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38th DISTRICT ATTORNEY NEWS RELEASE

On June 24, 2025, Jose Roberto Carrasco, of Bastrop County, Texas, was found guilty by a Real County jury of the 2nd degree felony offense of smuggling of persons-fleeing, in the 38th District Court. This trial stemmed from the arrest of Carrasco on November 10, 2022, when a citizen telephoned the Real County dispatch to report that a dark colored Dodge pick-up truck was observed pulling over on Highway 55, picking up several individuals who came from the brush area and jumped into the back of the truck. Retired Real County deputy A. Lewis traveled to the area and located the vehicle. As Deputy Lewis began to conduct a traffic stop, Carrasco pulled over to the side of the road and slowed the truck so that the 13-15 passengers in the back of the truck could bail out. Carrasco then continued driving the truck away and failed to stop. Deputy Lewis testified at the trial, that after several commands, Carrasco finally pulled over and was held at gun point. Also, testifying in the trial were Bastrop County investigator C. Brown that Carrasco was a convicted sex offender from the state of Illinois and Kinney County deputy D. Molinar who testified that Carrasco had been arrested in Kinney County in June 2022 also for smuggling of persons. The Real County jury found Carrasco guilty and sentenced him to the full extent of the law, twenty (20) years confinement in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice-Institutional Division and a \$10,000.00 fine. Prosecuting the case for 38th Judicial District for Real County was Christina Mitchell, District Attorney, Erin Benavides, assistant District Attorney-BPU prosecutor, and Michael Villarreal, BPU investigator. Susan Reed, retired Bexar County judge, presided over the trial.

