



David P. Gonzales, United States Marshal

News Release

For Immediate Release
October 3, 2015

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REMAINING PIECE OF BRUTAL PHOENIX HOMICIDE CASE CAPTURED IN MEXICO

Phoenix, Ariz. – Early this morning, Lovonne De La Luz-Ruiz, 43, was arrested at the DeConcini Port of Entry in Nogales, Arizona. De La Luz-Ruiz was wanted in Maricopa County for Hindering Prosecution in the 1st Degree.

It is alleged that in April of 2013, De La Luz-Ruiz, a U.S. citizen, helped her two children, [Daniela](#) and [Michael](#) Stone, and their friend [Cassandra Devore](#), evade the Phoenix Police Department, after the three were involved in a brutal double homicide. With the help of De La Luz-Ruiz, the three eluded detection and fled to Nogales, Sonora, Mexico where De La Luz-Ruiz took them into her home and hid them from authorities. The three were subsequently located, apprehended and deported in June of 2013 through a collaborative effort between the U.S. Marshals Service and Mexican Authorities. The three were later convicted and are currently serving lengthy prison sentences with the Arizona Department of Corrections. De La Luz-Ruiz, however, managed to evade apprehension at the border and was thought to have stayed in Nogales, Sonora, Mexico.

Yesterday evening, after a lengthy and coordinated investigation by the U.S. Marshals Service and Mexican Authorities, De La Luz-Ruiz was located in central Nogales, Sonora, Mexico and was detained by Mexican Authorities without incident. She was processed through Mexican Immigration where she was deported from the Republic of Mexico and arrested by U.S. Authorities at the DeConcini Port of Entry. She is currently booked at the Santa Cruz County Jail where she will await transport back to Maricopa County.

"The search for the woman who helped three fugitives escape after killing two Burmese refugees with knives and metal pipes was brought to a close yesterday with the arrest of Lovonne de la Luz-Ruiz. De la Luz-Ruiz helped the killers escape by driving them to Mexico", said David P. Gonzales, U.S. Marshal for the District of Arizona. Marshal Gonzales added, "Aiding and abetting fugitives is a serious crime. By helping these three escape she became a fugitive who will be charged with hindering prosecution. Thanks to the work of the U.S. Deputy Marshals and our Mexican law enforcement counterparts, she is looking at prison time."

The United States Marshals Service is the nation's oldest federal law enforcement agency. Annually, U.S. Marshals arrest more than 50 percent of all federal fugitives and serve more federal warrants than all other federal agencies combined. For more information on USMS Fifteen Most Wanted fugitives and USMS Major Cases, go to www.usmarshals.gov.

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<http://archive.azcentral.com/community/phoenix/articles/20130626arrests-made-phoenix-murder-burmese-refugees-abrk.html>

<http://www.abc15.com/news/region-phoenix-metro/central-phoenix/phoenix-stabbing-three-more-suspects-arrested-in-stabbing-deaths-of-burmese-refugees>