



Illegal Immigrant Allegedly Paid \$130 to “Rent” a Child to Cross the Border

Lukeville, Arizona: Maynor Velasquez Molina, a migrant from Guatemalan, is accused of “renting” an 8-year-old boy and purchasing a fraudulent birth certificate for him, all in an attempt to pass him off as his son to US Border Patrol in February. A federal grand jury indicted Velasquez in Arizona for human smuggling. Immigration enforcement officials are adopting a number of new policies to fight the influx of fake families. Border Patrol agents are rolling out a DNA testing program, fingerprinting children and allocating more resources to the border to investigate fraud.

A Guatemalan man is accused of spending money to “rent” a boy and purchasing a fraudulent birth certificate for him, all in an attempt to pass him off as family to U.S. Border Patrol.

Maynor Velasquez

Molina, a migrant from Guatemalan, and an 8-year-old boy were among a group of 101 illegal immigrants who crossed the U.S.-Mexico

border near Lukeville, Arizona, on Feb. 18, according to a [criminal complaint](#) reported by the Arizona Daily Star. Velasquez claimed to Border Patrol agents that the boy was his son, but agents learned four days later that the Guatemalan birth certificate was bogus.

When questioned by Homeland Security Investigations, Velasquez reportedly claimed that “he had looked for a child in Guatemala to cross the United States/Mexico international border with as he was told that it was easier to get into the United States with a child,” read the complaint.

The illegal migrant allegedly paid the boy’s father roughly \$130 – or 1,000 quetzales – to rent the child for the trip and paid \$130 to another individual to produce a fake birth certificate for the child. The two then traveled together by bus to the U.S. southern border.

A federal grand jury indicted Velasquez in Tucson, Arizona, for human smuggling on March 27.

“The surge of illegal alien family units and fraudulent ‘family

units'

attempting to cross the border is largely the result of loopholes in

U.S. immigration law," read a statement from the Trump administration.

"Migrants know that, as a result of these loopholes, if they unlawfully

arrive at our border with a minor, they will be promptly released in the

American communities."

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