



**Homeland
Security**

February 2, 2023

Via electronic mail

Ivan Espinoza-Madrigal
iespinoza@lawyersforcivilrights.org

Re: Complaint No. 002621-22-CBP

Dear Mr. Espinoza-Madrigal:

On October 18, 2021, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) received your complaint on behalf of Haitian Americans United and 48 individual Haitians. Under 6 U.S.C. § 345 and 42 U.S.C. § 2000ee-1, CRCL investigated your complaint and has completed its review.

CRCL informed you on November 3, 2021 that we would be opening a complaint regarding your allegations, conducting an investigation, and notifying you of the outcome. CRCL has concluded its investigation of your complaint and other similar complaints alleging that Haitian migrants were illegally held by federal officials in an overcrowded and squalid camp under a bridge near Del Rio, Texas. Following our investigation, CRCL made recommendations to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regarding the development and implementation of additional tools, policies, and procedures to ensure appropriate civil rights and civil liberties protections for Haitian and other migrant populations during surge conditions. These include the identification of medical needs and at-risk populations, enhanced language access, non-discrimination training and a review of the deployment of Horse Patrol Units to assess the need for additional training and/or a specialized unit to conduct non-routine tasks such as crowd control in urban environments.

Your complaint will be closed as of the date of this correspondence. We appreciate your bringing this matter to our attention. Inquiries like yours help DHS meet its obligation to protect civil rights and civil liberties. If in the future you have concerns relating to civil rights and civil liberties violations by DHS, please contact CRCL by phone at 866-644-8360 or by email at CRCLCompliance@hq.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dana Salvano-Dunn".

Dana Salvano-Dunn
Acting Deputy Officer
Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
U.S. Department of Homeland Security