

COMPLAINT

██████████ DOB: ██████ 74

Tel: ██████████

Tijuana

DATE: July 12, 1997

TIME: 5:00 PM

LOC: San Ysidro POE (pedestrian crossing)

LEA: U.S. Customs/INS

COMPLAINT:

██████████ was crossing with a friend to San Diego. ██████████ is a U.S. citizen and her friend is immigrated. Because ██████████ does not speak any English, the INS asked her for proof of her citizenship. She showed them a copy of her birth certificate showing she was born in San Diego, as well as an ID. However, they accused her of having bought it or stolen it. Her friend was told to leave, that she could not wait for her. They not only threatened ██████████ with jail if she did not admit the birth certificate was not hers, but forced her to sign a paper using another name. They also threatened her with 5 years in prison if she did not sign the paper. After continuous threats and telling her she would not be released until she signed, she was fingerprinted and photographed. She was then taken to a hotel/detention center in San Ysidro where she was held for two days. On Monday the 14<sup>th</sup>, she was released into Mexicali. ██████████ and three other women who were released with her pooled their money together and took a bus to Tijuana. ██████████ says she was severely traumatized by the experience. Her sister ██████████ says she has serious emotional problems to begin with, now with this experience she has withdrawn even more. One important footnote to all this is that ██████████'s father, ██████████ went to the POE on Saturday evening, the same day ██████████ was detained, to show the INS proof that she was born in the U.S., including her original birth certificate, but the INS told him it was too late, and that he should come back Monday. By then ██████████ had already been deported to Mexicali.



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**COMPLAINANT:** [REDACTED]

**DATE:** July 12, 1997

**AGENCY:** U.S. Customs/INS

**COMPLAINT:**

[REDACTED] and a friend attempted to enter the U.S. at the San Ysidro port of entry. [REDACTED] is a U.S. citizen and her friend is immigrated. Because [REDACTED] does not speak any English, the INS asked her for proof of her citizenship. She showed them a copy of her birth certificate showing she was born in San Diego, as well as an ID. However, they accused her of having bought it or stolen it. Her friend was told to leave, that she could not wait for her. They not only threatened [REDACTED] with jail if she did not admit the birth certificate was not hers, but forced her to sign a paper using another name. They also threatened her with 5 years in prison if she did not sign the paper. After continuous threats and telling her she would not be released until she signed, she was fingerprinted and photographed. She was then taken to a hotel/detention center in San Ysidro where she was held for two days. On Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> of July she was released into Mexicali. [REDACTED] and three other women who were released with her pooled their money together and took a bus to Tijuana.

[REDACTED]'s father, [REDACTED] went to the POE on Saturday evening, the same day [REDACTED] was detained, to show the INS proof that she was born in the U.S., including her original birth certificate, but the INS told him it was too late, and that he should come back Monday. By then [REDACTED] had already been deported to Mexicali.





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**ABUSE DOCUMENTATION FORM**

*clerk  
INS-USE*

**I. ORGANIZATION INFORMATION**

Staff name: AFSC  
Interview date: July 12, 1997 Source (see A codes): INV  
Computer case number: \_\_\_\_\_

**II. VICTIM INFORMATION**

Sex: F Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
National origin and ethnicity: U.S. citizen born in San Diego  
Place of departure (specific): Tijuana  
Intended destination (specific): San Diego  
Citizenship/Immigration status (see B codes): NBC  
Traveling  alone  with a group

**III. INCIDENT INFORMATION**

Date: July 1997  
Location (give details): San Ysidro POE

Reason given for stopping victim: Falsely accused of having false documents

Describe the incident (if more space is needed, write on back and/or attach affidavit):

\_\_\_\_\_ was crossing with a friend to San Diego. \_\_\_\_\_ is a U.S. citizen and her friend is immigrated. Because \_\_\_\_\_ does not speak any English, the INS asked her for proof of her citizenship. She showed them a copy of her birth certificate showing she was born in San Diego, as well as an ID. However, they accused her of having bought it or stolen it. Her friend was told to leave, that she could not wait for her. They not only threatened \_\_\_\_\_ with jail if she did not admit the birth certificate was not hers, but forced her to sign a paper using another name. They also threatened her with 5 years in prison if she did not sign the paper. After continuous threats and telling her she would not be released until she signed, she was fingerprinted and photographed. She was then taken to a hotel/detention center in San Ysidro where she was held for two days. On Monday the 14<sup>th</sup>, she was released into Mexicali. \_\_\_\_\_ and three other women who were released with her pooled their money together and took a bus to Tijuana. \_\_\_\_\_ says she was severely traumatized by the experience. Her sister \_\_\_\_\_ says she has serious emotional problems to begin with, now with this experience she has withdrawn even more. One important footnote to all this is that \_\_\_\_\_'s father, \_\_\_\_\_ went to the POE on Saturday evening, the same day \_\_\_\_\_ was detained, to show the INS proof that she was born in the U.S., including her original birth certificate, but the INS told him it was too late, and that he should come back Monday. By then \_\_\_\_\_ had already been deported to Mexicali.