



Written by [Rebecca Terrell](#) on February 20, 2024

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Busing Illegals

The New American senior editor Rebecca Terrell recently interviewed a driver for one of the bus companies contracted with the state of Texas to transport illegal immigrants from the southern border to sanctuary cities. Below is part of the interview, with the driver's identity concealed for privacy purposes.

The New American: How many trips did you make with illegals aboard?

Driver: I only made one run. When I got back, I said to myself, "I'm not doing that again."

TNA: Did you feel unsafe?

Driver: No. There were two unarmed guards with me. They were from TEMA, the Texas Emergency Management Agency. The state of Texas contracts with a company called Wynne Transportation, and Wynne subcontracts with bus companies.

I refused any more runs like that because I'm a native Texan, and I don't like what's happening. I'm not opposed to people coming to the United States, but do it the right way.

But I remember the guards who were with me saying, "This is kinda sketchy." There were 35 people on my bus. Five of them were women, and 30 were men. All were single — no families. I'm not sure exactly where they were from, but all were Hispanic.

TNA: Did you quit because of it?

Driver: No. Once I told management that I would no longer do out-of-state runs, they simply didn't give me any more work. They benched me.

TNA: How was this assignment different than others?

Driver: Other assignments were charter buses for schools, churches, weddings, typical chauffeur stuff. But this was different. They send you to one of the border towns, you get a hotel room, and you stay there until you get a text message explaining when and where to do the pickup. That's also when you find out where you're going.

In my case, I got to El Paso on a Monday and went to my hotel. I stayed there Tuesday. On Wednesday morning, I finally got the text to go pick up. There was no explanation for the delay. After pick-up, it took only nine hours to get to the destination. I stayed in a hotel that night and drove back the next day.

TNA: Describe El Paso.

Driver: The authorities provide blankets, bottles of water and MREs [military, ready-to-eat meals]. They were herding [the immigrants] through like cattle. In just one day, there were 20 buses scheduled to pick up in that one city. Each bus holds 50 people, so do the math. And it's my understanding that these





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bus companies are getting \$25,000 per busload.

TNA: What was your destination?

Driver: I drove from El Paso to Colorado and dropped my passengers off at a Quality Inn hotel. It seemed that the hotel was hired out for that purpose. There was a sort of tent city on a side street. I don't know if that was just typical homeless, or if it was the immigrants.

TNA: Did any of your co-workers refuse the work?

Driver: It pays good money — \$340 per day plus mileage — so they're running 24/7. They're getting a lot more money for these trips than for normal charters.

TNA: Do you question Governor Greg Abbott's methods?

Driver: Yes and no. Yes, because he's allowing the border to stay open. No, because other places need to see what happens when you are overrun with illegal immigrants.

TNA: Are you glad you made the decision to stop driving them?

Driver: Was the money great? Absolutely. Could it have helped me solve a lot of my problems? Absolutely. But I was taught a long time ago, integrity is everything. And if you don't have integrity, you don't have anything.



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