

Monica De La Cruz Overview Backup

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De La Cruz Received Nearly \$50,000 From The Home Insurance Industry While Pushing Legislation That Would Make It More Difficult To Sue Insurers

Headline: “New Report Casts Negative Light On Rep. De La Cruz’s Congressional Work On Home Insurance Industry” [Rio Grande Guardian, [4/14/26](#)]

Rio Grande Guardian: “U.S. Rep. Monica De La Cruz Has Put The Home Insurance Industry Ahead Of Her Constituents After Taking Nearly \$50,000 In Industry Cash For Her Campaigns, According To A New Report That Will Be Issued Later Today.” “U.S. Rep. Monica De La Cruz has put the home insurance industry ahead of her constituents after taking nearly \$50,000 in industry cash for her campaigns, according a new report that will be issued later today. The report, prepared by an opposition research group, points out that the McAllen metro area that De La Cruz represents has the highest percentage of uninsured homes in the country. The report also notes that the congresswoman is a former State Farm Insurance agent. It claims she has used her time in Congress ‘not to hold the industry accountable, as she once promised, but to side with home insurance companies over policyholders facing an unprecedented affordability crisis.’” [Rio Grande Guardian, [4/14/26](#)]

De La Cruz Only Held Two Committee Hearings On Home Insurance In Her Three Years Co-Chairing The House Subcommittee Responsible For Insurance Oversight. “Minimal Oversight, Maximum Industry Access: During her three years co-leading the subcommittee responsible for insurance oversight, Rep. De La Cruz has held only two hearings on home insurance. Neither hearing brought insurance executives to testify about record profits while homeowners face soaring premiums and skyrocketing claim denials.” [Unlocking America’s Future Press Release, [4/14/26](#)]

De La Cruz Provided A Forum For Industry Leaders To Grind Their Axes With Regulations Rather Than Focus On How Home Insurers Affected Her Constituents. “Instead, hearings featured industry association representatives and blamed risk management principles rather than examining insurer practices or executive compensation. An upcoming hearing in the subcommittee prioritizes reinsurers’ bottom-lines and credit lines instead of her constituents and Texans struggling to maintain home insurance.” [Unlocking America’s Future Press Release, [4/14/26](#)]

De La Cruz Sponsored Legislation That Would Make Challenging Insurance Companies Claim Denials Harder

De La Cruz Co-Sponsored HR 1109, An Industry-Backed Bill Increasing The Burdens On Third-Party Litigation Financing Which Is Used By Low-Income Consumers To Afford Legal Costs When Challenging Insurance Claim Denials. “Industry-Backed Legislation Hurts Low-Income Homeowners: Rep. De La Cruz co-sponsored H.R. 1109, industry-backed legislation that increases burdens on third-party litigation financing—the mechanism allowing low-income consumers to afford legal costs when challenging claim denials. Insurance companies claim litigation drives costs, but evidence shows otherwise.” [Unlocking America’s Future Press Release, [4/14/26](#)]

Similar Legislation To De La Cruz's Caused Insurance Rates To Rise In Texas

Texans' Premiums Jumped Over \$1,000 On Average After Texas Passed Restrictions On Lawsuits Against Insurers In 2017. "When Texas enacted restrictions on lawsuits against insurers in 2017, claim denials rose sharply and average premiums increased from \$1,860 to \$2,919 by 2024." [Unlocking America's Future Press Release, [4/14/26](#)]

De La Cruz's Record Favored Insurance Industry Leaders Over Consumers, With Votes Supporting Restrictions On Policyholders' Ability To Challenge Denials, And Votes To Cut FEMA Disaster Relief. "Rep. De La Cruz's record demonstrates a consistent pattern of advancing insurance industry priorities while avoiding accountability measures that would protect policyholders. Her voting record includes support for restrictions on policyholders' ability to challenge denials, opposition to data collection on climate impacts that would inform policy decisions, and votes to cut FEMA disaster relief funding that her constituents desperately need." [Unlocking America's Future Press Release, [4/14/26](#)]

Monica De La Cruz Message #1 Backup

Monica De La Cruz has a long record of protecting alleged pedophiles to help her political career. After a longtime political operative was accused of sexually abusing young girls, taking them to "sex parties," and forcing himself on them, De La Cruz continued working and paying a member of his consulting firm thousands of dollars. In Congress, De La Cruz refused to release the names of pedophiles in the Epstein files, even after learning he sex trafficked girls as young as 14.

Monica De La Cruz Has A Long Record Of Protecting Alleged Pedophiles To Help Her Political Career.

See below.

After A Longtime Political Operative Was Accused Of Sexually Abusing Young Girls, Taking Them To "Sex Parties," And Forcing Himself On Them,

2022: Aron Peña Was Sued In A Still-Open Lawsuit For Sexually Assaulting Cadence Vaughan, A Member Of The Hidalgo County Teen Republicans

2022: Cadence Vaughan Sued Aron Peña For Sexually Assaulting Her After He Forced Himself On Her And Repeatedly Pursued Her Since She Was In High School

Headline: "Million-Dollar Lawsuit Filed Against Former Mayra Flores Staffer For Sexual Assault" [Texas Public Radio, [10/21/22](#)]

Cadence Vaughan, A Member Of The Hidalgo County Teen Republicans, Alleged Aron Peña Sexually Assaulted Her, Forcing Her To Kiss Him And Touched Her Without Consent. "A lawsuit filed in an Hidalgo County District Court on Wednesday alleges that Aron Peña III, former District Director for Mayra Flores' congressional office, sexually assaulted a woman who recently graduated from high school. Cadence Vaughan, a member of the Hidalgo County Teen Republicans group, details in the lawsuit an incident where Peña forced her to kiss him and touched her without consent while driving her home from an event in July. This occurred after a year of 'stalking and unrequited advances' while

Vaughan was still in high school. Vaughan is seeking up to \$1 million in damages.” [Texas Public Radio, [10/21/22](#)]

Vaughan Said This Incident Occurred After A Year Of “Stalking And Unrequited Advances”

While She Was Still In High School. “A lawsuit filed in an Hidalgo County District Court on Wednesday alleges that Aron Peña III, former District Director for Mayra Flores’ congressional office, sexually assaulted a woman who recently graduated from high school. Cadence Vaughan, a member of the Hidalgo County Teen Republicans group, details in the lawsuit an incident where Peña forced her to kiss him and touched her without consent while driving her home from an event in July. This occurred after a year of ‘stalking and unrequited advances’ while Vaughan was still in high school. Vaughan is seeking up to \$1 million in damages.” [Texas Public Radio, [10/21/22](#)]

Peña Was Described As Falling “Somewhere On The Pedophilia Spectrum” And Allegedly Took Young Girls To Sex Parties During Republican Political Events

In The Lawsuit, Vaughan Said Peña “Falls Somewhere On The Pedophilia Spectrum” For His Penchant For Pursuing Girls Between The Ages Of 14 And 18. “Defendant Aron falls somewhere on the pedophilia spectrum between a hebephile and ephebophile. A hebephile is a person who is sexually attracted to children between the ages of 11-14. An ephebophile is a person who is sexually attracted to children between the ages of 14-18. Defendant Aron, a middle-aged man, had several relationships with young girls between the ages of 14 to 18. Defendant Aron procured a fake ID for at least one of these young girls, in order to take her to events and provide her with alcohol. While intoxicated, Defendant Aron has also beaten one of these young girls at a political convention in June of 2022.” [Vaughan v. Peña, Aron L.; Peña-Garza, Adrienne, Case No. C-4032-22-F, 10/19/22]

Defendant Aron falls somewhere on the pedophilia spectrum between a hebephile and a ephebophile. A hebephile is a person who is sexually attracted to children between the ages of 11 – 14. An ephebophile is a person who is sexually attracted to children between the ages of 14-18. Defendant Aron, a middle-aged man, had several relationships with young girls between the ages of 14 to 18. Defendant Aron procured a fake ID for at least one of these young girls, in order to take her to events and provide her with alcohol. While intoxicated, Defendant Aron has also beaten one of these young girls at a political convention in June of 2022. This was after he and his

[Vaughan v. Peña, Aron L.; Peña-Garza, Adrienne, Texas 332nd District Court, Case No. C-4032-22-F, 10/19/22]

Peña Allegedly Beat An Underaged Girl During A Political Party Convention In June 2022.

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[Vaughan v. Peña, Aron L.; Peña-Garza, Adrienne, Texas 332nd District Court, Case No. C-4032-22-F, 10/19/22]

Peña Allegedly Took Young Girls To Sex Parties At Republican Political Functions. “Aron also previously chased another young girl through a parking lot in Austin, Texas. He also took some of these young girls to sex parties at these political functions for the local GOP.” [Vaughan v. Peña, Aron L.; Peña-Garza, Adrienne, Case No. C-4032-22-F, 10/19/22]

C-4032-22-F

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Hidalgo County District Clerks
Reviewed By: Alexis Bonilla

underage girlfriend were both became heavily intoxicated due to drinking half a bottle of Fireball Cinnamon Whiskey. Aron also previously chased another young girl through a parking lot in Austin, Texas. He also took some of these young girls to sex parties at these political functions for the local GOP.

[Vaughan v. Peña, Aron L.; Peña-Garza, Adrienne, Texas 332nd District Court, Case No. C-4032-22-F, 10/19/22]

2022: De La Cruz Allegedly Barred Vaughan And Another Hidalgo County GOP Member From Working With Her Campaign Because They Spoke Out Against Peña

According To Vaughan’s Attorney, De La Cruz Told Vaughan And Another Hidalgo County GOP Member They Were Banned From Working With Her Campaign Because They Spoke Out Against Peña. “On Thursday, Monica De La Cruz told Vaughan and another member of the Hidalgo County GOP they were banned from working with the campaign because they spoke out against Aron Peña, according to Vaughan’s attorney. A spokesperson for De La Cruz’s campaign denied the incident occurred, saying De La Cruz never spoke with Vaughan or the other member about Peña's case.” [Texas Public Radio, [10/21/22](#)]

- **A De La Cruz Campaign Spokesperson Denied The Incident Or That She Spoke With Cadence Vaughan About Her Lawsuit Against Aron Peña.** “On Thursday, Monica De La Cruz told Vaughan and another member of the Hidalgo County GOP they were banned from working with the campaign because they spoke out against Aron Peña, according to Vaughan’s attorney. A spokesperson for De La Cruz’s campaign denied the incident occurred, saying De La Cruz never spoke with Vaughan or the other member about Peña's case.” [Texas Public Radio, [10/21/22](#)]

August 2026: The Lawsuit Had A Trial Date For May 2027

Vaughan v. Peña; Peña-Garza Had A Trial Scheduled For May 17, 2027. [Vaughan v. Peña, Aron L.; Peña-Garza, Adrienne, Case No. C-4032-22-F, accessed [8/16/26](#)]

07/01/2026	DWOP Notice Sent
07/08/2026	Motion for Docket Control Conference, Filed TELEPHONIC
07/08/2026	Order Setting Hearing TELEPHONIC DOCKET CONTROL CONFERENCE
07/08/2026	Sent to Workflow Queue ORDER SETTING TELEPHONIC DOCKET CONTROL CONFERENCE
07/09/2026	Dismissal Want of Prosecution (8:00 AM) (Judicial Officer Alvarez, Juan R.)
07/09/2026	Order Setting DCC, Signed TELEPHONIC
07/10/2026	Notice Sent ORDER SETTING TELEPHONIC DOCKET CONTROL CONFERENCE
08/12/2026	Docket Control Conference Hearing/Telephonic (3:00 PM) (Judicial Officer Alvarez, Juan R.)
04/22/2027	Status Hearing (8:30 AM) (Judicial Officer Alvarez, Juan R.) <i>final status before final pretrial</i>
05/06/2027	Final Pre-Trial Hearing (8:30 AM) (Judicial Officer Alvarez, Juan R.)
05/17/2027	Jury Trial (8:30 AM) (Judicial Officer Alvarez, Juan R.)

	Plaintiff Vaughan, Cadence Total Financial Assessment Total Payments and Credits Balance Due as of 08/16/2026
10/19/2022	Transaction Assessment
10/19/2022	EFile Payments from TexFile
10/19/2022	State Credit

Receipt # DC-2022-017245

[Vaughan v. Peña, Aron L.; Peña-Garza, Adrienne, Case No. C-4032-22-F, accessed [8/16/26](#)]

Peña Faced Allegations Of Decades Of Sexual Abuse And Harassment From Women Going Back To 2004, Including Violent Encounters And Threats, Where He Used His Position In Republican Politics To Approach Victims, Some Of Whom Were Teenagers

HEADLINE: “Women Allege Two Decades Of Sexual Harassment From Former Texas GOP Staffer.” [Texas Public Radio, [9/16/22](#)]

Four Women Spoke “About Alleged Sexual Harassment And Abuse By Peña,” Including One From College In 2004 Who Alleged “She’d Been Threatened, Abused, Shamed, And Traumatized.” “In 2004, Stephanie was 18 when she started seeing Aron Lionel Peña III. By the time they ceased contact, she said she’d been threatened, abused, shamed, and traumatized. But she was neither the first nor last woman who reported the now 42-year-old Peña’s alleged abuse and his family’s alleged complicity. Stephanie is one of four women TPR spoke to about alleged sexual harassment and abuse by Peña, Congresswoman Mayra Flores’ former district director. ‘He is a predator. And he did it to women before me,’ Stephanie said. ‘And now to find out that there’s so many more women just breaks my heart.’ [...] Stephanie met 24-year-old Peña, who then was a Democrat, in a college algebra class at the University of Texas Pan-American (now the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley).” [Texas Public Radio, [9/16/22](#)]

- **The Victim Said Peña “Physically Attacked Her,” Pinning “Her Between A Phone And A Wall” And Saying “He Would ‘Natalee Holloway’ Me Or ‘Laci Peterson’ Me If I Ever Tried To Leave.”** According to Stephanie, Peña followed her around and went out of his way to take the same classes. Peña, she said, also physically attacked her. She recalled a time he had pinned her between a

door and wall. This episode, she said, left her with a large bruise on her back. Stephanie said she attempted to document the abuse but he destroyed her phone when he knew there were any pictures or evidence of him hurting her. She said the violence continued and the threats escalated. ‘He told me he would ‘Natalee Holloway’ me or ‘Laci Peterson’ me if I ever tried to leave,’ Stephanie said, referring to two infamous cases where a woman went missing or was murdered.” [Texas Public Radio, [9/16/22](#)]

- **The Victim Showed Text Messages Of Peña Blackmailing Her If She Spoke Out, Threatening To Release Sexual Images “He Took After An Incident Of Sexual Abuse.”** “In an effort to keep her from speaking out, Stephanie said that Peña would blackmail her with photos he took after an incident of sexual abuse. The screenshot below shows an exchange between Stephanie and Peña. The top message is Stephanie telling him to leave her alone. The last message shows Peña threatening to release these images after she told someone close to him that he was still contacting her.” [Texas Public Radio, [9/16/22](#)]

A Second Victim In University Recounted That Peña Assaulted Her During A Meeting About Getting Involved In The Young Republicans When He Forcibly Kissed Her And Said He Liked That She Fought Back. “They crossed paths again when she began studying political science at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley after one of her classmates recommended she speak to the president of the University’s Young Republican National Federation (this chapter is now defunct). [...] Arabella said she agreed to meet this person for lunch to discuss a future with the organization, not knowing it was Peña she would be meeting. And then he walked into the restaurant. She said he forced her to sit next to him and assaulted her while she tried to leave. ‘I was trying to push him away,’ Arabella said. ‘And he kept pulling me back. And he grabbed the back of my head to try to force me to kiss him,’ she recalled. ‘He’s like, ‘You don’t know how much I like this even more. Because I like a fight. Like, I like the struggle.’” [Texas Public Radio, [9/16/22](#)]

- **Peña First Approached The Victim On Social Media When She Was 17, Utilizing “His Position In The GOP To Move From A Virtual Social Media Chat To Meeting Her In Person.”** “More than a decade after their initial meeting in 2004, Peña started contacting another alleged victim, Arabella, but this time he utilized his position in the GOP to move from a virtual social media chat to meeting her in person. According to Arabella, she was 17 when Peña first reached out via the Facebook comment section of a conservative-leaning article. Part of a high school assignment, she said, required interaction on social media. Arabella said that Peña replied to her comment. ‘He started messaging me saying that I was very brave, that I was very beautiful, that I was very smart and mature for my age for thinking in conservative ways,’ she said.” [Texas Public Radio, [9/16/22](#)]
- **At A Conference While Working “For The Campaign Of One Of Peña’s Family Members,” The Victim Recounted That “Peña Crept Into Her Bed And Started Touching Her.”** “Despite the encounter, Arabella said she volunteered for the campaign of one of Peña’s family members because they had promised protection from Peña and an opportunity to gain political experience. [...] Arabella said the abuse escalated at a conference in Austin. She was 19, and she opted out of clubbing with the other underage peers. That night, while Arabella lay wrapped in a blanket and alone in her room, she said that Peña crept into her bed and started touching her. Terrified, she ran out of the room and hid under a stairwell. She said that when she returned to her room, other Hidalgo County GOP members trickled in and started having sex with the other girls in these shared quarters.” [Texas Public Radio, [9/16/22](#)]

There Were Other “Allegations Against Peña And His Family From Teens Seeking Work As Volunteers Or Political Staffers In The Republican Sphere,” Including Instances Of Him Sending CashApp Money To Teenagers. “There have also been allegations against Peña and his family from

teens seeking work as volunteers or political staffers in the Republican sphere. One of those teens is Michelle. Another teen who is close to Michelle, Grace, said she witnessed disturbing situations between Michelle and Peña. Grace said she and Michelle met Peña in 2020 when she and Michelle were around 16 or 17. They crossed paths often in GOP spaces where she said he would try chatting with her and being her friend. When Michelle turned 18, Peña sent her \$50 from his personal Cashapp claiming it was from Texas Victory, one of the organizations associated with the Republican National Convention. Grace said, unlike Michelle, she did not receive \$50 from Peña for her 18th birthday. This made his gift to Michelle all the more alarming for Grace.” [Texas Public Radio, [9/16/22](#)]

De La Cruz Continued Working And Paying A Member Of His Consulting Firm Thousands Of Dollars.

De La Cruz Brought Princess Peña On Payroll And Paid Her \$7,000 Through June 2026

July 2026: De La Cruz Paid Princess Peña \$7,000 Between February And June 2026. [FEC, Monica for Congress, [7/15/26](#)]

Disbursements						Export
Viewing 4 filtered results for:						Clear all filters x
Data type: processed MONICA FOR CONGRESS (C00076579) x 2025-2026 x "Princess Peña" x						
Spender	Recipient	State	Description	Disbursement date	Amount	
MONICA FOR CONGRESS	PEÑA, PRINCESS	TX	PAYROLL EXPENSE	06/01/2026	\$2,000.00	
MONICA FOR CONGRESS	PEÑA, PRINCESS	TX	PAYROLL	04/30/2026	\$2,000.00	
MONICA FOR CONGRESS	PEÑA, PRINCESS	TX	PAYROLL	04/01/2026	\$2,000.00	
MONICA FOR CONGRESS	PEÑA, PRINCESS	TX	PAYROLL	02/27/2026	\$1,000.00	
Results per page: 30						Showing 1 to 4 of 4 entries

[FEC, Monica for Congress, [7/15/26](#)]

October 2025: Princess Peña Joined Aron Peña’s Rubicon Strategies Firm As A Partner

Aron Peña Announced His “Better Half” Princess Anne González-Peña Was Joining Rubicon Strategies As Partner And Overseeing Political Campaigns, Graphics And Field Operations. “Happy to announce that my better half Princess Anne González-Peña will be joining my Team officially as Partner. Mrs Peña will be overseeing Political Campaigns, Graphics & Field Operations. As a former candidate for Justice of the Peace & Field Director under RNC/TXGOP Texas Victory, she will make a great asset to the company. Please welcome her to the Team as we hit the ground running on multiple campaigns this cycle.” [Facebook, Rubicon Strategies USA, [10/24/25](#)]



[Facebook, Rubicon Strategies USA, [10/24/25](#)]

Aron Peña Publicly Praised De La Cruz In A March Facebook Post

Peña Effusively Praised De La Cruz’s Immigration Work, Including Her Response To The Gámez-Cuéllar Family Detention And Her Immigration Reform Proposals, Like The Bracero Program 2.0 And Dignity Act

Aron Peña Praised De La Cruz’s Response To The Gámez-Cuéllar Family’s Detention And Her Immigration Reform Proposals, Including The Bracero Program 2.0 Act And The Dignity Act.

“Elected officials who express frustration with the current system should be held to a high standard. Those who did not support Trump’s proposal for a pathway for Dreamers in exchange for border security funding are part of the problem. Similarly, officials who protest without backing Congresswoman De La Cruz’s Bracero 2.0 initiative are also part of the problem. Furthermore, those who allocate substantial funds to lobbying efforts that do not prioritize immigration reform, particularly with lawmakers like Vicente and Cuéllar, are contributing to the issue. We have to acknowledge that Republicans have historically led on immigration reform, with proposals like Bracero 2.0 and the Dignity Act, which has garnered support from entities such as the Hidalgo County GOP. Democrats’ reluctance to cosponsor these bills raises questions about their commitment to finding permanent solutions. Rather than politicizing immigration laws and ICE workers, officials should prioritize finding common ground and supporting proposed solutions. When Republican-led initiatives are presented, silence from local leaders undermines their credibility on the issue. It is time for cities and school districts to demonstrate their support for practical solutions. If you are an elected official and have not done a letter of support then please do not criticize. Your community wants real leadership on the issue not some political grandstanding to appease the mob.” [Facebook, Aron Peña, [3/9/26](#)]



[Facebook, Aron Peña, [3/9/26](#)]

- The Gámez-Cuéllar Family Included Two Renowned High School Mariachi Students Who Were Detained By ICE During A Regular Immigration Check-In.** “Bipartisan concern greeted news this weekend of three McAllen ISD students and their parents being detained by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, a family that’s since been separated and are now being held in different immigration detention centers. Siblings Antonio, 18, Caleb, 14, and Joshua Gámez-Cuéllar, 12, along with their parents Emma Guadalupe Cuéllar Lopez and Luis Antonio Gámez Martinez were detained by ICE in February, according to a GoFundMe page garnering support for the family. The page was organized by Ezra Cavazos, Antonio’s girlfriend, and Denise Robles, a cousin. Antonio and Caleb are part of McAllen High’s Mariachi Oro and Joshua is involved in his middle school mariachi program. The family had been in the middle of an asylum process and were attending their immigration court hearings and regular check-ins for more than two years before being detained, according to Cavazos and Robles. But on Wednesday, Feb. 25, they said ICE agents detained the family and placed them in two different detention centers — Antonio at the El Valle Detention Facility in Raymondville, and Caleb and Joshua at the Dilley Immigration Processing Center in Dilley, where their parents are also being held. Cavazos and Robles reasoned the separation was due to Antonio turning 18.” [MyRGV, [3/7/26](#)]

In Congress, De La Cruz Refused To Release The Names Of Pedophiles In The Epstein Files,

July 15, 2025: De La Cruz Refused To Vote To Release The Epstein Files

July 15, 2025: De La Cruz Did Not Vote To Order The Previous Question On H.Res.580. De La Cruz did not vote on ordering the previous question during consideration of H.Res.580, which provided “for consideration of the bills (H.R. 4016) Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2026; (H.R. 3633) CLARITY Act; (H.R. 1919) Anti-CBDC Surveillance State Act; and (S. 1582) GENIUS Act.” The question passed along party lines 211-210. The roll call vote was recorded at 2:12PM, and there were no earlier roll call votes recorded on the measure. [Congress.gov, [H.Res.580](#), On Ordering the Previous Question, 211-210, Vote #194, [7/15/25](#)]

- **July 2025: Monica De La Cruz Did Not Vote On A Measure To Release The Epstein Files.** “House Republicans on Tuesday blocked a Democratic attempt to force a vote on releasing the Epstein files, with zero Republicans supporting the measure. The final vote was 211 to 210. One Republican with a spine would have tipped the scale and given the American people greater transparency on the Epstein saga. Democrats tried to force a vote on releasing the files, after Republicans struck down an amendment in the House Rules committee on Monday evening. The procedural maneuver, which would have triggered a vote on the amendment requiring Trump’s Justice Department to release the Epstein files within 30 days, was rejected yet again, with all 211 opposing votes coming from Republicans. Nine Republicans abstained from the vote. The nine Republicans who chose not to vote were: Andy Ogles (TN), Michael McCaul (TX), Thomas Massie (KY), Barry Loudermilk (GA), Wesley Hunt (TX), Morgan Luttrell (TX), Mark Green (TN), Monica De La Cruz (TX), and Buddy Carter (GA).” [New Republic, [7/15/26](#)]

July 17, 2025: De La Cruz Voted For A GOP Rule That Excluded A Vote On A Resolution To Release The Epstein Files

July 17, 2025: De La Cruz Voted On Party Lines To Order The Previous Question On H.Res.590. De La Cruz voted in favor of ordering the previous question during consideration of H.Res.590, which related “to consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 4) to rescind certain budget authority proposed to be rescinded in special messages transmitted to the Congress by the President on June 3, 2025, in accordance with section 1012(a) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974.” The question passed along party lines 218-211. The roll call vote was recorded at 11:57PM.[Congress.gov, [H.Res.590](#), On Ordering the Previous Question, 218-211, Vote #202, [7/17/25](#)]

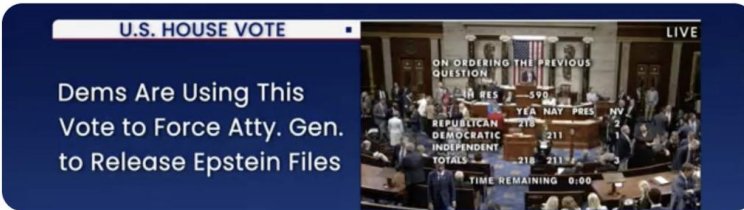
- **July 17, 2025: The Vote On Ordering The Previous Question On H.Res.590 Meant Republicans Defeated The “Democrats’ Effort To Force A Vote” On A Bill To Require The AG Release The Epstein Files.** Reporter Craig Caplan tweeted, “218-211: House along party lines advanced the \$9B foreign aid & public broadcasting spending cuts recissions package to a final vote, while defeating Democrats’ effort to force a vote on legislation requiring the Attorney General to release the Jeffrey Epstein files.” His tweet, which was posted at 11:58PM, included a screenshot with the roll call vote on ordering the previous question on H.Res.590.



Craig Caplan ✓
@CraigCaplan



218-211: House along party lines advanced the \$9B foreign aid & public broadcasting spending cuts recissions package to a final vote, while defeating Democrats' effort to force a vote on legislation requiring the Attorney General to release the Jeffrey Epstein files.



11:58 PM · Jul 17, 2025 · 1,200 Views

[Twitter, @CraigCaplan, [7/17/25](#)]

- **July 17, 2025: If The House Failed To Order The Previous Question, Democrats Could “Force A Vote To Require Release Of The Epstein Files.”** Reporter Lisa Desjardins tweeted, “NOW: House is voting. Vote #1. (Now.) Ordering the previous question. Procedural, tees up the next vote. IF this vote fails, Dems can force a vote to require release of the Epstein files. The GOP is backing a version without teeth in it/non-binding.” Her tweet was posted at 11:35PM.



Lisa Desjardins ✓
@LisaDNews



NOW: House is voting.

Vote #1. (Now.) Ordering the previous question. Procedural, tees up the next vote.

IF this vote fails, Dems can force a vote to require release of the Epstein files. The GOP is backing a version without teeth in it/non-binding.

11:35 PM · Jul 17, 2025 · 9,803 Views

[Twitter, @LisaDNews, [7/17/25](#)]

September 2025: De La Cruz Voted To Table A Rule That Would Have Provided For The Adoption Of A Resolution To Release The Epstein Files

2025: De La Cruz Voted To Table A Rule That Would Provide For Adoption Of A Resolution For Releasing The Epstein Files. In September 2025, De La Cruz voted for, according to Congressional Quarterly, “adoption of the rule [that] [...] would consider as adopted a resolution (H Res 668) that would direct the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee to continue its ongoing inquiry into the possible mismanagement of the federal government's investigation of disgraced financier Jeffrey Epstein and his associate Ghislaine Maxwell, the circumstances surrounding Epstein's death in federal custody, sex trafficking rings and potential ethics violations by elected officials. [...] It also would table a rule (H Res 598) that would provide for the adoption of a resolution (H Res 589) concerning the release of certain documents related to the Epstein case.” The vote was on the rule. The House agreed to the rule by a vote of 212 to 208. [Congress.gov, [H.Res.672](#), 212-208, [Vote #222](#), 9/3/25; Congressional Quarterly, [9/3/25](#)]

Even After Learning He Sex Trafficked Girls As Young As 14.

Jeffrey Epstein Trafficked Young Girls As Young As 14

The Department Of Justice Accused Jeffrey Epstein Of Trafficking Young Girls, Including Girls As Young As 14 Years-Old, For Years. “From at least 2002 through at least 2005, JEFFREY EPSTEIN enticed and recruited, and caused to be enticed and recruited, dozens of minor girls to visit his mansion in New York, New York (the “New York Residence”), and his estate in Palm Beach, Florida (the “Palm Beach Residence”), to engage in sex acts with him, after which he would give the victims hundreds of dollars in cash. In order to maintain and increase his supply of victims, EPSTEIN also paid certain victims to recruit additional underage girls whom he could similarly abuse. In this way, EPSTEIN created a vast network of underage victims for him to sexually exploit, often on a daily basis, in locations including New York and Palm Beach. EPSTEIN’s victims were as young as 14 at the time he abused them, and were, for various reasons, often particularly vulnerable to exploitation. Moreover, EPSTEIN knew that many of his victims were under 18, including because, in some instances, victims expressly told him they were underage.” [Department of Justice Release, [7/8/19](#)]

Monica De La Cruz Message #2 Backup

Monica De La Cruz was accused of mentally and physically abusing her 14-year-old stepdaughter who was later hospitalized for suicidal thoughts and depression. A judge even granted De La Cruz's ex-husband a restraining order after De La Cruz was accused of "cruel and aggressive treatment" toward the young girl.

Monica De La Cruz Was Accused Of Mentally And Physically Abusing Her 14-Year-Old Stepdaughter

October 2021: Hernandez Accused De La Cruz Of “Cruel And Aggressive Treatment” And Being “Verbally Abusive” Towards His Daughter, Damaging Her “Precarious” Mental Health

Hernandez Alleged De La Cruz Was “Verbally Abusive” Towards His Daughter And Damaged Her “Mental Well Being”

De La Cruz’s Ex-Husband Alleged That De La Cruz Verbally Abused Her Former Stepchild To Stop Her From Crying. “A Republican congressional candidate who was just described as a promising ‘young gun’ by House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy was accused of ‘cruel and aggressive conduct’ toward her estranged husband's 14-year-old daughter. Court records obtained by The Washington Post reveal that Monica De La Cruz, who's running in Texas' 15th Congressional District, is accused of verbal abuse and pinching the child to stop her from crying. The accusations come from De La Cruz's husband, Johnny Hernandez, who petitioned for the divorce. ‘In one incident described in the petition for divorce, Hernandez says that on a recent Sunday at church, his daughter began crying after some coffee was spilled. He alleges that De La Cruz took her to the bathroom and pinched her to stop her from crying, rather than try to console her,’ the Post reported.” [Newsweek, [11/9/21](#)]

- **Hernandez Alleged De La Cruz 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](#)]

8. **Grounds for Divorce**

Respondent is guilty of cruel treatment toward Petitioner of a nature that renders further living together insupportable.

In the alternative, the marriage has become insupportable because of discord or conflict of personalities between Petitioner and Respondent that destroys the legitimate ends of the marriage relationship and prevents any reasonable expectation of reconciliation.

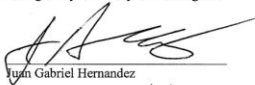
[Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Original Petition For Divorce, [10/5/21](#)]

- **Hernandez Alleged That De La Cruz Was “Verbally Abusive” To His Daughter And Damaged Her “Mental Well Being.”** “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, Original Petition for Divorce, Sworn Declaration, [10/5/21](#)]

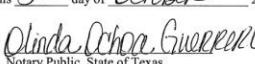
F-4415-21-B

SWORN DECLARATION OF JUAN GABRIEL HERNANDEZ

My name is Juan Gabriel Hernandez. I am the Petitioner in this Petition for Divorce. I am married to Monica De la Cruz Hernandez. I have a daughter who is not a child of this marriage. There are no children of this marriage. My daughter is in a precarious, delicate state of mental health and has recently been hospitalized for suicidal ideations and depression. My daughter requires the stability of residing at the family home. My wife has expressed that she will not live in the family home and stated she would divorce me if I brought my child back to the home in August of 2021. 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.


Juan Gabriel Hernandez

Sworn to and signed before me on this 5th day of October, 2021.


Olinda Ochoa Guerrero
Notary Public, State of Texas



Who Was Later Hospitalized For Suicidal Thoughts And Depression.

Hernandez's Daughter Was Hospitalized For Suicidal Thoughts And Depression

Hernandez Said His Daughter Was In A “Precarious, Delicate State Of Mental Health” And Had Been Hospitalized For “Suicidal Ideations And Depression.” “I have a daughter who is not a child of this marriage. There are no children of this marriage. My daughter is in a precarious, delicate state of mental health and has recently been hospitalized for suicidal ideations and depression.” [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B, Civil Case Records, Original Petition for Divorce, Sworn Declaration, [10/5/21](#)]

F-4415-21-B

SWORN DECLARATION OF JUAN GABRIEL HERNANDEZ

My name is Juan Gabriel Hernandez. I am the Petitioner in this Petition for Divorce. I am married to Monica De la Cruz Hernandez. I have a daughter who is not a child of this marriage. There are no children of this marriage. My daughter is in a precarious, delicate state of mental health and has recently been hospitalized for suicidal ideations and depression. My daughter requires the stability of residing at the family home. My wife has expressed that she will not live in the family home and stated she would divorce me if I brought my child back to the home in August of 2021. 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.



Juan Gabriel Hernandez

Sworn to and signed before me on this 5th day of October, 2021.



Olinda Ochoa Guerrero
Notary Public, State of Texas

Hernandez 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, Original Petition for Divorce, First Amended Petition, [10/7/21](#)]

once got spooked at which point Respondent started crying. Rather than try to console her, Respondent took her to the bathroom and pinched her to get her to stop crying. **Petitioner has been told by his daughter that she suffers from anxiety whenever Respondent is around her.**

In the alternative, the marriage has become insupportable because of discord or conflict of personalities between Petitioner and Respondent that destroys the legitimate ends of the marriage relationship and prevents any reasonable expectation of reconciliation.

9. Children of the Marriage

There is no child born or adopted of this marriage, and none is expected.

10. Division of Community Property

Petitioner believes Petitioner and Respondent will enter into an agreement for the division of

A Judge Even Granted De La Cruz's Ex-Husband A Restraining Order After De La Cruz Was Accused Of "Cruel And Aggressive Treatment" Toward The Young Girl.

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

Hernandez 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, Original Petition for Divorce, First Amended Petition, [10/7/21](#)]

8. Grounds for Divorce

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. 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. Petitioner has been told by his daughter that she suffers from anxiety whenever Respondent is around her.

- **Hernandez Requested A Restraining Order Against De La Cruz In His Divorce Petition.** "In his divorce petition, Hernandez requested a restraining order against De La Cruz, but sought to remain in the couple's home with his daughter. Hernandez cited 'cruel treatment' by De La Cruz towards him and his daughter from a previous relationship, who is a minor. He described an incident between his wife and daughter after the girl was in tears over coffee spilled at church. 'Rather than try to console her,' Hernandez said, referring to the crying girl, De La Cruz 'took her to the bathroom and pinched her to get her to stop crying.'" [People, [1/14/22](#)]

Hernandez'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, Original Petition for Divorce, Temporary Restraining Order and Order Setting Hearing for Temporary Orders, [10/5/21](#)]

JUAN GABRIEL HERNANDEZ

AND

MONICA DE LA CRUZ

§
§
§
§
§

____ JUDICIAL DISTRICT

HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS

**TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AND
ORDER SETTING HEARING FOR TEMPORARY ORDERS**

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, from:

1. Intentionally communicating with Petitioner in person or in any other manner, including by telephone or another electronic voice transmission, video chat, in writing, or electronic messaging, by use of vulgar, profane, obscene, or indecent language or in a coarse or offensive manner, with intent to annoy or alarm Petitioner.

Electronically Filed
10/5/2021 4:57 PM
Hidalgo County District Clerks
Reviewed By: Armando Cantu

F-4415-21-B

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent is authorized only as follows:

To make expenditures and incur indebtedness for reasonable and necessary living expenses for food, clothing, shelter, transportation, and medical care.

For purposes of this order, "personal property" includes, but is not limited to, the following:

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, Original Petition for Divorce, First Amended Petition, [10/7/21](#)]

8. Grounds for Divorce

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. 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. Petitioner has been told by his daughter that she suffers from anxiety whenever Respondent is around her.

In the alternative, the marriage has become insupportable because of discord or conflict of personalities between Petitioner and Respondent that destroys the legitimate ends of the marriage relationship and prevents any reasonable expectation of reconciliation.

- **HEADLINE: People: “Allegations Of A Child Pinched, A Dog Custody Dispute, Mean Texts: Inside A Texas Candidate’s Bitter Divorce.”** [People, [1/14/22](#)]

Hernandez Claimed De La Cruz Refused To Go To “Parenting Classes” And “Didn’t Want To Make Things Better For My Daughter”

Hernandez Said De La Cruz “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](#)]

Hernandez Said In An Email He Would “Consider Taking Out The Language” And That “Your Image Can Be Salvaged” If De La Cruz Reconciled And Took Parenting Classes. [Hidalgo County 93rd District Court, Case No. F-4415-21-B Civil Case Records, Original Petition for Divorce, Respondent’s Exhibit 26, [1/6/22](#)]

From: Johnny Hernandez <johnny@navibusinessgroup.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 16, 2021 8:28:41 AM
To: Monica De La Cruz <monica@jstexas.com>
Subject: Re: I love you

You should consider getting help for your parenting skills. Maybe take a class to help you be a more nurturing and a loving parent. Then I might consider taking out the language. Do it for Joseph and Sophia.

What I think is fair, without knowing your accounts at this time:

I stay in the house until its sold.

We split the houses. I get June and the house in league city. You get the other 2 houses.

I think you should really know that your lack of consideration for reconciliation is a testament to your lack of character.

Your image can be salvaged by doing the right thing which is reconciling and taking parenting classes.



De La Cruz Message #4 Backup

Monica De La Cruz voted to dramatically expand ICE by giving it a budget over \$100 billion, making it the highest-funded federal law enforcement agency in the country, giving them a budget larger than the



US Marine Corps. Billions of tax dollars are now being spent building new detention centers, fueling a historic number of immigration raids that are terrorizing our communities and racially profiling neighbors with no criminal records. Her actions have led to the killing of immigrants and American citizens; our communities deserve better.

Monica De La Cruz Voted To Dramatically Expand ICE By Giving It A Budget Over \$100 Billion,

July 2025: Rep. Monica De La Cruz Voted For The One Big Beautiful Bill Act Which Increased ICE's Budget To \$85 Billion

July 2025: Rep. Monica De La Cruz Voted For The One Big Beautiful Bill Act

July 2025: Rep. Monica De La Cruz Voted For The One Big Beautiful Bill Act. “July 3, 2025 — House Vote 190 Fiscal 2025 Budget Reconciliation Measure — Motion to Concur Motion to concur in the Senate amendment to the bill that would permanently extend nearly \$4 trillion in expiring individual and business tax cuts, create several new tax breaks and fund border and immigration enforcement and air traffic control upgrades. It would cut Medicaid and other safety net programs to partly offset the cost. Among other provisions, it would raise the statutory debt ceiling by \$5 trillion and appropriate more than \$448 billion in mandatory funding for Trump administration priorities and other needs, including \$153 billion for defense, \$89 billion for immigration enforcement, and \$89.5 billion for border control and security. It also would increase the state and local tax deduction cap to \$40,000 annually for five years for households making up to \$500,000 a year until 2030, when it would permanently revert to \$10,000. Motion agreed to 218-214. Note: A "yea" was a vote in support of the president's position.” [HR 1, Vote No. 190, [7/3/25](#); CQ, [7/3/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act Increased ICE's Budget To \$85 Billion

Headline: “How ICE Grew To Be The Highest-Funded U.S. Law Enforcement Agency” [NPR, [1/21/26](#)]

The Big Beautiful Bill Added \$75 Billion To ICE's Budget In Addition To Its \$10 Billion Base Budget. “Under the 2025 law, ICE has a \$75 billion supplement that it can take as long as four years to spend, along with its base budget of around \$10 billion. If the agency spends that money at a steady pace and current funding levels continue, it would have nearly \$29 billion on hand each year. That essentially triples ICE's total budget from recent years. To give that large number a sense of scale, consider that the Trump administration's 2026 appropriations request for the entire Justice Department, including the FBI, stands at a little over \$35 billion.” [NPR, [1/21/26](#)]

June 2026: De La Cruz Voted For The “Secure America Act” Which Provided ICE With \$38.5 Billion

De La Cruz Voted For The Secure America Act Which Provided \$38.5 Billion To ICE. “June 9, 2026 — House Vote 214 Fiscal 2026 Immigration Enforcement Budget Reconciliation — Passage Passage of the bill that would provide \$69.5 billion in funding for Department of Homeland Security immigration and border enforcement agencies for fiscal 2026, including \$26 billion for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, \$38.5 billion for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and \$5 billion in additional funds to DHS for immigration enforcement. Passed 214-212. Note: A "yea" was a vote in support of the president's position.” [S2, Vote No. 214, [6/9/26](#); CQ, [6/9/26](#)]

Making It The Highest-Funded Federal Law Enforcement Agency In The Country,

The OBBBA Made ICE The Highest-Funded Law Enforcement Agency In The Country

Headline: “How ICE Grew To Be The Highest-Funded U.S. Law Enforcement Agency” [NPR, [1/21/26](#)]

Due To The Big Beautiful Bill, ICE’s Budget Soared To \$75 Billion, Doubling The Department Of Justice And FBI’s Budget. “Under the 2025 law, ICE has a \$75 billion supplement that it can take as long as four years to spend, along with its base budget of around \$10 billion. If the agency spends that money at a steady pace and current funding levels continue, it would have nearly \$29 billion on hand each year. That essentially triples ICE's total budget from recent years. To give that large number a sense of scale, consider that the Trump administration's 2026 appropriations request for the entire Justice Department, including the FBI, stands at a little over \$35 billion.” [NPR, [1/21/26](#)]

Giving Them A Budget Larger Than The US Marine Corps.

The U.S. Marine Corps Budget Was \$53.72 Billion

The U.S. Marine Corps’ Budget For Fiscal Year 2025 Stood At \$53.72 Billion. “The U.S. Marine Corps' budget for Fiscal Year 2025 is approximately \$53.72 billion. This represents a portion of the larger Department of the Navy budget (mentioned above), which includes both the Navy and Marine Corps. The Marine Corps budget for 2025 reflects a focus on readiness and modernization, particularly through investments in Force Design initiatives. Known as a rapid-response, amphibious force, this funding supports: Deployment Operations: Marines are often the first to respond to crises, disasters, or combat situations. Equipment Enhancements: Investments focus on amphibious vehicles, tactical gear, and advanced weapons tailored for versatile operations. Training Programs: Preparation for both combat and humanitarian missions is a priority for the Marines.” [USAMM, [6/19/25](#)]

Billions Of Tax Dollars Are Now Being Spent Building New Detention Centers,

The One Big Beautiful Bill Empowered Trump’s Mass Deportations

The One Big Beautiful Bill Powered ICE’s New Operations And Was The “Cornerstone” Of Trump’s Promise For The Largest Domestic Operation In American History. “President Donald Trump's border czar Tom Homan visited Capitol Hill just weeks after Inauguration Day, with other administration officials and a singular message: They needed money for the White House's border security and mass deportation agenda. By summer, Congress delivered. The Republican Party's big bill of tax breaks and spending cuts that Trump signed into law July 4 included what's arguably the biggest boost of funds yet to the Department of Homeland Security — nearly \$170 billion, almost double its annual budget. The staggering sum is powering the nation's sweeping new Immigration and Customs Enforcement operations, delivering gripping scenes of people being pulled off city streets and from job sites across the nation — the cornerstone of Trump's promise for the largest domestic deportation operation in American history. Homeland Security confirmed over the weekend ICE is working to set up detention sites at certain military bases.” [WLRN, [8/12/25](#)]

- **WLRN Headline: “Trump’s Big Bill Is Powering His Mass Deportations. Congress Is Starting To Ask Questions.”** [WLRN, [8/12/25](#)]

Trump White House Press Release: “The One Big Beautiful Bill Will Crack Down On Illegal Immigration.” [White House Press Release, [5/17/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Made ICE The Highest-Funded U.S. Law Enforcement Agency Giving The Agency \$75 Billion Over Four Years

De La Cruz Voted For The Big Beautiful Bill Which Gave ICE \$75 Billion Over Four Years, \$45 Billion Of Which Was Slated For Increasing ICE’s Detention Capabilities To Holding 100,000 People Daily And Deport 1 Million People Yearly. “The One Big Beautiful Bill Act was the legislative foundation of the Trump administration’s mass deportation agenda. De La Cruz voted for it in July 2025. Under the law, ICE received a \$75 billion supplement it can spend over four years, on top of its existing base budget of roughly \$10 billion — nearly tripling the agency’s total annual funding. An additional \$45 billion went toward detention expansion. Former DHS Secretary Kristi Noem said the goal was to hold 100,000 people in custody daily. The Trump administration set a deportation target of one million people per year.” [Migrant Insider, [4/7/26](#)]

- **Migrant Insider Headline: “She Funded the Machine That Took Them.”** [Migrant Insider, [4/7/26](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Made ICE The Highest-Funded U.S. Law Enforcement Agency. “Just 10 years ago, the annual budget for Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE, was less than \$6 billion — notably smaller than other agencies within the Department of Homeland Security. But ICE’s budget has skyrocketed during President Trump’s second term, becoming the highest-funded U.S. law enforcement agency, with \$85 billion now at its disposal. The windfall is thanks to the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, enacted last July. After hovering around the \$10 billion mark for years, ICE’s budget suddenly benefited from a meteoric spike.” [NPR, [1/21/26](#)]

- **NPR Headline: “How ICE Grew To Be The Highest-Funded U.S. Law Enforcement Agency.”** [NPR, [1/21/26](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Gave ICE \$75 Billion Over Four Years. “Just 10 years ago, the annual budget for Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE, was less than \$6 billion — notably smaller than other agencies within the Department of Homeland Security. But ICE’s budget has skyrocketed during President Trump’s second term, becoming the highest-funded U.S. law enforcement agency, with \$85 billion now at its disposal. The windfall is thanks to the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, enacted last July. After hovering around the \$10 billion mark for years, ICE’s budget suddenly benefited from a meteoric spike. [...] The biggest piece of the pie for enforcement operations in the United States will go to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to arrest, detain, and deport immigrants. Congress gave ICE \$75 billion over four years, approximately \$18.7 billion each year. Added to the \$10 billion Congress already appropriated ICE for fiscal year 2025 in March, ICE now has \$28.7 billion at its disposal this year. That \$28.7 billion figure is nearly triple ICE’s entire budget for FY24.” [Brennan Center, [8/13/25](#)]

- **Brennan Center: The Largest Percentage Increase For ICE Goes To Finding, Arresting, Detaining, And Deporting Immigrants Already Living In The U.S.** “The so-called One Big Beautiful Act allocates more than \$170 billion over four years for border and interior enforcement, with a stated goal of deporting 1 million immigrants each year. That is more than the yearly budget for all local and state law enforcement agencies combined across the entire United States. The bill

adds billions of dollars to border enforcement, but the largest percentage increase goes to finding, arresting, detaining, and deporting immigrants already living in the U.S., most of whom have not committed a crime and many of whom have had lawful status.” [Brennan Center, [8/13/25](#)]

- **Brennan Center: Two-Thirds Of ICE’s Funding Will Be Used To Detain Immigrants.** “Two-thirds of ICE’s funding – \$45 billion over four years – will be used to detain immigrants, potentially more than 100,000 people per year. The \$11.25 billion added to ICE’s annual detention budget is a 400% increase from last year and exceeds the Department of Justice budget request for Fiscal Year 2026 for the entire federal prison system, which holds 155,000 people.” [Brennan Center, [8/13/25](#)]
- **Brennan Center: The One Big Beautiful Bill Allowed ICE To Build More Facilities And Hire 10,000 New Officers.** “The law explicitly allows ICE to build more facilities to jail families, often mothers with their children, and does not align with a decades-old settlement that addresses the treatment of immigrant children. The budget also gives approximately \$30 billion over four years to ICE to track down, arrest, and deport immigrants, allowing it to hire 10,000 new officers. That amount is a 300% increase over ICE’s entire \$10 billion prior-year budget.” [Brennan Center, [8/13/25](#)]
- **Brennan Center Headline: “Big Budget Act Creates a ‘Deportation-Industrial Complex.’”** [Brennan Center, [8/13/25](#)]

ICE Used The \$45 Billion To Expand Immigration Detention To Acquire And Create New Detention Centers

The OBBBA Gave ICE \$45 Billion To Expand Immigration Detention

The Big Beautiful Bill Allocated \$45 Billion For ICE To Expand Its Immigration Detention System. “The Trump administration has set lofty goals for ICE, aiming to deport 1 million people each year. And the One Big Beautiful Bill Act also allocates \$45 billion for ICE to expand its immigration detention system — Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem said last June that the agency will be able to hold up to 100,000 people in custody daily. By comparison, the federal Bureau of Prisons currently holds over 153,000 inmates.” [NPR, [1/21/26](#)]

ICE Spent Billions Converting Warehouses Into New Detention Centers

Headline: “ICE Spending Billions To Turn Warehouses Into Migrant Detention Facilities” [PBS, [2/27/26](#)]

ICE Was Projected To Spend \$38 Billion Acquiring Old Warehouses And Constructing New Immigration Detention Centers, Sometimes Spending As Much As \$150 Million For A New Site. Liz Landers: “What’s the overall cost of this? How much is the Department of Homeland Security and ICE spending on this?” Douglas MacMillan: “So they’re projecting to spend \$38 billion. That involves buying the warehouses. Many of them cost around \$100 million. That involves significant upgrades in retrofitting these warehouses to basically turn what are empty, vacant shells of buildings into a kind of functioning detention center with housing units, recreation areas, kitchens, outside basketball courts. They want to kind of, like, build these out and spending a lot up to \$150 million for a single facility in some cases.” [PBS, [2/27/26](#)]

ICE Acquired Warehouses To Turn Into Detention Centers Across The Country. Liz Landers: “Let’s start with the size and scope of this. Can you give us an idea of ICE’s efforts to create this system of

detention centers throughout the country?” Douglas MacMillan: “Yes, so they're going all around the country. We're seeing this happen all the way from all the way up in New Jersey, New Hampshire, all the way down to Orlando and Florida, all the way out West. They're trying to build places in Kansas and Oklahoma. This is all over the country. They're focusing on warehouses they can find a little bit outside of large towns. So we're finding these about 45 minutes to an hour outside of large city centers. And they're trying to fix these near logistics hubs, where it's easy to move people in and out of the city. So we think that they want to -- they have -- ICE officials have stated that their objective is to make the system of detention and deportation more efficient. And the current acting director of ICE, Todd Lyons, has actually compared his aspiration to Amazon's system of moving packages. He said, we want to be able to move humans around the country as efficiently as Amazon ships packages.” [PBS, [2/27/26](#)]

ICE Reportedly Sought To Set Up 24 New Immigration Detention Facilities By The End Of 2026.

Liz Landers: “What's your reporting on the timeline that ICE has for this? How long is it going to take them to be able to convert these warehouses?” Douglas MacMillan: “So it's really rapid. They want this whole system of up to 24 facilities to be up and running by the end of the year essentially. And we have heard internally there's been a lot of debate over that time frame and that even some companies that they have worked with for many years like GEO Group and CoreCivic, who are the two largest detention contractors in the country, that they have been pushing back and saying that this timeline is too aggressive.” [PBS, [2/27/26](#)]

Fueling A Historic Number Of Immigration Raids That Are Terrorizing Our Communities And Racially Profiling Neighbors With No Criminal Records.

2025-2026: ICE Increasingly Targeted And Arrested Migrants With No Criminal Records, With A Quarter Of All ICE Arrests Occurring In Texas, Where South Texas Alone Witnessed 9,100 ICE Arrests

2025-2026: ICE Increasingly Targeted And Arrested Migrants With No Criminal Records

NPR Headline: “ICE Has Arrested Scores Of Migrants In The U.S. Who Have No Criminal Records.” [NPR, [2/5/25](#)]

2025: Under Trump, Over Half Of ICE Arrests Did Not Have A Criminal Record. “During last year’s presidential campaign, Trump promised ‘the largest deportation program of criminals in the history of America,’ and administration officials have repeatedly said they are going after ‘the worst of the worst.’ But during its first six months, the data show that the Trump administration has been arresting more people who don’t have a criminal record than the Biden administration did in its final 18 months. In Texas, 58% of people ICE arrested under Biden had criminal convictions, compared to 42% under Trump, according to the data, which doesn’t specify the type or seriousness of those crimes.” [Texas Tribune, [11/3/25](#)]

Under The Trump Administration The Percentage Of ICE Arrestees With No Criminal Convictions Or Charges Doubled. “Under the Trump administration, a smaller percentage of Texans arrested by ICE have criminal convictions when compared to the Biden administration. The percentage of arrestees with no criminal convictions or charges has almost doubled.” [Texas Tribune, [11/3/25](#)]

ICE arresting more Texans with no criminal convictions

Under the Trump administration, a smaller percentage of Texans arrested by ICE have criminal convictions when compared to the Biden administration. The percentage of arrestees with no criminal convictions or charges has almost doubled.



Note: Data is from September 2023 until late July 2025 – roughly 16 months of arrests under the Biden administration and about 6 months of arrests under the Trump administration.

Source: ICE data provided to the Deportation Data Project

Credit: Carla Astudillo

[Texas Tribune, [11/3/25](#)]

April 2026: Federal Immigration Officers Continued To Target Large Numbers Of Immigrants With No Criminal Record.

“Federal immigration officers continued to target large numbers of immigrants with no criminal record in the weeks after two U.S. citizens were shot and killed in Minneapolis, newly released government data shows, despite statements from Trump administration leaders indicating they wanted to take a more targeted approach. [...] U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement data obtained through a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit filed by the Deportation Data Project indicates that arrest numbers have dropped. ICE averaged about 7,000 arrests a week in the six weeks since Alex Pretti was shot and killed on Jan. 24 — down from 9,000 earlier in January. But a Washington Post analysis of the data shows that people with no criminal record still make up the largest share of those detained. In all, 42 percent of those detained in the six weeks after Pretti’s death had no criminal record. That is a slight drop from the six weeks that preceded his death, when that figure was 46 percent. Thirty percent had prior convictions and 29 percent had pending charges in the latter weeks.” [Washington Post, [4/3/26](#)]

- **Washington Post Headline: “Despite Signaling Change, ICE Still Arrests Many Immigrants With No Record.”** [Washington Post, [4/3/26](#)]

January-July 2025: Nearly A Quarter Of All ICE Arrests Nationwide Occurred In Texas

January-July 2025: Nearly A Quarter Of All ICE Arrests Nationwide Occurred In Texas. “From Trump’s inauguration to July 29, ICE made 138,068 arrests nationwide, 24% of them in Texas. The Tribune analyzed ICE’s enforcement data from September 2023 to late July 2025, comparing the last 18 months of the Biden administration with the first six months of the Trump administration’s second term. The data, obtained through a public records request to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security by the Deportation Data Project, a group of immigration lawyers and professors, shows that in Texas: ICE’s average daily arrests have more than doubled from 85 under Biden to 176 under Trump.” [Texas Tribune, [11/3/25](#)]

- **Texas Tribune Headline: “New Data Shows 1 In 4 ICE Arrests Happened In Texas Under Trump’s Immigration Crackdown.”** [Texas Tribune, [11/3/25](#)]

South Texas Witnessed 9,100 ICE Arrests, Nearly One-Fifth Of Statewide ICE Arrests

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Immigration Agents Reportedly Increasingly Used Race To Profile Targeted Immigrants With The Supreme Court's Blessing

Headline: “New Evidence Shows Agents Using Slurs, Bolstering Profiling Claims” [New York Times, [8/11/26](#)]

ICE Agents' Body Camera Footage And Text Messages Showed Evidence Agents Were Using Racial Epithets And Characterizations To Profile Targeted Immigrants. “Since immigration agents began carrying out a string of big, aggressive sweeps last year, civil rights groups have argued that the Trump administration’s mass deportation campaign has been defined by brazen racial profiling. Now, body-camera footage, text messages and other documents emerging from lawsuits around the country reveal how race and ethnicity have figured in the dragnets that unfolded in Los Angeles, Chicago, Minneapolis and other U.S. cities. In several instances documented in court filings, federal agents referred to targets as ‘tonks’ — a derogatory term typically used to refer to Mexican immigrants and intended to echo the sound of agents’ flashlights striking their heads. Migrants suspected of being undocumented were described as “wet,” shorthand for the slur wetback. And an agent who led an operation in Southern California later described the appearance of individuals he considered suspicious: ‘older Hispanic males.’” [New York Times, [8/11/26](#)]

The Supreme Court Gave Immigration Officials Permission To Use Racial Profiling To Target Undocumented Immigrants. “Yet even as evidence of racial profiling has come to light, what seemed like settled law — that law enforcement officers could not question or detain someone solely based on their race or ethnicity — has turned out to be far more of an open question when it comes to immigration enforcement. Last year, the Supreme Court took a step toward upending a half-century of jurisprudence when Justice Brett Kavanaugh gave a provisional blessing to such racial profiling by agents seeking out undocumented immigrants. The government has maintained that their operations are constitutional.” [New York Times, [8/11/26](#)]

A Driver In San Bernardino, CA Said In A Sworn Declaration That An Officer Pulled Him Over “Because He Looked Like A Paisa,” A Slang Term For “A Mexican Compatriot Or Newly Arrived Immigrant.” “The latest batch of depositions, videos and surveillance records in Los Angeles, first reported by CalMatters and The Los Angeles Times, show that immigration agents and officers were focused on finding ‘day laborers.’ But civil rights groups argue that their vague and varying explanations for whom they were looking for often defaulted to anyone who looked Latino, had darker skin or spoke English with an accent. That reliance on perceived race and ethnicity, they argued, also ended up unlawfully sweeping up U.S. citizens. In one sworn declaration, a driver in a traffic stop in San Bernardino, Calif., said an officer told him he had been pulled over ‘because he looked like a ‘paisa,’ a slang term for a Mexican compatriot or newly arrived immigrant.” [New York Times, [8/11/26](#)]

Her Actions Have Led To The Killing Of Immigrants And American Citizens; Our Communities Deserve Better.

2025-2026: ICE Increasingly Targeted And Arrested Migrants With No Criminal Records, With A Quarter Of All ICE Arrests Occurring In Texas, Where South Texas Alone Witnessed 9,100 ICE Arrests

2025-2026: ICE Increasingly Targeted And Arrested Migrants With No Criminal Records

NPR Headline: “ICE Has Arrested Scores Of Migrants In The U.S. Who Have No Criminal Records.” [NPR, [2/5/25](#)]

2025: Under Trump, Over Half Of ICE Arrests Did Not Have A Criminal Record. “During last year’s presidential campaign, Trump promised ‘the largest deportation program of criminals in the history of America,’ and administration officials have repeatedly said they are going after ‘the worst of the worst.’ But during its first six months, the data show that the Trump administration has been arresting more people who don’t have a criminal record than the Biden administration did in its final 18 months. In Texas, 58% of people ICE arrested under Biden had criminal convictions, compared to 42% under Trump, according to the data, which doesn’t specify the type or seriousness of those crimes.” [Texas Tribune, [11/3/25](#)]

Under The Trump Administration The Percentage Of ICE Arrestees With No Criminal Convictions Or Charges Doubled. “Under the Trump administration, a smaller percentage of Texans arrested by ICE have criminal convictions when compared to the Biden administration. The percentage of arrestees with no criminal convictions or charges has almost doubled.” [Texas Tribune, [11/3/25](#)]

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Pulido Message #1 Backup

Unlike Monica De La Cruz, Bobby Pulido knows that raids targeting workers instead of criminals hurt small businesses and our wallets. In Congress, Bobby will work to create a tough but fair immigration system that secures our borders, cracks down on violent criminals and drug traffickers, and keeps our South Texas economy stable and strong.

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Pulido Believed Immigration Enforcement Should Not Needlessly Tear Families Apart Or Ruin The Economy

Pulido Believed A Secure Border Could Be Done Without Tearing Families Apart Or Destroying The Local Economy. “The problem is that when it comes to the immigration debate, for a long time now, it’s been happening among a bunch of politicians in Washington who don’t want to solve the problem and don’t care about what people like us down here in South Texas think. I believe we can secure the border without destroying families and our local economy in the process. We can more effectively attack the flow of fentanyl and other cartel driven drug supply lines into our country.” [Bobby Pulido for Congress, accessed [8/16/26](#)]

In Congress, Bobby Will Work To Create A Tough But Fair Immigration System That Secures Our Borders, Cracks Down On Violent Criminals And Drug Traffickers, And Keeps Our South Texas Economy Stable And Strong.

Pulido Supported Commonsense Immigration Reform That Secured The Border, Cracked Down On Criminals, And Supported South Texas’ Economy

Pulido Said The Country's Immigration Policy Should Include A Secure Border And Focusing Immigration Enforcement On Violent Criminals Illegally In The Country. “Our goal as a country should be to have a secure border – a policy that should not change based on what president or party is in charge – and we have to go after the violent criminals that are here illegally and get them out of our country.” [Bobby Pulido for Congress, accessed [8/16/26](#)]

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