



Fatal shooting adds to the debate over immigration

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Washington (SBG) - A Washington state Sheriff's deputy was killed in a shootout by a man in the country illegally and on an expired visa, according to [U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement](#).

The small community of Ellensburg, Washington is mourning the loss of 42-year-old Kittitas County Sheriff deputy, Ryan Thompson, who law enforcement say was killed by an illegal immigrant.

The suspect, Juan Manuel Flores del Toro, died in the shootout with police.

In 2014, Flores del Toro who is from Mexico entered the U.S. at Laredo, Texas on a temporary agriculture visa. That type of visa can be held for up to three years.

Immigration and Customs enforcement (ICE) says they have "no record of Flores del Toro leaving the US or extending his visa after it expired."

The State Department issued about one million seasonal guest worker visas in the last five years.

David Bier, an immigration policy analyst at the Cato Institute says it's uncommon for people to overstay on these kind of visas.

"They really don't want to compromise that status. That's why you don't really see deportations of people who've entered on guest worker visas -- they really fly under the radar. There's a big economic reason for them to avoid trouble with the law," said [David Bier](#), Immigration Policy Expert at [Cato Institute](#).

The killing comes as the number of immigrants arrested by ICE is falling.

Total arrests are down 12 percent compared to last year, according to data released by the agency Thursday.

ICE says the decline is because the agency is shifting resources to deal with surge of people crossing the southern border.

Deputy Ryan Thompson leave behind his wife and three children.