

Letters from Fathers Separated from their Children Who Are Currently Detained at the Cibola
County Correctional Center in Milan, NM

Submitted by:
Adriel D. Orozco, Esq.
New Mexico Immigrant Law Center
July 13, 2018

For:
Meeting on July 16, 2018
Privately-Operated Prisons in New Mexico with Contracts to House Federal Immigration
Detainees
Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee
New Mexico Legislature

Oscas [redacted]

Guatemalan [redacted]

The separation with my son has been the most cruel and very difficult part of my life. I never thought that that would happen and how much I want to have the opportunity to stay together with my son, and to be able to give him the necessities, and to my family we are not bad we are good.

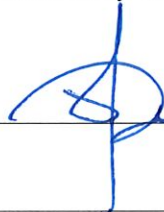
I arrived on June 3 of 2018 with my son, he is 16 years old. When they separated us they told us that I was going to jail and he was going to the youth center.

[signature] _____
Signature

7/10/2018
Date

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATOR

I, Adriel D. Orozco of the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center, certify that this document in English is a complete and accurate translation of the attached document in the Spanish language and that I am sufficiently competent in both languages to render such a translation.

Signature:  _____

Date: 7/13/2018 _____

Oscar

Guatemalteco

La separación con mi hijo ha sido lo más cruel
y muy difícil para mi vida. nunca pensé que eso
acontecería y; cuánto quisiera tener una oportunidad para
quedarme junto a mi hijo, y poder darle lo necesario.

Y a mi familia no somos malos somos buenos.

Yo llegué el 3 de junio de 2018 con mi hijo, el
tiene 16 años. Cuando nos separaron nos dijeron que yo
iba a la cárcel y él a un centro para jóvenes.

Firma

07/10/2018

Fecha

My name is Macedonio [redacted]. My A number is [redacted]. I am a citizen of Guatemala.

On the 1st of June I was detained in El Paso, TX by border patrol. We were in the ice box (CBP holding facility) together—me and my daughter—two whole days. My daughter is named [redacted]. Her date of birth is the 6th of September of 2007. She is 10 years old.

They told me that they were going to take away my daughter, but that she needed to bathe. They asked me to help her, so I did. They told me that they were going to handcuff me, and I begged them not to do it in front of my daughter. They took me behind a wall and handcuffed me. I said goodbye to my daughter and I told another young girl (a little older) who also had been separated to take care of my daughter.

They took me and I saw the tears of my daughter. This was the last time that I saw my daughter. It has been 40 days since I've heard anything about her.

[signature]
[redacted], Macedonio

7/10/18
Date

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATOR

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Signature: 

Date: 7/13/2018

Me llamo Macedonio [REDACTED]. Mi número A es [REDACTED]. Soy ciudadano de Guatemala.

El 1^o de junio, fui detenido en El Paso, TX por la patrulla. Estábamos en la bodega juntos - yo y mi hija - dos días completos. Mi hijo se llama [REDACTED]. Su fecha de nacimiento es el 6 de septiembre de 2007. Tiene 10 años.

Me dijeron de que me iban a quitar mi hija, pero que se tenía que bañar. Me dijeron que la bañara, entonces yo le bañé. Me dijeron que me iban a esposar, y le rogué que no me lo hicieran en frente de mi hija. Me pasaron atrás de un muro y me esposaron. Me despedí de mi hija, y le dije a otra ~~hija~~ niña (poquito más grande) que también fue separada le dije que se cuidara a mi hija.

Me llevaron y vi las lagrimas de mi hija. Esto fue la ultima vez que vi a mi hija. Ya llevo 40 dias sin saber de mi niña.

M.H. 7

7/10/18

Fecha

[REDACTED], Macedonio

Immigration El Paso, TX

12th of June 2018

Father's day was the most horrible and painful day of my life and for my children. Being separated by immigration. Never in life had we been separated much less in such an isolated, horrible and inhumane way. They put us in chains around our feet and hands and to have to see my son witness this being done to his father and his sister.

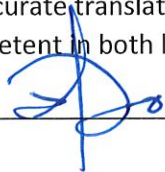
But the most horrible part was when we were transferred to a federal jail, to see my beautiful daughter of 19 years walk through that jail, where I saw her the last time. When I saw her they were filing her into the ice boxes (cold holding facilities) and I saw her pass by. I was broken inside but I didn't want to show it, I just encouraged her, Come on daughter, you are strong! was what I said but inside my heart was completely broken. I felt like I was dying. Then, I was transferred to Cibola New Mexico in chains. I felt that I had lost them when I thought of my daughter and my son. I felt that I could no longer continue. I felt death at not knowing about my children whom I love. Until today's date I have not seen them. But I believe in God. That with the help of God and people and institutions that it will be soon [that I see them]. We are only father and children.

Just an
opportunity!

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATOR

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Signature: _____

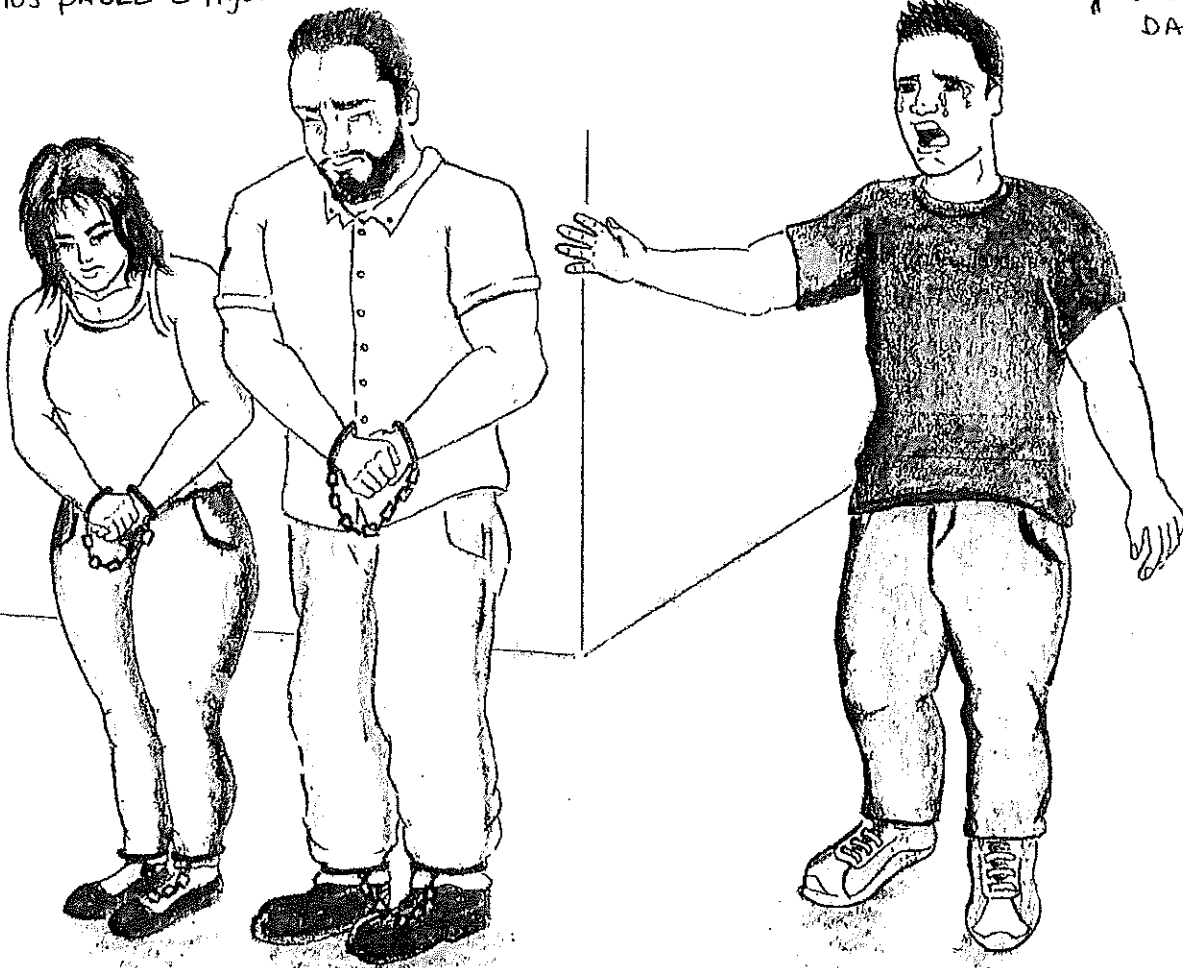


Date: _____

7/13/2018

DIA DEL PADRE. FUE EL DIA MAS ORIBIE AMARGO DE MI VIDA Y DE MIS HIJOS. AL SER SEPARADOS EN MIGRACION NUNCA EN LA VIDA NOS AVIAMOS SEPARAS MENOS DE LA FORMA MAS INSOLITA. ORIBLE INOMANA. AL PONERNOS CADENAS PIES Y MANOS Y MI HIJO VER LO QUE ISIERON CON SU PADRE Y SU HERMANA. PERO LO MAS ORIBIE ES CUANDO FUIMOS TRASLADADOS A UNA CARCEL FEDERAL VER A MI HIJITA LINDA DE 19 AÑOS CAMINAR POR ESA CARCEL. DONDE LA VI POR ULTIMA VEZ QUE CUANDO LA BEIA CUANDO LA ESTABAN ARCHIVANDO. YO ESTABA EN LAS ILETAS Y LA MIRABA PASAR. YO QUE BRANTADO POR DENTRO NO LE DABA A DEMOSTRAR. NADA. SOLO LA ANIMABA. ¡ BAMOS HIJA. USTED ES FUERTE! ERA MI EXPRECION. Y YO POR DENTRO MI CORAZON DESTROZADO POR COMPIETO ME SENTIA MORIR. LUEGO AL TRASLADO A CIBOLA. NUEVO MEXICO. EN CADENADO SENTI QUE ME AIEJE POR COMPIETO AL PENSAR DE MI HIJA Y MI HIJO. SENTI QUE YA NO PODIA. SOLO PEDIA A DIOS. FUERZA. QUE ME FORTALECIERA. POR QUE YO YA NO PODIA. SENTIA LA MUERTE. E I NO SAVER DE MIS QUERIDOS HIJOS. HASTA LA FECHA. NO LOS EXISTO PERO CONFIO EN DIOS QUE CON LA AYUDA DE DIOS. Y PERSONAS O INSTITUCIONES SERA POSIB Solo somos PADRE E HIJOS.

¡ SOLO UNA OPORTUNIDAD.!



My name is Fillemon and I am from Guatemala. I arrived to the United States on the 5th of June of 2018. I came with my daughter who is 12 years old. When they separated us they told us that we would only be separated for 15 days and then they would reunite us, but that is not what has happened.

I have not been able to speak to my daughter since the day that they separated us, the 6th of June of 2018. I think she is in Houston because my sister who lives in the United States called a number.

Today, the 10th of July I spoke with a social worker. She asked me if I wanted to give the custody of my daughter to my sister who lives here. I did not want to give up the custody of my daughter because she is my daughter. They told all of us that they were going to reunite us but instead of that they brought me to Cibola, and I haven't seen my kids.

This whole situation had made me very sad. I want to be with my daughter as soon as possible. I need to be with my family.

[SIGNATURE] _____

07/11/2018 _____

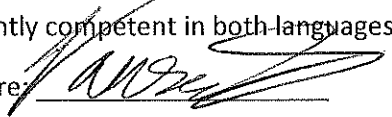
Signature

Date

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATOR

I, Vanessa Gonzalez, of the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center, certify that this document in English is a complete and accurate translation of the attached document in the Spanish language and that I am sufficiently competent in both languages to render such a translation.

Signature: _____




Date: _____

7/13/2018

Mi nombre es Filleman [REDACTED] y yo soy de Guatemala.
Yo llege a los E.E.U.U. el 5 de junio de 2018. Yo vine con
mi hija que tiene 12 años. Cuando nos separaron me dijeron
que solo hibamos estar separados por 15 dias y despues nos
iban a reunificar, pero eso no paso. Mi hija se llama [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Yo no he podido hablar con mi hija desde el dia que nos separaron,
el 6 de junio de 2018. Pienso que esta en Houston porque mi
hermana que vive en los E.E.U.U. llamo un numero.

Hoy, el 10 de julio de 2018 hable con una trabajadora social.
Me preguntaron si le queria dar la custodia de mi hija a mi hermana
que vive aqui. Yo no quise dar la custodia de mi hija porque es
mi hija. Nos dijeron a todos que nos iban a reunificar pero en
vez de eso me trajeron a Cibola, y no e visto a mis hijas.
Toda esta situacion me ha puesto muy triste yo quiero estar con
mi hija lo mas pronto posible. Yo necesito estar con mi familia.


Firma

07/10/2018
Fecha

My name is Juan [redacted] and I am from Guatemala. I came to the United States but I was separated from my daughter on June 2 of 2018, when we got to the border. My daughter is 16 years old.

When they separated us we were told that I was going to jail and she was going to a shelter. We were told that we would just be separated 2-3 days but that did not happen. A lot of time has gone by.

I have been able to communicate with her y she is in Phoenix, AZ. I have only been able to talk to her on the phone two times.

I miss my daughter, I am not used to being separated from her.

[Signature]

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATOR

I, Martha Laura Garcia of the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center, certify that this document in English is a complete and accurate translation of the attached document in the Spanish language and that I am sufficiently competent in both languages to render such a translation.

Signature: 

Date: 7/13/18

mi nombre es Juan [redacted] y yo soy de Guatemala. Yo vine a los E.E.U.U. ~~por un tiempo~~ pero me separaron de mi hija el 2 de junio, de 2018, cuando llegamos a la frontera, mi hija tiene 16 años

Cuando nos separaron nos dijeron que yo iba ir a la cárcel y ella iba ir a una alberga. Nos dijeron que solo íbamos estar separados por 2-3 días pero eso no pasó. Ya ha pasado mucho tiempo.

Me he podido comunicar con mi hija y ella está en Phoenix, AZ. Sinceramente he podido hablar por teléfono con ella 2 veces.

Extraño a mi hija, yo no estoy acostumbrado a estar separado de ella.

Juan [redacted]

Firma

Fecha