



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
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Albuquerque Man Pleads Guilty to Transporting Illegal Immigrants from Southeast US to New Mexico to Fraudulently Obtain Driver's Licenses

The Man Was Part of the Ring That Transported a Minimum 100 Illegal Immigrants to New Mexico

SANTA FE – An Albuquerque man who was part of an organized criminal ring that transported a minimum of 100 illegal immigrants from the Southeastern United States to New Mexico to fraudulently obtain New Mexico driver's licenses pleaded guilty to two federal charges last week in Charleston, South Carolina.

Ivon Baray-Luna, 31, pleaded guilty to one count each of conspiracy transferring false identification documents and transporting illegal aliens last Friday. He is facing a maximum sentence of 15 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000. A sentencing date has not been set for him.

Baray-Luna and was part of a 30-member criminal operation that was involved in transporting illegal immigrants living in South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia and other states to New Mexico to fraudulently obtain New Mexico driver's licenses, according to the Homeland Security Investigations.

In June 2012, Homeland Security investigators from Charleston Washington, D.C., Charlotte, Albuquerque, Knoxville and Nashville arrested 23 individuals for document fraud and conspiracy charges, and one administrative arrest, according to Homeland Security Investigations.

This enforcement operation was conducted in furtherance of dismantling an organization based in South Carolina responsible for transporting a minimum of 100 undocumented aliens from the Southeastern U.S. to New Mexico to fraudulently obtain driver's licenses. This is an HSI-led investigation, assisted by the Tax Fraud Investigations agents of the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department.

Also arrested in the raid were Alma Rosa Ortiz-Calzada, the ring leader from South Carolina; and four Albuquerque residents - Alfred Padilla, 47; Victor Alvarez, 25; Elizabeth Lopez, 42; and Alfredo Saenz, 39.

Ortiz-Calzada also pleaded guilty to one count each of conspiracy transferring false identification documents and transporting illegal aliens. She is facing a maximum of 15 years in prison and \$250,000 fine. A sentencing date has not been set for her.

The cases against others, including the four Albuquerque residents, are pending.

The New Mexico Motor Vehicle Division has cancelled driver's licenses issued in this scheme.

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