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Update: Full CBP Statement on an Agent-Involved Shooting in Laredo

Release Date: October 24, 2020

At approximately 9:40 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 23, U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) Border Patrol agents, working in partnership with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and Webb County Constable's Office, Precinct 2, responded to reports of possible human smuggling activity near Green and Smith Streets. There, the agents encountered a tractor-trailer with illegal aliens loaded inside. As agents began to secure the scene, another vehicle with more illegal aliens arrived. Border Patrol and HSI agents identified themselves as they approached the tractor-trailer. The vehicle driver suddenly accelerated in reverse, striking and pinning an alien and a Border Patrol agent against another vehicle.

The driver did not respond to verbal commands to stop accelerating the vehicle and agents deployed lethal force to stop the threat. The driver died at the scene. The injured Border Patrol agent was transported to the hospital and released this morning.

The DHS OIG responded to the scene and the incident remains under investigation by the Laredo Police Department and FBI as well as the CBP's and ICE's Office of Professional Responsibility.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection is the unified border agency within the Department of Homeland Security charged with the management, control and protection of our nation's borders at and between official ports of entry. CBP is charged with securing the borders of the United States while enforcing hundreds of laws and facilitating lawful trade and travel.

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