

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF KANSAS

TRAVEIL LYN LEWIS,

Petitioner,

v.

CASE NO. 21-3173-SAC

DEREK WOODS,

Respondent.

NOTICE AND ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

This matter is before the Court on Petitioner's petition for writ of habeas corpus. (Doc. 1.) Petitioner is in pretrial custody at Riley County Jail and he asserts that he is being unlawfully detained, as he is innocent of the rape charge brought against him. He asks the Court to dismiss the rape charge and sentence him to time served for a pending criminal threat charge. *Id.* at 7.

This matter is governed by Habeas Corpus Rule 4 and 28 U.S.C. § 2241. Rule 4 requires the Court to undertake a preliminary review of the petition and "[i]f it plainly appears from the petition and any attached exhibits that the petitioner is not entitled to relief . . . the judge must dismiss the petition." Habeas Corpus Rule 4. The United States district courts are authorized to grant a writ of habeas corpus to a prisoner "in custody in violation of the Constitution or laws and treaties of the United States." 28 U.S.C. § 2241(c)(3).

Although § 2241 may be an appropriate avenue to challenge pretrial detention, see *Yellowbear v. Wyoming Atty. Gen.*, 525 F.3d

921, 924 (10th Cir. 2008), principles of comity dictate that absent unusual circumstances, a federal court is not to intervene in ongoing state criminal proceedings unless "irreparable injury" is "both great and immediate." *Younger v. Harris*, 401 U.S. 37, 46 (1971).

Under *Younger*, federal courts must abstain from exercising jurisdiction when the following conditions are met: "(1) there is an ongoing state criminal, civil, or administrative proceeding; (2) the state court provides an adequate forum to hear the claims raised in the federal complaint, and (3) the state proceedings involve important state interests, matters which traditionally look to state law for their resolution or implicate separately articulated state policies." *Winn v. Cook*, 945 F.3d 1253, 1258 (10th Cir. 2019). "Younger abstention is 'non-discretionary . . . absent extraordinary circumstances,' if the three conditions are indeed satisfied." *Brown ex rel. Brown v. Day*, 555 F.3d 882, 888 (10th Cir. 2009) (quoting *Amanatullah v. Co. Bd. of Med. Examiners*, 187 F.3d 1160, 1163 (10th Cir. 1999)).

Even liberally construing the petition in this case, as is appropriate since Petitioner is proceeding pro se, it appears that all three conditions are met in this case. Petitioner is therefore directed to show cause, in writing, on or before September 6, 2021, why this matter should not be summarily dismissed without prejudice. The failure to file a timely response will result in this matter being dismissed without further prior notice to Petitioner.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Petitioner is granted to and including September 6, 2021, to show cause why the petition should not be dismissed without prejudice pursuant to the *Younger* doctrine.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: This 3rd day of August, 2021, at Topeka, Kansas.

S/ Sam A. Crow

SAM A. CROW

U.S. Senior District Judge