

DECLARATION OF IAN DOE

I, Ian Doe, hereby declare under the penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746:

1. I make this declaration based on my personal knowledge except where I have indicated otherwise. If called as a witness, I could and would testify competently and truthfully to these matters.
2. I was born in Honduras. I am thirty years old.
3. I went to the San Ysidro port of entry to seek asylum on February 3, 2019, after waiting in Tijuana for my number to be called since October 2018.
4. I fled my home country because of death threats from narcotraffickers. I worked as a police officer, and my undercover work thwarted drug trafficking activity. The narcotraffickers found out who I was and came looking for me. I fled in fear for my life. After I left, the narcotraffickers killed my brother thinking that he was me.
5. If I am sent back to Honduras, I fear that the narcotraffickers will kill me.
6. I do not believe the Honduran government would protect me if I were forced to return to my country because many police officers are corrupt and work with narcotraffickers. The narcotraffickers approached me before to ask me to run drugs, and I said no. They told me that many of my coworkers were already working with them. They also told me that they would order someone to murder

me if I did not run their drugs.

7. I have no criminal record.

8. I traveled to the United States to seek asylum. Once we arrived in Tijuana, I was told me that I had to go get a number at El Chapparal in order to seek asylum. When my number got closer to the top of the list, I went daily to see if I was going to be called.

9. My number was finally called on Sunday, February 3, 2019. From El Chapparal, Mexican officers from Grupos Beta took us to San Ysidro. U.S. immigration officers there instructed us to take off our hats, belts, and anything beyond one layer of clothing and put everything into our bags. Then they took us into another room where they took our photographs and asked us some basic questions.

10. Next, we were taken to a cell known as the hielera (icebox). The hielera was very crowded and cold. I was given an aluminum blanket. I only slept a little bit because the blankets made so much noise and because the lights were on all night long.

11. On Monday morning, I was given a small breakfast. Then an officer called my name and took me to an interview. The officer who interviewed me was a man who spoke Spanish. He was wearing a dark blue uniform. He asked me to promise to tell the truth. He started by asking me some basic questions like who I was and where I was from.

12. The interviewer asked me a few questions about my asylum case. I wanted to explain more to him about what had happened to me in Honduras and why I needed asylum. But the officer told me only to answer the questions he asked and not to say anything more.

13. The officer asked me if I could stay in Mexico to wait for my hearing, and I said no. He also asked me if any other country had offered me asylum, and I said no. Reviewing the questions later with someone who could translate for me, I see that the officer wrote down "Mexico." That is not what I said.

14. At the end of the interview, the officer gave me a piece of paper in Spanish and told me to read it. He also told me that I would be sent back to Tijuana. The officer directed me to sign the paper, and I did. He then asked me to initial and fingerprint several pages that were written in English. I did not have a chance to review those pages because he covered up one with the other and just showed me the bottom part of the page. I also can't read in English.

15. The officer did not explain that I had a court date. Nor did he explain how I would be able to fight my asylum case while in Mexico. After I signed, initialed, and fingerprinted the pages, he told me that was all for today, and I was taken back to the cell.

16. I was in the hielera all day. Because I was traveling with evidence of the threats against me and murder of my brother, I thought that I would be able to apply for asylum immediately but they did not talk to me until that night when the

officers called me for another interview.

17. I was taken to a different room this time. A Latina officer who did not speak much Spanish interviewed me. She was wearing civilian clothes. There was a translator on the phone. At the beginning of the interview, the officer asked me to promise to tell the truth. She told me that the interview would be confidential and that it was about my asylum case.

18. The officer asked me a lot of questions. I was surprised because most of them had to do with Mexico, and I thought I would have to explain what had happened to me in Honduras. She asked me why I did not want to live in Mexico and whether I felt safe there. I tried to tell her, but she only let me answer quickly and did not let me fully explain. She told me that I could only give short answers and not talk too long.

19. I told her that there is a lot of corruption in the Mexican police force. I told her that Mexican police had detained me several times and also robbed me while I was in Tijuana. I told her that some of the friends that I had traveled with had died in Mexico because of violence against migrants. I was made aware of their deaths when I heard their names and saw pictures of their dead bodies on the news and on Facebook. The officer did not say much in response, but seemed to be writing down what I said. She did not ask me anything about Honduras or if the cartels who were looking for me there could come and find me in Mexico.

20. The interview lasted about three hours. I had only had a small dinner

so I was very hungry. I was also tired because I had slept so poorly in the hielera.

21. At the end of the interview, I asked the officer what she thought about my case. The officer said that she couldn't tell me anything. I told her that I wanted to talk about what happened to me in Honduras because I was asking for asylum. She told me that I would have another interview where I could talk about that.

22. Then, another officer came and took me back to the hielera, where I spent a second night. In the morning, my name was called, and an immigration officer took me and others out to where they had stored our suitcases. The officers put us up against the wall, handcuffed our hands behind our backs, and had us carry our own bags onto a van. We were taken to El Chaparral in handcuffs.

23. At El Chapparal, a Mexican officer from Grupos Beta took us over the bridge. A man in a brown uniform was waiting for us. I think he was a Mexican immigration officer. He was with a woman whom he called a "licenciada." They took us to an office where they asked us to present our documents. They asked me for my humanitarian visa, but I did not have it. Then they gave us a paper that they said would keep the police from detaining us. They said that the paper was valid only until our next court date. If they brought us back to Mexico after our next court date, they said that we would have to get another temporary paper like this one from their office. I tried to explain my asylum case to the licenciada, but she told me that the Mexican officers didn't have anything to do with that part of my

case and that I would have to explain that to the U.S. government.

24. I am not safe in Mexico. I am afraid that the people who want to harm me in Honduras will find me here. I have learned from the news that there are members of Central American gangs and narcotraffickers that are present here in Mexico that could find and kill me. Honduran migrants like me are very visible because of our accents and the way that we look, and it would not be hard for them to find me here. I am also afraid of the Mexican police, who have detained me three times and also robbed me. About a month ago, the police threatened to take me to jail unless I paid a bribe of 1500 pesos. The police always ask me for an immigration document, which makes me believe that they are targeting me because I am Honduran.

25. I do not know how I will prepare my asylum case from Mexico. I do not have the money to pay an attorney to help me. The U.S. immigration officers did not explain how I will get to my hearings in the United States or how my case will proceed while I am in Mexico.

26. Given the problems I experienced in my country, I fear that if my identity and my status as an asylum applicant are released to the public, my life and possibly that of my family will be in danger. I wish that my identity not be publicly disclosed, and I wish to proceed with the use of a pseudonym in any federal action.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and recollection. This declaration was read back to me in Spanish, a language in which I am fluent.

Executed on February 7, 2019 at Tijuana, Mexico.

Ian Doe
Ian Doe

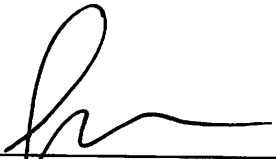
CERTIFICATION

I, Sophia DeLoretto-Chudy, declare that I am fluent in the English and Spanish languages.

On February 7, 2019, I read the foregoing declaration and orally translated it faithfully and accurately into Spanish in the presence of the declarant. After I completed translating the declaration, the declarant verified that the contents of the foregoing declaration are true and accurate.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on February 7, 2019 at Tijuana, Mexico.



Sophia DeLoretto-Chudy

FEB 7, 2019
Date