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Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
9/17/19	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.	<a href="https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/09/17/world/social-issues-world/texas-tent-courtrooms-open-process-migrants-waiting-mexico/#.XYDkqChKiUk">https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/09/17/world/social-issues-world/texas-tent-courtrooms-open-process-migrants-waiting-mexico/#.XYDkqChKiUk</a>
9/17/19	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.	<a href="https://twitter.com/charanya_k/status/1174080750943166466">https://twitter.com/charanya_k/status/1174080750943166466</a>
9/17/19	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.	<a href="https://twitter.com/charanya_k/status/1174080751878516736">https://twitter.com/charanya_k/status/1174080751878516736</a>
9/17/19	kidnapping	2	Young Honduran mom was kidnapped after returning to Nuevo Laredo. The kidnapers 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
9/17/19	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."	<a href="https://twitter.com/charanya_k/status/1174080756882268160">https://twitter.com/charanya_k/status/1174080756882268160</a>
9/18/19	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	<a href="https://twitter.com/mollyhf/status/1174480795525877760?s=12">https://twitter.com/mollyhf/status/1174480795525877760?s=12</a>
9/18/19	robbery	1	Honduran client in Monterrey was robbed, needs to travel to Juarez for hearing	<a href="#">MPP FB group post</a>
9/19/19	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.	<a href="https://twitter.com/vwesq/status/1174837816783712262">https://twitter.com/vwesq/status/1174837816783712262</a>
9/20/19	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.	<a href="https://twitter.com/bova_gus?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor">https://twitter.com/bova_gus?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor</a>

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9/21/19	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.	<a href="https://diario.mx/usa/actualidad/nos-mandaron-a-la-boca-del-lobo-a-sufrir-secuestros-y-extorsiones-inmigrantes-20190921-1565325.html">https://diario.mx/usa/actualidad/nos-mandaron-a-la-boca-del-lobo-a-sufrir-secuestros-y-extorsiones-inmigrantes-20190921-1565325.html</a>
9/21/19	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.	<a href="https://diario.mx/usa/actualidad/nos-mandaron-a-la-boca-del-lobo-a-sufrir-secuestros-y-extorsiones-inmigrantes-20190921-1565325.html">https://diario.mx/usa/actualidad/nos-mandaron-a-la-boca-del-lobo-a-sufrir-secuestros-y-extorsiones-inmigrantes-20190921-1565325.html</a>
9/24/19	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.	<a href="https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/gyzdp9/trumps-remain-in-mexico-policy-is-causing-asylum-seekers-to-miss-court-dates-and-get-deported">https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/gyzdp9/trumps-remain-in-mexico-policy-is-causing-asylum-seekers-to-miss-court-dates-and-get-deported</a>
9/26/19	assault, robbery	2	My 23-year-old clients (brother and sister from Cuba) were beaten and robbed yesterday in Matamoros	<a href="https://twitter.com/Kou_Sua/status/1177206159033405441">https://twitter.com/Kou_Sua/status/1177206159033405441</a>

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9/26/19	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	<a href="https://www.aclutx.org/sites/default/files/aclu_oig_complaint_pre_g_mpp.pdf">https://www.aclutx.org/sites/default/files/aclu_oig_complaint_pre_g_mpp.pdf</a>
9/26/19	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.	<a href="https://www.aclutx.org/sites/default/files/aclu_oig_complaint_pre_g_mpp.pdf">https://www.aclutx.org/sites/default/files/aclu_oig_complaint_pre_g_mpp.pdf</a>
9/26/19	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.	<a href="https://www.aclutx.org/sites/default/files/aclu_oig_complaint_pre_g_mpp.pdf">https://www.aclutx.org/sites/default/files/aclu_oig_complaint_pre_g_mpp.pdf</a>
9/26/19	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.	<a href="https://www.aclutx.org/sites/default/files/aclu_oig_complaint_pre_g_mpp.pdf">https://www.aclutx.org/sites/default/files/aclu_oig_complaint_pre_g_mpp.pdf</a>

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9/29/19	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 kidnapers \$15,000 to free them.	<a href="https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/kidnapped-and-attacked-in-mexico-migrants-are-giving-up-their-asylum-claims/ar-AA10XAw">https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/kidnapped-and-attacked-in-mexico-migrants-are-giving-up-their-asylum-claims/ar-AA10XAw</a>
9/29/19	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.”	<a href="https://www.expressnews.com/news/local/article/Gangs-profit-from-Trump-s-Remain-in-14474477.php">https://www.expressnews.com/news/local/article/Gangs-profit-from-Trump-s-Remain-in-14474477.php</a>
9/29/19	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 kidnapers, 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.	<a href="https://www.expressnews.com/news/local/article/Gangs-profit-from-Trump-s-Remain-in-14474477.php">https://www.expressnews.com/news/local/article/Gangs-profit-from-Trump-s-Remain-in-14474477.php</a>

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9/30/19	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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Cheaper to die at home, he calculated, than to die in Mexico.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.texasobserver.org/attacked-in-mexico-returned-to-mexico-trump-policy-ignores-danger-to-asylum-seekers/">https://www.texasobserver.org/attacked-in-mexico-returned-to-mexico-trump-policy-ignores-danger-to-asylum-seekers/</a></p>

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9/30/19	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><a href="https://www.texasobserver.org/attacked-in-mexico-returned-to-mexico-trump-policy-ignores-danger-to-asylum-seekers/">https://www.texasobserver.org/attacked-in-mexico-returned-to-mexico-trump-policy-ignores-danger-to-asylum-seekers/</a></p>
9/30/19	kidnapping	2	<p>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.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.texasobserver.org/attacked-in-mexico-returned-to-mexico-trump-policy-ignores-danger-to-asylum-seekers/">https://www.texasobserver.org/attacked-in-mexico-returned-to-mexico-trump-policy-ignores-danger-to-asylum-seekers/</a></p>
9/30/19	kidnapping	2	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p><a href="https://pulitzercenter.org/reporting/borderline-despair-how-us-warehousing-asylum-seekers">https://pulitzercenter.org/reporting/borderline-despair-how-us-warehousing-asylum-seekers</a></p>
10/1/19		55	<p>During its most recent research, Human Rights First researchers identified an additional 54 unreported cases of individuals returned under MPP who were harmed in Mexico.</p>	

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10/1/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>
10/1/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>
10/1/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>
10/1/19	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 kidnappers 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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>
10/1/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>
10/1/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>

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10/1/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>
10/1/19	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 kidnappers 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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>
10/1/19	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	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>
10/1/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>
10/1/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>
10/1/19	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.”	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>
10/1/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>



Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
10/1/19	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.”	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>
10/1/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>
10/1/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>
10/1/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>
10/1/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/hrfordersfromabove.pdf</a>

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
10/1/19	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.”</p> <p>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><a href="https://www.newyorker.com/news/dispatch/how-the-us-asylum-system-is-keeping-migrants-at-risk-in-mexico">https://www.newyorker.com/news/dispatch/how-the-us-asylum-system-is-keeping-migrants-at-risk-in-mexico</a></p>
10/1/19	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><a href="https://www.newyorker.com/news/dispatch/how-the-us-asylum-system-is-keeping-migrants-at-risk-in-mexico">https://www.newyorker.com/news/dispatch/how-the-us-asylum-system-is-keeping-migrants-at-risk-in-mexico</a></p>

Publicly reported cases of violent attacks on individuals returned to Mexico under the “Migrant Protection Protocols”, as compiled by Human Rights First

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
10/1/19	rape, kidnapping, assault	previously counted in tally	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.	<a href="https://www.newyorker.com/news/dispatch/how-the-us-asylum-system-is-keeping-migrants-at-risk-in-mexico">https://www.newyorker.com/news/dispatch/how-the-us-asylum-system-is-keeping-migrants-at-risk-in-mexico</a>
10/1/19	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.	<a href="https://twitter.com/mariaaleote/status/1179170242058174465">https://twitter.com/mariaaleote/status/1179170242058174465</a>
10/7/19	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)	<a href="https://twitter.com/_danalvarenga/status/1181240055869952001">https://twitter.com/_danalvarenga/status/1181240055869952001</a>
10/7/19	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.	<a href="https://www.latimes.com/politics/story/2019-10-07/julian-castro-helps-lgbtq-migrants-trump-remain-in-mexico-plan-cross-border">https://www.latimes.com/politics/story/2019-10-07/julian-castro-helps-lgbtq-migrants-trump-remain-in-mexico-plan-cross-border</a>
10/8/19	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.	<a href="https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2019/10/trump-asylum-seekers-lgbtq-pregnant-women-matamoros/">https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2019/10/trump-asylum-seekers-lgbtq-pregnant-women-matamoros/</a>

Publicly reported cases of violent attacks on individuals returned to Mexico under the “Migrant Protection Protocols”, as compiled by Human Rights First

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
10/8/19	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><a href="https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2019/10/trump-asylum-seekers-lgbtq-pregnant-women-matamoros/">https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2019/10/trump-asylum-seekers-lgbtq-pregnant-women-matamoros/</a></p>
10/10/19	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.</p> <p>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."</p> <p>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><a href="https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/adolfoflores/asylum-seekers-protesting-bridge-close-matamoros-texas">https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/adolfoflores/asylum-seekers-protesting-bridge-close-matamoros-texas</a></p>
10/12/19	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><a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/remain-in-mexico-doctors-decry-trump-policy-of-sending-more-than-51000-migrants-back-to-mexico/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/remain-in-mexico-doctors-decry-trump-policy-of-sending-more-than-51000-migrants-back-to-mexico/</a></p>

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
10/15/19	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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>“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>	<p><a href="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">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</a></p>
10/15/19	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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>“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.”</p> <p>Fearing a second kidnapping, she said, she quickly agreed to take the transport back to southern Mexico.</p>	<p><a href="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">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</a></p>
10/15/19	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>	<p><a href="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">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</a></p>

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
10/16/19	kidnapping, robbery	1	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.	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2019/10/16/world/americas/16-reuters-usa-immigration-mexico-matamoros.html">https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2019/10/16/world/americas/16-reuters-usa-immigration-mexico-matamoros.html</a>
10/16/19	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.	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2019/10/16/world/americas/16-reuters-usa-immigration-mexico-matamoros.html">https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2019/10/16/world/americas/16-reuters-usa-immigration-mexico-matamoros.html</a>
10/16/19	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.	<a href="https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-immigration-mexico-matamoros-feat/asylum-seekers-cling-to-hope-safety-in-camp-at-us-mexico-border-idUSKBN1WV1DY">https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-immigration-mexico-matamoros-feat/asylum-seekers-cling-to-hope-safety-in-camp-at-us-mexico-border-idUSKBN1WV1DY</a>
10/16/19	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 kidnappers 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?	<a href="#">MPP Facebook group post: posted by Guillermo Hernández</a>
10/16/19	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
10/16/19	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

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
10/21/19	rape	1	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/national-international/Asylum-Seeker-Migrant-Protection-Protocols-Raped-Pregnant-563171401.html">https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/national-international/Asylum-Seeker-Migrant-Protection-Protocols-Raped-Pregnant-563171401.html</a></p>
10/22/19	kidnapping	2	<p>"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 &amp; 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.”"</p>	<p><a href="https://intercontinentalcry.org/the-eyre-treated-like-animals-the-us-government-is-abusing-asylum-seekers-including-indigenous-migrants-but-people-are-fighting-back/">https://intercontinentalcry.org/the-eyre-treated-like-animals-the-us-government-is-abusing-asylum-seekers-including-indigenous-migrants-but-people-are-fighting-back/</a></p>
10/26/19	kidnapping	3	<p>was in Juarez driving to a shelter when I gave this quote. Picked up a couple &amp; little boy who had been kidnapped &amp; released after paying thousands of \$. they saw the same kidnappers circling their shelter &amp; requested help getting to the bridge to beg to be taken out of #MPP</p>	<p><a href="https://twitter.com/taylorklevy">https://twitter.com/taylorklevy</a></p>

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
11/5/19	assault, robbery	7	<p>Today, the ACLU Foundation of San Diego &amp; 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.aclusandiego.org/ac/u-asylum-seekers-subject-to-trumps-remain-in-mexico-policy-must-be-given-access-to-counsel/">https://www.aclusandiego.org/ac/u-asylum-seekers-subject-to-trumps-remain-in-mexico-policy-must-be-given-access-to-counsel/</a></p>



Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
11/6/19	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>	<p><a href="https://apnews.com/0746f2a9cc5745b387d795081a9c7691">https://apnews.com/0746f2a9cc5745b387d795081a9c7691</a></p>
11/6/19	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>	<p><a href="https://twitter.com/becky_gendelman/status/1192260613461958656">https://twitter.com/becky_gendelman/status/1192260613461958656</a></p>
11/6/19	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>	<p><a href="https://twitter.com/becky_gendelman/status/1192260611364851714">https://twitter.com/becky_gendelman/status/1192260611364851714</a></p>
11/6/19	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 &amp; Yale Law fellow @becky_gendelman from San Antonio)</p>	<p><a href="https://twitter.com/KennjiKizuka/status/1192200730213593088">https://twitter.com/KennjiKizuka/status/1192200730213593088</a></p>
11/7/19	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>	<p><a href="https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/immigration/story/2019-11-07/cbp-fraud">https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/immigration/story/2019-11-07/cbp-fraud</a></p>

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
11/8/19	kidnapping	2	“Mommy, I don’t want to die!” That’s what a 7-year-old child cried to her mother on hearing their kidnappers 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.	<a href="https://twitter.com/KennjiKizuka/status/1192907065955667969">https://twitter.com/KennjiKizuka/status/1192907065955667969</a>
11/9/19	kidnapping		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.	<a href="https://www.lavanguardia.com/internacional/20191109/471459892472/mexico-eeuu-migracion-extorsiones.html">https://www.lavanguardia.com/internacional/20191109/471459892472/mexico-eeuu-migracion-extorsiones.html</a>
11/13/19	kidnapping	1	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	<a href="https://twitter.com/Sleutert/status/1194644878384349190">https://twitter.com/Sleutert/status/1194644878384349190</a>
11/15/19	kidnapping	4	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.	<a href="https://madison.com/news/world/migrants-thrust-by-us-officials-into-the-arms-of-the/article_3485698f-1327-522b-8ab6-5659a0ff96a6.html">https://madison.com/news/world/migrants-thrust-by-us-officials-into-the-arms-of-the/article_3485698f-1327-522b-8ab6-5659a0ff96a6.html</a>

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
11/18/19	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>	<a href="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">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</a>
11/18/19	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>	<a href="https://cliniclegal.org/news/seven-migrant-protection-protocols-stories-estamos-unidos-asylum-project">https://cliniclegal.org/news/seven-migrant-protection-protocols-stories-estamos-unidos-asylum-project</a>
11/18/19	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>	<a href="https://cliniclegal.org/news/seven-migrant-protection-protocols-stories-estamos-unidos-asylum-project">https://cliniclegal.org/news/seven-migrant-protection-protocols-stories-estamos-unidos-asylum-project</a>
11/18/19	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>	<a href="https://cliniclegal.org/news/seven-migrant-protection-protocols-stories-estamos-unidos-asylum-project">https://cliniclegal.org/news/seven-migrant-protection-protocols-stories-estamos-unidos-asylum-project</a>

Publicly reported cases of violent attacks on individuals returned to Mexico under the “Migrant Protection Protocols”, as compiled by Human Rights First

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
11/18/19	assault, sexual assault	3	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.	<a href="https://cliniclegal.org/news/seven-migrant-protection-protocols-stories-estamos-unidos-asylum-project">https://cliniclegal.org/news/seven-migrant-protection-protocols-stories-estamos-unidos-asylum-project</a>
11/21/19	kidnapping, rape	2	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.	<a href="http://americanimmigrationcouncil.org/sites/default/files/general_litigation/statement_for_the_house_migrant_protection_protocols_11_21_19.pdf">http://americanimmigrationcouncil.org/sites/default/files/general_litigation/statement_for_the_house_migrant_protection_protocols_11_21_19.pdf</a>
11/24/19	rape	1	Attorney reported to immigration attorney Taylor Levy that a client had been raped in Juarez.	<a href="https://twitter.com/taylorlevy/status/1198707918197198849">https://twitter.com/taylorlevy/status/1198707918197198849</a>
11/27/19	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.	<a href="https://www.hppr.org/post/migrants-nuevo-laredo-remain-mexico-means-remain-danger">https://www.hppr.org/post/migrants-nuevo-laredo-remain-mexico-means-remain-danger</a>

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Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/1/19	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.	<a href="https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/01/world/mexico-asylum-seekers-letters/index.html">https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/01/world/mexico-asylum-seekers-letters/index.html</a>
12/1/19	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.	<a href="https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/01/world/mexico-asylum-seekers-letters/index.html">https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/01/world/mexico-asylum-seekers-letters/index.html</a>
12/2/19	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."	<a href="https://www.urdupoint.com/en/world/migrants-face-extortion-in-mexico-awaiting-as-777274.html">https://www.urdupoint.com/en/world/migrants-face-extortion-in-mexico-awaiting-as-777274.html</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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 kidnapers 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.”	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIascoDecember2019.pdf</a>

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Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/19	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	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.”	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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 kidnapers punched the Nicaraguan mother in the neck, as they forced her to call family members to beg for a ransom to be paid. The kidnapers 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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	attempted kidnapping	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>

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Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/19	assault	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	kidnapping, assault	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	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.”	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	robbery	(counted within 201 reported in HRF report)	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>

Publicly reported cases of violent attacks on individuals returned to Mexico under the “Migrant Protection Protocols”, as compiled by Human Rights First

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIASCODecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIASCODecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIASCODecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIASCODecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.”	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIASCODecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIASCODecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIASCODecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIASCODecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIASCODecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIASCODecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIASCODecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIASCODecember2019.pdf</a>



Publicly reported cases of violent attacks on individuals returned to Mexico under the “Migrant Protection Protocols”, as compiled by Human Rights First

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>

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Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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 kidnappers began to sexually assault the woman but was interrupted by another of the kidnappers who set the family free.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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 Venezuelan or Cuban and gave a “first warning” to the minister traveling with the woman at the time.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>

Publicly reported cases of violent attacks on individuals returned to Mexico under the “Migrant Protection Protocols”, as compiled by Human Rights First

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/19	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 Monterrey in mid-October.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.”	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>

Date Published	Type of Incident	No. of victims	Description	Source
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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 kidnapers during an MPP screening Sosa was not permitted to attend or monitor.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFIascoDecember2019.pdf</a>

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12/5/19	rape, kidanpping	(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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFiascoDecember2019.pdf</a>

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12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.”	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstDecember2019.pdf</a>

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12/5/19	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.	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstJascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstJascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	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.”	<a href="https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstJascoDecember2019.pdf">https://www.humanrightsfirst.org/sites/default/files/HumanRightsFirstJascoDecember2019.pdf</a>
12/5/19	sexual assault	1	7 year old girl sexually assaulted in Matamoros; failed asylum officer MPP fear interview	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/jodi.goodwin.5">https://www.facebook.com/jodi.goodwin.5</a>
12/10/19	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.	<a href="https://www.huffpost.com/entry/remain-in-mexico-policy-immigrant-kids_n_5deeb143e4b00563b8560c69">https://www.huffpost.com/entry/remain-in-mexico-policy-immigrant-kids_n_5deeb143e4b00563b8560c69</a>
12/11/19	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.	<a href="https://twitter.com/ArianaMSawyer/status/1204852720605286400">https://twitter.com/ArianaMSawyer/status/1204852720605286400</a>
12/12/19	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.	<a href="https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2019-12-12/attorney-central-american-in-mpp-program-murdered-in-tijuana">https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2019-12-12/attorney-central-american-in-mpp-program-murdered-in-tijuana</a>
12/20/19	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."	<a href="https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/20/politics/remain-in-mexico-court-attendance/index.html">https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/20/politics/remain-in-mexico-court-attendance/index.html</a>



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12/20/19	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.	<a href="https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/asylum-seekers-forced-to-remain-in-mexico-face-daily-threat-of-violence">https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/asylum-seekers-forced-to-remain-in-mexico-face-daily-threat-of-violence</a>
12/20/19	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.	<a href="https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/dec/20/immigration-remain-in-mexico-policy-border-migrants">https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/dec/20/immigration-remain-in-mexico-policy-border-migrants</a>
12/20/19	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.	<a href="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">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</a>
12/20/19	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.	<a href="https://www.phillyvoice.com/immigration-mexico-temple-university-doctors-matamoros-refugee-camp-medical-treatment/">https://www.phillyvoice.com/immigration-mexico-temple-university-doctors-matamoros-refugee-camp-medical-treatment/</a>
12/20/19	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.	<a href="https://www.sinembargo.mx/20-12-2019/3699797">https://www.sinembargo.mx/20-12-2019/3699797</a>
12/21/19	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.	<a href="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/">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/</a>
12/21/19	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.	<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/21/us/border-migrants-kidnapping-mexico.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/21/us/border-migrants-kidnapping-mexico.html</a>

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12/28/19	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.	<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/violence-plagues-migrants-under-u-s-remain-in-mexico-program-11577529000">https://www.wsj.com/articles/violence-plagues-migrants-under-u-s-remain-in-mexico-program-11577529000</a>
1/3/20	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.	<a href="https://www.aclum.org/sites/default/files/field_documents/1_complaint.pdf">https://www.aclum.org/sites/default/files/field_documents/1_complaint.pdf</a>
1/6/20	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 kidnapers.	HRF telephonic interview with attorney Jodi Goodwin.
1/6/20	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.
1/6/20	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.
1/7/10	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.
1/7/20	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.

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1/7/20	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.
1/9/20	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.
1/9/20	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.
1/9/20	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.
1/10/19	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.
1/12/20	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 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-refoulement interviews with USCIS asylum officers and were returned to Mexico.	Email with immigration attorney working in Brownsville, TX.
1/13/20	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.
1/14/20	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-lio 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.	<a href="http://www.elpais.hn/2020/01/14/nos-enganaron-estados-unidos-no-deja-pasar-familias-con-ninos-aseguran-migrantes/">http://www.elpais.hn/2020/01/14/nos-enganaron-estados-unidos-no-deja-pasar-familias-con-ninos-aseguran-migrantes/</a>

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1/16/20	kidnapping	1	In early January, a Cuban asylum seeker who had been returned by DHS to Matamoros was kidnapped 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 kidnapers 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 kidnapers will not be able to reach him there. His final asylum hearing is not until late February.	HRF telephonic interview with attorney in Ayra Toro.
1/21/20	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 assistance and medical attention, no emergency services came to his location.	HRF observation of MPP immigration court hearing in Brownsville, Texas MPP tent court.
1/21/20	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.
1/21/20	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.
<b>Total victims of attacks</b>		<b>816</b>		