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Justice in Motion Executive Director Cathleen Caron's Statement on Ms L v ICE Settlement

NEW YORK, NY – "We're happy to see <u>resolution of negotiations in the *Ms L v ICE* lawsuit</u> on behalf of roughly 5000 migrant families who were separated by the Trump Administration during one of the most inhumane policies in recent history. This is an important step forward for families who are still reeling from the trauma of separation. <u>To be clear, our complicated work isn't over.</u>

For the last five years, Justice in Motion and members of its Defender Network in Mexico and Central America have spent thousands of hours and traveled thousands of miles making sure that the most vulnerable - the parents who were deported without their children - were included in reunification efforts. Through critical on the ground searches in collaboration with local NGO partners, we have located hundreds of separated parents and connected them with reunification assistance. We are continuing the ongoing search efforts for deported parents who still need to reunite with their kids, and look forward to supporting the implementation of the settlement.

While we applaud the Biden Administration's commitments in the Settlement Agreement to reunite families, offer access to the asylum process, and prohibit family separation policies for the next eight years, it's not enough. These injured families deserve a pathway to permanency and financial restitution for the damages they've suffered, and we call on Congress to deliver them."

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Justice in Motion protects migrant rights by ensuring justice across borders. Our unique network of on-the-ground human rights defenders in Mexico and Central America partner with U.S. advocates to make sure that wherever migrants go, their rights will follow.