

# 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 28, 2018: 58

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 <u>Texas DPS iWatch</u> 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.





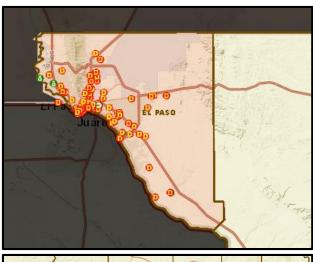
# **OPERATION BORDER STAR**

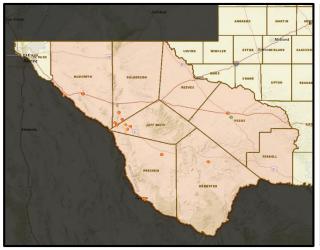
JOIC Contact Information	Border Security Ops Ctr (Austin)	El Paso JOIC (El Paso)	Big Bend JOIC (Marfa)	Del Rio Sector (Del Rio)	Laredo Sector (Laredo)	Rio Grande Valley Sector (McAllen)	Coastal Bend Sector (Victoria)
Main Phone #	(512)	(915)	(432)	(830)	(956)	(956)	(361)
	454-7561	680-6500	729-4506	778-7837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





Seizures – CYTD 2019	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Marijuana (lbs)	29,563	12,547	3,873	61,797	64,527	422	172,729
Cocaine (lbs)	451	49	155	827	2,354	212	4,048
Methamphetamine (lbs)	1,156	176	309	2,403	4,984	118	9,146
Heroin (lbs)	72	5	23	125	199	< 1	424

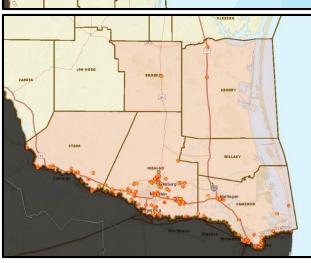










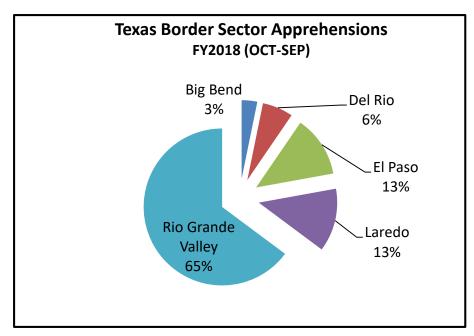


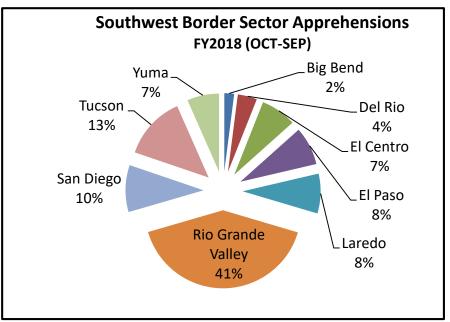


**Texas Border** 

31,827







For more information, visit the USBP website at: https://www.cbp.gov

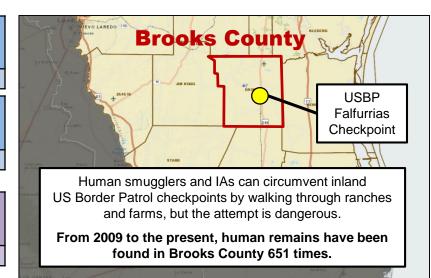
27,827

Illegal Aliens (IAs)	El Paso	Marfa		Del Rio		Laredo	RGV	Coas Ben		TOTAL
CYTD 2019	73,024	4,484		23,824		17,742	153,239	0		272,313
Other Than Mexicans (OTMs)	El Paso	Marfa		Del Rio		Laredo	RGV	Coastal Bend		TOTAL
CYTD 2019	67,616	2,932		19,664	1	5,463	139,636	0		235,311
Unaccompanied Alien Children (UACs)  FY 2017		7	FY	2016		FY 2015	FY 20	014	F	Y 2013

47,192

31,109

58,312



#### MARFA SECTOR

On 08 MAY, USBP Agents, assisted by DPS AVN, apprehended nine IAs on a ranch south of Allamoore. The subjects were processed.





On 13 MAY, Brewster Co SO Deputies and USBP Agents apprehended three IAs near the entrance a ranch south of Marathon. The subjects were referred to USBP.

On 20 MAY, Brewster Co SO Deputies assisted USBP Agents with the apprehension of 11 IAs on a ranch west of Marathon. One of the subjects is a convicted child sex offender. The subjects were referred to USBP and processed.

#### MARFA SECTOR

On 19 MAY, USBP Agents seized
166.65 lbs of marijuana that was found
abandoned near a ranch northwest of
Valentine. The marijuana was found in three
large burlap backpacks. Three subjects are
believed to have absconded. The marijuana
was referred to Alpine DEA.



On 28 MAY, USBP Agents seized 338.73 lbs of marijuana located in six large burlap backpacks and apprehended six IAs on a ranch south of Van Horn. The case was referred to Alpine DEA.

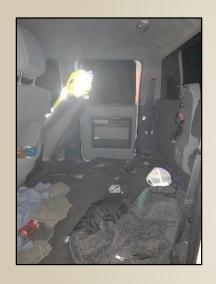


On 01 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy met with the owner of a ranch in Big Wells. The rancher stated one of his workers discovered where someone had cut one of his fence lines. Two sets of tire tracks were noticed in the gap. The rancher believed that the fence line was cut to avoid cameras at the entrance of the neighboring ranch.

On 01 MAY, a Zavala Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2000 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on US-57, east of La Pryor, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a field near US-57, in Batesville, and the occupants bailed out. USBP Agents detained four IAs, and two juvenile IAs were identified as the human smugglers. The IAs were processed, and the vehicle was impounded. The vehicle had a fictitious license plate, but was not reported stolen.

On 03 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a gray 2013 Ford F-150 pickup on FM 133, east of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out. USBP Agents searched the area, but the subjects absconded. The vehicle had license plates and a registration sticker from another vehicle, and the vehicle was reported stolen from Cedar Park. The vehicle was impounded.

On 03 MAY, a Kinney Co SO Deputy located a group of subjects on a ranch near US-277, west of Spofford. USBP Agents apprehended 10 IAs and processed them.



On 03 MAY, a USBP Agent conducted a vehicle stop on a white 2014 Ford F-250 pickup on US-83 in Catarina, when the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle, which had been cloned to resemble an oilfield truck, was driven through a ranch fence and found abandoned. A Dimmit Co SO Deputy impounded the vehicle, which was reported stolen from Grand Prairie.





On 04 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2013 Ford F-350 pickup on US-83 south of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded. The following day, a USBP Agent apprehended an IA who had been a passenger in the vehicle. The IA was processed.



On 04 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a gray 2019 Ford F-150 pickup north of Catarina that was identified as stolen out of San Antonio, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence and found abandoned. A subject, later identified as an IA, approached the Deputy and stated that he had been a passenger in the vehicle. The IA was referred to USBP for processing, and the vehicle was impounded.



On 05 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2019 Ford F-150 pickup on US-83, in Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence near FM 133. The Deputy found the vehicle abandoned on a neighboring ranch. The vehicle, which was identified as stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.

On 05 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2013 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on US-83, south of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle crashed through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out. The vehicle, which was stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.



On 05 MAY, a USBP Agent conducted a vehicle stop on white 2011 Ford F-150 pickup on FM 1668, east of Crystal City, when the vehicle failed to yield. On CR 4001, the vehicle was driven off the road and crashed through a ranch fence. The occupants bailed out, but the Agents apprehended six IAs.

A Zavala Co SO Deputy assisted and impounded the vehicle.

On 05 MAY, a Zavala Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2006 Ford F-150 pickup on FM 1867 north of Crystal City, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence near FM 1025, and could not be found.

The following day, the Deputy located the vehicle. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from Kyle, was impounded.

On 07 MAY, a Kinney Co SO Deputy found a group of subjects on a ranch near US-277 west of Spofford. USBP Agents apprehended 10 IAs.

On 08 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a tan 2004
Nissan Armada on FM 133 in Catarina. The Deputy observed drug
paraphernalia in the vehicle. The driver gave an inconsistent story for being in
the area, and had been escorted by USBP Agents from a ranch where a group of
IAs had been found. The subject had also been stopped earlier in the night by a
Zavala Co SO Deputy, and was suspected of scouting. The subject received a
criminal citation for drug paraphernalia, and was released with the vehicle.

On 10 MAY, USBP Agents apprehended 12 IAs near a ranch road north of Quemado. Two of the subjects were identified as the human smugglers, and were arrested for human smuggling. The other IAs were processed.

On 10 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2011 Dodge Ram 3500 pickup on US-83 south of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, where several subjects bailed out. The Deputy detained eight IAs. USBP Agents responded to assist, and apprehended four IAs in the brush. The driver absconded. The vehicle was displaying fictitious license plates that matched the registration sticker, but not the VIN. Neither the vehicle nor the plates were reported stolen at the time of incident. All subjects were processed, and the vehicle was impounded.

On 11 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2017 Ford F-250 pickup on US-83, south of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The F-250 was driven onto a ranch, where the occupants bailed out and absconded. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.

On 13 MAY, a Kinney Co SO Deputy observed a subject with a backpack walking through a ranch on US-90 in Brackettville.

USBP Agents responded and apprehended five IAs on the ranch.

On 13 MAY, a Kinney Co SO Deputy encountered two groups of subjects on a ranch west of Brackettville. USBP Agents apprehended six IAs, but five additional subjects absconded. The IAs were processed.

On 13 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a tan 2004 Kia Optima on US-83 near Catarina. The driver admitted to scouting for a group IAs that he was supposed to pick up near a ranch in Webb Co. The subject was cleared and released. USBP Agents responded to the ranch and apprehended four IAs.

On 14 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a gray 2008 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on SH-85 near Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. During the pursuit, the Silverado struck a Dimmit Co SO patrol unit. The Deputies disabled the Silverado, which crashed through a ranch fence and rolled over. USBP Agents identified three IAs from the vehicle. The Deputies also discovered a stolen .40 cal handgun and 0.02 lbs of marijuana in a bag. The Deputies arrested the driver for Evading Arrest with a Motor Vehicle, Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon Against a Public Servant, and theft. Two of the IAs were taken to a hospital in San Antonio, and the vehicle was impounded. The case was referred to HSI.

On 14 MAY, a Uvalde Co SO Deputy observed an abandoned black 2006 Dodge Ram 3500 pickup on SH-55 in Uvalde. The vehicle was reported stolen from a ranch in Maverick Co. The vehicle, which had indicators of having been used in human smuggling, was impounded.

On 15 MAY, Kinney Co SO Deputies responded to a report of theft at a ranch in Brackettville. Food, drinks, and alcohol had been taken.

This incident is still being investigated.

On 16 MAY, a Kinney Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch in Brackettville regarding a break-in after a game camera in the residence showed two trespassers. The theft of food and camping equipment suggests that the perpetrators were possible IAs.

On 19 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2011 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup, south of Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch gate, and the driver bailed out. The vehicle, which had two different fictitious license plates and was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.



On 19 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a silver 2015 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on FM 2688, west of Catarina, a pursuit ensued, and the Deputy was unable to locate the vehicle. On 21 MAY, a CBP/OAM unit located the pickup on a ranch, and a USBP Agent and a Dimmit Co SO Deputy responded and identified the abandoned vehicle as stolen from San Antonio. The Deputy impounded the vehicle.

On 19 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a maroon 2017 Ford F-350 pickup on US-83 in Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven into the brush on a ranch, and the occupants bailed out. The vehicle, which had a fictitious license plate and was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.









On 20 MAY, a USBP Agent observed footprints leading away from the River on a ranch. A K-9 Unit and a Val Verde Co SO Deputy assisted, and the Agents apprehended five IAs. One of the IAs was identified as the guide/human smuggler and arrested. The IAs were processed.

On 22 MAY, a USBP Agent conducted a vehicle stop a silver 2010 F-150 pickup on US-83 south of Asherton, when the vehicle failed to yield. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, where the occupants bailed out. The pickup's front and rear license plates belonged to two other vehicles. The pickup was stolen from San Antonio. USBP Agents apprehended eight IAs, one of whom was identified as the driver/human smuggler. The driver was arrested for Re-entry After Deportation, and the remaining IAs were processed by USBP. The vehicle was referred to Dimmit Co SO.





On 23 MAY, a Zavala Co SO Deputy was searching for a vehicle that had fled during a vehicle stop on FM 1025 in Crystal City when he found an abandoned black 2006 Ford F-150 pickup on a ranch. The vehicle appeared to have been used in a human smuggling attempt because the rear seats were folded up.

The vehicle was impounded.



On 23 MAY, a Zavala Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white Chevrolet Silverado pickup on FM 395, east of Crystal City and a pursuit ensued. The pickup was driven across two ranches, and could not be located.

On 24 MAY, Dimmit Co SO Deputies observed a tan 1997 Chevrolet Silverado pickup speed past them on US-83 south of Asherton. A Deputy conducted a vehicle stop on the Silverado, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, and the Deputy found it abandoned. The Deputy had previously observed two subjects in the vehicle, but they absconded. The vehicle was impounded.

On 24 MAY, a Zavala Co SO Deputy was dispatched to a ranch near US-57, east of Batesville, regarding a break-in. The victim stated that someone had pried open his RV trailer door and had stolen food and various other items. The victim suspects that the theft was committed by IAs.

On 25 MAY, a Zavala Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2011 Ford F-150 pickup on FM 395, east of Crystal City when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence and could not be located.

On 25 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2011 Chevrolet Silverado pickup on FM 2688 in Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the occupants bailed out. The vehicle had indicators that it was going to be used to smuggle IAs: it had fictitious Halliburton decals, it was missing the rear seats, and there was a single key in the ignition. The vehicle, which had not been reported stolen at the time of incident, was impounded.





On 25 MAY, a Kinney Co SO Deputy found a group of subjects on a ranch west of Spofford. USBP Agents apprehended 15 IAs.

On 25 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2008 Ford F-250 pickup on FM 2688 in Catarina, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, where the occupants bailed out.

The vehicle was impounded.





Oil-field sticker has been removed: possible cloned vehicle

On 26 MAY, a USBP Agent apprehended an IA who was found on a ranch south of Comstock. A Val Verde Co SO Deputy arrested the IA for a Tarrant Co warrant for failure to give notice on striking a fixed object.

On 27 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy detained two IAs who were walking across a ranch west of Catarina. The IAs were referred to USBP.

On 28 MAY, a Zavala Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2017 Ford F-250 pickup in Crystal City, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven along FM 582, then onto a ranch. The Deputy found the vehicle abandoned. The vehicle, which was reported stolen from San Antonio, was impounded.



Safety vests left inside the vehicle

On 28 MAY, a Dimmit Co SO Deputy conducted traffic stop on a white 2013 Ford F-350 pickup in Carrizo Springs, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven onto a ranch, where the occupants bailed out. The vehicle was reported stolen from San Antonio, the back seats had been removed, and the keyhole had been tampered with.

The vehicle was impounded.

#### LAREDO SECTOR

On 07 MAY, Hebbronville USBP Agents encountered a stolen 2015 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup during a pursuit. The Agents were later contacted by a local rancher, who reported that the vehicle had been found on his property. The vehicle was reported stolen from Lufkin.

On 08 MAY, Duval Co SO Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a 2009 Chevrolet Silverado pickup near Concepcion, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence and was found abandoned. The vehicle was seized.

On 14 MAY, Laredo North USBP Agents responded to a ranch near Laredo after receiving reports of an abandoned vehicle: a 2015 Ford F-250 pickup that was reported stolen from Conroe.

On 16 MAY, Freer USBP Agents assisted Freer PD Officers with a 2016 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup that had been involved in a bailout on a ranch.

The vehicle was stolen from San Antonio.

#### LAREDO SECTOR

On 19 MAY, Laredo North USBP Agents responded regarding a suspicious 2016 Ford F-150 pickup. The occupants bailed out at a ranch near Freer. The vehicle, which was stolen from New Braunfels, was recovered.

On 23 MAY, a Duval Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black 2007 Cadillac Escalade near FM 1329 in Concepcion, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch fence, and the subject bailed out and absconded in to the brush. The vehicle was seized.

On 31 MAY, Freer USBP Agents encountered a white 2019 Ford F-250 pickup on FM 2295 near Realitos. The vehicle veered off the road, was driven through a ranch fence, and was found abandoned within the ranch. The vehicle was identified as stolen from Live Oak and was referred to Duval Co SO.

# LAREDO SECTOR

On 31 MAY, Zapata USBP Agents responded to a ranch where a white 2002 Chevrolet Suburban had been found abandoned. The Agents seized 541.30 lbs of marijuana from the vehicle. The vehicle was seized.





#### RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 07 MAY, a Starr Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a white 2003 Ford F-150 pickup, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a fence, and the driver and several subjects bailed out and absconded into the brush. The vehicle was seized.

On 07 MAY, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch on the southern edge of Brooks Co regarding human skeletal remains that had been found by USBP Agents. The remains were referred to the medical examiner's office.





On 12 MAY, Brownsville USBP Agents seized 115.92 lbs of marijuana. The Agents observed three subjects run north from the River and into a field near Brownsville. A USBP K-9 unit responded and located the subjects and the marijuana. DEA assumed custody of the subjects and the narcotics.

#### RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 18 MAY, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in central Brooks Co, where human skeletal remains had been found. The remains were referred to the South Texas Humans Rights Center.

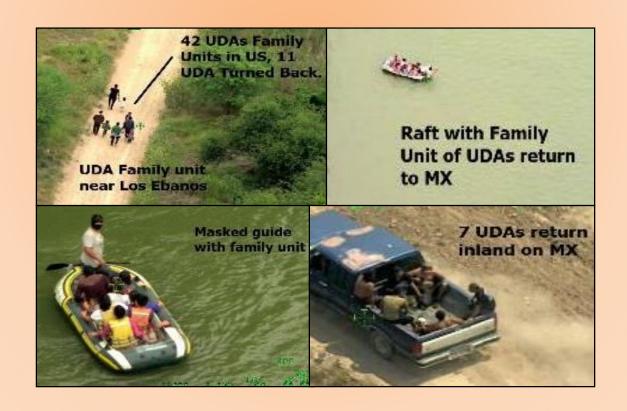
On 20 MAY, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in Encino regarding a report of a deceased subject. USBP Agents took the Deputy to the location.



On 28 MAY, a Brooks Co SO Deputy responded to a ranch in Encino regarding a report of a deceased subject. USBP Agents took the Deputy to the location.

#### RIO GRANDE VALLEY

On 30 MAY, DPS AVN assisted USBP regarding a report of bundles. When the smugglers observed a rancher, they fled to the River. Later, in a separate incident, AVN observed a raft with 11 IAs cross the River, upriver from Los Ebanos, and directed the Agents. The Aircrew then located family units in a group of 42 subjects walking in the same area. AVN notified USBP, and the subjects were apprehended.



#### COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 05 MAY, a THP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a 2010 Chevrolet Silverado pickup near a ranch in George West, when a pursuit ensued. The driver bailed out and absconded. The vehicle was stolen from Corpus Christi.

On 07 MAY, a George West PD Officer conducted a traffic stop on a Chevrolet 2500 HD pickup, when a pursuit ensued. The driver bailed out at a ranch on CR 151. The Officer, assisted by a THP Trooper, located the abandoned vehicle. The vehicle was stolen from San Patricio Co.

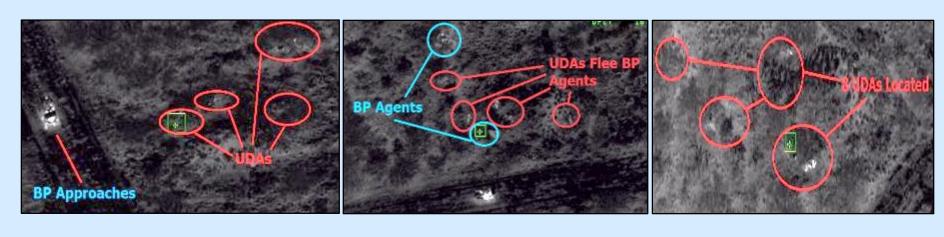
On 12 MAY, a Live Oak Co SO Deputy assisted with a pursuit in George West. The vehicle, a 2017 Ford F-250 pickup, was reported stolen from Oakville. George West PD Officers assisted THP Troopers in the pursuit, but lost sight of the vehicle. The Deputy located the vehicle abandoned after it had been driven through a ranch gate.

On 12 MAY, a THP Trooper assisted Live Oak Co SO Deputies in a pursuit of a 2017 Ford F-250 pickup. The vehicle was driven through three ranch fences and stopped on FM 799. The Trooper found the vehicle abandoned near George West. The vehicle was reported stolen from Three Rivers.

#### COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 25 MAY, a Jim Wells Co SO Deputy was dispatched to CR 420 in Alice regarding a suspicious subject. Upon arrival, the Deputy observed a subject walking in a field north of CR 120. The Deputy attempted to make contact with the subject, who ran toward the heavy brush. The Deputy lost sight of the subject. USBP Agents assisted with the search.

On 29 MAY, DPS AVN assisted USBP Agents in locating a group of subjects on a ranch off SH-16 near Tilden. Aviation located eight IAs within the brush and guided the Agents to the group.



On 31 MAY, a Bee Co SO Deputy was dispatched regarding a deceased person whose body had been found in front of a ranch gate. The Deputy found a cell phone and two paper copies of a Honduran birth certificate on the body, which was referred to a funeral home.

# COASTAL BEND SECTOR

On 31 May, a McMullen Co SO Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 1992 Ford F-150 pickup in Tilden, when a pursuit ensued. The vehicle was driven through a ranch gate, and the driver bailed out. The owner had not reported the vehicle stolen, and is known to be a human smuggler. The vehicle seats had been removed, and the windows had been spray-painted black. The vehicle was seized.





# Total Pursuits and Bailouts (CY2014 - Present)\*

Event	El Paso	Marfa	Del Rio	Laredo	Rio Grande Valley	Coastal Bend	TOTAL
Pursuits	3	114	852	505	1,921	675	4,070
Bailouts	5	120	1,055	1,013	1,737	671	4,601

<sup>\*</sup> Totals include all incidents reported by the JOICs, not merely those that are ranch-related







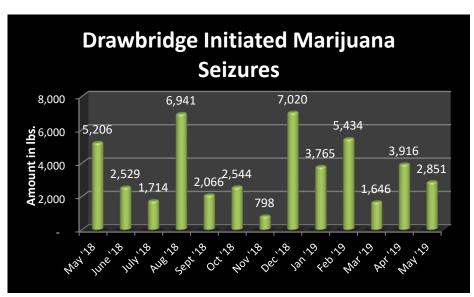


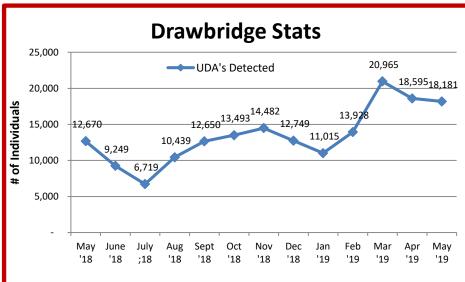












Operation Drawbridge Totals: JAN 2012 – MAY 2019					
Detections	564,753				
Marijuana Seized	511,825 lbs (>255 tons)				
Cocaine Seized	550 lbs				
Methamphetamine Seized	30 lbs				
Heroin Seized	4 lbs				
Firearms Seized	43				

Operation Drawbridge Totals: CYTD 2019						
Detections	82,684					
Narcotics Seized	17,654 lbs					

Note: Figures are based on initial reporting and are subject to change.



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

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

# **BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER**



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