



**TEXAS DEPARTMENT  
OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

---

**OPERATION  
LONE STAR**

A large graphic of the Lone Star, which is a five-pointed star with a blue top half and a red bottom half, set against a white background. It is positioned behind the "OPERATION LONE STAR" text.

# DPS SOUTH TEXAS REGION



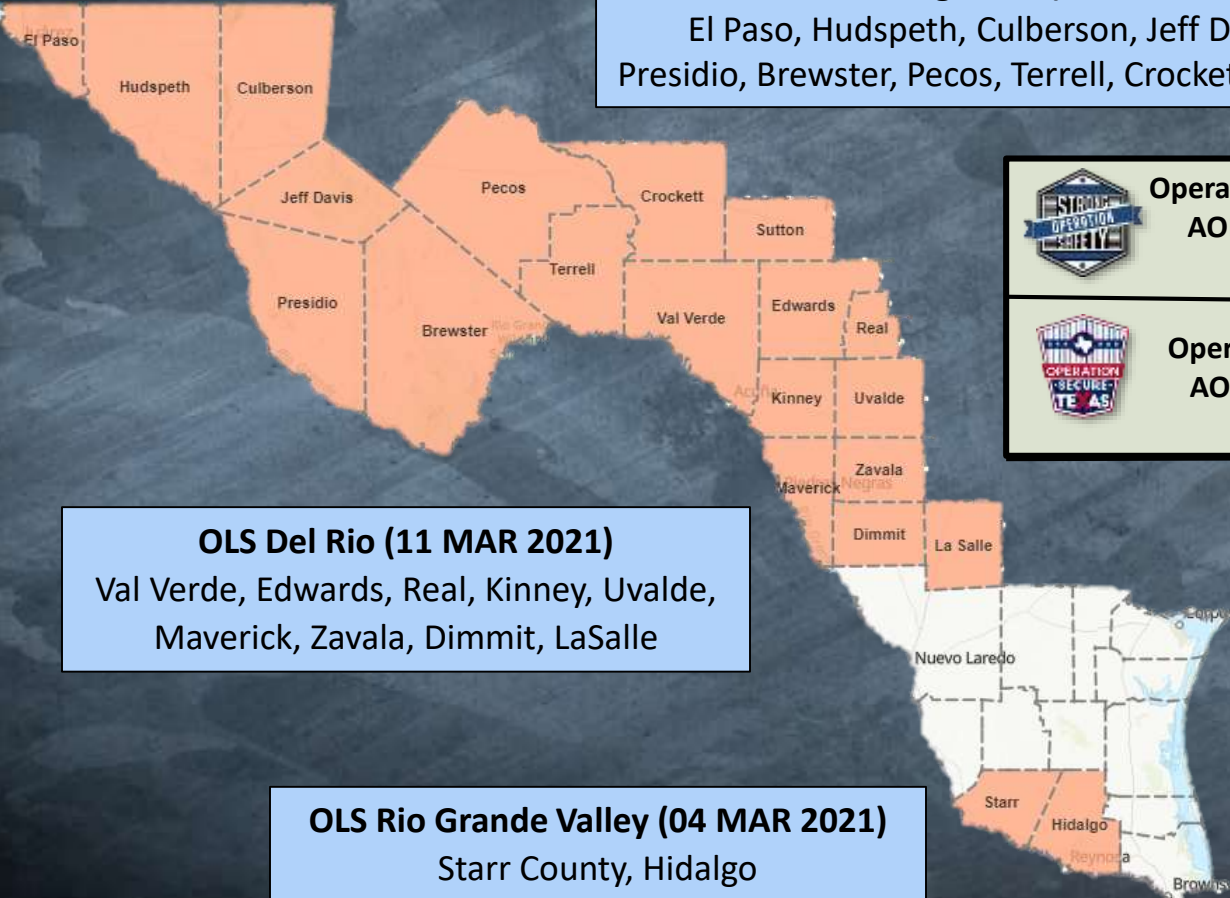
Aransas	Live Oak
Bee	Maverick
Brooks	Nueces
Cameron	Real
Dimmit	Refugio
Duval	San
Edwards	Patricio
Hidalgo	Starr
Jim Hogg	Uvalde
Jim Wells	Val Verde
Kenedy	Webb
Kinney	Willacy
Kleberg	Zapata
LaSalle	Zavala



# AREA OF OPERATION

## OLS El Paso/Big Bend (11 MAY 2021)

El Paso, Hudspeth, Culberson, Jeff Davis,  
Presidio, Brewster, Pecos, Terrell, Crockett, Sutton



## OLS Del Rio (11 MAR 2021)

Val Verde, Edwards, Real, Kinney, Uvalde,  
Maverick, Zavala, Dimmit, LaSalle

## OLS Rio Grande Valley (04 MAR 2021)

Starr County, Hidalgo



**Operation Strong Safety (22 JUN 2014 – 31 AUG 2015)**

AOR spanned from Starr Co through Hidalgo Co.



**Operation Secure Texas (01 SEPT 2015 – AUG 2017)**

AOR spans from Starr County to Hidalgo County



## THE ISSUE/PROBLEM:

The *consequences of an unsecured border with Mexico* has enabled drug trafficking organizations to evolve into vicious organized cartels posing a significant threat to the safety and security of the citizens of the *Rio Grande Valley and Texas* through the execution of a wide variety of criminal activities to include:

CARTEL-RELATED KIDNAPPINGS EXTORTIONS PUBLIC CORRUPTION RECRUITMENT OF CHILDREN  
HUMAN SMUGGLING AND TRAFFICKING DRUG SMUGGLING  
HOME INVASIONS TRANSNATIONAL GANGS ASSAULTS/SHOOTINGS OF/AT LAW ENFORCEMENT  
MURDER FOR PROFIT ROBBERIES HIGH-SPEED, FELONY VEHICLE EVASIONS

## OPERATIONAL GOAL:

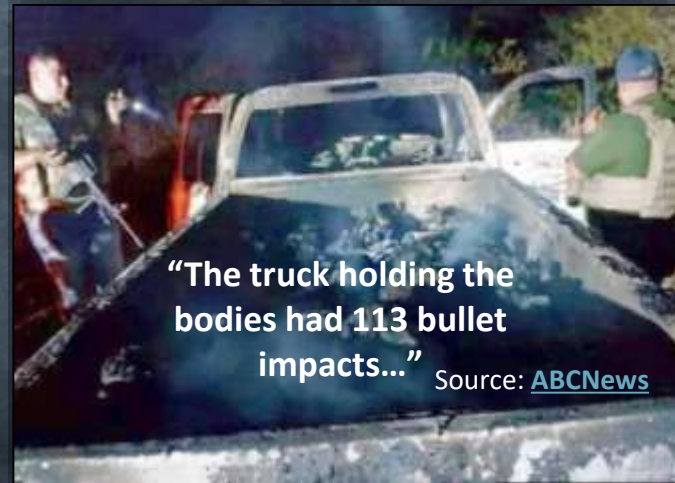
To prevent Mexican cartels, their operatives, transnational gangs, criminal aliens, potential terrorists, and narcotics from entering TEXAS between the ports of entry, by conducting sustained, around-the-clock, multi-agency ground, air and marine saturation patrols on the Texas/Mexico border, and in doing so, **REDUCE TRANSNATIONAL CRIME THROUGHOUT TEXAS.**

# VIOLENCE IN MEXICO

January 2021 – “A group of Mexican border state cops are believed to have murdered and incinerated 19 people. The victims included migrants, human smugglers and gunmen headed to Texas.”

The event took place near the border city of Camargo, Tamaulipas. “When authorities responded they found multiple torched vehicles with human remains inside, information released by the Tamaulipas government revealed.”

Source: [Breitbart](#)



**“The truck holding the bodies had 113 bullet impacts...”** Source: [ABCNews](#)





# VIOLENCE IN MEXICO

April 26, 2021 – ARMORED CARTEL SHOOTOUT IN MEXICO KILLS EIGHT NEAR TEXAS BORDER

At least eight cartel gunmen died in a fierce weekend shootout miles from the border with Texas. The fighting left several burned-out armored vehicles.

The fighting took place Friday evening and into Saturday morning on a collection of ranches near the border city of Camargo, just south of Rio Grande City, Texas. Locals revealed to Breitbart Texas they called Mexican authorities but no one arrived to help until the next morning when the gunmen had left. Gunmen from the Cartel Del Noreste faction of Los Zetas clashed with the Gulf Cartel in makeshift armored vehicles known as “monstruos” or monsters.



Source: [Breitbart](#)

Breitbart Texas / Cartel Chronicles







# TACTICS UTILIZED BY CARTELS

## PURSUIT'S

- Driving against the flow of traffic
- High-rates of speed
- Crashing into neighborhoods, houses, businesses, fences
- Swerving at LE vehicles
- Impeding traffic
- Disregarding traffic signals
- Deploy caltrops

Caltrops



## BAILOUTS

- Creates confusion
- Leave car in-gear
- Exit vehicle before stopping, causing injury

## SPLASHDOWNS

- Cartel operatives drive load vehicles into Rio Grande River
- Allows for quicker recovery of narcotics
- Cartel utilizes recovery teams to retrieve narcotics



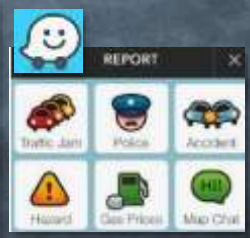
Splashdown



Load vehicle crashes into residential fence.

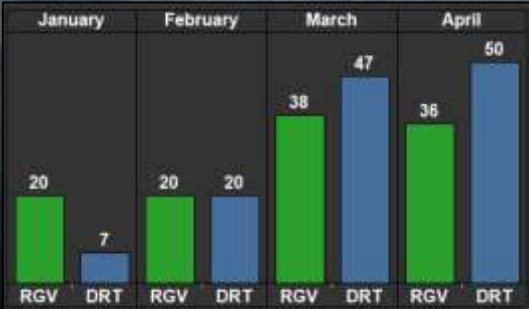
## SCOUTING

- Watching: Frequenting locations where Law Enforcement are known to patronize, gather, etc.
- Videotaping and photographing: Every where Law Enforcement frequents.
- Decoy: Initiating traffic stops by blatantly breaking traffic laws in front of Law Enforcement.
- Probing: Attempting to engage Law Enforcement in casual conversation to obtain operational information.
- Patrolling the Area: Roving patrols to determine Law Enforcement locations.
- Mexico-side: Scouts watching from the trees, roofs of houses.





# DPS TROOPER PURSUITS



DRT had a 614.3% increase in vehicle pursuits from January to April 2021 (7 to 50)



# VEHICLE INCURSIONS - CAMERON COUNTY





# **NARCOTICS SPLASHDOWN - STARR COUNTY**





# UAS OPERATIONS - RGV & EAGLE PASS

## UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SUPPORT



DJI Matric Z10 UAS

DJI Mavic Pro UAS

DJI Mavic 2 Zoom UAS

- Operation Secure Texas - Eagle Pass was the first operation in which UAS were utilized by TX DPS.
- Proven to be a success, SOG UAS team assisted USBP with a total of 466 IA apprehensions; 30 of which were rescues.

# OPERATION LONE STAR - MIGRANT REFERRALS





# OPERATION LONE STAR

## OPERATION LONE STAR

March 4 – June 3, 2021

CRIMINAL ARRESTS	MIGRANT REFERRALS*	MIGRANT ADULTS REFERRALS	MIGRANT MINORS REFERRALS	VEHICLE PURSUITS	BAILOUTS	DRAWBRIDGE DETECTIONS	AIRCRAFT AGENCY ASSISTS	MARIJUANA SEIZURES	COCAINE/METH SEIZURES	CURRENCY SEIZURES	FIREARMS
1,489	37,315	22,266	9,308	340	630	118,509	1,459	10,872.24lbs	505.15lbs	\$1,066,385	114



(16) firearms



(20) AR-15 Rifles, magazines & ammunition



(14) Firearms (100) rounds of ammunition



MEXICAN MAFIA ARRESTED



510 lbs.



\$609,206



(1,558lbs)



(700lbs) of marijuana & (2.7lbs) of cocaine



All numbers reported for Operation Lone Star are unverified and unofficial. Numbers are approximate and subject to change. \*Breakdown of adult and minor IA Referrals began on March 17, 2021. Drawbridge detections include Big Bend, Del Rio & RGV sector AOR. Big Bend data captured as of 05/11/21. Aircraft Agency Assists are composed of DPS and other agency assists.

# **OFFICER SAFETY**





TikTok

@erickgazca2



# **RECRUITMENT VIDEOS**



TikTok

@jerryperz550

TRUCK DRIVERS NEEDED RGV  
AREA! COMMENT AND ADD ME TO  
START WORKING



TikTok

@jerryperz550

Drivers needed !!  
DM to [redacted]  
make some  
money

drawbridge



(192lbs)

OPERATION  
LONE STAR





# **OPERATIONAL TOTALS**

This Sector is limited by their lack of sufficient cell phone coverage.



<b>Number of Current On-Mission Cameras, by USBP Sector:</b>						
El Paso	Big Bend	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	TOTAL	
351	456	1,014	1,771	2,113	5,705	

## **Seizure and Apprehension Statistics, Since Inception of Program (Jan. 2012):**

Detections	Apprehensions	Turnbacks	Marijuana (lbs.)	Cocaine (lbs.)	Meth (lbs.)	Heroin (lbs.)	Firearms
937,603	532,602	72,184	593,615	1,156	201	40	65

## **Seizure and Apprehension Statistics, Since Inception of Program (Jan. 2012):**

Nicaragua	Ecuador	Venezuela	Bangladesh	Dominican Republic	Peru	Brazil	Sri Lanka
5,676	3,491	1,009	225	209	156	141	104
Nepal	India	Uzbekistan	Pakistan	Turkey	Albania	Eritrea	Philippines
62	60	14	13	10	7	2	2



## Apprehensions of Known Gang Members in the RGV Sector AOR

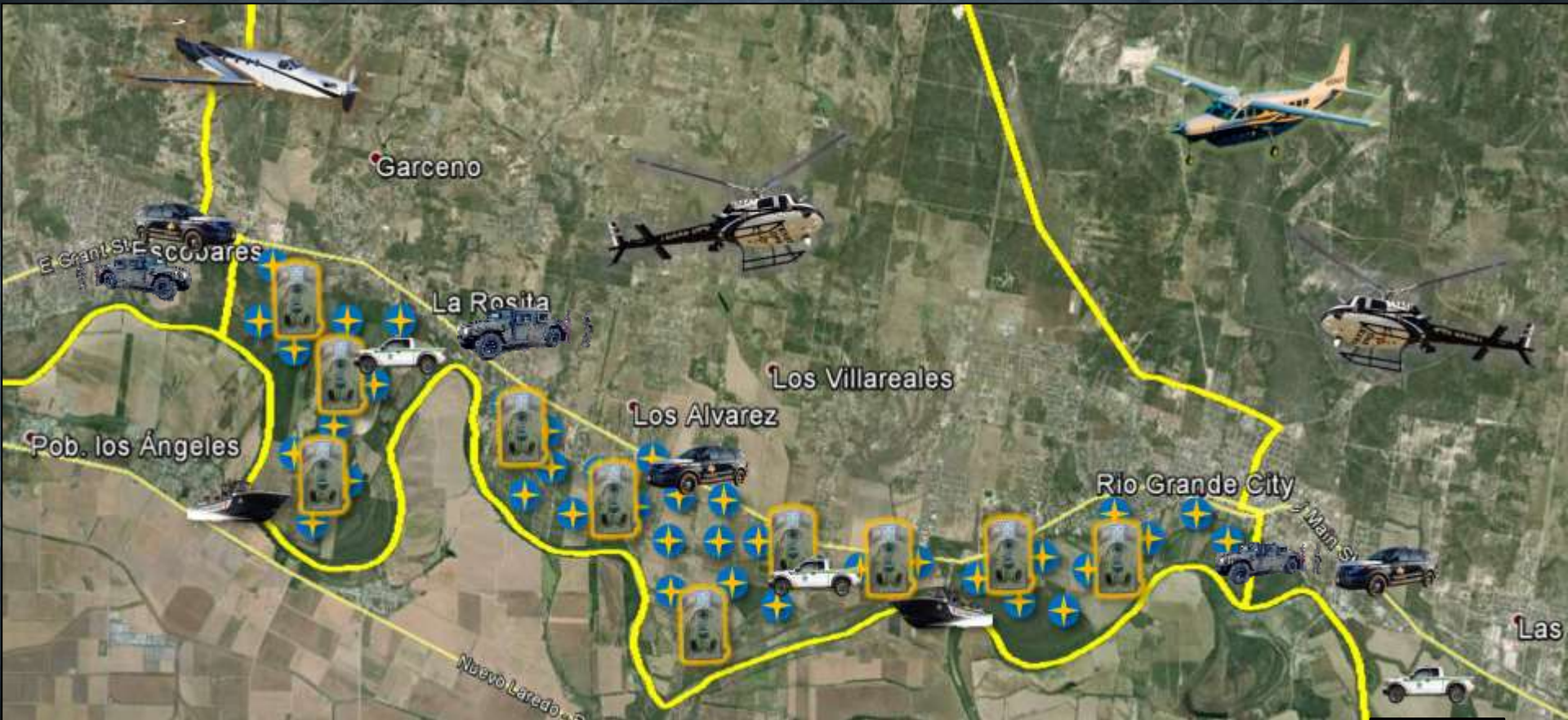
18 <sup>th</sup> Street	Latin Kings	Mexican Mafia	M.S. 13	Nortenos	Paisas	Surenos (sur-13)	Tango Blast	Texas Syndicate	Vallucos	Others
35	3	2	97	1	33	8	2	1	8	9







# ASSET LAYDOWN



Not actual location of assets.



# PARTNERSHIP







**TEXAS DEPARTMENT  
OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

---

**OPERATION  
LONE STAR**

A large graphic of the Lone Star, which is a blue five-pointed star with a white center and a red vertical stripe on the right side, set against a green background.