Chief Patrol Agent Aaron M. Heitke on Twitter: "Regarding the @sdACLU admin complaint: @CBP strongly disagrees with the unsubstantiated allegations against our agents & supports what appear to be nothing short of heroic actions by those on scene. We take all allegations seriously & welcome the response of DHS OIG. Statement:"

CBP Statement Regarding ACLU Administrative Complaint
April 9, 2020

After reviewing the April 9th administrative complaint from the ACLU and JFS of San Diego, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) strongly disagrees with the unsubstantiated allegations against our agents. CBP treats those in our custody with dignity and respect and provides multiple avenues to report any misconduct. We take all allegations seriously and investigate all formal complaints. U.S. Border Patrol agents are expected to adhere to our policies and procedures, including those outlined in our National Standards on Transportation, Escort, Detention and Search. The allegations do not equate to what we know to be common practice at our facilities.

According to internal records, the woman was undergoing a medical assessment as part of initial processing when medical professionals identified that she was in labor. They quickly mobilized to successfully deliver her baby. Emergency medical services arrived soon after to transport the mother and baby to a local hospital for further medical care. A Border Patrol agent accompanied them to the hospital, as all individuals in CBP custody remain our responsibility at all times. Based on this available information, CBP supports what appear to be nothing short of heroic actions of medical personnel and agents on scene and welcomes the response of DHS OIG.

The complaint alleges "extremely cold temperatures in Chula Vista Station. We refer you to the National Standards on Transportation, Escort, Detention and Search page 6:"

"Temperature Controls: When it is within CBP control, officers/agents should maintain hold room temperature within a reasonable and comfortable range for both detainees and officers/agents. Under no circumstances will officers/agents use temperature controls in a punitive manner."

4:55 PM · Apr 9, 2020 · Twitter Web App
That station has multiple cameras in processing. Break out the video other and let’s see who’s telling the truth. You said you’re all about transparency. Let’s go.

I’m sure you secured the video being that there was a live birth and could have resulted in complaints. You would have done that to protect your agents against false allegations right? Right.

Long story short, your officers do not always treat people in their custody with respect. Your statement is false.