

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
2/14/2019	police extortion	1	Mexican police detained Plaintiff Ian Doe several times and demanded his immigration documents. About a month ago, officers required him to pay a bribe of 1,500 pesos to avoid being arrested and taken to jail.	https://www.aclu.org/sites/default/files/field_document/2019.02.14.001_compl_for_decl_and_inj_relief.pdf
2/14/2019	robbery	1	Plaintiff Howard Doe was robbed at gunpoint by two Mexican men in Tijuana just days before he presented himself at the port of entry. The robbers said they knew that he was Honduran, and that if they saw him again, they would kill him. Plaintiff Howard Doe was kidnapped and held for more than two weeks by members of a Mexican drug cartel until he and several others were able to escape	https://www.aclu.org/sites/default/files/field_document/2019.02.14.001_compl_for_decl_and_inj_relief.pdf
2/14/2019	armed mob threats	1	Plaintiff Gregory Doe was staying at a shelter in Tijuana when a mob of young men wielding sticks surrounded the shelter and threatened the residents.	https://www.aclu.org/sites/default/files/field_document/2019.02.14.001_compl_for_decl_and_inj_relief.pdf
2/14/2019	assault	1	Plaintiff Alex Doe was staying in the Playas neighborhood of Tijuana when he and other asylum seekers were forced to flee in the middle of the night after a group of Mexicans threw stones at them and additional attackers began to gather with sticks and other weapons.	https://www.aclu.org/sites/default/files/field_document/2019.02.14.001_compl_for_decl_and_inj_relief.pdf
2/14/2019	unlawful deportation	1	Plaintiff Dennis Doe first entered Mexico en route to the United States, he was apprehended by Mexican officials who deported him without asking him if he wished to apply for asylum or if he feared returning to his home country.	https://www.aclu.org/sites/default/files/field_document/2019.02.14.001_compl_for_decl_and_inj_relief.pdf
3/21/2019	robbery	2	Gelin, a 29-year-old woman from Honduras who came with her 13-year-old son, was evaluated by an asylum officer after explaining to CBP that she had been robbed in Mexico two weeks before asking for asylum. She, too, was returned.	https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/immigration/sd-me-cbp-questions-20190321-story.html
3/27/2019	kidnapping	1	R.T., 31, who asked that his full name not be used out of concern for his safety, said through tears during an interview in Tijuana after his hearing that someone in a black van without license plates followed him one morning in the city and tried to kidnap him; he’s known migrants who were taken for ransom money. But the next day, he was returned to Mexico, with a piece of paper that said in English that he “did not establish a clear probability of persecution or torture in Mexico.”	https://www.nbcnews.com/news/latino/asylum-seekers-forced-wait-tijuana-fear-their-lives-n988081
4/8/2019	assault by Mexican police	1	Pamela (Salvadoran asylum-seeker): “Since I’ve been attacked and assaulted by the Mexican police in Mexico City, I wouldn’t feel safe going to the police if I were attacked by people here in Tijuana.”	Interview by Amnesty International with Forced Returnee, in Tijuana

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4/10/2019	threats	1	Luis Alvarado is one of about 200 immigrants who were sent to Juárez from El Paso under the Trump administration's Migrant Protection Protocols since the policy began here in mid-March. "Before the record, before the judge, they made a commitment that he won't go back to Mexico, which was ultimately our priority given that he's already faced threats in Mexico," said Nicolas Palazzo, a lawyer who took on Alvarado's case Wednesday.	https://www.elpasotimes.com/story/news/2019/04/10/el-paso-asylum-seeker-hearing-remain-in-mexico-policy/3426588002/?cid=twitter_elpasotimes
4/11/2019	gang threats	1	One man, for example, stated that the same persecutors he was fleeing from in Honduras managed to pursue him in Mexico, and even located his whereabouts at a Tijuana migrant shelter.	Interview by Amnesty International with Forced Returnee, in San Diego
4/25/2019	kidnapping	4	The day before, the two young fathers, Edwin Escobar from El Salvador and Ronaldo Garcia from Guatemala, said that after leaving their church shelter for food, they had been kidnapped by three men at gunpoint, held for three hours, beaten, and robbed. The men broke Garcia's finger and stole the five pesos—about 25 cents—that he had to his name.	https://www.texasmonthly.com/politics/im-in-danger-migrant-parents-face-violence-in-mexico-under-new-trump-policy/
4/25/2019	kidnapping	2	"Yesterday, I stepped out [from a Ciudad Juárez shelter] to buy my lunch, and a man tried to take my son," said Riccy, a 24-year-old Honduran woman who held her 4-year-old, Binsel.	https://www.texasmonthly.com/politics/im-in-danger-migrant-parents-face-violence-in-mexico-under-new-trump-policy/
5/1/2019	rape	1	One woman said she was the victim of an attempted rape in Juarez;	https://twitter.com/BobMooreNews/status/1123697012275384320
5/1/2019	robbery	1	Another said men tried to kick down the door to their shelter and threatened to kill and rape them if they didn't open the door.	https://twitter.com/BobMooreNews/status/1123697012275384320
5/9/2019	robbery, assault	1	Rene, a man from El Salvador, said on March 29 he was robbed and stabbed in Ciudad Juarez. He went to the police but was told they couldn't help him because he wasn't Mexican.	https://twitter.com/BobMooreNews/status/1126609660486856706
5/9/2019	robbery	1	Esdras, a man from Guatemala, was robbed twice at a church shelter. He went to police with suspicions he was being victimized by a neighbor of the church and police recovered his stolen cell phone. He was then threatened by the neighbor's family	https://twitter.com/BobMooreNews/status/1126610204777381888
5/9/2019	robbery	1	Elvia, also from Guatemala, said she was robbed at a church shelter.	https://twitter.com/BobMooreNews/status/1126611527958704128
5/16/2019	kidnapping	1	A 21-year-old Salvadoran woman told Judge Herbert: "I was on my way to the store when men in a car tried to take me." That's been another common theme at MPP hearings in El Paso: people facing kidnapping when they leave shelters to buy food or supplies.	https://twitter.com/BobMooreNews/status/1129094829835735040

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6/20/2019	kidnapping, rape	1	A migrant woman from Honduras was kidnapped and sexually assaulted after federal police agents in the Mexican border town of Ciudad Juárez abducted her and handed her over to a criminal group in the early morning hours of June 10, El Diario de Juárez reported.	https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/mexico-police-collude-criminals-kidnap-migrant/
6/26/2019	Mexican police extortion / deportation	3	While on the street with two other Guatemalan women in Ciudad Juárez, Mexican police approached her and attempted to extort her; when she refused to pay, the police took her and the other women to the airport. Although the woman expressed a fear of return to Guatemala and even showed the Mexican police her U.S. immigration court papers, she was nevertheless forcibly returned to Guatemala	https://www.splcenter.org/sites/default/files/documents/2019.06.26_0044_amicus_international_amicus_brief198883.1.pdf
6/26/2019	kidnapping	1	Juan and Marisa were kidnapped in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico by the Zetas cartel and held for over two months; Juan is in MPP while Marisa was released to the United States	https://www.splcenter.org/sites/default/files/documents/2019.06.26_049_brief_of_amicus_curiae_human_rights_first_iso_plfs-appellees.pdf
6/26/2019	police harrassment / sexual abuse	2	During their journey to the United States, they suffered harassment from Mexican federal police, who insulted them and would not let them rest. / After a short time, he began demanding to have sex with her and when she refused, he sexually abused her.	https://www.splcenter.org/sites/default/files/documents/2019.06.26_049_brief_of_amicus_curiae_human_rights_first_iso_plfs-appellees.pdf
7/1/2019	robbery, assault	1	"We are all afraid when we go out," says a Cuban migrant named Serafin Aguilera Perez. He says he was returned to Juárez last month after spending more than 40 days in U.S. custody. His sister in Miami wired him money to help him find shelter and food in Juárez, he told NPR. But when he went to a convenience store, Aguilera says, he was jumped from behind by two attackers who knocked him down and tried to take his money.	https://www.kacu.org/post/fear-confusion-and-separation-trump-administration-sends-migrants-back-mexico
7/2/2019	assault, rape, robbery	29	Human Rights Watch documented at least 29 reports of harm to asylum seekers in Ciudad Juárez, including violent attacks, sexual assault, and kidnapping, in interviews and court observations.	https://www.hrw.org/report/2019/07/02/we-cant-help-you-here/us-returns-asylum-seekers-mexico#page
7/2/2019	attempted kidnapping, assault	(counted within 29 reported by HRW)	Delfina M. (pseudonym), 20, an asylum seeker who fled Guatemala with her 4-year-old son, said that after she was returned to Ciudad Juárez, two men grabbed her in the street and sexually assaulted her. They told her not to scream and threatened to kill her son. "I can still feel the dirtiness of what they did in my body," she said	https://www.hrw.org/report/2019/07/02/we-cant-help-you-here/us-returns-asylum-seekers-mexico#page

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7/2/2019	robbery, stabbing	(counted within 29 reported by HRW)	Rodrigo S. (pseudonym), 21, who fled El Salvador, told a judge in immigration court proceedings that he was robbed at knifepoint and stabbed in the back. He said he went to the police, but the Mexican officers wouldn't help him because he wasn't a Mexican citizen. He told the judge that although he is recovering physically, he's afraid to be sent back	https://www.hrw.org/report/2019/07/02/we-cant-help-you-here/us-returns-asylum-seekers-mexico#page
7/2/2019	robbery, threats	(counted within 29 reported by HRW)	Esteban G. (pseudonym), 19, said in immigration court he was robbed when he left his room to go to the store for food. He told police he suspected a neighbor of stealing his cellphone. When police investigated the neighbor, they recovered his cellphone, but after that, the neighbor's family threatened to hurt him	https://www.hrw.org/report/2019/07/02/we-cant-help-you-here/us-returns-asylum-seekers-mexico#page
7/2/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 29 reported by HRW)	Two families who had been forced to remain in Mexico told the immigration judge in court that family members had been “express-kidnapped,” or abducted for a short period of time and extorted, prior to their preliminary hearing in El Paso, according to local lawyers and news reports	https://www.hrw.org/report/2019/07/02/we-cant-help-you-here/us-returns-asylum-seekers-mexico#page
7/2/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 29 total reported by HRW)	Central Americans Rafael M. (pseudonym) and Gerald H. (pseudonym), who said they planned to seek asylum in the US, reported that after they had been in Ciudad Juárez for 21 days around April, they were kidnapped at gunpoint in Parque de las Tortugas, which runs along the border just north of the Santa Fe Bridge.[74] Some cars pulled up and men got out with guns. Rafael said he tried to run, but they grabbed him, tearing his shirt. They put a jacket over Rafael's head, told the two not to scream, and forced them into cars. The kidnapers accused the two of being rival smugglers working their territory. The kidnapers interrogated them and searched Rafael's phone to confirm they were in fact asylum seekers. They let them go, but not before taking photos of their faces. They also recorded information on where they were staying. The abductors told the two that if they reported the incident, they would kill them. Rafael reported he was hit about 30 times; Gerald reported being hit in the back of the head so hard he could taste blood in his mouth	https://www.hrw.org/report/2019/07/02/we-cant-help-you-here/us-returns-asylum-seekers-mexico#page
7/11/2019	kidnapping	4	Another family that was lured into this made up “alternative shelters” was kidnapped and they had to pay money in order to be released at the border where they were able to then turn themselves into Border Patrol custody. Due to the lack of financial resources, this family was released at different times by kidnapers. Wife and two children were released before the implementation of the MPP between borders so they were released into the United States. Father and son had to stay behind with the kidnapers. When father was able to pay the kidnapper more money, kidnapers released them. When they turned themselves in to border patrol, they were returned to Mexico under the MPP program. This family continues to be separated. Father and son are currently sleeping at construction sites where father occasionally works. Father does not have the money to pay for a hotel and the shelters are at capacity in Tijuana, their only option is to sleep at construction sites.	Email from Jewish Family Services in San Diego

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7/14/2019	persecutors	1	<p>The man, whom I will call Franklin to protect him from retaliation, said he was being pursued by assassins. Back in his home country months earlier, covered from head to toe to conceal his identity, he had given testimony against cartel bosses who had extorted his and his common-law wife’s businesses. The extortionists were convicted and imprisoned, but the witness’s disguise had fooled no one. Post-trial, two of the bosses’ armed underlings pursued Franklin, first in his home country in Central America. Then, after he fled, they threatened his niece back home with death if she did not say where he had gone. “Juárez, Mexico,” the terrified woman told the hit men. But Franklin’s first MPP court date in El Paso was over four months away. Meanwhile, he’d seen the hit men near a monument to Benito Juárez, staring intently. They’d seen Franklin, too, even though he was on a bus, and they yelled, “Get him! Kill him!” The bus driver sped away. Franklin was certain his pursuers would not give up. CBP allowed Franklin to walk into the United States. He was soon given a non-refoulement interview. He passed, was removed from the MPP, and was sent to an ICE detention center, where he passed his credible fear interview. A Las Americas-affiliated immigration lawyer has vowed to bond Franklin out, pending resolution of his asylum claim.</p>	<p>https://theintercept.com/2019/07/14/trump-remain-in-mexico-policy/</p>
7/14/2019	kidnapping	(also discussed in HRF report - not counted here)	<p>In July, I learned from an immigration lawyer in California that a distraught client had called to report that her sister, a Salvadoran woman, with a 14-year-old, 10-year-old, and 3-year-old, were kidnapped in Juárez. The California family scraped together \$4,000 for a ransom payment, and after several days, the family was freed near a church in downtown Juárez. The mother said that she and her children had been captured after the kidnappers had spotted them wandering into Juárez disoriented, after being dumped there following their enrollment into MPP. When I met them by the church, the family told me that during their captivity they’d had almost nothing to eat, and they barely slept. After being freed, they made it to a migrant assistance organization that operates behind locked doors. A psychologist there told me that the family was suffering from shock, including the kids. the kidnapped and ransomed Salvadoran mother and her three psychologically traumatized children. On July 9, Rivas crossed that family into El Paso. But they did not pass their non-refoulement interviews, and on July 11 they were dumped into Juárez for a second time.</p>	<p>https://theintercept.com/2019/07/14/trump-remain-in-mexico-policy/</p>
7/14/2019	kidnapping, rape	(also discussed in HRF report - not counted here)	<p>Two young Cuban women, and the husband of one of them, were hailing a taxi when a van drove up and men with assault rifles forced them inside. The group was taken to a house and told they could choose to carry drugs across the border in backpacks or pay \$500 a piece to be freed. The women told me, during an interview at a migrant assistance office in Juárez, that they declined both options and the husband was taken to a separate room. The women were then raped repeatedly until the victims paid their ransoms.</p>	<p>https://theintercept.com/2019/07/14/trump-remain-in-mexico-policy/</p>

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7/14/2019	kidnapping	(also discussed in HRF report - not counted here)	Katy describes being kidnapped by a taxi driver and his accomplices, who demanded \$1,000 from her family in the U.S. They paid most of the ransom, and she was freed. But the kidnappers said they knew where she was staying, and they gave her a warning: “If you file a report, you know how people die in Juárez.” Later, Katy tells Herbert that she was trying to sleep and saw a knife being inserted into the doorjamb of her room. She chokes up at the memory. Katy, for example — the woman who was kidnapped in the taxi and later saw the knife pushing through her door — described those experiences during a non-refoulement interview. She was sent back to Juárez anyway.	https://theintercept.com/2019/07/14/trump-remain-in-mexico-policy/
7/14/2019	kidnapping	2	Two other women in the courtroom, who were also kidnapped, begin to wail.	https://theintercept.com/2019/07/14/trump-remain-in-mexico-policy/
7/22/2019	kidnapping	2	In early June, “immediately upon leaving the custody of immigration officials on the Mexican side of the border,” R.G.A.M. and his 17-year-old daughter were kidnapped in Ciudad Juárez, held for a month while the kidnappers demanded ransom from family members and forced them to work. After being trafficked into the United States, R.G.A.M. and his daughter again requested asylum but DHS sent them to the Berks County family detention center, according to documents filed by attorneys.	Request for TRO and habeas petition filed in E.D. Penn District Court (19-cv-03194-EGS July 22, 2019)
7/23/2019	attempted kidnapping	1	Recuerda que miró desconcertado a Francisca, que apretó muy fuerte la mano de su hija, que se dieron vuelta, apuraron el paso, casi corriendo, tan rápido como le dieron los pies. Unos metros más adelante, miraron hacia atrás y vieron que el hombre los seguía: hablaba por teléfono y luego otra persona se le unió en un carro. Allí, de ese lado de la frontera, ya se acababan las casas y frente a ellos se abría un descampado. No había nadie más y los dos hombres avanzaban hacia ellos. Fue entonces, dice, cuando decidió cruzar el río. "O nos lanzamos aquí o me la quitan", pensó.	https://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-america-latina-48999128
7/25/2019	kidnapping	1	One woman came to court in El Paso on July 25th with her leg in a cast and said it was broken when she was kidnapped after being returned to Juarez.	https://www.refugeesinternational.org/reports/2019/8/28/remain-in-mexico-policy-is-undermining-asylum-and-endangering-asylum-seekers

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7/29/2019	extortion	1	Genesis Reyes waited three months in Mexico to see an immigration judge in San Diego. When her day in court finally arrived, extortionists posing as immigration officials asked her parents for hundreds of dollars claiming the money would release her from a detention center. As her parents frantically struggled to put the money together, they called Reyes dozens of times. Reyes wasn't in a detention center. She was sitting on the eighth floor of an office building downtown waiting for an immigration judge to call her name. Her phone was turned off. "When I turned my phone back on, I had so many messages," said Reyes, 25, from Honduras. "My mother wanted to know where I was. People called her and said, 'We have your daughter and you need to deposit the money to bail her out.'"	https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/immigration/story/2019-07-27/asylum-seekers-targeted-by-kidnappers-extortionists-and-traffickers-while-waiting-in-mexico
8/5/2019	attempted kidnapping	1	Single woman from Honduras kidnapped but escaped, after return to Ciudad Juarez under MPP (additional information provider by attorney)	https://twitter.com/cbrownimmlaw/status/1158396364037902336
8/6/2019	kidnapping, assault	3	Couple from Guatemala kidnapped with 12 year old child by Mexican federal police and cartel members. They saw their persecutors put plastic bags over other migrants' heads and duct tape them in place. They were abused, separated, and threatened.	https://twitter.com/cbrownimmlaw/status/1158596077995479040
8/8/2019		42	Human Rights First researchers documented the cases of 42 individuals returned under MPP to Mexico who were raped, kidnapped, assaulted, and/or pursued by persecutors there.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/resource/delivered-danger-illegal-remain-mexico-policy-imperils-asylum-seekers-lives-and-denies-due
8/8/2019	rape, kidnapping	(counted within 42 reported in HRF report)	A Honduran woman who DHS returned to Ciudad Juárez was reportedly kidnapped in June by a group of men in federal police uniforms and repeatedly sexually assaulted. According to her attorney, Linda Rivas of Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center in El Paso, the woman is part of the Afro-Caribbean Garifuna minority and was vulnerable to targeting in Mexico because of her race, gender and nationality.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/resource/delivered-danger-illegal-remain-mexico-policy-imperils-asylum-seekers-lives-and-denies-due
8/8/2019	rape, sexual exploitation	(counted within 42 reported in HRF report)	When CBP officials returned Gisela*, a 28-year-old-asylum seeker from Honduras, to Ciudad Juárez from the El Paso port of entry, a trafficker kidnapped her as she left a Mexican migration office. She was raped and forced into sexual slavery for three months and escaped only when one of her captors offered to assist her to leave in exchange for sex. Now hiding at a Juárez church shelter, she is not safe. The parish priest told her that an unknown man recently came to the church looking for her.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/resource/delivered-danger-illegal-remain-mexico-policy-imperils-asylum-seekers-lives-and-denies-due

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8/8/2019	kindapping, extortion	(counted within 42 reported in HRF report)	Irma*, a Salvadoran asylum seeker, was kidnapped in late June with her three children, ages 3, 10, and 14, after being returned to Ciudad Juárez by CBP. Irma and two other women who had just been returned to Mexico under MPP flagged down a passing minibus to ask for help because they had nowhere to stay. The three women and three children were instead kidnapped and held hostage for days with little to eat. Irma’s 14-year-old son said one of the men shouted “that he was tired of so many migrants. He said [to us], ‘why did you stay in this country?’” In early July, Irma’s family in the United States was forced to make a \$2800 ransom payment after the kidnappers sent threatening messages to Irma’s sister.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/resource/delivered-danger-illegal-remain-mexico-policy-imperils-asylum-seekers-lives-and-denies-due
8/8/2019	attempted rape, labor exploitation	(counted within 42 reported in HRF report)	After DHS returned Sarai* and her 18 year-old-daughter, Maya*, asylum seekers from Honduras, to Mexico under MPP they were coerced to work by the owner of a migrant hotel in Ciudad Juárez where they had been staying. When the owner tried to rape Maya, Sarai and her daughter fled the hotel but were penniless. They spent three nights sleeping on the streets without eating before they were able to beg for enough money to reach an NGO on the Mexican side of the El Paso port of entry in early July to ask for help.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/resource/delivered-danger-illegal-remain-mexico-policy-imperils-asylum-seekers-lives-and-denies-due
8/8/2019	assault	(counted within 42 reported in HRF report)	In her first hours after DHS returned her to Ciudad Juárez under MPP, Blanca*, an LGBTQ asylum seeker from Guatemala, was walking with other asylum seekers when a group of men followed and robbed them. She sought safety at the main migrant shelter in the city, but it was at capacity, so she ended up in a rented room with other asylum seekers at a hotel catering to migrants. Later, Blanca and other asylum seekers were again attacked, and some were beaten by a group of men. “After what happened, I hardly ever go out,” she said. “I’m really scared of the situation here.”	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/resource/delivered-danger-illegal-remain-mexico-policy-imperils-asylum-seekers-lives-and-denies-due
8/8/2019	threats	(counted within 42 reported in HRF report)	Fredí*, a 20-year-old Salvadoran asylum seeker, and his five-year-old daughter were returned to Mexico after CBP officers refused to refer them for a fear screening and did not allow Fredí to explain that gang members had followed him from El Salvador and were threatening him in Mexico. Fredí tried to describe his fear of remaining in Mexico, but a CBP officer ignored him and instead accused Fredí and his daughter of being a “fake family” even though Fredí’s name appears on his daughter’s birth certificate. Fredí was only able to request a fear screening, which he passed, during his first immigration court hearing in mid-July after months of living in fear in Ciudad Juárez.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/resource/delivered-danger-illegal-remain-mexico-policy-imperils-asylum-seekers-lives-and-denies-due
8/8/2019	threats	(counted within 42 reported in HRF report)	Karla*, a Honduran asylum-seeker, was returned to Mexicali despite presenting evidence that she and her three-year-old son were receiving threats in Mexico. According to Karla, CBP officers refused to accept a printout of the threatening messages, and she was unable to present this crucial evidence to the asylum officer who interviewed her by telephone. Karla does not know what to do to protect herself and her son: “No parent wants something to happen to their child.”	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/resource/delivered-danger-illegal-remain-mexico-policy-imperils-asylum-seekers-lives-and-denies-due

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8/8/2019	assault	(counted within 42 reported in HRF report)	Javier*, a 48-year-old Salvadoran asylum seeker, failed his fear screening and was returned to Mexico by CBP under MPP even though he had twice been assaulted in Mexico and had a copy of a police report he had made about the incident. Javier also feared remaining in Ciudad Juárez because the day prior to Human Rights First’s visit to the church-run shelter where he was staying, a man was shot dead outside on the street in broad daylight.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/resource/delivered-danger-illegal-remain-mexico-policy-imperils-asylum-seekers-lives-and-denies-due
8/10/2019	kidnapping	8	Under the Trump administration policy called the Migrant Protection Protocols, the family — Victor Esquivel, his wife, Maria, and their sons Anderson, 10, and Ryan, 4 — were sent back to the Mexican state of Tamaulipas to await their first hearing, scheduled for October. On July 24, U.S. officials dropped the family off at the international bridge that connects Laredo, Tex., to the city of Nuevo Laredo, in Tamaulipas. They were given a pile of immigration paperwork and escorted to the parking lot of the Mexican immigration office, 20 yards south of the Rio Grande. For the first three nights, they slept on the ground outside the office in the 100-degree heat. Exhausted and hungry, they arranged through a family friend to pay for a small apartment where they could wait for their October hearing. On July 27, Victor and Maria walked outside the immigration office in the early afternoon, they said, holding the hands of their two sons. They made it two blocks, toward a car that was supposed to take them to the apartment. Then a truck pulled up next to them and a group of men jumped out, screaming at them. “They yelled, ‘Get into the truck!’” Victor said. “It all happened really quickly.” The Esquivels say they were taken to an abandoned house where migrants from Cuba and Guatemala were also being held. They were led to a room without furniture and told to sit on the ground. The Esquivels were moved between three different houses in and around Nuevo Laredo. They were held with about 10 different migrants, including a Nicaraguan family with two small children, Victor said. That family said they, too, had been returned to Mexico to wait for their asylum hearings. The father of the Nicaraguan family wrote the telephone number of relatives back home on the front page of Victor’s Bible, in case he was released first. The kidnapers took their phones and used them to send messages to Esquivel’s relatives in El Salvador and Wisconsin demanding \$7,500 per person.	https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the_americas/when-they-filed-their-asylum-claim-they-were-told-to-wait-in-mexico-there-they-say-they-were-kidnapped/2019/08/09/6133c2d6-b95f-11e9-8e83-4e6687e99814_story.html
8/10/2019	kidnapping	3	Two Venezuelan and one Cuban asylum seeker who were sent back to Nuevo Laredo by U.S. officials in July also told The Washington Post of their ordeal. They were at a bus station when two men approached them, asked where they were from and where they were going. Within minutes, and without weapons, the men physically forced the Venezuelans into a car. They were taken to a small house and told to put all their possessions on a table. Three migrants from Nicaragua and Honduras were already there, according to the Venezuelans. They said they had also been kidnapped that morning. “I just started crying,” one of the Venezuelan men said. They spoke on the condition of anonymity for fear of reprisals. The Cuban man and one of the Venezuelans scraped together around \$400 in cash from an ATM and were released six hours later. The other Venezuelan was held for four more days.	https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the_americas/when-they-filed-their-asylum-claim-they-were-told-to-wait-in-mexico-there-they-say-they-were-kidnapped/2019/08/09/6133c2d6-b95f-11e9-8e83-4e6687e99814_story.html

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
8/12/2019	assault, robbery	1	Jeff Mendoza "lives in a high-crime part of [Tijuana], and shows two fresh scars on his forearm — knife wounds from when a group of men stole his phone. He says he has been robbed here several times, including by the police."	https://www.pri.org/stories/2019-08-12/mexico-waiting-room-thousands-migrants-trying-get-us
8/13/2019	assault, robbery	1	While she waited in Ciudad Juárez, Cindis said she was robbed, assaulted and targeted with anti-immigrant slurs.	https://www.cbsnews.com/news/remain-in-mexico-asylum-seekers-forced-to-wait-in-mexico-face-danger-and-desperation/
8/13/2019	robbery, threats	2	On July 31, Francisco Chavez Raymundo, 43, and Gaspar Cobo Coria, 31 were placed in the Migrant Protection Protocol (MPP) program and returned to Mexico by U.S. Customs and Border Protection. On their way to the United States, the two were robbed by a Mexican policeman who allegedly hurled racial insults at them; they were later threatened with jail by other officers when they tried to file a complaint in Juarez, according to affidavits filed with the Chihuahua State Human Rights Commission.	https://www.ktsm.com/news/border-report/too-afraid-to-go-home-texas-lawyer-stands-up-for-two-mayan-migrants/
8/14/2019	kidnapping	2	La mujer hondureña y su hijo de 8 años ya habían sido guiados por tres coyotes y estaban a punto de cruzar el río Bravo pero terminaron secuestrados en Reynosa por el crimen organizado. Después de que su familia pagara el rescate de \$12,000, pudieron llegar a EEUU, pero el gobierno los envió de vuelta a México mientras avanza su caso de asilo.	https://www.univision.com/noticias/inmigracion/decian-que-si-no-pagabamos-al-nino-le-iban-a-sacar-los-organos-la-angustia-de-una-madre-migrante-secuestrada-por-el-cartel-del-golfo

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
8/20/2019	kidnapping	2	<p>A young Venezuelan currently in Matamoros, Mexico, who declined to be identified, reached Reynosa with his girlfriend and her son. They planned to wait their turn on the list after being assigned No. 2400, but the lack of security scared them. “After a week when they didn’t call anyone, a group of Venezuelans decided to cross. We did it because of fear, out of desperation. That day, about 42 people crossed. There were many who nearly drowned,” he told el Nuevo Herald in an interview at a park in Matamoros, where he sleeps under the open skies. When they reached the U.S. side of the river they were separated by authorities. He was put into one of the cold holding cells known as “freezers,” along with about 80 other migrants. He spent a day there, was taken that night to a detention center in McAllen, Texas, and later to Laredo. “They put me in another ‘freezer.’ The only food they gave us was a burrito and water. I was detained five days. They never turned off the lights. They did a roll call three times a day. It was very hard,” he recalled. After the officials reviewed his documentation, he was released in Mexico, in a dangerous part of Nuevo Laredo. “They freed us in an empty terminal with other people. Afterward, no one wanted to leave there because there was talk that there were kidnappings. They had kidnapped two Cubans and a Honduran,” he said. They slept on the floor. The next day, a truck took away many people, and the migrants were told that it would be the last truck to leave that week. He and a friend decided to pay a taxi to take them to a bus terminal from where they could go on to Matamoros, where they learned that their families had been taken. “We were kidnapped when we were buying the tickets. It was a bad scene, because everyone there saw what was happening and no one did anything. They took us far away, to a house where they searched us, took away everything and put us in a room with other people kidnapped that same day,” the young man said. “All were immigrants.” One of the kidnappers interrogated them, looking for information that could help draw a ransom payment from relatives. But neither of the Venezuelans had relatives in the United States, and the contact lists on their cellphones had been damaged when they crossed the river. When the kidnappers realized the two had no relatives who could pay a ransom, they were taken to a different room. “We spent two hours there, praying, begging God,” the young man said. “When they told us we were going to be released, we could not believe it. They told us not to go back. They put us in a car, took us to a terminal, put us on a bus to Matamoros, with nothing, because they took what little we still had.” This Venezuelan migrant now faces another great obstacle: He must return to Nuevo Laredo, so he can be transported to the U.S. side of the border for a September hearing before an immigration judge who is considering his asylum request.</p>	<p>https://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/world/americas/venezuela/article234175802.html</p>
8/22/2019	attempted kidnapping	4	<p>Misael Palacio, 37, from San Rafael, El Salvador is determined to appear for his court date on Oct. 23. He brought his two sons, ages 3 and 12, to the U.S. border, he said, after he was threatened by gang members at home. The day after he was released back into Nuevo Laredo from the United States under the “Remain in Mexico” policy,” he and his kids were nearly kidnapped by four men who tried to force them into a vehicle. Palacio escaped by holding onto his kids and running into oncoming traffic, he said.</p>	<p>https://www.deseret.com/2019/8/22/20828880/nuevo-loredo-mexico-border-crisis-immigration</p>

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
8/23/2019	kidnapping	2	Liceth Morales - "It's dangerous in Nuevo Laredo. Lots of things can happen," she says, her lip trembling. She says they fled out-of-control crime in Honduras, thinking they could find refuge in the United States. But when she arrived at the Nuevo Laredo bus station, she says young men with tattoos and ball caps grabbed her and her son and held them prisoner for three weeks in safe houses. Ultimately, she says, her family in San Antonio paid \$8,000 for her freedom. Finally, she crossed the Rio Grande to the U.S., asked for asylum and was sent right back to Nuevo Laredo.	https://www.npr.org/2019/08/23/753660088/migrants-in-mexico-seeking-u-s-asylum-wait-amid-dangerous-conditions
8/26/2019	attempted kidnapping, extortion	1	Even though Danilo explained to a CBP officer that he had escaped from armed men attempting to kidnap him, he was returned to Mexico through MPP without a fear screening. In late May, Danilo placed his name on the wait “list” in Reynosa to seek asylum at the U.S. port of entry. While searching for a shelter, two armed men hunted Danilo and another asylum seeker throughout Reynosa trying to kidnap them. A Good Samaritan hid the two in a car trunk and spirited them to another part of town, but the kidnapers found them. Danilo managed to escape and hid in a shelter for 40 days. Danilo had previously been abducted by Mexican police officers who demanded a \$1,500 payment from his family to release him. In early July, as CBP severely reduced the number of people permitted to ask for asylum at the port of entry, Danilo crossed the border in desperation to request protection. CBP did not refer Danilo for a fear screening despite his attempts to express his fear: “I explained what had happened in Mexico, but [the CBP officer] insisted that I had to return to Mexico.”	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/resource/complaint-office-inspector-general-concerning-rape-kidnapping-assault-and-other-attacks
8/26/2019	armed robbery	1	CBP returned Yerson*, an asylum seeker from Cuba, to Mexico where he had been robbed three times in the five days before he crossed the border to seek asylum. As Yerson arrived in Reynosa in early July, a group of armed men stopped the vehicle he and other asylum seekers were traveling in and robbed them. Days later Yerson was robbed in the street by two men who threatened to kidnap him. Yerson tried to seek asylum by crossing the bridge that links Reynosa to Hidalgo, Texas but was turned back by U.S. officials. After learning that the “list” to seek asylum in Reynosa would require him to remain there in danger for months, Yerson decided to cross the border to seek asylum. But at the Rio Grande a group of more than a dozen tattooed men robbed him before he could cross the river and turn himself in to the Border Patrol. Yerson was returned to Mexico without a fear screening: “I told [the CBP officer processing him for MPP] that I had been robbed three time in Reynosa, but he didn’t pay attention to me. . . . He only told me that I was going to be brought to the bridge in Nuevo Laredo.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/resource/complaint-office-inspector-general-concerning-rape-kidnapping-assault-and-other-attacks

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
8/26/2019	armed robbery	1	Edwin*, a Cuban asylum seeker, was returned by CBP under MPP to Mexico, where he had been extorted by corrupt police officers and robbed at gun point. After being forced to pay police officers in Reynosa \$300 because they threatened to deport him, Edwin tried to request asylum at the U.S. port of entry in Hidalgo, Texas, but learned that he would have to place his name on a months-long “list.” While waiting in Reynosa two men, one armed with a pistol, robbed Edwin including a backpack that contained important evidence for his asylum case. Afraid to remain in Reynosa, Edwin crossed the river to seek asylum. CBP officers processing Edwin for MPP did not explain his legal rights, including the need to affirmatively request a fear screening. Returned by CBP to Nuevo Laredo, Edwin left for Monterrey in search of safer accommodation, but there two men pursued Edwin in the street late at night as he left a job washing dishes.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/resource/complaint-office-inspector-general-concerning-rape-kidnapping-assault-and-other-attacks
8/27/2019	kidnapping, extortion	14	According to a witness account, several pickups full of mafiosos recently screeched to a stop in front of a government-contracted bus that had just left the central bus station. They ordered a dozen migrants off the bus, ordered them into their vehicles, and drove off, leaving the rest of the passengers shocked and frantic. "It's dangerous here. Lots of things can happen," says Liceth Morales, her lip trembling. The 40-year-old Honduran woman fled the city of Choluteca with her 6-year-old son, Leytan, when thugs repeatedly robbed her small store. Then, as she tells it, when they arrived at the Nuevo Laredo bus station last month, young men with tattoos and ball caps grabbed her and her son and held them prisoner for three weeks in a succession of safe houses. Ultimately, she says, her family in San Antonio paid \$8,000 in ransom for her freedom. "When they released us, we immediately crossed the bridge to the U.S. to ask for asylum," she says. "But they sent me right back over here."	https://www.npr.org/2019/08/27/754489426/criminals-target-migrants-in-mexico-seeking-u-s-asylum?
8/28/2019	assault, robbery	1	Un grupo de 17 migrantes cubanos fue asaltado por policías estatales en el hotel donde se hospedaban en Ciudad Juárez, frontera mexicana con Estados Unidos, según declaraciones y videos a los que tuvo acceso Efe. A los cubanos, que se encuentran en Ciudad Juárez para pedir asilo en Estados Unidos, y al encargado del hotel, los policías estatales de Chihuahua, estado del norte de México, les despojaron de más de 2.000 dólares, entre dinero y bienes.	https://www.radiotelevisionmarti.com/a/polic%C3%ADas-asaltan-a-migrantes-cubanos-en-hotel-de-ciudad-ju%C3%A1rez/246305.html
8/29/2019	kidnapping	4	Taylor Levy, a pro bono immigration attorney in El Paso, said one client and her children had been kidnapped twice in Juárez. The woman managed to pay both ransoms, and though she showed asylum officers evidences of the ransom payments, the government still sent her back, saying just because she'd been kidnapped twice in the past does not mean she's likely to be kidnapped again. Levy said she once watched a group of men snatch a family right before her eyes. When she tried to intervene, the kidnapers threatened her as well. So Levy thought of her two adopted daughters and stood, helpless and devastated, as the kidnapers dragged the family away: "I can't stop thinking about them, ever. There's just rampant, rampant amounts of kidnapping [in Juárez]. I know my life is in danger every time I go over there."	https://world.wng.org/2019/08/no-safe-haven

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
9/2/2019	kidnapping, extortion	8	Three Honduran migrant families who returned to Mexico under the Migrant Protection Protocols recently recounted in interviews with the Los Angeles Times how gangsters kidnapped them, obliging relatives in the United States to pay ransoms. All three said they had alerted U.S. immigration officials that they had been abducted in Mexico — but were nonetheless sent back to Mexico.	https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2019-09-01/kidnapping-of-pastor-in-mexican-border-town-dramatizes-threats-to-migrants
9/3/2019	kidnapping	2	One woman in the United States called Cargioli on behalf of a family member under MPP in Tijuana. The woman said her family—a mother and child—had been kidnapped in Tijuana, and thus the mother probably couldn’t make it to her court date. She asked how she could explain to the judge what happened, and Cargioli encouraged her to report it to Mexican authorities. “But she was too afraid,” Cargioli recalled. “She said, ‘How do you know the police there will actually help?’ She never called back.”	https://world.wng.org/2019/09/a-bad-day-in-court
9/3/2019	robbery, assault	38	Three armed masked men burst into a Juarez shelter at night to assault and rob migrants of their documents, phones, money and even clothes and hygiene products - El asalto ocurrió aproximadamente a las 8:30 de la noche, en un albergue ubicado en el poniente de la ciudad, donde actualmente viven 52 cubanos, pero unos 14 de ellos se encontraban fuera del lugar, al igual que el pastor Rodolfo Barraza, quien había salido a comprar cena para algunos de ellos. Ocho de los migrantes fueron golpeados, tres de los cuales fueron trasladados en una ambulancia a un hospital de la ciudad para descartar que tuvieran alguna fractura, pero debido a que sólo fueron lesiones leves fueron dados de alta la misma noche del domingo.	https://diario.mx/juarez/asaltan-en-albergue-a-migrantes-cubanos-20190902-1557808.html
9/5/2019	kidnapping	2	I have a family (clients) in CBP custody, going through a legal process (a non-refoulement interview) for which they should have access to counsel. They were kidnapped in Mexico. I know nothing about what has happened and cannot access them	https://twitter.com/cbrownimmlaw/status/1169640214421102592
9/8/2019	rape	1	I met a woman who was raped in (Juarez) Mexico and was so traumatized she couldn’t write her name on a pad of paper. She trembled so much it was just scribbles. The woman is now pregnant.	https://twitter.com/cbrownimmlaw/status/1170554328098078721
9/9/2019	kidnapping	2	father and daughter were kidnapped while waiting in Reynosa - El padre y su pequeña hija fueron secuestrados mientras esperaban para solicitar asilo en Reynosa, Tamaulipas, México. Se escaparon de sus secuestradores y cruzaron a los Estados Unidos para buscar alivio. El padre y la niña fueron enviados de regreso a Tamaulipas bajo MPP.	https://www.elmanana.com/viven-en-el-limbo-entre-dos-paises-migrantes-frontera-esperanza/4913398
9/10/2019	rape	1	“This man had informed someone that he had picked up two people, but he didn’t know we were trans,” the Salvadoran woman said. “I was kidnapped in Mexico with a gun to my head. I was raped. I also knew my friend was being raped because of her screams.” She said they were able to escape one night when the men got drunk. They returned home but then they tried again. That second time, they made it to the U.S. But she was deported, and so she tried again. That time she was told to wait in Mexico because the Remain in Mexico program, also known as the Migrant Protection Protocols, or MPP, was in effect.	https://www.keranews.org/post/lgbtq-migrants-face-unique-dangers-when-us-rejects-and-returns-them-mexico

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
9/11/2019	kidnapping	2	One young couple was so traumatized after being kidnapped they spoke in a whisper our entire consultation.	https://twitter.com/L_Toczykowski/status/1172037061622108160?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwtterm%5E1172037061622108160&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Famericasvoice.org%2Fblog%2Fscotus-asylum-ban-tweets%2F
9/14/2019	kidnapping	3	However, as they neared Reynosa, a city about an hour’s drive west of Matamoros, a man apparently known to the guide pulled them off a bus and took them to a site where dozens of other people were being forcibly held, the couple said. They said they escaped, sleeping in ditches until finally crossing the Rio Grande and surrendering to U.S. authorities.	https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-immigration-mexico/after-us-court-ruling-honduran-newlyweds-among-migrants-clinging-to-asylum-dream-idUSKBN1VZON7
9/15/2019	kidnapping, extortion	1	Melissa fled Venezuela in late July seeking asylum in the United States. As a critic of Venezuela's disputed President Nicolas Maduro, she feared retribution from the government. Along her route, she says she was kidnapped and extorted by smugglers in Reynosa, Mexico, who forced her to cross into the U.S. between ports of entry, where she was detained. Melissa was returned to the International Bridge spanning the Rio Grande river to Nuevo Laredo, Puente 1, lacking laces in her shoes, a change of clothes, food or shelter. Her pleas to remain in the U.S. to await her Oct. 22 court hearing were denied. "I thought this would be, as they say, the American dream. But for me, it's only been an American nightmare."	https://www.irishsun.com/news/262423121/us-bound-migrants-asylum-seekers-wait-out-policy-changes
9/16/2019	kidnapping	12	He said when he and another dozen or so asylum seekers who had been returned that day to Mexico arrived at the bus station in Nuevo Laredo, a group of 20 men were already waiting for them. Immediately, the men forced David, his child, and the other migrants into trucks, as an immigration official looked their way but did nothing.	https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/pa7kkg/trumps-asylum-policies-sent-him-back-to-mexico-he-was-kidnapped-five-hours-later-by-a-cartel
9/16/2019	kidnapping	4	One woman, whom VICE News is calling Ana to protect her identity, was kidnapped with her husband and two children the day after the U.S. sent them back. She said they were at the bus terminal buying a ticket for a nearby city when a group of men surrounded them and said the family needed to go with the men.	https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/pa7kkg/trumps-asylum-policies-sent-him-back-to-mexico-he-was-kidnapped-five-hours-later-by-a-cartel
9/16/2019	kidnapping, rape	1	I learned last night about an 18-year-old girl separated from her little sister by CBP and forced back to Nuevo Laredo with a Feb. 2020 court date. She was kidnapped and raped.	https://twitter.com/ReichlinMelnic/status/1173559391582326787

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9/16/2019	robbery	1	In southern Mexico, bought phony immigration papers that landed her in a detention center. “The food was not fit for dogs—not even for rats,” she says of the facility. “I was there eight days, and if I stayed one more, I would have died or gone crazy.” In April, Dana was among 600 migrants who escaped. By the time she reached Juárez, she’d been robbed so often that she carried the remains of her cash, \$20, wrapped in a condom stuffed in her crotch.	https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2019/09/us-mexico-mpp-ciudad-juarez/597796/?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=the-atlantic&utm_content=edit-promo&utm_term=2019-09-16T10%3A00%3A09
9/16/2019	kidnapping	1	For the migrants who made it, the judge set another court hearing for October 16. As she was wrapping up, one father, there with his wife and young son, rose from his chair in Laredo to ask whether he had to return to Mexico. “I’m not in a position to demand anything, but I want to say, I’m with my family, and I’m very afraid of returning to Mexico,” he said through the video screen. He said that he had been kidnapped.	https://www.texasobserver.org/migrants-at-laredo-tent-court-tell-stories-of-kidnappings-and-violence-while-pleading-not-to-be-returned-to-mexico/
9/16/2019	kidnapping	2	Before court Monday, Honduran asylum seeker Yudy Pagoaga said that days after she and her 7-year-old daughter Allison were returned to Nuevo Laredo in July, they were kidnapped with four other migrants. They escaped and met a local pastor who took them in until their hearing. Pagoaga, 30, a single mother who ran a small store in Honduras, said she fled extortion and gang threats and couldn’t return home.	https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2019-09-16/secretive-tent-courts-latest-hurdle-for-asylum-seekers
9/17/2019	kidnapping	1	Gonzalez said she would address him afterward. Then a second person asked to speak and also said he was afraid. Eventually, eight people spoke. One woman said she had to pay someone to bring her back for her hearing. Another person said she had been kidnapped and mugged.	https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/09/17/world/social-issues-world/texas-tent-courtrooms-open-process-migrants-waiting-mexico/#.XYDkqChKiUk
9/17/2019	attempted kidnapping	5	A family with four young children from Nicaragua described how they were nearly kidnapped at the bus terminal as they were heading to court, their children almost separated from them.	https://twitter.com/charanya_k/status/1174080750943166466
9/17/2019	kidnapping	2	A Salvadoran father wept while his little girl slept in his lap. He was kidnapped with others while traveling to court via bus. The police cars he thought were there to help them instead kidnapped the group. He was released because he had no money. The others remain missing.	https://twitter.com/charanya_k/status/1174080751878516736
9/17/2019	kidnapping	2	Young Honduran mom was kidnapped after returning to Nuevo Laredo. The kidnappers realized she had no family in the United States and no money so they dumped her back on the street with her kid, took photos of her and told her to get out of town in an hour or else. Many people were being held in the house with the family.	Report to HRF by U.S. immigration attorney working with MPP returnees in Nuevo Laredo
9/17/2019	extortion	2	A Cuban couple had been extorted in Mexico and made to pay \$1500, which they had to do with the help of family at home. Several of their friends had been kidnapped. One of them told the judge: "We want to ask for your pardon for entering illegally, but please don't send us back."	https://twitter.com/charanya_k/status/1174080756882268160

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9/18/2019	kidnapping	2	Was @ Laredo bridge 3:30 a.m. today talking to migrants in "Remain in Mexico" before tent court, about 20 from Cuba, Honduras, Venezuela and El Salvador. Nicaraguan father w/16 year-old son said they had been kidnapped on their way there for a few hours; they didn't have a lawyer	https://twitter.com/mollyhf/status/1174480795525877760?s=12
9/18/2019	robbery	1	Honduran client in Monterrey was robbed, needs to travel to Juarez for hearing	MPP FB group post
9/19/2019	kidnapping	1	An asylum seeker I worked with in #Matamoros sent me a message tonight. He had been kidnapped and extorted already in Matamoros while in #MPP. He was kidnapped again, and the armed men who did it burned his body with lit cigarettes.	https://twitter.com/vwesq/status/1174837816783712262
9/20/2019	kidnapping	1	I do not envy at all the job of interpreting by video for 3 hours straight. But still I noticed a number of errors that caused confusion. At one point a man even said he'd been kidnapped and it was left out of translation.	https://twitter.com/gusbova/status/1175157614080155648
9/21/2019	kidnapping, assault	3	Escuchaba cómo golpeaban a mi marido con unos bates y le daban toques eléctricos. Lo escuchaba gritar”, cuenta Ángeles, una hondureña que fue secuestrada con su familia en Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, en la frontera entre México y Estados Unidos. Ella, de 24 años, y su hijo, de tres, fueron liberados a los 8 días. Pero, no sabe si su esposo está vivo o muerto. Describe cómo el autobús en el que viajaban había apenas llegado a la estación cuando fue abordado por ocho criminales. Su intento de lograr el sueño americano se convirtió en una pesadilla. “Nos tuvieron encerrados en tres casas diferentes donde había más gente secuestrada. Me pedían que le llamara a mi familia para que les pagaran 11 mil dólares. Mi familia me dijo que lo sentía mucho, pero que no tenían dinero. El mundo se me iba haciendo cada vez más pequeño. Y ellos me amenazaban con matarme”. La última vez que vio a su esposo fue cuando uno de los secuestradores la acompañó al baño y pasó por la habitación donde él estaba, tendido en el suelo, boca abajo. Tenía esposas y las manos amarradas hacia atrás. Sus pies estaban amarrados con cinta de aislar. Estaba muy golpeado y ensangrentado. “Me vio y me dijo: `amor, nos van a matar`. Yo solo pude asentir”, dice en voz baja y tragando sus lágrimas.	https://diario.mx/usa/actualidad/nos-mandarons-a-la-boca-del-lobo-a-sufrir-secuestros-y-extorsiones-inmigrantes-20190921-1565325.html
9/21/2019	kidnapping, extortion	2	“Yo le dije a un oficial de la patrulla fronteriza que por favor me encarcelaran en EU, pero que no me regresaran esperar a México, que es como la boca del lobo. Allí me secuestraron, me extorsionaron y me amenazaron de muerte”, dice entre lágrimas de desesperación Daniel, un migrante de Honduras. “Para obligarme que regresara, me amenazaron con separarme de mi hijo”, continua. asegura que le dijeron que en el país latinoamericano él y su hijo de 8 años iban a estar en un albergue, con protección. Sin embargo, es uno de los cientos de migrantes que ahora duermen al ras del suelo, en la calle en Matamoros. No se atreven a moverse más de algunos metros de la línea fronteriza marcada por el Río Bravo, porque tienen miedo del crimen organizado, que está al acecho. “Es muy cruel lo que nos hacen. México ni siquiera puede proteger a sus ciudadanos, ¿cómo va a proteger a los migrantes?”, se pregunta Daniel, que tenía un buen trabajo en Honduras, pero migró porque las maras querían que su hijo introdujera droga en su escuela primaria.	https://diario.mx/usa/actualidad/nos-mandarons-a-la-boca-del-lobo-a-sufrir-secuestros-y-extorsiones-inmigrantes-20190921-1565325.html

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
9/24/2019	kidnapping	1	Christina Brown, a Colorado-based immigration lawyer representing a handful of migrants forced to wait out their asylum cases in Mexico, told VICE News one of her clients was also kidnapped shortly after arriving in Juarez and had her immigration paperwork taken by her kidnapper. “She has a court date coming up, and the person who kidnapped her knows when it is,” Brown said. “She’s so afraid to even present at the port of entry because they have her information. She’s terrified that they will be there waiting for her at the port of entry when she goes and that she won’t make it to court.” Christina also told us: Guatemalan woman HMR in MPP was kidnapped in Juarez on her way back from court. The kidnapper took her court documents. He got her number from the documents and has been texting her threats. She later woke up to find him standing over her bed. Nonetheless, she didn’t pass her non-refoulement interview.	https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/gyzdp9/trumps-remain-in-mexico-policy-is-causing-asylum-seekers-to-miss-court-dates-and-get-deported
9/26/2019	assault, robbery	2	My 23-year-old clients (brother and sister from Cuba) were beaten and robbed yesterday in Matamoros	https://twitter.com/Kou_Sua/status/1177206159033405441
9/26/2019	kidnapping	2	Y.C.F.F. (A# XXX-XXX-XXX) of Honduras is 8 months pregnant and was returned to Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico on or about August 18, 2019. In April 2019, prior to entering the United States, she and her five-year-old daughter were kidnapped in Mexico but managed to escape. While detained in CBP custody, a “white, tall, blue-eyed woman,” wearing a green uniform told her that she should abort her baby because “Trump didn’t want there to be any more pregnant people here.” She was held in overcrowded conditions for three days. She has had no prenatal care in Matamoros	https://www.aclutx.org/sites/default/files/aclu_oig_complaint_preg_mpp.pdf
9/26/2019	attempted kidnapping	3	G.M.H.M. (A# XXX-XXX-XXX) of Honduras, age 25, is 5.5 months pregnant and was returned to Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico on September 3, 2019. She along with her two young daughters, ages 5 and 2, were victims of an attempted kidnapping in Mexico prior to their entering the United States at the end of August 2019.	https://www.aclutx.org/sites/default/files/aclu_oig_complaint_preg_mpp.pdf
9/26/2019	kidnapping	1	L.E.L.P. (A# XXX-XXX-XXX) of Ecuador, age 18, is 4 months pregnant and was returned to Nuevo Laredo, Mexico on September 23, 2019 for a second time under MPP. Despite repeated attempts by U.S. advocates to intervene, Border Patrol sent her back to Mexico. Previously returned to Nuevo Laredo under MPP, the young woman was subsequently kidnapped, and her family extorted for her release. Upon re-entering the United States, she expressed her fear of return to Mexico to Border Patrol officers, who failed to refer her for a screening interview. Once back in Mexico, her and other returned women could not leave the Mexican side of the port of entry due to known cartel scouts waiting to identify returning migrants for kidnapping. After extensive efforts by U.S. 10 advocates, a local contact was able to transport the women to a local church. Despite not sharing their location with anyone, unknown individuals identifying themselves as local journalists appeared at the church the following day demanding to speak with the women.	https://www.aclutx.org/sites/default/files/aclu_oig_complaint_preg_mpp.pdf

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
9/26/2019	extortion	4	F.Y.C.H. (A#: XXX-XXX-XXX) of Honduras, age 28, is 2.5 months pregnant and was returned to Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico on May 25, 2019, along with her husband and two small children. Upon return to Mexico, F.Y.C.H. and her family suffered threats and extortion from smugglers in Tijuana. The family fled to Mexicali, where she experienced bleeding due to her pregnancy and received limited emergency medical care. In her past two pregnancies, F.Y.C.H. endured medical difficulties, including preeclampsia and a hernia that required surgery. She has lost weight during this pregnancy as she cannot eat regularly and suffers from high blood pressure. In early September 2019, when in CBP custody during her initial immigration court hearing, F.Y.C.H. informed CBP officers of her pregnancy but was ignored. She also requested diapers for her three-year-old child. CBP agents told her she should potty train her son and did not provide diapers. Due to ongoing threats against the family in Baja California, F.Y.C.H. and her family have fled south to another state in Mexico.	https://www.aclutx.org/sites/default/files/aclu_oig_complaint_preg_mpp.pdf
9/29/2019	kidnapping	2	David was aware of migrant shelters at that point and was desperate to find refuge in the closest one, about five blocks away. “Papi, I’m scared,” Edin said as they started walking. “Just start walking. God will protect us,” David told him, putting his arm around his son. “We’ll be fine.” They were fine for three or four blocks until a group of gang members appeared. Edin began to cry. They asked David for his password. He told them: “Pancho mini mi.” “Good, he’s with us,” they said. And they kidnapped them anyway. After more than a week in captivity, David’s family in Guatemala paid the kidnappers \$15,000 to free them.	https://www.expressnews.com/news/us-world/border-mexico/article/Kidnapped-and-attacked-in-Mexico-migrants-are-14474487.php
9/29/2019	robbery, attempted kidnapping	2	Ten-year-old Anthony sat cross-legged on the floor eating soupy white rice while his mother recounted the day when 20 gang members stormed the migrant shelter where they stayed. She said the men, dressed in black and wearing ski masks, yelled “Get to the ground!” and pointed their guns at them. Dozens of parents and children screamed and cried as the gang took their phones and money. “We can’t stay here,” said Sandra, Anthony’s mother, as she held him at the Good Samaritan shelter here. “It’s not safe.”	https://www.expressnews.com/news/local/article/Gangs-profit-from-Trump-s-Remain-in-14474477.php
9/29/2019	assault, robbery, attempted kidnapping	4	Noelia and her two daughters, migrants from Honduras, arrived at the bridge that crosses the river to Laredo for their court hearing out of breath — after running from kidnappers, Noelia said. Another woman wound her way toward the bridge wearing a jacket that hides a ripped yellow shirt and knife markings on her breasts. She said she was attacked that morning on her way to work. Men stole her purse, emptied it and then returned it to her rented room. The implied message: We know where you live. And Axel, a 40-year-old Venezuelan migrant, has scars on his upper back and arms. He said the one on his back is from a bullet shot at him during an anti-government protest in Venezuela. The scars on his arms are from gang attacks here. “In Venezuela, I was a dead man,” said Axel, who has spent six months at the Barrio Para Dios shelter in Nuevo Laredo, waiting for his court hearing. “Here, I’m a dead man walking.” Because the region has suffered cartel violence for years, the U.S. State Department has issued a “Do Not Travel” advisory for the state of Tamaulipas, where Nuevo Laredo is located.	https://www.expressnews.com/news/local/article/Gangs-profit-from-Trump-s-Remain-in-14474477.php

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
9/30/2019	assault, robbery	1	<p>Mario Rodríguez, a 27-year-old from Nicaragua, was in the southern Mexican state of Chiapas in May when he was attacked the first time. According to a police report, he was knocked unconscious and robbed of \$70 by an unknown assailant. He experienced a second attack in late July, when he was in Matamoros, a Mexican border city across from Brownsville, waiting his turn to request asylum legally at the bridge under the Trump policy known as “metering.” One evening, Rodríguez—who, like the other migrants in this story, requested a pseudonym for his protection—walked downtown to buy some churros. Night fell, so he decided to take a taxi back to the bridge, where he lived in a migrant encampment. By Rodríguez’s account, the taxi driver recognized him as a foreigner, pulled a crescent wrench from the floorboard, and slammed him over the head three times in an attempt to knock him unconscious. The driver grabbed Rodríguez’s cell phone and said he was going to turn him over to the local Gulf Cartel. Rodríguez, an ex-cop, says he fought back, wresting away the wrench and fleeing to the bridge on foot, blood pouring down his face. He reached the bridge’s midpoint, where Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials stand guard, and begged to be let through. But, he says, the agents just confiscated the bloody wrench from him and turned him away. About two weeks later, it was his turn to request asylum at the bridge. Though he told a CBP officer he was afraid of Mexico, the agent said nothing could be done, and Rodríguez was returned to Matamoros under MPP. Now he rarely leaves the area right by the bridge. “I feel a fear here,” he told me in August. “I have this premonition that something’s going to happen to me.” Though he’d later decide against it, he told me then that he was thinking of returning to Nicaragua. His reasoning? He’d heard it costs thousands of dollars to repatriate a body. Cheaper to die at home, he calculated, than to die in Mexico.</p>	<p>https://www.texasobserver.org/attacked-in-mexico-returned-to-mexico-trump-policy-ignores-danger-to-asylum-seekers/</p>
9/30/2019	assault, kidnapping	1	<p>Eduardo Águila, a 33-year-old also from Nicaragua, has had it even worse. According to police reports he filed with Mexican authorities, a man stabbed him in his right side in March in Chiapas; four months later, in Mexico City, two men kidnapped him, tied his hands with a cable, beat him, and burned him in an attempt to extort ransom. He then managed to escape the kidnappers and flee to Tijuana. There, a group of men began chasing him and one slashed his right arm with a knife. Running for his life, Águila climbed the border wall and turned himself in to Border Patrol agents, who took him to a hospital in nearby Chula Vista. Later, he tried to explain what had happened to him to the agents, but, he says, they wouldn’t listen. They put him in MPP and returned him to Tijuana, with fresh stitches in his arm and medical paperwork that says he “sustained laceration to right elbow during entry.” Now he lives in a shelter that he almost never leaves. He’s already overstayed his allotted time there and will likely be kicked out soon. Águila, the Nicaraguan attacked three times in Mexico, has copies of police reports for every incident, but when he finally got an interview after his first court date in early September, he spoke to an officer through an interpreter by phone and was not even able to present the evidence. He was returned to Tijuana again.</p>	<p>https://www.texasobserver.org/attacked-in-mexico-returned-to-mexico-trump-policy-ignores-danger-to-asylum-seekers/</p>

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
9/30/2019	kidnapping	2	Denise Gilman, director of the University of Texas at Austin’s immigration clinic, told me she also knows of at least two cases in which migrants were unable to attend their court hearings in Laredo because they were being held for ransom at the time.	https://www.texasobserver.org/attacked-in-mexico-returned-to-mexico-trump-policy-ignores-danger-to-asylum-seekers/
9/30/2019	kidnapping	2	Carlos and his 17-year-old son sit in a migrant shelter run by the Mexican government here, their days tethered to ever slimming hopes that their appeals to the U.S. for asylum will somehow give them passage to a better life across the border. On July 1, they fled what Carlos, 41, describes as an untenable life in Nicaragua, hounded by gangs who beat them and attempted to extort money. He left his job in a gold mine, and his wife and seven other children remained back home as he and Carlos Jr. struggled over the next month making their way north. The journey became perilous in Mexico, where they were kidnapped and held for ransom, although they had no money. Carlos feels it’s a miracle that they were released, and his son chokes up when his father describes the sacrifices in their quest for a fresh start in the United States. But when they arrived at a port of entry near El Paso in early August, they were quickly swept up in the Trump administration’s Migration Protection Protocols program, also known as the Remain in Mexico program. Established in January, the MPP program ushered in a host of changes to U.S. immigration rules, none approved by Congress.	https://pulitzercenter.org/reporting/borderline-despair-how-us-warehousing-asylum-seekers
10/1/2019		55	During its most recent research, Human Rights First researchers identified an additional 55 unreported cases of individuals returned under MPP who were harmed in Mexico.	
10/1/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	Two young women were abducted in Nuevo Laredo from a group of asylum seekers who had just been returned there by DHS following an immigration court hearing in late September at the Laredo tent “court.” An asylum seeker in the group reported that they had been forced to sleep on the street because no transportation had been provided to return the group to Monterrey where they had previously been bussed by Mexican government officials. During the night unknown men kidnapped the young women while the others managed to escape.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf
10/1/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	Five Cuban asylum seekers returned by DHS to Nuevo Laredo were kidnapped there, as reported by an attorney representing clients in Nuevo Laredo. Even after they were released, the Cubans continue to receive threat from individuals they suspect are related to the cartels that control the area.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf
10/1/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	Four Venezuelan women and a girl were kidnapped in Nuevo Laredo in July, according to a declaration provided to Human Rights First from a Cuban asylum seeker who reported witnessing the kidnappings which occurred just outside the INM offices there. He reported that a group of men stopped a taxi an INM employee had arranged to take the four Venezuelan women and girl to a local shelter and kidnapped them.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
10/1/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	The men who kidnapped a Guatemalan asylum-seeking family, including children ages 4 and 6, in Nuevo Laredo specifically targeted them because they had been expelled by DHS under MPP. The family was released after several days in captivity but told they could be kidnapped again at any time and that they would be required to pay extortion calculated based on the number of days they were in Nuevo Laredo. The kidnapers reviewed the family’s MPP court documents to determine the date they had been returned by DHS and the date of their upcoming court hearing. They are living in terror waiting for their next hearing, afraid they could easily be kidnapped again going to or returning from court.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf
10/1/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	In late September, a Honduran asylum seeker was kidnapped while travelling from Monterrey to Nuevo Laredo to attend an MPP hearing at the Laredo tent “court” facility with his 16-year-old son. Another asylum-seeking family brought the boy to the port of entry where CBP processed him as an unaccompanied minor given his father’s disappearance. According to attorneys familiar with the case, the man remains missing.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf
10/1/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	A 3-month-old baby and her asylum-seeking mother from Honduras were nearly kidnapped in Matamoros after being returned there by DHS. The woman told researchers from Human Rights First in September that men had attempted to force the family into a car but were prevented from abducting them by the owner of a nearby laundromat who intervened.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf
10/1/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	A Central American family with three children were abducted by men wearing Mexican police uniforms after being returned by DHS to Ciudad Juárez in August. An attorney assisting the family reported that photos sent with ransom demands to the family’s relatives in the United States showed the family in what appeared to be a government office.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf
10/1/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	A Guatemalan family with two children were kidnapped for ransom by men in Mexican federal police uniforms after DHS returned them to Ciudad Juárez in July under MPP. The family told an immigration attorney that the kidnapers tortured some of the migrants held with them, duct-taping plastic bags over their heads to suffocate them. They and others managed to escape when their abductors unexpectedly left. However, the family later saw the same men who had kidnapped them near the shelter where they were hiding.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf
10/1/2019	kidnapping, torture	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	A Honduran asylum seeker, who had previously been kidnapped in Mexico with his son, was kidnapped again after DHS returned them to Matamoros. He told his attorney, Veronica Walther, that the armed men who abducted him “burned me with lit cigarettes” because he could not meet their extortion demands	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
10/1/2019	assault, threats	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	An asylum seeker from Honduras sent by DHS to Matamoros in July was assaulted and threatened with rape for being a lesbian. In an interview recorded by the Texas Civil Rights Project and shared with Human Rights First, the woman said that a few blocks from the makeshift tent camp in Matamoros passers-by who discovered she was a lesbian hit her in the face, leaving her with a busted lip. In September, men at the camp told her they would “teach us [lesbians] to like men,” a statement she understand to be a threat to rape her.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf
10/1/2019	assault	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	A Salvadoran asylum seeker returned by DHS to Tijuana was attacked, threatened, and abused with slurs calling Salvadorans “trash” and “leeches.” The incident exacerbated the woman’s already precarious mental state. A therapist evaluating the woman found her to be acutely suicidal, according to her attorney.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf
10/1/2019	assault	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	A Cuban woman who was seeking asylum, but turned back to Matamoros by DHS, told Human Rights First researchers that she had been threatened and assaulted during the nearly five months she had already been waiting in Matamoros. She said that other Cuban women returned to Matamoros had been raped, but women have “only two options, you are quiet, or they kill you.”	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf
10/1/2019	assault	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	A teenage Guatemalan asylum seeker was attacked and beaten in the street in Mexicali, according to attorneys from a legal services organization that visited Mexicali in September.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf
10/1/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	Three children, all under the age of ten, and their mother sought asylum in the United States but were sent by DHS to Matamoros. They were returned to Mexico even though they had previously been abducted in Villahermosa. The family was held by kidnapers for nearly a month and only managed to escape when other migrants held with them helped the family to escape when the woman’s youngest daughter became gravely ill. When the mother told CBP about the kidnapping and her fears her family would be harmed if returned to Mexico, the officer told her that “we have orders from above to return all.”	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf
10/1/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	A 12-year-old girl and her father, asylum seekers from Honduras, were kidnapped in southern Mexico, an experience that further traumatized the girl who had already been traumatized by a brutal attack on her family in Honduras. When her father told CBP about the kidnapping, a CBP officer said that he did not believe the man because he had not filed a police report.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
10/1/2019	kidnapping, torture	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	A Honduran asylum seeker and his 9-year-old son were expelled to Matamoros without a fear screening even though the man explained to CBP officers that he and his son had been kidnapped and that he was subsequently tortured by Mexican law enforcement officers in Tamaulipas who burned him with lit cigarettes. The man showed Human Rights First researchers several small circular scars on his stomach that appeared consistent with his account. He said a CBP officer threatened to separate him from his son if he persisted in insisting that he feared return to Mexico.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf
10/1/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	CBP officers returned a Nicaraguan political activist seeking asylum in the United States to Mexico even though corrupt Mexican police officers in Reynosa had handed him over to kidnapers in mid-August. He was held along with a group of about 24 other migrants – including about ten non-Spanish speaking black migrants, several other Central American migrants, and a Russian man who had been tortured by the abductors after apparently attempting to escape.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf
10/1/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	DHS returned a Guatemalan asylum seeker to Ciudad Juárez in late September after an MPP fear screening even though the men who had kidnapped her continued to stalk and threaten her. According to Christina Brown, an attorney who spoke with the woman, the kidnapers sent her threatening messages and one tracked her to and entered the migrant shelter where she was sleeping at the time. The woman fears she could be kidnapped again when she goes to the port for her next immigration court hearing, as the kidnapers took her MPP documents that contain the hearing date and time. Despite this evident danger, USCIS found the woman had not established a sufficient likelihood of harm if returned to Mexico.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf
10/1/2019	kidnapping, rape	(counted within 55 reported in HRF report)	An asylum seeking woman who was kidnapped in Mexico with her son, repeatedly raped, and pursued by the kidnapper to Tijuana, did not pass an MPP fear screening. Even though the woman had a video sent to her by the kidnapper proving that he was in the same city as her and she had reported the kidnapping, rape and threats to local police, she and her son were returned to Tijuana, according to the attorneys representing the family.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf

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10/1/2019	kidnapping	3	<p>Denis was especially nervous. A few months earlier, his wife had left the city of San Pedro Sula with the couple’s two other children, including the eldest, who, at seventeen, was being targeted to join a local gang; after he resisted, gang members began threatening the entire family. Denis stayed behind to earn a bit more money before following with the couple’s other children. His wife arrived at a port of entry in El Paso, and immigration agents allowed her and the children to enter the U.S. while their asylum case was pending. Denis planned to use the same process. But, shortly after he and the two children reached Juárez, in mid-August, a group of local gangsters kidnapped them and held them for five days in an abandoned church on the outskirts of town. They eventually escaped and travelled directly to the U.S. border crossing. “It doesn’t make sense to try to cross illegally,” he told me. “The smugglers will just take your money and then abandon you.” By the time they arrived in El Paso, the asylum process had changed: Denis and his children were briefly detained, given a court date in December, and then sent back to Mexico to wait, under a U.S. policy called the Migrant Protection Protocols (M.P.P.).</p>	<p>https://www.newyorker.com/news/dispatch/how-the-us-asylum-system-is-keeping-migrants-at-risk-in-mexico</p>
10/1/2019	robbery	2	<p>The other woman, Betty, was from Guatemala City. Her seventeen-year-old daughter, Marielos, followed quietly behind her. After arriving, in early August, the two of them had been given a court date for late October, but they’d been robbed immediately after returning to Juárez. Betty had kept their court documents and identification in her purse, which was now gone.</p>	<p>https://www.newyorker.com/news/dispatch/how-the-us-asylum-system-is-keeping-migrants-at-risk-in-mexico</p>

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
10/1/2019	rape, kidnapping, assault	previously counted in tally	<p>Earlier this summer, I spoke with a twenty-year-old woman from northern Honduras named Tania. In early April, she and her fourteen-year-old sister were separated at an El Paso port of entry. Her sister was sent to a children’s shelter run by the Department of Health and Human Services and eventually placed with their mother, who lives in Boston. Tania spent six days in detention in the U.S., in a frigid holding cell known among migrants as a hielera, before Mexican immigration agents picked her up and took her back across the border, into Mexico. They dropped her off at a migrant shelter that was already full. She roamed the streets, looking for another place to stay. Her tattered clothes and accent marked her as foreign, and her race—she’s black and belongs to an indigenous community called the Garifuna—led to several episodes of public abuse. “People would shout and spit at me when I was on the street,” she said. “If I sat down somewhere, people would get up and move away.” ...Back in Mexico, she decided that it was pointless to wait any longer. She and another woman from Honduras hired a smuggler to help them cross into the U.S. Neither of the women realized it at the time, but the smuggler was in league with a cadre of Mexican federal policemen. For two nights, she and the other woman were driven to different stash houses along the border. On the last night before they expected to cross, they were taken to yet another house, where there were four other women and a group of armed men, including policemen in uniforms, keeping watch. That night, one of the policeman held a gun to Tania’s head and ordered her to perform oral sex on him. “I could hear the other women getting beat up in the background,” she said. Early the following morning, Tania and another woman were transported to a separate location, where they were repeatedly raped. A week passed before local authorities found them and took them to a hospital.</p>	https://www.newyorker.com/news/dispatch/how-the-us-asylum-system-is-keeping-migrants-at-risk-in-mexico
10/1/2019	sexual assault	1	A Nicaraguan woman I met this past weekend in Matamoros told me that she had been sexually assaulted by Mexican police and was afraid to tell CBP for fear they’d share the information with Mexican authorities and she would be retaliated against while she’s in Mexico.	https://twitter.com/mariaaleote/status/1179170242058174465
10/7/2019	kidnapping	1	The Remain in Mexico policy is hurting people: My friend’s family is being extorted after her cousin (Salvadoran) was kindapped because he was sent back to Mexico to file for asylum. Let’s venmo @ Karol-Jalpay to get him back! (later correction specified the cousin is Honduran)	https://twitter.com/danalvarenga/status/1181240055869952001
10/7/2019	assault	1	Dany and other LGBTQ asylum seekers said that while they waited in Mexico they had been threatened and intimidated for being gay. Melisa, a 27-year-old from Honduras, said she was hit in the face by a stranger as she stood talking to friends outside a nearby pharmacy.	https://www.latimes.com/politics/story/2019-10-07/julian-castro-helps-lgbtq-migrants-trump-remain-in-mexico-plan-cross-border
10/8/2019	assault, threats	1	Mari, a Cuban asylum seeker, said two men had threatened her and her partner, Dany, when they went to buy cigarettes. One of the men also grabbed her during the altercation, Mari said. They also faced discrimination from fellow asylum seekers.	https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2019/10/trump-asylum-seekers-lgbtq-pregnant-women-matamoros/

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
10/8/2019	threats	previously counted in tally	<p>On Thursday, Mayela, the only trans women at the encampment, told me she feared for her life as she waited for her December court date across the Rio Grande in Brownsville, Texas. Mayela had similar experiences to the other LGBTQ women in Matamoros. In late September, a woman came to her tent and threatened to cut out her guts with a knife, according to a complaint Mayela submitted to the Mexican government. In the line for food at the camp, fellow migrants told her she had to wait in the men’s line and sometimes used slurs. Goodwin learned the next day that the Department of Homeland Security was taking Mayela out of MPP. Mayela had passed her screening interview. It was the first and only time Goodwin has seen that happen in Brownsville.</p>	<p>https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2019/10/trump-asylum-seekers-lgbtq-pregnant-women-matamoros/</p>
10/10/2019	kidnapping, rape	3	<p>Also on the bridge was Jilma, a 26-year-old Honduran asylum-seeker who was sent to Nuevo Laredo after presenting herself at the US border. Along with a group of other immigrants, she was transported to a shelter at the direction of Mexican immigration agents. Along the way, the bus was stopped by federal police, Jilma said, who ordered all of the immigrants off the vehicle. Moments later the group was boarded onto trucks at gunpoint by men who took them to a large house with about 300 kidnapped immigrants. When Jilma and two other women couldn't provide phone numbers for family members who could pay a ransom, some of the men took them to another room and took turns raping them, she said. "While they raped us they told us they would do the same things to our children," Jilma told BuzzFeed News. "They let us go, but before they left they took photos of us and told us to never return to Nuevo Laredo." Jilma has since made her way to Matamoros where she hopes she will be safe, but is fearful of returning to Nuevo Laredo in January for her court hearing on the other side of the border.</p>	<p>https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/adolfoflores/asylum-seekers-protesting-bridge-close-matamoros-texas</p>
10/12/2019	kidnapping	1	<p>"CBS This Morning" spoke to a Honduran woman, who is part of MPP, who said that her husband was kidnapped when they got sent back to Mexico. He was eventually released because the couple couldn't afford the ransom.</p>	<p>https://www.cbsnews.com/news/remain-in-mexico-doctors-decry-trump-policy-of-sending-more-than-51000-migrants-back-to-mexico/</p>

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
10/15/2019	kidnapping	2	<p>“At this point, I’m so frightened I just want to go home,” said Beti Suyapa Ortega, 36, from Honduras, who crossed the border into Texas intending to seek political asylum and surrendered to the Border Patrol. She, along with her son, 17, were among two dozen or so Remain in Mexico returnees waiting recently for a southbound bus in a spartan office space at the Mexican immigration agency compound in Nuevo Laredo, across the Rio Grande from Laredo, Texas.</p> <p>Ortega and others said they were terrified of venturing onto the treacherous streets of Nuevo Laredo — where criminal gangs control not only drug trafficking but also the lucrative enterprise of abducting and extorting from migrants. “We can’t get out of here soon enough. It has been a nightmare,” said Ortega, who explained that she and her son had been kidnapped and held for two weeks and only released when a brother in Atlanta paid \$8,000 in ransom. “I can never come back to this place.”</p>	https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2019-10-15/buses-to-nowhere-mexico-transport-migrants-with-u-s-court-dates-to-its-far-south
10/15/2019	kidnapping	2	<p>But some, including Flores Reyes, said they were terrified of returning to Matamoros, where they had been subjected to robbery or kidnapping. Nor did they want to return across the Rio Grande to Texas, if it required travel back through Matamoros. Flores Reyes said kidnappers held her and her daughter for a week in Matamoros before they managed to escape with the aid of a fellow Honduran. The pair later crossed into Texas, she said, and they surrendered to the U.S. Border Patrol. On Sept. 11, they were sent back to Matamoros with a notice to appear Dec. 16 in immigration court in Harlingen. “When they told us they were sending us back to Matamoros I became very upset,” Flores Reyes said. “I can’t sleep. I’m still so scared because of what happened to us there.” Fearing a second kidnapping, she said, she quickly agreed to take the transport back to southern Mexico.</p>	https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2019-10-15/buses-to-nowhere-mexico-transport-migrants-with-u-s-court-dates-to-its-far-south
10/15/2019	robbery	1	<p>Christian Gonzalez, 23, a native of El Salvador who was also among those recently returned here, said he had been mugged in Matamoros and robbed of his cash, his ID and his documents, among them the government notice to appear in U.S. immigration court in Texas in December.</p>	https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2019-10-15/buses-to-nowhere-mexico-transport-migrants-with-u-s-court-dates-to-its-far-south
10/16/2019	kidnapping, robbery	1	<p>Even after he was kidnapped and robbed outside the makeshift migrant camp where he had slept for two weeks, Luis Osorto decided his only chance for eventual asylum in the United States was to stay put along the border just inside Mexico. But the 37-year-old Honduran made a pact with himself: not to leave the enclave of tents at the end of a bridge between Matamoros and Brownsville, Texas - not even to buy a bottle of water or to collect money transfers from his family back home. After what is commonly known as an "express kidnapping" last month by men waiting in a van for him outside a convenience store where he was collecting a \$100 transfer from relatives, Osorto promised himself he would only leave the camp to cross the bridge to Texas for his December court date with U.S. immigration authorities.</p>	https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2019/10/16/world/americas/16reuters-usa-immigration-mexico-matamoros.html

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
10/16/2019	kidnapping	5	Kristin Clarens, a U.S. attorney who advises asylum-seekers at the border, said she had come across five cases of migrants in Matamoros awaiting MPP hearings who were kidnapped briefly. They were taken to an ATM to clear out their accounts or forced to phone relatives to send cash transfers to a nearby convenience store.	https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2019/10/16/world/americas/16reuters-usa-immigration-mexico-matamoros.html
10/16/2019	kidnapping, extortion	6	Reuters spoke to six asylum seekers at Osorto’s camp who said they had been kidnapped or extorted, and several more who had brushes with suspected criminals near the border or elsewhere within Mexico.	https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-immigration-mexico-matamoros-feat/asylum-seekers-cling-to-hope-safety-in-camp-at-us-mexico-border-idUSKBN1WV1DY
10/16/2019	kidnapping	2	I have clients who are waiting in Juarez for the MCH hearings in December. They have been kidnapped once, family paid the ransom, they are now staying in a shelter, but their kidnapers have continued to drive by and threaten to kidnap again. They want to present at the POE to request a non-refoulement interview, but are afraid to leave the shelter by themselves. Does anyone know of any agency or organization that they could reach out to accompany them to the POE?	Post in online group for MPP attorneys
10/16/2019	kidnapping, assault	2	respondent asked if she would be returned to México to wait until 12/16 and explained to judge that they had been kidnapped and assaulted in Nuevo Laredo and said, “if I don’t return for court on 12/16, it’s because something happened to me in Nuevo Laredo.”	According to reports by human rights monitors at San Antonio immigration court as shared with HRF
10/16/2019	assault	2	she said Nuevo Laredo is dangerous and she would like to avoid going back—people harass her kids, throw rocks at them and call them “mentally retarded”	According to reports by human rights monitors at San Antonio immigration court as shared with HRF
10/21/2019	rape	1	Constance Wannamaker wanted to scream and cry at the same time. The Texas immigration attorney had just heard what should have been great news: Her client, a 21-year-old Guatemalan woman, was getting released from the El Paso Processing Center after weeks in detention. But that’s just a sliver of the story. When the asylum seeker first tried to come to the United States in April, she was returned to Mexico to await a hearing in the U.S. She crossed the border again in May but was later sent away once more to a dangerous city far from home. While she was forced to shelter in Ciudad Juárez, a stranger broke into her hotel room and raped her, her lawyer said. After she was let back into the U.S. and detained, she discovered she was pregnant. And once immigration authorities found out, they decided to remove her from their care with almost no notice...As both a woman and a migrant, Wannamaker’s client was already in jeopardy. But she is also a lesbian — a factor for which her attorney suggested the U.S. government failed to screen — and because of her sexuality, she could have been exempted from the program.	https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/national-international/Asylum-Seeker-Migrant-Protection-Protocols-Raped-Pregnant-563171401.html

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
10/22/2019	kidnapping	2	"Like most of the families she assists that day, a 23-year-old man from Honduras and his toddler have been living in the plaza next to the Brownsville & Matamoros International Bridge. The site is just an hour from the place where they were kidnapped en route to the US and held for ransom. “He was petrified at being in Matamoros, living in constant fear that his kidnappers were looking for him and could find him,” Zavala says. “He was out in the open and staying at the plaza. He didn’t have shelter, family, or any form of protection for him and his daughter.”"	https://intercontinentalcry.org/the-yre-treated-like-animals-the-us-government-is-abusing-asylum-seekers-including-indigenous-migrants-but-people-are-fighting-back/
10/26/2019	kidnapping	3	was in Juarez driving to a shelter when I gave this quote. Picked up a couple & little boy who had been kidnapped & released after paying thousands of \$. they saw the same kidnappers circling their shelter & requested help getting to the bridge to beg to be taken out of #MPP	https://twitter.com/taylorllevy
11/5/2019	assault, robbery	7	Today, the ACLU Foundation of San Diego & Imperial Counties (ACLUF-SDIC) filed a class-action lawsuit against the U.S Department of Homeland Security. The suit demands that people seeking asylum who have been subjected to the Trump administration’s dangerous Remain in Mexico policy – referred to by the government as the “Migrant Protection Protocols” (MPP) – and who have expressed a fear of being returned to Mexico must be given access to their lawyers while awaiting critical interviews in U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) custody...The plaintiffs in the case are a Guatemalan family who fled their home in April 2019 after they were extorted, and the couple’s 17-year-old daughter was raped and threatened with death. The couple’s nine-year-old son has symptoms consistent with leukemia. While traveling through Mexico, the couple and their five children were assaulted by men in government uniforms at gunpoint and forced to take off their clothes during the attack. One of the assailants choked the 17-year-old daughter while she was completely undressed. In August 2019, the family requested asylum in the United States but under MPP they were returned to Tijuana to await their immigration proceedings. During this time, there have been shootings outside the place where the family is temporarily staying. When the family expressed a fear of being returned to Mexico, the father was separated from the family, handcuffed and given a “non-refoulement interview” via telephone and without legal representation. The rest of the family was interviewed separately, also without representation. After the interview, the family was returned to Tijuana without an explanation. The father has since been robbed at gunpoint while on his way to work. The family is now being represented in their immigration case pro bono by Jewish Family Service of San Diego, which is one of only two organizations in the San Diego region providing legal representation and counsel to asylum seekers subjected to MPP.	https://www.aclusandiego.org/aclu-asylum-seekers-subject-to-trumps-remain-in-mexico-policy-must-be-given-access-to-counsel/

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
11/6/2019	assault	1	<p>A Salvadoran woman seeking asylum in the United States spends her days sequestered in her cousin’s cramped house in Mexico, too scared to leave after being savagely beaten three weeks ago when strolling back from a convenience store. The attack came after she spent four months in captivity, kidnapped into prostitution on her journey through Mexico.</p> <p>The woman is one of 55,000 migrants who have been returned to Mexico by the Trump administration to wait for their cases to wind through the backlogged immigration courts, and her situation offers a glimpse into some of the problems with the program...As he heard the case last week of the immigrant from El Salvador, immigration Judge Lee O’Connor made no secret of his disdain for the program.</p> <p>The judge said she was ineligible for the program because, in his view, the law only allows it for people who present themselves at official border crossings, not for immigrants like her who enter illegally.</p> <p>But the U.S. still sent her back to Mexico with a notice that her next court date was Dec. 16, even though her case was terminated by the judge.</p>	https://apnews.com/0746f2a9cc5745b387d795081a9c7691
11/6/2019	kidnapping	1	<p>A mother appeared in court with her eight-year-old son and tearfully told the judge her husband couldn’t be there because he disappeared in Mexico and has been missing for months. DHS asked that he be ordered deported for not appearing at his hearing.</p>	https://twitter.com/becky_gendelman/status/1192260613461958656
11/6/2019	kidnapping	2	<p>Observed Laredo MPP hearings in San Antonio Immigration Court this week. An asylum seeker who had been kidnapped in Mexico with her 2-year-old baby said it was horrible and begged the court: “If I am to be deported, I would like to be deported to my own country, not Mexico.”</p>	https://twitter.com/becky_gendelman/status/1192260611364851714
11/6/2019	kidnapping	3	<p>Heart wrenching cries for help in Laredo MPP tent courts today. 16 yo girl and 12 yo boy crying, begging judge not to return them w/dad to Mexico where they were kidnapped after the last hearing in Sept (as seen by my colleague & Yale Law fellow @becky_gendelman from San Antonio)</p>	https://twitter.com/KennjiKizuka/status/1192200730213593088
11/7/2019	attempted kidnapping, assault	3	<p>Ghazialam first noticed this in September, when three of his clients were sent back to Mexico after their cases were terminated on Sept. 17. After being returned to Mexico, the mother was stabbed in the forearm while protecting her children from an attempted kidnapping. She still has stitches from the knife wound, Ghazialam said.</p>	https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/immigration/story/2019-11-07/cbp-fraud

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
11/8/2019	kidnapping	2	<p>“Mommy, I don’t want to die!” That’s what a 7-year-old child cried to her mother on hearing their kidnapers plan to murder migrants held with them at a cartel safe house in Nuevo Laredo. The cartel abducted the family after CBP returned them to Mexico following an MPP hearing. Cartel members were in the Nuevo Laredo office of Mexican migration openly abducting asylum seekers just returned by CBP from their court hearings at the US port of entry. This woman managed to hide in the bathroom w/ her daughter to call a local pastor for help. When the pastor bravely tried to drive away w/the woman & her daughter, cartel members blocked the road forcing them to stop just blocks from the port of entry. They were pulled from the car & taken to a house where other migrants were being held - some of them tied up with ropes. At one point, the family witnessed cartel members carrying away two young men, discussing that they would be killed because their families had failed to pay their ransom. They saw another person beaten by the abductors for failing to pay.</p>	<p>https://twitter.com/KennjiKizuka/status/1192907065955667969</p>
11/9/2019	kidnapping	4	<p>Jonathan (no es su nombre real), joven padre de familia de Nicaragua, . . . Jonathan, su mujer y dos hijos pequeños fueron devueltos a México, concretamente a la franja fronteriza del estado de Tamaulipas, un territorio sin ley que poco tiene que envidiar a las ciudades centroamericanas en lo que se refiere a la violencia atroz. Abandonada por la policía estadounidense en un descampado al otro lado del puesto fronterizo, la familia vio acercarse un autobús que supuestamente los llevaría a un lugar seguro. Pero el conductor se dirigió directamente a la casa segura de uno de los grupos de delincuentes que se dedican a extorsionar a los migrantes. Secuestraron a la familia y amenazaron con asesinarlos si desde Nicaragua no les pagaban 3.000 dólares. Una semana después fueron puestos en libertad.</p>	<p>https://www.lavanguardia.com/internacional/20191109/471459892472/mexico-eeuu-migracion-extorsiones.html</p>
11/13/2019	kidnapping	1	<p>One pregnant 18 y/o was sent to Nuevo Laredo via MPP, kidnapped by the Cartel Noreste, dropped back in US (presumably as a decoy as the group moved drugs elsewhere), taken to the hospital by Border Patrol, did an interview asking to leave MPP, & then was sent back to Nuevo Laredo</p>	<p>https://twitter.com/Sleutert/status/1194644878384349190</p>
11/15/2019	kidnapping	4	<p>Yohan, a 31-year-old Nicaraguan security guard, trudged back across the border bridge from Laredo, Texas, in July with his wife and two children in tow, clutching a plastic case full of documents including one with a court date to return and make their asylum claim to a U.S. immigration judge two months later. On their way to the bus station, two strange men stopped Yohan while another group grabbed his loved ones. At least one of them had a gun. They were hustled into a van, relieved of their belongings and told they had a choice: Pay thousands of dollars for their freedom, or for another illegal crossing.</p>	<p>https://madison.com/news/world/migrants-thrust-by-us-officials-into-the-arms-of-the/article_3485698f-1327-522b-8ab6-5659a0ff96a6.html</p>

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
11/18/2019	kidnapping, robbery	2	<p>Along the road in Mexico, Damian added, he and his son were robbed and kidnapped and he was tortured until the boy's mother paid a \$5,000 ransom – a not unusual experience for many other migrants.</p> <p>But when he crossed the bridge to apply for asylum, US officials returned him to Matamoros, where he said he was again robbed when he tried to withdraw money sent by friends. His son suffered another kidnapping attempt while living in the tent camp. The fear for the boy's safety drove Damian to decide to send him alone to the United States, after a US immigration judge denied his own asylum application. “I don't know what to do, because I have nothing in my country. My mother is dead, my father is dead and my two sons are in the United States,” he said. “I have no options other than to send my son across the bridge. At least he can be saved.”</p>	https://www.univision.com/univision-news/immigration/at-least-he-can-be-saved-migrants-trapped-in-mexico-are-sending-their-children-alone-to-the-united-states
11/18/2019	kidnapping	2	<p>Xiomara* and her teenaged daughter Jenny* are from Honduras...once they entered the United States, Customs and Border Patrol officials placed them under MPP and returned them to Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, to wait for their initial master calendar hearing in January 2020. In Juarez, members of organized crime kidnapped the mother and daughter for five days and six nights. They were forced to stay in a small room in a house where people came and went, music always played loudly and drugs were strewn in plain sight. Jenny remembers seeing a man snorting white powder. She said she saw very bad things — things she never had imagined before. They were able to escape, but had nowhere to go or any idea where they were. They crawled through desert-like empty lots and hid in a ditch before reaching a public area where they sought help. They are now staying in a shelter, but rarely leave out of fear that they could be kidnapped again. Xiomara does not know what will become of them — but understands that they are easy prey and never safe.</p>	https://cliniclegal.org/news/seven-migrant-protection-protocols-stories-estamos-unidos-asylum-project
11/18/2019	kidnapping	1	<p>Elizabeth,* 24, fled gang violence with her 2-year-old toddler, was placed under MPP and waited months for her hearing before immigration courts in El Paso. Days before the hearing, her child was taken from her. She did not appear for her Master Calendar Hearing in El Paso because she was searching for her child. As a result, the immigration judge entered an order of removal in absentia — or in absence — against her and her child. The very system meant to protect asylum seekers like Elizabeth, instead, put her and her daughter in harm's way.</p>	https://cliniclegal.org/news/seven-migrant-protection-protocols-stories-estamos-unidos-asylum-project
11/18/2019	kidnapping attempt	3	<p>Nicole* fled Honduras with her husband Wilmer* and their young child. Her father was recently murdered and most of their family is either dead or fleeing for their lives. She is a strong woman, but when asked if she fears being in Juarez, she does her best to hold back tears. The men that have been hunting down her family have tried to find them in Mexico as well. They have tried to find a safe place to wait for their hearing, but she knows they will never be safe amongst organized crime in Mexico. They have already escaped two kidnapping attempts. In the most recent attempt against their lives, however, she fell trying to escape one of the men and suffered a miscarriage. She prays for her family to stay alive and be able to appear before a U.S. immigration court in December.</p>	https://cliniclegal.org/news/seven-migrant-protection-protocols-stories-estamos-unidos-asylum-project

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
11/18/2019	assault, sexual assault	3	<p>A family of three — father, son and daughter — fled Venezuela to Panama due to political persecution, after they opposed the ruling party. Upon arrival to Panama, they applied for protection, but were harassed, abused and constantly targeted because of increased xenophobia against Venezuelan nationals. Local residents threatened the son and beat him badly. In addition, officials denied the family access to education and health care. As a result, they fled Panama, traveling through Central America and Mexico to seek asylum in the United States. Upon arrival, Mexican authorities mistreated and extorted them by unlawfully retaining their passports. Both father and son survived beatings, abuse and attempted kidnapping in Mexico. The teenaged daughter experienced an attempted sexual assault, from which she suffers continued signs of trauma and possible mental health complications. Eventually, they crossed the border to the United States, and immigration authorities placed them under MPP. Fearing more persecution and violence, they now spend all their time at a shelter in Ciudad Juarez.</p>	<p>https://cliniclegal.org/news/seven-migrant-protection-protocols-stories-estamos-unidos-asylum-project</p>
11/21/2019	kidnapping, rape	2	<p>After Lucia and her daughter were returned to Mexico, they briefly found a shelter in which to stay but were forced to leave when the shelter demanded payment, which Lucia could not pay. A man offered to let Lucia and her daughter live with his family and do domestic work for pay. However, when Lucia and her daughter went to his house, they learned he lived alone and works for a dangerous Mexican cartel. He locked them in the house, forced Lucia to do all of his housework for no pay, and inappropriately touched Lucia’s daughter sexually. After much pleading and the intervention of a third party, the man let Lucia attend her MPP hearing, but threatened to kill Lucia and her daughter if they did not return after the court hearing. As before, Lucia and her daughter were sent back under MPP even though they should have been exempt from MPP because Lucia’s daughter is disabled. In direct violation of the MPP guiding principles, CBP officers sent them back to Mexico anyway. This time, the consequences were even more severe. Just a few blocks from the port of entry in Tijuana, men with knives stopped Lucia and her daughter and abducted them. Lucia describes the horrors that followed: The men drove us in a car overnight. They took us to a place that I believe was [redacted], Mexico and kept us there for thirteen days. They didn’t give us food or water. They tied my daughter up in a sheet so she could not move. They beat us repeatedly. They took off all of our clothes, touched us sexually, raped us, and masturbated in front of us. They often would not let us go to the bathroom. When they did let us, they would grab us and walk us to the bathroom and we would have to go in front of them. The men told me that I did not have rights because I am [redacted], called me a dog and trash, and said they would light me on fire.</p>	<p>http://americanimmigrationcouncil.org/sites/default/files/general_litigation/statement_for_the_house_migrant_protection_protocols_11_21_19.pdf</p>
11/24/2019	rape	1	<p>Attorney reported to immigration attorney Taylor Levy that a client had been raped in Juarez.</p>	<p>https://twitter.com/taylorlevy/status/1198707918197198849</p>

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
11/27/2019	kidnaping	1	At the shelter, a woman from Guatemala who did not want her name published out of fear, explained how she had been kidnapped in Mexico. For eight days along with other migrants she was tied up with tape over her mouth. She managed to get free, climb out a window and find her way to this shelter.	https://www.hppr.org/post/migrants-nuevo-laredo-remain-mexico-means-remain-danger
12/1/2019	kidnapping	4	Ortiz told CNN some migrants have been kidnapped more than once and that others have been sexually assaulted or have lost fingers to the cartels. At least four families who were kidnapped have not returned, Ortiz said.	https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/01/world/mexico-asylum-seekers-letters/index.html
12/1/2019	kidnapping	2	One migrant, Tere, wrote that she and her 7-year-old son were kidnapped once they reached the US border and were held for nine days without food. They were only released after her family paid a ransom, she wrote. "I thank God for freeing me from that terrible experience," wrote Tere, who says her asylum court date in the US is next February.	https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/01/world/mexico-asylum-seekers-letters/index.html
12/2/2019	kidnapping, rape	5	"We represented a young woman and her daughter who were victimized not once but three times in Ciudad Juarez, robbed and then kidnapped for ransom and then an attempted break-in into their hotel room," Rivas said. Rivas said most recently they represented a migrant woman who had been raped during her trek to the United States and they have medical documentation that her seven-year-old daughter was also raped. The advocate also said their organization represented a young migrant woman who denounced Mexican state police that she was raped by members of the Mexican military. She added that they have "proof of all of this."	https://www.urdupoint.com/en/world/migrants-face-extortion-in-mexico-awaiting-as-777274.html
12/5/2019	kidnapping	201	Seven and ten year-old-girls were threatened with rape by kidnapers who also abducted their brother and father, an asylum seeker from Honduras, after DHS returned the family to Nuevo Laredo.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	attempted kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A 12-year-old Salvadoran girl was nearly abducted from her mother in Monterrey after they were sent by DHS to Nuevo Laredo under MPP then dumped by Mexican authorities in Monterrey. Armed men chased the family and grabbed the girl, but her mother managed to wrestle her back and escape.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A seven-year-old Honduran girl returned by DHS to Nuevo Laredo told her asylum-seeking mother “Mommy, I don’t want to die” after overhearing the men who kidnapped them discussing murdering migrants who could not pay ransom. In mid-September, cartel members openly kidnapped returned asylum seekers inside the INM building in Nuevo Laredo following U.S. immigration court hearings, including the seven-year-old Honduran girl and her mother mentioned above. The woman overheard a Mexican migration officer tell the kidnappers the number of migrants returned from court that day and the men counting victims to abduct. The family tried to escape in the car of local pastor, but cartel members forced the vehicle to stop a few blocks away, abducted them, and held them in a house with some 20 other kidnapped migrants. A cartel member threatened to kill the woman if she reported the kidnapping to the police and bragged “the man from migration gave you to us.”	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	robbery, threats	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	an LGBT Cuban woman who had been robbed and threatened in Nuevo Laredo while waiting on the metering list, and a gay asylum seeker from Cuba who was robbed and threatened in Mexico but subsequently returned to Matamoros	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A Honduran asylum seeker and his two children, a 12-year-old boy and a 16-year-old girl, were kidnapped while returning from a Laredo MPP tent court hearing in September. During another hearing in November, observed by a Human Rights First researcher, the family begged not to be sent to Mexico. The girl, sobbing, said that when they return to court “bad people” approach them. The boy said to the judge, “I hope you can help us, please. I don’t want to return to Mexico. We run a lot of risk.”	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	In late October, a Venezuelan asylum seeker was kidnapped while returning to Nuevo Laredo for an MPP hearing at the port of entry tent court in Laredo. Immediately after getting off of a bus from Monterrey five men approached him and a Guatemalan asylum seeker traveling with him. The two were taken from the bus station in separate vehicles. “I started to cry in the truck. One guy told me to calm down and shut up or he would beat me.” The man was taken to two different houses where the cartel held a dozen other migrants including a Colombian man with a toddler and Nicaraguan family with a nine-month-old baby. The kidnappers punched the Nicaraguan mother in the neck, as they forced her to call family members to beg for a ransom to be paid. The kidnappers released the man after several days of captivity. He fears returning to Nuevo Laredo for his next hearing in December, as his abductors recorded his details from his passport into a notebook and took a photograph of him.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/2019	attempted kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	<p>A 13-year-old boy and his mother were nearly kidnapped in Nuevo Laredo while walking from the bus station toward the port of entry to attend an MPP hearing in Laredo in late September. An armed man and woman approached the family, took photos of them and tried to force them into a waiting vehicle. They escaped on foot to the office of the Instituto Nacional de Migración (National Migration Institute – INM) but so feared leaving that they missed the hearing. A Mexican migration officer eventually ordered the family to get out, saying “it wasn’t [INM’s] problem.” A local pastor, who happened to arrive, hid the family in the back of a passenger van and spirited them from the parking lot of INM building to a shelter. A Salvadoran asylum seeker, who had nearly been kidnapped in Nuevo Laredo, indicated that the officer conducting her 15-minute-long interview principally asked about the route she and her children took to the United States and “why they had come illegally.” The aggressive questioning made her afraid to fully recount what had happened, in part, because she feared her responses might be shared with Mexican migration officials who she had seen speaking to one of the men who tried to kidnap her.</p>	<p>https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</p>
12/5/2019	assault	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	<p>A Venezuelan refugee returned by DHS to Mexico after an immigration judge granted him withholding of removal at the Laredo MPP tent court was nearly kidnapped in November while returning to the port of entry to request to be allowed to enter the United States. At the Nuevo Laredo bus station, a group of around ten men surrounded the Venezuelan man. He managed to push his way through, jump into a waiting taxi, and immediately walk onto the international bridge to Laredo, Texas, to escape. A Venezuelan asylum seeker in MPP, who was later granted withholding of removal at the Laredo tent court facility, was beaten by a group of men with sticks in Monterrey. On another occasion armed men in a vehicle nearly kidnapped him while he was traveling in a taxi in Monterrey.</p>	<p>https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</p>
12/5/2019	kidnapping, assault	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	<p>In mid-October, a Honduran asylum seeker and her daughter told an immigration judge at the Laredo MPP tent court that they had been kidnapped and assaulted in Nuevo Laredo. According to a court monitor attending the hearing from San Antonio, the woman said that if she didn’t return for her next court hearing, “[i]t’s because something happened to me in Nuevo Laredo.”</p>	<p>https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</p>
12/5/2019	robbery	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	<p>A Cuban asylum seeker returned by DHS to Mexico stated that in August cartel members had robbed him inside of a church offering shelter to migrants in Nuevo Laredo.</p>	<p>https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</p>

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12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A 25-year-old Honduran woman and her three young children – all under 5 – who crossed the border near Piedras Negras were kidnapped upon exiting a taxi in front of a shelter in Nuevo Laredo after DHS returned them there in mid-October. Men in white vans intercepted the family, held them captive for five days, and demanded money from family members, according to an academic researcher who spoke with the relatives.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	robbery, assault	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	In September, armed, masked men attacked a church-based shelter in Ciudad Juárez housing mainly Cuban migrants, according to a Cuban asylum seeker who was sleeping in the shelter with his partner and nine-year-old daughter at the time. The men shouted: “asshole Cubans, open up,” as they forced their way into the shelter. The armed men threatened to “kill one of these asshole Cubans” and fired their weapons indiscriminately, nearly hitting the Cuban man.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	attempted kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	At another shelter on the outskirts of Ciudad Juárez, a Honduran asylum seeker who DHS had returned under MPP was nearly abducted by four masked men in a black van who repeatedly came to the shelter where she was staying and interrogated other migrants about her whereabouts.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	attempted sexual assault	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A 12-year-old Salvadoran girl was nearly raped after she, her father, and younger brother were returned by DHS to Ciudad Juárez under MPP. After the Casa Migrante told the family that they could not extend their stay due to limited capacity at the shelter, the family rented a room in a local home. While the girl’s father was out purchasing food, the husband of the house’s owner tried to rape the girl. The man threatened to have the girl’s father arrested and deported, if she reported him to the police.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	assault, robbery	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	In early July, armed cartel members attacked a home where several Cubans were renting rooms while waiting for permission to approach the port of entry at Laredo to request asylum. The cartel members announced they were searching for “foreigners,” roughed up the elderly Mexican couple renting out the home, beat several of the men and placed rifles to their heads, robbed the group, took their photos and ordered them to leave the city. DHS returned these asylum seekers to Nuevo Laredo through MPP, telling one man that his fear of the cartel was “outside their [CBP’s] jurisdiction.”	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	robbery	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	An asylum-seeking Venezuelan family with 16- and 11-year-old girls and 10- and 3-year-old boys were robbed in a migrant hotel after DHS returned them to Nuevo Laredo. A hotel manager said he was powerless to stop the cartel from entering the hotel. Men had previously tried to kidnap one of the girls, as the family passed through the Nuevo Laredo bus station.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/2019	disappearance	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A 28-year-old Salvadoran asylum seeker sent to Nuevo Laredo by DHS under MPP went missing in September after leaving a shelter in Nuevo Laredo to work for the day. The man was still missing at the time his 8-year-old son and wife, who was due to give birth in mid-November, appeared at their master calendar hearing in early November at the Laredo MPP tent court.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	In November, a Salvadoran asylum seeker and her two young children, who DHS returned to Matamoros, were abducted in a taxi while trying to reach a nearby store to purchase food. The taxi driver handed the family over to kidnappers who held them for seven days while attempting to extort the woman’s relatives, according to Charlene D’Cruz, an immigration attorney heading the Lawyers for Good Government project at the Matamoros tent encampment.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	robbery, kidnapping, threats	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A Cuban asylum-seeking couple were robbed and pushed to the ground while walking to a store in Mexicali, where the pair had moved after DHS returned them to Nuevo Laredo. The couple had previously been abducted, robbed, and threatened in Reynosa. Another couple seeking asylum from Cuba were abducted from the street in Mexicali in August, according to their attorney Margaret Cargioli from the Immigrant Defenders Law Center. The family is afraid to venture outside now because the kidnappers took their phones and recorded their biographical information.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	assault	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A 51-year-old member of a Cuban opposition party said that he and his adult sons, who were returned to Nuevo Laredo by DHS, have been repeatedly targeted because of their nationality. In one incident, men shouted at them on the street: “asshole Cubans, you’re fucked.” Then in late October, a group of men cornered the family in the street, beating the older man with a board.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	robbery	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	After being returned to Ciudad Juárez by DHS, a Venezuelan asylum seeker was robbed while walking in downtown Juárez. The assailant used the woman’s stolen phone to threaten and extort her family members in the United States claiming he knew where the woman lived. When the woman’s family stopped answering the calls, a man with a photo of the woman appeared near her home in Juárez asking about her. She reported the incident to authorities, but the police did not conduct any investigation.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	assault	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	Armed men cut a 33-year-old Venezuelan asylum seeker with a knife as he was searching for a migrant shelter in Nuevo Laredo when the man refused to get in their truck. DHS later returned the man under MPP despite the attack. A former police officer, the man stated that fears going outside the shelter where he is staying. “You cannot understand how bad it is,” he said.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	In November, a female asylum seeker from Honduras returned by DHS to Matamoros was kidnapped near the tent camp just feet from the local INM office and the building where Lawyers for Good Government is assisting MPP returnees with asylum applications, according to attorney Charlene D’Cruz.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	attempted kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	In September, the 18-year-old son of a Venezuelan asylum seeker returned by DHS to Nuevo Laredo was nearly kidnapped while working at a fruit and vegetable stand where he and his mother had found work. A passerby intervened to stop five men from kidnapping the young man when they began interrogating him about whether he was a foreigner. The young man had previously received a graze wound on his neck during a shooting near the stand.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	Kidnappings of asylum seekers in MPP from the bus station in Nuevo Laredo are common, including: a family seeking asylum from Venezuela with daughters ages seven and two; two Honduran asylum-seeking sisters and their three children held captive for five days and threatened with death if their family did not pay ransom; and, a Guatemalan family with two boys who were kidnapped from the station while waiting for a bus to Monterrey while on the port of entry asylum metering list.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A 4-year-old Honduran boy and his 23-year-old asylum seeker mother were kidnapped in Monterrey after being bused there following their return to Nuevo Laredo by DHS. On the second night of their captivity, one of the kidnapers began to sexually assault the woman but was interrupted by another of the kidnapers who set the family free.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A 3-year-old Salvadoran boy and his mother were kidnapped while attempting to reach Monterrey after DHS returned them to Nuevo Laredo. Family members were forced to pay a ransom to secure their release. The family went into hiding in the house of Good Samaritan who is providing them with food because they fear going outside.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	threats	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A group of men stopped and threatened a Venezuelan asylum seeker traveling from Nuevo Laredo, where she had been returned by DHS under MPP, to Toluca. The men asked whether the woman was Venezuela or Cuban and gave a “first warning” to the minister traveling with the woman at the time.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	An asylum seeker from Ecuador was abducted in September while traveling to Monterrey after being returned to Nuevo Laredo by DHS. The kidnappers removed her from a car and took her to a series of houses where they demanded money for her release.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	robbery, assault	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A group of men beat and robbed a Salvadoran asylum seeker returned by DHS to Nuevo Laredo in July when he stepped out of the migrant shelter in Monterrey to purchase food for himself and his daughter.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	assault, threats	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	Cartel members in Monterrey sent extortion demands and threatening messages to a Cuban asylum seeker placed in MPP by DHS and returned to Nuevo Laredo in July. The man was forced to relocate again to another part of Mexico. He had previously been assaulted three times while in Reynosa.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	Another Cuban asylum seeker sent by DHS to Nuevo Laredo who had moved to Monterrey was kidnapped there and released only after he and his family paid a significant ransom.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	In late July, a woman with a baby girl in her arms, who DHS had just returned to Mexico under MPP, were abducted from the parking lot behind the INM building in Nuevo Laredo. According to a Venezuelan asylum seeker returned the same day, armed men entered the parking lot, which is enclosed by a concrete wall and metal fencing, and forced the family into their vehicle. INM officials and a patrol of Mexican soldiers who passed by shortly afterwards did nothing to investigate or respond to the abduction.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	DHS returned a Salvadoran asylum seeker, her husband, and three young children to Mexico in October even though they had been kidnapped and threatened by Mexican federal police in Ciudad Juárez. The officers brought the family to what appeared to be a police station, demanded ransom from the woman’s family in the United States saying that they “would never see them again,” if they failed to pay, and even threatened to take away the woman’s children and put them up for adoption.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/2019	assault, robbery	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	In Ciudad Juárez, Mexican police attacked a Salvadoran asylum seeker, throwing him to the ground, kicking and robbed him in front of his two children as they approached the port of entry to attend an MPP court hearing in August. The man was walking with his children in the early morning hours to report to CBP at the port of entry by 4:30 am for their hearing. When the man was able to show the police his MPP court documents, they released him but stole his money.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	Mexican migration agents in Nuevo Laredo also appear to have been involved in the near kidnapping of a Honduran asylum seeker, her husband, and son in late September after DHS sent them to Nuevo Laredo. As the family and other migrants were walking from the INM building after Mexican migration told them to leave or get on a bus for the southern Mexican border, men in vans abducted more than a dozen migrants, including the Honduran woman. Her husband and son managed to run back to the INM office. Mexican immigration officers were either directly participating in or permitting the men to kidnap asylum seekers from the INM building because the kidnappers showed the woman a photo of her family crying inside the building to pressure her to convince them to come out. The family managed to escape with a pastor who spirited them to a shelter in Monterrey, according to an academic researcher who interviewed migrant families in Monterey in mid-October.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	attempted kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	In mid-October, a Venezuelan asylum-seeking family of five including two girls ages eight and ten were nearly kidnapped at the Nuevo Laredo airport while returning for an MPP hearing. The family had moved to another Mexican city after nearly being kidnapped outside of a shelter in Nuevo Laredo. As they passed through internal migration controls, a Mexican migration official took photos of the family and their documents with what appeared to be her personal cell phone. When the family challenged the official, they were allowed to proceed. However, upon exiting the terminal a group of men immediately approached them and tried to force the family into a waiting vehicle – indicating to the family that the migration official had sent their photos to the kidnappers. The family narrowly managed to escape abduction by pushing their way back into the terminal.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	assault	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	Mexican police asked for a bribe when a former judge seeking asylum from Cuba and her husband attempted to report an assault against the man in southern Mexico, according to their immigration attorney Natalie Cadwalader-Schultheis of Justice for Our Neighbors. The couple refused to pay and the police failed to investigate the attack even though it had been captured on a film by a nearby security camera. The couple were also robbed and threatened at gunpoint with other Cuban asylum seekers in Reynosa, but DHS returned them to Matamoros under MPP nonetheless.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/2019	extortion	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	Mexican police have repeatedly threatened, wrongfully detained, and extorted the clients of Constance Wannamaker, an immigration attorney representing asylum seekers returned to Ciudad Juárez under MPP. Police there threatened to beat a Honduran asylum-seeking client and demanded money from him. Two Cuban asylum-seeking clients, one of whom was pregnant, were also repeatedly detained and extorted by Mexican police in Juárez and in Tapachula in southern Mexico.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	assault	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	Lisa Knox, an immigration attorney who represents asylum seekers in MPP said she had been alerted by her clients to multiple instances of physical assault and abuse by Mexican police in Tijuana against returned asylum seekers. One Honduran asylum seeker told her that he been attacked in Tijuana, and in another incident, Mexican police had detained him and called him a “dirty Honduran.”	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	robbery	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A Cuban asylum-seeking client of Kenna Giffen, an immigration attorney working with asylum seekers returned to Matamoros, told Giffen that Mexican police had entered a church in Reynosa sheltering migrants and demanded money. The police detained those who refused to pay from the church.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	An Ecuadoran asylum seeker kidnapped in September in Nuevo Laredo with her daughter, told her attorney Esmeralda Sosa, that she was asked only a few questions even though she had presented evidence in the form of text messages from the kidnappers during an MPP screening Sosa was not permitted to attend or monitor.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	rape, kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A Cuban woman kidnapped and gang raped in Nuevo Laredo when she first arrived there to seek asylum at the port of entry did not pass an MPP fear-screening interview. The attackers said, “this is what we do to Cubans here.” After DHS initially returned her to Nuevo Laredo, the women lived in hiding, only leaving to receive treatment for her trauma and to attend an MPP court hearing. During a fear-screening interview in November after that hearing, an asylum officer asked the woman for proof that “the attackers believed they were targeting [her] because [she is] Cuban” and concluded that despite the serious harm she suffered in Mexico that her fear of return to Mexico was insufficient to justify removing her from MPP.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/2019	attempted kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A Guatemalan man and his nine-year-old son, who were twice nearly kidnapped in Mexico, did not pass an MPP fear screening after aggressive questioning of the boy by an asylum officer. The officer questioned the nine-year-old child about details of the kidnapping attempts, one of which occurred just a day after the family was returned to Mexico, resulting in the nine-year-old becoming confused, overwhelmed, and crying, according to an attorney who spoke with Human Rights First.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	kidnapping, robbery	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	An asylum seeker from El Salvador and his six-year-old son who were kidnapped, robbed, and extorted multiple times, including by Mexican police, were returned by DHS to Mexico after failing to pass an MPP fear screening, according to their attorney Constance Wannamaker. Though the family’s account was deemed credible, as indicated by the interview worksheet, the asylum officer found that they did not meet the standard to establish a more likely than not probability of harm in Mexico.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	rape, kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A Cuban asylum seeker, who was the victim of two kidnappings in Reynosa and who was physically abused and sexually assaulted after being returned under MPP, did not pass a fear screening in November, according to her attorney Kenna Giffen. The woman who was referred for interview following a hearing in the Brownsville tent court fainted in terror of being returned to Mexico and was put into a wheelchair. DHS did not permit the woman to be represented by counsel during the interview.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	assault, threats	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A Honduran asylum seeker who did not pass an MPP fear screening had been repeatedly stripped and searched for money by men in Mexican police uniforms who threatened to kidnap her older son and had been followed and threatened by men in Mexicali. The woman was found not credible and the family returned to Mexico. The woman reported to her attorney Troy Elder of Immigrant Defenders Law Center, who DHS did not allow to be present during the interview, that the asylum officer interviewing her and her sons questioned the boys about whether they “like” Mexico in what appeared to her to be an attempt to contradict her fear of remaining there.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	rape, kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	An asylum-seeking woman was not referred by CBP for an MPP fear interview before being sent to Matamoros even though she was kidnapped and raped in front of her three-year-old son. The woman was still bleeding days after the attack and in need of additional medical attention when she met with attorney Jennifer Harbury in November. Before being returned to Mexico, the woman had tried to explain that she and her son had been kidnapped in Reynosa before crossing into the United States to seek asylum, but CBP sent them back without referring them to an asylum officer for an MPP screening.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	CBP officers in Laredo failed to refer a Guatemalan family with two children for a fear-screening interview even though they explained that they had been kidnapped from the Nuevo Laredo bus station, held for days, and threatened that they would have to pay to remain in the city. The CBP officer processing the family when they were allowed to enter the port of entry after waiting on a metering list said kidnapping was immaterial to fear of Mexico unless the person was raped or seriously injured.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	assault	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	Immigration attorney Lisa Knox reported that CBP officers refused to refer her asylum-seeking client from Honduras for an MPP fear-screening interview after he had been attacked and robbed in Mexicali by men with machetes. The man also informed the private security guards transporting him back to Mexico from the immigration court that he feared return but was not referred for an MPP fear interview.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	Similarly, a Salvadoran asylum seeker who had been kidnapped in Ciudad Juárez and escaped by climbing out of a window after DHS sent her to Juárez under MPP was not referred for a fear-screening interview even though she specifically requested one.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	rape, kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	CBP officers accused a 32-year-old Nicaraguan woman fleeing political persecution of lying about having been kidnapped and raped by cartel members in Nuevo Laredo after DHS returned her there in July. After a ransom was paid, the cartel had forced her to cross the river. When she attempted to express her fear of return to Mexico, a CBP officer accused her of lying and sent her to Nuevo Laredo.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A Salvadoran asylum seeker abducted with her three children in Monterrey was not referred by CBP for an MPP screening despite the woman describing her fear of being returned to Mexico. A CBP officer told the woman that, “everyone has to go back.” After being returned by DHS to Tijuana in October, the woman received a death threat in November from men involved in her family’s kidnapping.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	attempted sexual assault	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	A teenage Venezuelan girl was returned with her father and brother to Ciudad Juárez even though she had been the victim of an attempted sexual assault in Mexico, which has left her symptoms of continued trauma, according to attorney Tania Guerrero of CLINIC. Despite explaining their fear of return to Mexico, CBP sent them to Ciudad Juárez in September.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	An asylum-seeking woman from Cuba reported that CBP refused to listen when she recounted having been kidnapped with her husband in Nuevo Laredo and held with other migrants who were being beaten by cartel members. After being forced to wait on the metering wait list at the Laredo port of entry, a CBP officer told the woman in response to her fear of Mexico: “I don’t want to hear it. You can tell it to the judge at your hearing.”	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	sexual assault	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	The children and mother of a Colombian asylum seeker who did not appear at the Laredo MPP court with her for their hearing in December were ordered removed in absentia. The woman explained that she could not afford to bring her family from Guadalajara because she had to hire an attorney to file charges against a man who had sexually abused her daughter and that she could not even afford to see a doctor for cancer treatment.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	Two Venezuelan men – who were kidnapped as they attempted to approach the Laredo port of entry to seek asylum, beaten, ransomed, forced across the border by their abductors, and again threatened with kidnapping by the same men on the bridge just after DHS returned them to Nuevo Laredo – are so afraid for their lives that they have been forced to abandon their U.S. asylum claims. According to immigration attorney David Robledo who unsuccessfully requested that DHS provide the men a remote MPP fear screening, the men have relocated to another city in the interior of Mexico but are too afraid to return to the border region to attend MPP court.	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	In November, a Honduran woman with a two-year-old boy, who DHS returned to Nuevo Laredo under MPP, told an immigration judge during a hearing monitored by a Human Rights First researcher that she had been kidnapped with her baby, and said, “If I am to be deported, I would like to be deported to my own country, not Mexico.”	https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf
12/5/2019	sexual assault	1	7 year old girl sexually assaulted in Matamoros; failed asylum officer MPP fear interview	https://www.facebook.com/jodi.godwin.5
12/10/2019	kidnapping	2	I dealt with one case where a mom from El Salvador and her 4-year-old son were kidnapped within an hour of being sent back to Mexico under MPP. They were taken for eight days before her brother in the U.S. paid the kidnappers \$7,000. The lady was terrified. She was sleep-deprived, food-deprived and water-deprived. She said that the people who had kidnapped her were extremely violent and hit her kid. They were drinking alcohol and raping people at a stash house where several other people were being held.	https://www.huffpost.com/entry/remain-in-mexico-policy-immigrant-kids_n_5deeb143e4b00563b8560c69

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/11/2019	kidnapping	4	Just finished talking to a family with small children who were kidnapped by armed men almost immediately after being placed in the #MPP program and sent by @CBP to Nuevo Laredo. They have given up on their asylum claim in the US. . . . They were then sent to one of the most dangerous cities along the border, where asylum seekers are routinely targeted for kidnapping. Almost immediately, the family was forced into a truck and taken to a house where they were held against their will by armed men for weeks.	https://twitter.com/ArianaMSawyer/status/1204852720605286400
12/12/2019	murder	1	A 35-year-old man from El Salvador returned to Mexico under a controversial Trump administration program was brutally killed in Tijuana while waiting for an outcome to his U.S. asylum case, according to his family’s attorney.	https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2019-12-12/attorney-central-american-in-mpp-program-murdered-in-tijuana
12/20/2019	kidnapping	2	In testimony before a House panel last month, Erin Thorn Vela, a staff attorney at the Texas Civil Rights Project who works with migrants in Matamoros, Mexico, recalled the kidnapping of a mother and her child. "One mother and her small child were kidnapped less than one hour after the US government forcibly returned them to Matamoros," Thorn Vela told lawmakers. "They were tortured for 8 days."	https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/20/politics/remain-in-mexico-court-attendance/index.html
12/20/2019	kidnapping	2	In a two-room shack in Mexico, Delmary Arias is hoping for healing and dreaming of a safer future. She and her 9-year-old daughter, Allison, are trying to seek asylum in the United States, but the process has been deeply traumatic. She and her daughter were kidnapped while running errands in Tijuana.	https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/asylum-seekers-forced-to-remain-in-mexico-face-daily-threat-of-violence
12/20/2019	kidnapping	1	A Cuban woman told of how armed men had forced her into a car in broad daylight at the start of a terrifying four-day abduction during which she was deprived of food and water.	https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/dec/20/immigration-remain-in-mexico-policy-border-migrants
12/20/2019	kidnapping, threats	4	A Salvadoran woman and her three children faced the interview alone last week even after their attorney Robyn Barnard, of Human Rights First, pushed to be allowed to appear by telephone. Barnard made requests to Scott Simpson, the immigration judge hearing the woman’s asylum case, as well as to several federal agencies. The asylum-seeking woman asked not to be identified because she believes that she is still in danger. The family has already been kidnapped once in Mexico and continues to face threats in Tijuana.	https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/immigration/story/2019-12-20/judge-weighs-class-action-suit-as-remain-in-mexico-migrants-denied-access-to-lawyers-during-fear-interviews
12/20/2019	kidnapping	3	The girl had been kidnapped along with a couple family members while staying in the city. Another relative, located in Philadelphia, had paid a ransom to free them.... Local gangs now know that the family will pay a ransom, Sammon said. And the girl has a developmental delay that makes her easily recognizable – a prime target. Indeed, she survived a second kidnapping attempt, again as they family sought shelter in the city.	https://www.phillyvoice.com/immigration-mexico-temple-university-doctors-matamoros-refugee-camp-medical-treatment/

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/20/2019	kidnapping, rape	2	Yaíma y su esposo Maykel ... en el trayecto del aeropuerto al terminal de autobuses, un grupo de hombres armados asaltó su taxi y los secuestró. “Estuvimos encerrados cuatro días en que me golpearon, me violaron no sé cuántas veces... al segundo día ya estaba resignada, pensé que me iban a matar”, cuenta. Así aplicaron su castigo los verdugos porque la cuñada de Yaíma, residente en Miami, no disponía de los dos mil dólares que exigían por la liberación de ambos. Los soltaron moribundos en una carretera baldía donde recibieron el auxilio de una vecina para continuar su travesía.	https://www.sinembargo.mx/20-12-2019/3699797
12/21/2019	sexual assault	2	A Honduran woman who has been at the camp for several months said a man posing as an asylum-seeker within the camp has molested two small girls. “We can’t complain. It’s a mafia and they will come and beat us,” she said.	https://www.dallasnews.com/news/immigration/2019/12/21/in-mexico-kidnappings-and-misery-for-asylum-seekers-waiting-in-camps-for-a-shot-at-life-in-the-us/
12/21/2019	kidnapping, torture	2	A father was tortured in front of his 3-year-old son until his wife in New Jersey paid \$2,000 to his captors.	https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/21/us/border-migrants-kidnapping-mexico.html
12/28/2019	kidnapping	2	María Mazariegos, an Honduran housekeeper, said she was kidnapped along with her 12-year-old daughter Alexandra from the bus station in Nuevo Laredo in September. Gang members held her in a windowless cinder-block room that bore signs of torture for three days with one meal of tortillas and beans. She was released after her family members in the U.S. convinced her captors that they didn’t have the money to pay a ransom. Then, two weeks later, while she was returning from a court appointment in the U.S., a shelter staff member confirmed, another group tried to kidnap her. An escort from the shelter was able to talk the kidnapers out of it.	https://www.wsj.com/articles/violence-plagues-migrants-under-u-s-remain-in-mexico-program-11577529000
1/3/2020	attempted kidnapping	2	When Mr. Morales was instructed to walk over the bridge from Laredo, Texas to Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, with his eight-year-old son, he pleaded with U.S. officials to do anything except send them to Mexico. But instead of interviewing him about this abject and obvious fear, officials threatened to jail him and permanently separate him from his son. In Mexico, Mr. Morales and H.E.M.C. escaped a kidnapping attempt by armed men with ski masks. For days, they slept on the floor of a Mexican immigration building. At times they were hungry because it was too dangerous to go outside, even to buy food.	https://www.aclum.org/sites/default/files/field_documents/1_complaint.pdf
1/6/2020	kidnapping	2	In late November, a Central American asylum seeker and her 4-year-old son were kidnapped just outside of the INM building in the Matamoros port of entry after being returned there by DHS following an MPP hearing. The family was held for more than a week and both the child and his mother were beaten by the kidnappers.	HRF telephonic interview with attorney Jodi Goodwin.
1/6/2020	kidnapping	1	Client was kidnapped and held for two months after DHS returned him to Mexico under MPP. As a result he missed his hearing.	HRF telephonic interview with attorney Jodi Goodwin.

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
1/6/2020	rape	1	A Cuban asylum seeker in her 20s was raped after being returned to Matamoros by DHS under MPP and did not pass an MPP fear screening interview despite describing the assault. The woman told her attorney, Norma Gonzalez Sepulvada, who was not allowed by DHS to attend the interview, that the asylum officer mainly asked her yes/no questions and told her that if she was afraid to remain near Matamoros she should move elsewhere in Mexico. Fearing for her safety after again being returned to Mexico, the woman moved into the interior of the country but missed her merits hearing because she could not afford transportation back to the border for court. Her attorney asked in immigration court in November that the woman be allowed to testify by telephone, but the immigration judge denied the request and found the woman had abandoned her asylum claim.	HRF telephonic interview with attorney Norma Gonzalez Sepulvada.
1/7/2010	kidnapping	1	A Honduran asylum seeker returned to Matamoros by DHS was kidnapped and held for over 100 days in captivity. After his release the man relocated to Ciudad Victoria, hundreds of miles from the border but fears returning for his next MPP hearing in Brownsville in February.	HRF telephonic interview with immigration attorney in Harlingen, TX.
1/7/2020	attempted rape	1	In late December, a Honduran asylum seeker returned to Matamoros by DHS was nearly raped at knifepoint after she boarded the wrong bus and ended up in a remote area.	HRF telephonic interview with immigration attorney in Harlingen, TX.
1/7/2020	kidnapping	1	Immigration lawyers in Harlingen reported that a man who had missed an MPP hearing because he had been kidnapped was ordered deported by an immigration judge in Brownsville	HRF telephonic interview with immigration attorney in Harlingen, TX.
1/9/2020	kidnapping	1	In late December, a young gay, HIV+ asylum seeker from Honduras was kidnapped immediately after DHS returned him to Nuevo Laredo following the rescheduling of his asylum merits hearing by an immigration judge presiding over cases at the Laredo MPP tent courts. The judge cancelled the hearing because immigration court staff failed to provide him the asylum legal brief and supporting evidence the young man's attorneys had timely filed with the court.	HRF telephonic interview with immigration attorney in Laredo, TX.
1/9/2020	attempted kidnapping	2	As result of nearly being kidnapped immediately after DHS returned a Venezuelan man and his 11-year-old daughter to Nuevo Laredo, the family has abandoned their asylum claim because they are too afraid to return to Nuevo Laredo to attend court. The family was just outside the Mexican migration office in Nuevo Laredo when men in a car ordered them to get into the vehicle, but they managed to escape.	HRF telephonic interview with immigration attorney in Laredo, TX.
1/9/2020	kidnapping, rape	2	A woman who was repeatedly raped in front of her daughter while they were being held by kidnappers in Mexico was nonetheless returned to Mexico under MPP by DHS.	HRF telephonic interview with immigration attorney in Laredo, TX.
1/10/2019	kidnapping	1	Client kidnapped in Mexico after being returned to Ciudad Juarez by DHS. She recrossed the border into the United States because she feared remaining in Mexico.	Electronic communication from immigration attorney in Texas.

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
1/12/2020	kidnapping, assault	2	Two Cuban men who were returned to Mexico under MPP by DHS to Matamoros were stopped by Mexican federal police, asked for their papers, which were confiscated, and then handed them over to kidnappers. After beating them for five days, depriving them of food, and threatening to find them again, the men were released after their US -based relatives paid a ransom. The men failed their non-refoument interviews with USCIS asylum officers and were returned to Mexico.	Email with immigration attorney working in Brownsville, TX.
1/13/2020	sexual assault, kidnapping, robbery, extortion	88	In interviews with asylum seekers returned under MPP to the state of Tamaulipas conducted between November 2019 and January 2020, researchers from Human Rights Watch documented cases of two individuals who suffered sexual assaults, 65 kidnappings and 14 attempted kidnappings (including 34 children subjected to completed or attempted kidnappings), four returned individuals extorted by the police, and three robberies. These attacks occurred in Nuevo Laredo, Reynosa, and Matamoros.	Email from Ariana Sawyer, Human Rights Watch researcher, to HRF.
1/14/2020	kidnapping	4	“La verdad ha sido bastante difícil, nunca nos imaginamos arriesgar nuestros niños, nues-tras propias vidas porque ha si-do bastante duro, inclusive don-de estamos (Matamoros), expe-rimentamos cosas muy difíciles, es un lugar donde no hay segu-ridad, los niños sufren, uno no duerme pensando muchas co-sas, no hay seguridad”, decla-ró Antonio, un padre de familia originario de Tegucigalpa quien viajó con su esposa e hijos en ju-lío del año pasado. Este capitalino y su familia fueron víctimas de secuestro y lo amenazaron que si regresaba a Nuevo Laredo lo iban a matar, sin embargo, él tiene que volver a dicha frontera porque ahí tie-nen la cita con la corte estadou-nidense.	http://www.elpais.hn/2020/01/14/nos-enganaron-estados-unidos-no-deja-pasar-familias-con-ninos-aseguran-migrantes/
1/16/2020	kidnapping	1	In early January, a Cuban asylum seeker who had been returned by DHS to Matamoros was kindapped in Reynosa while taking a taxi to a nearby grocery store. The man was held for several days and severely beaten. His family paid a ransom but the man was told by the kidnappers that he had to pay a monthly fee to remain in Mexico. After he was released the man asked for help from CBP officers but was turned away and told to return to his country. The man, who failed his MPP screening interview and was returned again to Matamoros, was not represented by his attorney because she was unable to get a notice of appearance of attorney form signed because she is afraid to travel to Mexico. The man is currently sleeping in the Matamoros tent encampment at night and paying the entrance fee to stand on the Mexican side of the international bridge during the day in hopes that his kidnappers will not be able to reach him there. His final asylum hearing is not until late February.	HRF telephonic interview with attorney Ayra Toro.
1/21/2020	kidnapping	1	A 28-year-old Honduran asylum seeker reported during an MPP hearing in Brownsville, Texas that he had been kidnapped in Matamoros in late 2019. He told the judge hearing his case that when he called the emergency service in Mexico for police assitance and medical attention, no emergency services came to his location.	HRF observation of MPP immigration court hearing in Brownsville, Texas MPP tent court.
1/21/2020	kidnapping attempt	1	A Cuban seven-year-old girl was the victim of an attempted kidnapping.	HRF observation of MPP immigration court hearing in Laredo, Texas MPP tent court.

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
1/21/2020	assault, kidnapping, robbery	35	Between November 2019 and January 2020, asylum seekers returned to Mexico under MPP through the Laredo port of entry reported: 15 kidnappings and 13 attempted kidnappings (including 10 children subjected to completed or attempted kidnappings), 4 robberies, 2 assaults, and 1 attempted robbery. Many of these attacks occurred in Nuevo Laredo and Monterrey.	Records shared with HRF by immigration attorneys assisting clients at the Laredo, Texas MPP tent court.
1/22/2020	kidnapping	1	Client was kidnapped and released by the gang in the United States. He missed his MPP hearing because he was kidnapped and was ordered deported in absentia.	Posting in online group for MPP immigration attorneys.
1/23/2020	kidnapping	1	At the Laredo tent court, an unrepresented Honduran asylum seeker struggled to submit an asylum application in English, a language he does not speak. Cut off from legal representation, he used google translate to attempt to complete his application. The asylum application was rejected and the judge set another master calendar hearing for him to submit a new one. The man begged to be allowed to mail the application instead, explaining that he was terrified of traveling from Monterrey to notoriously dangerous Nuevo Laredo. He said he had been kidnapped already and threatened by his kidnappers that they never wanted to see him again. He was nonetheless required to return for another master calendar hearing, a trip that will once again put the man’s life in danger.	HRF observation of MPP immigration court hearing in Laredo, Texas MPP tent court.
1/23/2020	kidnapping	2	DHS returned two Venezuelan sisters to Mexico under MPP to Nuevo Laredo even though they had been kidnapped by Mexican officials, forced to perform oral sex, and burned. The sisters managed to request MPP fear screening interviews at the Laredo tent court but they inexplicably did not pass these interviews and were subsequently returned by DHS to Mexico.	HRF telephonic interview with attorney Rolando Vazquez
1/29/2020	kidnapping	2	My client described being kidnapped for 3 months in southern MX with her 5-year old son, she described being held in a house, unable to leave b/c her captors were demanding \$6,000. She described how her son lived in fear in captivity, and they often threatened not to feed him. She managed to escape after 3 months and made it to TJ with her son. There she described being followed & confronted by a man who attempted to grab her by her hands and threatened to take her child. She described being seen leaving a shelter and then being confronted by this man.	https://twitter.com/ImmDef/status/1222709612123525120
1/29/2020	kidnapping, rape, robbery, sexual assault	21	During legal clinics conducted by HRF in Mexicali and Tijuana with asylum seekers placed by DHS in MPP and returned to Mexico, attorneys identified 21 individuals who were subjected to robbery, rape, sexual assaults, and kidnapping (including 6 children who were kidnapped with their parents).	Interviews conducted by HRF attorneys during pro se clinics in Mexicali and Tijuana, Mexico
1/29/2020	attempted rape	1	A father described that at a shelter where he and his daughter were staying, a man attempted to rape his daughter while they were sleeping. The man had climbed into the area where they were sleeping and told the father that he wanted to have intercourse with his minor daughter.	https://www.afsc.org/sites/default/files/documents/MPP_Final_Jan2020-300hi.pdf
1/29/2020	armed robbery	5	A family (two adults and three children) described being held at gunpoint in Tijuana while staying with a family friend. They were targeted for being Central American. The father explained to the judge that he did file a police report and took proof to the PedWest port of entry with the goal of demonstrating his fear of being in Mexico to US immigration officials, but he was turned away.	https://www.afsc.org/sites/default/files/documents/MPP_Final_Jan2020-300hi.pdf

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
1/30/2020	rape, kidnapping	2	Dolores is a mother of two. She fled Honduras with her husband and children. Upon their arrival in Chiapas, the family was assaulted by members of a cartel who threatened to kill them. The family was forced to split up and Dolores and her daughter, Sara, made it to the border alone. They were kidnapped in Ciudad Juárez. Over five days, Dolores was raped multiple times in front of her daughter. They escaped from their captors and ran towards the border to seek protection. Dolores recounted what had happened to her to a CBP officer. He told her that she should not be sent to Mexico. The following day, as Dolores was being coerced into signing documents she did not understand, she began vomiting and passed out. She was awoken the next day at 4am and sent back to Juárez with Sara. One morning Dolores woke up in the shelter to find Sara in the bunk bed above her, naked and in shock from having been sexually assaulted. Dolores and Sara now feel afraid of everything. Sara screams at night and has become withdrawn and never leaves her mother’s side under any circumstance.	https://7dac4932-ebde-4b1a-96f5-fac5c6bec362.filesusr.com/ugd/e07ba9_42dc2e4ae15b49e5a833d297491fae6d.pdf
1/30/2020	kidnapping	2	Elia’s experience is particularly reflective of these patterns of violence and impunity. Elia is a Nicaraguan migrant in MPP fleeing political persecution in her native country. She arrived to Ciudad Juarez with her son in the summer of 2019 and had been staying in a shelter. However, on August 12, 2019, after her first court appearance, she was told that she could no longer stay at the shelter for reasons unclear to her. That same day, her and her son were kidnapped while roaming the streets looking for another migrant shelter. A car pulled over and two men in dark sunglasses and guns came over and forced Elia and her son into the car. They took her to a house where she was beaten and raped “any way that they wanted.” They were kidnapped for four days before someone dumped them on the side of a road. Following her release, Elia stopped a police officer and tried to report the incident. However, the police officer proceeded to ask her whether she was a migrant and whether she had documentation. He then told her that someone would help them. However, no one ever did. As far as Elia knows, no investigation or prosecution had been conducted against her perpetrators.	https://7dac4932-ebde-4b1a-96f5-fac5c6bec362.filesusr.com/ugd/e07ba9_b0e2d1ff662c41308737555d7d245572.pdf
2/6/2020	rape	1	DHS returned a Cuban woman, who had been raped by Mexican guards in Tapachula, to Ciudad Juarez. Even after the woman managed to request an MPP fear-screening interview, DHS returned her to Mexico again. The officer conducting the interview told that she would be fine since she was now in Juarez	HRF telephonic interview with attorney offering pro bono assistance in Juarez
2/6/2020	armed break-in	3	A Cuban mother, father, and young child, who presented at the Reynosa port of entry and were returned by DHS and scheduled for hearings in Brownsville, were staying in Reynosa when the place they were staying was broken into around November or December and they were threatened with a gun. They returned to the Reynosa/Hidalgo bridge the night of the attack and were refused entry. They then had non-refoulement interviews after their hearings but were nonetheless sent back to Mexico.	HRF telephonic interview with attorney Kenna Giffen

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
2/7/2020	sexual assault	1	A Honduran asylum seeker, who was returned by DHS to Matamoros, was repeatedly sexually harrassed and assaulted in the camp in Matamoros. A man entered her tent for months and forcibly hugged her.	HRF telephonic interview with attorney Natalie Cadwalader
2/7/2020	robbery	1	A Venezuelan asylum seeker, who was returned by DHS through the Laredo port of entry, was robbed in Nuevo Laredo immediately after he was returned following his hearing.	HRF telephonic interview with attorney Scott David Weaver
2/7/2020	rape	1	"We are representing a Cuban political dissident who escaped a Cuban officer who attempted to rape her in prison. But she wasn't lucky the second time when she was raped by two Mexican cops when she was placed into MPP. What does America do with rape victims? They detain them."	https://twitter.com/lindacorchado/status/122591881422482272?s=21
2/9/2020	rape	2	Another two families from Venezuela who sought asylum in Nogales port of entry, were sent back to Ciudad Juárez, more than 300 miles from Nogales, with a court date months away. Within hours of arriving at Juárez, the women were assaulted and raped. They returned, scarred and terrified, to Nogales, where they believed they were slightly less likely to face further attacks.	https://www.azcentral.com/story/opinion/op-ed/2020/02/09/remain-mexico-puts-asylum-seekers-danger/464851200/
2/11/2020	attempted kidnapping	3	A family returned by DHS to Nuevo Laredo "is not going to attend their hearing today because of paralyzing fear after almost being kidnapped on way back from last hearing. Were stopped and had their paperwork checked and are tired of risking their lives and those if their children to go to an asylum hearing to prove their lives are worth saving to a cruel, deaf system."	Posting in online group for MPP immigration attorneys.
2/11/2020	kidnapping, attempted kidnapping	56	In September 2019, 43.9% of our patients sent to Mexico under the MPP program in Nuevo Laredo (18 of 41) had recently been kidnapped and an additional 12.2% (5 of 41) had been the victim of an attempted kidnapping. In October, the percentage of kidnappings among those received under the MPP program increased to 75% (33 of the 44 new patients). According to the testimonies of these people, kidnappings could last several weeks, and they were occasionally forced to work for their captors.	https://www.doctorswithoutborder.org/what-we-do/news-stories/news/no-way-out-msf-report-shows-damaging-health-impacts-us-mexico
2/12/2020	kidnapping, sexual assault, armed robbery	4	Asylum seekers interviewed said they or their children had been violently attacked, robbed at knifepoint, or extorted in Ciudad Juárez, Matamoros, Mexicali, Nuevo Laredo, and Tijuana while transiting through these cities before they sought asylum, or after US officials sent them to those cities. Three families said they had been abducted for ransom, in Nuevo Laredo; one family for eight days. Four families said their children had been sexually assaulted after US officials sent them to Mexico. Two women said they were raped after being sent to Mexico, including one who was abducted and raped the day US officials sent her to Mexico. Two families said they were abducted and held for ransom almost immediately after arriving. Another woman described being robbed by armed men as she crossed into Mexico from the United States.	https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/02/12/us-remain-mexico-program-harming-children
2/12/2020	attempted kidnapping	2	A Guatemalan father and child, who were returned by DHS to Nuevo Laredo, were victims of an attempted kidnapping in a store in Nuevo Laredo after they had been placed in MPP They asked the clerk and others to help them but no one came to their rescue.	Records shared with HRF by attorney Wendoli Rodriguez

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2/12/2020	kidnapping	1	A Venezuelan man fleeing persecution based on political opinion, who was returned by DHS to Nuevo Laredo, was kidnapped in Nuevo Laredo after being placed in MPP. He was kidnapped throughout the Christmas and New Year's holidays and was released in early January.	Records shared with HRF by attorney Wendoli Rodriguez
2/14/2020	assault, torture	1	A Guatemalan woman, who was returned by DHS to Ciudad Juarez, had been the victim of a chemical acid attack in Juarez in August 2019 prior to being placed in MPP. She entered without inspection in November and DHS sent her back despite awareness of her injuries. She had medical documentation and was nonetheless returned to Mexico multiple times.	Records shared with HRF by attorney Nicolas Palazzo
2/14/2020	assault, electrocution	1	A Cuban man, who was returned by DHS to Ciudad Juarez under MPP, was electrocuted by Mexican police in Juarez in November 2019 after having been placed into MPP.	Records shared with HRF by attorney Nicolas Palazzo
2/14/2020	assault	1	A Venezuelan LGBT asylum seeker, who was returned by DHS to Ciudad Juarez, was whipped in Juarez with a belt in December 2019 after he had been placed in MPP.	Records shared with HRF by attorney Nicolas Palazzo
2/14/2020	trafficking	2	A Cuban couple, returned by DHS to Ciudad Juarez, were trafficked in Chiapas in May 2019 prior to being placed in MPP. When they were in Juarez, their family members were sent messages saying they had to pay or the couple would be killed. The couple did not pass the MPP fear screening interview.	Records shared with HRF by attorney Nicolas Palazzo
2/14/2020	assault	4	A Nicaraguan woman and her three children, who were returned by DHS to Ciudad Juarez, had been detained by the police in Chiapas prior to being placed in MPP. The police threw tear gas into their jail cell. The family did not pass the MPP fear screening interview.	Records shared with HRF by attorney Nicolas Palazzo
2/14/2020	kidnapping attempt	5	A Venezuelan married couple and their two children, along with a Venezuelan 19-year-old girl who was traveling with them (all of whom are in Mexico under the MPP program) were stopped in a taxi by kidnappers. They had paid for extra protection so the taxi driver prevented them from taking the asylum seekers. They heard the kidnappers say to the taxi driver: "You owe me a family."	HRF telephonic interview with attorney Rolando Vazquez
2/14/2020	kidnapping	2	A Venezuelan man and his 2.5-year-old daughter, who were returned through the Laredo port of entry by DHS, were kidnapped immediately after their MPP immigration court hearing in Laredo, when they were traveling on a bus. The kidnappers went through the man's phone and saw a US number, which they used to extort his wife.	HRF telephonic interview with attorney Rolando Vazquez
2/18/2020	kidnapping	1	Moy Eduardo fled his home in El Salvador after members of the MS-13 gang abducted and killed his brother after the family failed to pay sufficient extortion money. He eventually arrived at Nuevo Laredo bus station, only to be forced into a car and taken to a farm some distance from town. There, he was pistol-whipped, while the kidnappers called his cousin in Atlanta and demanded an \$8,000 ransom. "They said if I didn't pay, they'd hand me over to 'other people in our organisation'," he recalled. Four days later, his desperate relative wired money, and Moy Eduardo was released. He told the story to US authorities when applying for asylum, "but they didn't believe me and sent me back". Moy Eduardo has a court date in April, but is desperate to leave Nuevo Laredo. "I cannot stay here – they said if they saw me again, they'd kill me".	https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/feb/18/mexico-kidnappers-migrants-trump-immigration

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2/18/2020	kidnapping	2	<p>Inside the safe house, Yaqueline and her daughter Lisbeth, described how she was given a code by their coyote after fleeing gang violence in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. She was told that in Nuevo Laredo, the word “rana” – frog – would ensure safe passage. But when three thugs approached them outside the government migrant registration offices, they were told the word meant they were property of the enemy; mother and child were bundled into an SUV. Relatives north of the border were again contacted. After five days, they were still unable to find the ransom money, and Yaqueline and Lisbeth were released</p>	<p>https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/feb/18/mexico-kidnappers-migrants-trump-immigration</p>
2/18/2020	kidnapping	1	<p>A Cuban asylum seeker, who was returned by DHS through the El Paso port of entry, was kidnapped after she was returned to Mexico. She passed an MPP fear-screening interview but is now detained in Louisiana.</p>	<p>HRF telephonic interview with attorney Zaida Kovacsik</p>
2/18/2020	kidnapping	1	<p>A Cuban asylum seeker, who was returned by DHS to Matamoros, was kidnapped in September in Reynosa after he had been returned under MPP.</p>	<p>HRF telephonic interview with attorney Zaida Kovacsik</p>
2/19/2020	kidnapping	2	<p>"A young child we serve was kidnapped with his father after being sent back to Mexico," she said, citing the child and his mother. "After being turned away from the port of entry, they took a taxi to a migrant shelter. The taxi was stopped en route, father and son were abruptly pulled out and forcibly taken to a house where others were being held ..." Reed said the family couldn't gather the full ransom the abductors demanded, so the kidnapers only released the child. "Not knowing where to go, he returned to the port of entry and was taken into CBP custody as an unaccompanied minor," Reed said.</p>	<p>https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2020/02/20/immigrant-children-border-michigan-samaritas-bethany/4794995002/</p>
2/21/2020	kidnapping, assault, robbery	22	<p>During legal clinics conducted by HRF in Monterrey with asylum seekers placed by DHS in MPP and returned to Nuevo Laredo and Matamoros, attorneys identified 22 individuals who were subjected to robbery, rape, kidnapping and death threats (including 6 children who, with their parents, were subject to kidnappings or attempted kidnappings).</p>	<p>Interviews conducted by HRF attorneys during pro se clinics in Monterrey, Mexico</p>
2/21/2020	robbery, assault	1	<p>A Cuban asylum seeker, who was returned by DHS to Ciudad Juarez, was robbed and assaulted three times in Juarez. The men told him: "We don't want Cubans in Juarez."</p>	<p>HRF telephonic interview with asylum seeker in MPP</p>
2/25/2020	attempted kidnapping	15	<p>Armed cartel members in Nuevo Laredo followed and threatened a van with Cuban, Honduran and Venezuelan asylum seekers who had just been returned through the port of entry following a hearing in early February 2020. Suspected cartel scouts were inside the Nuevo Laredo INM building taking photos of the returned asylum seekers before other cartel members intercepted the van which was driven by a pastor from Piedras Negras and was returning the asylum seekers there.</p>	<p>HRF telephonic interview with asylum seeker in MPP</p>
2/25/2020	kidnapping	1	<p>Salvadoran asylum seeker returned by DHS through the Laredo port of entry said that sometime after her initial MPP court hearing, her 17-year-old son was kidnapped in Mexico and remains missing. The immigration judge ordered the boy removed in absentia.</p>	<p>https://twitter.com/KennjiKizuka/status/1232374236225949697</p>

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
2/26/2020	kidnapping, rape, assault	3	Honduran asylum seeker and her two daughters (10 and 16), who DHS returned to Mexico through Nuevo Laredo, did not pass their MPP fear screening interview even though the family was abducted immediately after they were placed in MPP and returned by DHS to Nuevo Laredo; the mother and older daughter were raped. After the failed MPP screening interview, the woman's older daughter was physically assaulted in Monterrey where the family had relocated in attempt to find a safer place to wait for their continued MPP hearings. They did not pass a second MPP fear screening in late February at the Laredo port of entry.	HRF interview with attorney representing clients at Laredo MPP tent court
2/27/2020	kidnapping	2	Client and her 11-year-old daughter in MPP have been missing for over one week without contact with their family or attorney after being returned to Mexico by DHS following a hearing. They went missing while traveling from Nuevo Laredo to Monterrey.	HRF email communication with family's immigration attorney Christina Brown
Total victims of attacks		1001		