

## Rollercoaster Ride

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The frustration that builds up from not knowing when I could be able to go home and see my daughters is devastating. My wife is crying from depression, which makes everything so much harder because I have to care for her. But who is going to help me in my time of need. The day I received my deportation notice plays in my head like a broken record. I've never been so concerned about my family in my life. I knew living in a house with only my wife and daughters I had to be the strong and help them through this situation.

Not knowing a specific date when my wife and I will return was hard for me because I had to lie to my daughters and tell them we would be home soon, when in reality I had no clue when I would return. My eldest daughter (16) had to help me run my business but my youngest (11) went through a lot of emotional struggles because she doesn't know how to express her feelings. Time goes by, I feel like a part of my life is being thrown in the garbage. I am thankful for all the support I had from my cousin and his wife, but especially the woman from the US Embassy Sandra Raynes. She was an angel she helped me when I doubted everything that was going on, she helped me keep the faith of returning home and reunite my family. She kept my wife and I informed on the progress of our case, helped us understand what was going on and helped me sleep at night knowing something about my case.

While in Tijuana, Mexico I thought about my ex lawyer who brought me in this situation, he committed fraud on many families and my family was one of them. Back in 1999 my lawyer at the time told me that my case was in progress, but in reality he hadn't sent one paper yet he was taking money. I thank god that helped me come to the lawyer I have now, because of her I was able to come back to my family. November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009 was the day I received news that my wife and I could return to see our two daughters we've missed for 11 months during this life changing situation. Calling my daughters that day I felt like the luckiest guy in the world, I didn't have to lie to them anymore because I knew my wife and I could return to San Jose and reunite our family.