



**Homeland  
Security**



## **LOCAL ARRANGEMENT FOR REPATRIATION OF MEXICAN NATIONALS**

The Consulate General of Mexico in Houston, Texas and the Houston Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Field Offices (Office of Investigations and Office of Detention and Removal) and the Houston, Field Office for Customs and Border Protection, of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) of the United States of America (the United States), all together hereinafter referred to as "the Participants":

**RECOGNIZING** the obligations of Mexico and the United States of America set forth in the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of April 24, 1963, of which both are Contracting Parties, and in the Consular Convention between the United Mexican States and the United States of America of August 12, 1942;

**BEARING IN MIND** the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding on Consular Protection of Mexican and United States Nationals, of May 7, 1996; and the Memorandum of Understanding on Consultation Mechanisms of the Immigration and Naturalization Service Functions and Consular Protection, of June 11, 1998;

**RECOGNIZING** the need to regulate the flow of persons, particularly on the common border, as was reflected in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Homeland Security of the United States of America and the Secretariat of Governance and the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of the United Mexican States, on the Safe, Orderly, Dignified and Humane Repatriation of Mexican Nationals, signed on February 20, 2004 (hereinafter the MOU);

**CONSIDERING** that the Governments of the United States of America and the United States of Mexico have approached the topic of migration at the highest level, and that the Joint Declaration "Towards a Partnership for Prosperity: The Guanajuato Proposal" addresses this issue as a matter of cooperation and shared responsibility.

**CONSIDERING** that in 1997 the Working Group on Migration and Consular Affairs of the Mexico-U.S. Binational Commission was established as a means of developing improved procedures for repatriating Mexican nationals in a safe, dignified and orderly way with respect to their human rights, and that this Working Group has strengthened the mutual collaboration in the subsequent sessions on those matters;

**DESIRING** to establish a local arrangement on the safe and orderly repatriation of Mexican nationals, as mentioned in the Plan of Action for Cooperation on Border Safety, of June 21, 2001; the U.S.-Mexico Border Partnership Action Plan, of March 22, 2002, and the U.S.-Mexico Action Plan for Cooperation on Border Safety, of February 20, 2004.

Have established the following Local Arrangement:

## **CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES**

### **SECTION 1**

The purpose of this Arrangement is to establish local procedures for the orderly and safe repatriation of Mexican nationals from the United States to Mexico, consistent with the criteria and principles referred to in Article 3 of the February 20, 2004 Memorandum of Understanding on the Safe, Orderly, Dignified and Humane Repatriation of Mexican Nationals (the MOU).

### **SECTION 2**

Consistent with the MOU, repatriations from the interior, ports of entry and at the border of the United States and Mexico should be conducted in a manner that will be consistent with the respect of the human rights and dignity of Mexican nationals found in the United States in violation of U.S. immigration law.

**CONSIDERANDO** que en 1997, el Grupo de Trabajo sobre Migración y Asuntos Consulares de la Comisión Binacional México-EUA, fue establecido como un medio para mejorar el desarrollo de procedimientos para la repatriación de nacionales mexicanos de manera segura, digna y ordenada respetando sus derechos humanos, y que este Grupo de Trabajo ha fortalecido la colaboración mutua en las sesiones subsecuentes que se han realizado en esta materia;

**DESEANDO** establecer acuerdos locales para la repatriación segura y ordenada de nacionales mexicanos, tal y como se menciona en el Plan de Acción para la Cooperación sobre Seguridad Fronteriza, del 21 de junio de 2001; el Plan de Acción de la Alianza para la Frontera México-EUA, del 22 de marzo de 2002 y el Plan de Acción para la Cooperación sobre Seguridad Fronteriza, del 20 de febrero de 2004.

Han establecido el siguiente Arreglo Local:

## **CRITERIOS Y PROCEDIMIENTOS**

### **SECCION 1**

El propósito de este Arreglo es establecer los procedimientos locales para la repatriación ordenada y segura de nacionales mexicanos desde los Estados Unidos a México, de conformidad con los criterios y principios establecidos en el Artículo 3 del Memorándum de Entendimiento para la Repatriación Segura, Ordenada, Digna y Humana de Nacionales Mexicanos, del 20 de febrero de 2004 (Memorándum de Entendimiento).

### **SECCION 2**

De conformidad con el Memorándum de Entendimiento, las repatriaciones desde el interior, puertos de entrada y en la frontera de Estados Unidos y México, deberían conducirse en forma consistente con respeto de los derechos humanos y la dignidad de los nacionales mexicanos que se encuentren en los Estados Unidos, en violación a las leyes migratorias estadounidenses.

### **SECTION 3**

Under this Arrangement:

The Consulate General of Mexico in Houston, Texas, should take appropriate actions with respect to Mexican nationals found in, detained in or repatriated from the counties of See Attachment A.

The following DHS authorities should take appropriate actions with respect to Mexicans found in, detained in or repatriated from the counties listed above:

- a) Customs and Border Protection (CBP): Houston Office of Field Operations;
- b) Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE): Houston Detention and Removal Operations (DRO); Houston Office of Investigations

When the repatriation of a Mexican national involves areas covered by this Arrangement and one or more additional local arrangements (e.g., the individual is detained by DHS in a county covered by this arrangement and is to be repatriated at a point of repatriation covered by another local arrangement) this Arrangement will apply to the actions that take place within the area covered by this Arrangement, and the other local arrangement(s) will apply to the actions that take place within the area(s) covered by the other local arrangement(s).

### **CONSULAR NOTIFICATION AND ACCESS**

#### **SECTION 4**

The DHS Participants should advise every detained Mexican national (who is not also a U.S. national) that he/she may communicate with a consular official. When a detained Mexican national requests consular access, the DHS Participants should notify the Mexican Consulate, facilitate access and provide Mexican consular officials, to the extent practicable, the opportunity to conduct interviews in private. The DHS Participants should make available to the Mexican Participants copies of

applicable regulations and the DHS Detention Standards applicable to all persons detained for a period longer than 72 hours. Consular notification should be made by phone at 713-271-6800 and by fax at 713-271-3201.

## **SECTION 5**

The Participants have listed in Attachment 1 the names and titles of, and contact information for, their officials who are responsible for the delivery to, or reception of Mexican nationals, in Mexico, or for the coordination of repatriation activities.

## **SECTION 6**

The DHS Participants should provide to the appropriate points of contact designated by the Mexican participants in Attachment 1 the names and appropriate information of Mexican nationals being directly repatriated at the ports of entry or from the borders of the United States for whom notifications have not previously been made but who are suspected of committing, or known to have committed criminal violations, in the United States or Mexico, as well as those identified as being of special interest to the Government of Mexico. Such notification should be provided in a timely manner prior to any repatriation.

Local procedures should be developed as necessary to ensure that repatriation is accomplished in a coordinated manner through a mechanism developed by the appropriate officials of both countries when an individual who is suspected of committing, or known to have committed, criminal violations has been identified as being of special interest to the Government of Mexico in response to a previous notification.

## **SECTION 7**

The Participants should set forth the conditions for routine notification of repatriations of Mexican nationals from the interior, ports of entry, and at the border of the United States and Mexico. Notification of routine repatriations should be done in a manner consistent with logistical and operational needs.

The DHS Participants should whenever possible, consistent with logistical and operational needs, deliver to the appropriate Mexican Participants at established points of repatriation and at the time of repatriation, a list of Mexican nationals to be repatriated, which includes at least name, sex, date and place of birth.

The Mexican Participants should provide appropriate officials at the established points of repatriation to receive the requested information.

### **SECTION 8**

The Participants have established the points of repatriation, and their hours of scheduled operation and staffing, in Attachment 2. The Participants should update the Attachment whenever the points of repatriation or their hours of scheduled operation and staffing change. The Mexican Participants should make every effort to ensure that agreed-upon points of repatriation are fully staffed with appropriate local, state and/or federal entities responsible for the health, welfare and safety of Mexican nationals.

### **SECTION 9**

The Participants have listed in Attachment 3 the points of contact to receive and/or convey information about incidents involving reported misconduct, mistreatment or violations of human rights.

In regard to the solution of differences in the application or interpretation of this Arrangement, the procedures established in articles 8 and 1 b) of the MOU remain applicable.

## **INTERIOR AND BORDER COORDINATION**

### **SECTION 10**

The unity of families should be preserved during repatriation, within administrative parameters. For purposes of this Arrangement, the Participants define "family" as including spouses (including common law spouses), children, siblings (brothers and sisters), parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles. When doubts about kinship between juveniles and adults exist, DHS participants should coordinate with the Consulate of Mexico in order to safe-guard the well-being of the juveniles.

### **SECTION 11**

The Participants should repatriate persons with special needs during daylight hours to ensure their safety. For purposes of this Arrangement, "persons with special needs" may include, but are not limited to, unaccompanied minors, the elderly, pregnant women, and individuals who are mentally or medically incapacitated. The Mexican participants should make every effort to have the appropriate representatives receive such persons upon repatriation from the United States. Repatriation of such persons should generally be arranged in a timely manner.

### **SECTION 12**

If additional preparation is required to receive an unaccompanied minor or an individual with medical, mental or other special needs, the DHS Participants should provide the information specified in Attachment 4 to the Mexican Participants.

## **ARRANGEMENT'S EVALUATION**

### **SECTION 13**

Based on the framework of Article 5 of the MOU, when specific circumstances so require and if deemed feasible, the Repatriation Technical Working Group will explore bilateral mechanisms for repatriation of Mexican nationals to their places of origin, conforming to the agreed principles.

The Participants may also propose special programs for consideration by the Repatriation Technical Working Group.

The Participants should develop local procedures to implement approved special programs.

### **SECTION 14**

The Participants should meet no less than two times per year to review the arrangement and discuss repatriation issues. The Participants should refer to the Repatriation Technical Working Group: (a) unresolved issues; (b) best practices; (c) new or emerging repatriation issues, and (d) proposed changes in, or proposed termination of, the local repatriation arrangement.

The local repatriation procedures should be reviewed and updated in consultation with the Repatriation Technical Working Group at least on an annual basis.

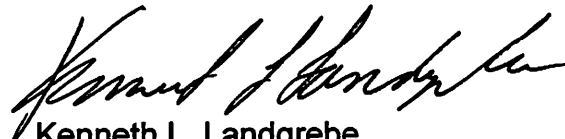



Signed in Houston, Texas on this the sixteenth day of January Two Thousand and Nine, in two originals in the Spanish and English languages, being both texts equally valid.

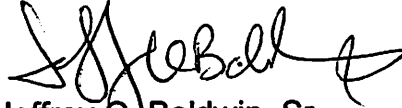
FOR THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF  
MEXICO IN HOUSTON


  
Carlos González Magallon  
CONSUL GENERAL

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF  
HOMELAND SECURITY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

  
Kenneth L. Landgrebe  
Field Office Director  
ICE DRO, Houston

  
Robert P. Rutt  
Special Agent in Charge  
ICE OI, Houston

  
Jeffrey O. Baldwin, Sr.  
Director of Field Operations  
CBP, Houston

  
Ronald D. Vitiello  
Chief Patrol Agent  
CBP, Rio Grande

**Attachment A**

**CONSULAR JURISDICTION OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF MEXICO IN  
Houston**

**Texas COUNTIES**

1	ANGELINA	20	LIBERTY
2	AUSTIN	21	MADISON
3	BRAZORIA	22	MATAGORDA
4	BRAZOS	23	MONTGOMERY
5	BURLESON	24	NEWTON
6	CALHOUN	25	ORANGE
7	CHAMBERS	26	POLK
8	COLORADO	27	ROBERTSON
9	FORT BEND	28	SABINE
10	GALVESTON	29	SAN AUGUSTINE
11	GRIMES	30	SAN JACINTO
12	HARDIN	31	TRINITY
13	HARRIS	32	TYLER
14	HOUSTON	33	VICTORIA
15	JACKSON	34	WALKER
16	JASPER	35	WALLER
17	JEFFERSON	36	WASHINGTON
18	LAVACA	37	WHARTON
19	LEON		

# Attachment 1

## DHS Participants, Houston, Texas

### Office of Investigations

Robert P. Rutt

B6 & 7C

Special Agent in Charge

Deputy Special Agent in Charge

281-985-

281-985-

B6 & 7C

### Office of Detention and Removal

Kenneth L. Landgrebe

B6 & 7C

Field Office Director

Deputy Field Office Director

281-774-

281-774-

B6 & 7C

### Customs and Border Protection

#### Office of Customs and Border Protection

Jeffrey O. Baldwin, Sr.

B6 & 7C

Director of Field Operations

Assistant Director

713-387-

713-387-

B6 & 7C

#### Border Patrol, Rio Grande Valley Sector

Ronald D. Vitiello

B6 & 7C

Chief Patrol Agent

Deputy Chief Patrol Agent

956-289-

956-289-

B6 & 7C

#### Houston Air and Marine Branch

David H. Lent

Director

281-257-

B6 & 7C

### Consulate General of México, Houston, Texas

Carlos González Magallon

Cónsul General

713-271-

B6 & 7C

Cónsul Carlos García

Cónsul in Charge of the  
Department of Protection

713-271-

Ext.

B6 & 7C

Miguel Miralrio

Assistant in Charge of  
Immigration Affairs

713-271-

Ext.

B6 & 7C

Fax 713-271-3201

## **Attachment 2**

The participants have agreed to coordinate repatriations in a safe, humane, and orderly manner. It is agreed that repatriation will continue to utilize buses, the Flight Operations Unit (FOU), and the Justice Prisoner Alien Transport System (JPATS) as well as commercial airlines.

Under most circumstances, JPATS flight processing will continue to be initiated at Livingston, Texas Detention Facility or Houston, Texas Processing Center with flights departing from Houston Intercontinental Airport. If ICE expands to additional facilities, processing may be initiated from additional, new locations.

## Attachment 3

The Participants agree to report any incidents or allegations involving employees, in writing, as soon as possible, after the incident or allegation occurs. The relevant points of contact for matters of concern are listed below. In case of an emergency, reports may be made telephonically and followed by a written report.

### DHS Participants, Houston, Texas

#### Office of Investigations

Robert P. Rutt  
Special Agent in Charge  
4141 N. Sam Houston Pkwy.  
Houston, TX 77032

281-985- [REDACTED] B6 & 7C

#### Office of Detention and Removal

Office of Detention and Removal  
Field Office Director, Kenneth L. Landgrebe  
126 Northpoint Dr  
Houston, Texas 77060

281-774- [REDACTED] B6 & 7C

#### Customs and Border Protection

Office of Customs and Border Protection  
Director Field Operations, Jeffrey O. Baldwin, Sr.  
2323 S. Shepherd Dr., Suite [REDACTED] B6 & 7C  
Houston, Texas 77019

713-387- [REDACTED] B6 & 7C

Border Patrol, Rio Grande Valley Sector  
Chief Patrol Agent, Ronald D Vitiello  
4400 S. Expressway 281  
Edinburg, Texas 78539

956-289- [REDACTED] B6 & 7C

#### Houston Air and Marine Branch

David H. Lent, Director

281-257- [REDACTED] B6 & 7C

### Consulate General of México, Houston, Texas

Consulate General of México  
Cónsul General Carlos González Magallon  
4506 Caroline St.  
Houston, Texas 77004

713-271- [REDACTED] B6 & 7C  
Ext: [REDACTED] B6 & 7C  
After Hours 713-995-1227  
Emergency 713-857-6504

## Attachment 4

For all cases requiring additional preparation to receive an unaccompanied minor or an individual with medical, mental or other special needs, the DHS participants should coordinate directly with the Mexican Consulate to make the necessary arrangements prior to the removal.

It is also agreed that unaccompanied minors 17 years of age with a criminal record may be repatriated via the Justice Prisoner Alien Transport System (JPATS).