



STATE OF OKLAHOMA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

OPERATION GUARDIAN UPDATE

In late September, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol conducted a 30-hour special emphasis with ICE to disrupt criminal activity and threats to public safety along I-40 in Western Oklahoma. Through a task force agreement with ICE, all OHP Troopers are now credentialed by ICE to enforce immigration violations. At this emphasis, OHP had great support from ICE, with many deportation officers on site to assist with verifying immigration status and supporting Troopers making immigration arrests. A total of 520 OHP contacts yielded 120 arrests of illegal aliens for immigration violations, 91 of which were commercial motor vehicle (CMV) operators. Criminal histories among the 120 illegal aliens included prior convictions for DUI, illegal re-entry, money laundering, human smuggling, assault, conspiracy to distribute cocaine, and possession of a controlled substance. With this emphasis occurring the same week as FMCSA's announcement of rule changes to require states to verify lawful immigration status for CMV drivers, a strong message was sent to the trucking industry that America demands safe and legal commercial drivers.

This week, OHP and ICE again joined forces for a 15-hour emphasis along the I-40 eastern corridor. This October emphasis focused on criminal interdiction and eastbound CMV traffic. As with last month's emphasis, ICE had a strong presence to support this joint operation. In 15 short hours, OHP had over 500 contacts, including 209 CMV inspections. Preliminary results reflect 70 illegal aliens were taken into custody for immigration violations, 34 of which were CMV drivers. Additionally, three illegal aliens were taken into state custody on criminal charges. Of the 73 illegal aliens apprehended, one had a confirmed warrant from Interpol and another had an active felony warrant for Burglary II. Criminal histories among these illegal aliens included prior convictions for DUI, domestic assault and battery, assault, soliciting prostitution, and disorderly conduct.

Countries of origin for the illegal aliens arrested during these two emphases include: Tajikistan, India, Montenegro, El Salvador, Uzbekistan, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, China, Pakistan, Russia, Belarus, Haiti, Ukraine, Türkiye, Meri Tamia, Cuba, Guatemala, Venezuela, Nicaragua, Honduras, Columbia, and Mexico. States having issued the CDLs for the illegal aliens arrested during these two emphases include: CA, WA, PA, IL, NC, GA, FL, NJ, TX, MN, OH, and NY.