

Appendix B - Freedom of Information Act Request Processes and Direct Entreaties to Federal Agencies

FOIA Requests

The following requests were submitted by fax to the ICE FOIA office, on 6/14/07. A telephone conversation between the author and FOIA staff confirmed the receipt of these materials. CPPP submitted the requests by US Mail, on 06/15/07.

CPPP FOIA Requests:

1. Any ICE statistics on the number of unaccompanied children removed or deported to country of origin for FY 2006 and 2007 (or most recent year available).
2. Any and all provisions of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Inspector Field Manual related to the physical removal, deportation, or repatriation of unaccompanied children.
3. Any ICE employee training manuals or materials relating to the apprehension of, care of, removal of, or repatriation of unaccompanied children.
4. Any and all United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) written policies and procedures related to the removal, deportation, or repatriation of unaccompanied children.
5. A list of the Border Patrol stations and Field Offices in the state of Texas. If the entire list is not available to the public, then an account of the number of stations and offices in Texas (as well as a total number of these facilities in the United States) would be appreciated.
6. Any and all effective agreements between the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), or its predecessor the Immigration and Naturalization Services, and the Honduran government related to the repatriation of unaccompanied Honduran national children.
7. Any and all effective individual agreements between the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), or its predecessor the Immigration and Naturalization Services, and the consulates of Mexico located in the United States related to the repatriation of unaccompanied Mexican national children. Please see the attached example of an agreement between the INS and the Mexican consulate in McAllen, TX for clarification. [Copy of agreement provided with request.]

Text of FOIA Requests

Request #1

June 14, 2007

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
800 North Capitol St., NW
5th Floor, Suite 585
Washington, DC 20536

Re: FOIA Request for ICE statistics on the number of unaccompanied children removed or deported to country of origin

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) we request the following materials.

Any ICE statistics on the number of unaccompanied children removed or deported to country of origin for FY 2006 and 2007 (or most recent year available).

Please contact me at 512/585-7380 or Thompson@cphp.org if I may provide any further information.

With best regards,

Amy Thompson

Request #2

June 14, 2007

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
800 North Capitol St., NW
5th Floor, Suite 585
Washington, DC 20536

Re: FOIA Request for a list of the Border Patrol stations and Field Offices in the state of Texas

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) we request the following materials.

A list of the Border Patrol stations and Field Offices in the state of Texas. If the entire list is not available to the public, then an account of the number of stations and

offices in Texas (as well as a total number of these facilities in the United States) would be appreciated.

Please contact me at 512/585-7380 or Thompson@cphp.org if I may provide any further information.

With best regards,

Amy Thompson

Request #3

June 14, 2007

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
800 North Capitol St., NW
5th Floor, Suite 585
Washington, DC 20536

Re: FOIA Request for ICE policies and procedures related to the removal, deportation, or repatriation of unaccompanied children.

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) we request the following materials.

Any and all United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) written policies and procedures related to the removal, deportation, or repatriation of unaccompanied children.

Please contact me at 512/585-7380 or Thompson@cphp.org if I may provide any further information.

With best regards,

Amy Thompson

Request #4

June 14, 2007

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
800 North Capitol St., NW
5th Floor, Suite 585
Washington, DC 20536

Re: FOIA request for Inspector Field Manual content as relates to repatriation of unaccompanied children

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) we request the following materials.

Any and all provisions of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Inspector Field Manual related to the physical removal, deportation, or repatriation of unaccompanied children.

Please contact me at 512/585-7380 or Thompson@cphp.org if I may provide any further information.

With best regards,

Amy Thompson

Request #5

June 14, 2007

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
800 North Capitol St., NW
5th Floor, Suite 585
Washington, DC 20536

Re: FOIA Request for sections of Inspector Field Manual, as pertain to unaccompanied children

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) we request the following materials.

Any ICE employee training manuals or materials relating to the apprehension of, care of, removal of, or repatriation of unaccompanied children.

Please contact me at 512/585-7380 or Thompson@cphp.org if I may provide any further information.

With best regards,

Amy Thompson

Request #6

June 14, 2007

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
800 North Capitol St., NW
5th Floor, Suite 585
Washington, DC 20536

Re: FOIA Request for documentation of US/ Honduran agreements re: repatriation of Honduran children

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) we request the following materials.

Any and all effective agreements between the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), or its predecessor the Immigration and Naturalization Services, and the Honduran government related to the repatriation of unaccompanied Honduran national children.

Please contact me at 512/585-7380 or Thompson@cphp.org if I may provide any further information.

With best regards,

Amy Thompson

Request #7

June 14, 2007

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
800 North Capitol St., NW
5th Floor, Suite 585
Washington, DC 20536

Re: FOIA Request for documentation of US/ MX agreements re: repatriation of MX children

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) we request the following materials.

Any and all effective individual agreements between the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), or its predecessor the Immigration and Naturalization Services, and the consulates of Mexico located in the United States related to the repatriation of unaccompanied Mexican national children. **Please see the attached example of an agreement between the INS and the Mexican consulate in McAllen, TX for clarification.**

Please contact me at 512/585-7380 or Thompson@cphp.org if I may provide any further information.

With best regards,

Amy Thompson

Response to FOIA Requests

ICE Response

As federal regulations require agencies to respond to FOIA requests within 30 days, CPPP expected an initial response on or around July 15, 2007.

Requests 1-3 were denied. ICE issued an initial response to requests 1 – 4 on July 25, 2007. The agency combined the four separate requests into one, and stated that the agency would require an extension to respond to the request, due to its size. An agency may invoke a 10 day extension for particularly large or technical information requests.¹ On September 25, ICE denied requests 1-4 for the following reasons:

Request 1: The statistics requested do not exist as ICE's database does not record removals by age group.

Requests 2&3: The agency invoked FOIA Exemption 2(high) and Exemption 7 (e). These exemptions protect information in instances where the agency claims that release of said information will "benefit those attempting to violate the law" or "could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law".

Request 4 was not specifically mentioned or denied. As of publication, the agency has yet to respond to this request.

¹ 5 USC ss 552 (a)(6)(B)

Requests 5 & 6 received inconclusive responses. ICE initially responded to these requests on August 3rd and 9th, 2007, respectively. The agency informed us that the requests fell under the jurisdiction of outside agencies (Citizenship and Immigration Services, CIS, & Department of Justice, DOJ) and had been transferred to those agencies accordingly. ICE did not clarify why U.S. agreements with one country of origin (i.e. those with Mexico, as per Request 5) would be based in CIS, while U.S. agreements with another country (i.e. Honduras, as per Request 6) would belong to the DOJ.

On September 9th and 20th, 2007, CIS and DOJ referred the requests back to the DHS FOIA office, stating that such agreements (as requested by CPPP) were not within their jurisdiction.

Neither DHS nor ICE FOIA offices issued further comment on these requests. At this point, the author pursued direct communications with the department and agency, (See below).

Request 7 was closed (twice?).

On August 9, 2007, ICE FOIA responded that Request 7 had been transferred to the CBP FOIA office. On October 29, CBP FOIA issued sent a letter to CPPP stating that the agency had found no records related to CPPP's request, yet never specifying which request in particular. The CBP letter announced that unidentified request was closed. As Request 7 is the only request known to have been forwarded to CBP, we presumed that Request 7 had been closed.

On December 12, 2007 CBP FOIA issued a letter specifically closing Request 7 and providing online links to related – though not complete – information.

Direct Written Inquiries to the Department of Homeland Security

We requested interviews with DHS staff. En lieu of granting interviews, DHS invited us to submit interview questions for a written response. We submitted questions categorized by agency involvement and topic.

CPPP submitted questions to DHS on November 19, 2007. Only after intervention by Congressman Lloyd Doggett's office in January, 2008 did we receive an initial response directly from ICE (February 4, 2008). We submitted follow-up questions for the ICE responses on February 27, 2008. ICE did not respond to these questions until May 6, 2008.

ICE also offered to assist in getting CBP to respond. Despite all efforts, we never received a response to the questions directed to the CBP.

The following questions are grouped by subject, as they were when submitted to DHS.

ICE Custody

Are there any written protocols or training modules for the assumption of custody of minors from ORR and their deportation/ repatriation? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

Currently the Juvenile Protocol Manual (JPM) is used by Detention and Removal Operations (DRO) officers and agents in the field. In addition, an Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC) Joint Operations Manual (JOM) is being developed and is in the final legal review process. The JOM includes joint training and operation components between the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL); Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Office of Border Patrol and Office of Field Operations; Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) DRO; and Human and Health Services (HHS) Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). Once the JOM is released, the JPM will be updated to coincide with the JOM.

Are there separate protocols processes for the removal of children under the age of 14 from ORR care (i.e. children who may be in foster care)? (CPPP follow up question, submitted to ICE February 27, 2008)

Currently there are none; however, the JOM will address this topic and in the current draft version directs ORR or the foster care organization to transport any minor who is placed into foster care to the nearest DRO office for removal in lieu of DRO having to assume custody at a foster care home or shelter. (ICE response submitted May 6, 2008)

Are there protocols for the removal of unaccompanied children placed with sponsors in the community? (CPPP follow up question, submitted to ICE February 27, 2008)

No, however the controlling DRO office will make arrangements for the transfer of custody through ORR or the sponsor. (ICE response submitted May 6, 2008)

Are there specific protocols for children removed from state or county juvenile facilities? (CPPP follow up question, submitted to ICE February 27, 2008)

No, not if the minor is being removed to their country of origin. If the minor is to be placed with ORR, arrangements will be made prior to DRO accepting custody from a state or county facility. (ICE response submitted May 6, 2008)

Are there any statistics on (or any indication as to) how many children are removed from these foster care, sponsor placement, j.v. institution) situations? (CPPP follow up question, submitted to ICE February 27, 2008)

ICE does not currently maintain these statistics; however ORR should have these statistics available to them as the UAC are in ORR foster care or sponsor programs prior to removal. (ICE response submitted May 6, 2008)

Are there limits or regulations related to the length of time and manner in which ICE can maintain a minor in custody between the time the minor is released from ORR and the time the minor is deported? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

No. However, minors that are being removed are not taken into ICE physical custody from ORR until travel arrangements are finalized and when removal is imminent.

Does ICE still use the Juvenile Protocol Manual (as appended to the DRO Field Manual) for guidelines related to the deportation and repatriation of minors? If so, what is the most recent version and would it be possible to obtain a copy (at least a copy of the guidelines related to this subject area)? If not, where are the current guidelines maintained? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

Yes, the JPM is used and is currently being reviewed and will be updated after the new Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC) Joint Operations Manual (JOM) is developed and ready for field release. Once the JOM is released, the JPM will be updated to coincide with the JOM.

However, your request for ICE training materials is being denied pursuant to Title 5 U.S.C. 552, exemption(s) (b)(2)high, and (b)(7)(E).

Will the procedures in the JOM be overseen by an external agency/ child welfare authority? Is there a plan for agency wide training for revised policies specific to the situation of children, and if so does it include a child welfare authority? (CPPP follow up question, submitted to ICE February 27, 2008)

No, there are no plans for the JOM to be overseen by an external agency. The JOM will be reviewed and updated as needed by all agencies involved in its development. (ICE response submitted May 6, 2008)

Do ICE officials accompany minors who have arranged for voluntary departure?
(Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

Yes. ICE DRO releases such minors to the receiving government official at the arriving destination unless the minor has requested voluntary departure (VD) and has made their own travel arrangements to depart the U.S. with a parent or legal guardian.

Are there guidelines/ protocols for the release of children by ICE agents to receiving officials? If so, do these guidelines include security considerations specific to children? (CPPP follow up question, submitted to ICE February 27, 2008)

Yes, all escorting officers who are removing UAC to a country of origin are required to request the receiving government official or designee to sign form I-216, thereby indicating the safe transfer of custody for all UAC listed. (ICE response submitted May 6, 2008)

What types of facilities are minors held in while in ICE custody prior to deportation/ removal?
(Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

Minors are held in the least restrictive setting possible cognizant to their special needs and concerns, in addition to ensuring their safe return to the country of origin. The Flores Settlement Agreement (FSA) provided that, an alien minor could be placed in a non-secure program licensed by an appropriate State agency to provide residential, group, or foster care services for dependent children, while remaining in the legal custody of the INS. Although the least restrictive setting appropriate to the alien minor's age and special needs was to be favored, the setting should be balanced with the interests of ensuring the alien minor's timely appearance before an immigration judge, and the need to protect the alien minors and other's well-being.

Return to Country of Origin (non-neighboring countries)

Are there protocols for notifying the country of origin of unaccompanied child repatriations? If so, which entities are notified and by whom? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

Yes. Minors are interviewed by their consular officials before removal and, if necessary, provided an entry document into their country of origin. In addition, prior to removal, ICE is required to request a country clearance from the receiving country's government granting entry of the alien/s and escorting officers before removal can occur. Minors are also provided Form I-770 (Notice of Rights and Request for Disposition) which informs the minor that they can make a telephone call to an immediate relatives or a consulate official informing them that they have been apprehended by ICE.

Are there regulations related to which officers may accompany a child during deportation? Are there regulations related to the officer's responsibility upon arrival in the country of origin? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

No, there are no current regulations; however, ICE has an internal escort policy which all officers and agents follow when conducting alien escorts. ICE escorting officers and agents also carry Escort Mission Advisory Cards (Do/Don't cards) which are quick reference cards that provide guidance while performing an escort.

Does the escort policy include considerations/ instructions specific to the escort of children (i.e. staff to child ratios, gender appropriateness)? Do the escort mission advisory cards include instructions specific to the country of origin or to the escort of children? (CPPP follow up question, submitted to ICE February 27, 2008)

Yes, the escort policy is specific regarding staff to minor ratios and gender appropriateness. The escort cards are only escort mission specific and does not address specifically children or each countries of origin. (ICE response submitted May 6, 2008)

Is there an outside agency or entity with child welfare experience that exercises oversight of the deportation/ repatriation process and related policies and procedures? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

No, there is currently no outside agency or entity that exercises oversight over DHS removals. However, the DHS Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) is extremely involved with issues that pertain to minors while they are in immigration proceedings and custody. The mission of the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties is to protect civil rights and civil liberties and to support homeland security by providing the Department with constructive advice on the full range of civil rights and civil liberties issues the Department faces on a daily basis.

Will this change under the new JOM? (CPPP follow up question, submitted to ICE February 27, 2008)

No. (ICE response submitted May 6, 2008)

In what way might a removed individual's concerns reach the CRCL? (I.E. How could a deportee communicate any issues encountered with the process? If a mechanism exists, is it publicized (or made known to parties concerned)? (CPPP follow up question, submitted to ICE February 27, 2008)

The Office of Civil rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) can be located through the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Website. In addition, persons who are detained by DHS have access to their Consular and Embassy offices if they make such a request. Frequently, persons formerly detained make contact through various government and non-government organizations whose numbers are posted and available throughout an aliens detention and removal.

The Office of the Inspector General provides access to file complaints via a toll free number, mailing address, and email. Every person detained is provided with a copy of organizations that provide free legal assistance at their time of detention. These organizations can be called at no cost to the person detained. Once removed, a deportee can go to or call any Consulate or Embassy of the United States and file a complaint that would be forwarded to the Office of the Inspector General or CRCL. (ICE response submitted May 6, 2008)

Are there any countries to which minors are deported on JPAT flights? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

Yes. There are countries that allow minors to be removed on JPATS with El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras being the most frequent.

Answer (Corrected Response Provided by ICE May 2, 2008):

Yes. However, this applies primarily to unaccompanied and accompanied minors traveling to Guatemala. Honduras will occasionally accept accompanied minors; however, significant advance notice must be given. Generally, unaccompanied minors must travel via commercial airlines with few exceptions.

In which scenarios might a child be transported on these flights (i.e. unaccompanied j.v. offenders? unaccompanied from ORR custody? Accompanied by parents?) (CPPP follow up question, submitted to ICE February 27, 2008)

ICE can remove minors under all the above scenarios provided the receiving country is allowing UAC on the specific DRO managed lease or JPATS flight. With each scenario minors are safeguarded at all times while on DRO managed lease or JPATS flights. (ICE response submitted May 6, 2008)

Are there any countries of origin that pose unique or significant challenges to the repatriation process? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

There are countries of origin that pose challenges to the repatriation of both adults and minors for various reasons. Countries of origin may request that repatriations take place at certain arrival destinations, and within arrival time parameters, etc.

Aside from coordinating arrival logistics, are there any other limitations imposed by host countries? (CPPP follow up question, submitted to ICE February 27, 2008)

Some receiving countries prefer that juveniles be returned via commercial aircraft rather than via the Justice Prisoner and Alien Transportation System (JPATS) or ICE leased charter flights. (ICE response submitted May 6, 2008)

Is insuring the security of the deportee or the agent ever a consideration or obstacle in arranging removal? If so, what types of scenarios might prompt this concern and what actions might be taken by ICE to reconcile the situation? (CPPP follow up question, submitted to ICE February 27, 2008)

The safety and security of the deportee(s) and the escorting officer(s) are always taken into consideration when arranging removals to ensure the safe and humane return of the deportee to his/her home country. ICE ensures that DRO escort officers have clear avenues of communication with ICE and the Department of State should a situation arise where assistance is required. Situations such as missed flights or problems encountered with foreign immigration or other foreign law enforcement entities are handled through coordination between ICE and the Department of State. (ICE response submitted May 6, 2008)

Are there any countries that have MOUs with ICE (or any DHS agency) related the repatriation of minors (aside from Mexico)? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

ICE DRO cannot address this question for all DHS agencies. However, ICE does not currently have any written MOUs for repatriation of minors other than Mexico.

Which countries arrange consulate (or other country of origin representatives) to accompany children during repatriation? In such instances, are children accompanied by both US and country of origin officials on the plane, or just country of origin officials? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

Currently, when removing minors, ICE DRO does not escort with foreign consular officials. Minors that are returned to their country of origin via aircraft are met at the airport by the receiving government officials or point of contact, and then the minor/s are released into their care and custody.

What budget resources were available to ICE for the return of unaccompanied children in FY'06 & FY'07 (and significant changes in FY'08)? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

The Detention Management Unit (DMD) within Detention and Removal Operations (DRO) budgets for all alien removals not specific to age. In addition, ICE does not have a specific UAC removal budget for the years requested or for 2008.

What was the DMD's overall budget for each of these years? (CPPP follow up question, submitted to ICE February 27, 2008)

The Detention Management Division (DMD), a component of the DRO Custody Operations PPA, was funded for a detention capacity of 20,800 beds in FY 2006, 27,500 beds in FY 2007, and a capacity of 32,000 beds in FY 2008. In those fiscal years, Congress funded these beds at an average daily per diem of \$95.00 per day, yielding a total appropriated funding amount to DMD of \$721,240,000 in FY 2006 and \$953,562,500 in FY 2007. (ICE response submitted May 6, 2008)

Record-keeping

What method does DHS have for tracking the number of children deported/ removed (including deportation, voluntary departure, administrative departure, voluntary removal, and expedited removal) annually and related demographics? What fields are maintained (i.e. country of origin?; classification of removal? shelter location in US? custodial agency – ORR or ICE? port of departure?; consulate notification? receiving authority? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

DRO does not currently track removals specific to age. However, ICE is exploring methods for tracking data regarding minors through new data systems being implemented and current contract sources.

How many children were deported/ removed to Honduras in 2005, 2006 & 2007? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

DRO does track removals of aliens by country, however currently does not track removals specific to age.

What is the average length of service of DROs (Detention and Removal Officers) currently? Of ICE officers currently? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

JFRMU² recommends that this question be posed to the DRO, Human Capital and Policy Analysis Unit.

Can you provide a contact within this Unit? (CPPP follow up question, submitted to ICE February 27, 2008)

Answer:

Unit Chief Stacey Preston – Human Capital Unit.

Under which circumstances might a minor be detained by ICE as opposed to Border Patrol or ORR? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

A minor may be detained in ICE DRO custody, as opposed to BP or ORR, if the minor is believed to be without any legal status in the United States, the minor is not unaccompanied and the minor's detention is necessary to insure all appearances while in immigration proceedings. ICE may also detain a minor with their parent or legal guardian in a DRO family residential center. In addition, UAC who are awaiting ORR placement may be held in ICE DRO custody.

Would it be possible for a CPPP researcher to observe the transfer of custody between ORR and ICE and that child's transportation to the port of departure? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Answer (Provided by ICE on February 4, 2008):

Unfortunately, due to officer security and safety reasons, it is currently not possible for a researcher to observe the transportation transfer and or removal of a minor while in ICE custody.

How might the presence of a civilian observer in secured facilities pose a threat to the safety and security of ICE officers? (CPPP follow up question, submitted to ICE February 27, 2008)

Answer:

DRO does not release upcoming removal information to the public as a practice. An official request however can be made through the DRO Public Affairs Office.

BP/CBP

Note: ICE informed CPPP that the agency forwarded CPPP's questions designated as 'for BP/CBP' to Customs and Border Patrol, in February of 2008. CPPP was unable to confirm CBP receipt of these questions through the contacts provided by

² This acronym is unfamiliar to CPPP. ICE did not provide a definition.

ICE and DHS. As of publication, we have not received responses to the following questions.

Does the department/agency have any knowledge of or experience with alleged instances in which children have been repatriated to Mexico without the notification of Mexican officials? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Does the department/agency document the number of non-Mexican children mistakenly repatriated to Mexico and then returned to BP custody? Are related statistics available for the last three years? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Is there any required or recommended assessment process for Mexican minors (i.e. Are they screened for fear of return, and how is this implemented?) (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Does the department/agency compile and maintain any statistics on repatriated Mexican youth, such as the length of time spent in the US (or any other related demographics)? If so, what is the method for collecting and analyzing this information? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Under which circumstances might a Mexican youth be transferred to ORR care? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

What training/ guidelines do BP/CBP agents receive for the handling of unaccompanied Mexican children? (i.e. is the Escort Policy in Deportation Officers Field Manual relevant? What is the most recent set of guidelines available). (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

What budget resources were available to BP/CBP for the sheltering and return of unaccompanied children in FY'06 and FY'07 (any significant changes for '08)? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Do the numbers of children apprehended by the CBP (as reported on page 22 of the CRS Report for Congress: Unaccompanied Children Policies and Issues, 3/1/07, include minors initially apprehended by other federal agencies, as well (i.e. minors apprehended by ATF, ICE, local law enforcement etc – and that are eventually turned over to CBP/BP). Or does it refer strictly to the number of unauthorized minors apprehended by BP/CBP at ports of entry and along the border? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)

Has CBP begun to track unaccompanied and accompanied minors separately? Are statistics available for the last FY? Has a standardized system for the gathering of information on unaccompanied children been introduced? (Submitted by CPPP to DHS on November 19, 2007)