

A HISTORY OF THE ADVOCACY TO LIMIT THE DETENTION OF PREGNANT, POSTPARTUM, AND/OR NURSING PEOPLE IN CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION (CBP) CUSTODY

This timeline provides an overview of a campaign led by Jewish Family Service of San Diego (JFS), ACLU, ACLU of San Diego & Imperial Counties (ACLU-SDIC), and the Center for Immigration Law and Policy at UCLA Law (UCLA CILP) urging changes in CBP policy to limit the agency's detention of pregnant, postpartum, and/or nursing people.

FEBRUARY 16, 2020:

Ana, a woman seeking asylum in the US is forced to give birth under dangerous conditions while in the custody of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) at the Chula Vista Border Patrol Station.

APRIL 8, 2020:

ACLU-SDIC + JFS + Dr. Daniels file Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General (DHS OIG) Complaint, which achieves national news coverage, urging investigation into Ana's experience and recommending a CBP policy of not detaining people who are pregnant, postpartum, and/or nursing.

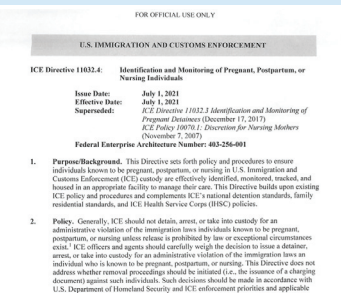
Senators Call For An Investigation Of Alleged Mistreatment Of Pregnant Women In Immigration Detention

The letter cited "harmful and substandard conditions" for pregnant women in ICE and Border Patrol custody in response to a BuzzFeed News report.



JULY 2021:

ICE reinstates a policy of generally not detaining people who are pregnant, postpartum, and/or nursing, which advocates welcome.

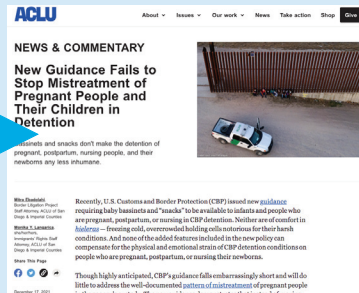


NOVEMBER 2021:

Senators write to DHS echoing our demands that CBP implement a policy of generally not detaining people who are pregnant, postpartum, and/or nursing, highlighting that doing so would align ICE and CBP policies.

NOVEMBER 2021:

CBP issues directive for treatment of people who are pregnant, postpartum, and/or nursing. Rather than mirror ICE's policy of presumptively not detaining this vulnerable population, the directive provides for alleged detention "safeguards," including provision of juice, snacks, and infant formula.



FEBRUARY 2022:

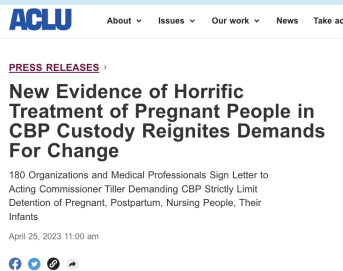
11 senators write a follow-up letter to DHS Secretary and CBP Commissioner echoing demand for policy change, emphasizing the reality that CBP's new guidance is inadequate.

OCTOBER 2022:

ACLU, CILP, and JFS lead sign-on letter from 130+ orgs and medical professionals, which features new account of CBP's treatment of nursing mother and her infant and echoes demands for policy change.

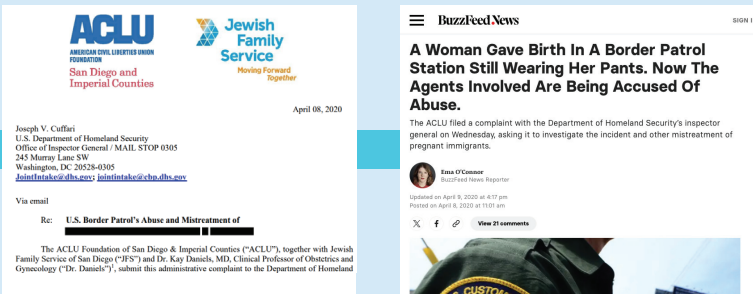
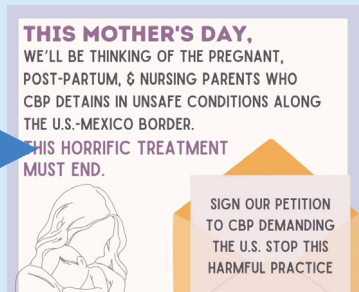
APRIL 2023:

ACLU, CILP, and JFS lead second sign-on letter from 130+ orgs and medical professionals, which features new accounts of CBP's treatment of pregnant women and their families and echoes demands for policy change.



MAY 2024:

Coalition launches Mother's Day petition urging CBP to limit its detention of pregnant/postpartum/nursing people and their families.



APRIL 2020:

Demands for investigation led by Sen. Blumenthal and echoed by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, then-Senator Kamala Harris, Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and others.



JULY 2021:

DHS OIG publishes investigation findings, which identify deficiencies in agency practices, but otherwise clear CBP of wrongdoing in Ana's case.

