

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

THE STATE OF ARIZONA, et al.,

Defendants.

Civil Action No.

**DECLARATION OF DAVID V. AGUILAR**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I, David V. Aguilar, declare and state as follows:

1. I am employed by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, in the position of Deputy Commissioner. I have held this position since April 11, 2010. Prior to holding the position of Deputy Commissioner, I served as Acting Deputy Commissioner beginning on January 2, 2010, previously as the Chief of the Border Patrol for just short of six years and, prior to that, as the Chief Patrol Agent of the Tucson Sector. I began my service with the U.S. Border Patrol in 1978. I make this declaration based on personal knowledge of the subject matter acquired by me in the course of the performance of my official duties. I am aware that the State of Arizona has enacted new immigration legislation, known as Senate Bill 1070 (SB 1070).

2. In deploying resources between the ports of entry, CBP seeks to incorporate the appropriate mix of personnel, infrastructure, and technology that will allow us to best advance our objectives: specifically, preventing the commission of crimes, apprehending those who have endangered or will endanger public safety, and securing the border. As explained below, our assets at

and between the ports of entry in Arizona are deployed to establish and maintain operational control of the border in the state of Arizona.

3. CBP currently maintains six land ports of entry within the State of Arizona, found in the following locations: Douglas, Lukeville, Naco, Nogales, San Luis, and Sasabe. These ports of entry accommodate private and commercial vehicles, as well as pedestrians seeking entry or admission into the United States. The Nogales Port of Entry also accommodates rail traffic. CBP's port operations include seven air ports of entry in Douglas, Nogales, Phoenix, Scottsdale Air Force Base, Williams Gateway Air Force Base (Mesa), San Luis, and Tucson. CBP's Office of Field Operations (OFO) currently has 780 CBP Officers stationed in Arizona, both at these ports of entry and in the Arizona operational offices, as well as ninety-four agriculture specialists and fourteen import specialists.

4. As of June 2, 2010, CBP has processed over 4,562,900 pedestrians, 3,918,000 personal vehicles, 246,600 commercial vehicles (for purposes of this declaration this number does not include rail), 10,745 private aircraft passengers and crew, and 456,459 commercial aircraft passengers and crew in Arizona this fiscal year alone.<sup>1</sup> This traffic is processed through seventy-five lanes of traffic as well as those entering at the airports — thirty-one for personal vehicles inbound into the United States, ten for personal vehicles outbound from the United States, seventeen for pedestrians inbound to the United States, thirteen for commercial vehicles inbound to the United States, and four for commercial vehicles outbound from the United States. The volume for fiscal year 2010 is in keeping with the high volume that CBP has consistently processed in Arizona since 2005:

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<sup>1</sup> These numbers and those in the subsequent bullets represent the number of crossings and may not be unique persons or vehicles, as individuals or vehicles may make repeated crossings.

- a. In fiscal year 2009, CBP processed over 8,288,000 pedestrians, 7,416,700 personal vehicles, 341,100 commercial vehicles, 17,474 private aircraft passengers and crew, and 670,821 commercial aircraft passengers and crew.
- b. In fiscal year 2008, CBP processed over 11,393,800 pedestrians, 7,938,000 personal vehicles, 381,100 commercial vehicles, 22,662 private aircraft passengers and crew, and 711,553 commercial aircraft passengers and crew.
- c. In fiscal year 2007, CBP processed over 11,856,100 pedestrians, 8,282,500 personal vehicles, 368,100 commercial vehicles, 23,091 private aircraft passengers and crew, and 672,593 commercial aircraft passengers and crew.
- d. In fiscal year 2006, CBP processed over 10,890,500 pedestrians, 9,117,300 personal vehicles, 367,300 commercial vehicles, 21,711 private aircraft passengers and crew, and 685,043 commercial aircraft passengers and crew.
- e. In fiscal year 2005, CBP processed over 9,867,800 pedestrians, 10,025,600 personal vehicles, 341,300 commercial vehicles, 20,722 private aircraft passengers and crew, and 698,277 commercial aircraft passengers and crew.

5. CBP processed 357 trains in Arizona in fiscal year 2009. Moreover, at the rail port in Nogales, CBP implemented 100 percent screening of all outbound rail traffic as of March 16, 2009.

6. As of May 31, 2010, during CBP's processing of individuals at the ports of entry in Arizona, 5,975 were determined to be inadmissible into the United States under the Immigration and Nationality Act during fiscal year 2010, with another 5,358 withdrawing their applications for admission. Since the beginning of fiscal year 2005, 48,549 individuals have been found inadmissible at the Arizona Ports of Entry, with another 42,069 withdrawing their

applications for admission. In addition, from the beginning of fiscal year 2005 through the present the Office of Field Operations has arrested 9,428 individuals in Arizona and referred them for criminal prosecution for a variety of criminal violations.

7. In 2009 CBP deployed additional canine teams to the Southwest Border to augment teams previously in place. Of these, forty-nine teams are permanently assigned to ports of entry within Arizona.

8. In 2009, CBP deployed additional Z-Backscatter Van Units to the Southwest border to augment those previously in place, which help CBP identify anomalies in passenger vehicles—that is, a deviation from the normal reading which may be indicative of the presence of unlawful or undeclared merchandise, as well as potentially smuggled individuals. CBP deployed eight units at ports of entry within Arizona.

9. CBP has also implemented the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) for land and sea travel to the United States, including upgrades to the physical and technical capabilities at the ports of entry. Under WHTI, radio frequency identification (RFID) technology and next generation license plate readers were deployed, along with coordinate hardware and software updates. The new license plate readers (which provide CBP officers with pre-positioned traveler information) are ten percent more accurate than those they replaced, now reading at or above ninety percent accuracy, saving officers from manually correcting almost 10 million erroneous license plate queries per year. As a result, CBP is able to process travelers more efficiently. The technology deployed as part of WHTI allows law enforcement queries to proceed at a pace 60 percent faster than manual queries. These upgrades were completed at the Arizona land ports of entry, ending with Naco in February 2010 (though due to its size Sasabe has a hybrid solution in place with many, though not all, of these technical capabilities).

10. CBP's Office of Border Patrol (Border Patrol) maintains a presence between the ports of entry in Arizona as well. For operational purposes, the Border Patrol divides the United States into geographical areas known as "sectors." Two of these Border Patrol sectors are located in Arizona. The Tucson sector is located wholly within the State of Arizona. The sector known as the Yuma sector largely covers area found within the State of Arizona, but also includes an unpopulated area of the southeastern portion of California along the border. CBP's activities in the Yuma sector are based on a variety of factors and are not driven by the state—*i.e.*, Arizona versus California—where the activities take place.

11. The Border Patrol nationwide is better staffed today than at any time in its eighty-five year history, having nearly doubled the number of agents from approximately 10,000 in 2004 to more than 20,000 in 2009. As of May 22, 2010, there are over 4,000 agents stationed in Arizona alone. This is an increase from the approximately 3,500 agents stationed during fiscal year 2007 in Arizona and the approximately 2,800 agents stationed in Arizona in fiscal year 2005.

12. The Border Patrol utilizes various technologies to assist in locating, identifying, and apprehending those attempting to cross the border illegally. Nearly every piece of technology utilized between the ports of entry is found in northern, southern, and coastal border operations. Technology deployments are based on operational need and the technology's ability to fit within that area's operating environment. The following technologies, among others, are being used between ports of entry: night vision and thermal imaging equipment; magnetometers; infrared and seismic sensors; mobile x-ray, gamma ray and backscatter nonintrusive inspection systems; and additional remote video and sensing equipment.

13. The Border Patrol participates in a program known as Immigration Quick Court. This is a program in which an Immigration Judge holds hearings at the Border Patrol Tucson Sector Processing Center. The Quick Court is an initiative that works to ease the dockets of the traditional immigration courts. The process expedites the formal removal proceedings of illegal aliens arrested within the Tucson Sector. As of April 2010, the Court has presided over 3,153 cases for fiscal year 2010.

14. The Border Patrol operates check-points at twenty-five locations in Arizona, though given the nature of checkpoints these are not all operational at any one given time.

15. The United States has also erected approximately 305.7 miles of border fence in Arizona. Of that, 123.2 miles is pedestrian fence and 182.5 miles consist of vehicle fence.

16. The work performed by CBP's Office of Air and Marine augments these operations. In addition to the technology described above, the Office of Air and Marine conducts continuous operations along our borders nationally with more than 290 aircraft, including Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), and 253 vessels. As of this date, eight fixed winged aircraft, thirty rotary wing aircraft, three unmanned aerial systems, as well as 125 Air Interdiction Agents are based in Arizona. The Office of Air and Marine is an integral part of the overall efforts of CBP and in fiscal year 2009 participated in over 34,800 apprehensions nationally and flew over 45,679 sorties for a total of 100,639 flight hours.

17. Another CBP effort is the Operation Against Smugglers Initiative on Safety and Security (OASISS), a bi-national initiative designed to increase the ability of the U.S. and Mexican governments to prosecute alien smugglers and human traffickers on both sides of the border. The OASISS program was established because, among other reasons, the prosecution of smugglers and human traffickers is a high immigration priority and because DHS has recognized

the need for international cooperation in pursuit of this goal. Conducted in cooperation with Mexico's Attorney General's Office, under OASISS select alien smuggling cases that are declined by United States Attorney's Offices are subsequently turned over to the Government of Mexico for prosecution under Mexico's judicial system. Since its inception on August 17, 2005, the OASISS program has generated 2,031 cases and led to the prosecution of 2,290 principal defendants in Mexico. During fiscal year 2009, 261 alien smuggling cases originating in Arizona were referred to Mexico.

18. CBP also conducts a program known as Operation Streamline, which is a geographically focused prosecution initiative that targets aliens who illegally enter the U.S. through a designated focus area. Currently, approximately seventy (70) illegal aliens are criminally prosecuted each court day. The illegal aliens are prosecuted for violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1325, 8 U.S.C § 1326, or both. Currently, CBP has two attorneys who are full time Special Assistant United States Attorneys for the District of Arizona dedicated to Operation Streamline prosecutions.

19. As of May 28, 2010, approximately 10,700 prosecutions have been brought under Operation Streamline in the Tucson Sector for fiscal year 2010. In fiscal year 2009 over 15,500 prosecutions were brought, which was an increase from the approximately 9,600 prosecutions which were brought in fiscal year 2008.

20. Consistent with DHS's prioritization of enforcement efforts that focus on the promotion of public safety, CBP initiated the Operation Alliance to Combat Transnational Threats (ACTT) in September 2009. ACTT is a multi-agency operation in the Sonora-Arizona Corridor involving over fifty (50) Federal, tribal, state, and local law enforcement and public safety organizations. The ACTT works collaboratively to deny, degrade, disrupt, and ultimately

dismantle criminal organizations and their ability to operate; engage communities to reduce their tolerance of illegal activity; and establish a secure and safe border environment, which will ultimately improve the quality of life of affected communities. Examples of the coordinated operations taken to date to target aliens affiliated with drug trafficking and prevent the expansion of these criminal organizations include the enhanced targeting associates of drug trafficking organizations and, in conjunction with Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the strategic removal of aliens to locations in the interior of Mexico to minimize the recruitment of inadmissible aliens by criminal organizations operating in the border environment.

21. CBP also participates in Operation Stonegarden. The intent of the operation is to provide funding to designated localities to enhance cooperation and coordination between federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies to secure the United States Southwest Border. In 2009, DHS provided \$90 million in funding for Operation Stonegarden to border law enforcement agencies, a record amount. Eighty-five percent of this funding went to the Southwest border—up from fifty-nine percent in fiscal year 2008. The fiscal year 2011 budget request focuses Stonegarden funding solely on the Southwest border.

22. At times, certain state and local law enforcement entities may contact CBP, either through the Office of Field Operations or the Office of Border Patrol, to verify or ascertain the citizenship or immigration status of an individual within the jurisdiction of that agency. Responding to these inquiries takes the time of officers and agents at our ports of entry, offices, and stations.

23. CBP has seen the overall apprehensions of illegal aliens by Border Patrol decrease from our highest point of over one million apprehensions in FY 2000. These numbers

demonstrate the effectiveness of our layered approach to security, comprised of a balance of tactical infrastructure, technology, and personnel at our borders.

- a. Specifically, in the Yuma sector the Border Patrol apprehended 138,419 individuals in fiscal year 2005. In fiscal year 2009, Border Patrol apprehended 6,949 individuals, down ninety-four percent from 2005.
- b. In the Tucson Sector 439,005 individuals were arrested in fiscal year 2005. In fiscal year 2009, Border Patrol apprehended 241,558 individuals, down forty-five percent from 2005.

24. As part of CBP's processing of individuals for admissibility, it administers the inspection and admissions process for aliens seeking admission to the United States under the Visa Waiver Program (VWP). The VWP enables eligible nationals from thirty-six (36) designated countries to travel to the United States temporarily for business or pleasure for up to ninety (90) days without obtaining a visa. In fiscal year 2009, more than 14 million aliens were admitted to the United States under the VWP. Historically, upon arrival in the United States and during the inspection and admission process, VWP travelers signed and submitted Form I-94W (Nonimmigrant Visa Waiver Arrival/Departure Form), which was stamped by a CBP Officer to reflect the date of admission and authorized period of stay as a nonimmigrant visitor (as described in 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(B)). The lower portion of the Form I-94W was retained by the alien.

25. As of January 12, 2009, VWP travelers must complete an Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) application prior to initiating travel by air or sea carrier to the United States when they intend to apply for admission under the VWP. The ESTA application contains the questions that appeared on the Form I-94W. Approval of the ESTA application

represents a determination by CBP that an alien may travel (absent a subsequent revocation by CBP) to the United States under the VWP for the duration of the validity of the authorization, which generally is two years. CBP, however, retains authority to make the determination as to the alien's admissibility upon the alien's arrival and inspection at a port of entry, as well as the period of each VWP admission, not to exceed 90 days.

26. On May 25, 2010, the Secretary of Homeland Security began the process of eliminating the paper Form I-94W requirement for VWP travelers whose ESTA applications are approved prior to boarding a carrier to travel by air or sea to the United States. The transition to paperless processing of ESTA-compliant travelers is expected to be completed by the end of June 2010. As a result, the only proof of admission issued to most VWP travelers will be the entry stamp on his or her passport reflecting the date of admission.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my information, knowledge and belief. Executed the 27<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2010 in Washington, D.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David V. Aguilar", written over a horizontal line.

David V. Aguilar