-3886
23 (“Any magistrate may, by an endorsement under his hand upon a warrant of arrest,
24 authorize the service of the warrant by telegraph or telephone[.]”) (emphasis added); *see*
25 *also State v. Hyde*, 186 Ariz. 252, 268 (1996) (explaining that the purpose of the warrant
requirement is “to place a neutral magistrate between” officers and individual rights);
State v. Hadd, 127 Ariz. 270, 275 (Ct. App. 1980) (“The key element [of a warrant] is
consideration of the affidavit by a neutral and detached magistrate.”). While a non-
judicial warrant may authorize arrest by federal law enforcement officers, for state-law
purposes, a local officer in Arizona with only a non-judicial warrant would be effecting a
warrantless arrest.

1 these statutes either directly or indirectly authorizes the detention of individuals based
2 solely on a Federal civil immigration detainer.” *Lunn*, 477 Mass. at 532.

3 Similarly, the state statutes governing a sheriff’s responsibilities over jail
4 administration do not supply the needed authorization here. Various Arizona statutes give
5 to sheriffs the primary responsibility over jails: A.R.S. § 31-101 (“[t]he common jails . . .
6 shall be kept by the sheriffs”); A.R.S. § 31-121 (“The sheriff shall receive all persons
7 who are committed to jail”); A.R.S. § 11-441(A)(5) (sheriff shall “[t]ake charge of and
8 keep . . . the prisoners in the county jail”). While a sheriff, as the county jailkeeper,
9 retains the power to determine the “means” of managing the jail, *Trombi v. Donahoe*, 223
10 Ariz. 261, 267 (Ct. App. 2009), a sheriff cannot unilaterally refuse to release an inmate at
11 the time ordered by the state or local court. *State ex rel. Murphy v. Super. Ct. of*
12 *Maricopa Cty.*, 30 Ariz. 332, 334 (1926) (“The [prison] superintendent’s duty was to
13 observe and enforce the court’s mandate, and, when he violated its terms by releasing the
14 prisoner before the minimum sentence was served, his act was contemptuous.”).

15 Moreover, the sheriff’s statutory authority to “receive” those “committed to the
16 jail” requires an independent statute setting out when and how a person is “committed.”
17 A.R.S. § 31-101 (“[t]he jails shall be used for detention of persons committed to them *in*
18 *accordance with the provisions set forth in this chapter.*”) (emphasis added). State law
19 provisions that merely confirm a jailer’s power to hold arrestees do not constitute “an
20 independent source of authority [to] lawfully arrest [individuals] solely on the basis of a
21 detainer.” *C.F.C. v. Miami-Dade Cty.*, 2018 WL 6616030, at *15 (S.D. Fla. Dec. 14,
2018)

22 One such provision – A.R.S. § 31-122 – allows sheriffs to “keep in the county jail
23 any prisoner committed thereto by process or order issued under the authority of the
24 United States.” This “archaic” statute “adds nothing to the County’s arrest authority.”
25 *C.F.C.*, 2018 WL 6616030, at *15 (interpreting an almost identical provision of Florida
law); *Printz v. United States*, 521 U.S. 898, 909 (1997) (noting that there exist similarly-

1 worded statutes in many states, dating to the 1800s). Furthermore, A.R.S. § 31-122
2 requires, as a prerequisite, that “[p]rovisions . . . be made by the United States for the
3 support of such a prisoner” – in other words, a contractual arrangement with the federal
4 government. *Id.* Defendants have received no such provisions and have no such contract.
5 8 CFR § 287.7(e) (“[n]o detainee . . . shall incur any fiscal obligation on the part of the
6 Department [of Homeland Security], until actual assumption of custody by the
7 Department.”); *City & Cty. of San Francisco v. Trump*, 897 F.3d 1225, 1241 n.7 (9th Cir.
8 2018) (“ICE does not reimburse local jurisdictions for the costs of continued detention.”).
9 The one contract that Defendants have related to jail detention is not applicable here. *See*
10 *Tenorio*, 324 F. Supp. 3d at 1063.

11 Arizona law provides clear guidance on how a sheriff must proceed when a
12 detainee who posts bail in one criminal case is subject to a judicial warrant from another
13 Arizona county or another state. A.R.S. § 13-3964; A.R.S. §13-3841 *et seq.*; Ariz. R.
14 Crim. P. 4.1(c)(2). No similar statute or authority permits detention pursuant to non-
15 judicial documents such as the Forms I-247 and I-205 issued by ICE. Beyond these
16 specific authorizations, A.R.S. §13-3972 provides “[a] person charged with a crime or
17 public offense shall not, before conviction, be subject to more restraint than is necessary
18 for his detention to answer the charge.”

19 Neither does A.R.S. § 11-1051 (also known as S.B. 1070) authorize sheriffs to
20 prolong an individual’s jail detention. The plain language makes this clear: neither the
21 word “jail” nor the word “sheriff” appears in the statute. Despite the “legislature’s policy
22 determination in S.B. 1070 that Arizona should cooperate with federal immigration
23 enforcement,” *Tenorio*, 324 F. Supp. 3d at 1067, Defendants derive no arrest authority
24 from its provisions. Indeed, the word “cooperation” appears exactly once in A.R.S. § 11-
25 1051 – in the title heading, which may be relied upon only if there is an ambiguity.
A.R.S. § 1-212 (“[H]eadings to sections . . . do not constitute part of the law.”) There is

1 no ambiguity in A.R.S. § 11-1051, which, unlike the Texas statute described above, *see*
2 *El Cenizo*, 890 F.3d at 185, the Arizona statute does not address ICE detainer requests. A
3 desire for increased cooperation between local and federal officials does not, by itself,
4 indicate that the legislature intended for sheriffs to prolong jail detention. *Lopez-Aguilar*
5 *v. Marion Cty. Sheriff's Dep't*, 296 F. Supp. 3d 959, 973 (S.D. Ind. 2017) (describing an
6 Indiana state law similar to S.B. 1070)

7 If the legislature had intended to authorize a sheriff to prolong an individual's
8 detention in response to an ICE request – as a method of cooperation – “it signally failed
9 and omitted to say so.” *Murphy*, 30 Ariz. at 334 (discussing the governor's lack of
10 statutory authority to override a superior court's sentencing decision); *see also State v.*
11 *Nicholls*, 2016 WL 3903405, at *2 (Ariz. Ct. App. July 14, 2016) (observing that the
12 legislature “would have clearly stated so since it knows how to . . . write statutes”). In
13 fact, the legislature *did* authorize one form of cooperation relating to jail detainees.
14 A.R.S. § 11-1051(C) (requiring Arizona jailers to “immediately” notify immigration
15 officials when certain inmates are “discharge[d] from imprisonment”). It did not require
16 or authorize jailers to prolong an individual's jail detention.

17 An ICE detainer request typically asks for local sheriffs to do two things: “hold the
18 prisoner for the [federal immigration] agency” and “notify the agency when release of the
19 prisoner is imminent.” *McLean v. Crabtree*, 173 F.3d 1176, 1185 n.12 (9th Cir. 1998).
20 This two-pronged aspect of ICE detainer requests had existed for many years before the
21 legislature enacted S.B. 1070. *Cabezas v. Scott*, 717 F. Supp. 696, 697 (D. Ariz. 1989).
22 Thus, the legislature could have authorized both actions by sheriffs, but it did not. The
23 omission is presumed to have been intentional. *Pima Cty. v. Heinfeld*, 134 Ariz. 133, 134
24 (1982) (“[T]he expression of one or more items of a class indicates an intent to exclude
25

1 all items of the same class which are not expressed.”).⁴ In sum, neither S.B. 1070 nor any
2 other Arizona statute provides Defendants the needed state law authorization to prolong
3 Plaintiff’s detention.

4 **Plaintiff will suffer irreparable harm if injunctive relief is not granted.**

5 Where, as here, a plaintiff seeking preliminary injunctive relief has demonstrated
6 probable success on the merits, he need show only the “possibility” of irreparable harm in
7 the absence of relief from the court. *Smith*, 212 Ariz. at 410 ¶ 10. The prolonged
8 detention that Plaintiff and putative class members will experience is unquestionably
9 irreparable harm. *Tenorio*, 324 F. Supp. 3d at 1067 (“[f]orty-eight hours of unauthorized
10 detention would impose a significant hardship” on a jail detainee). And because the harm
11 cannot effectively be remedied after the fact, prolonged detention calls for equitable
12 relief. *Rodriguez v. Robbins*, 715 F.3d 1127, 1145 (9th Cir. 2013); *R.I.L-R v. Johnson*, 80
13 F. Supp. 3d 164, 191 (D.D.C. 2015).

14
15
16 **The balance of hardships tips sharply in Plaintiff’s favor and public policy
17 favors injunctive relief.**

18 Just as an unlawfully prolonged detention almost always results in irreparable
19 harm to the moving party, so too a government actor “cannot reasonably assert that it is
20 harmed in any legally cognizable sense by being enjoined from” unlawful action. *Zepeda*
21 *v. U.S. I.N.S.*, 753 F.2d 719, 727 (9th Cir. 1983). Indeed, ICE detainer requests are just
22

23 ⁴ A 2016 Arizona Attorney General opinion emphasizes that S.B. 1070 requires jailers to
24 *communicate* with federal immigration officials but does not authorize jailers to prolong
25 jail detention. Ariz. Att’y Gen. Op. No. I16-010 (noting that “[o]fficers shall not arrest an
individual simply because the individual lacks proper documentation”); *see Ruiz v. Hull*,
191 Ariz. 441, 449 (1998) (noting that the “reasoned opinion [of attorney general
opinions] should be accorded respectful consideration.”)

1 that: requests. *Lunn*, 477 Mass. at 526 (“The United States . . . concedes that compliance
2 by State authorities with immigration detainees is voluntary, not mandatory.”); *Orellana*
3 *v. Nobles Cty.*, 230 F. Supp. 3d 934 (D. Minn. 2017) (quoting local police officials as
4 saying that “ICE lawyers . . . now have acknowledged to us that these requests are just
5 that, requests and are voluntary”); *Galarza v. Szalczyk*, 745 F.3d 634, 645 (3d Cir. 2014)
6 (same). Thus, Defendants cannot be meaningfully harmed by a preliminary injunction
7 here.

8
9 There is no compelling public policy weighing in favor of Defendants’ policy and
10 practice of delaying detainees’ release. *Lopez-Aguilar*, 296 F. Supp. 3d at 977 (“The state
11 has no interest in ensuring the ‘suspect’s’ appearance at ‘trial,’ because the state may not
12 adjudicate deportability [and] no interest in preventing the noncitizen from continuing his
13 offense, because the state may not deport him”). Thus, the balance of hardships is
14 strongly in Plaintiff’s favor.

15
16 **Special action relief is appropriate because Plaintiff seeks to compel**
17 **Defendants to perform a ministerial duty over which they have no discretion**
18 **and to compel Defendants to refrain from unauthorized acts.**

19 Special action relief is appropriate where, as here, there is no “equally plain,
20 speedy, and adequate remedy by appeal”; where a defendant has “failed to perform a duty
21 required by law as to which he has no discretion”; or where a defendant “is threatening to
22 proceed without . . . legal authority.” Ariz. R. P. Spec. Act. 1(a), 3(a), 3(b).

23 Because Plaintiff’s harm is imminent unlawful detention, his harm cannot be
24 remedied by post-trial appeal, and special action relief is appropriate. Ariz. R. P. Spec.
25 Act. 1(a). By holding Plaintiff for up to 48 additional hours, Defendants will fail to

1 perform a duty required by law – to release Plaintiff pursuant to the order of the Flagstaff
2 Municipal Court. A.R.S. § 13-3967(A); *Maricopa Cty. v. State*, 126 Ariz. 362, 364
3 (1980) (concluding that taking custody of inmates is “a ministerial duty concerning which
4 [the jailer] has no discretion”). As explained above, Defendants are neither required nor
5 permitted to delay Plaintiff’s release from county jail absent clear and express authority
6 under Arizona statutes. No statute grants such power, absent an independent finding of
7 probable cause that Plaintiff committed or is about to commit a crime or violation of
8 Arizona statutes. *State v. Sweeney*, 224 Ariz. 107, 112 (Ct. App. 2010). Plaintiff is not so
9 accused. Therefore, Defendants’ threatened unlawful action is appropriate for special
10 action relief.
11
12

13 **CONCLUSION**

14 Plaintiff’s original (and lawful) detention will end once he satisfies all conditions
15 of release set by the Flagstaff Municipal Court on January 2, 2019. Plaintiff’s threatened
16 detention beyond that time is unlawful. As such, this Court should order Plaintiff released
17 from the Coconino County Detention Facility, upon his completing all local conditions.
18

19 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 28 January 2019.

20
21 s/William B. Peard
22 William B. Peard
23 Attorney for Plaintiff
24
25