Non-Detained

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW IMMIGRATION COURT

In the Matter of:)
Last name, First Name)
Respondent)
In Removal Proceedings)

File No.: A xxx-xxx-xxx

Immigration Judge

Next hearing: 2015

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS INCLUDING COUNTRY CONDITIONS

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Country Conditions

М	Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, El Salvador: Crime and state efforts to combat crime; (June 25, 2012)	30-35
	Noting the existence of a formal witness protection program in El Salvador—the Victim and Witness Protection Area—that according to news reports which interviewed Salvadoran prosecutors and ex-prosecutors "at least 100 witnesses were murdered in 2010." The report further notes that a report by the US Department of State indicates that "street gang intimidation and violence against witnesses contributed to a climate of impunity from criminal prosecution."	
Ν	San Salvador Archbishop: Gang Truce 'Did Not Work', (March 31, 2014), InSight Crime	36-37
	Noting that an attempted gang truce facilitated by the Salvadoran government has failed and that murders in El Salvador had once aga spiked.	ain
0	Loss of Central America's Northern Triangle (Feb. 3, 2014), Douglas Farah, The Miami Herald	38-41
	Highlighting El Salvador's "unenviable position" as part of the "world's most violent corner," which serves as a "multifaceted transshipment corridor for transnational organized crime (TOC) groups" including Mexican drug trafficking cartels. Notes that El Salvador's government has moved from being "weak, somewhat corrupt and unresponsive to almost non-functional" and that its government has "past a tipping point in the correlation of forces between the state and TOC organizations."	
	Regarding the 2012 gang truce between the Mara Salvatrucha and the Mara 18 brokered by the Salvadoran government, the author notes that the "opaque process has benefited drug trafficking organizations, expanded the territories under gang control, given the gangs their first real taste of political power and completely ignored the victims."	
Р	The Transformation of El Salvador's Gangs into Political Actors (June 21, 2012), Douglas Farah, CSIS Center for Strategic & International Studies,	42-43
	Noting that, due to the 2012-2013 gang truce negotiated by the Salvadoran government, gangs have "morph[ed] into political	

Noting that, due to the 2012-2013 gang truce negotiated by the Salvadoran government, gangs have "morph[ed] into political actors" while the "overall level of criminality has not abated."

El Salvador: The presence and activities of Mara Salvatrucha (MS or MS-13) and of Barrio 18 (Mara 18 or M-18) in El Salvador, including recruitment; information on measures taken by authorities to fight maras, including legislation and protection offered to victims of the maras (2011-June 2014), UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency/Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 44-53

Observing that the number of mara (gang) members in El Salvador who are part of MS or M-18 is estimated to be between 20,000 and 70,000, and that that number has increased by 134.6 percent since 2008. The report notes that the vast majority (84%) of victims of Salvadoran gangs "do not file a complaint to the authorities because of threats and killings committed by gang members against those who do."

Regarding witnesses, the report notes that the "intimidation and killing of. . . crime victims and witnesses created a climate of fear, complicating investigation of violent crime and other alleged human rights abuses."

Noting that sources report that gang members "have infiltrated the military and national police in El Salvador" in order to "thwart security plans and get training." Further, the report notes that country reports from 2013 indicate that the Salvadoran judiciary "suffered from inefficiency, corruption, political infighting, and insufficient resources" and that "substantial corruption in the judicial system contributed to a high level of impunity, undermining the rule of law and the public's respect for the judiciary."

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