

URGENT ACTION

CUBAN ASYLUM SEEKER WITH DIABETES RELEASED

On 26 November 2025, Denis Cabrera Rodríguez, a Cuban man seeking asylum, was detained by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Denis lives with Type 1 Diabetes and is dependent on an insulin pump. ICE had refused to allow him to have his insulin pump in detention, depriving him of proper medical care. He was released from detention on 22 March and is now at home with his family. Authorities have directed him to wear an ankle bracelet monitor as he awaits the adjudication of his asylum claim.

NO FURTHER ACTION IS REQUESTED. MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO SENT APPEALS.

Denis Cabrera Rodríguez, age 33, is a Cuban artist and human rights activist linked to artistic movements such as the San Isidro and 27N movements. In Cuba, he was censored, arbitrarily detained, tortured, and forcibly disappeared for his work and activism. He entered the United States in 2022 and claimed asylum. His asylum application remains pending. On 26 November 2025, he was detained by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Denis was diagnosed with diabetes at ten years old. According to his family, prior to his detention, he relied on an insulin pump to manage his blood sugar and administer insulin when needed. The Krome North Service Processing Center (Krome) is an ICE detention facility located in Miami-Dade County in the city of Miami on the edge of the Everglades where Denis was detained. In Krome, Denis did not receive adequate glucose monitoring, insulin, or food which dramatically impacted his health. ICE did not permit him to have his insulin pump while in detention, and they denied his requests to be transferred to a hospital.

The day-to-day operations of Krome are currently handled by Akima Global Services, LLC, which has managed the facility for over a decade. Krome is one of the oldest and largest ICE detention facilities in the United States. For decades, organizations, lawyers and direct service providers have denounced the detention conditions at Krome, including severe overcrowding, chronic limitations in access to adequate quality medical care tied to multiple deaths in custody, degrading and abusive treatment, and procedural failures that undermine individuals' access to counsel and due process. In 2025, the facility has faced heightened scrutiny after reports of severe overcrowding and several deaths in custody. Independent reporting and human rights investigations have documented systemic failures in intake procedures, medical care, segregation and housing practices, and conditions that may amount to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or torture under international law. These failures occurred against a backdrop of rapidly expanded detention populations and reduced independent oversight.

Amnesty International's [research](#) found that individuals detained at Krome face serious barriers to accessing adequate medical care, including lack of treatment and delays in assessing and treating of health conditions. In the 2025 fiscal year at least four individuals [died](#) while detained at Krome – Ramesh Amechand, Genry Ruiz Guillen, Maksym Chernyak and Isidro Pérez – raising serious concerns about access to quality healthcare at the facility.

Under the Trump administration, the use of immigration detention in the United States has substantially increased. In February 2026, there were over 68,000 individuals in ICE detention, which is largely considered an undercount because it does not include thousands of people in short-term ICE processing facilities, ICE field offices, federal pre-trial detention, or other facilities. At least 14 individuals have died in ICE custody in 2026. At the same time that the Trump administration expands ICE's detention capacity, detention conditions are dramatically deteriorating. ICE has adopted a policy which makes individuals who entered the US irregularly ineligible for bond meaning that they are forced to remain in detention for the duration of their removal proceedings. This includes individuals with pending asylum claims who are now being detained until their claims are decided. Under international law, asylum seekers should not be penalized for their manner of entry into a country. They should also not be removed from a country until their claim for refugee protection has been properly assessed through a fair refugee status determination process.

NAME: Denis Cabrera Rodríguez (he/him)

THIS IS THE FIRST AND FINAL OUTPUT FOR UA 104/25

LINK TO PREVIOUS UA: <https://www.amnesty.org/es/documents/amr51/0569/2025/en/>

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