

The State of Human Rights at the U.S.- Mexico Border

June 2019



BORDERNETWORK
For **HUMANRIGHTS**

www.bnhr.org

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“Behind Every Abuse is A Community”

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About the Campaign

The Border Network for Human Rights is a 20-year-old community organization that works to educate, organize, and mobilize marginalized communities in the West Texas/Southern New Mexico Borderlands. Our membership of more than 7000 individuals lay out our priorities, and taking these cues from membership, our staff helps implement an agenda that improves quality of life and advances the dignity and rights of all persons. While rooted in the Borderland we work at all scales: state, federal, and local, to bring about positive community change.

Since the early 2000s we have documented abuses committed by law enforcement agencies working in our area through an annual Abuse Documentation Campaign (ADC). This allows us to track the wellbeing of area communities and identify problematic patterns of behavior that cause material and psychological harm to residents. Volunteer documenters are trained by BNHR on a process of answering five basic questions: Who did What to Whom, When, and Where? Documentations are conducted through live, in-person interviews that typically run 30 minutes or longer by canvassers who go door-to-door in communities and place tables in high traffic areas like churches, shopping centers, and international bridges. A copy of the documentation intake form is included as Appendix A to this report.

BNHR reviews these documented cases to identify the specific abuses committed, work with affected persons and families to identify how they wish to move forward and consult with local attorneys on potential legal remedies. Moreover, we use this documentation process to drive our 'El Paso Model' of dialogue and pressure with law enforcement institutions bringing them to the table with communities to insist on material change. In this approach neither communities nor law enforcement are the problem, but we are both part of the solution. It is our hope that incidents of abuse decline over time.

Our first abuse documentation report in 2001 recorded dozens of cases of abuse, with most of those cases perpetrated by the U.S. Border Patrol. Since then, by applying this approach of dialogue, pressure and action to highlight trends of abuses documented by our annual campaigns, we were being able to greatly reduce for several years the number and severity of instances of abuse, while implementing policies such as revised Border Patrol use-of-force guidelines that deemphasize use of lethal force in favor of less-lethal force, de-escalation, and tactical withdrawal. The results of these efforts produced, for many years, a reduction of abuses, improved quality of life, greater respect for dignity and rights, and safer communities.

But all of this has changed. This current preliminary report shows a major change in the incidence of abuse in the region, connected to harsh and inhumane border enforcement strategies implemented by Trump's Administration.

The 2019 Abuse Documentation Campaign

Canvassing for BNHR's 2019 Abuse Documentation Campaign started on May with more than 30 trained documenters heading out into the community. Over the months of May and June, these volunteers canvassed more than 24 locations across El Paso, Sunland Park, Agua Dulce, Horizon, Montana Vista, Vinton, San Elizario, and other communities throughout the Borderland. We also canvassed crossers at the Zaragoza and Santa Fe Ports-of-Entry. On top of canvassing specific locations in El Paso, abuse documenter also collected alleged abuses at Pan de Vida Immigrant Shelter in Juarez, Iglesia de Dios El Elyon here in El Paso and several more. A full list of locations canvassed as part of the 2019 ADC is included as Appendix B to this report. In addition to these community canvasses, BNHR staff at our El Paso office documented abuses reported by members of the public who would call or drop in.

Community canvasses ran through the month May and June. Several abuses reported and documented by staff following the conclusion of the community canvass are also included in this report. While we aim to focus on abuses committed in the past year, we do our best to document and address all reported abuses. This report includes abuses as recent as May of this year.

After cases are documented BNHR staff screen the reports to ensure that they provide clear statements addressing our five key questions: Who did What to Whom, When, and Where. Cases that are missing key information, or that contain misinformation, are excluded and the remaining reports are translated and analyzed for the types of abuses committed. These reports are compared to each other to look for patterns of problematic behavior, targeting of specific populations, or concentrations in specific geographic locations.

In total there were 58 total cases documented in the course of the 2019 Abuse Documentation Campaign. Of these, 50 reports suggested specifically identifiable abusive or problematic behavior by border, immigration, or criminal law enforcement agencies. These 50 cases are discussed in the following sections.

Results and Findings of the 2019 Abuse Documentation Campaign

In the course of this campaign, BNHR received 50 reports of abuses committed by area law enforcement agencies. Eight others are also included in this report but are not related to law-enforcement agencies. The following findings are based on the 25 reported incidents after careful review and follow-up conversations with documenters and reporters. The cases included in this report have been subjected to multiple reviews of Border Network for Human Rights staff.

Overview

Border Network for Human Rights has been proudly conducting its annual Abuse Documentation Campaigns for twenty years. We have two decades of going out into the community to record instances when people feel their rights have been violated, their existence degraded, by the government agencies that are intended to uphold our safety, our communities, and our values. For most of that time we have been successful in using this documentation process to improve the quality of life for the community--as a tool for an agency like Border Patrol to exercise some self-reflection and improve the way they work. We have been able to work to ensure that agents respect the need for a warrant when entering people's property and homes, to get local law enforcement in our region out of the job of policing immigration status, and change approaches to CBP use-of-force that make border communities safer for everyone.

In 2016, with the election of the Trump Administration, everything changed. Previously decreasing patterns of abuse started to shoot upward. Agencies that had changed their ways started to aggressively intrude on people's dignity and rights. And what we have seen in this year's report is unprecedented. The number of abuses and the degree of seriousness of those abuses is something we have not seen in our twenty years working with borderland communities. The state of human rights in the U.S.-Mexico borderlands is grave, and is only getting worse.

People are dying because of what is happening. The lack of access to medical care in CBP detention is killing people. The lack of access to adequate, non-rotten, food and water in CBP detention is killing people. The implementation of the Migrant Protection Protocols is killing people. Turnbacks and metering of asylum seekers at ports-of-entry is killing people. And, as this report documents, many more, women, children, families, people coming seeking the best of America, Americans living and working at the border, are being left traumatized and broken by the policies and practices our government is putting them through.

To us this is a clear reflection of the Trump Administration's ongoing assault on our nation's immigration laws, institutions, and systems, on migrants, and on border residents--an assault ongoing since Trump's early statements in 2015. It is an assault on our values: life, humanity, due process, family. Indeed, in the midst of all that the Administration has pushed

on migrants and border communities, these values--and the communities that demonstrate and live them day in and day out--are the only thing keeping the current situation at the U.S.-Mexico border from becoming catastrophic.

It is clear that our nation needs to reflect on what is happening, and we hope that this report, and the abuses documented within can help trigger that reflection. And we hope even more that after that reflection, we can come together as Americans and work to build institutions and a society that reflect our values, aspirations, and better angels, that we can turn away from what the Trump Administration is turning us into. The border does not need to be a place of horrors; it can and should be the New Ellis Island of our age--a beacon of opportunity to the world.

Major Findings

There are a number of concerning results from the 2019 Abuse Documentation Campaign (ADC). This is a summary of some of the most salient findings--more detailed reports of incidents of abuse can be found in later sections of this document.

There were three major, distinct patterns of abuse that were found by the 2019 ADC:

1. **Abuses of people in CBP custody/detention.** The most prevalent pattern of abuse in the 2019 ADC, this included a wide variety of different problems and degradations that migrants suffered while being held by CBP (involving both Border Patrol and OFO personnel). The most egregious documented abuses included:
 - a. Lack of adequate access to food and water in detention, including detainees being denied drinking water and being provided food that was moldy or spoiled;
 - b. Severe overcrowding;
 - c. Lack of access to adequate medical care--multiple reports involved migrants being told they could not see a doctor unless they fainted or were dying;
 - d. Separation of family units by CBP;
 - e. Lack of access to bathing or hygiene--multiple women reported that they were denied access to feminine hygiene products such as tampons while in CBP custody; and
 - f. Verbal and physical abuses by CBP personnel.
2. **Extremely aggressive enforcement activities in Sunland Park, New Mexico.** The second most prevalent pattern of abuse, this is a continuation of abuses community members began to report in 2017 and 2018. Specific documented abuses included:
 - a. Reports of repeated collaboration between Border Patrol personnel and paramilitary vigilante militias illegally detaining/kidnapping migrants in the desert;

- b. Entry by Border Patrol agents onto private property without a warrant in violation of the 4th Amendment; and
 - c. Reckless driving by Border Patrol agents that frightened residents and endangered the Sunland Park community.
3. **Continued abuse of border crossers at area ports-of-entry by CBP-OFO personnel.** The least prevalent pattern of abuse, issues raised here often have also been raised in past reports and have failed to be thoroughly addressed by the agency. Specific documented abuses included:
- a. Needlessly aggressive use and overuse of secondary inspection against children by OFO officers;
 - b. OFO officers going on lengthy political tirades in front of border crossers while on the job in uniform; and
 - c. Verbal abuse and degradation of border crossers by OFO officers.

Another notable, and deeply concerning, finding was that **Border Patrol agents were integrally involved in the overwhelming majority of instances of abuse reported in the 2019 ADC.** Whether it was problems faced by migrant held in CBP custody, or needlessly aggressive and endangering enforcement activity in Sunland Park, Border Patrol personnel--known to most migrants by their green uniforms--were typically involved. This is a dramatic change from earlier documentation efforts--such as the 2013 ADC when BNHR was unable to produce a single substantiated case of abuse committed by the El Paso Border Patrol Sector.

This appears to be a reflection of the culture of the agency--especially in the El Paso Sector--shifting to reflect the more aggressive and inhumane attitudes of Trump Administration officials in D.C. rather than the community engagement they had built over prior presidencies. Sadly, this shift in organizational culture makes rooting out such abuses all the more challenging, as the process of community engagement that they have used in the past, has broadly been broken and abandoned by their actions. Instead, we have to look to Congress to enact institutional reforms for Border Patrol, and CBP more broadly, as part of our nation's laws.

Finally, the 2019 ADC recorded a large number of reported abuses committed against children and families. While this is in part a reflection of the changing demographics of international migration in the Paso del Norte region, these reports are still deeply concerning and illustrate the inhumanity with which the Trump Administration and Federal agencies are all too often treating people at the Southern border. Many of the documented instances of abuse--such as lack of medical care, lack of access to food and water, physical and verbal abuses, and family separation, are likely to create traumas that will last with these children throughout the rest of their lives.

It is unacceptable for our government, its agencies, and its personnel to be treating children and families with such utter disregard. Child welfare experts strongly recommend that children never be placed in detention or detention-like conditions, yet that is exactly what is happening. And the Trump Administration wants to go further, by bringing back wholesale

family separation and undermining key legal protections like the *Flores* settlement. We can and must do better as a country to welcome these children and families, treat them with care and respect, and uplift the opportunity and values of America.

Executive Summary of Policy Recommendations

Recommendations Responding to Problems with Detention

1. Recommendations to Promote Oversight and Accountability
 - . Congress should pass H.R. 2203--the Homeland Security Improvement Act
 - a. Congress should create an Ombudsman for Immigration Detention to oversee complaints regarding and inspections of CBP, ICE, and ORR administered or contracted facilities.
 - b. CBP must release data to the public about all sites where they are holding migrants in processing/holding/detention.
2. Recommendations to Improve Medical Care
 - a. CBP, ICE, ORR, and their contractors, must improve provision of medical services--doctors should be plentiful and accessible on site at any time.
 - b. Federal agencies should take additional precautions to ensure the adequate medical treatment of vulnerable populations such as children, pregnant women, indigenous language speakers, and transgender persons.
3. Recommendations to Improve Treatment of Vulnerable Populations
 - a. Women should always have access to feminine hygiene products.
 - b. Nuclear families should never be separated without court or expert approval.
 - c. Vulnerable populations should be released from any form of detention as quickly as possible.
4. Recommendations to Improve Treatment of All Persons
 - a. ACCESS TO FOOD AND WATER MUST BE IMPROVED. CBP, ICE, and ORR must provide water, upon request, at all times. CBP, ICE, and ORR provided provide adequate nutrition, and should never be served frozen, moldy, spoiled, expired, insect/worm/pest ridden, or otherwise rotten.
 - b. OVERCROWDING OF MIGRANTS IN FACILITIES MUST END. CBP, ICE, and ORR must, in consultation with fire marshals and/or building inspectors set, and abide by, firm caps on the number of people who can safely be held in a facility at any given time.
5. Recommendations of Alternatives to Detention
 - a. The Border Network for Human Rights strongly urges CBP and the U.S. Congress to adopt creation of 'welcoming centers' to replace existing holding/processing/detention facilities.

Recommendations Responding to Problems with Remain in Mexico/MPP

- a) The U.S. Congress should pass H.R. 2662, the 'Asylum Seeker Protection Act' to bar expenditure of U.S. Federal funds for continued implementation of MPP.
- b) CBP should stop metering or turning back asylum-seekers at ports-of-entry.

- c) The U.S. government should allow all persons entered into MPP to return to the United States to pursue their legal claims.

Recommendations Responding to Problems with Border Patrol Conduct in Sunland Park

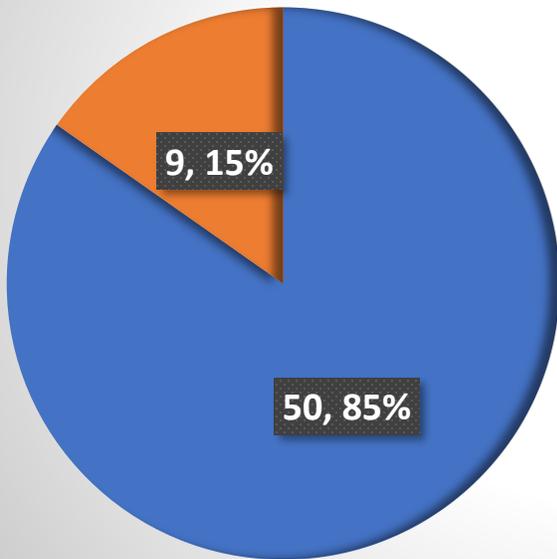
- a) Border Patrol and OFO must make official statements denouncing the presence of private armed militias, or other vigilante groups, at the U.S.-Mexico border and call for all such groups, and all individuals with any affiliation with such groups, to cease their activities and withdraw from border communities.
- b) The El Paso Border Patrol Sector should publicly review and clarify its procedures on vehicular pursuits through populated areas. Border Patrol policy should ensure that the conduct of its agents while driving maximizes the safety of the communities and situations where they are operating.
- c) Border Patrol personnel must follow the 4th Amendment—search and seizure of a person's home, including surrounding property such as yards, patios, and roofs, requires either a judicial warrant or expressed permission of the resident. BP should lay out specific procedures for obtaining a warrant or resident permission before conducting a search.

Recommendations Responding to Problems with CBP-OFO Conduct at Ports-of-Entry

- a) OFO should set limits, in written policy, restricting the application of detaining persons in secondary inspection. This should limit the time people can be held in secondary inspection, allow contact with an attorney, and particularly restrict the use of secondary inspection on vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, pregnant women, and persons with chronic illness.
- b) The CBP Office of Professional Responsibility should reinforce for all OFO personnel that they are not to engage in any political activity, or promote any political messaging, while they are in uniform or otherwise engaged in the conduct of their duties.
- c) OFO should deploy electronic feedback buttons for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic at ports-of-entry. OFO should partner with bridge owners (such as the City or County of El Paso) to assist with implementing such a program.

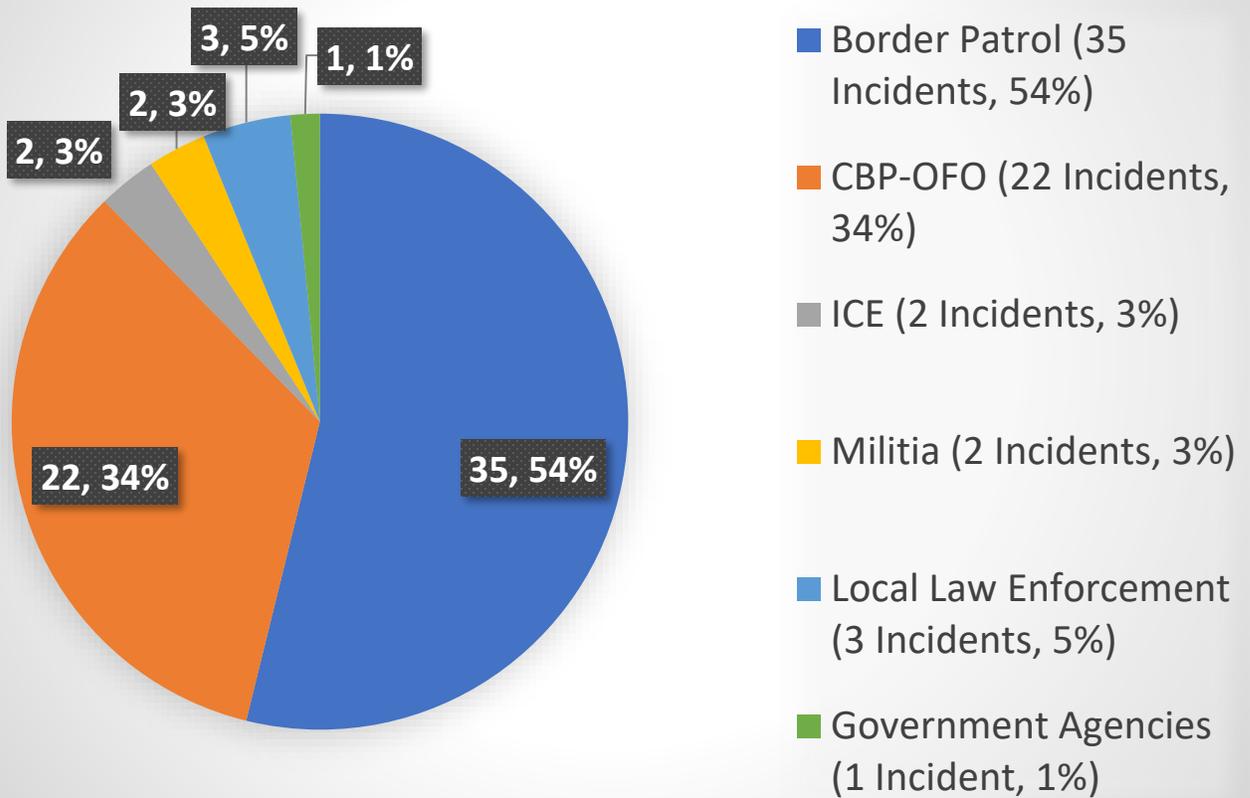
Statistical Information (Graphics and Charts)

Total Number of Documented Cases (N=59)

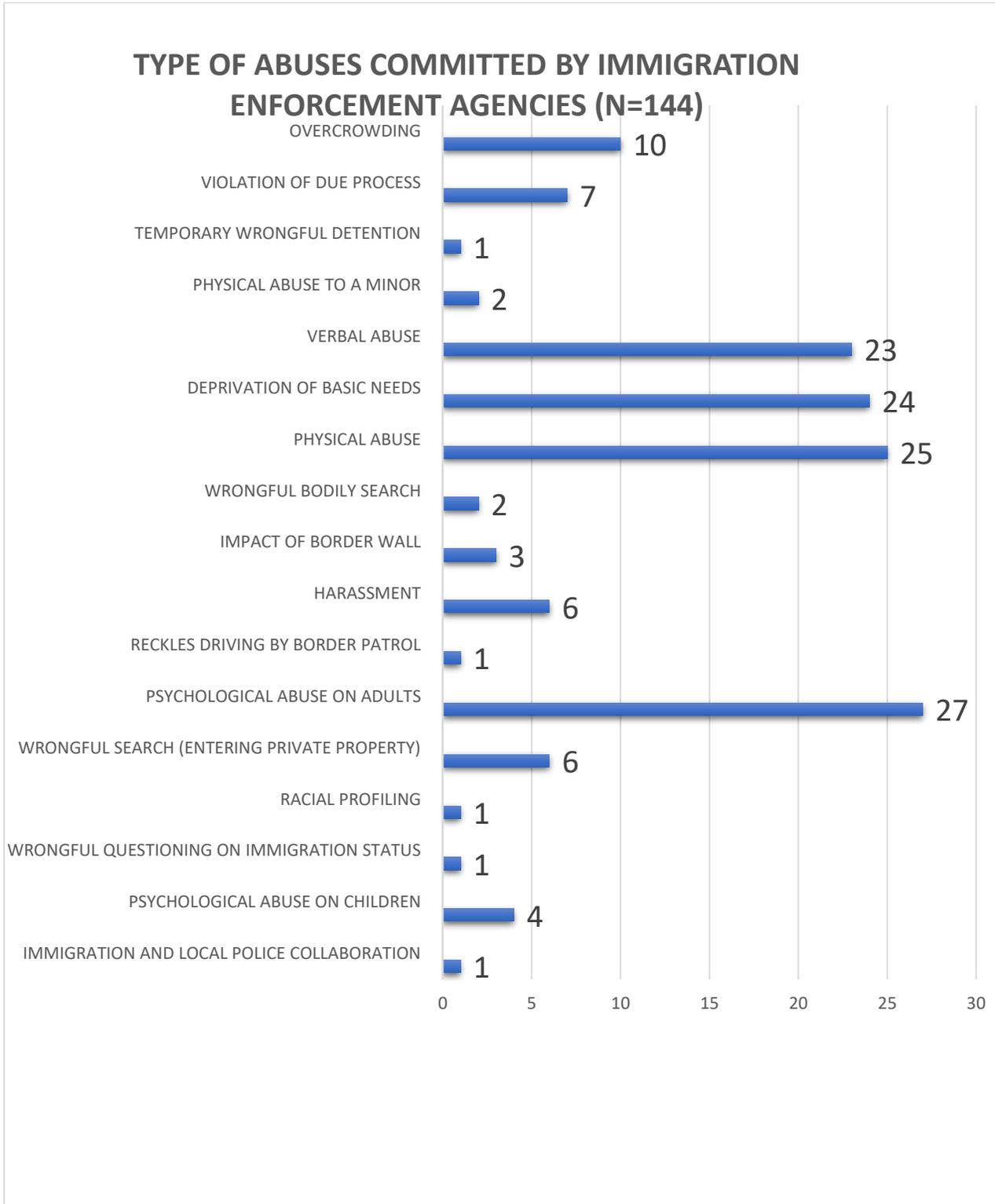


■ Abuse by Immigration Enforcement Agencies

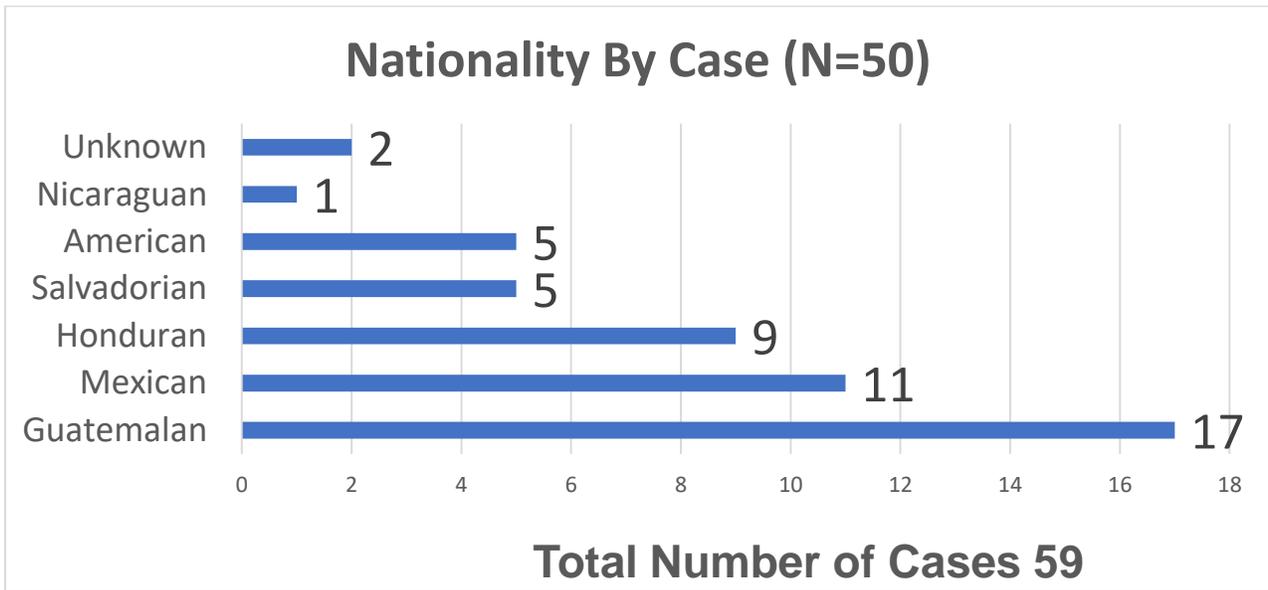
Distribution of Abuse Incidents by Agency (N=65)



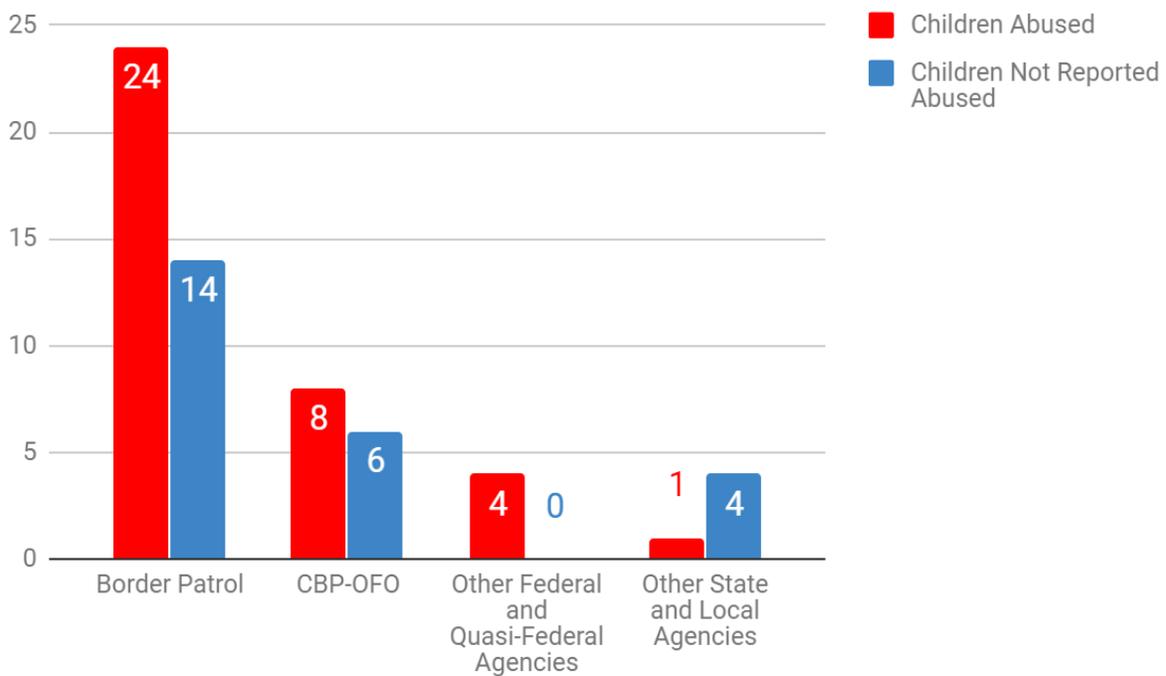
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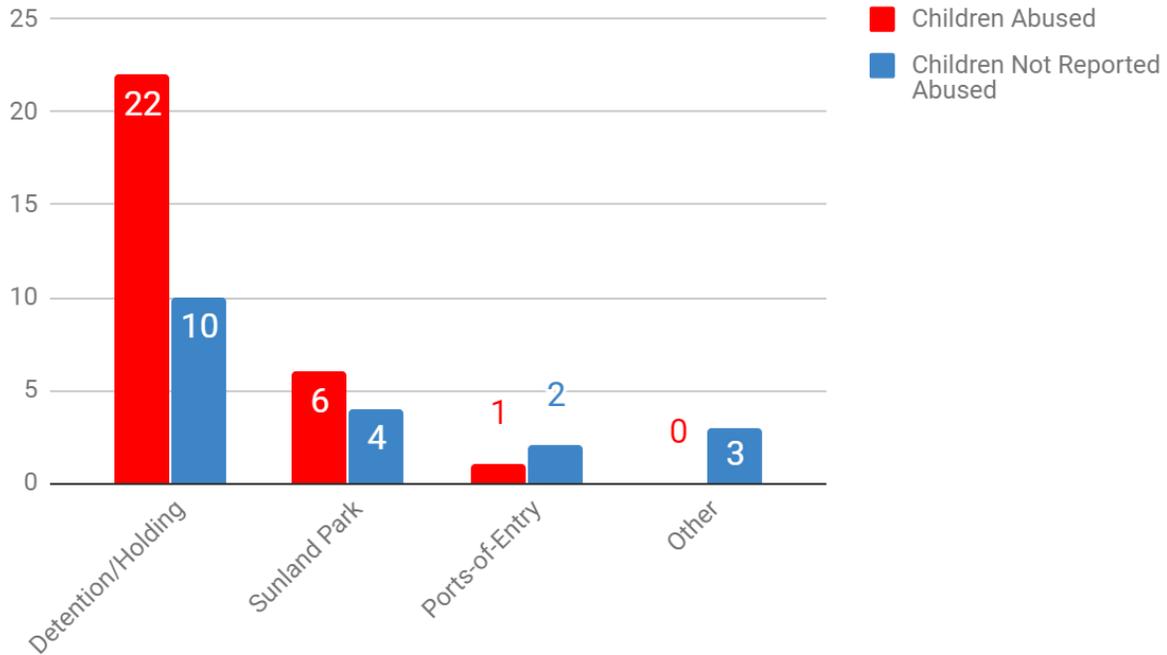
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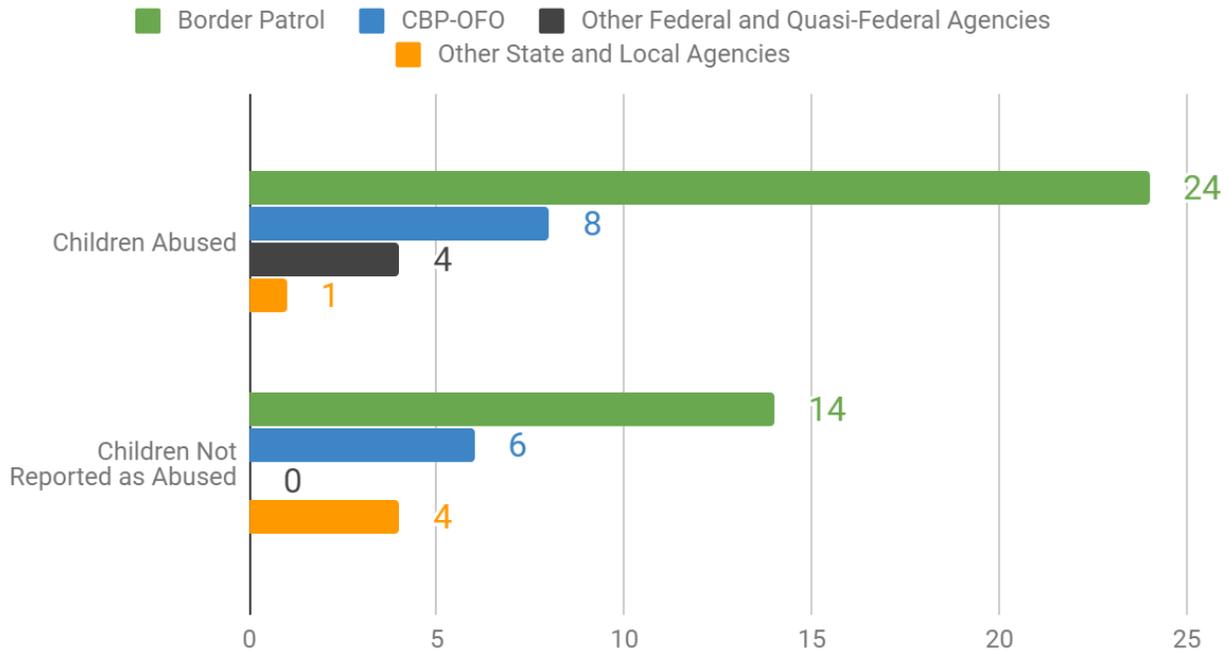
Did Reported Abuses Involve Impacts on Children?—By Agency



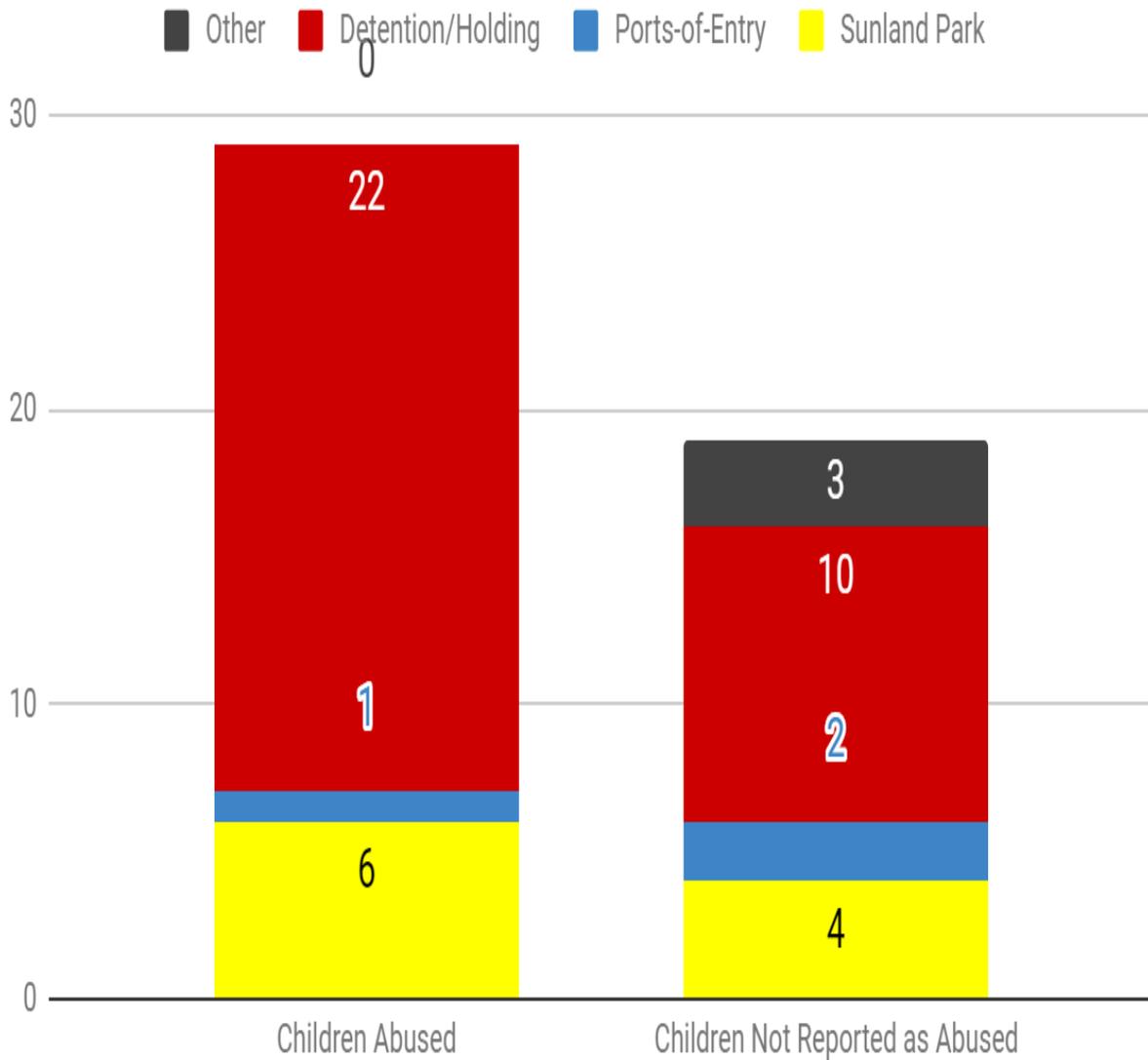
Did Reported Abuses Involve Impacts on Children?—By Pattern of Problem



Reported Abuses Impacting Children—By Agency



Reported Abuses Impacting Children—By Pattern of Problem



Testimonials of Abuse by Perpetrating Agencies BORDER PATROL/OFO/ICE

CASE # 1

Border Patrol - OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: B. J.

Date and Time of Incident: May 12, 2019

Location of Incident: Rio Grande + CBP Holding/Detention Facility

Number of People Abused: Two—One Adult Woman and One Child

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Physical abuse

Deprivation (denial of basic needs)

Use of ICE boxes while in detention

Denial of access to medication and health care

My name is B. J. and I come from Guatemala, I came with one of my daughters, I have two, but one stayed there because I did not have money to bring her too. It all started because my brother-in-law, who is my sister's husband, used to beat her a lot, and I defended my sister and on one occasion I accompanied her to file a report with the police against him, my brother-in-law advised his lover to beat me, when she fought with me she used to bit me. Over time my husband joined the sister of my brother-in law's lover, I also decided to leave because my husband used to beat me in front of my daughters. Out of fear I came here, because of everything that happened with my sister and the abuses with my husband.

I am very concerned that my mother has been left in charge of my youngest daughter because my mother had a stroke and she is thrown in bed... Before arriving at the border, we went through many houses and the people who took care of us used to drink a lot and we were afraid to be with them. The night we turned ourselves to CBP they took out our toothbrushes, toothpaste and shoelaces and threw them to the trash, they asked us to lay face down on the floor because they told us that we were illegal here, they took off our scarves and we were very cold because we had just crossed the river and our clothes were still wet, they took us to a detention center and they took everything we had away, then they took us to another place and they left us one night outside in the cold, they did not give us blankets, my daughter was shaking from the cold. When we were with the CBP they put us in a very cold cell and they only allowed us to wear a very thin sweater, my daughter had a lot of cough but there was nothing I could do about it because they threw the medicine that I was giving her for that. They treated us very badly, they only fed us twice and the children only had juices. They put me in a shackle.

CASE # 2

BP

Name of Alleged Victim: J. R.

Date and Time of Incident: May 20th, 2019

Location of Incident: Santa Teresa, NM / CBP Holding Facility

Number of People Abused: Two—One Adult Woman and One Child

Children Abused:

Abuses: Psychological abuse on an adult

Psychological abuse on a child

Denial health care

I, J. arrived at the Juarez border on Monday, May 20 in the afternoon at the Santa Teresa NM area. I was taken to an office and a female officer checked Gaby's head; Gaby is my two-year-old daughter. The female officer, yelling at me, told me to give her a bath, she told me, 'your daughter has lice' and I told her, 'no she doesn't, check her well' and she got upset and grabbed my arm and told me 'she does not have lice but she has dandruff' and forced me to bathe her with a shampoo that caused her so much irritation that she started crying and said 'mommy, I can't see, my eyes hurt.' I asked them to take me to the nurse and after three hours they put a few drops in her eyes and that calmed the pain in her eyes but while I was there with the nurse, I realized that many children were going through the same thing with their eyes. I am worried that they have permanently damaged my daughter's eyes. Thank God I was only one day in detention.

CASE # 3

BP - OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: J. C.

Date and Time of Incident: May 4, 2019

Location of Incident: El Paso Bridge

Number of People Abused: Three—One Adult Man and Two Children

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Psychological abuse

Deprivation of basic needs (water)

Physical abuse

My name is J. C. I come from Guatemala; when we entered the detention center they took our belt, and shoelaces and threw them in the trash, I think that is not correct because we are not criminals, we come to work, we are fleeing from our country's threats because we do not want to endure more violations there, and we come here and it is not possible that they also mistreat us here. They put us in a cold cell, day and night we are under the air, it is an inadequate cell, they want us to do our needs in front of the children, that is immoral, it is true that we are in a foreign country, but we are not bad people. I don't understand how come they expect me to pull my pants down in front of my son or daughter to go to the bathroom. If we want to drink water it has to be from the faucet, from a sink that is just above the toilet. The children are only given a small juice, when we ask for a bottle of water it is denied. The air does us a lot of damage. In Guatemala they operated on my nose, so the cold air caused damage to my respiratory tract. It is not fair

what the authorities are doing, the food was very bad, I have never been picky, I am used to eat everything and anything, but cooked not raw. We were given raw soup without water, raw oatmeal, but what bothered me the most was the bad treatment they were giving my daughter... she will turn 10 on Sunday.

CASE # 4

BP or OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: J. L.

Date and Time of Incident: May 9, 2019

Location of Incident: Santa Fe Port of Entry

Number of People Abused: Two—One Adult Man and One Child

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Torture

Psychological abuse

Deprivation of basic needs (sleep, medicine, food)

I come from Honduras, I left on April 22nd, I brought my daughter with me, because in Honduras they killed my brother, they had already killed my dad, there is no safety, two years later they killed my cousin just because. My daughter was studying and already those of the organized crime had told us that they would hurt our family, we were afraid because only myself and a brother who was handicapped were in charge of taking care of the family. My brother lost one foot when one time, in the attempt to come here, fell from the train and lost one foot. The people from the organized crime threatened him because they knew he couldn't defend himself because of his condition. We have suffered a lot to get here, on the way when we came on the bus in Mexico, I noticed a person who brought his wife and two daughters with him, his 13-year-old daughter was sleeping at the front of the bus, the person who was the driver's assistant was touching the girl, he was practically on top of her, we were all lying on the floor and on the chairs, we did not fit in well, I told the mother of this child what was happening with her daughter and she exchanged places with her, I asked all others to be awake, it is a sacrifice because we weren't able to sleep but one has to be alert for their children. With immigration I was 7 days in one place, they would wake us, up to 5 times a night to count us, they would told us to line up, we barely managed to sleep for 15 minutes and again they came to wake us up, from there they sent us to another place and we were more than 30 in a single cell, all scrambled, there were very sick children in there, I realized that there were people who had more than two weeks without being processed, most were sick with flu and fever, the doctor only checked vital signs. My daughter brought medicine that I had bought her on the road because on one occasion she fainted in Mexico and when we arrived here, they threw the medicine in the trash. Our food was a cold sandwich and sometimes we would go days without water and with a biscuit nothing more.

CASE # 5

Border Patrol

Name of Alleged Victim: M. T. V. V.

Date and Time of Incident: Monday May 13, 2019

Location of Incident: N / A

Number of People Abused: Three—One Adult Woman, One Adult Man, and One Child

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Verbal abuse, Physical Abuse

Psychological abuse

Deprivation of basic needs (water, food, medicine)

When we crossed, they asked us for information, they put us in a very cold room, that was killing me, I got sick and it damaged me a lot, there is no day or night in that place. Some days later we were taken to another detention center, there they treated us very badly, they told us that we were illegals and they were always yelling at us, they put us in a cell, and we slept on the floor, there we stayed one night and those in green uniforms took my son and my husband to another place and they put me in a cell with women. I cried because I did not know where they were going to send my son, we were forbidden to open the door of the cell, I knocked the door and when they came they said ' what's the matter, why are you crying' I told them that I had never been separated from my son, they told me that he was already big enough, in the end they took me to see him, another officer came to do the paperwork and that officer treated us well.

My son Jaime says that on one occasion he asked an official for water and he replied, 'I do not speak Spanish'. My son got sick from the stomach and felt like vomiting, we asked God to send us another official and that was how another officer came and helped us. The official who did not want to help us was the one who distributed the food, they gave us raw oatmeal, maruchan soup without water, a juice and a cookie and that was it. After all this they took us with some firefighters who checked my vital signs and told me that I had cardiac problems, they did not give me anything.

CASE # 6

Border Patrol - OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: M.

Date and Time of Incident: Saturday May 11, at 4:00 pm

Location of Incident: PDN International Port of Entry

Number of People Abused: One Adult Man + Multiple Children

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Physical abuse, Psychological abuse

My name is M. I come from Guatemala, I left 15 days ago, I crossed the bridge at Juarez, I made a very long line, when they processed me they took us to a place to identify us and there they removed all of our personal belongings, clothes, belts, telephones – they deactivated our media, then we waited for various hours and it was there that our punishment began, they then moved us at midnight and they took us to a site where

again they identified us with our documents to finally integrate us with this massive migrant group who were already in the tents.

We were around 600 people, there was no room for us - not even sitting down, there I began to feel extremely emotionally ill, the children would cry and nobody helped them, on the contrary more and more came and they would send them to the tents where there was no space anymore, they would tell us to get up so that we would all fit, there was an intense heat and they didn't want us to leave the tents, one would breath the stench of shoes, wet clothes, soiled diapers. There we lived the harshest moment, whenever we wanted to fall asleep they would wake us up to count us, they made us stand up and they'd shout at us that more people were coming and that it was our fault, they called us foul names that I'm unable to repeat them either in English or Spanish. There they only gave us some bread and some cold meat, there they didn't give us water for the entire day and night, they locked up those tents, there was no ventilation, they locked us up, I felt like dying, from there they moved us to some tents that were more spacious with a very strong ventilation that many people were shivering from the cold and many began getting sick with respiratory infections.

They moved us from tent to tent and at night there'd be no rest because they made us line up and counted us, this they did up to five times per night, they'd kick the children so that they'd get up. For eating they'd only give us one cookie and some small juices, that was how I passed two nights together with my sons, when they take us out of that place they transported us on vans with metal bars, there is no ventilation, they drive at high speeds, they take us to a center and on the road we are choking, it was a two hour road trip, they took us to a place that was closed on all sides, I think that that is the border patrol's headquarters because there were many border patrol's vehicles, they put us inside a room and there another torment, again the data and again they overcrowded us. Again, we were awakening all night, there I started to feel an immense depression, there are people who already have been there for five to eight days. They placed a lady in a cold room, we after so many days could take a shower and that was after being here in the church. Our bodies can no longer resist much anymore. The day before yesterday, I began to feel something, I didn't say anything to my sons, I felt like dying because there was something in my chest that was pressing me, it was perhaps for seeing the suffering of all of us who were there, I did not tell my sons, I didn't want to worry them, but thank God we began to call out to God and I would tell my sons 'I know that God has mercy' I asked God to bless every one of us who were there, that He'd give me the strength, we went through very difficult moments that I do not wish them on anyone. The children do not deserve to experience such immense suffering. May God have mercy on those people who abused us. We came here because of lack of employment and the insecurities in our countries, but we do not deserve to be treated as criminals.

CASE # 7

Border Patrol - ICE

Name of Alleged Victim: M. V. S.

Date and Time of Incident: May 16, at 8:00 a.m.

Location of Incident: Juarez Crossing / Black Bridge

**Number of People Abused: Four—Two Adult Men, One Adult Woman, One Infant
Children Abused: Yes**

Abuses: Physical abuse

Psychological abuse

Verbal abuse

I M. V. was attacked by a border patrol officer while crossing the chain-link fence, I brought my child with me. Wanting to cross the fence, I stumbled, and I held on to the fence and the border patrol officer got upset and pulled me by the arm and was pulling me hard and that's when I hurt my finger, I felt a horrible pain and when I was taken to the detention center I told them about my finger and they ignored me, and my hand became swollen and another fellow told me that I had broken my hand when he saw how swollen my hand was, but those of ICE did not help me with my finger at all, hours later, my hand deflated itself.

I N. G. was attacked by the same officer who hurt my partner's finger, when he put us on the floor I did not want to because the floor was very hot and he kicked me in the back and said 'fucking motherfuckers, what are you doing here, why don't you stay in your land eating shit'.

That same officer put the women in line to go to the bathroom, one of them moved a little from the line and he pushed her against the fence while she was holding her baby in her arms, he told her 'lousy dogs what are you doing in a country that is not yours, you should have stayed in your country eating shit.'

CASE # 8

Border Patrol - ICE

Name of Alleged Victim: M. A. C.

Date and Time of Incident: N / A

Location of Incident: El Paso Detention Center (CBP Holding Cell)

Number of People Abused: Three—Two Adult Men and One Child

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Verbal abuse

Physical abuse to a toddler

I crossed the river by El Paso area, I surrendered to migration because I brought my son. They started yelling at me, saying 'where are you coming from, what are you doing here, hurry up, you're not in your country. They force you to drink water from the sink that is right above the toilet, even if someone is using the toilet. At the time of the meal they do not allow themselves to have physical contact with you, the agents throw us the plate of food, the damage was more verbal.

I saw them pushing a 3-year-old baby, he was standing there, they passed by and they threw him on the floor, 'get out of the way' they shouted at him. We slept on the floor, there are no beds, I also witnessed an immigration agent pushing a man that had just been handcuffed and shouting at him, saying, 'do you think we are idiots.' They continued abusing him verbally.

CASE # 9

Border Patrol - ICE

Name of Alleged Victim: R. E. C. R.

Date and Time of Incident: April 16 around 6:00 a.m.

Location of Incident: N / A (CBP Holding Cells)

Number of People Abused: Eight—Three Adult Men, One Adult Woman, Four Children

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Physical abuse

Verbal abuse

Deprivation of basic needs (water, medicine)

When we arrived on April 16, the man who received us was a good person, they told us to throw everything we brought, clothes, sweaters, and also Mexican money because that money was rubbish and my children had a fever at night and I asked official Sanchez for medicine and he told me that that was not a hospital, that we should have thought before leaving our country. The next day they took us to another place and we were left a whole day and a half in the sun and there were so many people that we could not even turn around, they gave us only tap water, when they spoke to us they just yelled at us and said rude things to us in English, in the other detention center an official said, 'sit down there because this will take a lot' we think that they put some gas in the air conditioner and heating because we were suffocating.

The children asked for water and they did not give us water or food, they pulled our hands back to take our fingerprints. Only the first day they gave a burrito to my son and a small cup of water, they didn't give us anything. We saw a man who was carrying his daughter, the officers needed to take his fingerprints so he gave his daughter to another person to free his hands and his daughter started crying and the officer yelled at him saying, 'take that annoying thing away from me' and he pushed the man so he could grab her daughter.

One of the children is very anxious because he saw that his mother was being pulled around. One officer told this 12-year-old boy to pull his pants up, because that was the way it was here, and the boy's father told him that he wore the pants like that, because they threw his belt to the trash.

Here the children are very traumatized and fear that they will come to get them out of the house. When they release us in Mexico, they only tell us that we are being left practically on the streets because the centers are full, then they tell us to leave and fend for ourselves.

CASE # 10

BP - OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: S. P. R.

Date and Time of Incident: April 27, 2019

Location of Incident: Bridge

Number of People Abused: One Adult

Children Abused: No

Abuses: Violation to due process (signing documents in English)

Psychological abuse by BP and CBP

Deprivation of basic needs (water, shower)

Physical abuse (left out in rain)

On April 27, I, S.P.R., tried to go into the United States, they arrested me at 11 in the morning at the Santa Fe bridge detention center, they moved me to other tents with a lot of physical and psychological abuse by the green and blue officers.

I spent 28 days without the right to our personal cleaning, they threw all our possessions, they took us out in the sun and rain, they woke us up at 12 o'clock at night for rollcall, sometimes there was rain and a lot of cold, but there are many officers who are very good.

In those 28 days they only took me to take a bath twice, I slept on the floor, and when my head and throat hurt, I asked them for help, and they told me that they were not doctors. They only gave us a sandwich and a burrito and a biscuit, if we told them we were hungry they would tell us to drink water, sometimes the drinking water was very hot or very cold. My departure from the detention center (the tent), was on Tuesday, May 14, I was returned to Juarez because I signed a document in English that I didn't know what it was for, and later an officer in green told me that I was going back to Juarez and that there I was going to wait for my next appointment, January 15, 2020. I asked them to send me to my family in the United States because in Mexico I did not know anyone, I did not have a family and they only told me that it was not their problem.

CASE # 11

BP and CBP (Border Patrol)

Name of Alleged Victim: T. P. P.

Date and Time of Incident: April 17 and 18, 2019

Location of Incident: Santa Fe Bridge

Number of People Abused: Five—One Adult Woman, One Adult Man, Three Children

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Deprivation of basic needs (bathroom, milk, food, water and access to health care for 2-year-old)

On April 16 we entered the river (Puente Santa Fe) and they arrested my husband and me and took us under the bridge with our three children (2 girls 1 boy) at 10:00 am and there we lasted one day from 10:00 am to 9:00 am on April 17, where we slept on gravel and stone. That day we ate only once, they gave us a potato and meat burrito and gave

us water from the faucet that was salty. We did not have blankets and they took everyone's sweaters and threw them in the trash, I took out my children's sweaters from the garbage to cover them because it was cold at night. My 2-year-old girl, Kimberly, has a heart condition and I asked for medical attention and they did not provide it, they did not have doctors. I asked them for canned milk for the children and an officer in green threw the milk to the ground instead of giving it to my children, I also asked them for serum (electrolyte solution) and that agent also threw it on the floor. I wanted to see his name and the agent asked me what I was looking at and they wouldn't let us see their names. Me and my family were left to sleep outside the tent on the gravel right in front of the fan and we were very cold because they did not give us any blankets and during the night they woke us up. We wanted to use the bathrooms and they told us that they were closed and that they were going to be cleaned, so we could not use them and it was for that reason that my 5-year-old son (Kevin) soiled his pants and we did not have a change of clothes and they never gave us anything to clean him with so he was dirty all the time we were arrested in that place.

My family and I were transferred from that place to another detention center about 20 minutes from where they had us, it was April 17 as at 9:00 am. There they gave us a burrito similar to the one in the first center, they gave us one in the morning and another one in the afternoon as well as a bottle of water if we asked for it. There we were a full day too. In that center they let us go to the bathroom but there were no showers. There were times when we let the officers know that we were hungry, and they got upset and closed the door even harder. We also had to sleep on the floor in this center.

During that time there, I, Tania, developed poor health, I developed strong tachycardia given low blood pressure and nerves as a result of the enclosure where they had me, I was in a room with around 30 people (20 adults and 10 children) and that room was pretty hot. The room was about 2x50, my husband and my children were taken out of the room when I started to feel bad because my children were scared and crying. When I got sick, they took me out of the room to give me first aid because I was too weak even knock on the door, there I was treated by a person who wore a medical uniform and tried to help me because I could not breathe and he suggested to the officers in green that they call an ambulance and one of the agents answered "To leave me, that there was not much to do, that they would give me some pills and that's it" and they returned me to the same room.

CASE # 12

BP - OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: C. M. P. P.

Date and Time of Incident: April 4-18, 2019

Location of Incident: Santa Fe Bridge and other CBP Holding Cells in El Paso and Tucson

Number of People Abused: Four—One Adult Woman, One Adult Man, Two Children

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Physical abuse (put and left in ICE box)

Deprivation of due process (signed documents in English)

On April 18, at night, they took us out to give them the telephone number and the name of the relative we would be leaving with once released, the agents spoke with our relative in

Indiana, they were told that we were in the detention center. An hour later, they took us out to sign some papers and we did not know what we were signing, but they put pressure on us to sign and we never knew that we were signing our removal to Juarez. I asked them why they sent us to Juarez if I was a protected witness in Honduras and my life and that of my family was in danger, still they returned us to Juarez. What they did with people who did not want to sign the removal to Juarez was that they put them in a room called the ICEBOX or The Cold Room as a way of pressuring them to sign, and there they lasted more days detained. The first night when we arrived in Ciudad Juarez, we had to sleep on the street since all the shelters were full.

My family and I left fleeing Honduras, where I was a protected witness under the authorities since my mother was murdered by Honduran gangs, just as my father was kidnapped and murdered. My sister-in-law and I were under a false name because she was also a protected witness, but she was caught and was tortured and killed before the date of the trial, and I was sent a piece of paper to my house, saying I had half an hour to leave, if not, they would kill me, my husband and my children. For this reason, we left at that time bound for the Mexican border to cross to the United States requesting political asylum since our lives were threatened. Our journey from Honduras to Ciudad Juárez was 14 days. Our court appointment will be until July 2019.

We entered through the border from Juarez to El Paso, Texas, I, Cintia, my husband and my 2 children, about 2 months ago, on April 4, 2019, as at 8 o'clock at night we were stopped by the border patrol, and they held us and the children outside, they gave us aluminum-like blankets. Then the next day they sent us under the Santa Fe Bridge, it was the bridge of the border where cars and people passed, people passed by and took pictures of us, we stayed there for 7 days, putting up with the cold and hunger, there we were among rocks and trash, this is wrong, there was the flu, and that's where I ended up with a fungus on my hands, I do not know if by the dust or by the metal blankets that gave us that my hands got black, I still have not been able to remove it, I still have the aftermath of that, I asked for medical attention but they didn't treat me, they only looked after children, my children had cough and flu but they did not give them any medicine, my husband got pimples in his mouth from the cold, the air, the dust; the cold burned his lips. People asked for Pampers (diapers), and they did not give them any, or sanitary napkins, I started menstruating and they did not give me sanitary napkins, I stained my clothes, they said there was a lot of people. The food was given to us at dawn, they woke us up give us a sandwich, and at 12 p.m. they gave us food and they took us out in the sun, they did not allow us to take a bath, we stayed 10-12 days without bathing, and the portable toilets were full of dirty toilet and poop, people preferred to hold off until the next day when they came to clean them. We were dealing with the cold, they took off our sweaters, and the hats because they told us they were garbage, they only left the children with their sweaters, but there were dust storms. We were outdoors for 7 days under the bridge in El Paso Texas, even pigeon droppings would fall on us. The agents treated us badly, with racism, spoke with derogatory words towards us, we did not understand English and as they laughed at us, there was one of Mexican origin, who sometimes spoke Spanish and told us "pinches, why did you come here, here you are going to suffer, "and all that, he used to say very ugly words to us, and sometimes he spoke in English

and laughed, I do not know what he would say, these agents were in the green uniform of the border patrol.

Then they sent us to another place right there in El Paso, about 20-25 minutes from the bridge, where we delivered the papers and the birth certificates. That place had some champas (tents), the managers were 2 Latinos, Chicanos, and they practically humiliated us. There were some offices there too, I imagine that there were showers, but they did not allow us to take a bath, we slept there standing, almost on top of each other, you could not walk because they put an exaggerated number of people in the shacks (tents), there were many tender (children) lying on the floor with a lot of cold, children with their mothers lying there on the floor in the gravel (stone) that was there. They took us to this place because reporters and cameras arrived at the Santa Fe Bridge and quickly moved us, but before that the agents had told us that we were going to be held at the bridge for a month.

We suffered a lot, we were cold, hungry and sleepy, there were so many people in the tent that we could not walk, sometimes we wanted to ask for deportation because we were suffering too much, the adult people cried, not only the children, my children also cried, never had I seen my children so sad, they told me "I want to go to Honduras already, here we are suffering a lot," that hurt my soul.

We were in 4 different stations, 3 in El Paso Texas and then they sent us to Tucson, Arizona. In the last place we were in El Paso, before going to Tucson, they put us in ice-cold rooms, there were mattresses, and we were only there for one day and there, there was medical attention, they did not give us medical attention because we left there fast, but there was medical attention. An agent in a green uniform told us: "We are not the animals from there, we are a different kind of people, we will support you as best we can", he said quietly, we told him how they took our clothes and threw in the trash and he said "we are not those horses, what they are doing is inhumane". From there they took us to a big hostel in a Catholic church in Tucson, it was called Casa Alitas, it was a blessing to get there, they treated us as if we were at home, they treated us very well, they gave us food and finally we bathed in that place.

CASE # 13

BP - OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: J. L.

Date and Time of Incident: 13 to May 18, 2019

Location of Incident: Santa Fe Bridge

Number of People Abused: Two—One Adult Man and One Child

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Physical abuse

Verbal abuse

I, J. L. came to the river and was caught by CBP, the agent was tall. From there they took me out on Wednesday, from there they took me to the second station and there they would wake us up often and would not let us sleep, they would beat us on our feet and

they would only give us cookies and water to eat. They mistreat the children more and the way they got angry, they shouted at us very ugly and told us that we were in their country. And they told us that if we went back, we were going to be in jail for 6 months and they were going to take the children away from us and we were never going to see them and Lieutenant Sanchez spoke to us very ugly. It dawned and from there they sent us to a tent and there my girl walked with dirty clothes. I thought they were going to give us clothes for my daughter and they took off the sweater she was wearing. Date of appointment February 2020

CASE # 14

BP - OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: S. Y. G. S.

Date and Time of Incident: May 15 to 18, 2019

Location of Incident: N/A

Number of People Abused: Two—One Adult Woman and A Child

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Psychological abuse

Physical abuse (put and left in ICE boxes)

On Wednesday a human rights advocate accompanied me and they told me that since I was not wearing my DPI they told me they were going to take my son away, then they took me and they turned me over to the United States immigration they checked all the suitcases and I carried a shirt and jacket for my son and they told me to take off the jacket to only leave the shirt. But I took the shirt off and I left the jacket on instead. Then they took me to another side where they asked me for all the information and biometrics. Then they took me to a small room where there were 3 moms with their children and they gave us a very thin mattress to put on the floor and it was very cold and they gave us a thin blanket and we slept there. On Thursday they took me to my interview, then they took me again to the same room where there was a full trash can and we told them to throw it and they did not throw it away. They threw it until Thursday afternoon. At night my son started crying because his ear hurt, and they took me from where I was and they just had me sitting and they did not give him anything for the pain. On Friday they took me out and sent me to Juarez.

CASE # 15

Border Patrol

Name of Alleged Victim: L. S. G. R.

Date and Time of Incident: April 27 at 8:00 am

Location of Incident: CBP Holding Cell under bridge in El Paso

Number of People Abused: One Adult

Children Abused: No

Abuses: Physical abuse by BP

Verbal abuse

Denial of access to medication

On April 27, I was arrested at 8am by Border Patrol agents under the bridge in El Paso TX. They moved me to the detention center where there were only tents where there were two hills with letters U and I and the letter I was white in El Paso TX. 19 days I suffered mistreatment by the border patrol agent in green. Agent E. Moises physically and mentally mistreated me with screams, threats and did not respect my disability, giving me rude treatment, with squeezes when receiving me and treating me in a despotic manner. They gave us water, but not medicine. They shouted to us "eat those orange bitches, with everything including the peel" We spent 3 hours punished in the sun stuck to a mesh, without eating and without water. 17 days in the tent and 2 days in the ice box very cold and many people piled with physical abuse. People were in stacked in a 4x6 room with very high temperature and very cold. We did not fit in the little room. We slept on the stones, they gave us pure frozen food, salads with ice, frozen burritos with stones inside. The appointment is for January 2020

CASE # 16

BP - OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: M. A. C. M.

Date and Time of Incident: May 12-14, 2019

Location of Incident: Under bridge in El Paso

Number of People Abused: At Least Three Adults and Multiple Children

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Verbal abuse

Physical abuse

Psychological abuse

Failure of due process (signed documents in English)

May 12, 2019. Border Patrol and Customs Agents. They stopped me under the bridge when they saw that I did not try to run, because I was afraid they would hit me. Then they took me with a group of people who had children and also minors who were attacked and also a homosexual person who they made fun of. Then they took us to the first place where there was a lot of abuse. They insulted us and spat at us in the open, they did not let us drink water or go to the bathroom and they shouted at us. When it was time to sleep they would not let us and would scream and take off the aluminum. Then they moved us. They spent 15 minutes during which they processed us and when we entered a Border Patrol agent laughed because we did not know their language. Then

they gave us something to eat which didn't sit well with me and I asked that they help me they told me that I had to wait some time for more than 5 hours. Then they moved us again and there were 2 old women next to me and when it was daylight, they never did rollcall, only when it was night from 12 at night to 3:00 in the morning. It broke my soul that they kicked the 2 ladies of 60 and 59 years. And they hit me on my feet too. And they really mistreat us and treat us like dogs and the clothes that I carried were thrown away because it was trash, they said. When we left, a lady by the surname Quiñones saw us and said things in English. When I signed what I thought was to see the judge she shouted and insulted me and then I signed with fear. After we left there they told us that we would go to a shelter and when we left we were taken to an organization that gave us help but it turns out that after all that they told us we would not have a place to sleep, we all started crying.

I came in on May 12 and thank God I left on May 14. The cold was too much, the sun was too strong and there were too many people who were badly mistreated, I saw a boy who was about to be hit by a border patrol agent, they forced us to clean and order their mess and fix all the things that were outside the camp. Children were not allowed to leave or go to the bathroom. Mothers cried because they were forced to stand with their children in their arms. And they also scolded us because we had called our families, which was false.

The first day all of us together cried because we were afraid. Mrs. Quiñonez mistreated us and did not let us sit down and she did not give us anything to wrap around us, she did not let us change, she did not give us food or water and they laughed mocking us. And they tricked us into signing things, which is not legal because without consent he threatened me if I didn't sign yelling, "If you do not sign, I do not care and you get on that truck and I'll drop you off to Guatemala" and I was afraid because I did not want to be separated from the others.

My fear of returning to my country is that I have a death threat. That is why I decided to leave my country because of the threat of a gang. Appointment with Judge January 14, 2020

CASE # 17

BP - OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: Y. L. G. R.

Date and Time of Incident: May 8 AT 9:00 am through May 14th

Location of Incident: Under bridge in El Paso

Number of People Abused: Approximately 200 Persons

Children Abused: No (Children were not specifically identified, but seem possible given the number of people detained at that location during the time described)

Abuses: Verbal abuse

Psychological abuse

Deprivation of basic needs (water, food, medicine)

Well the day I was arrested was on May 8th when I tried to cross to the United States at 9:00 a.m. They came and shouted at us telling us that "where the fuck are you going" and they also made fun of us because they saw us that we were all dirty then they put some

bracelets with numbers on them and then they put us in the vans as if we were animals. They took us there where we were arrested 5 days, they took everything we had on, our clothes they said they would throw it away that they did not want us to have it, they took away everything I had. I was in the sun all day on the day I arrived after that they sent me to a room where they put some big fans and I could do nothing more than endure the cold after that they took us out of there and they had us 3 hours in the sun and they did not allow us to drink water. When it got dark we slept outside in the cold and rain and without something to cover the cold sleeping on the floor and also they did not allow us to go to the bathroom, they set a time to go and after 8 days that they held us therefore where we could not bathe and spent all day in the sun, they took us to another detention where they also mistreated us they threw the food and if we did not eat they told us that they would not give us during the day and they also did not let us sleep. When they saw us sleeping they kicked us and told us that we were "some damned liars" when one told them why it was that we migrated, they said that they were going to deport us because we could not enter the country and when I was going to tell them that I felt bad with a headache they told me "you are not dying, so you can stand it" they treated us for the worst as if we were animals and slept where there were about 200 people and we were all huddled up in the cold and rain, it was something very horrible what happened there and when they called a person who was there in the same group they would raise us all by shouting "get up shit" and then when I was there for 5 days we were taken by an agent surnamed Quinones in a gray suit, she took us there, the date I arrived there was May 13 where they took fingerprints and photos but then the next day, May 14, in the morning, officers arrived, one of them named Juarez, wearing a green suit, and he shouted at us saying that what were we doing at the tent, that we needed to take out a lot of chairs and then put them back where they were and also they did not allow us to wash our faces, they told us that we were "pigs". They brought us some papers for us to sign, we were told that it was not deportation that if we signed those papers they would send us to a better place where they would give us clothes, shoes, etc. that we would not suffer, and they lied to us because they left us adrift without knowing where to go. I suffered too much because they punished us for no reason and also the food that they gave us was all frozen and they did not hand it to us, but threw it instead, when I got out of that place I arrived at the National Migration Institute where a good young person helped us and brought us to "Casa del Migrante," thank God here we are well.

CASE # 18

Border Patrol

Name of Alleged Victim: V. C. T. V.

Date and Time of Incident: May 8

Location of Incident: El Paso

Number of People Abused: One Adult

Children Abused: No

Abuses: Verbal abuse

Psychological abuse

Deprivation of due process (signed documents in English)

Deprivation of basic needs (bathroom, shower, food, water)

I entered where the wall is on Wednesday morning and I was grabbed by officers in green and when I arrived at the detention and an officer came and asked how old I was and I answered him that I am 18 years old and he then asked if I brought any document and I said yes and he asked to borrow it, I gave it to him and then he did not return it and I cried because it was all I had and then they gave me breakfast but it was very cold and I did not eat it and then they took away my clothes my hand wallet my things I was wearing and they told me to throw it in the trash and they removed the shoelaces from the tennis shoes my belt that had, my head hurt and I was wearing a black handkerchief and the officer told me "son of a bitch remove that trash" they took my phone and my money that I was carrying and then they let me sleep under the rain, the sun, and the cold on the floor without anything they just gave me a piece of aluminum foil and then they did not process me and I cried for my family as they had 7 days without hearing from me, not even a phone call and then they moved me to another camp then they processed me, they did not even tell me they were going to deport me and then they told me to sign some sheets and I asked them what the signature was for and they did not answer me and then I told him that I am not going to sign any document and then he sent me to sign forcibly and I said no and he told me that if I did not sign anything I would be imprisoned for 3 and a half years so to sign and I cried when I signed and then he did not explain what we were signing and everyone was told that the signature was to return to Ciudad Juarez and that they were going to drop us off on the bridge and then they told us they were going to leave us in a shelter and then it was that they threw us in the street. I came with a dream that I was going to know the United States but everything went down the drain and they gave me a date for January 2020 and I have to wait another 8 months to present myself to the appointment and that it was 7 o'clock in the afternoon, I was told to cross the bridge. They gave us chlorinated water, they wouldn't even let us wash our teeth or our hands and they didn't let us go to the bathroom, they would wake us up by kicking us, they offended us saying we were garbage and animals that they did not have time to waste on us.

CASE # 19

Border Patrol and ICE

Name of Alleged Victim: V. Z. A.

Date and Time of Incident: May 12-14

Location of Incident: Under the Bridge and Border Patrol Stations

Number of People Abused: Two—One Adult Woman and One Juvenile

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Verbal abuse

Deprivation of basic needs (bathroom, shower, food, water)

Psychological abuse

My name is V.Z.A. I was arrested on Sunday, May 12 at 8:00 a.m., I was stopped by Border Patrol agents, under the bridge, they had us 5 hours under the sun. I crossed with my 17-year-old brother, then they took us to a station 10 minutes away from the bridge. There we were held for 26 minutes in the patrol unit with air conditioning then we got off. We lined up to give our information, there border patrol agents, as well as ICE, made us remove the shoelaces and throw them away, as well as our belongings, purses, clothes, hair ties. Then I asked them to go to the bathroom and 1 border patrol officer said "No, how did you do it on the way?" And we did not go to the bathroom they did not give us water and they had us under sun, then they moved us somewhere 20 minutes from there. There you could hear the train "the Beast" there they separated me from my brother, after that I did not see him again. They let him in and they took me out where I had to sit on the ground without water, without food, it rained, and even had to take showers outside, and the border officials like ICE just watched and laughed, then some Cubans introduced a cell phone and when they realized they shouted at us in English, they only used words like "fuck you," they checked us, but they squeezed my breasts, my back and my legs. At 7 in the afternoon they transferred me to another station and it took 32 minutes to get through. There they had me standing outside. There they took my personal data and fingerprints. They did not give me water either, I asked to go to the bathroom they also denied it to me. The cold was unbearable, I slept on the floor, in the morning they called me to ask me for the address and telephone numbers of the relatives who would receive me in the states. There I asked about my brother and the border patrol officer said "I do not know about your brother, it's not my job to know about your brother," then they took me to some tents where right there they named it, "camp paradise." There, when they went did rollcall if I did not answer because I was asleep, they kicked and shouted at me, they aimed a flashlight on my face if I did not answer when they went through the list. They took us out of the tent at dawn. They gave me oatmeal with water they said we had to eat it if we did not eat it, they would not let us drink water, when I saw that there was a bathroom I wanted to go and they did not let me go, then I wanted to wash my face and they shouted and said it was forbidden to do that. Early Tuesday, they called me to sign the hearing that they set for January of 2020, I asked them what I had to sign and they just told me "lady sign" I asked for the second time, "but what is it?." He just stared and yelled at me in English, and then I asked him for my brother and he said "I'm not a nanny to know about your brother," I asked if he knew anything about my brother?, and he said "your brother will go through the same thing as you." Then I asked another official where were they moving us because those who signed were moved in groups of 40 people. The

officer told me "they are going to Juarez," and I asked, "Why to Juarez?," he said, "to the migrant's house, there they will give you uniforms, shoes, shampoo, and your things, there you can wait for your audience." When they took us under the bridge the Mexican immigration authorities took us to the National Migration Institute, they left us there and J. C. from the Beta group brought us to the migrant's house and one who came with us told him if he did not know about a shelter and therefore brought us.

CASE # 20

Border Patrol

Name of Alleged Victim: K. M. V.

Date and Time of Incident: N/A

Location of Incident: El Paso

Number of People Abused: One Adult

Children Abused: No

Abuses: Physical abuse

Verbal abuse

Deprivation of basic needs (sleep, food, bathroom, water, shower)

Well, they mainly grabbed me and gave me a bracelet that was thrown at me by an official with a mustache who told me to get it on anyway I could. Then they got me up and took me to an immigration and they left me in the sun for 2 hours until the doctor arrived and he pulled me and started to check me, then they took all my belongings and threw them in the trash even my hair tie. They asked for my information and threw me in a tent and gave me an aluminum blanket and then they took me a frozen hamburger. Then I went to bed to rest and they kicked me every time they saw me sleeping. Then every time I wanted to go to the bathroom they would not let me and would offend me and every time they saw me outside they would say "Get in bitch or do not make me mad" and so on. Then they transferred me to another detention and they began to take down my information and left me to spend the night in a chair having to withstand the cold and it wasn't until 2 in the morning that they gave me a blanket, I went to bed and at 4am they were waking me and when I asked them to let me go to my country they told me that they would not help me and to stop crying and would laugh at me. I was picked up by the federal and called immigration when they took the papers and I told them I was not going to sign, and he told me that if I signed or not they would send me anyway. <My case is set for January 2020

CASE # 21

Border Patrol

Name of Alleged Victim: K. M. V.

Date and Time of Incident: April 11, 2019

Location of Incident: El Paso

Number of People Abused: Two—One Adult Woman, One Adult Man

Children Abused: No

Abuses: Psychological abuse

Verbal abuse

Deprivation of basic needs (shower, food, bathroom)

I came into the country on May 11 by the river through El Paso, Texas at 7 pm and I reached the other side of the bridge with my husband, approximately after 30 minutes of walking border patrol stopped us and from that moment, we began to receive abuse. Since the agents did not allow me to be close to my husband, when they arrived at the place to take our information, they began to check us, to strip us of our things and threw all our things in the trash, clothes, medicine that was taken for treatment of polycystic ovaries, belt, wallet and many more objects, then left us standing there in the open in the rain. And when that happened, they told us to wait and an agent in green arrived and he told us we could not be together, and they took my husband. And they took me to another place where I endured cold all morning and rain. At dawn we were given a bread with a raw sausage and only water and that was it. They did not let us use the bathrooms, they did not let us use water to wash our faces, they did not let us bathe. We were there every day without a bathroom or anything. To sleep we stayed on the floor. I tried to approach my husband and a female agent arrived and she shouted "Hey, what are you doing?" I told him we are spouses and she told me that I could not be with him. Then in the afternoon they took us to another site and I asked that if they moved me, that they would also bring my husband and they told me that he would go later to where they were taking me and from the moment they took me out of that place I have not heard anything from him. Every day I asked for him and they never said anything to me and every time I asked, they would not say anything, only that they did not know. And until now I do not know anything about him. They would wake us up at dawn often and if we did not answer the caller they would pick us all up, and they would take us out in the cold and if they place was not orderly at lunchtime they would not give us anything and sometimes they would give us food that was expired and ruined. At the time they gave us some documents, I told him that if he did not sign what happened, he told me that they would send me to Juarez anyway. I told him I did not have money to return, he told me that it was my problem, not his. And then an agent in blue said that this document, not everyone had the opportunity that we had and that when we arrived in Juarez, the National Migration Institute would help us there. And it happened to us that once there it was not as the agent had said. Until all of us who were coming started to cry and a young man came to see us, so he asked us what was going on and he looked for shelter for us and thank God we are here.

The date they set for us to introduce us to the bridge is January 2020.

We come to the United States to ask for political asylum as we cannot stay in El Salvador. Due to delinquency and gangs we had to leave the country on March 22, 2019 fleeing

because of death threats. I brought the evidence of complaints we filed and when I presented them, they did not take it seriously and they did not return them to me. When I asked for them, the agent told me that he did not know where they were.

My case is that my husband and his mother had cattle and in the place where we lived there were many gang members and on 3 occasions they came to tell him to make trips for them and he refused and because of that they did not allow us to stay where we were living in, we had to go from there to another house. When we had 15 days to living there, some men arrived and took the truck, threatening that if he spoke, they would kill him. He then filed a complaint and in the evening some men came saying that we had to go from there and we had to get out of there. Well things calmed down for a while until the month of February when 2 men on a motorcycle started to chase him one and told him that he had to leave the place where we lived because he refused to collaborate with them and if we did not they would kill him. He went to the prosecution to file a complaint on March 14 and was told by the lawyer that they would call him and that was all they did, they ignored the case. And for this reason, we left El Salvador on March 22, to be safe here where we were denied the stay. They do not care that our lives are in danger in El Salvador. That's why I did not want to sign any documents when I was detained, but the agent told that regardless of whether I sign or not, I was still being sent to Juarez.

CASE # 22

BP

Name of Alleged Victim: X. G. T. I.

Date and Time of Incident: May 10-13/14, 2019

Location of Incident: El Paso

Number of People Abused: One Adult Woman

Children Abused: No

Abuses: Verbal abuse

Deprivation of basic needs (sleep medicine, shower)

Physical abuse

I turned myself over to immigration for a legal process on the day Friday 10th of May of 2019 like around 1:00 am I was traveling with a sister. We got separated because I was alone and she with her children, since that time I know nothing about her, they gave us a thermal carpet; at sunrise we were in the sun until like 9:00 am withstanding rain. They threw away all our clothing and we just kept what we were wearing, they threw away the bonnet/hat/cap I had for the cold since I had the flu, but they didn't care about that. I was three days in El Paso Texas withstanding the cold, I had a carpet, but it got ruined. I went to ask for a new one they asked for an explanation first before giving me another one, there was a tent but some Cuban women took over ownership of it and they did not allow anyone to enter it I stayed outside withstanding the storm, the agents did nothing they would get us up at five to give us breakfast a breakfast that was only a small bread with a frozen hot dog, for lunch it was a cold torta/sandwich and it was the same for dinner. To go to the restroom, we had to make a line and they would keep us even up to two hours without taking us to the restroom. We could not bathe, change, when they would take out the men to the patio, we would have to withstand all that time without using the restroom.

They would not let us sleep properly, all the time they would pass by calling us, stating “pay attention or you will be left behind” sometimes it was the middle of the night/early morning/dawn/predawn, they would give us a water that tasted more like chlorine/bleach than water besides since it was so cold we left to a little plaza so the sun could hit us and an agent Quinones arrives and yelled at us and said “who gave you permission to come here? You have to stay over there without moving with permission of an agent” when it was only a couple of meters in front of the encampment where they had us. When the sun was completely out they would leave us there to withstand it all day long; Monday the 13th arrived, they transferred me to the second station, I would see they would move everyone, an agent arrived, he called some girls that had the same number than mine, they did not call me, and I went and told them that I was missing and he responded “no, not you”. I waited and waited, everyone passed and they did not call me, and I told him: “Agent, one question” and he told me “one answer”, I asked why have they not called me if I had the same number, he told me, “they didn’t put you on the list” as he made a mocking face.

The night arrived and they transferred us, in front of me was an older lady and she was going into the car and the agent told her “no, not you ma’am”. with a face of anger, they piled us in there. We arrived at the station like 20 minutes from El Paso where the bridge is. During the night they took out fingerprints, photo, and asked for information. We slept on the floor again, it was a lot of us, there was hardly any space to fit. The next day they gave us oatmeal and water for breakfast; we got in line to enter the restroom, it was the same to drink water, it was more chlorine/bleach than pure water. They called me to continue the process, they made me sign a lot of papers, they only told me we were going to Juarez, that they would come to take us but they brought us to the bridge, they deceived us telling us we were going to a shelter. I finished my process; later on, they put me in a small room where 35 of us were, we slept on the floor, one on top of the other, because we did not fit, they did roll call at all times. The same day they transferred me, that I was being sent to Mexico, they left us there near the bridge until immigration from Mexico arrived, they brought us supposedly that they were going to give us a permit, they gave it to us but they told us “here is your permit, now you can do whatever you want, you can go throughout all of Mexico with this permit” and they left us on the street without a clue as to what to do, without knowing anyone and they left us with an appointment until January 15th of 2020 to go see a judge.

When I was in El Paso TX, some Cuban women sneaked in a telephone and they went through all our things, they touched us all over our bodies to search us.

CASE # 23

BP- OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: L. M.

Date and Time of Incident: April 15-May 28, 2019

Location of Incident: El Paso

Number of People Abused: Approximately 100 Persons

Children Abused: No

Abuses: Deprivation of due process

Verbal abuse

Psychological abuse

Physical abuse

Wrongful bodily search

Deprivation of basic needs

I entered on April 15 below the bridge because they didn't let me enter through the bridge, they told me on the bridge "they couldn't grant me asylum because they were full" then I crossed below the bridge. At 1:00 pm they took me to El Paso, Texas and they made me throw away all of my belongings, they only left me with: the clothes I was wearing, one cell phone and 80 pesos; they threw away my wallet, high blood pressure medicine, everything else, to register I spent 6 hours under the sun later they put me in a room that was very cold I get pain in my bones, blood clots formed in my veins, I slept on the floor, there were 100 people or more in a room of about 8 meters by 4 meters. Everyone shrank, with pain in the feet and blisters and the feet fell asleep, with food twice a day, 1 sandwich each time, I spent 4 days in that place, then they moved me somewhere else 20 minutes away more or less, they put me in another cold room, I was there for 8 hours, they called me to complete the process, they got my information y I returned to the cold room, 5 hours later they took me in a van back to the first cold room and I was there for 1 day and they took us outside for 3 days, under the sun and the rain without showering or washing my face they didn't let me brush, they yelled at me if I tried to wash my face or put some water in my mouth and without changing clothes, when it rained I got wet and the clothes dried on me and the same every time it rained and eating only once a day, there was water with a horrible taste and hot, then they took me to the tents "*las carpillas*" how they call them, about 1 ½ away from where I was, I was there 3 days without a blanket again and the third day they gave me a blanket, they always woke us up at midnight to take list, the fourth day I had fever and my pressure was wrong, I felt dizzy, nobody saw me and they told me they would only see me if I was dying, and 4 more days passed and officer Rodriguez took me to the doctor, I cried a lot, he cried too, when I got to the doctor they took my blood pressure and I had 190/110, that's why I was feeling so bad, with tachycardia, my body felt soft, the doctor scared me and gave me medicine for the blood pressure, the doctor recommended to take it every morning but the officers gave it to me every 3 days and I was there for 20 days, sometimes I wanted to be shot instead of being treated like that, I felt so bad those days they let me shower 2 times and brush, they gave me 1 burrito in the morning and a sandwich by night, sometimes ruined and with the food had mold and they didn't change it and the officers yelled at us if we asked to have it changed, they yelled at me "you are an expense to us," 2 times they searched us because of a cell phone and everyone got punished. When they searched

me they touched my private parts roughly and they put us under the sun for 2 days, the second day, an officer put us under the tent with rocks in the ground and I took my shoes off because of the heat, the officer dressed in blue took my shoes and threw them in the trash and my sweater as well, when I didn't feel at midnight they kicked my feet when they called me to wake me up, to take list every day at midnight, but all 29 days they didn't give me a call anywhere to call my family to let them know I was okay., when I asked they answered "you don't have a right to make phone calls because you are detained" both times I showered water was very hot and 3 minutes, they punched the door to the shower, on May 28 they called me and told me to sign, I asked if it was deportation, the officer answered that it was so I could see the judge, they didn't let me see anything before I signed, then I suspected it was deportation, and I asked what happens if I don't sign and they told me "I was going to be there longer and somewhere worse than were I was and then they were always going to send me where the papers told," when I finally signed the papers it said I was going to "Casa del Migrante" and I had an appointment January 2020 they told me they were going to take me there and I was going to be able to shower, brush my teeth, eat and they were going to give me clothes, and I could go out during the day, and if I wanted I could work there while I was waiting for my appointment, they let us under the bridge and some vans arrived to pick up 40 people, they took us to the Mexican national institute for migrants and they told me that after they gave me my 180 day permit to stay I could go and I didn't have a cell phone or money, and thank God a member of the Beta group came and took us to *casa del migrante* and attended us and now I'm okay thanks to God, I will get in contact with my family to let them know I', okay, in my 43 years of life I never imagined to have the need but due to the violence in my country it's critical to the point that maras and mafias are together with the authorities. I have a clinical laboratory to take care of my family and a boy gave me a cell phone, they called me insulting me and asking for extortion money by 10,000 dollars and I couldn't pay, then I decided to come and ask for asylum in the United States.

CASE # 24

BP - OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: G. G. M.

Date and Time of Incident: April 27, 2019

Location of Incident: El Paso

Number of People Abused: Multiple Adults and Two Children

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Psychological abuse

Deprivation of basic needs

Deprivation of due process

Physical abuse (put and left in ICE boxes)

I tried to enter the United States beneath the bridge, some agents said, "What are you doing here". They took my things and they registered me and my nephews. They took our clothes and had us sit on rocks that were there. They later told us to "Put on the clothes". We put on the clothes and then they took us to a room where there were about 30 people.

Then another day, they took my fingerprints and put them on a device. They took photos of me with my nephews and they took us to a room. They took me out the room to sign something. I asked them about what I am going to sign, and they told me “just sign”. I then my fingerprint and half an hour later they took me out of there all by myself, and they told me that I was going to pay off a sentence, they put in a van, it was locked. They took me to the icebox, and I couldn’t sleep. There were many women there and I could only fit sitting down, that’s how I spent the night. In the morning, they took me out of there and they put me against a wall. An agent told me that he was going to take me to the tent. Once we got there, they registered me, screamed at me, I ate a cookie and a juice in a pouch, or a sandwich.

Everything had chemicals, even the water. I slept on sand and rocks, it was too cold, and I ended up with a cough, body aches, and a fever. I wanted to go to the doctor, and they told me “this is what the weather is like here” and they didn’t take me the doctor. I felt like I was going to die, and they told me I was going to be there for 5 years. I was there for seventeen days, when they registered me, it was with abuse. They left me in the sun for a day and they took my sweater. They threw it in the trash. I was in the sun, without food or water, under a lot of pain and they did not take me to the doctor. They told me, “not until you faint will you go see a doctor”. When they registered me, they were abusive to me and would scream at me. They made me put my fingerprints on a few papers. Then before I knew it, I was in Mexico without money and I lost the telephone numbers and I don’t remember them. And now I am here in the Casa del Migrante in Mexico. The group that I came with, everyone helped me to know what to do and how to get back to my country. The beta group brought us from the institute of migration to Casa del Migrante and God willing, I will make it home.

CASE # 25

BP - OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: M. G. L.

Date and Time of Incident: May 11, 2019

Location of Incident: Under Bridge El Paso

Number of People Abused: Three—One Adult Woman, One Adult Man (Adult Child), and One Minor Child

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Verbal abuse

Psychological abuse

Deprivation of basic needs (water, showers, bathrooms)

On the 11th of May I was detained beneath the Bridge me and my 2 sons one is 10 and the other is 18 years old. An agent dressed in blue would make us get up to our feet with yelling and insults/ or would get us up with kicks and yelling and insults); they threw away our belongings. I don’t understand Spanish and the police dressed in blue would call my name and because I did not understand they would scream at me with a lot of anger; it came to the point I wouldn’t even ask for permission to use the restroom until a female companion/comrade would tell the police officers.

I was separated from my two sons who are 10 and 18 years of age. R. and E. until this day I do not know anything about them, and I do not have one relative here. The first couple of nights they left me to sleep on the floor, outside in a tent, and they did not allow me to use a bathroom to bathe and the few pieces of clothing I had with me they threw into the garbage. When they called me at last to get out, I signed papers even though I did not understand what the police officers were saying and I also did not know what the papers stated, they just placed me in line and took me to another city (Juarez) My only food was once a day oatmeal, or burritos and water.

CASE # 26

BP - OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: J. A. D.

Date and Time of Incident: April 13-Mid May 2019

Location of Incident: CBP Holding Facility in El Paso

Number of People Abused: One Adult Woman

Children Abused: No

Abuses: Psychological abuse

Verbal abuse

Deprivation of access to basic needs (sleep, water, food, medicine)

My name is Jackelyn and I attempted to cross to the United States, and I was detained by the border patrol agents around 7:30 pm on April 13. On being detained, they transferred me to a detention center at El Paso Texas once being there they moved me to a freezer where I had a lot of psychological and physical abuse. There I suffered from much cold and I slept next to the bathroom. It was there where I ate and when they gave me food, they would throw it to the floor, there we ate one or two times a day, they only gave us one sandwich. I was there for three days until they took me to processing at El Paso Texas, I lasted there for a night where they processed me. The following day (April 17) around 10 a.m., they took us outside on the cold, where there I had to sleep without a blanket and after passing the night there, I was on the sun without shade and without water. When I asked for food, they would only tell me "to drink water" that water tasted like pure chlorine. Once being there, I got a lot of blisters on my mouth and I could no longer bear the pain and I went, and I told an agent in green that I needed something for my lips and he only told me to drink water. There I had to endure much hunger, sun, and the cold, of everything and, they did not let me call my family. Then after passing a week there, on those freezers with a lot of women where I couldn't move to the other side, I had to sleep sitting down and sometimes no sleep because the agents would tell us "get up because it's not time to sleep" and they would hit the door, it was something horrible, I cried various times because I couldn't endure the cold and the psychological abuse that we experienced there. After being in that site of detention for a week, they transferred me to a place that looked like a military base, there were two tents, they put me there to sleep on the floor and they only gave me a blanket that looked like aluminum paper. It was also overcrowded and there was no space to at least stretch the legs. They would wake us up at two or three in the morning to take attendance and at four a.m. they woke us up to give

us food, they only gave us a burrito and a juice, and by the way, frequently that food was already spoiled, it already had mold, one time I said that this food was already spoiled, an agent told me “no, this food is not bad, you are crazy.” She didn’t change my food for one that was edible, so I had to throw it to the trash, and I didn’t eat, she was of short stature, somewhat stout with a blue uniform. In that place I was 15 days without showering, and the agents would yell at us stinking pigs, and almost always they told us ugly things while they humiliated us. After those 15 days without a shower, they took us to shower, and they gave us hygiene kit and they only gave us three to five minutes to bathe, that water of the shower was very hot, it burned me, if I exceeded more than a minute in the bath, they would yell at me and very strongly bang the door, they didn’t leave the kit and they would take it away and throw it away on the trash. To go take a bath, two agents in blue or dressed as medics would take us. There in those tents we slept in the floor where there were enormous rocks which injured me to sleep, they also gave us frozen food, bread for sandwiches a week old, as well as expired milk, in those tents everything was hell, they also checked our bodies as if we were delinquents. Some two days before that they had given us underwear and when they checked us, we still had not worn them, because I still had not taken a bath and so they threw it to the trash. When they checked me, they touched me everywhere, she was an agent in green, she checked me and she treated me very bad, she opened my legs with her foot and then when that happened around 6:00 p.m., and in that moment they made me pick up the underwear that they had thrown to the trash and for us to wear it like that. We couldn’t wash our clothes, when sometimes my body could no longer tolerate dirty clothes, one of the times I wanted to wash my blouse with the water that we drank, but the agent told me “Ms. that water is not to wash” and he took me inside the tent and I had to put on my wet clothes and still dirty. That other agent was wearing a blue uniform, tall, wearing glasses and he covered his face with a rag. After being in those tents, since there was no longer room, they took us back where there were three more tents, there they divided us, the Cuban women to one side and the Central American women to the other side, there was where I remained, even so, we were all the same because we were many, many of us I decided to sleep outside in some boxes because we couldn’t sleep that night, that night I remained there. When attendance was called, I could no longer hear and they went and kicked me so I could get up, it was an agent in blue, very rude, later around three days, I became ill, I got a fever during the morning and a pain on my throat and around one I went to tell an agent in blue that I was sick and I wanted them to take me to a doctor, and he responded to me “there is no doctor” he only asked me what was it that I have, and I told him that I no longer tolerated my body, that my throat was hurting me and I had a high fever and he told me “that is not something that is grave, something grave is when you faint or you are dying” thus he didn’t take me, in that place I also experienced a hell, I suffered a lot of abuse, such as physical and mental. More than 30 days had passed without brushing my teeth, one day I asked them for a toothbrush and they only told me that no, that they didn’t had them there because that was considered a weapon, it’s something of hygiene, but they did not want to give me anything. Those agents are very mean, they had us detained for more than a month, and they kept on saying that soon we were to see our families in the United States. We all thought that we were going to see our families, and they only laughed, and they kept giving us false hopes, because when they took me “they told us that we were all going to Juarez. When I Heard that, my soul broke after coming

happy, because over what the agents had said to us, we were already going with our families. On the early morning of Tuesday, a green agent called me, and told me “come and sign this” he didn’t explain anything, he only told me “this is for you to go to Juarez to wait for your court date with the judge.” I also asked him if I did not sign and he responded “in either case you leave” so I had to sign, I also asked him to make a call to notify my parents that they were going to send me back, because in all these time that I was here locked up in these cells, only one time could I make a call, I couldn’t talk with anyone so they didn’t know anything about me, the agent denied me the call, he only told me “no, when you arrive at Juarez you can make that call.” My court date is for January 2020.

I emigrated from my country because a man from over there of Guatemala from where I am, sexually abused my little sister who lives in the United States, she is from the United States and she lives over there with my parents, they put him in jail, since that happened, it’s not more than almost five years, I have not had peace and I live with the fear because the family of the individual always when they see me they threaten me with their looks and tell me from afar that we’re going to pay. I live alone and I was going to school and always when I went out, I left with a lot of fear and his family is already saying that this man will soon return to Guatemala and that is why I don’t want to return back to my country, I have my parents and my brothers in the United States. I am afraid to return and that that man will do the same thing as he did to my little sister for revenge. I remain alone in Guatemala and my parents hoped for a way so that I could be with them. I need help to be with my parents.

CASE # 27

BP - OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: Y. V. R. V.

Date and Time of Incident: April 13-May 15, 2019

Location of Incident: Under Santa Fe Bridge (tents)

Number of People Abused: Approximately 100 persons

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Deprivation of due process

Deprivation of basic needs (food, water, access to medical health)

My name is Yessica, on April 9, my sister, who is L7 (17) years old and 7 months pregnant and I tried crossing into the united states through the Santa Fe Port of entry to request political asylum, we got to the middle of the bridge and two officers in blue uniforms did not allow us to get near the entry of the port petition our request, they immediately told us we had to go back and do not return even though I had told them that my sister was 7 months pregnant and her life was in danger and that she needed medical assistance. We returned to Mexico and found lodging at Casa del Migrante, we were there until the 13th of April, which was the day we were detained by officers in green, we were detained by the railroad tracks and taken under the bridge. Once we got to the detention center, all our belongings and extra clothing was taken away and we were left without sweaters which we needed because it was still very cool weather. After that, my

sister and I were together for L0 (10) minutes after our arrival at the detention center, no longer, and then we were separated. I asked why they were separating us and the officer in blue uniform said that we could not stay together given that I was not her mother/father, I told him I was concerned for her health because she was pregnant, but still he separated us. I was never allowed to call my family. This was a Hispanic officer in blue. They took her inside and I stayed outside for quite a while, not realizing how long I had been left outside the tent, but I know it was very late at night because it was very dark as it was very cold. At that point, I was not given any blanket and I had not eaten anything and had to sleep on the floor. Once they brought me inside, they took me to a cell, it was cell #4, where there were about 100 of us, crowded. I was there for a week, but they processed me on the 3rd day of my arrival. For this process, they had taken me out of cell #4 but once the processing was done, they took me back. Part of their process consisted in checking every part of my body, including rubbing my breasts and vaginal area to see if I was not carrying anything illegal on me, which was uncalled for given that they take everything away from us, including medication on our arrival on the first day. That day, when they took us lunch, I had to eat and sleep where the cell restroom is because there was no room. On the following Saturday, I was taken inside the tents outside, where we slept on small rocks and we were fed two times around 3:00 am and 10:00 am only. I only ate sandwiches and drank water with too much of a bleach taste. My stay there was for 25 days in the tent. I was able to shower on the L7 (17)th day of my stay, so you can imagine how unsanitary that was for e and for the rest of the women inside the tents. I know for a fact, because I saw that many women were developing skin and urine infections because of the unsanitary conditions we were in. We were told by officers in green and blue that we were only allowed 3 minutes to shower and 1 to use the restroom, we had very hot burning water in the shower only. I was made fun by one of the agents in green when I asked him if I could have a sanitary napkin and they would make fun of any woman asking for such thing.

While we were going to the outside restrooms, officers in blue would yell "by my mother's grave, I swear if you try to run and escape I will put a bullet in you, so you all better not try anything" there was a point where I was terribly afraid of even asking for permission to go to the restroom. Once I had my turn to use the restroom, which was so disgusting, there was another officer in blue outside my restroom door knocking and banging on the door telling me to hurry up, he was of tall build wearing a blue uniform and had a tattoo on his forearm, I was also told that in case I did not obey as to what I was being asked to do, I would get put in a punishment cell, or a cold room for as long as 3 days, the officers in blue and green making fun, referred to that room as "PARADISE" By then, I was already very afraid of both the officers in green and blue, they were very mean to me. Even when I was only asking for a cup to get a drink of water, they would become very upset. One of the techniques they would use, was to do their roll call, during my stay in the tent, they took me and the whole group of women to do roll call in the rain, the officers would mumble amongst themselves and laugh at our situation, one woman asked why they were laughing at us, and one of the officers, also Hispanic wearing blue responded saying " Nobody asked you to come to my country, you should have stayed in your country because we do not want you here" and once the roll call was over, we would be sent back

inside in our wet clothes and had to wait for our clothes to dry since we were not given any changes of clothes.

On Monday, May 13th, they called my name and one female officer told me that I had to sign some papers for my release, at that point I began to cry because I was so happy that I was going to get to go with my family in the United States. The officer, (she was thin build, medium dark skin, dark hair) I could not get her name because like most of the officers in green and blue, they all had their name on their uniforms covered with small writing tables, small cards, sunglasses or they just had the tab on their uniform pocket with their name inside out. This female officer tells me I have to sign the documents and so I asked what these documents were, she said it was my release to go with my family in the US, I did not understand what the documents really said and I did not have anyone translating into Spanish. I went ahead and signed and the officer lied to me because what I had signed was my release to be sent to Mexico and wait for my next court date which will be on January 2020. I arrived a few hours later myself and about 29 women were sent back as well, as I, they were lied to and also signed their release to Mexico. Our journey to Mexico was for 15 days.

CASE # 28

BP - OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: P. A. B. L.

Date and Time of Incident:

Location of Incident: El Paso Detention Center

Number of People Abused:

Children Abused:

Abuses: Psychological abuse

Physical abuse

Denial of basic needs

Overcrowding

When I came out of my country (Guatemala), it was because we were running away from the violence and poverty. I came with my father and my sister, unfortunately I was separated from them both. I was told my papers were in order and I paid the ticket to go to where I was going to, it ended up being a waste of money. When they first took me to the cells, I don't know what they are called, it was near the bridge, the first day they took me I tried talking to an agent and he told me that I was a dumbass, we are not going to let you come out. When I needed to ask for something, such as medicine, they would send something to test if we were sick. They would feed us frozen burritos at 3 a.m. and if we told them we had a headache they'd tell us to drink water and when night came, they'd turn on these ventilators as punishment, it was horrible. I don't know how to describe that pain, I just felt like dying. I was placed with individuals who were accused of crimes or who had issues and those who had deportations. They would punish us. The first day I arrived, they forced my hands to the back of my head and between 2 officials, they spread my legs and they told me that I was a criminal and was told that even dead I

wouldn't come out of there. When they would leave us thrown on the ground, in a small cell, they'd put in about 200 to sleep on top of another. A female officer, who was called Ursula by others, I am not sure if that was her real name, would tell us "get up pigs, you're dirty, why don't you shower." I was there for 17 days without being able to shower, they would mistreat us, when we would do something, they would punish us all and put us next to the wall, they'd give us very small blankets that didn't work for much. When we would go out, we could not see, and if we looked at the guards, they'd tell us "what are you looking at dumbass?" and would put us next to the wall. It was so bad that we were all crying. One of the best individuals I met there would cry of anguish and say he was sorry he was there. Thanks to God we were able to come out of there, I thought it was eternal and didn't see how to come out of there because it was a punishment that no one could sustain. Men would cry, sleeping on the floor, and for lunch they'd give us a sandwich and for dinner they'd give us some type of salad that was already spoiled to eat. We all started to sign. The first moments we were there, I felt like dying because I had never been through punishment like this and they would tell us "you don't come out of here unless we say so." There were individuals who had 52 days being held there, caged there. 52 days without being able to contact a family member. A man told me that they told him "who is going to take you out of here?" and he said "God" and they told him "God doesn't exist here, if I put a gun here (pointing towards temple) will God come save you?" and we would say "yes" because in our culture we have a faith in that God exists, then they would say "what would cost me to use one of the bullets I have here in my gun so that you stay here so that they won't know of you? You are already dead here. You can't get out." I was in three types of cells and was held for 23 days without being able to brush myself, or eat right, we would get so happy when we were able to eat a piece of candy. We were never allowed to drink soda; they would only give us ice cold water. This water was filled with ice, perhaps with the intention of making us sick. In my case, I had to sleep 5 days standing up, I couldn't lie down because there wasn't any space to sleep. I also slept another 3 days in the bathroom, that's where we do everything, we eat, we sleep there, we drink water there, that's where we do everything and one would get sick, in the case of one man, one of their officials smashed his fingers with the door and he spent 15 days trembling from the pain and the official gave him some cookies so he wouldn't tell. This is a place of great suffering that has no explanation, I can't explain it.

BORDER PATROL – SUNLAND PARK

CASE # 29

Border Patrol + Local Police (Sunland Park PD)

Name of Alleged Victim: B. V.

Date and Time of Incident: April 2019

Location of Incident: Sunland Park NM

Number of People Abused: One Adult Man and Multiple Children

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Immigration and local police collaboration

Psychological abuse on children

My name is B. V. and I live in the apartments in Sunland Park, in the middle of April, more or less it was between 12 and 1 in the afternoon, I came to my apartment when I saw that there was an immigration van and two local police and I saw that they had a detainee and they had him sitting on the sidewalk and I also noticed that the police officers and border patrol spoke among themselves, I also saw that there were children around whom lived right here in the apartments and they were watching, the children looked surprised and scared, like they did not understand what was happening or why the border patrol was arresting the man. I was very sorry for the man they took into custody, but I also felt concerned for the children who live here, because they are often outside playing, and I fear that border patrol can run them over.

CASE # 30

Border Patrol

Name of Alleged Victim: G. G.

Date and Time of Incident: January 2019

Location of Incident: Sunland Park (Border)

Number of People Abused: Two Adult Men

Children Abused: No

Abuses: Wrongful questioning on immigration status

Racial profiling

I, G. G. went out to walk close to the border with my dog when border patrol stopped me and questioned me for the reason that I was in that area and they took my dog, while they did this, they asked me about my legal status and I told them the truth and that I lived near the area but I think they stopped me because of my appearance, when I was with them being interrogated, my brother arrived and he was also questioned. They gave me my dog back about 20 minutes later and they let me go.

CASE # 31

Border Patrol

Name of Alleged Victim: J. A.

Date and Time of Incident: N / A

Location of Incident: Sunland Park

Number of People Abused: One Adult Man

Children Abused: No

Abuses: Wrongful search (entering private property)

Psychological abuse

I'm J. A. and I'm from Sunland Park, I recently came to live here in this area on the Rio Grande street very close to the train tracks. About a year ago when I recently came to live here I was working on my property and left my tools outside and entered my house, when I went outside, immigrants were already outside my house, but inside my property, they had just crossed the border, and border patrol was chasing them, I was just asking the immigrants what they wanted when border patrol arrived. Border patrol accused me of trafficking people and said I was a smuggler and they wanted to arrest me for trafficking people, but I could prove them that I had just moved to this area and they did not arrest me but I am very afraid that this could happen again.

CASE # 32

Border Patrol

Name of Alleged Victim: L. D.

Date and Time of Incident: N / A

Location of Incident: Sunland Park (Border)

Number of People Abused: One Adult Man and Multiple Children

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Wrongful search (entering private property without permission)

Reckless driving (motorcycles)

Harassment

I'm L. D. and I live in Sunland Park, very close to the train tracks, many times border patrol has entered my property and I'm afraid that my grandchildren will be run over by motorcycles as they enter the properties on motorcycles without caring that there are children playing in the courtyards, almost everyone here in Sunland Park has had a bad experience with the immigration officers or have witnessed when they are on the property of neighbors, every time there's more and more harassment from border patrol and all this after the wall was built.

CASE # 33

Border Patrol

Name of Alleged Victim: L. G.

Date and Time of Incident: June 2018

Location of Incident: Sunland Park (Border)

Number of People Abused: Three—One Adult Man and Two Children

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Wrongful search (entering private property without permission)

Psychological abuse on children

Impact of border wall on community

On several occasions Border Patrol has entered my property, I live in Sunland Park NM. The last time was in June of 2018, approximately at 7 or 8 pm. On that occasion that they entered my property, my daughters were playing in the yard, my daughters are minors, they are 5 and 7 years old, when they saw the border patrol they got scared and ran into the house and they told me that there were men outside, I went outside and asked them what they were doing and they answered that they were doing their routine work to see if there were people without documents and that if I had them inside, to bring them out, because I could get in trouble. Then they checked the property and confirmed that there was nobody and then left. My daughters were emotionally affected during the first weeks, anytime they saw them, they would run into the house.

CASE # 34

Border Patrol

Name of Alleged Victim: M. L.

Date and Time of Incident: May 18, 2018

Location of Incident: Sunland Park

Number of People Abused: One Adult Woman

Children Abused: No

Abuses: Wrongful search (entering private property without permission)

Psychological abuse

Impact of border wall on community

My name is M. L. my case is the border patrol got into my house at 2 o'clock in the morning, jumped the fence and got in, my gate was closed with padlock. I was very scared, I thought it was somebody stealing, and now because of that incident I do not feel safe. The incident happened on May 18, 2018, the people who live in this area is afraid because it is very common for the border patrol to go into the houses. Before the wall was built, this did not happen. As a resident of Sunland Park, I want you to stop this harassment, which is why I am documenting.

CASE # 35

Border Patrol

Name of Alleged Victim: M. S. M.

Date and Time of Incident: Frequently

Location of Incident: Sunland Park

Number of People Abused:

Children Abused:

Abuses: Psychological abuse

Harassment

I'm M. S. M. and I live in "X" apartments in Sunland Park. Nothing has happened to me directly with the border patrol but as a resident of Sunland Park, I am worried about what happens in this community on the issue of immigration. It is very common to see border patrol walking in the streets and therefore intimidating people just because we live very close to the borderline. We have always suffered from harassment from border patrol. Years ago, I witnessed border patrol stopping the trucks that were used as a means of transport here in Sunland Park because we did not have bus service in our community. On two occasions I witnessed border patrol stopping the van and asking for documents to all of us who were in the van. The first time they took two gentlemen and the second time they took two women and their children, and that affects me morally, to see that they were taken down and taken away and that made me very afraid because at that time I did not have documents and I always felt with a lot of fear that the same thing would happen to me.

CASE # 36

Border Patrol

Name of Alleged Victim: J. D.

Date and Time of Incident: July 4, 2018

Location of Incident: Sunland Park

Number of People Abused: One Adult Man and One Adult Woman

Children Abused: No

Abuses: Wrongful search (entering property without permission)

Harassment by BP

On July 4, 2018 I was with my family in the patio, it was around 7 or 8 at night., border patrol entered my home, they didn't asked me for permission and they went with their lamps and I told them that It was my family, they told me they were looking for someone and the prints were there, and that's ridiculous because we all were wearing tennis shoes and I told them that this was harassment and I went with Judge Lizeth and she has not done anything, all of us were very scared, but I didn't allowed them to harass me, I asked them to leave my property and one of them told me not to be mad that they were just doing their job, I told them that they should have asked me for permission to enter my property. I am here since 1980 and I have always had many problems because there has

always been abuse by them and every day you see them, if someone is walking, they stop him to check him.

On another occasion I am walking with my wife, and we were stopped by border patrol and they wanted to take me, since my wife is white with green eyes and I was dark, they thought I was illegal and I told them to take me and that I would prove them that I am a citizen. In the end they didn't take me because I told them that I was going to sue them for racial profile.

CBP-OFO

CASE # 37

CBP—OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: B. G.

Date and Time of Incident: Sunday April 28, between 6 and 7 p.m.

Location of Incident: Zaragoza / Ysleta International Port of Entry

Number of People Abused: Two—One Adult Woman and One Child

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Psychological abuse of a minor

Harassment

Wrongful temporary detention of minor (at port of entry)

Wrongful bodily search

I, B. G. a 14-year-old American citizen, tried to cross the Zaragoza /Ysleta international bridge on Sunday, April 28, between 6:30 and 7:00 p.m. When I was on the line, an agent approached me and started asking me the usual questions, such as 'where do you live, where do you come from, where are you going, what is your name, how old are you, etc. I was sent to secondary revision because according to him, I had not been able to verify my identity. At the secondary revision they asked me the same questions again. The first officer told me that I had to have a school ID with a photo, but at the school I attend they no longer give those IDs, but they gave me a letter that certifies that I am a student of that school and I showed it to them. I started to get very nervous because they were asking me a lot of questions in a hostile tone, I started to tremble and the agent who questioned me on secondary revision said that I brought drugs, she said 'you are bringing drugs' I said no and she said 'Then why are you shaking' I told her that because they were asking me a lot of questions and she asked an agent to bring a dog. They put me in a room where the dog sniffed my private parts and obviously found nothing. They took away the dog, then they told me 'we're going to undress you' they auscultated me with my pants on and they found nothing, then they told me to take my pants down, I did, and they saw me and told me to pull my pants up. They took me out of the room and again they asked me the same things, this time they asked me to give them the name of the adult we had crossed with me the first time. The man who crossed us the first time is a US citizen, who is the husband of the sister of my uncle's wife, but I do not know his name. The agent told me to tell her the truth and that I would be sent back to Juarez, if I did not tell them the truth and they were to discover that I was not a citizen, that they would send me to DIF in Juarez. I started crying because I thought about the possibility of them doing that, since it

is very known that they do what they want. In this part the questioning became more severe, they asked me where I lived, I told them in Agua Dulce, they asked me which street, I told them in Agua de Lluvia, they also wanted the house number and I gave them to them. They told me that it was not possible that I lived in Agua Dulce and went to school in Horizon City, I told them that there were school buses that took us. They asked me to give them my mom's phone, but I do not know it, so I gave them my grandfather's, when they called him he answered and they asked him about Mrs. G. he told them that Mrs. G. was here in the United States, when I heard that, I told them that my grandfather was confused because my mother and my grandmother were both named G. then they asked him about Mrs. C. G. and they told her that she had to come to the bridge with an official ID and all the documents from when I entered school to the present, about 20 minutes later my mother arrived and they asked her the same questions about me that they had already asked me. I imagine that at this point they realized that I had not lied to them and now they focused on asking my mother questions about her immigration record, they asked her how many times she had crossed illegally, how many times she had been deported, that if she had paid for the delivery, this lasted about 10 more minutes. In the end they told my mom that they were going to let me through but that I could not cross alone. I ended up crossing the bridge between 8:30 and 9:00 p.m.

CASE # 38

CBP--OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: M. E. S.

Date and Time of Incident: Thursday April 11th, 2019

Location of Incident: PDN International Port of Entry

Number of People Abused: One Adult Woman

Children Abused: No

Abuses: Verbal abuse

Psychological abuse

I, M. E. S. was coming back from an 18-hour long trip, I was coming from a visit to my elderly mother, and after waiting for a couple hours at the transbordo del Norte passenger buses, at about nine o'clock, I waited in line so they could check my legal status, and then after that, I proceeded to the x-ray machine and was waiting for them to give me back my hand purse, I was very tired and didn't noticed the signs, I had my phone in my pocket and pulled it out to call my husband, then officer Heimbecker started yelling at me in front of everybody, she started yelling at me that I needed to put my phone back, that I could not be using it, that if I hadn't read the signs, she kept yelling at me louder and told me that she was going to take my phone away. I was shocked because of the way that she was yelling at me, she also said that I was going to get in trouble and I feared being arrested. A lot of things came through my mind, I asked her to speak to a supervisor and that's when she pointed to a sign, I took a picture, came back to ask her to write her name for me and she did. I told her that I needed to be treated with respect then I left because she was pointing at me and it seemed like she was calling someone.

CASE # 39

CBP--OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: R. Q.

Date and Time of Incident: Tuesday May 7th, 2019 at 6:45 pm

Location of Incident: PDN International Port of Entry

Number of People Abused: One Adult Man

Children Abused: No

Abuses: Deprivation of freedom of speech, expression or association

Today, Tuesday at 6:45 pm., I R. Q. crossed the Paso del Norte International port of entry through Officer Ramirez, he is mad at people for declaring their citizenship, their conveyance and purpose in Mexico. I crossed, I said good afternoon, he refused to greet me. I told him I am a US Citizen, I made my declaration and told him that I went to Mexico for pleasure, for lunch and shopping. He then said, are you finished yet. I said excuse me. He repeated 'are you finished yet'. I said yes. He said whose inspection is this, yours or mine? I told him the inspections is dictated by law and I must make a lawful declaration. He said, so what's next. I asked him what he means, he said there is another part since you know so much. I said, I didn't know. He said, 'you didn't tell me what time you left to Mexico'. I told him that this is not part of the inspection. He had me open up the vehicle and said he is giving me a warning. I am only allowed to bring groceries for myself and only enough for three days and that he is annotating in the system.

Please mark this down as an abuse. This is an abuse. This is not communist Russia where my movements and shopping is tracked. I am sure he buys groceries for the family, not himself.

This incident happened an hour ago at 6:45 pm, at the PDN first open lane to the left. His name is Ramirez. They can pull up the crossing with the Officer. By the way, I was an inspector for 17 years.

CASE # 40

CBP--OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: Y. R.

Date and Time of Incident: Thursday 17

Location of Incident: EP Processing center

Number of People Abused: One Adult Woman and Multiple Children

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Verbal abuse

On Thursday, individuals from human rights brought me to Casa del Migrante, they took me with the Beta group, and I crossed the bridge and took my number 4 with immigration. They checked my suitcase and those of my children, they also registered my 14-year-old daughter, we entered a cold room, they gave us a sheet and a mattress to sleep on. There were many of us there and they gave us soup and water 3 times, and children received a biscuit and juice. On Friday at 9 in the morning they took me to the interview, and I spent about an hour there. I gave my information explaining why I left my country.

On Saturday, they told me that I was going to be returned to Ciudad Juarez to fight my case. I explained my case and they told me that I had to take a lawyer to fight my asylum. So, I was returned on Saturday and arrived by 1 in the afternoon at the migrant's house. The agents were in blue uniform. I also asked for milk for my son and it almost fell but the agent's pillow held it. She told me not to touch her things she was in blue uniform, tall, blonde with bun, strong and well-made makeup.

CASE # 41

CBP-OFO

Name of Alleged Victim: L. R.

Date and Time of Incident: April 8, 2019

Location of Incident: Paso del Norte International Bridge

Type of Abuse: Verbal

Number of People Abused:

Children Abused:

Abuses: Harassment

Psychological abuse

I, L. R., on Monday, April 8th at 4:20 p.m., arrived at Paso del Norte International Bridge and there were two very long lines. After 5 minutes in line they began to return people from one of the lines and they said that it was now only going to be one line from which they would be passing groups of 10 people to the office to cross. When it was nearing my turn, 3 Border Patrol agents passed with 6 Central American people, that I suppose were coming to ask for political asylum, and put them in the office and as they closed the door, Agent Marquez of CBP began to say, "look at them, they go first. It is because of them that you are all waiting in long lines and it is also because of those who voted for these representatives that we have and because of those who didn't vote and he didn't stop talking until 2 other CBP agents got there. That's when he stopped talking and moved away from the door.

IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

CASE # 42

ICE - CBP

Name of Alleged Victim: A. G.

Date and Time of Incident: October 20, 2018

Location of Incident: El Paso Detention Center (CBP Holding Cell in El Paso)

Number of People Abused: Four—Two Adult Women and Two Children

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Physical abuse

Deprivation of basic needs (medical/hospital)

It was dawn, Blanca was asleep when I saw that they came to wake her up to give the medicine to her daughter, she did not wake up when they called her name. They kicked her head with their foot. Inside it was very cold, sometimes they gave us blankets sometimes they didn't. Blanca's daughter had flu symptoms all the time and started to bleed through her nose. My child was complaining of stomachache and they did not pay attention to him, he cried all week because he was constipated and could not do the bathroom and the immigration agents did not take him to the hospital.

CASE # 43

ICE - Border Patrol

Name of Alleged Victim: M. P. and M. M.

Date and Time of Incident: May 17, 2019

Location of Incident: El Paso Detention Center (CBP Holding Cell)

Number of People Abused: More than Four Hundred Persons

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Physical abuse to a 7-10-year-old

Verbal abuse

Physical abuse to a young man

Between May 17 and 20, in the detention center of El Paso TX, several abuses took place on behalf of the agents responsible for caring for these people. The following was what happened.

I witnessed an immigration agent hitting a child of approximately 7 to 10-years-old and told him fuck your motherfucker. The same agent also hit a woman and verbally abused her telling her the same thing he told the little boy, fuck you bitch. This same agent pushed a man who was carrying his child in his arms, the man fell and fell on top of his girl. The next thing I witnessed is the case of a young man who was handcuffed by several officers and they used the taser gun on his ribs, they were giving him electric shocks, and this was because he did not know how to speak Spanish well. He spoke a dialect.

These are some of the offenses used on several occasions by the agents against these detained people, verbal aggressions such as fuck your motherfucker, stinky, useless pigs,

and that they should not come to this country if they did not know how to at least speak Spanish.

Agents would also take groups out for 2 hours in the sun to dry because they were all wet and for the 4 days they stayed there, they were not allowed to bathe, all their belongings were taken away, belongings such as cell phones, jewelry and when they took them off they gave them a number and told them that with that number they could claim and receive their things back, but when they did, they only told them very reluctantly that they did not have anything there because those things had been lost and they took away the number they had previously given them.

In one occasion, I also witnessed a man who was leaning against the chain-link fence that is under the bridge, then a very aggressive agent arrived and started pulling this man by his shirt, the people heard that the gentleman was telling them to wait because his hand was stuck and the agent kept pulling him, because of that, three fingers of his hand were broken, the man was detained there for a whole day without medical help for his fingers and from there he was taken to the hospital and we did not know anything about him.

When we arrived at the detention center there were more than 400 people and we all had to sleep standing up and sometimes we slept on the floor, but without blankets or anything. When agents come into the cells, they take off their badges where they have their names and tell us that we are bunch of idiots and that is why the arrested people do not know the names of these abusive agents.

CASE # 44

ICE, BP and CBP (Border Patrol)

Name of Alleged Victim: R. R.

Date and Time of Incident: May 8-14, 2019

Location of Incident: N / A (CBP Holding Cells in El Paso)

Number of People Abused: Approximately 100 persons

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Verbal abuse

Psychological abuse

Temporary wrongful detention (8 hours)

Overcrowding

I, R. left Guatemala to get to the United States without thinking about the hell that I was about to live when I arrived in Ciudad Juarez and turned myself and my 14-year-old-son over to immigration authorities. Everything seemed to be going well but hell broke loose when we were detained. For 6 days all of us we were treated worse than criminals; children, men, women and seniors. I did not stay quiet and I told them 'it is not necessary to shout and treat us like animals' and I said 'it is not fair, it is our right to ask for political asylum' and that cost me to be taken to a punishment cell for 8 hours which were the worst of my life, fearing that I would be separated from my son. The food was thrown at us as if we were animals and we preferred not to eat. I was scared because they were putting more and more people in the cold cells, we ended up being around up to 100 people in each cell. My son's cell was the same. One day I asked an officer when was I going to be released, he said he did not know, that they were investigating me because

they thought my son was not mine, but another officer told me 'they are only punishing you, I will help you get out of here.' Today May 14, I was able to get out of that hell where I know that many children will die if they do not do something for them, because of the treatment they are giving them there.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

CASE # 45

EI Paso Local Police (EPPD)

Name of Alleged Victim: J. R.

Date and Time of Incident: May 3, 2019

Location of Incident: South Park Apartment

Number of People Abused: Two—One Adult Man and One Adult Woman

Children Abused: No (Children were present as witnesses)

Abuses: Physical abuse

On May 3, at approximately 9 o'clock at night, one of my grandsons called me on the phone, I heard many shouts and asked him what was going on, and my grandson told me that I had to get there because if I did not come the police would call CPS. Then my niece arrived to take care of my grandchildren while I arrived, I spoke with my daughter on Saturday while she was still in jail, and asked her what had happened and she told me that she did not know what had happened, she told me that she was outside with her husband, sitting outside and she turned and saw someone coming and told her husband jokingly 'they are calling you', without knowing it was the police, her husband went into the house and she stood in front of the door and asked what was happening and they told her they had received a call and that they were going to investigate and my daughter told them that nothing was happening there, they asked if they could go inside the house and she said no, she told them that she needed to see a search warrant, the police told her she did not need that and got in, her husband went out the window because he was afraid for being undocumented, the police told her that she was going to be arrested for interfering with an arrest, my daughter struggled with them because they never told her why, they tried to pull her out and three policemen grabbed her and they put her against the wall, with her hands on her back and hit her against the wall.

In the struggle, my daughter scratched the policeman and he told her that she was going to be charged with assault and my daughter told him that she was going to sue because she did not know why they were arresting her, so the policeman told her, 'You think that you will be able to do something, I have 13 years in the police, all the people I have arrested tell me that and in the end when they are in court they say nothing' in the end he charged her with resisting arrest, aggravated assault and interfering in an arrest. She already has an Attorney (public defender)

CASE # 46

Dona Ana Sheriff

Name of Alleged Victim: L. M.

Date and Time of Incident: N / A

Location of Incident: Santa Teresa NM

Number of People Abused: One Adult Woman

Children Abused: No

Abuses: Entering home without permission

My name is L. M. and I live in the Santa Teresa NM area. My complaint is about the Dona Ana Sheriff. About 3 years ago at about 5 in the morning they knocked on my door and I went to open it, I was already up because it was the time I got my husband up to go to work, my children were still asleep and when I opened my door, I find out it was the Sheriff and without my consent they entered my home, they said that they were looking for a man and that he lived there, I was very scared because they were armed and could shoot me, when they found that there was no one of the people they were looking for, they left. In my point of view, this is abuse of authority, to get into houses without being sure of the people they are looking for.

CASE # 47

Sunland Park Local Police and BP (DA County Sheriff, Sunland Park PD)

Name of Alleged Victim: A. M.

Date and Time of Incident: 5 years ago (BP Issues Ongoing)

Location of Incident: Santa Teresa NM

Number of People Abused: One Adult Man

Children Abused: No

Abuses: Physical abuse by police

Wrongful search (entering home without permission)

I, A. M. want you to know that the local police of Sunland Park have abused me and regularly are young sheriff who feel empowered. My case is that the police hit me, when the police stopped me, that was about 5 years ago, apart from the fact that the last time they got into my house for no reason and then border patrol is always getting into my property all the nights when they are looking for people crossing the border. I felt abused with the police and with border patrol. I do not feel comfortable having them enter my property without permission.

MILITIAS – CIVILIAN ARMED GROUPS

CASE # 48

Militia Group and BP

Name of Alleged Victim: F. M.

Date and Time of Incident: mid-April 2019

Location of Incident: Sunland Park (Border)

Number of People Abused: One Adult Woman and Multiple Children; Multiple others may also have been abused

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Psychological abuse

Harassment

I'm F. M. and I live in Sunland Park, it was around mid-April around 1 or 2 in the morning and there were shots fired and after that we were so afraid that we could not sleep, it was the Americans (militias) who shot undocumented people. Well, we have been living in this region for 20 years and we had always lived peacefully, but for a few years ago, after the wall was built, we no longer live in peace because the harassment of the border patrol is so much that we live in fear. They always get into our yards at any time of the day and night. Now with those men who were near the wall we feel much more fear because they are armed and with guns shooting at immigrants, we just want to live peacefully and without fear.

I fear for my grandchildren's safety when they go out to play in the yard, I fear that they are going to be shot, since we have seen how border patrol hit the poor immigrants, here near my house we have seen many times how they beat the people who cross and come here to work to have a better life and the first thing they see is all kinds of abuse, such as beatings, humiliations and racism. How sad to see that they treat them as if they were animals and not as human beings. We are already tired of living with fear and that nobody does anything to help us. I just want to tell you that it is very ugly to live with fear and that nobody helps us to stop all these abuses. Poor immigrants, everyone has become cruel with them, just because they want to have a better life for themselves and their family.

CASE # 49

Militia Group

Name of Alleged Victim: G. Q.

Date and Time of Incident: April 13, 2019

Location of Incident: Sunland Park (Border)

Number of People Abused: One Adult Woman and Multiple Children; Multiple others may also have been abused

Children Abused: Yes

Abuses: Psychological abuse

Impact on border wall

My name is G. Q. and I am a resident of Sunland Park and I live very close to the border wall. My fear is for the problem that happened on April 13, 2019, approximately between 1 and 2 in the morning when there were shots and cries of immigrants asking for help.

The State of Human Rights at the U.S.-Mexico Border
Report on the Findings of the June 2019 Abuse Documentation Campaign

When the group of militias arrived in Sunland Park, that night I could hear several gunshots and machine guns firing, they were heard very close to my house, after the shots I saw several Sunland Park policemen pass by. After the shooting we could no longer sleep, we were afraid, and now we fear that our children end up being shot because they are very often playing outside.

The children ask me why those from the border patrol hit the migrants, they do not understand why they are beaten if they are also people like us. We have lived here since 1999 and before the wall we did not have this problem with border patrol, before the wall, the border patrol did not get into our properties and now that they have built a wall they harass us all who live here in this area.