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Scott,

During the HAC-HS budget hearing, Rep. Aguilar followed up on Chairwoman Roybal-Allard's question regarding fraudulent families. Can you please clear this answer as the "get-back" to Rep. Aguilar's office? While it wasn't immediately obvious that Rep. Aguilar wanted further information, a HAC-HS staffer has asked us the status of the response. A response prior to COB, Tuesday, July 2nd would be much appreciated.

AGUILAR: You mentioned that there are 3,500 cases of fraudulent families and the Chairwoman asked for some important follow up information and I also look forward to seeing that. We understand that part of the issue is the definition of families, you mentioned, within TVPRA, can you give us some clarity on fraudulent families you're talking about?

Does this apply to aunts and uncles, for example? Under your number of 3,500, would it be considered fraudulent family if an uncle brought a minor with them? Is that the largest part of the fraudulent family, I guess, bucket that you've described?

MCALLENAN: So, this is going to be an area of intense focus for the Department in the coming weeks and months. We're going to learn a lot from these HSI teams that have deployed to El Paso and Rio Grande Valley. They're bringing forensic interviewers, they're bringing biometric capability to try ensure that we establish those family relationships with clarity.

And what I'm very concerned about right now, Congressman, is we don't have the time, given the volume and flow, to do good interviews with each family that's crossing. And so, I'm very afraid we're missing cases where there's not a clear family relationship. But to your point, we need to establish a clear definition.

We need to establish consistent metrics across CBP and ICE for capturing when that family relationship has been presented as a fraudulent relationship and that doesn't mean a grandmother or an aunt

necessarily with a child saying, we're a family, and us determining that's not definitely within the TVPRA, I wouldn't call that fraud.

So, I think we need to be very clear in what we're reporting to Congress a clarifier metrics, but also, have a significant focus on this with both CBP and HSI working in tandem to identify and address people that are presenting as families when they're not. Especially if they've brought a child across more than once and we have seen that in a number of cases that HSI is working right now.

AGUILAR: Thank you.

Answer from ICE:.

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Thank you,

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