

HAITI

SPORTS TRAVEL & U.S. DEPORTATION OF HAITIAN ASYLUM-SEEKERS

BACKGROUND

Since taking office, President Joe Biden has deported more than 26,000 Haitians, most of them since initiating mass deportations in 2021. The Dept. of Homeland Security's own civil rights office, Congress, senior administration officials, and human rights organizations have cited the deportations of Haitian asylum-seekers as inhumane in recognition of widespread poverty, food insecurity, and violence in Haiti. However, the flights continue. In September 2021, GEO Group, Inc. netted a single-bid \$15 million contract to expel Haitians by air. GEO relies on subcontractors; especially, but not only Swift/iAero, to provide the planes.

ABUSES

REFOULEMENT

Non-refoulement is an essential protection under international law that guarantees no one should be returned to a country where they would face grave harm.

DENIAL OF RIGHT TO SEEK ASYLUM

A U.S. policy known as Title 42 expels individuals who arrive at the border, denying them a chance to request asylum, a right protected under international law.

SPORTS TEAMS & ICE AIR

U.S. professional and collegiate sports teams frequently fly on the very same planes ICE uses to expel Haitians. University of Washington Center for Human Rights researchers found that at least 17 Major League Soccer teams and 13 National Hockey League teams – more than half of both leagues – flew on aircrafts that had been used in Haitian deportations. Oftentimes, athletes were on the planes only days after a deportation flight.

THE PLANE BELOW IS ONE OF MANY PLANES USED BY SWIFT/IAERO FOR BOTH DEPORTATION FLIGHTS AND SPORTS TRAVEL

OCT 2-7, 2021

This plane was used to **deport Haitian refugees** on October 2, 3, and 7, 2021.



PLANE TAIL # OPERATED BY:
N629SW SWIFT / IAERO

OCT 8-9, 2021

The next day, on October 8, 2021, this same plane was used by the **Missouri State football team**.

One day later, on October 9, 2021, this plane was used by the **Southern Illinois State football team**.

TEAMS THAT FLEW ON THE SAME PLANES USED IN DEPORTING HAITIAN ASYLUM-SEEKERS

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|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| ⚽ MLS Atlanta United FC | 🏒 NHL Boston Bruins | 🏀 Florida State U | 🏀 U of Alabama | 🏀 Abilene Christian U |
| ⚽ MLS CF Montreal | 🏒 NHL Buffalo Sabres | 🏀 George Mason | 🏀 U of Arizona | 🏀 Alabama A&M |
| ⚽ MLS Charlotte FC | 🏒 NHL Carolina Hurricanes | 🏀 Georgia Tech | 🏀 U of Illinois | 🏀 Colorado School of Mines |
| ⚽ MLS Chicago Fire FC | 🏒 NHL Chicago Blackhawks | 🏀 Idaho State | 🏀 U of Kansas | 🏀 Elon Phoenix |
| ⚽ MLS Columbus Crew | 🏒 NHL Columbus Blue Jackets | 🏀 Louisiana State U | 🏀 U of Maine | 🏀 Gardner-Webb |
| ⚽ MLS DC United | 🏒 NHL Dallas Stars | 🏀 Marquette | 🏀 U of Maryland | 🏀 Long Island U |
| ⚽ MLS FC Cincinnati | 🏒 NHL Florida Panthers | 🏀 New Mexico State | 🏀 U of Memphis | 🏀 Missouri State |
| ⚽ MLS Inter Miami CF | 🏒 NHL Nashville Predators | 🏀 North Carolina State | 🏀 U of Nebraska | 🏀 Monmouth U |
| ⚽ MLS Los Angeles FC | 🏒 NHL New York Islanders | 🏀 Notre Dame | 🏀 U of Pennsylvania | 🏀 Southern Illinois U |
| ⚽ MLS Nashville SC | 🏒 NHL Pittsburgh Penguins | 🏀 Penn State | 🏀 U of Pittsburgh | 🏀 UC Davis |
| ⚽ MLS New England Revolution | 🏒 NHL St. Louis Blues | 🏀 Saint Joseph | 🏀 U of Richmond | 🏀 U of Louisville |
| ⚽ MLS New York Red Bulls | 🏒 U of Minnesota | 🏀 Seton Hall | 🏀 U of Tennessee | 🏀 U of Nebraska Kearney |
| ⚽ MLS Orlando City SC | 🏀 Ohio State | 🏀 St Johns | 🏀 U of Tulsa | 🏀 U of North Dakota |
| ⚽ MLS Philadelphia Union | 🏀 Ole Miss | 🏀 Stephen F. Austin | 🏀 U of Virginia | 🏀 Valdosta |
| ⚽ MLS Real Salt Lake | 🏀 Stanford | 🏀 Syracuse | 🏀 USC | |
| ⚽ MLS Sporting KC | 🏀 Butler | 🏀 Temple U | 🏀 Virginia Commonwealth U | |
| ⚽ MLS Toronto FC | 🏀 De Paul | 🏀 Texas Tech | 🏀 Washington State U | |
| 🏒 NHL Arizona Coyotes | 🏀 Eastern Washington State | 🏀 UCLA | 🏀 Xavier | |

ABUSES IN THE AIR

SPORTS TRAVEL AND THE DEPORTATION INDUSTRY

For more information:
tinyurl.com/abusesintheair

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