



## U.S. Customs and Border Protection

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# Community Informational

**TUCSON SECTOR BORDER PATROL -- In an effort to improve our communications within the community, we are sending you this Community Informational to inform you of significant actions taken by Border Patrol Agents in the Tucson Sector Area of Responsibility. We are excited to provide you this insight into issues that may appear in the media. We would appreciate your feedback and constructive criticism on how we can better keep you informed. If you would like to see something added, let us know. If you prefer not to receive this information, or know of someone who would like to receive it, please email us at [tcfieldcommunicationsbranch@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:tcfieldcommunicationsbranch@cbp.dhs.gov). Finally, feel free to forward this to others who may benefit from this information. The following is a rundown of activities that occurred over the past week within the Tucson Sector.**

### **MISSING INFANT**

**(DOUGLAS)** Tucson Sector Border Patrol agents working closely with several U.S. and international law enforcement partners reunited a mother with her infant son who was in the hands of smugglers in Mexico.

Early Monday morning, agents assigned to the Douglas Station apprehended a Guatemalan female who had illegally entered into the United States. Upon arriving to the Douglas Station for processing, she informed agents that she had left her son with smugglers in Mexico. Upon further investigation, the agents discovered that the child was to be smuggled through the Douglas Port of Entry later the next day.

Agents from the Tucson Sector Intelligence Unit were able to contact the female's husband who provided limited information about the smugglers and smuggling arrangements. Later that evening, agents received more specific information regarding the child's location. The International Liaison Unit (ILU) then relayed the information to the Mexican authorities for their assistance.

At approximately 9:30 p.m., the Mexican authorities located the child in good health in a hotel about 55 miles southwest of Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico. The Mexican authorities transported the child to the Douglas Port of Entry and turned the infant over to Customs and Border Protection's Office of Field Operations officers. The infant was then reunited with the mother. After processing, the mother and child will be repatriated to Guatemala.

"Without the strong work and dedication of our agents and cooperation with our Mexican law enforcement partners, this reunion would not have been possible," said Timothy Sullivan, Patrol Agent in charge of the Douglas Station. "This family is very fortunate that our agents and partners were so diligent and committed to finding the child."

The primary objective of the ILU is to create and sustain a working relationship with Mexican authorities (and other countries) in order to assist Border Patrol agents to accomplish their mission while ensuring a safer border region. The ILU facilitates bi-national communication and cooperation when border incidents ranging from assaults to searches and rescues.

### **SEIZURES:**

**(NOGALES)** A canine team assigned to the Nogales Station alerted to a vehicle at the Interstate 19 Checkpoint during a primary inspection on Wednesday. The vehicle was then sent to secondary inspection and through Non-Intrusive Inspection (NII), agents detected an anomaly in the bed of the truck resulting in the discovery of more than 170 pounds of marijuana in a hidden compartment. The driver, vehicle, and marijuana, with an estimated value close to \$140,000, were transported to the Nogales Station for processing.

**(CASA GRANDE)** Agents assigned to the Casa Grande Station responded to detection technology in the West Desert and found an abandoned pickup truck on Wednesday. Agents recovered more than 140 pounds of marijuana and an assault rifle in the truck. An exhaustive search was performed but agents were unable to locate anyone in connection with the vehicle. Record checks revealed that the truck had been reported stolen and it was subsequently turned over to the Tohono O'odham Police Department. The assault rifle and marijuana, with an estimated value of more than \$115,000, were taken to the Casa Grande Station for processing.

**(TUCSON)** A canine team assigned to the Tucson Station working at the Highway 86 Checkpoint discovered a hidden compartment on Tuesday. Agents found more than 280 pounds of marijuana inside the compartment with an estimated value of \$230,000.

The canine team was working the primary inspection area and alerted to an odor it was trained to detect inside a truck. The truck was sent to secondary and agents uncovered an aftermarket compartment concealed in the bed of the vehicle. Agents seized more than 280 pounds of marijuana and took the truck and driver to the Tucson Station for processing.

“The Border Patrol has made significant gains in securing our border and continues to make it difficult for smugglers to operate,” stated Assistant Chief Patrol Agent of the Tucson Sector Mark Rios. “Border Patrol agents continue to remain vigilant against any attempts being made by smugglers.”

As the Tucson Sector continues to gain effective control of our borders, smugglers are turning to more desperate means of transporting their narcotics into the United States. Checkpoint operations, paired with effective Border Patrol canine teams and technology continue to thwart the flow of illicit contraband from entering our communities.

~CBP~

*To report illegal activity anytime and remain anonymous, call 1-877-USBP-HELP. U.S. Customs and Border Protection is the unified agency within the Department of Homeland Security charged with managing and protecting our nation's borders at and between official ports of entry. CBP is charged with keeping terrorists and terrorist weapons out of the country while also enforcing hundreds of U.S. laws.*