



STATE OF OKLAHOMA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

**Statement of Tim Tipton,
Oklahoma Commissioner of Public Safety**

**Before the Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Accountability
House Committee on Homeland Security
119th Congress, Second Session**

For the March 4, 2026, hearing:

Highway Safety Under Threat: Examining Non-Domiciled CDL Issuance to Illegal Aliens

Thank you Chairman Brecheen, Ranking Member Thanedar, and esteemed members of the subcommittee. I appreciate the opportunity to share with you the Oklahoma Highway Patrol's (OHP) experience with the shocking amount of transnational freight being transported by illegal aliens.

The month after President Trump took office, ICE announced its Task Force Model agreements. These agreements allow state and local officers to become credentialed through ICE to enforce immigration laws during routine law enforcement encounters. OHP immediately joined and rapidly sent all 730 of its officers through the ICE credentialing process. With every Oklahoma trooper now having an ICE credential, we have been given a unique and first-hand view of the prolific problem of illegal aliens operating commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) on our National Interstate and Defense Highway system.

By way of quick example, last September OHP and ICE conducted a joint emphasis in western Oklahoma along the I-40 corridor. During this emphasis, OHP took 90 CMV operators into custody for immigration violations – aliens from all over Eastern Europe, Asia, and Africa.¹ This means that in approximately 24 hours of shift work, on a random weekday in the middle of our heartland, roughly 50% of OHP's CMV encounters resulted in the arrest of an illegal alien.

In fact, since late summer 2025, OHP has taken over 450 CMV operators into custody for immigration violations. Many of these drivers struggle with even basic English language proficiency and likely received their licenses from unscrupulous CDL mills.² Through this experience, OHP has learned of several concerning problems with the federally regulated system

¹ Exhibit 1, Highlights from Joint OHP-ICE Emphasis in Beckham County, OK; Sept. 23-24, 2025.

² *Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Moves to Shut Down Hundreds of CDL Mills Violating Federal Regulations.* (Feb. 18, 2026). <https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/trumps-transportation-secretary-sean-p-duffy-moves-shut-down-hundreds-cdl-mills>.

for issuance of Commercial Driver Licenses (CDLs). I will share an account of one OHP immigration arrest that highlights these problems.

During a joint OHP-ICE emphasis, OHP encountered a driver operating an 80,000-pound semitruck traveling from California to Missouri. As our trooper was performing a standard CMV inspection, the driver presented a REAL ID compliant CDL with the first name listed as “No Name Given.” After discovering the driver was an illegal alien, our trooper used his ICE 287g credential to arrest him for immigration violations.³ On many similar occasions, we have encountered:

1. Illegal aliens operating with facially valid CDLs,
2. CDLs with expiration dates far exceeding the alien’s temporary immigration status,
3. CDLs not being labeled “Non-Domiciled” as required by FMCSA regulations,⁴ and
4. REAL IDs being issued to illegal aliens, including REAL IDs listing only a first or last name.

OHP’s experience corroborates the FMCSA’s recent policy position that an Employment Authorization Document (EAD) is an inadequate qualifier for an alien to operate in this highly regulated critical infrastructure industry. FMCSA’s recent rulemaking on Non-Domiciled CDLs⁵ represents a practical and effective solution to many of these problems.⁶ However, challengers have already filed suit to upend FMCSA’s new rule.⁷ I urge Congress to support this rule making effort and to pass any legislation that may be necessary in response to judicial challenges.

That leaves the concerns about REAL IDs being issued to aliens with a tenuous immigration status. Though I am not an expert on REAL IDs, other high-ranking authorities share my surprise and concern about temporary aliens being granted REAL IDs. As you are aware, the purpose of a REAL ID is to serve a gatekeeping function into federal facilities, commercial air travel, and even nuclear facilities.⁸ However, the Act authorizes issuance of REAL IDs to aliens with nothing more than temporary visas, pending applications for asylum or temporary protected status, or even a deferred action status, which is merely a parole into the U.S. In view of the gatekeeping function of REAL IDs, I urge reconsideration of the qualifiers for aliens to receive these credentials.

³ Exhibit 2, *ICE Arrest Illegal Alien Driving an 18-Wheeler with New York Commercial Driver’s License Issued to “No Name”* (Oct. 10, 2026). <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/10/10/ice-arrest-illegal-alien-driving-18-wheeler-new-york-commercial-drivers-license>.

⁴ 49 C.F.R. § 383.153(c).

⁵ 91 Fed. Reg. 7044 (Feb. 13, 2026).

⁶ *Non-Domiciled CDL 2026 Final Rule FAQs*. <https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/regulations/non-domiciled-cdl-2026-final-rule-faqs>.

⁷ *Lujan v. Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration*, No. 26-1032 (D.C. Cir. Feb. 12, 2026).

⁸ [Real ID Act of 2005, § 201, Title II of Division B of Public Law 109-13, codified at 48 U.S.C. § 30301 note.](#)

Let us not forget that a CDL with a hazardous materials endorsement permits a driver to drive a liquid fuel bomb to virtually any location in America. 9/11 should remind us how critical it is to safeguard our transportation network. A coordinated nationwide enforcement effort is critical to protecting our nation, not only from the dangers to the motoring public of unqualified alien drivers, but also from potential terrorist threats.⁹

Thank you again, Chairman Brecheen, Ranking Member Thanedar, and members of the Subcommittee for permitting me to share with you the experience of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol.

⁹ Maj. Staff of H.R. Subcomm. on Immigration Integrity, Security, and Enforcement of the Comm. on Judiciary, 118th Cong., [*Terror at Our Door: How the Biden-Harris Administration's Open-Borders Policies Undermine National Security and Endanger Americans*](#) (Aug. 5, 2024).

Exhibit 1

Joint OHP-ICE Emphasis Beckham County, OK Sept. 23-24, 2025

THE OFFICE OF GOVERNOR
J. KEVIN STITT



OKLAHOMA
Dept of Public Safety

Results

- Vast majority of illegal aliens entered US illegally between 2020 and 2024 through our southern border
- Immigration violations included:
 - Illegal reentry after prior deportation
 - Final deportation order in place
 - Entry without inspection (undetected border crossing)
 - Visa overstay

Results

Among the illegal aliens detained, prior criminal histories included:

- Human Smuggling
- Drug Trafficking / Distribution
- Money Laundering
- Assault
- Driving Under the Influence
- Failure to Appear for Criminal Charges

Countries of Origin

Tajikistan

India

Montenegro

Uzbekistan

Georgia

Kyrgyzstan

Kazakhstan

China

Pakistan

Russia

Belarus

Ukraine

Turkey

Mauritania

Cuba

Guatemala

Mexico

Venezuela

Top CDL Issuing States

California – 44 CDL Driver's Taken Into Custody

New York – 14 CDL Driver's Taken Into Custody

Pennsylvania – 12 CDL Driver's Taken Into Custody

Illinois – 11 CDL Driver's Taken Into Custody

NOTICE

Due to the lapse in federal funding, this website will not be actively managed. [Click here for more information.](#)

Exhibit 2

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

ICE Arrest Illegal Alien Driving an 18-Wheeler with New York Commercial Driver's License Issued to "No Name"

Release Date: October 10, 2025

DHS is working with Department of Transportation, state and local partners to get illegal alien truck drivers off our highways

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) today announced the arrest of an illegal alien, Anmol Anmol, who was issued a commercial driver's license (CDL) by the state of New York to "No Name Given Anmol."



On September 23, 2025, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol encountered Anmol during a routine inspection at a truck scale on I-40. Record checks conducted by ICE revealed Anmol is an illegal alien from India. ICE arrested him and placed him in removal proceedings.

He entered the U.S. illegally in 2023 and was released by the Biden administration into the country.



The arrest was part of a successful [three-day enforcement operation](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fwww.dhs.gov%2Fnews%2F2025%2F10%2F06%2Fwashington-us-department-homeland-security-dhs-today-released-following-statement/1/01000199cf66f396-fa81d14b-0740-4e01-9a40-4f46e83113d3-000000/QBzOpA8y5UDh0f1y06UPvhNP1wS_OFcC-ubCk4cB150=426) (https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fwww.dhs.gov%2Fnews%2F2025%2F10%2F06%2Fwashington-us-department-homeland-security-dhs-today-released-following-statement/1/01000199cf66f396-fa81d14b-0740-4e01-9a40-4f46e83113d3-000000/QBzOpA8y5UDh0f1y06UPvhNP1wS_OFcC-ubCk4cB150=426) on targeted threats to public safety along I-40 in Oklahoma. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Oklahoma Highway Patrol's operation was made possible by Oklahoma's 287(g) partnership.

"Allowing illegal aliens to obtain commercial driver's licenses to operate 18-wheelers and transport hazardous materials on America's roads is reckless and incredibly dangerous to public safety. Thanks to the successful 287g partnership of ICE and Oklahoma Highway Patrol, Anmol Anmol is no longer posing a threat to drivers," said **Assistant Secretary Tricia McLaughlin**. *"New York is not only failing to check if applicants applying to drive 18-wheelers*

are U.S. citizens but even failing to obtain the full legal names of individuals they are issuing commercial drivers' licenses to. DHS is working with our state and local partners to get illegal alien truck drivers who often don't know basic traffic laws off our highways.”

In September, Marcus Coleman [spoke out](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Flinks-1.govdelivery.com%2FCL0%2Fhttps:%252F%252Fwww.dhs.gov%252Fnews%252F2025%252F09%252F25%252Ffather-speaks-out-after-ice-arrests-criminal-illegal-alien-who-struck-and-severely%2F1%2F01000199bb629918-632ef973-751b-497f-8f95-8e36086d872f-000000%2FkSMT6QV_5NBv9QYQ15phAOgWf-r_rqplhXH7e-phcdl=425/1/01000199cf66f396-fa81d14b-0740-4e01-9a40-4f46e83113d3-000000/n29lFA5f1yU9O9oAr51UHoedUMjoV0UkGfIZ2uKfz0=426) (https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Flinks-1.govdelivery.com%2FCL0%2Fhttps:%252F%252Fwww.dhs.gov%252Fnews%252F2025%252F09%252F25%252Ffather-speaks-out-after-ice-arrests-criminal-illegal-alien-who-struck-and-severely%2F1%2F01000199bb629918-632ef973-751b-497f-8f95-8e36086d872f-000000%2FkSMT6QV_5NBv9QYQ15phAOgWf-r_rqplhXH7e-phcdl=425/1/01000199cf66f396-fa81d14b-0740-4e01-9a40-4f46e83113d3-000000/n29lFA5f1yU9O9oAr51UHoedUMjoV0UkGfIZ2uKfz0=426), about ICE's arrest of an illegal alien who caused a multi-vehicle wreck while driving an 18-wheeler in California, leaving his 5-year-old daughter, [Dalilah](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Flinks-1.govdelivery.com%2FCL0%2Fhttps:%252F%252Fwww.gofundme.com%25252F%25252Fstand-with-dalilah-in-her-healing-journey%252F1%252F0100019981869f67-381b19d9-b86a-48a5-9c94-791c8023ac53-000000%252Ft4rwShUmcMC_xJSR5Ro4kgAH2RgMeyVUT2bblwvg3x4=424%2F1%2F01000199bb629918-632ef973-751b-497f-8f95-8e36086d872f-000000%2FmyKdVEXooimvXS40AeNfqSz1PsYRKUbnzJb9dXkKU3A=425/1/01000199cf66f396-fa81d14b-0740-4e01-9a40-4f46e83113d3-000000/3Mrn3UUUm2fKkVooHlq3QH_5NYQeslktXz7OWeH4eFDE=426) (https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Flinks-1.govdelivery.com%2FCL0%2Fhttps:%252F%252Fwww.gofundme.com%25252F%25252Fstand-with-dalilah-in-her-healing-journey%252F1%252F0100019981869f67-381b19d9-b86a-48a5-9c94-791c8023ac53-000000%252Ft4rwShUmcMC_xJSR5Ro4kgAH2RgMeyVUT2bblwvg3x4=424%2F1%2F01000199bb629918-632ef973-751b-497f-8f95-8e36086d872f-000000%2FmyKdVEXooimvXS40AeNfqSz1PsYRKUbnzJb9dXkKU3A=425/1/01000199cf66f396-fa81d14b-0740-4e01-9a40-4f46e83113d3-000000/3Mrn3UUUm2fKkVooHlq3QH_5NYQeslktXz7OWeH4eFDE=426), with critical, life altering injuries. In August, [ICE lodged an arrest detainer](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Flinks-1.govdelivery.com%2FCL0%2Fhttps:%252F%252Fwww.dhs.gov%25252Fnews%25252F2025%25252F08%25252F18%25252Fcriminal-illegal-alien-recklessly-driving-18-wheeler-kills-three-florida%252F1%252F0100019981869f67-381b19d9-b86a-48a5-9c94-791c8023ac53-000000%252FQEyERyrf_0Ftwoxv5tdl0uuBdYSKxxeRy9yUEcUh68=424%2F1%2F01000199bb629918-632ef973-751b-497f-8f95-8e36086d872f-000000%2FM5hBu812bgpW1VtOSkdx5PeKvYSEnmid3p-9yBsehSk=425/1/01000199cf66f396-fa81d14b-0740-4e01-9a40-4f46e83113d3-000000/ic2AFmj-ilEtMM_jmzLSva64YsjNoSl0KxztbVzPzRg=426) (https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Flinks-1.govdelivery.com%2FCL0%2Fhttps:%252F%252Fwww.dhs.gov%25252Fnews%25252F2025%25252F08%25252F18%25252Fcriminal-illegal-alien-recklessly-driving-18-wheeler-kills-three-florida%252F1%252F0100019981869f67-381b19d9-b86a-48a5-9c94-791c8023ac53-000000%252FQEyERyrf_0Ftwoxv5tdl0uuBdYSKxxeRy9yUEcUh68=424%2F1%2F01000199bb629918-632ef973-751b-497f-8f95-8e36086d872f-000000%2FM5hBu812bgpW1VtOSkdx5PeKvYSEnmid3p-9yBsehSk=425/1/01000199cf66f396-fa81d14b-0740-4e01-9a40-4f46e83113d3-000000/ic2AFmj-ilEtMM_jmzLSva64YsjNoSl0KxztbVzPzRg=426), for a criminal illegal alien—Harjinder Singh— following his arrest for **three counts of vehicular homicide while driving a semi-truck in Florida**.

DHS law enforcement is protecting American communities every day from another senseless tragedy like this taking place in another town, to another family. Victims of illegal alien crime may receive support from the [Victims of Immigration Crime Engagement \(VOICE\) Office](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Flinks-1.govdelivery.com%2FCL0%2Fhttps:%252F%252Fwww.ice.gov%25252Fvoice%252F1%252F0100019981869f67-381b19d9-b86a-48a5-9c94-791c8023ac53-000000%252FPTlvnNZPiUihvbSqN6EvFvPy2gACbi7JldSBMApXaa4=424%2F1%2F01000199bb629918-632ef973-751b-497f-8f95-8e36086d872f-000000%2Fh9jkXB1nQP7FSabRGADyaCsJdmW7l36ujUjSxNeKe4=425/1/01000199cf66f396-fa81d14b-0740-4e01-9a40-4f46e83113d3-000000/tOjzsQHCd-D2hILXwO9_4VBt0xA7dlnFOQn4Xp1p-CA=426) (https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Flinks-1.govdelivery.com%2FCL0%2Fhttps:%252F%252Fwww.ice.gov%25252Fvoice%252F1%252F0100019981869f67-381b19d9-b86a-48a5-9c94-791c8023ac53-000000%252FPTlvnNZPiUihvbSqN6EvFvPy2gACbi7JldSBMApXaa4=424%2F1%2F01000199bb629918-632ef973-751b-497f-8f95-8e36086d872f-000000%2Fh9jkXB1nQP7FSabRGADyaCsJdmW7l36ujUjSxNeKe4=425/1/01000199cf66f396-fa81d14b-0740-4e01-9a40-4f46e83113d3-000000/tOjzsQHCd-D2hILXwO9_4VBt0xA7dlnFOQn4Xp1p-CA=426), by contacting [1-855-488-6423](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Flinks-1.govdelivery.com%2FCL0%2Ftel:1-855-488-6423%252F1%252F0100019981869f67-381b19d9-b86a-48a5-9c94-791c8023ac53-000000%252F2XaNqclA7T4L8t4oS-f6lmQBm9U0FKC2ZgsKjUBzh-o=424%2F1%2F01000199bb629918-632ef973-751b-497f-8f95-8e36086d872f-000000%2FwsT4K1pvOwu7UBnAsv95t0BY8b4a_YsSZSEBRNgjn8=425/1/01000199cf66f396-fa81d14b-0740-4e01-9a40-4f46e83113d3-000000/S8auqMSvZCsbw572rEi9lu9Psnylj21SX2nbeZnbfM0=426) (https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Flinks-1.govdelivery.com%2FCL0%2Ftel:1-855-488-6423%252F1%252F0100019981869f67-381b19d9-b86a-48a5-9c94-791c8023ac53-000000%252F2XaNqclA7T4L8t4oS-f6lmQBm9U0FKC2ZgsKjUBzh-o=424%2F1%2F01000199bb629918-632ef973-751b-497f-8f95-8e36086d872f-000000%2FwsT4K1pvOwu7UBnAsv95t0BY8b4a_YsSZSEBRNgjn8=425/1/01000199cf66f396-fa81d14b-0740-4e01-9a40-4f46e83113d3-000000/S8auqMSvZCsbw572rEi9lu9Psnylj21SX2nbeZnbfM0=426).

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Topics

[BORDER SECURITY \(/TOPICS/BORDER-SECURITY\)](#) [CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES \(/TOPICS/CITIZENSHIP-AND-IMMIGRATION-SERVICES\)](#)

Keywords

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Last Updated: 11/13/2025