

# **Border Operations Sector Assessment**

South Texas  
Ranch Edition

**February  
2016**

**REPORTING PERIOD:  
01-29 FEBRUARY 2016**



# TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER



The Ranch BOSA is a monthly overview of drug/human smuggling and other criminal activity in south and west Texas. The purpose of this report is to inform ranch owners of emerging trends and relevant incidents.

**South Texas Ranch Crime Index Total as of February 29, 2016: 31**

The Ranch Crime index comprises rancher input of criminal traffic patterns occurring outside of main highways and roadways, and across ranch properties.

You may use the [Texas DPS iWatch](#) to report suspicious activities or behaviors that may indicate criminal or terrorist activity, such as drug smuggling, human smuggling, oil field thefts, and other criminal activity. Every report will be reviewed by analysts. You may also contact DPS at 1-866-786-5972, or through the JOIC contacts listed below.

To download iWatch, click on your appropriate operating system below.

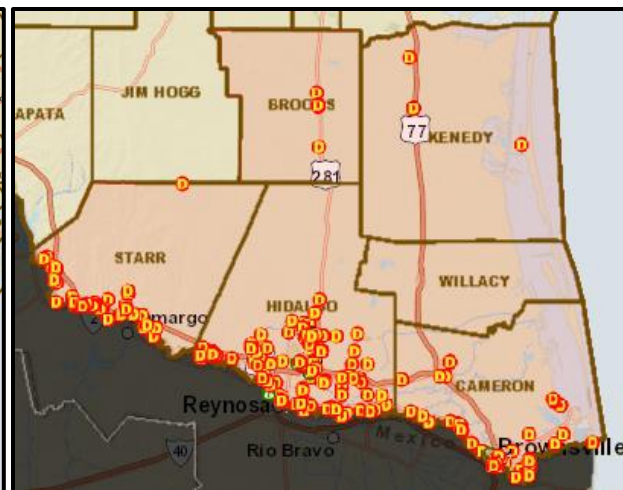
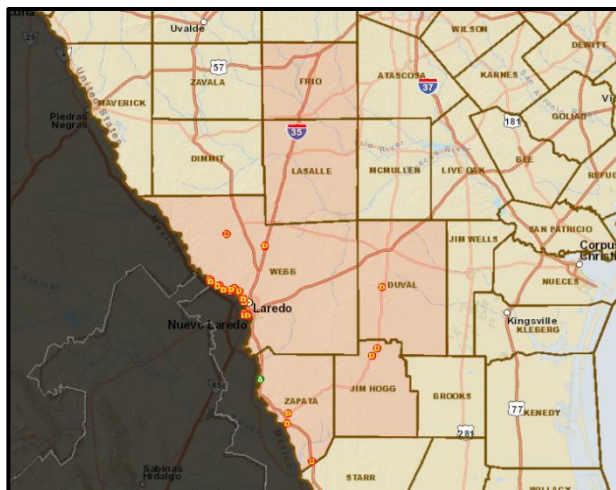
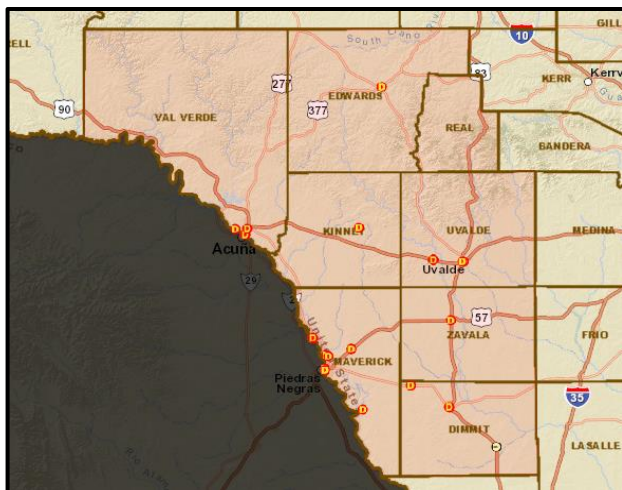
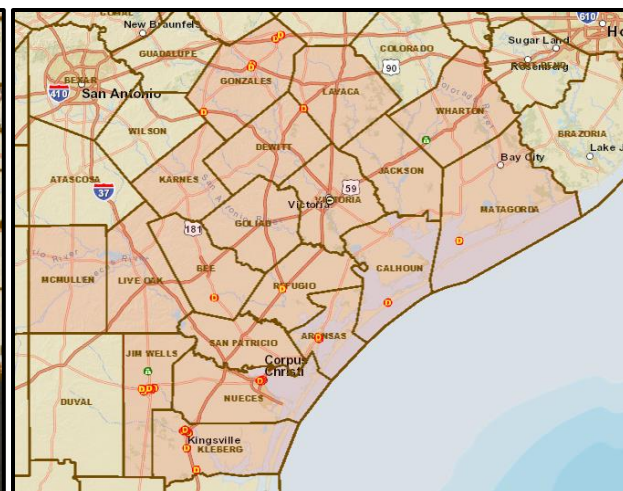
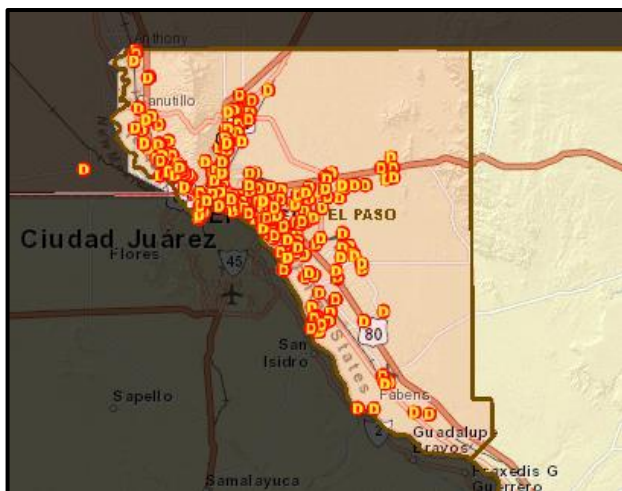


## OPERATION BORDER STAR

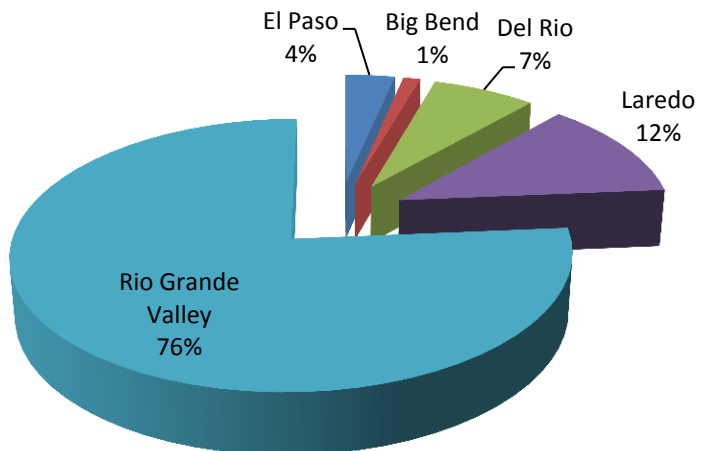
JOIC Contact Information	Border Security Ops Ctr (Austin)	El Paso JOIC (El Paso)	Big Bend JOIC (Marfa)	Del Rio Sector (Del Rio)	Laredo Sector (Laredo)	RGV Sector (McAllen)	Coastal Bend Sector (Victoria)
Main Phone #	(512) 454-7561	(915) 680-6500	(432) 729-4506	(830) 778-7837	(956) 764-3181	(956) 289-5727	(361) 485-8500
Main Email	<a href="mailto:TBSOC@dps.texas.gov">TBSOC@dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.elpaso@dps.texas.gov">joic.elpaso@dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.marfa@dps.texas.gov">joic.marfa@dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.delrio@dps.texas.gov">joic.delrio@dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.laredo@dps.texas.gov">joic.laredo@dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.mcallen@dps.texas.gov">joic.mcallen@dps.texas.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:joic.victoria@dps.texas.gov">joic.victoria@dps.texas.gov</a>



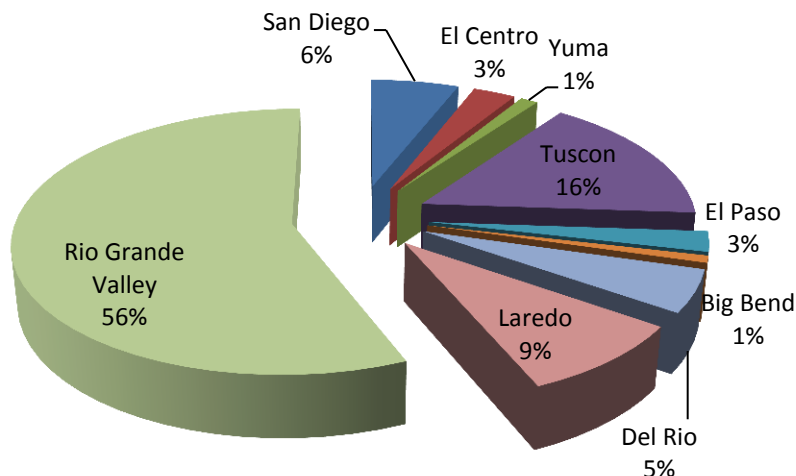
CY To Date – 2016	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL	2014 ONDCP Adjusted Value (Approximate)
<b>Marijuana (lbs)</b>	8,345.73	2,147.68	717.69	7,552.66	35,728.87	183.21	54,675.83	<b>\$332 Million</b>
<b>Cocaine (lbs)</b>	29.71	9.66	0.004	49.6	601.26	271.5	961.74	<b>\$59 Million</b>
<b>Methamphetamine (lbs)</b>	123.04	13.76	144.66	11.24	173.85	0	466.56	<b>\$41 Million</b>
<b>Heroin (lbs)</b>	3.22	6.82	9.83	15.78	20.14	0.03	55.82	<b>\$7 Million</b>



## Texas Sector Apprehensions

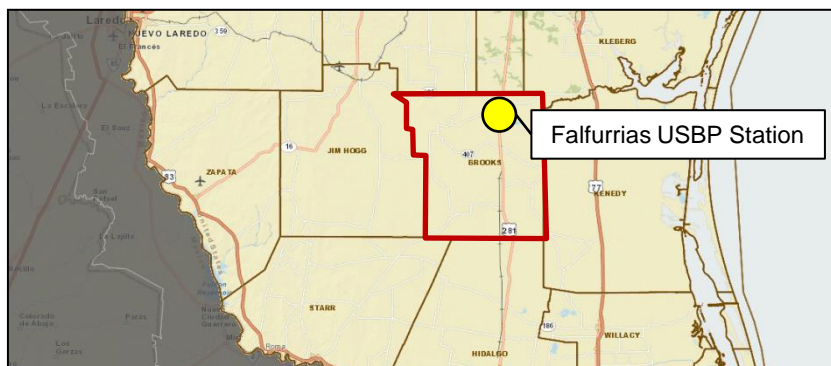


## Southwest Border Sector Apprehensions



IAs	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
YTD-2016	2,168	498	3,054	4,779	17,863	0	28,362
OTMs	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
YTD-2016	752	245	1,247	1,126	12,199	0	15,569

Unaccompanied Alien Children	FY-2015	FY-2014	FY-2013	FY-2012	FY-2011
Texas Border	31,109	58,312	27,827	15,485	9,871



Human smugglers circumvent inland US Border Patrol checkpoints easily by walking around them through ranches and farms.  
**Since 2009, 473 illegal aliens have perished in Brooks County.**





# MARFA SECTOR

Marfa USBP Agents arrested eight IAs on foot along a ranch road near Valentine. Two of the subjects were held in Marfa pending prosecution, and six were processed for removal.

Sanderson USBP Agents arrested eight IAs walking on a ranch north of Sanderson. Two subjects were transported to Del Rio pending disposition, and six were processed for removal.

Alpine USBP Agents seized 69.65 lbs of marijuana and arrested three IAs hiding in brush on a ranch near Alpine. The marijuana was in sugar sacks hidden in the brush near the subjects. The subjects and marijuana were referred to Alpine DEA.



# MARFA SECTOR

Marfa USBP Agents arrested five IAs, including one juvenile, walking by a ranch near Marfa. Two subjects were held in Marfa pending prosecution, and three subjects were processed for removal.

Alpine USBP Agents arrested eight IAs hiding in brush near the headquarters of a ranch near Alpine. One subject was held in Alpine pending disposition, and seven were processed for removal.

Marfa USBP Agents arrested three IAs on a ranch in south Hudspeth County. One subject was suspected of having an affiliation with the Los Paisas gang. Two subjects were held in Marfa pending prosecution, and one was processed for removal.

Marfa USBP Agents arrested 19 IAs on a ranch north of Shafter. Two subjects were held in Marfa pending prosecution, one was processed for removal, and sixteen were held pending disposition.

# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 18 FEB, a USBP Agent was dispatched to a ranch near US-277 in Eagle Pass regarding a suspicious maroon 2003 Jeep Liberty that had left the property at a high rate of speed. After finding the vehicle outside a gas station in Eagle Pass, the Agent noticed what appeared to be bundles of narcotics inside the vehicle. Using video surveillance images from the station, USBP Agents were able to identify the driver. The Agents detained the driver and found approximately 439 lbs of marijuana inside the vehicle. DEA Agents arrested the subject, and seized the marijuana. The vehicle was impounded.

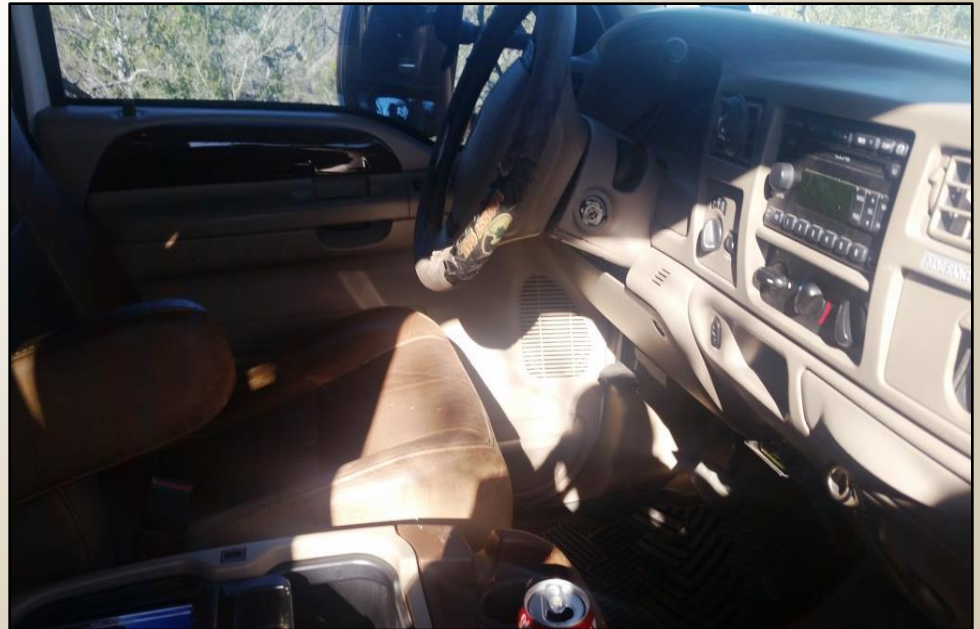
On 01 FEB, a Dimmit Co Deputy was dispatched to a ranch on FM-133, south of US-83 in Catarina. The owner of the ranch led the deputy to a gray 2002 Chevrolet 1500 pickup hidden in the brush. The vehicle was reported stolen out of Austin, and was impounded.





# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 09 FEB, a Dimmit Co Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2004 Ford F-250 pickup on FM-1019, south of Big Wells, when a pursuit ensued. Shortly after the pursuit began, the driver and several passengers bailed out on a ranch. The Deputy detained an IA, and the vehicle was impounded.





# DEL RIO SECTOR



On 08 FEB, a Dimmit Co Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2011 Ford F-250 pickup in Asherton, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a ranch fence, and the occupants absconded. The vehicle was reported stolen out of Austin, and was impounded.

On 08 FEB, DPS AVN responded at a ranch west of FM-1907 in the Eagle Pass area, for a group of suspected IAs possibly carrying narcotics. After a search of the area, the group was observed in Mexico. USBP Agents continued to monitor them without further incident.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 03 FEB, a Dimmit Co Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a blue 2013 Ford F-150 pickup in Brundage, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove onto a ranch off of SH-85, and the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was reported stolen out of San Antonio, and was impounded.



On 10 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2010 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on FM-133, east of US-83, when a pursuit ensued. The pickup drove through Catarina, and two subjects bailed out and absconded along a ranch road. The vehicle was impounded.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 10 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2007 Chevrolet Express G1500 van on a ranch road north of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a fence, and the Deputy ended the pursuit. The next day, a USBP Agent notified the Deputy that the vehicle had been found on the ranch. The vehicle was impounded.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 17 FEB, a Zavala Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch near FM-1867, north of the Zavala/Dimmit County line, regarding an oil theft. The victim stated that unknown subjects had stolen 110 barrels of oil from the reserve.

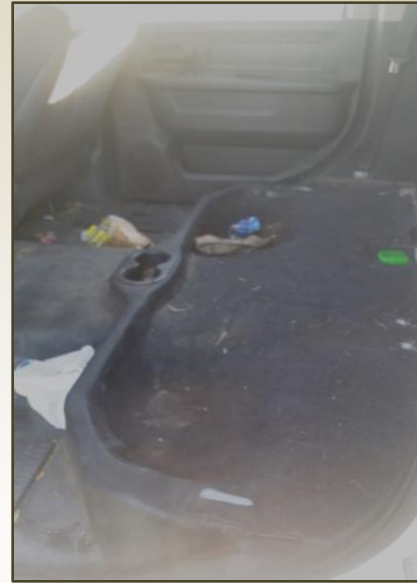
On 10 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2010 Ford F-150 pickup on FM-133 near Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through a ranch fence east of Catarina, and the Deputy ended the pursuit. The next day, the owner of the ranch notified the Deputy that he had located the vehicle. The vehicle was reported stolen out of San Antonio, and was impounded.





# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 09 FEB, Dimmit Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a white 2012 Dodge Ram pickup on a ranch road east of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove onto a ranch, where the Deputy lost contact with it. USBP Agents, a USBP K-9 team, and a CBP helicopter responded and initiated a search. Six IAs were apprehended, but the driver was not located. The vehicle was impounded.



On 10 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy responded to a report of several subjects walking along a ranch road in Catarina. The Deputy located the subjects. USBP Agents were dispatched to assist, and detained five IAs.

# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 09 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2008 Chevrolet Silverado C1500 pickup near FM-186 in Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove through two ranches north of Catarina, and 15 subjects bailed out. A USBP Agent and a DPS THP Trooper detained two IAs. The vehicle was impounded.





# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 08 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2003 Chevrolet Silverado C1500 pickup on a ranch road in Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle drove into brush north of Catarina, and the driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was reported stolen out of Houston, and was impounded.



# DEL RIO SECTOR

On 27 FEB, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted an inspection on a white 2014 Ford F-250 pickup on SH-85 and FM-190 in Brundage, when a pursuit ensued. The Agent followed the vehicle for about a mile before the pickup crashed through a ranch fence, and its occupants bailed out. Six IAs were apprehended by USBP Agents and Dimmit Co SO Deputies. The vehicle was impounded.

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On 26 FEB, DPS AVN assisted USBP Agents with a search for four suspected IAs on a ranch on US-277, near the Maverick/Kinney County line. The four IAs were located and apprehended.

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On 25 FEB, USBP Agents located five abandoned duffel bags containing a total of 225.7 lbs of marijuana on a ranch near FM-1907 in Normandy. The marijuana was turned over to the DEA.



# LAREDO SECTOR

On 01 FEB, USBP Cotulla Agents found a gray 2002 Chevrolet 2500 pickup that had previously been driven through a ranch near Catarina to avoid detection. Dimmit Co SO responded and advised that it was stolen from Austin.

On 01 FEB, a Jim Hogg Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 2004 Ford F150 pickup on Hwy 359 east of Hebbronville, when a pursuit ensued. The truck drove into the brush, and the Deputy lost sight of it. A ranch hand witnessed the vehicle crash through a fence, and advised the Deputy of its location. The vehicle had been abandoned with approximately 887 lbs of marijuana. The narcotics and vehicle were seized.

On 3 FEB, a Jim Hogg Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 1999 Ford F-250 pickup south of Hebbronville, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle went through a ranch fence, and nine subjects bailed out. An IA was apprehend by a Jim Hogg Co SO Deputy, and turned over to USBP. The vehicle was seized by Jim Hogg Co SO.

# LAREDO SECTOR

On FEB 3, USBP Laredo Agents discovered 81.68 lbs marijuana that had been abandoned on a ranch north of Laredo, and apprehended two IAs nearby. The marijuana was turned over to DEA.

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On 11 FEB, a Webb Co SO Deputy Constable and USBP provided assistance after a bailout on a ranch east of Bruni. The vehicle, a 2012 Ford F-150 pickup, was reported stolen from San Antonio.

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On 12 FEB, Laredo USBP Agents responded to activity on a ranch north of Laredo. As the Agents approached, two subjects absconded, but were arrested. The Agents found and seized 140.58 lbs of marijuana, which was turned over to DEA.

# RIO GRANDE VALLEY SECTOR



Brooks Co SO Deputies responded to a ranch in northeast Brooks County regarding a deceased person. The Deputies and USBP Agents observed the deceased seated against a tree with a jacket covering his head.

Penitas PD Officers spotted a group of eight IAs traveling north through a ranch south of Penitas. USBP Agents requested assistance in locating the subjects. The Officers and Agents apprehended the group. USBP took custody of all subjects.

A Penitas PD Officer assisted USBP in detaining six IAs. The Officer was dispatched to assist USBP at a farm south of Penitas, detained the IAs, and referred them to USBP.



# RIO GRANDE VALLEY SECTOR



A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in northeast Brooks County regarding human remains. The Deputy located 18 bones and a skull, along with several pieces of clothing.

A Starr Co Deputy responded to a border property near Rio Grande City regarding a deceased person. A fisherman had found the body lying face down on the ground near the riverbank.

A Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch near Kingsville regarding human remains that had been discovered by USBP Agents. Scattered remains and a Mexican driver license were found under a tree.



# RIO GRANDE VALLEY SECTOR

A Brooks Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch in north Brooks County to meet with USBP Agents and ranch workers regarding human remains.

A human skull had been found by a dog handler.

Kenedy Co SO Deputies responded to a ranch in north Kenedy County regarding a deceased person. Upon arrival, the Deputy made contact with USBP Agents.

The deceased was identified and found to be from Michoacan, Mexico. The Deputies were notified of the deceased by his cousin, who had made a 911 call.

Kenedy Co SO Deputies responded to a ranch near Brownsville regarding a deceased person. The Deputies found Guatemalan identification on the body.

A Kenedy Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in the South Rita area regarding a deceased person found by USBP.



2014–Present	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	46	356	215	1,080	495	2,195
Bailouts	0	58	477	309	1,019	455	2,318







If any comments or questions arise from this product, please contact:

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
**BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER**



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