Monica De La Cruz (TX-15) Research Report

The following report contains research on Monica De La Cruz, a Republican candidate in Texas's 15th district. Research for this research book was conducted by the DCCC's Research Department between October 2021 and January 2022. By accepting this report, you are accepting responsibility for all information and analysis included. Therefore, it is your responsibility to verify all claims against the original documentation before you make use of it. Make sure you understand the facts behind our conclusions before making any specific charges against anyone.



Monica De La Cruz

Republican Candidate in Texas's 15th Congressional District

Research Book - 2022

Last Updated February 2022

Prepared by the DCCC Research Department





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Key Findings

De La Cruz Was An Alleged Child Abuser

In public, Monica De La Cruz champions "family values." In private, she has been credibly accused of verbally abusing and pinching her 13-year-old stepdaughter. In divorce proceedings that began in October 2021, De La Cruz was accused by her ex-husband of "cruel and aggressive treatment" and being "verbally abusive" toward his daughter. De La Cruz's ex claimed his daughter "suffers from anxiety" whenever De La Cruz is around her and that De La Cruz "pinched" her stepdaughter to get her to stop crying. In an expletive-laden text exchange with her ex-husband shortly before the divorce, De La Cruz responded to efforts toward reconciliation and requests for support in raising his daughter by repeatedly using vulgar language. On the basis of these accusations a judge issued a temporary restraining order against De La Cruz as part of the divorce proceedings." Family values ARE important, and anyone who would so cruelly mistreat a child is utterly disqualified from holding office.

De La Cruz Was A Self-Serving Hypocrite With Shady Campaign And Personal Finances

Monica De La Cruz has publicly trashed COVID relief efforts, even as she and her family cashed in on more than \$180,000 in PPP and EIDL loans for their businesses. Throughout 2020, De La Cruz took advantage of COVID relief programs meant to help struggling small businesses, helping herself to over \$180,000 which she claimed kept several people on payroll. Meanwhile, on the campaign trail, De La Cruz has called even modest support for Texas families made available by those same programs a "catastrophe" that was keeping people in "modern day slavery."

With the FEC flagging her disclosures for numerous discrepancies and failures to properly disclose information on her campaign's finances, in addition to strange coincidences related to the timing and amounts disclosed in loan records, Monica De La Cruz's actions have raised serious concerns about her personal and campaign finances. First, DLC Insurance was approved for its PPP loan from BBVA Bank just nine days after her campaign repaid BBVA for a \$35,000 campaign loan. What's more, she reported annual personal income from DLC Insurance that nearly matched the amount of the PPP loan to DLC Insurance, raising questions as to whether the business generated any money other than the taxpayer-funded loan, much less whether it kept five staff on payroll as she claimed. De La Cruz even reported \$12,000 in personal in-kind contributions to her campaign for the use of office space in a building she owned.

De La Cruz Was A Liar Who Pushed Delusional Election Conspiracy Theories And Routinely Spread Misinformation

How can voters trust Monica De La Cruz when she ceaselessly spreads lies and conspiracy theories about everything from "stolen" elections to COVID to policies that would help Texas families? Monica De La Cruz has been steadfast in spreading the Big Lie that Donald Trump's victory in the 2020 election was "stolen" from him. But she hasn't stopped there: De La Cruz has also pushed a delusional conspiracy theory claiming that her own 2020 election was stolen from her. She has spread paranoid fantasies about COVID, calling efforts to track the outbreak "one of the most massive government surveillance programs of private citizens in U.S. history" and pushing lies about immigrants infected with COVID being released into the community. When it comes to policies that promise investment and economic revitalization to Texas, like the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal or Build Back Better, De La Cruz has continued her pattern of lying and fearmongering.

De La Cruz Supported Extreme Policies That Were Dangerous For South Texans



Monica De La Cruz was out of step with South Texas, supporting policies that would devastate working families and seniors. De La Cruz called for privatizing Social Security and supported budgetary schemes that would threaten the funding streams for Social Security and Medicare. She supported making the 2017 GOP tax bill permanent, even as it conferred massive benefits to the very wealthy and incentivized the same corporate offshoring practices that have bled the Rio Grande Valley of jobs. With Texas set to benefit from \$35 billion towards improving roads, bridges, highways, broadband, drainage, and ports of entry, De La Cruz has opposed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal that has made those investment possible. On choice, De La Cruz has praised Texas' draconian SB 8 which banned abortions after 6 weeks in Texas and set up a bounty system incentivizing citizens to inform on their neighbors. She opposes abortion, even in cases of rape and incest.



Thematics



De La Cruz Was An Alleged Child Abuser

Significant Findings

De La Cruz was accused by her ex-husband of "cruel and aggressive treatment" and being "verbally abusive" toward her 13-year-old stepdaughter.

- ✓ October 5, 2021: Her then-husband filed for divorce from De La Cruz alleging she was "guilty of cruel and aggressive treatment" toward his daughter, including verbal abuse that damaged her "mental well being."
- ✓ Her husband requested and was granted a restraining order on the basis of De La Cruz's "cruel and aggressive treatment" toward her stepdaughter.
 - ✓ De La Cruz allegedly "pinched" her stepdaughter to get her to stop crying while at church.
 - ✓ Her husband said De La Cruz "didn't want to go to parenting classes" and "didn't want to make things better for my daughter."
- ✓ Her husband claimed De La Cruz was "putting her campaign in front of our family" and "using my daughter for sympathy votes."
 - ✓ De La Cruz's campaign had previously posted family photos, claiming "family values do matter!"

In a text exchange shortly prior to the divorce filing, De La Cruz repeatedly used vulgar language in reference to her stepdaughter.

- ✓ De La Cruz said she didn't "give a fuck anymore" in response to her husband saying he needed her support with his daughter.
- ✓ De La Cruz said that she would end her marriage if her husband brought his daughter home
- ✓ De La Cruz claimed her husband was "being selfish" for "bringing her down here to a home that is unstable and on the verge of cracking."
 - ✓ De La Cruz denied the abuse allegations and filed a motion to stop her husband from making any further public statements.
 - ✓ De La Cruz filed an emergency motion requesting the court to stop her husband from making any statements to the press and on social media.
- ✓ January 2022: a judge ruled that Monica De La Cruz would take possession of the marital home starting April 1, rejecting her husband's request to keep the house indefinitely.



De La Cruz And Juan Hernandez Were Married From 2015-2021 And Were In Divorce Proceedings As Of January 2022

November 22, 2015: Juan Gabriel Hernandez And Monica De La Cruz Were Married In Hidalgo County, Texas. [Hidalgo County Clerk, Marriage Records, 11/22/15]

October 5, 2021: Hernandez Filed For Divorce From His Marriage To De La Cruz. [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Petition for Divorce, 10/5/21]

January 12, 2022: The Hidalgo County 93rd District Court Awarded De La Cruz The Exclusive Use And Possession Of The Residence In Edinburg By April 5, 2022 And Hernandez Was Ordered To Vacate By April 2022. [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Interim Orders, 1/12/22]

October 2021: De La Cruz's Husband Accused Her Of "Cruel And Aggressive Treatment" And Being "Verbally Abusive" Towards His Daughter

De La Cruz's Ex-Husband Alleged She Was "Verbally Abusive" Towards His Daughter

De La Cruz's Ex-Husband Claimed She Was "Guilty Of Cruel Treatment Toward Petitioner Of A Nature That Renders Further Living Together Insupportable." [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Original Petition For Divorce, 10/5/21]

De La Cruz's Ex-Husband Claimed Was "Verbally Abusive" To His Daughter. "She is verbally abusive to my daughter, and for that reason, I am asking the Court to award me exclusive use and possession of the family home for the use of myself and my daughter for the stability of my daughter at this time. Petitioner and Respondent have been engaged in arguments and disagreements which damage the mental well being of my fourteen year old daughter." [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Sworn Declaration, 10/5/21]

De La Cruz's Ex-Husband Claimed His Daughter "Suffers From Anxiety" Whenever De La Cruz Is Around Her. "Petitioner has been told by his daughter that she suffers from anxiety whenever Respondent is around her." [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Amended Petition For Divorce, 10/7/21]

De La Cruz's Ex-Husband Requested And Was Granted A Temporary Restraining Order On The Basis Of De La Cruz's "Cruel And Aggressive Treatment" Towards Her Stepdaughter

De La Cruz's Ex-Husband Requested A Restraining Order On The Basis Of De La Cruz's "Cruel And Aggressive Treatment" Towards Her Stepdaughter. "Respondent is guilty of cruel treatment toward Petitioner of a nature that renders further living together insupportable. Respondent is further guilty of cruel and aggressive treatment towards Petitioner's only daughter, who is not subject to this suit, but serves as the basis for the request for Petitioner's Restraining Order." [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Amended Petition For Divorce, 10/7/21]

De La Cruz's Ex-Husband's Request For A Temporary Restraining Order Was Granted Until A Hearing That Was Scheduled On October 20, 2021. "The application of Petitioner, Juan Gabriel Hernandez, for temporary restraining order was presented to the Court today. Respondent is Monica De La Cruz. The Court examined the pleadings and affidavit of Petitioner and finds that Petitioner is entitled to a temporary restraining order. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the clerk of this Court issue a temporary restraining order restraining Respondent, and Respondent is immediately restrained [...] This restraining order is effective immediately and shall continue in force and effect until further order of this Court or until it expires by operation of law. [...] IT IS



FURTHER ORDERED that the clerk shall issue notice to Respondent, Monica De La Cruz, to appear, and Respondent is ORDERED to appear in person, before this Court in the courthouse at 100 North Closner, Edinburg, Texas, on October 20, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Temporary Restraining Order and Order Setting Hearing for Temporary Orders, 10/5/21]

De La Cruz Allegedly Pinched Her Stepdaughter To Get Her To Stop Crying At Church

De La Cruz Allegedly "Pinched" Her Stepdaughter To Get Her To Stop Crying While At Church. "Petitioner would show that on or about last Sunday while at Church coffee got spilled at which point Petitioner's daughter began crying. Rather than try to console her, Respondent took her to the bathroom and pinched her to get her to stop crying." [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Amended Petition For Divorce, 10/7/21]

De La Cruz's Ex-Husband Claimed She Refused To Go To "Parenting Classes" And "Didn't Want To Make Things Better For My Daughter."

De La Cruz's Ex-Husband Said She "Didn't Want To Go To Parenting Classes" And "Didn't Want To Make Things Better For My Daughter." "Unfortunately, it got to that point where I had to make a decision for the best sake of my daughter,' Hernandez said in an interview Tuesday. 'She didn't want to go to parenting classes, and she didn't want to make things better for my daughter." [Washington Post, 11/9/21]

De La Cruz's Ex-Husband Claimed She Was "Putting Her Campaign In Front Of Our Family" And "Using My Daughter For Sympathy Votes"

De La Cruz's Ex-Husband Accused De La Cruz Of "Putting Her Campaign In Front Of Our Family" And "Using My Daughter For Sympathy Votes." "Hernandez also said De La Cruz should remove the tweet referring to his daughter from her campaign Twitter account. The couple has no biological children, and De La Cruz has two other children from a previous marriage. 'I believe that she is putting her campaign in front of our family,' he said. 'She is using my daughter for sympathy votes. My daughter is going through mental health issues, and she should not be using that on her campaign page. She needs to take that down." [Washington Post, 11/9/21]

De La Cruz's Campaign Repeatedly Invoked "Family Values" And Posted Photos Captioned "Family Values Do Matter!"

De La Cruz's Campaign Posted A Photo Labeled "Family Values Do Matter!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/7/21]

De La Cruz Promised To Promote "Family Values." "Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez is your conservative Republican candidate for U.S. Congress! Born and raised in the Rio Grande Valley, she promises to promote the Valley's interests in terms of family values in America, immigration reform in the US, small business, and personal property to make a difference for those living in District 15. Monica believes in the sanctity of marriage, small business support from government, and US border security." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/22/19]

De La Cruz Claimed "Traditional Family Values" Were A Part Of Her Platform. "It's important that we keep Texas RED....I could only read through half of this before sharing! This is why Traditional Family Values is part of my platform. Make a difference in 2020 and let's make history by flipping District 15!!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/2/19]

De La Cruz Shared A Post With Her Daughter And Her Stepdaughter Saying She Was Blessed To Be Their Mother. [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 9/25/21]

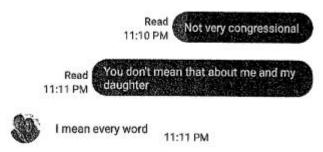


Shortly Before The Divorce Filing, De La Cruz Refused To Let Her Stepdaughter Live In Her Home And Repeatedly Used Vulgar Language About Her In Texts To Her Ex

August 2021: De La Cruz Said That She Meant "Every Word" When She Repeatedly Used Vulgar Language Referring To Her Stepdaughter

Text Messages Introduced In The Court Record Showed De La Cruz Attacking Her Husband's Daughter And Threatening To End The Marriage If He Brought His Daughter Home. "She also defended her own conduct in the face of text messages, introduced into the court record, in which she attacked Hernandez's daughter by name during a fight with him. [...] The text messages showed that De La Cruz threatened to end the marriage in August if Hernandez brought his daughter home, and directed a four-letter expletive at Hernandez, his ex-wife and their daughter. She later repeated the vulgar message twice, referring to his daughter by name. The Washington Post is not disclosing her name because she is a minor. 'Not very congressional,' her husband responded in the text message thread. 'You don't mean that about me and my daughter.' 'I mean every word,' De La Cruz shot back." [Washington Post, 1/12/22]

De La Cruz Said She Meant "Every Word" About What She Said About Her Step-Daughter.



[Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Respondent's Exhibit 25, 1/6/22]

De La Cruz Said She Didn't "Give A Fuck Anymore" In Response To Her Husband Saying He Needed Her Support With His Daughter.



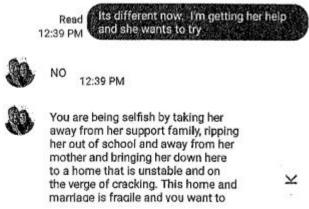
[Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Respondent's Exhibit 25, 1/6/22]



August 2021: De La Cruz Stated That She Would End Her Marriage If Her Husband Brought His Daughter Home

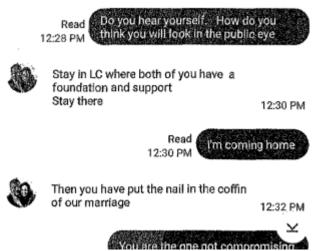
Text Messages Introduced In The Court Record Showed De La Cruz Attacking Her Husband's Daughter And Threatening To End The Marriage If He Brought His Daughter Home. "She also defended her own conduct in the face of text messages, introduced into the court record, in which she attacked Hernandez's daughter by name during a fight with him. [...] The text messages showed that De La Cruz threatened to end the marriage in August if Hernandez brought his daughter home, and directed a four-letter expletive at Hernandez, his ex-wife and their daughter. She later repeated the vulgar message twice, referring to his daughter by name. The Washington Post is not disclosing her name because she is a minor. 'Not very congressional,' her husband responded in the text message thread. 'You don't mean that about me and my daughter.' 'I mean every word,' De La Cruz shot back." [Washington Post, 1/12/22]

De La Cruz Claimed Her Husband Was "Being Selfish" For "Bringing Her Down Here To A Home That Is Unstable And On The Verge Of Cracking."



[Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Respondent's Exhibit 25, 1/6/22]

De La Cruz Said "Then You Have Put The Nail In The Coffin Of Our Marriage" In Response To Her Husband Saying He Was Coming Home With His Daughter.



[Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Respondent's Exhibit 25, 1/6/22]

De La Cruz Called The Police On The Night Her Husband Filed For Divorce After He Followed Her Around The House And Video Recorded Her



October 2021: De La Cruz Called The Police To Her Edinburg Home On The Night Her Husband Filed For Divorce Claiming That Hernandez Was "Following Her Around The House." And On Friday 10/08/2021 at approximately 12:12 AM, I, Officer l. Olazaran #38, was dispatched [...] In reference to call for police services. Upon arrival, made contact with Monica De La Cruz outside of the residence. Monica stated that she and her husband are going through divorce, which he filed, and he has claimed the master bedroom. Monica stated that she feels her husband may be trying to instigate rise out of her so since a couple of days from said date he began video recording her while following her around the house and saying that she scares him. Monica said that because of that she has decided to sleep in another bedroom across the house from where the master bedroom is located. Monica identified her husband as Juan Gabriel Hernandez. Monica stated that Juan and his sister both make attempts to instigate a rise out of her by following her around the house and video recording her. [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Respondent's Exhibit 5, 1/5/22]

De La Cruz Said "She Felt Afraid" Of Her Husband When He Was Video Recording Her And Wouldn't **Leave Her Bedroom.** Monica stated that she usually ignores Juan and his sister when they do this but on said date, she felt he went too far and she felt afraid of him. Monica said that she had gone to a banquet for Men and Women of the Year in McAllen, TX then she went to her son's football game. Monica said that she and her son arrived home to said location at approximately 11:00 PM on 10/07/2021. Monica said that Juan told her that he wanted her to take her stuff out of the master bedroom. She said that she agreed to move her things out and asked her son to help her. When she and her son were moving her belongings out of the room, Juan began video recording her and her son with his cell phone and asking Monica, 'Why are you acting drunk? Why are you drunk? What are you doing?' Monica said that Juan actually stepped into the bedroom she is now staying in while video recording her. Monica stated that she told Juan that she was not drunk and he said that she looked drunk to him. Monica said that Juan began yelling, 'Look everyone, look how drunk she is!' Monica then asked Juan to leave her bedroom and he said, 'No, why won't you reconcile with me?' She then advised him that she was about to undress and that was her personal space and that is when Juan agreed to leave her bedroom. Monica then stated that later she was in the bathroom brushing her teeth with an electric toothbrush when Juan showed up asking, 'What Is that?' Monica advised him that she was just brushing her teeth and Juan asked her why she was smiling at him and acting 'very curious.' Monica advised Juan that if he felt uncomfortable he could leave the bathroom. Monica said that Juan then followed her into her bedroom and was asking her why she wouldn't leave multiple times. Monica said that she told him that she will consider it and he finally left her bedroom. [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Respondent's Exhibit 5, 1/5/22]

De La Cruz Claimed That Her Ex-Husband Would Not Leave Her Bedroom Because She Wouldn't Move Out Of The House. "On Thursday 11/04/2021 at approximately 9:00 PM, I, Officer I. Olazaran #38, made contact via telephone with Monica De La Cruz. Monica stated that she would like for me to elaborate on the incident that was originally reported on 10108/2021. Monica stated that she would like for me to clarify statement made by her husband. Juan Gabriel Hernandez the night of 10/07/2021. Juan had asked Monica to move out of the residence [...] that same night. When Monica asked Juan to leave the bedroom she was staying in. Juan stated that he would not be leaving her room until she agreed to move out of the residence completely. Monica stated that she told Juan she would not be moving out and Juan told her that he was then not leaving her bedroom. Monica stated that she told Juan she would think about moving out if he left her bedroom. Monica stated that was the only way Juan finally left the bedroom she was sleeping in." [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Respondent's Exhibit 5, 1/5/22]

De La Cruz's Ex-Husband Claimed He Was Recording Her Because He Thought She Was Drunk But De La Cruz Did Not Display Any Signs Of Intoxication According To The Responding Officer

De La Cruz's Ex-Husband Claimed He Was Recording De La Cruz Because He Thought She Was Drunk. "I then made contact with Juan inside of the residence after he came out of one of the bedrooms. I observed that Juan appeared to have been sleeping. I then asked Juan about the events of the night that occurred with Monica. Juan stated that he thought Monica was drunk so he wanted to record her to show how she was acting. I then asked Juan for some more details about how Monica was acting and he said that she just appeared to be intoxicated. Juan then showed me video recording from his cell phone. I observed only portion of the video which showed Juan recording



Monica as she was making the bed in one of the bedrooms. Juan then asks Monica why she does not want to leave the house and she tells him that it is her home. Juan tells Monica that it is his home too but she does not want to be married to him. Juan goes on to tell Monica that he has been begging to make up with her and asks her for her response to that which Monica does not respond to. Juan stated that is all that had happened and stated that he'd like me to document that he had been asleep for approximately an hour prior to my contact with him." [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Respondent's Exhibit 5, 1/5/22]

The Edinburg Police Officer Stated That De La Cruz Did Not Display Any Signs Of Intoxication.

"Furthermore, Monica also advised that Juan had kept accusing her of being intoxicated when she arrived home the night of 10/07/2021. When was making contact with Monica in the early hours of 10/08/2021 (12:21 AM), observed that Monica did not display any signs of intoxication which am able to easily recognize through my training and experience as police officer." [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Respondent's Exhibit 5, 1/5/22]

The Edinburg Police Officer Advised De La Cruz's Ex-Husband To Stay Away From De La Cruz For The Night. "When I mentioned to Juan that Monica advised me he had been following her around the house, he said that he went to bathroom because he thought he heard noise that sounded like something broke but when he went to look, Monica was just brushing her teeth with mechanical toothbrush. Juan said that he did not touch Monica or anything like that. Juan said that Monica wanted to divorce him because of his daughter's psychological condition and she did not want to deal with that. I then provided Juan with case number and advised him that report would be filed. Juan was also advised to stay away from Monica for the night to which he agreed." [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Respondent's Exhibit 5, 1/5/22]

De La Cruz's Ex-Husband Claimed That The Presence Of A Police Officer Was Making It Difficult For His Daughter Because Of Her Psychological Issues. "I then went to make contact with Monica and provided her with case number. Monica then asked if Juan showed me the videos that he had recorded of her. I explained to Monica what video had seen and she stated that there was more videos Juan recorded of her than he had shown me. While was making contact with Monica, Juan came back out of the bedroom he was staying in and stated that the presence of police officer was making it difficult for his daughter because of her psychological issues. I advised Juan that as long as someone calls for police services and requires assistance from the police, the police will respond whether someone in the household has psychological disorder or not. Juan stated that was fine and only wanted to make that statement. I then advised Monica to not feel that she cannot call us for assistance going forward because of Juan's last statement to which she advised that she understood." [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Respondent's Exhibit 5, 1/5/22]

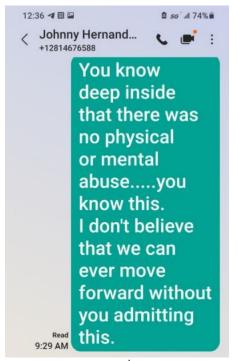
De La Cruz Denied The Abuse Allegations And Filed A Motion To Stop Her Husband From Making Any Further Public Statements

De La Cruz Denied The Allegations Of Abuse

De La Cruz Denied The Accusations And Claimed They Were False. "De La Cruz said in a statement to The Washington Post that the accusations are 'false, and I'm heartbroken that as we work through some mental health issues that involve a minor this deeply personal matter is now being exposed in the national press. My number one concern will always be the well-being of all of my children, and I would appreciate your prayers and continue to ask for privacy for our family." [Washington Post, 11/9/21]

De La Cruz Said "You Know Deep Inside That There Was No Physical Or Mental Abuse" In A Text To Her Ex-Husband.





[Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Respondent's Exhibit 3, 1/5/22]

De La Cruz Filed A Court Motion To Stop Her Husband From Talking To The Press Or On Social Media

De La Cruz Filed An Emergency Motion Requesting The Court To Stop Her Husband From Making Any Statements To The Press And On Social Media. "Respondent is self employed as an insurance agent whose impeccable reputation is crucial to maintaining her livelihood through the word of mouth of established clients and the general public. Petitioner Juan Gabriel Hernandez has recently made and is currently making statements and comments to the press and on social media that denigrate, harm or otherwise deteriorate the reputation of Respondent Monica De La Cruz in such a way that has caused consternation and confusion in established and prospective clients that affects Respondent's business to suffer and thus affecting her ability to continue making mortgage payments and not devaluing the worth of the community estate. Respondent respectfully requests this Honorable Court issue an order enjoining the parties from making any statements or comments regarding this pending litigation to, but not limited to, the press and on social media." [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Emergency Motion for Preservation of the Community Estate, 11/12/21]

January 2022: A Judge Ruled That Monica De La Cruz Would Take Possession Of The Marital Home Starting April 1, Rejecting Her Husband's Request To Keep The House Indefinitely

January 2022: A Judge Ruled That Monica De La Cruz Would Take Possession Of The Marital Home Starting April 1, Rejecting Her Husband's Request To Keep The House Indefinitely. "A Texas judge ruled Wednesday that a top Republican congressional recruit must continue living away from her family home until after the March 1 primary, following a contentious court hearing with her estranged husband. Monica De La Cruz, who is backed by House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.), testified that she had moved out of her Edinburg, Tex., home to an Airbnb rental last year, after her husband accused her in court papers of mistreating his teenage daughter and she told police he was trying to provoke her by making video recordings of her. [...] Hidalgo County Judge Fernando Mancias ruled that De La Cruz would be able to take possession of the marital home starting on April 1, rejecting her husband's efforts to keep the house indefinitely. She told the court she hopes to return with her two children from a previous marriage, who have been staying with their father. 'I am grateful that the judge



understood the facts and ruled in our favor,' De La Cruz said in a statement to The Washington Post. 'I continue to ask for privacy for the minors involved.'" [Washington Post, $\frac{1}{12/22}$]



De La Cruz Was A Self-Serving Hypocrite With Shady Campaign And Personal Finances

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz and her then-husband obtained more than \$180,000 in PPP and EIDL loans for their associated businesses...
 - ✓ April 2020: De La Cruz's insurance business, DLC Insurance, received a \$38,552 PPP loan.
 - ✓ 2020: De La Cruz's business JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC received \$40,000 in Economic Injury Disaster Loans.
 - ✓ 2020: De La Cruz's spouse's business Navi Business Group received \$102,000 in Economic Injury Disaster Loans.
- ✓ ...Even though she attacked the CARES Act and the December 2020 COVID relief bill, which funded those loan programs, and condemned the American Rescue Plan.
 - ✓ De La Cruz initially praised the passage of the CARES Act but later called the additional \$600 in unemployment insurance provided in the CARES Act a "catastrophe" that was keeping people in "modern day slavery."
 - ✓ De La Cruz blamed the expansion of unemployment insurance on "the left," though the CARES Act was passed by unanimous votes in both houses of Congress and signed into law by Trump.
 - ✓ De La Cruz opposed the American Rescue Plan (ARP), claiming "none of this had anything to do with fighting COVID-19" and arguing it "bail[ed] out democrat failed state and local governments."
- ✓ De La Cruz claimed a PPP loan to her insurance business supported the payroll of five staff, but then she reported nearly the same amount of money as personal income from the business.
 - ✓ April 29, 2020: De La Cruz's insurance business, DLC Insurance, received a \$38,552 PPP loan that it claimed was going to support five employees.
 - ✓ De La Cruz reported annual personal income from DLC Insurance in 2020 that nearly matched the amount of the PPP loan to DLC insurance
- ✓ De La Cruz's businesses received over \$180,000 in taxpayer-funded covid relief funds around the same time that her campaign repaid \$60,000 in bank loans that had been taken out months earlier but did not report the loans until October, almost four months after they were due to be reported and after multiple requests from the FEC to clarify misreporting.
 - ✓ January 28, 2020: De La Cruz's campaign reported an \$85,000 loan from herself to the campaign taken out on December 24, 2019.



- ✓ March 18, 2020: De La Cruz's campaign received an FEC request for additional information after failing to disclose if the loan to the campaign was made from personal funds or obtained from a bank.
- ✓ April 19, 2020: De La Cruz's spouse's business Navi Business Group received a \$4,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan.
- ✓ April 20, 2020: De La Cruz's campaign repaid \$60,000 in loans but did not report the loan repayments until October 20, 2020 on an amended pre-runoff report almost four months after they were due to be reported.
 - ✓ De La Cruz's campaign repaid a \$35,000 loan from BBVA Bank that had been taken out in December 2019.
 - ✓ De La Cruz repaid a \$25,000 loan from First Community Bank that had been taken out in December 2019.
- ✓ April 29, 2020: De La Cruz's insurance business, DLC Insurance, received a \$38,552 PPP Loan.
- ✓ May 2, 2020: De La Cruz's business JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC received a \$1,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan.
- ✓ May 13, 2020: De La Cruz amended her FEC filing to state that the loan made in December 2019 came from three different banks and not the candidate.
- ✓ May 22, 2020: De La Cruz's spouse's business Navi Business Group received a \$98,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan.
- ✓ June 16, 2020: De La Cruz's business JSM De La Cruz holdings LLC received a \$39,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan.
- ✓ October 20, 2020: De La Cruz's campaign filed an amended pre-runoff report showing the \$60,000 loan repayment.
- ✓ 2020: De La Cruz received multiple FEC requests for additional information for failing to properly disclose loans to her campaign.
 - ✓ March 2020: De La Cruz's campaign received an FEC request for additional information after failing to disclose if a loan to the campaign was made from personal funds or obtained from a bank.
 - ✓ September 2020: De La Cruz's campaign received an FEC request for additional information after they reported loan payments to date that did not equal reported itemized loan payments.
 - ✓ September 2020: De La Cruz's campaign received an FEC request to clarify the source of the three bank loans she received in December 2019.
- ✓ According to FEC records, De La Cruz's campaign took out \$113,000 in loans including \$89,000 from three different banks on the same day and 24,000 in candidate loans.
 - ✓ According to Federal Election Commission records, De La Cruz's campaign took out \$113,000 in loans and has made \$100,000 in loan payments.



- ✓ December 23, 2019: De La Cruz took out \$89,000 in loans for her campaign from three different banks.
- ✓ De La Cruz and her husband loaned her campaign \$24,000; campaign repaid De La Cruz \$11,000 from June 2020-July 2021.
- ✓ De La Cruz received multiple FEC requests for additional information for failing to properly disclose loans to her campaign and for other inconsistencies in her campaign finance disclosures.
- ✓ According to her FEC disclosures, De La Cruz reported \$12,000 as in-kind disbursements to herself for rent and utilities on a building she owned.
 - ✓ FEC filings listed De La Cruz's campaign address as 1317 West Frontage Rd, Suite C, Alamo, TX
 - ✓ A Check N Go payday loans business was located at 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite C, Alamo, TX 78516.
 - ✓ De La Cruz's State Farm insurance agency office was located at 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite A, Alamo, TX 78516.
 - ✓ JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC owned 1317 W Frontage Rd Alamo, TX.
 - ✓ De La Cruz was the owner of JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC.
- ✓ De La Cruz failed to properly report her assets, including a multimillion-dollar LLC and commercial and investment properties, on her personal financial disclosures.
 - ✓ De La Cruz failed to list her interest in JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC on her 2020 personal financial disclosure report; it was included on the 2021 version and valued at up to \$5 million.
 - ✓ De La Cruz failed to list her commercial rental property located at 1317 W Frontage Rd, Alamo, TX on her 2021 personal financial disclosure report.
 - ✓ According to the House Ethics Committee guide on financial disclosures, all real properties must be separately disclosed and must be distinguishable from one another.
 - ✓ De La Cruz reported her property located at 210 Laddie Pl, San Antonio, TX as an investment home under liabilities but did not list the property under assets.
 - ✓ De La Cruz reported her property located at 2505 Ironclad Dr, League City, TX as an investment home under liabilities but did not list the property under assets.
 - ✓ According to the House Ethics Committee guide on financial disclosures, real estate that generated rental income must be reported under assets.
- ✓ De La Cruz was cited multiple times by the Texas Secretary of State and the Hidalgo County tax assessor for delinquent state franchise and property tax payments.
 - ✓ 2021: De La Cruz was cited by The Hidalgo County tax assessor for delinquent property taxes on a commercial property that housed her insurance business.



- As of February 2022, De La Cruz's tax statement showed she owed \$791.28 in delinquent property taxes.
- ✓ January 2017: De La Cruz's company JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC was forfeited by the Texas Secretary Of State for failing to pay state franchise tax.
 - ✓ A company's right to transact business in Texas may be forfeited if the company has not filed a franchise tax report or paid a franchise tax required under chapter 171.
 - ✓ April 2017: The Texas Secretary of State reinstated JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC.
- ✓ 2021: De La Cruz reported between \$905,009 and \$2,015,000 in liabilities on her personal financial disclosure.

De La Cruz Obtained Over \$180,000 In PPP And EIDL Loans For Her Family's Businesses...

De La Cruz Obtained More Than \$180,000 In PPP And EIDL Loans For Her Associated Businesses, But Attacked The CARES Act And The American Rescue Plan

April 2020: De La Cruz's Insurance Business, DLC Insurance, Received A \$38,552 PPP Loan

April 2020: DLC Insurance Received A \$38,552 Paycheck Protection Loan To Cover Payroll Costs. [ProPublica, Tracking PPP, <u>4/29/20</u>]

Paycheck Protection Loan Information			
Business Name:	DLC Insurance Inc		
Loan Amount:	\$38,552		
Intended Use For Loan:	Payroll		
Location:	Alamo, TX		
Industry:	Direct Life Insurance Carriers		
Business Type:	Sole Proprietorship		
Jobs Reported:	5		
Lender:	BBVA USA		
Date Approved:	4/29/20		

[ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

DLC Insurance Claimed The PPP Loan Was Going To Support 5 Employees. [ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

• De La Cruz Alongside Four Other Employees At Her Insurance Agency.





[State Farm, Monica De La Cruz, accessed 2/8/22]

According To The Small Business Administration The PPP Loan Was Reported As "Paid In Full." "DLC Insurance Inc in Alamo, TX received a Paycheck Protection Loan of \$38,552 through PNC Bank, National Association, which was approved in April, 2020. This loan's status is reported by the SBA as "Paid in Full", which includes both loans repaid and those fully forgiven from repayment under PPP guidelines. The loan's status was last updated by the SBA in June, 2021." [FederalPay.org, accessed 12/13/21]

2020: De La Cruz Reported Annual Personal Income From DLC Insurance That Nearly Matched The Amount Of The PPP Loan To DLC Insurance

De La Cruz Had \$44,600 In Earned Income From DLC Insurance Inc. In 2020. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

DLC Insurance Was Approved For A \$38,000 PPP Loan From BBVA Nine Days After Her Campaign Repaid BBVA For A \$35,000 Loan

4/20/20: De La Cruz's Campaign Repaid A \$35,000 Loan From BBVA Bank. [FEC, Campaign Disbursements Search, accessed <u>5/12/21</u>]

4/29/20: DLC Insurance Was Approved For A \$38,552 PPP Loan From BBVA Bank. [ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

2020: De La Cruz's Business JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Received \$40,000 in Economic Injury Disaster Loans

June 2020: JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Received A \$39,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan. On June 16, 2020, the Small Business Administration awarded JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC a \$39,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan. [COVID Bailout Tracker via Accountable.US, 6/16/20]

May 2020: JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Received A \$1,000 Economic Injury Disaster Grant. On May 2, 2020, the Small Business Administration awarded JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC a \$1,000 direct payment Economic Injury Disaster Grant. [USASpending.gov, 5/2/20]

2020: De La Cruz's Spouse's Business Navi Business Group Received \$102,000 In Economic Injury Disaster Loans

May 2020: Navi Business Group Received A \$98,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan. On May 22, 2020, the Small Business Administration awarded Navi Business Group a \$98,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan. [COVID Bailout Tracker via Accountable.US, 5/22/20]



April 2020: Navi Business Group Received A \$4,000 Economic Injury Disaster Grant. On April 19, 2020, the Small Business Administration awarded Navi Business Group a \$4,000 direct payment Economic Injury Disaster Grant. [USASpending.gov, 4/19/20]

...Even Though She Attacked The CARES Act And The December Relief Bill, Which Funded Those Loan Programs, And Condemned The American Rescue Plan

2020: De La Cruz Initially Praised The CARES Act Before Denouncing Its Unemployment Provisions As "Modern Day Slavery"

March 2020: De La Cruz Initially Praised The Passage Of The CARES Act, Though She Criticized The Bill For Containing "Hundreds Of Millions Of Dollars In Pork Barrel Spending" That Was "Wasteful And Unneeded"

De La Cruz Said She Was Pleased With The Passage Of The CARES Act That Would "Help Hard-Working Americans Weather This Storm Until Things Go Back To Normal." "I'm pleased the United States House of Representatives has passed the \$2 trillion coronavirus stimulus bill. President Donald J. Trump has indicated he will sign it the moment it hits his desk. This emergency measure will help hard-working Americans weather this storm until things go back to normal." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 3/27/20]

De La Cruz Criticized Pelosi And Schumer For Delaying And Holding The CARES Act "Captive Until Their Demands For Hundreds Of Millions Of Dollars In Pork Barrel Spending" Were Met. "While I was in support of passage of this bill, I'm disappointed that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Democrat Leader Chuck Schumer delayed getting Americans the help they needed because of their political grandstanding and posturing. They held the bill captive until their demands for hundreds of millions of dollars in pork barrel spending, which had nothing to do with the national emergency we find ourselves in, were met. [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 3/27/20]

De La Cruz Said Funding In The CARES Act For Amtrak, The National Endowment For The Arts, And The National Endowment For The Humanities Was "Wasteful And Unneeded." \$75 million for the National Endowment for the Arts, \$75 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities, \$25 million for the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, \$7 million dollars for the Smithsonian Institute, and \$1 billion for AMTRAK were all unnecessary and are costs we simply can't afford. We should focus on helping stop the virus, treating those who have been infected, and keeping our economy and American families afloat. Anything beyond that is wasteful and unneeded!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 3/27/20]

June 2020: De La Cruz Called The Additional \$600 In Unemployment Insurance Provided In The CARES Act A "Catastrophe" That Was Keeping People In "Modern Day Slavery"

De La Cruz Said The Additional \$600 In Unemployment Insurance Provided In The CARES Act A "Catastrophe." "Getting people back to work is very important. Look let me tell you this right now as small businesses, as big businesses we have a very serious issue on our hands. What was passed, legislation that was passed on unemployment and not only giving people unemployment but giving them the additional 600 dollars to stay unemployed has been a catastrophe for businesses, has been a catastrophe for our nation and our national economy. What has been created is that employees do not want to come back to work. They don't. The reason why is because they're getting this extra 600 dollars to stay at home. Why should they come back there's no incentive?" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/4/20] (Video)

• The CARES Act Provided An Extra \$600 A Week In Unemployment Insurance. "In a historic expansion of unemployment insurance, the federal government would give jobless workers an extra \$600 a week on top of their state benefits for four months as part of the \$2 trillion stimulus bill the Senate passed unanimously late Wednesday night." [CNN, 3/25/20]



De La Cruz Claimed "The Left" Was "Putting Handcuffs On People And Keeping Them In Modern Day Slavery On Unemployment." "I talked to small businesses up and down the Rio Grande Valley. I have one large Fortune 500 business that is supporting us and they have 50 open positions that they cannot fill and the reason why is because people want to stay on unemployment and that is a catastrophe. That is the left putting handcuffs on people and keeping them in modern day slavery on unemployment. That is not the American way. That is not what America was built on, America was built on hard work, it was built on ethics and integrity." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/4/20] (Video)

Though De La Cruz Blamed The Expansion Of Unemployment Insurance On "The Left," The CARES Act Was Passed By Unanimous Votes In Both Houses Of Congress And Signed Into Law By Trump

March 2020: Trump Signed The CARES ACT Into Law Hours After It Passed The House By Voice Vote And Passed The Senate Unanimously. "President Trump on Friday signed a massive \$2 trillion emergency spending bill into law, promising to deliver a tidal wave of cash to individual Americans, businesses and health care facilities all reeling from the coronavirus pandemic. His signature came just hours after the House of Representatives passed the massive package by an overwhelming voice vote, and less than 48 hours after it received unanimous approval from the Senate." [Washington Post, 3/27/20]

May 2020: De La Cruz Opposed The HEROES Act, Which She Called "Irresponsible" Legislation

De La Cruz Opposed The HEROES Act Referring To It As "Irresponsible Type Of Legislation Only Insults And Dampens The American Fire Within." "What Congress needs to do is help businesses safely reopen and get people back to work! The American spirit is hard work and integrity! This irresponsible type of legislation only insults and dampens the American fire within! Americans don't want a hand out, we want to be independent from Government!!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 5/12/20]

- May 2020: The House Of Representatives Passed The HEROES Act Which Proposed \$3 Trillion To Address The Economic Impacts Of The Coronavirus. "House Democrats on Friday passed a \$3 trillion tax cut and spending bill aimed at addressing the devastating economic fallout from the coronavirus outbreak by directing huge sums of money into all corners of the economy. But the White House and Senate Republicans have decried the measure's design and said they will cast it aside, leaving uncertain what steps policymakers might take as the economy continues to face severe strains. The sweeping legislation, dubbed the 'Heroes Act', passed 208-199." [Washington Post, 5/15/20]
- The HEROES Act Provided Nearly \$1 Trillion For State And Local Governments, Another Round Of Direct Payments To Individuals And Families, And Hazard Pay For Essential Workers. "The 1,800-page legislation contains a large number of provisions: nearly \$1 trillion for state, local and tribal governments; another round of direct payments to individuals, up to \$6,000 per family, including to unauthorized immigrants; \$200 billion for hazard pay for essential workers; \$75 billion for coronavirus testing and tracing; increased spending on food stamps; \$175 billion in housing support; student loan forgiveness; and a new employee retention tax credit and extension of unemployment benefits." [Washington Post, 5/15/20]

December 2020: De La Cruz Opposed The \$900 Billion Bipartisan Pandemic Relief Bill, Which Authorized A New Round Of PPP Lending To Small Businesses

De La Cruz Said She Was "Surprised" After Trump Signed \$900 Billion Pandemic Relief Bill. "I am surprised Trump signed this.... Congress produced a bill that sends billions overseas that could have been used for Americans. Why does Congress care more about other countries than our own." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/27/20]



• De La Cruz Criticized The Bill For Sending "Billions Overseas That Could Have Been Used For Americans." "I am surprised Trump signed this.... Congress produced a bill that sends billions overseas that could have been used for Americans. Why does Congress care more about other countries than our own." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/27/20]

De La Cruz Criticized The \$900 Pandemic Relief Bill As "Waste" And "Deception." "Waste. Deception. All under the cover of 'relief'. #expose #congress" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>12/22/20</u>]

- The Stimulus Package Included \$600 Direct Payments For Individuals And Additional Payments For Children. "Among the most anticipated components of the legislation is the direct payment, with \$600 going to individual adults with an adjusted gross income of up to \$75,000 a year based on 2019 earnings. Heads of households who earn up to \$112,500 and a couple (or someone whose spouse died in 2020) who make up to \$150,000 a year would get twice that amount. Eligible families with dependent children would receive an additional \$600 per child." [New York Times, 12/28/20]
- The Stimulus Package Enhanced Federal Jobless Benefits For 11 Weeks And Extended Pandemic Unemployment Assistance. "The agreement would revive enhanced federal jobless benefits for 11 weeks, providing a lifeline for hard-hit workers until March 14. The new benefit, up to \$300 per week, is half the amount provided by the original stimulus bill in the spring. The legislation also extends Pandemic Unemployment Assistance a program aimed at a broad set of freelancers and independent contractors for the same period, providing an additional \$100 per week." [New York Times, 12/28/20]
- The Pandemic Relief Bill Provided \$82 Billion In Education Funding. "School budgets have been severely crippled by the pandemic and left some of the most vulnerable students in dire academic and financial straits. The bill provides \$82 billion for education, including about \$54 billion for K-12 schools and \$23 billion for colleges and universities." [New York Times, 12/28/20]
- The Pandemic Relief Bill Allocated \$70 Billion For Public Health Measures Including Vaccines And Test-And-Trace Programs. "The legislation sets aside nearly \$70 billion for a range of public health measures, including \$20 billion for the purchase of vaccines, \$8 billion for vaccine distribution and an additional \$20 billion to help states continue their test-and-trace programs." [New York Times, 12/28/20]

The Pandemic Relief Bill Authorized \$285 Billion For A New Round Of PPP Lending To Small Businesses

- The Pandemic Relief Bill Renewed The PPP Program Created By The CARES Act, Providing \$285 Billion For Additional Paycheck Protection Program Loans. The agreement sets aside \$285 billion for additional loans to small businesses under the Paycheck Protection Program, renewing the program created under the initial stimulus legislation." [New York Times, 12/28/20]
- The Pandemic Relief Bill Capped Loans At \$2 Million And Only To Companies With Fewer Than 300 Employees That Experienced A Drop In Sales. "The latest version includes stricter terms that appear intended to correct some of the unpopular elements of the original program. It caps loans at \$2 million and makes them available only to borrowers with fewer than 300 employees that experienced at least a 25 percent drop in sales from a year earlier in at least one quarter." [New York Times, 12/28/20]
- The Bill Set Aside \$12 Billion For Minority-Owned Businesses. "The agreement also sets aside \$12 billion specifically for minority-owned businesses. And publicly traded companies will be ineligible to apply this time around." [New York Times, 12/28/20]

De La Cruz Accused Speaker Pelosi And Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Of Stalling The Pandemic Relief Bill Until Biden Was Elected. "During negotiations over a second coronavirus relief bill, Pelosi had refused to back anything less than a \$2 trillion dollar deal but now that Biden is supposedly President Elect, she accepts a lesser package of



\$908 billion, citing that 'we have a new president' and vaccines are on the way. Socialist Vicente Gonzalez will be talking PROUDLY how he supported #hypocrite Pelosi. He CHOSE to give his constituents and small businesses LESS financial support than what they could have gotten!! Socialist Gonzalez is playing politics with our lives!!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/9/20]

February 2021: De La Cruz Opposed The American Rescue Plan, Claiming It Had Nothing To Do With Fighting COVID-19, And Attacked Its Relief For State And Local Governments

De La Cruz Opposed The American Rescue Plan Claiming "None Of This Had Anything To Do With Fighting COVID-19." "None of this has anything to do with fighting COVID-19. But apparently that doesn't matter to Vicente Gonzalez, who is more concerned with pleasing Nancy Pelosi than working across the aisle to enact targeted, responsible relief for his constituents. #covidrelief" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>2/27/21</u>]

De La Cruz Claimed ARP Was "Bailing Out Democrat Failed State And Local Governments."



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 2/27/21]

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed That "Only 9% Of The Bill Is For Actual COVID Relief." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>2/27/21</u>]

• USA Today Fact Check Rated "FALSE" Claims That Only 9% Of The Bill Was Going Towards COVID Relief, Noting "About 85% Of The Bill Is Related To The Coronavirus Pandemic." "We rate this claim FALSE because it is not supported by our research. There's room for debate over exactly how much of the \$1.9 trillion is related to the pandemic. It's surely not all of it. But this claim bungles a widely circulating 9% stat. More than 99% of the American Rescue Plan is going to Americans, though some of that falls in the category of political 'pork.' An analysis by a nonpartisan group found that about 85% of the bill is related to the coronavirus pandemic. The 9% figure is actually what is going to fund direct disease containment measures such as vaccines, testing and tracing, and other public health initiatives." [USA Today, 3/2/21]

De La Cruz Blamed Unemployment Insurance Provided In The American Rescue Plan For Making People Not Want To Work



De La Cruz Said Nobody Wanted To Work Due To The Unemployment Insurance Provided In The American Rescue Plan. "As a small business owner myself...the problem isn't that there are no jobs, the #REAL problem is that due to the COVID RELIEF package, NOBODY WANTS TO WORK!!! Why? Because they would be almost crazy to work when they can get at least the same amount or MORE with the COVID RELIEF unemployment benefits." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 5/8/21]

• The American Rescue Plan Extended Unemployment Insurance At A Level Of \$300/Month, Lower Than The CARES Act's \$600/Month, Until September 6th. "The American Rescue Plan extended unemployment benefits until September 6 with a weekly supplemental benefit of \$300 on top of the regular \$400 benefit." [Whitehouse.gov, American Rescue Plan, accessed 12/15/21]

De La Cruz Claimed She Had To Temporarily Close Her Business After "Actively Trying" To Hire People For Her Businesses; Claimed "It Doesn't Seem Like People Are Motivated To Get Off Unemployment!!!" "Today I had to close my business to allow my team members to 'catch up' on work. I have been actively trying to hire two people and it doesn't seem like people are motivated to get off unemployment!!!! This COVID relief is anything but 'relieving'.... #smallbusinessowner." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 6/24/21]

De La Cruz Said People "Would Be Almost Crazy To Work When They Can Get At Least The Same Amount Or More With The COVID Relief Unemployment Benefits." "As a small business owner myself...the problem isn't that there are no jobs, the #REAL problem is that due to the COVID RELIEF package, NOBODY WANTS TO WORK!!! Why? Because they would be almost crazy to work when they can get at least the same amount or MORE with the COVID RELIEF unemployment benefits." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 5/8/21]

• January Advisors: Break-Even Wage At Which A Texas Worker Could Make More On Unemployment Than In Wages Was \$15.70/Hour, The Equivalent Of \$32,656 Annual Salary. "In order to calculate the number of people who would make less money by returning to work, I calculated a "break even wage." This is the rate where workers would make the same amount of money from Federal and state unemployment as they would from their job. I assumed that everyone works 40 hours per week, 52 weeks per year. Using the WBA formula, I found that this "break even wage" is \$15.70 per hour. Thus, anyone who made below \$15.70 hourly at their previous job would have seen an overall increase in income from federally supplemented unemployment insurance." [January Advisors, 7/29/21]

Local South Texas Leaders Praised The American Rescue Plan As "Monumental Legislation" That Is "Necessary And Welcome"

Hidalgo County Judge Richard Cortez: "I Can Say Unequivocally That This Relief Package Is Necessary And Welcome." "City and county leaders in South Texas say they are thrilled the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act has been passed by Congress. The landmark legislation will be signed into law by President Biden on Friday. It provides resources to defeat the coronavirus, puts money into families' pockets, funds the refitting of classrooms so students can return to school, and helps cities and counties recover from the economic downturn. 'I congratulate Congress, especially the Rio Grande Valley delegation, for passing this major piece of legislation,' said Hidalgo County Judge Richard Cortez. 'I have watched our community valiantly fight the effects of this virus and I can say unequivocally that this relief package is necessary and welcome." [Rio Grande Guardian, 3/11/21]

McAllen Mayor Jim Darling: The American Rescue Plan "Will Not Only Help Struggling, Americans Across The Country And Especially Here In The Rio Grande Valley, But Also, Positively Impact The Municipalities Hit Hard Economically By The Effects Of This Global Pandemic." "McAllen Mayor Jim Darling said he is 'extremely appreciative' of the South Texas congressional delegation – U.S. Reps. Vicente Gonzalez, Henry Cuellar and Filemon Vela – for voting for the COVID-19 relief bill. Darling said the bill 'will not only help struggling, Americans across the country and especially here in the Rio Grande Valley, but also, positively impact the municipalities hit hard economically by the effects of this global pandemic.' Darling said Reps. Gonzalez, Cuellar and Vela understand that municipal governments were struggling to provide services due to lost revenues. 'Being able to recoup that money will be a great shot in the arm for our community, which will help us all rebound.



The immediate and direct deposit of funds will mean we can get back to providing the level of service and infrastructure that our residents expect from their municipal government," Darling added. [Rio Grande Guardian, 3/11/21]

Pharr Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez Described The American Rescue Plan As "Monumental Legislation" That Would "Benefit Pharr Families And Provide Assistance Where It's Most Needed – At The Local Level." "Speaking for the City of Pharr and the Pharr City Commission, Pharr Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez said he 'applauds the efforts of our congressional delegation' for passing the American Rescue Plan. Hernandez described the American Rescue Plan as 'monumental legislation.' He said it would 'benefit Pharr families and provide assistance where it's most needed – at the local level.' Hernandez added: 'With this investment of millions of dollars in direct funding, cities can finally focus on pandemic-specific needs and priorities. Our congressmen recognized that each city is unique especially along the Texas-Mexico border where the movement of trade and commerce remains a vital economic lifeline for our nation." [Rio Grande Guardian, 3/11/21]

Texans Received \$34.5 Million In Economic Impact Payments

Individuals In Texas Received \$34.5 Million In Third Round Economic Impact Payments Of Up To \$1,400 Through The American Rescue Plan. Texas received \$34.5 million in Third Round Economic Impact Payments through The American Rescue Plan Act: "The U.S. Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) released state-by-state data through early June for the 163.5 million Economic Impact Payments (EIPs) totaling nearly \$390 billion received by individuals through the American Rescue Plan Act. With this round of payments, the IRS and the Bureau of the Fiscal Service (BFS) have delivered more EIPs and more total direct relief than in any previous round of direct relief. All 50 states saw more total relief with this round of payments than in previous rounds. [...] The EIPs under the American Rescue Plan included payments of up to \$1,400 per qualifying dependent, a significant increase over the \$500 and \$600 per qualifying child from the first and second rounds of payments, respectively." [Department of the Treasury, Press Release, 6/29/21]

April 2021: Texas Veterans In The Rio Grande Valley Received Economic Impact Payments. "On Wednesday, two Rio Grande Valley Congressmen announced that Texans that receive Veteran benefits could expect a \$1,400 check in their banks starting Wednesday. The money comes from the American Rescue Plan and many Texans have already received Economic Impact Payments. In total, 88 percent of Texas adults are expected to receive Economic Impact Payments of up to \$1,400 per person through the American Rescue Plan, according to Congressman Henry Cuellar. The White House said more than 17,283,400 adults and 8,098,300 children in Texas are eligible to receive payments of up to \$1,400 per person. 'Help is here for our veterans, small businesses, and working families,' said Congressman Vicente Gonzalez. 'I want to make sure that Texas veterans get the money that is rightfully theirs and that these veterans who have served honorably receive their benefits provided by the American Rescue Plan Act." [Valley Central, 4/14/21]

As Of August 2021, Texas's 15th Congressional District Had Received \$54.2 Million In Child Tax Credit Payments

According To Estimates From The Joint Economic Committee Made Using State-Level Data From The Treasury, Texas's 15th Congressional District Had Received \$54.2 Million In Child Tax Credit Payments As Of August 2021. According to estimates from the Joint Economic Committee, Texas's 15th Congressional District had received \$54.2 million in Child Tax Credit payments as of August 2021: "Using state-level data from the Treasury Department on advance Child Tax Credit (CTC) payments, the Joint Economic Committee estimated the number of qualifying children, total number of payments, and total payment amount by congressional district in August 2021, when the second round of CTC payments was distributed." [Joint Economic Committee, 9/9/21; Joint Economic Committee, Estimates of Advance Child Tax Credit Distribution by Congressional District, 9/9/21]

• JEC Analysis Showed The CTC Had Dramatically Reduced Food Insecurity And Financial Hardship, And Was Expected To Inject Nearly \$19.3 Billion Into Local Economies Each Month. "JEC analysis of data from the Census Bureau show the expanded CTC is already having a major impact on family budgets, with



dramatic declines in food insufficiency and financial hardship, and the JEC estimates that monthly CTC payments will inject nearly \$19.3 billion into local economies each month. The expanded CTC will generate nearly \$19.3 billion in spending in local economies across the U.S. each month. Family finances improved significantly following the first monthly expanded CTC payments in July. Data from the Census Bureau show that following the July payments, there were significant declines in the share of households with children reporting financial hardship and food insufficiency. Families are using the expanded CTC payments to meet the needs of their household. Among those who responded to the Census Bureau's survey: 47% spent their CTC payment on food, 28% spent it on internet and other utilities, 26% spent it on school expenses, and 17% of those with at least one child under age 5 spent it on child care." [Joint Economic Committee, 9/9/21]

As Of August 2021, Texas Had Received \$1.5 Billion In Child Tax Credit Payments As Part Of The American Rescue Plan. As of August 2021, Texas had received \$1.5 billion in Child Tax Credit payments: "The U.S. Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service announced today that more than \$15 billion were paid to families that include roughly 61 million eligible children in the second monthly payment of the expanded and newly-advanceable Child Tax Credit from the American Rescue Plan passed in March. [...] Eligible families received a payment of up to \$300 per month for each child under age 6 and up to \$250 per month for each child age 6 to 17. This tax relief is having a real impact on the lives of America's children. According to the Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey data released earlier this week, parents reported having less trouble covering the costs of food and other household expenses after receiving their first CTC payment. The share of families reporting that they sometimes or often did not have enough to eat in the past week dropped to the lowest percentage since the pandemic began. Parents are using their CTC payments to pay for basics for their kids." [Department of the Treasury, Press Release, 8/13/21]

• Parents Reported Having Less Trouble Covering The Costs Of Food And Other Household Expenses After Receiving Their First Child Tax Credit Payment. "According to the Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey data released earlier this week, parents reported having less trouble covering the costs of food and other household expenses after receiving their first CTC payment. The share of families reporting that they sometimes or often did not have enough to eat in the past week dropped to the lowest percentage since the pandemic began. Parents are using their CTC payments to pay for basics for their kids." [Department of the Treasury, Press Release, 8/13/21]

The Child Tax Credit Would Lift 29,300 Children In The 15th District Out Of Poverty And Would Benefit 94.5% Of Children In The District. "The American Rescue Plan has expanded the child tax credit up to \$3,600 per child for children 5 and under and \$3,000 per child for children ages 6 to 17. Beginning as soon as July and running through December, qualifying families will receive a portion on a monthly basis, so they should not expect that \$3,000 or \$3,600 in one month. It will be based on their income and they will receive payments of up to \$300 for children 5 and under and \$250 for children ages 6 to 17 over a 12-month period. Families will get their remaining expanded child tax credit when they file their 2021 tax return. With this initiative, 94.5% of children in the 15th District of Texas will benefit. The aim is for the child tax credit to lift 29,300 children in the 15th District out of poverty." [MyRGV News, 5/18/21]

As Of August 2021, Texas's 15th Congressional District Had Received \$71.3 Million In Restaurant Revitalization Funding To Help Restaurants Keep Their Doors Open As Part Of The American Rescue Plan.

As Of August 2021, Texas's 15th Congressional District Had Received \$71.3 Million In Restaurant Revitalization Funding To Help Restaurants Keep Their Doors Open As Part Of The American Rescue Plan. As of August 2021, Texas's 15th Congressional District had received \$71.3 million in Restaurant Revitalization Funding as part of The American Rescue Plan: "The American Rescue Plan Act established the Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF) to provide funding to help restaurants and other eligible businesses keep their doors open. This program will provide restaurants with funding equal to their pandemic-related revenue loss up to \$10 million per business and no more than \$5 million per physical location. Recipients are not required to repay the funding as long as funds are used for eligible uses no later than March 11, 2023." [U.S. Small Business Administration, RRF FOIA, 8/18/21; U.S. Small Business Administration, accessed 9/7/21]



- As Of June 2021, Texas Had Received \$1.6 Billion In Restaurant Revitalization Funding As Part Of The American Rescue Plan. [U.S. Small Business Administration, RRF Report, 6/30/21]
- Local Restaurant Owners Applied For The Restaurant Revitalization Fund To Help Get Their Businesses Back On Their Feet And Help With Monthly Expenses. "The U.S. Small Business Administration has announced its \$28.6 Billion Restaurant Revitalization Fund to help businesses affected by COVID-19 get back on their feet. 'The difference in the business, dramatically or drastically, I could probably say really went down. It hurt us a lot,' said Ricardo Cruz, Co-owner of Build-A-Burger. Cruz has been working non-stop the past couple of months to get his business back to normal. With the new restaurant revitalization fund, he's hoping this helps with their monthly expenses and to expand his business. 'Of course just trying to just be able to pay for everything that we need to purchase to be able to provide the food content to our customers, but we do also want to be able to put some money into the advertisement of our business,' said Cruz. Cruz is not the only restaurant owner planning to apply." [Valley Central, 4/30/21]
- Local Restaurant Owners Could Use Restaurant Revitalization Funds For The Construction Of Outdoor Seating. "Roberto Pardo the owner of Mayan Chef, said he would use the money for the construction of outdoor seating. 'Outdoor seating which is mainly important now we didn't think about it before now every day it's more important especially because we don't have a drive-thru,' said Pardo. The construction of outdoor seating is just one of the many things the funds could be used for. The Small Business Administration (SBA) urges restaurants in the Rio Grande Valley to apply to get as much help in the area. 'It's not allocated to certain areas it is allocated to certain targeted markets but that's why I'm on this call today because I want people to get a jump on it,' said Angela Burton, RGV District Director for the Small Business Administration." [Valley Central, 4/30/21]

Small Business Support - Shuttered Venue Operators Grants

As Of December 2021, Texas Had Received \$1 Billion In Shuttered Venues Operators Grants To Help Live Venues, Museums, And Theaters Stay Open As Part Of The American Rescue Plan. As of September 2021, Texas had received \$1 billion in Shuttered Venues Operators Grants as part of the American Rescue Plan Act: "The Shuttered Venue Operators Grant (SVOG) program was established by the Economic Aid to Hard-Hit Small Businesses, Nonprofits, and Venues Act, and amended by the American Rescue Plan Act. The program includes over \$16 billion in grants to shuttered venues, to be administered by SBA's Office of Disaster Assistance. Eligible applicants may qualify for grants equal to 45% of their gross earned revenue, with the maximum amount available for a single grant award of \$10 million. \$2 billion is reserved for eligible applications with up to 50 full-time employees. [...] Eligible entities include: live venue operators or promoters, theatrical producers, live performing arts organization operators, museum operators, motion picture theater operators (including owners), talent representatives." [SBA Shuttered Venue Operators Grant Program Reports, 12/20/21; SBA accessed 12/20/21]

School Districts Across The Rio Grande Valley Received Over \$920 Million Of "Monumental Funding" From The American Rescue Plan

Texas Received \$12.4 Billion In Elementary And Secondary School Emergency Relief Through The American Rescue Plan To Help Safely Reopen Schools. Texas received \$12.4 billion in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief through the American Rescue Plan: "This document outlines the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, enacted on March 11, 2021. ARP ESSER provides a total of nearly \$122 billion to States and school districts to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students. In addition to ARP ESSER, the ARP Act includes \$3 billion for special education, \$850 million for the Outlying Areas, \$2.75 billion to support non-public schools, and additional funding for homeless children and youth, Tribal educational agencies, Native Hawaiians, and Alaska



Natives." [ARP ESSER Methodology and Allocation Table Revised, <u>6/25/21</u>; Department of Education, Fact Sheet, <u>3/17/21</u>]

School Districts Across The Rio Grande Valley Received "Monumental Funding" Through The American Rescue Plan. "Regardless of district, schools across the Rio Grande Valley will soon be receiving monumental funding. It comes as one of the many elements to the American Rescue Plan of its \$1.9 trillion, \$122 billion a little more than 6% nationwide. That money is part of the rescue plan's Elementary And Secondary School Emergency Relief also known as ESSER funds. [...] Its goal has several layers making it safer to re-enter the classroom to helping students catch up from time lost from remote learning. [...] Leading to districts like Edinburg CISD now able to fund after-school programs in the early phases. One of the ways they're working to combat learning loss. [...] Of the districts within the valley La Joya ISD is to receive the largest amount. A spokesperson for the district saying they haven't received funding yet but sharing this presentation of initiatives like ramping up staff with special attention going toward the mental health of students. [...] School administrators say this funding is crucial." [KRGV, 8/30/21]

School Districts In The Rio Grande Valley Received Over \$920 Million In Recovery Funds As A Result Of The American Rescue Plan.

Rio Grande Valley School District Funds				
School District	Amount			
Donna ISD	\$98,920,000			
Edcouch-Elsa ISD	\$28,035,000			
Edinburg CISD	\$146,261,000			
Hidalgo ISD	\$10,141,000			
La Joya ISD	\$160,563,000			
La Villa ISD	\$2,453,000			
Lyford CISD	\$6,392,000			
McAllen ISD	\$107,224,000			
Mercedes ISD	\$29,927,000			
Mission CISD	\$76,472,000			
Monte Alto ISD	\$4,225,000			
Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD	\$131,483,000			
Progreso ISD	\$8,939,000			
Sharyland ISD	\$24,856,000			
Valley View ISD	\$16,978,000			
Weslaco ISD	\$67,498,000			
Total:	\$920,367,000			

[Congressman Vicente Gonzalez, 3/12/21]

The American Rescue Plan Sent \$101.4 Million To The University Of Texas Rio Grande Valley. "On Wednesday, Congressman Vicente Gonzalez (TX-15) announced that UTRGV and STC are among the list of schools receiving financial support through the plan. UTRGV is receiving \$101,411,829 and STC is receiving \$73,866,947. In total, the American Rescue Plan is offering \$36 billion to nearly 3,500 public and private, nonprofit colleges and universities nationwide." [KVEO, 5/12/21]



Counties And Cities In Texas's 15th Congressional District Received Over \$392 Million In Coronavirus State And Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

Texas Received \$15.8 Billion In Coronavirus State And Local Fiscal Recovery Funds As Part Of The American Rescue Plan To Help Governments Respond To The Pandemic And Bring Back Jobs. received \$15.8 billion in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds as part of the American Rescue Plan: "The American Rescue Plan will deliver \$350 billion for eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments to respond to the COVID-19 emergency and bring back jobs. [...] Recipients may use these funds to: support public health expenditures, by, for example, funding COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and certain public health and safety staff, address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, including economic harms to workers, households, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector, replace lost public sector revenue, using this funding to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic, provide premium pay for essential workers, offering additional support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors, invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, making necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and to expand access to broadband internet, within these overall categories, recipients have broad flexibility to decide how best to use this funding to meet the needs of their communities. [Department of the Treasury, Allocation for States, accessed 12/20/21; Department of the Treasury, accessed 12/20/21]

Counties In TX-15 Received \$269 Million In Coronavirus State And Local Fiscal Recovery Funds As A
Result Of The American Rescue Plan. [Department of the Treasury, May 2021]

ARP State And Local Recovery Funds				
County	Amount			
Karnes County	\$3,030,311.00			
Guadalupe County	\$32,408,074.00			
Hidalgo County	\$212,973,405.00			
Jim Wells County	\$7,863,154.00			
Wilson County	\$9,919,749.00			
Brooks County	\$1,377,732.00			
Live Oak County	\$2,371,067.00			
Total:	\$269,943,492			

[Department Of The Treasury, May 2021]

 Cities In TX-15 Received \$122 Million In Coronavirus State And Local Fiscal Recovery Funds As A Result Of The American Rescue Plan.

ARP State And Local Recovery Funds			
County	Amount		
McAllen	\$41,922,103.00		
Edinburg	\$27,132,536.00		
Mission	\$25,044,862.00		
Pharr	\$28,232,868.00		
Total:	\$122,332,369.00		

[US Department Of The Treasury, accessed 12/20/21]



Coronavirus State And Local Fiscal Recovery Funds - Law Enforcement

The American Rescue Plan Provided \$350 Billion In State And Local Funding To Hire Law Enforcement Officials, Pay Overtime For Community Policing, And Restore Law Enforcement To Pre-Pandemic Levels.

"Today, the Treasury Department is highlighting that communities experiencing a surge in gun violence as a result of the pandemic may use the American Rescue Plan's \$350 billion in state and local funding for purposes such as: Hiring law enforcement officials – even above pre-pandemic levels – or paying overtime where the funds are directly focused on advancing community policing strategies in those communities experiencing an increase in gun violence associated with the pandemic. [...] In addition, the Treasury Department is clarifying that any community may use ARP state and local aid for the above strategies and any other public safety programs, up to the level of revenue loss the jurisdiction experienced during the pandemic. And any community may use ARP funds to rehire police officers and other public servants to restore law enforcement and courts to their pre-pandemic levels." [White House, Press Release, 6/23/21]

Department Of The Treasury: "There Are Many Ways In Which The State And Local Fiscal Recovery Funds [...] Can Support Communities Working To Reduce And Respond To Increased Violence." "Under Treasury's Interim Final Rule, there are many ways in which the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds ("Funds") under the American Rescue Plan Act can support communities working to reduce and respond to increased violence due to the pandemic. [...] In all communities, recipients may use resources to rehire police officers and other public servants to restore law enforcement and courts to their pre-pandemic levels. [...] In communities where an increase in violence or increased difficulty in accessing or providing services to respond to or mitigate the effects of violence, is a result of the pandemic they may use funds to address that harm. This spending may include: Hiring law enforcement officials – even above pre-pandemic levels – or paying overtime where the funds are directly focused on advancing community policing strategies in those communities experiencing an increase in gun violence associated with the pandemic o Community Violence Intervention (CVI) programs, including capacity building efforts at CVI programs like funding and training additional intervention workers." [Department of the Treasury, 7/19/21]

Biden: "The American Rescue Plan, Which We Passed In The First 100 Days Of My Administration, Is Providing Much-Needed, Historic Relief To Bring Back Those Law Enforcement Jobs." President Biden: "The American Rescue Plan, which we passed in the first 100 days of my administration, is providing much-needed, historic relief to bring back those law enforcement jobs and social service jobs. Much of this relief has already arrived. The rest is on its way. And we're now providing more guidance on how they can use the \$350 billion nationally that the American Rescue Plan has available to help reduce crime and address the root causes. For example, cities experiencing an increase in gun violence were able to use the American Rescue Plan dollars to hire police officers needed for community policing and to pay their overtime. Mayors will also be able to buy crime-fighting technologies, like gunshot detection systems, to better see and stop gun violence in their communities. They can use the funding to scale up wraparound services for the residents as well, including substance abuse and mental health services that we know will make a difference in prevention of crime." [White House, 6/23/21]

De La Cruz Claimed A PPP Loan To Her Insurance Business Supported The Payroll Of Five Staff, But Then She Reported Nearly The Same Amount Of Money As Personal Income From The Business

April 29, 2020: De La Cruz's Insurance Business, DLC Insurance, Received A \$38,552 PPP Loan That It Claimed Was Going To Support Five Employees

April 29, 2020: DLC Insurance Received A \$38,552 Paycheck Protection Loan To Cover Payroll Costs. [ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

Paycheck Protection Loan Information			
Business Name:	DLC Insurance Inc		



Loan Amount:	\$38,552
Intended Use For Loan:	Payroll
Location:	Alamo, TX
Industry:	Direct Life Insurance Carriers
Business Type:	Sole Proprietorship
Jobs Reported:	5
Lender:	BBVA USA
Date Approved:	4/29/20

[ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

According To The Small Business Administration, As Of June 2021 The PPP Loan Was Reported As "Paid In Full." "DLC Insurance Inc in Alamo, TX received a Paycheck Protection Loan of \$38,552 through PNC Bank, National Association, which was approved in April, 2020. This loan's status is reported by the SBA as "Paid in Full", which includes both loans repaid and those fully forgiven from repayment under PPP guidelines. The loan's status was last updated by the SBA in June, 2021." [FederalPay.org, accessed 12/13/21]

DLC Insurance Claimed The PPP Loan Was Going To Support 5 Employees

DLC Insurance Claimed The PPP Loan Was Going To Support 5 Employees. [ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

A Photo Of The DLC Insurance Team Showed Five People, Including De La Cruz.



[State Farm, accessed <u>2/8/22</u>]

DLC Insurance Was Approved For A \$38,552 PPP Loan From BBVA Days After Her Campaign Repaid BBVA For A \$35,000 Loan

April 20, 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Repaid A \$35,000 Loan From BBVA Bank. [FEC, Campaign Disbursements Search, accessed 5/12/21]

April 29, 2020: DLC Insurance Was Approved For A \$38,552 PPP Loan From BBVA Bank. [ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

De La Cruz Reported Annual Personal Income From DLC Insurance In 2020 That Nearly Matched The Amount Of The PPP Loan To DLC Insurance

De La Cruz Had \$44,600 In Earned Income From DLC Insurance Inc. In 2020. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

According To Her Personal Financial Disclosure, Monica De La Cruz Was The President Of DLC Insurance. [House Personal Financial Disclosure, Filed 4/22/20]



De La Cruz's Businesses Received Over \$180,000 In Taxpayer-Funded Covid Relief Funds Around The Same Time That Her Campaign Repaid \$60,000 In Bank Loans

December 23, 2019: De La Cruz Took Out \$89,000 In Loans For Her Campaign From Three Different Banks

December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's Campaign Received A \$25,000 Loan From First Community Bank That Was Also Reported Under De La Cruz's Name. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

• April 2020: De La Cruz Repaid \$25,000 Of This Loan. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's Campaign Received A \$35,000 Loan From BBVA Bank That Was Also Reported Under De La Cruz's Name And Campaign. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

• April 2020: De La Cruz Repaid \$35,000 Of This Loan. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's Campaign Received A \$29,000 Loan From Barclay Credit That Was Also Reported Under De La Cruz's Name. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

- January 2021: De La Cruz Repaid \$18,000 Of This Loan. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]
- **December 2020: De La Cruz Repaid \$11,000 Of This Loan.** [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

De La Cruz And Her Husband Loaned Her Campaign \$24,000; Campaign Repaid De La Cruz \$11,000 From June 2020-July 2021

January 6, 2021: De La Cruz Loaned \$18,000 To Her Own Campaign. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

- July 2021: De La Cruz Was Repaid \$3,000 Of This Loan By Her Campaign. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]
- May 2021: De La Cruz Was Repaid \$2,000 Of This Loan By Her Campaign. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's Campaign Received A \$5,000 Loan From Her Husband Juan Hernandez That Was Also Reported Under De La Cruz's Name On Other Reports. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

• June 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Made A \$5,000 Loan Repayment To De La Cruz. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's Campaign Received A \$1,000 Loan From Herself That Was Also Reported Under Her Campaign. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

 December 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Made A \$1,000 Loan Repayment To De La Cruz. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]



January 28, 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Reported An \$85,000 Loan From Herself To The Campaign Taken Out On December 24, 2019

January 28, 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Reported An \$85,000 Loan From Herself To The Campaign Taken Out On December 24, 2019. [Monica De La Cruz Hernandez for Congress, Year-End 2019 Report, Loan Information, 1/28/20]

March 18, 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Failing To Disclose If The Loan To The Campaign Was Made From Personal Funds Or Obtained From A Bank.

March 18, 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Failing To Disclose If The Loan To The Campaign Was Made From Personal Funds Or Obtained From A Bank. "When a committee reports receiving a loan from the candidate, it is necessary to clarify whether or not the candidate used personal funds or borrowed the money from a lending institution or some other source. Please amend your report to indicate whether the loan is from the candidate's personal funds or if he/she obtained the loan from a bank loan, brokerage account, credit card, home equity line of credit, or other line of credit." [FEC, 3/18/20]

April 19, 2020: De La Cruz's Spouse's Business Navi Business Group Received A \$4,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loans

April 19, 2020: Navi Business Group Received A \$4,000 Economic Injury Disaster Grant

April 19, 2020: Navi Business Group Received A \$4,000 Economic Injury Disaster Grant. On April 19, 2020, the Small Business Administration awarded Navi Business Group a \$4,000 direct payment Economic Injury Disaster Grant. [USASpending.gov, 4/19/20]

2016 - Present: De La Cruz's Spouse Juan Hernandez Owned Navi Business Group

January 2016: Juan Hernandez Formed Navi Business Group. According to the Texas Secretary of State, Navi Business Group was formed by Juan Hernandez on January 22, 2016. [Texas Secretary of State, Certificate of Formation, 4/16/21]

2016: De La Cruz Claimed She Helped Form Navi Business Group With Her Husband After Her Husband's Ex-Employer Closed His Entire Division. "In 2016, a national company was forced to shut down her husband's entire division in an effort to save money. With their community in the midst of hardship and close friends uncertain of what the future held, Monica and her husband formed Navi Business Group. With this new venture, they purchased all the equipment from her husband's ex-employer, and put people back to work. They hired former workers who had lost their jobs, and taught others how to open their own businesses so they could find their own success." [Monicaforcongress.us/meet-monica, accessed 5/12/21]

April 29, 2020: De La Cruz's Insurance Business, DLC Insurance, Received A \$38,552 PPP Loan

April 29, 2020: DLC Insurance Received A \$38,552 Paycheck Protection Loan To Cover Payroll Costs.

April 29, 2020: DLC Insurance Received A \$38,552 Paycheck Protection Loan To Cover Payroll Costs. [ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

Paycheck Protection Loan Information		
Business Name:	DLC Insurance Inc	



Loan Amount:	\$38,552
Intended Use For Loan:	Payroll
Location:	Alamo, TX
Industry:	Direct Life Insurance Carriers
Business Type:	Sole Proprietorship
Jobs Reported:	5
Lender:	BBVA USA
Date Approved:	4/29/20

[ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

2017 - Present: De La Cruz Owned DLC Insurance

March 2017: De La Cruz Formed DLC Insurance. According to the Oklahoma Secretary of State, De La Cruz incorporated DLC Insurance Inc. on March 16, 2017 with Darren Barnes of Tulsa, OK listed as a registered agent. [Oklahoma Secretary Of State, accessed 11/4/21]

According To Her Personal Financial Disclosure, Monica De La Cruz Was The President Of DLC Insurance. [House Personal Financial Disclosure, Filed 4/22/20]

May 2, 2020: De La Cruz's Business JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Received A \$1,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan

May 2, 2020: JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Received A \$1,000 Economic Injury Disaster Grant.

May 2, 2020: JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Received A \$1,000 Economic Injury Disaster Grant. On May 2, 2020, the Small Business Administration awarded JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC a \$1,000 direct payment Economic Injury Disaster Grant. [USASpending.gov, 5/2/20]

2015 - Present: De La Cruz Owned JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC

October 2015: De La Cruz Formed JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC. According to the Texas Secretary of State, JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC was formed by Monica De La Cruz on October 5, 2015. [Texas Secretary of State, Certificate of Formation, 10/5/15]

May 13, 2020: De La Cruz Amended Her FEC Filing To State That The Loan Made In December 2019 Came From Three Different Banks And Not The Candidate

May 13, 2020: De La Cruz Amended Her FEC Filing To State That The Loan Made In December 2019 Came From Three Different Banks And Not The Candidate. On May 13, 2020, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez for Congress Filed A Year-End 2019 Amendment 2 Report. According to the amended report, De La Cruz took out a \$25,000 loan from First Community Bank on December 23, 2019 and a \$35,000 loan from BBVA on December 16, 2019. She also took out a \$29,000 loan from Barclay Credit Card, but the balance as of 5/13/20 was \$0. [FEC, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez for Congress, Year End 2019 Amendment 2, Loans & Lines of Credit, 5/13/20]

May 22, 2020: De La Cruz's Spouse's Business Navi Business Group Received A \$98,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan

May 22, 2020: Navi Business Group Received A \$98,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan



May 22, 2020: Navi Business Group Received A \$98,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan. On May 22, 2020, the Small Business Administration awarded Navi Business Group a \$98,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan. [COVID Bailout Tracker via Accountable.US, <u>5/22/20</u>]

June 16, 2020: De La Cruz's Business JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Received A \$39,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan

June 2020: JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Received A \$39,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan. On June 16, 2020, the Small Business Administration awarded JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC a \$39,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan. [COVID Bailout Tracker via Accountable.US, 6/16/20]

April 20, 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Repaid \$60,000 In Loans But Did Not Report The Loans Until October, Almost Four Months After They Were Due To Be Reported

April 20, 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Repaid A \$35,000 Loan From BBVA Bank That Had Been Taken Out In December 2019

April 20, 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Repaid A \$35,000 Loan From BBVA Bank. [FEC, Campaign Disbursements Search, accessed 5/12/21]

 December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's Campaign Received A \$35,000 Loan From BBVA Bank That Was Also Reported Under De La Cruz's Name And Campaign. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

April 20, 2020: De La Cruz Repaid A \$25,000 Loan From First Community Bank That Had Been Taken Out In December 2019

April 20, 2020: De La Cruz Repaid A \$25,000 Loan From First Community Bank. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

• December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's Campaign Received A \$25,000 Loan From First Community Bank That Was Also Reported Under De La Cruz's Name. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

De La Cruz Did Not Report The Loan Repayments Until October 20, 2020 On An Amended Pre-Runoff Report

De La Cruz Did Not Report The Loan Repayment Until October 20, 2020 On An Amended Pre-Runoff Report. [FEC, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez For Congress, Pre-Runoff Amendment, 10/29/20]

Report	Date Filed	Period Covered	Loans Made That Quarter	Loans Made To Date	Loan Repayments That Quarter	Loan Repayments To Date	Link
Pre-Primary	2/19/20	1/1 - 2/12	\$0.00	\$91,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<u>FEC</u>
Apr Quarterly	4/7/20	2/13 - 3/31	\$0.00	\$91,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	FEC
Apr Quarterly Amendment 1	5/6/20	2/13 - 3/31	\$0.00	\$91,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	FEC
Apr Quarterly Amendment 2	5/11/20	2/13 - 3/31	\$0.00	\$95,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<u>FEC</u>
Apr Quarterly Amendment 3	5/20/20	2/13 - 3/31	\$0.00	\$95,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<u>FEC</u>



Pre-Primary	5/28/20	1/1 - 2/12	\$0.00	\$95,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<u>FEC</u>
Amendment 1							
Apr Quarterly	6/18/20	2/13 - 3/31	\$0.00	\$95,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<u>FEC</u>
Amendment 4							
Pre-Runoff	7/3/20	4/1 - 6/24	\$0.00	\$95,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<u>FEC</u>
July	7/13/20	6/24 - 6/30	\$0.00	\$95,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$65,000.00	FEC
Quarterly							
April	10/20/20	2/13 - 3/31	\$0.00	\$95,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<u>FEC</u>
Quarterly							
Amendment 5							
Pre-Runoff	10/29/20	4/1 - 6/24	\$0.00	\$95,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00	<u>FEC</u>
Amendment 1							

[FEC, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez for Congress, Committee Filings, accessed 2/9/22]

The Filing Deadline For The Texas Pre-Runoff Report, Covering April 1 To June 24, 2020, Was July 2, 2020

The Filing Deadline For The Texas Pre-Runoff Report, Covering April 1 To June 24, 2020, Was July 2, 2020. [FEC, Primary Report Notice, Texas, accessed 2/9/22]

2020: De La Cruz Received Multiple FEC Requests For Additional Information For Failing To Properly Disclose Loans To Her Campaign

March 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Failing To Disclose If A Loan To The Campaign Was Made From Personal Funds Or Obtained From A Bank. "When a committee reports receiving a loan from the candidate, it is necessary to clarify whether or not the candidate used personal funds or borrowed the money from a lending institution or some other source. Please amend your report to indicate whether the loan is from the candidate's personal funds or if he/she obtained the loan from a bank loan, brokerage account, credit card, home equity line of credit, or other line of credit." [FEC, 3/8/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After They Reported Loan Payments To Date That Did Not Equal Reported Itemized Loan Payments. "The loan payments disclosed on the Payment to Date calculation of Schedule C do not equal the loan payment(s) itemized on Schedule B of this or any of your committee's previous reports. Each loan payment made by the committee must be itemized on Schedule B regardless of the amount of the payment, and included in the payment to date calculation on Schedule C. Please correct this discrepancy and file an amendment to your report or any previous report where loan payments occurred but were not itemized. (11 CFR § 104.3(b)(4)(iii))." [FEC, 9/14/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request To Clarify The Source Of The Three Bank Loans She Received In December 2019. "Schedule C of your report discloses loans for which the source has changed from what was itemized on your previous report(s). With every report submitted, you must provide the name and address of the loan source, the date incurred, the original amount of the loan, the due date, the interest rate, the cumulative payment, and the outstanding balance. In addition, if there are any endorsers or guarantors, their mailing address, along with the name of their employer and occupation, must be disclosed. Please amend your report to the clarify the source for the following loan(s): Barclay Credit, \$29,000.00 on 12/23/2019; BBVA Bank, \$35,000.00 on 12/23/2019; and First Community, \$25,000.00 on 12/23/2019. (11 CFR §§ 100.52(a), 100.52(b) and 104.3(d))" [FEC, 9/14/20]

According To FEC Records, De La Cruz's Campaign Took Out \$113,000 In Loans Including \$89,000 From Three Different Banks On The Same Day And 24,000 In Candidate Loans



According To Federal Election Commission Records, De La Cruz's Campaign Took Out \$113,000 In Loans And Has Made \$100,000 In Loan Payments

According To Federal Election Commission Records, De La Cruz's Campaign Took Out \$113,000 In Loans. [FEC, Individual Contribution Search, accessed 12/2/21; FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

Loans					
Committee	Loaner	Date	Payment	Original Loan Amount	
	Name	Incurred	To Date		
Monica For	De La Cruz	1/6/2021	\$5,000.00		\$18,000.00
Congress	Hernandez,				
	Monica				
Monica De La	First	12/23/2019	\$25,000.00		\$25,000.00
Cruz Hernandez	Community				
For US Congress	(also				
	reported as				
	Monica De				
	La Cruz				
	Hernandez)				
Monica De La	De La Cruz	12/23/2019	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
Cruz Hernandez	Hernandez,				
For US Congress	Monica				
	(also				
	reported as				
	Monica De				
	La Cruz				
	Hernandez				
	for				
	Congress)	10/00/0010	\$ 600000		φ π 000 00
Monica De La	Hernandez,	12/23/2019	\$5,000.00		\$5,000.00
Cruz Hernandez	Juan (also				
For US Congress	reported as				
	Monica De				
	La Cruz				
M : D I	Hernandez)	10/02/0010	#20 000 00		Φ 2 0, 000, 00
Monica De La	Barclay	12/23/2019	\$29,000.00		\$29,000.00
Cruz Hernandez	Credit (also				
For US Congress	reported as Monica De				
	La Cruz				
	Hernandez)				
	Tiernandez)				
Monica De La	BBVA	12/23/2019	\$35,000.00		\$35,000.00
Cruz Hernandez	Bank (also	12/23/2013	ψ33,000.00		ψ55,000.00
For US Congress	reported as				
1 of ob congress	Monica De				
	La Cruz				
	Hernandez				
	and Monica				
	De La Cruz				
	Hernandez				



for Congress)		
		Total: \$113,000

[FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

According To The Federal Election Commission, De La Cruz Settled \$100,000 In Loan Payments. [FEC, Campaign Disbursements Search, accessed 1/4/22]

Loan Payments Reporte	ed As Disbursements		
Spender	Recipient	Disbursement Date	Amount
Monica For Congress	De La Cruz Hernandez, Monica	7/15/2021	\$3,000.00
Monica For Congress	De La Cruz Hernandez, Monica	5/4/2021	\$2,000.00
Monica De La Cruz Hernandez For US Congress	Barclay Credit	1/6/2021	\$18,000.00
Monica De La Cruz Hernandez For US Congress	Barclay Credit	12/31/2020	\$11,000.00
Monica De La Cruz Hernandez For US Congress	De La Cruz Hernandez, Monica	12/30/2020	\$1,000.00
Monica De La Cruz Hernandez For US Congress	De La Cruz Hernandez, Monica	6/25/2020	\$5,000.00
Monica De La Cruz Hernandez For US Congress	First Community	4/20/2020	\$25,000.00
Monica De La Cruz Hernandez For US Congress	BBVA Bank	4/20/2020	\$35,000.00
-			Total: \$100,000

[FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed <u>1/10/22</u>]

December 23, 2019: De La Cruz Took Out \$89,000 In Loans For Her Campaign From Three Different Banks

December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's Campaign Received A \$25,000 Loan From First Community Bank That Was Also Reported Under De La Cruz's Name. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

• April 2020: De La Cruz Repaid \$25,000 Of This Loan. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's Campaign Received A \$35,000 Loan From BBVA Bank That Was Also Reported Under De La Cruz's Name And Campaign. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

• April 2020: De La Cruz Repaid \$35,000 Of This Loan. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]



December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's Campaign Received A \$29,000 Loan From Barclay Credit That Was Also Reported Under De La Cruz's Name. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

- January 2021: De La Cruz Repaid \$18,000 Of This Loan. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]
- December 2020: De La Cruz Repaid \$11,000 Of This Loan. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

De La Cruz And Her Husband Loaned Her Campaign \$24,000; Campaign Repaid De La Cruz \$11,000 From June 2020-July 2021

January 6, 2021: De La Cruz Loaned \$18,000 To Her Own Campaign. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

- July 2021: De La Cruz Was Repaid \$3,000 Of This Loan By Her Campaign. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]
- May 2021: De La Cruz Was Repaid \$2,000 Of This Loan By Her Campaign. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's Campaign Received A \$5,000 Loan From Her Husband Juan Hernandez That Was Also Reported Under De La Cruz's Name On Other Reports. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

• June 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Made A \$5,000 Loan Repayment To De La Cruz. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's Campaign Received A \$1,000 Loan From Herself That Was Also Reported Under Her Campaign. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

• December 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Made A \$1,000 Loan Repayment To De La Cruz. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

De La Cruz's Campaign Received Multiple Requests For Additional Information From The FEC Regarding Inconsistencies In Her Campaign Finance Disclosures

Throughout 2020 And As Recently As October 2021, De La Cruz's Campaign Received Numerous Requests For Additional Information From The FEC For Inaccurate And Inadequate Campaign Finance Disclosures

On Four Different Occasions De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Failing To Report Occupation Data For A Number of Donors. [FEC, 3/8/20; FEC, 3/8/20; FEC, 9/14/20]

March 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Failing To Disclose If A Loan To The Campaign Was Made From Personal Funds Or Obtained From A Bank. "When a committee reports receiving a loan from the candidate, it is necessary to clarify whether or not the candidate used personal funds or borrowed the money from a lending institution or some other source. Please amend your report to indicate whether the loan is from the candidate's personal funds or if he/she obtained the loan from a bank loan, brokerage account, credit card, home equity line of credit, or other line of credit." [FEC, 3/8/20]



July 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Failing To File A Pre-Primary Runoff Report. [FEC, 7/3/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After A Pre-Runoff Report Contained An Accounting Error. "The totals listed on Lines 6(a), 6(c), 7(a), 7(b), 7(c), 11(a)(iii), 11(c), 13(a), 13(b), 14, 16, 17, and 22, Column B of the Summary and Detailed Summary Pages appear to be incorrect. Column B figures for the Summary and Detailed Summary Pages should equal the sum of the Column B figures on your previous report and the Column A figures on this report. Please file an amendment to your report to correct the Column B discrepancies for this report and all subsequent report(s) which may be affected by this correction. Note that Column B should reflect only the election cycle-to-date totals (11/7/2018 through 11/3/2020). (52 U.S.C. § 30104(b) (formerly 2 U.S.C. § 434(b)) and 11 CFR § 104.3)." [FEC, 9/14/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After They Reported Loan Payments To Date That Did Not Equal Reported Itemized Loan Payments. "The loan payments disclosed on the Payment to Date calculation of Schedule C do not equal the loan payment(s) itemized on Schedule B of this or any of your committee's previous reports. Each loan payment made by the committee must be itemized on Schedule B regardless of the amount of the payment, and included in the payment to date calculation on Schedule C. Please correct this discrepancy and file an amendment to your report or any previous report where loan payments occurred but were not itemized. (11 CFR § 104.3(b)(4)(iii))." [FEC, 9/14/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Failing To Report Descriptions For Disbursements From The Campaign. "Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why each disbursement was made. Please amend Schedule B supporting Line 17 of your report to clarify the following descriptions: 'Blank,' 'Blockwalking,' 'Fees,' 'In-Kind,' 'Items,' 'Material,' and 'Materials.' For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursement, please refer to 11 CFR 104.3(b)(4)(i)(A)." [FEC, 9/14/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Failing To Report The Original Vendor On Reimbursements To Individuals Over \$200. "Schedule B of your report discloses reimbursements to individuals for the following disbursement(s): 'BUMPER STICKERS' and 'OFFICE SUPPLIES.' Please be advised that when itemizing reimbursements to individuals for goods or services, if the payment to the original vendor aggregates in excess of \$200 in an election cycle, a memo entry including the name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and purpose of the original purchase must be provided. Please amend your report to include the missing information on Schedule B and clearly identify each memo entry supporting a reimbursement. If itemization is not necessary, you must indicate so in an amendment to this report. (11 CFR §§ 104.3(b)(4)(i) and 104.9, and Advisory Opinions 1992-1 and 1996-20, footnote 3)." [FEC, 9/14/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Disclosing Loans In Schedule C With Different Sources Than What Was Itemized On Previous Reports. "Schedule C of your report discloses loans for which the source has changed from what was itemized on your previous report(s). With every report submitted, you must provide the name and address of the loan source, the date incurred, the original amount of the loan, the due date, the interest rate, the cumulative payment, and the outstanding balance. In addition, if there are any endorsers or guarantors, their mailing address, along with the name of their employer and occupation, must be disclosed. Please amend your report to the clarify the source for the following loan(s): Barclay Credit, \$29,000.00 on 12/23/2019; BBVA Bank, \$35,000.00 on 12/23/2019; and First Community, \$25,000.00 on 12/23/2019. (11 CFR §§ 100.52(a), 100.52(b) and 104.3(d))." [FEC, 9/14/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Reporting \$5,600 In Contributions From One Individual For The Primary Election. "Schedule A of your report discloses one or more contributions that appear to exceed the limits set forth in the Act (see attached). An



individual or a political committee other than an authorized committee or qualified multi-candidate committee may not make a contribution(s) to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$2,800 per election." [FEC, 9/14/20]

Apparent Excessive, Prohibited, and Impermissible Contributions Monica De La Cruz Hernandez For U.S. Congress (C00723072)

Apparent Excessive Contributions from Individuals

Contributor Name	Date	Amount	Election
Parker, Robert	2/29/20	\$2,800.00	P2020
Parker, Robert	2/29/20	\$2,800.00	P2020

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Reporting A Contribution For The Primary Campaign That Was Received After The Primary Date. "Schedule A of your report discloses one or more contributions received after the 2020 primary election that are designated for the 2020 primary. These contributions may only be accepted to the extent that the committee has net debts outstanding from the 2020 primary election." [FEC, 9/14/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Failing To File A 48-Hour Notice For A Last Minute Contribution. "Schedule A of your report indicates that your committee may have failed to file one or more of the required 48-hour notices regarding 'last minute' contributions (to include loans, in-kind contributions, and advances) received by your committee after the close of books for the 12 Day Pre-Primary Report (see attached). A principal campaign committee must notify the Commission, in writing, within 48 hours of any contribution of \$1,000 or more received between two and twenty days before an election. These contributions are then reported on the next report required to be filed by the committee." [FEC, 9/14/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information Because Opening Balance Of The July Quarterly Report Did Not Match The Closing Balance 12 Day Pre-Runoff Report. "The beginning cash balance of this report does not equal the ending balance of your 12 Day Pre-Runoff Report. Please correct this discrepancy and amend all subsequent reports that may be affected by the correction. (52 U.S.C. § 30104(b) (1) (formerly 2 U.S.C. § 434(b)(1)) and 11 CFR § 104.3(a)(1))." [FEC, 9/14/20]

October 2021: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After A Transfer From Her 2020 Campaign Committee Which Was Not Listed As An Affiliated Committee. "Schedule A, supporting Line 12 of your report discloses a transfer from Monica De La Cruz Hernandez for US Congress, that appears to be received through an affiliated committee. However, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez for US Congress is not disclosed as an affiliated committee on your Statement of Organization. Please amend your Statement of Organization to disclose this entity as an affiliated committee of the candidate or amend your report to provide clarifying information. (11 CFR §102.2(b)(1)(ii))." [FEC, 10/5/21]

According To The FEC, De La Cruz Reported \$12,000 As In-Kind Disbursements To Herself For Rent And Utilities On A Building She Owned

De La Cruz Reported \$12,000 As In-Kind Disbursements To Herself For Rent And Utilities On A Building She Owned

According To The Federal Election Commission, De La Cruz Reported \$12,000 In In-Kind Contributions To Her Campaign.

Contributions To Campaign From De La Cruz



Spender	Recipient	Date	Amount
De La Cruz Hernandez,	Monica For Congress	9/30/2021	\$2,700
Monica			
De La Cruz Hernandez,	Monica For Congress	6/30/2021	\$2,700
Monica	-		
De La Cruz Hernandez,	Monica For Congress	3/31/2021	\$2,200
Monica	_		
De La Cruz Hernandez,	Monica For Congress	2/28/2021	\$2,200
Monica			
De La Cruz Hernandez,	Monica For Congress	1/31/2021	\$2,200
Monica			
		Total:	\$12,000

[FEC, Individual Contribution Search, accessed 12/3/21]

According To The Federal Election Commission, De La Cruz Reported \$12,000 In In-Kind Disbursements From Her Campaign To Herself For "Rent And Utilities."

Rent Paid To De La Cruz From Campaign						
Spender	Recipient	Description	Date	Amount		
Monica For	De La Cruz Hernandez,	In-Kind: Office	9/30/2021	\$2,700		
Congress	Monica	Rent/Utilities				
Monica For	De La Cruz Hernandez,	In-Kind: Office	6/30/2021	\$2,700		
Congress	Monica	Rent/Utilities				
Monica For	De La Cruz Hernandez,	In-Kind: Office	3/31/2021	\$2,200		
Congress	Monica	Rent/Utilities				
Monica For	De La Cruz Hernandez,	In-Kind: Office	2/28/2021	\$2,200		
Congress	Monica	Rent/Utilities				
Monica For	De La Cruz Hernandez,	In-Kind: Office	1/31/2021	\$2,200		
Congress	Monica	Rent/Utilities				
			Total:	\$12,000		

[FEC, Campaign Disbursements Search, accessed 12/3/21]

FEC Filings List De La Cruz's Campaign Address As 1317 West Frontage Road, Suite C, Alamo, TX. [FEC, Statement of Organization, accessed 12/3/21]

- A Check N Go Payday Loans Business Was Located At 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite C, Alamo, TX 78516. [Check 'N Go, Locations, Accessed 12/8/21]
- De La Cruz's State Farm Insurance Agency Office Was Located At 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite A, Alamo, TX 78516. [State Farm, accessed 11/5/21]
- De La Cruz's Spouse's Business, Navi Business Group, Listed 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite A, Alamo, TX 78516 As Its Principal Office And Place Of Business. [Texas Secretary of State, Public Information Report, 12/31/18]

JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Owned 1317 W Frontage Rd Alamo, TX. [Hidalgo County Appraisal District, Property Search, accessed 12/3/21]

De La Cruz Was The Owner Of JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC. [Texas Secretary of State, Certificate of Formation, 10/5/15]



De La Cruz Failed To Properly Report Her Assets And Commercial And Investment Properties On Her Personal Financial Disclosures

De La Cruz Failed To Report Her Ownership Of A Multi-Million-Dollar LLC – Comprising The Majority Of Her Wealth – On Her 2020 Financial Disclosure

2021: De La Cruz Reported \$1 Million To \$5 Million Of Interest In JSM De La Cruz Holdings, LLC, An Asset Not Listed On Her 2020 Financial Disclosure, And Reported Up To \$1 Million In Rental Income From The LLC. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21; Monica De La Cruz 2020 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 5/19/20]

- 2021: De La Cruz Reported Between \$1,063,023 And \$5,421,000 In Assets, With Between \$100,001 And \$1,000,000 In Unearned Income. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]
- 2020: De La Cruz Reported Between \$63,022 And \$421,000 In Assets, With No Unearned Income Reported. [Monica De La Cruz 2020 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 5/19/20]

De La Cruz Failed To List Her Commercial Rental Property That Collected Between \$100,001 And \$1,000,000 In Unearned Income Located At 1317 W Frontage Rd, Alamo, TX On Her 2021 Personal Financial Disclosure Report

November 2015: JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Purchased 1317 W Frontage Rd Suite A, Alamo, TX, 78516 From 3BU Family Limited Partnership For \$432,000. [Hidalgo County Clerk, Property Records, Warranty Deed, accessed 11/9/21]

De La Cruz's Property At 1317 W Frontage Rd Was Not Listed On De La Cruz's 2021 Personal Financial Disclosure Report. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

• According To The House Ethics Committee Guide On Financial Disclosures All Properties Must Be Separately Disclosed And Must Be Distinguishable From One Another. "To disclose an ownership interest in a privately-held company that was formed for the purpose of holding investments, you must disclose each asset held by the company in which your interest (or that of your spouse or dependent child) had a period-end value of more than \$1,000 or generated more than \$200 in income during the reporting period. Limited partnerships and limited liability companies are frequently formed for the purpose of holding real estate. If, for example, you are a partner in a limited partnership that owns five rental properties, you must separately disclose each property in which your interest exceeded \$1,000 or your rental income derived from that property exceeded \$200. You may, but are not required to, provide an exact street address for each property the company owns. However, when disclosing multiple properties, the property descriptions must be distinguishable from one another and used consistently from year to year." [U.S. House Committee on Ethics, Instruction Guide for Financial Disclosure Statements and Periodic Transaction Reports, accessed 1/10/22]

JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Was A Holdings Company That Owned A Building That Housed De La Cruz's Insurance Agency, Her Husband's Business, Her Campaign Address, And Two Other Tenants

JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Listed 1317 W Frontage Rd, Suite A, Alamo, TX 78516 As Its Office And Mailing Address. [Texas Secretary of State, Public Information Report, 12/31/20]

JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Owned 1317 W Frontage Rd Alamo, TX. [Hidalgo County Appraisal District, Property Search, accessed 12/3/21]



De La Cruz's State Farm Insurance Agency Office Was Located At 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite A, Alamo, TX 78516. [State Farm, accessed 11/5/21]

Navi Business Group Listed 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite A, Alamo, TX 78516 As Its Principal Office And Place Of Business. [Texas Secretary of State, Public Information Report, 12/31/18]

FEC Filings List De La Cruz's Campaign Address As 1317 West Frontage Road, Suite C, Alamo, TX. [FEC, Statement of Organization, accessed 12/3/21]

De La Cruz Reported Between \$100,001 And \$1,000,000 In Unearned Income From JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Described As Rent Collected From Properties. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

De La Cruz Had A Tenant Called Origene America Next To Her Insurance Agency. "My tenant, Orgene America, just put up their sign!! Looks great next to Monica De La Cruz State Farm! As a small business owner myself, I can understand the happiness you feel seeing your business name in lights!! Way to go Origene!!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 10/26/19]

Origene Seeds Was Located At 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite B, Alamo, TX 78516. [Hidalgo County Appraisal District, accessed 12/8/21]

A Check N Go Payday Loans Business Was Located At 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite C, Alamo, TX 78516. [Check 'N Go, Locations, Accessed 12/8/21]

De La Cruz Reported Between \$100,001 And \$1,000,000 In Unearned Income From JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Listed As "Rent Collected From Properties" In 2021 But Previously Reported No Unearned Income In 2020

2021: De La Cruz Reported Between \$100,001 And \$1,000,000 In Unearned Income From JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Listed As "Rent Collected From Properties." [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

2020: De La Cruz Reported \$0.00 In Unearned Income. [Monica De La Cruz 2020 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed <u>5/19/20</u>]

De La Cruz Reported Between \$905,009 And \$2,015,000 In Liabilities On Her Personal Financial Disclosure

2021: De La Cruz Listed Between \$905,009 And \$2,015,000 In Liabilities On Her Personal Financial Disclosure

	De La Cruz PFD Toplines							
Year	Year Earned Asset Value				Unearned Income		Liabilities	
	Income	MIN	MAX	MIN	MAX	MIN	MAX	
2021	\$57,000	\$1,063,023	\$5,421,000	\$100,001	\$1,000,000	\$905,009	\$2,015,000	
2020	\$35,000	\$63,022	\$421,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$915,010	\$2,060,000	

[De La Cruz, 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed <u>8/13/21</u>; De La Cruz 2020 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed <u>5/19/20</u>]



2021 PFD Liabilities

2021 De l	2021 De La Cruz Liabilities						
Owner	Creditor	Date Incurred	Туре	Amount Of Liability			
	Capital One	July 2017	Vehicle Loan	\$10,000 - \$15,000			
	Small Business Administration	November 2015	Commercial Property	\$250,001 - \$500,000			
	Vantage Bank	September 2019	SBA Loan For Navi Business Group	\$100,001 - \$250,000			
SP	Amoco Bank	February 2020	Vehicle Loan	\$15,001 - \$50,000			
	Small Business Administration	May 2020	SBA Loan	\$15,001 - \$50,000			
SP	Small Business Administration	May 2020	SBA Loan	\$50,001 - \$100,000			
SP	State Farm Bank	September 2019	Vehicle Loan	\$15,001 - \$50,000			
	Guaranteed Rate	February 2017	Investment Home – Laddie	\$100,001 - \$250,000			
	PennyMac	September 2019	Investment Home – Iron clad	\$100,001 - \$250,000			
	State Farm Bank	February 2017	Primary Home – June	\$250,001 - \$500,000			

[Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed <u>8/13/21</u>]



De La Cruz Was A Liar Who Pushed Delusional Election Conspiracy Theories And Routinely Spread Misinformation

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz was a staunch promoter of the "Big Lie" that Donald Trump won the 2020 election.
 - ✓ De La Cruz attended a "stop the steal" rally claiming that Donald Trump won the 2020 election where she and her husband said they hoped to "turn this election around for the president."
 - ✓ At the rally, De La Cruz questioned the results of her own election, saying "the numbers do not make sense."
 - ✓ De La Cruz backed Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton's failed lawsuit contesting the 2020 election.
 - ✓ De La Cruz promoted Texas Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick's offer of \$1 million to anyone with evidence of voter fraud in the 2020 election.
 - ✓ De La Cruz promoted debunked conspiracy theories about Dominion voting machines and vote counting in Georgia, and sought information that would bolster those conspiracy theories.
 - ✓ De La Cruz was endorsed by Sean O'Brien, who called on the Supreme Court to overturn the 2020 presidential election and supported January 6th insurrectionists to "take power back."
- ✓ De La Cruz pushed a delusional conspiracy that her election was stolen by Rep. Vicente Gonzalez & "politiqueros" in Democratic counties.
 - ✓ De La Cruz initially said she respected the outcome of her election despite "massive election corruption" but within a few days she questioned the validity of Rep. Vicente Gonzalez's victory, claiming he "stole the election" that she "won fair and square."
 - ✓ De La Cruz said "we were robbed in this election" because of "massive voter fraud and ballot harvesting."
 - ✓ De La Cruz said it was "impossible" that Gonzalez could get a higher percentage of the vote than Biden in Hidalgo, Duval and Jim Hogg Counties.
 - ✓ De La Cruz complained that her significantly lower totals in absentee voting than in-person voting and the fact that other Republican candidates received more votes than she did suggested her election was subject to fraud.
 - ✓ De La Cruz claimed "everybody who mailed in a ballot just didn't like me but everybody who walked in and legally cast a vote liked me."
 - ✓ November 2020: De La Cruz said she would not concede the race to "cheaters" and "corruption" days after initially respecting the outcome of her election and conceding.
 - ✓ De La Cruz accused the Hidalgo County elections administrator of illegally sending out unsolicited mail in ballots.



- ✓ De La Cruz's campaign provided a list of people in Hidalgo County who they alleged cast ballots but were not on the county's voter rolls, and filed a complaint with the Texas Secretary of State making the same claims.
- ✓ De La Cruz claimed she was conducting her own "ballot investigation" and alleged that Hidalgo County officials were suppressing information by closing their office for the holidays.
- ✓ De La Cruz failed to provide any evidence of voter fraud or illegal votes in Hidalgo County.
- ✓ De La Cruz routinely spread false claims and misinformation regarding COVID vaccination campaigns, contact tracing, and COVID spread among migrants.
 - ✓ De La Cruz falsely claimed that door to door vaccination campaigns violated HIPAA.
 - ✓ De La Cruz shared a misleading Facebook post that called for the firing of Dr. Fauci claiming he advised against mask usage.
 - ✓ De La Cruz falsely claimed the TRACE Act would send "health bureaucrats to individuals residences" as part of "one of the most massive government surveillance programs of private citizens in U.S. history."
 - ✓ De La Cruz routinely made misleading statements falsely claiming that Biden was releasing hundreds of undocumented immigrants infected with COVID-19.
- ✓ De La Cruz spread multiple false claims about the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill, the Build Back Better Act, and renewable energy, including disinformation from Infowars and debunked social media posts.
 - ✓ De La Cruz falsely claimed that the bipartisan infrastructure bill would charge a "gas tax" per every mile driven. PolitiFact ruled a similar claim made in a viral Facebook post "false."
 - ✓ De La Cruz falsely claimed the bipartisan infrastructure bill and the Build Back Better Act would have the IRS monitor bank transactions over \$600. PolitiFact ruled a similar claim made by conspiracy site InfoWars "mostly false."
 - ✓ De La Cruz falsely claimed the bipartisan infrastructure bill, which spent \$1.2T (\$550B in new federal investment) would cost \$3 trillion.
 - ✓ De La Cruz falsely claimed the Build Back Better Act would increase taxes on those making under \$400,000 a year.
 - ✓ De La Cruz claimed the Build Back Better Act wouldn't cut middle class taxes and that it would give an \$80,000 tax cut to wealthy homeowners in New York, New Jersey and California.
 - ✓ De La Cruz compared the Build Back Better Act to forced relocation of Native Americans.
 - ✓ De La Cruz falsely claimed that Biden spent "\$86 million for hotel rooms to house the illegal immigrants but made our national guard sleep in a parking garage while protecting the capitol."



De La Cruz Claimed Trump Won The 2020 Election, Embraced Calls To "Stop The Steal," Legal Challenges And Conspiracy Theories About Voting Machines

De La Cruz Attended At Least One "Stop The Steal" Rally In December 2020, Claiming Both She And Trump Had Their Election Victories Stolen

De La Cruz And Her Husband Said They Were "Hoping" And "Extremely Excited" To "Turn This Election Around For The President" Following The 2020 Election. "I have a lot of patriots here who are concerned about this election not only on a national level with President Trump but also on a local level. Some big, big things have happened over the last couple of days. First of all the state of Texas, our attorney general has filed a lawsuit against some of the states and their elections process. I've got here behind me my husband who is with us about stopping the steal and babe why don't you talk a little bit about what happened yesterday here in Texas and why this is so significant for us. [Juan Hernandez:] 'So the state of Texas is suing the other four states which is fantastic. What the significance of that is its going to go straight to the supreme court, it has no option other than to look into it now and so we're confident that that's going to help take this process to the next level and we're hoping that with this they will have to go to the 12th Amendment and turn this election around for the president so extremely excited about that." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/9/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Said She Was "Working Behind The Scenes On The Data Numbers" On Election Results In Hidalgo County, Because "The Numbers Do Not Make Sense And This Election Has Been Stolen." "Not only that but what we are asking people to do and you can see here lots of patriots and they've got their flags out, their stop the steal signs out as well because here's the thing is in Hidalgo County the county commissioners voted to send all of the people who were 65 and over a mail-in ballot application. That is illegal, that it is unethical and it is the wrong thing to do it jeopardizes our election integrity. For those of you watching here if you live in any county where the elections department sent you an unsolicited mail-in ballot for this election or sent you a ballot through the mail please come by office tomorrow 1317 West Frontage Road in Alamo. I need a signed affidavit from you letting us know that you received an unsolicited mail-in ballot application. It is critical to our case and yes we are working behind the scenes on the data numbers because I see your messages and I agree with you all the numbers do not make sense and this election has been stolen from the good people, the hardworking American people who want their vote to be counted and want an election that has integrity." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/9/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Said She Was "Standing For Stopping The Steal" At A Rally. "We are standing for stopping the steal. Stop stealing this election. We want an election process that is fair."





[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/9/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Supported Multiple Failed, Baseless Efforts To Contest The 2020 Election, Including But Not Limited To Legal Challenges

De La Cruz Backed Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton's Lawsuit Contesting The 2020 Election. "Trust in the integrity of our election processes is sacrosanct and binds our citizenry and the States in this Union together,' Paxton said in a statement. This statement is true even within Hidalgo County. If the citizens don't trust the elections here, why vote?" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/9/20]

- December 2020: Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton Sued Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania, And Wisconsin Asking The Supreme Court To Block The Electoral College Results. "Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is suing four battleground states Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin whose election results handed the White House to President-elect Joe Biden. In the suit, he claims that pandemic-era changes to election procedures in those states violated federal law and asks the U.S. Supreme Court to block the states from voting in the Electoral College. The last-minute bid, which legal experts have already characterized as a long shot, comes alongside dozens of similar attempts by President Donald Trump and his political allies. The majority of those lawsuits have already failed." [Texas Tribune, 12/9/20]
- December 2020: The Supreme Court Tossed Out The Lawsuit Brought By Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton Claiming There Was No Standing To Bring It. Briskly rejecting a long-shot but high-stakes case, the U.S. Supreme Court on Friday tossed out the Texas lawsuit that had become a vehicle for Republicans across the country to contest President-elect Joe Biden's victory. In a few brief sentences, the high court said it would not consider the case for procedural reasons, because Texas lacked standing to bring it. 'Texas has not demonstrated a judicially cognizable interest in the manner in which another State conducts its elections,' the court wrote in an unsigned ruling Friday evening. [Texas Tribune, 12/11/20]



De La Cruz Promoted Texas Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick's Offer Of \$1 Million To Anyone With Evidence Of Voter Fraud In The 2020 Election. "Calling All the Politiqueras I know \$1 million bucks will wet the whistle to telling us HOW and WHO is paying to play voter fraud!! ONE MILLION DOLLARS beats a chicken taco any day!!! #fight #corruption" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/10/20]

- November 2020: Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick Offered \$1 Million In Rewards To People Who Provide Evidence That Leads To An Arrest And Conviction Of Voter Fraud. "Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick is offering \$1 million in rewards to people who can help uncover voter fraud in the presidential election. Patrick on Tuesday said in a press release to the media that any person who comes forward with evidence that leads to an arrest and final conviction of voter fraud will be paid a minimum of \$25,000. The money would come from Patrick's campaign funds. 'I support President Trump's efforts to identify voter fraud in the presidential election and his commitment to making sure that every legal vote is counted and every illegal vote is disqualified,' Patrick said. 'President Trump's pursuit of voter fraud is not only essential to determine the outcome of this election, it is essential to maintain our democracy and restore faith in future elections." [Houston Chronicle, 11/10/20]
 - Pennsylvania's Lt. Gov. John Fetterman Claimed He Was Owed \$3 Million After Three Pennsylvania Trump Supporters Were Charged With Voter Fraud. "All John Fetterman wants for Christmas is the \$3 million he says Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick owes him. The Democratic lieutenant governor of Pennsylvania has been trolling his Republican counterpart for weeks to collect on the \$1 million Patrick offered in November for evidence of fraud in the Nov. 3 election. Three supporters of President Donald Trump have now been charged in separate voter fraud schemes in Pennsylvania. Fetterman says they should all count for bounty purposes." [Houston Chronicle, 12/22/20]

De La Cruz Promoted Debunked Conspiracy Theories About Dominion Voting Machines And Vote Counting In Georgia, Suggesting They Impacted Her Election And Trump's

De La Cruz Wanted Information Linking Hart InterCivic Voting Software Used In Hidalgo County To A Debunked Dominion Voting Machine Conspiracy Theory.

De La Cruz Sought Information Linking Hart InterCivic Voting Software Used In Hidalgo County To A Debunked Dominion Voting Machine Conspiracy Theory.



Hidalgo County
Elections Office
used
Hart InterCivic
software



 Multiple Audits Confirmed That Dominion Voting Machines Were Accurate And Did Not Change Votes From Trump To Biden. "The theory falsely claims voting machines made by a company called Dominion changed votes to swing the election in favor of now-President Biden. Multiple audits and recounts in states and counties that used the company's equipment confirmed that the machines accurately recorded the vote totals last November." [NPR, 3/3/21]

De La Cruz Embraced A Debunked Claim That The 2021 Georgia Senate Runoff Elections Were Stolen By An Overnight Ballot Dump In Chatham County

De La Cruz Claimed The 2021 Georgia Senate Runoff Elections Were Stolen.





[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 1/5/21]

• Chatham County, Georgia Counted All Available Ballots And No Ballots Were Found Overnight. "The claim that a ballot dump took place after election officials in Chatham County stopped counting on Jan. 5 is FALSE, based on our research. Election officials in Chatham County stopped counting because all ballots available had been counted. The board responsible for accepting absentee ballots was still processing ballots that came in Jan. 5, so those who were counting votes went home and resumed counting the next morning. Election officials have also confirmed that there were no irregularities in the election." [USA Today, 1/19/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Sean O'Brien Who Called On The Supreme Court To Overturn The 2020 Presidential Election And Supported January 6th Insurrectionists To "Take Power Back"

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Sean O'Brien, A Former Karnes County Commissioner And Texas Member Of The Electoral College.





[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 12/15/21]

November 2020: O'Brien Called On The Supreme Court To "Throw Out This Bogus Election." "If the Supreme Court can't see this obvious fraud and throw out this bogus election, then this country will never have a legitimate election again. Once President Trump is named president to remain in the White House for four more years he can start to clean up this election fraud mess! I can't believe that the most powerful and one of the most advanced countries in the world cannot come up with a system where we can have a legitimate, honest election!" [Sean O'Brien, Facebook, 11/24/20]

O'Brien On January 6^{th} : "Either We TAKE Power Back, Or We Will Never Be Free Again. No More Asking Nicely. Our Founding Fathers Warned Us. THIS IS NOT A DRILL."







[Sean O'Brien, Facebook, 1/6/21]

Sean O'Brien

O'Brien Said He Was Praying For "The Patriots Going To DC" On January 6th.



[Sean O'Brien, Facebook, 1/6/21]

O'Brien Claimed Biden "Will Never Take Office" After The January 6th Insurrection.





June J. Hill
Sean...I really am afraid what is gonna happen when
Blden gets in office....he is such a loser...did you see
where he fell asleep during an interview? What a jerk!

Like · Reply · 48w





Sean O'Brien

June J. Hill He will never take office.

Like · Reply · 47w



[Sean O'Brien, Facebook, 1/12/21]

De La Cruz Pushed A Delusional Conspiracy That Her Election Was Stolen, Citing Claims Of "Illegal" Mail-In Ballots And Voter Fraud In Democratic Counties

De La Cruz Initially Said She Respected The Outcome Of Her Election Despite "Massive Election Corruption," But Later Questioned The Validity Of Rep. Vicente Gonzalez's Victory

De La Cruz Initially Said She Respected The Outcome Of Her Election But Added There Was "Massive Election Corruption"...

De La Cruz On 2020 Congressional Election Results: "Although We Know The Numbers And Respect The Outcome, We Experienced Massive Election Corruption." "U.S. Rep. Vicente Gonzalez's general election opponent says there was 'massive election corruption' in the 15th Congressional District of Texas race. Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez, a Republican, made the claim after narrowly losing to Gonzalez, a Democrat, in a district anchored in Hidalgo County. 'Although we know the numbers and respect the outcome, we experienced massive election corruption and voter integrity,' De La Cruz-Hernandez said. 'It was disturbing and sickening to see what is happening in Hidalgo County. I will fight against this corruption because our district deserves better.' De La Cruz-Hernandez made her comments in a statement thanking her supporters." [Rio Grande Guardian, 11/4/20]

...But Just A Few Days Later, De La Cruz Questioned The Validity Of Rep. Vicente Gonzalez's Victory And Organized Multiple Events Protesting The Result

Nov. 8: De La Cruz Said Her Opponent, Rep. Vicente Gonzalez, "Stole The Election" That She "Won Fair And Square." DE LA CRUZ: "The numbers don't lie people you all will be disgusted at the blatant disrespect of our democracy, the blatant disrespect of the voters of CD15 and how my opponent stole the election! And I will stand up and I will fight back because that's who I am, chiquita pero picosa! You haven't seen the last of me. We have investigated the numbers the last week. We now have people on a state level and on a national level investigating these numbers and we will expose the truth. We will expose the corruption in these Democrat counties including Hidalgo. [...] This was our election we won fair and square without the politiqueras, without paying underhand money, without stealing and you know what God sees all. And with God I fear no one, I fear nothing." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

Nov. 17: De La Cruz Hernandez Helped To Organize An Event Protesting The 2020 Election Results. "A group of demonstrators met on Monday in from of the Edinburg Administration Building to protest election results and the election process. Former congressional republican opponent Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez, along with the Hidalgo County GOP, Hidalgo County Young Republicans, and others, organized the event." [KVEO, 11/17/20]

Dec. 2020: De La Cruz Held A Press Conference And Said She Was "Calling Into Question This Vote Difference And The Validity Of The Gonzalez Win." "Now-former congressional candidate Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez lobbed allegations of improprieties in the November election at a news conference Tuesday,



believing it cost her the race for Texas' District 15 seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. De La Cruz-Hernandez also used the news conference as an opportunity to announce plans to run for the same seat in the 2022 election. According to the Texas Secretary of State's Office, De La Cruz-Hernandez, a Republican, lost the election to Democrat incumbent Vicente Gonzalez by 6,588 votes. Citing her own investigation into voter rolls and rosters, De La Cruz-Hernandez said improprieties may have affected the outcome. 'I am calling into question this vote difference and the validity of the Gonzalez win,' she said." [MyRGV News, 12/23/20]

- De La Cruz Launched Her 2022 Campaign At Her Press Conference Where She Questioned The Validity Of Her 2020 Election. "Now-former congressional candidate Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez lobbed allegations of improprieties in the November election at a news conference Tuesday, believing it cost her the race for Texas' District 15 seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. De La Cruz-Hernandez also used the news conference as an opportunity to announce plans to run for the same seat in the 2022 election." [MyRGV News, 12/23/20]
- De La Cruz Said She Was Conducting "Her Own Investigation" Into Alleged Improprieties Regarding Voter Rolls In Hidalgo County. "Citing her own investigation into voter rolls and rosters, De La Cruz-Hernandez said improprieties may have affected the outcome." [Brownsville Herald, 12/23/20]

De La Cruz Criticized Rep. Vicente Gonzalez For Thanking The Hidalgo County Elections Administrator Following The 2020 Election. "This is the COMPADRE system we in Hidalgo are sick and tired of! What first concerns me is that our Congressman uses congressional letterhead to single out ONE elections administrator when he has EIGHT counties. WHY??WHY would that be? Second, his lack of knowledge of the EXACT date of the election shows just how out of touch he is. THE ELECTION WAS ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 3rd not WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 4th. Geez...." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/16/20]

De La Cruz Believed She Was "Robbed In This Election" And That "She Won An Election That Was Stolen" By Rep. Vicente Gonzalez & "Politiqueros" In Hidalgo, Duval, and Jim Hogg County

De La Cruz Said "We Were Robbed In This Election" Because Of "Massive Voter Fraud And Ballot Harvesting." "Today we say no more. Today we say we will no longer put up with this. We will no longer be taken advantage of and our democracy is at stake here. Make no mistake my friends that we were robbed in this election and that there was massive voter fraud, massive ballot harvesting and we will put a stop to it." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Asked For Information Claiming That "Politiqueros" Harvested Mail Ballots. "These are not just my words because I didn't have the numbers 'supposedly' to beat Vicente Gonzalez. These are the words of someone who looks at the facts and I'm going to share them with you because I need your help. What I need for you to do is message me with the names of politiqueros, the actions that you have seen because these politiqueros can't keep their mouth shut. They do not know how to hide what they have done so if you have heard, if you have seen, if you have experienced people around you talking about the mail harvesting of ballots that has gone on here. You must get in touch with me. Over the last week I have been quiet as to what we were doing in the background but I want to tell you that we have put together a local team of investigators to investigate the numbers and I'm about to show you these numbers because they are disturbing. The numbers we're going to go over right now are not things that I have made up this is public information that you yourself can fact check because I know there will be trolls on this video." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

• "Politiqueros" Are Paid Campaign Workers In The Rio Grande Valley Who Have Historically Been Associated With Buying Votes And Committing Election Fraud Via Ballot Harvesting Or Bribery. "They're called politiqueras — a word unique to the border that means campaign worker. It's a time-honored tradition down in the land of grapefruit orchards and Border Patrol checkpoints. If a local candidate needs dependable votes, he or she goes to a politiquera. In recent years, losing candidates in local elections began to challenge vote harvesting by politiqueras in the Rio Grande Valley, and they shared their



investigations with authorities. After the 2012 election cycle, the Justice Department and the Texas attorney general's office filed charges." [NPR, 7/7/15]

De La Cruz Said It Was "Impossible" That Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Could Get A Higher Percentage Of The Vote Than Biden In Hidalgo County. DE LA CRUZ: "Here in Hidalgo County our opponent Vicente, 'Vincent', had a higher percentage of votes than even Trump and the Biden election. He received a higher percentage of votes, how is that? Monica's team, Team Monica, in early voting here in Hidalgo County we had 39% of the vote on election day we had 45% of the vote but in absentee we had 21% of the vote! How is that? You know what is even more alarming is that when you look down the ballot traditionally the president gets the most votes whether it's Democrat or Republican and it goes down and down and down from there so the last person on the ballot always has the least amount of votes. Well when you look down ballot in Hidalgo all the dem candidates had about 13,000 votes between 13,000 and 13,400. How is that? How is that? It is impossible. Even people who were not in a contested race have 13,000 votes and not only that the reason why this is all important is because Vicente Gonzalez had the highest percentage of absentee votes for both the presidential and senate races. That means people were so interested in Vicente Gonzalez that they didn't want to vote for the president. No, not the presidential election of the century. They skipped the president! They skipped the senator! And went straight in to vote for no show Gonzalez now you and I know that is not right." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

• De La Cruz Expressed Skepticism That She Won A Lower Share Of The Absentee Vote Than The In-Person Vote In Hidalgo County. DE LA CRUZ: "Here in Hidalgo County our opponent Vicente, 'Vincent', had a higher percentage of votes than even Trump and the Biden election. He received a higher percentage of votes, how is that? Monica's team, Team Monica, in early voting here in Hidalgo County we had 39% of the vote on election day we had 45% of the vote but in absentee we had 21% of the vote! How is that?" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Claimed In Her Testimony That It Was An Anomaly That Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Received A Higher Percentage Of Votes Than Biden In Hidalgo County. "That being said in Hidalgo County we had between 2018 and 2020 a 245 percent increase in mail-in ballots; 245 percent?! Some of y'all might be saying that's great more people are voting, well let me tell you some of the anomalies that happened because of this. If you go down the ballot in Hidalgo County the Congressman Vicente Gonzalez had a higher percentage of votes than the Biden – Harris ticket. How does that happen?! You all have been here long enough in enough elections to know that if you go down ballot the votes go down and down and down but here this congressman got more votes and higher percentage than the Biden – Harris ticket. What's even more...[Time runs out, committee member Rep. Valoree Swanson asks De La Cruz to finish her story] Thank you, I appreciate that because as we all know, all of y'all have been in an election it goes down ballot the president always gets the highest and it goes down, down, down. When you go down what you see is that the Democrat candidates all had about 13,000 absentee votes when unopposed and they only varied by about 200 votes whether they were opposed or not. So the question is: why is this? How can this anomaly happen? It doesn't make sense. So when we talk about mail-in ballot fraud we really need to do, we really need to look at is the integrity of these mail-in ballots. This a serious subject and when you do a case study in Hidalgo you will see over and over again. I'd be happy to give you information but I have a feeling your offices will be flooded." [Texas House of Representatives, Committee on Elections, 4/1/21] (Video)

De La Cruz Said It Was "Completely Ridiculous" That Gonzalez Picked Up More Votes Than Joe Biden And MJ Hegar In Duval County, Which She Blamed On "Politiqueras" And The Democratic Party. DE LA CRUZ: "We have looked over, my investigative team this week we have looked at all the Democrat counties and we're just going to touch on Duval County. Duval County where he has a criminal working for him, Alberto Martinez, who stole our sign a federal employee who stole our signs in broad daylight on taxpayer dollars. In Duval County where Vincent has not gone in five years, he went two weeks before the election, one time in five years. He has done nothing for Duval County. Duval County has holes in their roads, they have a light system on Benavides in San Diego where they can't even turn on the lights there, there's no lights in the streets. Monica, team Monica got 40.8% of the early votes on election day Monica got 45.8%. Duval County where I've spent time, I've spent energy, I've spent money there I was taken advantage of by a criminal but guess what on absentee ballots I got 10%! You tell me, how is that possible? How is it that I can go from 45% of the vote to 10%? And get this, no



show Gonzalez who's done nothing for Duval County, hasn't been in five years. But Vincent miraculously gets more votes than the Biden Harris ticket and more votes than the MJ senate race. How is that? You tell me, how is that? That people of Duval County who haven't seen him in five years no they don't care about Joe Biden no they don't care about MJ because no show Gonzalez is way more important than that. How does he pick up more votes than the president? Democrat president Jim Biden on the ticket and MJ Harris that is completely ridiculous! What I see here is people, politiqueras, the Democrat Party compromising our democracy and voter election." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

- De La Cruz Cited The Work Of "My Investigative Team" In Questioning The Results Of her Election. DE LA CRUZ: "We have looked over, my investigative team this week we have looked at all the Democrat counties and we're just going to touch on Duval County." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)
- De La Cruz Expressed Skepticism That She Won A Lower Share Of The Absentee Vote Than The In-Person Vote In Duval County. DE LA CRUZ: "Monica, team Monica got 40.8% of the early votes on election day Monica got 45.8%. Duval County where I've spent time, I've spent energy, I've spent money there I was taken advantage of by a criminal but guess what on absentee ballots I got 10%! You tell me, how is that possible? How is it that I can go from 45% of the vote to 10%? And get this, no show Gonzalez who's done nothing for Duval County, hasn't been in five years. But Vincent miraculously gets more votes than the Biden Harris ticket and more votes than the MJ senate race. How is that? You tell me, how is that?" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Claimed "Everybody Who Mailed In A Ballot Just Didn't Like Me But Everybody Who Walked In And Legally Cast A Vote Liked Me." "It will amaze you how when I'm getting 40 and 45 percent of the vote in early voting and on election day I can suddenly go to 8 percent on the mail in ballots. So it seems like everybody who mailed in a ballot just didn't like me but everybody who walked in and legally cast a vote liked me. Hmm I bet you my 10 year old could figure that one out." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Said She Would Not Concede The Race To "Cheaters" and "Corruption." "We're going to be exposing this, we are not going to stand for this. Please keep with our page. This is why I have not conceded the race because I'm not going to concede to cheaters. I'm not going to concede to corruption. I will not give in to the death of our democracy." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Alleged There Was A "Blatant Discrepancy" In Jim Hogg County Because She Received Less Votes Than Other Republican Candidates On The Ballot. "In Hogg County you have the president getting 56% of the vote now when people saw me they said oh Hogg County, Brooks, Duval forget about it Trump's going to lose big there, you're going to lose. The president, Trump gets 56% of the vote but he only gets 23% of absentee votes and of course Biden gets 76% of the votes. Now what's interesting for me is that on my election day I got 36.85% of the vote but absentee I only got 8% of the votes. I mean isn't that amazing that in every Democrat county people who mail in ballots just don't like me. What's better than that when you look down a ballot just traditionally speaking the president gets the most then the senator gets a little less and then U.S. House of Representatives gets less it starts dwindling down the further you get down the ballot. In Hogg County when you're looking down the ballot what you see is that President Trump gets 110 votes, Cornyn gets 93 and Monica gets 40. 40 votes okay but Jim Wright, Railroad Commissioner, he gets 67, Hecht gets 67, Bland gets 73, Boyd gets 66. I mean what we see is a blatant discrepancy. And what's funny about this is on the absentee I got one of the least amount of votes on the Republican side. So basically even Republicans in Hogg County they're going down the ballot they got their mail-in ballot they're like I'm going to vote for Trump, I'm going to vote for Cornyn oh but that Monica girl I'm just going to leave it blank. I got less than half of what the senator got come on people." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/10/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Claimed That Hidalgo County Illegally Sent Voters Unsolicited Mail-In Ballots



De La Cruz Accused The Hidalgo County Elections Administrator Of Illegally Sending Out Unsolicited Mail In Ballots. "Specifically, she claimed Tuesday that people who voted in the Hidalgo County election were not on the voter roll and alleged that mail-in ballots sent out by the county were illegal. 'Yvonne Ramon, the Hidalgo Elections Administrator, failed to uphold the Texas Supreme Court ruling and still mailed out these ballots who were unsolicited,' she said. 'We are asking today that Yvonne Ramon or Richard Cortez, our judge, be held responsible for not upholding the Texas Supreme Court ruling.' De La Cruz-Hernandez was referring to a Texas Supreme Court ruling in October holding that an early-voting clerk is not authorized to send mail-in ballot applications to registered voters who haven't requested one." [Brownsville Herald, 12/23/20]

De La Cruz Berated The Hidalgo County Commissioners Court Over False Claims Of Voter Fraud Regarding Mail-In Ballots. DE LA CRUZ: "I think we can all agree that Hidalgo County has had and currently has a voter fraud issue. This is no secret and I don't think anyone that is on here listening here in this room or you on the screen can deny it. There is a great concern over the application for the mail-in ballots that were mailed out to the entire county using taxpayer dollars with no and I repeat no taxpayer approval. Shame on you. These mail-In ballots did more harm than good. It compromised our voter integrity, it demoralized our community and opened up ourselves to a questionable election. What happened with our voter mail-in ballots does not make sense and goes against logic."



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/17/2020] (Video)

De La Cruz Claimed In Her Testimony To The Texas House Committee On Elections That Hidalgo County Elections Officials Failed To Uphold Current Law By Mailing Unsolicited Mail-In Ballot Applications. "I'm here to testify about our mail-in ballot applications and the importance of protecting and preserving the integrity of our mail-in ballot boxes and punish those who don't uphold the current election. [...] On August 18th Hidalgo County commissioners led by County Judge Richard Cortez discussed and approved the elections department to send out an application for ballot by mail to all people over age 65 registered voters using taxpayer dollars. Now why this should alarm you is because on September 30th the Texas Supreme Court vs Chris Hollins ruled that election code does not authorize an early voting clerk to send an application to vote by mail to a voter who has not requested one and that a clerk doing so results in irreparable injury to the state. Well let me tell you that the Hidalgo County elections administrator Yvonne Ramon failed, failed to uphold the Texas Supreme Court ruling and she



mailed out unsolicited mail-in ballot applications to all registered voters over the age of 65. What are the repercussions when we have leaders and city officials in our counties that are not upholding current law and upholding what our Texas Supreme Court rulings are? If we don't have them upholding our current law, what makes us think that our citizens are going to uphold and respect that law." [Texas House of Representatives, Committee on Elections, $\frac{4}{1/21}$] (Video)

De La Cruz Asked People To Go To Her Office To Sign A Notarized Affidavit Saying They Received An Unsolicited Mail Ballot Or Application From Hidalgo County

De La Cruz Urged People To Come To Her Office And Sign A Notarized Affidavit Saying They Received An Unsolicited Mail Ballot Or Application From Hidalgo County.



If you received an UNSOLICITED mail in ballot or application for ballot by Hidalgo.....

[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/9/20]

De La Cruz Implied Impropriety Because 818 People Over The Age Of 90 In Hidalgo County Voted By Mail

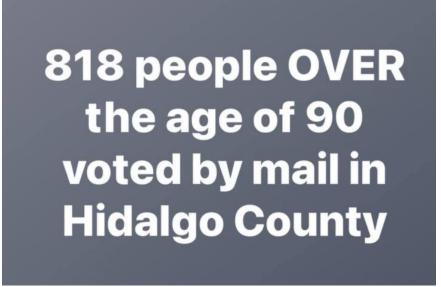
De La Cruz Questioned Why 818 People Over The Age Of 90 In Hidalgo County Voted By Mail.





Well, well, well......this door knocking should be interesting.

Headed out, let's see what we find...



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/10/20]

• Fact Check: Similar Claims About Older Voters Being Deceased Voters Were Rated False And That It Is "Common For State Voter Rolls Include Voters With Birthdates That Make Them Appear Impossibly Old." "Experts told The Associated Press that it is common for state voter rolls to include voters with birthdates that make them appear impossibly old, but these are usually explained by human error, software quirks or voter confidentiality issues. [...] According to experts, seeing strange birthdates on voter rolls that appear to belong to deceased registrants isn't evidence of voter fraud, and there are multiple reasons why it can occur. [...] Claims that hundreds of people over 100 voted in Pennsylvania suggest something nefarious, but Matthew Weill, Elections Project director at Bipartisan Policy Center, said that is "not so crazy" in the year 2020. "There are tens of thousands of centenarians in the US," he said. Throughout the pandemic, social media posts showed seniors casting votes through mail-in ballots for the 2020 election. [Associated Press, 11/10/20]

De La Cruz Claimed She Was Conducting Her Own "Ballot Investigation" And Alleged That Hidalgo County Officials Were Suppressing Information By Closing Their Office For The Holidays

De La Cruz Said She Was Conducting Her "Own Investigation" Into Alleged Improprieties Regarding Voter Rolls In Hidalgo County. "Citing her own investigation into voter rolls and rosters, De La Cruz-Hernandez said improprieties may have affected the outcome." [Brownsville Herald, 12/23/20]

De La Cruz Claimed The Hidalgo County Office Illegally Closed To Avoid Her "Ballot Investigation." "UNBELIEVABLE!!!! HIdalgo County Elections Office Closes EARLY and ILLEGALLY to AVOID answering questions The Hidalgo County Elections office KNOWS we are in the middle of a ballot investigation!! They know our deadline is the 23rd. They continue to play games and have gone so far as to shut down just to NOT answer questions!!! Today is NOT a federal holiday and neither is tomorrow!! Why are they shut down????" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 12/21/20]



De La Cruz Alleged That She Couldn't "Get The Damn Information" To Contest Her 2020 Election Because The Hidalgo County Elections Office Was Closed For The Holidays. "The Hidalgo County's election office is locked! It is December 21st if you call them they are all out for vacation! Now the last time I checked today is not a federal holiday! Today federal offices should be open! Why? Why are they closed when they know there's a ballot investigation going on right now! We have the opportunity to contest this race and we cannot contest because we can't get the damn information!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 12/21/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed That People Cast Ballots Who Were Not On Voter Rolls

De La Cruz Filed A Complaint With The Texas Secretary Of State Claiming People Who Voted In Hidalgo County Were Not On Voter Rolls. "Citing her own investigation into voter rolls and rosters, De La Cruz-Hernandez said improprieties may have affected the outcome. 'I am calling into question this vote difference and the validity of the Gonzalez win,' she said. De La Cruz-Hernandez said she has submitted a formal complaint to the secretary of state's office. Specifically, she claimed Tuesday that people who voted in the Hidalgo County election were not on the voter roll and alleged that mail-in ballots sent out by the county were illegal." [Brownsville Herald, 12/23/20]

De La Cruz Claimed Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Did Not Win A Valid Election. "I am calling into question this vote difference and the validity of the Gonzalez win,' she said. De La Cruz-Hernandez said she has submitted a formal complaint to the secretary of state's office. Specifically, she claimed Tuesday that people who voted in the Hidalgo County election were not on the voter roll and alleged that mail-in ballots sent out by the county were illegal." [Brownsville Herald, 12/23/20]

De La Cruz's Campaign Provided A List Of People Who They Alleged Cast Ballots But Were Not On The County's Voter Roll. "Voter fraud allegations were brought forward by now-former congressional candidate Monica De la Cruz-Hernandez. De La Cruz-Hernandez's team provided a list of names of people — including public servants who were allegedly not on the Hidalgo County voter roll [...] Hidalgo County Elections Administrator Yvonne Ramon said there are three ways people can legally vote without being on a voter roll: by using a provisional ballot, having a voting application still being verified by the ballot board or being a limited ballot voter. 'This is a voter that the State of Texas allows to come and vote for all federal and state elections but they must be a registered voter in another county,' Ramon said. When asked to clarify why some people listed on the spreadsheet were, in fact, registered for the November elections and on the county's voter roll, De La Cruz-Hernandez's campaign could not provide any information." [KRGV, 12/24/20]

• Hidalgo County Elections Administrator Stated That People Do Not Need To Be On A Voter Roll In Order To Legally Vote. "Hidalgo County Elections Administrator Yvonne Ramon said there are three ways people can legally vote without being on a voter roll: by using a provisional ballot, having a voting application still being verified by the ballot board or being a limited ballot voter. 'This is a voter that the State of Texas allows to come and vote for all federal and state elections but they must be a registered voter in another county,' Ramon said." [KRGV, 12/24/20]

De La Cruz Claimed 944 Unregistered Voters Voted In Hidalgo County.





Now how could this happen... S
Things that make you go hmmm

090909

Hidalgo County Elections Department #Facts

#DontCareAboutYourFeelings

Greg Abbott

RNHA - Texas

Sid Miller

CBS 4 News Rio Grande Valley



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>12/14/20</u>]

De La Cruz Failed To Provide A Single Example Of Any Evidence Of Voter Fraud Or Illegal Votes In Hidalgo County

VIDEO: Anchor: "The Republican Candidate's Campaign Couldn't Provide A Single Example Of A Person Who Cast A Ballot In The Election But Wasn't Registered To Vote." "Yesterday we told you about voter fraud allegation brought forward by Republican candidate for Congressional District 15, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez. Her team provided us a list of names of people – including public servants – who were allegedly not on the voter roll [...] Channel 5 News also asked the De La Cruz Hernandez Campaign to clarify why there were some people listed on the spreadsheet who were, in fact, registered for the November election and appeared on the county's voter roll. The Republican candidate's campaign couldn't provide a single example of a person who cast a ballot in the election but wasn't registered to vote." [KRGV, 12/24/20]

De La Cruz Could Not Provide Any Information When Asked To Clarify Her Voter Roll Allegations. When asked to clarify why some people listed on the spreadsheet were, in fact, registered for the November elections and on the county's voter roll, De La Cruz-Hernandez's campaign could not provide any information." [KRGV, 12/24/20]

De La Cruz When Asked For Evidence To Support Allegation Of Voter Fraud: "We Have Thirty Days To Contest The Election And So We Will Use This Time To Investigate." "The people of Hidalgo are tired of voter fraud,' Republican congressional candidate Monica De La Cruz said Tuesday. According to De La Cruz, mail-in ballots in Hidalgo County opened opportunities for fraud. Supporters of De La Cruz's, many waving Donald Trump campaign flags, staged a protest outside the Hidalgo County Courthouse, where De La Cruz addressed county commissioners through a camera [...] When asked about the evidence to back up fraud allegations, De La Cruz said, 'well, right now we have thirty days to contest the election and so we will use this time to investigate." [Border Report, 11/18/20]

...



De La Cruz Routinely Spread Misinformation Regarding COVID Vaccination Campaigns, Contact Tracing, And Migrants Spreading COVID-19

De La Cruz Spread Multiple False Claims And Misinformation Regarding COVID Vaccination Campaigns, Contact Tracing And Dr. Fauci's Statements Regarding Masks

De La Cruz Spread "Misinformation" About Vaccination Campaigns Falsely Claiming It Was "HIPAA Violation." "Social media users, lawmakers and political candidates have spread misinformation about the initiative, including false claims that the campaign infringes on the federal health privacy law known as HIPAA. 'How about the government stay the heck out of our business!?' Texas Republican congressional candidate Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez wrote in a Facebook post. 'What ever happened to PRIVATE health decisions? Seems like giving these door knockers our vaccination status would a HIPPA violation.' [...] In fact, HIPAA doesn't block anyone from asking another person about their health status, according to Alan Meisel, law professor and bioethics expert at the University of Pittsburgh. 'HIPAA does not prevent anyone from asking anything,' Meisel told the AP in an email. 'What it does is prohibit certain health care entities from revealing certain health information about patients." [Associated Press, 7/15/21]

• FACT CHECK: De La Cruz Falsely Claimed That Door To Door Vaccination Campaigns Violated HIPAA. "CLAIM: President Joe Biden's initiative for a door-to-door campaign to encourage vaccination for COVID-19 is a violation of the federal law that restricts the release of medical information. AP'S ASSESSMENT: False. Biden pitched a door-knocking campaign as a way to get vaccine information and assistance to more people, not probe Americans about whether they have been vaccinated. But even if officials or volunteers did ask people that question, it wouldn't be a violation of federal health privacy laws, according to experts. THE FACTS: Biden on July 6 highlighted a door-to-door initiative to spread information about the safety and efficacy of vaccines in hopes it would encourage more people to get vaccinated for COVID-19. Local officials, volunteers and private sector workers are carrying out such efforts, The Associated Press has reported." [Associated Press, 7/15/21]

De La Cruz Shared A Misleading Facebook Post That Called For The Firing Of Dr. Fauci Claiming He Advised Against Mask Usage.







[Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>6/2/21</u>]

• FACT CHECK: A February 2020 Email From Dr. Fauci Was Widely Misrepresented As Evidence That Face Coverings Do Not Work. "Social media posts cite a February 2020 email in which Dr Anthony Fauci advised against mask use as evidence that face coverings do not prevent the spread of Covid-19. But the email from the top US infectious disease specialist reflected the consensus among health authorities early in the Covid-19 emergency, before it was determined that widespread mask use helps curb transmission of the disease." [AFP Fact Check, 6/3/21]

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed The TRACE Act Would Send "Health Bureaucrats To Individuals Residences" As Part Of "One Of The Most Massive Government Surveillance Programs Of Private Citizens In U.S. History." "This is scary friends and one more reason why we need a change in Congress. H.R. 6666, by liberal Chicago Rep. Bobby Rush, would put Big Government in charge of tracking citizens' movements as they relate to COVID-19 mitigation efforts - even sending health bureaucrats to 'individuals' residences,' 'as necessary,' This dangerous and unconstitutional bill would launch one of the most massive government surveillance programs of private citizens in U.S. history, all under the guise of protecting people from the Cornavirus. The resolution has more than just an ominous bill number. It also has ominous price tag - \$100 billion dollars! And, guess who has cosponsored the bill? You guessed it - liberal incumbent Vicente Gonzalez! The "COVID-19 Testing, Reaching, and Contacting Everyone (TRACE) Act" doesn't deserve to see the light of day and incumbent Gonzalez doesn't deserve another term in Congress. His co-sponsorship of H.R. 6666 demonstrates that he is truly out-of-touch!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 5/16/20]

• FACT CHECK: The TRACE Act Would Not Allow The Government To Forcibly Enter Homes But Would Provide Grants For Organizations To Provide Testing And Contact-Tracing Services. "Social media users have been sharing images online that claim bill H.R. 6666, introduced by Democratic Congressman Bobby Rush and also known as the COVID-19 Testing, Reaching, And Contacting Everyone



(TRACE) Act, will allow the government to forcibly enter homes, test and remove family members, including children, to be taken into quarantine. False. The bill would provide grants for organizations to provide testing and contact-tracing services to help prevent further spread of COVID-19. It does not authorize the government to enter homes, forcibly test for the virus or remove family members to be quarantined." [Reuters, 5/13/20]

De La Cruz Routinely Made Misleading Statements Regarding Migrants Spreading COVID-19

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed That COVID Cases Were Increasing Because Illegal Immigrants Were Released "All Over The Valley" By The Biden Administration

De La Cruz Said That COVID Cases Were Increasing Because Immigrants Who Have The Virus Are Being Released. "We also want to add Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley did not inform the La Joya Police Department that people that had symptoms or were sick with Covid-19 were going to be placed in the Texas Inn hotel'!!!!!! Thank you La Joya Police Department for sharing the TRUTH about what is happening on our borders and why COVID cases are really increasing. This type of post took courage and I respect them for doing so!" [Monica for Congress, Facebook, 7/27/21]

• Hidalgo County Health Authority Dr. Ivan Melendez Insisted That Migrants Were Not Driving A Rise In COVID Cases But That The Unvaccinated Were Contributing More. "COVID-19 infections continue to be on the rise is the United States, and so is the number of migrants coming across the border in south Texas. Some people have linked the two, blaming COVID-positive migrants for spreading the disease. That's just not true, according to doctors treating for the coronavirus while monitoring the local and national response to the pandemic. 'We do not believe that this is a pandemic of the migrants,' said Dr. Ivan Melendez, a McAllen-based physician who's worked in COVID-19 wards, recovered from the disease himself and serves as the health authority for Hidalgo County. 'We believe this is a pandemic of the unvaccinated.' [...] 'This is not a population that has a higher positivity rate than the local population,' Melendez said. 'There's very little intermingling with our local population as they move forward north. We cannot deny that the migrants are part of the problem, because they're part of our community and that they do contribute. But do they contribute more than unvaccinated people? Absolutely not." [KENS 5, 8/11/21]

De La Cruz Attacked Rep. Vicente Gonzalez And Catholic Charities For "Dumping" Illegal Immigrants Infected With COVID "All Over The Valley." "Meanwhile in La La Land, Rep. Gonzalez is more worried about your internet connection than the ONE MILLION ILLEGALS that have crossed our Border and the fact that the Catholic Charities is dumping them all over the Valley, infected with COVID!!!! Instead of being "focused on connectivity", he should focus in what is REALLY happening in #tx15!!!! This guy is completely out of touch with what is happening in his own back yard." [Monica for Congress, Facebook, 7/31/21]

De La Cruz Claimed COVID Positive Illegal Immigrants Were "Thrown Shamelessly And Quietly Into Local Communities." "This guy is out of control when he thinks bringing back Big Bird should be everyone's priority!! Wake up Gonzalez there are 3000 ILLEGALS sitting under Alzandua Bridge and the ones sick with COVID are being thrown shamelessly and quietly into local communities." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, <u>8/2/21</u>]

De La Cruz Criticized The Biden Administration For Sheltering And Transporting Illegal Immigrants With COVID-19 "Anywhere In The U.S." While Keeping Legal Ports Of Entry Closed. "The Biden Administration will let thousands of illegals into our country, give them hotel stays, and transportation to anywhere in the US, shelter them when they have COVID but they won't safely open the legal ports of entry on the border that will help small businesses and bring families together?" [Monica for Congress, Facebook, 6/5/21]

De La Cruz Claimed Biden And Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Wanted To Force The Border Patrol To Release COVID Positive Illegal Immigrants. "It's obvious we have a huge international humanitarian CRISIS! But



socialists Joe Biden, and Vicente Gonzalez have no issue with forcing Border Patrol to release illegal immigrants, regardless of where they test positive for COVID or not." [Monica for Congress, Facebook, 3/19/21]

- Similar Statements By Governor Abbott Claiming That Biden Was Releasing Hundreds Of Illegal Immigrants Infected With COVID-19 Were Rated "Mostly False." "Abbott said that the Biden administration is releasing 'hundreds of illegal immigrants' infected with COVID-19 into Texas communities. A spokesperson said that the claim was based on news articles reporting that 108 migrants released by Border Patrol had tested positive in Brownsville. While that number has risen beyond 200 positive cases since then, it was well below "hundreds" at the time of Abbott's tweet. Abbott also mischaracterizes the status of the migrants being released by U.S. Customs and Border Protection by calling them 'illegal immigrants.' They are asylum seekers holding notices to appear in court. We rate this claim Mostly False. [Politifact, 3/11/21]
- Similar Statements By Texas AG Paxton Claiming That Migrants Released By The Border Patrol Were Not Tested For COVID-19 Were Rated "Mostly False." "During a Newsmax interview, Paxton claimed that federal officials are 'not even testing' migrants who are released by Border Patrol into U.S. communities. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has said that '100% of noncitizens' are tested for COVID-19 'at some point during their immigration journey,' and that this testing is performed by a mix of federal agencies, local governments and non-governmental organizations. While there are numerous clear examples of testing happening before migrants are released into the U.S., we know of one recent example in which strained testing capabilities led to untested migrants being released. However, the full scope of untested migrants is unknown. We rate this claim Mostly False." [Politifact, 8/13/21]

De La Cruz Questioned Why Illegal Immigrants Didn't Have COVID Vaccination Requirements Similar To International Travelers.



De La Cruz Complained Of Shelters Being Used To Treat COVID Positive Immigrants. "This shelter was just set up 2 weeks ago and is already at capacity. How many more shelters will taxpayers have to fund to contain COVID-positive immigrants!?" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/19/21]



De La Cruz Spread Multiple False Claims About The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill, The Build Back Better Act, And Renewable Energy Including Disinformation From InfoWars And Debunked Social Media Posts

De La Cruz Spread Multiple False Claims About The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill, Including Disinformation From InfoWars And Viral Social Media Posts

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed That The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Would Charge A "Gas Tax" Per Every Mile Driven.

IMPORTANT

Biden's Infrastructure Bill

-Bill will fine companies \$700,000 for not compyling with federal Vaccine mandates for EACH employee.

-Seeks to charge American Citizens a "Gas Tax" per every mile driven, letting the Federal Government know where and when you drive.



[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 10/16/21]

• PolitiFact Ruled "False" The Claim That The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Would Charge A "Gas Tax" Per Every Mile Driven. "A Facebook post claimed that the Biden infrastructure bill contains a provision establishing a per-mile driving tax. This is inaccurate. The infrastructure bill would create a pilot program that would study the effect and viability of a per-mile driving tax among a group of volunteers. Enrollment in the pilot program would be voluntary, and participants would be fully reimbursed for any fees they pay. We rate this claim False." [PolitiFact, 9/29/21]

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Would Have The IRS Monitor Bank Transactions Over \$600.



IMPORTANT

Biden's Infrastructure Bill

-Wants to know about money transfers in our banks over \$600, to tax it, and report it to the IRS. This includes transactions through paypal, cashapp, venmo and zelle etc

-Builds a \$2 Million park in Nancy Pelosi's district



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 10/12/21]

• PolitiFact Ruled InfoWars' Claim That The IRS Would Monitor All Bank Accounts Over \$600 "Mostly False." "An Infowars headline widely shared on Instagram stated that "Biden's Treasury Department declares IRS will monitor" all accounts over \$600. The Treasury has made no such declaration. The department has made a proposal that Congress is considering. Under the proposal, financial institutions would be required to annually report the total inflows and outflows from bank, loan and investment accounts, if the total is at least \$600 in a year, or if the account's value is at least \$600. The headline contains an element of truth but ignores critical facts that would give a different impression. We rate it Mostly False." [PolitiFact, 9/15/21]

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Cost \$3 Trillion. "I still can't believe 13 Republicans voted for this unfundable bill, \$3 trillion worth of social policy, infrastructure and climate change programs." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/21]

• The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Signed By President Biden Cost \$1.2 Trillion, \$550 Billion Of Which Was New Federal Investment. "President Joe Biden signed a \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill into law Monday, finalizing a key part of his economic agenda. It will deliver \$550 billion of new federal investments in America's infrastructure over five years, touching everything from bridges and roads to the nation's broadband, water and energy systems." [CNN, 11/15/21]

De La Cruz Frequently Criticized The Build Back Better Act With Multiple False Claims Regarding The Bill's Provisions

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed The Build Back Better Act Would Increase Taxes On People Making Under \$400,000 A Year

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed The Build Back Better Act Would Increase Taxes On Those Making Under \$400,000 A Year.



Biden Reconciliation Bill DISASTER

-\$4 Billion granted to organizations to tear down and rebuild infrastructure deemed "racist"

-Increases Taxes on those making under \$400k a year, with a \$2 Trillion Dollar Tax hike



[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 11/5/21]

• The Reconciliation Bill Would Not Increase Taxes For Households Making Less Than \$400,000. "Senate Democrats aim to fund a \$3.5 trillion budget measure partly on the backs of higher taxes for corporations and the wealthy, according to a budget framework issued Wednesday. Democrats would 'prohibit' tax increases for households earning less than \$400,000, as well as other groups like small businesses and family farms, as they seek to raise revenue for clean-energy initiatives and an expansion of the social safety net, according to the outline." [CNBC, 7/15/21]

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed The Build Back Better Act Would Not Cut Taxes For The Middle Class While Giving A Tax Cut To Wealthy Homeowners

De La Cruz Claimed The Build Back Better Act Would Give An \$80,000 Tax Cut To Wealthy Homeowners In New York, New Jersey And California, While Failing To Cut Taxes For The Middle Class.

\$80K Tax cuts for the wealthy -Wealthy homeowners in NY, NJ and CA get tax cuts, not the Middle Class



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/22/21]

• FactCheck.Org: "In The First Year Of Biden's Proposed Budget, 2022, Nearly Nine Out Of 10 Households Would See A Tax Cut." "In the first year of Biden's proposed budget, 2022, nearly nine out of 10 households would see a tax cut, according to the Tax Policy Center." [FactCheck.org, 9/24/21]

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed The Build Back Better Act Allowed The IRS To Monitor Bank Transactions Over \$600

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed The Build Back Better Act Would Have The IRS Monitor Bank Transactions Over \$600.

Build Back Better Disaster

IRS Expansion

- Funding for an additional 87,000 IRS agents to monitor Americans bank accounts, and transactions over \$600 (including cashapp, PayPal, venmo)



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/24/21]

• PolitiFact Ruled InfoWars' Claim That The IRS Would Monitor All Bank Accounts Over \$600 "Mostly False." "An Infowars headline widely shared on Instagram stated that "Biden's Treasury Department declares IRS will monitor" all accounts over \$600. The Treasury has made no such declaration. The department has made a proposal that Congress is considering. Under the proposal, financial institutions would be required to annually report the total inflows and outflows from bank, loan and investment accounts, if the total is at least \$600 in a year, or if the account's value is at least \$600. The headline contains an element of truth but ignores critical facts that would give a different impression. We rate it Mostly False." [PolitiFact, 9/15/21]

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed That The Build Back Better Act Would Be Repeating History By "Relocating Native Americans"

De La Cruz Said The Build Back Better Act Was Repeating History By "Relocating Native Americans." "Why is Bidens #BuildBackBetter bill relocating Native Americans? This is the kind of history that should NOT repeat itself."



IMPORTANT

Biden Infrastructure Bill

-Gives \$216 Billion to Bureau of Indians affairs to combat <u>Climate Change</u>.

-\$130 Million for "Community Relocation" for Native Americans living in determined "<u>Vulnerable Areas</u>"



[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 10/9/21]

• The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Provided Money To The Bureau Of Indian Affairs To Assist Tribal Communities Mitigate Climate Change. "Funding in the legislation would be available to move entire communities. The bill would provide \$216 million to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for climate resilience and adaptation for tribal nations, which have been disproportionately hurt by climate change. More than half of that money, \$130 million, would go toward 'community relocation' — helping Indigenous Americans leave dangerous areas." [New York Times, 8/3/21]

De La Cruz Shared A Debunked Claim That Biden Spent "\$86 Million For Hotel Rooms To House The Illegal Immigrants But Made Our National Guard Sleep In A Parking Garage While Protecting The Capitol"

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed That Biden Spent "\$86 Million For Hotel Rooms To House The Illegal Immigrants But Made Our National Guard Sleep In A Parking Garage While Protecting The Capitol."







[Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 3/22/21]

• Social Media Posts Like The One De La Cruz Shared, Claiming Biden Forced National Guard Members To Sleep On The Floor Of A Garage While Authorizing Hotel Rooms For Illegal Immigrants Were Rated "Mostly False" By PolitiFact. "A Facebook post says, 'Joe Biden and Kamala Harris forced our troops to sleep on the floor of a garage, yet has authorized \$89 million for hotel rooms for illegal immigrants, who broke the law to get into this country.' There is no evidence that Biden and Harris ordered the National Guard to relocate from the Capitol to parking garages. The Guard told PolitiFact that the request to move the troops is believed to have come from a Capitol Police officer. Axios and Fox have reported that the Biden administration awarded a contract to use hotel rooms to provide shelter and processing services for migrant families. The contract was for a little less, \$86 million, and the Biden administration is not the first administration to use hotels near the border to house children and families who enter the country illegally. This claim contains an element of truth but ignores critical facts that would give a different impression. Mostly False." [PolitiFact, 3/22/21]



De La Cruz Supported Extreme Policies That Were Dangerous For South Texans

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz supported privatizing Social Security and letting workers lose their retirement savings.
 - ✓ De La Cruz: "I would allow new workers the option of participating in the Social Security system or investing in their own privately funded retirement savings account."
 - ✓ De La Cruz wanted to ban the Social Security Administration from investing reserve funds in us treasuries a practice that earned the program a projected \$78 billion in 2020.
 - ✓ De La Cruz backed a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution, which would threaten Social Security and Medicare.
- ✓ De La Cruz wanted to help the richest Americans and big corporations by making the 2017 GOP tax bill permanent, opposing taxing unrealized capital gains, supporting the repeal of the estate tax, and implementing a flat tax.
 - ✓ De La Cruz supported the 2017 Republican tax bill and wanted to make its provisions permanent.
 - ✓ The Congressional Budget Office estimated the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act would increase the debt by \$1.9 trillion over 10 years.
 - ✓ Washington Post: Final tax bill included a "significant tax break for the very wealthy" and "a massive tax cut for corporations."
 - ✓ The top 1% of earners got "more than 20% of the total value of the tax cut, roughly the same amount as Americans in the bottom 60% of the income distribution."
 - ✓ De La Cruz wanted to repeal the estate tax, which would only benefit the wealthiest 0.2 percent of estates.
 - ✓ De La Cruz opposed taxing unrealized capital gains, which primarily impacted the richest Americans.
 - ✓ De La Cruz supported implementing a flat tax which would benefit the wealthy, while increasing taxes on the middle class.
 - ✓ De La Cruz said she opposed outsourcing jobs while supporting the GOP tax bill that increased corporations' incentive to move jobs overseas.
- ✓ De La Cruz opposed the bipartisan infrastructure bill which provided over \$35 billion towards improving roads, bridges, highways, broadband, drainage, and ports of entry in Texas.
 - ✓ Texas received over \$35 billion over five years for roads, bridges, pipes, ports and broadband from the bipartisan infrastructure bill.



- ✓ Texas received \$27 billion for roads, \$500 million to repair bridges, and \$3 billion for public transportation from the bipartisan infrastructure bill.
- ✓ KRGV: "Infrastructure bill expected to make positive impact on the Valley."
- ✓ The bipartisan infrastructure bill provided over \$3 billion towards border patrol stations and land ports of entry.
- ✓ The bipartisan infrastructure bill provided Texas with \$100 million to expand broadband service.
- ✓ De La Cruz said anyone who voted for the bipartisan infrastructure bill was "not truly fiscally conservative."
- ✓ De La Cruz previously said infrastructure was a top priority for her in order to fix flooding issues in the Rio Grande Valley.
 - ✓ The bipartisan infrastructure bill would allocate \$1.2 billion for local projects including those addressing drainage issues in the Rio Grande Valley that caused frequent floods.
- ✓ De La Cruz said she wanted to eliminate "unneeded" coverage mandates for health care that provided essential health benefits and claimed she would "stop the continued government takeover of healthcare."
- ✓ De La Cruz called for severely limiting legal immigration, finishing construction of the border wall and restoring Trump administration immigration policies.
 - ✓ De La Cruz supported limiting legal immigration to only people with highly technical skills, blood relatives, or a spousal relationship with a U.S. citizen.
 - ✓ De La Cruz said her top priority was pushing legislation to finish building the border wall "across the entire southern border."
 - ✓ De La Cruz said she wanted to "secure our borders, apply extreme vetting processes and prohibit sharia law" in order to fight terrorism.
 - ✓ De La Cruz supported denying federal law enforcement funds to sanctuary cities and other entities "not in compliance with immigration laws" and opposed abolishing ICE.
- ✓ De La Cruz said voter suppression was not an issue and supported restrictive voting legislation passed by the Texas legislature.
 - ✓ October 2020: De La Cruz said voter suppression was not an issue in her race because there were 32 early curbside vote locations in the Rio Grande Valley, as well as an extra week of early voting.
 - ✓ De La Cruz testified in support of Texas H.B. 6, which has been criticized as voter suppression bill that specifically targeted minority communities
 - ✓ De La Cruz testified that she had a "vested interest" in the "success and integrity of our elections" because she was running for congress.
- ✓ De La Cruz was staunchly anti-choice, and wanted to outlaw abortions in all cases except "to protect the life of the mother."



- ✓ De La Cruz said one of her top three priorities was pushing legislation "to prohibit abortion in all cases except to protect the life of the mother."
- ✓ De La Cruz praised the passage of the S.B. 8 "heartbeat bill" which banned abortions after 6 weeks in Texas and set up a bounty system for private citizens to enforce the ban with lawsuits.
- ✓ De La Cruz wanted to defund Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers, and supported the Hyde Amendment.
- ✓ De La Cruz opposed anti-discrimination protections on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression and opposed "laws against racism."
 - ✓ De La Cruz opposed the government implementing "laws against racism," arguing they would be "untenable, unenforceable and costly."
 - ✓ De La Cruz said racism was not a threat unless it was "carried out through the threat of fear or violence."
 - ✓ De La Cruz opposed anti-discrimination protections on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.
 - ✓ De La Cruz opposed the Equality Act, which would extend anti-discrimination protections to people on the basis of LGBTQ status.
 - ✓ De La Cruz did not believe same-sex couples were considered "a family unit."
- ✓ De La Cruz opposed the 2021 George Floyd Justice in Policing Act while claiming she supported police reform efforts, including several provisions that were in the bill.
 - ✓ April 2021: De La Cruz criticized Rep. Vicente Gonzalez for voting for the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act.
 - ✓ The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act would limit the unnecessary use of force and restrict no-knock warrants and chokeholds..
 - ✓ The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act would improve police training requirements and create a national police misconduct database.
 - ✓ June 2020: De La Cruz said she supported a national database of police misconduct, improved police training, and new use of force guidelines.
 - ✓ De La Cruz said "police brutality has no place in America" and should always be condemned.

De La Cruz Supported Privatizing Social Security And Letting Workers Lose Their Retirement Savings

De La Cruz Wanted To Dismantle Social Security And Wanted To Ban The Social Security Administration From Investing Reserve Funds In US Treasuries



De La Cruz Supported Privatizing Social Security. "How would you guarantee Social Security benefits for future generations? [ANSWER:] 1. I would ensure that all who are currently paying into the Social Security trust fund be guaranteed their promised benefits. I would allow new workers the option of participating in the Social Security system or investing in their own privately funded retirement savings account. I would prevent the Federal Government from tapping into or borrowing from the Social Security Trust fund for any other purpose than for what it was intented [sic]." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/13/21]

- CAP: Under Bush Proposal For Private Social Security Accounts, A Person Who Worked For 35 Years And Retired In 2008 Would Have Had A Negative Return And Lost \$26,000 In Retirement Savings. "These would have made private accounts a terrible deal. Bush-style private accounts for a 2008 retiree would have yielded negative returns in the U.S. market. A person with a private Social Security account similar to what President George W. Bush proposed in 2005 that was invested in stocks retiring on October 1, 2008 after saving for 35 years (since 1973), would have seen a negative return on their account—an effective -0.6 percent net annual real rate of return—and lost \$26,000 on the market." [Center for American Progress Action Fund, 10/2008]
- NIRS: 40 Percent Of Older Americans Rely On Social Security Income In Retirement. "A new report also finds that a large portion (40 percent) of older Americans rely only on Social Security income in retirement. Social Security alone is not considered sufficient for a secure retirement, and it was not intended to stand alone. Typically, benefits from Social Security replace approximately 40 percent of preretirement income. Most financial planners recommend at least a 70 percent income replacement rate for retirees, while others say this should be even higher given longer lifespans and rising health costs. In fact, the analysis indicates that if Social Security income had been ten percent greater in 2013, there would have been about 500,000 fewer older households in poverty." [National Institute On Retirement Security, 1/13/20]
- The Securities Industry Association Estimated Privatized Social Security Would Generate Between \$39 And \$279 Billion In Fees To Wall Street Over 75 Years. "President Bush's plan to partly privatize Social Security could be a windfall for Wall Street, generating billions of dollars in management fees for brokerages and mutual fund companies [...] 'In other words, it is hardly likely to be a bonanza for Wall Street,' said Rob Mills, vice president of the brokerage industry trade group Securities Industry Association, in a report published this month. Still, because of the massive size of Social Security, with its 154 million covered employees, Mills estimated that even a simple program of individual accounts comparable to the TSP might generate \$39 billion in fees, in present-value terms, over 75 years. That would be just 1.2 percent of the financial sector's projected total revenue of \$3.3 trillion over that timeframe. But a more complex menu of options, which might be offered to participants whose accounts grow beyond, say, \$5,000, might generate \$279 billion in fees over 75 years, boosting projected industry revenues by about 8.5 percent." [NBC News, 12/22/04]

De La Cruz Wanted To Ban The Social Security Administration From Investing Reserve Funds In US Treasuries – A Practice That Earned The Program A Projected \$78 Billion In 2020

De La Cruz Supported Preventing The Federal Government From "Tapping Into Or Borrowing From" The Social Security Trust Fund. "How would you guarantee Social Security benefits for future generations? [ANSWER:] 1. I would ensure that all who are currently paying into the Social Security trust fund be guaranteed their promised benefits. I would allow new workers the option of participating in the Social Security system or investing in their own privately funded retirement savings account. I would prevent the Federal Government from tapping into or borrowing from the Social Security Trust fund for any other purpose than for what it was intented." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/13/21]

• CBPP: Social Security Trust Fund Reserves Are Loaned To The Treasury To Finance The Deficit In Favor of More Borrowing, And Are Returned To The Trust Fund. "Is the Federal Government 'Raiding' the Trust Funds? No. Some critics have suggested that lending trust fund reserves to the Treasury



is a misuse of those funds. This view reflects a misunderstanding of how the Treasury manages the federal government's finances. When the rest of the budget is in deficit, a Social Security cash surplus allows the government to borrow less from the public to finance the deficit. [...] Money that the federal government borrows, whether from investors or from Social Security, is used to finance the ongoing operations of the government in the same way that money deposited in a bank is used to finance spending by consumers and businesses. In neither case does this represent a 'raid' or misuse of the funds. The bank depositor will get his or her money back when needed, and so will the Social Security trust funds." [CBPP.org, 5/10/20]

• CBPP: Trust Fund Reserves Were Exclusively Invested In Treasury Securities And Were Projected To Earn \$78 Billion In Interest Income In 2020. "The Social Security trust funds are invested entirely in U.S. Treasury securities. Like the Treasury bills, notes, and bonds purchased by private investors around the world, the Treasury securities that the trust funds hold are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government. The U.S. government has never defaulted on its obligations, and investors consider U.S. government securities one of the world's safest investments. By the end of 2019, the trust funds had accumulated nearly \$2.9 trillion worth of Treasury securities, earning an average interest rate of 2.2 percent during that year. The Social Security Administration provides monthly reports on the investment holdings of the trust funds, their maturities, and interest rates. The trustees project that the trust funds will earn \$78 billion in interest income in 2020." [CBPP.org, 5/10/20]

As Of December 2020, 113,465 People In Texas's 15th Congressional District Received Social Security Benefits And Received A Total Of \$121.5 Million In Monthly Payments

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Congressional district		neficiaries	Total (thou	Number of						
	Total	Retired workers	Disabled workers	Widow(er)s and parents	Spouses a	Children b	All beneficiaries	Retired workers	Widow(er)s and parents	beneficiarie aged 65 or olde
Texas	4,421,803	3,062,526	531,099	314,588	208,218	305,372	6,110,209	4,638,016	429,117	3,366,56
1	157,343	106,908	21,343	12,087	6,235	10,770	217,669	161,642	16,847	117,38
2	106,293	76,944	9,425	6,995	6,038	6,891	169,971	134,757	10,955	85,31
3	107,173	81,028	7,854	6,306	5,953	6,032	176,729	143,900	10,298	89,47
4	165,280	114,529	23,156	11,265	5,564	10,766	227,952	171,109	15,391	123,16
5	132,837	92,187	18,525	8,870	4,454	8,801	184,052	138,505	12,252	98,75
6	120,502	84,972	14,788	7,350	4,427	8,965	176,438	135,455	10,850	91,04
7	93,009	68,838	6,474	6,343	6,282	5,072	156,562	127,009	10,507	77,97
8	145,471	103,847	15,321	10,426	6,946	8,931	220,609	171,216	15,576	113,88
9	95,484	65,157	12,577	5,729	4,101	7,920	120,477	90,588	7,291	70,08
10	126,949	92,629	12,174	8,191	5,832	8,123	193,692	153,345	12,512	101,01
11	147,916	104,650	16,036	11,543	6,626	9,061	203,513	156,018	15,841	115,37
12	130,735	93,134	14,863	8,857	5,147	8,734	193,778	149,987	13,284	101,19
13	134,952	93,592	16,996	10,608	5,581	8,175	184,823	138,841	14,864	103,12
14	135,094	91,867	17,233	10,751	5,855	9,388	197,625	147,390	15,810	100,68
15	113,465	73,654	14,401	9,163	6,787	9,460	121,597	86,668	9,529	82,70

[Social Security Administration, Texas Congressional Statistics, 12/2020]

• Social Security Provided Monthly Benefits To Eligible Workers And Family Members After The Worker Retires, Passes Away, Or Becomes Disabled. "Old-Age (retirement), Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—popularly referred to as Social Security—provides monthly benefits to an eligible worker and family members when the worker elects to start receiving retirement benefits or when the worker dies or becomes disabled. A worker's lifetime covered earnings largely determine the amount of benefits received." [Social Security Administration, Texas Congressional Statistics, 12/2020]

As Of December 2020, 28,391 People In Texas's 15th Congressional District Received Supplemental Security Income And Received A Total Of \$14.5 Million In Monthly Payments



As Of December 2020, 28,391 People In Texas's 15th Congressional District Received Supplemental Security Income And Received A Total Of \$14.5 Million In Monthly Payments.

Table 2.

Number of recipients of federally administered SSI payments and total monthly payments, December 2020

	Number of recipients								Total monthly payments (thousands of dollars)			
		By type			By age					with		
Congressional district	Total	Aged	Blind	Disabled	Under 18	18–64	65 or older	Total	Aged	Blind	Disabled	OASDI ^a
Texas	633,515	99,898	6,805	526,812	123,974	327,735	181,806	356,749	36,857	3,838	316,054	214,138
1	20,608	1,283	213	19,112	4,123	12,705	3,780	11,874	404	121	11,350	6,618
2	13,266	2,647	151	10,468	3,092	6,267	3,907	7,845	1,156	92	6,597	3,438
3	7,961	2,721	70	5,170	1,247	3,175	3,539	4,532	1,347	45	3,140	1,843
4	18,890	1,193	169	17,528	3,517	11,941	3,432	11,006	344	89	10,573	6,302
5	16,338	1,260	169	14,909	3,439	9,873	3,026	9,667	442	97	9,128	4,703
6	12,692	1,727	133	10,832	2,855	6,870	2,967	7,391	698	87	6,606	3,482
7	11,292	3,285	102	7,905	2,459	4,551	4,282	6,665	1,602	68	4,995	2,714
8	13,150	1,501	163	11,486	2,375	7,799	2,976	7,638	556	90	6,992	4,126
9	25,891	6,957	278	18,656	5,102	10,993	9,796	14,899	3,168	160	11,571	7,819
10	10,883	1,777	168	8,938	2,162	5,784	2,937	6,238	756	94	5,389	3,113
11	15,001	1,828	174	12,999	2,049	8,789	4,163	7,954	572	97	7,286	5,817
12	13,785	1,506	134	12,145	2,737	8,111	2,937	8,188	564	75	7,548	3,891
13	13,186	1,162	120	11,904	2,323	8,107	2,756	7,592	369	71	7,152	4,612
14	17,596	1,656	188	15,752	3,503	10,371	3,722	10,249	602	104	9,544	5,558
15	28,391	6,634	328	21,429	6,428	10,303	11,660	14,554	2,041	170	12,342	12,812

[Social Security Administration, Texas Congressional Statistics, 12/2020]

Supplemental Security Income Was A Federal Cash Assistance Program That Provided Monthly
Payments To Low-Income Aged, Blind, Or Disabled People. "Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a
federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, or disabled
persons in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands." [Social Security
Administration, Texas Congressional Statistics, 12/2020]

De La Cruz Supported A Balanced Budget Amendment That Threatened Social Security And Medicare

De La Cruz Backed A Balanced Budget Amendment To The Constitution. "Back a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/17/21]

The Balanced Budget Amendment Threatened Cuts To Social Security And Medicare

Center for American Progress: The Balanced-Budget Amendment Threatens Americans' Health Care, Social Security, and Jobs [Center for American Progress, 4/11/18]

AARP Opposed The Balanced Budget Amendment Because It Would "Likely Harm Social Security And Medicare, Subjecting Both Programs To Potentially Deep Cuts." "AARP is writing to express our opposition to a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States. [...] A balanced budget amendment would likely harm Social Security and Medicare, subjecting both programs to potentially deep cuts without regard to the impact on the health and financial security of individuals. It would also likely diminish the resources available for programs assisting Americans who are least able to provide for themselves – services such as meals or heating for those who are too poor or physically unable to take care of their basic needs without some support." [AARP, Letter, 4/9/18]

National Committee To Preserve Social Security And Medicare: A Constitutional Balanced Budget Amendment Threatens Social Security [NCPSSM, 7/2011]



Under A Balanced Budget Amendment, Medicare Part A Would Not Be Able To Pay For Hospitalization Costs, Because It Is Funded Through A Fund Of Saved Treasury Securities. "Medicare Part A — the Hospital Insurance trust fund — has the same structure as Social Security. That trust fund currently holds about \$200 billion in Treasury securities, but under a balanced budget amendment, it would be unconstitutional for Medicare to draw down those savings to pay hospitalization costs because all federal expenditures — which includes Medicare payments — would have to be covered by taxes collected in the same year." [CBPP, 3/16/18]

Under A Balanced Budget Amendment, The Military And Federal Employee Civil Service Retirement Systems Would Not Be Able To Pay Retirees, Because They Are Funded Through Funds Of Saved Treasury Securities. "As a result, the \$700 billion in Treasury securities held by the military retirement trust fund and the \$900 billion in Treasury securities held by the civil service retirement trust fund would be unavailable to pay promised retirement pensions." [CBPP, 3/16/18]

A Balanced Budget Amendment Would Make Recessions Longer And Deeper, Causing Very Large Job Losses. "The economic problems with such an amendment are the most serious. By requiring a balanced budget every year, no matter the state of the economy, such an amendment would raise serious risks of tipping weak economies into recession and making recessions longer and deeper, causing very large job losses." [CBPP, 3/16/18]

CBPP: Under A Balanced Budget Amendment, "Programs Such As Social Security, Medicare, National **Defense, And Veterans' Benefits Could Be Cut By An Average Of One-Fifth."** "Programs such as Social Security, Medicare, national defense, and veterans' benefits could be cut by an average of one-fifth under a constitutional amendment before the House this week to require a balanced budget in every year. If policymakers chose to protect some programs from cuts, the cuts in other programs would be even deeper. If they protected Social Security and Medicare, for example, all other programs would be cut by two-fifths." [CBPP, 4/11/18]

De La Cruz Wanted To Help The Richest Americans And Big Corporations By Making The 2017 GOP Tax Bill Permanent, Opposing Taxing Unrealized Capital Gains, Supporting The Repeal Of The Estate Tax, And Implementing A Flat Tax

De La Cruz Wanted To Make The Tax Cut And Jobs Act Permanent

De La Cruz Wanted To Make The Tax Cut And Jobs Act Permanent. "Make the American Tax Cuts and Jobs Act permanent." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/9/21]

De La Cruz Criticized The Build Back Better Act For Overturning Provisions In The Tax Cut And Jobs Act. "Let's rewind to when we were energy independent and put Americans first [...] Biden Reconciliation Bill Disaster Increases energy dependence on OPEC, Russia and China; overturning provisions in the Tax Cuts and Jobs act." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 11/6/21]

Republican Tax Cuts Added \$1.9 Trillion To The National Debt

CBO Estimated The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act Would Increase The Debt By \$1.9 Trillion Over 10 Years. "The GOP's signature tax law is projected to increase the national debt by \$1.9 trillion between 2018 and 2028, according to a new report by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). According to the report, the tax law would cost the government \$2.3 trillion in revenues, but economic growth would offset that figure by about \$461 billion." [The Hill, 4/9/18]

April 2018: CBO: The Republican Tax Law "Increases The Total Projected Deficit Over The 2018—2028 Period By About \$1.9 Trillion." "What Are the Act's Projected Budgetary Effects? To construct its baseline budget projections, CBO incorporated the effects of the tax act, taking into account economic feedback—that is, the ways in which the act is likely to affect the economy and in turn affect the budget. Doing so raised the 11-year



projection of the cumulative primary deficit (that is, the deficit excluding the costs of servicing the debt) by \$1.3 trillion and raised projected debt-service costs by roughly \$600 billion. The act therefore increases the total projected deficit over the 2018–2028 period by about \$1.9 trillion." [CBO Budget & Economic Outlook 2018 to 2028, Appendix B: The Effects of the 2017 Tax Act on CBO's Economic and Budget Projects, p.105, April 2018]

Big Corporations Got The Majority Of The Benefit From The Republican Tax Bill

S&P 500 Companies Could See \$1.64 Trillion in Tax Cuts. "In other words, you can thank tax cuts for nearly half the growth in big-company earnings in the first quarter. For many companies – including a favorite target of Trump's ire, Amazon.com Inc. – the boost was even more substantial, representing all, or nearly all, the quarter's growth. It gets better: At the rate they're going, S&P 500 companies could save \$1.64 trillion in taxes over the next decade, Steve estimates – \$300 billion more than lawmakers expected. Now we're talking real money." [Bloomberg News, 5/25/18]

Washington Post: Final Tax Bill Included A "Significant Tax Break For The Very Wealthy" And "A Massive Tax Cut For Corporations." "A new tax cut for the rich: The final plan lowers the top tax rate for top earners. Under current law, the highest rate is 39.6 percent for married couples earning over \$470,700. The GOP bill would drop that to 37 percent and raise the threshold at which that top rate kicks in, to \$500,000 for individuals and \$600,000 for married couples. This amounts to a significant tax break for the very wealthy, a departure from repeated claims by Trump and his top officials that the bill would not benefit the rich. [...] A massive tax cut for corporations: Starting on Jan. 1, 2018, big businesses' tax rate would fall from 35 percent to just 21 percent, the largest one-time rate cut in U.S. history for the nation's largest companies." [Washington Post, 12/15/17]

Corporate Tax Cuts In The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act Cost Roughly \$1 Trillion. "It still amounts to roughly a \$1 trillion tax cut for businesses over the next decade. Republicans argue this will make the economy surge in the coming years, but most independent economists and Wall Street banks predict only a modest and short-lived boost to growth." [Washington Post, 12/15/17]

Major Corporations Received Bulk of Tax Cuts. "Widespread publicity about corporations sharing a big slice of their huge Trump tax cuts with their workers through bonuses and wage hikes is mostly hype, this Americans for Tax Fairness analysis reveals. Even though America's biggest corporations are poised to reap hundreds of billions in tax cuts, only 18 corporations in the Fortune 100 have announced any sort of employee benefits tied to those cuts, as of today. Only 46 of the Fortune 500—just 9%—have announced any plans to share the tax-cut wealth." [Americans For Tax Fairness, 1/29/18]

The GOP Tax Bill Gave Significant Tax Cuts To The Very Wealthy

The Atlantic: "The Richer The Family, The Bigger The Cut, Both In Absolute Terms And In Proportional Income" From The GOP Tax Bill. "The GOP tax bill operates by two simple principles. First, families at every income level can expect a tax cut—but the richer the family, the bigger the cut, both in absolute terms and in proportional income. Households making between \$500,000 and \$1 million would get a \$21,000 tax cut in 2019 and their after-tax income would rise by 4.3 percent. That proportional gain is four times larger than the average after-tax benefit for a family making \$40,000. Second, as time goes by, most families' tax benefits would shrink—with the major exception being the most affluent. Most of the plan's individual tax cuts end after 2025. This provision is necessary (because of the procedure congressional Republicans chose for the bill) to pay for a permanent corporate tax cut whose benefits flow mostly through capital gains and dividends to shareholders. The bars below illustrate this effect: The tax cuts shrink between 2018 and 2025 before disappearing for all levels in 2027—except for the richest households, the ones with the most money invested in stocks, who will still be reaping the benefits of lower corporate taxes." [The Atlantic, 12/19/17]

Washington Post: Final Tax Bill Included A "Significant Tax Break For The Very Wealthy" And "A Massive Tax Cut For Corporations." "A new tax cut for the rich: The final plan lowers the top tax rate for top earners. Under current law, the highest rate is 39.6 percent for married couples earning over \$470,700. The GOP



bill would drop that to 37 percent and raise the threshold at which that top rate kicks in, to \$500,000 for individuals and \$600,000 for married couples. This amounts to a significant tax break for the very wealthy, a departure from repeated claims by Trump and his top officials that the bill would not benefit the rich. [...] A massive tax cut for corporations "A massive tax cut for corporations: Starting on Jan. 1, 2018, big businesses' tax rate would fall from 35 percent to just 21 percent, the largest one-time rate cut in U.S. history for the nation's largest companies." [Washington Post, 12/15/17]

The Tax Cut Benefitted The Top 1% Of Earners And "Will Reap More Than 20% Of The Total Value Of The Tax Cut, Roughly The Same Amount As Americans In The Bottom 60% Of The Income Distribution." "No one in the middle class is going to turn up their nose at an extra thousand bucks. But critics have been pointing out that the tax bill could have done much more for middle earners. That \$900 pales in comparison to the average \$51,000 tax cut that Americans in the top 1% of earners — those taking home \$733,000 and up — will reap. Overall, the 1% will reap more than 20% of the total value of the tax cut, roughly the same amount as Americans in the bottom 60% of the income distribution, the Tax Policy Center found." [Time, 12/20/17]

De La Cruz Opposed Taxing Unrealized Capital Gains, Which Would Primarily Impact The Richest Americans

De La Cruz Opposed Taxing Unrealized Capital Gains. "Oppose taxing unrealized gains." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/9/21]

Not Taxing Unrealized Capital Gains Primarily Benefited The Richest Americans. "Scrapping that tax on 'unrealized capital gains' would primarily benefit the richest Americans, who hold the bulk of the country's financial wealth. The U.S. tax system is designed to tax income, like wages from a job. But stock and other asset gains don't count as income unless sold, or 'realized.' That means asset owners can delay tax by holding onto the asset for years. They can sometimes escape tax outright if they keep an investment until death, due to tax rules for inheritances." [CNBC, 12/29/21]

• The Top 1% Gained More Than \$6.5 Trillion In Corporate Stock And Mutual Fund Wealth During The Pandemic. "The top 1% gained more than \$6.5 trillion in corporate stock and mutual fund wealth during the pandemic-era market boom, according to the latest data from the Federal Reserve. The bottom 90% added \$1.2 trillion." [CNBC, 12/29/21]

De La Cruz Supported Repealing The Estate Tax, Exclusively Benefiting Wealthy Heirs

De La Cruz Wanted To Repeal The Estate Tax. "Repeal the Death Tax." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/9/21]

Repealing The Estate Tax Would Benefit Only The Wealthiest 0.2 Percent Of Estates. "The tax framework that President Trump and congressional Republican leaders announced in September proposes to repeal the estate tax — a tax on property (cash, real estate, stock, or other assets) transferred from deceased persons to their heirs. The federal estate tax is due only on the portion of an estate's value that exceeds roughly \$5.5 million per person (\$11 million per couple). As a result, only the wealthiest 0.2 percent of estates pay the tax, and typically at fairly moderate rates. Repeal would give these estates windfall tax cuts averaging more than \$3 million apiece, benefitting wealthy heirs. But it would do virtually nothing for small farms and businesses, despite the claims of repeal supporters. Repeal would also cost \$239 billion over ten years and worsen wealth inequality." [CBPP, 10/30/17]

Repealing The Estate Tax Would Do Virtually Nothing For Small Farms And Businesses. "The tax framework that President Trump and congressional Republican leaders announced in September proposes to repeal the estate tax — a tax on property (cash, real estate, stock, or other assets) transferred from deceased persons to their heirs. The federal estate tax is due only on the portion of an estate's value that exceeds roughly \$5.5 million per person



(\$11 million per couple). As a result, only the wealthiest 0.2 percent of estates pay the tax, and typically at fairly moderate rates. Repeal would give these estates windfall tax cuts averaging more than \$3 million apiece, benefitting wealthy heirs. But it would do virtually nothing for small farms and businesses, despite the claims of repeal supporters. Repeal would also cost \$239 billion over ten years and worsen wealth inequality." [CBPP, 10/30/17]

De La Cruz Signed A Pledge To Oppose All Tax Increases

De La Cruz Opposed "Any Effort To Raise Taxes On Americans." "Oppose any effort to raise taxes on Americans." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/9/21]

De La Cruz Signed The Americans For Tax Reform Pledge To Oppose Any And All Attempts To Raise Taxes. "Americans for Tax Reform applauds the federal incumbents and candidates in Alabama, Texas, and Maine who have signed the Taxpayer Protection Pledge ahead of tomorrow's congressional primary. The Pledge is a written commitment to the American people to oppose and vote against any and all efforts to increase taxes. [...] There are currently 172 Pledge signers in the U.S. House and 48 Pledge signers in the U.S. Senate. Eighty-nine percent of all congressional Republicans have made the written commitment to oppose higher taxes. In contrast, zero congressional Democrats have made that promise [...] The following candidates in Maine and the runoffs in Texas and Alabama have signed the Taxpayer Protection Pledge: [...] Monica De la Cruz Hernandez." [Americans for Tax Reform Press Release, 7/13/20]

De La Cruz Supported Implementing A "Flat" Or "Fair" Tax That Would Benefit The Wealthy, While Increasing Taxes On The Middle Class

De La Cruz Supported Implementing A Flat Tax. "What government spending would you reduce in order to balance the budget? [ANSWER:] Government welfare programs, foreign aid, most especially to those nations who do not support the freedoms/values of the United States and Boondoggle projects such as the 'bridge to nowhere', burdensome environment projects imposed under the guise of climate change. Also, by the implementation of a flat or so-called 'fair' income tax." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/9/21]

A "Flat" Or "Fair" Tax Would Benefit The Wealthy, While Increasing Taxes On The Middle Class

The "Fair Tax" Would Raise Taxes On The Middle Class, While The Wealthiest Households Would See The Biggest Tax Reductions. "Eliminating income taxes would, in most states, mean the wealthiest households would see the biggest tax reductions. The net result would be an overall tax increase for everyone else. 'FairTax' proposals would include a rebate to shield low-income taxpayers from this tax increase, but the rebate would not be large enough to shield middle-income families from bearing the brunt." [Office on Budget and Policy Priorities, 9/7/10]

Flat Tax Would Increase Taxes On The Middle Class While Reducing Them For The Wealthy. "The regressivity of the flat tax is another big problem. Our current federal income tax code is progressive (rates rise with income), and every distributional analysis I've ever seen of a flat tax shows a transfer of the tax burden from the wealthy to the middle class. According to the Tax Policy Center's score of the Perry tax plan, the tax bill of families with incomes between \$30,000 and 40,000 would go up by about \$450, while that of millionaires would fall by about half a million bucks." [Washington Post, 5/26/15]

Citizens For Tax Justice: Flat Tax Means That The Rich "Will Pay Far, Far Less In Taxes." According to a report from Citizens for Tax Justice: "The first part of that claim is largely true. Since Armey's plan does not tax income from interest, dividends, or capital gains, those taxpayers who live completely off of investment income would be taken off the rolls entirely. The second part of the claim is, by any serious accounting, wrong. Armey's plan has two parts: It replaces the progressive income tax with a flat tax, and it replaces business taxes with a consumption tax. Both elements would dramatically shift the tax burden from the wealthy toward the middle class



and the poor. If not for stunning misrepresentations, this would be obvious to everyone. Our personal income tax now starts with a zero effective rate on lower-income families (families of four currently earning up to about \$23,200 pay no income taxes) rising to a 39.6 percent top marginal rate on the incomes of the richest 1 percent. Replace that with a flat rate of, say, 20 percent and clearly the rich will pay far, far less in taxes. That has to be made up somewhere." [Citizens for Tax Justice, accessed 5/12/16]

EPI: Flat Tax Would Benefit High-Income Earners; "Top 1 Percent Would See An Average Tax Cut Of Over \$200,000." "The flat tax is certainly a good deal for high-income individuals. Although they might not get to deduct mortgage interest payments on their vacation homes, those with high incomes more than make up for it in the lower, 'flatter' rate. For example, under a 20 percent flat tax (similar to the one proposed by Perry), the top 1 percent would see an average tax cut of over \$200,000." [EPI: Cutting Taxes for the Rich Never Ends Well, 11/02/11]

De La Cruz Said She Opposed Outsourcing Jobs While Supporting The GOP Tax Bill That Increased Corporations' Incentive To Move Jobs Overseas

De La Cruz Claimed She Opposed Outsourcing Jobs

De La Cruz Opposed Outsourcing Jobs To China And Wanted To Bring Them Back To The U.S. "What sense does it make to take jobs being outsourced to China and outsource them to Central America? How about this idea....let's take jobs out of China and bring them to the UNITED States of America??" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 5/12/21]

De La Cruz Criticized Rep. Vicente Gonzalez For Proposing Incentives To American Companies To Move Their Operations From China To Central America. "What sense does it make to take jobs being outsourced to China and outsource them to Central America? How about this idea....let's take jobs out of China and bring them to the UNITED States of America??" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 5/12/21]

• Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Said American Businesses Should Move Their Operations From China To Central America Following Supply Chain Issues During The Pandemic. "I think we learned a lot during covid we saw all these supply chains break down with China. I think we should use that as an opportunity to invite American businesses that are manufacturing in China to go down to these Northern Triangle countries and have these operations there and incentivize them to create jobs closer to home that have impacts on our southern border." [Fox Business, 3/31/21] (Video)

De La Cruz Wanted To Make The Tax Cut And Jobs Act Permanent, Which Would Make It More Attractive For Companies To Move Jobs Overseas

De La Cruz Wanted To Make The Tax Cut And Jobs Act Permanent. "Make the American Tax Cuts and Jobs Act permanent." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/9/21]

New York Times: Tax Bill "Could Actually Make It Attractive For Companies To Put More Assembly Lines On Foreign Soil." "The bill that Mr. Trump signed, however, could actually make it attractive for companies to put more assembly lines on foreign soil. Under the new law, income made by American companies' overseas subsidiaries will face United States taxes that are half the rate applied to their domestic income, 10.5 percent compared with the new top corporate rate of 21 percent. 'It's sort of an America-last tax policy,' said Kimberly Clausing, an economist at Reed College in Portland, Ore., who studies tax policy. 'We are basically saying that if you earn in the U.S., you pay X, and if you earn abroad, you pay X divided by two." [New York Times, 1/8/18]

• Economists Found "The Bill Ends Up Creating A Tax Break For Manufacturers With Foreign Operations." "What could be more dangerous for American workers, economists said, is that the bill ends up creating a tax break for manufacturers with foreign operations. Under the new rules, beyond the lower



rate, companies will not have to pay United States taxes on the money they earn from plants or equipment located abroad, if those earnings amount to 10 percent or less of the total investment." [New York Times, 1/8/18]

• HEADLINE: Tax Law May Send Factories and Jobs Abroad, Critics Say. [New York Times, 1/8/18]

Tax Experts Said The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act Increased Incentives For Companies To Move Jobs Overseas. "What happened to the workers in Clinton, tax experts say, will probably happen to more Americans if the Republican tax overhaul becomes law. The legislation fails to eliminate long-standing incentives for companies to move overseas and, in some cases, may even increase them, they say. 'This bill is potentially more dangerous than our current system,' said Stephen Shay, a senior lecturer at Harvard Law School and former Treasury Department international tax expert in the Obama administration. 'It creates a real incentive to shift real activity offshore." [Washington Post, 12/15/17]

- HEADLINE: Trump promised 'America First' would keep jobs here. But the tax plan might push them overseas. [Washington Post, 12/15/17]
- Because Of The Way The Tax Bill Taxed Foreign Income, Corporations Would Increase Tax Free Income The More Equipment It Had Abroad. "In the future, corporations would be required to pay about a 10 percent minimum tax on overseas income above a certain level. The provision is billed as a way to discourage the movement of jobs and profit overseas. But the fine print of the new global minimum tax would make the problem worse, several tax specialists said. [...] First, a corporation would pay that global minimum tax only on profit above a 'routine' rate of return on the tangible assets such as factories it has overseas. So the more equipment a corporation has in other countries, the more tax-free income it can earn. The legislation thus offers corporations 'a perverse incentive' to shift assembly lines abroad, said Steve Rosenthal of the Tax Policy Center." [Washington Post, 12/15/17]
- Under Tax Bill, A Corporation That Built A Plant In A Foreign Country Would Pay Substantially Less In Taxes On Foreign Profit Than Profits Earned In The United States. "Second, the bill sets the 'routine' return at 10 percent far more generous than would typically be the case. Such allowances are normally fixed a couple of percentage points above risk-free Treasury yields, which are currently around 2.4 percent. As a result, a U.S. corporation that builds a \$100 million plant in another country and makes a foreign profit of \$20 million would pay roughly \$1 million in tax versus \$4 million on the same profit if earned in the United States, said Rosenthal, who has been a tax lawyer for 25 years and drafted tax legislation as a staffer for the Joint Committee on Taxation." [Washington Post, 12/15/17]

De La Cruz Opposed The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Which Provided Over \$35 Billion Towards Improving Roads, Bridges, Highways, Broadband, Drainage, And Ports Of Entry In Texas

De La Cruz Opposed The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill And Criticized Republicans Who Voted For The Bill As "Not Truly Fiscally Conservative"

De La Cruz Criticized The 13 Republicans Who Voted For The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill. "I still can't believe 13 Republicans voted for this unfundable bill, \$3 trillion worth of social policy, infrastructure and climate change programs." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/21]

De La Cruz Said Anyone Who Voted For The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Was "Not Truly Fiscally Conservative."



If they voted for the Infrastructure Bill, they're NOT truly fiscally conservative



[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 11/6/21]

De La Cruz Claimed The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Attacked American Workers And Business Owners. "More from the Biden Infrastructure Disaster Bill! What exactly does this have to do with Infrastructure? Why are we attacking American Workers and business owners?" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 10/16/21]

De La Cruz Encouraged People To Call Their Representatives To Oppose The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill. "Pelosi's circus continues to develop in DC as she fails to get the bill passed due to the lack of votes... congress will now vote in 2 weeks!! Let's keep calling our representatives and make sure they know WE THE PEOPLE do not support this bill!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 10/2/21]

Texas Received Over \$35 Billion To Improve Roads, Bridges, Highways, Pipes And Public Transportation

Texas Was Set To Receive More Than \$35 Billion Over Five Years For Roads, Bridges, Pipes, Ports And Broadband From The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill. "The White House estimates that Texas will receive about \$35.44 billion over five years for roads, bridges, pipes, ports, broadband access and other projects after federal lawmakers passed a long-anticipated national infrastructure bill on Friday. The influx of capital is set to advance existing transit plans, pay for much-needed repairs and could lay the groundwork toward increasing transportation options for Texans." [Texas Tribune, 11/9/21]

• Texas Received \$27 Billion For Roads, \$500 Million To Repair Bridges, And \$3 Billion For Public Transportation From The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill. "The bill catalogued more than 2,700 pages of policies. Texas is set to receive at least \$27 billion for roads, more than \$500 million to repair bridges, \$3 billion for public transportation, \$408 million for electric car charging stations and \$100 million for broadband internet, according to a White House fact sheet." [Texas Tribune, 8/10/21]

The Rio Grande Valley Was Expected To Benefit With New Funding For Improving Roads, Highways And Drainage Issues

KRGV: "Infrastructure Bill Expected To Make Positive Impact On The Valley." "On Tuesday, lawmakers reached a bipartisan deal on President Biden's trillion-dollar infrastructure bill after weeks of negotiations and roadblocks. Now, the Rio Grande Valley is expected to benefit from the new infrastructure plan if it's passed. In 2015, a Dallas Reserve study showed at least 500,000 people in Texas live in low-income colonias. Out of six counties with the highest number of colonias, the Valley has Hidalgo, Cameron and Starr. "It's difficult for us to



continue to grow and diversify our economy when we have [a] limited area to develop in," President of the Starr County Industrial Foundation Rose Benavidez said. Benavidez works to add jobs and economic growth to Starr County, a population shy of 65,000. But with just one highway in the Valley, her community members are limited. 'We need to connect FM 755, our north-south corridors into our international ports," Benavidez said. "And have a direct connection to those ports of entry." [KRGV, <u>8/10/21</u>]

Local Leaders Wanted To Allocate Funds From The Infrastructure Bill Towards Improving Roads, Highways And Drainage In The Rio Grande Valley. "President Joe Biden signed a \$1 trillion infrastructure bill on Monday, and Americans could see better highways, roads, and bridges soon. Valley leaders say many possible projects might be kicking up some dust, including the proposal to expand Military Highway so trucks coming in from Reynosa don't have to go through the Pharr International Bridge and cause major traffic headaches. Instead, the trucks would head east to Donna and then eventually connect with Expressway 83. "We need to address infrastructure so we can get people to and from their jobs and homes safely quickly efficiently," RGV Metropolitan Planning Director Andrew Canon said. Some local leaders say the funds should also be allocated to drainage in the Valley, creating better jobs in the long run. Canon said it's unclear where the federal funding will go to in the Valley until the end of next year when the board decides." [KRGV, 11/15/21]

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Provided More Than \$3 Billion Towards Border Patrol Stations And Land Ports Of Entry

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Invested More Than \$3 Billion In Border Patrol Stations And Land Ports Of Entry. In addition, the General Services Administration will receive more than \$3 billion for critical investments in CBP's Border Patrol stations and land ports of entry. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will have a profound impact on DHS' ability to execute its mission. The funds DHS receives will support and advance the incredible work its employees perform to keep the homeland secure. [DHS, 11/15/21]

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Provided Customs And Border Protection \$430 Million For The Construction And Modernization Of Land Ports Of Entry. "The bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, signed into law by President Biden on November 15, 2021, delivers historic investments in the Nation's crumbling infrastructure and, in doing so, creates millions of jobs and provides much-needed relief to disadvantaged communities across the country. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will receive significant funds to advance its work on behalf of the American people. The bipartisan bill delivers almost \$8 billion to DHS, including: \$430 million to Customs and Border Protection (CBP) for the construction and modernization of land ports of entry and equipment and fixtures for operations." [DHS, 11/15/21]

De La Cruz Previously Said Infrastructure Was A Top Priority For Her In Order To Fix Flooding Issues In The Rio Grande Valley

De La Cruz Said Infrastructure Was A Top Priority For Her Following Flood Damage In McAllen, Texas. "The residents of Cornell Avenue invited me to their neighborhood to see the flood damage that took place with this past hurricane. Many have lived in this neighborhood for years and were never flooded until a park was built next door. Since then they have had major flooding and devastation. Telemundo was there to interview residents and myself. Infrastructure in both the South and North parts of the District continue to be a top priority for me. When elected, this will be at the top of the ticket." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/6/20]

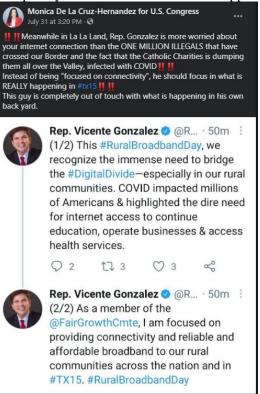
De La Cruz Claimed That If Elected She "Would Get Involved With" Infrastructure To Fix Flooding Issues In Hidalgo County. "Infrastructure has been on my platform from the beginning. You know this district is eight districts far and wide and on the north end we have different infrastructure issues such as the dams in New Braunfels and Seguin all the way to the infrastructure issues that we have in Hidalgo which are the flooding issues. It is important that we get these fixed. When I become your Congresswoman next year that is something I'm going to get involved with and help the community members." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/6/20] (Video)



• The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Would Allocate \$1.2 Billion For Local Projects Including The Raymondville Drain To Deal With Drainage Issues In The Rio Grande Valley. President Joe Biden has signed the one trillion dollar Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act into law as of Nov. 15. According to U.S. Rep. Vicente Gonzalez District 15, once that money is dispersed amongst congressional districts, each one will receive \$1.2 billion for local projects. [...] Gonzalez said drainage in the RGV is also a major issue. 'We have communities in the Delta area, Mercedes, Weslaco, parts of Edinburg that are under water and it's a real shame. This is the United States of America. This should not be happening in any community in the country." Gonzalez's plan is to build retention ponds and fully fund the Raymondville drain. The Raymondville drain alone will cost between \$440 and \$460 million." [Valley Central, 11/17/21]

De La Cruz Attacked Rep. Gonzalez For Working To Improve Rural Broadband Internet Access, Though More Than Half Of TX-15 Residents Lacked High-Speed Internet And More Than 1/4th Did Not Have Any Home Internet Access

De La Cruz Criticized Gonzalez For Working On Rural Broadband, Saying "Rep. Gonzalez Is More Worried About Your Internet Connection Than The One Million Illegals." "Meanwhile in La La Land, Rep. Gonzalez is more worried about your internet connection than the ONE MILLION ILLEGALS that have crossed our Border and the fact that the Catholic Charities is dumping them all over the Valley, infected with COVID!!!! Instead of being 'focused on connectivity', he should focus in what is REALLY happening in #tx15!!!! This guy is completely out of touch with what is happening in his own back yard."



[Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 7/31/21]

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Provided Texas With \$100 Million To Expand Broadband Service. "In addition to the \$100 million provided under the infrastructure bill to expand broadband service, low-income grants will be offered to around 29% of Texans to help them pay for the internet access, the White House said." [Texas Tribune, 11/9/21]

• 53.7% Of Households In Texas 15th Congressional District Were Without Wireline Broadband While 28.7% Had No Home Internet Access Of Any Kind. [NCIA, 4/1/19]



De La Cruz Wanted To Eliminate "Unneeded" Health Care Coverage Mandates That Provided Essential Health Benefits And End The "Government Takeover Of Healthcare"

De La Cruz Said She Wanted To Eliminate Coverage Mandates For Health Care And Claimed She Would "Stop The Continued Government Takeover Of Healthcare"

De La Cruz Wanted To Eliminate "Frivolous" And "Unneeded" Coverage Mandates. "How would you promote healthcare coverage that is adequate, affordable and accessible for all? [ANSWER:] As an insurance agent, each and everyday, I work to find affordable health insurance coverage for my clients. We can mitigate the high cost of health insurance by increasing competition, allowing for the purchase of health insurance across state lines, eliminating frivolous and often times unneeded coverage mandates, and by fighting to reduce the high cost of prescription medication by injecting free market principals into that market place. I would advocate for and support legislation for the creation of tax incentives for those who wish to start their own medical savings accounts." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/15/21]

• The Affordable Care Act's Coverage Mandates Required Essential Health Benefits Be Covered Such As Emergency Services, Hospitalization, Prescription Drugs And Mental Health Services. "The Affordable Care Act requires non-grandfathered health plans in the individual and small group markets to cover essential health benefits (EHB), which include items and services in the following ten benefit categories: (1) ambulatory patient services; (2) emergency services; (3) hospitalization; (4) maternity and newborn care; (5) mental health and substance use disorder services including behavioral health treatment; (6) prescription drugs; (7) rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices; (8) laboratory services; (9) preventive and wellness services and chronic disease management; and (10) pediatric services, including oral and vision care." [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, accessed 1/6/22]

De La Cruz Said She Would "Stop The Continued Government Takeover Of Healthcare." "Stop the continued government takeover of healthcare." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed <u>12/15/21</u>]

De La Cruz Opposed The Government Mandating Businesses To Provide Affordable Health Care. "I believe healthcare should be affordable for business owners to provide, but there should be limits to what the federal government can mandate. When you elect me, I'll fight to make sure that your property rights are in your hands." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 11/19/19]

De La Cruz Strongly Disagreed The Government Was Responsible For Ensuring Everyone Had Health Insurance. "It is the government's responsibility to ensure everyone has health insurance. [ANSWER:] Strongly Disagree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/15/21]

De La Cruz Opposed Eliminating Private Healthcare Insurance. "I support the elimination of private healthcare insurance. [ANSWER:] Strongly Disagree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/15/21]

De La Cruz Opposed "Socialized Medicine" Saying It Is Harmful. "Imagine a shoe store with just one brand of sneakers; now apply that to medical care' This is why I am against #SocializedMedicine. It doesn't benefit us, it harms us. We need more #transparency more #freedom & more control in our #healthcare options." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, <u>8/24/20</u>]

De La Cruz Called For Severely Limiting Legal Immigration, Finishing Construction Of The Border Wall And Restoring Trump Administration Immigration Policies



De La Cruz Wanted To Restrict Legal Immigration To Only People With Highly Technical Skills, Blood Relatives, Or A Spousal Relationship

De La Cruz Said Only People With Highly Technical Skills Or A Blood Or Spousal Relationship With A U.S. Citizen Should Be Allowed To Enter The U.S. "Until Such Time As We Have Adequately Secured Our Borders." "Who should be allowed to immigrate to the U.S. and under what circumstances? [ANSWER:] While the United States is a nation of immigrants, the threat of terrorism and economic harm to the US workers/citizens has forced us to be much more careful in vetting and allowing those who seek temporary or permanent residency in the United States. We should only allow those with certain needed highly technical skill sets or who have a direct blood family connection to or is the legal spouse of a US Citizen to enter our country until such time as we have adequately secured our borders and prevented the influx of those who seek to enter illegally." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/22/21]

De La Cruz Claimed She Supported Legal Immigration And "Fiscally Conservative Immigration Reform"

De La Cruz Said She Supported Legal Immigration. "Legal immigrants are the backbone of America. As the granddaughter of Mexican immigrants, I wholeheartedly support legal immigration, which means following the law, doing things the legal way, and following the proper procedures to emigrate to the United States. We must welcome those who want to come to our country legally to contribute to the melting pot of America." [Monicaforcongress.com, "The Issues," 5/12/21]

De La Cruz Said Immigration Reform Was Needed "To Keep People From Coming In The Wrong Way." "[QUESTION:] Please list below 3 key messages of your campaign. What are the main points you want voters to remember about your goals for your time in office? [ANSWER:] Immigration & U.S. Border Security - We need reform to keep people from coming in the wrong way, and a strong border to protect our American citizens. Listening to the expertise of the Border Patrol is key." [Ballotpedia Candidate Survey, 2020]

De La Cruz Supported "Fiscally Conservative Immigration Reform" To Deal With The Immigration Surge. Was Needed "Border Patrol needs help and support now more than ever! BPA's are the frontline during this immigration surge. We need a better system to vet these people safely and make sure they aren't ill nor have a criminal history and do not put American lives at risk. Over 2,000 people are being detained daily and number is increasing everyday!! We need international support, we need to end open border policies, and we need fiscally conservative immigration reform NOW!!" [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 3/11/21]

De La Cruz Supported Mandating Employers Use E-Verify To Screen Potential Workers

De La Cruz Supported Forcing Employers To Use E-Verify To Confirm Workers Are Eligible For Employment. "Employers should be required to use E-verify to confirm the eligibility of their employees to work in the United States. [ANSWER:] Strongly Agree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/22/21]

De La Cruz Said Her Top Priority Was "Legislation To Finish Building The Border Wall Across The Entire Southern Border"

De La Cruz Said Her Top Priority Was Pushing Legislation To Finish Building The Border Wall "Across The Entire Southern Border." "In priority order, what three areas of legislation do you propose to author or sponsor if elected? [ANSWER:] 1. Legislation to finish building the border wall across the entire southern border and to provide the resources and support to adequately secure our borders 2. Legislation to guarantee our constitutionally mandated 2nd Amendment freedoms with any undue burdens or restrictions. 3. Legislation to prohibit abortion in all cases except to protect the life of the mother." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/22/21]



De La Cruz Wanted Biden To Continue Construction Of The Border Wall. "She told Border Report that she opposes a halt to the border wall construction and border wall land acquisition that has been implemented by the Democratic Biden administration. 'If the border wall is stopped and Biden's policies are put forward, then it gives the impression to people from South America that we have open borders and that they can come through. So with him stopping regulations put in place by the previous administration, it is encouraging people they might have a false hope,' she said." [Border Report, 2/1/21]

De La Cruz: "If The Border Wall Is Stopped [...] Then It Gives The Impression To People From South America That We Have Open Borders." "She told Border Report that she opposes a halt to the border wall construction and border wall land acquisition that has been implemented by the Democratic Biden administration. 'If the border wall is stopped and Biden's policies are put forward, then it gives the impression to people from South America that we have open borders and that they can come through. So with him stopping regulations put in place by the previous administration, it is encouraging people they might have a false hope,' she said." [Border Report, 2/1/21]

De La Cruz Claimed The Border Patrol "Has Already Publicly Stated If You Are Against The Border Wall, You Are Against Border Patrol." "Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez, his 2020 opponent, has already launched another run. She said her last campaign was motivated by a Democratic lurch to the left that was unappealing to the district, and she said local voters liked Trump's rhetoric on immigration. 'Everybody down here on the border knows someone or has family or relatives that are working in Border Patrol,' De La Cruz-Hernandez said. 'Border Patrol has already publicly stated if you are against the border wall, you are against Border Patrol.'" [Politico, 1/24/21]

• Trump's Homeland Security Secretary Chad Wolf: "If You Are Against The Wall, You Are Against The Men And Women Of CBP." "It's time to put politics aside and support our law enforcement and our Border Patrol. The wall system is a fundamental national security asset critical to the efforts of thousands of Border Patrol agents working tirelessly to secure our border. If you are against the wall, you are against the men and women of CBP. It's that simple." [Department of Homeland Security, Acting Secretary Chad Wolf remarks, 10/29/20]

De La Cruz Said Border Wall Construction Created Needed Jobs During The Pandemic. "De La Cruz-Hernandez is an entrepreneur who owns three small businesses with her husband, and she is the granddaughter of a Mexican immigrant. She says the border wall has supplied needed jobs during this COVID-19 pandemic and she scoffed at any concerns by border communities about construction workers coming to the South Texas border bringing the virus from other parts of the country. 'That is misguided information because what is stopping the illegal immigrants who are coming through our border who possibly have COVID or other illnesses?' she said. 'He's putting our Border Patrol agents, Customs and Border Protection officers and American communities at risk.'" [Border Report, 2/1/21]

January 2020: De La Cruz Celebrated A Court Decision That Allowed Trump To Divert Military Funds To Construct The Border Wall. "It is only appropriate to celebrate on Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, yesterday's court ruling in favor of President Trump using military funds to defend our American borders and citizens. I stand with ALL law enforcement and together with Border Patrol celebrate this news. God Bless America!" [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 1/9/20]

• January 2020: An Appeals Court Decision Allowed Trump To Divert \$3.6 Billion In Military Funds To Construct A Wall On The U.S.-Mexico Border. "A federal appeals court has handed the Trump administration a victory by allowing the president to tap military construction funds to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border. A divided 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals issued the decision late Wednesday, reversing a lower court order that stopped Trump from using \$3.6 billion in U.S Defense Department money to construct the long-promised border wall." [NPR, 1/9/20]



De La Cruz Supported Additional Fencing In Targeted Areas And Unmanned Patrols In Remote Border Areas

De La Cruz Supported Increased Border Fencing "Where The Professional Agents Find Most Fitting." "I believe in strong border security. We can and must secure our border with highly trained Border Patrol Agents, fencing where the professional agents find most fitting, and unmanned aerial vehicles in remote areas. As your Congresswoman I will fight hard to ensure that our region gets the federal and state funding we need to have secure borders and secure communities." [Monicaforcongress.com, "The Issues," 5/12/21]

De La Cruz Supported Patrolling The Border With Drones In Remote Areas. "I believe in strong border security. We can and must secure our border with highly trained Border Patrol Agents, fencing where the professional agents find most fitting, and unmanned aerial vehicles in remote areas. As your Congresswoman I will fight hard to ensure that our region gets the federal and state funding we need to have secure borders and secure communities." [Monicaforcongress.com, "The Issues," 5/12/21]

De La Cruz Proposed "Securing Our Borders, Applying Extreme Vetting Processes And Prohibiting Sharia Law" In Order To Fight Terrorism

De La Cruz Said She Wanted To "Secure Our Borders, Apply Extreme Vetting Processes And Prohibit Sharia Law" In Order To Fight Terrorism. "What should the United States do to help eradicate the threat of radical Islamic terrorism? [ANSWER:] 1. Secure our borders 2. Apply extreme vetting processes to those wishing to come to the US from countries with a known history of terrorism 3. Prohibit Sharia Law both at the Federal, State & Local levels 4. Strengthen our support and alliance with the State of Israel 5. Defend our 2nd Amendment Freedoms 6. Eliminate the threat from radical Islamic Terrorists in their countries of origin before it ever reaches the US." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/13/21]

De La Cruz Claimed Biden and Rep. Vicente Gonzalez's "Open-Border Policies" Diminished National Security. "Joe Biden and Vicente Gonzalez's open-border policies are putting our citizens at risk and diminishing our national security." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 3/30/21]

De La Cruz Supported Denying Federal Law Enforcement Funds To Sanctuary Cities And Other Entities "Not In Compliance With Immigration Laws" And Opposed Abolishing ICE

De La Cruz Supported Denying Federal Funds To Sanctuary Cities And Any Entity "Not In Compliance With Immigration Laws." "State and federal funds should be denied to any public or private entity, including but not limited to sanctuary cities, that are not in compliance with immigration laws. [ANSWER:] Strongly Agree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/22/21]

- 2017: The Trump Administration Withheld Federal Law Enforcement Grants From Cities That Did Not Comply With Federal Immigration Laws. "The federal government in July 2017 imposed conditions requiring cities receiving public safety grants to notify federal agents when immigrants in the country illegally are about to be released from police detention." [NBC News, 7/18/18]
- Federal Law Enforcement Grants Provided Around \$250 Million A Year To Fund Investigative Task Forces, Improve 911 Call Systems And Crime Laboratories, And Reduce Gang Violence. "The grant program at issue provides around \$250 million a year to help fund investigative task forces, improve 911 call systems and crime laboratories, and reduce gang violence in prisons. Wednesday's ruling says the law setting up the grant program gives the attorney general authority to set the conditions for qualifying to receive the money." [NBC News, 2/26/20]



De La Cruz Opposed Abolishing Immigrations And Customs Enforcement (ICE). "Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) should be abolished. [ANSWER:] Strongly Disagree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/22/21]

De La Cruz Supported Keeping Trump Immigration Policies In Place After He Left Office

De La Cruz Said She Supported Ending The "Catch And Release System" And Reinstating The Remain In Mexico Policy. "I love this country," De La Cruz-Hernandez said. 'I want to see this country protected and that protection to come through strong borders and law and order. And what President Biden has done is essentially opened our borders down here in South Texas. And so we need to immediately implement the rules and policies of the previous administration, which includes to build the levee wall that the previous administration had, to re-install the Remain in Mexico Policy and to stop the Catch and Release System." [Daily Caller, 5/7/21]

• The Remain In Mexico Policy Was A Trump Administration Policy That Kept Asylum Seekers In Mexico While They Waited For Their Claims To Be Processed In U.S. Courts. "The Migrant Protection Protocol, or MPP, is also called 'Remain in Mexico.' It was first implemented under President Trump, and the idea was to keep asylum seekers at the southern border in Mexico while they wait for their claims to be processed in U.S. courts. President Biden paused this policy after he took office, but after some legal back-and-forth, a U.S. District Court judge in Texas ruled this summer that the White House had ended the Remain in Mexico program improperly." [NPR, 10/22/21]

De La Cruz Said That "We Need To Immediately Implement The Rules And Policies Of The Previous Administration." "I love this country," De La Cruz-Hernandez said. 'I want to see this country protected and that protection to come through strong borders and law and order. And what President Biden has done is essentially opened our borders down here in South Texas. And so we need to immediately implement the rules and policies of the previous administration, which includes to build the levee wall that the previous administration had, to re-install the Remain in Mexico Policy and to stop the Catch and Release System." [Daily Caller, 5/7/21]

De La Cruz Criticized Biden For "Stopping [Immigration] Regulations Put In Place By The Previous Administration." "She told Border Report that she opposes a halt to the border wall construction and border wall land acquisition that has been implemented by the Democratic Biden administration. 'If the border wall is stopped and Biden's policies are put forward, then it gives the impression to people from South America that we have open borders and that they can come through. So with him stopping regulations put in place by the previous administration, it is encouraging people they might have a false hope,' she said." [Border Report, 2/1/21]

De La Cruz Said Voter Suppression Was Not An Issue And Supported Restrictive Voting Legislation Passed By The Texas Legislature

De La Cruz Said Voter Suppression Was Not An Issue In Her Election

October 2020: De La Cruz Said Voter Suppression Was Not An Issue In Her Race Because There Were 32 Early Curbside Vote Locations In The Rio Grande Valley, As Well As An Extra Week of Early Voting. "Voters this year will, however, have an extra week to early vote. That's one reason Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez, who is challenging Gonzalez for his congressional seat, says voter suppression is a non-issue in this election cycle. 'Right here in the Rio Grande Valley we have 32 early voting locations that have curbside voting at each of those locations, that's number one. Number two, we also have an extra week of early voting, so they're able to go out and vote one extra week,' she said." [MyRGV News, 10/21/20]

De La Cruz Testified In Support Of Texas H.B. 6, Which Has Been Criticized As Voter Suppression Bill That Specifically Targeted Minority Communities



De La Cruz Testified In Favor Of Texas H.B. 6 Which Would Increase Penalties For Voter Fraud And Add Protections For Partisan Poll Watchers. "Jonathan White, the chief of the election fraud section in the Texas Attorney General's Special Prosecution Division, testified during a meeting of the Texas House Elections Committee on Thursday that the number of active election fraud cases is 'higher than our historical average by a long shot.' White was offering his perspective as a neutral witness as the committee considered House Bill (HB) 6, legislation by Chairman Briscoe Cain (R-Deer Park) that would strengthen penalties for voter fraud, add protections for poll watchers, and give more priority to election fraud claims in Texas courts [...] Monica De La Cruz Hernandez — who sought to unseat Rep. Vicente Gonzalez (D-TX-15) in 2020 and has announced her candidacy for 2022 — spoke in favor of HB 6 and said she has a 'vested interest' in the 'success and integrity of our elections.'" [The Texan, 4/6/21]

De La Cruz Testified That She Had A "Vested Interest" In The "Success And Integrity Of Our Elections" Because She Was Running For Congress. "Committee chair Rep. Briscoe Cain: You're representing yourself and you are for the bill, is that correct? De La Cruz: Yes that is correct. [...] I was a candidate in the 2020 election and I will be a candidate in the 2022 election so I have a vested interest in the success and integrity of our elections and specifically the mail-in ballots that is happening here. You see I am in the county of Hidalgo and to share with you where Hidalgo is we're in the southernmost tip of the border in McAllen, Texas. Unfortunately ground zero for illegal border immigration. That being said I am obviously Hispanic; my district is 86% Hispanic and Hidalgo County is over 90% Hispanic." [Texas House of Representatives, Committee on Elections, 4/1/21] (Video)

- De La Cruz Claimed In Her Testimony That Hidalgo County Elections Officials Failed To Uphold Current Law By Mailing Unsolicited Mail-In Ballot Applications. "I'm here to testify about our mail-in ballot applications and the importance of protecting and preserving the integrity of our mail-in ballot boxes and punish those who don't uphold the current election. [...] On August 18th Hidalgo County commissioners led by County Judge Richard Cortez discussed and approved the elections department to send out an application for ballot by mail to all people over age 65 registered voters using taxpayer dollars. Now why this should alarm you is because on September 30th the Texas Supreme Court vs Chris Hollins ruled that election code does not authorize an early voting clerk to send an application to vote by mail to a voter who has not requested one and that a clerk doing so results in irreparable injury to the state. Well let me tell you that the Hidalgo County elections administrator Yvonne Ramon failed, failed to uphold the Texas Supreme Court ruling and she mailed out unsolicited mail-in ballot applications to all registered voters over the age of 65. What are the repercussions when we have leaders and city officials in our counties that are not upholding current law and upholding what our Texas Supreme Court rulings are? If we don't have them upholding our current law, what makes us think that our citizens are going to uphold and respect that law." [Texas House of Representatives, Committee on Elections, 4/1/21] (Video)
- De La Cruz Claimed In Her Testimony That It Was An Anomaly That Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Received A Higher Percentage Of Votes Than Biden In Hidalgo County. "That being said in Hidalgo County we had between 2018 and 2020 a 245 percent increase in mail-in ballots; 245 percent?! Some of y'all might be saying that's great more people are voting, well let me tell you some of the anomalies that happened because of this. If you go down the ballot in Hidalgo County the Congressman Vicente Gonzalez had a higher percentage of votes than the Biden – Harris ticket. How does that happen?! You all have been here long enough in enough elections to know that if you go down ballot the votes go down and down and down and down but here this congressman got more votes and higher percentage than the Biden – Harris ticket. What's even more...[Time runs out, committee member Rep. Valoree Swanson asks De La Cruz to finish her story] Thank you, I appreciate that because as we all know, all of y'all have been in an election it goes down ballot the president always gets the highest and it goes down, down, down. When you go down what you see is that the Democrat candidates all had about 13,000 absentee votes when unopposed and they only varied by about 200 votes whether they were opposed or not. So the question is: why is this? How can this anomaly happen? It doesn't make sense. So when we talk about mail-in ballot fraud we really need to do, we really need to look at is the integrity of these mail-in ballots. This a serious subject and when you do a case study in Hidalgo you will see over and over again. I'd be happy to give you information but



I have a feeling your offices will be flooded." [Texas House of Representatives, Committee on Elections, 4/1/21] (Video)

De La Cruz Said It Was An Honor To Testify In Support Of Texas H.B. 6. "It's a beautiful day at our Texas State Capitol It's been an honor meeting patriots from around our great state of Texas who support HB 6!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 4/1/21]

ACLU Of Texas Advocacy Director Sarah Labowitz Called HB6/SB7 "One Of The Worst Anti-Voting Bills In The Country." "The paths of the two major Republican priority measures merged last month when Cain, in a strategic procedural move, added the language of the House bill into that of the Senate bill. Senate Bill 7 had already passed the Senate in early April, while House Bill 6 has lagged [...] Despite the concessions, civil rights groups still criticized the late-night vote as they noted the bill had largely stayed intact. 'Under cover of darkness, the Texas House just passed one of the worst anti-voting bills in the country,' said Sarah Labowitz, policy and advocacy director of the ACLU of Texas. 'Texans deserve better than to wake up and find out that lawmakers jammed through a law that will make participating in our democracy harder and scarier.'" [Houston Chronicle, 5/7/21]

Texas NAACP President Gary Bledsoe: HB 6 Provision Protecting Poll Watchers "Amounts To An Occupation Of Minority Neighborhoods." "Opponents of the bill contended that the new criminal statutes and penalties would deter election volunteers and that the proposal is conducive to racial discrimination. Gary Bledsoe, the president of the Texas NAACP, contended that HB 6 is among proposals that have 'the makings for the creation of an apartheid state.' 'No fair administration declaration can change the fact that the substance of the law, when executed, will have a hugely negative impact on minority voters and minority election officials,' Bledsoe said. He went on to say the bill 'amounts to an occupation of minority neighborhoods' due to its increased protections for poll watchers. Supporters of poll watchers believe they are necessary for transparency." [The Texan, 4/6/21]

De La Cruz Attacked Texas Democratic Legislators Who Broke Quorum In Protest Of Voting Restriction Legislation

De La Cruz Condemned Texas Democratic Legislators Who Left The State In Protest Of Voting Restrictions Legislation As A "Disgrace." "As you are working today, remember that our DEMOCRAT Texas legislators are riding away from the job you elected them for, drinking beer and all on our hard earned tax dollar!!. This lack of respect to our democracy, legislative rules and State of Texas is a DISGRACE!! Our current Congressman's applause of this gross behavior shows how out of touch he is with his constituents and how they feel about their legislators leaving their jobs." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 7/14/21]

De La Cruz Posted A Photoshopped Image Of Texas Democratic Legislators Behind Bars.







Texas House of Representatives vote 76-4 to arrest Democrat representatives

wsj.com/articles/texas...



3:08 PM - Jul 13, 2021 - Twitter for Android

[Monice For Congress, Twitter, 7/13/21]

• July 2021: The Texas House Voted To Arrest Democratic Legislators Who Broke Quorum In Protest Of Restrictive Voting Legislation. "The Texas Senate advanced a bill imposing stricter voting rules Tuesday, a day after their Democratic counterparts in the state House fled the state to prevent the bill's final passage. Dozens of House Democrats have vowed to stay in Washington, D.C. until the special legislative session ends Aug. 7 in order to kill the bill, which must pass both chambers. The House cannot approve legislation without a two-thirds quorum of its 150 members. The remaining House members voted 76-4 Tuesday morning to send law enforcement to find absent Democrats and return them "under warrant of arrest, if necessary." [Wall Street Journal, 7/13/21]

Civil Rights Advocates Said Texas GOP Voting Restriction Bills Would Limit Voting Access And Suppress Marginalized Voters, Including People Of Color And People With Disabilities

Texas GOP Voting Restrictions Legislation Prohibited Local Election Officials From Sending Unsolicited Mail-In Ballot Applications. "SB 1 and HB 3 prohibit local election officials from sending unsolicited applications to request a mail-in ballot, with the House version making it a state jail felony. Both bills also prohibit the use of public funds "to facilitate" the unsolicited distribution of applications by third-parties, which would keep



counties from also providing applications to local groups helping to get out the vote. Political parties would still be able to send out unsolicited applications on their own dime." [Texas Tribune, 7/8/21]

Texas GOP Voting Restrictions Bill Set New Voter ID Requirements In Order To Vote By Mail. "Both the House and Senate are proposing to alter the rules used to verify applications to vote-by-mail and returned ballots. The bills would set new ID requirements so voters must provide their driver's license number, or if they don't have one, the last four digits of their Social Security number on applications for those ballots. For their votes to be counted, voters will be required to include matching information on the envelopes used to return their ballots." [Texas Tribune, 7/8/21]

Civil Rights Advocates Said Texas GOP Voting Restrictions Bill Would Limit Voting Access And Suppress Marginalized Voters. "SB 1 is the Senate's revived effort to restrict voting by forbidding local officials from taking various steps to make voting more accessible and further tightening the vote-by-mail process. The bill is nearly identical to legislation the Senate approved in the first special session and is opposed by Democratic lawmakers, civil rights groups and advocates for people with disabilities who have raised concerns the bill would limit access and suppress marginalized voters." [Texas Tribune, 8/11/21]

Texas GOP Voting Restrictions Bill Would Set New Rules, Including Criminal Penalties, That Make It Harder To Assist Voters With Disabilities. "Pushed under Texas Republicans' mantle of 'election integrity,' SB 1 enhances partisan poll watchers' freedoms inside polling locations and sets new rules — and possible criminal penalties — for those who assist voters, including those with disabilities, in casting their ballots." [Texas Tribune, 8/11/21]

Disability Rights Advocates Warned The Bill Would Disenfranchise Disabled Voters. "Republicans have pressed forward with those changes even as advocates for people with disabilities have continued to warn that the wording of SB 1 risks disenfranchising the voters who lawmakers claim they want to protect by limiting the assistance voters with disabilities could receive and potentially subjecting those helping them to increased penalties for mistakes." [Texas Tribune, 8/11/21]

Texas GOP Voting Restrictions Bill Would Outlaw Expanded Voting Initiatives 24-Hour Voting And Drive-Thru Voting That Expanded Ballot Access For Voters Of Color In 2020. "But the bill would also outlaw local voting options like the 24-hour voting and drive-thru voting efforts championed in Alvarado's home county, Harris County, even though the top elections official for the Texas secretary of state has told lawmakers he is not aware of evidence of fraud tied to those initiatives. Those prohibitions have piqued particular outrage by Democrats and voting rights advocates because Harris County has indicated the initiatives were particularly successful in reaching voters of color." [Texas Tribune, 8/11/21]

De La Cruz Criticized HR 1 As An Attempt By Democrats To Rig Elections

De La Cruz Claimed Democrats Were Pushing HR 1 To Rig Elections In Their Favor. "HR1 is a blatant attempt by the Dems to rig our elections in their favor. It would nationalize ballot harvesting, mandate mail-in ballots, establish gov funding of campaigns, weaken voter ID protections, force states to use ballot drop boxes for absentee and early voting, & more." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 3/4/21]

De La Cruz Was Staunchly Anti-Choice, And Wanted To Outlaw Abortions In All Cases Except "To Protect The Life Of The Mother"

De La Cruz Wanted To Outlaw Abortions In All Cases Except "To Protect The Life Of The Mother"



De La Cruz Said Abortions Should Only Be Allowed If Needed To Save The Life Of The Mother. "Under what circumstances should abortion be allowed? [ANSWER:] Only to save the life of the mother." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 5/6/21]

De La Cruz Said One Of Her Top Three Priorities Was Pushing Legislation "To Prohibit Abortion In All Cases Except To Protect The Life Of The Mother." "In priority order, what three areas of legislation do you propose to author or sponsor if elected? [ANSWER:] 1. Legislation to finish building the border wall across the entire southern border and to provide the resources and suppot [sic] to adequately secure our borders 2. Legislation to guarantee our constitutionally mandated 2nd Amendment freedoms with any undue burdens or restrictions. 3. Legislation to prohibit abortion in all cases except to protect the life of the mother." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 5/6/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Anti-Choice Groups, And Frequently Used Extreme Anti-Choice Rhetoric

De La Cruz: "As A Christian, As A Mother, And As A Woman, I Believe Life Begins At Conception." "As a christian, as a mother, and as a woman, I believe life begins at conception and we must do everything we can to protect our innocent babies. Human life is a precious gift and we must honor it. As your Congresswoman I promise to fight for each and every soul and to always support the sanctity of life." [Monicaforcongress.com, "The Issues," 5/12/21]

• De La Cruz Strongly Agreed That Human Life Begins At Conception. "Human life begins at conception and deserves legal protection at every stage until natural death. [ANSWER:] Strongly Agree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 5/6/21]

De La Cruz Said The Unborn Were "The Weakest Members Of Our Nation" And Needed Protection. "I believe in protecting the weakest members of our nation - the unborn. Standing for life is not the norm in today's society, but it's the RIGHT thing to do. As polls begin opening this month, remember I am YOUR prolife candidate for CD15." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 10/6/20]

- De La Cruz Said She Was Pro-Life Because "Every Child Deserves A Chance." "I believe every soul was put in this world for a reason. We know He never makes mistakes, and every child deserves a chance. This is why I am pro-life, and proud of it." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 7/19/20]
- De La Cruz Claimed She Would Be "A Voice For The Unborn" In Congress. "We need a voice for the unborn, our precious little gifts of life who don't have a fighting chance on their own. Human life begins at conception, and I will fight for these valuable children while in Congress." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/19/19]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By The Texas Right To Life PAC For Being "Staunchly Pro-Life." "Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez is a staunchly Pro-Life, strong Latina woman running against a Democrat incumbent who does not represent the values of Texas border residents, said Luke Bowen, Texas Right to Life Political Director. "The 2022 election cycle starts now." [Monica For Congress, 5/19/21]

De La Cruz Promoted Adoption As An Alternative Option To Abortion.



It's a woman's right to choose...

Adoption <u>is</u> an Option.



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 9/10/21]

De La Cruz Commended The Edinburg City Council For Declaring The City As A Sanctuary City For The Unborn. "I commend the Edinburg City Council for declaring June 27 Pro-Apostolate Day, and I fully support the city's intention to make Edinburg a Sanctuary City for the unborn. We are a conservative Pro-Life community, and I hope Vicente Gonzalez joins our leaders taking a stand to protect innocent babies. Every single life is precious and I hope the City Council moves quickly on this important measure." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/27/21]

- June 2021: The Edinburg City Council Proclaimed Edinburg A Sanctuary City For The Unborn. "In a city council meeting last week, Edinburg Mayor Richard Molina read a proclamation from the Holy Family Pro-Life Apostolate asking to make Edinburg a sanctuary city for the unborn. Molina also agreed with the pro life group's desire to ban abortion in the city. 'I want you to know that as the Mayor and I'm only one vote, we vote as a team you do have my commitment that you will get this done,' said Molina. All three members of Edinburg City Council agreed with Mayor Molina's desire to make Edinburg the first sanctuary city for the unborn in the Rio Grande Valley." [Valley Central, 6/23/21]
- July 2021: A Proposed Ordinance Banning Abortion In City Limits And Declaring Edinburg A "Sanctuary For The Unborn" Was Not Advanced By The Edinburg City Council. "The ordinance for Edinburg City Council to outlaw abortion, and declare the city a Sanctuary for the Unborn, 'died' after no seconds were made to make a motion on the agenda item. Following around three hours of public comments regarding the ordinance, Mayor Richard Molina entertained a motion on the item, however no council member second the motion. Councilmember David White said, 'If you are waiting on me I won't vote to motion until I can hear from legal counsel.' Molina entertained a motion a total of three times, which was followed by silence. City Attorney Omar Ochoa clarified: 'If there is no motion then the city council cant take action, then the item is essentially denied, it dies for lack of a motion." [Valley Central, 7/20/21]
- The Proposed Ordinance Would Have Banned Abortion Within The City Limits, Pending Action By SCOTUS To "Reverse Caselaw." If the Council approves the item, it will be unlawful to do the following within city limits: Any person to perform an abortion. To help or encourage someone to have an abortion (



this includes transportation, direction, and emotional support). Any person to possess or distribute abortion-inducing drugs. The penalty for the violations would be "the maximum penalty permitted under Texas law for the violation of a municipal ordinance governing public health," according to the agenda item. The ordinance would go into effect when passed, however, city enforcement would be restricted and waiting for the United States Supreme Court to reverse caselaw." [Valley Central, 7/20/21]

De La Cruz Promoted Crisis Pregnancy Centers That Were Exempt From Regulatory, License, And Credentialing Oversight That Applied To Health Care Facilities

De La Cruz Promoted A Pregnancy Center In McAllen, Texas. "This past weekend there was a disturbing article in the Monitor about a local bake sale supporting abortions. I want to share information for an alternative to an abortion that may be helpful to you or someone you know. Learn more about options other than abortion at the McAllen Pregnancy Center." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 4/26/21]

• Crisis Pregnancy Centers Are Organizations Aimed At Preventing Abortions That Are Exempt From Regulatory, Licensure, And Credentialing Oversight That Apply To Health Care Facilities. "Crisis pregnancy centers are organizations that seek to intercept women with unintended pregnancies who might be considering abortion. Their mission is to prevent abortions by persuading women that adoption or parenting is a better option. They strive to give the impression that they are clinical centers, offering legitimate medical services and advice, yet they are exempt from regulatory, licensure, and credentialing oversight that apply to health care facilities." [American Medical Association Journal of Ethics, 3/1/18]

As A 2020 Congressional Candidate, De La Cruz Hosted A Prayer Service For Unborn Babies And Pregnant Mothers While Promoting A Pregnancy Center. "Join me on Saturday June 6 at 10:30 am as we gather to pray for the unborn babies and their mothers. I am passionate about defending the unborn and would also like to help the McAllen Pregnancy Center in their efforts in assisting women with their options." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/3/20]

De La Cruz Attended Multiple Anti-Choice Events

As A 2020 Congressional Candidate, De La Cruz Attended A Rally Outside An Abortion Clinic. "I am so impressed by our @hidalgoteenrepublicans and youth! This weekend they rallied in front of the abortion clinic and prayed for the young ladies and their unborn babies. Our future taking the lead on this is beautiful! They are our future!! #prolife" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/30/20]

De La Cruz Praised Pro-Life Groups For Offering Assistance To Pregnant Women. "Pro-life groups here in Texas are doubling down, and helping pregnant women in need during this time of economic uncertainty. Thank you for protecting the unborn here in Texas." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 4/23/20]

As A 2020 Congressional Candidate, De La Cruz Attended A March For Life Rally In Austin, Texas. "What an amazing experience to march on our GREAT State of Texas Capital steps in support of the March for Life Rally. It is beautiful to see the thousands of women, men and children who are fighting to protect the unborn. Thank you Mr. President for boldly standing up for this cause." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 1/27/20]

• De La Cruz Thanked Trump For Attending The March For Life In Washington. "Thank you Mr President for continuing to do the right thing for the American people, protecting the unborn and being the FIRST President to stand up boldly to attend this important march. The American people stand with you!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 1/25/20]



De La Cruz Praised The Passage Of The S.B. 8 "Heartbeat Bill" Which Banned Abortions After 6 Weeks In Texas

September 2021: De La Cruz Celebrated The Passage of The Texas "Heartbeat Bill." "The heartbeat bill has officially gone into effect; September 1, 2021. God bless Texas!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 9/2/21]

De La Cruz Claimed The Bill Would Protect Unborn Children From The "Ravages Of Abortion."



Tevas Senate Rill & Ranned Abortions As Farly As Siv Weeks With

Texas Senate Bill 8 Banned Abortions As Early As Six Weeks With No Exceptions For Cases Of Rape Or Incest And Allowed Private Citizens To Sue Abortion Providers Or Anyone Who Aided An Abortion

Senate Bill 8 Banned Abortion As Early As Six Weeks, Making It The Most Restrictive Abortion Law In Texas Since Roe V. Wade. "Gov. Greg Abbott signs into law one of nation's strictest abortion measures, banning procedure as early as six weeks into a pregnancy. [...] Abortion rights advocates have promised to challenge the new law, which they consider one of the most extreme nationwide and the strictest in Texas since the landmark Roe v. Wade decision. It would amount to an outright ban on abortions, as the six-week cutoff is two weeks after a missed menstrual cycle, opponents say. The law takes effect in September." [Texas Tribune, 5/19/21]

SB 8 Provided No Exceptions For Pregnancies That Resulted From Cases of Rape Or Incest. "The bill bans abortions after whenever an ultrasound can detect what lawmakers defined as a fetal 'heartbeat,' which can be as early as six weeks into pregnancy. Medical and legal experts say the term is misleading because embryos don't possess a heart at that developmental stage. It includes cases where the woman was impregnated as a result of rape or incest. There is an exception for medical emergencies." [Texas Tribune, 5/19/21]

SB 8 Permitted Private Citizens To Sue Abortion Providers And Anyone Who Aided Or Abetted An Abortion. "But the state wouldn't enforce the law. SB 8 instead provides enforcement only by private citizens who would sue abortion providers and anyone involved in aiding or abetting an abortion after a 'heartbeat' is detected. This mechanism could allow SB 8 to skirt Roe v. Wade, the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion, within some limits." [Texas Tribune, 8/31/21]



• SB 8 Radically Expanded Legal Standing To Allow Private Citizens With No Relationship To The Case To Sue Family Members And Drivers Who Help Abortion Patients. "Legal experts have said the law is a 'radical expansion' of standing, which is the legal concept that determines whether one person may sue another, usually in order to get compensation for some sort of injury or harm. The new abortion law requires no such relationship to the case in order to have standing. [...] The patient receiving such an abortion cannot be sued under the law, but everyone who helps that patient can be, including, for example, their doctor, driver or family member who helps pay for the procedure." [Texas Tribune, 9/10/21]

De La Cruz Wanted To Defund Planned Parenthood And Other Abortion Providers, And Supported The Hyde Amendment

De La Cruz Strongly Agreed That Abortion Providers And Planned Parenthood Should Not Receive Government Funding. "Abortion providers, including Planned Parenthood, should not receive taxpayer funds or grants from federal, state, or local governments. [ANSWER:] Strongly Agree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/7/21]

De La Cruz Opposed Tax Payer Dollars Funding Abortions. "Thankfully we have heard on the national stage once again the ugly reality of abortion. The hard truth must be heard. Words that have stood out to me is, 'did you know abortion had a smell?....' Let that sink in. NO TAX PAYER funded abortion!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>8/27/20</u>]

De La Cruz Embraced Calls To Defund Planned Parenthood At A March For Life Rally.



[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 1/27/20]

De La Cruz Opposed Anti-Discrimination Protections On The Basis Of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Or Gender Expression And Opposed "Laws Against Racism"



De La Cruz Opposed Anti-Discrimination Protections On The Basis Of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Or Gender Expression

De La Cruz Did Not Believe That Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Or Gender Expression Should Be Protected Classes. "I support adding sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression as protected classes in non-discrimination laws. [ANSWER:] Strongly Disagree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/8/21]

De La Cruz Opposed The Equality Act Saying It Promoted "Radical Gender Ideology At The Expense Of Biological Women." "Gonzalez's vote FOR the 'Equality Act' HR5 is a betrayal of SoTX values. Far from promoting equality, itthreatens freedom of speech, religion, forces medical prof to perform abortions against their conscience, & promotes radical gender idealogy at the expense of biological women" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 2/25/21]

• The Equality Act Would Extend Anti-Discrimination Protections To People On The Basis Of LGBTQ+ Status In Federally Funded Programs And Public Accommodations. "The Equality Act would amend the 1964 Civil Rights Act to explicitly prevent discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity [...] the Supreme Court ruled in June of last year, in Bostock v. Clayton County, that the protections guaranteed by the 1964 Civil Rights Act on the basis of sex also extend to discrimination against lesbian, gay, and transgender Americans [...] This act would explicitly enshrine those nondiscrimination protections into law for sexual orientation and gender identity, rather than those protections being looped in under the umbrella of 'sex.' However, the Equality Act would also substantially expand those protections. The Civil Rights Act covered discrimination in certain areas, like employment and housing. The Equality Act would expand that to cover federally funded programs, as well as 'public accommodations' — a broad category including retail stores and stadiums, for example." [NPR, 2/24/21]

De La Cruz Opposed Governments Discriminating "Against Individuals, Organizations Or Small Businesses Because Of Their Belief That Marriage Is Only A Union Of One Man And One Woman." "Governments should not discriminate against individuals, organizations or small businesses because of their belief that marriage is only a union of one man and one woman. [ANSWER:] Strongly Agree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/8/21]

De La Cruz Did Not Believe Same-Sex Couples Were Considered "A Family Unit"

De La Cruz Believed That "A Family Unit Consists Of A Married Man And Women[sic] And Their Natural Or Adopted Children." "I believe that Jesus Christ is my personal Lord & Savior. That He died for the forgiveness of sin and was resurrected. He now sits at the right hand of God the Father to judge both the living and dead. I believe in baptism, the forgiveness of sin, and in everlasting life with God, the Father. I believe in the strength of families and that a family unit consists of a married man and women and their natural or adopted children." [ivoterguide, accessed 12/1/21]

De La Cruz Agreed "Governments Should Not Discriminate" Against Individuals Or Businesses Who Opposed Marriage Equality

De La Cruz Opposed Governments Discriminating "Against Individuals, Organizations Or Small Businesses Because Of Their Belief That Marriage Is Only A Union Of One Man And One Woman." "Governments should not discriminate against individuals, organizations or small businesses because of their belief that marriage is only a union of one man and one woman. [ANSWER:] Strongly Agree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/8/21]



De La Cruz Opposed The Government Implementing Laws Against Racism And Said Racism Was Not A Threat Unless It Was "Carried Out Through The Threat Of Fear Or Violence"

De La Cruz Opposed The Government Putting In Place "Laws Against Racism." "Racism is a moral deficiency which should be dealt with in the private sector and by church leaders, parents, family members, employers, work colleagues, and friends. I do not believe that we can mandate or put in place laws against racism. Doing so would be untenable, unenforceable and costly. The best way to prevent racism is by removing threats and obstacles to our religious freedoms and institutions which are much better equiped to deal with this sin than is the US Government." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/10/21]

De La Cruz Claimed Laws Against Racism Would Be "Untenable, Unenforceable and Costly." "Racism is a moral deficiency which should be dealt with in the private sector and by church leaders, parents, family members, employers, work colleagues, and friends. I do not believe that we can mandate or put in place laws against racism. Doing so would be untenable, unenforceable and costly." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/10/21]

De La Cruz Said "Racism Is A Moral Deficiency Which Should Be Dealt With In The Private Sector And By Church Leaders," Not The Government. "Racism is a moral deficiency which should be dealt with in the private sector and by church leaders, parents, family members, employers, work colleagues, and friends. I do not believe that we can mandate or put in place laws against racism. Doing so would be untenable, unenforceable and costly. The best way to prevent racism is by removing threats and obstacles to our religious freedoms and institutions which are much better equiped to deal with this sin than is the US Government." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/10/21]

De La Cruz: "I Do Not Believe That [Racism] Specifically Constitutes A Threat To The Security Of Our Country Unless It Is Carried Out Through The Threat Of Fear Or Violence." "Is racism a threat to domestic security in the United States? Why or why not? [ANSWER:] While any type of racism is abhorrent, I do not believe that it specifically constitutes a threat to the security of our country unless it is carried out through the threat of fear or violence. [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/10/21]

De La Cruz Did Not Believe The Government Could Put In Place Laws Against Racism

De La Cruz: "I Do Not Believe That We Can Mandate Or Put In Place Laws Against Racism." "Is racism a threat to domestic security in the United States? Why or why not? [ANSWER:] While any type of racism is abhorrent, I do not believe that it specifically constitutes a threat to the security of our country unless it is carried out through the threat of fear or violence. Racism is a moral deficiency which should be dealt with in the private sector and by church leaders, parents, family members, employers, work colleagues, and friends. I do not believe that we can mandate or put in place laws against racism. Doing so would be untenable, unenforceable and costly. The best way to prevent racism is by removing threats and obstacles to our religious freedoms and institutions which are much better equiped to deal with this sin than is the US Government." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/10/21]

De La Cruz Opposed The 2021 George Floyd Justice In Policing Act While Previously Claiming To Support Police Reform Efforts, Including Several Provisions Of The Bill

De La Cruz Opposed The 2021 George Floyd Justice In Policing Act But Previously Claimed To Support Police Reform Efforts, Including Several Planks Of The Bill

De La Cruz Criticized Rep. Vicente Gonzalez For Voting For The 2021 George Floyd Justice In Policing Act. "Vicente Gonzalez is trying desperately to trick our district. He says what the people want to hear when he's in



Texas, but in DC he votes with Nancy Pelosi 97% of the time. With the current state our district is in, it makes ZERO sense to not support our law enforcement officers."



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 4/30/21]

- The George Floyd Justice In Policing Act Of 2021 Established Improved Training Requirements For Police Officers. "This bill addresses a wide range of policies and issues regarding policing practices and law enforcement accountability. It increases accountability for law enforcement misconduct, restricts the use of certain policing practices, enhances transparency and data collection, and establishes best practices and training requirements." [Congress.gov, H.R. 1280 George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021, accessed 12/15/21]
- The George Floyd Justice In Policing Act Of 2021 Limited Qualified Immunity And Lowered The Criminal Intent Standard To Convict A Police Officer Of Misconduct. "The bill enhances existing enforcement mechanisms to remedy violations by law enforcement. Among other things, it does the following: lowers the criminal intent standard—from willful to knowing or reckless—to convict a law enforcement officer for misconduct in a federal prosecution, limits qualified immunity as a defense to liability in a private civil action against a law enforcement officer, and grants administrative subpoena power to the Department of Justice (DOJ) in pattern-or-practice investigations. It establishes a framework to prevent and remedy racial profiling by law enforcement at the federal, state, and local levels." [Congress.gov, H.R. 1280 George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021, accessed 12/15/21]
- The George Floyd Justice In Policing Act Of 2021 Limited The Unnecessary Use Of Force And Restricted No-Knock Warrants And Chokeholds. "This bill addresses a wide range of policies and issues regarding policing practices and law enforcement accountability [...] It also limits the unnecessary use of force and restricts the use of no-knock warrants, chokeholds, and carotid holds." [Congress.gov, H.R. 1280 George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021, accessed 12/15/21]

The George Floyd Justice In Policing Act Of 2021 Created A National Police Misconduct Registry. "The bill creates a national registry—the National Police Misconduct Registry—to compile data on complaints and records of police misconduct. It also establishes new reporting requirements, including on the use of force, officer misconduct, and routine policing practices (e.g., stops and searches). Finally, it directs DOJ to create uniform accreditation standards for law enforcement agencies and requires law enforcement officers to complete training on racial profiling, implicit bias, and the duty to intervene when another officer uses excessive force." [Congress.gov, H.R. 1280 - George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021, accessed 12/15/21]

De La Cruz Previously Said She Supported A National Database Of Police Misconduct, Improved Police Training, And New Use Of Force Guidelines. "It is a good idea to create a national database of police misconduct, to improve police training, and to have new guidelines for use of force and de-escalation. These



common-sense reforms will contribute toward better, more just policing. I applaud the president's leadership on this important issue." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/18/20]

De La Cruz Said "Police Brutality Has No Place In America" And Praised A Trump Executive Order On Policing Reforms

De La Cruz Praised Trump For Signing An Executive Order On Policing Reforms. "I think the president's executive order on policing is a good step toward addressing some of the problems our country is facing. It is a good idea to create a national database of police misconduct, to improve police training, and to have new guidelines for use of force and de-escalation. These common-sense reforms will contribute toward better, more just policing. I applaud the president's leadership on this important issue." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/18/20]

• June 2020: Trump Signed An Executive Order On Law Enforcement Reform. "President Trump on Tuesday signed an executive order on law enforcement reform and said "chokeholds will be banned except if an officer's life is at risk" as the nation reels from the death of George Floyd in the custody of the Minneapolis Police Department and the ensuing unrest -- which has sparked calls for changes in policing nationwide as drastic as dismantling entire departments." [Fox News, 6/16/20]

De La Cruz Said "Police Brutality Has No Place In America" And Should Always Be Condemned. "Everyone in America should stand for justice, equal rights, and civil liberties. Police brutality has no place in America, and we should always condemn it. As we strive to find ways to improve policing and ensure justice for all, we should not pursue dangerous policies like defunding the police, or allow anarchy and chaos to reign in our streets." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/18/20]

Following The Death Of George Floyd, De La Cruz Said Bad Police Officers Diminish The Work Of Good Police Officers. "We can all agree that the death of George Floyd was horribly wrong. Sadly there are bad police officers that diminish the good work and sacrifice of the good officers. This particular bad officer abused his power. I believe the entire nation stands with the Floyd family." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 5/30/20]



Key Visuals

Video

De La Cruz And Her Husband Said They Were "Hoping" And "Extremely Excited" To "Turn This Election Around For The President" Following The 2020 Election. "I have a lot of patriots here who are concerned about this election not only on a national level with President Trump but also on a local level. Some big, big things have happened over the last couple of days. First of all the state of Texas, our attorney general has filed a lawsuit against some of the states and their elections process. I've got here behind me my husband who is with us about stopping the steal and babe why don't you talk a little bit about what happened yesterday here in Texas and why this is so significant for us. [Juan Hernandez:] 'So the state of Texas is suing the other four states which is fantastic. What the significance of that is its going to go straight to the supreme court, it has no option other than to look into it now and so we're confident that that's going to help take this process to the next level and we're hoping that with this they will have to go to the 12th Amendment and turn this election around for the president so extremely excited about that." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/9/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Said She Was "Working Behind The Scenes On The Data Numbers" On Election Results In Hidalgo County, Because "The Numbers Do Not Make Sense And This Election Has Been Stolen." "Not only that but what we are asking people to do and you can see here lots of patriots and they've got their flags out, their stop the steal signs out as well because here's the thing is in Hidalgo County the county commissioners voted to send all of the people who were 65 and over a mail-in ballot application. That is illegal, that it is unethical and it is the wrong thing to do it jeopardizes our election integrity. For those of you watching here if you live in any county where the elections department sent you an unsolicited mail-in ballot for this election or sent you a ballot through the mail please come by office tomorrow 1317 West Frontage Road in Alamo. I need a signed affidavit from you letting us know that you received an unsolicited mail-in ballot application. It is critical to our case and yes we are working behind the scenes on the data numbers because I see your messages and I agree with you all the numbers do not make sense and this election has been stolen from the good people, the hardworking American people who want their vote to be counted and want an election that has integrity." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/9/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Said She Was "Standing For Stopping The Steal" At A Rally. "We are standing for stopping the steal. Stop stealing this election. We want an election process that is fair." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/9/20] (Video)

Nov. 8: De La Cruz Said Her Opponent, Rep. Vicente Gonzalez, "Stole The Election" That She "Won Fair And Square." DE LA CRUZ: "The numbers don't lie people you all will be disgusted at the blatant disrespect of our democracy, the blatant disrespect of the voters of CD15 and how my opponent stole the election! And I will stand up and I will fight back because that's who I am, chiquita pero picosa! You haven't seen the last of me. We have investigated the numbers the last week. We now have people on a state level and on a national level investigating these numbers and we will expose the truth. We will expose the corruption in these Democrat counties including Hidalgo. [...] This was our election we won fair and square without the politiqueras, without paying underhand money, without stealing and you know what God sees all. And with God I fear no one, I fear nothing." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Said "We Were Robbed In This Election" Because Of "Massive Voter Fraud And Ballot Harvesting." "Today we say no more. Today we say we will no longer put up with this. We will no longer be taken advantage of and our democracy is at stake here. Make no mistake my friends that we were robbed in this election and that there was massive voter fraud, massive ballot harvesting and we will put a stop to it." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Said She Would Not Concede The Race To "Cheaters" and "Corruption." "We're going to be exposing this, we are not going to stand for this. Please keep with our page. This is why I have not conceded the



race because I'm not going to concede to cheaters. I'm not going to concede to corruption. I will not give in to the death of our democracy." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Berated The Hidalgo County Commissioners Court Over False Claims Of Voter Fraud Regarding Mail-In Ballots. DE LA CRUZ: "I think we can all agree that Hidalgo County has had and currently has a voter fraud issue. This is no secret and I don't think anyone that is on here listening here in this room or you on the screen can deny it. There is a great concern over the application for the mail-in ballots that were mailed out to the entire county using taxpayer dollars with no and I repeat no taxpayer approval. Shame on you. These mail-In ballots did more harm than good. It compromised our voter integrity, it demoralized our community and opened up ourselves to a questionable election. What happened with our voter mail-in ballots does not make sense and goes against logic." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/17/2020] (Video)

De La Cruz Alleged That She Couldn't "Get The Damn Information" To Contest Her 2020 Election Because The Hidalgo County Elections Office Was Closed For The Holidays. "The Hidalgo County's election office is locked! It is December 21st if you call them they are all out for vacation! Now the last time I checked today is not a federal holiday! Today federal offices should be open! Why? Why are they closed when they know there's a ballot investigation going on right now! We have the opportunity to contest this race and we cannot contest because we can't get the damn information!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 12/21/20] (Video)

VIDEO: Anchor: "The Republican Candidate's Campaign Couldn't Provide A Single Example Of A Person Who Cast A Ballot In The Election But Wasn't Registered To Vote." "Yesterday we told you about voter fraud allegation brought forward by Republican candidate for Congressional District 15, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez. Her team provided us a list of names of people – including public servants – who were allegedly not on the voter roll [...] Channel 5 News also asked the De La Cruz Hernandez Campaign to clarify why there were some people listed on the spreadsheet who were, in fact, registered for the November election and appeared on the county's voter roll. The Republican candidate's campaign couldn't provide a single example of a person who cast a ballot in the election but wasn't registered to vote." [KRGV, 12/24/20]

De La Cruz Said The Additional \$600 In Unemployment Insurance Provided In The CARES Act A "Catastrophe." "Getting people back to work is very important. Look let me tell you this right now as small businesses, as big businesses we have a very serious issue on our hands. What was passed, legislation that was passed on unemployment and not only giving people unemployment but giving them the additional 600 dollars to stay unemployed has been a catastrophe for businesses, has been a catastrophe for our nation and our national economy. What has been created is that employees do not want to come back to work. They don't. The reason why is because they're getting this extra 600 dollars to stay at home. Why should they come back there's no incentive?" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/4/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Claimed "The Left" Was "Putting Handcuffs On People And Keeping Them In Modern Day Slavery On Unemployment." "I talked to small businesses up and down the Rio Grande Valley. I have one large Fortune 500 business that is supporting us and they have 50 open positions that they cannot fill and the reason why is because people want to stay on unemployment and that is a catastrophe. That is the left putting handcuffs on people and keeping them in modern day slavery on unemployment. That is not the American way. That is not what America was built on, America was built on hard work, it was built on ethics and integrity." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>6/4/20</u>] (Video)

De La Cruz Said It Was "Crazy" That ECISD Would Approve A Pay Increase For Its Teachers While They Were Not Teaching In Person. "Very interesting I would like to say this. There's been no school instruction, the teachers are not back here, they have had to hire substitute teachers to come and babysit the classes students but yet what's on the agenda is for them to approve 1.3 million dollars of a pay increase. 1.3 million dollars of a pay increase, this is crazy!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/8/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Criticized ECISD Teachers Saying Schools Were Just "Babysitting" Students In-Person While Teachers Continued Remote Instruction. "They were talking about they 'opened the schools' and that's what I



found here. When they say 'opened the schools' they just mean they provide babysitting service they don't provide anything like that. There are 34,000 students at ECISD but only 200 went back. I sent my kid back to school and what I learned was that they were just sitting at a table while the substitute or the teacher was teaching their class in Google classroom." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/8/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Said ECISD Was Discriminating Against Hispanic And Lower Income Students By Not Providing In Person Learning. "This is a disservice to our students and because this is a lower income area, this is a largely Hispanic area to me this is discrimination of education for those people who can not afford to move to a private school or afford to go to another school choice that does not have a school bus system. I think that this is discrimination and I want to understand why is it that all the Republican counties are able to educate their kids safely there's not mass destruction or deaths within the school system." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/8/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Questioned Why ECISD Was Keeping Mexican Americans "Uneducated" In Hidalgo County While White Students In Other Texas Counties Received An Education. "Como puede ser que los gringos en el norte se pueden educar pero los Mexicanos Americanos aqui en Hidalgo no se puede! Why are you keeping us down? Why are keeping us uneducated here in Hidalgo? This must stop! "[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/8/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Claimed She Was "Forced" To Move Her Kids To Another School District Because ECISD "Failed" Teachers And Students By Having "Zero Plan" To Reopen Schools. "You know how I know that Galveston County is open? You know how I know Clear Creek ISD is open? Because I was forced to take one of my kids who is at SMS and send her up there because she has a learning disability. I should not be forced to change school districts because I live in Hidalgo and I pay taxes here. I am forced to move my kids here sadly I do not trust that the board will open up. You all have failed our teachers. You failed our students. EISD has had zero plan. Your open school plan as you all have it now is a joke. You're merely babysitting kids in school while they are in class. The ones who truly suffer are the kids that you're supposedly representing specifically lower income kids who don't have reliable internet or reliable services. You have failed those that needed you most and you have failed those that you are supposed to represent. The cure cannot be worse than this epidemic and right now you are not giving our students and our kids a chance to succeed and sadly now I have to take my kids to another school district." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/8/20] (Video)

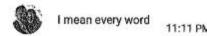
De La Cruz Said She Pulled Her Stepdaughter Out Of ECISD In August 2020 And Sent Her To Clear Creek ISD In Galveston County To Receive Face To Face Instruction. "In fact we have had to pull my stepdaughter who unfortunately has a learning disability and is unable to go to this remote learning and that was a struggle for her so we sent her to Galveston County which is Clear Creek ISD where she has been successfully in school since August. There's not mass deaths there the kids are learning in face to face instruction parents have the choice." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/8/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Called The Surge In Illegal Immigration "A National Security And National Sovereignty Crisis," Claimed Biden Administration Incentivized It Through Its "Catch And Release Program." "I'm here at the Rio Grande Valley river and what we're seeing right now is the illegals crossing our border in broad daylight right in front of our boat. They're coming from Guatemala and Honduras; they've been traveling for months to get here. They say we're hungry, we're thirsty. This is what is happening in Hidalgo County. There is a immigration crisis and we need help at our borders. Not only is this a national security and national sovereignty crisis, it is also a humanitarian one. The Biden administration catch and release program is incentivizing these illegal immigrants to risk their lives on the water and be at the hands of the coyotes. Child sex trafficking, human trafficking, drug trafficking; the severity of this surge is making it easier and easier for smugglers to get away with their crimes. Securing our border and stopping this overwhelming surge of illegal immigration will be my top priority in congress." [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 9/9/21] (Video)



Read 11:10 PM Not very congressional

Read You don't mean that about me and my daughter



[Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Respondent's Exhibit 25, 1/6/22]



[Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Respondent's Exhibit 25, 1/6/22]





[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/9/20]

Newspaper Front Pages/Images



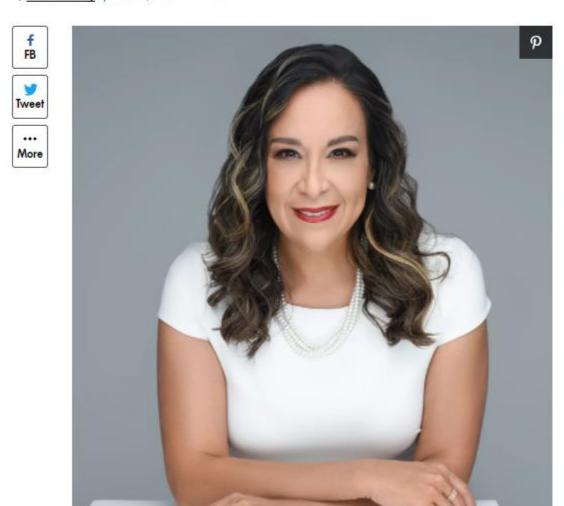
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Allegations of a Child Pinched, a Dog Custody Dispute, Mean Texts: Inside a Texas Candidate's Bitter Divorce

Monica De La Cruz has the backing of top Republicans as her family's drama plays out in court

By Aaron Parsley January 14, 2022 04:39 PM



[People, <u>1/14/22</u>]





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LOCAL NEWS

Texas District 15 congressional candidate claims unfair election



[Valley Central, <u>12/22/20</u>]





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Uncategorized

GOP candidate in congressional race calls election into question

By Matt Wilson - The Monitor - December 23, 2020











EDINBURG — Now-former congressional candidate Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez allegations of improprieties in the Noven election at a news conference Tuesday, the cost her the race for Texas' District 15 the U.S. House of Representatives.

De La Cruz-Hernandez also used the new conference as an opportunity to announce

[MyRGV News, <u>12/23/20</u>]

Headlines

Headline: "Donald Trump Endorses RGV Congressional Candidate Accused Of Abuse." [Valley Central, 2/17/22]

Headline: "Trump Endorses Texas Congressional Candidate Accused Of Abusive Behavior Toward Her Estranged Husband's Daughter." [Washington Post, 2/17/22]

Headline: "Trump Has Endorsed A Texas GOP Candidate Accused Of Abusing Her Stepdaughter." [Business Insider, <u>2/17/22</u>]

Headline: "Trump Endorses Candidate Accused Of 'Cruel And Aggressive Conduct' Toward Estranged Husband's Daughter." [The Hill, 2/17/22]

Headline: "Trump Endorses Yet Another Candidate Facing Abuse Allegations." [VICE, 2/17/22]

Headline: "Top GOP Congressional Candidate In Texas Accused Of Abusing Teenage Daughter Of Estranged Husband." [Washington Post, 11/9/21]

Headline: "Republican House Candidate Accused Of Abusing Stepdaughter In Texas." [The Hill, 11/10/21]

Headline: "Star GOP Congressional Candidate Accused Of Abusing 14-Year-Old Girl." [Salon, 11/10/21]



Headline: "Texas GOP's Rising 'Young Gun' Accused Of 'Cruel And Aggressive Conduct' Toward Child." [Newsweek, 11/9/21]

Headline: "GOP House Candidate Monica De La Cruz Will Be Allowed To Return To Her Texas Home In April Amid Legal Fight With Her Estranged Husband." [Washington Post, 1/12/22]

Headline: "Rep. Gonzalez's Challenger Alleges 'Massive Election Corruption." [Rio Grande Guardian, 11/4/20]

Headline: "GOP Candidate In Congressional Race Calls Election Into Question." [MyRGV News, 12/23/20]

Headline: "Texas District 15 Congressional Candidate Claims Unfair Election." [Valley Central, 12/22/20]

Headline: "South Texas Republican Who Lost Congressional Race Alleges Fraud, Protests Election Results." [Border Report, 11/18/20]

Headline: "12 GOP 'Young Guns' Embrace Trump's Election Falsehoods." [CNN, 10/28/21]

Headline: "Republican Challenger To Run Again After Narrow Loss In Texas Border Congressional District." [Valley Central, 2/1/21]

Headline: "Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez Announces Rematch With Vicente Gonzalez." [National Journal, 2/2/21]

Headline: "This Swing District House Race May Be One Of The Most Expensive In 2022, GOP Candidate Says." [Fox News, 12/13/21]





Personal & Professional History



Biography

This section provides background information on De La Cruz's personal life, including education, personal finances, criminal and civil record, and other areas. Searches were conducted with various local media in Texas, media outlets including the Texas Tribune, Rio Grande Guardian, KRGV, as well as a number of other online resources, including Lexis-Nexis.

Birth Date

De La Cruz Was Born November 11th, 1974. [Ancestry.com, accessed 11/22/21]

Education

De La Cruz Attended The University of Texas At San Antonio (UTSA). "Monica attended the University of Texas at San Antonio, where she worked and took out student loans to put herself through college. [...] While at school, she became a UTSA Ambassador and Vice President of Alpha Kappa Psi Business Fraternity." [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/1/21]

1997: De La Cruz Graduated From UTSA With A Bachelors In Business Administration And Marketing. [LinkedIn, accessed 12/1/21; ivoterguide, accessed 12/1/21]

After Graduating, De La Cruz Attended A Spanish Language Studies Program At The National Autonomous University of Mexico. "Upon graduation, Monica felt compelled to learn more about her roots. She applied for a Spanish language studies program and attended La Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico." [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/1/21]

2006: De La Cruz Attended A Life Underwriter Training Council Fellow Program At Bryn Mawr College. [ivoterguide, accessed 12/1/21]

Career

The following provides a brief overview of De La Cruz's professional career:

Political

- 2022: TX-15 Republican Candidate
- 2020: TX-15 Republican Candidate

Professional

- 2015 2021: President, JSM De La Cruz Holdings
- 2017 2021: President, DLC Insurance
- 2002 2021: Insurance Agent, State Farm, New York Life Insurance, DLC Insurance
- 1997 2001: Turner Entertainment at TNT and Cartoon Network Latin America

Associated Entities

The following provides a brief overview of De La Cruz's associated entities:

Business(es)



- 2015 2021: President, JSM De La Cruz Holdings
- 2017 2021: President, DLC Insurance
- 2021 Present: MonJohn Enterprises

Key Individuals/Partners

• Juan Gabriel Hernandez: Husband, Owner of Navi Business Group

Criminal Record

As Of December 2021, De La Cruz Was Not Associated With Any Criminal Or Traffic Violations. [Nexis Criminal Records Search, accessed, 12/1/21; Hidalgo County Clerk, Criminal Records, accessed 12/1/21]

Judgments Or Liens

As of December 2021, De La Cruz Was Not Associated With Any Judgments Or Liens. [Nexis Bankruptcy, Judgments & Liens Search 12/1/21]

Bankruptcy Filings

As of December 2021, De La Cruz Was Not Associated With Any Bankruptcy Filings. [Nexis Bankruptcy, Judgments & Liens Search 12/1/21]

Voter Registration & History

According to the Hidalgo County Elections Department De La Cruz's voting history is depicted below:

		De La Cruz Voting History							
	General	Primary Runoff	Primary	Muni Primary	Muni Runoff	Municipal	Constitutional	Special	Special Primary
2020	X	X	X	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		1		•	J
2019						X	X		
2018	X		X						
2017							X		
2016	X		X						
2015						X			
2014	X								
2013									
2012	X								
2011						X			
2010			X						
2009									
2008	X		X						
2007									
2006	X		X						
2005	X								
2004	X		X						
2003									



2002	X				
2001	X				

[Hidalgo County Elections Department, 7/6/21]

De La Cruz Has Been An Active Registered Voter In Hidalgo County, Texas Since 2001

De La Cruz Was Registered To Vote In Edinburg, TX 78539. [Hidalgo County Elections Department, 7/6/21]

August 2001: De La Cruz Registered To Vote In Hidalgo County, McAllen, TX 78504. [Hidalgo County Elections Department, 8/20/01]

November 2000: De La Cruz Was Registered To Vote In Cobb County, Georgia But Did Not Vote In Any Elections. [Georgia Secretary of State, Voter Registration, 7/12/21; Cobb County Elections, 7/12/21]

- March 2005: De La Cruz's Georgia Voter Registration Was Cancelled. [Cobb County Elections, 7/12/21]
- De La Cruz's Race Was Listed As White Not Of Hispanic Origin On Her Georgia Voter Registration. [Georgia Secretary of State, Voter Registration, 7/12/21]

October 1992: De La Cruz Was Registered To Vote In Cameron County, Texas But Had No Voting History. [Cameron County Elections Department, 7/13/21]

• **February 1995: De La Cruz Cancelled Her Cameron County Voter Registration.** [Cameron County Elections Department, 7/13/21]

De La Cruz Voted In Multiple Democratic Primaries Until 2018

De La Cruz Claimed She Registered As A Democrat So She Could Vote In Local Primary Elections But That She Never Voted For A Democrat For President. "Like many of her supporters, Ms. De La Cruz-Hernandez first registered as a Democrat, largely, she said, so she could vote in local primary elections. 'That was just what you do,' she said. She added that while she could not recall ever having voted for a Democrat for president, she had hesitated to voice her political views publicly, fearing that it could hurt her insurance business. 'But I never understood the Democratic values or message being one for me,' she said. 'And I am convinced that people here have conservative values. That is really who the majority is." [New York Times, 5/2/21]

De La Cruz Voted In The 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, And 2018 Democratic Primaries. [Hidalgo County Elections Department, 7/6/21]

De La Cruz Voted In The 2016 And 2020 Republican Primaries. [Hidalgo County Elections Department, 7/6/21]

Personal Finance

In 2021, De La Cruz had an estimated net worth of between -\$951,977 and \$4,515,991.

According to De La Cruz's federal personal financial disclosures, her 2021 annual unearned income was between \$100,001 and \$1,000,000, though she did not report any unearned income for 2020. De La Cruz also reported \$57,000 in earned income. De La Cruz's assets totaled between \$1,063,023 and



\$5,421,000 in 2021 – a significant increase from her reported assets in 2020, which were valued between \$63,022 and \$421,000. De La Cruz's 2020 disclosure failed to report a \$1M-\$5M interest in JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC, which was included on her 2021 disclosure. De La Cruz had \$905,009 and \$2,015,000 in liabilities.

NOTE: For detailed descriptions of De La Cruz's personal financial disclosures by year, see Appendix I – Personal Financial Disclosures.

De La Cruz's Federal Personal Financial Disclosure Summary

NOTE: For detailed descriptions of De La Cruz's personal financial disclosures by year, see Appendix I – Personal Financial Disclosures.

	De La Cruz PFD Toplines								
Year	Earned	Asset	Value	Unearn	ed Income	Liabilities			
	Income	MIN	MAX	MIN	MAX	MIN	MAX		
2021	\$57,000	\$1,063,023	\$5,421,000	\$100,001	\$1,000,000	\$905,009	\$2,015,000		
2020	\$35,000	\$63,022	\$421,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$915,010	\$2,060,000		

[De La Cruz, 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed <u>8/13/21</u>; De La Cruz 2020 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed <u>5/19/20</u>]

Earned Income

2021: De La Cruz Reported \$57,000 In Earned Income

2021: De La Cruz Reported \$57,000 In Earned Income From DLC Insurance And Navi Business Group. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

2021 De La Cruz Earned Income						
Source Type Amount						
DLC Insurance	Insurance Employee	\$33,000.00				
Navi Business Group	Spouse Income	\$24,000.00				

[Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

Assets & Unearned Income

2021: De La Cruz Reported Between \$1,063,023 And \$5,421,000 In Assets, With Between \$100,001 And \$1,000,000 In Unearned Income

2021: De La Cruz Reported Between \$1,063,023 And \$5,421,000 In Assets, With Between \$100,001 And \$1,000,000 In Unearned Income. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

	2021 De La Cruz Assets & "Unearned" Income								
SP/		Year-End Value		Type Of	Amount Of Income		Tx. >		
DC /JT	Asset	Min	Max	Income	Min	Max	\$1,000		
	Cash Value Life Insurance New York Life – Joseph D Uribe	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None			
	Cash Value Life Insurance New York Life Insurance	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None			



Joseph D Uribe – Whole Life Cash Value Life Insurance New York Life Insurance Monica – Whole Life Cash Value Life Insurance New York Life Insurance New York Life Insurance New York Life Insurance New York Life – Michael J	
Cash Value Life Insurance New York Life Insurance Monica – Whole Life Cash Value Life Insurance New York Life Insurance New York Life Insurance New York Life Insurance	
New York Life Insurance Monica – Whole Life Cash Value Life Insurance New York Life Insurance None None None None	
Monica – Whole Life Cash Value Life Insurance \$1,001 \$15,000 None None None None None None None None	
Cash Value Life Insurance \$1,001 \$15,000 None None None None	
New York Life Insurance	
New York Life – Michael J	
1 ==	
Uribe	
Cash Value Life Insurance\$1,001\$15,000NoneNoneNone	
New York Life Insurance	
Sophia A Uribe – Whole	
Life	
Cash Value Life Insurance \$1,001 \$15,000 None None None	
State Farm Life Insurance	
Michael J Uribe	
Cash Value Life Insurance \$1,001 \$15,000 None None None	
State Farm Life Insurance	
Monica De La Cruz –	
Whole Life	
Cash Value Life Insurance \$1,001 \$15,000 None None None	
State Farm Life Insurance	
Sophia A Uribe	
Cash Value Life Insurance \$1,001 \$15,000 None None None	
State Farm Life Insurance	
Sophia A Uribe – Whole	
Life	
Chase Bank Checking\$1,001\$15,000NoneNoneNone	
Chase Bank Savings \$15,001 \$50,000 None None None	
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Chase Bank Savings Account JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC, 100% Interest New York Life Annuity James Henderson Global Research Portfolio Description: Annuity Retirement Fixed Dollar Fund New York Life 401K \$15,001 \$50,000 None	
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Chase Bank Savings	
Chase Bank Savings \$15,001 \$50,000 None None None None Account	
Chase Bank Savings	



Retirement Main Stay VP	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
MackKay Mid Cap Core						
New York Life Annuity						
Retirement Main Stay VP	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
Mellon Natural Resources						
New York Life Annuity						
State Farm Bank Account	\$1	\$1,000	None	None	None	
HAS						
State Farm Federal Credit	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
Union						
Total:	\$1,063,023	\$5,421,000	Total:	\$100,001 -	\$100,001 -	
				\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	

[Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed <u>8/13/21</u>]

2021: De La Cruz Reported \$1 Million To \$5 Million Of Interest In JSM De La Cruz Holdings, LLC, An Asset Not Listed On Her 2020 Financial Disclosure, And Reported Up To \$1 Million In Rental Income From The LLC. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

2020: De La Cruz Reported Between \$63,022 And \$421,000 In Assets, With No Reported Unearned Income

2020: De La Cruz Reported Between \$63,022 And \$421,000 In Assets. [Monica De La Cruz 2020 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed <u>5/19/20</u>]

		2020 De L	a Cruz Assets	& "Unearned" In	ıcome		
SP/		Year-I	End Value	Type Of	Amoun	t Of Income	Tx. >
DC /JT	Asset	Min	Max	Income	Min	Max	\$1,000
	Cash Value Life Insurance New York Life – Joseph D Uribe	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
	Cash Value Life Insurance New York Life Insurance Joseph D Uribe – Whole Life	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
	Cash Value Life Insurance New York Life Insurance Monica – Whole Life	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
	Cash Value Life Insurance New York Life Insurance New York Life – Michael J Uribe	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
	Cash Value Life Insurance New York Life Insurance Sophia A Uribe – Whole Life	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
	Cash Value Life Insurance State Farm Life Insurance Michael J Uribe	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
	Cash Value Life Insurance State Farm Life Insurance Monica De La Cruz – Whole Life	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
	Cash Value Life Insurance State Farm Life Insurance Sophia A Uribe	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
	Cash Value Life Insurance	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	



State Farm Life Insurance						
Sophia A Uribe – Whole						
Life						
Chase Bank Checking	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
Chase Bank Savings	\$15,001	\$50,000	None	None	None	
Account						
New York Life Annuity James Henderson Global Research Portfolio	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
Description: Annuity						
Retirement Fixed Dollar Fund New York Life 401K	\$15,001	\$50,000	None	None	None	
Retirement Income Builder New York Life 401K	\$15,001	\$50,000	None	None	None	
Retirement Fidelity VIP Contrafund New York Life Annuity	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
Retirement Main Stay VP T Rowe Equity Income New York Life Annuity	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
Retirement Main Stay Janus Henderson Balanced New York Life Annuity	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
Retirement Main Stay VP Large Cap Growth New York Life Annuity	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
MackKay Mid Cap Core New York Life Annuity	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
Retirement Main Stay VP Mellon Natural Resources New York Life Annuity	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
State Farm Bank Account HSA	\$1	\$1,000	None	None	None	
State Farm Bank Account SF Checking 7815	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
State Farm Federal Credit Union	\$1,001	\$15,000	None	None	None	
Total:	\$63,022	\$421,000	Total:	\$0.00	\$0.00	

[Monica De La Cruz 2020 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 5/19/20]

Liabilities

2021 De l	2021 De La Cruz Liabilities							
Owner	Creditor	Date Incurred	Туре	Amount Of Liability				
	Capital One	July 2017	Vehicle Loan	\$10,000 - \$15,000				
	Small Business Administration	November 2015	Commercial Property	\$250,001 -				
				\$500,000				
	Vantage Bank	September 2019	SBA Loan For Navi	\$100,001 -				
	-		Business Group	\$250,000				
SP	Amoco Bank	February 2020	Vehicle Loan	\$15,001 - \$50,000				
	Small Business Administration	May 2020	SBA Loan	\$15,001 - \$50,000				



SP	Small Business Administration	May 2020	SBA Loan	\$50,001 -
				\$100,000
SP	State Farm Bank	September 2019	Vehicle Loan	\$15,001 - \$50,000
	Guaranteed Rate	February 2017	Investment Home – Laddie	\$100,001 -
				\$250,000
	PennyMac	September 2019	Investment Home – Iron	\$100,001 -
			clad	\$250,000
	State Farm Bank	February 2017	Primary Home – June	\$250,001 -
				\$500,000

[Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

2020 De l	La Cruz Liabilities			
Owner	Creditor	Date Incurred	Туре	Amount Of Liability
	Barclay	December 2019	Credit Card	\$15,001 - \$50,000
	Capital One	July 2017	Vehicle Loan	\$10,000 - \$15,000
	Connexus	August 2016	Vehicle Loan – Trailer	\$10,000 - \$15,000
	State Farm FCU	September 2016	Line of Credit	\$15,001 - \$50,000
	State Farm Bank	September 2019	Investment Home	\$100,001 - \$250,000
	State Farm Bank	February 2017	Primary Home	\$250,001 - \$500,00
	State Farm Bank	November 2018	Investment Home	\$100,001 - \$250,000
	Capital One	February 2016	Chevrolet Traverse	\$15,001 - \$50,000
	Small Business Administration	November 2015	Commercial Property	\$250,001 - \$500,000
	Vantage Bank	September 2019	SBA Loan for Navi Business Group	\$100,001 - \$250,000
SP	State Farm Bank	June 2019	Ford Truck	\$15,001 - \$50,000
SP	AMOCO Bank	July 2018	Ford Truck	\$15,001 - \$50,000
SP	US Dept of Education	January 2011	Student Loan	\$10,000 - \$15,000
SP	Navient	January 2009	Student Loan	\$10,000 - \$15,000

[Monica De La Cruz 2020 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed <u>5/19/20</u>]

Personal Financial Disclosure Issues

De La Cruz Failed To List Her Commercial Rental Property That Collected Between \$100,001 And \$1,000,000 In Unearned Income Located At 1317 W Frontage Rd, Alamo, TX On Her 2021 Personal Financial Disclosure Report

November 2015: JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Purchased 1317 W Frontage Rd Suite A, Alamo, TX, 78516 From 3BU Family Limited Partnership For \$432,000. [Hidalgo County Clerk, Property Records, Warranty Deed, accessed 11/9/21]

De La Cruz's Property At 1317 W Frontage Rd Was Not Listed On De La Cruz's 2021 Personal Financial Disclosure Report. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

• According To The House Ethics Committee Guide On Financial Disclosures All Properties Must Be Separately Disclosed And Must Be Distinguishable From One Another. "To disclose an ownership



interest in a privately-held company that was formed for the purpose of holding investments, you must disclose each asset held by the company in which your interest (or that of your spouse or dependent child) had a period-end value of more than \$1,000 or generated more than \$200 in income during the reporting period. Limited partnerships and limited liability companies are frequently formed for the purpose of holding real estate. If, for example, you are a partner in a limited partnership that owns five rental properties, you must separately disclose each property in which your interest exceeded \$1,000 or your rental income derived from that property exceeded \$200. You may, but are not required to, provide an exact street address for each property the company owns. However, when disclosing multiple properties, the property descriptions must be distinguishable from one another and used consistently from year to year." [U.S. House Committee on Ethics, Instruction Guide for Financial Disclosure Statements and Periodic Transaction Reports, accessed 1/10/22]

JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Was A Holdings Company That Owned A Building That Housed De La Cruz's Insurance Agency, Her Husband's Business, Her Campaign Address, And Two Other Tenants

JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Listed 1317 W Frontage Rd, Suite A, Alamo, TX 78516 As Its Office And Mailing Address. [Texas Secretary of State, Public Information Report, 12/31/20]

JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Owned 1317 W Frontage Rd Alamo, TX. [Hidalgo County Appraisal District, Property Search, accessed 12/3/21]

De La Cruz's State Farm Insurance Agency Office Was Located At 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite A, Alamo, TX 78516. [State Farm, accessed 11/5/21]

Navi Business Group Listed 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite A, Alamo, TX 78516 As Its Principal Office And Place Of Business. [Texas Secretary of State, Public Information Report, 12/31/18]

FEC Filings List De La Cruz's Campaign Address As 1317 West Frontage Road, Suite C, Alamo, TX. [FEC, Statement of Organization, accessed 12/3/21]

De La Cruz Reported Between \$100,001 And \$1,000,000 In Unearned Income From JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Described As Rent Collected From Properties. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

De La Cruz Had A Tenant Called Origene America Next To Her Insurance Agency. "My tenant, Orgene America, just put up their sign!! Looks great next to Monica De La Cruz State Farm! As a small business owner myself, I can understand the happiness you feel seeing your business name in lights!! Way to go Origene!!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 10/26/19]

Origene Seeds Was Located At 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite B, Alamo, TX 78516. [Hidalgo County Appraisal District, accessed 12/8/21]

A Check N Go Payday Loans Business Was Located At 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite C, Alamo, TX 78516. [Check 'N Go, Locations, Accessed 12/8/21]

De La Cruz Reported Between \$100,001 And \$1,000,000 In Unearned Income From JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Listed As "Rent Collected From Properties" In 2021 But Previously Reported No Unearned Income In 2020

2021: De La Cruz Reported Between \$100,001 And \$1,000,000 In Unearned Income From JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Listed As "Rent Collected From Properties." [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]



2020: De La Cruz Reported \$0.00 In Unearned Income. [Monica De La Cruz 2020 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed <u>5/19/20</u>]

Professional Career

Significant Findings

De La Cruz Owned And Operated A "Shady" State Farm Insurance Agency, DLC Insurance

- ✓ 2002 Present: De La Cruz has held an active Texas insurance license.
- ✓ March 2017: De La Cruz formed DLC Insurance.
- ✓ Customers described De La Cruz's State Farm insurance agency, DLC Insurance, as "very shady" with an unprofessional staff that provided poor customer service.

DLC Insurance And De La Cruz's Other Business Interests Accepted More Than \$180,000 In COVID Relief Money – Nearly \$40,000 Of Which Came Just Days After Her Campaign Repaid A Loan To The Same Bank That Loaned To Her Business

- ✓ April 2020: DLC Insurance received a \$38,552 Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan, reporting that it would use the money to retain five jobs.
 - ✓ DLC Insurance was approved for the PPP loan from BBVA days after her campaign repaid BBVA for a \$35,000 loan.
 - ✓ De La Cruz reported annual personal income from DLC Insurance that nearly matched the amount of the PPP loan to DLC Insurance.
- ✓ June 2020: JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC accepted \$40,000 in Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL).
- ✓ May 2020: Navi Business Group took over \$102,000 in EIDL loans
 - ✓ June 2019: Navi Business Group previously received a \$124,000 Small Business Administration Loan

De La Cruz's Business JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Was Temporarily Forfeited By The Texas Secretary Of State For Failing To Pay Its State Franchise Taxes In 2017

- ✓ January 2017: The Texas Secretary of State forfeited JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC for failing to pay its state franchise tax.
 - ✓ The comptroller is required by law to forfeit a company's right to transact business in Texas if the company has not filed a franchise tax report or paid a franchise tax required under chapter 171.



✓ April 2017: The Texas Secretary of State reinstated JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC after it corrected the default and paid all fees, taxes, and penalties due.

Professional History

2002 – Present: De La Cruz Owned And Operated An Insurance Agency That Customers Described As "Very Shady," And Was Known For Its Poor Customer Service

2002 - Present: De La Cruz Worked As An Actively Licensed Insurance Agent In Texas

2002-Present: De La Cruz Was An Actively Licensed Insurance Agent In Texas. According to the Texas Department of Insurance, De La Cruz holds an active insurance license that was issued October 23, 2002 with an expiration date of November 30, 2022. De La Cruz was licensed as a general lines agent with qualifications in Life, health, property & casualty insurance with Blue Cross Blue Shield and State Farm. [Texas Department of Insurance, Consumer Inquiry, accessed 11/3/21]

De La Cruz Owned And Operated A State Farm Insurance Agency In Alamo, Texas.





STATE FARM® INSURANCE AGENT, ALAMO, TX

Monica De La Cruz

[State Farm, accessed 11/5/21]

De La Cruz Alongside Four Other Employees At Her Insurance Agency.





[State Farm, Monica De La Cruz, accessed 2/8/22]

De La Cruz's State Farm Insurance Agency Office Was Located At 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite A, Alamo, TX 78516. [State Farm, accessed 11/5/21]

De La Cruz's State Farm Business Was Described As "Very Shady" With An "Inattentive and Unprofessional" Staff In Multiple Negative Customer Reviews

A Customer Claimed That De La Cruz's Staff Were Inattentive And Kept Them Waiting For Over An Hour. "Guitarsamurail – Had an accident over the weekend and when we went to their office to get assistance with the claim all we were given was a phone number to call. It seems that the only thing the people that work there can do is to take your money when your insurance is due every month. When we called the number they gave us, our call kept getting dropped. We were on the phone for at least an hour and a half just waiting." [Google, Monica De La Cruz – State Farm Insurance Agent, Reviews, accessed 11/5/21]

A Customer Said A Member Of De La Cruz's Staff Was Unprofessional And Hung Up On Her. "Sandra Sanchez – The manager at this office is very unprofessional her name is Laura, while on a telephone conversation about my policy (it took me 2 days to get ahold of someone), I was very frustrated because she didn't seem to understand my questions so I asked her to let me speak with the agent that I bought my policy from and she said "ok I will give her your message when I see her" really? No concern at all, after 10 minutes or more of trying to get information from this person I finally said OMG, wrong!!! She then proceeded to give me a lecture on religion using the lord's name in vane and how I'm supposed to be a human being ,, really? She then proceeded to hang up on me and when I called back they wouldn't answer the phone Is that what state farm now offers lectures on religion how about a class on etiquette on your part." [Google, Monica De La Cruz – State Farm Insurance Agent, Reviews, accessed 11/5/21]

A Customer Claimed De La Cruz's Business Did Not Care About Him And Only Wanted His Money. "Ivan Rodriguez – Their service is based on making money off of you, they don't care about your claim or if you ask for a letter of experience for Example, it's exhausting how they give you the run around and act with impudence when you need something from them, avoid this place, there's other insurance companies that treat you better and really value your business." [Google, Monica De La Cruz – State Farm Insurance Agent, Reviews, accessed 11/5/21]

A Customer Alleged De La Cruz's Agency Was "Very Shady" And Up Charged Him Repeatedly. "Jaime Martinez – Had automobile insurance with them for more than a year. Had to add a driver and a vehicle took all required information was given a quote paid in full. Few weeks later received a call that there was a mistake and it was going to be a 700 more could not understand why paid that amount in full few weeks later again that 300 was still owed cancelled policy that was unacceptable never did I hear from the manager nor the agent very unprofessional very shady business stay clear from this agent till this day never hear from them." [Google, Monica De La Cruz – State Farm Insurance Agent, Reviews, accessed 11/5/21]



A Customer Claimed De La Cruz And Her Staff Were Unwilling To Help And Had Poor Customer Service. "Robby Lopez – Ok so I don't usually give negative reviews but at this point this is crazy! The staff needs better training and customer service skills. We have given this Statefarm 3 chances and we are let down time and time again. It started about a ago where after a serious storm that caused major flooding in some part of the are caused our rates to go up about 30-40 dollars! And this was because we didn't even file a claim we were just told "because other policy holders like yourself are prone to have a total loss due to the flooding". I can understand if i had filed a previous claim but come on I didn't and just because other people with same insurance did?!? Strike one, next one was a few months ago when me and my wife were billed an outrageous bill, called Statefarm who had assured us was a mistake and were quick to "fix" the problem. They told us only pay this amount because it's what you owe! And we did, next month comes around and still a high bill! When we call to find out it was due to us not paying the full amount. Even though we paid what they had told us! At this point my wife wanted to leeeeeeaaaave!! But I insisted on given Statefarm agent Monica De La Cruz another chance. We spoke with Monica herself but said unfortunately their was nothing that could be done. Our cars at this point weren't covered due previous bill that we were disputing. We were told by an offline team that she would reach out to us to see if there was anyway to resolve the situation but there was no resolution but to pay. We did so because we were scared of anything happening to our cars. Strike 2. The last straw was today, I received a bill higher than normal and when I called they told me it was because I didn't pay last months bill. Which I called a few days after it didn't draft out as I had set it up. The representative said it was because we had a different account number. I told the representative Christina that it was the same account and routing number but I had replaced my card. She told me they could take a payment so I told her to run the account number and she told me she needed a the new one. I am not sure if she was confused but ACCOUNT NUMBER AND CARD NUMBER are two different things. I gave her my card number and she said she ran my payment and gave me a confirmation number. At last I was happy and content knowing my payment was taken. NOPE! I was told by another representative that the payment I made on Friday won't go through till Tuesday because it was ran as a credit payment. And this is it, this is why Statefarm agent Monica De La Cruz and her associates will not have my business much longer. I will go with another agent who works better with their customers and doesn't make petty mistakes like these. Your staff needs to do a better job at getting correct info my I've already updated my email address 3 times with y'all to get it corrected. I can't even use your website because they can't type it in correctly. I get less and pay more. Goodbye." [Google, Monica De La Cruz – State Farm Insurance Agent, Reviews, accessed 11/5/21]

1997 – 2001: De La Cruz Worked At TNT And Cartoon Network in Atlanta Before Returning To Texas

De La Cruz Previously Worked At TNT And Cartoon Network Latin America. "Upon graduation, Monica felt compelled to learn more about her roots. She applied for a Spanish language studies program and attended La Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico. After this experience abroad, Monica applied for an internship with Turner Entertainment and was selected out of 300 applicants. She went on to work with TNT and Cartoon Network Latin America in Atlanta, Georgia. [Monica For Congress, accessed 11/4/21]

Business Interests

2017 - Present: De La Cruz Owned DLC Insurance

March 2017: De La Cruz Formed DLC Insurance. According to the Oklahoma Secretary of State, De La Cruz incorporated DLC Insurance Inc. on March 16, 2017 with Darren Barnes of Tulsa, OK listed as a registered agent. [Oklahoma Secretary Of State, accessed 11/4/21]

According To Her Personal Financial Disclosure, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Was The President Of **DLC Insurance.** [House Personal Financial Disclosure, Filed 4/22/20]

DLC Insurance Was Located At 1317 W Frontage Rd Alamo, TX. [Nexis Comprehensive Business Report, accessed 11/3/21]



 JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Owned 1317 W Frontage Rd Alamo, TX. [Hidalgo County Property Search, accessed <u>11/3/21</u>]

April 2020: DLC Insurance Received A \$38,552 PPP Loan

April 2020: DLC Insurance Received A \$38,552 Paycheck Protection Loan To Cover Payroll Costs. [ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

Paycheck Protection Loan Information		
Business Name:	DLC Insurance Inc	
Loan Amount:	\$38,552	
Intended Use For Loan:	Payroll	
Location:	Alamo, TX	
Industry:	Direct Life Insurance Carriers	
Business Type:	Sole Proprietorship	
Jobs Reported:	5	
Lender:	BBVA USA	
Date Approved:	4/29/20	

[ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

DLC Insurance Claimed The PPP Loan Was Going To Support 5 Employees. [ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

According To The Small Business Administration The PPP Loan Was Reported As "Paid In Full." "DLC Insurance Inc in Alamo, TX received a Paycheck Protection Loan of \$38,552 through PNC Bank, National Association, which was approved in April, 2020. This loan's status is reported by the SBA as "Paid in Full", which includes both loans repaid and those fully forgiven from repayment under PPP guidelines. The loan's status was last updated by the SBA in June, 2021." [FederalPay.org, accessed 12/13/21]

De La Cruz Reported Annual Personal Income From DLC Insurance That Nearly Matched The Amount Of The PPP Loan To DLC Insurance

De La Cruz Had \$33,000 In Earned Income From DLC Insurance Inc. In 2021. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

De La Cruz Had \$44,600 In Earned Income From DLC Insurance Inc. In 2020. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

De La Cruz Had \$35,000 In Earned Income From DLC Insurance Inc. In 2019. [Monica De La Cruz 2020 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filed 4/22/20]

De La Cruz Had \$30,234 In Earned Income From DLC Insurance Inc. In 2018. [Monica De La Cruz 2020 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filed <u>4/22/20</u>]

DLC Insurance Was Approved For A \$38,000 PPP Loan From BBVA Nine Days After Her Campaign Repaid BBVA For A \$35,000 Loan

4/20/20: De La Cruz Hernandez's Campaign Repaid A \$35,000 Loan From BBVA Bank. [FEC, Campaign Disbursements Search, accessed <u>5/12/21</u>]



4/29/20: DLC Insurance Was Approved For A \$38,552 PPP Loan From BBVA Bank. [ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

2015 - Present: De La Cruz Owned JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC

October 2015: De La Cruz Formed JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC. According to the Texas Secretary of State, JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC was formed by Monica De La Cruz on October 5, 2015. [Texas Secretary of State, Certificate of Formation, 10/5/15]

January 2017: JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Was Forfeited By The Texas Secretary Of State For Failing To Pay State Franchise Tax

January 2017: The Texas Secretary Of State Forfeited JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC For Failing To Pay State Franchise Tax. According to the Texas Secretary of State, JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC charter was forfeited under section 171.302 and 171.309 of the Texas Tax Code. [Texas Secretary of State, Tax Forfeiture, 1/27/17]

• The Comptroller Is Required By Law To Forfeit A Company's Right To Transact Business In Texas If The Company Has Not Filed A Franchise Tax Report Or Paid A Franchise Tax Required Under Chapter 171. "The law also requires the Comptroller to give at least 45 days after the notice of pending forfeiture is mailed before the actual forfeiture. Any franchise tax deficiencies must be cured during that period to avoid the forfeiture of the right to transact business in Texas. If the corporate privileges are forfeited, the entity will be denied the right to sue or defend itself in a Texas court and each director or officer will be liable for the debt of the entity." [Texas Comptroller Of Public Accounts, accessed 9/22/21]

April 2017: The Texas Secretary of State Reinstated JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC. According to the Texas Secretary of State, JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC corrected the default and has paid all fees, taxes, and penalties due. [Texas Secretary of State, Application For Reinstatement, 4/19/17]

JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Was A Holdings Company That Owned A Building That Housed De La Cruz's Insurance Agency, Her Husband's Business, Her Campaign Address, And Two Other Tenants

JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Listed 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite A, Alamo, TX 78516 As Its Office And Mailing Address. [Texas Secretary of State, Public Information Report, 12/31/20]

JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Owned 1317 W Frontage Rd Alamo, TX. [Hidalgo County Appraisal District, Property Search, accessed 12/3/21]

De La Cruz's State Farm Insurance Agency Office Was Located At 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite A, Alamo, TX 78516. [State Farm, accessed 11/5/21]

Navi Business Group Listed 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite A, Alamo, TX 78516 As Its Principal Office And Place Of Business. [Texas Secretary of State, Public Information Report, 12/31/18]

FEC Filings List De La Cruz's Campaign Address As 1317 West Frontage Road, Suite C, Alamo, TX. [FEC, Statement of Organization, accessed 12/3/21]

De La Cruz Reported Between \$100,001 And \$1,000,000 In Unearned Income From JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Described As Rent Collected From Properties. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]



De La Cruz Had A Tenant Called Origene America Next To Her Insurance Agency. "My tenant, Orgene America, just put up their sign!! Looks great next to Monica De La Cruz State Farm! As a small business owner myself, I can understand the happiness you feel seeing your business name in lights!! Way to go Origene!!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 10/26/19]

Origene Seeds Was Located At 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite B, Alamo, TX 78516. [Hidalgo County Appraisal District, accessed 12/8/21]

A Check N Go Payday Loans Business Was Located At 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite C, Alamo, TX 78516. CHECK `N GO FRONTAGE RD



1317 W FRONTAGE RD SUITE C ALAMO, TX 78516

Get Directions

Local: (956) 702-7784 [Check 'N Go, Locations, Accessed <u>12/8/21</u>]

JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Received \$40,000 in Economic Injury Disaster Loans

June 2020: JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Received A \$39,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan. On June 16, 2020, the Small Business Administration awarded JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC a \$39,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan. [COVID Bailout Tracker via Accountable.US, 6/16/20]

May 2020: JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Received A \$1,000 Economic Injury Disaster Grant. On May 2, 2020, the Small Business Administration awarded JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC a \$1,000 direct payment Economic Injury Disaster Grant. [USASpending.gov, 5/2/20]

2016 – Present: De La Cruz's Spouse Juan Hernandez Owned Navi Business Group

January 2016: Juan Hernandez Formed Navi Business Group. According to the Texas Secretary of State, Navi Business Group was formed by Juan Hernandez on January 22, 2016. [Texas Secretary of State, Certificate of Formation, 4/16/21]

2016: De La Cruz Claimed She Helped Form Navi Business Group With Her Husband After Her Husband's Ex-Employer Closed His Entire Division. "In 2016, a national company was forced to shut down her husband's entire division in an effort to save money. With their community in the midst of hardship and close friends uncertain of what the future held, Monica and her husband formed Navi Business Group. With this new venture, they purchased all the equipment from her husband's ex-employer, and put people back to work. They hired former workers who had lost their jobs, and taught others how to open their own businesses so they could find their own success." [Monicaforcongress.us/meet-monica, accessed 5/12/21]

Navi Business Group Listed 15502 Old Galveston Rd #803 Webster, TX 78516 As Its Corporate Office Address. [Navi Business Group, Contact, accessed 11/5/21]

Navi Business Group Listed 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite A, Alamo, TX 78516 As Its Principal Office And Place Of Business. [Texas Secretary of State, Public Information Report, 12/31/18]



Navi Business Group Listed 9900 Spectrum Drive, Austin TX, 78717 As Its Office Address. [Texas Secretary of State, Public Information Report, 12/31/19]

De La Cruz Reported \$24,000 In Earned Income From Navi Business Group. According to a 2021 financial disclosure report De La Cruz reported \$24,000 in earned income from Navi Business Group. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed <u>8/13/21</u>]

Navi Business Group Specialized In Industrial Cleaning And Pumping Services

Navi Business Group Offered Booster Pump, Submersible Pump, And Cargo Handling Solutions.

"BOOSTER PUMPS We offer high capacity pumps. Our booster pumps increases the bulk discharge. The booster pumps are put inline assisting onboard pumps by alleviating back pressure. SUBMERSIBLE PUMPS We have a variety of submersible pumps. We can pump the most viscous cargos. Stripping out tanks is our specialty. We can deliver the right pump for your pumping needs. CARGO HANDLING SOLUTIONS Let us help with cargo specific solutions. We can help put cargos back on spec. We can offer inert solutions. If you have a cargo specific issue we can help assist." [Navi Business Group, "Services," accessed 12/8/21]

Navi Business Group Also Offered Facility Maintenance And Tank Cleaning Services. "FACILITY MAINTENANCE Navi Business Group can help with general maintenance of industrial facilities. We have experience in tank farms and environmental facilities. TANK CLEANING SERVICES Navi Business Group has cleaned various tanks. We can do Marine side tankage cleaning and shore side tanks." [Navi Business Group, "Industrial Services," accessed 12/8/21]

2020: Navi Business Group Received \$102,000 In Economic Injury Disaster Loans

May 2020: Navi Business Group Received A \$98,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan. On May 22, 2020, the Small Business Administration awarded Navi Business Group a \$98,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan. [COVID Bailout Tracker via Accountable.US, <u>5/22/20</u>]

April 2020: Navi Business Group Received A \$4,000 Economic Injury Disaster Grant. On April 19, 2020, the Small Business Administration awarded Navi Business Group a \$4,000 direct payment Economic Injury Disaster Grant. [USASpending.gov, 4/19/20]

2019: Navi Business Group Received A \$124,000 SBA Loan

June 2019: Navi Business Group Received A \$124,000 Small Business Administration Loan. On June 17, 2019, the Small Business Administration awarded Navi Business Group a \$124,000 guaranteed loan. [USASpending.gov, 6/17/19]

2021 – Present: De La Cruz and Hernandez Owned MonJohn Enterprises LLC

April 2021: De La Cruz And Her Husband Juan Hernandez Formed MonJohn Enterprises LLC. According to the Texas Secretary of State, MonJohn Enterprises LLC was formed by Monica De La Cruz Hernandez and Juan Hernandez on April 16, 2021. [Texas Secretary of State, Certificate of Formation, 4/16/21]

Note: It is unclear what this business did after it was formed earlier this year by De La Cruz and her husband. De La Cruz and her husband are also currently going through a divorce.

2006 – 2009: De La Cruz Owned Uribe, Hernandez & Associates LLC



November 2006: De La Cruz, Then Named Monica Uribe, And Concepcion Hernandez Formed Uribe, Hernandez & Associates LLC. According to the Texas Secretary of State, Monica Uribe and Concepcion Hernandez formed Uribe, Hernandez & Associates LLC on November 10, 2006. [Texas Secretary of State, Certificate of Formation, 11/10/06]

Concepcion Hernandez Has Been An Actively Licensed Insurance Agent In McAllen, TX Since 2003.
 According to the Texas Department of Insurance, Hernandez holds an active insurance license that was issued April 10, 2003 with an expiration date of October 31, 2023. Texas Department of Insurance, Consumer Inquiry, accessed 11/3/21

May 2009: Uribe, Hernandez & Associates LLC Was Voluntarily Terminated. According to the Texas Secretary of State, Monica Uribe and Concepcion Hernandez voluntarily terminated Uribe, Hernandez & Associates LLC due to a "difference in business strategies" on May 22, 2009. [Texas Secretary of State, Certificate of Termination, 5/22/09]

Uribe, Hernandez & Associates LLC Listed 3208 Falcon Ave, McAllen, TX 78504 As Its Mailing And Office Address. [Texas Secretary of State, Public Information Report, 4/20/09]

• De La Cruz's Home Address Was Previously Located At 3208 Falcon Ave, McAllen, TX 78504. [Hidalgo County Appraisal District, Property Search, accessed 11/5/21]

Note: It is unclear exactly what type of business this was in its 3 years of existence other than the fact that De La Cruz and Hernandez were both licensed insurance agents at the time.

Political Career

This section provides an overview of De La Cruz's political career, from 2020 to 2021.

Significant Findings

- ✓ 2020: De La Cruz came within three points of unseating incumbent Rep. Vicente Gonzalez and would have been the first Republican in history to flip the Texas 15th Congressional District.
- ✓ 2021: De La Cruz was named as a top recruit as part of the NRCC's Young Guns program.
 - ✓ De La Cruz was endorsed by Kevin McCarthy, Ted Cruz, Dan Crenshaw, and Elise Stefanik.
- ✓ De La Cruz has never held elected office before.
- ✓ All but \$295 of De La Cruz's \$119,295 in political contributions were loans or in-kinds to her own congressional campaigns.
 - ✓ 2018: De La Cruz donated \$200 to Democrat Dori Contreras Garza, Chief Justice of the 13th Court of Appeals.

Campaigns

Election Results



2020 Texas 15th Congressional District General Election

2020 Texas 15 th Congressional District General Election				
Candidate	Vote Total	Vote Percentage		
Vicente Gonzalez (D)	115,605	50.5%		
Monica De La Cruz (R)	109,017	47.62%		
Ross Lynn Leone (L)	4,295	1.88%		

[Texas Secretary of State, Election Results, Accessed 12/2/21]

2020 Texas 15th Congressional District Republican Primary Runoff Election

2020 Texas 15 th Congressional District Republican Primary Runoff				
Candidate	Vote Total	Vote Percentage		
Monica De La Cruz Hernandez (R)	7,423	75.95%		
Ryan Krause (R)	2,350	24.05%		

[Texas Secretary of State, Election Results, Accessed 12/2/21]

2020 Texas 15th Congressional District Republican Primary Election

2020 Texas 15 th Congressional District Republican Primary					
Candidate	Vote Total	Vote Percentage			
Monica De La Cruz Hernandez (R)	11,338	43.06%			
Ryan Krause (R)	10,452	39.7%			
Tim Westley (R)	4,539	17.24%			

[Texas Secretary of State, Election Results, Accessed 12/2/21]

2022 Campaign

De La Cruz Launched Her 2022 Campaign At A Press Conference Where She Questioned The Validity Of The 2020 Election

De La Cruz Launched Her 2022 Campaign At A Press Conference Where She Questioned The Validity Of The 2020 Election. "Now-former congressional candidate Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez lobbed allegations of improprieties in the November election at a news conference Tuesday, believing it cost her the race for Texas' District 15 seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. De La Cruz-Hernandez also used the news conference as an opportunity to announce plans to run for the same seat in the 2022 election." [MyRGV News, 12/23/20]

Dec. 2020: De La Cruz Held A Press Conference And Said She Was "Calling Into Question This Vote Difference And The Validity Of The Gonzalez Win." "Now-former congressional candidate Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez lobbed allegations of improprieties in the November election at a news conference Tuesday, believing it cost her the race for Texas' District 15 seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. De La Cruz-Hernandez also used the news conference as an opportunity to announce plans to run for the same seat in the 2022 election. According to the Texas Secretary of State's Office, De La Cruz-Hernandez, a Republican, lost the election to Democrat incumbent Vicente Gonzalez by 6,588 votes. Citing her own investigation into voter rolls and rosters, De La Cruz-Hernandez said improprieties may have affected the outcome. 'I am calling into question this vote difference and the validity of the Gonzalez win,' she said." [MyRGV News, 12/23/20]

De La Cruz Was Named As A "Young Gun" Recruit By The NRCC

De La Cruz Was Picked By Kevin McCarthy As Part of The NRCC's Young Guns Recruitment Program. "Monica De La Cruz, a candidate for the 15th Congressional District in Texas, was picked this week by House



Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) as a 'young gun,' a designation given by the party to candidates who 'have met a series of rigorous goals and surpassed program benchmarks to establish a clear path to victory." [Washington Post, 11/9/21]

• The Young Guns Designation Was Given To GOP Candidates Who Met Campaign Goals And Fundraising Benchmarks Set By The NRCC. "Monica De La Cruz, a candidate for the 15th Congressional District in Texas, was picked this week by House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) as a 'young gun,' a designation given by the party to candidates who 'have met a series of rigorous goals and surpassed program benchmarks to establish a clear path to victory." [Washington Post, 11/9/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By The NRCC, Kevin McCarthy, Ted Cruz, Elise Stefanik And Dan Crenshaw

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Senator Ted Cruz. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By GOP House Conference Chair Elise Stefanik. [E-PAC, 11/10/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Congressman Dan Crenshaw. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Congressman Kevin Brady. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Congresswoman Yvette Herrell. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Congresswoman Debbie Lesko. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Congressman Jodey Arrington. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Congressman August Pfluger. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Congressman Ronny Jackson. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Congresswoman Ashley Hinson. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Congressman Greg Murphy. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Congresswoman Virginia Foxx. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

2020 Campaign

De La Cruz Came Within 3 Points Of Flipping The Historically Democratic TX-15 District

De La Cruz Overperformed Previous Republican Challengers In The Texas 15th Congressional District Coming Within Three Points Of Unseating Incumbent Rep. Vicente Gonzalez. "She surprised the political world when she came within 3 points of unseating Gonzalez, who has held the seat since 2017 and defeated his previous Republican challenger by 21 points." [Texas Tribune, 8/31/21]



The Texas 15th Congressional District Has Never Elected A Republican Since Its Creation In 1903. "Texas District 15 has voted for a Democrat representative since the district was created in 1903. Monica De La Cruz, the Republican candidate for District 15 in 2020 is running again this election and she expects to see that change." [Valley Central, 12/16/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Republican Members Of Congress, Texas Republican Chairman Allen West, The National Border Patrol Council, And Anti-Choice Groups

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Congressman Dan Crenshaw. "ENDORSEMENT ALERT I am proud to have received the official endorsement from former Navy Seal and future colleague, Congressman @RepDanCrenshaw Please get out and vote to protect your constitutional rights and values. @DanCrenshawTX" [Monica De La Cruz For Congress, Twitter, 10/12/20]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Congressman Mike Conaway. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Congresswoman Carol Miller. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz By Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Texas GOP Chair & Former Congressman Allen West. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By The National Border Patrol Council. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By The National Right To Life Committee. [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/2/21]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By The Texas Right To Life PAC. "NEW ENDORSEMENT ALERT 'Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez is the candidate Congressional District 15 has been waiting for,' Texas Right to Life Political Director Luke Bowen said." [Monica De La Cruz For Congress, Twitter, 10/9/20]

Personal Political Donations

Personal Political Donations

De La Cruz Has Given \$119,295 In Political Donations, Mostly Loans And In-Kinds To Her Own Campaign

De La Cruz Political Donations				
Date	Candidate (Office Sought) or Committee	Party	Amount	
2018	Dori Contreras Garza (Appellate Court District 013 – Chief Justice)	D	\$200	
12/23/2019	Monica De La Cruz Hernandez For Congress (TX-15)	R	\$35,000 (Loan)	
12/23/2019	Monica De La Cruz Hernandez For Congress (TX-15)	R	\$29,000 (Loan)	
12/23/2019	Monica De La Cruz Hernandez For Congress (TX-15)	R	\$25,000 (Loan)	
1/06/2021	Monica For Congress (TX-15)	R	\$18,000 (Loan)	
1/31/2021	Monica For Congress (TX-15)	R	\$2,200 (In-Kind)	
2/28/2021	Monica For Congress (TX-15)	R	\$2,200 (In-Kind)	
3/31/2021	Monica For Congress (TX-15)	R	\$2,200 (In-Kind)	
5/28/2021	Winred	R	\$95	



6/30/2021	Monica For Congress (TX-15)	R	\$2,700 (In-Kind)
9/30/2021	Monica For Congress (TX-15)	R	\$2,700 (In-Kind)
		Total	\$119,295

[FEC, Individual Contribution Search, accessed 12/2/21; FollowTheMoney.org, accessed 12/2/21]

NOTE: Further research may be needed to confirm if the May 2021 WinRed donation went to a specific candidate. There are donations to ActBlue from another contributor named Monica De La Cruz but this is a different person and not the candidate in question.

According To Federal Election Commission Records, De La Cruz's Campaign Took Out \$113,000 In Loans. [FEC, Individual Contribution Search, accessed 12/2/21; FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

NOTE: For further information on De La Cruz's campaign loans, see "Ethics & Campaign Finance" section.

The Only Contribution De La Cruz Has Made That Did Not Go To Her Own Campaign, Went To A Liberal Democratic Judge In 2018

October 2018: De La Cruz Contributed \$200 To Democrat Dori Contreras Garza's Campaign For Chief Justice of The 13th District Appeals Court. [Texas Ethics Commission, accessed 12/2/21]

Contreras Garza On Being Primaried For The 13th Court Of Appeal: "The People Of Hidalgo County Believe In The Values And Principles Of The Democratic Party." "Drawing Republican challengers in 2014 are U.S. Rep. Rubén Hinojosa, D-Mercedes, and Justice Dori Contreras Garza, the Democratic Place 6 incumbent on the 13th Court of Appeals, according to the Texas Secretary of State's website. Eddie Zamora again has filed to run against Hinojosa for congressional District 15, and Doug Norman and Bradford M. Condit filed to run against Contreras [...]Estimating a crowd of 300 people, Texas Democratic Party Chairman Gilberto Hinojosa saw the turnout as 'a good sign for November' and its general election. 'We want to make sure that we get through the fight like brothers,' he said. Contreras agreed. 'The people of Hidalgo County believe in the values and principles of the Democratic Party,' she said. [McAllen Monitor, 12/10/13]

Dori Contreras' Campaigns Were Funded By Democratic Committees, Unions, And An LGBT Rights Organization

Contributor	Recipient	Amount
Texas Democratic Women	Dori Contreras Garza	\$4,000
Texas Democratic Women Of Brazos Valley	Dori Contreras Garza	\$2,300
San Patricio County Democratic Party	Dori Contreras Garza	\$500
Kendall County Area Democratic Women	Dori Contreras Garza	\$500
Rio Grande Valley Texas Democratic Women	Dori Contreras Garza	\$200
Jim Wells County Democrats	Dori Contreras Garza	\$200
Greater Arlington Mansfield Texas Democratic Women	Dori Contreras Garza	\$100
International Brotherhood Of Electrical Workers	Dori Contreras Garza	\$1,000
Communications Workers Of America	Dori Contreras Garza	\$300
Stonewall Democrats Of The Rio Grande Valley	Dori Contreras Garza	\$1,000
	Total	\$10,100.00

[FollowTheMoney.org, accessed <u>12/2/21</u>]



De La Cruz Claimed To Be A Trump 2020 Contributor But Has Not Contributed To His Campaign

De La Cruz Claimed To Be A Trump 2020 Contributor. [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Candidate Profile, accessed 12/2/21]

According To The FEC, Monica De La Cruz Has Never Contributed To The Trump Campaign As Of December 2021. [FEC, Individual Contribution Search, accessed 12/2/21]



Ethics & Campaign Finance



Significant Findings

- ✓ According to Federal Election Commission records, De La Cruz's campaign took out \$113,000 in loans including \$89,000 from three different banks and 24,000 in self loans.
 - ✓ December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's campaign received a \$25,000 loan from First Community bank that was also reported under De La Cruz's name.
 - ✓ December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's campaign received a \$35,000 loan from BBVA bank that was also reported under De La Cruz's name and campaign.
 - ✓ December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's campaign received a \$29,000 loan from Barclay Credit that was also reported under De La Cruz's name.
 - ✓ De La Cruz and her husband loaned her campaign \$24,000, \$11,000 of which was repaid to De La Cruz directly as of July 2021.
 - ✓ According to Federal Election Commission reports, De La Cruz's campaign made \$100,000 in loan repayments.
- ✓ De La Cruz's insurance business was approved for a \$38,552 PPP loan from BBVA days after her campaign repaid BBVA for a \$35,000 loan.
 - ✓ April 20, 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Repaid A \$35,000 Loan From BBVA Bank.
 - ✓ April 29, 2020: DLC Insurance received a \$38,552 paycheck protection loan to cover payroll costs for 5 employees.
 - ✓ De La Cruz reported annual personal income from DLC Insurance that nearly matched the amount of the PPP loan to DLC Insurance.
- ✓ De La Cruz received multiple FEC requests for additional information for failing to properly disclose loans to her campaign.
 - ✓ March 2020: De La Cruz's campaign received an FEC request for additional information after failing to disclose if a loan to the campaign was made from personal funds or obtained from a bank.
 - ✓ September 2020: De La Cruz's campaign received an FEC request for additional information after they reported loan payments to date that did not equal reported itemized loan payments.
 - ✓ September 2020: De La Cruz's campaign received an FEC request to clarify the source of the three bank loans she received in December 2019.
- ✓ De La Cruz's campaign received multiple requests for additional information from the FEC regarding inconsistencies in her campaign finance disclosures.
 - ✓ On four different occasions De La Cruz's campaign received an FEC request for additional information after failing to report occupation data for a number of donors.
 - ✓ July 2020: De La Cruz's campaign received an FEC request for additional information after failing to file a pre-primary runoff report.



- ✓ September 2020: De La Cruz's campaign received an FEC request for additional information after failing to report descriptions for disbursements from the campaign.
- ✓ September 2020: De La Cruz's campaign received an FEC request for additional information after reporting \$5,600 in contributions from one individual for the primary election.
- ✓ September 2020: De La Cruz's campaign received an FEC request for additional information after failing to file a 48-hour notice for a last minute contribution.
- ✓ October 2021: De La Cruz's Campaign received an FEC request for additional information after a transfer from her 2020 campaign committee which was not listed as an affiliated committee.
- ✓ According to the FEC, De La Cruz reported \$12,000 as in-kind disbursements to herself for rent and utilities on a building she owned.
 - ✓ FEC Filings Listed De La Cruz's campaign address as 1317 West Frontage Rd, Suite C, Alamo, TX.
 - ✓ A Check N Go payday loans business was located at 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite C, Alamo, TX 78516.
 - ✓ De La Cruz's State Farm insurance agency office was located at 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite A, Alamo, TX 78516.
 - ✓ JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC owned 1317 W Frontage Rd Alamo, TX.
 - ✓ De La Cruz was the owner of JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC.
- ✓ Monica De La Cruz's campaign paid over \$1,800 in rent and travel costs to an RV park over the course of three months.
 - ✓ According to the Federal Election Commission, De La Cruz paid \$1,884 in rent and travel costs to an RV park from campaign funds.
 - ✓ De La Cruz disclosed that she owed between \$15,000-\$50,000 on a travel trailer.

Campaign Loans

According To Federal Election Commission Records, De La Cruz's Campaign Took Out \$113,000 In Loans And Has Made \$100,000 In Loan Payments

According To Federal Election Commission Records, De La Cruz's Campaign Took Out \$113,000 In Loans. [FEC, Individual Contribution Search, accessed 12/2/21; FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

Loans					
Committee	Loaner	Date	Payment	Original Loan Amount	
	Name	Incurred	To Date	_	
Monica For	De La Cruz	1/6/2021	\$5,000.00		\$18,000.00
Congress	Hernandez,				
	Monica				



Monica De La	First	12/23/2019	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Cruz Hernandez	Community		, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	1 - 3
For US Congress	(also			
	reported as			
	Monica De			
	La Cruz			
	Hernandez)			
Monica De La	De La Cruz	12/23/2019	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Cruz Hernandez	Hernandez,		, , ,	, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
For US Congress	Monica			
	(also			
	reported as			
	Monica De			
	La Cruz			
	Hernandez			
	for			
	Congress)			
Monica De La	Hernandez,	12/23/2019	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Cruz Hernandez	Juan (also	12/23/2017	Ψ5,000.00	Ψ3,000.00
For US Congress	reported as			
Tor Ob Congress	Monica De			
	La Cruz			
	Hernandez)			
Monica De La	Barclay	12/23/2019	\$29,000.00	\$29,000.00
Cruz Hernandez	Credit (also	12/23/2019	Ψ29,000.00	Ψ25,000.00
For US Congress	reported as			
Tor Ob Congress	Monica De			
	La Cruz			
	Hernandez)			
	Tiernandez)			
Monica De La	BBVA	12/23/2019	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00
Cruz Hernandez	Bank (also	12/23/2019	φ22,000.00	\$33,000.00
For US Congress	reported as			
Tor ob congress	Monica De			
	La Cruz			
	Hernandez			
	and Monica			
	De La Cruz			
	Hernandez			
	for			
	Congress)			
	Congress)			Total: \$113,000
	C 1	11/10/00		10tal: \$115,000

[FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

According To The Federal Election Commission, De La Cruz Settled \$100,000 In Loan Payments. [FEC, Campaign Disbursements Search, accessed $\frac{1/4/22}{2}$]

Loan Payments Reported As Disbursements			
Spender	Spender Recipient Disbursement Amount Date		
Monica For Congress	De La Cruz Hernandez, Monica	7/15/2021	\$3,000.00



Monica For Congress	De La Cruz	5/4/2021	\$2,000.00
	Hernandez, Monica		
Monica De La Cruz	Barclay Credit	1/6/2021	\$18,000.00
Hernandez For US			
Congress			
Monica De La Cruz	Barclay Credit	12/31/2020	\$11,000.00
Hernandez For US			
Congress			
Monica De La Cruz	De La Cruz	12/30/2020	\$1,000.00
Hernandez For US	Hernandez, Monica		
Congress			
Monica De La Cruz	De La Cruz	6/25/2020	\$5,000.00
Hernandez For US	Hernandez, Monica		
Congress			
Monica De La Cruz	First Community	4/20/2020	\$25,000.00
Hernandez For US			
Congress			
Monica De La Cruz	BBVA Bank	4/20/2020	\$35,000.00
Hernandez For US			
Congress			
			Total: \$100,000

[FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

December 23, 2019: De La Cruz Took Out \$89,000 In Loans For Her Campaign From Three Different Banks

December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's Campaign Received A \$25,000 Loan From First Community Bank That Was Also Reported Under De La Cruz's Name. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

• April 2020: De La Cruz Repaid \$25,000 Of This Loan. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's Campaign Received A \$35,000 Loan From BBVA Bank That Was Also Reported Under De La Cruz's Name And Campaign. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

• April 2020: De La Cruz Repaid \$35,000 Of This Loan. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's Campaign Received A \$29,000 Loan From Barclay Credit That Was Also Reported Under De La Cruz's Name. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

- January 2021: De La Cruz Repaid \$18,000 Of This Loan. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]
- **December 2020: De La Cruz Repaid \$11,000 Of This Loan.** [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

De La Cruz And Her Husband Loaned Her Campaign \$24,000; Campaign Repaid De La Cruz \$11,000 From June 2020-July 2021

January 6, 2021: De La Cruz Loaned \$18,000 To Her Own Campaign. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]



- July 2021: De La Cruz Was Repaid \$3,000 Of This Loan By Her Campaign. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]
- May 2021: De La Cruz Was Repaid \$2,000 Of This Loan By Her Campaign. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's Campaign Received A \$5,000 Loan From Her Husband Juan Hernandez That Was Also Reported Under De La Cruz's Name On Other Reports. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

• June 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Made A \$5,000 Loan Repayment To De La Cruz. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

December 23, 2019: De La Cruz's Campaign Received A \$1,000 Loan From Herself That Was Also Reported Under Her Campaign. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

• December 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Made A \$1,000 Loan Repayment To De La Cruz. [FEC, Campaign Loans Search, accessed 1/10/22]

2020: De La Cruz Received Multiple FEC Requests For Additional Information For Failing To Properly Disclose Loans To Her Campaign

March 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Failing To Disclose If A Loan To The Campaign Was Made From Personal Funds Or Obtained From A Bank. "When a committee reports receiving a loan from the candidate, it is necessary to clarify whether or not the candidate used personal funds or borrowed the money from a lending institution or some other source. Please amend your report to indicate whether the loan is from the candidate's personal funds or if he/she obtained the loan from a bank loan, brokerage account, credit card, home equity line of credit, or other line of credit." [FEC, 3/8/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After They Reported Loan Payments To Date That Did Not Equal Reported Itemized Loan Payments. "The loan payments disclosed on the Payment to Date calculation of Schedule C do not equal the loan payment(s) itemized on Schedule B of this or any of your committee's previous reports. Each loan payment made by the committee must be itemized on Schedule B regardless of the amount of the payment, and included in the payment to date calculation on Schedule C. Please correct this discrepancy and file an amendment to your report or any previous report where loan payments occurred but were not itemized. (11 CFR § 104.3(b)(4)(iii))." [FEC, 9/14/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request To Clarify The Source Of The Three Bank Loans She Received In December 2019. "Schedule C of your report discloses loans for which the source has changed from what was itemized on your previous report(s). With every report submitted, you must provide the name and address of the loan source, the date incurred, the original amount of the loan, the due date, the interest rate, the cumulative payment, and the outstanding balance. In addition, if there are any endorsers or guarantors, their mailing address, along with the name of their employer and occupation, must be disclosed. Please amend your report to the clarify the source for the following loan(s): Barclay Credit, \$29,000.00 on 12/23/2019; BBVA Bank, \$35,000.00 on 12/23/2019; and First Community, \$25,000.00 on 12/23/2019. (11 CFR §§ 100.52(a), 100.52(b) and 104.3(d))" [FEC, 9/14/20]

BBVA Approved De La Cruz's Insurance Business For A \$38,552 PPP Loan Nine Days After Her Campaign Repaid A \$35,000 Loan To BBVA



April 29, 2020: DLC Insurance Received A \$38,552 Paycheck Protection Loan To Cover Payroll Costs. [ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

Paycheck Protection Loan Information			
Business Name:	DLC Insurance Inc		
Loan Amount:	\$38,552		
Intended Use For Loan:	Payroll		
Location:	Alamo, TX		
Industry:	Direct Life Insurance Carriers		
Business Type:	Sole Proprietorship		
Jobs Reported:	5		
Lender:	BBVA USA		
Date Approved:	4/29/20		

[ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

DLC Insurance Claimed The PPP Loan Was Going To Support 5 Employees. [ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

According To The Small Business Administration, As Of June 2021 The PPP Loan Was Reported As "Paid In Full." "DLC Insurance Inc in Alamo, TX received a Paycheck Protection Loan of \$38,552 through PNC Bank, National Association, which was approved in April, 2020. This loan's status is reported by the SBA as "Paid in Full", which includes both loans repaid and those fully forgiven from repayment under PPP guidelines. The loan's status was last updated by the SBA in June, 2021." [FederalPay.org, accessed 12/13/21]

De La Cruz Reported Annual Personal Income From DLC Insurance That Nearly Matched The Amount Of The PPP Loan To DLC Insurance

April 29, 2020: DLC Insurance Received A \$38,552 Paycheck Protection Loan To Cover Payroll Costs. [ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

De La Cruz Had \$33,000 In Earned Income From DLC Insurance Inc. In 2021. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

De La Cruz Had \$44,600 In Earned Income From DLC Insurance Inc. In 2020. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

De La Cruz Had \$35,000 In Earned Income From DLC Insurance Inc. In 2019. [Monica De La Cruz 2020 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filed 4/22/20]

De La Cruz Had \$30,234 In Earned Income From DLC Insurance Inc. In 2018. [Monica De La Cruz 2020 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filed <u>4/22/20</u>]

DLC Insurance Was Approved For A \$38,552 PPP Loan From BBVA Days After Her Campaign Repaid BBVA For A \$35,000 Loan

April 20, 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Repaid A \$35,000 Loan From BBVA Bank. [FEC, Campaign Disbursements Search, accessed 5/12/21]

April 29, 2020: DLC Insurance Was Approved For A \$38,552 PPP Loan From BBVA Bank. [ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]



Campaign Disclosure Issues

Throughout 2020 And As Recently As October 2021, De La Cruz's Campaign Received Numerous Requests For Additional Information From The FEC For Inaccurate And Inadequate Campaign Finance Disclosures

On Four Different Occasions De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Failing To Report Occupation Data For A Number of Donors. [FEC, 3/8/20; FEC, 3/8/20; FEC, 9/14/20]

March 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Failing To Disclose If A Loan To The Campaign Was Made From Personal Funds Or Obtained From A Bank. "When a committee reports receiving a loan from the candidate, it is necessary to clarify whether or not the candidate used personal funds or borrowed the money from a lending institution or some other source. Please amend your report to indicate whether the loan is from the candidate's personal funds or if he/she obtained the loan from a bank loan, brokerage account, credit card, home equity line of credit, or other line of credit." [FEC, 3/8/20]

July 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Failing To File A Pre-Primary Runoff Report. $[FEC, \frac{7/3}{20}]$

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After A Pre-Runoff Report Contained An Accounting Error. "The totals listed on Lines 6(a), 6(c), 7(a), 7(b), 7(c), 11(a)(iii), 11(c), 13(a), 13(b), 14, 16, 17, and 22, Column B of the Summary and Detailed Summary Pages appear to be incorrect. Column B figures for the Summary and Detailed Summary Pages should equal the sum of the Column B figures on your previous report and the Column A figures on this report. Please file an amendment to your report to correct the Column B discrepancies for this report and all subsequent report(s) which may be affected by this correction. Note that Column B should reflect only the election cycle-to-date totals (11/7/2018 through 11/3/2020). (52 U.S.C. § 30104(b) (formerly 2 U.S.C. § 434(b)) and 11 CFR § 104.3)." [FEC, 9/14/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After They Reported Loan Payments To Date That Did Not Equal Reported Itemized Loan Payments. "The loan payments disclosed on the Payment to Date calculation of Schedule C do not equal the loan payment(s) itemized on Schedule B of this or any of your committee's previous reports. Each loan payment made by the committee must be itemized on Schedule B regardless of the amount of the payment, and included in the payment to date calculation on Schedule C. Please correct this discrepancy and file an amendment to your report or any previous report where loan payments occurred but were not itemized. (11 CFR § 104.3(b)(4)(iii))." [FEC, 9/14/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Failing To Report Descriptions For Disbursements From The Campaign. "Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why each disbursement was made. Please amend Schedule B supporting Line 17 of your report to clarify the following descriptions: 'Blank,' 'Blockwalking,' 'Fees,' 'In-Kind,' 'Items,' 'Material,' and 'Materials.' For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursement, please refer to 11 CFR 104.3(b)(4)(i)(A)." [FEC, 9/14/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Failing To Report The Original Vendor On Reimbursements To Individuals Over \$200. "Schedule B of your report discloses reimbursements to individuals for the following disbursement(s): 'BUMPER STICKERS' and 'OFFICE SUPPLIES.' Please be advised that when itemizing reimbursements to individuals for goods or services, if the payment to the original vendor aggregates in excess of \$200 in an election cycle, a memo entry including the name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and purpose of the original purchase must be provided. Please amend your report to include the missing information on Schedule B and clearly identify each memo entry supporting a reimbursement. If itemization is not necessary, you must indicate so in an amendment to



this report. (11 CFR §§ 104.3(b)(4)(i) and 104.9, and Advisory Opinions 1992-1 and 1996-20, footnote 3)." [FEC, 9/14/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Disclosing Loans In Schedule C With Different Sources Than What Was Itemized On Previous Reports.

"Schedule C of your report discloses loans for which the source has changed from what was itemized on your previous report(s). With every report submitted, you must provide the name and address of the loan source, the date incurred, the original amount of the loan, the due date, the interest rate, the cumulative payment, and the outstanding balance. In addition, if there are any endorsers or guarantors, their mailing address, along with the name of their employer and occupation, must be disclosed. Please amend your report to the clarify the source for the following loan(s): Barclay Credit, \$29,000.00 on 12/23/2019; BBVA Bank, \$35,000.00 on 12/23/2019; and First Community, \$25,000.00 on 12/23/2019. (11 CFR §§ 100.52(a), 100.52(b) and 104.3(d))." [FEC, 9/14/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Reporting \$5,600 In Contributions From One Individual For The Primary Election. "Schedule A of your report discloses one or more contributions that appear to exceed the limits set forth in the Act (see attached). An individual or a political committee other than an authorized committee or qualified multi-candidate committee may not make a contribution(s) to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$2,800 per election." [FEC, 9/14/20]

Apparent Excessive, Prohibited, and Impermissible Contributions Monica De La Cruz Hernandez For U.S. Congress (C00723072)

Apparent Excessive Contributions from Individuals

Contributor Name	Date	Amount	Election
Parker, Robert	2/29/20	\$2,800.00	P2020
Parker, Robert	2/29/20	\$2,800.00	P2020

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Reporting A Contribution For The Primary Campaign That Was Received After The Primary Date.

"Schedule A of your report discloses one or more contributions received after the 2020 primary election that are designated for the 2020 primary. These contributions may only be accepted to the extent that the committee has net debts outstanding from the 2020 primary election." [FEC, 9/14/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After Failing To File A 48-Hour Notice For A Last Minute Contribution. "Schedule A of your report indicates that your committee may have failed to file one or more of the required 48-hour notices regarding 'last minute' contributions (to include loans, in-kind contributions, and advances) received by your committee after the close of books for the 12 Day Pre-Primary Report (see attached). A principal campaign committee must notify the Commission, in writing, within 48 hours of any contribution of \$1,000 or more received between two and twenty days before an election. These contributions are then reported on the next report required to be filed by the committee." [FEC, 9/14/20]

September 2020: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information Because Opening Balance Of The July Quarterly Report Did Not Match The Closing Balance 12 Day Pre-Runoff Report. "The beginning cash balance of this report does not equal the ending balance of your 12 Day Pre-Runoff Report. Please correct this discrepancy and amend all subsequent reports that may be affected by the correction. (52 U.S.C. § 30104(b) (1) (formerly 2 U.S.C. § 434(b)(1)) and 11 CFR § 104.3(a)(1))." [FEC, 9/14/20]

October 2021: De La Cruz's Campaign Received An FEC Request For Additional Information After A Transfer From Her 2020 Campaign Committee Which Was Not Listed As An Affiliated Committee. "Schedule A, supporting Line 12 of your report discloses a transfer from Monica De La Cruz Hernandez for US



Congress, that appears to be received through an affiliated committee. However, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez for US Congress is not disclosed as an affiliated committee on your Statement of Organization. Please amend your Statement of Organization to disclose this entity as an affiliated committee of the candidate or amend your report to provide clarifying information. (11 CFR §102.2(b)(1)(ii))." [FEC, 10/5/21]

Campaign Expenditures

De La Cruz Reported \$12,000 As In-Kind Disbursements To Herself For Rent And Utilities On A Building She Owned

According To The Federal Election Commission, De La Cruz Reported \$12,000 In In-Kind Contributions To Her Campaign.

Contributions To Campaign From De La Cruz				
Spender	Recipient	Date	Amount	
De La Cruz Hernandez, Monica	Monica For Congress	9/30/2021	\$2,700	
De La Cruz Hernandez, Monica	Monica For Congress	6/30/2021	\$2,700	
De La Cruz Hernandez, Monica	Monica For Congress	3/31/2021	\$2,200	
De La Cruz Hernandez, Monica	Monica For Congress	2/28/2021	\$2,200	
De La Cruz Hernandez, Monica	Monica For Congress	1/31/2021	\$2,200	
		Total:	\$12,000	

[FEC, Individual Contribution Search, accessed 12/3/21]

According To The Federal Election Commission, De La Cruz Reported \$12,000 In In-Kind Disbursements From Her Campaign To Herself For "Rent And Utilities."

Spender	Recipient	Description	Date	Amount
Monica For	De La Cruz Hernandez,	In-Kind: Office	9/30/2021	\$2,700
Congress	Monica	Rent/Utilities		
Monica For	De La Cruz Hernandez,	In-Kind: Office	6/30/2021	\$2,700
Congress	Monica	Rent/Utilities		
Monica For	De La Cruz Hernandez,	In-Kind: Office	3/31/2021	\$2,200
Congress	Monica	Rent/Utilities		
Monica For	De La Cruz Hernandez,	In-Kind: Office	2/28/2021	\$2,200
Congress	Monica	Rent/Utilities		
Monica For	De La Cruz Hernandez,	In-Kind: Office	1/31/2021	\$2,200
Congress	Monica	Rent/Utilities		
			Total:	\$12,000

[FEC, Campaign Disbursements Search, accessed <u>12/3/21</u>]

FEC Filings List De La Cruz's Campaign Address As 1317 West Frontage Road, Suite C, Alamo, TX. [FEC, Statement of Organization, accessed 12/3/21]



- A Check N Go Payday Loans Business Was Located At 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite C, Alamo, TX 78516. [Check 'N Go, Locations, Accessed 12/8/21]
- De La Cruz's State Farm Insurance Agency Office Was Located At 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite A, Alamo, TX 78516. [State Farm, accessed 11/5/21]
- De La Cruz's Spouse's Business, Navi Business Group, Listed 1317 Frontage Rd, Suite A, Alamo, TX 78516 As Its Principal Office And Place Of Business. [Texas Secretary of State, Public Information Report, 12/31/18]

JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Owned 1317 W Frontage Rd Alamo, TX. [Hidalgo County Appraisal District, Property Search, accessed 12/3/21]

De La Cruz Was The Owner Of JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC. [Texas Secretary of State, Certificate of Formation, 10/5/15]

Monica De La Cruz's Campaign Paid Over \$1,800 In Rent And Travel Costs To An RV Park Over The Course of Three Months

According To The Federal Election Commission, De La Cruz Paid \$1,884 In Rent And Travel Costs To An RV Park From Campaign Funds.

Payments To River Shade RV From Campaign				
Spender	Recipient	Description	Date	Amount
Monica De La Cruz For US Congress	River Shade RV Park	Travel	3/24/2020	\$500.40
Monica De La Cruz For US Congress	River Shade RV Park	Rent	2/19/2020	\$442.20
Monica De La Cruz For US Congress	River Shade RV Park	Travel	2/13/2020	\$28.00
Monica De La Cruz For US Congress	River Shade RV Park	Rent	1/21/2020	\$441.20
Monica De La Cruz For US Congress	River Shade RV Park	RV Park Rental	12/23/2019	\$473.00
		TITLE C	Total:	\$1,884.80

[FEC, Campaign Disbursements Search, accessed <u>5/10/21</u>]

De La Cruz Owed Thousands In Personal Debt On A Travel Trailer

De La Cruz Disclosed That She Owed Between \$15,000-\$50,000 On A Travel Trailer. [Personal Financial Disclosure, Filed 4/22/20]



Political Relationships

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz regularly criticized President Biden in harsh terms, calling him "Anti-American" and using the insult "Let's Go Brandon."
- ✓ De La Cruz was endorsed by Kevin McCarthy and was named an NRCC "Young Gun" top recruit.
- ✓ De La Cruz was supported by Dan Crenshaw in 2020 and 2022, who called her an "absolute fighter" and "exactly what we need in Congress."
- ✓ De La Cruz was named in the first slate of Republican women candidates endorsed by Elise Stefanik's leadership PAC.
- ✓ De La Cruz's campaign was highlighted by NRCC chair Tom Emmer among Republican women candidates.
- ✓ De La Cruz was endorsed by Senator Ted Cruz.
- ✓ De La Cruz attended an October 2020 event with indicted Edinburg Mayor Richard Molina, who was charged in 2019 with eleven counts of illegal voting and one count of election fraud, and was previously accused of bribing voters for their support in 2017.

Joe Biden

De La Cruz Frequently Criticized Biden With The Phrase "Let's Go Brandon," And Called Him "Anti-American"

De La Cruz Used The Phrase "Let's Go Brandon" While Promoting An NRCC Event. "Proud to represent #TX15 at the NRCC Countdown to the Majority dinner with special guest Donald J Trump. I am humbled to lead this great district to #VICTORY in 2022! Together we will TAKE BACK THE HOUSE and #FIRE Nancy Pelosi. Let's Go Brandon!!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 11/8/21]

De La Cruz Tweeted "Let's Go Brandon!!"



Monica De La Cruz for Congress

@monica4congress

Let's Go Brandon!!

12:35 AM · Oct 10, 2021 · Twitter for Android

[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 10/10/21]

De La Cruz Posed In A "Let's Go Brandon" Shirt.





[Monica For Congress, Twitter, <u>12/5/21</u>]

"Let's Go Brandon" Has Been Used As A Stand-In Insult For The More Crude Expletive "Fuck Joe Biden." "The anti-President Biden mantra "Let's go Brandon" has morphed from an inside joke among some conservatives to virtually an unofficial motto of the Republican Party, a way to insult the administration, voice anger about its tenure and signal irritation with the media — all in language designed to conceal an expletive. [...] Unlike most successful political slogans, this one requires considerable explanation: It is a stand-in for the cruder "F--- Joe Biden" chant that has erupted at sports venues and rallies across the country." [Washington Post, 11/15/21]

De La Cruz Said Biden Was "Anti-American." "Joe Biden is ANTI-American!!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 8/30/21]

In October 2020, De La Cruz Called For A Special Counsel Investigation Into Biden Regarding Alleged Business Deals In China. "Investigate the Big Guy! Time for SPECIAL COUNSEL is NOW! FBI confirms authenticity of Biden emails documenting dark deals with Chinese Communists. And now Biden business partner confirms Joe Biden is lying! We can't let Biden family cash in on its name and sell out America!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 10/22/20]

Kevin McCarthy

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Kevin McCarthy And Was Named An NRCC Young Gun Recruit

De La Cruz Said She Was Grateful For House GOP Leader McCarthy's Endorsement. "Proud to announce that @GOPLeader Kevin McCarthy has endorsed our campaign in #TX15! Earning this vote of confidence is a testament to our movement in South Texas, and I'm grateful to Leader McCarthy for believing in us."





[Monica For Congress, Twitter, <u>8/31/20</u>]

De La Cruz Was Picked By Kevin McCarthy As Part of The NRCC's Young Guns Recruitment Program After Meeting Required Campaign Benchmarks. "Monica De La Cruz, a candidate for the 15th Congressional District in Texas, was picked this week by House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) as a 'young gun,' a designation given by the party to candidates who 'have met a series of rigorous goals and surpassed program benchmarks to establish a clear path to victory." [Washington Post, 11/9/21]

December 2021: De La Cruz Met With McCarthy And Other House GOP Candidates.





[Kevin McCarthy, Twitter, 12/8/21]

Dan Crenshaw

Crenshaw Endorsed De La Cruz In 2020 And 2022, Calling Her A Friend And "Exactly What We Need In Congress"

Crenshaw Endorsed De La Cruz Backing Her 100%. "Monica's success in her 2020 campaign shocked the political world as she came closer to beating a Democrat incumbent than any other Texas Republican congressional candidate. Now she's going to finish the job in 2022, and I encourage my fellow Texas Republicans to join me in backing Monica 100%." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 3/2/21]

Crenshaw Called De La Cruz "A Friend, An Absolute Fighter, And Exactly What We Need In Congress." "I am proud to have received the official endorsement from former Navy Seal and future colleague, Congressman Dan Crenshaw!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 10/12/20] (Video)

October 2020: Crenshaw And De La Cruz Attended A Shooting Range Together.





[Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>10/11/20</u>]

Elise Stefanik

De La Cruz Was Named In The First Round Slate Of GOP Women Candidates Endorsed By Stefanik's E-PAC

Stefanik Endorsed De La Cruz As Part Of A Slate Of House GOP Women Candidates Running In 2022. "Meet our #EPAC 2022 Majority Makers! These #GOPWomen are fired up & ready to build on the historic success of 2020 & #FirePelosi once and for all!"



[Elise Stefanik, Twitter, 11/30/21]

De La Cruz Met With Stefanik In Washington, D.C. During An NRCC Meeting. "Excellent meeting with NRCC Leadership while in D.C. I greatly enjoyed my visit with Office of Congresswoman Elise Stefanik!"





[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 7/29/21]

Tom Emmer

NRCC Chair Emmer Emphasized De La Cruz's Candidacy As One Of The Republican Women Candidates Running In 2022

De La Cruz Thanked Emmer For Highlighting Her Candidacy Among Other Female GOP Recruits. "Thank you Congressman Tom Emmer for including me, 'I anticipate that we're going to set a new record this time just like we did last time, because we are going to continue to add to the talent pool of women that we've attracted to the House,' said Emmer" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 7/28/21]

De La Cruz's Campaign Was Showcased By NRCC Chair Emmer Among GOP Women Candidates. "Emmer highlighted that out of the roughly 600 Republican House candidates that have already filed to run in the 2022 midterm elections – when the GOP needs a net gain of five seats to regain the chamber's majority – nearly 150 are women. [...] He also showcased Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez in Texas' 15th Congressional District, who's running again after losing to Democratic Rep. Vicente Gonzalez by three points last November." [Fox News, 7/26/21]

Ted Cruz

Ted Cruz Said He Was Proud To Endorse De La Cruz

Ted Cruz Said He Was Proud To Endorse De La Cruz And That She Was Needed In Congress. "I'm proud to endorse @monica4congress for election to Texas' 15th Congressional District. We need Monica in Congress to help fight back against Joe Biden's extreme agenda." [Ted Cruz, Twitter, 4/23/21]

De La Cruz Met With Ted Cruz's Father, Rafael Cruz. "I had the pleasure of seeing Pastor Rafael Cruz, father of Senator Ted Cruz, at the Guadalupe Lincoln Reagan dinner this week. He is from Cuba and shares his first hand experience with socialism. His passion for saving our country from socialism is powerful. We as patriots must defend our great country from these horrors." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 2/15/20]



Richard Molina

De La Cruz Attended An October 2020 Event With Edinburg Mayor Richard Molina, Who Was Charged The Prior Year With Illegal Voting And Election Fraud

De La Cruz Attended An Event Hosted By The Edinburg Police Association With Edinburg Mayor Richard Molina. "Had the pleasure of having Mayra Flores For Congress Monica De La Cruz for U.S. Congress George P. Bush rep and Mayor Richard Molina at our monthly meeting. All discussed the importance of continuing their support for Law Enforcement in their respective jurisdictions through these difficult times."



[Edinburg Police Organization, Facebook, 10/22/21]

July 2019: Molina Was Charged With 11 Counts of Illegal Voting And 1 Count Of Election Fraud. "Edinburg Mayor, Richard Molina is facing charges on 11 counts of illegal voting and one count of engaging in organized election fraud, all felonies. Mayor Molina, his wife Dalia, and his business partner, Julio Ceasar Carranza, were arraigned before a district court judge Friday morning. Dalia and Ceasar are both facing charges of one count of engaging in organized election and two counts of illegal voting. All three plead not guilty. This comes after Mayor Molina was accused of changing voters addresses who did not live in Edinburg and allegedly bribing people for their vote in the 2017 municipal election. Since the investigation began, 20 individuals have been arrested for voter fraud." [Valley Central, 7/19/19]

• 2017: Molina Was Previously Accused Of Changing Voters Addresses And Bribing People For Votes. "This comes after Mayor Molina was accused of changing voters addresses who did not live in Edinburg and allegedly bribing people for their vote in the 2017 municipal election." [Valley Central, 7/19/19]



Donald Trump

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz repeatedly embraced Trump and regularly commended his presidency.
 - ✓ De La Cruz credited her surprisingly strong performance in the 2020 election to Trump.
 - ✓ De La Cruz praised Trump for helping Mexican-Americans "find their voice" and become "walk-away Democrats."
 - ✓ De La Cruz said Trump's "colorful personality" sparked new interest in national politics, but also described Trump as "cool, calm and reasonable."
 - ✓ 2016: De La Cruz took her kids out of school to attend a Trump visit to McAllen, Texas.
 - ✓ De La Cruz derided the impeachment proceedings against Trump as "a sham, and a phony hoax" that wasted time and taxpayer dollars.

De La Cruz Embraced Trump Repeatedly, And Said He Sparked Her Interest In Politics

De La Cruz Credited Her 2020 Performance To Trump And Praised Him Profusely

De La Cruz Credited Trump For Helping Her And Other Mexican Americans "Find Their Voice" And Become "Walk-Away Democrats" In The Rio Grande Valley

De La Cruz Credited Her 2020 Election Performance To Trump. "Sitting behind her office desk in Alamo earlier this month wearing cowboy boots and a campaign T-shirt, De La Cruz-Hernandez, who is running again, credited her performance to former President Donald Trump." [Associated Press, 7/17/21]

• 2020: Trump Made Significant Gains With Hispanic Voters In Traditionally Democratic South Texas. "Nationally, the Pew Research Center estimates that about 38% of Hispanic voters supported Trump in 2020, compared with 28% in 2016. While Trump lost Hidalgo Country by 17 percentage points in 2020, he more than doubled his support from 2016, when he lost by a whopping 40 points, earning just 28% of the vote. And he flipped a handful of other nearby districts, including Zapata County, which Democrat Hillary Clinton had won 66%-33%, and Kenedy, which Clinton carried 53%-45%"

2020: De La Cruz Came Within Three Points Of Unseating Incumbent Rep. Vicente Gonzalez. "Republican Monica De La Cruz, running in the next general election for the 15th Congressional District, talks in her office in Alamo, Texas, Thursday, July 8, 2021. In Republicans' bid to retake control of Congress, this traditionally Democratic stretch of south Texas has quietly become a top battleground. After making unexpected gains last November, the GOP is zeroing in on a trio of House seats in the region as key targets heading into next year's midterm elections. They include the 15th congressional district, which hasn't sent a Republican to Washington since its creation in 1903, but where the GOP newcomer came within three points of winning in 2020." [Fox News, 12/13/21]

De La Cruz Was A Registered Democrat Before Switching Parties And Running As A Republican. "Like many of her supporters, Ms. De La Cruz-Hernandez first registered as a Democrat, largely, she said, so she could vote in local primary elections. 'That was just what you do,' she said. She added that while she could not recall ever



having voted for a Democrat for president, she had hesitated to voice her political views publicly, fearing that it could hurt her insurance business. 'But I never understood the Democratic values or message being one for me,' she said. 'And I am convinced that people here have conservative values. That is really who the majority is." [New York Times, 5/2/21]

- De La Cruz Voted In The 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, And 2018 Democratic Primaries. [Hidalgo County Elections Department, 7/6/21]
- **De La Cruz Voted In The 2016 And 2020 Republican Primaries.** [Hidalgo County Elections Department, 7/6/21]

De La Cruz Said Trump's "Colorful Personality" Sparked New Interest In National Politics. "She said his 'colorful personality' had sparked new interest in national politics that changed many Texans' minds about politics." [Associated Press, 7/17/21]

De La Cruz Said Trump Helped Mexican Americans "Find Their Voice" And Become "Walk-Away Democrats." "Republican boosters in the region talked about improved quality of life, business opportunities, and educational access to institutions such as the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. Trump amplified this narrative of regional progress and gave many in the area hope. Monica De La Cruz Hernandez, a Republican who narrowly lost her race for a congressional seat in the Rio Grande Valley, told me that Trump had helped Mexican Americans 'find their voice.' Now they're 'walk-away Democrats' who shifted their support to Trump more dramatically than Latinos in other parts of the country." [The Atlantic, 11/9/20]

De La Cruz Claimed Trump Was Supported And Loved In The Rio Grande Valley. "At the end of the day....President Trump is supported and loved in the RGV. Facts don't care about your feelings. THOUSANDS showed up in the rain, heat and humidity to see him!!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 7/1/21]

De La Cruz Frequently Praised Trump And Attended GOP Events Embracing Trump

In November 2021, De La Cruz Attended An NRCC Event Where Trump Was Featured As A Special Guest. "Proud to represent #TX15 at the NRCC Countdown to the Majority dinner with special guest Donald J Trump. I am humbled to lead this great district to #VICTORY in 2022! Together we will TAKE BACK THE HOUSE and #FIRE Nancy Pelosi. Let's Go Brandon!! #SaveAmerica" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 11/8/21]

De La Cruz Posed With A Trump Cardboard Cutout At Her CPAC Booth.





[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 7/14/21]

De La Cruz Said She Wasn't Afraid To Stand With Trump And Would Work Day & Night To Help Him. "I'm not afraid to stand with our President! How about you? I am anxious to get to Congress where I will work day and night to help President Trump fight for the American people." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 4/26/20]

In June 2020, De La Cruz Attended A Trump Boat Parade In South Padre Island, Texas. "We have arrived in SPI! Ready to celebrate our Flag and President! Hope to see you at the Trump Boat Parade! God Bless America & God Bless our President." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 6/14/20]

De La Cruz Praised Trump For Being A "Strong, Decisive, Cool, Calm, Reasonable Leader." "During his address from the Oval Office this evening, President Trump was strong, decisive, and the cool, calm, reasonable leader we need as President." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 3/12/20]







[Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>2/1/20</u>]

De La Cruz Proudly Displayed Her Trump Credentials While Grocery Shopping. "God Bless You Mr.

President! Keep Keeping America GREAT!!"



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>1/6/20</u>]

2016: De La Cruz Took Her Kids Out Of School To Attend A Trump Visit To McAllen, Texas

De La Cruz Took Her Kids Out Of School To See Trump During His 2016 Visit To McAllen, Texas. "In 2016 our great President Trump decided to come down to the Rio Grande Valley to McAllen, Texas specifically and find out more about the border wall. I was super excited, this is the president of the United States, this is Air Force One and so what I did was take my kids out of school." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 1/14/20]

De La Cruz Said She Was Shamed By A School Employee For Her Support Of Trump And For Pulling Her Kids Out Of School To See His Event. "I was super pumped, we made signs, I took my kids out of school and when I got to the school I was taking them out and the secretary said, 'Why are you taking them out?' and I said well the president of the United States is coming and she goes, 'You're going to take your your kids out to go see him?' and I was so shocked I'm actually embarrassed to say I didn't say anything, I was shamed into staying quiet." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 1/14/20]

De La Cruz Called The First Impeachment Proceedings Against Trump A "Sham And A Phony Hoax"

De La Cruz Called The Impeachment Proceedings Against Trump A "Sham." "The American people are happy that this sham of impeachment is finally over." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, <u>2/5/20</u>]



De La Cruz Said It Was A "Sad Day" That Congress "Wasted" Time And Taxpayer Dollars To "Impeach Our Great President." "It is a sad day that our legislative body has wasted all of this time and taxpayer dollars to vote for an impeachment towards our great president. This needs to stop now." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 2/5/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Claimed Trump's Impeachment Was A "Phony Hoax." "Sadly, I predict he will choose to stand with his puppet master. Just as he did with his vote on the phony impeachment hoax, Nancy Pelosi is pulling Gonzalez' strings at a time when Congress should be fully supporting President Trump." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 1/9/20]



Issues



Abortion & Women's Health Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz was staunchly anti-choice, and wanted to outlaw abortions in all cases except "to protect the life of the mother."
 - ✓ De La Cruz opposed exceptions to abortion bans for victims of rape and incest, saying one of her top three priorities was "to prohibit abortion in all cases except to protect the life of the mother."

De La Cruz was endorsed by anti-choice groups, attended multiple anti-choice events and frequently used extreme anti-choice rhetoric.

- ✓ De La Cruz commended the city of Edinburg for taking up a proposed ban on abortion within city limits, though the ban did not pass.
- ✓ De La Cruz promoted crisis pregnancy centers that were exempt from regulatory, license, and credentialing oversight that applied to health care facilities.
- ✓ De La Cruz praised the passage of the SB 8 "heartbeat bill" which banned abortions after 6 weeks in Texas, with no exceptions for cases rape or incest, and allowed private citizens to sue abortion providers or anyone who aided an abortion.
- ✓ De La Cruz wanted to defund Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers, and supported the Hyde Amendment.

Abortion

De La Cruz Was Staunchly Anti-Choice, And Wanted To Outlaw Abortions In All Cases Except "To Protect The Life Of The Mother"

De La Cruz Wanted To Outlaw Abortions In All Cases Except "To Protect The Life Of The Mother"

De La Cruz Said Abortions Should Only Be Allowed If Needed To Save The Life Of The Mother. "Under what circumstances should abortion be allowed? [ANSWER:] Only to save the life of the mother." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 5/6/21]

De La Cruz Said One Of Her Top Three Priorities Was Pushing Legislation "To Prohibit Abortion In All Cases Except To Protect The Life Of The Mother." "In priority order, what three areas of legislation do you propose to author or sponsor if elected? [ANSWER:] 1. Legislation to finish building the border wall across the entire southern border and to provide the resources and suppot [sic] to adequately secure our borders 2. Legislation to guarantee our constitutionally mandated 2nd Amendment freedoms with any undue burdens or restrictions. 3. Legislation to prohibit abortion in all cases except to protect the life of the mother." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed <u>5/6/21</u>]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Anti-Choice Groups, And Frequently Used Extreme Anti-Choice Rhetoric

De La Cruz: "As A Christian, As A Mother, And As A Woman, I Believe Life Begins At Conception." "As a christian, as a mother, and as a woman, I believe life begins at conception and we must do everything we can to protect our innocent babies. Human life is a precious gift and we must honor it. As your Congresswoman I promise



to fight for each and every soul and to always support the sanctity of life." [Monicaforcongress.com, "The Issues," 5/12/21]

• De La Cruz Strongly Agreed That Human Life Begins At Conception. "Human life begins at conception and deserves legal protection at every stage until natural death. [ANSWER:] Strongly Agree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 5/6/21]

De La Cruz Said The Unborn Were "The Weakest Members Of Our Nation" And Needed Protection. "I believe in protecting the weakest members of our nation - the unborn. Standing for life is not the norm in today's society, but it's the RIGHT thing to do. As polls begin opening this month, remember I am YOUR prolife candidate for CD15." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 10/6/20]

- **De La Cruz Said She Was Pro-Life Because "Every Child Deserves A Chance."** "I believe every soul was put in this world for a reason. We know He never makes mistakes, and every child deserves a chance. This is why I am pro-life, and proud of it." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 7/19/20]
- **De La Cruz Claimed She Would Be "A Voice For The Unborn" In Congress.** "We need a voice for the unborn, our precious little gifts of life who don't have a fighting chance on their own. Human life begins at conception, and I will fight for these valuable children while in Congress." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/19/19]

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By The Texas Right To Life PAC For Being "Staunchly Pro-Life." "Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez is a staunchly Pro-Life, strong Latina woman running against a Democrat incumbent who does not represent the values of Texas border residents, said Luke Bowen, Texas Right to Life Political Director. "The 2022 election cycle starts now." [Monica For Congress, 5/19/21]

De La Cruz Promoted Adoption As An Alternative Option To Abortion.

It's a woman's right to choose...

Adoption <u>is</u> an Option.



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 9/10/21]



De La Cruz Commended The Edinburg City Council For Declaring The City As A Sanctuary City For The Unborn. "I commend the Edinburg City Council for declaring June 27 Pro-Apostolate Day, and I fully support the city's intention to make Edinburg a Sanctuary City for the unborn. We are a conservative Pro-Life community, and I hope Vicente Gonzalez joins our leaders taking a stand to protect innocent babies. Every single life is precious and I hope the City Council moves quickly on this important measure." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/27/21]

- June 2021: The Edinburg City Council Proclaimed Edinburg A Sanctuary City For The Unborn. "In a city council meeting last week, Edinburg Mayor Richard Molina read a proclamation from the Holy Family Pro-Life Apostolate asking to make Edinburg a sanctuary city for the unborn. Molina also agreed with the pro life group's desire to ban abortion in the city. 'I want you to know that as the Mayor and I'm only one vote, we vote as a team you do have my commitment that you will get this done,' said Molina. All three members of Edinburg City Council agreed with Mayor Molina's desire to make Edinburg the first sanctuary city for the unborn in the Rio Grande Valley." [Valley Central, 6/23/21]
- July 2021: A Proposed Ordinance Banning Abortion In City Limits And Declaring Edinburg A "Sanctuary For The Unborn" Was Not Advanced By The Edinburg City Council. "The ordinance for Edinburg City Council to outlaw abortion, and declare the city a Sanctuary for the Unborn, 'died' after no seconds were made to make a motion on the agenda item. Following around three hours of public comments regarding the ordinance, Mayor Richard Molina entertained a motion on the item, however no council member second the motion. Councilmember David White said, 'If you are waiting on me I won't vote to motion until I can hear from legal counsel.' Molina entertained a motion a total of three times, which was followed by silence. City Attorney Omar Ochoa clarified: 'If there is no motion then the city council cant take action, then the item is essentially denied, it dies for lack of a motion." [Valley Central, 7/20/21]
- The Proposed Ordinance Would Have Banned Abortion Within The City Limits, Pending Action By SCOTUS To "Reverse Caselaw." If the Council approves the item, it will be unlawful to do the following within city limits: Any person to perform an abortion. To help or encourage someone to have an abortion (this includes transportation, direction, and emotional support). Any person to possess or distribute abortion-inducing drugs. The penalty for the violations would be "the maximum penalty permitted under Texas law for the violation of a municipal ordinance governing public health," according to the agenda item. The ordinance would go into effect when passed, however, city enforcement would be restricted and waiting for the United States Supreme Court to reverse caselaw." [Valley Central, 7/20/21]

De La Cruz Promoted Crisis Pregnancy Centers That Were Exempt From Regulatory, License, And Credentialing Oversight That Applied To Health Care Facilities

De La Cruz Promoted A Pregnancy Center In McAllen, Texas. "This past weekend there was a disturbing article in the Monitor about a local bake sale supporting abortions. I want to share information for an alternative to an abortion that may be helpful to you or someone you know. Learn more about options other than abortion at the McAllen Pregnancy Center." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 4/26/21]

• Crisis Pregnancy Centers Are Organizations Aimed At Preventing Abortions That Are Exempt From Regulatory, Licensure, And Credentialing Oversight That Apply To Health Care Facilities. "Crisis pregnancy centers are organizations that seek to intercept women with unintended pregnancies who might be considering abortion. Their mission is to prevent abortions by persuading women that adoption or parenting is a better option. They strive to give the impression that they are clinical centers, offering legitimate medical services and advice, yet they are exempt from regulatory, licensure, and credentialing oversight that apply to health care facilities." [American Medical Association Journal of Ethics, 3/1/18]

As A 2020 Congressional Candidate, De La Cruz Hosted A Prayer Service For Unborn Babies And Pregnant Mothers While Promoting A Pregnancy Center. "Join me on Saturday June 6 at 10:30 am as we gather to pray for the unborn babies and their mothers. I am passionate about defending the unborn and would also like to help the



McAllen Pregnancy Center in their efforts in assisting women with their options." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/3/20]

De La Cruz Attended Multiple Anti-Choice Events

As A 2020 Congressional Candidate, De La Cruz Attended A Rally Outside An Abortion Clinic. "I am so impressed by our @hidalgoteenrepublicans and youth! This weekend they rallied in front of the abortion clinic and prayed for the young ladies and their unborn babies. Our future taking the lead on this is beautiful! They are our future!! #prolife" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/30/20]

De La Cruz Praised Pro-Life Groups For Offering Assistance To Pregnant Women. "Pro-life groups here in Texas are doubling down, and helping pregnant women in need during this time of economic uncertainty. Thank you for protecting the unborn here in Texas." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 4/23/20]

As A 2020 Congressional Candidate, De La Cruz Attended A March For Life Rally In Austin, Texas. "What an amazing experience to march on our GREAT State of Texas Capital steps in support of the March for Life Rally. It is beautiful to see the thousands of women, men and children who are fighting to protect the unborn. Thank you Mr. President for boldly standing up for this cause." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 1/27/20]

• De La Cruz Thanked Trump For Attending The March For Life In Washington. "Thank you Mr President for continuing to do the right thing for the American people, protecting the unborn and being the FIRST President to stand up boldly to attend this important march. The American people stand with you!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 1/25/20]

De La Cruz Praised The Passage Of The SB 8 "Heartbeat Bill" Which Banned Abortions After 6 Weeks In Texas

September 2021: De La Cruz Celebrated The Passage of The Texas "Heartbeat Bill." "The heartbeat bill has officially gone into effect; September 1, 2021. God bless Texas!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 9/2/21]

De La Cruz Claimed The Bill Would Protect Unborn Children From The "Rayages Of Abortion."





[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 9/2/21]

Texas Senate Bill 8 Banned Abortions As Early As Six Weeks With No Exceptions For Cases Of Rape Or Incest And Allowed Private Citizens To Sue Abortion Providers Or Anyone Who Aided An Abortion

Senate Bill 8 Banned Abortion As Early As Six Weeks, Making It The Most Restrictive Abortion Law In Texas Since Roe V. Wade. "Gov. Greg Abbott signs into law one of nation's strictest abortion measures, banning procedure as early as six weeks into a pregnancy. [...] Abortion rights advocates have promised to challenge the new law, which they consider one of the most extreme nationwide and the strictest in Texas since the landmark Roe v. Wade decision. It would amount to an outright ban on abortions, as the six-week cutoff is two weeks after a missed menstrual cycle, opponents say. The law takes effect in September." [Texas Tribune, 5/19/21]

SB 8 Provided No Exceptions For Pregnancies That Resulted From Cases of Rape Or Incest. "The bill bans abortions after whenever an ultrasound can detect what lawmakers defined as a fetal 'heartbeat,' which can be as early as six weeks into pregnancy. Medical and legal experts say the term is misleading because embryos don't possess a heart at that developmental stage. It includes cases where the woman was impregnated as a result of rape or incest. There is an exception for medical emergencies." [Texas Tribune, 5/19/21]

SB 8 Permitted Private Citizens To Sue Abortion Providers And Anyone Who Aided Or Abetted An Abortion. "But the state wouldn't enforce the law. SB 8 instead provides enforcement only by private citizens who would sue abortion providers and anyone involved in aiding or abetting an abortion after a 'heartbeat' is detected. This mechanism could allow SB 8 to skirt Roe v. Wade, the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion, within some limits." [Texas Tribune, 8/31/21]

• SB 8 Radically Expanded Legal Standing To Allow Private Citizens With No Relationship To The Case To Sue Family Members And Drivers Who Help Abortion Patients. "Legal experts have said the law is a 'radical expansion' of standing, which is the legal concept that determines whether one person may sue another, usually in order to get compensation for some sort of injury or harm. The new abortion law requires no such relationship to the case in order to have standing. [...] The patient receiving such an abortion cannot be sued under the law, but everyone who helps that patient can be, including, for example, their doctor, driver or family member who helps pay for the procedure." [Texas Tribune, 9/10/21]

Planned Parenthood

De La Cruz Wanted To Defund Planned Parenthood And Other Abortion Providers, And Supported The Hyde Amendment

De La Cruz Strongly Agreed That Abortion Providers And Planned Parenthood Should Not Receive Government Funding. "Abortion providers, including Planned Parenthood, should not receive taxpayer funds or grants from federal, state, or local governments. [ANSWER:] Strongly Agree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/7/21]

De La Cruz Opposed Tax Payer Dollars Funding Abortions. "Thankfully we have heard on the national stage once again the ugly reality of abortion. The hard truth must be heard. Words that have stood out to me is, 'did you know abortion had a smell?....' Let that sink in. NO TAX PAYER funded abortion!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>8/27/20</u>]

De La Cruz Embraced Calls To Defund Planned Parenthood At A March For Life Rally.







Agriculture & Food Access Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz opposed regulations and tariffs that she claimed were harming Texas farmers and ranchers.
 - ✓ De La Cruz wanted to eliminate regulations on farmers and ranchers that she claimed were prohibiting economic prosperity.
 - ✓ De La Cruz opposed tariffs imposed under Trump that she claimed were hindering farmers from reaching new customers.
- ✓ De La Cruz said the supply chain needed to be fixed to allow the export of agricultural products, warning of the possibility of "waking up tomorrow and you cannot buy food."
- ✓ De La Cruz praised Trump for ordering meat processing plants to stay open during the pandemic amid worker infections and deaths.
 - ✓ At least 59,000 meatpacking workers were infected with COVID-19 and 269 workers died.
- ✓ De La Cruz was endorsed by Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller and former House Agriculture Committee Chair Rep. Mike Conaway.

De La Cruz Opposed Regulations And Trump-Imposed Tariffs That She Claimed Were Harming Texas Farmers And Ranchers

De La Cruz Wanted To Eliminate Regulations On Farmers And Ranchers That She Claimed Were Prohibiting Economic Prosperity. "Eliminate regulations on farmers and ranchers that prohibit economic prosperity." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/7/21]

De La Cruz Opposed Trump-Imposed Tariffs That Hindered American Farmers Exports To China

De La Cruz Opposed Tariffs That She Claimed Were Hindering Farmers From Reaching New Customers. "Oppose tariffs that hinder American farmers from reaching new customers." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/7/21]

- August 2019: American Farmers Lost One Of their Biggest Markets After Trump Announced Tariffs On Chinese Imports. "U.S. farmers lost one of their biggest customers after China officially cancelled all purchases of U.S. agricultural products, a retaliatory move following President Donald Trump's pledge to slap 10% tariffs on \$300 billion of Chinese imports. [...] 'It's really, really getting bad out here,' said Bob Kuylen, who's farmed for 35 years in North Dakota. 'Trump is ruining our markets. No one is buying our product no more, and we have no markets no more." [CNBC, 8/10/19]
- U.S. Agricultural Exports To China Fell From \$15.8 Billion In 2017 To \$5.9 Billion In 2018 Following Trump's Tariffs. "U.S. agriculture has been caught in the tit-for-tat of the trade wars, most notably with China. American agricultural exports to China fell from \$15.8 billion in 2017 to \$5.9 billion in 2018, according to the U.S. International Trade Administration, and exports have remained depressed in



2019. [...] Retaliation by China, Canada, Mexico, Turkey and members of the European Union to tariffs imposed by the Trump administration have taken a bite out of U.S. agricultural incomes." [PBS, 1/16/20]

De La Cruz Warned Of Food Supply Chain Issues And Praised Trump For Ordering Meat Processing Plants To Stay Open During The Pandemic Amid Thousands Of Worker Infections And Hundreds Of Deaths

De La Cruz Warned Of Food Supply Chain Issues And Praised Trump For Ordering Meat Processing Plants To Stay Open During The Pandemic Amid Worker Infections And Deaths

April 2020: De La Cruz Said The Food Supply Chain Needed To Be Fixed To Allow The Export Of Agricultural Products, Warning Of The Possibility Of "Waking Up Tomorrow And You Cannot Buy Food." "Our food supply chain is breaking' says John Tyson. Imagine waking up tomorrow and you cannot buy food. This should scare anyone reading this. Our farmers and ranchers are disposing harvest ready cattle and dairy because plants are closed." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 4/27/20]

De La Cruz Praised Trump For Ordering Meat Processing Plants To Stay Open During The Pandemic Amid Thousands Of Worker Infections And Hundreds Of Deaths

April 2020: De La Cruz Thanked Trump For Signing An Executive Order That Kept Meat Processing Plants Open. "Thank you President Trump! Late Tuesday, President Donald J. Trump signed an Executive Order that ordered meat processing plants to remain open, declaring them critical infrastructure. This action was critically important to both agriculture producers and consumers, especially those here in the State of Texas which produces more beef cattle than any other. #ThankYou #MrPresident" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 4/29/20]

- April 2020: Trump Invoked The Defense Production Act To Compel Meat Processing Plants To Stay Open During The Pandemic. "President Trump signed an executive order Tuesday evening compelling meat processors to remain open to head off shortages in the nation's food supply chains, despite mounting reports of plant worker deaths due to covid-19. Trump invoked the Defense Production Act to classify meat plants as essential infrastructure that must remain open." [Washington Post, 4/29/20]
- Worker Safety Experts Warned That Trump's Order Would Undermine Efforts To Protect Employees From COVID-19. "Worker safety experts say such an order would prevent local health officials from ordering meat companies to use their the most effective weapon available to protect their employees from the coronavirus closures. They also fear that it would also undercut newly issued federal health guidelines designed to put space between plant workers. Trump has not publicly explained which provisions within the act he will rely on to compel plants to remain open or grant companies protection from workplace safety requirements. At least 20 meatpacking plants have closed in recent weeks because of covid-19 outbreaks, according to an analysis by The Washington Post. The United Food and Commercial Workers, which represents thousands of workers at U.S. meat plants, said Tuesday that at least 17 have died of covid-19, the disease caused by the coronavirus, and at least 5,000 have been directly affected by the virus." [Washington Post, 4/29/20]
- At Least 59,000 Meatpacking Workers Were Infected With COVID-19 And 269 Workers Died. "At least 59,000 meatpacking workers caught COVID-19 and 269 workers died when the virus tore through the industry last year, which is significantly more than previously thought, according to a new U.S. House report released Wednesday. The meatpacking industry was one of the early epicenters of the coronavirus pandemic, with workers standing shoulder-to-shoulder along production lines." [Associated Press, 10/27/21]



De La Cruz Said She Would Stand Up For Texas Agriculture And Was Endorsed By Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller & Former House Agriculture Committee Chair Rep. Mike Conaway

De La Claimed She Would Stand With Texas Agriculture And Wanted Ranchers To Be Reimbursed For Damages Caused By Illegal Immigrants

De La Cruz Attacked Rep. Vicente Gonzalez For Not Supporting Texas Farmers And Ranchers. "You know who won't be welcoming President Donald J. Trump to Texas? Liberal Congressman Vicente Gonzalez, that's who! He refuses to put his hyper-partisanship and Trump Derangement Syndrome aside for just one day, even when doing so means supporting our Texas farmers and ranchers who help feed and clothe the world." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 1/19/20]

De La Cruz Wanted Ranchers To Be Reimbursed For Damages Caused By Illegal Immigrants. "Ensure that ranchers and farmers get reimbursed funds for confirmed damages due to illegal immigrant traffic." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/7/21]

De La Cruz Claimed She Would Stand With Texas Agriculture If Elected. "Agriculture employs one out of every seven Texans and pumps hundreds of billions of dollars into our state's economy. If you agree that we need a U.S. Representative who will stand with Texas agriculture and stand with President Trump, then I'm your gal and I would appreciate your vote and support! #TexasAgricultureMatters." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 1/19/20]

De La Cruz Thanked Farmers, And Called Them Essential To Communities And The Economy. "Today is National Farmer's Day!! Farmers are essential to our communities and economy. THANK YOU." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 10/12/21]

De La Cruz Attended An American Farm Bureau Event Where Trump Spoke And Was Endorsed By Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller & Former House Agriculture Committee Chair Rep. Mike Conaway

January 2020: De La Cruz Attended An American Farm Bureau Event In Austin Where Trump Spoke. "Today, I welcome President Donald J. Trump to Texas where he'll be speaking to members of the American Farm Bureau Federation in Austin." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 1/19/20]

January 2020: De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller, Who Said She Would Be "A Strong Voice For Agriculture." "I'm proud to announce my endorsement of Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez for U.S. Congress in CD-15. Monica is one of the hardest working candidates I've ever encountered on the trail. She's pro-Life, pro-2nd Amendment, pro-business, pro-military, and pro-Donald J. Trump! She supports securing our border and finishing the wall. Monica understands the unique concerns of Texas farmers and ranchers and she'll be a strong voice for agriculture in our nation's capital." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 1/25/20]

May 2020: De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Former Chair Of The House Agriculture Committee Rep. Mike Conaway. "Conservative Republican businesswoman and community leader Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez announced today she's added conservative U.S. Congressman Mike Conaway's name to her growing list of endorsements by respected Republican leaders. Conaway, the ranking Republican member on the House Agriculture Committee, and the committee's former Chairman, is in his eighth-term in Congress. 'I'm proud to have the endorsement of Congressman Mike Conaway in my Republican Primary runoff election,' said De La Cruz-Hernandez. 'He's known as the conservative voice of agriculture in Congress. He fights every day for Texas' and America's farmers & ranchers and to protect our food supply chains and food safety during this critical time in our nation's history,' she added." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 5/14/20]



Big Lie & January 6th Insurrection



Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz was a staunch promoter of the "Big Lie" that Donald Trump won the 2020 election.
 - ✓ De La Cruz attended a "stop the steal" rally claiming that Donald Trump won the 2020 election where she and her husband said they hoped to "turn this election around for the president."
 - ✓ At the rally, De La Cruz questioned the results of her own election, saying "the numbers do not make sense."
 - ✓ De La Cruz backed Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton's failed lawsuit contesting the 2020 election.
 - ✓ De La Cruz promoted Texas Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick's offer of \$1 million to anyone with evidence of voter fraud in the 2020 election.
 - ✓ De La Cruz promoted debunked conspiracy theories about Dominion voting machines and vote counting in Georgia, and sought information that would bolster those conspiracy theories.
- ✓ De La Cruz pushed a delusional conspiracy that her election was stolen by Rep. Vicente Gonzalez & "politiqueros" in Democratic counties.
 - ✓ De La Cruz initially said she respected the outcome of her election despite "massive election corruption" but within a few days she questioned the validity of Rep. Vicente Gonzalez's victory, claiming he "stole the election" that she "won fair and square."
 - ✓ De La Cruz said "we were robbed in this election" because of "massive voter fraud and ballot harvesting."
 - ✓ De La Cruz said it was "impossible" that Gonzalez could get a higher percentage of the vote than Biden in Hidalgo, Duval and Jim Hogg Counties.
 - ✓ De La Cruz complained that her significantly lower totals in absentee voting than in-person voting and the fact that other Republican candidates received more votes than she did suggested her election was subject to fraud.
 - ✓ De La Cruz claimed "everybody who mailed in a ballot just didn't like me but everybody who walked in and legally cast a vote liked me."
 - ✓ November 2020: De La Cruz said she would not concede the race to "cheaters" and "corruption" days after initially respecting the outcome of her election and conceding.
 - ✓ De La Cruz accused the Hidalgo County elections administrator of illegally sending out unsolicited mail in ballots.
 - ✓ De La Cruz's campaign provided a list of people in Hidalgo County who they alleged cast ballots but were not on the county's voter rolls, and filed a complaint with the Texas Secretary of State making the same claims.
 - ✓ De La Cruz claimed she was conducting her own "ballot investigation" and alleged that Hidalgo County officials were suppressing information by closing their office for the holidays.



- ✓ De La Cruz failed to provide any evidence of voter fraud or illegal votes in Hidalgo County.
- ✓ De La Cruz said she was praying for the safety of "protestors" on January 6th.
 - ✓ De La Cruz said that she mourned the death of officer Brian Sicknick.
- ✓ De La Cruz was endorsed by Sean O'Brien, who called on the Supreme Court to overturn the 2020 presidential election and supported January 6th insurrectionists to "take power back."

De La Cruz Claimed Trump Won The 2020 Election, Embraced Calls To "Stop The Steal," Legal Challenges And Conspiracy Theories About Voting Machines

De La Cruz Attended At Least One "Stop The Steal" Rally In December 2020, Claiming Both She And Trump Had Their Election Victories Stolen

De La Cruz And Her Husband Said They Were "Hoping" And "Extremely Excited" To "Turn This Election Around For The President" Following The 2020 Election. "I have a lot of patriots here who are concerned about this election not only on a national level with President Trump but also on a local level. Some big, big things have happened over the last couple of days. First of all the state of Texas, our attorney general has filed a lawsuit against some of the states and their elections process. I've got here behind me my husband who is with us about stopping the steal and babe why don't you talk a little bit about what happened yesterday here in Texas and why this is so significant for us. [Juan Hernandez:] 'So the state of Texas is suing the other four states which is fantastic. What the significance of that is its going to go straight to the supreme court, it has no option other than to look into it now and so we're confident that that's going to help take this process to the next level and we're hoping that with this they will have to go to the 12th Amendment and turn this election around for the president so extremely excited about that." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/9/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Said She Was "Working Behind The Scenes On The Data Numbers" On Election Results In Hidalgo County, Because "The Numbers Do Not Make Sense And This Election Has Been Stolen." "Not only that but what we are asking people to do and you can see here lots of patriots and they've got their flags out, their stop the steal signs out as well because here's the thing is in Hidalgo County the county commissioners voted to send all of the people who were 65 and over a mail-in ballot application. That is illegal, that it is unethical and it is the wrong thing to do it jeopardizes our election integrity. For those of you watching here if you live in any county where the elections department sent you an unsolicited mail-in ballot for this election or sent you a ballot through the mail please come by office tomorrow 1317 West Frontage Road in Alamo. I need a signed affidavit from you letting us know that you received an unsolicited mail-in ballot application. It is critical to our case and yes we are working behind the scenes on the data numbers because I see your messages and I agree with you all the numbers do not make sense and this election has been stolen from the good people, the hardworking American people who want their vote to be counted and want an election that has integrity." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/9/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Said She Was "Standing For Stopping The Steal" At A Rally. "We are standing for stopping the steal. Stop stealing this election. We want an election process that is fair."





[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/9/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Supported Multiple Failed, Baseless Efforts To Contest The 2020 Election, Including But Not Limited To Legal Challenges

De La Cruz Backed Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton's Lawsuit Contesting The 2020 Election. "Trust in the integrity of our election processes is sacrosanct and binds our citizenry and the States in this Union together,' Paxton said in a statement. This statement is true even within Hidalgo County. If the citizens don't trust the elections here, why vote?" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/9/20]

- December 2020: Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton Sued Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania, And Wisconsin Asking The Supreme Court To Block The Electoral College Results. "Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is suing four battleground states Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin whose election results handed the White House to President-elect Joe Biden. In the suit, he claims that pandemic-era changes to election procedures in those states violated federal law and asks the U.S. Supreme Court to block the states from voting in the Electoral College. The last-minute bid, which legal experts have already characterized as a long shot, comes alongside dozens of similar attempts by President Donald Trump and his political allies. The majority of those lawsuits have already failed." [Texas Tribune, 12/9/20]
- December 2020: The Supreme Court Tossed Out The Lawsuit Brought By Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton Claiming There Was No Standing Bring It. Briskly rejecting a long-shot but high-stakes case, the U.S. Supreme Court on Friday tossed out the Texas lawsuit that had become a vehicle for Republicans across the country to contest President-elect Joe Biden's victory. In a few brief sentences, the high court said it would not consider the case for procedural reasons, because Texas lacked standing to bring it. 'Texas has not demonstrated a judicially cognizable interest in the manner in which another State conducts its elections,' the court wrote in an unsigned ruling Friday evening. [Texas Tribune, 12/11/20]



De La Cruz Promoted Texas Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick's Offer Of \$1 Million To Anyone With Evidence Of Voter Fraud In The 2020 Election. "Calling All the Politiqueras I know \$1 million bucks will wet the whistle to telling us HOW and WHO is paying to play voter fraud!! ONE MILLION DOLLARS beats a chicken taco any day!!! #fight #corruption" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/10/20]

- November 2020: Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick Offered \$1 Million In Rewards To People Who Provide Evidence That Leads To An Arrest And Conviction Of Voter Fraud. "Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick is offering \$1 million in rewards to people who can help uncover voter fraud in the presidential election. Patrick on Tuesday said in a press release to the media that any person who comes forward with evidence that leads to an arrest and final conviction of voter fraud will be paid a minimum of \$25,000. The money would come from Patrick's campaign funds. 'I support President Trump's efforts to identify voter fraud in the presidential election and his commitment to making sure that every legal vote is counted and every illegal vote is disqualified,' Patrick said. 'President Trump's pursuit of voter fraud is not only essential to determine the outcome of this election, it is essential to maintain our democracy and restore faith in future elections." [Houston Chronicle, 11/10/20]
 - Pennsylvania's Lt. Gov. John Fetterman Claimed He Was Owed \$3 Million After Three Pennsylvania Trump Supporters Were Charged With Voter Fraud. "All John Fetterman wants for Christmas is the \$3 million he says Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick owes him. The Democratic lieutenant governor of Pennsylvania has been trolling his Republican counterpart for weeks to collect on the \$1 million Patrick offered in November for evidence of fraud in the Nov. 3 election. Three supporters of President Donald Trump have now been charged in separate voter fraud schemes in Pennsylvania. Fetterman says they should all count for bounty purposes." [Houston Chronicle, 12/22/20]

De La Cruz Promoted Debunked Conspiracy Theories About Dominion Voting Machines And Vote Counting In Georgia, Suggesting They Impacted Her Election And Trump's

De La Cruz Wanted Information Linking Hart InterCivic Voting Software Used In Hidalgo County To A Debunked Dominion Voting Machine Conspiracy Theory.

De La Cruz Sought Information Linking Hart InterCivic Voting Software Used In Hidalgo County To A Debunked Dominion Voting Machine Conspiracy Theory.



Hidalgo County
Elections Office
used
Hart InterCivic
software



• Multiple Audits Confirmed That Dominion Voting Machines Were Accurate And Did Not Change Votes From Trump To Biden. "The theory falsely claims voting machines made by a company called Dominion changed votes to swing the election in favor of now-President Biden. Multiple audits and recounts in states and counties that used the company's equipment confirmed that the machines accurately recorded the vote totals last November." [NPR, 3/3/21]

De La Cruz Embraced A Debunked Claim That The 2021 Georgia Senate Runoff Elections Were Stolen By An Overnight Ballot Dump In Chatham County

De La Cruz Claimed The 2021 Georgia Senate Runoff Elections Were Stolen.





[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 1/5/21]

• Chatham County, Georgia Counted All Available Ballots And No Ballots Were Found Overnight. "The claim that a ballot dump took place after election officials in Chatham County stopped counting on Jan. 5 is FALSE, based on our research. Election officials in Chatham County stopped counting because all ballots available had been counted. The board responsible for accepting absentee ballots was still processing ballots that came in Jan. 5, so those who were counting votes went home and resumed counting the next morning. Election officials have also confirmed that there were no irregularities in the election." [USA Today, 1/19/21]

De La Cruz Pushed A Delusional Conspiracy That Her Election Was Stolen, Citing Claims Of "Illegal" Mail-In Ballots And Voter Fraud In Democratic Counties

De La Cruz Initially Said She Respected The Outcome Of Her Election Despite "Massive Election Corruption," But Later Questioned The Validity Of Rep. Vicente Gonzalez's Victory

De La Cruz Initially Said She Respected The Outcome Of Her Election But Added There Was "Massive Election Corruption"...



De La Cruz On 2020 Congressional Election Results: "Although We Know The Numbers And Respect The Outcome, We Experienced Massive Election Corruption." "U.S. Rep. Vicente Gonzalez's general election opponent says there was 'massive election corruption' in the 15th Congressional District of Texas race. Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez, a Republican, made the claim after narrowly losing to Gonzalez, a Democrat, in a district anchored in Hidalgo County. 'Although we know the numbers and respect the outcome, we experienced massive election corruption and voter integrity,' De La Cruz-Hernandez said. 'It was disturbing and sickening to see what is happening in Hidalgo County. I will fight against this corruption because our district deserves better.' De La Cruz-Hernandez made her comments in a statement thanking her supporters." [Rio Grande Guardian, 11/4/20]

...But Just A Few Days Later, De La Cruz Questioned The Validity Of Rep. Vicente Gonzalez's Victory And Organized Multiple Events Protesting The Result

Nov. 8: De La Cruz Said Her Opponent, Rep. Vicente Gonzalez, "Stole The Election" That She "Won Fair And Square." DE LA CRUZ: "The numbers don't lie people you all will be disgusted at the blatant disrespect of our democracy, the blatant disrespect of the voters of CD15 and how my opponent stole the election! And I will stand up and I will fight back because that's who I am, chiquita pero picosa! You haven't seen the last of me. We have investigated the numbers the last week. We now have people on a state level and on a national level investigating these numbers and we will expose the truth. We will expose the corruption in these Democrat counties including Hidalgo. [...] This was our election we won fair and square without the politiqueras, without paying underhand money, without stealing and you know what God sees all. And with God I fear no one, I fear nothing." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

Nov. 17: De La Cruz Hernandez Helped To Organize An Event Protesting The 2020 Election Results. "A group of demonstrators met on Monday in from of the Edinburg Administration Building to protest election results and the election process. Former congressional republican opponent Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez, along with the Hidalgo County GOP, Hidalgo County Young Republicans, and others, organized the event." [KVEO, 11/17/20]

Dec. 2020: De La Cruz Held A Press Conference And Said She Was "Calling Into Question This Vote Difference And The Validity Of The Gonzalez Win." "Now-former congressional candidate Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez lobbed allegations of improprieties in the November election at a news conference Tuesday, believing it cost her the race for Texas' District 15 seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. De La Cruz-Hernandez also used the news conference as an opportunity to announce plans to run for the same seat in the 2022 election. According to the Texas Secretary of State's Office, De La Cruz-Hernandez, a Republican, lost the election to Democrat incumbent Vicente Gonzalez by 6,588 votes. Citing her own investigation into voter rolls and rosters, De La Cruz-Hernandez said improprieties may have affected the outcome. 'I am calling into question this vote difference and the validity of the Gonzalez win,' she said." [MyRGV News, 12/23/20]

- De La Cruz Launched Her 2022 Campaign At Her Press Conference Where She Questioned The Validity Of Her 2020 Election. "Now-former congressional candidate Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez lobbed allegations of improprieties in the November election at a news conference Tuesday, believing it cost her the race for Texas' District 15 seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. De La Cruz-Hernandez also used the news conference as an opportunity to announce plans to run for the same seat in the 2022 election." [MyRGV News, 12/23/20]
- De La Cruz Said She Was Conducting "Her Own Investigation" Into Alleged Improprieties Regarding Voter Rolls In Hidalgo County. "Citing her own investigation into voter rolls and rosters, De La Cruz-Hernandez said improprieties may have affected the outcome." [Brownsville Herald, 12/23/20]

De La Cruz Criticized Rep. Vicente Gonzalez For Thanking The Hidalgo County Elections Administrator Following The 2020 Election. "This is the COMPADRE system we in Hidalgo are sick and tired of! What first concerns me is that our Congressman uses congressional letterhead to single out ONE elections administrator when he has EIGHT counties. WHY??WHY would that be? Second, his lack of knowledge of the EXACT date of



the election shows just how out of touch he is. THE ELECTION WAS ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 3rd not WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 4th. Geez...." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>11/16/20</u>]

De La Cruz Believed She Was "Robbed In This Election" And That "She Won An Election That Was Stolen" By Rep. Vicente Gonzalez & "Politiqueros" In Hidalgo, Duval, and Jim Hogg County

De La Cruz Said "We Were Robbed In This Election" Because Of "Massive Voter Fraud And Ballot Harvesting." "Today we say no more. Today we say we will no longer put up with this. We will no longer be taken advantage of and our democracy is at stake here. Make no mistake my friends that we were robbed in this election and that there was massive voter fraud, massive ballot harvesting and we will put a stop to it." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Asked For Information Claiming That "Politiqueros" Harvested Mail Ballots. "These are not just my words because I didn't have the numbers 'supposedly' to beat Vicente Gonzalez. These are the words of someone who looks at the facts and I'm going to share them with you because I need your help. What I need for you to do is message me with the names of politiqueros, the actions that you have seen because these politiqueros can't keep their mouth shut. They do not know how to hide what they have done so if you have heard, if you have seen, if you have experienced people around you talking about the mail harvesting of ballots that has gone on here. You must get in touch with me. Over the last week I have been quiet as to what we were doing in the background but I want to tell you that we have put together a local team of investigators to investigate the numbers and I'm about to show you these numbers because they are disturbing. The numbers we're going to go over right now are not things that I have made up this is public information that you yourself can fact check because I know there will be trolls on this video." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

• "Politiqueros" Are Paid Campaign Workers In The Rio Grande Valley Who Have Historically Been Associated With Buying Votes And Committing Election Fraud Via Ballot Harvesting Or Bribery. "They're called politiqueras — a word unique to the border that means campaign worker. It's a time-honored tradition down in the land of grapefruit orchards and Border Patrol checkpoints. If a local candidate needs dependable votes, he or she goes to a politiquera. In recent years, losing candidates in local elections began to challenge vote harvesting by politiqueras in the Rio Grande Valley, and they shared their investigations with authorities. After the 2012 election cycle, the Justice Department and the Texas attorney general's office filed charges." [NPR, 7/7/15]

De La Cruz Said It Was "Impossible" That Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Could Get A Higher Percentage Of The Vote Than Biden In Hidalgo County. DE LA CRUZ: "Here in Hidalgo County our opponent Vicente, 'Vincent', had a higher percentage of votes than even Trump and the Biden election. He received a higher percentage of votes, how is that? Monica's team, Team Monica, in early voting here in Hidalgo County we had 39% of the vote on election day we had 45% of the vote but in absentee we had 21% of the vote! How is that? You know what is even more alarming is that when you look down the ballot traditionally the president gets the most votes whether it's Democrat or Republican and it goes down and down and down from there so the last person on the ballot always has the least amount of votes. Well when you look down ballot in Hidalgo all the dem candidates had about 13,000 votes between 13,000 and 13,400. How is that? How is that? It is impossible. Even people who were not in a contested race have 13,000 votes and not only that the reason why this is all important is because Vicente Gonzalez had the highest percentage of absentee votes for both the presidential and senate races. That means people were so interested in Vicente Gonzalez that they didn't want to vote for the president. No, not the presidential election of the century. They skipped the president! They skipped the senator! And went straight in to vote for no show Gonzalez now you and I know that is not right." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

• De La Cruz Expressed Skepticism That She Won A Lower Share Of The Absentee Vote Than The In-Person Vote In Hidalgo County. DE LA CRUZ: "Here in Hidalgo County our opponent Vicente, 'Vincent', had a higher percentage of votes than even Trump and the Biden election. He received a higher percentage of votes, how is that? Monica's team, Team Monica, in early voting here in Hidalgo County we



had 39% of the vote on election day we had 45% of the vote but in absentee we had 21% of the vote! How is that?" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Claimed In Her Testimony That It Was An Anomaly That Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Received A Higher Percentage Of Votes Than Biden In Hidalgo County. "That being said in Hidalgo County we had between 2018 and 2020 a 245 percent increase in mail-in ballots; 245 percent?! Some of y'all might be saying that's great more people are voting, well let me tell you some of the anomalies that happened because of this. If you go down the ballot in Hidalgo County the Congressman Vicente Gonzalez had a higher percentage of votes than the Biden – Harris ticket. How does that happen?! You all have been here long enough in enough elections to know that if you go down ballot the votes go down and down and down but here this congressman got more votes and higher percentage than the Biden – Harris ticket. What's even more...[Time runs out, committee member Rep. Valoree Swanson asks De La Cruz to finish her story] Thank you, I appreciate that because as we all know, all of y'all have been in an election it goes down ballot the president always gets the highest and it goes down, down, down. When you go down what you see is that the Democrat candidates all had about 13,000 absentee votes when unopposed and they only varied by about 200 votes whether they were opposed or not. So the question is: why is this? How can this anomaly happen? It doesn't make sense. So when we talk about mail-in ballot fraud we really need to do, we really need to look at is the integrity of these mail-in ballots. This a serious subject and when you do a case study in Hidalgo you will see over and over again. I'd be happy to give you information but I have a feeling your offices will be flooded." [Texas House of Representatives, Committee on Elections, 4/1/21] (Video)

De La Cruz Said It Was "Completely Ridiculous" That Gonzalez Picked Up More Votes Than Joe Biden And MJ Hegar In Duval County, Which She Blamed On "Politiqueras" And The Democratic Party. DE LA CRUZ: "We have looked over, my investigative team this week we have looked at all the Democrat counties and we're just going to touch on Duval County. Duval County where he has a criminal working for him, Alberto Martinez, who stole our sign a federal employee who stole our signs in broad daylight on taxpayer dollars. In Duval County where Vincent has not gone in five years, he went two weeks before the election, one time in five years. He has done nothing for Duval County. Duval County has holes in their roads, they have a light system on Benavides in San Diego where they can't even turn on the lights there, there's no lights in the streets. Monica, team Monica got 40.8% of the early votes on election day Monica got 45.8%. Duval County where I've spent time, I've spent energy, I've spent money there I was taken advantage of by a criminal but guess what on absentee ballots I got 10%! You tell me, how is that possible? How is it that I can go from 45% of the vote to 10%? And get this, no show Gonzalez who's done nothing for Duval County, hasn't been in five years. But Vincent miraculously gets more votes than the Biden Harris ticket and more votes than the MJ senate race. How is that? You tell me, how is that? That people of Duval County who haven't seen him in five years no they don't care about Joe Biden no they don't care about MJ because no show Gonzalez is way more important than that. How does he pick up more votes than the president? Democrat president Jim Biden on the ticket and MJ Harris that is completely ridiculous! What I see here is people, politiqueras, the Democrat Party compromising our democracy and voter election." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

- De La Cruz Cited The Work Of "My Investigative Team" In Questioning The Results Of her Election. DE LA CRUZ: "We have looked over, my investigative team this week we have looked at all the Democrat counties and we're just going to touch on Duval County." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)
- De La Cruz Expressed Skepticism That She Won A Lower Share Of The Absentee Vote Than The In-Person Vote In Duval County. DE LA CRUZ: "Monica, team Monica got 40.8% of the early votes on election day Monica got 45.8%. Duval County where I've spent time, I've spent energy, I've spent money there I was taken advantage of by a criminal but guess what on absentee ballots I got 10%! You tell me, how is that possible? How is it that I can go from 45% of the vote to 10%? And get this, no show Gonzalez who's done nothing for Duval County, hasn't been in five years. But Vincent miraculously gets more votes than the Biden Harris ticket and more votes than the MJ senate race. How is that? You tell me, how is that?" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)



De La Cruz Claimed "Everybody Who Mailed In A Ballot Just Didn't Like Me But Everybody Who Walked In And Legally Cast A Vote Liked Me." "It will amaze you how when I'm getting 40 and 45 percent of the vote in early voting and on election day I can suddenly go to 8 percent on the mail in ballots. So it seems like everybody who mailed in a ballot just didn't like me but everybody who walked in and legally cast a vote liked me. Hmm I bet you my 10 year old could figure that one out." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Said She Would Not Concede The Race To "Cheaters" and "Corruption." "We're going to be exposing this, we are not going to stand for this. Please keep with our page. This is why I have not conceded the race because I'm not going to concede to cheaters. I'm not going to concede to corruption. I will not give in to the death of our democracy." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Alleged There Was A "Blatant Discrepancy" In Jim Hogg County Because She Received Less Votes Than Other Republican Candidates On The Ballot. "In Hogg County you have the president getting 56% of the vote now when people saw me they said oh Hogg County, Brooks, Duval forget about it Trump's going to lose big there, you're going to lose. The president, Trump gets 56% of the vote but he only gets 23% of absentee votes and of course Biden gets 76% of the votes. Now what's interesting for me is that on my election day I got 36.85% of the vote but absentee I only got 8% of the votes. I mean isn't that amazing that in every Democrat county people who mail in ballots just don't like me. What's better than that when you look down a ballot just traditionally speaking the president gets the most then the senator gets a little less and then U.S. House of Representatives gets less it starts dwindling down the further you get down the ballot. In Hogg County when you're looking down the ballot what you see is that President Trump gets 110 votes, Cornyn gets 93 and Monica gets 40. 40 votes okay but Jim Wright, Railroad Commissioner, he gets 67, Hecht gets 67, Bland gets 73, Boyd gets 66. I mean what we see is a blatant discrepancy. And what's funny about this is on the absentee I got one of the least amount of votes on the Republican side. So basically even Republicans in Hogg County they're going down the ballot they got their mail-in ballot they're like I'm going to vote for Trump, I'm going to vote for Cornyn oh but that Monica girl I'm just going to leave it blank. I got less than half of what the senator got come on people." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/10/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Claimed That Hidalgo County Illegally Sent Voters Unsolicited Mail-In Ballots

De La Cruz Accused The Hidalgo County Elections Administrator Of Illegally Sending Out Unsolicited Mail In Ballots. "Specifically, she claimed Tuesday that people who voted in the Hidalgo County election were not on the voter roll and alleged that mail-in ballots sent out by the county were illegal. 'Yvonne Ramon, the Hidalgo Elections Administrator, failed to uphold the Texas Supreme Court ruling and still mailed out these ballots who were unsolicited,' she said. 'We are asking today that Yvonne Ramon or Richard Cortez, our judge, be held responsible for not upholding the Texas Supreme Court ruling.' De La Cruz-Hernandez was referring to a Texas Supreme Court ruling in October holding that an early-voting clerk is not authorized to send mail-in ballot applications to registered voters who haven't requested one." [Brownsville Herald, 12/23/20]

De La Cruz Berated The Hidalgo County Commissioners Court Over False Claims Of Voter Fraud Regarding Mail-In Ballots. DE LA CRUZ: "I think we can all agree that Hidalgo County has had and currently has a voter fraud issue. This is no secret and I don't think anyone that is on here listening here in this room or you on the screen can deny it. There is a great concern over the application for the mail-in ballots that were mailed out to the entire county using taxpayer dollars with no and I repeat no taxpayer approval. Shame on you. These mail-In ballots did more harm than good. It compromised our voter integrity, it demoralized our community and opened up ourselves to a questionable election. What happened with our voter mail-in ballots does not make sense and goes against logic."





[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/17/2020] (Video)

De La Cruz Claimed In Her Testimony To The Texas House Committee On Elections That Hidalgo County Elections Officials Failed To Uphold Current Law By Mailing Unsolicited Mail-In Ballot Applications. "I'm here to testify about our mail-in ballot applications and the importance of protecting and preserving the integrity of our mail-in ballot boxes and punish those who don't uphold the current election. [...] On August 18th Hidalgo County commissioners led by County Judge Richard Cortez discussed and approved the elections department to send out an application for ballot by mail to all people over age 65 registered voters using taxpayer dollars. Now why this should alarm you is because on September 30th the Texas Supreme Court vs Chris Hollins ruled that election code does not authorize an early voting clerk to send an application to vote by mail to a voter who has not requested one and that a clerk doing so results in irreparable injury to the state. Well let me tell you that the Hidalgo County elections administrator Yvonne Ramon failed, failed to uphold the Texas Supreme Court ruling and she mailed out unsolicited mail-in ballot applications to all registered voters over the age of 65. What are the repercussions when we have leaders and city officials in our counties that are not upholding current law and upholding what our Texas Supreme Court rulings are? If we don't have them upholding our current law, what makes us think that our citizens are going to uphold and respect that law." [Texas House of Representatives, Committee on Elections, 4/1/21] (Video)

De La Cruz Asked People To Go To Her Office To Sign A Notarized Affidavit Saying They Received An Unsolicited Mail Ballot Or Application From Hidalgo County

De La Cruz Urged People To Come To Her Office And Sign A Notarized Affidavit Saying They Received An Unsolicited Mail Ballot Or Application From Hidalgo County.





▲ URGENT! ▲ Please come by my office tomorrow, THURSDAY 12/10 from 9am - 4pm.
1317 W Frontage Rd, Alamo TX
You will need to sign an affidavit saying this. It will be notarized.
WE WILL NOT BACK DOWN!!!

If you received an UNSOLICITED mail in ballot or application for ballot by Hidalgo.....

[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/9/20]

De La Cruz Implied Impropriety Because 818 People Over The Age Of 90 In Hidalgo County Voted By Mail

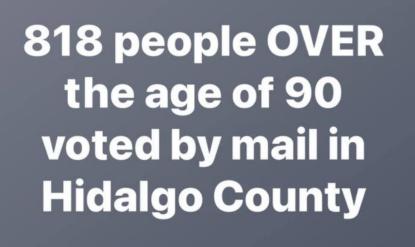
De La Cruz Questioned Why 818 People Over The Age Of 90 In Hidalgo County Voted By Mail.



Monica De La Cruz for U.S. Congress

December 10, 2020 · 3

Well, well, well......this door knocking should be interesting.
Be Headed out, let's see what we find...



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>12/10/20</u>]

• Fact Check: Similar Claims About Older Voters Being Deceased Voters Were Rated False And That It Is "Common For State Voter Rolls Include Voters With Birthdates That Make Them Appear



Impossibly Old." "Experts told The Associated Press that it is common for state voter rolls to include voters with birthdates that make them appear impossibly old, but these are usually explained by human error, software quirks or voter confidentiality issues. [...] According to experts, seeing strange birthdates on voter rolls that appear to belong to deceased registrants isn't evidence of voter fraud, and there are multiple reasons why it can occur. [...] Claims that hundreds of people over 100 voted in Pennsylvania suggest something nefarious, but Matthew Weill, Elections Project director at Bipartisan Policy Center, said that is "not so crazy" in the year 2020. "There are tens of thousands of centenarians in the US," he said. Throughout the pandemic, social media posts showed seniors casting votes through mail-in ballots for the 2020 election. [Associated Press, 11/10/20]

De La Cruz Claimed She Was Conducting Her Own "Ballot Investigation" And Alleged That Hidalgo County Officials Were Suppressing Information By Closing Their Office For The Holidays

De La Cruz Said She Was Conducting Her "Own Investigation" Into Alleged Improprieties Regarding Voter Rolls In Hidalgo County. "Citing her own investigation into voter rolls and rosters, De La Cruz-Hernandez said improprieties may have affected the outcome." [Brownsville Herald, 12/23/20]

De La Cruz Claimed The Hidalgo County Office Illegally Closed To Avoid Her "Ballot Investigation." "UNBELIEVABLE!!!! HIdalgo County Elections Office Closes EARLY and ILLEGALLY to AVOID answering questions The Hidalgo County Elections office KNOWS we are in the middle of a ballot investigation!! They know our deadline is the 23rd. They continue to play games and have gone so far as to shut down just to NOT answer questions!!! Today is NOT a federal holiday and neither is tomorrow!! Why are they shut down????" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 12/21/20]

De La Cruz Alleged That She Couldn't "Get The Damn Information" To Contest Her 2020 Election Because The Hidalgo County Elections Office Was Closed For The Holidays. "The Hidalgo County's election office is locked! It is December 21st if you call them they are all out for vacation! Now the last time I checked today is not a federal holiday! Today federal offices should be open! Why? Why are they closed when they know there's a ballot investigation going on right now! We have the opportunity to contest this race and we cannot contest because we can't get the damn information!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 12/21/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed That People Cast Ballots Who Were Not On Voter Rolls

De La Cruz Filed A Complaint With The Texas Secretary Of State Claiming People Who Voted In Hidalgo County Were Not On Voter Rolls. "Citing her own investigation into voter rolls and rosters, De La Cruz-Hernandez said improprieties may have affected the outcome. 'I am calling into question this vote difference and the validity of the Gonzalez win,' she said. De La Cruz-Hernandez said she has submitted a formal complaint to the secretary of state's office. Specifically, she claimed Tuesday that people who voted in the Hidalgo County election were not on the voter roll and alleged that mail-in ballots sent out by the county were illegal." [Brownsville Herald, 12/23/20]

De La Cruz Claimed Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Did Not Win A Valid Election. "I am calling into question this vote difference and the validity of the Gonzalez win,' she said. De La Cruz-Hernandez said she has submitted a formal complaint to the secretary of state's office. Specifically, she claimed Tuesday that people who voted in the Hidalgo County election were not on the voter roll and alleged that mail-in ballots sent out by the county were illegal." [Brownsville Herald, 12/23/20]

De La Cruz's Campaign Provided A List Of People Who They Alleged Cast Ballots But Were Not On The County's Voter Roll. "Voter fraud allegations were brought forward by now-former congressional candidate Monica De la Cruz-Hernandez. De La Cruz-Hernandez's team provided a list of names of people — including public servants who were allegedly not on the Hidalgo County voter roll [...] Hidalgo County Elections Administrator Yvonne Ramon said there are three ways people can legally vote without being on a voter roll: by using a provisional ballot, having a voting application still being verified by the ballot board or being a limited

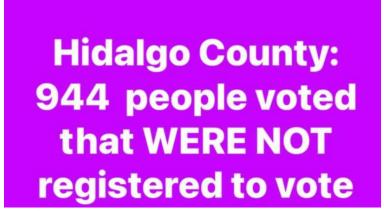


ballot voter. 'This is a voter that the State of Texas allows to come and vote for all federal and state elections but they must be a registered voter in another county,' Ramon said. When asked to clarify why some people listed on the spreadsheet were, in fact, registered for the November elections and on the county's voter roll, De La Cruz-Hernandez's campaign could not provide any information." [KRGV, 12/24/20]

• Hidalgo County Elections Administrator Stated That People Do Not Need To Be On A Voter Roll In Order To Legally Vote. "Hidalgo County Elections Administrator Yvonne Ramon said there are three ways people can legally vote without being on a voter roll: by using a provisional ballot, having a voting application still being verified by the ballot board or being a limited ballot voter. 'This is a voter that the State of Texas allows to come and vote for all federal and state elections but they must be a registered voter in another county,' Ramon said." [KRGV, 12/24/20]

De La Cruz Claimed 944 Unregistered Voters Voted In Hidalgo County.





[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/14/20]

De La Cruz Failed To Provide A Single Example Of Any Evidence Of Voter Fraud Or Illegal Votes In Hidalgo County

VIDEO: Anchor: "The Republican Candidate's Campaign Couldn't Provide A Single Example Of A Person Who Cast A Ballot In The Election But Wasn't Registered To Vote." "Yesterday we told you about voter fraud allegation brought forward by Republican candidate for Congressional District 15, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez. Her team provided us a list of names of people – including public servants – who were allegedly not on the voter roll [...] Channel 5 News also asked the De La Cruz Hernandez Campaign to clarify why there were some people listed on the spreadsheet who were, in fact, registered for the November election and appeared on the county's voter roll. The Republican candidate's campaign couldn't provide a single example of a person who cast a ballot in the election but wasn't registered to vote." [KRGV, 12/24/20]



De La Cruz Could Not Provide Any Information When Asked To Clarify Her Voter Roll Allegations. When asked to clarify why some people listed on the spreadsheet were, in fact, registered for the November elections and on the county's voter roll, De La Cruz-Hernandez's campaign could not provide any information." [KRGV, 12/24/20]

De La Cruz When Asked For Evidence To Support Allegation Of Voter Fraud: "We Have Thirty Days To Contest The Election And So We Will Use This Time To Investigate." "The people of Hidalgo are tired of voter fraud,' Republican congressional candidate Monica De La Cruz said Tuesday. According to De La Cruz, mail-in ballots in Hidalgo County opened opportunities for fraud. Supporters of De La Cruz's, many waving Donald Trump campaign flags, staged a protest outside the Hidalgo County Courthouse, where De La Cruz addressed county commissioners through a camera [...] When asked about the evidence to back up fraud allegations, De La Cruz said, 'well, right now we have thirty days to contest the election and so we will use this time to investigate." [Border Report, 11/18/20]

January 6th Insurrection

De La Cruz Said She Was Praying For The Safety Of "Protestors" On January 6th

At 4:02 PM On January 6th, De La Cruz Said She Was Praying For "The Healing Of Our Nation And The Safety Of Protestors, Law Enforcement And Government Officials."



Monica De La Cruz for U.S. Congress
January 6 ⋅ 🚱

Prayers for the healing of our nation and the safety of protestors, law enforcement and government officials.

#godblessamerica



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>1/6/21</u>]

De La Cruz Said That She Mourned The Loss Of Officer Brian Sicknick And Was Praying For His Loved Ones & Fellow Officers

De La Cruz Said She Mourned The Loss Of USCP Officer Brian Sicknick And Prayed For His Family & Fellow Officers.





We mourn the loss of US Capitol Officer, Brian D Sicknick. We pray for his loved ones & his family in blue.



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 1/8/21]

Extremist Ties

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Sean O'Brien Who Called On The Supreme Court To Overturn The 2020 Presidential Election And Supported January 6th Insurrectionists To "Take Power Back"

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By Sean O'Brien, A Former Karnes County Commissioner And Texas Member Of The Electoral College.



[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 12/15/21]

November 2020: O'Brien Called On The Supreme Court To "Throw Out This Bogus Election." "If the Supreme Court can't see this obvious fraud and throw out this bogus election, then this country will never have a



legitimate election again. Once President Trump is named president to remain in the White House for four more years he can start to clean up this election fraud mess! I can't believe that the most powerful and one of the most advanced countries in the world cannot come up with a system where we can have a legitimate, honest election!" [Sean O'Brien, Facebook, 11/24/20]

O'Brien On January 6th: "Either We TAKE Power Back, Or We Will Never Be Free Again. No More Asking Nicely. Our Founding Fathers Warned Us. THIS IS NOT A DRILL."





[Sean O'Brien, Facebook, 1/6/21]

O'Brien Said He Was Praying For "The Patriots Going To DC" On January 6th.





us!

[Sean O'Brien, Facebook, 1/6/21]

O'Brien Claimed Biden "Will Never Take Office" After The January 6th Insurrection.





Budget Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz opposed the Build Back Better Act referring to it as "reckless spending."
 - ✓ De La Cruz said the Build Back Better Act's provisions to crack down on tax underpayment by wealthy people and large corporations involved "too much government overreach."
- ✓ De La Cruz frequently criticized the Build Back Better Act with multiple false or incendiary claims regarding the bill's provisions.
 - ✓ De La Cruz falsely claimed the Build Back Better Act would increase taxes on those making under \$400,000 a year.
 - ✓ De La Cruz claimed the Build Back Better Act wouldn't cut middle class taxes and that it would give an \$80,000 tax cut to wealthy homeowners in New York, New Jersey and California.
 - ✓ De La Cruz falsely claimed the Build Back Better Act would have the IRS monitor bank transactions over \$600.
 - ✓ De La Cruz compared the Build Back Better Act to forced relocation of Native Americans.
- ✓ De La Cruz supported balancing the budget through reduced government spending on "government welfare," foreign aid, "boondoggle projects," and efforts to fight climate change.
 - ✓ De La Cruz said she wanted to stop the deficit spending that she claimed was driving inflation.
- ✓ De La Cruz backed a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution, which would threaten Social Security and Medicare.
 - ✓ AARP opposed the balanced budget amendment because it would "likely harm Social Security and Medicare, subjecting both programs to potentially deep cuts."

Build Back Better Act

De La Cruz Opposed The Build Back Better Act Referring To It As "Reckless Spending"

De La Cruz Called The Build Back Better Act "Reckless Spending" By The Biden Administration. "The Biden Administration reckless spending MUST STOP! We need real representation and fiscal responsibility in Washington This #buildbackbroke bill is now headed to the US Senate." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/19/20]

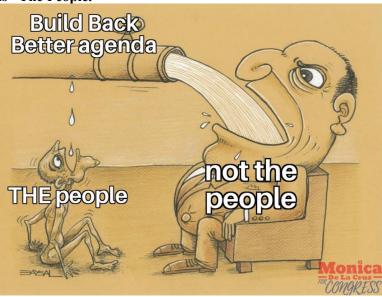
• Roosevelt Institute: Build Back Better Act Would Invest In Child Care, Creating Jobs And Allowing Parents To Get Back To Work. "Convenient, affordable childcare is a major obstacle for working parents, illuminated even more so by school and daycare closures during the COVID-19 pandemic, which has disproportionately impacted women's labor force participation. Increasing the capacity of industries in order to curb inflation of specific prices requires increasing the supply of labor. The Build Back Better Act



invests in existing and new childcare facilities in underserved areas and provides subsidies to make childcare more affordable for qualifying households. Together, these investments would increase the supply of childcare, create new jobs, and allow parents to get back to work. [Roosevelt Institute, Fact Sheet, 9/28/21]

- Center For American Progress: Build Back Better Act Would Invest In Clean Electricity And Energy Efficiency, Reducing Energy Costs By \$500 Per Year For The Average Household. "Build Back Better helps break the United States' dependence on fossil fuels—an industry that's particularly vulnerable to extreme weather, which has and will continue to be exacerbated by climate change—consumer energy costs will be reduced. Specifically, proposed investments in clean electricity and energy efficiency will make energy costs more affordable, saving the average household approximately \$500 a year in reduced energy costs. This much-needed investment in clean energy would come at a time when energy prices have pushed up inflation for consecutive months." [Center for American Progress, 11/16/21]
- E&E News: The Budget Resolution Set "The Stage For Unprecedented Investments To Tackle Climate Change And Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions." "Senate Democrats unveiled a \$3.5 trillion budget resolution this morning, setting the stage for unprecedented investments to tackle climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions." [E&E News, 8/9/21]
- The Build Back Better Deal Lowered Drug Prices For Seniors By Reducing Co-Pays And Establishing A \$2,000 Out-Of-Pocket Limit in Medicare Part D. "Pelosi celebrated the drug-pricing agreement: 'For a generation, House Democrats have been fighting to deliver real drug price negotiations that will lower costs. With today's agreement on strong lower drug price provisions for the Build Back Better Act, Democrats have a path forward to make good on this transformational agenda for our seniors.' She said the deal will lower drug prices for seniors, reduce their out-of-pocket co-pays and establish a \$2,000 out-of-pocket limit for seniors' expenses in Medicare Part D. The bill would also halt price hikes above inflation, which would affect all Ameri1cans, she said." [NBC News, 11/2/21]

De La Cruz Shared A Political Cartoon That Criticized The "Build Back Better Agenda" For Not Going Towards "The People."



[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 11/19/21]

De La Cruz Frequently Criticized The Build Back Better Act With Multiple False Or Exaggerated Claims Regarding The Bill's Provisions



De La Cruz Falsely Claimed The Build Back Better Act Would Increase Taxes On People Making Under \$400,000 A Year

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed The Build Back Better Act Would Increase Taxes On Those Making Under \$400,000 A Year.

Biden Reconciliation Bill DISASTER

-\$4 Billion granted to organizations to tear down and rebuild infrastructure deemed "racist"

-Increases Taxes on those making under \$400k a year, with a \$2 Trillion Dollar Tax hike



[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 11/5/21]

• The Reconciliation Bill Would Not Increase Taxes For Households Making Less Than \$400,000. "Senate Democrats aim to fund a \$3.5 trillion budget measure partly on the backs of higher taxes for corporations and the wealthy, according to a budget framework issued Wednesday. Democrats would 'prohibit' tax increases for households earning less than \$400,000, as well as other groups like small businesses and family farms, as they seek to raise revenue for clean-energy initiatives and an expansion of the social safety net, according to the outline." [CNBC, 7/15/21]

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed The Build Back Better Act Would Not Cut Taxes For The Middle Class While Giving A Tax Cut To Wealthy Homeowners

De La Cruz Claimed The Build Back Better Act Would Give An \$80,000 Tax Cut To Wealthy Homeowners In New York, New Jersey And California, While Failing To Cut Taxes For The Middle Class.



Build Back Better Disaster

\$80K Tax cuts for the wealthy

-Wealthy homeowners in NY, NJ and CA get tax cuts, not the Middle Class



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/22/21]

• FactCheck.Org: "In The First Year Of Biden's Proposed Budget, 2022, Nearly Nine Out Of 10 Households Would See A Tax Cut." "In the first year of Biden's proposed budget, 2022, nearly nine out of 10 households would see a tax cut, according to the Tax Policy Center." [FactCheck.org, 9/24/21]

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed The Build Back Better Act Allowed The IRS To Monitor Bank Transactions Over \$600

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed The Build Back Better Act Would Have The IRS Monitor Bank Transactions Over \$600.

Build Back Better Disaster

IRS Expansion

- Funding for an additional 87,000 IRS agents to monitor Americans bank accounts, and transactions over \$600 (including cashapp, PayPal, venmo)



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/24/21]



• PolitiFact Ruled InfoWars' Claim That The IRS Would Monitor All Bank Accounts Over \$600 "Mostly False." "An Infowars headline widely shared on Instagram stated that "Biden's Treasury Department declares IRS will monitor" all accounts over \$600. The Treasury has made no such declaration. The department has made a proposal that Congress is considering. Under the proposal, financial institutions would be required to annually report the total inflows and outflows from bank, loan and investment accounts, if the total is at least \$600 in a year, or if the account's value is at least \$600. The headline contains an element of truth but ignores critical facts that would give a different impression. We rate it Mostly False." [PolitiFact, 9/15/21]

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed That The Build Back Better Act Would Be Repeating History By "Relocating Native Americans"

De La Cruz Said The Build Back Better Act Was Repeating History By "Relocating Native Americans." "Why is Bidens #BuildBackBetter bill relocating Native Americans? This is the kind of history that should NOT repeat itself."



[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 10/9/21]

• The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Provided Money To The Bureau Of Indian Affairs To Assist Tribal Communities Mitigate Climate Change. "Funding in the legislation would be available to move entire communities. The bill would provide \$216 million to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for climate resilience and adaptation for tribal nations, which have been disproportionately hurt by climate change. More than half of that money, \$130 million, would go toward 'community relocation' — helping Indigenous Americans leave dangerous areas." [New York Times, 8/3/21]

Additional De La Cruz Attacks On Build Back Better Act

De La Cruz Criticized The Build Back Better Act For Expanding Child Tax Credit Payments To Illegal Immigrants.



Build Back Better Disaster

Federal \$ to Illegal Immigrants

-\$3,600 a year child tax credit to illegal immigrants for every child they bring into America or give birth to after arriving



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/23/21]

De La Cruz Claimed The Build Back Better Act Would Increase Home Heating Costs, Electricity Rates And Raise Gas Prices With A Natural Gas Tax.

Build Back Better Disaster

Natural Gas Tax

-will increase home heating costs, electricity rates, and raise gas prices



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/20/21]

De La Cruz Said The Build Back Better Act Was A Disaster Because It Would Increase The Corporate Tax Rate To Give U.S. Corporations The Highest Tax Burden In The World.



Biden Reconciliation Bill DISASTER

-Increases Corporate Tax by 5.5%, giving American Companies the highest tax burden in the world

 -Increases energy dependence on OPEC, Russia and China; overturning provisions in the Tax Cuts and Jobs act



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/6/21]

De La Cruz Criticized The Build Back Better Act Claiming It Would "Require Americans To Get 40% Of Energy From Wind/Solar Within 8 Years."

Biden Reconciliation Disaster

-\$643 Million included for "procuring...
culturally appropriate foods" for
schools

-Requires Americans to get 40% of energy from wind/solar within 8 years



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/4/21]

Government Spending

De La Cruz Supported Reduced Government Spending On "Government Welfare," Foreign Aid, "Boondoggle Projects," And Climate Change Projects To Balance the Budget

De La Cruz Said She Would Reduce Spending On "Government Welfare," Foreign Aid, "Boondoggle Projects," And Climate Change Projects To Balance the Budget. "What government spending would you



reduce in order to balance the budget? [ANSWER:] Government welfare programs, foreign aid, most especially to those nations who do not support the freedoms/values of the United States and Boondoggle projects such as the 'bridge to nowhere', burdensome environment projects imposed under the guise of climate change. Also, by the implementation of a flat or so-called 'fair' income tax." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/15/21]

De La Cruz Said She Wanted To Stop The Deficit Spending That She Claimed Was Driving Inflation. "Stop the deficit spending that is driving rising inflation." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/17/21]

De La Cruz Claimed She Would Incentivize Federal Workers Who Identify "Waste, Fraud And Abuse." "Incentivize Federal workers to save taxpayer money by rewarding employees who identify waste, fraud and abuse." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/17/21]

Funding And Budgets

De La Cruz Supported A Balanced Budget Amendment That Threatened Social Security And Medicare

De La Cruz Backed A Balanced Budget Amendment To The Constitution. "Back a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed <u>12/17/21</u>]

The Balanced Budget Amendment Threatened Cuts To Social Security And Medicare

Center for American Progress: The Balanced-Budget Amendment Threatens Americans' Health Care, Social Security, and Jobs [Center for American Progress, 4/11/18]

AARP Opposed The Balanced Budget Amendment Because It Would "Likely Harm Social Security And Medicare, Subjecting Both Programs To Potentially Deep Cuts." "AARP is writing to express our opposition to a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States. [...] A balanced budget amendment would likely harm Social Security and Medicare, subjecting both programs to potentially deep cuts without regard to the impact on the health and financial security of individuals. It would also likely diminish the resources available for programs assisting Americans who are least able to provide for themselves – services such as meals or heating for those who are too poor or physically unable to take care of their basic needs without some support." [AARP, Letter, 4/9/18]

National Committee To Preserve Social Security And Medicare: A Constitutional Balanced Budget Amendment Threatens Social Security [NCPSSM, 7/2011]

Under A Balanced Budget Amendment, Medicare Part A Would Not Be Able To Pay For Hospitalization Costs, Because It Is Funded Through A Fund Of Saved Treasury Securities. "Medicare Part A — the Hospital Insurance trust fund — has the same structure as Social Security. That trust fund currently holds about \$200 billion in Treasury securities, but under a balanced budget amendment, it would be unconstitutional for Medicare to draw down those savings to pay hospitalization costs because all federal expenditures — which includes Medicare payments — would have to be covered by taxes collected in the same year." [CBPP, 3/16/18]

Under A Balanced Budget Amendment, The Military And Federal Employee Civil Service Retirement Systems Would Not Be Able To Pay Retirees, Because They Are Funded Through Funds Of Saved Treasury Securities. "As a result, the \$700 billion in Treasury securities held by the military retirement trust fund and the \$900 billion in Treasury securities held by the civil service retirement trust fund would be unavailable to pay promised retirement pensions." [CBPP, 3/16/18]



A Balanced Budget Amendment Would Make Recessions Longer And Deeper, Causing Very Large Job Losses. "The economic problems with such an amendment are the most serious. By requiring a balanced budget every year, no matter the state of the economy, such an amendment would raise serious risks of tipping weak economies into recession and making recessions longer and deeper, causing very large job losses." [CBPP, 3/16/18]

CBPP: Under A Balanced Budget Amendment, "Programs Such As Social Security, Medicare, National Defense, And Veterans' Benefits Could Be Cut By An Average Of One-Fifth." "Programs such as Social Security, Medicare, national defense, and veterans' benefits could be cut by an average of one-fifth under a constitutional amendment before the House this week to require a balanced budget in every year. If policymakers chose to protect some programs from cuts, the cuts in other programs would be even deeper. If they protected Social Security and Medicare, for example, all other programs would be cut by two-fifths." [CBPP, 4/11/18]



COVID-19 And Pandemic Relief



Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz obtained over \$180,000 in PPP and EIDL loans for her associated businesses, even though she attacked the CARES Act and the December relief bill, which funded those loan programs, and condemned the American Rescue Plan.
 - ✓ April 2020: De La Cruz's insurance business, DLC Insurance, received a \$38,552 PPP loan.
 - ✓ DLC Insurance was approved for a \$38,000 PPP loan from BBVA nine days after her campaign repaid BBVA for a \$35,000 loan.
 - ✓ 2020: De La Cruz's business JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC received \$40,000 in Economic Injury Disaster Loans.
 - ✓ 2020: De La Cruz's spouse's business Navi Business Group received \$102,000 in Economic Injury Disaster Loans.
- ✓ De La Cruz initially praised the passage of the CARES Act but later called the additional \$600 in unemployment insurance provided in the CARES Act a "catastrophe" that was keeping people in "modern day slavery."
 - ✓ De La Cruz blamed the expansion of unemployment insurance on "the left," though the CARES Act was passed by unanimous votes in both houses of congress and signed into law by Trump.
 - ✓ De La Cruz claimed she had to close her business due to a staff shortage after "actively trying" to hire people for her businesses, suggesting people "would be almost crazy" to work for her because they could make more money on unemployment.
 - ✓ A study found the break-even wage, below which Texans could make more from expanded unemployment insurance than from salary, was \$15.70/hour, or the equivalent of \$32,656/year.
- ✓ De La Cruz opposed the American Rescue Plan (ARP), claiming "none of this had anything to do with fighting COVID-19" and arguing it "bail[ed] out democrat failed state and local governments."
 - ✓ Counties and cities in Texas's 15th Congressional District received over \$392 million in coronavirus state and local fiscal recovery funds, which could be used to keep health care workers, teachers, and law enforcement officers on the job.
 - ✓ As of August 2021, families in Texas's 15th Congressional District had received \$54.2 million in child tax credit payments.
 - ✓ As of August 2021, restaurants in Texas's 15th Congressional District had received \$71.3 million in restaurant revitalization funding to help them stay open.
 - ✓ School districts across the Rio Grande Valley received over \$920 million of "monumental funding" from the American Rescue Plan.
 - ✓ De La Cruz repeated a claim, fact-checked FALSE by USA Today, that only 9% of ARP went toward addressing the pandemic.
- ✓ May 2020: De La Cruz opposed the HEROES Act, which she called "irresponsible" legislation.



- ✓ December 2020: De La Cruz said she was "surprised" after Trump signed a \$900 billion pandemic relief bill, which she called "waste" and "deception."
- ✓ De La Cruz praised the ending of Texas' mask mandates and increasing capacity of all businesses in Texas to 100 percent.
 - ✓ De La Cruz celebrated the end of the Texas mask mandate, proclaiming "we are free again!!!"
 - ✓ De La Cruz claimed Hidalgo County forced small businesses to be "the face mask police."
- ✓ De La Cruz said the pandemic was "a serious matter that should never be politicized" and praised Trump's response to the coronavirus.
 - ✓ De La Cruz said Trump's response to the coronavirus "has been great."
 - ✓ De La Cruz praised Trump for ordering meat processing plants to stay open during the pandemic amid thousands of worker infections and hundreds of deaths.
- ✓ De La Cruz reacted to C.D.C. data that showed the coronavirus had a disproportionate effect on Hispanic and Black Americans by attributing health inequities to high rates of obesity.
- ✓ De La Cruz blamed Rep. Vicente Gonzalez for being "racially divisive" and playing "identity politics" by "insinuating COVID racism" in an op-ed he wrote regarding COVID's impact on Hispanic communities.
- ✓ De La Cruz downplayed COVID's impact while the Rio Grande Valley saw a devastating COVID surge in the summer of 2020, then complained restrictions hurt her ability to campaign.
 - ✓ May 2020: De La Cruz downplayed the pandemic's impact on Hidalgo County's infection rate and health care facilities.
 - ✓ A month after the May 2020 reopening of Texas, cases in the Rio Grande Valley nearly doubled and by July cases multiplied almost tenfold. Hidalgo County was a COVID hot spot that saw roughly 90 deaths per 100,000 people.
 - ✓ July 2020: De La Cruz claimed "campaigning with covid has been a real challenge" due to public health restrictions.
- ✓ De La Cruz spread multiple false claims and misinformation regarding COVID vaccination campaigns, contact tracing, and COVID spread among migrants.
 - ✓ De La Cruz falsely claimed that door to door vaccination campaigns violated HIPAA.
 - ✓ De La Cruz shared a misleading Facebook post that called for the firing of Dr. Fauci claiming he advised against mask usage.
 - ✓ De La Cruz falsely claimed the TRACE Act would send "health bureaucrats to individuals residences" as part of "one of the most massive government surveillance programs of private citizens in U.S. history."
 - ✓ De La Cruz routinely made misleading statements falsely claiming that Biden was releasing hundreds of undocumented immigrants infected with COVID-19.



- ✓ December 2020: De La Cruz berated school board members in Edinburg, Texas for increasing teacher salaries while delaying the resumption of in-person instruction during the pandemic.
 - ✓ De La Cruz wanted the Texas Education Agency to "tell" Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District (ECISD) to open its schools.
 - ✓ De La Cruz questioned why ECISD was keeping Mexican-Americans "uneducated" in Hidalgo County while white students in other Texas counties received an education.
- ✓ De La Cruz claimed she was "forced" to move her stepdaughter hundreds of miles to another school district in Galveston because ECISD "failed" teachers and students by having "zero plan" to reopen.
 - ✓ De La Cruz blamed school closures for keeping her children from learning and making them socially isolated.

Economic Relief

De La Cruz Obtained More Than \$180,000 In PPP And EIDL Loans For Her Associated Businesses, But Attacked The CARES Act And The American Rescue Plan

April 2020: De La Cruz's Insurance Business, DLC Insurance, Received A \$38,552 PPP Loan

April 2020: DLC Insurance Received A \$38,552 Paycheck Protection Loan To Cover Payroll Costs. [ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

Paycheck Protection Loan Information		
Business Name:	DLC Insurance Inc	
Loan Amount:	\$38,552	
Intended Use For Loan:	Payroll	
Location:	Alamo, TX	
Industry:	Direct Life Insurance Carriers	
Business Type:	Sole Proprietorship	
Jobs Reported:	5	
Lender:	BBVA USA	
Date Approved:	4/29/20	

[ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

DLC Insurance Claimed The PPP Loan Was Going To Support 5 Employees. [ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

According To The Small Business Administration The PPP Loan Was Reported As "Paid In Full." "DLC Insurance Inc in Alamo, TX received a Paycheck Protection Loan of \$38,552 through PNC Bank, National Association, which was approved in April, 2020. This loan's status is reported by the SBA as "Paid in Full", which includes both loans repaid and those fully forgiven from repayment under PPP guidelines. The loan's status was last updated by the SBA in June, 2021." [FederalPay.org, accessed 12/13/21]

De La Cruz Reported Annual Personal Income From DLC Insurance That Nearly Matched The Amount Of The PPP Loan To DLC Insurance



De La Cruz Had \$33,000 In Earned Income From DLC Insurance Inc. In 2021. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

De La Cruz Had \$44,600 In Earned Income From DLC Insurance Inc. In 2020. [Monica De La Cruz 2021 Public Financial Disclosure Report, filed 8/13/21]

De La Cruz Had \$35,000 In Earned Income From DLC Insurance Inc. In 2019. [Monica De La Cruz 2020 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filed 4/22/20]

De La Cruz Had \$30,234 In Earned Income From DLC Insurance Inc. In 2018. [Monica De La Cruz 2020 Public Financial Disclosure Report, Filed 4/22/20]

DLC Insurance Was Approved For A \$38,000 PPP Loan From BBVA Nine Days After Her Campaign Repaid BBVA For A \$35,000 Loan

4/20/20: De La Cruz Hernandez's Campaign Repaid A \$35,000 Loan From BBVA Bank. [FEC, Campaign Disbursements Search, accessed 5/12/21]

4/29/20: DLC Insurance Was Approved For A \$38,552 PPP Loan From BBVA Bank. [ProPublica, Tracking PPP, 4/29/20]

2020: De La Cruz's Business JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Received \$40,000 in Economic Injury Disaster Loans

June 2020: JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Received A \$39,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan. On June 16, 2020, the Small Business Administration awarded JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC a \$39,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan. [COVID Bailout Tracker via Accountable.US, 6/16/20]

May 2020: JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC Received A \$1,000 Economic Injury Disaster Grant. On May 2, 2020, the Small Business Administration awarded JSM De La Cruz Holdings LLC a \$1,000 direct payment Economic Injury Disaster Grant. [USASpending.gov, 5/2/20]

2020: De La Cruz's Spouse's Business Navi Business Group Received \$102,000 In Economic Injury Disaster Loans

May 2020: Navi Business Group Received A \$98,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan. On May 22, 2020, the Small Business Administration awarded Navi Business Group a \$98,000 Economic Injury Disaster Loan. [COVID Bailout Tracker via Accountable.US, <u>5/22/20</u>]

April 2020: Navi Business Group Received A \$4,000 Economic Injury Disaster Grant. On April 19, 2020, the Small Business Administration awarded Navi Business Group a \$4,000 direct payment Economic Injury Disaster Grant. [USASpending.gov, 4/19/20]

2020: De La Cruz Initially Praised The CARES Act Before Denouncing Its Unemployment Provisions As "Modern Day Slavery"

March 2020: De La Cruz Initially Praised The Passage Of The CARES Act, Though She Criticized The Bill For Containing "Hundreds Of Millions Of Dollars In Pork Barrel Spending" That Was "Wasteful And Unneeded"

De La Cruz Said She Was Pleased With The Passage Of The CARES Act That Would "Help Hard-Working Americans Weather This Storm Until Things Go Back To Normal." "I'm pleased the United States House of



Representatives has passed the \$2 trillion coronavirus stimulus bill. President Donald J. Trump has indicated he will sign it the moment it hits his desk. This emergency measure will help hard-working Americans weather this storm until things go back to normal." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 3/27/20]

De La Cruz Criticized Pelosi And Schumer For Delaying And Holding The CARES Act "Captive Until Their Demands For Hundreds Of Millions Of Dollars In Pork Barrel Spending" Were Met. "While I was in support of passage of this bill, I'm disappointed that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Democrat Leader Chuck Schumer delayed getting Americans the help they needed because of their political grandstanding and posturing. They held the bill captive until their demands for hundreds of millions of dollars in pork barrel spending, which had nothing to do with the national emergency we find ourselves in, were met. [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 3/27/20]

De La Cruz Said Funding In The CARES Act For Amtrak, The National Endowment For The Arts, And The National Endowment For The Humanities Was "Wasteful And Unneeded." \$75 million for the National Endowment for the Arts, \$75 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities, \$25 million for the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, \$7 million dollars for the Smithsonian Institute, and \$1 billion for AMTRAK were all unnecessary and are costs we simply can't afford. We should focus on helping stop the virus, treating those who have been infected, and keeping our economy and American families afloat. Anything beyond that is wasteful and unneeded!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 3/27/20]

June 2020: De La Cruz Called The Additional \$600 In Unemployment Insurance Provided In The CARES Act A "Catastrophe" That Was Keeping People In "Modern Day Slavery"

De La Cruz Said The Additional \$600 In Unemployment Insurance Provided In The CARES Act A "Catastrophe." "Getting people back to work is very important. Look let me tell you this right now as small businesses, as big businesses we have a very serious issue on our hands. What was passed, legislation that was passed on unemployment and not only giving people unemployment but giving them the additional 600 dollars to stay unemployed has been a catastrophe for businesses, has been a catastrophe for our nation and our national economy. What has been created is that employees do not want to come back to work. They don't. The reason why is because they're getting this extra 600 dollars to stay at home. Why should they come back there's no incentive?" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/4/20] (Video)

• The CARES Act Provided An Extra \$600 A Week In Unemployment Insurance. "In a historic expansion of unemployment insurance, the federal government would give jobless workers an extra \$600 a week on top of their state benefits for four months as part of the \$2 trillion stimulus bill the Senate passed unanimously late Wednesday night." [CNN, 3/25/20]

De La Cruz Claimed "The Left" Was "Putting Handcuffs On People And Keeping Them In Modern Day Slavery On Unemployment." "I talked to small businesses up and down the Rio Grande Valley. I have one large Fortune 500 business that is supporting us and they have 50 open positions that they cannot fill and the reason why is because people want to stay on unemployment and that is a catastrophe. That is the left putting handcuffs on people and keeping them in modern day slavery on unemployment. That is not the American way. That is not what America was built on, America was built on hard work, it was built on ethics and integrity." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>6/4/20</u>] (Video)

Though De La Cruz Blamed The Expansion Of Unemployment Insurance On "The Left," The CARES Act Was Passed By Unanimous Votes In Both Houses Of Congress And Signed Into Law By Trump

March 2020: Trump Signed The CARES ACT Into Law Hours After It Passed The House By Voice Vote And Passed The Senate Unanimously. "President Trump on Friday signed a massive \$2 trillion emergency spending bill into law, promising to deliver a tidal wave of cash to individual Americans, businesses and health care facilities all reeling from the coronavirus pandemic. His signature came just hours after the House of



Representatives passed the massive package by an overwhelming voice vote, and less than 48 hours after it received unanimous approval from the Senate." [Washington Post, 3/27/20]

May 2020: De La Cruz Opposed The HEROES Act, Which She Called "Irresponsible" Legislation

De La Cruz Opposed The HEROES Act Referring To It As "Irresponsible Type Of Legislation Only Insults And Dampens The American Fire Within." "What Congress needs to do is help businesses safely reopen and get people back to work! The American spirit is hard work and integrity! This irresponsible type of legislation only insults and dampens the American fire within! Americans don't want a hand out, we want to be independent from Government!!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 5/12/20]

- May 2020: The House Of Representatives Passed The HEROES Act Which Proposed \$3 Trillion To Address The Economic Impacts Of The Coronavirus. "House Democrats on Friday passed a \$3 trillion tax cut and spending bill aimed at addressing the devastating economic fallout from the coronavirus outbreak by directing huge sums of money into all corners of the economy. But the White House and Senate Republicans have decried the measure's design and said they will cast it aside, leaving uncertain what steps policymakers might take as the economy continues to face severe strains. The sweeping legislation, dubbed the 'Heroes Act', passed 208-199." [Washington Post, 5/15/20]
- The HEROES Act Provided Nearly \$1 Trillion For State And Local Governments, Another Round Of Direct Payments To Individuals And Families, And Hazard Pay For Essential Workers. "The 1,800-page legislation contains a large number of provisions: nearly \$1 trillion for state, local and tribal governments; another round of direct payments to individuals, up to \$6,000 per family, including to unauthorized immigrants; \$200 billion for hazard pay for essential workers; \$75 billion for coronavirus testing and tracing; increased spending on food stamps; \$175 billion in housing support; student loan forgiveness; and a new employee retention tax credit and extension of unemployment benefits." [Washington Post, 5/15/20]

December 2020: De La Cruz Opposed The \$900 Billion Bipartisan Pandemic Relief Bill, Which Authorized A New Round Of PPP Lending To Small Businesses

De La Cruz Said She Was "Surprised" After Trump Signed \$900 Billion Pandemic Relief Bill. "I am surprised Trump signed this.... Congress produced a bill that sends billions overseas that could have been used for Americans. Why does Congress care more about other countries than our own." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/27/20]

 De La Cruz Criticized The Bill For Sending "Billions Overseas That Could Have Been Used For Americans." "I am surprised Trump signed this.... Congress produced a bill that sends billions overseas that could have been used for Americans. Why does Congress care more about other countries than our own." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/27/20]

De La Cruz Criticized The \$900 Pandemic Relief Bill As "Waste" And "Deception." "Waste. Deception. All under the cover of 'relief'. #expose #congress" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/22/20]

- The Stimulus Package Included \$600 Direct Payments For Individuals And Additional Payments For Children. "Among the most anticipated components of the legislation is the direct payment, with \$600 going to individual adults with an adjusted gross income of up to \$75,000 a year based on 2019 earnings. Heads of households who earn up to \$112,500 and a couple (or someone whose spouse died in 2020) who make up to \$150,000 a year would get twice that amount. Eligible families with dependent children would receive an additional \$600 per child." [New York Times, 12/28/20]
- The Stimulus Package Enhanced Federal Jobless Benefits For 11 Weeks And Extended Pandemic Unemployment Assistance. "The agreement would revive enhanced federal jobless benefits for 11 weeks,



providing a lifeline for hard-hit workers until March 14. The new benefit, up to \$300 per week, is half the amount provided by the original stimulus bill in the spring. The legislation also extends Pandemic Unemployment Assistance — a program aimed at a broad set of freelancers and independent contractors — for the same period, providing an additional \$100 per week." [New York Times, 12/28/20]

- The Pandemic Relief Bill Provided \$82 Billion In Education Funding. "School budgets have been severely crippled by the pandemic and left some of the most vulnerable students in dire academic and financial straits. The bill provides \$82 billion for education, including about \$54 billion for K-12 schools and \$23 billion for colleges and universities." [New York Times, 12/28/20]
- The Pandemic Relief Bill Allocated \$70 Billion For Public Health Measures Including Vaccines And Test-And-Trace Programs. "The legislation sets aside nearly \$70 billion for a range of public health measures, including \$20 billion for the purchase of vaccines, \$8 billion for vaccine distribution and an additional \$20 billion to help states continue their test-and-trace programs." [New York Times, 12/28/20]

The Pandemic Relief Bill Authorized \$285 Billion For A New Round Of PPP Lending To Small Businesses

- The Pandemic Relief Bill Renewed The PPP Program Created By The CARES Act, Providing \$285 Billion For Additional Paycheck Protection Program Loans. The agreement sets aside \$285 billion for additional loans to small businesses under the Paycheck Protection Program, renewing the program created under the initial stimulus legislation." [New York Times, 12/28/20]
- The Pandemic Relief Bill Capped Loans At \$2 Million And Only To Companies With Fewer Than 300 Employees That Experienced A Drop In Sales. "The latest version includes stricter terms that appear intended to correct some of the unpopular elements of the original program. It caps loans at \$2 million and makes them available only to borrowers with fewer than 300 employees that experienced at least a 25 percent drop in sales from a year earlier in at least one quarter." [New York Times, 12/28/20]
- The Bill Set Aside \$12 Billion For Minority-Owned Businesses. "The agreement also sets aside \$12 billion specifically for minority-owned businesses. And publicly traded companies will be ineligible to apply this time around." [New York Times, 12/28/20]

De La Cruz Accused Speaker Pelosi And Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Of Stalling The Pandemic Relief Bill Until Biden Was Elected. "During negotiations over a second coronavirus relief bill, Pelosi had refused to back anything less than a \$2 trillion dollar deal but now that Biden is supposedly President Elect, she accepts a lesser package of \$908 billion, citing that 'we have a new president' and vaccines are on the way. Socialist Vicente Gonzalez will be talking PROUDLY how he supported #hypocrite Pelosi. He CHOSE to give his constituents and small businesses LESS financial support than what they could have gotten!! Socialist Gonzalez is playing politics with our lives!!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/9/20]

February 2021: De La Cruz Opposed The American Rescue Plan, Claiming It Had Nothing To Do With Fighting COVID-19, And Attacked Its Relief For State And Local Governments

De La Cruz Opposed The American Rescue Plan Claiming "None Of This Had Anything To Do With Fighting COVID-19." "None of this has anything to do with fighting COVID-19. But apparently that doesn't matter to Vicente Gonzalez, who is more concerned with pleasing Nancy Pelosi than working across the aisle to enact targeted, responsible relief for his constituents. #covidrelief" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>2/27/21</u>]

De La Cruz Claimed ARP Was "Bailing Out Democrat Failed State And Local Governments."





[Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>2/27/21</u>]

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed That "Only 9% Of The Bill Is For Actual COVID Relief." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>2/27/21</u>]

• USA Today Fact Check Rated "FALSE" Claims That Only 9% Of The Bill Was Going Towards COVID Relief, Noting "About 85% Of The Bill Is Related To The Coronavirus Pandemic." "We rate this claim FALSE because it is not supported by our research. There's room for debate over exactly how much of the \$1.9 trillion is related to the pandemic. It's surely not all of it. But this claim bungles a widely circulating 9% stat. More than 99% of the American Rescue Plan is going to Americans, though some of that falls in the category of political 'pork.' An analysis by a nonpartisan group found that about 85% of the bill is related to the coronavirus pandemic. The 9% figure is actually what is going to fund direct disease containment measures such as vaccines, testing and tracing, and other public health initiatives." [USA Today, 3/2/21]

De La Cruz Blamed Unemployment Insurance Provided In The American Rescue Plan For Making People Not Want To Work

De La Cruz Said Nobody Wanted To Work Due To The Unemployment Insurance Provided In The American Rescue Plan. "As a small business owner myself...the problem isn't that there are no jobs, the #REAL problem is that due to the COVID RELIEF package, NOBODY WANTS TO WORK!!! Why? Because they would be almost crazy to work when they can get at least the same amount or MORE with the COVID RELIEF unemployment benefits." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 5/8/21]

• The American Rescue Plan Extended Unemployment Insurance At A Level Of \$300/Month, Lower Than The CARES Act's \$600/Month, Until September 6th. "The American Rescue Plan extended unemployment benefits until September 6 with a weekly supplemental benefit of \$300 on top of the regular \$400 benefit." [Whitehouse.gov, American Rescue Plan, accessed 12/15/21]

De La Cruz Claimed She Had To Temporarily Close Her Business After "Actively Trying" To Hire People For Her Businesses; Claimed "It Doesn't Seem Like People Are Motivated To Get Off Unemployment!!!" "Today I had to close my business to allow my team members to 'catch up' on work. I have been actively trying to hire two people and it doesn't seem like people are motivated to get off unemployment!!!! This COVID relief is anything but 'relieving'.... #smallbusinessowner." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 6/24/21]



De La Cruz Said People "Would Be Almost Crazy To Work When They Can Get At Least The Same Amount Or More With The COVID Relief Unemployment Benefits." "As a small business owner myself...the problem isn't that there are no jobs, the #REAL problem is that due to the COVID RELIEF package, NOBODY WANTS TO WORK!!! Why? Because they would be almost crazy to work when they can get at least the same amount or MORE with the COVID RELIEF unemployment benefits." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 5/8/21]

• January Advisors: Break-Even Wage At Which A Texas Worker Could Make More On Unemployment Than In Wages Was \$15.70/Hour, The Equivalent Of \$32,656 Annual Salary. "In order to calculate the number of people who would make less money by returning to work, I calculated a "break even wage." This is the rate where workers would make the same amount of money from Federal and state unemployment as they would from their job. I assumed that everyone works 40 hours per week, 52 weeks per year. Using the WBA formula, I found that this "break even wage" is \$15.70 per hour. Thus, anyone who made below \$15.70 hourly at their previous job would have seen an overall increase in income from federally supplemented unemployment insurance." [January Advisors, 7/29/21]

Local South Texas Leaders Praised The American Rescue Plan As "Monumental Legislation" That Is "Necessary And Welcome"

Hidalgo County Judge Richard Cortez: "I Can Say Unequivocally That This Relief Package Is Necessary And Welcome." "City and county leaders in South Texas say they are thrilled the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act has been passed by Congress. The landmark legislation will be signed into law by President Biden on Friday. It provides resources to defeat the coronavirus, puts money into families' pockets, funds the refitting of classrooms so students can return to school, and helps cities and counties recover from the economic downturn. 'I congratulate Congress, especially the Rio Grande Valley delegation, for passing this major piece of legislation,' said Hidalgo County Judge Richard Cortez. 'I have watched our community valiantly fight the effects of this virus and I can say unequivocally that this relief package is necessary and welcome." [Rio Grande Guardian, 3/11/21]

McAllen Mayor Jim Darling: The American Rescue Plan "Will Not Only Help Struggling, Americans Across The Country And Especially Here In The Rio Grande Valley, But Also, Positively Impact The Municipalities Hit Hard Economically By The Effects Of This Global Pandemic." "McAllen Mayor Jim Darling said he is 'extremely appreciative' of the South Texas congressional delegation – U.S. Reps. Vicente Gonzalez, Henry Cuellar and Filemon Vela – for voting for the COVID-19 relief bill. Darling said the bill 'will not only help struggling, Americans across the country and especially here in the Rio Grande Valley, but also, positively impact the municipalities hit hard economically by the effects of this global pandemic.' Darling said Reps. Gonzalez, Cuellar and Vela understand that municipal governments were struggling to provide services due to lost revenues. 'Being able to recoup that money will be a great shot in the arm for our community, which will help us all rebound. The immediate and direct deposit of funds will mean we can get back to providing the level of service and infrastructure that our residents expect from their municipal government," Darling added. [Rio Grande Guardian, 3/11/21]

Pharr Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez Described The American Rescue Plan As "Monumental Legislation" That Would "Benefit Pharr Families And Provide Assistance Where It's Most Needed – At The Local Level." "Speaking for the City of Pharr and the Pharr City Commission, Pharr Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez said he 'applauds the efforts of our congressional delegation' for passing the American Rescue Plan. Hernandez described the American Rescue Plan as 'monumental legislation.' He said it would 'benefit Pharr families and provide assistance where it's most needed – at the local level.' Hernandez added: 'With this investment of millions of dollars in direct funding, cities can finally focus on pandemic-specific needs and priorities. Our congressmen recognized that each city is unique especially along the Texas-Mexico border where the movement of trade and commerce remains a vital economic lifeline for our nation." [Rio Grande Guardian, 3/11/21]



Individuals In Texas Received \$34.5 Million In Third Round Economic Impact Payments Of Up To \$1,400 Through The American Rescue Plan. Texas received \$34.5 million in Third Round Economic Impact Payments through The American Rescue Plan Act: "The U.S. Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) released state-by-state data through early June for the 163.5 million Economic Impact Payments (EIPs) totaling nearly \$390 billion received by individuals through the American Rescue Plan Act. With this round of payments, the IRS and the Bureau of the Fiscal Service (BFS) have delivered more EIPs and more total direct relief than in any previous round of direct relief. All 50 states saw more total relief with this round of payments than in previous rounds. [...] The EIPs under the American Rescue Plan included payments of up to \$1,400 per qualifying dependent, a significant increase over the \$500 and \$600 per qualifying child from the first and second rounds of payments, respectively." [Department of the Treasury, Press Release, 6/29/21]

April 2021: Texas Veterans In The Rio Grande Valley Received Economic Impact Payments. "On Wednesday, two Rio Grande Valley Congressmen announced that Texans that receive Veteran benefits could expect a \$1,400 check in their banks starting Wednesday. The money comes from the American Rescue Plan and many Texans have already received Economic Impact Payments. In total, 88 percent of Texas adults are expected to receive Economic Impact Payments of up to \$1,400 per person through the American Rescue Plan, according to Congressman Henry Cuellar. The White House said more than 17,283,400 adults and 8,098,300 children in Texas are eligible to receive payments of up to \$1,400 per person. 'Help is here for our veterans, small businesses, and working families,' said Congressman Vicente Gonzalez. 'I want to make sure that Texas veterans get the money that is rightfully theirs and that these veterans who have served honorably receive their benefits provided by the American Rescue Plan Act." [Valley Central, 4/14/21]

As Of August 2021, Texas's 15th Congressional District Had Received \$54.2 Million In Child Tax Credit Payments

According To Estimates From The Joint Economic Committee Made Using State-Level Data From The Treasury, Texas's 15th Congressional District Had Received \$54.2 Million In Child Tax Credit Payments As Of August 2021. According to estimates from the Joint Economic Committee, Texas's 15th Congressional District had received \$54.2 million in Child Tax Credit payments as of August 2021: "Using state-level data from the Treasury Department on advance Child Tax Credit (CTC) payments, the Joint Economic Committee estimated the number of qualifying children, total number of payments, and total payment amount by congressional district in August 2021, when the second round of CTC payments was distributed." [Joint Economic Committee, 9/9/21; Joint Economic Committee, Estimates of Advance Child Tax Credit Distribution by Congressional District, 9/9/21]

• JEC Analysis Showed The CTC Had Dramatically Reduced Food Insecurity And Financial Hardship, And Was Expected To Inject Nearly \$19.3 Billion Into Local Economies Each Month. "JEC analysis of data from the Census Bureau show the expanded CTC is already having a major impact on family budgets, with dramatic declines in food insufficiency and financial hardship, and the JEC estimates that monthly CTC payments will inject nearly \$19.3 billion into local economies each month. The expanded CTC will generate nearly \$19.3 billion in spending in local economies across the U.S. each month. Family finances improved significantly following the first monthly expanded CTC payments in July. Data from the Census Bureau show that following the July payments, there were significant declines in the share of households with children reporting financial hardship and food insufficiency. Families are using the expanded CTC payments to meet the needs of their household. Among those who responded to the Census Bureau's survey: 47% spent their CTC payment on food, 28% spent it on internet and other utilities, 26% spent it on school expenses, and 17% of those with at least one child under age 5 spent it on child care." [Joint Economic Committee, 9/9/21]

As Of August 2021, Texas Had Received \$1.5 Billion In Child Tax Credit Payments As Part Of The American Rescue Plan. As of August 2021, Texas had received \$1.5 billion in Child Tax Credit payments: "The U.S. Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service announced today that more than \$15 billion were paid to families that include roughly 61 million eligible children in the second monthly payment of the expanded and newly-advanceable Child Tax Credit from the American Rescue Plan passed in March. [...] Eligible



families received a payment of up to \$300 per month for each child under age 6 and up to \$250 per month for each child age 6 to 17. This tax relief is having a real impact on the lives of America's children. According to the Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey data released earlier this week, parents reported having less trouble covering the costs of food and other household expenses after receiving their first CTC payment. The share of families reporting that they sometimes or often did not have enough to eat in the past week dropped to the lowest percentage since the pandemic began. Parents are using their CTC payments to pay for basics for their kids." [Department of the Treasury, Press Release, 8/13/21]

• Parents Reported Having Less Trouble Covering The Costs Of Food And Other Household Expenses After Receiving Their First Child Tax Credit Payment. "According to the Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey data released earlier this week, parents reported having less trouble covering the costs of food and other household expenses after receiving their first CTC payment. The share of families reporting that they sometimes or often did not have enough to eat in the past week dropped to the lowest percentage since the pandemic began. Parents are using their CTC payments to pay for basics for their kids." [Department of the Treasury, Press Release, 8/13/21]

The Child Tax Credit Would Lift 29,300 Children In The 15th District Out Of Poverty And Would Benefit 94.5% Of Children In The District. "The American Rescue Plan has expanded the child tax credit up to \$3,600 per child for children 5 and under and \$3,000 per child for children ages 6 to 17. Beginning as soon as July and running through December, qualifying families will receive a portion on a monthly basis, so they should not expect that \$3,000 or \$3,600 in one month. It will be based on their income and they will receive payments of up to \$300 for children 5 and under and \$250 for children ages 6 to 17 over a 12-month period. Families will get their remaining expanded child tax credit when they file their 2021 tax return. With this initiative, 94.5% of children in the 15th District of Texas will benefit. The aim is for the child tax credit to lift 29,300 children in the 15th District out of poverty." [MyRGV News, 5/18/21]

As Of August 2021, Texas's 15th Congressional District Had Received \$71.3 Million In Restaurant Revitalization Funding To Help Restaurants Keep Their Doors Open As Part Of The American Rescue Plan.

As Of August 2021, Texas's 15th Congressional District Had Received \$71.3 Million In Restaurant Revitalization Funding To Help Restaurants Keep Their Doors Open As Part Of The American Rescue Plan. As of August 2021, Texas's 15th Congressional District had received \$71.3 million in Restaurant Revitalization Funding as part of The American Rescue Plan: "The American Rescue Plan Act established the Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF) to provide funding to help restaurants and other eligible businesses keep their doors open. This program will provide restaurants with funding equal to their pandemic-related revenue loss up to \$10 million per business and no more than \$5 million per physical location. Recipients are not required to repay the funding as long as funds are used for eligible uses no later than March 11, 2023." [U.S. Small Business Administration, RRF FOIA, 8/18/21; U.S. Small Business Administration, accessed 9/7/21]

- ✓ As Of June 2021, Texas Had Received \$1.6 Billion In Restaurant Revitalization Funding As Part Of The American Rescue Plan. [U.S. Small Business Administration, RRF Report, 6/30/21]
- ✓ Local Restaurant Owners Applied For The Restaurant Revitalization Fund To Help Get Their Businesses Back On Their Feet And Help With Monthly Expenses. "The U.S. Small Business Administration has announced its \$28.6 Billion Restaurant Revitalization Fund to help businesses affected by COVID-19 get back on their feet. 'The difference in the business, dramatically or drastically, I could probably say really went down. It hurt us a lot,' said Ricardo Cruz, Co-owner of Build-A-Burger. Cruz has been working non-stop the past couple of months to get his business back to normal. With the new restaurant revitalization fund, he's hoping this helps with their monthly expenses and to expand his business. 'Of course just trying to just be able to pay for everything that we need to purchase to be able to provide the food content to our customers, but we do also want to be able to put some money into the advertisement of our business,' said Cruz. Cruz is not the only restaurant owner planning to apply." [Valley Central, 4/30/21]



• Local Restaurant Owners Could Use Restaurant Revitalization Funds For The Construction Of Outdoor Seating. "Roberto Pardo the owner of Mayan Chef, said he would use the money for the construction of outdoor seating. 'Outdoor seating which is mainly important now we didn't think about it before now every day it's more important especially because we don't have a drive-thru,' said Pardo. The construction of outdoor seating is just one of the many things the funds could be used for. The Small Business Administration (SBA) urges restaurants in the Rio Grande Valley to apply to get as much help in the area. 'It's not allocated to certain areas it is allocated to certain targeted markets but that's why I'm on this call today because I want people to get a jump on it,' said Angela Burton, RGV District Director for the Small Business Administration." [Valley Central, 4/30/21]

Small Business Support - Shuttered Venue Operators Grants

As Of December 2021, Texas Had Received \$1 Billion In Shuttered Venues Operators Grants To Help Live Venues, Museums, And Theaters Stay Open As Part Of The American Rescue Plan. As of September 2021, Texas had received \$1 billion in Shuttered Venues Operators Grants as part of the American Rescue Plan Act: "The Shuttered Venue Operators Grant (SVOG) program was established by the Economic Aid to Hard-Hit Small Businesses, Nonprofits, and Venues Act, and amended by the American Rescue Plan Act. The program includes over \$16 billion in grants to shuttered venues, to be administered by SBA's Office of Disaster Assistance. Eligible applicants may qualify for grants equal to 45% of their gross earned revenue, with the maximum amount available for a single grant award of \$10 million. \$2 billion is reserved for eligible applications with up to 50 full-time employees. [...] Eligible entities include: live venue operators or promoters, theatrical producers, live performing arts organization operators, museum operators, motion picture theater operators (including owners), talent representatives." [SBA Shuttered Venue Operators Grant Program Reports, 12/20/21; SBA accessed 12/20/21]

School Districts Across The Rio Grande Valley Received Over \$920 Million Of "Monumental Funding" From The American Rescue Plan

Texas Received \$12.4 Billion In Elementary And Secondary School Emergency Relief Through The American Rescue Plan To Help Safely Reopen Schools. Texas received \$12.4 billion in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief through the American Rescue Plan: "This document outlines the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, enacted on March 11, 2021. ARP ESSER provides a total of nearly \$122 billion to States and school districts to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students. In addition to ARP ESSER, the ARP Act includes \$3 billion for special education, \$850 million for the Outlying Areas, \$2.75 billion to support non-public schools, and additional funding for homeless children and youth, Tribal educational agencies, Native Hawaiians, and Alaska Natives." [ARP ESSER Methodology and Allocation Table Revised, 6/25/21; Department of Education, Fact Sheet, 3/17/21]

School Districts Across The Rio Grande Valley Received "Monumental Funding" Through The American Rescue Plan. "Regardless of district, schools across the Rio Grande Valley will soon be receiving monumental funding. It comes as one of the many elements to the American Rescue Plan of its \$1.9 trillion, \$122 billion a little more than 6% nationwide. That money is part of the rescue plan's Elementary And Secondary School Emergency Relief also known as ESSER funds. [...] Its goal has several layers making it safer to re-enter the classroom to helping students catch up from time lost from remote learning. [...] Leading to districts like Edinburg CISD now able to fund after-school programs in the early phases. One of the ways they're working to combat learning loss. [...] Of the districts within the valley La Joya ISD is to receive the largest amount. A spokesperson for the district saying they haven't received funding yet but sharing this presentation of initiatives like ramping up staff with special attention going toward the mental health of students. [...] School administrators say this funding is crucial." [KRGV, 8/30/21]



School Districts In The Rio Grande Valley Received Over \$920 Million In Recovery Funds As A Result Of The American Rescue Plan.

Rio Grande Valley School District Funds		
School District	Amount	
Donna ISD	\$98,920,000	
Edcouch-Elsa ISD	\$28,035,000	
Edinburg CISD	\$146,261,000	
Hidalgo ISD	\$10,141,000	
La Joya ISD	\$160,563,000	
La Villa ISD	\$2,453,000	
Lyford CISD	\$6,392,000	
McAllen ISD	\$107,224,000	
Mercedes ISD	\$29,927,000	
Mission CISD	\$76,472,000	
Monte Alto ISD	\$4,225,000	
Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD	\$131,483,000	
Progreso ISD	\$8,939,000	
Sharyland ISD	\$24,856,000	
Valley View ISD	\$16,978,000	
Weslaco ISD	\$67,498,000	
Total:	\$920,367,000	

[Congressman Vicente Gonzalez, 3/12/21]

The American Rescue Plan Sent \$101.4 Million To The University Of Texas Rio Grande Valley. "On Wednesday, Congressman Vicente Gonzalez (TX-15) announced that UTRGV and STC are among the list of schools receiving financial support through the plan. UTRGV is receiving \$101,411,829 and STC is receiving \$73,866,947. In total, the American Rescue Plan is offering \$36 billion to nearly 3,500 public and private, nonprofit colleges and universities nationwide." [KVEO, 5/12/21]

Counties And Cities In Texas's 15th Congressional District Received Over \$392 Million In Coronavirus State And Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

Texas Received \$15.8 Billion In Coronavirus State And Local Fiscal Recovery Funds As Part Of The American Rescue Plan To Help Governments Respond To The Pandemic And Bring Back Jobs. received \$15.8 billion in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds as part of the American Rescue Plan: "The American Rescue Plan will deliver \$350 billion for eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments to respond to the COVID-19 emergency and bring back jobs. [...] Recipients may use these funds to: support public health expenditures, by, for example, funding COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and certain public health and safety staff, address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, including economic harms to workers, households, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector, replace lost public sector revenue, using this funding to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic, provide premium pay for essential workers, offering additional support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors, invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, making necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and to expand



access to broadband internet, within these overall categories, recipients have broad flexibility to decide how best to use this funding to meet the needs of their communities. [Department of the Treasury, Allocation for States, accessed 12/20/21; Department of the Treasury, accessed 12/20/21]

 Counties In TX-15 Received \$269 Million In Coronavirus State And Local Fiscal Recovery Funds As A Result Of The American Rescue Plan. [Department of the Treasury, May 2021]

ARP State And Local Recovery Funds		
County	Amount	
Karnes County	\$3,030,311.00	
Guadalupe County	\$32,408,074.00	
Hidalgo County	\$212,973,405.00	
Jim Wells County	\$7,863,154.00	
Wilson County	\$9,919,749.00	
Brooks County	\$1,377,732.00	
Live Oak County	\$2,371,067.00	
Total: \$269,943,492		

[Department Of The Treasury, May 2021]

 Cities In TX-15 Received \$122 Million In Coronavirus State And Local Fiscal Recovery Funds As A Result Of The American Rescue Plan.

ARP State And Local Recovery Funds		
County	Amount	
McAllen	\$41,922,103.00	
Edinburg	\$27,132,536.00	
Mission	\$25,044,862.00	
Pharr	\$28,232,868.00	
Total:	\$122,332,369.00	

[US Department Of The Treasury, accessed 12/20/21]

Coronavirus State And Local Fiscal Recovery Funds – Law Enforcement

The American Rescue Plan Provided \$350 Billion In State And Local Funding To Hire Law Enforcement Officials, Pay Overtime For Community Policing, And Restore Law Enforcement To Pre-Pandemic Levels.

"Today, the Treasury Department is highlighting that communities experiencing a surge in gun violence as a result of the pandemic may use the American Rescue Plan's \$350 billion in state and local funding for purposes such as: Hiring law enforcement officials – even above pre-pandemic levels – or paying overtime where the funds are directly focused on advancing community policing strategies in those communities experiencing an increase in gun violence associated with the pandemic. [...] In addition, the Treasury Department is clarifying that any community may use ARP state and local aid for the above strategies and any other public safety programs, up to the level of revenue loss the jurisdiction experienced during the pandemic. And any community may use ARP funds to rehire police officers and other public servants to restore law enforcement and courts to their pre-pandemic levels."

[White House, Press Release, 6/23/21]

Department Of The Treasury: "There Are Many Ways In Which The State And Local Fiscal Recovery Funds [...] Can Support Communities Working To Reduce And Respond To Increased Violence." "Under Treasury's Interim Final Rule, there are many ways in which the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds ("Funds")



under the American Rescue Plan Act can support communities working to reduce and respond to increased violence due to the pandemic. [...] In all communities, recipients may use resources to rehire police officers and other public servants to restore law enforcement and courts to their pre-pandemic levels. [...] In communities where an increase in violence or increased difficulty in accessing or providing services to respond to or mitigate the effects of violence, is a result of the pandemic they may use funds to address that harm. This spending may include: Hiring law enforcement officials – even above pre-pandemic levels – or paying overtime where the funds are directly focused on advancing community policing strategies in those communities experiencing an increase in gun violence associated with the pandemic o Community Violence Intervention (CVI) programs, including capacity building efforts at CVI programs like funding and training additional intervention workers." [Department of the Treasury, 7/19/21]

Biden: "The American Rescue Plan, Which We Passed In The First 100 Days Of My Administration, Is Providing Much-Needed, Historic Relief To Bring Back Those Law Enforcement Jobs." President Biden: "The American Rescue Plan, which we passed in the first 100 days of my administration, is providing much-needed, historic relief to bring back those law enforcement jobs and social service jobs. Much of this relief has already arrived. The rest is on its way. And we're now providing more guidance on how they can use the \$350 billion nationally that the American Rescue Plan has available to help reduce crime and address the root causes. For example, cities experiencing an increase in gun violence were able to use the American Rescue Plan dollars to hire police officers needed for community policing and to pay their overtime. Mayors will also be able to buy crime-fighting technologies, like gunshot detection systems, to better see and stop gun violence in their communities. They can use the funding to scale up wraparound services for the residents as well, including substance abuse and mental health services that we know will make a difference in prevention of crime." [White House, 6/23/21]

De La Cruz Praised The End Of Mask Mandates And Business Capacity Restrictions In Texas

De La Cruz Praised Governor Abbott For Ending Mask Mandates And Increasing Capacity Of All Businesses In The State To 100 Percent. "No better day than on Texas INDEPENDENCE Day to announce the reopening of TEXAS to 100%!! is great news for all small business owners across our state. It's time to do what Texans know how to do best, WORK HARD! Gov Abbott also announced the END of mask mandates. [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 3/2/21]

• March 2021: Governor Greg Abbott Announced The End Of The Statewide Mask Mandate In Texas And Would Allow All Businesses To Operate In Full Capacity. "Gov. Greg Abbott announced Tuesday that he will end Texas' statewide mask mandate next week and will allow all businesses to operate at full capacity. 'It is now time to open Texas 100%,' Abbott said from a Mexican restaurant in Lubbock, arguing that Texas has fought the coronavirus pandemic to the point that 'people and businesses don't need the state telling them how to operate' any longer. Abbott said he was rescinding 'most of the earlier executive orders' he has issued over the past year to stem the spread of the virus. He said starting March 10, 'all businesses of any type are allowed to open 100%.' A spokesperson later confirmed that includes sporting events, concerts and similar events. Masks will no longer be required in public for the first time since last summer." [Texas Tribune, 3/2/21]

De La Cruz Celebrated The End Of The Texas Mask Mandate Proclaiming "We Are Free Again!!!"



End of Mask Mandate in Texas!!! WE ARE FREE AGAIN!!!

2:52 PM · Mar 2, 2021 · Twitter for Android

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[Monica For Congress, Twitter, <u>3/2/21</u>]



March 2021: De La Cruz Said People Concerned With Catching The Coronavirus While Grocery Shopping Around Mask-Less Individuals "Should Probably Stay Home."

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	Replying to @monica4congress			
	Let's hope I don't infect my grandmother! or mother! Or your mother! God forbid she go grocery shopping and fall ill due to irresponsible individuals going out without masks and potentially infecting those around them. Pray for us because under your leadership we will die.			
	Q 1	tì	♡ 5	$\hat{\bot}$
	Monica De La Cruz for Congress ♀ @monica4congress · Mar 3 ···· Your grandmother, mother and you should probably stay home. This is why we live in America. Freedom of choice.			
	Q 4		♡ 1	$\hat{\bot}$
0	♡ commissions open ♡ @noxeteque · Mar 3 ···· How would you recommend we get groceries? I know you can afford to have it delivered to your home but not everyone is so privileged. The RGV is POOR. We cant afford such amenities. Think a little about others.			
Monica	Congress Ty	(itter 3/3/21)	\bigcirc	\triangle

June 2020: De La Cruz Criticized Hidalgo County For Making Small Businesses Be "The Face Mask Police," Claiming It Hurt Customer Service. "Our local small businesses are already under so much stress and for Hidalgo County to hit them with the responsibility of being the face mask police is absurd!!! Small businesses are the life of our community economics. Small business use to say "Welcome to XX place", now you walk in and they are yelling "Put on your face mask!" There went customer service." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/26/20]

De La Cruz Said The Pandemic Was "A Serious Matter That Should Never Be Politicized" And Praised Trump's And Abbott's Response To The Coronavirus

De La Cruz Said The Coronavirus Pandemic Was "A Serious Matter That Should Never Be Politicized." "The Coronavirus Pandemic is a serious matter that should never be politicized. Instead, we should come together as Americans, just as we have always done in times of crisis, and put our nation's interests ahead of political considerations." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 3/12/20]

De La Cruz Said Trump's Response To The Coronavirus "Has Been Great." "There she goes again! Nancy Pelosi refuses to put partisanship aside and do what's best for the American people during a time of national emergency. Instead, she has moved forward with the creation of a special panel to investigate President Donald J. Trump once again. Since they couldn't get him with their phony impeachment, I guess they're now going to try to go after his Coronavirus response (which has been great.)" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 4/28/20]

De La Cruz Said She Was "So Proud" Of Texas Governor Greg Abbott's Coronavirus Response. "I am so proud of Texas Governor Greg Abbott and our other state leaders for their calm, measured, proactive response to the Coronavirus crisis. Texas is well prepared and our state's leaders are taking the necessary steps to keep our citizens safe. It is in situations like this that highlight the greatness of our state and her people." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, <u>3/13/20</u>]

• July 2020: Governor Abbott Undermined Public Health Measures In Hidalgo County. "As the Rio Grande Valley grapples with an onslaught of coronavirus infections and hospitalizations, Hidalgo County Judge Richard Cortez is pushing hard for residents to stay at home. But the emergency order he issued



Monday mandating that people shelter in their residences, restricting travel and limiting gatherings remains an unenforceable recommendation, according to Gov. Greg Abbott's office." [Texas Tribune, 7/20/20]

De La Cruz Praised Trump For Ordering Meat Processing Plants To Stay Open During The Pandemic Amid Thousands Of Worker Infections And Hundreds Of Deaths

April 2020: De La Cruz Thanked Trump For Signing An Executive Order That Kept Meat Processing Plants Open. "Thank you President Trump! Late Tuesday, President Donald J. Trump signed an Executive Order that ordered meat processing plants to remain open, declaring them critical infrastructure. This action was critically important to both agriculture producers and consumers, especially those here in the State of Texas which produces more beef cattle than any other. #ThankYou #MrPresident" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 4/29/20]

- April 2020: Trump Invoked The Defense Production Act To Compel Meat Processing Plants To Stay Open During The Pandemic. "President Trump signed an executive order Tuesday evening compelling meat processors to remain open to head off shortages in the nation's food supply chains, despite mounting reports of plant worker deaths due to covid-19. Trump invoked the Defense Production Act to classify meat plants as essential infrastructure that must remain open." [Washington Post, 4/29/20]
- Worker Safety Experts Warned That Trump's Order Would Undermine Efforts To Protect Employees From COVID-19. "Worker safety experts say such an order would prevent local health officials from ordering meat companies to use their the most effective weapon available to protect their employees from the coronavirus closures. They also fear that it would also undercut newly issued federal health guidelines designed to put space between plant workers. Trump has not publicly explained which provisions within the act he will rely on to compel plants to remain open or grant companies protection from workplace safety requirements. At least 20 meatpacking plants have closed in recent weeks because of covid-19 outbreaks, according to an analysis by The Washington Post. The United Food and Commercial Workers, which represents thousands of workers at U.S. meat plants, said Tuesday that at least 17 have died of covid-19, the disease caused by the coronavirus, and at least 5,000 have been directly affected by the virus." [Washington Post, 4/29/20]
- At Least 59,000 Meatpacking Workers Were Infected With COVID-19 And 269 Workers Died. "At least 59,000 meatpacking workers caught COVID-19 and 269 workers died when the virus tore through the industry last year, which is significantly more than previously thought, according to a new U.S. House report released Wednesday. The meatpacking industry was one of the early epicenters of the coronavirus pandemic, with workers standing shoulder-to-shoulder along production lines." [Associated Press, 10/27/21]

De La Cruz Downplayed COVID-19's Disproportionate Impact On Hispanics And Its Devastating Toll On The Rio Grande Valley

De La Cruz Rejected C.D.C. Data That Showed The Coronavirus Had A Disproportionate Effect On Hispanic And Black Americans Attributing The Health Inequities On High Rates Of Obesity

De La Cruz Blamed COVID-19's Harmful Impact On Minority Communities On High Obesity Rates

De La Cruz Derided The Fact That Black And Hispanic Americans Were Disproportionately Affected By The Coronavirus, Blaming Their Health Outcomes On High Rates Of Obesity. "And this is why citizens don't trust media and politicians....apparently COVID is racist and targets Black and Hispanic Americans!! Here are facts that show a bigger picture— 60% of Hispanics are overweight or obese. And 63 % of black men and 77% of black women are overweight or obese. It is proven that COVID will disproportionately affect people who suffer from



diabetes, heart trouble, hypertension and other various diseases that stem from obesity." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 7/7/20]

De La Cruz Accused Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Of Being "Racially Divisive" And Playing "Identity Politics" By Amplifying The Fact That COVID-19 Disproportionally Impacted Minorities

De La Cruz Criticized Rep. Vicente Gonzalez For Being "Racially Divisive" By Amplifying The Fact That COVID-19 Disproportionally Impacted Minorities. "Our current (soon to be EX) Congressman Vicente Gonzalez would rather turn the virus into a RACIST virus instead of coming up with solutions to make a healthier living society!! Congressman Gonzalez choses to keep racially divisive language instead of bringing people TOGETHER!! Vicente, TRUE leadership means finding solutions instead of creating MORE division!! People are not dumb to your game and CD15 has had ENOUGH!!!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 7/7/20]

De La Cruz Accused Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Of "Insinuating COVID Racism" And Playing "Identity Politics" In His Op-Ed About COVID's Impact On Hispanic Communities. "Congressman Vicente Gonzalez shows his true colors by leaning on the Democrat card of "identity politics". This is a tool that I DO NOT believe achieves anything but division and self-doubt. Hispanics are smart and hard working people. [...] Instead of blaming President Trump and insinuating COVID racism, you could have used the opportunity to encourage testing. Instead, YOU continue to SCARE people and put our Hidalgo community down by focusing on exaggerated information, this is the Democrat way and you, Congressman Vicente Gonzalez, should be ashamed of yourself. Again you have proven that you are NOT one of us!! You are NOT from the Valley! You are NOT from CD15! You are NOT a LEADER!!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 5/6/20]

According To C.D.C. Data Latino And African-Americans Were Disproportionately Harmed By The Coronavirus And Were Three Times As Likely To Become Infected And Twice As Likely To Die

According To The C.D.C. Black And Latino People Were Harmed At Higher Rates And Disproportionately Affected By The Coronavirus. "Early numbers had shown that Black and Latino people were being harmed by the virus at higher rates. But the new federal data — made available after The New York Times sued the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — reveals a clearer and more complete picture: Black and Latino people have been disproportionately affected by the coronavirus in a widespread manner that spans the country, throughout hundreds of counties in urban, suburban and rural areas, and across all age groups." [New York Times, 7/5/20]

C.D.C. Data: Latino And African-Americans Were Three Times As Likely To Become Infected White Americans And Twice As Likely To Die From The Coronavirus. "Latino and African-American residents of the United States have been three times as likely to become infected as their white neighbors, according to the new data, which provides detailed characteristics of 640,000 infections detected in nearly 1,000 U.S. counties. And Black and Latino people have been nearly twice as likely to die from the virus as white people, the data shows." [New York Times, 7/5/20]

C.D.C. Data: Latinos Between The Ages Of 40 And 59 Were Infected At Five Times The Rate Of Whites. "Latino people between the ages of 40 and 59 have been infected at five times the rate of white people in the same age group, the new C.D.C. data shows. The differences are even more stark when it comes to deaths: Of Latino people who died, more than a quarter were younger than 60. Among white people who died, only 6 percent were that young." [New York Times, 7/5/20]

Hispanics Made Up More Than Half Of All COVID Cases In Texas And 45% Of The Total Deaths. "Many studies have shown that minorities are being affected the most with COVID-19. The numbers in Texas show just that. Forty percent of the Texas population is Hispanic, however they make up over half of all COVID cases in the state and 45% of the total deaths. They are overrepresented in the number of COVID-19 cases and underrepresented in the number of vaccinations. 'Without a doubt, I think that death rates in Hispanics are directly related to their access to healthcare which translates into a poorer, lower baseline state of health,' said Dr. Ivan Melendez, Hidalgo County Health Authority." [Valley Central, 4/30/21]



While The Rio Grande Valley Saw A Devastating COVID Surge In The Summer Of 2020, De La Cruz Minimized Its Impact And Complained Restrictions Hurt Her Campaign

May 2020: De La Cruz Downplayed The Pandemic's Impact On Hidalgo County's Infection Rate And Health Care Facilities. "To insinuate that there are not enough health care facilities or services in Hidalgo for COVID is completely wrong! The Hidalgo Medical community has worked hard to prepare for and protect its citizens!!! Here are the facts..... UTRGV gives FREE COVID testing after a telephone screening. As per a collaboration that YOU, Congressman Vicente Gonzalez, initiated with Hidalgo leaders, 'Individuals WITHOUT insurance can get screened for COVID at NO COST'....or did you forget that??? While the RGV has higher diabetes/heart troubles, I believe that this article would have been better used as an education tool for the importance of health care and dietary decisions. The Hidalgo population is 774,769 and as of today, there have been 353 cases, 216 recoveries with 7 deaths. Think about that!!! This means that the Hidalgo infection rate is ONLY .045%!!!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 5/6/20]

July 2020: De La Cruz Claimed "Campaigning With COVID Has Been A REAL Challenge" Due To Restrictions. "Campaigning with COVID has been a REAL challenge. I am so eager to get in front of people and it has been challenging to do so with the restrictions. Live Oak has always been so warm and welcoming. This occasion was no different!!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 7/4/20]

2020: A Devastating COVID Surge Hit The Rio Grande Valley After Texas's Reopening In May

A COVID Surge In The Rio Grande Valley Came After Texas's Reopening In May 2020 And Was Exacerbated By Severe Health Inequities Among Its Heavily Hispanic Population. "The surge came in the wake of Texas's move to reopen on May 1, earlier than most states, a decision that has come to haunt Gov. Greg Abbott, a Republican, as the state has become another cautionary tale of the pandemic. But it's also emblematic of a national trend: Hispanics are dying at a disproportionate rate. The crisis in the valley is one that government officials in the region had sought to avoid at the outset of the pandemic, knowing that health inequities — almost a third of residents are uninsured — and a high prevalence of underlying health conditions would leave their residents particularly vulnerable to the virus." [Vox, 8/8/20]

A Month After The May 2020 Reopening Of Texas, Cases In The Rio Grande Valley Nearly Doubled; By July, Cases Multiplied Almost Tenfold. "At first, the region seemed to be winning the war against the virus. A stay-at-home order that went into effect in March appeared to stave off a spike in cases. But cases started rising in the valley after Abbott began Texas's phased reopening on May 1. At that point, there were about 800 cases across the region. But a month later, cases had almost doubled and, by July 1, they had multiplied almost tenfold." [Vox, 8/8/20]

The COVID Death Rate In The Rio Grande Valley Doubled The State Average In Texas. "The latest Census Bureau estimates put the Valley's population at nearly 1.4 million — about 4.7 percent of the state's 29 million people. As of Oct. 5, the day Gonzalez made the statement, the four counties he referenced — Hidalgo, Cameron, Starr and Willacy — posted a combined 2,815 deaths resulting from the coronavirus, which was about 16.8 percent of the state's 16,709 deaths. The death rate in the four counties is more than double that of the state. Across Texas, 2 percent of those who had contracted the coronavirus have died. In the Rio Grande Valley, that number is 4.5 percent, according to state data." [Houston Chronicle, 10/25/20]

• Hidalgo County Was A COVID Hot Spot That Saw Roughly 90 Deaths Per 100,000 People. "Hidalgo is one of four counties in Texas's hard-hit Rio Grande Valley, where there have been more than 37,000 confirmed Covid-19 cases and hospitals have been operating at full capacity. The area, which is overwhelmingly Hispanic, has some of the highest coronavirus death rates outside of the Northeast — in Hidalgo County, there are roughly 90 deaths per 100,000 people, surpassing other hot spots, including Miami-Dade County in Florida." [Vox, 8/8/20]



Disinformation

De La Cruz Spread Multiple False Claims And Misinformation Regarding COVID Vaccination Campaigns, Contact Tracing And Dr. Fauci's Statements Regarding Masks

De La Cruz Spread "Misinformation" About Vaccination Campaigns Falsely Claiming It Was "HIPAA Violation." "Social media users, lawmakers and political candidates have spread misinformation about the initiative, including false claims that the campaign infringes on the federal health privacy law known as HIPAA. 'How about the government stay the heck out of our business!?' Texas Republican congressional candidate Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez wrote in a Facebook post. 'What ever happened to PRIVATE health decisions? Seems like giving these door knockers our vaccination status would a HIPPA violation.' [...] In fact, HIPAA doesn't block anyone from asking another person about their health status, according to Alan Meisel, law professor and bioethics expert at the University of Pittsburgh. 'HIPAA does not prevent anyone from asking anything,' Meisel told the AP in an email. 'What it does is prohibit certain health care entities from revealing certain health information about patients." [Associated Press, 7/15/21]

• FACT CHECK: De La Cruz Falsely Claimed That Door To Door Vaccination Campaigns Violated HIPAA. "CLAIM: President Joe Biden's initiative for a door-to-door campaign to encourage vaccination for COVID-19 is a violation of the federal law that restricts the release of medical information. AP'S ASSESSMENT: False. Biden pitched a door-knocking campaign as a way to get vaccine information and assistance to more people, not probe Americans about whether they have been vaccinated. But even if officials or volunteers did ask people that question, it wouldn't be a violation of federal health privacy laws, according to experts. THE FACTS: Biden on July 6 highlighted a door-to-door initiative to spread information about the safety and efficacy of vaccines in hopes it would encourage more people to get vaccinated for COVID-19. Local officials, volunteers and private sector workers are carrying out such efforts, The Associated Press has reported." [Associated Press, 7/15/21]

De La Cruz Shared A Misleading Facebook Post That Called For The Firing Of Dr. Fauci Claiming He Advised Against Mask Usage.







[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/2/21]

• FACT CHECK: A February 2020 Email From Dr. Fauci Was Widely Misrepresented As Evidence That Face Coverings Do Not Work. "Social media posts cite a February 2020 email in which Dr Anthony Fauci advised against mask use as evidence that face coverings do not prevent the spread of Covid-19. But the email from the top US infectious disease specialist reflected the consensus among health authorities early in the Covid-19 emergency, before it was determined that widespread mask use helps curb transmission of the disease." [AFP Fact Check, 6/3/21]

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed The TRACE Act Would Send "Health Bureaucrats To Individuals Residences" As Part Of "One Of The Most Massive Government Surveillance Programs Of Private Citizens In U.S. History." "This is scary friends and one more reason why we need a change in Congress. H.R. 6666, by liberal Chicago Rep. Bobby Rush, would put Big Government in charge of tracking citizens' movements as they relate to COVID-19 mitigation efforts - even sending health bureaucrats to 'individuals' residences,' 'as necessary,' This dangerous and unconstitutional bill would launch one of the most massive government surveillance programs of private citizens in U.S. history, all under the guise of protecting people from the Cornavirus. The resolution has more than just an ominous bill number. It also has ominous price tag - \$100 billion dollars! And, guess who has cosponsored the bill? You guessed it - liberal incumbent Vicente Gonzalez! The "COVID-19 Testing, Reaching, and Contacting Everyone (TRACE) Act" doesn't deserve to see the light of day and incumbent Gonzalez doesn't deserve another term in Congress. His co-sponsorship of H.R. 6666 demonstrates that he is truly out-of-touch!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 5/16/20]

• FACT CHECK: The TRACE Act Would Not Allow The Government To Forcibly Enter Homes But Would Provide Grants For Organizations To Provide Testing And Contact-Tracing Services. "Social media users have been sharing images online that claim bill H.R. 6666, introduced by Democratic Congressman Bobby Rush and also known as the COVID-19 Testing, Reaching, And Contacting Everyone



(TRACE) Act, will allow the government to forcibly enter homes, test and remove family members, including children, to be taken into quarantine. False. The bill would provide grants for organizations to provide testing and contact-tracing services to help prevent further spread of COVID-19. It does not authorize the government to enter homes, forcibly test for the virus or remove family members to be quarantined." [Reuters, $\frac{5}{13}$ /20]

De La Cruz Routinely Made Misleading Statements Regarding Migrants Spreading COVID-19

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed That COVID Cases Were Increasing Because Illegal Immigrants Were Released "All Over The Valley" By The Biden Administration

De La Cruz Said That COVID Cases Were Increasing Because Immigrants Who Have The Virus Are Being Released. "We also want to add Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley did not inform the La Joya Police Department that people that had symptoms or were sick with Covid-19 were going to be placed in the Texas Inn hotel'!!!!!! Thank you La Joya Police Department for sharing the TRUTH about what is happening on our borders and why COVID cases are really increasing. This type of post took courage and I respect them for doing so!" [Monica for Congress, Facebook, 7/27/21]

• Hidalgo County Health Authority Dr. Ivan Melendez Insisted That Migrants Were Not Driving A Rise In COVID Cases But That The Unvaccinated Were Contributing More. "COVID-19 infections continue to be on the rise is the United States, and so is the number of migrants coming across the border in south Texas. Some people have linked the two, blaming COVID-positive migrants for spreading the disease. That's just not true, according to doctors treating for the coronavirus while monitoring the local and national response to the pandemic. 'We do not believe that this is a pandemic of the migrants,' said Dr. Ivan Melendez, a McAllen-based physician who's worked in COVID-19 wards, recovered from the disease himself and serves as the health authority for Hidalgo County. 'We believe this is a pandemic of the unvaccinated.' [...] 'This is not a population that has a higher positivity rate than the local population,' Melendez said. 'There's very little intermingling with our local population as they move forward north. We cannot deny that the migrants are part of the problem, because they're part of our community and that they do contribute. But do they contribute more than unvaccinated people? Absolutely not." [KENS 5, 8/11/21]

De La Cruz Attacked Rep. Vicente Gonzalez And Catholic Charities For "Dumping" Illegal Immigrants Infected With COVID "All Over The Valley." "Meanwhile in La La Land, Rep. Gonzalez is more worried about your internet connection than the ONE MILLION ILLEGALS that have crossed our Border and the fact that the Catholic Charities is dumping them all over the Valley, infected with COVID!!!! Instead of being "focused on connectivity", he should focus in what is REALLY happening in #tx15!!!! This guy is completely out of touch with what is happening in his own back yard." [Monica for Congress, Facebook, 7/31/21]

De La Cruz Claimed COVID Positive Illegal Immigrants Were "Thrown Shamelessly And Quietly Into Local Communities." "This guy is out of control when he thinks bringing back Big Bird should be everyone's priority!! Wake up Gonzalez there are 3000 ILLEGALS sitting under Alzandua Bridge and the ones sick with COVID are being thrown shamelessly and quietly into local communities." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, <u>8/2/21</u>]

De La Cruz Criticized The Biden Administration For Sheltering And Transporting Illegal Immigrants With COVID-19 "Anywhere In The U.S." While Keeping Legal Ports Of Entry Closed. "The Biden Administration will let thousands of illegals into our country, give them hotel stays, and transportation to anywhere in the US, shelter them when they have COVID but they won't safely open the legal ports of entry on the border that will help small businesses and bring families together?" [Monica for Congress, Facebook, 6/5/21]

De La Cruz Claimed Biden And Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Wanted To Force The Border Patrol To Release COVID Positive Illegal Immigrants. "It's obvious we have a huge international humanitarian CRISIS! But



socialists Joe Biden, and Vicente Gonzalez have no issue with forcing Border Patrol to release illegal immigrants, regardless of where they test positive for COVID or not." [Monica for Congress, Facebook, 3/19/21]

- Similar Statements By Governor Abbott Claiming That Biden Was Releasing Hundreds Of Illegal Immigrants Infected With COVID-19 Were Rated "Mostly False." "Abbott said that the Biden administration is releasing 'hundreds of illegal immigrants' infected with COVID-19 into Texas communities. A spokesperson said that the claim was based on news articles reporting that 108 migrants released by Border Patrol had tested positive in Brownsville. While that number has risen beyond 200 positive cases since then, it was well below "hundreds" at the time of Abbott's tweet. Abbott also mischaracterizes the status of the migrants being released by U.S. Customs and Border Protection by calling them 'illegal immigrants.' They are asylum seekers holding notices to appear in court. We rate this claim Mostly False. [Politifact, 3/11/21]
- Similar Statements By Texas AG Paxton Claiming That Migrants Released By The Border Patrol Were Not Tested For COVID-19 Were Rated "Mostly False." "During a Newsmax interview, Paxton claimed that federal officials are 'not even testing' migrants who are released by Border Patrol into U.S. communities. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has said that '100% of noncitizens' are tested for COVID-19 'at some point during their immigration journey,' and that this testing is performed by a mix of federal agencies, local governments and non-governmental organizations. While there are numerous clear examples of testing happening before migrants are released into the U.S., we know of one recent example in which strained testing capabilities led to untested migrants being released. However, the full scope of untested migrants is unknown. We rate this claim Mostly False." [Politifact, 8/13/21]

De La Cruz Questioned Why Illegal Immigrants Didn't Have COVID Vaccination Requirements Similar To International Travelers.



De La Cruz Complained Of Shelters Being Used To Treat COVID Positive Immigrants. "This shelter was just set up 2 weeks ago and is already at capacity. How many more shelters will taxpayers have to fund to contain COVID-positive immigrants!?" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/19/21]



December 2020: De La Cruz Berated School Board Members In Edinburg, Texas For Increasing Teacher Salaries While Delaying In-Person Instruction Amid The Pandemic

De La Cruz Wanted The Texas Education Agency To "Tell" Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District (ECISD) To Open Its Schools And Offer The Option Of In-Person Instruction. "ECISD just requested from TEA to DELAY face to face instruction two MORE weeks. Our kids need the option to go to face to face instruction. Texas Education Agency please tell ECISD to open the school and educate our kids!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/8/20]

De La Cruz Said It Was "Crazy" That ECISD Would Approve A Pay Increase For Its Teachers While They Were Not Teaching In Person. "Very interesting I would like to say this. There's been no school instruction, the teachers are not back here, they have had to hire substitute teachers to come and babysit the classes students but yet what's on the agenda is for them to approve 1.3 million dollars of a pay increase. 1.3 million dollars of a pay increase, this is crazy!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/8/20] (Video)

• 2020: ECISD Approved A \$2,000 Salary Increase For Teachers And A 4% Pay Increase For All Other Employees. "The Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District Board of Trustees recently approved the budget for the 2020-2021 school year, raising employee salaries while leaving the tax rate unchanged. It marks the ninth consecutive year the Board has increased pay for approximately 4,800 full-time employees. 'I am excited that we were able to offer pay raises for our staff because they have done a great job this year,' said ECISD School Board President Oscar Salinas. 'They have been very patient, and they have worked really hard.' One of the District's goals is to develop and retain highly-qualified staff by offering competitive salaries and great benefits, Salinas said. Board Members unanimously authorized a \$2,000 salary increase for teachers and a 4% increase in pay from their midpoint salary for all other employees." [Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District, accessed 12/14/21]

De La Cruz Criticized ECISD Teachers Saying Schools Were Just "Babysitting" Students In-Person While Teachers Continued Remote Instruction. "They were talking about they 'opened the schools' and that's what I found here. When they say 'opened the schools' they just mean they provide babysitting service they don't provide anything like that. There are 34,000 students at ECISD but only 200 went back. I sent my kid back to school and what I learned was that they were just sitting at a table while the substitute or the teacher was teaching their class in Google classroom." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/8/20] (Video)

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Democrat judge, Democrat school board members here at ECISD all Democrats and they are trying to keep our children down, they're trying to keep Hispanics down." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/8/20] (Video)

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De La Cruz Said She Respected Parents Choosing To Keep Their Kids Home But That She Should Have The Choice To Send Her Kids To School. "This is about giving our parents choice. I know I have parents out there that will say 'well I don't feel comfortable with that my child has asthma or my child's sick' that's fine I respect your decision to keep your child home and I respect you for that. We live in America where we should have the choice to send our kids to school. We are taxpayers we are paying for this and we should have the choice. I am a parent who chooses to send our kids to face to face instruction that is what I want for my children and I want them to be able to compete." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/8/20] (Video)

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[Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>8/29/20</u>]



Education Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ December 2020: De La Cruz berated school board members in Edinburg, Texas for increasing teacher salaries while delaying the resumption of in-person instruction during the pandemic.
 - ✓ De La Cruz wanted the Texas Education Agency to "tell" Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District (ECISD) to open its schools.
 - ✓ De La Cruz questioned why ECISD was keeping Mexican-Americans "uneducated" in Hidalgo County while white students in other Texas counties received an education.
 - ✓ De La Cruz said ECISD was discriminating against Hispanic and lower income students by not providing in person learning.
 - ✓ De La Cruz scolded ECISD board members, saying they should "be ashamed of themselves" for not being 100% open like schools in Republican counties.
 - ✓ De La Cruz said it was "crazy" that ECISD would approve a pay increase for its teachers and employees during the pandemic closure, and claimed ECISD teachers were just "babysitting" students.
- ✓ De La Cruz claimed she was "forced" to move her stepdaughter to another school district in Galveston County to get face-to-face instruction, because ECISD "failed" teachers and students by having "zero plan" to reopen schools.
 - ✓ De La Cruz blamed school closures for keeping her children from learning and making them socially isolated.
- ✓ De La Cruz said taxpayers should "never" help pay off existing student loans.
- ✓ De La Cruz opposed public education being guaranteed through college.
- ✓ De La Cruz supported "school choice."
- ✓ De La Cruz said she wanted to "stop the teaching of anti-American propaganda like critical race theory" in schools.

Pandemic School Closures

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De La Cruz Wanted The Texas Education Agency To "Tell" Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District (ECISD) To Open Its Schools And Offer The Option Of In-Person Instruction. "ECISD just requested from TEA to DELAY face to face instruction two MORE weeks. Our kids need the option to go to face to face



instruction. Texas Education Agency please tell ECISD to open the school and educate our kids!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/8/20]

De La Cruz Said It Was "Crazy" That ECISD Would Approve A Pay Increase For Its Teachers While They Were Not Teaching In Person. "Very interesting I would like to say this. There's been no school instruction, the teachers are not back here, they have had to hire substitute teachers to come and babysit the classes students but yet what's on the agenda is for them to approve 1.3 million dollars of a pay increase. 1.3 million dollars of a pay increase, this is crazy!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/8/20] (Video)

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[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/29/20

College Affordability

De La Cruz Opposed Taxpayers Helping Pay Off Existing Student Loans And Guaranteed Public College Education

De La Cruz Said Taxpayers Should "Never" Help Pay Off Existing Student Loans. "Under what circumstances should taxpayers help pay off existing student loans? [ANSWER:] Never" [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/14/21]

De La Cruz Opposed Public Education Being Guaranteed Through College. "Taxpayer-funded public education should be guaranteed through college. [ANSWER:] Strongly Disagree" [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed <u>12/14/21</u>]

Public Education

De La Cruz Supported School Choice

De La Cruz Supported School Choice. "Support school choice for all American families." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/14/21]



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De La Cruz Said She Would "Reduce Bureaucracy" And "Instill More Accountability" At The Department Of Education. "Reduce bureaucracy and instill more accountability at the Department of Education." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/14/21]



Election Law & Campaign Finance Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz made bogus claims of voter fraud in Hidalgo County, arguing fraud cost her the 2020 election.
 - ✓ De La Cruz accused the Hidalgo County elections administrator of illegally sending out unsolicited mail-in ballots.
 - ✓ De La Cruz berated the Hidalgo County Commissioners court over false claims of voter fraud regarding mail-in ballots.
 - ✓ De La Cruz urged people to come to her office and sign a notarized affidavit saying they received an unsolicited mail ballot or application from Hidalgo County.
 - ✓ De La Cruz's campaign provided a list of people in Hidalgo County who they alleged cast ballots but were not on the county's voter rolls, and filed a complaint with the Texas Secretary of State making the same claims.
 - ✓ De La Cruz claimed she was conducting her own "ballot investigation" and alleged that Hidalgo County officials were suppressing information by closing their office for the holidays.
 - ✓ De La Cruz failed to provide any evidence of voter fraud or illegal votes in Hidalgo County.
- ✓ De La Cruz claimed expanded absentee voting, including additional mail in ballot boxes, opened up the possibility of "massive voter fraud."
 - ✓ De La Cruz praised the Texas Supreme Court for blocking the use of mail-in ballots to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- ✓ De La Cruz said she was more concerned with voter fraud than voter suppression or Russian election meddling.
 - ✓ De La Cruz attended an October 2020 event with Edinburg Mayor Richard Molina, who was charged the prior year with illegal voting and election fraud.
- ✓ De La Cruz said voter suppression was not an issue and supported restrictive voting legislation passed by the Texas legislature.
 - ✓ De La Cruz said voter suppression was not an issue in her race because there were 32 curbside early vote locations in the Rio Grande Valley and an extra week of early voting.
 - ✓ De La Cruz testified in favor of Texas H.B. 6 which would increase penalties for voter fraud and add protections for poll watchers.
 - ✓ De La Cruz testified that she had a "vested interest" in the "success and integrity of our elections" because she was running for congress.
 - ✓ De La Cruz attacked Texas Democratic legislators who broke quorum in an attempt to block voting restriction legislation that would reduce ballot access for voters of color and voters with disabilities.



✓ De La Cruz criticized HR 1, calling it an attempt by Democrats to rig elections.

De La Cruz Accused Hidalgo County Of Illegally Sending Mail-In Ballots And Filed A Complaint Arguing People Cast Ballots Who Were Not On Voter Rolls

De La Cruz Claimed That Hidalgo County Illegally Sent Voters Unsolicited Mail-In Ballots

De La Cruz Accused The Hidalgo County Elections Administrator Of Illegally Sending Out Unsolicited Mail In Ballots. "Specifically, she claimed Tuesday that people who voted in the Hidalgo County election were not on the voter roll and alleged that mail-in ballots sent out by the county were illegal. 'Yvonne Ramon, the Hidalgo Elections Administrator, failed to uphold the Texas Supreme Court ruling and still mailed out these ballots who were unsolicited,' she said. 'We are asking today that Yvonne Ramon or Richard Cortez, our judge, be held responsible for not upholding the Texas Supreme Court ruling.' De La Cruz-Hernandez was referring to a Texas Supreme Court ruling in October holding that an early-voting clerk is not authorized to send mail-in ballot applications to registered voters who haven't requested one." [Brownsville Herald, 12/23/20]

De La Cruz Berated The Hidalgo County Commissioners Court Over False Claims Of Voter Fraud Regarding Mail-In Ballots. DE LA CRUZ: "I think we can all agree that Hidalgo County has had and currently has a voter fraud issue. This is no secret and I don't think anyone that is on here listening here in this room or you on the screen can deny it. There is a great concern over the application for the mail-in ballots that were mailed out to the entire county using taxpayer dollars with no and I repeat no taxpayer approval. Shame on you. These mail-In ballots did more harm than good. It compromised our voter integrity, it demoralized our community and opened up ourselves to a questionable election. What happened with our voter mail-in ballots does not make sense and goes against logic."



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/17/2020] (Video)



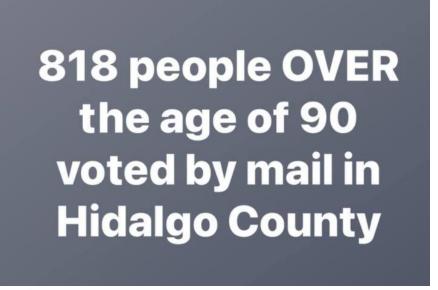
De La Cruz Implied Impropriety Because 818 People Over The Age Of 90 In Hidalgo County Voted By Mail

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Well, well, well......this door knocking should be interesting.

Headed out, let's see what we find...



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/10/20]

• Fact Check: Similar Claims About Older Voters Being Deceased Voters Were Rated False And That It Is "Common For State Voter Rolls Include Voters With Birthdates That Make Them Appear Impossibly Old." "Experts told The Associated Press that it is common for state voter rolls to include voters with birthdates that make them appear impossibly old, but these are usually explained by human error, software quirks or voter confidentiality issues. [...] According to experts, seeing strange birthdates on voter rolls that appear to belong to deceased registrants isn't evidence of voter fraud, and there are multiple reasons why it can occur. [...] Claims that hundreds of people over 100 voted in Pennsylvania suggest something nefarious, but Matthew Weill, Elections Project director at Bipartisan Policy Center, said that is "not so crazy" in the year 2020. "There are tens of thousands of centenarians in the US," he said. Throughout the pandemic, social media posts showed seniors casting votes through mail-in ballots for the 2020 election. [Associated Press, 11/10/20]

De La Cruz Asked People To Go To Her Office To Sign A Notarized Affidavit Saying They Received An Unsolicited Mail Ballot Or Application From Hidalgo County

De La Cruz Urged People To Come To Her Office And Sign A Notarized Affidavit Saying They Received An Unsolicited Mail Ballot Or Application From Hidalgo County.





■ URGENT! ■ Please come by my office tomorrow, THURSDAY 12/10 from 9am - 4pm.
1317 W Frontage Rd, Alamo TX
You will need to sign an affidavit saying this. It will be notarized.
WE WILL NOT BACK DOWN!!!

If you received an UNSOLICITED mail in ballot or application for ballot by Hidalgo.....

[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/9/20]

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed That People Who Were Not On Voter Rolls Wrongly Cast Ballots

December 2020: De La Cruz Filed A Complaint With The Texas Secretary Of State, Claiming People Who Voted In Hidalgo County Were Not On Voter Rolls. "Citing her own investigation into voter rolls and rosters, De La Cruz-Hernandez said improprieties may have affected the outcome. 'I am calling into question this vote difference and the validity of the Gonzalez win,' she said. De La Cruz-Hernandez said she has submitted a formal complaint to the secretary of state's office. Specifically, she claimed Tuesday that people who voted in the Hidalgo County election were not on the voter roll and alleged that mail-in ballots sent out by the county were illegal." [Brownsville Herald, 12/23/20]

De La Cruz Claimed Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Did Not Win A Valid Election. "I am calling into question this vote difference and the validity of the Gonzalez win,' she said. De La Cruz-Hernandez said she has submitted a formal complaint to the secretary of state's office. Specifically, she claimed Tuesday that people who voted in the Hidalgo County election were not on the voter roll and alleged that mail-in ballots sent out by the county were illegal." [Brownsville Herald, 12/23/20]

De La Cruz's Campaign Provided A List Of People Who They Alleged Cast Ballots But Were Not On The County's Voter Rolls. "Voter fraud allegations were brought forward by now-former congressional candidate Monica De la Cruz-Hernandez. De La Cruz-Hernandez's team provided a list of names of people — including public servants who were allegedly not on the Hidalgo County voter roll [...] Hidalgo County Elections Administrator Yvonne Ramon said there are three ways people can legally vote without being on a voter roll: by using a provisional ballot, having a voting application still being verified by the ballot board or being a limited ballot voter. 'This is a voter that the State of Texas allows to come and vote for all federal and state elections but they must be a registered voter in another county,' Ramon said. When asked to clarify why some people listed on the spreadsheet were, in fact, registered for the November elections and on the county's voter roll, De La Cruz-Hernandez's campaign could not provide any information." [KRGV, 12/24/20]

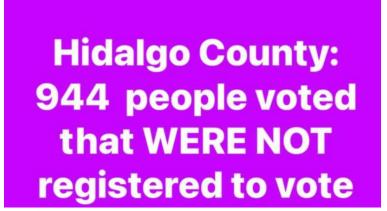
• Hidalgo County Elections Administrator Stated That People Do Not Need To Be On A Voter Roll In Order To Legally Vote. "Hidalgo County Elections Administrator Yvonne Ramon said there are three ways people can legally vote without being on a voter roll: by using a provisional ballot, having a voting application still being verified by the ballot board or being a limited ballot voter. 'This is a voter that the



State of Texas allows to come and vote for all federal and state elections but they must be a registered voter in another county,' Ramon said." [KRGV, 12/24/20]

De La Cruz Claimed 944 Unregistered Voters Voted In Hidalgo County.





[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/14/20]

De La Cruz Claimed She Was Conducting Her Own "Ballot Investigation" And Alleged That Hidalgo County Officials Were Suppressing Information By Closing Their Office For The Holidays

De La Cruz Said She Was Conducting Her "Own Investigation" Into Alleged Improprieties Regarding Voter Rolls In Hidalgo County. "Citing her own investigation into voter rolls and rosters, De La Cruz-Hernandez said improprieties may have affected the outcome." [Brownsville Herald, 12/23/20]

De La Cruz Claimed The Hidalgo County Office Illegally Closed To Avoid Her "Ballot Investigation." "UNBELIEVABLE!!!! HIdalgo County Elections Office Closes EARLY and ILLEGALLY to AVOID answering questions The Hidalgo County Elections office KNOWS we are in the middle of a ballot investigation!! They know our deadline is the 23rd. They continue to play games and have gone so far as to shut down just to NOT answer questions!!! Today is NOT a federal holiday and neither is tomorrow!! Why are they shut down????" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 12/21/20]

De La Cruz Alleged That She Couldn't "Get The Damn Information" To Contest Her 2020 Election Because The Hidalgo County Elections Office Was Closed For The Holidays. "The Hidalgo County's election office is locked! It is December 21st if you call them they are all out for vacation! Now the last time I checked today is not a federal holiday! Today federal offices should be open! Why? Why are they closed when they know there's a ballot investigation going on right now! We have the opportunity to contest this race and we cannot contest because we can't get the damn information!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 12/21/20] (Video)



De La Cruz Failed To Provide A Single Example Of Any Evidence Of Voter Fraud Or Illegal Votes In Hidalgo County

VIDEO: Anchor: "The Republican Candidate's Campaign Couldn't Provide A Single Example Of A Person Who Cast A Ballot In The Election But Wasn't Registered To Vote." "Yesterday we told you about voter fraud allegation brought forward by Republican candidate for Congressional District 15, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez. Her team provided us a list of names of people – including public servants – who were allegedly not on the voter roll [...] Channel 5 News also asked the De La Cruz Hernandez Campaign to clarify why there were some people listed on the spreadsheet who were, in fact, registered for the November election and appeared on the county's voter roll. The Republican candidate's campaign couldn't provide a single example of a person who cast a ballot in the election but wasn't registered to vote." [KRGV, 12/24/20]

De La Cruz Could Not Provide Any Information When Asked To Clarify Her Voter Roll Allegations. When asked to clarify why some people listed on the spreadsheet were, in fact, registered for the November elections and on the county's voter roll, De La Cruz-Hernandez's campaign could not provide any information." [KRGV, 12/24/20]

De La Cruz When Asked For Evidence To Support Allegation Of Voter Fraud: "We Have Thirty Days To Contest The Election And So We Will Use This Time To Investigate." "The people of Hidalgo are tired of voter fraud,' Republican congressional candidate Monica De La Cruz said Tuesday. According to De La Cruz, mail-in ballots in Hidalgo County opened opportunities for fraud. Supporters of De La Cruz's, many waving Donald Trump campaign flags, staged a protest outside the Hidalgo County Courthouse, where De La Cruz addressed county commissioners through a camera [...] When asked about the evidence to back up fraud allegations, De La Cruz said, 'well, right now we have thirty days to contest the election and so we will use this time to investigate." [Border Report, 11/18/20]

De La Cruz Attacked Mail-In Voting As "Massive Voter Fraud"

De La Cruz Said Voter Fraud Was A Bigger Concern Than Voter Suppression Or Russian Election Meddling

De La Cruz Said She Was More Concerned With Voter Fraud Than Voter Suppression Or Russian Election Meddling. "De La Cruz-Said she feels elections in South Texas are not safe from voter fraud. 'Our county mailed out to everybody over age 65 a mail-in ballot — without verifying if they were alive, without verifying if they still lived at that address and they used taxpayer dollars to do that without a taxpayer vote and without verifying this information,' she said. Election integrity and potential voter fraud would be high among her concerns for the next two weeks, De La Cruz-Hernandez said, certainly higher than voter suppression or any potential Russian meddling." [MyRGV News, 10/21/20]

De La Cruz Praised Texas Attorney General Over A Case In Which A Republican Judge Was Arrested For Election Fraud

De La Cruz Praised The Texas Attorney General For "Cracking Down" On Voter Fraud Cases. "Glad to see Texas is cracking down on voter fraud in our state! Our elections MUST be fair - We the People have to be able to trust the integrity of the system. #fairelections #no #voterfraud #2022 #electionintegrity" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 3/1/21]

• De La Cruz's Tweet Referenced A Case In Which A Republican Justice Of The Peace Was Arrested For Election Fraud. [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 3/1/21; Fox 29, 2/24/21]



• February 2021: Republican Medina County Justice Of The Peace Tomas Ramirez And Three Others Were Arrested For Election Fraud. "An area Justice of the Peace has been arrested and accused of election fraud, along with three other people. Medina County, Texas Justice of the Peace Tomas Ramirez was arrested Feb. 11 after a Bandera Grand Jury indicted him and three others two days prior. Ramirez, a Republican, is facing one count of organized election fraud, one count of assisting voter voting ballot by mail and 17 counts of unlawful possession of a ballot or ballot envelope. Leonor Rivas Garza, Eva Ann Martinez and Mary Balderrama were also arrested." [Fox 29, 2/24/21]

De La Cruz Attended An October 2021 Event With Edinburg Mayor Richard Molina, Who Was Charged With Illegal Voting And Election Fraud In 2019

October 2021: De La Cruz Attended An Event Hosted By The Edinburg Police Association With Edinburg Mayor Richard Molina. "Had the pleasure of having Mayra Flores For Congress Monica De La Cruz for U.S. Congress George P. Bush rep and Mayor Richard Molina at our monthly meeting. All discussed the importance of continuing their support for Law Enforcement in their respective jurisdictions through these difficult times."



[Edinburg Police Organization, Facebook, 10/22/21]

July 2019: Molina Was Charged With 11 Counts of Illegal Voting And 1 Count Of Election Fraud. "Edinburg Mayor, Richard Molina is facing charges on 11 counts of illegal voting and one count of engaging in organized election fraud, all felonies. Mayor Molina, his wife Dalia, and his business partner, Julio Ceasar Carranza, were arraigned before a district court judge Friday morning. Dalia and Ceasar are both facing charges of one count of engaging in organized election and two counts of illegal voting. All three plead not guilty. This comes after Mayor Molina was accused of changing voters addresses who did not live in Edinburg and allegedly bribing people for their vote in the 2017 municipal election. Since the investigation began, 20 individuals have been arrested for voter fraud." [Valley Central, 7/19/19]

• 2017: Molina Was Previously Accused Of Changing Voters' Addresses And Bribing People For Votes. "This comes after Mayor Molina was accused of changing voters addresses who did not live in Edinburg and allegedly bribing people for their vote in the 2017 municipal election." [Valley Central, 7/19/19]



• 2021: The Hidalgo County District Attorney Asked For A New Jury Trial Date To Be Set After Being Delayed For A Year. "Though a trial was scheduled for June 1, 2020, it was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Then, just a week before early voting began for this year's general election, the Hidalgo County District Attorney's Office asked for a new jury trial date to be set, keeping the case from falling out of the public consciousness." [MyRGV News, 12/14/21]

De La Cruz Said Expanded Mail-In Voting Compromised The Election And Risked "Massive Voter Fraud"

De La Cruz Claimed Additional Mail In Ballot Boxes Opened Up The Possibility Of "Massive Voter Fraud." "Law enforcement is also foremost in De La Cruz-Hernandez's mind when it comes to voting. Referencing a currently pending voter fraud case in Hidalgo County, the candidate said she felt steps nominally taken in the name of accessibility to the polls could actually compromise the election. 'By having these additional locations for mail in ballot boxes, not only do we compromise the integrity of this election, but we also open up ourselves to massive voter fraud,' she said." [MyRGV News, 10/21/20]

De La Cruz Questioned The Integrity Of Mail In Ballots. "De La Cruz-Said she feels elections in South Texas are not safe from voter fraud. 'Our county mailed out to everybody over age 65 a mail-in ballot — without verifying if they were alive, without verifying if they still lived at that address and they used taxpayer dollars to do that without a taxpayer vote and without verifying this information,' she said. Election integrity and potential voter fraud would be high among her concerns for the next two weeks, De La Cruz-Hernandez said, certainly higher than voter suppression or any potential Russian meddling." [MyRGV News, 10/21/20]

De La Cruz Praised The Texas Supreme Court For Blocking The Use Of Mail-In Ballots By Voters Afraid Of Getting The Coronavirus. "Great Job Texas! We must not allow this. #StopTheSpreadOfCheating." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 5/19/20]

• May 2020: The Texas Supreme Court Stopped The Distribution Of Mail Ballots To Voters Afraid Of Catching The Coronavirus. "The Texas Supreme Court late Friday overruled an appeals court's order that had allowed election officials across the state to temporarily give mail ballots to people who are afraid of being infected with the coronavirus. Attorney General Ken Paxton said the court accepted his argument that mail ballots should not be granted to voters who fear catching COVID-19, the disease caused by the virus. He said the Supreme Court's order stops the distribution of mail ballots under those conditions until his appeal is heard." [Dallas Morning News, 5/15/20]

De La Cruz Said Voter Suppression Was Not An Issue And Supported Restrictive Voting Legislation Passed By The Texas Legislature

De La Cruz Said Voter Suppression Was Not An Issue In Her Election

October 2020: De La Cruz Said Voter Suppression Was Not An Issue In Her Race Because There Were 32 Early Curbside Vote Locations In The Rio Grande Valley, As Well As An Extra Week of Early Voting. "Voters this year will, however, have an extra week to early vote. That's one reason Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez, who is challenging Gonzalez for his congressional seat, says voter suppression is a non-issue in this election cycle. 'Right here in the Rio Grande Valley we have 32 early voting locations that have curbside voting at each of those locations, that's number one. Number two, we also have an extra week of early voting, so they're able to go out and vote one extra week,' she said." [MyRGV News, 10/21/20]

De La Cruz Testified In Support Of Texas H.B. 6, Which Has Been Criticized As Voter Suppression Bill That Specifically Targeted Minority Communities



De La Cruz Testified In Favor Of Texas H.B. 6 Which Would Increase Penalties For Voter Fraud And Add Protections For Partisan Poll Watchers. "Jonathan White, the chief of the election fraud section in the Texas Attorney General's Special Prosecution Division, testified during a meeting of the Texas House Elections Committee on Thursday that the number of active election fraud cases is 'higher than our historical average by a long shot.' White was offering his perspective as a neutral witness as the committee considered House Bill (HB) 6, legislation by Chairman Briscoe Cain (R-Deer Park) that would strengthen penalties for voter fraud, add protections for poll watchers, and give more priority to election fraud claims in Texas courts [...] Monica De La Cruz Hernandez — who sought to unseat Rep. Vicente Gonzalez (D-TX-15) in 2020 and has announced her candidacy for 2022 — spoke in favor of HB 6 and said she has a 'vested interest' in the 'success and integrity of our elections.'" [The Texan, 4/6/21]

De La Cruz Testified That She Had A "Vested Interest" In The "Success And Integrity Of Our Elections" Because She Was Running For Congress. "Committee chair Rep. Briscoe Cain: You're representing yourself and you are for the bill, is that correct? De La Cruz: Yes that is correct. [...] I was a candidate in the 2020 election and I will be a candidate in the 2022 election so I have a vested interest in the success and integrity of our elections and specifically the mail-in ballots that is happening here. You see I am in the county of Hidalgo and to share with you where Hidalgo is we're in the southernmost tip of the border in McAllen, Texas. Unfortunately ground zero for illegal border immigration. That being said I am obviously Hispanic; my district is 86% Hispanic and Hidalgo County is over 90% Hispanic." [Texas House of Representatives, Committee on Elections, 4/1/21] (Video)

- De La Cruz Claimed In Her Testimony That Hidalgo County Elections Officials Failed To Uphold Current Law By Mailing Unsolicited Mail-In Ballot Applications. "I'm here to testify about our mail-in ballot applications and the importance of protecting and preserving the integrity of our mail-in ballot boxes and punish those who don't uphold the current election. [...] On August 18th Hidalgo County commissioners led by County Judge Richard Cortez discussed and approved the elections department to send out an application for ballot by mail to all people over age 65 registered voters using taxpayer dollars. Now why this should alarm you is because on September 30th the Texas Supreme Court vs Chris Hollins ruled that election code does not authorize an early voting clerk to send an application to vote by mail to a voter who has not requested one and that a clerk doing so results in irreparable injury to the state. Well let me tell you that the Hidalgo County elections administrator Yvonne Ramon failed, failed to uphold the Texas Supreme Court ruling and she mailed out unsolicited mail-in ballot applications to all registered voters over the age of 65. What are the repercussions when we have leaders and city officials in our counties that are not upholding current law and upholding what our Texas Supreme Court rulings are? If we don't have them upholding our current law, what makes us think that our citizens are going to uphold and respect that law." [Texas House of Representatives, Committee on Elections, 4/1/21] (Video)
- De La Cruz Claimed In Her Testimony That It Was An Anomaly That Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Received A Higher Percentage Of Votes Than Biden In Hidalgo County. "That being said in Hidalgo County we had between 2018 and 2020 a 245 percent increase in mail-in ballots; 245 percent?! Some of y'all might be saying that's great more people are voting, well let me tell you some of the anomalies that happened because of this. If you go down the ballot in Hidalgo County the Congressman Vicente Gonzalez had a higher percentage of votes than the Biden – Harris ticket. How does that happen?! You all have been here long enough in enough elections to know that if you go down ballot the votes go down and down and down and down but here this congressman got more votes and higher percentage than the Biden – Harris ticket. What's even more...[Time runs out, committee member Rep. Valoree Swanson asks De La Cruz to finish her story] Thank you, I appreciate that because as we all know, all of y'all have been in an election it goes down ballot the president always gets the highest and it goes down, down, down. When you go down what you see is that the Democrat candidates all had about 13,000 absentee votes when unopposed and they only varied by about 200 votes whether they were opposed or not. So the question is: why is this? How can this anomaly happen? It doesn't make sense. So when we talk about mail-in ballot fraud we really need to do, we really need to look at is the integrity of these mail-in ballots. This a serious subject and when you do a case study in Hidalgo you will see over and over again. I'd be happy to give you information but



I have a feeling your offices will be flooded." [Texas House of Representatives, Committee on Elections, 4/1/21] (Video)

De La Cruz Said It Was An Honor To Testify In Support Of Texas H.B. 6. "It's a beautiful day at our Texas State Capitol It's been an honor meeting patriots from around our great state of Texas who support HB 6!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 4/1/21]

ACLU Of Texas Advocacy Director Sarah Labowitz Called HB6/SB7 "One Of The Worst Anti-Voting Bills In The Country." "The paths of the two major Republican priority measures merged last month when Cain, in a strategic procedural move, added the language of the House bill into that of the Senate bill. Senate Bill 7 had already passed the Senate in early April, while House Bill 6 has lagged [...] Despite the concessions, civil rights groups still criticized the late-night vote as they noted the bill had largely stayed intact. 'Under cover of darkness, the Texas House just passed one of the worst anti-voting bills in the country,' said Sarah Labowitz, policy and advocacy director of the ACLU of Texas. 'Texans deserve better than to wake up and find out that lawmakers jammed through a law that will make participating in our democracy harder and scarier.'" [Houston Chronicle, 5/7/21]

Texas NAACP President Gary Bledsoe: HB 6 Provision Protecting Poll Watchers "Amounts To An Occupation Of Minority Neighborhoods." "Opponents of the bill contended that the new criminal statutes and penalties would deter election volunteers and that the proposal is conducive to racial discrimination. Gary Bledsoe, the president of the Texas NAACP, contended that HB 6 is among proposals that have 'the makings for the creation of an apartheid state.' 'No fair administration declaration can change the fact that the substance of the law, when executed, will have a hugely negative impact on minority voters and minority election officials,' Bledsoe said. He went on to say the bill 'amounts to an occupation of minority neighborhoods' due to its increased protections for poll watchers. Supporters of poll watchers believe they are necessary for transparency." [The Texan, 4/6/21]

De La Cruz Attacked Texas Democratic Legislators Who Broke Quorum In Protest Of Voting Restriction Legislation

De La Cruz Condemned Texas Democratic Legislators Who Left The State In Protest Of Voting Restrictions Legislation As A "Disgrace." "As you are working today, remember that our DEMOCRAT Texas legislators are riding away from the job you elected them for, drinking beer and all on our hard earned tax dollar!!. This lack of respect to our democracy, legislative rules and State of Texas is a DISGRACE!! Our current Congressman's applause of this gross behavior shows how out of touch he is with his constituents and how they feel about their legislators leaving their jobs." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 7/14/21]

De La Cruz Posted A Photoshopped Image Of Texas Democratic Legislators Behind Bars.







Texas House of Representatives vote 76-4 to arrest Democrat representatives

wsj.com/articles/texas...



3:08 PM - Jul 13, 2021 - Twitter for Android

[Monice For Congress, Twitter, 7/13/21]

• July 2021: The Texas House Voted To Arrest Democratic Legislators Who Broke Quorum In Protest Of Restrictive Voting Legislation. "The Texas Senate advanced a bill imposing stricter voting rules Tuesday, a day after their Democratic counterparts in the state House fled the state to prevent the bill's final passage. Dozens of House Democrats have vowed to stay in Washington, D.C. until the special legislative session ends Aug. 7 in order to kill the bill, which must pass both chambers. The House cannot approve legislation without a two-thirds quorum of its 150 members. The remaining House members voted 76-4 Tuesday morning to send law enforcement to find absent Democrats and return them "under warrant of arrest, if necessary." [Wall Street Journal, 7/13/21]

Civil Rights Advocates Said Texas GOP Voting Restriction Bills Would Limit Voting Access And Suppress Marginalized Voters, Including People Of Color And People With Disabilities

Texas GOP Voting Restrictions Legislation Prohibited Local Election Officials From Sending Unsolicited Mail-In Ballot Applications. "SB 1 and HB 3 prohibit local election officials from sending unsolicited applications to request a mail-in ballot, with the House version making it a state jail felony. Both bills also prohibit the use of public funds "to facilitate" the unsolicited distribution of applications by third-parties, which would keep



counties from also providing applications to local groups helping to get out the vote. Political parties would still be able to send out unsolicited applications on their own dime." [Texas Tribune, 7/8/21]

Texas GOP Voting Restrictions Bill Set New Voter ID Requirements In Order To Vote By Mail. "Both the House and Senate are proposing to alter the rules used to verify applications to vote-by-mail and returned ballots. The bills would set new ID requirements so voters must provide their driver's license number, or if they don't have one, the last four digits of their Social Security number on applications for those ballots. For their votes to be counted, voters will be required to include matching information on the envelopes used to return their ballots." [Texas Tribune, 7/8/21]

Civil Rights Advocates Said Texas GOP Voting Restrictions Bill Would Limit Voting Access And Suppress Marginalized Voters. "SB 1 is the Senate's revived effort to restrict voting by forbidding local officials from taking various steps to make voting more accessible and further tightening the vote-by-mail process. The bill is nearly identical to legislation the Senate approved in the first special session and is opposed by Democratic lawmakers, civil rights groups and advocates for people with disabilities who have raised concerns the bill would limit access and suppress marginalized voters." [Texas Tribune, 8/11/21]

Texas GOP Voting Restrictions Bill Would Set New Rules, Including Criminal Penalties, That Make It Harder To Assist Voters With Disabilities. "Pushed under Texas Republicans' mantle of 'election integrity,' SB 1 enhances partisan poll watchers' freedoms inside polling locations and sets new rules — and possible criminal penalties — for those who assist voters, including those with disabilities, in casting their ballots." [Texas Tribune, 8/11/21]

Disability Rights Advocates Warned The Bill Would Disenfranchise Disabled Voters. "Republicans have pressed forward with those changes even as advocates for people with disabilities have continued to warn that the wording of SB 1 risks disenfranchising the voters who lawmakers claim they want to protect by limiting the assistance voters with disabilities could receive and potentially subjecting those helping them to increased penalties for mistakes." [Texas Tribune, 8/11/21]

Texas GOP Voting Restrictions Bill Would Outlaw Expanded Voting Initiatives 24-Hour Voting And Drive-Thru Voting That Expanded Ballot Access For Voters Of Color In 2020. "But the bill would also outlaw local voting options like the 24-hour voting and drive-thru voting efforts championed in Alvarado's home county, Harris County, even though the top elections official for the Texas secretary of state has told lawmakers he is not aware of evidence of fraud tied to those initiatives. Those prohibitions have piqued particular outrage by Democrats and voting rights advocates because Harris County has indicated the initiatives were particularly successful in reaching voters of color." [Texas Tribune, 8/11/21]

De La Cruz Criticized HR 1 As An Attempt By Democrats To Rig Elections

De La Cruz Claimed Democrats Were Pushing HR 1 To Rig Elections In Their Favor. "HR1 is a blatant attempt by the Dems to rig our elections in their favor. It would nationalize ballot harvesting, mandate mail-in ballots, establish gov funding of campaigns, weaken voter ID protections, force states to use ballot drop boxes for absentee and early voting, & more." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 3/4/21]



Energy & Environment Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz opposed policies to mitigate climate change programs, which she termed "radical socialist Green New Deal policies."
 - ✓ De La Cruz opposed efforts to promote electric vehicles.
 - ✓ De La Cruz opposed the bipartisan infrastructure deal, which she said included "climate change programs."
- ✓ De La Cruz claimed she wanted to "improve air quality and reduce pollution through technology."
- ✓ De La Cruz accused Democrats of planning to "end oil & gas," put energy workers "completely out of business," and "destroy over a million Texas jobs."
 - ✓ De La Cruz criticized Biden for canceling the Keystone XL pipeline and halting new oil & gas leases on federal lands.
 - ✓ De La Cruz criticized proposals to transition to renewable energy, saying it would eliminate oil field jobs.
- ✓ De La Cruz posted memes mocking the use of renewable energy and falsely blaming it for the 2021 Texas winter power grid failure.

Climate Change

De La Cruz Opposed Climate Change Policies, Electric Vehicles, And What She Called "Radical Socialist Green New Deal Policies"

De La Cruz Criticized The 13 Republicans Who Voted For The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill, Claiming It Went Towards Climate Change Programs. "I still can't believe 13 Republicans voted for this unfundable bill, \$3 trillion worth of social policy, infrastructure and climate change programs." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/21]

De La Cruz Criticized Al Gore & Joe Biden For Using Private Jets Despite Promoting Electric Vehicles. "Our energy sector workers are suffering and the elitist left wants to put them completely out of business. Perhaps Al Gore & Joe Biden should stop flying private jets before they lecture us on what type of cars we should drive." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 4/27/20]

De La Cruz Opposed What She Called "Radical Socialist Green New Deal Policies." "Reject radical socialist Green New Deal policies" [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/9/21]

De La Cruz Wanted To End Regulations That She Claimed Were Increasing The Cost Of Energy. "End regulations that increase the cost of energy" [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/9/21]

De La Cruz Supported Reducing Spending On "Burdensome Environmental Projects Imposed Under The Guise Of Climate Change." "What government spending would you reduce in order to balance the budget?



[ANSWER:] Government welfare programs, foreign aid, most especially to those nations who do not support the freedoms/values of the United States and Boondoggle projects such as the 'bridge to nowhere', burdensome environment projects imposed under the guise of climate change. Also, by the implementation of a flat or so-called 'fair' income tax." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/10/21]

Pollution

De La Cruz Claimed She Wanted To "Improve Air Quality And Reduce Pollution Through Technology."

De La Cruz Claimed She Wanted To "Improve Air Quality And Reduce Pollution Through Technology." "Improve air quality and reduce pollution through technology" [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/9/21]

Oil & Gas

De La Cruz Said Democrats Were Planning To "End Oil & Gas" And "Destroy Over A Million Texas Jobs"

De La Cruz Claimed Democrats Were Going To Destroy The Texas Economy And "Over A Million Texas Jobs" Through A Plan To "End Oil & Gas." "DEMS Plan to Destroy Texas Economy! Biden admitted again his job-killing plan to end Oil & Gas if elected. Dems would destroy over a million Texas jobs, hurt South Texas families, and put us at the mercy of China, Russia and Middle East! Stand up for American Jobs and Families!!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 10/23/20]

• October 2020: Biden Said He "Would Transition Away From The Oil Industry" During A Presidential Debate. "I would transition away from the oil industry, yes,' Biden said in the presidential debate's closing minutes under peppering from Trump. 'The oil industry pollutes, significantly. ... It has to be replaced by renewable energy over time.' The Biden campaign's climate plan calls for the U.S. to have net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. And he repeated his pledge to end federal subsidies for the oil and gas industry. However, Biden's plan does not call for a ban on climate-damaging fossil fuels, focusing instead on technologies that can capture pollution from oil and other sources." [Associated Press, 10/23/20]

De La Cruz Said A Vote For Her Was A "Vote To Keep Your Oil Field Job." "A Vote for MONICA is a VOTE to KEEP your Oil Field Job!!!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 10/22/20]

De La Cruz Criticized Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez For "Applauding The Failing Of The Oil Field Industry." "This Congresswomen DOES NOT represent the American Worker! Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez applauds the failing of the oil field industry and oil field workers as a way to further her crazy Green New Deal!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 4/21/20]

• April 2020: Rep. Ocasio-Cortez Tweeted "You Absolutely Love To See It" In Response To Oil Prices Being At "Negative Values." "Ocasio-Cortez tweeted: 'You absolutely love to see it. This along with record low interest rates means it's the right time for a worker-led, mass investment in green infrastructure to save our planet. "cough" Ocasio-Cortez wrote her statement while promoting a tweet that stated: 'Oil prices now at 'negative values,' meaning oil producers have to pay people to take it off their hands and store it because when demand plunges (like now), that is less expensive for them than building more storage and/or shutting wells down." [Daily Wire, 4/10/20]

De La Cruz Accused Democrats Of Wanting To Move To "ONLY" Renewable Energy, Said That Would Eliminate Thousands Of Oil Field Jobs In Her District



De La Cruz Accused Democrats Of Supporting Moving To 100% Renewable Energy, Claimed It Would Eliminate Thousands Of Oil Field Jobs In TX-15 Alone. "Socialist Radicals like AOC and Vin-Cent Gonzalez want to move to ONLY renewable energy! This WILL eliminate THOUSANDS of OIL FIELD JOBS in our district!! Say NO to unemployment and radical thinking!! SAVE JOBS in our district!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 9/4/20]

De La Cruz Claimed "The Elitist Left" Wanted To Put Energy Sector Workers "Completely Out Of Business." "Our energy sector workers are suffering and the elitist left wants to put them completely out of business." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, <u>4/27/20</u>]

De La Cruz Said It Was Unacceptabe That Around 120,000 U.S. Oil And Gas Jobs Were Lost In 2020 After The Drop In Oil Demand And Prices During The Pandemic

De La Cruz Said It Was Unacceptable That "Around 120,000 Jobs Were Lost In The U.S. Oil And Gas Industry." "Around 120,000 jobs were lost in the U.S. oil and gas industry, this is unacceptable. This is our Texan way of life and our families depend on it. I will continue to suppport our oil and gas industry." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>5/25/21</u>]

• 2020: Around 120,000 U.S. Oil And Gas Jobs Were Lost Due To Crash In Oil Demand And Prices. "Around 120,000 jobs were lost in the U.S. oil and gas industry last year due to the crash in oil demand and prices and subsequent massive downsizing of staffing levels, Rystad Energy said in a new analysis this week. The United States, the third-biggest employer in the oil and gas sector globally, saw the number of jobs in the industry decline to around 960,000 last year, down from approximately 1,080,000 employees in 2019." [Yahoo News, 3/10/21]

De La Cruz Praised Trump For Brokering An Agreement With OPEC, Russia, And Mexico To Cut Oil Production In Order To End An Oil Price War

De La Cruz Thanked Trump For Negotiating An Agreement With OPEC To Cut Oil Production. "This is very good news for the Texas oil and gas industry! Thank you President Trump for remaining diligent in this fight and for protecting American jobs. Now that we are energy independent, we can no longer allow the United States of America and our economy to be held hostage upon a foreign nation or groups of nations." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 4/13/20]

- April 2020: Trump Helped Broker A Deal With OPEC, Russia, And Mexico To Cut Oil Production And End "A Devastating Price War." "The world's top oil producers pulled off a historic deal to cut global petroleum output by nearly a 10th, putting an end to a devastating price war but not going far enough offset the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. Despite the skepticism, the agreement still represents an important victory for the alliance between the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and allies including Russia, which just a few weeks ago appeared to be dead. And it wasn't easy, with talks almost falling apart late last week because of resistance from Mexico. They came back from the brink after a weekend of urgent diplomacy, and an intervention from President Donald Trump, helped to broker the final compromise." [Bloomberg, 4/13/20]
- April 2020: Texas Oil Prices Plummeted Due To Decreased Demand Amid Coronavirus Pandemic. "The price for a barrel of oil plunged negative Monday for the first time ever as the coronavirus pandemic has kept most of the world at home, forcing oil producers to pay buyers to take crude off their hands. People are not commuting or traveling, leading to a devastating decline in global oil demand, and the price of oil has crashed at a rapid rate. One barrel of West Texas Intermediate crude cost in the \$60 range to start the year. It has dropped more than 160% since. Down from around \$18 a barrel Friday, the price of West Texas Intermediate crude to be delivered in May ended Monday at negative \$37.63 a barrel."



Keystone Pipeline

De La Cruz Criticized Biden For Canceling The Keystone XL Pipeline And Halting Oil & Gas Leases On Federal Lands. "Vicente Gonzalez stood by as Joe Biden canceled the Keystone XL Pipeline, halted oil and gas leases on federal lands, and launched a full-blown war on American energy. Now Texans are paying the price." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 10/15/21]

Renewable Energy

De La Cruz Posted Memes Falsely Blaming The Use Of Renewable Energy For The 2021 Texas Winter Power Grid Failure

De La Cruz Mocked Green Energy During The Texas Winter Power Grid Failure.



lubbockonline.com/story/news/202...



[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 2/15/21]

De La Cruz Championed Natural Gas And Coal During The Texas Winter Power Grid Failure.



Bet some of y'all like natural gas pipelines and coal mines today...

8:48 PM · Feb 12, 2021 · Twitter for Android

[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 2/12/21]

Wind Power Made Up Only A Fraction Of Texas Winter Grid Capacity Compared To The 80% Of Grid Capacity Generated By Natural Gas, Coal And Nuclear Power. "Frozen wind turbines in Texas caused some conservative state politicians to declare Tuesday that the state was relying too much on renewable energy. But in



reality, the wind power was expected to make up only a fraction of what the state had planned for during the winter. The Electric Reliability Council of Texas projected that 80% of the grid's winter capacity, or 67 gigawatts, could be generated by natural gas, coal and some nuclear power. An official with the Electric Reliability Council of Texas said Tuesday afternoon that 16 gigawatts of renewable energy generation, mostly wind generation, were offline. Nearly double that, 30 gigawatts, had been lost from thermal sources, which includes gas, coal and nuclear energy." [Texas Tribune, 2/16/21]

The 2021 Power Grid Crisis Was Largely The Result Of Failures Across Texas' Natural Gas Operations During The Winter Storm. "Failures across Texas' natural gas operations and supply chains due to extreme temperatures are the most significant cause of the power crisis that has left millions of Texans without heat and electricity during the winter storm sweeping the U.S. From frozen natural gas wells to frozen wind turbines, all sources of power generation have faced difficulties during the winter storm. But Texans largely rely on natural gas for power and heat generation, especially during peak usage, experts said. Officials for the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, which manages most of Texas' grid, said the primary cause of the outages Tuesday appeared to be the state's natural gas providers. Many are not designed to withstand such low temperatures on equipment or during production." [Texas Tribune, 2/16/21]

Solar/Wind

De La Cruz Criticized The Build Back Better Act Claiming It Would "Require Americans To Get 40% Of Energy From Wind/Solar Within 8 Years."

Biden Reconciliation Disaster

-\$643 Million included for "procuring...
culturally appropriate foods" for
schools

-Requires Americans to get 40% of energy from wind/solar within 8 years



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/4/21]

De La Cruz Shared A Meme Regarding Texas Being The Leading State In Wind Energy.







[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 2/18/21]

• 20% Of Energy In Texas Came From Wind, The Largest Of Any State. "So, 15 years ago, the Texas legislature got behind wind power in a big way. Back then the state's energy mix was about 3% wind. Today it's 20% wind. That's far more than any other state. And if Texas were a country, it would be the 5th largest producer of wind energy in the world." [WFAA, 2/16/20]

Nuclear

De La Cruz Supported The Use Of Nuclear Energy. "Support safe and efficient use of nuclear energy" [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/9/21]



Equal Rights & Workplace Fairness

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz opposed the government implementing "laws against racism," arguing they would be "untenable, unenforceable and costly."
 - ✓ De La Cruz said racism should be dealt with by the private sector and church leaders, not the government.
- ✓ De La Cruz said racism was not a threat unless it was "carried out through the threat of fear or violence."
- ✓ De La Cruz opposed anti-discrimination protections on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.
 - ✓ De La Cruz opposed the Equality Act, which would extend anti-discrimination protections to people on the basis of LGBTQ status.

Discrimination

De La Cruz Opposed The Government Implementing Laws Against Racism And Said Racism Was Not A Threat Unless It Was "Carried Out Through The Threat Of Fear Or Violence"

De La Cruz Opposed The Government Putting In Place "Laws Against Racism." "Racism is a moral deficiency which should be dealt with in the private sector and by church leaders, parents, family members, employers, work colleagues, and friends. I do not believe that we can mandate or put in place laws against racism. Doing so would be untenable, unenforceable and costly. The best way to prevent racism is by removing threats and obstacles to our religious freedoms and institutions which are much better equiped to deal with this sin than is the US Government." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/10/21]

De La Cruz Claimed Laws Against Racism Would Be "Untenable, Unenforceable and Costly." "Racism is a moral deficiency which should be dealt with in the private sector and by church leaders, parents, family members, employers, work colleagues, and friends. I do not believe that we can mandate or put in place laws against racism. Doing so would be untenable, unenforceable and costly." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/10/21]

De La Cruz Said "Racism Is A Moral Deficiency Which Should Be Dealt With In The Private Sector And By Church Leaders," Not The Government. "Racism is a moral deficiency which should be dealt with in the private sector and by church leaders, parents, family members, employers, work colleagues, and friends. I do not believe that we can mandate or put in place laws against racism. Doing so would be untenable, unenforceable and costly. The best way to prevent racism is by removing threats and obstacles to our religious freedoms and institutions which are much better equiped to deal with this sin than is the US Government." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/10/21]

De La Cruz: "I Do Not Believe That [Racism] Specifically Constitutes A Threat To The Security Of Our Country Unless It Is Carried Out Through The Threat Of Fear Or Violence." "Is racism a threat to domestic security in the United States? Why or why not? [ANSWER:] While any type of racism is abhorrent, I do not believe that it specifically constitutes a threat to the security of our country unless it is carried out through the threat of fear or violence. [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/10/21]



De La Cruz Did Not Believe The Government Could Put In Place Laws Against Racism

De La Cruz: "I Do Not Believe That We Can Mandate Or Put In Place Laws Against Racism." "Is racism a threat to domestic security in the United States? Why or why not? [ANSWER:] While any type of racism is abhorrent, I do not believe that it specifically constitutes a threat to the security of our country unless it is carried out through the threat of fear or violence. Racism is a moral deficiency which should be dealt with in the private sector and by church leaders, parents, family members, employers, work colleagues, and friends. I do not believe that we can mandate or put in place laws against racism. Doing so would be untenable, unenforceable and costly. The best way to prevent racism is by removing threats and obstacles to our religious freedoms and institutions which are much better equiped to deal with this sin than is the US Government." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/10/21]

De La Cruz Opposed Anti-Discrimination Protections On The Basis Of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Or Gender Expression

De La Cruz Did Not Believe That Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Or Gender Expression Should Be Protected Classes. "I support adding sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression as protected classes in non-discrimination laws. [ANSWER:] Strongly Disagree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/8/21]

De La Cruz Opposed The Equality Act Saying It Promoted "Radical Gender Ideology At The Expense Of Biological Women." "Gonzalez's vote FOR the 'Equality Act' HR5 is a betrayal of SoTX values. Far from promoting equality, itthreatens freedom of speech, religion, forces medical prof to perform abortions against their conscience, & promotes radical gender idealogy at the expense of biological women" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 2/25/21]

• The Equality Act Would Extend Anti-Discrimination Protections To People On The Basis Of LGBTQ+ Status In Federally Funded Programs And Public Accommodations. "The Equality Act would amend the 1964 Civil Rights Act to explicitly prevent discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity [...] the Supreme Court ruled in June of last year, in Bostock v. Clayton County, that the protections guaranteed by the 1964 Civil Rights Act on the basis of sex also extend to discrimination against lesbian, gay, and transgender Americans [...] This act would explicitly enshrine those nondiscrimination protections into law for sexual orientation and gender identity, rather than those protections being looped in under the umbrella of 'sex.' However, the Equality Act would also substantially expand those protections. The Civil Rights Act covered discrimination in certain areas, like employment and housing. The Equality Act would expand that to cover federally funded programs, as well as 'public accommodations' — a broad category including retail stores and stadiums, for example." [NPR, 2/24/21]

De La Cruz Opposed Governments Discriminating "Against Individuals, Organizations Or Small Businesses Because Of Their Belief That Marriage Is Only A Union Of One Man And One Woman." "Governments should not discriminate against individuals, organizations or small businesses because of their belief that marriage is only a union of one man and one woman. [ANSWER:] Strongly Agree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/8/21]



Foreign Policy Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz praised Trump as "the greatest foreign policy president" since Ronald Reagan following agreements that normalized relations between Israel and Arab states.
- ✓ De La Cruz wanted to keep U.S. forces in Afghanistan until every U.S. citizen came home, no matter how long it took, and condemned Biden for "the greatest military and foreign policy humiliation America has suffered in decades."
 - ✓ De La Cruz claimed the US withdrawal from Afghanistan would embolden terrorists groups and the Russian and Chinese governments to wage war.
- ✓ De La Cruz said the U.S. must stand up to China, which she called "our greatest adversary."
- ✓ De La Cruz opposed a resolution aimed at limiting Trump's ability to initiate a military conflict against Iran without congressional authorization.
- ✓ De La Cruz attended a rally supporting demonstrations against the communist regime in Cuba.

Israel

De La Cruz Praised Trump As "The Greatest Foreign Policy President" Since Reagan Following Agreements That Normalized Relations Between Israel And Arab Countries

De La Cruz Praised Trump For Brokering A Deal That Normalized Relations Between Israel And The United Arab Emirates. "President @realDonaldTrump has sealed a landmark deal between #Israel and the #UnitedArabEmirates. I am proud that the #UnitedStates continues to play a major role toward peace in the #MiddleEast." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 8/15/20]

August 2020: Trump Reached A Deal That Normalized Relations Between Israel And The United
Arab Emirates. "Israel and the United Arab Emirates reached a landmark accord sealed by President
Trump on Thursday that could presage a broader realignment in the region as the two agreed to "full
normalization of relations" in exchange for Israel suspending annexation of occupied West Bank territory."

De La Cruz Called Trump "The Greatest Foreign Policy President Since Ronald Reagan" Following A Deal Between Israel And Sudan. "Another Historic Milestone in the Quest for Enduring Peace in the Middle East! Congrats to President Trump greatest foreign policy president since Ronald Reagan! @realDonaldTrump" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 10/23/20]

• October 2020: Trump Announced A Deal Aimed At Normalizing Relations Between Israel And Sudan. "President Trump announced on Friday that Israel and Sudan have opened economic ties as a pathway toward normalized relations, with Sudan becoming the third Arab state to formally set aside hostilities in recent weeks as the president looks to score a final foreign policy achievement ahead of the election. The deal, however, appeared to stop short of establishing full diplomatic recognition between the two countries, as Israel recently has with the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain — despite Mr. Trump's description of it as a major agreement." [New York Times, 10/23/20]



Afghanistan

De La Cruz Wanted To Keep U.S. Forces In Afghanistan Until Every U.S. Citizen Came Home, No Matter How Long It Took, And Condemned Biden For A "Foreign Policy Humiliation"

De La Cruz Claimed Biden Was Responsible For "The Greatest Military And Foreign Policy Humiliation America Has Suffered In Decades" Following The Withdrawal From Afghanistan. "Joe Biden is responsible for the greatest military and foreign policy humiliation America has suffered in decades!! Prayers for Afghanistan" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, <u>8/26/21</u>]

De La Cruz Said Biden Was "Directly Responsible" For The "Catastrophe" In Afghanistan By Sticking To The Withdrawal Deadline. "Joe Biden is directly responsible for the current catastrophe unfolding in Afghanistan. And he is making matters even worse by sticking to the arbitrary August 31st deadline for the full withdrawal." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 8/18/21]

• Biden Extended The Initial May 2021 Withdrawal Date Set By Trump In Order To Allow More Time To Evacuate U.S Citizens And Afghan Allies. "Both presidents saw the 20-year war in the remote and rugged country as an unwelcome inheritance and an albatross. For Trump it was the prime example of the "forever wars" he promised to end, a salient promise of his "America First" campaign. Frustrated in his initial efforts to truncate the U.S. mission, Trump finally bypassed the Afghan government to negotiate directly with the Taliban. The deal with them that he signed on Feb. 29, 2020 promised to pull all U.S. troops out by May 1, 2021. Biden did not reverse this course when he took office, although he did push back the pull-out to September. He wanted more time to remove U.S. forces and, if necessary, evacuate U.S. civilians as well as Afghan interpreters and others who helped the U.S. war effort. He was advised he would have a period of weeks or months to do this after September." [NPR, 8/18/21]

De La Cruz Blamed Biden For An "Incompetent, Unorganized, Poorly Executed, And Pathetic Withdrawal." "Joe Biden botched the withdrawal. It was incompetent, unorganized, poorly executed, and pathetic. He rejected the input of his advisors and hastily exited without a plan. Americans never surrender, but Joe Biden did. #Afghanistan" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, <u>8/16/21</u>]

De La Cruz Wanted To Keep U.S. Forces In Afghanistan Until Every U.S. Citizen Came Home, "No Matter How Long It Takes." "Instead of telling the Taliban the exact day U.S. forces will leave, Biden needs to publicly commit to keeping our personnel on the ground until every single U.S. citizen is safely home. America leaves nobody behind, no matter how long it takes." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 8/18/21]

De La Cruz Decried The Brutal Treatment Of Afghan Women By The Taliban. "The women and children of Afghanistan will suffer the most under the Taliban. Women will be beaten, tortured, raped, sold into slavery, confines to their homes or cocooned in a burka – and young girls will be given to Taliban fighters as child brides. Schools for girls will be closed, universities will be shut down, education of women will be banned, and a dark age will begin for the women and girls of Afghanistan." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, <u>8/17/21</u>]

De La Cruz Claimed The US Withdrawal Would Embolden Terrorists, Russia And China

De La Cruz Claimed America Was Less Safe And Terrorists Were Emboldened After The Afghanistan Withdrawal. "With Joe Biden's Afghanistan defeat, America is less safe, terrorists are emboldened, China, Russia, and Iran will be energized to confront us, and our allies – especially Taiwan and Ukraine – are in greater danger. Joe Biden's weakness and recklessness has made the world a more dangerous place. Our future is less safe. Our freedom is in greater peril. Our world is a bit darker." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/27/21]



De La Cruz Claimed Russia Would Be Energized To Confront The U.S. And Ukraine Following The Withdrawal In Afghanistan. "With Joe Biden's Afghanistan defeat, America is less safe, terrorists are emboldened, China, Russia, and Iran will be energized to confront us, and our allies – especially Taiwan and Ukraine – are in greater danger. [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/27/21]

De La Cruz Claimed China Would Be Energized To Confront The U.S. And Taiwan Following The Withdrawal In Afghanistan. "With Joe Biden's Afghanistan defeat, America is less safe, terrorists are emboldened, China, Russia, and Iran will be energized to confront us, and our allies – especially Taiwan and Ukraine – are in greater danger. [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/27/21]

China

De La Cruz Said The U.S. Must Stand Up To China, Which She Called "Our Greatest Adversary"

De La Cruz Said The U.S. Must "Stand Up To China And Support Our Allies." "Stand up to China and support our allies." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/7/21]

De La Cruz Called China "Our Greatest Adversary." "This is shocking and disturbing that a U.S. Representative would have his money tied with a China bank; our greatest adversary,' De La Cruz-Hernandez said." [News 4 San Antonio, 3/9/21]

De La Cruz Condemned Rep. Vicente Gonzalez For Having An Account With The Bank Of China. "Vicente Gonzalez's six-figure account with the Bank of China is shocking and disturbing,' de la Cruz-Hernandez told Breitbart News. 'It's simple: a United States Representative should never have such close financial ties to the state bank of our country's greatest adversary. This is yet another reason why our district needs a new representative who shares our South Texas values – not China's." [Breitbart, 3/8/21]

• De La Cruz Accused Rep. Gonzalez Of Funding Chinese Atrocities With His Bank Of China Account. "The money in bank accounts at the Bank of China, support these monstrous acts!! #vote #ChinaChente #out" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 3/27/21]

De La Cruz Claimed China Was Making The COVID-19 Pandemic Worse By Not Sharing Virus Samples. "China is still not sharing their virus samples from Wuhon. This is unconscionable. They are continuing to make this pandemic worse." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 4/27/20]

Iran

De La Cruz Opposed A Resolution Curtailing Trump's Ability To Wage War Against Iran Without Congressional Approval

De La Cruz Criticized Rep. Vicente Gonzalez For Voting For A Resolution That Prevented Trump From Furthering Hostilities With Iran. "Once again, our liberal incumbent Congressman has chosen to stand with our enemies rather than with our Commander-in-Chief and brave fighting men and women by voting yesterday to tie the President's hands in how best to deal with the dangerous Iranian missile attacks against our country's military installations and personnel in Iraq and continued cyber attacks against our homeland. With his vote, Vicente Gonzalez sent a message to the Iranian aggressors that our nation's resolve is weak at a time when we should be telling the world that America is united in fighting back against Iran's ongoing support of terrorism and letting them strongly know we will not tolerate their aggression against the U.S. #Sad" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 1/10/20]



• January 2020: The House of Representatives Passed A Resolution Curtailing Trump's War Powers Against Iran Without Congressional Authorization. "A sharply divided House voted on Thursday to force President Trump to come to Congress for authorization before taking further military action against Iran, in a sharp response to his ratcheting up of hostilities with Tehran without the explicit approval of the legislative branch. The vote was 224 to 194, almost entirely along party lines, to curtail Mr. Trump's warmaking power. It came as Democrats insisted that the president must involve Congress in any escalation against Iran, and Republicans — following Mr. Trump's lead — accused Democrats of coddling the enemy in questioning the commander in chief at a dangerous moment." [New York Times, 1/9/20]

Cuba

De La Cruz Attended A Rally To Support Demonstrations Against The Communist Regime In Cuba

De La Cruz Attended A Local Rally In Support Of Cubans Protesting The "Socialism/Communism That Is Happening In Cuba." "I stood in support of the local Cuban community as they build awareness for their mother land and the socialism/communism that is happening in Cuba. They said to me 'Socialism DOES NOT work'! People are dying, literally dying to stand against the socialist regime. #FREECUBA #socialismdoesntwork" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 7/20/21]

De La Cruz Supported Cubans Calling For Democracy In Cuba. "In South Texas, Republicans and Cubans United for the country of Cuba, to support their cry for Democracy. We do not support communism and when our friends are in need we will support them!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 7/16/21]

De La Cruz Insisted That "Socialism Does Not Work," And Wanted To Bring Awareness To The "Negative Effects Of Communism" And "Lack Of Democracy" In Cuba. "I stand with the local Cuban community who is bringing awareness of the negative effects of communism and lack of democracy in their motherland, Cuba. Their voice must be heard! Socialism does not work! #FreeCuba #CubaLibre" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 6/13/21]



Gun Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz said there should be no restrictions on gun ownership on an online candidate survey.
 - ✓ De La Cruz said one of her top three priorities was pushing "legislation to guarantee our constitutionally mandated 2nd Amendment freedoms with[out] any undue burdens or restrictions."
 - ✓ De La Cruz said, "as long as you're a law abiding citizen, you have the freedom and the right to bear arms."
- ✓ De La Cruz met with the NRA in Washington and received an AQ rating from the NRA in 2020.
 - ✓ According to the NRA, an 'AQ' rating denoted a pro-gun candidate whose rating was based solely on responses to the NRA-PVF candidate questionnaire and did not have a voting record.
 - ✓ February 2020: De La Cruz said she was very excited to meet with the NRA in Washington.
- ✓ De La Cruz criticized gun safety legislation and claimed she would "stand for the Second Amendment."
 - ✓ De La Cruz's campaign website listed a petition that claimed Biden "will be targeting the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding Americans."
 - ✓ De La Cruz claimed gun safety legislation did not work because Chicago had a high crime rate despite its "strict" gun control policies.
- ✓ May 2021: De La Cruz Went Skeet Shooting With Her Husband And Friends, Posing With A Young Child Holding A Rifle In A Picture Captioned "Teach Them Young!"

Guns

De La Cruz Wanted No Restrictions At All On Gun Ownership

De La Cruz Said There Should Be No Restrictions On Gun Ownership. "What restrictions on gun ownership are needed to protect public safety? [ANSWER:] None." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed <u>12/8/21</u>]

De La Cruz Said One Of Her Top Three Priorities Was Pushing "Legislation To Guarantee Our Constitutionally Mandated 2nd Amendment Freedoms With[out] Any Undue Burdens Or Restrictions." "In priority order, what three areas of legislation do you propose to author or sponsor if elected? [ANSWER:] 1. Legislation to finish building the border wall across the entire southern border and to provide the resources and suppot to adequately secure our borders 2. Legislation to guarantee our constitutionally mandated 2nd Amendment freedoms with[sic] any undue burdens or restrictions. 3. Legislation to prohibit abortion in all cases except to protect the life of the mother." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/8/21]

De La Cruz Said "As Long As You're A Law Abiding Citizen, You Have The Freedom And The RIGHT To Bear Arms." "When our country was founded the government ensured us the right to bear arms, and now there are



those who are trying to infringe on that right. I will fight for your Second Amendment rights to keep your fire arms so that you can protect your home and your family. As long as you're a law abiding citizen, you have the freedom and the RIGHT to bear arms." [Monicaforcongress.com, "The Issues," 5/12/21]

De La Cruz Met With The NRA In Washington And Received An AQ Rating From The NRA

De La Cruz Said She Was Proud To Have Received An AQ Rating From The NRA. "I am proud to have received an AQ rating from the NRA. This is the highest we can get as a challenger. I strongly believe in protecting our 2nd Amendment rights. When in Congress, I will defend our right to bear arms and to uphold our constitution." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 9/16/20]

• An AQ Rating By The NRA Is Given To "Pro-Gun Candidates" Without A Voting Record On The Second Amendment. "An 'AQ' rating denotes a pro-gun candidate whose rating is based solely on responses to the NRA-PVF candidate questionnaire and does not have a voting record on Second Amendment issues." [NRA-PVF, accessed 12/8/21]

February 2020: De La Cruz Said She Was Very Excited To Meet With The NRA In Washington. "I'm going to go see the NRA and that one is something I'm very excited about, is important for me as you know that I am prosecond amendment, pro-gun rights and wish me luck. This is going to be an excellent meeting and I'm looking forward to being involved with the NRA. [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 2/6/20] (Video)

De La Cruz Criticized Gun Safety Legislation

De La Cruz's Campaign Website Listed A Petition That Claimed Biden "Will Be Targeting The Second Amendment Rights Of Law-Abiding Americans." "Joe Biden just announced that his administration will be targeting the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding Americans! Sign the petition telling Biden to keep his hands off our Constitutional rights!" [Monica For Congress, accessed 12/7/21]

De La Cruz Claimed "Gun Control" Does Not Work Because Chicago Had A High Crime Rate Despite Having "One Of The Strictest Gun Control Policies." "Gun control DOES NOT work!!! Chicago has one of the strictest gun control policies. Here are the results of that....."bad guys" don't care about policy!!! #2A #ProGun #ProAmerica" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 5/26/20]

De La Cruz Criticized Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee For Incorrectly Claiming That An AR-15 Fires .50 Caliber Rounds. "This is coming from the Congressional Representative that said the AR-15 is as heavy as ten boxes, and shoots .50 caliber rounds... @JacksonLeeTX18" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, <u>2/9/21</u>]

De La Cruz Attacked The "Loony Left" For Removing Elmer Fudd's Gun From A Cartoon. "The Loony Left has gone so FAR that they even took Elmer Fudd's gun away!!! No more catching the wabbit for him!! This is how Democrats get to our kids!! They teach them young that it's "okay" to give up your gun!! Heck NO!! NOT IN MY HOUSE!!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 6/8/20]

De La Cruz Claimed She Was Standing For The Second Amendment.





[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 3/18/21]

De La Cruz Attended Shooting Ranges, Skeet Shoots, Gun Shows And Hunting Expos

De La Cruz Took To The Range With An AR-15 Amid "All This Gun Talk." "All this gun talk is convincing me to visit the range this weekend...where should I go?



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 4/9/20]

October 2020: Congressman Dan Crenshaw And De La Cruz Attended A Shooting Range Together. "Thank you for your endorsement and shooting range fun, Congressman Dan Crenshaw!!! I believe you should have the right to protect your family the way YOU choose."





[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 10/11/20]

De La Cruz Thanked Her Political Director, Jordan De La Garza, For Providing Her With An AR-15. "Thank you @JordanDeLaGarz1 for setting me up with this!! I stand by our 2nd Amendment. I have my license to carry and...I do!"

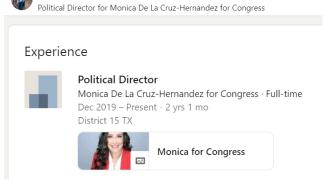




[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 9/3/20]

Jordan De La Garza

• December 2019 – Present: De La Garza Was Political Director To De La Cruz's Campaign.



[Jordan De La Garza, LinkedIn, accessed 12/8/21]

November 2020: De La Cruz Posed With An AR-15 At A Shooting Range.





[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/29/20]

August 2021: De La Cruz Attended The Saxet Gun Show In McAllen, Texas. "Excellent time at the Saxet Gunshow in McAllen, TX so far Come visit us today from 9 am - 5 pm! Lots of vendors with awesome guns, ammo and gear!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, <u>8/22/21</u>]

July 2021: De La Cruz Attended The Texas Hunters & Sportsman's Expo In McAllen, Texas.



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 7/23/21]

October 2020: De La Cruz Hosted A License To Carry Class Campaign Event. "Take the NEXT STEP in protecting yourself, your family and friends with a LICENSE TO CARRY CLASS. Take a class, get your LTC, and join over 1.4 million Texans who have their Texas LTC."





[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 10/12/20]

May 2021: De La Cruz Went Skeet Shooting With Her Husband And Friends, Posing With A Young Child Holding A Rifle In A Picture Captioned "Teach Them Young!" "Skeet shooting with friends is always fun! Teach them young!"



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>5/15/21</u>]

[Jordan De La Garza, LinkedIn, accessed 12/8/21]



Health Care Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz said she wanted to eliminate coverage mandates for health care and claimed she would "stop the continued government takeover of healthcare."
 - ✓ De La Cruz called health care coverage mandates "frivolous" and "unneeded."
 - ✓ De La Cruz opposed the government mandating businesses to provide affordable health care.
 - ✓ De La Cruz strongly disagreed that the government should be responsible for ensuring everyone had health insurance.
 - ✓ De La Cruz opposed "socialized medicine" and eliminating private health care insurance.
- ✓ De La Cruz said she believed people with pre-existing conditions should never be denied coverage.
- ✓ De La Cruz said she wanted to lower health care costs by implementing "market policies."
 - ✓ De La Cruz said she would mitigate health care costs by increasing competition and allowing for the purchase of health insurance across state lines.
- ✓ De La Cruz claimed she would fight to reduce the high cost of prescription medication by "injecting free market [principles] into that market place."

De La Cruz Wanted To Eliminate Health Care Coverage Mandates And End The "Government Takeover Of Healthcare"

De La Cruz Said She Wanted To Eliminate Coverage Mandates For Health Care And Claimed She Would "Stop The Continued Government Takeover Of Healthcare"

De La Cruz Wanted To Eliminate "Frivolous" And "Unneeded" Coverage Mandates. "How would you promote healthcare coverage that is adequate, affordable and accessible for all? [ANSWER:] As an insurance agent, each and everyday, I work to find affordable health insurance coverage for my clients. We can mitigate the high cost of health insurance by increasing competition, allowing for the purchase of health insurance across state lines, eliminating frivolous and often times unneeded coverage mandates, and by fighting to reduce the high cost of prescription medication by injecting free market principals into that market place. I would advocate for and support legislation for the creation of tax incentives for those who wish to start their own medical savings accounts." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/15/21]

• The Affordable Care Act's Coverage Mandates Required Essential Health Benefits Be Covered Such As Emergency Services, Hospitalization, Prescription Drugs And Mental Health Services. "The Affordable Care Act requires non-grandfathered health plans in the individual and small group markets to cover essential health benefits (EHB), which include items and services in the following ten benefit categories: (1) ambulatory patient services; (2) emergency services; (3) hospitalization; (4) maternity and newborn care; (5) mental health and substance use disorder services including behavioral health treatment; (6) prescription drugs; (7) rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices; (8) laboratory services; (9)



preventive and wellness services and chronic disease management; and (10) pediatric services, including oral and vision care." [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, accessed 1/6/22]

De La Cruz Said She Would "Stop The Continued Government Takeover Of Healthcare." "Stop the continued government takeover of healthcare." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/15/21]

De La Cruz Opposed The Government Mandating Businesses To Provide Affordable Health Care. "I believe healthcare should be affordable for business owners to provide, but there should be limits to what the federal government can mandate. When you elect me, I'll fight to make sure that your property rights are in your hands." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 11/19/19]

De La Cruz Strongly Disagreed The Government Was Responsible For Ensuring Everyone Had Health Insurance. "It is the government's responsibility to ensure everyone has health insurance. [ANSWER:] Strongly Disagree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/15/21]

De La Cruz Opposed Eliminating Private Healthcare Insurance. "I support the elimination of private healthcare insurance. [ANSWER:] Strongly Disagree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/15/21]

De La Cruz Opposed "Socialized Medicine" Saying It Is Harmful. "Imagine a shoe store with just one brand of sneakers; now apply that to medical care' This is why I am against #SocializedMedicine. It doesn't benefit us, it harms us. We need more #transparency more #freedom & more control in our #healthcare options." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 8/24/20]

De La Cruz Claimed She Would Protect Health Care Coverage For Those With Pre- Existing Conditions

• De La Cruz Said She Believed People With Pre-Existing Conditions Should Never Be Denied Coverage. "I support health care solutions that lower your costs at the pharmacy counter, increase transparency, and put YOU in control of your health care decisions. I also believe that Americans living with pre-existing conditions should never be denied health care coverage. We must fix our broken healthcare system. Americans deserve better." [Monicaforcongress.com, "The Issues," 5/12/21]

De La Cruz Wanted To Implement "Market Policies" And "Free Market Principles" To Lower The Cost Of Health Care And Prescription Drugs

De La Cruz Wanted To Lower Health Care Costs By Implementing "Market Policies" And Supported Tax Incentives For Health Savings Accounts

De La Cruz Wanted To Implement "Market Policies" To Lower Health Care Costs. "Implement market policies to drive costs down." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/15/21]

De La Cruz Said She Would Mitigate Health Care Costs By Increasing Competition And Allowing For The Purchase Of Health Insurance Across State Lines. "How would you promote healthcare coverage that is adequate, affordable and accessible for all? [ANSWER:] As an insurance agent, each and everyday, I work to find affordable health insurance coverage for my clients. We can mitigate the high cost of health insurance by increasing competition, allowing for the purchase of health insurance across state lines, eliminating frivolous and often times unneeded coverage mandates, and by fighting to reduce the high cost of prescription medication by injecting free market principals into that market place. I would advocate for and support legislation for the creation of tax



incentives for those who wish to start their own medical savings accounts." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/15/21]

De La Cruz Supported Creating Tax Incentives For Health Savings Accounts. "How would you promote healthcare coverage that is adequate, affordable and accessible for all? [ANSWER:] As an insurance agent, each and everyday, I work to find affordable health insurance coverage for my clients. We can mitigate the high cost of health insurance by increasing competition, allowing for the purchase of health insurance across state lines, eliminating frivolous and often times unneeded coverage mandates, and by fighting to reduce the high cost of prescription medication by injecting free market principals into that market place. I would advocate for and support legislation for the creation of tax incentives for those who wish to start their own medical savings accounts." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/15/21]

De La Cruz Wanted To Inject "Free Market Principles Into That Market Place" In Order To Lower The Cost Of Prescription Drugs

De La Cruz Claimed She Would Fight To Reduce The High Cost Of Prescription Medication By "Injecting Free Market [Principles] Into That Market Place." "How would you promote healthcare coverage that is adequate, affordable and accessible for all? [ANSWER:] As an insurance agent, each and everyday, I work to find affordable health insurance coverage for my clients. We can mitigate the high cost of health insurance by increasing competition, allowing for the purchase of health insurance across state lines, eliminating frivolous and often times unneeded coverage mandates, and by fighting to reduce the high cost of prescription medication by injecting free market principals into that market place. I would advocate for and support legislation for the creation of tax incentives for those who wish to start their own medical savings accounts." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/15/21]



Immigration & Border Issues



Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz criticized Biden's immigration policies and blamed him for an increase in illegal border crossings, which she described variously as "a national security and national sovereignty crisis" and "a humanitarian crisis at our border as a result of failed leadership."
 - ✓ De La Cruz falsely claimed that Biden spent "\$86 million for hotel rooms to house the illegal immigrants but made our national guard sleep in a parking garage while protecting the capitol."
- ✓ De La Cruz claimed the Biden administration's "open border policy" supported child sex trafficking.
- ✓ De La Cruz said her top priority was pushing legislation to finish building the border wall "across the entire southern border."
 - ✓ De La Cruz supported additional fencing in targeted areas and unmanned patrols in remote border areas.
- ✓ De La Cruz said she wanted to "secure our borders, apply extreme vetting processes and prohibit sharia law" in order to fight terrorism.
- ✓ De La Cruz supported limiting legal immigration to only people with highly technical skills, blood relatives, or a spousal relationship with a U.S. citizen.
 - ✓ De La Cruz said she supported "fiscally conservative immigration reform" to deal with the immigration surge.
- ✓ De La Cruz called for reinstating Trump's immigration policies and said his rhetoric on immigration appealed to South Texas voters.
 - ✓ De La Cruz supported denying federal law enforcement funds to sanctuary cities and other entities "not in compliance with immigration laws" and opposed abolishing ICE.
 - ✓ De La Cruz said she supported ending the "catch and release system" and reinstating the "remain in Mexico" policy keeping asylum seekers in Mexico while waiting for their claims to be processed in U.S. courts.
- ✓ De La Cruz was endorsed by the National Border Patrol Council in 2020 and 2022, and claimed she was "the only candidate who cared enough about border security" to win their support.
 - ✓ De La Cruz showed support for border patrol agents following an incident where agents on horseback clashed with migrants in Del Rio, Texas.
- ✓ De La Cruz routinely made misleading statements about migrants spreading COVID-19.
 - ✓ De La Cruz said that COVID cases were increasing because immigrants who have the virus were being released.
 - ✓ De La Cruz claimed Biden & Rep. Vicente Gonzalez wanted to force the border patrol to release COVID-positive illegal immigrants, and attacked Catholic Charities for "dumping" illegal immigrants infected with COVID "all over the valley."

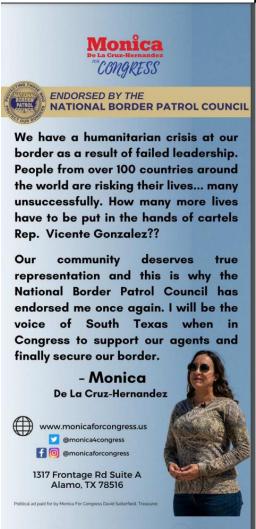


De La Cruz Frequently And Falsely Attacked Biden For Immigration Policies She Claimed Created A "National Security, National Sovereignty And Humanitarian Crisis" And Empowered Child Sex Trafficking

De La Cruz Criticized Biden's Immigration Policies, Claiming That There's "A Humanitarian Crisis At Our Border As A Result Of Failed Leadership"

De La Cruz Blamed Biden For Incentivizing Migrants To Cross The Border Through What She Called A "Catch And Release Program"

De La Cruz Took Out An Ad In The Seguin Gazette, Saying That There's "A Humanitarian Crisis At Our Border As A Result Of Failed Leadership."



[Seguin Gazette, <u>9/19/21</u>]

De La Cruz Called The Surge In Illegal Immigration "A National Security And National Sovereignty Crisis," Claimed Biden Administration Incentivized It Through Its "Catch And Release Program." "I'm here at the Rio Grande Valley river and what we're seeing right now is the illegals crossing our border in broad daylight right in front of our boat. They're coming from Guatemala and Honduras; they've been traveling for months to get here. They say we're hungry, we're thirsty. This is what is happening in Hidalgo County. There is a immigration crisis and we need help at our borders. Not only is this a national security and national sovereignty crisis, it is also a



humanitarian one. The Biden administration catch and release program is incentivizing these illegal immigrants to risk their lives on the water and be at the hands of the coyotes. Child sex trafficking, human trafficking, drug trafficking; the severity of this surge is making it easier and easier for smugglers to get away with their crimes. Securing our border and stopping this overwhelming surge of illegal immigration will be my top priority in congress." [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 9/9/21] (Video)



[Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 9/9/21] (Video)

De La Cruz Attacked Biden For Calling The Surge In Unaccompanied Minors A "Challenge" And Not A "**Crisis."** "President Biden is declining to call the situation at the southern border a crisis – even amid reports that his administration needs another 20,000 beds at migrant facilities to deal with a surge of unaccompanied minors. HE CALLS THIS A CHALLENGE NOT A CRISIS!!" [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 3/3/21]

February 2021: De La Cruz Blamed "The Biden Catch & Release Policy" For Empty Grocery Shelves At A Supermarket Along The Texas Border. "These EMPTY shelves are from last night HEB Trenton. The Biden CATCH & RELEASE policy is happening right now! His immigration stance is putting stress on OUR American communities and tax payers. We need to put Americans FIRST." [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 2/19/21]

August 2021: De La Cruz Attended A "Biden's Open Borders Protest" At Gonzalez's Office. "LIVE at Rep. Gonzalez office at Biden's Open Border Protest. STOP PLAYING PARTISAN POLITICS WITH OUR AMERICAN COMMUNITIES AND RISKING THE LIVES OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IMMIGRANTS!!!" [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 8/20/21]

De La Cruz Attacked Biden By Noting That The Border Patrol Detained More Than 1.7 Million Migrants

De La Cruz Attacked Biden By Noting Border Patrol Detained More Than 1.7 Million Migrants Since He Took Office. "U.S. authorities detained more than 1.7 million migrants along the Mexico border since Biden has taken over. The current RGV Population: 1,402,512..." [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 10/22/21]

De La Cruz Criticized Biden For October 2021's 164,000 Illegal Border Crossings. "According to the Department of Homeland Security, October was the WORST in history for border crossings surpassing 164,000... Do you think Biden is "Building Back Better?" [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 12/3/21]



De La Cruz Shared A Debunked Claim That Biden Spent "\$86 Million For Hotel Rooms To House The Illegal Immigrants But Made Our National Guard Sleep In A Parking Garage While Protecting The Capitol"

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed That Biden Spent "\$86 Million For Hotel Rooms To House The Illegal Immigrants But Made Our National Guard Sleep In A Parking Garage While Protecting The Capitol."



Monica De La Cruz for U.S. Congress

March 22, 2021 · 3

? Where are the priorities for President Biden and Congressperson

Gonzalez!? #illegalimmigrants #hotels #paidbytaxpayers

Bring back MPP !! !!
It's that easy folks....

#monicaforcongress #secureourborders #Monica2022

Biden spends \$86 MILLION for hotel rooms to house the illegal immigrants but made our National Guard sleep in a parking garage while protecting the Capitol.



[Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 3/22/21]

• Social Media Posts Like The One De La Cruz Shared, Claiming Biden Forced National Guard Members To Sleep On The Floor Of A Garage While Authorizing Hotel Rooms For Illegal Immigrants Were Rated "Mostly False" By PolitiFact. "A Facebook post says, 'Joe Biden and Kamala Harris forced our troops to sleep on the floor of a garage, yet has authorized \$89 million for hotel rooms for illegal immigrants, who broke the law to get into this country.' There is no evidence that Biden and Harris ordered the National Guard to relocate from the Capitol to parking garages. The Guard told PolitiFact that the request to move the troops is believed to have come from a Capitol Police officer. Axios and Fox have reported that the Biden administration awarded a contract to use hotel rooms to provide shelter and processing services for migrant families. The contract was for a little less, \$86 million, and the Biden administration is not the first administration to use hotels near the border to house children and families who enter the country illegally. This claim contains an element of truth but ignores critical facts that would give a different impression. Mostly False." [PolitiFact, 3/22/21]

De La Cruz Criticized Vice President Kamala Harris For Not Visiting The South Texas Border Since She Took Office

De La Cruz Called Kamala Harris "Part Of The Problem" For Not Visiting The South Texas Border. "Hidalgo County has the largest Border Patrol Sector in the nation!! Kamala visited the RGV during election season in 2020 but REFUSES to visit the SOUTH Texas border during this humanitarian crisis. KAMALA, YOU



ARE PART OF THE PROBLEM!! We have the largest influx of illegal immigration in the nation, the problem is HERE not in El Paso!!" [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, <u>6/23/21</u>]

De La Cruz Criticized Kamala Harris For Visiting The Rio Grande Valley During The 2020 Campaign But Not Coming To See The Border In 2021. "Kamala Harris will gladly and quickly come to the border in Hidalgo County during the height of COVID to save my opponent from losing in the 2020 election but can't seem to find the time in 2021 to come to the border to support our Border Patrol agents and check on border security? Thank God Trump will come down to rally the agents and law enforcement officers down here and boost morale!" [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 6/15/21]

De La Cruz Complained That California Was Giving \$75 Million To Undocumented Immigrants, Claimed The State Was Ignoring Homeless Californians. "What the heck is wrong with these Californians??? When they were going to work today, did they not notice all the homeless Americans on the street?! Don't California our TEXAS!! The state of California has pledged \$75 million to help undocumented immigrants..... Let's stop the Democrats from doing this in our Texas!" [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 5/19/20]

• April 2020: California Governor Gavin Newsom Announced A \$75 Million Disaster Relief Fund That Would Support Undocumented Workers Impacted By COVID-19. "California's \$75 million Disaster Relief Fund will support undocumented Californians impacted by COVID-19 who are ineligible for unemployment insurance benefits and disaster relief, including the CARES Act, due to their immigration status. Approximately 150,000 undocumented adult Californians will receive a one-time cash benefit of \$500 per adult with a cap of \$1,000 per household to deal with the specific needs arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. Individuals can apply for support beginning next month. The state's Disaster Relief Fund will be dispersed through a community-based model of regional nonprofits with expertise and experience serving undocumented communities." [Office of Governor Gavin Newsom, 4/15/20]

De La Cruz Repeatedly Claimed The Biden Administration's Immigration Policies Supported Child Sex Trafficking

De La Cruz Claimed The Biden Administration's "Open Border Policy" Supported Child Sex Trafficking. "CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING is the horror behind the open border policy that my opponent and the Biden Administration supports!!" [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 7/30/21]

De La Cruz Blamed "Democrat Policies" That "Empower Cartels' Child Sex Trafficking."





[Breitbart News, Twitter, 12/9/21]

De La Cruz Said Border Patrol Officers Were Protecting Children Because Many Children Coming Over The Border Were Being Sex-Trafficked. "Monica de la Cruz, another Trump loyalist, hopes to win a seat in Congress representing the heavily Hispanic, traditionally Democratic Rio Grande Valley. She has supported Mr. Trump's border wall and immigration crackdown, and her district was the epicenter of the family-separation and child-detention tragedy. Border Patrol officers, she told me, were protecting children because many were being trafficked for sex and the adults they came with weren't their parents." [New York Times, Geraldo Cadava Op-Ed, 11/2/20]

De La Cruz Said That The Biden Administration's "No Borders Policy" Had Led To "Inhumane Treatment Of Women And Children" And "Trafficking." "On Saturday, Americans from across our country united in McAllen, TX to be a voice for all victims of child trafficking. Many stories were shared with one common goal, to bring awareness to this inhumane treatment of women and children due to the Biden administration NO BORDERS policy. Thank you Landon Starbuck for making this happen all the way from Tennessee!" [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 9/27/21]

De La Cruz Claimed The Biden Administration Was Encouraging Immigrants To Be Trafficked By Cartels. "Cartels are the ones making money on these illegal immigrants and don't give a hoot what happens to them. The Biden Administration continues to encourage immigrants to come and expose themselves to human trafficking." [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, <u>8/23/21</u>]

De La Cruz Called For Severely Limiting Legal Immigration, Finishing Construction Of The Border Wall And Restoring Trump Administration Immigration Policies

De La Cruz Wanted To Restrict Legal Immigration To Only People With Highly Technical Skills, Blood Relatives, Or A Spousal Relationship



De La Cruz Said Only People With Highly Technical Skills Or A Blood Or Spousal Relationship With A U.S. Citizen Should Be Allowed To Enter The U.S. "Until Such Time As We Have Adequately Secured Our Borders." "Who should be allowed to immigrate to the U.S. and under what circumstances? [ANSWER:] While the United States is a nation of immigrants, the threat of terrorism and economic harm to the US workers/citizens has forced us to be much more careful in vetting and allowing those who seek temporary or permanent residency in the United States. We should only allow those with certain needed highly technical skill sets or who have a direct blood family connection to or is the legal spouse of a US Citizen to enter our country until such time as we have adequately secured our borders and prevented the influx of those who seek to enter illegally." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/22/21]

De La Cruz Claimed She Supported Legal Immigration And "Fiscally Conservative Immigration Reform"

De La Cruz Said She Supported Legal Immigration. "Legal immigrants are the backbone of America. As the granddaughter of Mexican immigrants, I wholeheartedly support legal immigration, which means following the law, doing things the legal way, and following the proper procedures to emigrate to the United States. We must welcome those who want to come to our country legally to contribute to the melting pot of America." [Monicaforcongress.com, "The Issues," 5/12/21]

De La Cruz Said Immigration Reform Was Needed "To Keep People From Coming In The Wrong Way." "[QUESTION:] Please list below 3 key messages of your campaign. What are the main points you want voters to remember about your goals for your time in office? [ANSWER:] Immigration & U.S. Border Security - We need reform to keep people from coming in the wrong way, and a strong border to protect our American citizens. Listening to the expertise of the Border Patrol is key." [Ballotpedia Candidate Survey, 2020]

De La Cruz Supported "Fiscally Conservative Immigration Reform" To Deal With The Immigration Surge. Was Needed "Border Patrol needs help and support now more than ever! BPA's are the frontline during this immigration surge. We need a better system to vet these people safely and make sure they aren't ill nor have a criminal history and do not put American lives at risk. Over 2,000 people are being detained daily and number is increasing everyday!! We need international support, we need to end open border policies, and we need fiscally conservative immigration reform NOW!!" [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 3/11/21]

De La Cruz Supported Mandating Employers Use E-Verify To Screen Potential Workers

De La Cruz Supported Forcing Employers To Use E-Verify To Confirm Workers Are Eligible For Employment. "Employers should be required to use E-verify to confirm the eligibility of their employees to work in the United States. [ANSWER:] Strongly Agree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/22/21]

De La Cruz Said Her Top Priority Was "Legislation To Finish Building The Border Wall Across The Entire Southern Border"

De La Cruz Said Her Top Priority Was Pushing Legislation To Finish Building The Border Wall "Across The Entire Southern Border." "In priority order, what three areas of legislation do you propose to author or sponsor if elected? [ANSWER:] 1. Legislation to finish building the border wall across the entire southern border and to provide the resources and suppot to adequately secure our borders 2. Legislation to guarantee our constitutionally mandated 2nd Amendment freedoms with any undue burdens or restrictions. 3. Legislation to prohibit abortion in all cases except to protect the life of the mother." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/22/21]

De La Cruz Wanted Biden To Continue Construction Of The Border Wall. "She told Border Report that she opposes a halt to the border wall construction and border wall land acquisition that has been implemented by the



Democratic Biden administration. 'If the border wall is stopped and Biden's policies are put forward, then it gives the impression to people from South America that we have open borders and that they can come through. So with him stopping regulations put in place by the previous administration, it is encouraging people they might have a false hope,' she said." [Border Report, $\frac{2}{1/21}$]

De La Cruz: "If The Border Wall Is Stopped [...] Then It Gives The Impression To People From South America That We Have Open Borders." "She told Border Report that she opposes a halt to the border wall construction and border wall land acquisition that has been implemented by the Democratic Biden administration. 'If the border wall is stopped and Biden's policies are put forward, then it gives the impression to people from South America that we have open borders and that they can come through. So with him stopping regulations put in place by the previous administration, it is encouraging people they might have a false hope,' she said." [Border Report, 2/1/21]

De La Cruz Claimed The Border Patrol "Has Already Publicly Stated If You Are Against The Border Wall, You Are Against Border Patrol." "Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez, his 2020 opponent, has already launched another run. She said her last campaign was motivated by a Democratic lurch to the left that was unappealing to the district, and she said local voters liked Trump's rhetoric on immigration. 'Everybody down here on the border knows someone or has family or relatives that are working in Border Patrol,' De La Cruz-Hernandez said. 'Border Patrol has already publicly stated if you are against the border wall, you are against Border Patrol.'" [Politico, 1/24/21]

• Trump's Homeland Security Secretary Chad Wolf: "If You Are Against The Wall, You Are Against The Men And Women Of CBP." "It's time to put politics aside and support our law enforcement and our Border Patrol. The wall system is a fundamental national security asset critical to the efforts of thousands of Border Patrol agents working tirelessly to secure our border. If you are against the wall, you are against the men and women of CBP. It's that simple." [Department of Homeland Security, Acting Secretary Chad Wolf remarks, 10/29/20]

De La Cruz Said Border Wall Construction Created Needed Jobs During The Pandemic. "De La Cruz-Hernandez is an entrepreneur who owns three small businesses with her husband, and she is the granddaughter of a Mexican immigrant. She says the border wall has supplied needed jobs during this COVID-19 pandemic and she scoffed at any concerns by border communities about construction workers coming to the South Texas border bringing the virus from other parts of the country. 'That is misguided information because what is stopping the illegal immigrants who are coming through our border who possibly have COVID or other illnesses?' she said. 'He's putting our Border Patrol agents, Customs and Border Protection officers and American communities at risk.'" [Border Report, 2/1/21]

January 2020: De La Cruz Celebrated A Court Decision That Allowed Trump To Divert Military Funds To Construct The Border Wall. "It is only appropriate to celebrate on Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, yesterday's court ruling in favor of President Trump using military funds to defend our American borders and citizens. I stand with ALL law enforcement and together with Border Patrol celebrate this news. God Bless America!" [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 1/9/20]

• January 2020: An Appeals Court Decision Allowed Trump To Divert \$3.6 Billion In Military Funds To Construct A Wall On The U.S.-Mexico Border. "A federal appeals court has handed the Trump administration a victory by allowing the president to tap military construction funds to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border. A divided 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals issued the decision late Wednesday, reversing a lower court order that stopped Trump from using \$3.6 billion in U.S Defense Department money to construct the long-promised border wall." [NPR, 1/9/20]

De La Cruz Supported Additional Fencing In Targeted Areas And Unmanned Patrols In Remote Border Areas



De La Cruz Supported Increased Border Fencing "Where The Professional Agents Find Most Fitting." "I believe in strong border security. We can and must secure our border with highly trained Border Patrol Agents, fencing where the professional agents find most fitting, and unmanned aerial vehicles in remote areas. As your Congresswoman I will fight hard to ensure that our region gets the federal and state funding we need to have secure borders and secure communities." [Monicaforcongress.com, "The Issues," 5/12/21]

De La Cruz Supported Patrolling The Border With Drones In Remote Areas. "I believe in strong border security. We can and must secure our border with highly trained Border Patrol Agents, fencing where the professional agents find most fitting, and unmanned aerial vehicles in remote areas. As your Congresswoman I will fight hard to ensure that our region gets the federal and state funding we need to have secure borders and secure communities." [Monicaforcongress.com, "The Issues," 5/12/21]

De La Cruz Proposed "Securing Our Borders, Applying Extreme Vetting Processes And Prohibiting Sharia Law" In Order To Fight Terrorism

De La Cruz Said She Wanted To "Secure Our Borders, Apply Extreme Vetting Processes And Prohibit Sharia Law" In Order To Fight Terrorism. "What should the United States do to help eradicate the threat of radical Islamic terrorism? [ANSWER:] 1. Secure our borders 2. Apply extreme vetting processes to those wishing to come to the US from countries with a known history of terrorism 3. Prohibit Sharia Law both at the Federal, State & Local levels 4. Strengthen our support and alliance with the State of Israel 5. Defend our 2nd Amendment Freedoms 6. Eliminate the threat from radical Islamic Terrorists in their countries of origin before it ever reaches the US." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/13/21]

De La Cruz Claimed Biden and Rep. Vicente Gonzalez's "Open-Border Policies" Diminished National Security. "Joe Biden and Vicente Gonzalez's open-border policies are putting our citizens at risk and diminishing our national security." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 3/30/21]

De La Cruz Supported Denying Federal Law Enforcement Funds To Sanctuary Cities And Other Entities "Not In Compliance With Immigration Laws" And Opposed Abolishing ICE

De La Cruz Supported Denying Federal Funds To Sanctuary Cities And Any Entity "Not In Compliance With Immigration Laws." "State and federal funds should be denied to any public or private entity, including but not limited to sanctuary cities, that are not in compliance with immigration laws. [ANSWER:] Strongly Agree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/22/21]

- 2017: The Trump Administration Withheld Federal Law Enforcement Grants From Cities That Did Not Comply With Federal Immigration Laws. "The federal government in July 2017 imposed conditions requiring cities receiving public safety grants to notify federal agents when immigrants in the country illegally are about to be released from police detention." [NBC News, 7/18/18]
- Federal Law Enforcement Grants Provided Around \$250 Million A Year To Fund Investigative Task Forces, Improve 911 Call Systems And Crime Laboratories, And Reduce Gang Violence. "The grant program at issue provides around \$250 million a year to help fund investigative task forces, improve 911 call systems and crime laboratories, and reduce gang violence in prisons. Wednesday's ruling says the law setting up the grant program gives the attorney general authority to set the conditions for qualifying to receive the money." [NBC News, 2/26/20]

De La Cruz Opposed Abolishing Immigrations And Customs Enforcement (ICE). "Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) should be abolished. [ANSWER:] Strongly Disagree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/22/21]



De La Cruz Supported Keeping Trump Immigration Policies In Place After He Left Office

De La Cruz Said She Supported Ending The "Catch And Release System" And Reinstating The Remain In Mexico Policy. "I love this country," De La Cruz-Hernandez said. 'I want to see this country protected and that protection to come through strong borders and law and order. And what President Biden has done is essentially opened our borders down here in South Texas. And so we need to immediately implement the rules and policies of the previous administration, which includes to build the levee wall that the previous administration had, to re-install the Remain in Mexico Policy and to stop the Catch and Release System." [Daily Caller, 5/7/21]

• The Remain In Mexico Policy Was A Trump Administration Policy That Kept Asylum Seekers In Mexico While They Waited For Their Claims To Be Processed In U.S. Courts. "The Migrant Protection Protocol, or MPP, is also called 'Remain in Mexico.' It was first implemented under President Trump, and the idea was to keep asylum seekers at the southern border in Mexico while they wait for their claims to be processed in U.S. courts. President Biden paused this policy after he took office, but after some legal back-and-forth, a U.S. District Court judge in Texas ruled this summer that the White House had ended the Remain in Mexico program improperly." [NPR, 10/22/21]

De La Cruz Said That "We Need To Immediately Implement The Rules And Policies Of The Previous Administration." "I love this country," De La Cruz-Hernandez said. 'I want to see this country protected and that protection to come through strong borders and law and order. And what President Biden has done is essentially opened our borders down here in South Texas. And so we need to immediately implement the rules and policies of the previous administration, which includes to build the levee wall that the previous administration had, to re-install the Remain in Mexico Policy and to stop the Catch and Release System." [Daily Caller, 5/7/21]

De La Cruz Criticized Biden For "Stopping [Immigration] Regulations Put In Place By The Previous Administration." "She told Border Report that she opposes a halt to the border wall construction and border wall land acquisition that has been implemented by the Democratic Biden administration. 'If the border wall is stopped and Biden's policies are put forward, then it gives the impression to people from South America that we have open borders and that they can come through. So with him stopping regulations put in place by the previous administration, it is encouraging people they might have a false hope,' she said." [Border Report, 2/1/21]

De La Cruz Said Trump's Rhetoric On Immigration Appealed To Rio Grande Valley Voters

De La Cruz Said Trump's Rhetoric On Immigration Appealed To Local Voters. "The House GOP campaign arm has already begun recruiting a challenger to take on Gonzalez, a three-term member whose district includes a large chunk of Hidalgo County and the city of McAllen. That's a sign they believe him to be the most vulnerable in redistricting. For his part, Gonzalez says he is considering hiring a lawyer who specializes in redistricting to help him advocate for himself. He already has one challenger and could get more. Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez, his 2020 opponent, has already launched another run. She said her last campaign was motivated by a Democratic lurch to the left that was unappealing to the district, and she said local voters liked Trump's rhetoric on immigration. 'Everybody down here on the border knows someone or has family or relatives that are working in Border Patrol,' De La Cruz-Hernandez said. 'Border Patrol has already publicly stated if you are against the border wall, you are against Border Patrol.'" [Politico, 1/24/21]

De La Cruz Said That Trump's Approach To The Border Is Popular In The Rio Grande Valley. "The way Monica De La Cruz-Hernandez sees it, Trump's approach to the border problem is popular among voters here in the Rio Grande Valley, even though an overwhelming majority are Hispanic American. After losing by less than 3 percentage points to Rep. Vicente Gonzalez (D-Texas) last year, De La Cruz-Hernandez is seeking a rematch — and she's embracing Trump and his immigration playbook. Border security is the 'No. 1 issue up and down my district, from Hidalgo County, all the way up to Guadalupe County,' the small-business owner said in an interview with The Hill at the Palenque Grill in McAllen. 'People think that the problem is right here in Hidalgo County, but



this is a statewide and a national issue.' 'These immigrants are coming through our border,' she said, 'but they're being dropped off all throughout my district and throughout the state and the country.'" [The Hill, 6/30/21]

• **De La Cruz Thanked Trump For Visiting The Border.** "I thank President Trump, Governor Abbott, and the members of Congress for visiting the Rio Grande Valley today to see our border firsthand. While Joe Biden, Kamala Harris, and Vicente Gonzalez ignore this crisis, Republican leaders are offering meaningful solutions and putting our security first. It's straightforward: we need to support our Border Patrol, finish the wall, reinstate the Migrant Protection Protocols, and end catch and release. The people of the Rio Grande Valley are done with the Biden/Harris/Gonzalez open border policy and will elect leaders in 2022 who truly share our values." [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 6/30/21]

De La Cruz Touted Her Support For Border Patrol Agents And Her EndorsementsFrom The National Border Patrol Council

De La Cruz Was Endorsed By The National Border Patrol Council And Claimed She Was "The Only Candidate Who Cared Enough About Border Security" To Win Their Support

2021: De La Cruz Was Endorsed By The National Border Patrol Council. "On behalf of The National Border Patrol Council, we are proud to announce our endorsement of your candidacy for the United States House of Representatives. Your commitment to supporting U.S. border security and the thousands of Border Patrol Agents on the line is greatly appreciated... We have the highest confidence that should you be elected to Congress you will be a strong voice for both border security and the agents who work hard every day to protect our community."



[Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 9/9/21]

2020: De La Cruz Was Endorsed By The National Border Patrol Council. "I'm proud to be the ONLY candidate for the U.S. Congress in CD-15, Republican or Democrat, who has been endorsed by the courageous men and women of the National Border Patrol Council. These dedicated public servants put their lives on the line to defend our nation's sovereignty and the rule of law. They support me because they know that I will support them as they fight to secure our border. I hope to earn your support as well." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 4/30/20]

De La Cruz Claimed She Was Endorsed By The National Border Patrol Council Because She Was "The Only Candidate Who Cared Enough About Border Security." "A year ago, I earned the endorsement of the National Border Patrol Council because I was the only candidate who cared enough about border security and our brave servicemen. Today, I want to REASSURE you that I am still the only candidate who cares. I will continue to



support our Border Patrol and keep fighting for the security of our country and our children." [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 1/31/21]

De La Cruz Expressed Support For Border Patrol Agents Following An Incident Where Agents On Horseback Clashed With Migrants In Del Rio, Texas

De La Cruz Criticized Biden For Banning The Use Of Horses By Border Patrol Agents. "It took FOUR whole days for Biden to ban our Border Patrol Agents from using horses. Biden and Rep V. Gonzalez act swiftly and strongly AGAINST our hard working agents who are protecting our communities BUT refuse to deal with the THOUSANDS of illegals crossing our borders." [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 9/24/21]

• September 2020: Biden Suspended The Use Of Horse Patrols At The U.S.-Mexico Border Following Clashes Between Border Patrol Agents On Horseback And Migrants In Del Rio, Texas. "The Biden administration has suspended the use of horse patrols at the U.S.-Mexico border crossing in Del Rio, Texas, White House press secretary Jen Psaki announced Thursday. Images began circulating earlier in the week of Border Patrol agents on horseback corralling a group of mostly Haitian migrants at a makeshift camp along the banks of the Rio Grande. Officials said some agents used horse reins during the clashes, which were mistaken for whips. Photos and video from the scene drew widespread condemnation from some Democrats and civil rights groups — as well as top officials in the Biden administration." [NPR, 9/23/21]

De La Cruz Posted A Picture Of Border Patrol Agents On Horses And Said "Let Me Be Very Clear We Support Our U.S. Border Patrol."



[Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 9/23/21]

De La Cruz Criticized "The Media" For Not Showing The Border Patrol Comforting Migrant Children. "This is what the media won't show you but the BP wives will tell you. Their husbands pack extra sandwiches



before they leave for work for the kids they find who are often hungry. The wives ask neighbors for toys that are no longer used to bring comfort to the kids their husband's find. Husband's get up extra early to kiss their kids and wives good bye, not knowing what lies ahead in the day. Border Patrol Agents hold babies in their arms and comfort children as they cry. This is what our Border Patrol Agents are doing. These are the stories you won't hear.... God bless our Border Patrol and law enforcement officers." [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 9/25/21]

De La Cruz Gave Out Border Patrol Car Decals With A Campaign Donation. "We stand with Border Patrol! Do you? Check out our new car decals! Come by our office locations and get a this awesome decal for your car when you donate any amount!"



[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 11/22/21]

De La Cruz Spread Misinformation Claiming Migrants Were Fueling A COVID Surge In The Rio Grande Valley

De La Cruz Routinely Claimed That COVID Cases Were Increasing Because Illegal Immigrants Were Released "All Over The Valley" By The Biden Administration

De La Cruz Said That COVID Cases Were Increasing Because Immigrants Who Had The Virus Were Being Released. "We also want to add Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley did not inform the La Joya Police Department that people that had symptoms or were sick with Covid-19 were going to be placed in the Texas Inn hotel'!!!!!! Thank you La Joya Police Department for sharing the TRUTH about what is happening on our borders and why COVID cases are really increasing. This type of post took courage and I respect them for doing so!" [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 7/27/21]

• Hidalgo County Health Authority Dr. Ivan Melendez Insisted That Migrants Were Not Driving A Rise In COVID Cases But That The Unvaccinated Were Contributing More. "COVID-19 infections continue to be on the rise is the United States, and so is the number of migrants coming across the border in south Texas. Some people have linked the two, blaming COVID-positive migrants for spreading the disease. That's just not true, according to doctors treating for the coronavirus while monitoring the local and national response to the pandemic. 'We do not believe that this is a pandemic of the migrants,' said Dr. Ivan Melendez, a McAllen-based physician who's worked in COVID-19 wards, recovered from the disease himself and serves as the health authority for Hidalgo County. 'We believe this is a pandemic of the



unvaccinated.' [...] 'This is not a population that has a higher positivity rate than the local population,' Melendez said. 'There's very little intermingling with our local population as they move forward north. We cannot deny that the migrants are part of the problem, because they're part of our community and that they do contribute. But do they contribute more than unvaccinated people? Absolutely not." [KENS 5, 8/11/21]

De La Cruz Attacked Rep. Vicente Gonzalez And Catholic Charities For "Dumping" Illegal Immigrants Infected With COVID "All Over The Valley." "Meanwhile in La La Land, Rep. Gonzalez is more worried about your internet connection than the ONE MILLION ILLEGALS that have crossed our Border and the fact that the Catholic Charities is dumping them all over the Valley, infected with COVID!!!! Instead of being "focused on connectivity", he should focus in what is REALLY happening in #tx15!!!! This guy is completely out of touch with what is happening in his own back yard." [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 7/31/21]

De La Cruz Claimed COVID Positive Illegal Immigrants Were "Thrown Shamelessly And Quietly Into Local Communities." "This guy is out of control when he thinks bringing back Big Bird should be everyone's priority!! Wake up Gonzalez there are 3000 ILLEGALS sitting under Alzandua Bridge and the ones sick with COVID are being thrown shamelessly and quietly into local communities." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 8/2/21]

De La Cruz Criticized The Biden Administration For Sheltering And Transporting Illegal Immigrants With COVID-19 "Anywhere In The U.S." While Keeping Legal Ports Of Entry Closed. "The Biden Administration will let thousands of illegals into our country, give them hotel stays, and transportation to anywhere in the US, shelter them when they have COVID but they won't safely open the legal ports of entry on the border that will help small businesses and bring families together?" [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 6/5/21]

De La Cruz Claimed Biden And Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Wanted To Force The Border Patrol To Release COVID Positive Illegal Immigrants. "It's obvious we have a huge international humanitarian CRISIS! But socialists Joe Biden, and Vicente Gonzalez have no issue with forcing Border Patrol to release illegal immigrants, regardless of where they test positive for COVID or not." [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 3/19/21]

- Similar Statements By Governor Abbott Claiming That Biden Was Releasing Hundreds Of Illegal Immigrants Infected With COVID-19 Were Rated "Mostly False." "Abbott said that the Biden administration is releasing 'hundreds of illegal immigrants' infected with COVID-19 into Texas communities. A spokesperson said that the claim was based on news articles reporting that 108 migrants released by Border Patrol had tested positive in Brownsville. While that number has risen beyond 200 positive cases since then, it was well below "hundreds" at the time of Abbott's tweet. Abbott also mischaracterizes the status of the migrants being released by U.S. Customs and Border Protection by calling them 'illegal immigrants.' They are asylum seekers holding notices to appear in court. We rate this claim Mostly False. [Politifact, 3/11/21]
- Similar Statements By Texas AG Paxton Claiming That Migrants Released By The Border Patrol Were Not Tested For COVID-19 Were Rated "Mostly False." "During a Newsmax interview, Paxton claimed that federal officials are 'not even testing' migrants who are released by Border Patrol into U.S. communities. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has said that '100% of noncitizens' are tested for COVID-19 'at some point during their immigration journey,' and that this testing is performed by a mix of federal agencies, local governments and non-governmental organizations. While there are numerous clear examples of testing happening before migrants are released into the U.S., we know of one recent example in which strained testing capabilities led to untested migrants being released. However, the full scope of untested migrants is unknown. We rate this claim Mostly False." [Politifact, 8/13/21]

De La Cruz Claimed "Illegal Immigrants" Could Be Bringing COVID-19 And Other Illnesses Into The Country. "De La Cruz-Hernandez is an entrepreneur who owns three small businesses with her husband, and she is the granddaughter of a Mexican immigrant. She says the border wall has supplied needed jobs during this COVID-19 pandemic and she scoffed at any concerns by border communities about construction workers coming to the South Texas border bringing the virus from other parts of the country. 'That is misguided information because what



is stopping the illegal immigrants who are coming through our border who possibly have COVID or other illnesses?' she said. 'He's putting our Border Patrol agents, Customs and Border Protection officers and American communities at risk." [Border Report, 2/1/21]

De La Cruz Complained That COVID Positive Illegal Immigrants That Were Putting A Strain On Shelters, Hospitals, And Frontline Workers In The Rio Grande Valley

November 2020: De La Cruz Claimed Biden's Promised Halting Of Deportations Would Put A Strain On Frontline Workers, Emergency Responders And Hospitals In Texas' 15th District. "Last year in Hidalgo County, we had close to 500,000 ILLEGAL immigrants come through our border. This affects not only CD15 but the ENTIRE NATION! It will and has put a strain on our front line workers, emergency responders and hospitals. This is VERY SERIOUS!" [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 11/23/20]

De La Cruz Complained Of Shelters Being Used To Treat COVID Positive Immigrants. "This shelter was just set up 2 weeks ago and is already at capacity. How many more shelters will taxpayers have to fund to contain COVID-positive immigrants!?" [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 8/19/21]

De La Cruz Questioned Why COVID Vaccine Restrictions Applied To International Travelers But Not To Illegal Immigrants

De La Cruz Questioned Why Illegal Immigrants Didn't Have COVID Vaccination Requirements Similar To International Travelers.



[Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 9/21/21]

international travelers



Infrastructure & Transportation Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz opposed the Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act which provided billions towards improving roads, bridges, highways, broadband, drainage, and ports of entry in Texas.
 - ✓ Texas received over \$35 billion over five years for roads, bridges, pipes, ports and broadband from the bipartisan infrastructure bill.
 - ✓ Texas received \$27 billion for roads, \$500 million to repair bridges, and \$3 billion for public transportation from the bipartisan infrastructure bill.
 - ✓ KRGV: "Infrastructure bill expected to make positive impact on the Valley."
 - ✓ The bipartisan infrastructure bill provided over \$3 billion towards border patrol stations and land ports of entry.
 - ✓ The bipartisan infrastructure bill provided Texas with \$100 million to expand broadband service.
- ✓ De La Cruz criticized the 13 Republicans who voted for the bipartisan infrastructure bill.
 - ✓ De La Cruz said anyone who voted for the bipartisan infrastructure bill was "not truly fiscally conservative."
- ✓ De La Cruz falsely claimed that the bipartisan infrastructure bill would charge a "gas tax" per every mile driven. PolitiFact ruled a similar claim made in a viral Facebook post "false."
- ✓ De La Cruz falsely claimed the bipartisan infrastructure bill would have the IRS monitor bank transactions over \$600. PolitiFact ruled a similar claim made by conspiracy site InfoWars "mostly false."
- ✓ De La Cruz falsely claimed the bipartisan infrastructure bill, which spent \$1.2T (\$550B in new federal investment) would cost \$3 trillion.
- ✓ De La Cruz attacked Rep. Vicente Gonzalez for working to improve rural broadband internet access.
 - ✓ More than half of TX-15 residents lacked high-speed internet access and more than 1/4th lacked any form of home internet access.
- ✓ De La Cruz previously said infrastructure was a top priority for her in order to fix flooding issues in the Rio Grande Valley.
 - ✓ The bipartisan infrastructure bill would allocate \$1.2 billion for local projects including those addressing drainage issues in the Rio Grande Valley that caused frequent floods.
- ✓ De La Cruz said she wanted to reduce government spending on "boondoggle" infrastructure projects to balance the budget.



De La Cruz Opposed The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Which Provided Over \$35 Billion Towards Improving Roads, Bridges, Highways, Broadband, Drainage, And Ports Of Entry In Texas

De La Cruz Criticized The 13 Republicans Who Voted For The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill. "I still can't believe 13 Republicans voted for this unfundable bill, \$3 trillion worth of social policy, infrastructure and climate change programs." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 11/8/21]

De La Cruz Said Anyone Who Voted For The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Was "Not Truly Fiscally Conservative."



[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 11/6/21]

De La Cruz Claimed The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Attacked American Workers And Business Owners. "More from the Biden Infrastructure Disaster Bill! What exactly does this have to do with Infrastructure? Why are we attacking American Workers and business owners?" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 10/16/21]

De La Cruz Encouraged People To Call Their Representatives To Oppose The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill. "Pelosi's circus continues to develop in DC as she fails to get the bill passed due to the lack of votes... congress will now vote in 2 weeks!! Let's keep calling our representatives and make sure they know WE THE PEOPLE do not support this bill!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 10/2/21]

Texas Received Over \$35 Billion To Improve Roads, Bridges, Highways, Pipes And Public Transportation

Texas Was Set To Receive More Than \$35 Billion Over Five Years For Roads, Bridges, Pipes, Ports And Broadband From The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill. "The White House estimates that Texas will receive about \$35.44 billion over five years for roads, bridges, pipes, ports, broadband access and other projects after federal lawmakers passed a long-anticipated national infrastructure bill on Friday. The influx of capital is set to advance existing transit plans, pay for much-needed repairs and could lay the groundwork toward increasing transportation options for Texans." [Texas Tribune, 11/9/21]

• Texas Received \$27 Billion For Roads, \$500 Million To Repair Bridges, And \$3 Billion For Public Transportation From The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill. "The bill catalogued more than 2,700 pages of policies. Texas is set to receive at least \$27 billion for roads, more than \$500 million to repair bridges, \$3 billion for public transportation, \$408 million for electric car charging stations and \$100 million for broadband internet, according to a White House fact sheet." [Texas Tribune, 8/10/21]



The Rio Grande Valley Was Expected To Benefit With New Funding For Improving Roads, Highways And Drainage Issues

KRGV: "Infrastructure Bill Expected To Make Positive Impact On The Valley." "On Tuesday, lawmakers reached a bipartisan deal on President Biden's trillion-dollar infrastructure bill after weeks of negotiations and roadblocks. Now, the Rio Grande Valley is expected to benefit from the new infrastructure plan if it's passed. In 2015, a Dallas Reserve study showed at least 500,000 people in Texas live in low-income colonias. Out of six counties with the highest number of colonias, the Valley has Hidalgo, Cameron and Starr. "It's difficult for us to continue to grow and diversify our economy when we have [a] limited area to develop in," President of the Starr County Industrial Foundation Rose Benavidez said. Benavidez works to add jobs and economic growth to Starr County, a population shy of 65,000. But with just one highway in the Valley, her community members are limited. "We need to connect FM 755, our north-south corridors into our international ports," Benavidez said. "And have a direct connection to those ports of entry." [KRGV, 8/10/21]

Local Leaders Wanted To Allocate Funds From The Infrastructure Bill Towards Improving Roads, Highways And Drainage In The Rio Grande Valley. "President Joe Biden signed a \$1 trillion infrastructure bill on Monday, and Americans could see better highways, roads, and bridges soon. Valley leaders say many possible projects might be kicking up some dust, including the proposal to expand Military Highway so trucks coming in from Reynosa don't have to go through the Pharr International Bridge and cause major traffic headaches. Instead, the trucks would head east to Donna and then eventually connect with Expressway 83. 'We need to address infrastructure so we can get people to and from their jobs and homes safely quickly efficiently,' RGV Metropolitan Planning Director Andrew Canon said. Some local leaders say the funds should also be allocated to drainage in the Valley, creating better jobs in the long run. Canon said it's unclear where the federal funding will go to in the Valley until the end of next year when the board decides." [KRGV, 11/15/21]

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Provided More Than \$3 Billion Towards Border Patrol Stations And Land Ports Of Entry

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Invested More Than \$3 Billion In Border Patrol Stations And Land Ports Of Entry. In addition, the General Services Administration will receive more than \$3 billion for critical investments in CBP's Border Patrol stations and land ports of entry. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will have a profound impact on DHS' ability to execute its mission. The funds DHS receives will support and advance the incredible work its employees perform to keep the homeland secure. [DHS, 11/15/21]

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Provided Customs And Border Protection \$430 Million For The Construction And Modernization Of Land Ports Of Entry. "The bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, signed into law by President Biden on November 15, 2021, delivers historic investments in the Nation's crumbling infrastructure and, in doing so, creates millions of jobs and provides much-needed relief to disadvantaged communities across the country. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will receive significant funds to advance its work on behalf of the American people. The bipartisan bill delivers almost \$8 billion to DHS, including: \$430 million to Customs and Border Protection (CBP) for the construction and modernization of land ports of entry and equipment and fixtures for operations." [DHS, 11/15/21]

De La Cruz Previously Said Infrastructure Was A Top Priority For Her In Order To Fix Flooding Issues In The Rio Grande Valley

De La Cruz Said Infrastructure Was A Top Priority For Her Following Flood Damage In McAllen, Texas. "The residents of Cornell Avenue invited me to their neighborhood to see the flood damage that took place with this past hurricane. Many have lived in this neighborhood for years and were never flooded until a park was built next door. Since then they have had major flooding and devastation. Telemundo was there to interview residents



and myself. Infrastructure in both the South and North parts of the District continue to be a top priority for me. When elected, this will be at the top of the ticket." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/6/20]

De La Cruz Claimed That If Elected She "Would Get Involved With" Infrastructure To Fix Flooding Issues In Hidalgo County. "Infrastructure has been on my platform from the beginning. You know this district is eight districts far and wide and on the north end we have different infrastructure issues such as the dams in New Braunfels and Seguin all the way to the infrastructure issues that we have in Hidalgo which are the flooding issues. It is important that we get these fixed. When I become your Congresswoman next year that is something I'm going to get involved with and help the community members." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/6/20] (Video)

• The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Would Allocate \$1.2 Billion For Local Projects Including The Raymondville Drain To Deal With Drainage Issues In The Rio Grande Valley. President Joe Biden has signed the one trillion dollar Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act into law as of Nov. 15. According to U.S. Rep. Vicente Gonzalez District 15, once that money is dispersed amongst congressional districts, each one will receive \$1.2 billion for local projects. [...] Gonzalez said drainage in the RGV is also a major issue. 'We have communities in the Delta area, Mercedes, Weslaco, parts of Edinburg that are under water and it's a real shame. This is the United States of America. This should not be happening in any community in the country." Gonzalez's plan is to build retention ponds and fully fund the Raymondville drain. The Raymondville drain alone will cost between \$440 and \$460 million." [Valley Central, 11/17/21]

De La Cruz Spread Multiple False Claims About The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill, Including Disinformation From InfoWars And Viral Social Media Posts

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed That The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Would Charge A "Gas Tax" Per Every Mile Driven.

IMPORTANT Biden's Infrastructure Bill

-Bill will fine companies \$700,000 for not compyling with federal Vaccine mandates for EACH employee.

-Seeks to charge American Citizens a "Gas Tax" per every mile driven, letting the Federal Government know where and when you drive.



[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 10/16/21]

• PolitiFact Ruled "False" The Claim That The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Would Charge A "Gas Tax" Per Every Mile Driven. "A Facebook post claimed that the Biden infrastructure bill contains a provision establishing a per-mile driving tax. This is inaccurate. The infrastructure bill would create a pilot program that would study the effect and viability of a per-mile driving tax among a group of volunteers.



Enrollment in the pilot program would be voluntary, and participants would be fully reimbursed for any fees they pay. We rate this claim False." [PolitiFact, 9/29/21]

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Would Have The IRS Monitor Bank Transactions Over \$600.

IMPORTANT

Biden's Infrastructure Bill

-Wants to know about money transfers in our banks over \$600, to tax it, and report it to the IRS. This includes transactions through paypal, cashapp, venmo and zelle etc

-Builds a \$2 Million park in Nancy Pelosi's district



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 10/12/21]

• PolitiFact Ruled InfoWars' Claim That The IRS Would Monitor All Bank Accounts Over \$600 "Mostly False." "An Infowars headline widely shared on Instagram stated that "Biden's Treasury Department declares IRS will monitor" all accounts over \$600. The Treasury has made no such declaration. The department has made a proposal that Congress is considering. Under the proposal, financial institutions would be required to annually report the total inflows and outflows from bank, loan and investment accounts, if the total is at least \$600 in a year, or if the account's value is at least \$600. The headline contains an element of truth but ignores critical facts that would give a different impression. We rate it Mostly False." [PolitiFact, 9/15/21]

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Cost \$3 Trillion. "I still can't believe 13 Republicans voted for this unfundable bill, \$3 trillion worth of social policy, infrastructure and climate change programs." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>11/8/21</u>]

• The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Signed By President Biden Cost \$1.2 Trillion, \$550 Billion Of Which Was New Federal Investment. "President Joe Biden signed a \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill into law Monday, finalizing a key part of his economic agenda. It will deliver \$550 billion of new federal investments in America's infrastructure over five years, touching everything from bridges and roads to the nation's broadband, water and energy systems." [CNN, 11/15/21]

Infrastructure Funding

De La Cruz Wanted To Reduce Government Spending On "Boondoggle" Infrastructure Projects

De La Cruz Said She Would Reduce Spending On "Boondoggle" Infrastructure Projects To Help Balance the Budget. "What government spending would you reduce in order to balance the budget? [ANSWER:] Government welfare programs, foreign aid, most especially to those nations who do not support the



freedoms/values of the United States and Boondoggle projects such as the 'bridge to nowhere', burdensome environment projects imposed under the guise of climate change. Also, by the implementation of a flat or so-called 'fair' income tax." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/15/21]

- De La Cruz Referenced The "Bridge To Nowhere" Project In Alaska From 2007 As Part Of Her Opposition To Infrastructure Spending. "What government spending would you reduce in order to balance the budget? [ANSWER:] Government welfare programs, foreign aid, most especially to those nations who do not support the freedoms/values of the United States and Boondoggle projects such as the 'bridge to nowhere', burdensome environment projects imposed under the guise of climate change. Also, by the implementation of a flat or so-called 'fair' income tax." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/15/21]
 - 2008: The "Bridge To Nowhere" Was A Project In Alaska That Was Used As A Campaign Slogan By Sarah Palin Against Earmarks In Congress. "Gov. Sarah Palin of Alaska owes her selection as Senator John McCain's running mate in part to an irresistible slogan: the Bridge to Nowhere. Mr. McCain and other critics of the Congressional pet projects known as earmarks adopted the label to deride a \$220 million allocation for a bridge to the tiny Alaskan island of Gravina (population, a few dozen). And Ms. Palin became famous as the governor who, in 2007, finally killed the project." [New York Times, 8/31/08]
- De La Cruz Opposed "Burdensome Environment Projects" Which She Claimed Were Imposed "Under The Guise Of Climate Change." "What government spending would you reduce in order to balance the budget? [ANSWER:] Government welfare programs, foreign aid, most especially to those nations who do not support the freedoms/values of the United States and Boondoggle projects such as the 'bridge to nowhere', burdensome environment projects imposed under the guise of climate change. Also, by the implementation of a flat or so-called 'fair' income tax." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/15/21]

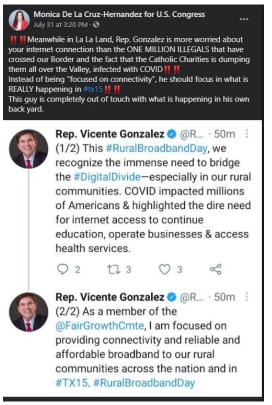
De La Cruz Called \$1 Billion For Amtrak In The American Rescue Plan "Wasteful And Unneeded." Spending \$75 million for the National Endowment for the Arts, \$75 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities, \$25 million for the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, \$7 million dollars for the Smithsonian Institute, and \$1 billion for AMTRAK were all unnecessary and are costs we simply can't afford. We should focus on helping stop the virus, treating those who have been infected, and keeping our economy and American families afloat. Anything beyond that is wasteful and unneeded!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 3/27/20]

Wireless Internet

De La Cruz Attacked Rep. Gonzalez For Working To Improve Rural Broadband Internet Access, Though More Than Half Of TX-15 Residents Lacked High-Speed Internet And More Than $1/4^{\rm th}$ Did Not Have Any Home Internet Access

De La Cruz Criticized Gonzalez For Working On Rural Broadband, Saying "Rep. Gonzalez Is More Worried About Your Internet Connection Than The One Million Illegals." "Meanwhile in La La Land, Rep. Gonzalez is more worried about your internet connection than the ONE MILLION ILLEGALS that have crossed our Border and the fact that the Catholic Charities is dumping them all over the Valley, infected with COVID!!!! Instead of being 'focused on connectivity', he should focus in what is REALLY happening in #tx15!!!! This guy is completely out of touch with what is happening in his own back yard."





[Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 7/31/21]

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Provided Texas With \$100 Million To Expand Broadband Service. "In addition to the \$100 million provided under the infrastructure bill to expand broadband service, low-income grants will be offered to around 29% of Texans to help them pay for the internet access, the White House said." [Texas Tribune, 11/9/21]

• 53.7% Of Households In Texas 15th Congressional District Were Without Wireline Broadband While 28.7% Had No Home Internet Access Of Any Kind. [NCIA, 4/1/19]



Labor & Working Families Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ June 2020: De La Cruz called the additional \$600 in unemployment insurance provided in the CARES Act a "catastrophe" that she blamed on "the left."
 - ✓ De La Cruz claimed "the left" was "putting handcuffs on people and keeping them in modern day slavery on unemployment."
 - ✓ March 2020: Trump signed the CARES Act, which provided an extra \$600 a week in unemployment insurance, after it passed the House and Senate without a single dissenting vote.
- ✓ De La Cruz blamed unemployment insurance provided in the American Rescue Plan for making people not want to work.
 - ✓ De La Cruz said nobody wanted to work due to the unemployment insurance provided in the American Rescue Plan, which totaled \$300/week, half that of the CARES Act.
- ✓ De La Cruz claimed she had to close her business due to a staff shortage after "actively trying" to hire people for her businesses, suggesting people "would be almost crazy" to work for her because they could make more money on unemployment.
 - ✓ A study found the break-even wage, below which Texans could make more from expanded unemployment insurance than from salary, was \$15.70/hour, or the equivalent of \$32,656/year.

Unemployment Insurance

De La Cruz Called The Additional \$600 In Unemployment Insurance Provided In The CARES Act A "Catastrophe" That Was Keeping People In "Modern Day Slavery"

De La Cruz Said The Additional \$600 In Unemployment Insurance Provided In The CARES Act A "Catastrophe." "Getting people back to work is very important. Look let me tell you this right now as small businesses, as big businesses we have a very serious issue on our hands. What was passed, legislation that was passed on unemployment and not only giving people unemployment but giving them the additional 600 dollars to stay unemployed has been a catastrophe for businesses, has been a catastrophe for our nation and our national economy. What has been created is that employees do not want to come back to work. They don't. The reason why is because they're getting this extra 600 dollars to stay at home. Why should they come back there's no incentive?" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/4/20] (Video)

• The CARES Act Provided An Extra \$600 A Week In Unemployment Insurance. "In a historic expansion of unemployment insurance, the federal government would give jobless workers an extra \$600 a week on top of their state benefits for four months as part of the \$2 trillion stimulus bill the Senate passed unanimously late Wednesday night." [CNN, 3/25/20]

De La Cruz Claimed "The Left" Was "Putting Handcuffs On People And Keeping Them In Modern Day Slavery On Unemployment." "I talked to small businesses up and down the Rio Grande Valley. I have one large Fortune 500 business that is supporting us and they have 50 open positions that they cannot fill and the reason why is because people want to stay on unemployment and that is a catastrophe. That is the left putting handcuffs on



people and keeping them in modern day slavery on unemployment. That is not the American way. That is not what America was built on, America was built on hard work, it was built on ethics and integrity." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/4/20] (Video)

Though De La Cruz Blamed The Expansion Of Unemployment Insurance On "The Left," It Was Passed By Unanimous Votes In Both Houses Of Congress And Signed Into Law By Trump

March 2020: Trump Signed The CARES ACT Into Law Hours After It Passed The House By Voice Vote And Passed The Senate Unanimously. "President Trump on Friday signed a massive \$2 trillion emergency spending bill into law, promising to deliver a tidal wave of cash to individual Americans, businesses and health care facilities all reeling from the coronavirus pandemic. His signature came just hours after the House of Representatives passed the massive package by an overwhelming voice vote, and less than 48 hours after it received unanimous approval from the Senate." [Washington Post, 3/27/20]

De La Cruz Blamed Unemployment Insurance Provided In The American Rescue Plan For Making People Not Want To Work

De La Cruz Said Nobody Wanted To Work Due To The Unemployment Insurance Provided In The American Rescue Plan. "As a small business owner myself...the problem isn't that there are no jobs, the #REAL problem is that due to the COVID RELIEF package, NOBODY WANTS TO WORK!!! Why? Because they would be almost crazy to work when they can get at least the same amount or MORE with the COVID RELIEF unemployment benefits." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 5/8/21]

• The American Rescue Plan Extended Unemployment Insurance At A Level Of \$300/Month, Lower Than The CARES Act's \$600/Month, Until September 6th. "The American Rescue Plan extended unemployment benefits until September 6 with a weekly supplemental benefit of \$300 on top of the regular \$400 benefit." [Whitehouse.gov, American Rescue Plan, accessed 12/15/21]

De La Cruz Claimed She Had To Temporarily Close Her Business Due To Hiring Challenges, Implied People Would Make More On Unemployment Than They Would Working For Her

De La Cruz Claimed She Had To Temporarily Close Her Business After "Actively Trying" To Hire People For Her Businesses; Claimed "It Doesn't Seem Like People Are Motivated To Get Off Unemployment!!!" "Today I had to close my business to allow my team members to 'catch up' on work. I have been actively trying to hire two people and it doesn't seem like people are motivated to get off unemployment!!!! This COVID relief is anything but 'relieving'.... #smallbusinessowner." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 6/24/21]

De La Cruz Said People "Would Be Almost Crazy To Work When They Can Get At Least The Same Amount Or More With The COVID Relief Unemployment Benefits." "As a small business owner myself...the problem isn't that there are no jobs, the #REAL problem is that due to the COVID RELIEF package, NOBODY WANTS TO WORK!!! Why? Because they would be almost crazy to work when they can get at least the same amount or MORE with the COVID RELIEF unemployment benefits." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 5/8/21]

January Advisors: Break-Even Wage At Which A Texas Worker Could Make More On Unemployment Than In Wages Was \$15.70/Hour, The Equivalent Of \$32,656 Annual Salary. "In order to calculate the number of people who would make less money by returning to work, I calculated a "break even wage." This is the rate where workers would make the same amount of money from Federal and state unemployment as they would from their job. I assumed that everyone works 40 hours per week, 52 weeks per year. Using the WBA formula, I found that this "break even wage" is \$15.70 per hour. Thus, anyone who made below \$15.70 hourly at their previous job would have seen an overall increase in income from federally supplemented unemployment insurance." [January Advisors, 7/29/21]



LGBT Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz did not believe that sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression should be protected classes in non-discrimination laws.
 - ✓ De La Cruz opposed the Equality Act banning discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity, claiming it would promote "radical gender ideology at the expense of biological women."
- ✓ De La Cruz said that "a family unit consists of a married man and women[sic] and their natural or adopted children" and did not believe same-sex couples qualified as a family unit.
 - ✓ De La Cruz opposed governments discriminating "against individuals, organizations or small businesses because of their belief that marriage is only a union of one man and one woman."
- ✓ De La Cruz supported legislation that restricted Texas transgender students from participating in athletics.
 - ✓ De La Cruz called a bill that restricted transgender students from participating in athletics "common sense."
 - ✓ De La Cruz wanted transgender women to "stay out" of girls sports and wanted to create a "transgenders division."

Equality Act/ENDA

De La Cruz Did Not Believe In Anti-Discrimination Protections On The Basis Of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Or Gender Expression

De La Cruz Did Not Believe That Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Or Gender Expression Should Be Protected Classes. "I support adding sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression as protected classes in non-discrimination laws. [ANSWER:] Strongly Disagree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/8/21]

De La Cruz Opposed The Equality Act, Claiming It Would Promote "Radical Gender Ideology At The Expense Of Biological Women"

De La Cruz Opposed The Equality Act Because She Said It Would Promote "Biological Males" Playing Women's Sports And Using Women's Facilities. "Vicente voted YES on H.R. 5 the so-called 'Equality' Act: - Promotes biological males competing in girl's and women's sports - Promotes biological males sharing private spaces like locker rooms with girls and women." [Monicaforcongress.us, "Vincente's Votes," accessed 5/13/21]

De La Cruz Opposed The Equality Act Saying It Promoted "Radical Gender Ideology At The Expense Of Biological Women." "Gonzalez's vote FOR the 'Equality Act' HR5 is a betrayal of SoTX values. Far from promoting equality, it threatens freedom of speech, religion, forces medical prof to perform abortions against their conscience, & promotes radical gender idealogy [sic] at the expense of biological women" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 2/25/21]



The Equality Act Would Amend The Civil Rights Act To Ban Discrimination On The Basis Of LGBTQ+ Status

The Equality Act Would Extend Anti-Discrimination Protections To People On The Basis Of LGBTQ+ Status In Federally Funded Programs And Public Accommodations. "The Equality Act would amend the 1964 Civil Rights Act to explicitly prevent discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity [...] the Supreme Court ruled in June of last year, in Bostock v. Clayton County, that the protections guaranteed by the 1964 Civil Rights Act on the basis of sex also extend to discrimination against lesbian, gay, and transgender Americans [...] This act would explicitly enshrine those nondiscrimination protections into law for sexual orientation and gender identity, rather than those protections being looped in under the umbrella of 'sex.' However, the Equality Act would also substantially expand those protections. The Civil Rights Act covered discrimination in certain areas, like employment and housing. The Equality Act would expand that to cover federally funded programs, as well as 'public accommodations' — a broad category including retail stores and stadiums, for example." [NPR, 2/24/21]

Marriage Equality

De La Cruz Did Not Believe Same-Sex Couples Were Considered "A Family Unit"

De La Cruz Believed That "A Family Unit Consists Of A Married Man And Women[sic] And Their Natural Or Adopted Children." "I believe that Jesus Christ is my personal Lord & Savior. That He died for the forgiveness of sin and was resurrected. He now sits at the right hand of God the Father to judge both the living and dead. I believe in baptism, the forgiveness of sin, and in everlasting life with God, the Father. I believe in the strength of families and that a family unit consists of a married man and women and their natural or adopted children." [ivoterguide, accessed 12/1/21]

De La Cruz Agreed "Governments Should Not Discriminate" Against Individuals Or Businesses Who Opposed Marriage Equality

De La Cruz Opposed Governments Discriminating "Against Individuals, Organizations Or Small Businesses Because Of Their Belief That Marriage Is Only A Union Of One Man And One Woman." "Governments should not discriminate against individuals, organizations or small businesses because of their belief that marriage is only a union of one man and one woman. [ANSWER:] Strongly Agree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/8/21]

Anti-Transgender Legislation

De La Cruz Supported Legislation That Restricted Texas Transgender Students From Participating In Athletics

De La Cruz Called A Bill That Restricted Transgender Students From Participating In Athletics "COMMON SENSE!!!" "The Democrat Party is forcing us to legislate COMMON SENSE!!! OF COURSE MEN SHOULD NOT PLAY IN WOMEN'S SPORTS!!!!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 10/26/21]

• October 2021: Governor Abbott Signed A Bill That Required Public School Students To Compete In Interscholastic Athletic Competitions Based On Biological Sex. "Texas' Republican Governor Greg Abbott has signed a bill into law that will require public school students to compete in interscholastic athletic competitions based on biological sex. When the bill goes into effect in January, transgender students will be forced to compete on the team that corresponds to the sex on their birth certificate – which may differ from their gender identity." [CBS News, 10/26/21]



De La Cruz Wanted Transgender Women to "Stay Out" Of Girls Sports. "Let's be clear: Women born as women should play women's sports. Men born as men should play men's sports. Period. If you wake up and 'feel' like you identify as a woman one day then let's have a "transgender" division but STAY OUT of girls sports." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 2/2/21]

De La Cruz Said The Solution To Allowing Transgender Students To Participate In Sports Was To Have A "**Transgenders Division.**" "The question is not whether or not it exists but if transgenders specifically males who identify as women should be in women's sport. I believe not and the solution is to have a transgenders division. I am not being rude but simply stating that it is not right or fair to girls." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 2/2/21]



National Defense & Security Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz proposed "securing our borders, applying extreme vetting processes and prohibiting sharia law" in order to fight terrorism.
 - ✓ De La Cruz claimed Biden and Rep. Vicente Gonzalez's "open-border policies" diminished national security.
- ✓ De La Cruz said she supported a strong, modernized military and opposed "woke liberal nonsense" in the armed forces.
- ✓ De La Cruz praised Trump being a "strong commander-in-chief" and opposed a resolution curtailing Trump's ability to wage war against Iran without congressional approval.
 - ✓ De La Cruz praised Trump for being a "strong commander-in-chief" following Iranian missile attacks against U.S. troops in Iraq.
 - ✓ January 2020: Iran launched 15 ballistic missiles at U.S. forces in Iraq in retaliation for the assassination of Iranian General Qassem Soleimani.
 - ✓ January 2020: The House of Representatives passed a resolution curtailing Trump's war powers against Iran without congressional authorization.
- ✓ De La Cruz claimed the US withdrawal from Afghanistan emboldened terrorists, Russia and China.

Homeland Security

De La Cruz Proposed "Securing Our Borders, Applying Extreme Vetting Processes And Prohibiting Sharia Law" In Order To Fight Terrorism

De La Cruz Said She Wanted To "Secure Our Borders, Apply Extreme Vetting Processes And Prohibit Sharia Law" In Order To Fight Terrorism. "What should the United States do to help eradicate the threat of radical Islamic terrorism? [ANSWER:] 1. Secure our borders 2. Apply extreme vetting processes to those wishing to come to the US from countries with a known history of terrorism 3. Prohibit Sharia Law both at the Federal, State & Local levels 4. Strengthen our support and alliance with the State of Israel 5. Defend our 2nd Amendment Freedoms 6. Eliminate the threat from radical Islamic Terrorists in their countries of origin before it ever reaches the US." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/13/21]

De La Cruz Claimed Biden and Rep. Vicente Gonzalez's "Open-Border Policies" Diminished National Security. "Joe Biden and Vicente Gonzalez's open-border policies are putting our citizens at risk and diminishing our national security." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 3/30/21]

National Defense



De La Cruz Said She Supported A Strong, Modernized Military And Opposed "Woke Liberal Nonsense" In The Armed Forces

De La Cruz Claimed That A Strong Military Was The Best Way To Maintain Peace. "The best way to maintain peace is through a strong military. [ANSWER:] Strongly Agree" [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/13/21]

De La Cruz Opposed "Woke Liberal Nonsense" In The Military. Ensure military readiness and oppose woke liberal nonsense in our Armed Forces. [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/13/21]

De La Cruz Supported Modernizing The Armed Forces And Investing In "Robust" Cybersecurity.

Modernize our Armed Forces and invest in robust cybersecurity. [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/13/21]

De La Cruz Praised Trump For Being A "Strong Commander-In-Chief" And Opposed A Resolution Curtailing Trump's Ability To Wage War Against Iran Without Congressional Approval

De La Cruz Praised Trump For Being A "Strong Commander-In-Chief" Following Iranian Missile Attacks Against U.S. Troops In Iraq. "I'm so thankful that we have a strong Commander-in-Chief during these dangerous times. Please join me in praying for President Trump and our military leaders as they determine how best to deal with this latest attack on our U.S. and allied military personnel in Iraq. May God grant them wisdom and discernment, and may He protect our troops who are in harm's way and keep them safe as they defend our great nation, our freedoms, and our values." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 1/8/20]

• January 2020: Iran Launched 15 Ballistic Missiles At U.S. Forces In Iraq In Retaliation For The Assassination Of Iranian General Qassem Soleimani. "Iran fired as many as 15 ballistic missiles into Iraq Wednesday, officials said, in a major retaliation by the rogue regime after a U.S. drone strike that killed Iranian Quds Force Gen. Qassem Soleimani last week. Ten missiles hit the Ain al-Asad Air Base, one missile hit a military base in Erbil and four missiles failed to hit their targets, according to a U.S. military spokesman for Central Command, responsible for American forces in the Middle East. The attacks unfolded in two waves, about an hour apart." [Fox News, 1/8/20]

De La Cruz Criticized Rep. Vicente Gonzalez For Voting For A Resolution That Prevented Trump From Furthering Hostilities With Iran. "Once again, our liberal incumbent Congressman has chosen to stand with our enemies rather than with our Commander-in-Chief and brave fighting men and women by voting yesterday to tie the President's hands in how best to deal with the dangerous Iranian missile attacks against our country's military installations and personnel in Iraq and continued cyber attacks against our homeland. With his vote, Vicente Gonzalez sent a message to the Iranian aggressors that our nation's resolve is weak at a time when we should be telling the world that America is united in fighting back against Iran's ongoing support of terrorism and letting them strongly know we will not tolerate their aggression against the U.S. #Sad" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 1/10/20]

• January 2020: The House of Representatives Passed A Resolution Curtailing Trump's War Powers Against Iran Without Congressional Authorization. "A sharply divided House voted on Thursday to force President Trump to come to Congress for authorization before taking further military action against Iran, in a sharp response to his ratcheting up of hostilities with Tehran without the explicit approval of the legislative branch. The vote was 224 to 194, almost entirely along party lines, to curtail Mr. Trump's warmaking power. It came as Democrats insisted that the president must involve Congress in any escalation against Iran, and Republicans — following Mr. Trump's lead — accused Democrats of coddling the enemy in questioning the commander in chief at a dangerous moment." [New York Times, 1/9/20]



De La Cruz Claimed The US Withdrawal From Afghanistan Emboldened Terrorists, Russia And China

De La Cruz Claimed America Was Less Safe And Terrorists Were Emboldened After The Afghanistan Withdrawal. "With Joe Biden's Afghanistan defeat, America is less safe, terrorists are emboldened, China, Russia, and Iran will be energized to confront us, and our allies – especially Taiwan and Ukraine – are in greater danger. Joe Biden's weakness and recklessness has made the world a more dangerous place. Our future is less safe. Our freedom is in greater peril. Our world is a bit darker." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/27/21]

De La Cruz Claimed Russia Would Be Energized To Confront The U.S. And Ukraine Following The Withdrawal In Afghanistan. "With Joe Biden's Afghanistan defeat, America is less safe, terrorists are emboldened, China, Russia, and Iran will be energized to confront us, and our allies – especially Taiwan and Ukraine – are in greater danger. [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/27/21]

De La Cruz Claimed China Would Be Energized To Confront The U.S. And Taiwan Following The Withdrawal In Afghanistan. "With Joe Biden's Afghanistan defeat, America is less safe, terrorists are emboldened, China, Russia, and Iran will be energized to confront us, and our allies – especially Taiwan and Ukraine – are in greater danger. [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/27/21]

De La Cruz Claimed Biden Was Responsible For "The Greatest Military And Foreign Policy Humiliation America Has Suffered In Decades" Following The Withdrawal From Afghanistan. "Joe Biden is responsible for the greatest military and foreign policy humiliation America has suffered in decades!! Prayers for Afghanistan" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, <u>8/26/21</u>]

De La Cruz Wanted To Keep U.S. Forces In Afghanistan Until Every U.S. Citizen Came Home, "No Matter How Long It Takes." "Instead of telling the Taliban the exact day U.S. forces will leave, Biden needs to publicly commit to keeping our personnel on the ground until every single U.S. citizen is safely home. America leaves nobody behind, no matter how long it takes." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, <u>8/18/21</u>]



Policing & Public Safety Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz denounced city councils that she claimed voted to "defund the police" by reducing their police department budgets.
 - ✓ After the Austin City Council voted to cut \$150 million from the Austin Police Department's budget, De La Cruz said defunding the police was "crazy talk" and that Austin city leaders "lost their minds."
 - ✓ De La Cruz criticized the Seattle City Council for voting to reduce funding for its police department by 14% and said she wouldn't "allow this kind of anarchy."
 - ✓ De La Cruz urged Trump not to step in when "all hell breaks loose" in Minneapolis after the city council announced plans to disband the police department in the wake of George Floyd's murder.
 - ✓ December 2021: The Minneapolis City Council walked back defund measures and restored the police department's funding.
- ✓ De La Cruz opposed the 2021 George Floyd Justice in Policing Act while claiming she supported police reform efforts, including several provisions that were in the bill.
 - ✓ April 2021: De La Cruz criticized Rep. Vicente Gonzalez for voting for the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act.
 - ✓ The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act would limit the unnecessary use of force and restrict no-knock warrants and chokeholds..
 - ✓ The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act would improve police training requirements and create a national police misconduct database.
 - ✓ June 2020: De La Cruz said she supported a national database of police misconduct, improved police training, and new use of force guidelines.
 - ✓ De La Cruz said "police brutality has no place in America" and should always be condemned.
- ✓ De La Cruz opposed the legalization of recreational marijuana.
- ✓ De La Cruz wanted mandatory minimum sentencing to be required and enforced for violent crimes.

Police Funding

De La Cruz Attacked City Councils In Austin, Seattle, And Minneapolis For Voting To "Defund The Police"



De La Cruz Denounced The Austin City Council For Voting To "Defund The Police" After It Cut \$150 Million From The Austin Police Department's Budget

De La Cruz Condemned The Austin City Council For Voting To "Defund The Police." "Austin's leftist city council voted to defund the police by cutting 150 million from their budget. Vincent Gonzalez called our police officers "systematically racist". We don't need elected officials that don't support LEO's. It's time to get active my friends before this spreads to our community! Let's save Texas and America together! Join Team Monica and Please volunteer today. We need soldiers on the ground!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/14/20]

• August 2020: The Austin City Council Voted To Cut \$150 Million From The Austin Police Department's Budget. "The Austin City Council has chopped \$150 million from the Austin Police Department's budget, roughly 34% of the department's \$434 million total budget. The move comes after months of racial justice protests throughout the city, calling for defunding the police. Going into Thursday's budget discussions, the council was considering slashing the department's \$434 million budget by about a third, or \$150 million. Nearly a fifth of that extra money, or \$21 million, will go toward things such as violence prevention and permanent housing services." [KVUE, 8/14/20]

De La Cruz Criticized The Austin City Council For Voting For Budget Changes For The Austin Police Department And Claimed They Were "Replacing Police Officers." "To CD15: The reality is here and it is closer than we think. I strongly disagree with this action. It is irresponsible of the Austin city council to make such an action without any details of what they are replacing police officers with. They have forgotten the safety of their citizens and those who wanted to visit. Look to Seattle to what Austin's future holds....Antifa." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 6/13/20]

• June 2020: The Austin City Council Voted For Budgetary Changes, A Ban On Less-Lethal Weapons And Adding Officer Positions The Department Couldn't Fill. "After nearly 12 hours of discussions, the Austin City Council voted on some big changes for the Austin Police Department. Notably, APD can no longer use less-lethal weapons such as tear gas, bean bag bullets, and long range acoustic devices. In addition, city council called for budgetary changes for APD for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. The budget will be finalized in the coming months as the fiscal year starts in October. [...] One of the resolutions will ban adding officers and eliminate the sworn positions that APD can't reasonably fill this year or next. It also directs the city manager to not include any additional funding for militarized equipment in the upcoming budget." [KVUE, 6/12/20]

De La Cruz Said Defunding The Police Was "Crazy Talk" And That Austin City Leaders "Lost Their Minds." "DONT MESS WITH TEXAS!! Defunding the police is CRAZY talk!!! Why hasn't Rep. Vincent Gonzalez stood firm in #backingtheblue??? Praise God that our Governor is putting his foot down. Austin city leaders have lost their minds and we cannot let the disease of defunding the police spread! STOP THE SPREAD!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/19/20]

De La Cruz Praised Governor Abbott For "Putting His Foot Down" In Response To Austin's Cuts To The Police Budget. "DONT MESS WITH TEXAS!! Defunding the police is CRAZY talk!!! Why hasn't Rep. Vincent Gonzalez stood firm in #backingtheblue??? Praise God that our Governor is putting his foot down. Austin city leaders have lost their minds and we cannot let the disease of defunding the police spread! STOP THE SPREAD!" [Monica For Congress, Facebook, <u>8/19/20</u>]

• August 2020: Governor Abbott Proposed Legislation That Would Freeze Property Tax Revenues For Cities That Cut Police Budgets After The Austin City Council Approved Cuts To The Police Budget. "Gov. Greg Abbott and top Texas leaders announced Tuesday that they will push for legislation next year that would freeze property tax revenues for cities that cut police budgets, just days after the Austin City Council approved a budget that will cut police funding by up to one-third by moving areas like forensics outside of the management of the police department to become separate municipal offices and by reinvesting money in social services." [Texas Tribune, 8/18/20]



De La Cruz Called The Seattle City Council's Vote To Reduce Police Funding "Anarchy"

De La Cruz Criticized The Seattle City Council For Voting To Defund Its Police Department And Said She Wouldn't "Allow This Kind Of Anarchy." "BREAKING: Seattle City Council approves plan to defund police department, slashes jobs and salaries Why hasn't Vincent Gonzalez publicly stood against his colleagues in "defunding the police" and stand WITH ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT. Instead he has commented that police are "systematically racist". When I become your Congresswomen, I WILL PROUDLY STAND WITH OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT and WILL NOT allow this kind of anarchy in our district." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/10/20]

• August 2020: The Seattle City Council Voted To Reduce Police Funding By 14 Percent. "After several hours of debate today and in previous days, the Seattle City Council on Monday voted 7-1 to approve a controversial spending plan that will reduce funding to the Seattle Police Department by 14 percent for the remainder of 2020." [KOMO News, 8/10/20]

De La Cruz Attacked The Minneapolis City Council Over Plans To Disband Its Police Department In The Wake Of George Floyd's Murder, Said Trump Should Let "All Hell [Break] Loose" There

De La Cruz Urged Trump Not To Step In When "All Hell Breaks Loose" In Minneapolis After The City Council Announced Plans To Disband The Police Department. "Let's see how well this social experiment works. I urge Donald J. Trump or Congress to NOT step in & help them with Federal dollars when all hell breaks loose. The local Minneapolis people have spoken. What do you think? @realDonaldTrump" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 6/7/20]

- June 2020: The Minneapolis City Council Committed To Defund And Dismantle The Minneapolis Police Department. "A veto-proof majority of the Minneapolis City Council indicated support Sunday for dismantling the city's police department. The show of support from nine council members came at a rally at Powderhorn Park calling for defunding of the department, in the wake of the May 25 killing of George Floyd while in police custody. The council members said past efforts to reform the department have failed, so they are not going to try and implement new training policies or civilian oversight." [MPR, 6/7/20]
- December 2021: The Minneapolis City Council Walked Back Defund Measures And Restored The Police Department's Funding. "The Minneapolis Police Department will receive millions more in funding under a new budget approved just weeks after the embattled agency survived a campaign to replace it altogether. Mayor Jacob Frey and the City Council last week agreed to a \$1.6 billion budget that includes just over \$191 million for the Police Department (MPD), restoring its funding to nearly the level it held before George Floyd was killed in 2020." [Star Tribune, 12/11/21]

De La Cruz Criticized Rep. Vicente Gonzalez For Not Standing Against Measures To "Defund The Police," Including Plans Implemented Far Outside Texas

De La Cruz Attacked Rep. Vicente Gonzalez For Not Making A Statement Against "Defunding The Local Police." "AOC continues to trash our LEOs including our Border Patrol Agents. These are the constituents of our congressional district!! Where is Congressman Vicente Gonzalez???? Is he standing by his colleague, AOC, or his hard working constituents??? Why hasn't he made a public statement as to NOT defunding the local police??? Does he care about our local police?? His silence speaks VOLUMES!!! Remember this in November." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/8/20]

De La Cruz Criticized Rep. Vicente Gonzalez For Not Denouncing Seattle's Police Budget Cuts. "BREAKING: Seattle City Council approves plan to defund police department, slashes jobs and salaries Why hasn't Vincent Gonzalez publicly stood against his colleagues in "defunding the police" and stand WITH ALL



LAW ENFORCEMENT. Instead he has commented that police are "systematically racist". When I become your Congresswomen, I WILL PROUDLY STAND WITH OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT and WILL NOT allow this kind of anarchy in our district." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 8/10/20]

Police Reform

De La Cruz Opposed The 2021 George Floyd Justice In Policing Act While Claiming To Support Police Reform Efforts, Including Several Planks Of The Bill

De La Cruz Criticized Rep. Vicente Gonzalez For Voting For The 2021 George Floyd Justice In Policing Act. "Vicente Gonzalez is trying desperately to trick our district. He says what the people want to hear when he's in Texas, but in DC he votes with Nancy Pelosi 97% of the time. With the current state our district is in, it makes ZERO sense to not support our law enforcement officers."



[Monica For Congress, Facebook, 4/30/21]

- The George Floyd Justice In Policing Act Of 2021 Established Improved Training Requirements For Police Officers. "This bill addresses a wide range of policies and issues regarding policing practices and law enforcement accountability. It increases accountability for law enforcement misconduct, restricts the use of certain policing practices, enhances transparency and data collection, and establishes best practices and training requirements." [Congress.gov, H.R. 1280 George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021, accessed 12/15/21]
- The George Floyd Justice In Policing Act Of 2021 Limited Qualified Immunity And Lowered The Criminal Intent Standard To Convict A Police Officer Of Misconduct. "The bill enhances existing enforcement mechanisms to remedy violations by law enforcement. Among other things, it does the following: lowers the criminal intent standard—from willful to knowing or reckless—to convict a law enforcement officer for misconduct in a federal prosecution, limits qualified immunity as a defense to liability in a private civil action against a law enforcement officer, and grants administrative subpoena power to the Department of Justice (DOJ) in pattern-or-practice investigations. It establishes a framework to prevent and remedy racial profiling by law enforcement at the federal, state, and local levels." [Congress.gov, H.R. 1280 George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021, accessed 12/15/21]
- The George Floyd Justice In Policing Act Of 2021 Limited The Unnecessary Use Of Force And Restricted No-Knock Warrants And Chokeholds. "This bill addresses a wide range of policies and issues regarding policing practices and law enforcement accountability [...] It also limits the unnecessary use of force and restricts the use of no-knock warrants, chokeholds, and carotid holds." [Congress.gov, H.R. 1280 George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021, accessed 12/15/21]



The George Floyd Justice In Policing Act Of 2021 Created A National Police Misconduct Registry. "The bill creates a national registry—the National Police Misconduct Registry—to compile data on complaints and records of police misconduct. It also establishes new reporting requirements, including on the use of force, officer misconduct, and routine policing practices (e.g., stops and searches). Finally, it directs DOJ to create uniform accreditation standards for law enforcement agencies and requires law enforcement officers to complete training on racial profiling, implicit bias, and the duty to intervene when another officer uses excessive force." [Congress.gov, H.R. 1280 - George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021, accessed 12/15/21] De La Cruz Previously Said She Supported A National Database Of Police Misconduct, Improved Police Training, And New Use Of Force Guidelines. "It is a good idea to create a national database of police misconduct, to improve police training, and to have new guidelines for use of force and de-escalation. These common-sense reforms will contribute toward better, more just policing. I applaud the president's leadership on this important issue." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/18/20]

De La Cruz Said "Police Brutality Has No Place In America" And Praised A Trump Executive Order On Policing Reforms

De La Cruz Praised Trump For Signing An Executive Order On Policing Reforms. "I think the president's executive order on policing is a good step toward addressing some of the problems our country is facing. It is a good idea to create a national database of police misconduct, to improve police training, and to have new guidelines for use of force and de-escalation. These common-sense reforms will contribute toward better, more just policing. I applaud the president's leadership on this important issue." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/18/20]

• June 2020: Trump Signed An Executive Order On Law Enforcement Reform. "President Trump on Tuesday signed an executive order on law enforcement reform and said "chokeholds will be banned except if an officer's life is at risk" as the nation reels from the death of George Floyd in the custody of the Minneapolis Police Department and the ensuing unrest -- which has sparked calls for changes in policing nationwide as drastic as dismantling entire departments." [Fox News, 6/16/20]

De La Cruz Said "Police Brutality Has No Place In America" And Should Always Be Condemned. "Everyone in America should stand for justice, equal rights, and civil liberties. Police brutality has no place in America, and we should always condemn it. As we strive to find ways to improve policing and ensure justice for all, we should not pursue dangerous policies like defunding the police, or allow anarchy and chaos to reign in our streets." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 6/18/20]

Following The Death Of George Floyd, De La Cruz Said Bad Police Officers Diminish The Work Of Good Police Officers. "We can all agree that the death of George Floyd was horribly wrong. Sadly there are bad police officers that diminish the good work and sacrifice of the good officers. This particular bad officer abused his power. I believe the entire nation stands with the Floyd family." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 5/30/20]

Criminal Justice

De La Cruz Opposed Legalizing Marijuana For Recreational Use

De La Cruz Opposed The Legalization Of Recreational Marijuana. "I support the legalization of recreational marijuana. [ANSWER:] Strongly Disagree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/15/21]

De La Cruz Wanted Mandatory Minimum Sentencing To Be Enforced For Violent Crimes

De La Cruz Supported Mandatory Minimum Sentencing For Violent Crimes. "Mandatory minimum sentencing should be required and enforced for violent crimes. [ANSWER:] Strongly Agree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/15/21]



Seniors' Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz supported privatizing Social Security and letting workers lose their retirement savings.
- ✓ De La Cruz wanted to ban the Social Security Administration from investing reserve funds in us treasuries a practice that earned the program a projected \$78 billion in 2020.
- ✓ As of December 2020, 113,465 people in Texas's 15th Congressional District received social security benefits and received a total of \$121.5 million in monthly payments.
- ✓ As of December 2020, 28,391 people in Texas's 15th Congressional District received supplemental security income and received a total of \$14.5 million in monthly payments.

Social Security

De La Cruz Wanted To Dismantle Social Security And Wanted To Ban The Social Security Administration From Investing Reserve Funds In US Treasuries

De La Cruz Supported Privatizing Social Security And Letting Workers Lose Their Retirement Savings

De La Cruz Supported Privatizing Social Security. "How would you guarantee Social Security benefits for future generations? [ANSWER:] 1. I would ensure that all who are currently paying into the Social Security trust fund be guaranteed their promised benefits. I would allow new workers the option of participating in the Social Security system or investing in their own privately funded retirement savings account. I would prevent the Federal Government from tapping into or borrowing from the Social Security Trust fund for any other purpose than for what it was intented [sic]." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/13/21]

- CAP: Under Bush Proposal For Private Social Security Accounts, A Person Who Worked For 35 years And Retired In 2008 Would Have Had A Negative Return And Lost \$26,000 In Retirement Savings. "These would have made private accounts a terrible deal. Bush-style private accounts for a 2008 retiree would have yielded negative returns in the U.S. market. A person with a private Social Security account similar to what President George W. Bush proposed in 2005 that was invested in stocks retiring on October 1, 2008 after saving for 35 years (since 1973), would have seen a negative return on their account—an effective -0.6 percent net annual real rate of return—and lost \$26,000 on the market." [Center for American Progress Action Fund, 10/2008]
- NIRS: 40 Percent Of Older Americans Rely On Social Security Income In Retirement. "A new report also finds that a large portion (40 percent) of older Americans rely only on Social Security income in retirement. Social Security alone is not considered sufficient for a secure retirement, and it was not intended to stand alone. Typically, benefits from Social Security replace approximately 40 percent of preretirement income. Most financial planners recommend at least a 70 percent income replacement rate for retirees, while others say this should be even higher given longer lifespans and rising health costs. In fact, the analysis indicates that if Social Security income had been ten percent greater in 2013, there would have been about 500,000 fewer older households in poverty." [National Institute On Retirement Security, 1/13/20]



• The Securities Industry Association Estimated Privatized Social Security Would Generate Between \$39 And \$279 Billion In Fees To Wall Street Over 75 Years. "President Bush's plan to partly privatize Social Security could be a windfall for Wall Street, generating billions of dollars in management fees for brokerages and mutual fund companies [...] 'In other words, it is hardly likely to be a bonanza for Wall Street,' said Rob Mills, vice president of the brokerage industry trade group Securities Industry Association, in a report published this month. Still, because of the massive size of Social Security, with its 154 million covered employees, Mills estimated that even a simple program of individual accounts comparable to the TSP might generate \$39 billion in fees, in present-value terms, over 75 years. That would be just 1.2 percent of the financial sector's projected total revenue of \$3.3 trillion over that timeframe. But a more complex menu of options, which might be offered to participants whose accounts grow beyond, say, \$5,000, might generate \$279 billion in fees over 75 years, boosting projected industry revenues by about 8.5 percent." [NBC News, 12/22/04]

De La Cruz Wanted To Ban The Social Security Administration From Investing Reserve Funds In US Treasuries – A Practice That Earned The Program A Projected \$78 Billion In 2020

De La Cruz Supported Preventing The Federal Government From "Tapping Into Or Borrowing From" The Social Security Trust Fund. "How would you guarantee Social Security benefits for future generations? [ANSWER:] 1. I would ensure that all who are currently paying into the Social Security trust fund be guaranteed their promised benefits. I would allow new workers the option of participating in the Social Security system or investing in their own privately funded retirement savings account. I would prevent the Federal Government from tapping into or borrowing from the Social Security Trust fund for any other purpose than for what it was intented." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/13/21]

- CBPP: Social Security Trust Fund Reserves Are Loaned To The Treasury To Finance The Deficit In Favor of More Borrowing, And Are Returned To The Trust Fund. "Is the Federal Government 'Raiding' the Trust Funds? No. Some critics have suggested that lending trust fund reserves to the Treasury is a misuse of those funds. This view reflects a misunderstanding of how the Treasury manages the federal government's finances. When the rest of the budget is in deficit, a Social Security cash surplus allows the government to borrow less from the public to finance the deficit. [...] Money that the federal government borrows, whether from investors or from Social Security, is used to finance the ongoing operations of the government in the same way that money deposited in a bank is used to finance spending by consumers and businesses. In neither case does this represent a 'raid' or misuse of the funds. The bank depositor will get his or her money back when needed, and so will the Social Security trust funds." [CBPP.org, 5/10/20]
- CBPP: Trust Fund Reserves Were Exclusively Invested In Treasury Securities And Were Projected To Earn \$78 Billion In Interest Income In 2020. "The Social Security trust funds are invested entirely in U.S. Treasury securities. Like the Treasury bills, notes, and bonds purchased by private investors around the world, the Treasury securities that the trust funds hold are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government. The U.S. government has never defaulted on its obligations, and investors consider U.S. government securities one of the world's safest investments. By the end of 2019, the trust funds had accumulated nearly \$2.9 trillion worth of Treasury securities, earning an average interest rate of 2.2 percent during that year. The Social Security Administration provides monthly reports on the investment holdings of the trust funds, their maturities, and interest rates. The trustees project that the trust funds will earn \$78 billion in interest income in 2020." [CBPP.org, 5/10/20]

As Of December 2020, 113,465 People In Texas's 15th Congressional District Received Social Security Benefits And Received A Total Of \$121.5 Million In Monthly Payments

As Of December 2020, 113,465 People In Texas's 15th Congressional District Received Social Security Benefits And Received A Total Of \$121.5 Million In Monthly Payments.



Table 1.

Number of OASDI beneficiaries in current-payment status and total monthly benefits, December 2020

Congressional district	22		eneficiaries	Total (thou	Number of					
	Total	Retired workers	Disabled workers	Widow(er)s and parents	Spouses a	Children b	All beneficiaries	Retired workers	Widow(er)s and parents	beneficiaries aged 65 or older
Texas	4,421,803	3,062,526	531,099	314,588	208,218	305,372	6,110,209	4,638,016	429,117	3,366,564
1	157,343	106,908	21,343	12,087	6,235	10,770	217,669	161,642	16,847	117,389
2	106,293	76,944	9,425	6,995	6,038	6,891	169,971	134,757	10,955	85,311
3	107,173	81,028	7,854	6,306	5,953	6,032	176,729	143,900	10,298	89,473
4	165,280	114,529	23,156	11,265	5,564	10,766	227,952	171,109	15,391	123,161
5	132,837	92,187	18,525	8,870	4,454	8,801	184,052	138,505	12,252	98,759
6	120,502	84,972	14,788	7,350	4,427	8,965	176,438	135,455	10,850	91,047
7	93,009	68,838	6,474	6,343	6,282	5,072	156,562	127,009	10,507	77,978
8	145,471	103,847	15,321	10,426	6,946	8,931	220,609	171,216	15,576	113,883
9	95,484	65,157	12,577	5,729	4,101	7,920	120,477	90,588	7,291	70,083
10	126,949	92,629	12,174	8,191	5,832	8,123	193,692	153,345	12,512	101,019
11	147,916	104,650	16,036	11,543	6,626	9,061	203,513	156,018	15,841	115,376
12	130,735	93,134	14,863	8,857	5,147	8,734	193,778	149,987	13,284	101,193
13	134,952	93,592	16,996	10,608	5,581	8,175	184,823	138,841	14,864	103,121
14	135,094	91,867	17,233	10,751	5,855	9,388	197,625	147,390	15,810	100,681
15	113,465	73,654	14,401	9,163	6,787	9,460	121,597	86,668	9,529	82,702

[Social Security Administration, Texas Congressional Statistics, 12/2020]

• Social Security Provided Monthly Benefits To Eligible Workers And Family Members After The Worker Retires, Passes Away, Or Becomes Disabled. "Old-Age (retirement), Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—popularly referred to as Social Security—provides monthly benefits to an eligible worker and family members when the worker elects to start receiving retirement benefits or when the worker dies or becomes disabled. A worker's lifetime covered earnings largely determine the amount of benefits received."

[Social Security Administration, Texas Congressional Statistics, 12/2020]

As Of December 2020, 28,391 People In Texas's 15th Congressional District Received Supplemental Security Income And Received A Total Of \$14.5 Million In Monthly Payments

As Of December 2020, 28,391 People In Texas's 15th Congressional District Received Supplemental Security Income And Received A Total Of \$14.5 Million In Monthly Payments.

Table 2.

Number of recipients of federally administered SSI payments and total monthly payments, December 2020

	Number of recipients								Total monthly payments			
		By type			By age			(thousands of dollars)				with
Congressional district	Total	Aged	Blind	Disabled	Under 18	18-64	65 or older	Total	Aged	Blind	Disabled	OASDI ^a
Texas	633,515	99,898	6,805	526,812	123,974	327,735	181,806	356,749	36,857	3,838	316,054	214,138
1	20,608	1,283	213	19,112	4,123	12,705	3,780	11,874	404	121	11,350	6,618
2	13,266	2,647	151	10,468	3,092	6,267	3,907	7,845	1,156	92	6,597	3,438
3	7,961	2,721	70	5,170	1,247	3,175	3,539	4,532	1,347	45	3,140	1,843
4	18,890	1,193	169	17,528	3,517	11,941	3,432	11,006	344	89	10,573	6,302
5	16,338	1,260	169	14,909	3,439	9,873	3,026	9,667	442	97	9,128	4,703
6	12,692	1,727	133	10,832	2,855	6,870	2,967	7,391	698	87	6,606	3,482
7	11,292	3,285	102	7,905	2,459	4,551	4,282	6,665	1,602	68	4,995	2,714
8	13,150	1,501	163	11,486	2,375	7,799	2,976	7,638	556	90	6,992	4,126
9	25,891	6,957	278	18,656	5,102	10,993	9,796	14,899	3,168	160	11,571	7,819
10	10,883	1,777	168	8,938	2,162	5,784	2,937	6,238	756	94	5,389	3,113
11	15,001	1,828	174	12,999	2,049	8,789	4,163	7,954	572	97	7,286	5,817
12	13,785	1,506	134	12,145	2,737	8,111	2,937	8,188	564	75	7,548	3,891
13	13,186	1,162	120	11,904	2,323	8,107	2,756	7,592	369	71	7,152	4,612
14	17,596	1,656	188	15,752	3,503	10,371	3,722	10,249	602	104	9,544	5,558
15	28,391	6,634	328	21,429	6,428	10,303	11,660	14,554	2,041	170	12,342	12,812

[Social Security Administration, Texas Congressional Statistics, <u>12/2020</u>]

 Supplemental Security Income Was A Federal Cash Assistance Program That Provided Monthly Payments To Low-Income Aged, Blind, Or Disabled People. "Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a



federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, or disabled persons in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands." [Social Security Administration, Texas Congressional Statistics, 12/2020]



Tax Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz supported the 2017 Republican tax bill and wanted to make its provisions permanent.
 - ✓ CBO estimated the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act would increase the debt by \$1.9 trillion over 10 years.
 - ✓ Washington Post: Final tax bill included a "significant tax break for the very wealthy" and "a massive tax cut for corporations."
 - ✓ The top 1% of earners got "more than 20% of the total value of the tax cut, roughly the same amount as Americans in the bottom 60% of the income distribution."
- ✓ De La Cruz signed the Americans for Tax Reform pledge to oppose any and all attempts to raise taxes.
- ✓ De La Cruz wanted to repeal the estate tax, which would only benefit the wealthiest 0.2 percent of estates.
- ✓ De La Cruz opposed taxing unrealized capital gains, which primarily impacted the richest Americans.
- ✓ De La Cruz falsely claimed that the Build Back Better Act would increase taxes on those making under \$400,000 a year.
- ✓ De La Cruz supported implementing a flat tax which would benefit the wealthy, while increasing taxes on the middle class.
 - ✓ EPI: Flat tax would benefit high-income earners; "top 1 percent would see an average tax cut of over \$200,000."

TCJA

De La Cruz Wanted To Make The Tax Cut And Jobs Act Permanent

De La Cruz Wanted To Make The Tax Cut And Jobs Act Permanent. "Make the American Tax Cuts and Jobs Act permanent." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/9/21]

De La Cruz Criticized The Build Back Better Act For Overturning Provisions In The Tax Cut And Jobs Act. "Let's rewind to when we were energy independent and put Americans first [...] Biden Reconciliation Bill Disaster Increases energy dependence on OPEC, Russia and China; overturning provisions in the Tax Cuts and Jobs act." [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 11/6/21]

Republican Tax Cuts Added \$1.9 Trillion To The National Debt

CBO Estimated The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act Would Increase The Debt By \$1.9 Trillion Over 10 Years. "The GOP's signature tax law is projected to increase the national debt by \$1.9 trillion between 2018 and 2028, according to a new report by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). According to the report, the tax law would cost the government \$2.3 trillion in revenues, but economic growth would offset that figure by about \$461 billion." [The Hill, 4/9/18]



April 2018: CBO: The Republican Tax Law "Increases The Total Projected Deficit Over The 2018—2028 Period By About \$1.9 Trillion." "What Are the Act's Projected Budgetary Effects? To construct its baseline budget projections, CBO incorporated the effects of the tax act, taking into account economic feedback—that is, the ways in which the act is likely to affect the economy and in turn affect the budget. Doing so raised the 11-year projection of the cumulative primary deficit (that is, the deficit excluding the costs of servicing the debt) by \$1.3 trillion and raised projected debt-service costs by roughly \$600 billion. The act therefore increases the total projected deficit over the 2018–2028 period by about \$1.9 trillion." [CBO Budget & Economic Outlook 2018 to 2028, Appendix B: The Effects of the 2017 Tax Act on CBO's Economic and Budget Projects, p.105, April 2018]

Big Corporations Got The Majority Of The Benefit From The Republican Tax Bill

S&P 500 Companies Could See \$1.64 Trillion in Tax Cuts. "In other words, you can thank tax cuts for nearly half the growth in big-company earnings in the first quarter. For many companies – including a favorite target of Trump's ire, Amazon.com Inc. – the boost was even more substantial, representing all, or nearly all, the quarter's growth. It gets better: At the rate they're going, S&P 500 companies could save \$1.64 trillion in taxes over the next decade, Steve estimates – \$300 billion more than lawmakers expected. Now we're talking real money." [Bloomberg News, 5/25/18]

Washington Post: Final Tax Bill Included A "Significant Tax Break For The Very Wealthy" And "A Massive Tax Cut For Corporations." "A new tax cut for the rich: The final plan lowers the top tax rate for top earners. Under current law, the highest rate is 39.6 percent for married couples earning over \$470,700. The GOP bill would drop that to 37 percent and raise the threshold at which that top rate kicks in, to \$500,000 for individuals and \$600,000 for married couples. This amounts to a significant tax break for the very wealthy, a departure from repeated claims by Trump and his top officials that the bill would not benefit the rich. [...] A massive tax cut for corporations: Starting on Jan. 1, 2018, big businesses' tax rate would fall from 35 percent to just 21 percent, the largest one-time rate cut in U.S. history for the nation's largest companies." [Washington Post, 12/15/17]

Corporate Tax Cuts In The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act Cost Roughly \$1 Trillion. "It still amounts to roughly a \$1 trillion tax cut for businesses over the next decade. Republicans argue this will make the economy surge in the coming years, but most independent economists and Wall Street banks predict only a modest and short-lived boost to growth." [Washington Post, 12/15/17]

Major Corporations Received Bulk of Tax Cuts. "Widespread publicity about corporations sharing a big slice of their huge Trump tax cuts with their workers through bonuses and wage hikes is mostly hype, this Americans for Tax Fairness analysis reveals. Even though America's biggest corporations are poised to reap hundreds of billions in tax cuts, only 18 corporations in the Fortune 100 have announced any sort of employee benefits tied to those cuts, as of today. Only 46 of the Fortune 500—just 9%—have announced any plans to share the tax-cut wealth." [Americans For Tax Fairness, 1/29/18]

The GOP Tax Bill Gave Significant Tax Cuts To The Very Wealthy

The Atlantic: "The Richer The Family, The Bigger The Cut, Both In Absolute Terms And In Proportional Income" From The GOP Tax Bill. "The GOP tax bill operates by two simple principles. First, families at every income level can expect a tax cut—but the richer the family, the bigger the cut, both in absolute terms and in proportional income. Households making between \$500,000 and \$1 million would get a \$21,000 tax cut in 2019 and their after-tax income would rise by 4.3 percent. That proportional gain is four times larger than the average after-tax benefit for a family making \$40,000. Second, as time goes by, most families' tax benefits would shrink—with the major exception being the most affluent. Most of the plan's individual tax cuts end after 2025. This provision is necessary (because of the procedure congressional Republicans chose for the bill) to pay for a permanent corporate tax cut whose benefits flow mostly through capital gains and dividends to shareholders. The bars below illustrate this effect: The tax cuts shrink between 2018 and 2025 before disappearing for all levels in



2027—except for the richest households, the ones with the most money invested in stocks, who will still be reaping the benefits of lower corporate taxes." [The Atlantic, $\frac{12}{19}$]

Washington Post: Final Tax Bill Included A "Significant Tax Break For The Very Wealthy" And "A Massive Tax Cut For Corporations." "A new tax cut for the rich: The final plan lowers the top tax rate for top earners. Under current law, the highest rate is 39.6 percent for married couples earning over \$470,700. The GOP bill would drop that to 37 percent and raise the threshold at which that top rate kicks in, to \$500,000 for individuals and \$600,000 for married couples. This amounts to a significant tax break for the very wealthy, a departure from repeated claims by Trump and his top officials that the bill would not benefit the rich. [...] A massive tax cut for corporations "A massive tax cut for corporations: Starting on Jan. 1, 2018, big businesses' tax rate would fall from 35 percent to just 21 percent, the largest one-time rate cut in U.S. history for the nation's largest companies." [Washington Post, 12/15/17]

The Tax Cut Benefitted The Top 1% Of Earners And "Will Reap More Than 20% Of The Total Value Of The Tax Cut, Roughly The Same Amount As Americans In The Bottom 60% Of The Income Distribution." "No one in the middle class is going to turn up their nose at an extra thousand bucks. But critics have been pointing out that the tax bill could have done much more for middle earners. That \$900 pales in comparison to the average \$51,000 tax cut that Americans in the top 1% of earners — those taking home \$733,000 and up — will reap. Overall, the 1% will reap more than 20% of the total value of the tax cut, roughly the same amount as Americans in the bottom 60% of the income distribution, the Tax Policy Center found." [Time, 12/20/17]

Capital Gains Taxes

De La Cruz Opposed Taxing Unrealized Capital Gains, Which Would Primarily Impact The Richest Americans

De La Cruz Opposed Taxing Unrealized Capital Gains. "Oppose taxing unrealized gains." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/9/21]

Not Taxing Unrealized Capital Gains Primarily Benefited The Richest Americans. "Scrapping that tax on 'unrealized capital gains' would primarily benefit the richest Americans, who hold the bulk of the country's financial wealth. The U.S. tax system is designed to tax income, like wages from a job. But stock and other asset gains don't count as income unless sold, or 'realized.' That means asset owners can delay tax by holding onto the asset for years. They can sometimes escape tax outright if they keep an investment until death, due to tax rules for inheritances." [CNBC, 12/29/21]

• The Top 1% Gained More Than \$6.5 Trillion In Corporate Stock And Mutual Fund Wealth During The Pandemic. "The top 1% gained more than \$6.5 trillion in corporate stock and mutual fund wealth during the pandemic-era market boom, according to the latest data from the Federal Reserve. The bottom 90% added \$1.2 trillion." [CNBC, 12/29/21]

Estate Taxes

De La Cruz Supported Repealing The Estate Tax, Exclusively Benefiting Wealthy Heirs

De La Cruz Wanted To Repeal The Estate Tax. "Repeal the Death Tax." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/9/21]

Repealing The Estate Tax Would Benefit Only The Wealthiest 0.2 Percent Of Estates. "The tax framework that President Trump and congressional Republican leaders announced in September proposes to repeal the estate tax — a tax on property (cash, real estate, stock, or other assets) transferred from deceased persons to their heirs. The federal estate tax is due only on the portion of an estate's value that exceeds roughly \$5.5 million per person



(\$11 million per couple). As a result, only the wealthiest 0.2 percent of estates pay the tax, and typically at fairly moderate rates. Repeal would give these estates windfall tax cuts averaging more than \$3 million apiece, benefitting wealthy heirs. But it would do virtually nothing for small farms and businesses, despite the claims of repeal supporters. Repeal would also cost \$239 billion over ten years and worsen wealth inequality." [CBPP, 10/30/17]

Repealing The Estate Tax Would Do Virtually Nothing For Small Farms And Businesses. "The tax framework that President Trump and congressional Republican leaders announced in September proposes to repeal the estate tax — a tax on property (cash, real estate, stock, or other assets) transferred from deceased persons to their heirs. The federal estate tax is due only on the portion of an estate's value that exceeds roughly \$5.5 million per person (\$11 million per couple). As a result, only the wealthiest 0.2 percent of estates pay the tax, and typically at fairly moderate rates. Repeal would give these estates windfall tax cuts averaging more than \$3 million apiece, benefitting wealthy heirs. But it would do virtually nothing for small farms and businesses, despite the claims of repeal supporters. Repeal would also cost \$239 billion over ten years and worsen wealth inequality." [CBPP, 10/30/17]

Taxes - General

De La Cruz Signed A Pledge To Oppose All Tax Increases

De La Cruz Opposed "Any Effort To Raise Taxes On Americans." "Oppose any effort to raise taxes on Americans." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/9/21]

De La Cruz Signed The Americans For Tax Reform Pledge To Oppose Any And All Attempts To Raise Taxes. "Americans for Tax Reform applauds the federal incumbents and candidates in Alabama, Texas, and Maine who have signed the Taxpayer Protection Pledge ahead of tomorrow's congressional primary. The Pledge is a written commitment to the American people to oppose and vote against any and all efforts to increase taxes. [...] There are currently 172 Pledge signers in the U.S. House and 48 Pledge signers in the U.S. Senate. Eighty-nine percent of all congressional Republicans have made the written commitment to oppose higher taxes. In contrast, zero congressional Democrats have made that promise [...] The following candidates in Maine and the runoffs in Texas and Alabama have signed the Taxpayer Protection Pledge: [...] Monica De la Cruz Hernandez." [Americans for Tax Reform Press Release, 7/13/20]

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed That The Build Back Better Act Would Increase Taxes On Those Making Under \$400,000 A Year

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed The Build Back Better Act Would Increase Taxes On Those Making Under \$400,000 A Year.





This is outrageous! Call your representative today and ask them to not support this legislation!

house.gov/representative...

Biden Reconciliation Bill DISASTER

-\$4 Billion granted to organizations to tear down and rebuild infrastructure deemed "racist"

-Increases Taxes on those making under \$400k a year, with a \$2 Trillion Dollar Tax hike



[Monica For Congress, Twitter, 11/5/21]

• The Reconciliation Bill Did Not Include Any Tax Increases For Households Making Less Than \$400,000. "Senate Democrats aim to fund a \$3.5 trillion budget measure partly on the backs of higher taxes for corporations and the wealthy, according to a budget framework issued Wednesday. Democrats would 'prohibit' tax increases for households earning less than \$400,000, as well as other groups like small businesses and family farms, as they seek to raise revenue for clean-energy initiatives and an expansion of the social safety net, according to the outline." [CNBC, 7/15/21]

De La Cruz Claimed Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Was Not Concerned With "Significant Tax Increases On The Middle And Working Class Americans." "Vicente is clearly not concerned with significant tax increases on the middle and working class Americans. It's time to send #ChinaChente home!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 9/28/21]

De La Cruz Supported Implementing A "Flat" Or "Fair" Tax

De La Cruz Supported Implementing A Flat Tax. "What government spending would you reduce in order to balance the budget? [ANSWER:] Government welfare programs, foreign aid, most especially to those nations who do not support the freedoms/values of the United States and Boondoggle projects such as the 'bridge to nowhere', burdensome environment projects imposed under the guise of climate change. Also, by the implementation of a flat or so-called 'fair' income tax." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 12/9/21]

A "Flat" Or "Fair" Tax Would Benefit The Wealthy, While Increasing Taxes On The Middle Class

The "Fair Tax" Would Raise Taxes On The Middle Class, While The Wealthiest Households Would See The Biggest Tax Reductions. "Eliminating income taxes would, in most states, mean the wealthiest households would see the biggest tax reductions. The net result would be an overall tax increase for everyone else. 'FairTax' proposals would include a rebate to shield low-income taxpayers from this tax increase, but the rebate would not be



large enough to shield middle-income families from bearing the brunt." [Office on Budget and Policy Priorities, 9/7/10]

Flat Tax Would Increase Taxes On The Middle Class While Reducing Them For The Wealthy. "The regressivity of the flat tax is another big problem. Our current federal income tax code is progressive (rates rise with income), and every distributional analysis I've ever seen of a flat tax shows a transfer of the tax burden from the wealthy to the middle class. According to the Tax Policy Center's score of the Perry tax plan, the tax bill of families with incomes between \$30,000 and 40,000 would go up by about \$450, while that of millionaires would fall by about half a million bucks." [Washington Post, 5/26/15]

Citizens For Tax Justice: Flat Tax Means That The Rich "Will Pay Far, Far Less In Taxes." According to a report from Citizens for Tax Justice: "The first part of that claim is largely true. Since Armey's plan does not tax income from interest, dividends, or capital gains, those taxpayers who live completely off of investment income would be taken off the rolls entirely. The second part of the claim is, by any serious accounting, wrong. Armey's plan has two parts: It replaces the progressive income tax with a flat tax, and it replaces business taxes with a consumption tax. Both elements would dramatically shift the tax burden from the wealthy toward the middle class and the poor. If not for stunning misrepresentations, this would be obvious to everyone. Our personal income tax now starts with a zero effective rate on lower-income families (families of four currently earning up to about \$23,200 pay no income taxes) rising to a 39.6 percent top marginal rate on the incomes of the richest 1 percent. Replace that with a flat rate of, say, 20 percent and clearly the rich will pay far, far less in taxes. That has to be made up somewhere." [Citizens for Tax Justice, accessed 5/12/16]

EPI: Flat Tax Would Benefit High-Income Earners; "Top 1 Percent Would See An Average Tax Cut Of Over \$200,000." "The flat tax is certainly a good deal for high-income individuals. Although they might not get to deduct mortgage interest payments on their vacation homes, those with high incomes more than make up for it in the lower, 'flatter' rate. For example, under a 20 percent flat tax (similar to the one proposed by Perry), the top 1 percent would see an average tax cut of over \$200,000." [EPI: Cutting Taxes for the Rich Never Ends Well, 11/02/11]



Trade & Outsourcing Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ De La Cruz claimed she opposed outsourcing jobs, but backed the GOP tax bill that increased corporations' incentive to move jobs overseas.
 - ✓ De La Cruz said she opposed outsourcing jobs to China and wanted to bring them back to the U.S.
 - ✓ De La Cruz criticized Rep. Vicente Gonzalez for proposing incentives to American companies to move their operations from China to Central America.
 - ✓ De La Cruz wanted to make the Tax Cut and Jobs Act permanent, though the New York Times reported that law "could actually make it attractive for companies to put more assembly lines on foreign soil."
- ✓ De La Cruz opposed Trump's tariffs that harmed American farmers' agricultural exports to China.
 - ✓ U.S. agricultural exports to China fell from \$15.8 billion in 2017 to \$5.9 billion in 2018 following Trump's tariffs.
- ✓ De La Cruz falsely claimed Rep. Vicente Gonzalez did not support passing the USMCA.
 - ✓ December 2019: The USMCA passed the House of Representatives 385 41 with Rep. Vicente Gonzalez voting in favor.

De La Cruz Said She Opposed Outsourcing Jobs While Supporting The GOP Tax Bill That Increased Corporations' Incentive To Move Jobs Overseas

De La Cruz Claimed She Opposed Outsourcing Jobs

De La Cruz Opposed Outsourcing Jobs To China And Wanted To Bring Them Back To The U.S. "What sense does it make to take jobs being outsourced to China and outsource them to Central America? How about this idea....let's take jobs out of China and bring them to the UNITED States of America??" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 5/12/21]

De La Cruz Criticized Rep. Vicente Gonzalez For Proposing Incentives To American Companies To Move Their Operations From China To Central America. "What sense does it make to take jobs being outsourced to China and outsource them to Central America? How about this idea....let's take jobs out of China and bring them to the UNITED States of America??" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 5/12/21]

• Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Said American Businesses Should Move Their Operations From China To Central America Following Supply Chain Issues During The Pandemic. "I think we learned a lot during covid we saw all these supply chains break down with China. I think we should use that as an opportunity to invite American businesses that are manufacturing in China to go down to these Northern Triangle countries and have these operations there and incentivize them to create jobs closer to home that have impacts on our southern border." [Fox Business, 3/31/21] (Video)



De La Cruz Wanted To Make The Tax Cut And Jobs Act Permanent, Which Would Make It More Attractive For Companies To Move Jobs Overseas

De La Cruz Wanted To Make The Tax Cut And Jobs Act Permanent. "Make the American Tax Cuts and Jobs Act permanent." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/9/21]

New York Times: Tax Bill "Could Actually Make It Attractive For Companies To Put More Assembly Lines On Foreign Soil." "The bill that Mr. Trump signed, however, could actually make it attractive for companies to put more assembly lines on foreign soil. Under the new law, income made by American companies' overseas subsidiaries will face United States taxes that are half the rate applied to their domestic income, 10.5 percent compared with the new top corporate rate of 21 percent. 'It's sort of an America-last tax policy,' said Kimberly Clausing, an economist at Reed College in Portland, Ore., who studies tax policy. 'We are basically saying that if you earn in the U.S., you pay X, and if you earn abroad, you pay X divided by two.'" [New York Times, 1/8/18]

- Economists Found "The Bill Ends Up Creating A Tax Break For Manufacturers With Foreign Operations." "What could be more dangerous for American workers, economists said, is that the bill ends up creating a tax break for manufacturers with foreign operations. Under the new rules, beyond the lower rate, companies will not have to pay United States taxes on the money they earn from plants or equipment located abroad, if those earnings amount to 10 percent or less of the total investment." [New York Times, 1/8/18]
- HEADLINE: Tax Law May Send Factories and Jobs Abroad, Critics Say. [New York Times, 1/8/18]

Tax Experts Said The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act Increased Incentives For Companies To Move Jobs Overseas. "What happened to the workers in Clinton, tax experts say, will probably happen to more Americans if the Republican tax overhaul becomes law. The legislation fails to eliminate long-standing incentives for companies to move overseas and, in some cases, may even increase them, they say. 'This bill is potentially more dangerous than our current system,' said Stephen Shay, a senior lecturer at Harvard Law School and former Treasury Department international tax expert in the Obama administration. 'It creates a real incentive to shift real activity offshore."" [Washington Post, 12/15/17]

- HEADLINE: Trump promised 'America First' would keep jobs here. But the tax plan might push them overseas. [Washington Post, 12/15/17]
- Because Of The Way The Tax Bill Taxed Foreign Income, Corporations Would Increase Tax Free Income The More Equipment It Had Abroad. "In the future, corporations would be required to pay about a 10 percent minimum tax on overseas income above a certain level. The provision is billed as a way to discourage the movement of jobs and profit overseas. But the fine print of the new global minimum tax would make the problem worse, several tax specialists said. [...] First, a corporation would pay that global minimum tax only on profit above a 'routine' rate of return on the tangible assets such as factories it has overseas. So the more equipment a corporation has in other countries, the more tax-free income it can earn. The legislation thus offers corporations 'a perverse incentive' to shift assembly lines abroad, said Steve Rosenthal of the Tax Policy Center." [Washington Post, 12/15/17]
- Under Tax Bill, A Corporation That Built A Plant In A Foreign Country Would Pay Substantially Less In Taxes On Foreign Profit Than Profits Earned In The United States. "Second, the bill sets the 'routine' return at 10 percent far more generous than would typically be the case. Such allowances are normally fixed a couple of percentage points above risk-free Treasury yields, which are currently around 2.4 percent. As a result, a U.S. corporation that builds a \$100 million plant in another country and makes a foreign profit of \$20 million would pay roughly \$1 million in tax versus \$4 million on the same profit if earned in the United States, said Rosenthal, who has been a tax lawyer for 25 years and drafted tax legislation as a staffer for the Joint Committee on Taxation." [Washington Post, 12/15/17]



De La Cruz Claimed She Opposed Tariffs That Would Harm American Farmers

De La Cruz Opposed Trump's Tariffs That Harmed American Farmers Agricultural Exports To China

De La Cruz Opposed Tariffs That She Claimed Were Hindering Farmers From Reaching New Customers. "Oppose tariffs that hinder American farmers from reaching new customers." [Monica For Congress, Issues, accessed 12/7/21]

- August 2019: American Farmers Lost One Of their Biggest Markets After Trump Announced Tariffs On Chinese Imports. "U.S. farmers lost one of their biggest customers after China officially cancelled all purchases of U.S. agricultural products, a retaliatory move following President Donald Trump's pledge to slap 10% tariffs on \$300 billion of Chinese imports. [...] 'It's really, really getting bad out here,' said Bob Kuylen, who's farmed for 35 years in North Dakota. 'Trump is ruining our markets. No one is buying our product no more, and we have no markets no more." [CNBC, 8/10/19]
- U.S. Agricultural Exports To China Fell From \$15.8 Billion In 2017 To \$5.9 Billion In 2018 Following Trump's Tariffs. "U.S. agriculture has been caught in the tit-for-tat of the trade wars, most notably with China. American agricultural exports to China fell from \$15.8 billion in 2017 to \$5.9 billion in 2018, according to the U.S. International Trade Administration, and exports have remained depressed in 2019. [...] Retaliation by China, Canada, Mexico, Turkey and members of the European Union to tariffs imposed by the Trump administration have taken a bite out of U.S. agricultural incomes." [PBS, 1/16/20]

USMCA

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Did Not Support Passing The USMCA The Same Day He Voted For Passage

De La Cruz Falsely Claimed Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Did Not Support Passing The USMCA. "Yesterday Congressman Gonzalez shamed our district and did not represent the good people, the hard working people of district 15. Instead of doing things for our district and focusing on the real needs of its constituents such as lower healthcare costs, such as securing border and border reform, such as passing the USMCA, he stood with Nancy Pelosi in this sham of an impeachment and wasted not only taxpayers dollars but also taxpayers time." [Monica For Congress, Facebook, 12/19/19]

• December 2019: Rep. Vicente Gonzalez Voted For The United States-Mexico-Canada Trade Agreement (USCMA). In December 2019, Rep. Vicente Gonzalez voted for: "Passage of the bill that would implement the trade agreement reached between the United States, Mexico, and Canada that replaces the North American Free-Trade Agreement. It would modify existing trade law to provide for implementation of the agreement, authorize federal agencies and other entities to implement and enforce provisions of the agreement, and authorize or appropriate more than \$2 billion in funding for certain implementation activities. Among other provisions, the bill would require the Treasury and Labor departments to issue regulations to implement trade provisions in the USMCA and outline classification standards for the origin of goods under such provisions. It would require the establishment of interagency committees related to implementation and enforcement of the agreement's provisions related to automobiles, environmental obligations, and labor obligations. It would provide for additional enforcement and monitoring mechanisms related to forced labor, labor reforms in Mexico, and remedies for labor rights violations. It would require the EPA to construct and maintain facilities to treat wastewater and pollution sources resulting from transboundary water flows originating in Mexico. It would provide for transition



procedures in the case of withdrawal of any country from the agreement. The bill would authorize \$1.5 billion for the North American Development Bank, a binational institution that funds environmental infrastructure projects in the U.S.-Mexico border region, and it would require the bank to prioritize the financing of projects related to water pollution. It would make supplemental fiscal 2020 appropriations to provide \$300 million for Environmental Protection Agency grants for construction of wastewater facilities in the U.S.-Mexico border region; \$210 million for Labor Department international grant programs, including \$180 million for grants to support labor justice system reforms in Mexico; \$40 million for enforcement of environmental obligations under the USMCA; and \$16 million for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration activities related to addressing marine debris and combating illegal and unregulated fishing in coordination with Mexico. The USMCA, which would be implemented by the bill, would increase from 60%-62.5% to 75% the North American content threshold for automobiles to qualify for duty-free access, and it would establish additional thresholds for steel and aluminum content and content made by workers earning at least \$16 per hour. It would establish trade regulations for products created using agricultural biotechnology. It would require signatories to implement and maintain certain multilateral environmental agreements to which they are already signatories, and to adopt and maintain certain internationally recognized labor rights, including to prohibit the importation of goods produced by forced labor." The bill passed by a vote of 385-41. [HR 5430, Vote #701, 12/19/19; CQ, 12/19/19]