





MEDIA CONTACT: Michelle Domengoni 281-341-8738 office 832-278-9893 cell michelle.domengoni@fortbendcountytx.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Sept. 5, 2023

## Fort Bend County Sheriff's Detectives Make Arrests in Human Smuggling Case

**(FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS)** – Fort Bend County Sheriff's detectives arrested Jose Jose Aguirre, 24, Jose Aguirre Martin, 22, and Orlando Noe Betancur Flores, 21, in connection with a kidnapping and human smuggling scheme.

On August 30, 2023, at approximately 12:00 pm, Fort Bend County Sheriff's deputies responded to a check welfare call leading to an investigation at the 12000 block of Meadow Hollow Drive, Meadows Place, Fort Bend County, Texas. The initial investigation led to human smuggling, with several immigrants allegedly held captive against their will.

As investigators of the Human Trafficking Unit responded, the investigation led to information regarding kidnapping and human smuggling of immigrants, five of whom were recovered at a residence. The immigrants were allegedly illegally smuggled from Mexico. The five victims were being held captive in a locked un-air-condition garage at the location pending payment of additional money.

The smuggling incident led to charges against three individuals for Smuggling of Persons. Jose Aguirre, Jose Martin, and Orlando Flores were each charged with this offense, and bond was set at \$500,000 for Martin and \$500,000 for Flores. Jose Aguirre was also charged with Aggravated Kidnapping. His bond is currently pending.

"We are dedicated to keeping our community safe while combating heinous crimes such as these, and we are working tirelessly to bring perpetrators to justice", said Sheriff Eric Fagan. "While arrests have been made, this investigation continues in order to ensure all involved are held accountable."



JOSE JOSE AGUIRRE (24 YOA)



JOSE AGUIRRE MARTIN (22 YOA)



ORLANDO NOE BETANCUR FLORES (21 YOA)

-###-

## About the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office

The Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office was founded in 1837 and is the largest and most diverse law enforcement agency in Fort Bend County. The Sheriff's Office has 917 employees, including 615 sworn peace officers and 22 reserve volunteer deputies dedicated to protecting and serving nearly 900,000 Fort Bend County residents. Among the 10 fastest-growing counties in the nation, Fort Bend covers 885 square miles and includes 21 unincorporated communities.

Visit our website | <u>www.fbcsheriff.org</u> View our <u>2022 Annual Report</u> Follow us on social media | <u>https://linktr.ee/FBCSOTexas</u>

## Address/Location

Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office 1840 Richmond Parkway Richmond, TX 77469

## Contact

Emergency: 9-1-1 Non-emergencies: 281-341-4665