

Affidavit of [REDACTED]

1. My name is [REDACTED] I am being detained in the South Texas Family Residential Center in Dilley, Texas along with my son [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
2. On September 4, 2015, I met with a CARA pro bono project attorney who agreed to represent me. During our meeting, officers showed up and took me to the court. I did not know why they were bringing me to court. I was nervous because I had no idea what was about to happen. They would not let my attorney come with me.
3. They brought me to the court trailer, where I spoke to someone, who told me that I was so late for my meeting that I had missed it, and I would be called back again later.
4. The next day, on September 5, I was called in to court again. I was brought into a court room with long wooden benches. I still did not know why I was there or what was going on.
5. Then an immigration officer asked for my family's contact information. He called my family, and told them to buy bus tickets for me so I could leave the detention center. He said that they had until Monday to decide whether or not to buy the ticket.
6. I was excited because I thought that soon I would get to leave the detention facility and be reunited with my family. I thought I could leave without having to pay bond or wear an ankle monitor.
7. During that meeting, there were two other women in the room with me. The officer also asked for their family's information so that he could contact them. Both of those women had already had their bond hearings. They did not have attorneys with them either.
8. On Monday, I was called in to court by the same officer, who called my family again to see if they would buy the bus tickets. They said that they would. The officer said to buy tickets open for ten days.
9. Later that day, I went to look for the official who had told my family to buy bus tickets. I found a different official. I told him what had happened, and he said that I must be lying because I shouldn't be able to buy bus tickets before my credible fear interview.
10. On Tuesday, I saw the officer that had told my family to get a bus ticket. He again told me to get an open ticket and told me the name of the bus company that comes here.
11. On Wednesday, I spoke with my brother-in-law who said that he had a missed call from the immigration official. He also told me that the official sent him a text message but he could not understand the message.

12. My brother-in-law sent a fax here to explain that he did not understand the message. He also asked in the fax whether he could come pick me up since he could not find an open bus ticket.
13. I have not heard anything since then. They never replied to the fax or contacted my bother-in-law again.
14. All of this happened before I had done a credible fear interview. My family and I all thought I was lucky, and that I would be able to leave the detention facility early, without having to do a credible fear interview or bond hearing.
15. I do not think that what they did to me is fair. They should not have told me that I was getting out soon. My son was also excited that we were getting out. Now my family and I are all disappointed that we have to wait in detention. I wish that my attorney had been allowed to come with me when I was asked to come to court.

Signature _____

9/15/15
Date