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<http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/article/Two-local-dairy-farms-charged-with-illegal-9289538.php>

**Two local dairy farms charged with illegal immigrant violations**

BAY CITY — The owners and operators of two dairy farms in Huron and Tuscola counties have been indicted on charges of hiring and harboring undocumented immigrants.

According to the U.S. Attorney’s [Office Eastern District of Michigan](http://www.mysanantonio.com/search/?action=search&channel=news&inlineLink=1&searchindex=gsa&query=%22Office+Eastern+District+of+Michigan%22), Parisville Dairy and Dunganstown Dairy, along with owners [Denis Burke](http://www.mysanantonio.com/search/?action=search&channel=news&inlineLink=1&searchindex=gsa&query=%22Denis+Burke%22), 53, and [Madeline Burke](http://www.mysanantonio.com/search/?action=search&channel=news&inlineLink=1&searchindex=gsa&query=%22Madeline+Burke%22), 50, both of Cass City, were indicted by a federal grand jury in Bay City. The indictment was unsealed prior to the defendants’ arraignment in federal court.

Parisville Dairy is located at 3657 Parisville Road in Ruth. Dunganstown Dairy is located at 5301 Dodge Road in Cass City.

According to the indictment, the Burkes owned and operated the two dairy farms and employed workers at the farms. Beginning in 2007 and continuing through June 2013, the couple allegedly conspired to transport, conceal, harbor and shield from detection, undocumented immigrants to obtain their services for financial gain.

The indictment further alleges that as a regular part of its hiring practices, the Burkes and the farms failed to conduct the necessary inquiries required by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to determine the eligibility of all individuals to work in the United States. Some of the undocumented immigrants were hired by the Burkes on multiple occasions, using different names or [Social Security](http://www.mysanantonio.com/search/?action=search&channel=news&inlineLink=1&searchindex=gsa&query=%22Social+Security%22)numbers. The defendants induced the undocumented immigrants to reside in the U.S. by providing them with employment and free housing on the farm, away from scrutiny by immigration authorities and the community.

“HSI is committed to aggressively investigating individuals and businesses who allegedly hire and harbor illegal workers to gain an unfair economic advantage,” said [Marlon Miller](http://www.mysanantonio.com/search/?action=search&channel=news&inlineLink=1&searchindex=gsa&query=%22Marlon+Miller%22), special agent in charge of Homeland Security Investigations Detroit. “HSI simply will not turn a blind eye to employers who shirk their responsibility to maintain a legal workforce.”

The case was investigated by special agents of HSI, Immigration and Customs Enforcement with the assistance of the Michigan State Police and Huron County Sheriff’s Office. It is being prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney’s office in Bay City.

Attempts by the Tribune to reach the Burke residence and both farms for comment were unsuccessful.