

Message

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: 3/2/2022 2:41:35 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CC: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Flag: B1 comment on horse patrol

Thank you.

Benjamin "Carry" Huffman  
Acting Chief Operating Officer  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Washington, DC

O (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

M



**Shine a Light**

Suicide Prevention and Awareness

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

800-273-8255

COP Employee Assistance Program

800-755-7002

From: (b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, March 1, 2022 10:36 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Flag: B1 comment on horse patrol

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and Chief,

Flagging a comment that B1 made on local radio last week in the chance it comes up at tomorrow's hearing.

Here's the comment: *"And then with respect to the Del Rio event. I think that investigation is going to get wrapped up here relatively quickly. And we're going to find out you know, really, what the truth were was behind that that incident, and I'm confident that almost all those ages will be exonerated. And what we'll find is it was probably, you know, something that was mischaracterized."*

And as a reminder, here is our approved messaging on this:

*DHS is committed to transparency. We will share the results of the investigation once it is complete and provide updates, as available, consistent with the need to protect the integrity of the investigation and individuals' privacy. Full statement: <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2021/11/16/dhs-update-regarding-investigation-horse-patrol-activity-del-rio-texas-september-19>*

Full transcript below for reference.

**KURV Radio transcript of interview February 23, 2022 at 7:15am**

B1:

Thank you Sergio and Tim for having me. And it's always good to come back to Texas. You know I call this my second home. Certainly DC is not my first what I did is about seven eight days ago decided to make a trip down to the most of the Texas sectors. I started out in Big Bend went to Del Rio went to Laredo and then wound up

here in the RGV to really just visit with the troops get a chance to go out and work with them side by side and hear from them some of their concerns that they're dealing with on a daily basis.

KURV:

Take notes from the frontline crew you're listening to. But as we take your message back to DC, I don't think anybody's listening to you.

Unknown 2:49

There are certainly I think is a breakdown in a lot of areas. As you know we were able to bring Secretary Mayorkas down to the border for three days in Yuma, Arizona, that he went down to Laredo and also was able to see I think firsthand in El Paso some of those challenges that those agents have. I will say this that you know, in my 30 plus years I can say that's probably the biggest commitment from a department official to the border. And he took back a laundry list of things that he wanted to work on, in fact, that next Monday, 21 things he outlined that he wanted us to address. And we've started on that list. This isn't a list just for the Border Patrol, but also for ICE and some of the other departments that are out there. So hopefully, we can make some progress on some of those initiatives. But it's not going to be easy.

KURV:

Our national border patrol chief Raul Ortiz they're probably not going to be easy. Probably not going to be too quick. Either way, Washington first, let's and let's talk a little bit more about this because there has been a lot of pushback from the Republican base. Ever since the administration changed the country's approach to immigration and even some pushback from your rank and file. How would you characterize this administration's approach to immigration overall?

B1:

So when you think about, you know, turning that ship 180 degrees, you know, very much a very different approach to your security and immigration situation. It has been quite a challenge for especially some of our younger agents.

KURV:

When you think about somebody has been in this outfit for 2019 construction and that's despite executive order that stops all while building. Where do we stand? We'll part of the wall with those funds be built because that's through the Rio Grande Valley. We're talking all through Starr and Hidalgo Counties.

Yeah, most definitely. So one of the things one of the initiatives on that list of 21 that the Secretary is focused on is closing some of these gates and gaps that we have out there. So there's 68 of them that were approved. And then I've got another tranche of gates and gaps that I want to close. Is there every single one of those gates and gaps an agent is having to sit right there are National Guardsmen are some of the law enforcement officials. And then secondly, with respect to the Appropriations made you think, a little bit over \$2 billion, well, if we're not going to build any new infrastructure with that \$2 billion, what else can we potentially do with that? And this is the technology and I've actually proposed an initiative where we have patrol zones out there with technology linear around detection system, and an enforcement so agents can get into these areas much quicker in patrol laterally, which has always been a challenge for us in my 30 plus years in this outfit

KURV:

Especially in parts of the valley. What's the difference between border wall construction happening and levee wall construction happening right now too?

B1:

Yeah, so some of the levee wall system is a life safety issue is so we're going to go back and remediate those areas. We were started the construction in the levee wall system, and we weren't able to finish. You know, that's an area that's controlled by the International Water and Boundary Commission. And so we recognize the impact that those initiatives may have on these communities. And so we're going to make sure and get those

back to where they were in maybe it's obviously better. So that's the goal with the remediation of the levee system, and that plays out on a lot of locations. It plays out in California. I toured out there, it plays out in Arizona, Southern Arizona, and so we've just got to do a better job of pushing for these projects much quicker. As you know, anytime you do environmental, you work with the corps and sometimes that becomes a bit of a challenge for us.

KURV: For all our teams is the national border patrol chief. Yeah, he went national he was our chief here for many years or number two for many years here in south Texas. And he now leads the gang and border patrol at a very stressful time for Border Patrol. Have the 21 point plan that Secretary Mayorkas developed and handed over to you chief? In general terms would you describe it greater enforcement or it's a reshuffling of policy for a more lenient or softer approach toward the illegal immigration situation you're handling daily?

B1:

Yeah, I'd say really the policy issues and that 21 Point Plan centered around working with the governor of Mexico and regional partners, we think of Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, there's other players within the immigration spectrum that certainly need to step up their game.

B1:

A lot of these were very, you know, transactional. Do you think about we need more Border Patrol agents? He's asking for that. I need more processing coordinators. I need to get those 1200 trained that were authorized by Congress. When you think about, what about a contracting vehicle so we can get contractors out in these processing centers. So the Border Patrol just gave get back to their patrol responsibilities. And so we're looking to expense money doing that. So a lot of these things are transactional. And then there are a few policy issues. We're not getting enough prosecutions for agents. I've had over 200 agents assaulted already this year and even though we sit around 70% prosecution rate that should be 90 to 100% prosecution rate. So we're working with the Department of Justice to make sure that that happens. And then you think about the migrant protection protocols. You've got to use that initiative in a way that actually creates a deterrent and forces people to apply for asylum, the correct and legal way. And obviously we've got a court mandate to delivering MPP so when you think about, you know, Southern here in south Texas, you think about El Paso and San Diego. If you're going to do it, you might as well do it. And make an impact.

KURV:

Our national border patrol chief Raul Ortiz in the studio here at Newstalk, 710 KURV, you mentioned the protocol. So percentage wise ballpark figure for how many people are being caught after they enter illegally and being returned under these protocols right now, is that the majority is 30% 75.

What is it because at one time because of these COVID protocols, you never know it might be going away because seems like COVID is going away. In the meantime, we still have and they're supposed to go back and once it needs to go back. Okay, so how many people actually being returned to Mexico the first country that should have given him a site?

B1:

Yeah. So there's two things I think in that question. One, you have the title 42 authority from Health and Human Services, which is the CDC authority to expel people because of COVID and the pandemic and so we're averaging anywhere about 47 48% of those populations, right now are getting repatriated back to Mexico who was much higher, about six, eight months ago, but that number has continued to shrink and over 42 Title 42 Over the last two years. If I had to guess about 50 - 50 30% of them were processing via title eight the way we would normally process a migrant if we had apprehended them, and then turn them over to ice or send them back to their home country. But with the title 42 authority if it's a contiguous country, which is Mexico and Canada, we can send them back as long as they're Spanish speakers and we've been able to do that. And we're trying to expand that right now. Because we know we probably only have that for a small window. We know

for sure that we're going to have it until March 31. We're so we're going to continue to leverage those CDC authorities while we can.

The second thing on the migrant protection protocols. There is a very small percentage that are putting that are placed into that process right now, when under the previous administration, it was much higher

KURV:

And that's the one that the court the High Court said it needs to go back.

B1:

Yes.

KURV:

So what's the delay? Why are they these things?

B1:

You know, one of the parts of the conversation is they have to be awarded access to an attorney. And so that access to an attorney can happen at anytime within that 24 hour period. So that's one of the delay. That's what that the department and this administration made it so that has to happen, and we certainly afford them access to counsel whenever we can.

KURV:

Is Mexico doing its part securing its southern border as a result from various negotiations with the Biden administration.

B1:

Yeah. So you know, I think with our government, Mexico partners, we've seen that they've also got some capacity issues. I think most of the population that we're encountering come through thought by Tula in that southern that, you know, Prudential so we continue to see an awful lot of traffic down there. They tried to have to force that they have to manage their southern border. And then we certainly asked them to help on their northern border with us because we do mirror patrols with them all the time. I think they're stretched awfully awfully thin right now. They're repatriating people back to Colombia, some of these other countries, Haiti, and whatnot. But when you think about the populations that received compared to when I got here in 2013 144 Different countries already, and we're just finished our first quarter of the fiscal year. You think those 144 countries make up Cubans Venezuelans? Nicaragua is Ecuador, as all these countries where we don't have strong diplomatic ties to so how do you put you know, 70-80 people on a plane to send back to Cuba when your relations with them are already strained? And so that becomes a challenge not just for us but ICE.

KURV:

That's a whole different discussion chief Raul Ortiz National Chief border patrol in the studio here KURV

Let's go back to Del Rio from several months ago, and the much-hyped investigation and some secretary Mayorkas all these border patrol on horseback and the initial wrong accusation report that they have been whipping some of these folks who are running from them and those folks, that was wrong, but yet they promised an investigation and some punitive action. What can you tell me from Washington? Has that been closed already? Are we done with that investigation or something? Some of your folks that works are still in trouble being investigated.

B1:

So there's still an investigation that's open. It's being investigated by our Office of Professional Responsibility which is like our internal affairs office, and conjunction with the Department of Justice. I will tell you that almost every agent that was involved in that event is back to work and riding horses, and I had a chance

KURV:

And are we're able to use horses right?

KURV

Anywhere everywhere they need to ?

B1:

Sergio, over the last nine days. I've ridden horses four times with my agents out there in the field to demonstrate to them my support for horse patrol units and what they do each and every day, and they are doing a phenomenal job. And then with respect to the Del Rio event. I think that investigation is going to get wrapped up here relatively quickly. And we're going to find out you know, really, what the truth were was behind that that incident, and I'm confident that almost all those ages will be exonerated. And what we'll find is it was probably, you know, something that was mischaracterized.

KURV:

I could keep talking for at least another hour but of all the questions I got for you. The Texas effort at the border is it making a difference isn't helping in any way some setting up improvised volunteer putting GPS to catch fentanyl? You know, all the resources. The State of Texas is providing some backup behind you Is it helping?

B1:

Yeah, most definitely our partnerships with the State of Texas is phenomenal.

KURV:

How so Chief:

B1:

So I went out yesterday down to Anzalduas Park. There are 37 Texas Game Warden boats out there that are out there patrolling not at any one time, but they're out there, you know, supplementing our Border Patrol units. And on any given day, I may have 50% of my workforce tied down processing and only 50% of them out there in patrol. And so having state troopers, Game Wardens, National Guard, our own DoD efforts out there are a force multiplier. I was working last night till about 10-1030 with the Border Patrol guys, and they were bouncing around all over the sector. And what we saw is a concerted effort, great communication, good collaboration. I wish I could take that and take it up Washington DC because we may have some better success. But I will tell you great partnership there and I think we'd be a much poorer state of affairs without their assistance.

KURV:

As a broadcaster going across the valley and any folks in green uniform out there at the river out there in Lacavina and ranch country. Any words of encouragement? I know in a stressful time morale is low. So what would you say to the frontline Border Patrol gang?

B1: That's a great question. A young supervisor asked me that same question last night. And I told her I said, Hey, listen, you know, one of the things about morale, you know, when we're slow, agents get bored and you know, you start to see morale dip. We're really, really busy right now. So certainly, there is a lack of activity. The agents Got to stay focused on the mission. And we saw that video in Laredo several weeks ago. And that's what we were talking about. Stay focused on the mission. Don't get bogged down in the policy. You know, you can have those conversations on your off time. But at the end of the day, we're out there doing a job that's very, very important. Do everything we can to secure the border. And then with respect, let me fight for the resources that you need. I'm asking for more agents. I'm asking for more technology, better vehicles, better tech, you

know, I need to have a cell phone and every border patrol agents hand out there so they can communicate with each other with the systems that we have already in place. So those are the types of initiatives that I'm working on at the national level. And then certainly trying to make sure our agents are certainly awarded the compensation that they deserve.

(b) (6)

Assistant Secretary, Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

c: (b) (6)

The Heritage Foundation - Oversight Project

Message

**From:** MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** 9/20/2021 10:16:06 PM  
**To:** ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**CC:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Matt we need to make it happen - today. There are too many people and too many opportunities for something to go wrong. Troy

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 5:05 PM, ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Sirs, with your concurrence I would like to have a full time presence of OPR agents on site.  
Get Outlook for iOS

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**From:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 3:03 PM  
**To:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR; HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); MILLER, TROY A; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); ORTIZ, RAUL L; JAMES, MICHELE (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

OPR is engaged, agents are on scene and working to collect additional information and identify involved agents. So can confirm the following:

- CBP OPR engaged and investigating the actions of the agents depicted in the footage, and assessing any potential for misconduct.
- OIG has been notified.

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**From:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 3:43 PM  
**To:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); JAMES, MICHELE (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Additional details;

The horse patrol was not tasked to conduct containment/entry prevention operations at the location shown in the video.

DRT Sector has corrected this issue and provided operational guidance to horse patrol. Their duty is to patrol the area and keep order with the migrants' movements as well as look for any migrants that are in need – medical distress, water and food, vulnerable population, etc..

The current situation warrants the ability for migrants to go back and forth in a controlled manner. This is the operational guidance in place.

OPR is looking into the matter to determine if there is any misconduct.

Thank you,

Manny

**From:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 3:31 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW  
(OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES, MICHELE (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Looping in OPR Leadership. Just got off the phone with C1, need to update the TP with more details ASAP and confirm that OPR is reviewing/investigating the incident.

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 3:25 PM  
**To:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

DHS wants to be able to update the talking points for media inquiries to say an investigation is underway. Please let me know if/when I can confirm that.

**From:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 2:41 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border



Getting with DRT now

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 2:30 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Hi all: We need to get the more details on this as soon as possible. Just got a call from WH IGA/Political – the footage is getting everywhere.

Thanks,  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 12:50 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Good with this and will continue to work on the details. Ultimately defer to Chief Ortiz and Deputy Padilla.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Chief  
Law Enforcement Operations Directorate  
USBP Headquarters, Washington, DC  
Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 12:48 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Coordinated with BP Strat Comm for this response, not enough info is available yet:

**Why is Border Patrol using agents on horseback with whips to control those trying to cross the river?**

We are aware of the reporting and are looking into the situation. Any allegation of misconduct will be investigated. We will continue to prioritize processing the migrants here in a safe, orderly and humane way.

**Why are you no longer allowing people to move back and forth since for days they were getting food and other supplies like diapers in Mexico and coming back?**

We are not preventing their movement, we're processing those under the bridge as quickly, safely, and in as humane a way as possible.

Again, we will review any allegation of misconduct thoroughly. But we have worked hard to ensure the health and safety of everyone involved as we process migrants for return to their countries of origin.

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 12:05 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

On the public communication side we'll also need to explain why people were going back and forth for the first few days, many buying food or supplies before returning, and why we suddenly started blocking that.

If they're hearing about our deportation flights and decide to go back, does this mean we won't let them return to Mexico either?

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 11:26 AM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Thanks. Will need TPs more generally as well on enforcement/use of force posture. Something short is fine for now - we will definitely need more if we start to see real unrest on the ground. Thank you--

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 11:16 AM

**To:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

We are communicating with the local leadership now. Update shortly.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Chief  
Law Enforcement Operations Directorate  
USBP Headquarters, Washington, DC  
Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:15 AM  
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ,  
RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-  
Mexico border

Looping in Chief Padilla and Chief Ortiz,  
I pasted what I believe to be the concerning part of the story below. We need find out what really happened and if appropriate, report to the JIC/OPR. Also work with OPA with the response.

**"Reuters journalists saw mounted officers wearing cowboy hats and vests emblazoned with "POLICE U.S. BORDER PATROL" blocking the path of migrants scrambling up the U.S. embankment carrying plastic bags and cardboard boxes.**

**After one of the officers in the vests unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face.**

**In another incident, the same officer grabbed the back of the shirt of a migrant trying to run up the bank with bags of food."**

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 10:55 AM  
To: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Subject: Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-  
Mexico border

On it with (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) right now, Sir.

---

From: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 10:54:35 AM  
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Fwd: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Deputy, FYSA: We need a good response. Troy

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Date:** September 20, 2021 at 10:44:35 AM EDT

**To:** "Mayorkas, Alejandro" [REDACTED] (b) (6)

**Cc:** "MILLER, TROY A" [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

We are running down and will put together a statement. Will need to clarify what reins look like vs a horse whip, and clarify use of force.

**Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border (Daina Beth Solomon and Alberto Fajardo)**

CIUDAD ACUÑA, Mexico, Sept 19 (Reuters) - A U.S. law enforcement officer on horseback wielded what appeared to be a lariat, whipping it close to the face of a man wading in the Rio Grande carrying a plastic bag of food.

It was just one desperate moment in a few hours of such scenes along the Rio Grande on Sunday.

Hundreds of Haitian migrants who have been camping under a bridge in the Texas town of Del Rio were trying to bring food and other supplies from Ciudad Acuña in the Mexican state of Coahuila, while U.S. officials have stepped up security at the border and started flying migrants out of the area, some to Haiti.

Migrants said their squalid encampment under a bridge on the U.S. side of the river was short of supplies. U.S. officials over the last few days had let migrants cross back and forth at a shallow point of the river. On Sunday, however, they told migrants they would not be able to return to the U.S. side if they ventured into Mexico.

"We're trapped," said Joncito Jean, 37, who had spent three days sleeping on a sheet on the ground with his wife and children, ages 3 and 4. He said he regretted the decision to come.

"There are no humane conditions... We have to break out to buy water."

More than 12,000 migrants, identified by officials on both sides as mostly Haitian, have been gathering under the bridge in recent days, awaiting immigration processing. Instead, U.S. officials began removing several thousand people from the camp over the weekend, including some who were later seen arriving in Haiti.

Still, several people who spoke to Reuters, most of whom traveled with their children, said they would take their chances to try to stay in the United States.

Mackenley Pearre, 25, left impoverished Haiti in July with his cousin, wife and 2-year-old daughter due to the worsening violence and inability to find work as an electrician. In July, Haiti's president was assassinated, and in August a major earthquake and powerful storm hit the country.

"You have to do something to not die of hunger," he said, eating a tamale given to him by a local resident on the Mexican side, one of several people who said they felt moved to help.

At a news conference in Del Rio Sunday, U.S. Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz said resources were available.

"We are providing food, water, portable toilets, towels, emergency medical technicians are available for first aid," Ortiz said.

"Over the next 6 to 7 days our goal is to process the 12,662 migrants that we have underneath that bridge as quickly as we possibly can," Ortiz said. "What we want to make sure is that we deter the migrants from coming into the region so we can manage the folks that are under the bridge at this point."

At the border, migrants waded deeper to try to evade law enforcement. Mostly men, many barefoot and in boxers, attempted trickier crossings through waist-deep water. Some migrants crossed at another point where water reached their necks.

Reuters journalists saw mounted officers wearing cowboy hats and vests emblazoned with "POLICE U.S. BORDER PATROL" blocking the path of migrants scrambling up the U.S. embankment carrying plastic bags and cardboard boxes.

After one of the officers in the vests unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face.

In another incident, the same officer grabbed the back of the shirt of a migrant trying to run up the bank with bags of food.

Both people appeared to eventually slip past while the officers tried to hold back migrants who were scattering in all directions. A group of some two dozen people were later seen seated on the U.S. side of the river's edge behind yellow tape near several patrol cars.

###

Message

**From:** CBP PUBLICAFFAIRS (b) (7)(E)  
**Sent:** 2/1/2022 11:05:15 AM  
**Subject:** CBP Daily News Brief: February 1, 2022



TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | BORDER SECURITY (PORTS OF ENTRY) | TRAVEL | TRADE |  
WORKFORCE | OPINION | IMMIGRATION | DHS | OF INTEREST |

**February 1, 2022**

**Executive Summary**

The Washington Post reported that Venezuelans taken into custody along the U.S. southern border will be sent to Colombia under a new attempt by the Biden administration to contend with spiking numbers of migrants arriving from nations around the world. Venezuelans have crossed into the United States in recent months in record numbers. DHS said Monday that it will begin returning Venezuelans to Colombia if they had previously resettled in that country, expelling them from the U.S. under Title 42. ICE will begin returning Venezuelans to Colombia on a regular basis.

In other news, the Associated Press reported Mexico's National Immigration Institute said Monday that the number of migrants detained in that country surged 78% in January from a year ago. It said 16,740 migrants, mainly from Central America, were detained between Jan. 1 and Jan. 30. That compares with the 9,406 people detained without proper documents in the same period of 2021. It was unclear if the number of migrants was less last year because of last winter's brutal coronavirus surge.

Meanwhile, Fox News reported that a group of Republican lawmakers penned a letter to DHS Secretary Mayorkas insisting the Biden administration release the findings of its investigation into accusations Border Patrol agents on horseback were photographed whipping Haitian migrants. The letter was signed by Texas Reps. Chips Roy, Brian Babin, and Michael Cloud, as well as Reps. Andy Biggs, R-Ariz., Scott Perry, R-Pa., Mary Miller, R-Ill., and Darrell Issa, R-Calif., and quotes an anonymous DHS official.

## Top News

### **[A.1] U.S. sends Venezuela migrants to Colombia**

February 1, 2022 (The Washington Post (Print) - Nick Miroff) Reach: 356k

Venezuelans taken into custody along the U.S. southern border will be sent to Colombia under a new attempt by the Biden administration to contend with spiking numbers of migrants arriving from nations around the world. Venezuelans have crossed into the United States in recent months in record numbers, typically after flying to a Mexican border city and walking across to surrender to American authorities. CBP stopped 24,819 Venezuelans in December, up from 206 a year earlier. DHS said Monday that it will begin returning Venezuelans to Colombia if they had previously resettled in that country, expelling them from the United States under Title 42. ICE will begin returning Venezuelans to Colombia on a regular basis, officials said. The U.S. government does not recognize Venezuelan leader Nicolás Maduro as the country's legitimate president, and the lack of formal diplomatic relations makes it all but impossible for DHS officials to deport or return migrants there. That has raised fears within the administration of a mass migration wave.

### **[A.2] Number of migrants detained in Mexico surged 78% in January**

January 31, 2022 (Associated Press)

The number of migrants detained in Mexico surged 78% in January from a year ago, Mexico's National Immigration Institute said Monday. It said 16,740 migrants, mainly from Central America, were detained between Jan. 1 and Jan. 30. That compares with the 9,406 people detained without proper documents in the same period of 2021. It was unclear if the number of migrants was less last year because of last winter's brutal coronavirus surge. Children and youths under age 18 made up 14.5% of the migrants detained, and a total of 780 were found to be unaccompanied by family members, the agency said. Of the 16,740 migrants, 6,297, or 38%, were from Asia, Africa, Europe or other parts of the world outside the Americas. Migrants smugglers in Mexico have recently been trying some innovative methods, including ferrying migrants for hundreds of miles on the backs of motorcycles or smuggling them in vehicles with fake logos.

### **[A.3] Republicans insist on release of report on alleged whippings at the border**

January 31, 2022 (Fox News Channel) Reach: 51.4m

A group of Republican lawmakers penned a letter to DHS Secretary Mayorkas insisting the Biden administration release the findings of its investigation into accusations Border Patrol agents on horseback were photographed whipping Haitian migrants. The letter, which was signed by Texas Reps. Chips Roy, Brian Babin, and Michael Cloud, as well as Reps. Andy Biggs, R-Ariz., Scott Perry, R-Pa., Mary Miller, R-Ill., and Darrell Issa, R-Calif., quotes an anonymous DHS official saying they "doubt the current administration will release this report of the horse patrol incident because it makes the administration look terrible." DHS Secretary Mayorkas had said in September that a report on the incident would be available to lawmakers in "a matter of days, not weeks," a self-imposed deadline that has been missed by more than four months.

## **Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)**

### **[B.1] US expels Venezuelan migrants to Colombia under COVID powers**

January 31, 2022 (Associated Press) Reach: 17.7m

The Biden administration said Monday that it has begun expelling Venezuelan migrants to Colombia without a chance to seek asylum after entering the United States from Mexico, its latest use of pandemic-related authority.

### **[B.2] US begins quietly flying Venezuelan migrants to Colombia under controversial border policy**

January 31, 2022 (CNN International) Reach: 25.0m

The Biden administration, unable to return an increasing number of Venezuelans arrested at the U.S.-Mexico border to their home country, is now sending those migrants to Colombia if they previously resided there, according to two DHS officials.

### **[B.3] U.S. returning some Venezuelans caught at border to Colombia under COVID order**

January 31, 2022 (Reuters - Ted Hesson) Reach: 37.3m

The United States is returning some Venezuelans caught crossing the U.S.-Mexico border to Colombia if they previously resided in that country, U.S. officials confirmed on Monday, citing the need to limit the spread of COVID-19.

### **[B.4] GOP Rep. Gonzales: We Should Arm Border Patrol Against Drug-Smuggling Drones, Fixing Border Requires Policy Change**

January 31, 2022 (Breitbart News Network - Ian Hanchett) Reach: 5.4m

Rep. Tony Gonzales said that unless there is a policy shift on the border, the problems will continue, and one possible improvement is giving Border Patrol agents the technology to take down drones that are smuggling drugs near the border.

### **[B.5] CBP officers seize .50 caliber ammo heading into Nuevo Laredo**

February 1, 2022 (Laredo Morning Times - Cesar Rodriguez) Reach: 12.2k

Two people landed behind bars for attempting to smuggle more than 700 rounds of .50 caliber ammo into Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, according to an arrest affidavit.

### **[B.6] CBP: Woman used fake documents worth \$8,000 to enter the country illegally**

February 1, 2022 (Laredo Morning Times - Cesar Rodriguez) Reach: 12.2k

A woman said her friends bought her fake papers worth about \$8,000 to try to enter the country illegally, according to an arrest affidavit. The 22-year-old woman was arrested and charged with making a false statement.

### **[B.7] Affidavit: Man smuggled migrants several times in cloned Lewis Energy Group pickup**

January 31, 2022 (Laredo Morning Times - César Rodriguez) Reach: 181k

A man posed as a worker for the Lewis Energy Group and used a cloned vehicle of said company to smuggle migrants several times, according to an arrest affidavit.



### **[B.8] Texas trucker headed to prison for smuggling undocumented migrants**

January 31, 2022 (FreightWaves - Noi Mahoney) Reach: 591k

A Texas truck driver has been sentenced to more than three years in federal prison for illegally transporting 51 undocumented migrants in a tractor-trailer.

### **[B.9] Kansas AG: 'Nothing surprising' about what's happening at southern border**

January 31, 2022 (The Center Square - Bethany Blankley) Reach: 220k

Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt joined other Republican attorneys general at a two-day border summit in Texas calling on the Biden administration to follow immigration laws passed by Congress instead of implementing policies that circumvent them.

### **[B.10] Five Deported Sex Offenders Arrested Crossing Border into Texas**

January 31, 2022 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 5.4m

Eagle Pass Station agents in the Del Rio Sector arrested a Mexican national after he illegally crossed into Texas. The agents transported the man to the station where they discovered a conviction in Houston for sexual assault. The court sentenced the man to two years in state prison.

### **[B.11] Border agents seize 39 migrants in El Paso-area stash house raids**

January 31, 2022 (BorderReport - Julian Resendiz) Reach: 181k

Border Patrol agents raided two El Paso-area homes in the span of five days and took custody of 39 migrants being kept there by smugglers.

## **Border Security (Ports of Entry)**

### **[C.1] Boat found ashore in Ocean Beach in suspected human smuggling incident**

January 31, 2022 (San Diego Union-Tribune - David Hernandez) Reach: 206k

A small boat came ashore in Ocean Beach early Sunday in a suspected human smuggling incident, and everyone on board evaded capture, officials said.

## **Travel**

### **[E.1] Police launch criminal investigations into 'illegal' acts at Ottawa anti-vaccine-mandate trucker protests**

January 31, 2022 (The Washington Post - Jennifer Hassan) Reach: 356k

A convoy of truckers was initially planned to protest rules implemented in January by the U.S. and Canadian governments that require foreign truck drivers to be fully vaccinated to enter their countries. But it snowballed into a demonstration against Canada's prime minister.

## **Trade**

### **[F.1] Business News: Vaccine Rule Hasn't Hit Truck Volume**

January 31, 2022 (The Wall Street Journal - Powered by Dow Jones - Paul Vieira) Reach: 30.9m

Canada's transport minister said a COVID-19 vaccine mandate that targets truckers crossing the U.S.-Canada border has had little impact on the volume of trailers entering the country to deliver goods.

### **[F.2] US-China trade relations in 'difficult' stage: Tai**

January 31, 2022 (Breitbart News Network) Reach: 5.4m

Trade relations between Washington and Beijing are at a "difficult" stage but President Biden's administration is committed to protecting the US economy from negative impacts of China's policies, the top American trade official said Monday.

### **[F.3] Lunar New Year Impact Will Be Minimal On Imports**

January 31, 2022 (Benzinga) Reach: 4.7m

According to the FreightWaves Inbound Ocean Shipments and TEUs indices, shippers are continuing to order goods from overseas at a record clip.

### **[F.4] Japan's U.S. ambassador says metals tariff talks 'robust'**

January 31, 2022 (Reuters - Unknown) Reach: 381k

Negotiations between Japan and the United States over U.S. steel and aluminum tariffs are "robust" with a U.S.-EU deal to ease the duties serving as a "template," Japan's ambassador to Washington said on Monday.

## **Workforce**

### **[G.1] Chad Wolf: Biden admin has 'no answer' to border crisis**

January 31, 2022 (Fox News - Unknown) Reach: 4.6m

[Video] Former DHS acting secretary Chad Wolf says his heart breaks for border agents frustrated with current immigration policies after migrants were released into the country.

### **[G.2] Former border agent says security 'has changed' in the last year**

January 31, 2022 (Fox News - Unknown) Reach: 4.6m

[Video] Former CBP agent Rosemarie Pepperdine and National Border Patrol Council President Brandon Judd discussed the plummeting morale among border agents after footage was leaked of migrants being released.

### **[G.3] American heroism on the southern border**

February 1, 2022 (The Washington Times)

CBP agents continue their vigilant and often heroic activities on the southern U.S. border. "The lengths our agents go through to save a life has no bounds. I am humbled to be counted among these men and women. It's not the first time and it won't be the last that a life is saved because they put theirs on the line," Del Rio Sector Chief Patrol Agent Jason D. Owens said in a statement.

## **Opinion**

### **[I.1] Weaponizing Global Supply Chains Is Unlikely To Alter China's Uyghur Human Rights Regime**

January 31, 2022 (Forbes - Harry G. Broadman) Reach: 62.4m

In this opinion piece, Harry G. Broadman wrote that "The solution [to eliminate forced labor] is unlikely to be a one-size-fits-all formulation because the genesis of such conduct is deep-seated, and its perpetuation is fueled by multi-dimensional societal and political complexities."

### **[I.2] Opinion: The record \$1 trillion trade deficit doesn't even count hundreds of millions of small packages mailed directly from China**

January 31, 2022 (MarketWatch) Reach: 22.7m

In this opinion piece, Jeff Ferry wrote that "As bad as that number [\$1 trillion trade deficit] is, it turns out America's goods deficit is actually even worse. That's because an entire category of imports—known as 'de minimis' shipments—keeps arriving in the U.S. each day with only minimal tracking by the federal government."

## **Immigration**

### **[J.1] Venezuelans say deportations Biden denounced under Trump still taking place**

January 31, 2022 (NBC News - Noticias Telemundo Investiga) Reach: 40.9m

President Biden's administration has been deporting Venezuelans by way of a third country despite condemning former President Trump for doing the same.

### **[J.2] Asylum system in U.S. broken, speakers say**

February 1, 2022 (Crux - John Lavenburg) Reach: 256k

Sister Tracey Horan is noticing that the reality that migrants no longer have access to the asylum process, which is enshrined in international law, is becoming normalized in the United States.

### **[J.3] Texas Asks Federal Judge to End Biden's Migrant Airlift Program**

January 31, 2022 (Breitbart News Network - Jordan Dixon-Hamilton) Reach: 5.4m

Texas has sued the Biden administration once again, seeking to end the Obama-era Central American Minor Program.

### **[J.4] More than 6,000 Russians detained in 2021 while trying to cross into the U.S. from Mexico**

January 31, 2022 (CE NoticiasFinancieras - Powered by Dow Jones) Reach: 178k

According to CBP, there was an increase last year in detentions and unlawful attempts to cross the border from the Mexican side by people coming from Russia.

### **[J.5] Split up at the U.S.-Mexico border, family finally reunites**

January 31, 2022 (Reuters News)

On a Tuesday in January, four years after American authorities pried Maria Hernandez away from her daughters and deported her back to Honduras, she returned to the United States - this time with the blessing of the U.S. government.

**[J.6] Biden says admin trying to 'figure out' why illegal immigrants leave their countries**

January 31, 2022 (Fox News - Unknown) Reach: 3.9m

President Biden said Monday that his administration is committed to improving the border crisis by trying to "figure out" why migrants are leaving their home countries for the U.S. in the first place.

**DHS**

**[K.1] DHS Cancels Deportation Request For Illegal Immigrant Hit-And-Run Driver Who Killed Teenager**

January 31, 2022 (The Daily Wire - Ashe Schow) Reach: 6.1m

DHS has reportedly dropped its deportation request for Heriberto Fuerte-Padilla, an illegal immigrant who smashed his car into the car of a Texas teenager, killing her and fleeing the scene.

**[K.2] Second draft order by Trump advisers sought to ask DHS to seize voting machines: report**

January 31, 2022 (The Hill - Joseph Choi) Reach: 16.3m

Advisers to former President Trump drafted another version of an executive order that would have directed DHS to seize voting machines.

**Of Interest**

**[L.1] Rep. Andy Biggs: How Border Security Became A Top Five Issue For Americans**

January 31, 2022 (Fox News Channel - Michael Addvensky) Reach: 51.4m

[Podcast] Arizona Congressman Andy Biggs joined Fox Across America With Jimmy Failla to discuss security at the U.S. southern border.

Oversight Project

Message

**From:** CBP PUBLICAFFAIRS (b) (7)(E)  
**Sent:** 10/25/2021 10:47:23 AM  
**Subject:** CBP Daily News Brief: October 25, 2021



TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | BORDER SECURITY (PORTS OF ENTRY) | TRAVEL | TRADE |  
WORKFORCE | OPINION | IMMIGRATION |

**October 25, 2021**

**Executive Summary**

Media outlets over the weekend reported that illegal border crossings fell in September but the fiscal year ended with the highest count ever; thousands of migrants left Tapachula, Mexico, and began walking toward the U.S. border on Saturday; and millions of counterfeit gloves have reached the U.S.

The Associated Press reported that illegal border crossings from Mexico fell in September for only the second time in 17 months, but the federal fiscal year ended with the highest count ever, authorities said Friday. Migrants were stopped 192,001 times, down 9% from August and below 200,000 for the first time since June, according to CBP. Authorities stopped migrants more than 1.7 million times during the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, nearly quadruple from 458,088 in the previous fiscal year, when COVID-19 first struck.

Meanwhile, the Associated Press reported that more than 2,000 migrants began walking out of a city in southern Mexico on Saturday where they have essentially been trapped. The migrants walked along a highway leading west and north toward the U.S. border and pushed past a line of state police who were trying to stop them. They made it only a few miles to the nearby village of Alvaro Obregon before stopping to rest for the night at a baseball field. Tens of thousands of migrants from Honduras, El Salvador and Haiti have been waiting in the southern city of Tapachula for refugee or asylum papers that might allow them to travel, but have grown tired of delays in the process.

In other news, CNN reported that a months-long investigation has found that tens of millions of

counterfeit and second-hand nitrile gloves have reached the United States, according to import records and distributors who bought the gloves. Experts describe an industry riddled with fraud, with one of them telling CNN that nitrile gloves are the "most dangerous commodity on Earth right now." Yet, despite the potential risk to frontline healthcare workers and patients, U.S. authorities have struggled to get a handle on the illicit trade -- in part because import regulations for protective medical equipment were temporarily suspended at the height of the pandemic -- and remain suspended today.

## Top News

### **[A.1] Illegal border crossings fall in September but hit year high**

October 22, 2021 (Associated Press)

Illegal border crossings from Mexico fell in September for only the second time in 17 months, but the federal fiscal year ended with the highest count ever, authorities said Friday. Migrants were stopped 192,001 times, down 9% from August and below 200,000 for the first time since June, according to CBP. Authorities stopped migrants more than 1.7 million times during the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, nearly quadruple from 458,088 in the previous fiscal year, when COVID-19 first struck. The annual total broke a previous high of more than 1.6 million in the 2000 fiscal year and is the highest since the Border Patrol was created in 1924. The numbers aren't directly comparable because pandemic rules since March 2020 to expel migrants without giving them a chance to seek asylum carry no legal consequences, encouraging repeat attempts.

### **[A.2] Over 2,000 migrants march out of southern Mexico city**

October 23, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 22.0m

More than 2,000 migrants, mainly Central Americans, began walking out of a city in southern Mexico on Saturday where they have essentially been trapped. The migrants walked along a highway leading west and north toward the U.S. border and pushed past a line of state police who were trying to stop them. There were minor scuffles and a small child suffered a slight head wound, but the migrants continued on their way. They made it only a few miles to the nearby village of Alvaro Obregon before stopping to rest for the night at a baseball field. Police, immigration agents and National Guard have broken up smaller attempts at similar breakouts earlier this year. Tens of thousands of migrants from Honduras, El Salvador and Haiti have been waiting in the southern city of Tapachula for refugee or asylum papers that might allow them to travel, but have grown tired of delays in the process.

### **[A.3] CNN Investigation: Tens of millions of filthy, used medical gloves imported into the US**

October 24, 2021 (CNN - Kocha Olarn Davey-Attlee) Reach: 136m

A months-long CNN investigation has found that tens of millions of counterfeit and second-hand nitrile gloves have reached the United States, according to import records and distributors who bought the gloves -- and that's just the tip of the iceberg. Criminal investigations are underway by the authorities in the U.S. and Thailand. Experts describe an industry riddled with fraud, with one of them telling CNN that nitrile gloves are the "most dangerous commodity on Earth right now." Yet, despite the potential risk to frontline healthcare workers and patients, U.S. authorities have struggled to get a handle on the illicit trade -- in part because import regulations for protective medical equipment were temporarily suspended at the height of the pandemic -- and remain suspended today.

## NEWS INDEX

### **Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)**

#### **[B.1] US recorded more than 1.6 million southern border arrests last year, highest on record**

October 22, 2021 (CNN.com International - Geneva Sands) Reach: 23.7m

U.S. Border Patrol made nearly 1.66 million arrests for unlawful crossings on the US-Mexico border over the past year, the highest annual number of apprehensions on record, according to year-end data released by the agency Friday.

#### **[B.2] Border Patrol apprehensions hit a record high. But that's only part of the story**

October 23, 2021 (National Public Radio - Joel Rose) Reach: 44.0m

The Border Patrol recorded nearly 1.7 million migrant apprehensions at the Southern border over the past year — the highest number ever, eclipsing the record set more than two decades ago. But that doesn't mean it's the biggest number of individual migrants who've illegally crossed from Mexico into the U.S. in a single year.

#### **[B.3] Migrants From India, Romania, Venezuela And Other Far-Flung Places Contribute To Record-Breaking Arrests At U.S.-Mexico Border**

October 22, 2021 (Forbes) Reach: 928k

Arrests at the southern border hit record levels over the last year, with most migrants hailing from Mexico or Central America, but thousands of people who tried to cross into the United States traveled from South America, Eastern Europe and as far away as India.

#### **[B.4] A New Wave Of Migrants Possibly Tens Of Thousands Could Be Headed Here On Top Of A Record Surge**

October 22, 2021 (NBC: Nightly News - Julia Ainsley)

[Transcript] New data obtained by NBC News shows more than 1.7 million undocumented immigrants were apprehended at the border over the last year, the highest total in American history. And U.S. officials are monitoring tens of thousands more who may soon be making their way north.

#### **[B.5] Look what's coming, Joe: Group of 2,000 migrants from Honduras and El Salvador marches towards the US border, after ugly clashes with state police**

October 24, 2021 (Daily Mail) Reach: 72.2m

A group of about 2,000 migrants from Honduras and El Salvador were filmed continuing their march through Mexico towards the U.S. border on Sunday.

#### **[B.6] Laredo PD: Boy, 16, asked girlfriend, 21, for 'favor' prior to smuggling try that killed three**

October 24, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - Cesar Rodriguez) Reach: 14.1k

Details are surfacing on the human smuggling that killed three migrants and injured several others. During the course of the investigation, Laredo police confirmed that a migrant died in San Antonio due to his injuries.

### **[B.7] Large Group of Mostly Unaccompanied Migrant Children Apprehended near Border in Arizona**

October 24, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 5.3m

Tucson Sector Border Patrol agents apprehended a large group of mostly Central American migrants. Officials report that 81 of the 128 migrants were unaccompanied migrant children.

### **[B.8] Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's anti-migrant plan: Many arrested, many detained, few prosecuted**

October 24, 2021 (CNN.com International - Rosa Flores) Reach: 23.7m

Hundreds of migrants who, through their attorneys and court documents, say their constitutional rights are being violated under an effort spearheaded by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott to arrest undocumented immigrants for trespassing onto private property.

### **[B.9] Three migrants apprehended and two U.S. citizens arrested in human smuggling attempt**

October 23, 2021 (YumaSun.com - JAMES GILBERT) Reach: 29.1k

Yuma Sector Border Patrol agents arrested two smugglers who were trying to illegally transport three migrants from the border.

### **[B.10] Stolen trucks found in Cotulla, damaged fencing eluding law enforcement**

October 23, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - Zach Davis) Reach: 12.2k

A pair of stolen pickup trucks have been recovered in Cotulla. The U.S. Border Patrol announced on Friday that two pickups were discovered by Cotulla agents.

## **Border Security (Ports of Entry)**

### **[C.1] Firearm seizures spike at Atlanta airport**

October 24, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 22.0m

Federal officials are reporting a spike in firearm seizures at Atlanta's international airport — part of a record year for the number of guns detected at airport security checkpoints.

### **[C.2] Record 2 Million Migrants Cross Border Between Ports of Entry During Past 12 Months**

October 23, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 5.3m

More than two million migrants illegally crossed the border from Mexico into the United States during FY2021. The crossings include 1.66 million apprehended by Border Patrol agents and an estimated 400,000 classified as "got aways."

## **Travel**

### **[E.1] Staffing concerns as border reopens for vaccinated visitors**



October 23, 2021 (The Arizona Republic - Powered by Dow Jones - Clara Migoya) Reach: 5.2m  
The changes to border crossing requirements could mean longer waiting times at the ports of entry, Arizona officials and business people suggested. Customs officers for the first time will have to check Mexican vaccination forms.

### **[E.2] CDC chief says she doesn't plan to stop flights from UK, Europe: Live COVID-19 updates**

October 24, 2021 (USA Today - Jeanine Santucci) Reach: 53.1m  
An alarming rise in cases of the "delta plus" COVID-19 variant in the United Kingdom is unlikely to result in a ban on flights from Britain and Europe, CDC director Dr. Rochelle Walensky said Sunday.

### **[E.3] Mexican tourists eager to cross U.S. border find yearlong wait for visa renewals, applications**

October 22, 2021 (El Paso Times - Lauren Villagran) Reach: 36.8k  
The renewal process, which used to take a few weeks, could now take more than a year as increased demand for border-crossing cards hits scaled-back visa processing at U.S. consulates.

## **Trade**

### **[F.1] Mexico probing allegations of forced labor at tomato export firms**

October 22, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 38.7m  
Mexico's government said on Friday that it has established a working group to investigate allegations of forced labor at two tomato export firms, after the CBP said it would bar imports from those firms.

### **[F.2] PortMiami goes fishing for more cargo business as ships back up off California coast**

October 23, 2021 (The Miami Herald - Powered by Dow Jones - Anna Jean Kaiser) Reach: 4.8m  
With dozens of cargo ships backed up as far as the eye can see off the coast of Southern California, Miami sees an opportunity.

### **[F.3] Smaller Ports Handicap Shippers --- Shortages of trucking, rail and warehouse capacity are causing importer ...**

October 24, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal - Powered by Dow Jones - Paul Berger) Reach: 33.7m  
When Flexport Inc. learned in the past month that an ocean carrier planned to shift cargo from the congested operations at the Port of Los Angeles to little Port Hueneme some 80 miles up the California coast, the freight forwarder found that trucking companies weren't ready to go along with the changing direction of the imports.

### **[F.4] Brexit Britain has 'vast untapped potential' to seize trade deals outside EU**

October 24, 2021 (express.co.uk - Powered by Dow Jones - Richard Percival) Reach: 36.9m  
Britain has "vast untapped potential" in world trade now the UK has left the EU, the International Trade Secretary has said.

### **[F.5] Covid-19 Sets Back China's Plans to Rebalance Its Economy; Pandemic-era boom in demand for Chinese goods ...**

October 24, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Stella Yifan Xie) Reach: 33.7m

China's yearslong trade war with the U.S. convinced its leaders the country needed to move faster to expand its domestic consumer market so its economy couldn't be whipsawed so easily by shifts in Western demand. The coronavirus pandemic, however, has steered China in the opposite direction, making exports a larger driver of growth than at any other time in years and leaving the country more exposed to spending by Western shoppers.

#### **[F.6] Is Santa still coming to town? Michigan firms have products stuck at ports**

October 23, 2021 (Detroit Free Press - Powered by Dow Jones - Susan Tompor) Reach: 4.2m

Demand is driving optimism this year but kinks in the supply chain, including bottlenecks along various points in the transportation system, could cut into supply.

#### **[F.7] EXCLUSIVE Canada says proposed U.S. EV tax credit could harm sector**

October 22, 2021 (Reuters - David Shepardson) Reach: 38.7m

Canada said on Friday that U.S. proposals to create new electric vehicle tax credits for American-built vehicles could harm the North American auto industry and fall foul of trade agreements, according to a letter seen by Reuters.

## **Workforce**

#### **[G.1] Probe into Border Patrol agents drags on over a month, despite Mayorkas claim it would take 'days'**

October 23, 2021 (Fox News - Adam Shaw) Reach: 55.8m

An ongoing investigation into Border Patrol agents pictured on horseback turning away Haitian migrants – and who were the subject of false claims that they "whipped" migrants – is still ongoing, a month after DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas promised the probe would take "days, not weeks."

## **Opinion**

#### **[I.1] New immigration policy aims to protect undocumented immigrants against work exploitation**

October 24, 2021 (Chicago Sun-Times) Reach: 185k

In this opinion piece, the Chicago Sun-Times editorial board wrote that "With efficient execution, the Biden administration's new immigration policies have a unique opportunity to bring fundamental change to how undocumented immigrants and every worker in America are treated."

#### **[I.2] Dodging the Constitution for a Global Tax; Treasury plans to adopt a new treaty without a proper Senate vote.**

October 22, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones) Reach: 33.7m

In this opinion piece, the editorial board of the Wall Street Journal wrote that "President Biden's corporate tax-rate increase appears to be dead, but Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen still wants to whack U.S. companies through her global tax deal. And she is planning an end-run around the Constitution to do it."

## **Immigration**

### **[J.1] Tired of waiting for asylum in southern Mexico, thousands of migrants march north**

October 24, 2021 (The Washington Post - Paulina Villegas) Reach: 838k

Several thousand migrants who, desperate for work and fleeing poverty and violence, decided to march out of the border city of Tapachula on Saturday. Mexico's National Guard forces tried to stop them, but the contingent pushed through. They continued their trek Sunday, hoping to eventually reach Mexico City.

### **[J.2] Migrants push past southern Mexican border city en route to US**

October 24, 2021 (New York Post - Jesse O'Neill) Reach: 45.0m

Thousands of migrants mostly from Central America broke out of the Mexican southern border city of Tapachula and continued their march toward the U.S., more than 1,000 miles away.

### **[J.3] HAITIAN LEADERS RALLY AGAINST DEPORTATIONS**

October 24, 2021 (Record)

Haitian community leaders and immigrant advocates gathered outside a federal immigration office Friday to protest the Biden administration's deportation of thousands of migrants fleeing civil and humanitarian chaos in the Caribbean nation.

### **[J.4] ICE targets pastor flagged by Interpol; Guatemalan detainee may be deported based in part on an alert from ...**

October 23, 2021 (Los Angeles Times - Powered by Dow Jones - Andrea Castillo) Reach: 25.6m

Between 2009 and 2016, ICE deported nearly 1,800 people who were sought for alleged crimes in their home countries. Some legal experts on both the left and right say the practice is a form of government overreach and a means to go after immigrants under a legally flawed pretext.

### **[J.5] Are migrant children being flown to Westchester and bused to Danbury? Officials looking into claims**

October 22, 2021 (News-Times - Julia Perkins) Reach: 15.8k

Little information is available to explain or support claims that migrant children are arriving in Danbury and Bridgeport after being flown from New York.

### **[J.6] Border Report; Mexico using immigration enforcement as leverage**

October 23, 2021 (Las Cruces Sun-News - Powered by Dow Jones - Reyes Mata) Reach: 58.7k

A new era of weaponized migration would place Mexico in a new position of power over the destinies of the United States border — a surprising turn of the tables in the traditionally lopsided relationship between the two countries.

### **[J.7] California Hires Border Wall Contractors to Screen, Vaccinate Migrants**

October 22, 2021 (Newsweek - Fatma Khaled) Reach: 21.9m

The California Department of Public Health confirmed Friday that it hired Sullivan Land Services Co. to offer COVID-related services to migrants who are crossing California's southern border.

**[J.8] U.S. Struggles With Afghan Evacuees Weeded Out, and Now in Limbo**

October 23, 2021 (NYT - World - Charlie Savage) Reach: 115m

Two months after the evacuation of 80,000 Afghans fleeing the Taliban takeover, most have cleared subsequent vetting for admission into the United States. But several dozen have been red-flagged because screenings uncovered apparent records of violent crime or links to Islamist militants that follow-up evaluations have not cleared, officials said. The derogatory information has raised the question of what to do with them, leaving them in limbo.

The Heritage Foundation - Oversight Project

Message

**From:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** 9/21/2021 11:19:49 AM  
**To:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Chiefs,

Is there a Horse Patrol policy or training curriculum that we can look at? Who is our Horse Patrol SME at HQ that can answer questions?

Carry

From iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "MILLER, TROY A" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Date:** September 21, 2021 at 7:12:12 AM EDT  
**To:** "HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Deputy, lets talk when you get in – I would like to discuss a path forward. We need to continue to let everyone know we take the incident very seriously are addressing it, even highlight some of the horse patrol polices we discussed last night then pivot to the incredible work that is going on, partnerships, medical, care and feeding, really is a community coming together to solve a very difficult problem then pivot to exactly you state below, highlight the lives we have saved, meals we have delivered, violence we encounter, enforcement mission we continue to perform under an extremely difficult situation. – then maybe highlight some of the other challenges we have faced such as the UC's, etc... Troy

**From:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 21, 2021 7:01 AM  
**To:** ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Agreed! What are assault against agents stats? I have not seen that reported out anywhere internally. Also number of folks treated medically, babies delivered, meals provided etc.

From iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 11:11 PM, ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

This horse business is awfully negative but there are great efforts occurring and we aren't highlighting any of them. Everyday we are providing lifesaving efforts to migrants under the bridge.

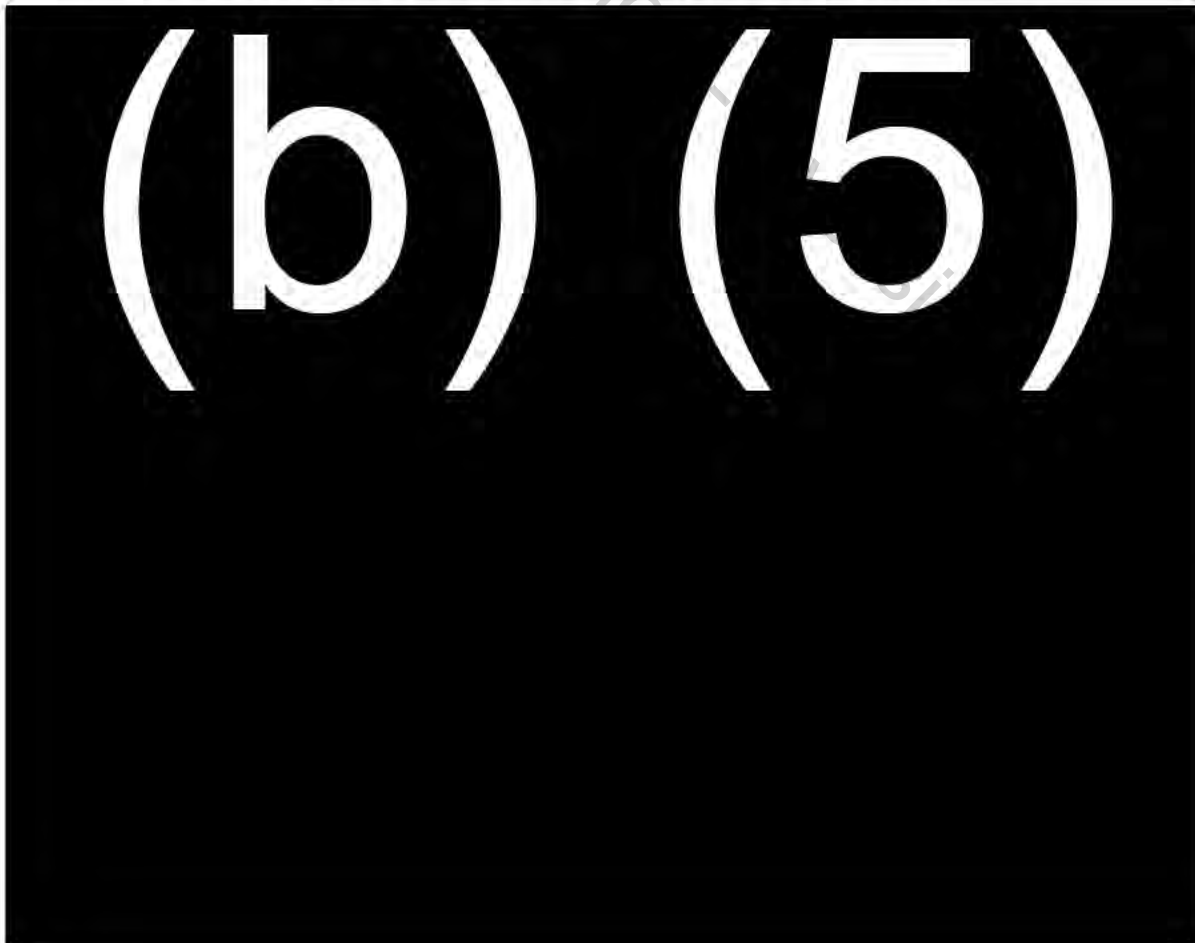
Our agents are being assaulted and we aren't saying a word. The bus contractors and pilots are dealing with Haitians escaping or trying to overrun drivers and we stay quiet. Agents and pro staff are working 14 hour days in difficult conditions, nothing said. We have to change the narrative or these stories will be the only story.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 7:04:16 PM  
**To:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Sir, I concur that for tonight we do not need to issue another statement. However, we continue to push for more media engagement and updates to the media with Chief Ortiz, so we do need to start laying out any steps he can use. We'll need to get those cleared. Below is a very rough outline of what that might look like:

**What do you say to people horrified by what they saw in that footage?**



(b) (5)

So you think the language the Agent used including expletives could potentially be justifiable?

- (b) (5)
- (b) (5)

**From:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 7:24 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Thank you. I do not think there is a need for us to develop another one now.

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 7:13 PM  
**To:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Here's what DHS put out:

<https://twitter.com/dhsgov/status/1440090164425019397?s=21>

After Secretary Mayorkas viewed the footage, we are providing the following statement:

“The Department of Homeland Security does not tolerate the abuse of migrants in our custody and we take these allegations very seriously. U.S. Customs and Border Protection’s Office of Professional Responsibility is investigating the matter and has alerted the DHS Office of Inspector General. In addition, Secretary Mayorkas has directed that personnel from the Office of Professional Responsibility be on site full-time to ensure that the responsibilities of DHS personnel are executed consistent with applicable policies and training and the Department’s values.

Secretary Mayorkas visited Del Rio today and witnessed the extraordinary work of DHS personnel. The footage is extremely troubling and the facts learned from the full investigation, which will be conducted swiftly, will define the appropriate disciplinary actions to be taken. We are committed to processing migrants in a safe, orderly, and humane way. We can and must do this in a way that ensures the safety and dignity of migrants.”

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 7:12 PM  
**To:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Here are the two statements that were covered with the Minnesota incident. I'm checking if we have any of the other drafts internally that could offer other wording.

(b) (5)

<https://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2021/06/08/u-s-border-officials-investigating-use-of-low-flying-helicopter-used-for-dispersal-at-enbridge-pipeline-protests/>

“CBP’s headquarters is investigating the facts to determine precisely what occurred and whether the actions taken were justified,” a CBP spokesperson told CNN. “All appropriate actions will be taken based on the facts that are learned, including with respect to the incident itself as well as the agency’s applicable policies and procedures.”

Also ran here: <https://www.twincities.com/2021/06/09/border-protection-helicopter-team-under-investigation-for-rotor-washing-line-3-protesters/>

<https://verticalmag.com/news/u-s-cbp-investigating-low-flight-over-pipeline-protesters/>

“U.S. Customs and Border Protection in Grand Forks responded to a local law enforcement request for assistance to address a gathering of people who were reported to have trespassed on private property,” a CBP spokesperson said in a statement emailed to *Vertical*. “CBP’s headquarters is investigating the facts to



determine precisely what occurred and whether the actions taken were justified. All appropriate actions will be taken based on the facts that are learned, including with respect to the incident itself as well as the agency's applicable policies and procedures."

**From:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 6:45 PM  
**To:** MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

I want to look at the response when the helicopter dusted out the reporters in Minnesota. I'm thinking something similar to that that doesn't prematurely convict the agent of misconduct but yet acknowledges the seriousness of what is alleged to have happened and that we are looking into it and will hold people accountable should misconduct be established. We should also reiterate if we have a good track record of holding employees accountable for misconduct.

From iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 6:38 PM, MILLER, TROY A  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Believe s1 will issue something shortly.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 5:37 PM, HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Good copy. We will work on a response.

From iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 6:14 PM, MILLER,  
TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
wrote:

Carry, we are going to need a stronger response on what our actions are steps we are taking in response. Troy

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 4:26 PM (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Perfect. Thank you!

**From:** PADILLA,  
MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday,  
September 20, 2021  
5:25 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN,  
MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN,

BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY

A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES,

MICHELE (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters:  
"Trapped": Migrants  
collecting food try to  
evade law enforcement

at the U.S.-Mexico border

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) edited the sentence as follows:

(b) (5)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday,  
September 20, 2021  
5:13 PM

To: PADILLA, MANUEL  
JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN,  
MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN,  
BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY

A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES,  
MICHELE (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Reuters:

"Trapped": Migrants  
collecting food try to  
evade law enforcement  
at the U.S.-Mexico  
border

One more ask came in.  
That we add language  
to clarify that horse  
patrol uses long reins or  
lariat for the horse. I  
don't believe I saw a  
lariat, thought it was  
just the long reins I.  
Would the highlighted  
line below be accurate  
and acceptable for use  
at this time?

(b) (5)

The Heritage Fo

ht Project

Message

**From:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** 9/21/2021 5:19:30 PM  
**To:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Horse Incident PAG  
**Attachments:** PAG Horse Patrol Incident Sept 20 2021 v2.docx

Chief,

I did not include the big group to minimize confusion. I included, "CBP takes all allegations of misconduct seriously. OPR is actively investigating this matter.

Also, regarding the training. (b) (5)  
(b) (5)

Manuel Padilla, Jr.  
Acting Deputy Chief  
United States Border Patrol Headquarters

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

The Heritage Foundation - Oversight Project

Message

**From:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** 9/21/2021 9:52:15 PM  
**To:** MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR  
**CC:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** ACLU TX CBP OIG Letter Re Border Patrol in Del Rio.pdf  
**Attachments:** ACLU TX CBP OIG Letter Re Border Patrol in Del Rio.pdf

Fysa.

From iPhone

The Heritage Foundation - Oversight Project

Message

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** 9/20/2021 9:25:59 PM  
**To:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**CC:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES, MICHELE (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Perfect. Thank you!

**From:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 5:25 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES, MICHELE (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) I edited the sentence as follows:

(b) (5)

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 5:13 PM  
**To:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES, MICHELE (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

One more ask came in. That we add language to clarify that horse patrol uses long reins or lariat for the horse. I don't believe I saw a lariat, thought it was just the long reins I. Would the highlighted line below be accurate and acceptable for use at this time?

(b) (5)

**From:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 4:02 PM

To: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES, MICHELE (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

You can use the operational guidance to horse patrol.

From: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 4:00 PM  
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc: PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES, MICHELE (OPR)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Can add: CBP's OPR is investigating the matter and has alerted the DHS OIG.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 3:57 PM  
To: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc: PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES, MICHELE (OPR)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Thank you. DHS is moving the following statement through approvals. Should we add any detail from what Chief Padilla just shared, such as the highlighted below. And should we be specific that OPR is conducting the investigation?:

(b) (5)

---

From: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 3:37 PM  
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L; JAMES, MICHELE (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Can confirm. Checking with OIG as well.



Matthew Klein  
Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Professional Responsibility  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

On Sep 20, 2021, at 3:30 PM, HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Looping in OPR Leadership. Just got off the phone with C1, need to update the TP with more details ASAP and confirm that OPR is reviewing/investigating the incident.

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 3:25 PM  
**To:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

DHS wants to be able to update the talking points for media inquiries to say an investigation is underway. Please let me know if/when I can confirm that.

**From:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 2:41 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Getting with DRT now

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 2:30 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Hi all: We need to get the more details on this as soon as possible. Just got a call from WH IGA/Political – the footage is getting everywhere.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:50 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Good with this and will continue to work on the details. Ultimately defer to Chief Ortiz and Deputy Padilla.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Chief

Law Enforcement Operations Directorate

USBP Headquarters, Washington, DC

Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:48 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Coordinated with BP Strat Comm for this response, not enough info is available yet:

**Why is Border Patrol using agents on horseback with whips to control those trying to cross the river?**

We are aware of the reporting and are looking into the situation. Any allegation of misconduct will be investigated. We will continue to prioritize processing the migrants here in a safe, orderly and humane way.

**Why are you no longer allowing people to move back and forth since for days they were getting food and other supplies like diapers in Mexico and coming back?**

We are not preventing their movement, we're processing those under the bridge as quickly, safely, and in as humane a way as possible.

Again, we will review any allegation of misconduct thoroughly. But we have worked hard to ensure the health and safety of everyone involved as we process migrants for return to their countries of origin.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:05 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

On the public communication side we'll also need to explain why people were going back and forth for the first few days, many buying food or supplies before returning, and why we suddenly started blocking that.

If they're hearing about our deportation flights and decide to go back, does this mean we won't let them return to Mexico either?

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 11:26 AM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Thanks. Will need TPs more generally as well on enforcement/use of force posture. Something short is fine for now - we will definitely need more if we start to see real unrest on the ground. Thank you--

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 11:16 AM

**To:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

We are communicating with the local leadership now. Update shortly.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Chief

Law Enforcement Operations Directorate

USBP Headquarters, Washington, DC

Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**From:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 11:15 AM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ,

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Looping in Chief Padilla and Chief Ortiz,

I pasted what I believe to be the concerning part of the story below. We need find out what really happened and if appropriate, report to the JIC/OPR. Also work with OPA with the response.

**"Reuters journalists saw mounted officers wearing cowboy hats and vests emblazoned with "POLICE U.S. BORDER PATROL" blocking the path of migrants scrambling up the U.S. embankment carrying plastic bags and cardboard boxes.**

**After one of the officers in the vests unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face.**

**In another incident, the same officer grabbed the back of the shirt of a migrant trying to run up the bank with bags of food."**

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 10:55 AM  
**To:** MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

On it with (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) right now, Sir.

---

**From:** MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 10:54:35 AM  
**To:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Deputy, FYSA: We need a good response. Troy

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Date:** September 20, 2021 at 10:44:35 AM EDT  
**To:** "Mayorkas, Alejandro" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** "MILLER, TROY A" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border**

We are running down and will put together a statement. Will need to clarify what reins look like vs a horse whip, and clarify use of force.

**Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border (Daina Beth Solomon and Alberto Fajardo)**

CIUDAD ACUÑA, Mexico, Sept 19 (Reuters) - A U.S. law enforcement officer on horseback wielded what appeared to be a lariat, whipping it close to the face of a man wading in the Rio Grande carrying a plastic bag of food.

It was just one desperate moment in a few hours of such scenes along the Rio Grande on Sunday.

Hundreds of Haitian migrants who have been camping under a bridge in the Texas town of Del Rio were trying to bring food and other supplies from Ciudad Acuña in the Mexican state of Coahuila, while U.S. officials have stepped up security at the border and started flying migrants out of the area, some to Haiti.

Migrants said their squalid encampment under a bridge on the U.S. side of the river was short of supplies. U.S. officials over the last few days had let migrants cross back and forth at a shallow point of the river. On Sunday, however, they told migrants they would not be able to return to the U.S. side if they ventured into Mexico.

"We're trapped," said Joncito Jean, 37, who had spent three days sleeping on a sheet on the ground with his wife and children, ages 3 and 4. He said he regretted the decision to come.

"There are no humane conditions... We have to break out to buy water."

More than 12,000 migrants, identified by officials on both sides as mostly Haitian, have been gathering under the bridge in recent days, awaiting immigration processing. Instead, U.S. officials began removing several thousand people from the camp over the weekend, including some who were later seen arriving in Haiti.

Still, several people who spoke to Reuters, most of whom traveled with their children, said they would take their chances to try to stay in the United States.

Mackenley Pearre, 25, left impoverished Haiti in July with his cousin, wife and 2-year-old daughter due to the worsening violence and inability to find work as an electrician. In July, Haiti's president was assassinated, and in August a major earthquake and powerful storm hit the country.

"You have to do something to not die of hunger," he said, eating a tamale given to him by a local resident on the Mexican side, one of several people who said they felt moved to help.

At a news conference in Del Rio Sunday, U.S. Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz said resources were available.

"We are providing food, water, portable toilets, towels, emergency medical technicians are available for first aid," Ortiz said.

"Over the next 6 to 7 days our goal is to process the 12,662 migrants that we have underneath that bridge as quickly as we possibly can," Ortiz said. "What we want to make sure is that we deter the migrants from coming into the region so we can manage the folks that are under the bridge at this point."

At the border, migrants waded deeper to try to evade law enforcement. Mostly men, many barefoot and in boxers, attempted trickier crossings through waist-deep water. Some migrants crossed at another point where water reached their necks.

Reuters journalists saw mounted officers wearing cowboy hats and vests emblazoned with "POLICE U.S. BORDER PATROL" blocking the path of migrants scrambling up the U.S. embankment carrying plastic bags and cardboard boxes.

After one of the officers in the vests unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face.

In another incident, the same officer grabbed the back of the shirt of a migrant trying to run up the bank with bags of food.

Both people appeared to eventually slip past while the officers tried to hold back migrants who were scattering in all directions. A group of some two dozen people were later seen seated on the U.S. side of the river's edge behind yellow tape near several patrol cars.

###

Message

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** 9/20/2021 4:04:53 PM  
**To:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: USBP agents on horseback round up Haitian migrants after closing Rio Grande crossing

We saw some press but I had not seen the pictures. Adding (b) (6), (b) (7) as well. Waiting for some comms back from BP on the ground, but yes, this is troubling.

**From:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 12:04 PM  
**To:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: USBP agents on horseback round up Haitian migrants after closing Rio Grande crossing

Making sure you are tracking this, specifically the photos of BP agents on horseback. Brought to OPR attention this morning. Whether these are uses of force per se can will be assessed but the images are troubling.

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 10:22 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** JAMES, MICHELE (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** USBP agents on horseback round up Haitian migrants after closing Rio Grande crossing

Team

I just received this email string from OCC attorney (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) regarding a Reuters article regarding the situation in Del Rio.

There are several photos of BPAs on horseback that have garnered particular attention. One photo depicts a BPA grabbing the shirt of a migrant running up an embankment and another captures what was described in the article as "one of the officers...unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face."

The question from OCC, "Have these incidents been reported and will someone be conducting follow-up?"



From: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 9:57 AM

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: OCC Guidance

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 9:46 AM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: OCC Guidance

This article has 43 pictures—several show what appears to be the leather reins (not a lariat) near a migrant.

[Border agents on horseback round up Haitian migrants after closing Rio Grande crossing | Daily Mail Online](#)

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) OCC)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 9:36 AM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: OCC Guidance

(b) (5), (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 8:22 AM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: OCC Guidance

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-immigration-border-river/trapped-migrants-collecting-food-try-to-evade-law-enforcement-at-the-u-s-mexico-border-idU5KBN2GG01C>

The entire article is worth reading and includes a photo of horse mounted BPAs in the water. This is an excerpt from the end of the article:

“[r]euters journalists saw mounted officers wearing cowboy hats and vests emblazoned with “POLICE U.S. BORDER PATROL” blocking the path of migrants scrambling up the U.S. embankment carrying plastic bags and cardboard boxes.

After one of the officers in the vests unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face.

In another incident, the same officer grabbed the back of the shirt of a migrant trying to run up the bank with bags of food.

Both people appeared to eventually slip past while the officers tried to hold back migrants who were scattering in all directions. A group of some two dozen people were later seen seated on the U.S. side.”

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**From:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Sunday, September 19, 2021 7:29 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: OCC Guidance

(b) (5)

(b) (5), (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 6:39 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: OCC Guidance

Good evening,

(b) (5)

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 6:07 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Re: OCC Guidance

Thank you both!

Also looping in (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) for visibility.

Please let us know what you need.

**(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

Deputy Assistant Chief Counsel  
Advanced Training Center  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
440 Koonce Rd  
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

**(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)** (Office)  
**(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)** (Mobile)

**(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

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---

**From:** **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

**Sent:** Sunday, September 19, 2021 5:45:26 PM

**To:** **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

**Cc:** **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

**Subject:** Re: OCC Guidance

Thank you both, let me digest this and will circle back if I need anything more

**(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

Director, Special Operations Division

**(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

---

**From:** **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

**Sent:** Sunday, September 19, 2021 5:41:39 PM

**To:** **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

**Cc:** **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

**Subject:** RE: OCC Guidance

Sir –

**(b) (5)**

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Senior Attorney  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Advanced Training Center  
440 Koonce Road  
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) cell

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 5:11 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Re: OCC Guidance

Hi (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Assistant Chief Counsel  
Advanced Training Center  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
440 Koonce Rd  
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Office)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Mobile)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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---

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 10:06:39 AM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc:

Subject: OCC Guidance

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Director, Special Operations Division

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Heritage Foundation - Oversight Project

Message

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** 9/24/2021 7:12:51 PM  
**To:** MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**CC:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA,  
MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: POTUS on Horse Patrol Unit

One update. Secretary Mayorkas did a good job of framing that there is an investigation and we will await the facts. He handled it very well. There's criticism from some on CNN right now that POTUS said they'll pay vs Mayorkas insisting there is an investigation. S1 in response to a question about whether it was time to end horse patrol altogether talked about how they often save many lives.

**From:** MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Friday, September 24, 2021 1:37 PM  
**To:** ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: POTUS on Horse Patrol Unit

Agree.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 24, 2021, at 1:26 PM, ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

The tremendous work that took place over the last 10 days is what I'm gonna choose to focus on.  
[Get Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Friday, September 24, 2021 12:11:38 PM  
**To:** MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA,  
MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** POTUS on Horse Patrol Unit

Sirs, making sure you saw today's POTUS comments on the Horse Patrol Unit:

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/biden-border-del-rio-migrants-b1926468.html>

# **‘I promise you, those people will pay’: Biden slams border agents who whipped migrants**

**‘It’s horrible what you saw. To see people like they did, with horses, running them over, people being strapped, it’s outrageous,’ Biden says**

President Joe Biden has slammed the border agents who whipped migrants from horseback in Del Rio, Texas as people tried to enter the US after fleeing natural disasters and political turmoil in Haiti.

“It’s horrible what you saw. To see people like they did, with horses, running them over, people being strapped, it’s outrageous,” Mr Biden said on Friday.

“I promise you – those people will pay,” he added. “There is an investigation underway right now and there will be consequences.”

“It’s an embarrassment,” the president said. “It’s beyond an embarrassment. It’s dangerous, it’s wrong. It sends the wrong message around the world. It sends the wrong message at home. It’s simply not who we are.”

An investigation has begun following video footage emerging earlier this week showing border agents on horseback aggressively trying to push back migrants, and at times swing long reins towards people on the ground.

Administration officials and congressional Democrats have shared their anger over the behaviour of the border agents. The Department of Homeland Security has suspended the use of horse patrols for the time being.

The CBP’s Office of Professional Responsibility is leading the investigation and it’s expected to be finished next week.

“Of course I take responsibly,” Mr Biden told reporters. “I’m President.”

Democratic California Representative Maxine Waters said during a press briefing on Wednesday: “What we witnessed takes us back hundreds of years. What we witnessed was worse than what we witnessed in slavery.”



“Cowboys with their reins, again, whipping Black people, Haitians, into the water where they’re scrambling and falling down when all they’re trying to do is escape from violence in their country,” she added.

“I’m pissed. I’m unhappy and I’m not just unhappy with the cowboys, who were running down Haitians and using their reins to whip them,” Ms Waters said. “I’m unhappy with the administration.”

The White House has faced criticism for continuing its deportations of Haitian migrants, but has defended the policy, arguing that they are trying to install an “orderly and humane process”.

“Our policy process has continued to be the same with Haiti as it is for anybody coming through an irregular migration across our border,” White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said on Thursday.

A large number of the migrants trying to enter the US are being removed under Title 42 – a policy that began under the Trump administration and that allows the US to expel migrants without allowing them to apply for asylum if they pose a public health risk. During the pandemic, Title 42 have blocked many from entering the US at the southern border.

Some Democrats have urged the Biden administration to put a stop to the removals of Haitians as their country faces multiple crises – an earthquake recently killed more than 2,000 people and caused widespread devastation, the country has not managed to take control over the spread of Covid-19 and has a very low vaccination rate, and political chaos has gripped the country since President Jovenel Moïse was assassinated on 7 July.

The US Special Envoy to Haiti Daniel Foote resigned on Wednesday, laying out his outrage at the handling of the crisis in a scathing resignation letter.

“I will not be associated with the United States’ inhumane, counterproductive decision to deport thousands of Haitian refugees and illegal immigrants to Haiti, a country where American officials are confined to secure compounds because of the danger posed by armed gangs in control of daily life,” he wrote.

State Department spokesperson Ned Price fired back, saying in a statement: “It is unfortunate that, instead of participating in a solutions-oriented policy process, Special Envoy Foote has both resigned and mischaracterized the circumstances of his resignation. He failed to take advantage of ample opportunity to raise concerns about migration during his tenure and chose to resign instead.”

Message

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** 9/21/2021 6:18:13 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**CC:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA,  
MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Horse Patrol PAG  
**Attachments:** PAG Horse Patrol Incident Sept 20 2021 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Edits (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) docx; PAG Horse Patrol Incident Sept 20 2021 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Edits.docx

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Attached are (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and my edits.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

I added a couple lines on why we use HPUs for crowd control.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 21, 2021 2:11 PM  
**To:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Horse Patrol PAG

Attached with my edits. If we get a line on why we use the Horse Patrols for crowd control or anything else that needs review on the curriculum that would be great, but if that's going to take time I can start moving this through DHS for approvals.

**From:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 21, 2021 1:59 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Horse Patrol PAG

Thank you.

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 21, 2021 1:41 PM  
**To:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Horse Patrol PAG

Chief, AC,

Please see attached edits/comments, adding (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) for his edits around the curriculum.

Note: once we are complete with edits this must go back to AC (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and still requires DHS clearance.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Command Suite Executive Staff

DHS/CBP

Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

☒: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 12:48 PM

To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Horse Patrol PAG

Chief,

Please see attached PAG for Horse Patrol incident.

Available to discuss.

Manuel Padilla, Jr.

Acting Deputy Chief

United States Border Patrol Headquarters

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Foundation - Oversight Project

Message

**From:** CBP PUBLICAFFAIRS (b) (7)(E)  
**Sent:** 9/29/2021 10:39:19 AM  
**Subject:** CBP Daily News Brief: September 29, 2021



TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | BORDER SECURITY (PORTS OF ENTRY) | BORDER WALL | TRAVEL | TRADE | WORKFORCE | OPIOID | OPINION | IMMIGRATION | OF INTEREST

**September 29, 2021**

**Executive Summary**

CNN reported that Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis on Tuesday announced a new lawsuit against the Biden administration over its so-called catch and release immigration policy. DHS, CBP and ICE are among the defendants named in the complaint. Tuesday's lawsuit claims that -- under "catch and release" -- migrants who are "illegally released" by the Biden administration are "arriving or will arrive in Florida, harming the State's quasi-sovereign interests and forcing it to incur millions of dollars in expenses."

Meanwhile, the Houston Chronicle reported that more than 240 migrants arrested under Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's border security initiative are set to be released from state-run lockups after local prosecutors, overwhelmed by an influx of detained migrants, failed to bring charges as they sat in cells for weeks, an apparent violation of state law. Texas National Guard troops and state police have been mobilized by the hundreds to help round up and jail migrants caught crossing the border under Abbott's plan, known as Operation Lone Star.

In other news, the Associated Press reported that Mexican officials opened a mammoth reception center outside a soccer stadium near the Guatemala border Tuesday to ease a backlog in Mexico's asylum system and the resulting frustrations that drove thousands of applicants to head toward the U.S. The Mexican Commission for Refugee Assistance targeted those who had already made initial applications for protected status in Mexico but had waited months for an initial interview. Through August, Mexico had received nearly 80,000 asylum applications.

## Top News

### **[A.1] DeSantis announces lawsuit against Biden administration over immigration policy**

September 28, 2021 (CNN.com International - Paul LeBlanc) Reach: 27.7m

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis on Tuesday announced a new lawsuit against the Biden administration over its so-called catch and release immigration policy. DHS, CBP and ICE are among the defendants named in the complaint. Tuesday's lawsuit, filed by Florida Attorney General Ashley Moody in Pensacola, Florida, federal court, claims that -- under "catch and release" -- migrants who are "illegally released" by the Biden administration are "arriving or will arrive in Florida, harming the State's quasi-sovereign interests and forcing it to incur millions of dollars in expenses." As a result, the lawsuit in part seeks to deem unlawful both the release of undocumented immigrants subject to mandatory detention and the paroling of undocumented immigrants "without engaging in case-by-case adjudication or abiding by the other limits on that authority." The complaint also challenges what it characterizes as a failure "to serve charging documents or initiate removal proceedings" against "plainly inadmissible" undocumented immigrants being released into the U.S.

### **[A.2] Judge orders release of 240 migrants jailed under Abbott's border plan**

September 28, 2021 (Houston Chronicle - Jasper Scherer) Reach: 2.7m

More than 240 migrants arrested under Gov. Greg Abbott's border security initiative are set to be released from state-run lockups after local prosecutors, overwhelmed by an influx of detained migrants, failed to bring charges as they sat in cells for weeks, an apparent violation of state law. Texas National Guard troops and state police have been mobilized by the hundreds to help round up and jail migrants caught crossing the border under Abbott's plan, known as Operation Lone Star. The plan broadly expands the state's role in immigration enforcement, which is typically left to the federal government, though Abbott has argued his new approach is necessary to handle a steep increase in border crossings since President Biden took office.

### **[A.3] Mexico tries to ease asylum backlog in face of frustrations**

September 28, 2021 (The Associated Press - Unknown) Reach: 10.4m

Trying to ease a backlog in Mexico's asylum system and the resulting frustrations that drove thousands of applicants to head toward the U.S., Mexican officials opened a mammoth reception center outside a soccer stadium near the Guatemala border Tuesday. The Mexican Commission for Refugee Assistance, with the help of the National Guard and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, targeted those who had already made initial applications for protected status in Mexico but had waited months for an initial interview. The site could handle as many as 2,000 people daily, said Alma Delia Cruz Márquez, the commission's local delegate. Previously, huge crowds had packed the streets around the commission's downtown offices in Tapachula jostling for position. The commission receives 75% of all the applications for protective status through its offices in the southern state of Chiapas, Cruz said. Through August, Mexico had received nearly 80,000 asylum applications.

## **Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)**

### **[B.1] Arizona border flares up as new illegal immigration hot spot**

September 28, 2021 (The Washington Times - Powered by Dow Jones - Stephen Dinan) Reach: 3.2m

Some 3,400 migrants — most of them Brazilian, Venezuelan or Cuban — were mired in Border Patrol holding facilities in Yuma, Arizona, over the weekend, according to the sheriff, who said he has never seen such unruliness.

### **[B.2] Texas Border Patrol agents discover stash houses packed with nearly 100 illegal immigrants**

September 28, 2021 (Fox News - Bradford Betz) Reach: 58.8m

Border Patrol agents in Texas discovered two stash houses just a stone's throw from the U.S.-Mexico border packed with nearly 100 illegal immigrants.

### **[B.3] USBP agents arrest two migrants with fake documents**

September 28, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - César Rodriguez) Reach: 132k

Two migrants on board a commercial bus have been arrested for using fake documents to go through a U.S. Border Patrol checkpoint, authorities said.

### **[B.4] Lost Mexican boy reunited with family in Rio Grande Valley**

September 28, 2021 (BorderReport - Sandra Sanchez) Reach: 128k

U.S. Border Patrol agents helped a lost 7-year-old boy to reunite with his mother and three siblings after they crossed the Rio Grande on Monday near Mission, Texas.

### **[B.5] Upton Backs Resolution Calling For Border Enforcement**

September 28, 2021 (97.5 Y-Country) Reach: 628

Congressman Fred Upton has co-sponsored a resolution calling on the Biden administration to fully enforce the nation's immigration laws and support border patrol officers amid a humanitarian crisis at the southern border.

### **[B.6] Calexico HSI part of widespread human smuggling investigation**

September 29, 2021 (Imperial Valley Press Online) Reach: 119k

Homeland Security Investigations agents based in Calexico were part of an extensive interagency operation the resulted in the sentencing Tuesday in Texas of a Bangladeshi national to 46 months in prison for his role in a scheme to smuggle undocumented individuals from Mexico into the United States.

### **[B.7] Teen accused of harboring migrants in south Laredo stash house**

September 28, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - Cesar Rodriguez) Reach: 12.2k

Federal authorities have identified a teenager accused of harboring more than 50 migrants at a south Laredo stash house. The teen was charged with conceal or harbor, attempt to conceal or harbor and conspiracy to conceal or harbor the migrants.

## Border Security (Ports of Entry)

### **[C.1] U.S. bars flight from landing with Americans from Kabul - activists**

September 29, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

DHS on Tuesday denied U.S. landing rights for a charter plane carrying more than 100 Americans and U.S. green card holders evacuated from Afghanistan, organizers of the flight said.

## Border Wall

### **[D.1] Mysterious 'no trespassing' sign at Butterfly Center is fake, border authorities confirm**

September 28, 2021 (BorderReport - Sandra Sanchez) Reach: 128k

A "No Trespassing" sign that was put up on a border levee on National Butterfly Center land is not official and is under investigation, a U.S. Border Patrol agent told Border Report late Tuesday.

## Travel

### **[E.1] Feds aim to reduce lines of planes waiting to take off**

September 28, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 28.5m

Federal officials plan to roll out software at 27 large U.S. airports that they hope will eliminate long lines of planes waiting to take off while also slightly reducing fuel consumption.

### **[E.2] 'Give us a date': International travelers want to know what 'early November' means for US border reopening**

September 28, 2021 (USA Today Online - Dawn Gilbertson)

"Early November." That's as specific as the White House was last week when it announced plans to broadly reopen U.S. borders to vaccinated international visitors. It's been a week since then and no date has been specified.

### **[E.3] US to allow visa-free travel for visitors from Croatia**

September 28, 2021 (Associated Press)

The U.S. government said Tuesday that Croatia would soon join the countries whose people can visit without a visa in a sign of closer economic and security ties.

## Trade

### **[F.1] China says it hopes U.S. can view bilateral trade properly**

September 29, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

China's foreign ministry said on Wednesday it hoped the United States could view bilateral trade properly after the U.S. commerce secretary accused Beijing of preventing its domestic airlines from buying Boeing aircraft.

### **[F.2] Scoop: Chinese tech firm sidesteps sanctions**

September 28, 2021 (Axios - Lachlan Markay) Reach: 6.4m

A tweak to U.S. export restrictions is letting a prominent Chinese tech company sidestep measures designed to punish the firm over its alleged involvement in the repression of Muslims within the country, records show.

### **[F.3] U.S. News: Summit Aims to Ease U.S.-EU Tensions --- Meeting in Pittsburgh will cover technology, trade and ...**

September 28, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal - Powered by Dow Jones - Josh Zumbrun) Reach: 37.8m

A high-level trade and technology meeting set for Pittsburgh today is aimed at smoothing over squabbles between the U.S. and European Union, even as policy disagreements over China threaten to further strain relations.

### **[F.4] USTR says Tai, Dombrovskis discussed challenges from China, non-market economies**

September 28, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai and her European Union counterpart discussed common challenges posed by non-market economies, including China, during a meeting in Washington on Tuesday, Tai's office said in a statement.

### **[F.5] Sweden Fears Joe Biden's Trade Policy to EU Is 'Very Similar to Trump'**

September 28, 2021 (Newsweek - Brendan Cole) Reach: 24.6m

A Swedish cabinet minister has compared President Biden's rhetoric with that of his predecessor Donald Trump as he became the latest European politician to express concerns about ties between the EU and the United States.

### **[F.6] U.S. goods trade deficit widens; inventories increase**

September 28, 2021 (Reuters - Unknown) Reach: 258k

Expectations for slower GDP growth were reinforced by a separate report from the Commerce Department on Tuesday showing the goods trade deficit rose 0.9% to \$87.6 billion in August as businesses imported more products to replenish inventories.

### **[F.7] EU ready to look at North American-style metals arrangement with U.S., trade chief says**

September 28, 2021 (Reuters - Unknown) Reach: 976k

The European Union is ready to look at solutions to its steel and aluminum trade dispute with the United States that incorporate elements of import monitoring and safeguard pacts that Washington struck with Canada and Mexico in 2019, the EU's trade chief said on Tuesday.

## **Workforce**

### **[G.1] Report: Border Patrol Agents Targeted By Biden May Face Suspension**

September 28, 2021 (The Daily Wire - Tim Pearce) Reach: 5.9m

Six CBP agents under investigation for allegedly whipping and charging illegal migrants are reportedly likely to face punishment.



### **[G.2] Del Rio community largely supports Border Patrol, despite recent criticism**

September 29, 2021 (Fox News Video) Reach: 9.1m

[Video] Locals in Del Rio, Texas, are largely supportive of Border Patrol they told Fox News, despite recent criticism Border Patrol has received.

### **[G.3] Border Patrol Agents Told to Get Vaccinated by November or Face Being Fired**

September 29, 2021 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 10.8m

Border Patrol agents have been notified by the Biden administration that they must be fully vaccinated by Nov. 22 or face termination.

### **[G.4] Biden Says Border Agents Will Be Held Accountable For Misconduct. A Critic Has Doubts**

September 28, 2021 (National Public Radio - Miguel Macias) Reach: 46.1m

Andrea Guerrero, executive director of Alliance San Diego, a social justice nonprofit that provides immigrant services, is skeptical that border agents will be held accountable for recent actions.

### **[G.5] Brandon Judd slams Biden admin's incentives for illegal immigrants: 'Very little rhyme or reason'**

September 28, 2021 (Fox News - Fox News) Reach: 58.8m

Border Patrol union representative Brandon Judd warned against offering incentives for illegal immigrants, saying doing so undermines the rule of law and is the "wrong message to send."

## **Opioid**

### **[H.1] Parents who lost children to fentanyl poisoning sound alarm about counterfeit pills coming across border**

September 28, 2021 (Fox News - Joshua Q. Nelson) Reach: 58.8m

Two parents who lost children to fentanyl poisoning reacted to the DEA issuing a public safety alert after law enforcement officials announced they have seized more than 9.5 million counterfeit pills this year. According to a California drug task force, between 8-10% of these drugs are being seized at the southern border.

## **Opinion**

### **[I.1] Trump's tariffs have become Biden's tariffs**

September 29, 2021 (The Dallas Morning News) Reach: 7.4m

In this opinion piece, the editorial board of the Dallas Morning News wrote that "eight months into his presidency, [President] Biden hasn't lifted a single tariff — not even those imposed against our allies in the European steel and aluminum industry."

### **[I.2] Del Rio: 'It's like it never happened.'**

September 28, 2021 (Politico - BRAKKTON BOOKER) Reach: 20.4m

In this opinion piece, Brakkton Booker wrote that "The makeshift encampment in Del Rio, Texas, may be gone, but the Biden backlash from the Haitian migrant crisis engulfing his administration is far from over."

### **[I.3] ICE arrests in Washington tell stories of suffering that goes unseen**

September 28, 2021 (The Seattle Times - Angelina Snodgrass Godoy) Reach: 6.1m

In this opinion piece, Angelina Snodgrass Godoy wrote that "Due to lower numbers of migrants, border enforcement practices in Washington state largely escape scrutiny. But the same abuses happen here."

### **[I.4] Biden continues the pattern of shunning Haitians in need**

September 28, 2021 (Los Angeles Times - Powered by Dow Jones - DeWayne Wickham) Reach: 27.7m

In this opinion piece, DeWayne Wickham wrote that President Biden's "invoking of Title 42 of the federal Public Health Services Act that may well be the legacy of his treatment of the Haitians who try to enter the U.S. on his watch."

## **Immigration**

### **[J.1] Biden caught between allies and critics on border policy**

September 29, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 28.5m

Just 35% of Americans approve of Biden's handling of immigration, down from 43% in April, when it was already one of Biden's worst issues, according to a new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. Immigration is a relative low point for Biden within his own party with just 60% of Democrats saying they approve.

### **[J.2] Immigration protesters hold up giant foil blanket at DHS secretary's home accusing Biden of upholding Trump ...**

September 28, 2021 (Independent Online - Powered by Dow Jones) Reach: 48.2m

Activists unfurled a gigantic foil blanket outside the home of the DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas as part of a protest against President Biden's immigration policies. Demonstrators from Never Again Action, a Jewish-led migrant rights campaign, accused Mr. Biden and Secretary Mayorkas of continuing former President Trump's "racist" deportation of migrants.

### **[J.3] Protesters call for end to Title 42 mass deportations**

September 28, 2021 (The Arizona Republic - Powered by Dow Jones - Salma Reyes) Reach: 4.8m

Human rights activists gathered in front of the ICE Field Office in Phoenix on Thursday calling on the president to retire the use of Title 42 to deport migrants at the U.S.-Mexico border.

### **[J.4] 'Injustice has us here': In Nogales, faith leaders, migrant families call for an end to pandemic-era protocol, Title 42**

September 28, 2021 (Arizona Public Media - Alisa Reznick) Reach: 107k

Migrants and advocates on both sides of the border held up homemade banners with messages in Spanish and English asking President Biden to restore asylum during a recent Saturday. Another sign depicted a family staring up at the border wall.

### **[J.5] Haitian migrants arrive in Cuba in attempts to reach the U.S.**

September 28, 2021 (CE Latin America Migration - Powered by Dow Jones - Cyber Cuba) Reach: 2.0m

The Cuban government said Tuesday that Haitian migrants had arrived in provinces in central and eastern Cuba in attempts to reach U.S. territory.

### **[J.6] Philly Haitians, members of City Council slam Biden's border policies**

September 28, 2021 (WHYY-AM) Reach: 1.4m

More than 50 people protested outside of Philadelphia City Hall on Tuesday, decriing the treatment of Haitians at the U.S. southern border under the administration of President Biden.

### **[J.7] Migrants returned to Mexico describe horror of kidnappings, torture, rape**

September 28, 2021 (NBCNEWS.com - Noticias Telemundo Investiga) Reach: 41.0m

When migrants arrive in Mexican cities near the border, they're the targets of a vicious criminal business that kidnaps them and can torture them for weeks, extorting thousands of dollars of ransom from their relatives over the phone. Those who are kidnapped know that if they don't pay, the outstanding balances can end in death.

### **[J.8] Conservative watchdog pressures Biden admin for answers on trafficking of unaccompanied minors**

September 28, 2021 (Fox News - Caitlin McFall) Reach: 58.8m

The conservative legal watchdog, America First Legal, is pushing the Biden administration for answers on reports that unaccompanied minors have been released from federal custody into the hands of traffickers.

### **[J.9] Exclusive: U.S. border authorities warn of food insecurity in Haiti, as Mayorkas defends deportations**

September 28, 2021 (Yahoo! News - Caitlin Dickson) Reach: 29.8m

While the Biden administration has defended its decision to deport thousands to Haiti in recent days, internal government documents obtained by Yahoo News suggest U.S. immigration authorities are closely monitoring the bleak conditions to which Haitians expelled from the U.S. are being forced to return.

### **[J.10] Hundreds of migrants in southern Mexico scramble for asylum applications**

September 28, 2021 (Reuters - Unknown) Reach: 177k

Around 1,000 migrants flocked to a sports stadium in southern Mexico on Tuesday to claim appointments for requesting asylum in the country as the national refugee agency grapples with surging demand that has overwhelmed capacity.

### **[J.11] Florida bars state agencies from assisting with Biden immigration policies**

September 28, 2021 (The Hill - By Rebecca Beitsch and Olafimihan Oshin) Reach: 764k

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis on Tuesday sought to bar state agencies from assisting the Biden administration with its immigration efforts, including the transportation of migrants.

## Of Interest

### **[L.1] US deports convicted Russian hacker amid cyber tensions with Moscow**

September 28, 2021 (CNN.com International - Sean Lyngaas) Reach: 27.7m

U.S. officials have deported a key player in the Russian cybercriminal world who was sentenced to nine years in US prison in 2020 for his alleged role in a scheme that defrauded Americans of millions of dollars, according to ICE.

### **[L.2] CBP turned away asylum seekers, claiming they didn't have room for them. It often wasn't true.**

September 28, 2021 (El Paso Matters - Robert Moore) Reach: 16.6k

The justification to turn away asylum seekers was that port facilities were over their capacity for processing asylum claims, including detention space. Records obtained by El Paso Matters, along with a watchdog report and evidence presented in the lawsuit challenging metering, show that the capacity excuse often was untruthful.

### **[L.3] Customs and Border Protection Signs Major Contract With Amazon-Owned Encrypted Chat App Wickr**

September 28, 2021 (Gizmodo) Reach: 10.7m

CBP is deploying the Amazon-owned encrypted chat app Wickr across "all components" of its operations, Motherboard reported on Tuesday, citing procurement documents from the agency.

Foundation - Oversight Project

Message

**From:** CBP PUBLICAFFAIRS (b) (7)(E)  
**Sent:** 9/23/2021 10:37:53 AM  
**Subject:** CBP Daily News Brief: September 23, 2021



TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | BORDER WALL | TRADE |  
WORKFORCE | OPIOID | OPINION | IMMIGRATION |

**September 23, 2021**

**Executive Summary**

The Associated Press reported that advocates say the sharp increase in Haitian migrants to Del Rio, Texas, is just one example of how technology that has put a smartphone in the hands of nearly every migrant is transforming migration flows. Migrants often monitor the news and share information on routes. The most popular platform is WhatsApp, which connects 2 billion people worldwide. The International Organization for Migration found most of the 238 Haitians who were surveyed in March after passing through a 60-mile stretch of jungle received route information from family or friends who had made the dangerous trek. About 15% said they saw instructions on the internet.

Meanwhile, Reuters reported that U.S. authorities on Wednesday tried to deal with thousands of the mostly Haitian migrants who have gathered in migrant camps on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border. Authorities have been trying to clear the encampment under the international bridge in Del Rio, which reached as many as 14,000 people at its peak. Authorities have moved thousands away for immigration processing and deported more than 500 Haitians since Sunday, releasing some in south Texas while deporting others on flights.

In other news, Forbes reported that DHS said Wednesday that immigration authorities will not fly any of the thousands of Haitian migrants caught crossing the U.S.-Mexico border in recent weeks to Guantanamo Bay, after a recent request for bids to run a holding center at the U.S. naval base in Cuba generated confusion and outrage. The United States uses Guantanamo Bay to hold and process migrants apprehended at sea and will not hold people caught at the southern border there.

## Top News

### **[A.1] WhatsApp, social posts helped lead Haitian migrants to Texas**

September 23, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 28.5m

The sudden sharp increase of Haitian migrants at Del Rio, Texas, reflects the power of Facebook, YouTube and platforms like WhatsApp, which migrants use to share information that can get distorted as it speeds through immigrant communities, directing migration flows. Del Rio is just one example of how technology that has put a smartphone in the hands of nearly every migrant is transforming migration flows, according to advocates. Migrants often monitor the news and share information on routes. The most popular platform is WhatsApp, which connects 2 billion people worldwide. The International Organization for Migration found most of the 238 Haitians who were surveyed in March after passing through a 60-mile stretch of jungle between Colombia and Panama known as the Darien Gap received route information from family or friends who had made the dangerous trek. About 15% said they saw instructions on the internet.

### **[A.2] Conditions worsen in migrant camps on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border**

September 22, 2021 (Reuters News)

Amid deteriorating conditions in migrant camps on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border, U.S. authorities on Wednesday tried to deal with thousands of the mostly Haitian migrants that have gathered, releasing some in south Texas while deporting others on flights. Wade McMullen, an attorney with the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights organization, said several hundred people had been released in Del Rio, Texas, over the past several days, straining resources at a local volunteer-run welcome center. The U.S. government said it was continuing to fly hundreds of people, including families, back to Haiti, which has been hit by recent political turmoil and natural disasters. It has been trying to clear the encampment under the international bridge in Del Rio, which reached as many as 14,000 people at its peak. Authorities have moved thousands away for immigration processing and deported more than 500 Haitians since Sunday.

### **[A.3] U.S. Will Not Fly Haitian Migrants From Texas To Guantanamo Bay, DHS Says**

September 22, 2021 (Forbes) Reach: 928k

Immigration authorities will not fly any of the thousands of Haitian migrants caught crossing the U.S.-Mexico border in recent weeks to Guantanamo Bay, DHS said Wednesday, after a recent request for bids to run a holding center at the U.S. naval base in Cuba generated confusion and outrage. The United States uses Guantanamo Bay to hold and process migrants apprehended at sea, and will not hold people caught at the southern border there, DHS Assistant Secretary of Public Affairs Marsha Espinosa tweeted Wednesday evening. Espinosa said a bid solicitation from ICE last week that asked private companies to apply to operate the Guantanamo Bay facility was a "typical, routine first step in a contract renewal."

## NEWS INDEX

### **Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)**

### **[B.1] U.S. and Mexico fly Haitian migrants away from border as pressure builds on Biden**

September 22, 2021 (Reuters News)

Mexico and the United States were on Wednesday preparing to fly more Haitian migrants away from chaotic U.S.-Mexico border camps, as pressure mounted on President Biden to stop expulsions of Haitians to their poor, disaster-hit homeland.

### **[B.2] World News: Some Haitians Are Crossing Back Into Mexico**

September 22, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal - Powered by Dow Jones - Alicia A. Caldwell) Reach: 37.8m

Migrants who recently entered the U.S. illegally are crossing back into this border city out of fear they could join about 1,000 others the Biden administration has flown back to Haiti this week.

### **[B.3] Feeling trapped, migrants' fears grow in Mexican border city**

September 22, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 28.5m

Reports of U.S. deportations to Haiti have pushed many migrants back to Mexico, yet they fear straying far from the growing river camp on the Mexican side because Mexican immigration agents continued picking up migrants around town and conducting overnight raids at the small hotels where some stayed.

### **[B.4] Mexico reports people-smuggling surge amid jump in migration**

September 22, 2021 (Reuters News)

People-smuggling crimes in Mexico this year have more than tripled since 2020, the government said on Wednesday, as the country battles to cope with a sharp increase in illegal immigration at the U.S. border.

### **[B.5] Despite threats of repatriation to Haiti, migrant families survive in a camp beside Rio Grande**

September 22, 2021 (USA Today Online - Ronald W. Erdrich)

As of Tuesday evening, when the Texas Department of Public Safety provided media access, there were roughly 8,600 people in the makeshift camp along the banks of the river dividing Del Rio, Texas, from Ciudad Acuña in Mexico. They were mostly Haitian migrants waiting to seek refuge or asylum in the United States.

### **[B.6] Probe underway in border clashes**

September 23, 2021 (USA Today - Kevin Johnson) Reach: 2.4m

DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas vowed a swift investigation into the treatment of Haitian migrants on the Texas border by agents on horseback, telling a House panel that the inquiry would be completed within days.

### **[B.7] Single adults at Del Rio camp are priority for expulsion flights back to Haiti**

September 23, 2021 (BorderReport - MARIA ELLIOT SPAGAT) Reach: 128k

Many Haitian migrants in Del Rio are being released in the United States, according to two U.S. officials, undercutting the Biden administration's public statements that the thousands in the camp faced immediate expulsion to Haiti.

**[B.8] Response to Haitian migrant surge leaves other parts of border unsecured: 'We're unguarded'**

September 22, 2021 (Fox News - Griff Jenkins) Reach: 58.8m

As officials scramble to cope with the flood of Haitian migrants to the Del Rio bridge, multiple sources say that the response -- including a surge in agents to the bridge from elsewhere in the sector -- has left other parts of the border wide open.

**[B.9] Why thousands of migrants, many from Haiti, are stuck at Texas-Mexico border**

September 22, 2021 (ABC News - Go.com - Marlene Lenthang) Reach: 22.5m

Like so many migrants who arrive at the U.S.' southern border, the current wave has come from Central or South America. Many of them are Haitian refugees who left their country after the 2010 earthquake.

**[B.10] For Haitians, color-coded tickets are key to escape from Border Patrol camp**

September 22, 2021 (Los Angeles Times - Molly Hennessy-Fiske) Reach: 27.7m

Color-coded tickets are the key to escape the migrant camp in Del Rio, Texas. Those with blue tickets, issued to families, would be allowed in. So would those with yellow tickets — pregnant women. Red tickets for single men and green tickets for single women meant they were likely to be sent back to Haiti.

**[B.11] Del Rio live updates: Mexico continues crackdown, Haitians set up camp in Acuña**

September 22, 2021 (El Paso Times - Lauren Villagran) Reach: 36.8k

The humanitarian needs of thousands of Haitians at the U.S.-Mexico border near Del Rio, Texas, remained acute Wednesday as the Biden administration continued expulsion flights to Haiti and Mexican law enforcement took a harder line.

**[B.12] Border guards found 16 illegal immigrants in a hotel room after entering the United States using a storm drain**

September 23, 2021 (Texas News Today) Reach: 307k

Border guard agents found 16 immigrants stuffed into a Texas hotel room after using a storm drain to illegally enter the United States from Mexico.

**[B.13] USBP agents stop smuggling attempt, recover stolen vehicle**

September 23, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - Cesar Rodriguez) Reach: 12.2k

U.S. Border Patrol agents foiled a human smuggling attempt and recovered a stolen vehicle, authorities said on Wednesday.

**[B.14] 20-plus migrants found in tractor-trailer at Freer checkpoint**

September 23, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - Cesar Rodriguez) Reach: 12.2k

A truck driver landed behind bars for the smuggling attempt of more than 20 migrants inside a tractor-trailer, according to an arrest affidavit.



### **[D.1] Texas Gov. Abbott sends miles of cars along border to deter migrants**

September 22, 2021 (The Washington Post - Adela Suliman) Reach: 356k

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott has sent a fleet of state-owned vehicles to line up for miles as a barricade along the border with Mexico, insisting the state was taking "unprecedented steps" as thousands of migrants still seek to cross into the United States.

### **[D.2] Texas Gov. Abbott sends fleet of cars to form "steel wall" along southern border**

September 22, 2021 (Axios)

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott told Fox News Tuesday that he has sent hundreds of state-owned vehicles to the southern border to form a barrier to prevent migrants from crossing. It's the latest measure taken to block the entry of migrants around Del Rio, Texas, where thousands coming from Haiti have taken refuge while trying to seek asylum.

## **Trade**

### **[F.1] UK's Johnson concedes US trade deal not in the offing**

September 22, 2021 (Associated Press - PAN PYLAS)

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson conceded Wednesday that a post-Brexit trade deal with the U.S. was not imminent as he voiced confidence that the decades-long U.S. ban on imports of British lamb would be lifted.

### **[F.2] Biden's trade deal warning a wake-up call for Johnson: SF**

September 23, 2021 (Belfast Telegraph - Sam Blewett)

President Biden has given Boris Johnson a "timely reminder" that he would risk any future U.S. trade deal if he ditches the Northern Ireland Protocol, Stormont's Finance Minister said yesterday.

### **[F.3] U.S. business optimism in China rebounds to pre-trade war levels -survey**

September 23, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

U.S. companies' optimism about business conditions in China has recovered to hit three-year highs even though the firms have reservations about Beijing's COVID-19 policy, an annual survey showed on Thursday.

### **[F.4] Taiwan applies to join Pacific trade deal days after China**

September 22, 2021 (Breitbart News Network) Reach: 5.8m

China on Thursday said it opposed Taiwan joining a major trans-Pacific trade deal just days after Beijing said it wanted to become a member of the same agreement.

### **[F.5] Solar companies warn tariffs on imported panels would be devastating**

September 22, 2021 (The Hill - Celine Castronuovo) Reach: 19.0m

A group of nearly 200 U.S. solar companies are calling on the Department of Commerce to reject recent petitions for tariffs on imported panels from some Asian countries, arguing that the measures would harm U.S. investment in renewable energy and efforts to combat climate change.

### **[F.6] US solar trade feud erupts at crunch time for Democrats' climate agenda**

September 22, 2021 (SNL Financial News - Michael Copley)

The Solar Energy Industries Association said thousands of jobs could be lost if the Commerce Department imposes tariffs on cells and panels imported from Southeast Asia by some of the world's biggest manufacturers.

### **[F.7] U.S. Senate confirms senate staffer White as deputy USTR**

September 22, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

The U.S. Senate on Wednesday confirmed longtime Senate lawyer Jayme White as deputy U.S. trade representative.

### **[F.8] U.S. trade office says GM Mexico labor case concluded, tariff threat lifted**

September 22, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

A U.S. labor complaint under the U.S.-Mexico-Canada trade pact over a General Motors plant union vote in Mexico has been successfully concluded, lifting the threat of U.S. tariffs on the factory's pickup trucks, the U.S. Trade Representative's office said on Wednesday.

### **[F.9] U.S. Energy Exports Show First Surplus Since at Least the 1970s**

September 22, 2021 (Bloomberg - Simon Casey) Reach: 36.9m

Trade deficits have been a stubborn feature of the U.S. economy for decades now, but energy has started to buck that trend, helped by burgeoning shipments of liquefied natural gas.

## **Workforce**

### **[G.1] House Oversight demands answers on CBP's treatment of Haitian migrants**

September 22, 2021 (The Hill - Jordan Williams) Reach: 19.0m

The House Oversight and Reform Committee is demanding answers on CBP's treatment of Haitian migrants after agents on horseback were seen on video, grabbing individuals trying to enter the U.S.

### **[G.2] USBP leadership lauds Texas Game Warden**

September 23, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - Cesar Rodriguez) Reach: 12.2k

Laredo Sector Border Patrol agents are lauding a law enforcement officer for assisting agents with a recent dangerous situation, authorities said.

### **[G.3] Del Rio: Anger as border boss defends using whips in round-up of Haitian migrants: 'We were protecting horses' ...**

September 22, 2021 (Independent Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Gino Spocchia) Reach: 48.2m

The vice president of the National Border Patrol Council, Art Del Cueto, has defended the Border Patrol agents for trying to control the flow of migrants into Texas.

## **Opioid**

### **[H.1] Marijuana smuggling attempt halted near west Laredo riverbanks**

September 23, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - Cesar Rodriguez) Reach: 12.2k

U.S. Border Patrol agents prevented the smuggling attempt of several narcotics bundles, authorities said Wednesday afternoon. The illicit activity occurred near the riverbanks in west Laredo.

## Opinion

### **[I.1] Why many thousands of Haitians converged on the US-Mexico border**

September 22, 2021 (CNN Wire - Powered by Dow Jones - Zachary B. Wolf) Reach: 12.8k

In this opinion piece, Zachary B. Wolf wrote that "How Haitian migrants, would-be refugees fleeing an island nation that is rocked by political instability and economic depression, converged at once at the U.S.-Mexico border in a specific spot in Texas is complicated."

### **[I.2] Investigate the Border Patrol's history of brutality**

September 22, 2021 (Los Angeles Times - Powered by Dow Jones - Turberville Chris Rickerd)

Reach: 27.7m

In this opinion piece, Sarah Turberville and Chris Rickerd wrote that "Aside from prompt, transparent investigation and discipline of agents involved, Border Patrol leadership at all levels must be held to account as well."

### **[I.3] EDITORIAL: And so it continues on the forgotten northern border**

September 22, 2021 (Grand Forks Herald - Forks Herald) Reach: 25.8k

In this opinion piece, the editorial board of the Grand Forks Herald wrote that "Once again, the United States has extended restrictions on crossing the U.S.-Canada border, meaning Canadians still cannot enter the U.S. for nonessential travel. And once again, we're left to shake our heads and wonder: What the heck is going on?"

## Immigration

### **[J.1] Latin American Migration Turns Into a Mass Exodus --- Far broader mix of nationalities cross U.S. border, ...**

September 22, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal - Powered by Dow Jones - Juan Montes) Reach: 37.8m

The gathering of thousands of Haitians at the Texas-Mexico border this past week reflects a stark change in migration patterns to the U.S., driven by COVID-19.

### **[J.2] GOP Sen. Rob Portman on Global Migrants: 'They'll Keep Coming'**

September 22, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Edwin Mora) Reach: 5.8m

The number of global migrants at the border will keep rising unless President Biden tightens border security, Sen. Rob Portman said during a congressional hearing.

### **[J.3] Border Patrol sought extra resources in Del Rio as far back as June, union emails show**

September 22, 2021 (CNN.com International - Geneva Sands) Reach: 27.7m

As far back as June, Border Patrol agents in Del Rio, Texas, began asking management for additional resources to more rapidly process migrants, but their calls for increased resources appear

to have gone unmet until recent days when thousands and thousands of migrants were forced to wait under a bridge near the U.S.-Mexico border.

**[J.4] Biden admin missed red flags before Haitian migrant surge**

September 22, 2021 (ABC News - Go.com - Quinn Owen) Reach: 22.5m

Months before the Haitian migrant surge at the southern border, Border Patrol agents on the front lines in Texas sounded alarms that Del Rio was vulnerable and resources could become overwhelmed, according to email messages reviewed by ABC News.

**[J.5] An immigration crisis in Del Rio, Tex.**

September 22, 2021 (The Washington Post) Reach: 67.1m

[Podcast] Thousands of mostly Haitian migrants are crossing into the U.S. from the southwest border of Texas. When they arrive, they face rough territory: hostile law enforcement, mass airlifts for deportations, and a squalid, overcrowded migrant camp in the U.S.

**[J.6] Immigration advocates criticize Biden administration for support of Title 42**

September 23, 2021 (National Catholic Reporter - Melissa Cedillo) Reach: 648k

Immigration advocates are calling for an end to a controversial Trump-era policy that expels people at the border without due process allegedly in the name of public health — a policy also being used against Haitian immigrants at the Texas border.

**[J.7] DHS mum on number of Haiti migrants released into US; 1,400 sent back**

September 23, 2021 (New York Post - Samuel Chamberlain) Reach: 47.6m

DHS revealed late Wednesday that more than 4,600 migrants who gathered under a bridge in Del Rio, Texas in recent days have been removed from the makeshift encampment — but did not specify how many have been released into the U.S.

**[J.8] Saki finally agrees to release the number of arrested Haitian immigrants brought to the United States**

September 22, 2021 (Texas News Today) Reach: 307k

Spokesman Jen Psaki said the White House would release information about how many of the thousands of migrants camp under the Del Rio International Bridge in Texas were released to the United States.

**[J.9] Charges of racism swirl as Haitian Americans, allies unite to protest Biden's border crisis**

September 22, 2021 (The Washington Post - Silvia Foster-Frau) Reach: 356k

Uproar over treatment of thousands of Haitian immigrants who have encamped at the U.S.-Mexico border is echoing from the streets of U.S. cities to the halls of the Capitol as people mobilize over what they believe is a racist and unequal U.S. immigration system.

**[J.10] As planeloads of migrants continue to arrive in Haiti, some are quietly released in U.S.**

September 22, 2021 (Miami Herald - Jacqueline Charles) Reach: 126k

As the Biden administration continues to deport Haitian migrants from underneath a bridge in Texas back to Haiti, it has also quietly released some, White House and DHS officials acknowledged Wednesday.

**[J.11] Biden Administration Eyes Guantanamo Bay To Hold Migrants**

September 22, 2021 (Forbes) Reach: 928k

ICE is seeking bids for a private company to run a migrant holding facility at the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, according to a government contract solicitation, after more than 10,000 Haitian migrants were packed in a makeshift camp underneath a Texas bridge this month after entering the U.S. illegally.

**[J.12] Biden admin seeks contractor to run migrant detention facility at Gitmo**

September 22, 2021 (NBCNEWS.com - Jacob Soboroff) Reach: 28.7k

The Biden administration is advertising for a new contract to operate a migrant detention facility at the U.S. naval base at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, with a requirement that some of the guards speak Spanish and Haitian Creole, according to government records.

**[J.13] Amid U.S. border crackdown, some Haitian migrants seek asylum in Mexico**

September 22, 2021 (Reuters - Unknown) Reach: 177k

Hundreds of Haitian asylum seekers congregated outside Mexico's refugee agency in the capital and in shelters in the northern city of Monterrey on Wednesday as migrants deterred by a crackdown at the U.S. border sought legal status in Mexico.

**[J.14] Nevada Expecting 150 Refugees From Afghanistan Following The Withdrawal Of U.S. Troops And Taliban Takeover**

September 22, 2021 (Nevada Patch.com - Nevada Independent) Reach: 14.2m

Nevada is preparing to resettle 50 people evacuated from Afghanistan in Southern Nevada and 100 in Northern Nevada as part of the federal Afghan Placement and Assistance Program, the state's Office for New Americans announced on Tuesday.

Message

**From:** CBP PUBLICAFFAIRS (b) (7)(E)  
**Sent:** 9/22/2021 10:51:20 AM  
**Subject:** CBP Daily News Brief: September 22, 2021

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TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | BORDER SECURITY (PORTS OF ENTRY) | BORDER WALL | TRAVEL | TRADE | WORKFORCE | OPINION | IMMIGRATION | DHS | OF INTEREST |

**September 22, 2021**

**Executive Summary**

The Associated Press reported that two U.S. officials said Tuesday that many Haitian migrants camped in a small Texas border town are being released in the United States, undercutting the Biden administration's public statements that the thousands in the camp faced immediate expulsion. Haitians have been freed on a "very, very large scale" in recent days, according to one U.S. official who put the figure in the thousands. Many have been released with notices to appear at an immigration office within 60 days, an outcome that requires less processing time from Border Patrol agents than ordering an appearance in immigration court, the official said.

In related news, the Washington Post reported that the United States is preparing to nearly double the number of Haitians being deported to the Caribbean state from Texas, raising alarm that thousands of cash-strapped migrants will add a new dimension to the humanitarian crisis in a country. The frequency of the Haiti flights will increase to seven per day starting Thursday. A spokesperson for DHS said the department could not confirm the flight plans, citing operational and security factors.

Meanwhile, the Associated Press reported that the White House is facing sharp condemnation from Democrats for its handling of the influx of Haitian migrants at the U.S. southern border after images of U.S. Border Patrol agents on horseback using aggressive tactics went viral this week. Striking video

of agents maneuvering their horses to forcibly block and move migrants attempting to cross the border has sparked resounding criticism from Democrats on Capitol Hill, who are calling on the Biden administration to end its use of a pandemic-era authority to deport migrants without giving them an opportunity to seek asylum in the United States.

## Top News

### **[A.1] Officials: Many Haitian migrants are being released in US**

September 22, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 28.5m

Many Haitian migrants camped in a small Texas border town are being released in the United States, two U.S. officials said, undercutting the Biden administration's public statements that the thousands in the camp faced immediate expulsion. Haitians have been freed on a "very, very large scale" in recent days, according to one U.S. official who put the figure in the thousands. The official, with direct knowledge of operations, was not authorized to discuss the matter Tuesday and spoke on condition of anonymity. Many have been released with notices to appear at an immigration office within 60 days, an outcome that requires less processing time from Border Patrol agents than ordering an appearance in immigration court and points to the speed at which authorities are moving, the official said. DHS has been busing Haitians from Del Rio to El Paso, Laredo and Rio Grande Valley along the Texas border, and this week added flights to Tucson, Arizona, the official said. They are processed by the Border Patrol at those locations.

### **[A.2] U.S. preparing to nearly double deportations to Haiti**

September 21, 2021 (The Washington Post - Widlore Merancourt) Reach: 356k

The United States is preparing to nearly double the number of Haitians being deported to this Caribbean state from Texas, raising alarm that thousands of cash-strapped migrants will add a new dimension to the humanitarian crisis in a country torn apart by violence, natural disaster and political strife. Several deportees said they and "many" other deportees had been shackled during transit, including on flights. The frequency of the Haiti flights will increase to seven per day starting Thursday, the U.S. official said. "We're talking about potentially up to 1,000 people per day," said Giuseppe Loprete, Haiti mission chief for the International Organization for Migration, "This is our understanding. This is our challenge." A spokesperson for DHS said the department could not confirm the flight plans, citing operational and security factors.

### **[A.3] White House faces bipartisan backlash on Haitian migrants**

September 22, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 28.5m

The White House is facing sharp condemnation from Democrats for its handling of the influx of Haitian migrants at the U.S. southern border, after images of U.S. Border Patrol agents on horseback using aggressive tactics went viral this week. Striking video of agents maneuvering their horses to forcibly block and move migrants attempting to cross the border has sparked resounding criticism from Democrats on Capitol Hill, who are calling on the Biden administration to end its use of a pandemic-era authority to deport migrants without giving them an opportunity to seek asylum in the United States. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said images of the treatment of the migrants "turn your stomach" and called on the administration to discontinue the "hateful and xenophobic" policies of Biden's predecessor, former President Trump.

## NEWS INDEX

### Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)

#### **[B.1] THE WORLD; Fearing flights home, Haitians flee; Migrants in Texas return to Mexico to avoid being sent back ...**

September 21, 2021 (Los Angeles Times - Powered by Dow Jones - Molly Hennessy-Fiske) Reach: 27.7m

Hundreds of Haitian migrants camped on the banks of the Rio Grande in Texas carried their few belongings south across the river to a Mexican park on Tuesday, afraid that if they stayed in the U.S., they would be returned to their homeland.

#### **[B.2] Why are there thousands of Haitian migrants at the Texas border?**

September 21, 2021 (The Washington Post - Amber Phillips) Reach: 356k

Thousands of Haitians are sleeping under a border bridge in South Texas as they try to illegally make a home in the United States, the latest example of a desperate group of people seeking haven in the U.S.

#### **[B.3] Biden finds few good options or allies on Haitian migrant buildup**

September 22, 2021 (Politico) Reach: 20.4m

The thousands of Haitians massing at the U.S. southern border has put the Biden administration in the exact place it's tried to avoid: knee-deep in immigration politics.

#### **[B.4] Haitian migrants hope to cross US border at Del Rio, Texas**

September 21, 2021 (USA Today) Reach: 57.1m

[Video] Thousands of mostly Haitian migrants face deportation by U.S. Border Patrol after crossing into Del Rio, Texas in search of asylum.

#### **[B.5] U.S. border guard uses whip-like cord against Haitian migrants**

September 21, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

[Photos] U.S. border patrol officers cut off the path of migrants asylum seekers as they try to return to the United States along the Rio Grande, after having crossed from the U.S. into Mexico to buy food, as seen from Ciudad Acuna, in Ciudad Acuna, Mexico.

#### **[B.6] Mexico transports Haitians from remote area on U.S. border**

September 22, 2021 (Politico) Reach: 20.4m

Mexico has begun busing and flying Haitian migrants away from the U.S. border, authorities said Tuesday, signaling a new level of support for the United States as a giant refugee camp in a small Texas border town presented President Biden with a humanitarian and increasingly political challenge.

#### **[B.7] Harris condemns Border Patrol chasing Haitians on horseback: 'Human beings should never be treated like that'**

September 22, 2021 (Independent Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Josh Marcus) Reach: 48.2m



Vice President Harris is the latest White House official to condemn images coming out of Del Rio, Texas, where U.S. Border Patrol agents were captured harshly rounding up Haitian migrants on horseback in tactics compared to America's dark history of slave patrols.

**[B.8] DHS chief Mayorkas says border numbers are dropping**

September 22, 2021 (Washington Times)

DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas suggested his department has turned the corner on the border surge, telling senators Tuesday that the number of people being arrested this month has begun to tick down from the unprecedented level of July and August.

**[B.9] Lewisburg Penitentiary officers sent south to assist with migrant crisis**

September 21, 2021 (Daily Item - Sunbury Daily Item) Reach: 18.4k

Employees from the U.S. Penitentiary at Lewisburg are joining other federal officers in helping to expel thousands of migrants from a Texas town, but a union representative said it is putting a strain on understaffed prisons.

**[B.10] Exclusive — Rep. Andy Biggs: Border Patrol Estimates One-to-One Ratio of Migrant Apprehensions to Got-Aways**

September 21, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Robert Kraychik) Reach: 5.8m

Border Patrol agents in Arizona estimated a one-to-one ratio of apprehensions to runaways among migrants entering the U.S. across the southern border, Rep. Andy Biggs said on Tuesday's edition of SiriusXM's Breitbart News Daily with host Alex Marlow.

**[B.11] Truck driver jailed for transporting 21 migrants**

September 22, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - Cesar Rodriguez) Reach: 12.2k

A truck driver was transporting more than 20 migrants inside a refrigerated trailer, according to an arrest affidavit.

**[B.12] Smuggling attempt of 80-plus migrants reported at I-35 checkpoint**

September 21, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - Cesar Rodriguez) Reach: 12.2k

A truck driver tried to smuggle more than 80 migrants through a U.S. Border Patrol checkpoint using a refrigerated trailer, according to an arrest affidavit.

## **Border Security (Ports of Entry)**

**[C.1] Port Houston Sets Monthly Cargo Record In August**

September 21, 2021 (Benzinga.com - Powered by Dow Jones) Reach: 4.7m

Port Houston handled its highest month ever for a total of 20-foot equivalent units at 320,086 in August, an increase of 29% compared to the same period last year.

**[C.2] Feds Order Border Warehouse To Pay \$235K In Back Wages**

September 21, 2021 (Benzinga) Reach: 4.7m

A federal court in California has approved a judgment ordering a customs warehouse logistics company to pay \$235,000 in back wages and penalties after an investigation found the employer illegally paid warehouse workers as little as \$3.38 per hour.

## Border Wall

### **[D.1] Texas Governor Greg Abbott applauded border enforcement for a miles-long 'steel barrier' of vehicles deterring Haitian migrants at Del Rio**

September 22, 2021 (Business Insider - Business Insider)

Texas Governor Greg Abbott praised border officials and state troopers on Tuesday for erecting a "steel barrier" of police vehicles stretching miles along the southern U.S. border to deter Haitian migrants from crossing into the state.

### **[D.2] NY Rep. on southern border: 'Democrats are endangering national security'**

September 21, 2021 (WETM-TV - Isabella Colello) Reach: 187k

Republican lawmakers are slamming Democrats on their decisions regarding security at the United States' southern border.

## Travel

### **[E.1] U.S. land border to remain closed to Canadians, even as rules set to change for all foreign air passengers**

September 22, 2021 (Grand Forks Herald - Forks Herald) Reach: 25.8k

The United States has extended its land border closure with Canada and Mexico for another 30 days.

### **[E.2] With still no plan to reopen U.S. borders, communities frustrated as Biden eases restrictions on international air travel**

September 21, 2021 (Spokesman-Review - Laurel Demkovich) Reach: 66.7k

U.S. restrictions on nonessential travel at the U.S.-Canada border are here to stay for at least one more month. The U.S. announced Monday the border will remain closed to Canadians through Oct. 21; this comes after the Biden administration moved to allow fully vaccinated travelers from other countries to fly into the U.S. beginning in November.

## Trade

### **[F.1] In Biden's Oval Office, Johnson's Big Brexit Promise Slips Away**

September 21, 2021 (Bloomberg - Kitty Donaldson) Reach: 36.9m

Boris Johnson talked up a trade deal with the U.S. as one of the major prizes of his campaign for Brexit. Sitting in the Oval Office on Tuesday, it was clear the U.K. leader has little hope of delivering it.

### **[F.2] Joe Biden plays down chances of striking trade deal with UK**

September 21, 2021 (Independent Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Sam Blewett) Reach: 48.2m

President Biden downplayed prospects of brokering a post-Brexit trade deal with Boris Johnson as ministers resorted to considering downgrading their efforts to join an existing pact.

### **[F.3] Boris Johnson looks to Canada and Mexico after US trade snub**

September 22, 2021 (express.co.uk - Powered by Dow Jones - Dan Hastings) Reach: 41.5m  
Boris Johnson has all but "abandoned hope" of securing a bilateral free trade agreement with America. The Prime Minister had hoped that his current trip to America would "reset" the special relationship after relations were strained during the pullout from Afghanistan last month.

#### **[F.4] UK mulls bid to join North American trade agreement**

September 21, 2021 (The Independent - ANDREW WOODCOCK)

Britain may bid to join the trade partnership between the U.S., Canada and Mexico after Boris Johnson gave up on his dream of a bilateral deal with Washington.

#### **[F.5] Saudi imports from UAE drop 33% in July after new trade rules**

September 22, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

The value of Saudi Arabia's imports from the United Arab Emirates in July fell by 33% month on month, official data showed on Wednesday after the kingdom imposed new rules in July on imports from other Gulf countries.

#### **[F.6] Timetable in Doubt for EU-U.S. Trade Talks**

September 22, 2021 (Bloomberg - John Follain) Reach: 36.9m

Thanks to French lobbying, the EU is considering rejigging its agenda for upcoming trade talks with the U.S. and Australia.

#### **[F.7] Top U.S. trade official to have meeting with WTO chief on Wednesday**

September 22, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai will have an online meeting on Wednesday with Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, the director-general of the World Trade Organization, Tai's media office said, weeks before it holds an import ministerial conference.

#### **[F.8] U.S. solar companies warn that proposed tariffs would devastate new projects**

September 22, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

A U.S. solar industry group warned on Wednesday that tariffs on imported panels from three Asian countries would jeopardize nearly 30% of the solar capacity the nation is expected to install over the next two years.

#### **[F.9] China's high-tech push seeks to reassert global factory dominance**

September 21, 2021 (Reuters - Kevin Yao) Reach: 45.2m

At a factory in China's north, workers are busy testing an automated vehicle designed to move bulky items around industrial spaces, one of a new generation of robots Beijing wants to shift the country's manufacturing up the value chain.

#### **[F.10] U.S. FDA lifts Japanese food imports restrictions- Japanese ministry**

September 21, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has lifted restrictions on Japanese food imports put in place following the Fukushima nuclear disaster, Japan's agriculture ministry said on Wednesday.

#### **[F.11] Business News: L.A. Port Backlog Spills Over --- Container ships prefer routes to California, but traffic ...**

September 21, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal - Powered by Dow Jones - Paul Berger) Reach: 37.8m  
There appears to be no sailing around the backup of container ships off the jammed ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.

## Workforce

### **[G.1] Biden addresses images of Border Patrol agents chasing migrants: 'We'll get it under control'**

September 21, 2021 (NBCNEWS.com - Dartunorro Clark) Reach: 41.0m

President Biden signaled Tuesday that his administration will address the situation at the southern border where 15,000 Haitian migrants fleeing disaster are estimated to have traveled seeking asylum.

### **[G.2] Horse-Mounted Border Patrol Officers Who Confronted Haitian Migrants Assigned To 'Administrative Duties,' DHS Says**

September 21, 2021 (Forbes - Joe Walsh) Reach: 70.3m

CBP has reassigned officers who were taped corralling migrants on horseback to "administrative duties" pending an investigation, DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said Tuesday, amid criticism of CBP's handling of a recent surge of migrants — mostly Haitian — on the U.S.-Mexico border.

### **[G.3] Border patrol union leader slams White House and media for claims of 'whipping' migrants**

September 21, 2021 (Washington Examiner - Kaelan Deese) Reach: 6.0m

The president of a union representing U.S. border agents said inaccurate claims by the media and the Biden administration about horse-mounted officers abusing illegal immigrants "boil [his] blood."

### **[G.4] Ex-agent: Whips meant to stop harm; Haitian migrants chased by Border Patrol in video**

September 21, 2021 (The Arizona Republic - Powered by Dow Jones - Daniel Gonzalez) Reach: 4.8m

Footage of Border Patrol agents on horseback chasing migrants along the Rio Grande in Texas has drawn outrage in part because some agents appear to be whipping migrants with either reins or crops. But Jeff Self, a retired Border Patrol deputy sector chief, said it's difficult to tell whether the agents were actually whipping the migrants or whether they were trying to keep migrants away from their horses to prevent injuries.

### **[G.5] Border Patrol Council VP: 'We're Losing Agents' Because of Vaccine Mandates Amid Border Crisis**

September 21, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Joshua Caplan) Reach: 5.8m

[Video] National Border Patrol Council Vice President Art Del Cueto said agents are quitting the agency due to the Biden administration's coronavirus vaccine mandate.

## Opinion

### **[I.1] An outrage at America's border**

September 21, 2021 (CNN - Patrice Lawrence) Reach: 151m

In this opinion piece, Patrice Lawrence wrote that "A human-rights catastrophe has taken shape on the border in Texas -- and it has happened on the Biden administration's watch."

### **[I.2] The needs of Haitian immigrants in Del Rio seem to match our own**

September 21, 2021 (The Washington Post - Kathleen Parker) Reach: 356k

In this opinion piece, Kathleen Parker wrote "The border fiasco suggests an obvious supply-and-demand solution, but there's no accounting for the lack of imagination in Washington, where two plus two always equals zero. An orderly, humane immigration process is what everyone wants. It is what we need. But we haven't found enough votes to get it done for more than 20 years."

## **Immigration**

### **[J.1] 'Like a slave': Returnees decry their treatment U.S. steps up deportations to Haiti**

September 22, 2021 (The Washington Post (Print) - Widlore Merancourt) Reach: 356k

The United States is preparing to nearly double the number of Haitians being deported to this Caribbean state from Texas, raising alarm that thousands of cash-strapped migrants will add a new dimension to the humanitarian crisis in a country torn apart by violence, natural disaster and political strife.

### **[J.2] Amid furor over border images, Biden faces Democratic backlash on immigration**

September 21, 2021 (The Washington Post - Sean Sullivan) Reach: 356k

White House officials on Tuesday struggled to explain searing images of border agents treating Haitian migrants harshly, facing a growing backlash from angry Democrats who sought to pressure President Biden to ease his immigration policies.

### **[J.3] Immigrant rights advocates press Biden for action: 'We want him to fight for us as he said he would fight for ...**

September 21, 2021 (The Boston Globe - Powered by Dow Jones - Jazmine Ulloa) Reach: 4.9m

Thousands of immigrants from across the country marched down the streets of Washington in an effort to sway President Biden to take action on immigration as his administration has struggled this week to explain its treatment of Haitian asylum seekers in Texas and Democrats appeared poised to strip out avenues to permanent residency and citizenship for millions of immigrants from their massive spending bill.

### **[J.4] ICE officers injured by Haitian migrants after deportation flights land in Port-au-Prince**

September 21, 2021 (Fox News - Adam Shaw) Reach: 58.8m

A number of Haitian migrants who had been deported from the United States injured three ICE officers on the tarmac at Port-au-Prince, Fox News confirmed on Tuesday.

### **[J.5] Haitian migrants hijack bus, briefly escape en route to deportation flight: report**

September 21, 2021 (New York Post - Samuel Chamberlain) Reach: 47.6m

A group of Haitian migrants who were being bused to San Antonio to be flown back to their country of origin briefly took control of the vehicle Monday before making a break for it.

**[J.6] Local Haitians decry border crisis**

September 21, 2021 (The Boston Globe - Powered by Dow Jones - Tiana Woodard) Reach: 4.9m  
Boston's Haitian residents say the federal government's treatment of the migrants shows how U.S. immigration policy is racist and reminds them of slavery's enduring imprint on the nation. And they said the crisis is one of the tragic consequences of failed U.S. policy in Haiti.

**[J.7] Miami federal judge blocks Florida from enforcing ban on 'sanctuary cities'**

September 21, 2021 (Miami Herald - Ana Ceballos Herald) Reach: 6.6m  
A federal judge in Miami on Tuesday blocked Florida from enforcing a ban on so-called sanctuary cities, declaring portions of a law unconstitutional and tinged with "discriminatory motives."

**[J.8] Amid Haitian immigrant surge, Bexar County sheriff sees other threats**

September 21, 2021 (San Antonio Express-News - Antonio Express-News) Reach: 111k  
Bexar County Sheriff Javier Salazar visited the Texas border over the weekend — concerned that checkpoints meant for stopping drug and human traffickers were unmanned as authorities responded to a surge of Haitian immigrants.

**[J.9] NAACP demands meeting with Biden on treatment of Haitian refugees**

September 21, 2021 (Fox News - Andrew Mark Miller) Reach: 58.8m  
The NAACP is demanding a meeting with President Biden after controversial photos from the southern border showed Border Patrol agents on horseback rounding up Haitian illegal immigrants.

**[J.10] Amid Haitian migrant wave, UN refugee agency condemns 'mass expulsions'**

September 21, 2021 (Fox News - Adam Shaw) Reach: 58.8m  
Amid a massive Haitian migrant wave that saw more than 14,000 migrants camped under a bridge at one point last week, the United Nations is demanding an end to "mass expulsions of individuals" and that the Biden administration end Title 42.

**[J.11] Mexican government cracks down on Haitian migrants in Ciudad Acuña**

September 21, 2021 (USA Today - Lauren Villagran) Reach: 57.1m  
Mexican authorities have begun rounding up Haitian migrants here in a crackdown that involved law enforcement at every level of government.

**[J.12] Immigrant rights activist targeted for deportation can stay**

September 21, 2021 (Associated Press - GENE JOHNSON)  
A Northwest immigrant rights activist who had been facing deportation says she can now remain in the U.S. after DHS agreed to drop her case.

**[J.13] Migrant Camp Drops to 9100 After Texas Closes Border Crossing in Del Rio**

September 21, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Randy Clark) Reach: 5.8m  
The population of the migrant camp under the local international bridge fell to just over 9,100 after Texas DPS troopers and National Guardsmen effectively closed border crossing points from Mexico.

State officials told Governor Greg Abbott on Tuesday they have effectively closed the crossings near the migrant camp.

## DHS

### **[K.1] Mayorkas vows 'dramatic results' in coming days on Haitian migrants**

September 21, 2021 (Politico) Reach: 20.4m

DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas told Congress on Tuesday that the Biden administration is aiming to relocate the thousands of migrants camped along the U.S. border in Del Rio, Texas by the month's end.

### **[K.2] Mayorkas says he was 'horrified' by images of horse-mounted Border Control agents confronting Haitian migrants**

September 21, 2021 (The Washington Post - John Wagner) Reach: 356k

Vice President Harris and DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas on Tuesday both decried images of horse-mounted Border Patrol agents aggressively confronting Haitian immigrants in Texas and pledged a swift but thorough investigation into the matter.

## Of Interest

### **[L.1] Scoop: U.S. government buying risky Chinese drones**

September 21, 2021 (Axios - Lachlan Markay) Reach: 6.4m

Federal law enforcement agencies are purchasing surveillance drones from a Chinese company the Pentagon has deemed a potential national security threat, Axios has learned.

House Oversight Project

Message

**From:** MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** 9/20/2021 10:44:18 PM  
**To:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**CC:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 6:42 PM, KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Have a quick update coming in a few. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) team is heavily engaged.

Matthew Klein  
Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Professional Responsibility  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

On Sep 20, 2021, at 6:38 PM, MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Believe s1 will issue something shortly.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 5:37 PM, HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Good copy. We will work on a response.

From iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 6:14 PM, MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Carry, we are going to need a stronger response on what our actions are steps we are taking in response.  
Troy

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 4:26 PM (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

wrote:

Perfect. Thank you!

**From:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021

5:25 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

> ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES,

MICHELE (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped":

Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Luis – I edited the sentence as follows:

(b) (5)

**From:** MIRANDA, LUIS A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021

5:13 PM

**To:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

> ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES,

MICHELE (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped":

Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

One more ask came in. That we add language to clarify that horse patrol uses long reins or lariat for the horse. I don't believe I saw a lariat, thought it was just the long reins J. Would the highlighted line below be accurate and acceptable for use at this time?

(b) (5)

**From:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021

4:02 PM

**To:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

> ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES,

MICHELE (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped":

Migrants collecting food try to evade  
law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico  
border

You can use the operational guidance to  
horse patrol.

**From:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021

4:00 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

>: ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES,  
MICHELE (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped":  
Migrants collecting food try to evade  
law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico  
border

Can add: CBP's OPR is investigating the  
matter and has alerted the DHS OIG.

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021  
3:57 PM

**To:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

>: ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES,  
MICHELE (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: Reuters: "Trapped":  
Migrants collecting food try to evade  
law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico  
border

Thank you. DHS is moving the following  
statement through approvals. Should  
we add any detail from what Chief  
Padilla just shared, such as the  
highlighted below. And should we be

The Heritage

Insight Project

specific that OPR is conducting the investigation?:

(b) (5)

---

**From:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021  
3:37 PM

**To:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA,

MANUEL JR, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L; JAMES,

MICHELE (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: Reuters: "Trapped":

Migrants collecting food try to evade  
law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico  
border

Can confirm. Checking with OIG as well.

Matthew Klein

Assistant Commissioner

Office of Professional Responsibility

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

On Sep 20, 2021, at  
3:30 PM, HUFFMAN,  
BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

wrote:

Looping in OPR Leadership. Just got off the phone with C1, need to update the TP with more details ASAP and confirm that OPR is reviewing/investigating the incident.

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday,  
September 20, 2021  
3:25 PM

**To:** PADILLA, MANUEL  
JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
HUFFMAN,  
BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters:  
"Trapped": Migrants  
collecting food try to  
evade law enforcement  
at the U.S.-Mexico  
border

DHS wants to be able to update the talking points for media inquiries to say an investigation is underway. Please let me know if/when I can confirm that.

Message

**From:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** 9/20/2021 4:19:52 PM  
**To:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: USBP agents on horseback round up Haitian migrants after closing Rio Grande crossing



**From:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 12:04 PM  
**To:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: USBP agents on horseback round up Haitian migrants after closing Rio Grande crossing

Making sure you are tracking this, specifically the photos of BP agents on horseback. Brought to OPR attention this morning. Whether these are uses of force per se can will be assessed but the images are troubling.

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 10:22 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** JAMES, MICHELE (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** USBP agents on horseback round up Haitian migrants after closing Rio Grande crossing

Team

I just received this email string from OCC attorney (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) regarding a Reuters article regarding the situation in Del Rio.

There are several photos of BPAs on horseback that have garnered particular attention. One photo depicts a BPA grabbing the shirt of a migrant running up an embankment and another captures what was described in the article as "one of the officers...unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face."

The question from OCC, "Have these incidents been reported and will someone be conducting follow-up?"



**From:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 9:57 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** FW: OCC Guidance

**PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL- CIRCULATION RESTRICTED**

This electronic communication, along with any attachment(s), contains confidential U.S. Government information intended for internal government use only. This electronic communication and its attachment(s) also contain information that is privileged as well as exempt from public disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. §552, including attorney work product, material that is part of the agency's deliberative process, and communications between attorney and client concerning legal matters for which the client has sought professional advice. The contents of this electronic communication and its attachment(s) are solely intended for the use by the addressee(s) designated herein, and must be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in a manner that restricts access to only the designated addressee(s) and to those within U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) who have an official "need-to-know."

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 9:46 AM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: OCC Guidance

This article has 43 pictures—several show what appears to be the leather reins (not a lariat) near a migrant.

[Border agents on horseback round up Haitian migrants after closing Rio Grande crossing | Daily Mail Online](#)

\*\*\*

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If you are not a designated addressee of the electronic communication or a CBP official with a "need-to-know," you are prohibited from reviewing, using, copying, releasing, retransmitting, disseminating, disclosing, or otherwise sharing the communication or its attachments within or outside CBP without prior, written approval from the Commissioner of CBP and the Office of the Associate Chief Counsel, Enforcement & Operations. Please notify the sender immediately and permanently delete this electronic communication, and any copies or printouts of the communication and its attachments.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (OCC)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 9:36 AM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: OCC Guidance

(b) (5), (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 8:22 AM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: OCC Guidance

The entire article is worth reading and includes a photo of horse mounted BPAs in the water. This is an excerpt from the end of the article:

“[r]euters journalists saw mounted officers wearing cowboy hats and vests emblazoned with “POLICE U.S. BORDER PATROL” blocking the path of migrants scrambling up the U.S. embankment carrying plastic bags and cardboard boxes.

After one of the officers in the vests unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face.

In another incident, the same officer grabbed the back of the shirt of a migrant trying to run up the bank with bags of food.

Both people appeared to eventually slip past while the officers tried to hold back migrants who were scattering in all directions. A group of some two dozen people were later seen seated on the U.S. side.”

**PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL - CIRCULATION RESTRICTED**

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**From:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Sunday, September 19, 2021 7:29 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: OCC Guidance

(b) (5)

(b) (5), (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 6:39 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: OCC Guidance

Good evening,

(b) (5)

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 6:07 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Re: OCC Guidance

Thank you both!

Also looping in (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) for visibility.

Please let us know what you need.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Assistant Chief Counsel  
Advanced Training Center  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
440 Koonce Rd  
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Office)  
Mobile)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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---

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 5:45:26 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Re: OCC Guidance

Thank you both, let me digest this and will circle back if I need anything more

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Director, Special Operations Division

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 5:41:39 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: OCC Guidance

Sir –

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Senior Attorney  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Advanced Training Center  
440 Koonce Road  
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 5:11 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Re: OCC Guidance

Hf (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Assistant Chief Counsel  
Advanced Training Center  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
440 Koonce Rd  
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Office)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Mobile)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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---

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 10:06:39 AM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc:

Subject: OCC Guidance

(b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Director, Special Operations Division

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Heritage Foundation - Oversight Project

Message

**From:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** 9/20/2021 10:54:15 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Fwd: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Can your team pull the statement we made when we had the incident with the helicopter in Minnesota flying too low over protesters.

From iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Date:** September 20, 2021 at 6:45:03 PM EDT  
**To:** "MILLER, TROY A" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** "KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL  
L" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

I want to look at the response when the helicopter dusted out the reporters in Minnesota. I'm thinking something similar to that that doesn't prematurely convict the agent of misconduct but yet acknowledges the seriousness of what is alleged to have happened and that we are looking into it and will hold people accountable should misconduct be established. We should also reiterate if we have a good track record of holding employees accountable for misconduct.

From iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 6:38 PM, MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Believe s1 will issue something shortly.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 5:37 PM, HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Good copy. We will work on a response.

From iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 6:14 PM, MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Carry, we are going to need a stronger response on what our actions are steps we are taking in response.  
Troy

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 4:26 PM (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

wrote:

Perfect. Thank you!

**From:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021

5:25 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

> ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

JAMES,

MICHELE (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped":  
Migrants collecting food try to evade  
law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico  
border

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

I edited the sentence as follows:

(b) (5)



From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021

5:13 PM

To: PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

>; ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

JAMES,

MICHELE (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped":

Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

One more ask came in. That we add language to clarify that horse patrol uses long reins or lariat for the horse. I don't believe I saw a lariat, thought it was just the long reins I. Would the highlighted line below be accurate and acceptable for use at this time?

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

**From:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021

4:02 PM

**To:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

> ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

JAMES,

MICHELE (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped":

Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

You can use the operational guidance to horse patrol.

**From:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021

4:00 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

> ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES,  
MICHELE (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped":  
Migrants collecting food try to evade  
law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico  
border

Can add: CBP's OPR is investigating the  
matter and has alerted the DHS OIG.

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021

3:57 PM

**To:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

> ORTIZ, RAUL L

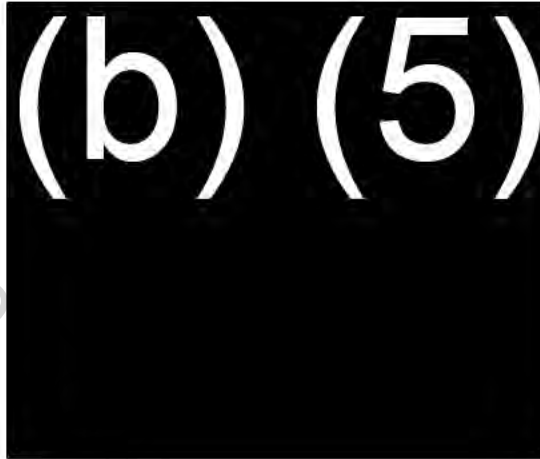
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) AMES,  
MICHELE (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: Reuters: "Trapped":  
Migrants collecting food try to evade

law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Thank you. DHS is moving the following statement through approvals. Should we add any detail from what Chief Padilla just shared, such as the highlighted below. And should we be specific that OPR is conducting the investigation?:



---

**From:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021  
3:37 PM

**To:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA,  
MANUEL JR; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L; JAMES,  
MICHELE (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

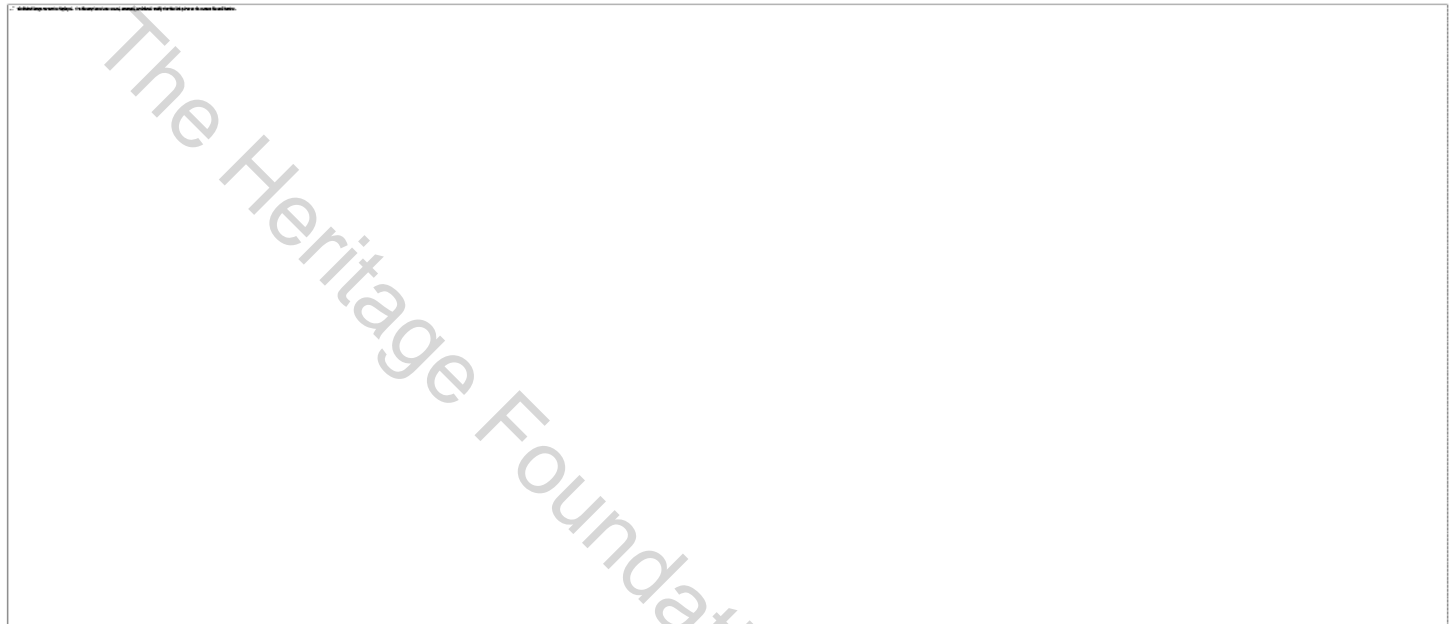
**Subject:** Re: Reuters: "Trapped":  
Migrants collecting food try to evade  
law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico  
border

Can confirm. Checking with OIG as well.

Matthew Klein  
Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Professional Responsibility  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Message

**From:** CBP PUBLICAFFAIRS (b) (7)(E)  
**Sent:** 10/15/2021 10:26:15 AM  
**Subject:** CBP Daily News Brief: October 15, 2021



TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | BORDER WALL | TRAVEL | TRADE |  
WORKFORCE | OPIOID | OPINION | IMMIGRATION | DHS | OF INTEREST |

**October 15, 2021**

**Executive Summary**

The Washington Post reported that administration officials said Thursday that the Biden administration is prepared to reimplement the Trump-era border policy known as the Migrant Protection Protocols in mid-November if the Mexican government agrees to accept the return of asylum-seekers to its territory. MPP cannot resume without Mexico's consent, and administration officials said they are taking steps to address the concerns of the government by setting up better access to legal counsel for asylum seekers and exemptions for vulnerable migrants.

Meanwhile, CBS News reported that unpublished data reveals that out of hundreds of thousands of migrants who have been processed under Title 42 at the southern border, just over 3,200 asylum-seekers have been screened for U.S. humanitarian protection. As of the end of September, only 3,217 migrants processed under the public health law have been referred for interviews with U.S. asylum officers, who are charged with upholding humanitarian laws designed to prevent the government from returning people to places where they could be harmed.

In other news, Breitbart reported that CBP is set to report just under 2 million migrant encounters nationwide for the recently ended FY2021. The number of migrants encountered by Border Patrol agents and CBP officers jumped 202 percent over the previous year's roughly 647,000. Of the nearly 1.96 million migrants encountered, more than 1.66 million were migrants apprehended at the southern, northern and coastal borders. This represents an increase of 310 percent over the previous

year's 405,000 migrants. The report for FY21 set a new record for the apprehension of migrants by Border Patrol agents for the nine southwest border sectors.

## Top News

### **[A.1] Biden administration says it's ready to restore 'Remain in Mexico' along border next month**

October 15, 2021 (The Washington Post - Nick Miroff) Reach: 356k

The Biden administration is prepared to reimplement the Trump-era border policy known as the Migrant Protection Protocols in mid-November if the Mexican government agrees to accept the return of asylum-seekers to its territory, administration officials said Thursday. In August, a U.S. District Court in Texas ordered the Biden administration to restart MPP faulting the White House for ending the program improperly. The Supreme Court upheld the decision, forcing Biden officials to restore the policy. DHS said in a statement late Thursday it is "taking necessary steps to comply with the court order, which requires us to reimplement MPP in good faith." MPP cannot resume without Mexico's consent, as the court acknowledged in its ruling, and administration officials said they are taking steps to address the concerns of the government of President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador by setting up better access to legal counsel for asylum seekers and exemptions for vulnerable migrants.

### **[A.2] Few migrants processed under Title 42 border policy are screened for U.S. protection**

October 14, 2021 (CBS News - Camilo Montoya-Galvez) Reach: 22.7m

Out of hundreds of thousands of migrants who have been processed under a pandemic-era policy at the southern border, just over 3,200 asylum-seekers have been screened for U.S. humanitarian protection, according to unpublished government data obtained by CBS News. Since March 2020, U.S. authorities along the border with Mexico have used Title 42 to rapidly expel migrants more than 1,163,000 times without allowing them to see an immigration judge or an asylum officer, CBP figures show. As of the end of September, only 3,217 migrants processed under the public health law have been referred for interviews with U.S. asylum officers, who are charged with upholding humanitarian laws designed to prevent the government from returning people to places where they could be harmed.

### **[A.3] EXCLUSIVE: CBP to Report Record of Nearly 2 Million Migrants Encountered in 2021**

October 14, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Randy Clark) Reach: 5.3m

CBP is set to report just under 2 million migrant encounters nationwide for the recently ended FY2021. The number of migrants encountered by Border Patrol agents and CBP officers jumped 202 percent over the previous year's roughly 647,000. They encountered nearly 1.96 million migrants nationwide during FY21 which ended on Sept. 30, according to a source. Of the nearly 1.96 million migrants encountered, more than 1.66 million, a new record for Border Patrol, were migrants apprehended by U.S. Border Patrol agents at the southern, northern and coastal borders. This represents an increase of 310 percent over the previous year's 405,000 migrants. The report for FY21 set a new record for the apprehension of migrants by Border Patrol agents for the nine southwest border sectors. The previous apprehension record of 1.64 million was set in FY2000, Breitbart Texas reported in late September.

## NEWS INDEX

### Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)

#### **[B.1] Expert worries Mexican gangs may be stealing each other's human cargo, putting migrant lives at risk**

October 14, 2021 (BorderReport - Julian Resendiz) Reach: 124k

With 13 migrants still missing in northeast Chihuahua, Mexican police are investigating another possible violent hijacking of human cargo among rival smuggling groups.

#### **[B.2] Border Patrol repatriates unauthorized migrant wanted in Mexico murder**

October 14, 2021 (BorderReport - Julian Resendiz) Reach: 124k

The U.S. Border Patrol has turned over to Mexico a murder suspect who recently entered the United States without authorization.

#### **[B.3] Migrant Stowaways Lose Limbs After Train Accident in Texas near Border**

October 14, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Randy Clark) Reach: 5.3m

Members of a Honduran migrant family suffered severe injuries after falling from a moving freight train. Three of the four family members lost limbs.

#### **[B.4] House GOP warns Bagram prisoners released by Taliban could attempt US entry through 'porous' southern border**

October 14, 2021 (Fox News - Brooke Singman) Reach: 55.8m

A top House Republican is warning of an "urgent" terrorist threat to the United States after the Taliban's release of thousands of prisoners from Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan, suggesting that those released prisoners could attempt to enter the country through the "porous southern border," and demanding answers from the Biden administration on its plans to quell that threat.

#### **[B.5] US Border Patrol found two young sisters wandering alone near the Arizona border**

October 14, 2021 (CNN.com International - Dakin Andone) Reach: 23.7m

U.S. Border Patrol is working to reunite with their family two young girls found Tuesday wandering near Arizona's border with Mexico.

#### **[B.6] Border agents rescue migrant struggling in California canal, officials say**

October 14, 2021 (The Fresno Bee - Vandana Ravikumar) Reach: 824k

A person was found at risk of drowning in the All-American Canal in southeastern California last Friday, border officials said. The person was attempting to migrate into the U.S. and had entered the canal with the intention of traveling north by floating across, according to a news release from CBP.

### Border Wall

#### **[D.1] Smuggler carries girl over 30-foot US border wall then returns to Mexico**

October 14, 2021 (New York Post - Jackie Salo) Reach: 45.0m

Video shows a 7-year-old girl from El Salvador being hauled over the U.S.-Mexico border wall by a smuggler who abandoned her before hopping back over the fence.

## Travel

### **[E.1] The Airport Of The Future Is In... Pittsburgh?**

October 14, 2021 (Forbes - Jennifer Leigh Parker) Reach: 67.9m

Pittsburgh International Airport breaks ground on its new \$1.4 billion "terminal modernization" project today, which is expected to be completed by 2025. While it may be a small hub, the vision for the airport is large and certain initiatives could soon come to an airport near you.

### **[E.2] The Surprising Holiday Items You Can and Can't Take on a Flight**

October 14, 2021 (Travel + Leisure - Talia Avakian) Reach: 5.2m

While some items like wrapped gifts and even ice skates are allowed on flights, others are prohibited. For example, Mistletoe with berries is prohibited but boughs, wreaths and garlands are allowed through CBP, but under specific conditions.

### **[E.3] Americans Will Break Travel Records This Holiday Season**

October 14, 2021 (Travel + Leisure - Raisa Bruner) Reach: 5.2m

According to AAA, more people than ever before will be taking to the roads—and the skies—to get to (and from) their holiday season destinations.

### **[E.4] Travel experts call on US to decide on date for UK opening soon: 'The industry thrives on certainty'**

October 14, 2021 (Independent, The (Online) - Andrew Feinberg)

Travel experts are slamming the Biden administration's failure to set a date for reopening the U.S. to land and air travel by vaccinated travelers.

### **[E.5] As legal travelers across US-Mexico border face vaccine mandate, illegal immigrants still do not**

October 14, 2021 (Fox News - Adam Shaw) Reach: 55.8m

The Biden administration this week announced that the travel restrictions at the Canadian and Mexican land borders will be rolled back for non-essential travel for vaccinated foreign nationals and that in January even those engaged in essential travel will need to be vaccinated – a mandate that those entering the U.S. illegally do not face.

### **[E.6] A New App Lets You Skip Immigration Lines (No Global Entry Required)**

October 14, 2021 (Travel + Leisure - Sara Clemence) Reach: 5.2m

A new app, Mobile Passport Control, lets you access express immigration lanes at participating airports. Just download the software and when you land, use it to fill out a customs form and submit a selfie; the app generates a QR code that a customs officer can scan with your passport.

## Trade



**[F.1] Chip shortage could persist for another 2 to 3 years, major Chinese consumer goods maker warns**

October 14, 2021 (CNBC - Arjun Kharpal) Reach: 53.6m

The global chip shortage could persist for another two to three years before ending, the President of Hisense, one of China's largest TV and household goods makers, told CNBC.

**[F.2] Push to Operate L.A. Port 24/7 Off to Slow Start; Experts see no 'silver bullet' for cargo backups as ...**

October 14, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Paul Berger) Reach: 33.7m

The head of the nation's busiest container port said Thursday that he doesn't know how quickly Port of Los Angeles marine terminals can increase to 24/7 operations, a move the White House announced a day earlier in a bid to ease supply-chain strains ahead of the holidays.

**[F.3] U.S., European Nations Claim Progress on Path to Removing Digital Taxes; French finance minister says five ...**

October 14, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Richard Rubin) Reach: 33.7m

The U.S. and five European countries have reached an agreement on how those countries' digital-service taxes would be withdrawn as a broader international agreement moves forward, French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire said on Thursday.

**[F.4] France Says U.S. Must Drop Threat of Tariffs Over Digital Taxes**

October 14, 2021 (Bloomberg - Christopher Condon) Reach: 35.0m

French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire said the U.S. must drop trade tariffs against European countries over digital levies after all sides joined a global agreement on overhauling international taxation.

**[F.5] US reaffirms support for easing WTO rules on COVID vaccines**

October 14, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 22.0m

A top U.S. trade official said Thursday the Biden administration remains committed to an easing of rules that protect the technology behind coronavirus vaccines. But ambassador Katherine Tai insisted that "we cannot will something into being" in negotiations on the issue at the World Trade Organization.

**[F.6] U.S. Says It Supports Vaccine Production Waiver, But All WTO Member States Must Agree**

October 14, 2021 (Newsweek - Zoe Strozewski) Reach: 21.9m

U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai said Thursday that the U.S. remains committed to loosening intellectual property rules so COVID-19 vaccines can be produced more widely. But the U.S. cannot "will something into being" without all member states of the World Trade Organization offering their support too, she said.

**[F.7] U.S. trade chief: Ethiopia's duty-free market status to be decided 'soon'**

October 14, 2021 (Reuters - Emma Farge) Reach: 38.7m

U.S. trade representative Katherine Tai said Washington would "soon" decide on Ethiopia's status under the African Growth and Opportunity Act, an agreement that gives it duty-free access to the United States.

**[F.8] U.S.'s Tai Calls for WTO Reforms to Make Trade 'Race to the Top'**

October 14, 2021 (Bloomberg - Bryce Baschuk) Reach: 35.0m

U.S. trade chief Katherine Tai reaffirmed Washington's commitment to the World Trade Organization in a speech that marks the first time that the nation's top trade official has visited the institution in half a decade.

**[F.9] U.S. committed to WTO and wants it to succeed, trade rep Tai says**

October 14, 2021 (Reuters - Emma Farge) Reach: 1.6m

Top U.S. trade negotiator Katherine Tai on Thursday affirmed the Biden administration's commitment to the World Trade Organization, saying consensus was possible on several trade and health proposals at a major meeting next month.

**[F.10] U.S. trade chief Tai vows to use 'all available tools' to promote U.S. interests**

October 14, 2021 (Reuters - Unknown) Reach: 490k

The United States will use "all available tools" to promote American economic interests, U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai said in a speech in Geneva on Thursday as she called for new ways of engaging and competing with China.

**[F.11] U.S. trade chief Tai says China talks got off to a 'good start'**

October 14, 2021 (Reuters - Unknown) Reach: 490k

U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai said on Thursday that her talks with China's Vice Premier Liu He got off to a "good start" last week and that she planned to raise Beijing's non-compliance with the Phase 1 trade deal in future discussions.

**[F.12] EXCLUSIVE China looks to lock in U.S. LNG as energy crunch raises concerns- sources**

October 15, 2021 (Reuters - Jessica Jaganathan) Reach: 38.7m

Major Chinese energy companies are in advanced talks with U.S. exporters to secure long-term liquefied natural gas supplies, as soaring gas prices and domestic power shortages heighten concerns about the country's fuel security, several sources said.

## **Workforce**

**[G.1] Border Patrol Agents Help Deliver Migrant's Baby in Texas**

October 14, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Randy Clark) Reach: 5.3m

Border Patrol agents in Hidalgo, Texas, discovered a pregnant migrant woman in labor. The agents, trained as emergency medical technicians, delivered a healthy baby boy on Wednesday.

**[G.2] Leaked Border Patrol docs show Biden admin 'lying' about immigration: Tom Homan**

October 14, 2021 (Fox Business) Reach: 13.5m

[Video] Former acting ICE Director Tom Homan discussed the release of migrants into the U.S.

## Opioid

### **[H.1] Two arrested in 50,000 fentanyl-laced pill drug deal in El Paso restaurant parking lot**

October 14, 2021 (El Paso Times - Daniel Borunda) Reach: 36.8k

El Paso County sheriff's investigators arrested a man and a woman accused of selling 50,000 fentanyl-laced pills in a drug bust last week. The Arizona pair showed up for an alleged deal to sell 50,000 counterfeit fentanyl-laced M30 pills to a buyer who was actually an undercover federal agent with HSI.

### **[H.2] Little describes influx of Mexican drugs he witnessed at border during Pocatello visit**

October 14, 2021 (Idaho State Journal - JOHN O'CONNELL) Reach: 250k

Gov. Brad Little believes a Border Patrol map he saw depicting the flow of Mexican drugs into the U.S. illustrated why it was necessary for a state abutting Canada to take action at the southern border.

## Opinion

### **[I.1] US must address the crisis at the southern border**

October 14, 2021 (Asbury Park Press - Powered by Dow Jones) Reach: 928k

In this opinion piece, Carl J. Asszony wrote that "While we spend billions of dollars aiding other countries, our own southern border is facing a fresh wave of crisis. It is the duty and obligation of the federal government to protect the border."

### **[I.2] Don't expect any justice for Haitians who were abused at the border**

October 14, 2021 (Mother Jones) Reach: 1.8m

In this opinion piece, Fernanda Echavarri wrote that "promises of a swift investigation [into the incident between Haitians and Border Patrol agents] don't really mean much, and justice will most certainly remain out of reach when hundreds of the eyewitnesses and survivors remain 2,000 miles away."

## Immigration

### **[J.1] US plans to reinstate 'Remain in Mexico' policy next month**

October 15, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 22.0m

The Biden administration said it plans to reinstate a Trump-era border policy next month to make asylum-seekers wait in Mexico for hearings in U.S. immigration court, complying with a judge's order.

### **[J.2] Biden administration is preparing to revive a Trump-era border policy in November**

October 15, 2021 (CNN Wire - Powered by Dow Jones - Priscilla Alvarez) Reach: 10.2k

The Biden administration is preparing to revive in mid-November a Trump-era border policy that forces migrants to stay in Mexico until their U.S. immigration court date, according to administration officials.

### **[J.3] Trump Border Policy Revival Readied as Court Fight Continues**

October 15, 2021 (Bloomberg Law) Reach: 818k

The Biden administration is prepared to restart a Trump-era "Remain in Mexico" border policy next month, despite its opposition to the program and immigration advocates' arguments that it's inhumane.

### **[J.4] DHS plans to restart MPP in Brownsville, pushing asylum seekers to Mexico**

October 15, 2021 (MyRGVNews.com - Valerie Gonzalez) Reach: 458k

The Biden administration is planning to reimplement a program allowing migrants to request asylum and wait for their immigration court hearings from Mexico by mid-November. This would occur at several ports of entry — including ports in Brownsville and Laredo — but is contingent on Mexico's willful participation.

### **[J.5] \$600k will help resettle Haitians**

October 14, 2021 (The Boston Globe - Powered by Dow Jones - Tonya Alanez) Reach: 4.0m

The city of Boston this week set aside nearly \$600,000 to help shelter, feed, and resettle Haitian families who have been steadily arriving from the southern U.S. border.

### **[J.6] 'Think of welcoming them with dignity': San Antonio immigration groups, activists join nationwide call for end to Title 42 expulsions at the border**

October 14, 2021 (San Antonio Express-News - Jacob Beltran) Reach: 738k

Activists called for the end of Title 42 expulsions during a rally Thursday evening on the steps of the John H. Wood Jr. U.S. Courthouse in downtown San Antonio.

### **[J.7] S.F. rally slams Biden's response to Haiti: 'Shame on you'**

October 14, 2021 (San Francisco Chronicle - Deepa Fernandes) Reach: 139k

A slate of speakers admonished the Biden administration for what they contend to be mistreatment of Black migrants at the border, zeroing in on recent video of immigration agents on horseback allegedly brandishing whips and using derogatory language against Haitians attempting to cross the Rio Grande.

### **[J.8] Asylum Struggle**

October 14, 2021 (KNXV-TV - Lauren Wilson) Reach: 2.1m

While the White House claims asylum seekers are being screened before being expelled, reports are coming out disputing that, and immigration lawyers say most asylum seekers don't get past the first step, the so-called "credible fear interview" by an asylum officer.

### **[J.9] Marin County Sheriff sued for sharing license plate photos with ICE, other federal agencies**

October 14, 2021 (San Francisco Chronicle - Bob Egelko) Reach: 3.9m

Immigrant advocates have sued Marin County Sheriff Robert Doyle for sending photos of passing motorists' license plates, with information on the vehicles' locations, to federal immigration officials for many years, an action they say violates California privacy and sanctuary laws.

**[J.10] Mexico presented to the U.S. its concerns on immigration policy: SRE**

October 14, 2021 (CE NoticiasFinancieras - Powered by Dow Jones) Reach: 223k

To evaluate the scenarios in the management of orderly, safe and regular migration flows on the common border, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has launched a technical dialogue with the United States.

**[J.11] Mexico will seek to ask Brazilians for visas to stop migration to the U.S.**

October 14, 2021 (CE NoticiasFinancieras - Powered by Dow Jones) Reach: 223k

According to a document of the Secretariat of the Interior, a visa will be required again for people coming from Brazil who want to enter Mexican territory as tourists and illegally enter the United States.

**[J.12] Couple made \$16M bringing workers illegally in US to Alabama chicken plant, feds say**

October 14, 2021 (Charlotte Observer - Hayley Fowler) Reach: 126k

A company contracted to fill shifts for line workers at a chicken processing plant in Alabama supplied the plant with people who weren't authorized to work in the U.S., according to federal prosecutors.

**[J.13] Is Homeland Security Sending Migrants From Texas Border To NH? Hassan Won't Say**

October 14, 2021 (New Hampshire Patch.com) Reach: 28.7k

Sen. Maggie Hassan has no comment on reports that DHS is considering a plan to send some of the migrants pouring across the southern border up to Vermont and New Hampshire.

## DHS

**[K.1] Black migrants tortured by ICE officers using 'human restraint,' DHS complaint says**

October 14, 2021 (Yahoo news - Gerren Keith Gaynor) Reach: 64.6m

On the heels of an ongoing investigation at DHS into the mistreatment of Haitian migrants at the U.S.-Mexico border last month, Black immigrant advocates say the abuses of Black and African migrants extend beyond what the world saw in now-viral images of Border Patrol agents on horseback in Del Rio, Texas.

## Of Interest

**[L.1] Mexican farmworkers sue South Texas labor contractor for unpaid wages, 'dangerous' housing conditions**

October 14, 2021 (San Antonio Express-News - Antonio Express-News) Reach: 111k

Seven migrant farmworkers from Mexico allege in a federal lawsuit filed in San Antonio that they were shorted wages, stiffed on travel expenses and placed in a "squalid" and "dilapidated" labor camp by a South Texas contractor.

**[L.2] US offers \$2M reward for info on Pakistani man who allegedly smuggled migrants from Middle East**

October 14, 2021 (Fox News - Adam Shaw) Reach: 55.8m

The State Department is offering up to \$2 million in rewards for information about a Pakistani national and his alleged human smuggling network, which the government says is used to smuggle illegal immigrants into the United States from the Middle East and Southwest Asia.

**[L.3] Honduran sisters in Rochester allege mistreatment at southern border**

October 14, 2021 (Star Tribune - Maya Rao) Reach: 287k

Two sisters who fled Honduras as teenagers in 2019 are now suing the federal government in U.S. District Court in Minnesota, alleging they were mistreated while detained in a cage and at other sites along the Southern border of the United States.

Heritage Foundation - Oversight Project

Message

**From:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** 9/20/2021 4:12:41 PM  
**To:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Thanks sir

**From:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 12:10 PM  
**To:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Earlier comms on same subject.

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 12:07 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE  
C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

And we need to craft an answer within 30 minutes since S1, C1 and B1 are likely to get asked at the press avail in less than an hour.

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 12:05 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE  
C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

On the public communication side we'll also need to explain why people were going back and forth for the first few days, many buying food or supplies before returning, and why we suddenly started blocking that.

If they're hearing about our deportation flights and decide to go back, does this mean we won't let them return to Mexico either?

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 11:26 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Thanks. Will need TPs more generally as well on enforcement/use of force posture. Something short is fine for now - we will definitely need more if we start to see real unrest on the ground. Thank you--

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:16 AM  
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
MILLER, TROY A [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

We are communicating with the local leadership now. Update shortly.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Chief  
Law Enforcement Operations Directorate  
USBP Headquarters, Washington, DC  
Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:15 AM  
To: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
PADILLA, MANUEL JR [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Looping in Chief Padilla and Chief Ortiz,  
I pasted what I believe to be the concerning part of the story below. We need find out what really happened and if appropriate, report to the JIC/OPR. Also work with OPA with the response.

**"Reuters journalists saw mounted officers wearing cowboy hats and vests emblazoned with "POLICE U.S. BORDER PATROL" blocking the path of migrants scrambling up the U.S. embankment carrying plastic bags and cardboard boxes.**

**After one of the officers in the vests unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face.**

**In another incident, the same officer grabbed the back of the shirt of a migrant trying to run up the bank with bags of food."**

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 10:55 AM  
To: MILLER, TROY A [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Subject: Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

On it with [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) right now, Sir.



**From:** MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 10:54:35 AM  
**To:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Deputy, FYSA: We need a good response. Troy

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Date:** September 20, 2021 at 10:44:35 AM EDT  
**To:** "Mayorkas, Alejandro" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** "MILLER, TROY A" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**  
**Subject:** Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

We are running down and will put together a statement. Will need to clarify what reins look like vs a horse whip, and clarify use of force.

**Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border (Daina Beth Solomon and Alberto Fajardo)**

CIUDAD ACUÑA, Mexico, Sept 19 (Reuters) - A U.S. law enforcement officer on horseback wielded what appeared to be a lariat, whipping it close to the face of a man wading in the Rio Grande carrying a plastic bag of food.

It was just one desperate moment in a few hours of such scenes along the Rio Grande on Sunday.

Hundreds of Haitian migrants who have been camping under a bridge in the Texas town of Del Rio were trying to bring food and other supplies from Ciudad Acuña in the Mexican state of Coahuila, while U.S. officials have stepped up security at the border and started flying migrants out of the area, some to Haiti.

Migrants said their squalid encampment under a bridge on the U.S. side of the river was short of supplies. U.S. officials over the last few days had let migrants cross back and forth at a shallow point of the river. On Sunday, however, they told migrants they would not be able to return to the U.S. side if they ventured into Mexico.

"We're trapped," said Joncito Jean, 37, who had spent three days sleeping on a sheet on the ground with his wife and children, ages 3 and 4. He said he regretted the decision to come.

"There are no humane conditions... We have to break out to buy water."

More than 12,000 migrants, identified by officials on both sides as mostly Haitian, have been gathering under the bridge in recent days, awaiting immigration processing. Instead, U.S. officials began removing several thousand people from the camp over the weekend, including some who were later seen arriving in Haiti.

Still, several people who spoke to Reuters, most of whom traveled with their children, said they would take their chances to try to stay in the United States.

Mackenley Pearre, 25, left impoverished Haiti in July with his cousin, wife and 2-year-old daughter due to the worsening violence and inability to find work as an electrician. In July, Haiti's president was assassinated, and in August a major earthquake and powerful storm hit the country.

"You have to do something to not die of hunger," he said, eating a tamale given to him by a local resident on the Mexican side, one of several people who said they felt moved to help.

At a news conference in Del Rio Sunday, U.S. Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz said resources were available.

"We are providing food, water, portable toilets, towels, emergency medical technicians are available for first aid," Ortiz said.

"Over the next 6 to 7 days our goal is to process the 12,662 migrants that we have underneath that bridge as quickly as we possibly can," Ortiz said. "What we want to make sure is that we deter the migrants from coming into the region so we can manage the folks that are under the bridge at this point."

At the border, migrants waded deeper to try to evade law enforcement. Mostly men, many barefoot and in boxers, attempted trickier crossings through waist-deep water. Some migrants crossed at another point where water reached their necks.

Reuters journalists saw mounted officers wearing cowboy hats and vests emblazoned with "POLICE U.S. BORDER PATROL" blocking the path of migrants scrambling up the U.S. embankment carrying plastic bags and cardboard boxes.

After one of the officers in the vests unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face.

In another incident, the same officer grabbed the back of the shirt of a migrant trying to run up the bank with bags of food.

Both people appeared to eventually slip past while the officers tried to hold back migrants who were scattering in all directions. A group of some two dozen people were later seen seated on the U.S. side of the river's edge behind yellow tape near several patrol cars.

###

Message

**From:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** 9/20/2021 10:29:07 PM  
**To:** ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**CC:** MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Yes we're on it.

Matthew Klein  
Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Professional Responsibility  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

On Sep 20, 2021, at 6:14 PM, ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Matt, do y'all think you can support?  
[Get Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 5:12 PM  
**To:** ORTIZ, RAUL L  
**Cc:** MILLER, TROY A  
**Subject:** Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Concur with the idea if OPR can support.

From iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 6:05 PM, ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Sirs, with your concurrence I would like to have a full time presence of OPR agents on site.  
[Get Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 3:03 PM  
**To:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR; HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); MILLER, TROY A; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); ORTIZ, RAUL L; JAMES, MICHELE (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

OPR is engaged, agents are on scene and working to collect additional information and identify involved agents. So can confirm the following:

- CBP OPR engaged and investigating the actions of the agents depicted in the footage, and assessing any potential for misconduct.
- OIG has been notified.

**From:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 3:43 PM

**To:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES, MICHELE (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Additional details;

The horse patrol was not tasked to conduct containment/entry prevention operations at the location shown in the video.

DRT Sector has corrected this issue and provided operational guidance to horse patrol. Their duty is to patrol the area and keep order with the migrants' movements as well as look for any migrants that are in need – medical distress, water and food, vulnerable population, etc..

The current situation warrants the ability for migrants to go back and forth in a controlled manner. This is the operational guidance in place.

OPR is looking into the matter to determine if there is any misconduct.

Thank you,

Manny

**From:** HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 3:31 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES, MICHELE (OPR)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Looping in OPR Leadership. Just got off the phone with C1, need to update the TP with more details ASAP and confirm that OPR is reviewing/investigating the incident.

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 3:25 PM

**To:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

DHS wants to be able to update the talking points for media inquiries to say an investigation is underway. Please let me know if/when I can confirm that.

**From:** PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 2:41 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Getting with DRT now

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 2:30 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL

JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Hi all: We need to get the more details on this as soon as possible. Just got a call from WH IGA/Political – the footage is getting everywhere.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 12:50 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL  
JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Good with this and will continue to work on the details. Ultimately defer to Chief Ortiz and Deputy Padilla.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Chief  
Law Enforcement Operations Directorate  
USBP Headquarters, Washington, DC  
Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 12:48 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL  
JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Coordinated with BP Strat Comm for this response, not enough info is available yet:

**Why is Border Patrol using agents on horseback with whips to control those trying to cross the river?**

We are aware of the reporting and are looking into the situation. Any allegation of misconduct will be investigated. We will continue to prioritize processing the migrants here in a safe, orderly and humane way.

**Why are you no longer allowing people to move back and forth since for days they were getting food and other supplies like diapers in Mexico and coming back?**

We are not preventing their movement, we're processing those under the bridge as quickly, safely, and in as humane a way as possible.  
Again, we will review any allegation of misconduct thoroughly. But we have worked hard to ensure the health and safety of everyone involved as we process migrants for return to their countries of origin.

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 12:05 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL  
JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

On the public communication side we'll also need to explain why people were going back and forth for the first few days, many buying food or supplies before returning, and why we suddenly started blocking that.

If they're hearing about our deportation flights and decide to go back, does this mean we won't let them return to Mexico either?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:26 AM  
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL  
JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Thanks. Will need TPs more generally as well on enforcement/use of force posture. Something short is fine for now - we will definitely need more if we start to see real unrest on the ground. Thank you--

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:16 AM  
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL  
JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

We are communicating with the local leadership now. Update shortly.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Chief  
Law Enforcement Operations Directorate  
USBP Headquarters, Washington, DC  
Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:15 AM  
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL I (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Looping in Chief Padilla and Chief Ortiz,  
I pasted what I believe to be the concerning part of the story below. We need find out what really happened and if appropriate, report to the JIC/OPR. Also work with OPA with the response.

**"Reuters journalists saw mounted officers wearing cowboy hats and vests emblazoned with "POLICE U.S. BORDER PATROL" blocking the path of migrants scrambling up the U.S. embankment carrying plastic bags and cardboard boxes.**

**After one of the officers in the vests unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face.**

**In another incident, the same officer grabbed the back of the shirt of a migrant trying to run up the bank with bags of food."**

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 10:55 AM  
To: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

On it with (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) right now, Sir.

From: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 10:54:35 AM  
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Fwd: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Deputy, FYSA: We need a good response. Troy

Sent from my iPhone



Begin forwarded message:

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Date:** September 20, 2021 at 10:44:35 AM EDT  
**To:** "Mayorkas, Alejandro" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** "MILLER, TROY A" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

**Subject: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border**

We are running down and will put together a statement. Will need to clarify what reins look like vs a horse whip, and clarify use of force.

**Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border (Daina Beth Solomon and Alberto Fajardo)**

CIUDAD ACUÑA, Mexico, Sept 19 (Reuters) - A U.S. law enforcement officer on horseback wielded what appeared to be a lariat, whipping it close to the face of a man wading in the Rio Grande carrying a plastic bag of food.

It was just one desperate moment in a few hours of such scenes along the Rio Grande on Sunday.

Hundreds of Haitian migrants who have been camping under a bridge in the Texas town of Del Rio were trying to bring food and other supplies from Ciudad Acuña in the Mexican state of Coahuila, while U.S. officials have stepped up security at the border and started flying migrants out of the area, some to Haiti.

Migrants said their squalid encampment under a bridge on the U.S. side of the river was short of supplies. U.S. officials over the last few days had let migrants cross back and forth at a shallow point of the river. On Sunday, however, they told migrants they would not be able to return to the U.S. side if they ventured into Mexico.

"We're trapped," said Joncito Jean, 37, who had spent three days sleeping on a sheet on the ground with his wife and children, ages 3 and 4. He said he regretted the decision to come.

"There are no humane conditions... We have to break out to buy water."

More than 12,000 migrants, identified by officials on both sides as mostly Haitian, have been gathering under the bridge in recent days, awaiting immigration processing. Instead, U.S. officials began removing several thousand people from the camp over the weekend, including some who were later seen arriving in Haiti.

Still, several people who spoke to Reuters, most of whom traveled with their children, said they would take their chances to try to stay in the United States.

Mackenley Pearre, 25, left impoverished Haiti in July with his cousin, wife and 2-year-old daughter due to the worsening violence and inability to find work as an electrician. In July, Haiti's president was assassinated, and in August a major earthquake and powerful storm hit the country.

"You have to do something to not die of hunger," he said, eating a tamale given to him by a local resident on the Mexican side, one of several people who said they felt moved to help.

At a news conference in Del Rio Sunday, U.S. Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz said resources were available.

"We are providing food, water, portable toilets, towels, emergency medical technicians are available for first aid," Ortiz said.

"Over the next 6 to 7 days our goal is to process the 12,662 migrants that we have underneath that bridge as quickly as we possibly can," Ortiz said. "What we want to make sure is that we deter the migrants from coming into the region so we can manage the folks that are under the bridge at this point."

At the border, migrants waded deeper to try to evade law enforcement. Mostly men, many barefoot and in boxers, attempted trickier crossings through waist-deep water. Some migrants crossed at another point where water reached their necks.

Reuters journalists saw mounted officers wearing cowboy hats and vests emblazoned with "POLICE U.S. BORDER PATROL" blocking the path of migrants scrambling up the U.S. embankment carrying plastic bags and cardboard boxes.

After one of the officers in the vests unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face.

In another incident, the same officer grabbed the back of the shirt of a migrant trying to run up the bank with bags of food.

Both people appeared to eventually slip past while the officers tried to hold back migrants who were scattering in all directions. A group of

some two dozen people were later seen seated on the U.S. side of the river's edge behind yellow tape near several patrol cars.

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