



**MAYOR**  
Oscar Leeser

**CITY MANAGER**  
Tommy Gonzalez

**CITY COUNCIL**

**District 1**  
Peter Svarzbein

**District 2**  
Alexandra Anello

**District 3**  
Cassandra Hernandez

**District 4**  
Joe Molinar

**District 5**  
Isabel Salcido

**District 6**  
Claudia L. Rodriguez

**District 7**  
Henry Rivera

**District 8**  
Cissy Lizarraga

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

04/26/2021

# Investigation into Aggravated Assault Uncovers Human Smuggling Operation

Date: 04/23/2021

Time: 5:31 AM

Location: Transmountain and South Desert Blvd.

Arrested: 24 –year old Mark Holguin of Sunland Park, New Mexico

Victim: 58 –year old Victor Venegas

EL PASO, Texas — Detectives with Crimes Against Persons continue their investigation into Friday’s early morning incident at Transmountain and South Desert Blvd. Westside patrol officers received a call just after 5:30 that morning of a subject with a gun. 58 –year old Victor Venegas reported to officers he happened upon a vehicle that had just rolled over at that location. Venegas pulled over in an attempt to offer help. As he approached, two male occupants exited the vehicle. One of the males, 24 –year old Mark Holguin, reportedly pointed a shotgun at Venegas before he and the male juvenile in his company fled toward the desert area on foot. The males were spotted a short time later at the Quality Inn & Suites, 6185 S. Desert, which further led to the discovery of a human smuggling operation taking place in a room at the hotel. Homeland Security Investigations was contacted and is continuing the investigation into the human smuggling element. Holguin was taken into custody and charged with Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon. He was booked into the El Paso County Detention Facility on a \$25,000 bond.



**Media Contact: Detective Diane Mack**  
Public Information Officer  
(915) 212.4037