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SERVICIOS DIOCESANOS PARA MIGRANTES Y REFUGIADOS

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BORDER NETWORK  
For  
HUMAN RIGHTS



TEXAS  
CIVIL RIGHTS  
PROJECT



## BORDERLAND IMMIGRATION COUNCIL

### COREY PRICE, ICE FIELD OFFICE DIRECTOR, AUTHORIZES DEPORTATION OF HOSPITALIZED SUICIDAL MEXICAN CITIZEN

#### Press Conference

**When: October 21, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Where: Diocesan Migrant & Refugee Services, 2400 E. Yandell Drive, El Paso, Texas 79903**

Ricardo Molinar is a 35 year old Mexican citizen who was referred on October 9, 2016, by El Paso Immigration Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE) to the El Paso Behavioral Health System (UBH) after he was found by a correctional officer at the El Paso Processing Center lying in his bed unresponsive and with a sheet loosely tied around his neck. On October 12, 2016, at 2:30 p.m. Dr. Nicolas Baida-Fragoso, M.D. of the El Paso Behavioral Health System issued preliminary discharge criteria, conclude that within 7-10 days Mr. Molinar could be discharged if further hospitalization could stabilize his mood, alleviate suicidal ideations, and return the patient to the highest level of functioning without being a threat to himself or others. Nonetheless, within hours, and the same day of Dr. Baida-Fragoso's findings, Corey Price denied Mr. Molinar's humanitarian stay of removal on the grounds that he had "...determined that [Mr. Molinar's] removal from the United States is a priority under the Departments (DHS) civil immigration enforcement priorities and as such does not warrant a favorable exercise of prosecutorial discretion." The very next day Mr. Molinar was removed to Mexico. Corey Price did not advise his attorney, Carlos Spector, until two days after said removal.

Mr. Molinar leaves behind a 3 year old U.S. Citizen child and a U.S. Citizen wife, who fears that he may still commit suicide or otherwise harm himself. Psychiatric care and faculties in Mexico are infamously and woefully inadequate.

The denial of Mr. Molinar's request for stay of removal is not only violative of ICE's own policy guidelines but also immoral, inhumane, and dismissive of the immigrant

community's basic humanity. ICE's "Policies for the Apprehension, Detention and Removal of Undocumented Immigrants" does indeed seek to prioritize the removal of aliens who pose a threat to national security, border security, or public safety. Nonetheless, it also requires the consideration of compelling and or exceptional factors that indicate that they do not pose such a threat. Clearly, Mr. Molinar's suicide attempt, thwarted psychiatric treatment, and separation from his U.S. Citizen child and wife constitute compelling and extraordinary factors. Cory Price's failure to consider the impact of his removal upon his infant U.S. Citizen child is also violative of ICE's "Parental Interests Directive" which mandate special consideration of "primary caretakers of minor children without regard to the dependent's citizenship."

The above decision by Corey Price is emblematic of the increasing number of abuses at the El Paso Processing Center which have been documented and discussed by the below mentioned organizations of the Border Immigration Council (BIC). Accordingly, BIC seeks the return (parole) of Mr. Molinar to his family in the United States in order to preserve their family unity by and thru continuing psychiatric treatment.




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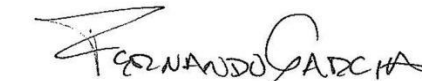
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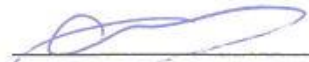
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