

Human Rights Violators & War Crimes Center Significant Human Rights Case Accomplishments 2003 to 2013

To commemorate the 10th anniversary of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Human Rights Program and the No Safe Haven Initiative, ICE's Human Rights Violators and War Crimes Center (HRVWCC) compiled a chronological timeline of significant human rights violators investigations, prosecutions and removals conducted during the past 10 years. The center gratefully recognizes the many contributions of its counterparts in the Departments of Justice and State, as well as from non-governmental organizations, human rights scholars and activists, and foreign law enforcement, in these accomplishments.

- December 2001 ICE Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) special agents in Minneapolis, Minn., arrested Rwandan Enos Iragaba Kagaba when he attempted to enter the United States under a false identity. A subsequent investigation revealed Kagaba's role in the 1994 Rwandan genocide. In April 2005, ICE's Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) removed Kagaba to Rwanda. He is the first person found by an immigration judge to be inadmissible to the United States based on genocide.
- March 2003 HSI special agents in Miami arrested Jaime Ramirez Raudales, an alleged member of a Honduran military death squad, Battalion 3-16, that was responsible for political killings in Honduras during the 1980s. ERO removed Ramirez Raudales in August 2003.
- August 2003 —HSI special agents in Los Angeles arrested Thi Dinh Bui, an "enforcer" at a Vietnamese prisoner re-education camp. In November 2005, ERO removed Bui based on an immigration judge's findings that he participated in the persecution of others.
- January 2004 HSI special agents assigned to the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) in Atlanta arrested Francis Oppong Mensah, a Ghanaian national suspected of committing human rights abuses in Ghana as a member of the Ghanaian Civil Defence Organization. ERO removed Mensah to Ghana in July 2004.
- May 2004 Jean-Marie Vianney Mudahinyuka was indicted in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois on two charges of immigration fraud, one charge of false statements and one count of assaulting an HSI special agent during the execution of a search warrant. Mudahinyuka concealed his true identity when he applied to enter the United States. An investigation by HSI agents uncovered the fact that he was a leader of the interahamwe, the Hutu militia that committed many crimes against humanity during the 1994 Rwandan genocide. In October 2004, Mudahinyuka pleaded guilty and in June 2005, Mudahinyuka was sentenced to 51 months in prison. In January 2011, ERO removed Mudahinyuka to Rwanda where he is currently incarcerated.



- July 2004 ICE, with significant assistance from the U.S. Department of State, removed Abdi Ali Nur Mohamed from the United States. Nur Mohamed had ordered the executions of innocent civilians in Somalia based upon their political opinions and clan membership.
- September 2004 Marko Boskic was indicted in the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts for concealing his military service in applications to the U.S. government. Boskic was a member of an execution squad that murdered 800-1,000 Bosnian Muslims during the Srebrenica genocide in the former Yugoslavia in 1995. He was convicted and sentenced to 63 months in prison in 2006. In April 2010, ERO removed Boskic to Bosnia and Herzegovina where he is currently serving a prison sentence for his role in the killings.
- October 2004 ICE removed Juan Lopez-Grijalva to Honduras. Lopez-Grijalva, who was residing Miami, was a former Honduran Army colonel and intelligence chief who was linked to the kidnapping, torture and murder by Battalion 3-16 of approximately 184 people during the 1980s.
- July August 2005 Thirteen members of the Bosnian Serb military were indicted in the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona for making false statements in their immigration applications. The individuals concealed their past military service in units linked to the July 1995 Srebrenica genocide.
- June 2006 Milenko Stjepanovic and Branko Ristic were indicted in U.S. District Court for the District Court of Utah for visa fraud for concealing their past military service in units linked to Srebrenica. Milenko Stjepanovic pleaded guilty July 31, 2007, and in January 2008 was sentenced to probation. On April 24, 2008, Ristic pleaded guilty to one count of false statements and was sentenced to probation.
- August 2006 ICE ERO removed Pero Popovic to Bosnia after an ICE investigation revealed he was a guard at a Bosnian Serb concentration camp where Muslim civilians were detained under harsh conditions.
- October 2006 ICE ERO removed Kelbessa Negewo to Ethiopia after a judge in the
 U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia revoked his U.S. citizenship for
 concealing his past human rights violations during the Ethiopian "Red Terror" period.
 This was the first removal order obtained by ICE under the authorities of the Intelligence
 Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, which added torture and extrajudicial
 killings as grounds of removability from the United States.
- December 2006 Roy Belfast Jr., aka Chuckie Taylor Jr., was indicted in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida on federal torture charges after an investigation by HSI and the FBI revealed he committed acts of torture in Liberia during the Liberian



civil wars. In October 2008, Taylor was convicted and later sentenced to 97 years in prison. This is the first conviction for the federal criminal offense of torture.

- December 2006 ERO officers arrested Placide Jolicoeur, a Haitian human rights violator, in Broward County, Fla. Jolicoeur was a former commander of the sub-district in Mirebalais, Haiti in 1992. The U.S. State Department identified him in a 1997 report which referenced Jolicoeur's name on a U.N. Civilian Mission List of 240 human rights violators. On March 7, 2007, ERO removed Jolicoeur to Haiti.
- December 2006 Nedjo Ikonic was charged in U.S. District Court for the Eastern
 District of Wisconsin with two counts of visa fraud for concealing his past service in
 units that assisted in the Srebrenica genocide. He pleaded guilty in September 2008 and
 was sentenced to one year in prison in February 2009. ERO removed Ikonic to Bosnia in
 January 2010.
- December 2006 Jadranko Gostic was indicted in U.S. District Court for the Middle
 District of Florida for unlawful procurement of citizenship and false statements. In
 January 2010, a civil complaint was filed against Gostic arguing that he illegally obtained
 his denaturalization and alleging that Gostic served in the Zvornik Infantry Brigade of the
 Bosnian Serb Army from April 1992 to December 1995. The Zvornik Brigade
 participated in the July 1995 Srebrenica genocide. In May 2010, a federal judge ordered
 Gostic denaturalized and the criminal charges were dismissed. Gostic returned to Serbia
 in June 2010.
- March 2007 HSI special agents arrested former Peruvian Army Major Telmo Ricardo Hurtado-Hurtado based on an indictment in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida. Hurtado-Hurtado was indicted for one count of visa fraud and one count of false statements on a visa application in relation to his statements regarding his involvement in the 1985 massacre at Accomarca, Peru, during which 69 civilians were killed. He was convicted in July 2007. In July 2011, the U.S. government extradited Hurtado-Hurtado to Peru. Hurtado-Hurtado is now on trial in Peru for his involvement in the Accomarca massacre.
- April 2007 Prince Solomon Knox was convicted in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division for concealing his involvement with armed rebel groups in Sierra Leone to falsely gain entry into the United States.
- April 2007 HSI special agents arrested Ernesto Guillermo Barreiro, a former
 Argentinean military officer, on charges of visa fraud in the U.S. District Court for the
 Eastern District of Virginia. In September 2007, Barreiro was sentenced to six months'
 incarceration after pleading guilty. Barreiro had previously been arrested in Argentina
 for alleged acts of torture and "kidnapping and torture resulting in death" when he was
 the chief of interrogation from 1976 to 1979 at "La Perla," a clandestine interrogation



center in Cordoba, Argentina, during the Argentine "Dirty War." In October 2007, ERO removed Barreiro to Argentina.

- May 2007 ICE ERO removed Gonzalo Guevara-Cerritos, a former Salvadoran army lieutenant, to El Salvador. Cerritos was involved in the November 1989 massacre of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter in San Salvador, El Salvador.
- June 2007 Isaac Kamali, an alleged Rwandan genocide suspect, was denied entry into the United States. Kamali was wanted by Rwandan authorities for engaging in human rights abuses during the 1994 Rwandan genocide.
- September 2007 Ratko Maslenjak, a former Bosnian Serb soldier, was convicted in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio of two counts of immigration fraud for making false statements about his prior military service in the Drina Corps, Bratunac Brigade, 5th Company, 1st Battalion of the Army of the Republika Srpska (VRS). Maslenjak had a leadership role in a unit which assisted in the Srebrenica genocide in July 1995. In January 2008, he was sentenced to two years' probation.
- April 2008 The Human Rights Violators and War Crimes Center began as a pilot project to further increase the efficiency of complex human rights violator investigations.
- June 2008 The Human Rights Violators and War Crimes Unit initiated the Human Rights Target Tracking Team (HRT3) to prevent known human rights abusers from gaining entry into the United States. Since the inception of HRT3, 129 suspected human rights violators have been prevented from entering the United States and more than 21,000 lookouts of suspected human rights violators have been entered in crucial databases.
- August 2008 ICE ERO removed Juan Manuel Rivera-Rondon, a former Peruvian Army officer, to Peru. Rivera-Rondon had been previously charged in Peru in relation to his involvement in the 1985 massacre at Accomarca, Peru, during which 69 civilians were killed. Rivera-Rondon is on trial in Peru for his involvement in the Accomarca Massacre.
- December 2008 Prudence Kantengwa was indicted in the U.S. District Court District of Massachusetts of using a visa she fraudulently obtained by providing false information about her background on a questionnaire designed by the State Department to identify individuals involved in or associated with the 1994 Rwandan genocide. In May 2012, a jury found Kantengwa guilty of immigration fraud, perjury in immigration court and obstruction of justice. In October 2012, she was sentenced to 21 months in prison.
- February 2009 Following an HSI investigation, Carlos de Graca Lopes, a citizen of Cape Verde, was sentenced to 36 months in prison in the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts for making false statements, visa fraud, perjury and obstruction



of an administrative proceeding. The Cape Verdean authorities claimed Lopes committed torture and other criminal violations while a warden at a prison in Cape Verde.

- February 2009 HSI special agents in New York City arrested Andy Akromah, a former employee of the Ghana Bureau of National Investigation who was involved in the arrests of individuals politically opposed to the government, for making false statements on his application for lawful permanent residence status. Akromah was indicted in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York with fraud. Akromah pleaded guilty in May 2009 and was sentenced to time served in June 2009. In August 2009, ERO removed Akromah from the United States.
- March 2009 ICE ERO removed Josias Kumpf to Austria. Kumpf was a former Waffen SS Death's Head Battalion guard at the Nazi-run Sachsenhausen concentration camp in Germany and at the Trawniki SS training camp in Poland.
- May 2009 ICE ERO removed John Demjanjuk to Germany to face criminal charges for 28,060 counts of accessory to murder. Documents established Demjanjuk served as a police auxiliary at Trawniki SS training camp in Poland, the Sobibor concentration camp in Poland, and Majdanek concentration camp in Poland, and later as a Waffen SS Death's Head Battalion guard at the Flossenburg concentration camp in Germany. Demjanjuk was convicted in Germany in May 2011 and sentenced to five years in prison.
- June 2009 HSI special agents arrested Juan Miguel Mendez in Washington, D.C., based on an outstanding warrant from Argentina alleging his involvement in torture and disappearances in at least two clandestine detention centers during the "Dirty War" in Argentina. In December 2010, ERO removed him to Argentina.
- October 2009 ICE Director John Morton permanently established the Human Rights Violators and War Crimes Center bringing together various U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) components to work collaboratively on human rights violators and war crimes investigations.
- May 2010 Gilberto Jordan was indicted in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida for naturalization fraud for allegedly concealing his military service, including his involvement in the 1982 Dos Erres massacre in Guatemala. Jordan admitted in the course of an HSI investigation that he participated with other Guatemalan special forces soldiers called the "Kaibiles" in the systematic killing of approximately 250 men, women and children of the village of Dos Erres. More than 160 victims' bodies were later recovered in forensic exhumations. According to court documents, the Kaibiles also raped many of the women and girls before killing them. In July 2010, Jordan pleaded guilty. In September 2010, the court sentenced Jordan to 10 years in prison and revoked his U.S. citizenship.



- June 2010 Beatrice Munyenyezi was indicted in the U.S. District Court District of New Hampshire for misrepresenting material facts to U.S. authorities concerning her participation in the 1994 Rwandan genocide, including personally ordering more than two dozen Tutsis to be raped and murdered. In February 2013, a jury found her guilty of naturalization fraud and in July 2013, she was sentenced to 10 years in prison.
- July 2010 Milenko Krstic, a former member from the Bosnian Serb Army and member of a unit at the Srebrenica genocide in 1995, pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon, to making false statements to immigration officials when he immigrated to the United States.
- July 2010 ICE administratively charged former Guatemalan special forces soldier Pedro Pimentel Rios, with having committed, assisted, or otherwise participated in extrajudicial killings during the 1982 Dos Erres massacre in Guatemala. In May 2011, the immigration court sustained the extrajudicial killing charge against Pimentel. In July 2011, ERO removed him to Guatemala. In Guatemala, Pimentel Rios was tried, convicted, and sentenced to 6,060 years in prison for his participation in the Dos Erres massacre.
- August 2010 Zeljko Boskovic was convicted in U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon for visa fraud and false statements for concealing his service in the Zvornik Brigade, a unit involved in the Srebrenica genocide in July 1995.
- January 2011 ICE ERO removed Branko Popic to Bosnia and Herzegovina. During Popic's immigration removal proceedings, the judge concluded that Popic served in the VRS from 1992 to1995, and was a member of the VRS's Zvornik Brigade, a unit involved in the Srebrenica genocide in July 1995.
- May 2011 ICE ERO removed Mohamed Ibrahim Abdi to Ethiopia. Two Somali victim witnesses testified in immigration proceedings that he tortured them while serving as a police commissioner in the Ogden Region of Ethiopia.
- June 2011 Zeljko Zekic pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia to lying to federal immigration officials about his place of residence and his employer during the Bosnian war. Zekic was a member of a special police unit during the Srebrenica genocide in July 1995.
- August 2011 President Obama issued Presidential Study Directive -10 (PSD-10) announcing that the prevention of mass atrocities and genocide is a core national security interest and a core moral responsibility of the United States. National security is affected when masses of civilians are slaughtered, refugees flow across borders, and murderers wreak havoc on regional stability and livelihoods. PSD-10 establishes an interagency Atrocities Prevention Board (APB) with the primary purpose of coordinating a whole government approach to preventing mass atrocities and genocide. DHS is a member of



and fully participates in the activities of the APB at principal, deputy, and sub-APB levels.

- January 2012 The U.S. Marshals Service arrested Almaz Nezirovic following a lengthy HSI investigation for immigration fraud based on crimes committed during the Bosnian conflict. Nezirovic was cleared to be extradited to Bosnia in September 2013. He is wanted in Bosnia for war crimes against civilians that were committed between April and July 1992. During the Bosnian war, Nezirovic was a prison guard for the military group Croatian Defence Council (HVO). He was accused of beating, humiliating, and traumatizing civilian prisoners.
- March 2012 ICE ERO removed George Saigbe Boley from the United States to his
 native Liberia. Boley's case was the first instance ICE used the "use or recruitment of
 child soldiers" immigration charge. The immigration court found that Boley engaged in
 extrajudicial killings and used/recruited child soldiers while the leader of the Liberian
 Peace Council rebel group.
- March 2012 ICE ERO removed Carlos Napoleon Medina-Garay to El Salvador. Medina-Garay was implicated in human rights violations during the Salvadoran Civil War.
- May 2012 ICE ERO removed Dejan Radojkovic, a former Bosnian-Serb platoon commander whose unit was involved in the Srebrenica genocide. Radojkovic was turned over to Bosnian authorities and is currently on trial for his role in the killings.
- May 2012 HRVWCC, together with ERO expanded the No Safe Haven Initiative to include locating, apprehending and removing absconders identified as human rights violators.
- August 2012 The FBI Genocide and War Crimes Unit joined forces with HSI's Human Rights Violators and War Crimes Unit (HRVWCU) and co-located within the Human Rights Violators and War Crimes Center.
- August 2012 Kefelegn Alemu Worku was indicted in the U.S. District Court for the
 District of Colorado for fraudulent procurement of citizenship or naturalization,
 aggravated identity theft and fraud and misuse of visas. ICE's investigation revealed
 several members of the Ethiopian community in Denver identified Worku as the head of
 a large prison during the late 1970s. During this period, known as the Ethiopian "Red
 Terror," numerous political prisoners were tortured and murdered. A federal jury
 convicted Worku in October. The court denaturalized Worku immediately and scheduled
 a sentencing hearing in December.
- September 2012 Mladen Mitrovic was arrested by HSI special agents after being indicted on naturalization fraud charges arising from his failure to disclose material facts



related to his service as a senior staff member at Trnopolje detention camp outside Prijedor, Bosnia, in the spring and summer of 1992. The case involved extensive investigative work in Bosnia, Western Europe and the United States, conducted by HRVWCU and HSI Atlanta.

- September 2012 Inocente Orlando Montano, a former member of the Salvadoran High Command, pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts to three counts of immigration fraud and three counts of perjury. Montano served in several command posts and ultimately as El Salvador's vice minister for public security during the Salvadoran Civil War from 1980 to 1992. In August, Montano was sentenced to 21 months of prison. Montano is wanted in Spain in connection with the November 1989 massacre of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter in San Salvador, El Salvador.
- November 2012 ICE ERO removed Yousef Ahmed Tire to Somalia after successfully barring him from receiving immigration benefits. Tire admitted to participating in raids to abduct women of minority tribes who were subsequently raped.
- April 2013 After a lengthy HSI investigation, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York found Sulejman Mujagic extraditable pursuant to an official request from the government of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Mujagic was charged in Bosnia and Herzegovina with the unlawful killing of the enemy, and unlawful wounding and torture of a prisoner of war. The case was based on extensive investigative work by HRVWCU in Bosnia and elsewhere in Europe.
- October 2013 A federal jury in U.S. District Court for the Central District of
 California found Jorge Vinicio Sosa Orantes guilty of one count of false statements and
 one count of naturalization fraud. Sosa, a native and citizen of Guatemala and
 naturalized citizen of both the United States and Canada, participated in the 1982 Dos
 Erres massacre in Guatemala, in which Guatemalan special forces soldiers known as the
 "Kaibiles" killed approximately 250 civilians. Over 160 victims' bodies were later
 recovered in forensic exhumations. Sosa was one of three commanding officers at the
 massacre.
- October 2013 In response to PSD-10, HSI initiated the Atrocities Prevention
 Targeting pilot program. Utilizing ICE's statutory authority, HSI is uniquely positioned
 to disrupt an organization's ability to launch an attack on a population by disrupting and
 dismantling transnational criminal organizations that seek to exploit the United States'
 legitimate travel, trade and financial systems for illicit purposes.
- October 2013 Predrag Lozanovic, a former member of the Bosnian Serb Army and a member of a paramilitary police unit during the 1995 Srebrenica massacre, pleaded guilty in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio to one count of naturalization



fraud. According to the plea agreement, Lozanovic will be sentenced in January 2014 and will stipulate his removal from the United States.