Eric Flores Overview Backup

Eric Flores can't be trusted to do what's right for South Texas, because he has spent his career defending violent criminals and even an accused child predator who made his students exercise naked.

Eric Flores Can't Be Trusted To Do What's Right For South Texas, Because He Has Spent His Career Defending Violent Criminals And Even An Accused Child Predator Who Made His Students Exercise Naked.

Flores Defended An Accused Violent Criminal Charged With Assaulting A Woman And Secured A Plea Deal That Avoided Jail Time For Him

Eric Flores Was Retained As Defense Counsel For Renato Villalon On Two Felonies For Assault Of A Family/Household Member And Unlawful Restraint With Exposure To Serious Bodily Injury.

PARTY INFORMATION

Defendant	VILLALON, RENATO	Attorneys Eric Daniel Flores *Retained* 956-318-0555(W)
Plaintiff	THE STATE OF TEXAS	

CHARGE INFORMATION

Charges: VILLALON, RENATO	Statute	Level	Date
1. ASSAULT FAMILY/HOUSEHOLD MEMBER W/PREV CONV IAT	22.01(b)(2)(A)	Felony 3rd Degree	12/01/2019
2. Unlawful Restraint: Expose to SBI	20.02(c)(2)(A)	Felony 3rd Degree	12/01/2019

[Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-4640-18-F, filed 3/10/20]

2020: Count One Of The Indictment Against Villalon Said He Hit A Woman With Whom He Had A Dating Relationship With His Hand And Was Previously Convicted Under The Same Statute. Count one of the indictment against Renato Villalon said "on or about the 1st day of December, 2019, and before the presentment of this indictment, in Hidalgo County, Texas, did then and there intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly cause bodily injury to Cynthia Barragan, person with whom the defendant had or had had dating relationship, as described by Section 71.0021(b), of the Texas Family Code, by striking her with his hand, and before the commission of the aforesaid offense, the defendant had previously been convicted of an offense under Chapter 22 of the Texas Penal Code against person with whom the defendant had or had had dating relationship." [Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-4640-18-F, Indictment, filed 3/10/20]

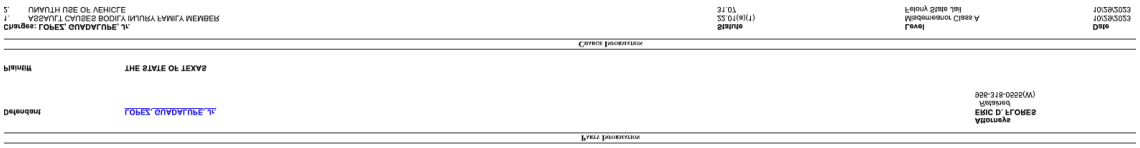
2020: Count Two Of The Indictment Against Villalon Said He Restrained The Woman Without Her Consent Causing "Substantial Risk Of Serious Bodily Injury." Count two of the indictment against Renato Villalon said "on or about the 1st day of December, 2019, and before the presentment of this indictment, in Hidalgo County, Texas, did did [sic] then and there intentionally, knowingly, by force or intimidation, restrain Cynthia Barragan, without her consent. by restricting the movements of the said Cynthia Barragan, and the defendant did then and there recklessly expose the said Cynthia Barragan to substantial risk of serious bodily injury by confining her or moving her from one place to another." [Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-4640-18-F, Indictment, filed 3/10/20]

2020: While Flores Was Defense Counsel, Villalon Agreed To A Plea Bargain Where He Received Deferred Prosecution On Community Supervision For Five Years. [Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-4640-18-F, Terms of Plea Bargain And Agreed Punishment Recommendation and Postconviction Waivers, filed 11/6/20]

Eric Flores Defended A Man On Felony Assault For Choking A Woman He Was Dating And A Separate Misdemeanor, Receiving A Plea Bargain Where He Pleaded Guilty To

Only The Misdemeanor For Driving Her Car Without Permission And Received Deferred Prosecution

Eric Flores Was Retained As Defense Counsel For Guadalupe Lopez Jr. On A Felony For Assault Causing Bodily Injury Of A Family Member And Misdemeanor For Unauthorized Use Of A Vehicle.



[Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-5352-24-A, filed 9/12/24]

2024: Count One Of The Indictment Against Lopez Said He Choked A Woman With Whom He Had A Dating Relationship. Count one of the indictment against Guadalupe Lopez Jr. said "on or about the 29th day of October 2023, and before the presentment pf this indictment, in Hidalgo County, Texas, did then and there intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly cause bodily injury to Jessica Canales, person with whom the defendant had or had had dating relationship as described by Section 1.0021(b) 0f the Texas Family Code, by intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly impeding the normal breathing or circulation of the blood of Jessica Canales by applying pressure to the throat or neck of Jessica Canales." [Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-5352-24-A, Indictment, filed 9/12/24]

2024: Count Two Of The Indictment Against Lopez Said He Operated A Vehicle Owned By The Woman Without Her Consent. Count two of the indictment against Guadalupe Lopez Jr. said "on or about the 29th day of October, 2023, and before the presentment of this indictment, in Hidalgo County, Texas, did then and there intentionally or knowingly operate motor—propelled vehicle, to—wit: an automobile, without the effective consent of Jessica Canales, the owner thereof." [Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-5352-24-A, Indictment, filed 9/12/24]

December 2025: While Flores Was Defense Counsel, Lopez Agreed To A Plea Bargain Where He Pleaded Guilty To The Misdemeanor And Received Deferred Prosecution With Two Years Of Community Supervision. [Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-4640-18-F, Judgment of Conviction by Court, filed 12/2/25]

2025: The Father Of A High School Student Filed Suit On Behalf Of His Son Alleging Football Coach Ernie Alonzo, Who Also Was A Certified Teacher, "Forced His Son To Exercise In The Nude" In What Allegedly Wasn't An Isolated Incident

September 2025: Raul Rocha, Father Of High School Student "N.R.," Filed A Suit "Alleging A Football Coach Forced His Son To Exercise While Naked As A Form Of Punishment And Humiliation." "The father of a South Texas high schooler has filed a lawsuit alleging a football coach forced his son to exercise while naked as a form of punishment and humiliation. Edinburg resident Raul Rocha filed the suit on behalf of his son — identified in court documents only as 'N.R.'— in the 476th State District Court in Hidalgo County on September 16." [MySA, 11/6/25]

- **The Lawsuit Was "Seeking Between $250,000 And $1 Million In Damages."** "Raul Rocha, the parent of the student named only as N.R., is seeking damages for medical expenses and "emotional distress," his lawyer, Javier Peña, told Raw Story. Rocha is seeking between $250,000 and $1 million in damages, according to the lawsuit." [Raw Story, 2/16/26]

The Lawsuit Alleged Coach Ernie Alonzo "Forced His Son To Exercise In The Nude" And "There Were 'Prior Complaints' Against Alonzo And That He Had A Checkered History, Including At Another School District." "In the suit, Rocha alleges that in 2024, Ernie Alonzo — who was then the head football coach at Robert Vela High School in Edinburg — forced his son to exercise in the nude, and that an investigation into the alleged incident was later covered up by powerful political players within the school district, according to court documents. […] The lawsuit further alleges that the incident wasn't a one-off — that there were 'prior complaints' against Alonzo and that he had a checkered history, including at another school district, prior to his hiring at Edinburg for the 2024- 25 academic year." [MySA, 11/6/25]

- **Ernesto Alonzo Was A Certified Teacher With The Texas Education Agency In The Fields Of Physical Education, Health, And Vocational Trades.**

Texas Educator Certificate

Click here to go to EDUCATOR SANCTION HISTORY section

This certifies that

Ernesto Alonzo

has fulfilled requirements of state law and regulations of the State Board for Educator Certification and is hereby authorized to perform duties as designated below:

STANDARD

Description	Effective Date	Expiration Date	Status
Classroom Teacher			
Physical Education	09/01/2025	08/31/2031	Valid
Grades (EC-12)			
Secondary Health Education	09/01/2025	08/31/2031	Valid
Grades (6-12)			
Vocational Trades & Industry Pre-Employment	09/01/2025	08/31/2031	Valid
Grades (6-12)			

Note: This individual is currently under review by the TEA Educator Investigations Division.

CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY APPROVALS

Approval does not necessarily mean that the individual is certified for the area(s) listed below.

Description	Date of Approval
Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice	06/14/1999

[Texas Education Agency, accessed 1/29/26]

- **Texas Required "Coaches To Be Certified Teachers."** "Texas is unique in that it requires their coaches to be certified teachers. If you have not yet gotten your Texas teaching certification, please visit the Texas Education Agency (TEA) website for more information. One of our THSCA member services is an online job board, if you choose to become a THSCA member you will be given access to the job board as well as the resume posting board." [Texas High School Coaches Association, accessed 1/29/26]

The Lawsuit Said "That An Investigation Into The Alleged Incident Was Later Covered Up By Powerful Political Players Within The School District" And The Coach's History Was "Intentionally Ignored And Covered Up By Higher-Ups." "In the suit, Rocha alleges that in 2024, Ernie Alonzo — who was then the head football coach at Robert Vela High School in Edinburg — forced his son to exercise in the nude, and that an investigation into the alleged incident was later covered up by powerful political players within the school district, according to court documents. […] That history was allegedly intentionally ignored and covered up by higher-ups, including Oscar Salinas, the district's athletic director, and Vela principal Michele Peña." [MySA, 11/6/25]

- **The Attorney For The Victim And His Son Said "That As Many As Four More Students May Have Been Victimized In The Same Incident," Which School Officials Admitted In A Meeting.** "The lawsuit further alleges that an investigation conducted by the district's police department was later quashed, despite an investigator allegedly finding 'multiple other victims.' […] Javier Peña, the Edinburg attorney representing Rocha and his son, told MySA that as many as four more students may have been victimized in the same incident. When Pena and his clients met informally with school officials — including administrators, school board trustees and attorneys — last December, they allegedly admitted that the incident occurred and even apologized." [MySA, 11/6/25]

As Attorney For The School District, Eric Flores Denied That Wrongdoing Occurred, Disputed The Allegations, And Defended The Coach For Only Telling Players To Do Drills In The Locker Room As Punishment

Eric Flores Represented The School District In The Dispute, Denying That "Wrongdoing Occurred" And Disputing The Allegations. "In a statement to MySA on Thursday, the school district's attorney reiterated that no wrongdoing occurred. 'The District disputes the allegations and stands by the integrity, professionalism, and dedication of its employees,' attorney Eric D. Flores said. Flores serves as an attorney with O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, a law firm with offices in Austin, San Antonio and the Rio Grande Valley that represents school districts around the state. 'Our focus remains on serving our students and families with the highest standards of safety, respect, and excellence in education,' Flores further said." [MySA, 11/6/25]

- **Flores: "The District Disputes The Allegations And Stands By The Integrity, Professionalism, And Dedication Of Its Employees."** "'The District disputes the allegations and stands by the integrity, professionalism, and dedication of its employees,' attorney Eric D. Flores said. Flores serves as an attorney with O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, a law firm with offices in Austin, San Antonio and the Rio Grande Valley that represents school districts around the state. 'Our focus remains on serving our students and families with the highest standards of safety, respect, and excellence in education,' Flores further said." [MySA, 11/6/25]

The School District Admitted That The Coach Made Players Do Drills In The Locker Room As Discipline But "Did Not Stay To Ensure The Football Players Did The Drill." "But in its court filings, the school district denies that any wrongdoing occurred. The district filed its first response to the lawsuit on October 2. In it, the district admits that Alonzo disciplined 'several football players for taking too long to get to their lunch period.' However, that punishment only involved Alonzo telling the players to do 'up/downs' in the locker room. And he 'did not stay to ensure the football players did the drill.' The response further claims that disciplining students falls within his scope of duties and that his verbal instructions did not involve 'excessive force.'" [MySA, 11/6/25]

Eric Flores Message #1 Backup

Flores made a fortune defending violent criminals. He defended men charged with violently assaulting, choking, and hitting their girlfriends, and fought to get their charges dismissed. He even defended a high school coach who allegedly forced several teenage students to exercise naked as a form of punishment, defending his actions by saying the school district and coach did nothing wrong, even as lawyers compared the school district to "Epstein's island."

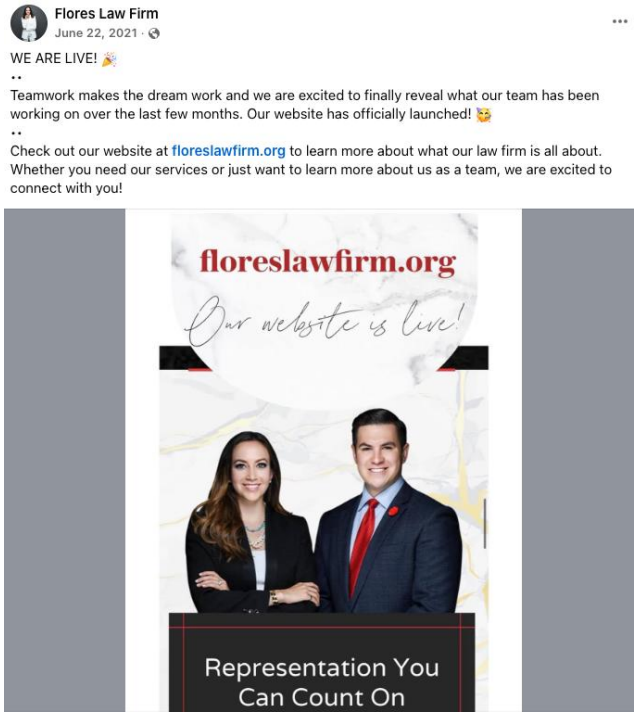
Flores Made A Fortune Defending Violent Criminals. He Defended Men Charged With Violently Assaulting, Choking, And Hitting Their Girlfriends, And Fought To Get Their Charges Dismissed.

2025: Eric Flores Reported That His Wife Had An Interest Of Up To $500,000 In The Flores Law Firm

2025: Flores Reported That His Spouse Had $250,001-$500,000 In Assets In The Flores Law Firm. [Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, Financial Disclosure Report, filed 11/12/25]

Eric Flores And His Wife Victoria Both Served As Attorneys At Law At Flores Law Firm

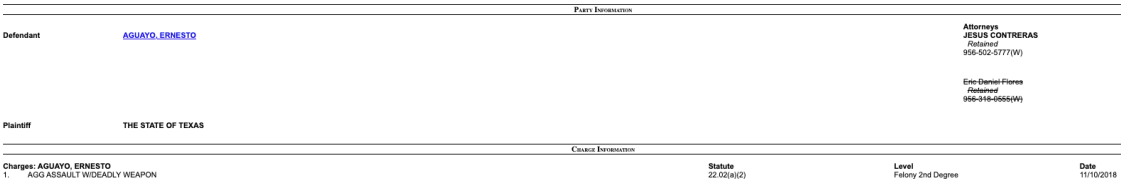
2021: Flores Law Firm Posted That Its Website Was Live With A Photo Of Eric And Victoria Flores.



[Facebook, Flores Law Firm, 6/22/21]

While Eric Flores Was Defense Counsel, His Defendant Received Deferred Prosecution For Felony Aggravated Assault Against A Woman After Threatening Her With A Motor Vehicle, Which He Violated By Getting A DWI And Evading Arrest

Eric Flores Was Retained As Defense Counsel For Ernesto Aguayo In His Felony Case For Aggravated Assault With A Deadly Weapon.



PARTY INFORMATION

Defendant	AGUAYO, ERNESTO	Attorneys JESUS CONTRERAS *Retained* 956-502-5777(W) ~~Eric Daniel Flores~~ ~~*Retained*~~ ~~956-318-0555(W)~~
Plaintiff	THE STATE OF TEXAS	

CHARGE INFORMATION

Charges: AGUAYO, ERNESTO	Statute	Level	Date
1. AGG ASSAULT W/DEADLY WEAPON	22.02(a)(2)	Felony 2nd Degree	11/10/2018

[Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-0963-19-H, filed 3/19/19]

March 2019: Aguayo Was Indicted For An Incident Where He Threated A Woman "With Imminent Bodily Injury And Did Then And There Use Or Exhibit Deadly Weapon, To—Wit: A Motor Vehicle." The indictment against Ernesto Aguayo said "on or about the 10th day of November A.D., 2018, and before the presentment of this indictment, in Hidalgo County, Texas, did then and there intentionally or knowingly threaten Samantha Ruiz with imminent bodily injury and did then and there use or exhibit deadly weapon, to—wit: a motor vehicle, during the commission of said assault." [Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-0963-19-H, Indictment, filed 3/19/19]

October 2019: When Flores Was Defense Counsel For Aguayo, He Pleaded Guilty Under A Plea Agreement Where He Received Deferred Prosecution And Five Years Of Community Supervision.

ORDER OF DEFERRED ADJUDICATION & COMMUNITY SUPERVISION

DATE OF ORDER:	October 30, 2019
JUDGE PRESIDING:	**LETICIA LOPEZ**
COURT REPORTER:	**DIANA PEREIRA**
ATTORNEY FOR THE STATE:	**VERONICA SEPULVED-MARTINEZ**
ATTORNEY FOR THE DEFENDANT:	**ERIC DANIEL FLORES**
OFFENSE CODE:	**13150005**
OFFENSE:	**AGG ASSAULT W/DEADLY WEAPON, AS CHARGED IN THE INDICTMENT**
DATE OF OFFENSE:	**NOVEMBER 10, 2018**
DEGREE OF OFFENSE:	**FELONY 2ND DEGREE**
STATUTE FOR OFFENSE:	**22.02(A)(2)**
PUNISHMENT RANGE:	**2-20 YEARS IN PRISON/MAX $10,000**
(Including enhancements if any):	**FINE**
CHARGING INSTRUMENT:	**INDICTMENT or INFORMATION**
TERMS OF PLEA AGREEMENT OR FINDINGS OF THE COURT, TO WIT, PLEA TO OFFENSE:	**GUILTY**
COMMUNITY SUPERVISION PERIOD:	**FIVE (5) YEARS**
PLEA TO ENHANCEMENT(S):	**NONE**
FINDING TO ENHANCEMENT(S):	**NONE**
DEADLY WEAPON FINDING:	**NONE**
DISMISS:	**NONE**
TIME SPENT IN JAIL:	**TWO (2) DAYS**
FINE:	**$500.00**
RESTITUTION:	**NONE**
COURT COSTS:	$ 263.00

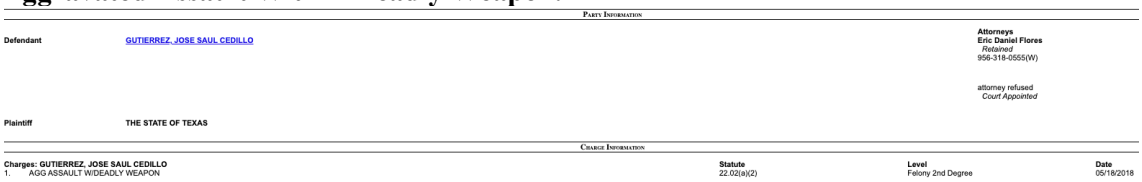
[Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-0963-19-H, Order of Deferred Adjudication & Community Supervision, filed 10/30/19]

March 2020: The Prosecution Moved To Proceed With A Case Against Aguayo For Violating Seven Conditions Of His Deferred Adjudication Agreement, Including Intoxication Assault, Evading Arrest, And Driving While Intoxicated. [Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-0963-19-H, State's Motion for Adjudication of Guilt, filed 5/14/20]

June 2022: Aguayo Was Sentenced To Four Years In Texas State Jail In An Amended Sentence After Revoking His Deferred Adjudication Agreement. [Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-0963-19-H, Judgment Adjudicating Guilt, filed 6/21/22]

Eric Flores Defended A Man Charged With A Felony For Aggravated Assault With A Deadly Weapon, Who Threatened A Woman With A Gun, And Had The Charges Dismissed After He Completed The Mujeres Unidas Batterers Program

Eric Flores Was Retained As Defense Counsel For Jose Saul Cedillo Gutierrez In His Felony Case For Aggravated Assault With A Deadly Weapon.



PARTY INFORMATION

Defendant	GUTIERREZ, JOSE SAUL CEDILLO	Attorneys Eric Daniel Flores *Retained* 956-318-5555(W) attorney refused *Court Appointed*
Plaintiff	THE STATE OF TEXAS	

CHARGE INFORMATION

Charges: GUTIERREZ, JOSE SAUL CEDILLO	Statute	Level	Date
1. AGG ASSAULT W/DEADLY WEAPON	22.02(a)(2)	Felony 2nd Degree	05/18/2018

[Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-4640-18-F, filed 11/27/18]

November 2019: Gutierrez Was Indicted For An Incident Where He Threated A Woman "With Imminent Bodily Injury And Did Then And There Use Or Exhibit Deadly Weapon, To—Wit: Firearm." The indictment against Jose Saul Cedillo Gutierrez said "on or about the 18th day of May A.D., 2018, and before the presentment of this indictment, in Hidalgo County, Texas, did then and there intentionally or knowingly threaten Madali Silva with imminent bodily injury and did then and there use or exhibit deadly weapon, to—wit: firearm, during the commission of said assault." [Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-4640-18-F, Indictment, filed 11/27/18]

August 2019: The Case Against Gutierrez Was Dismissed After He Completed The Mujeres Unidas Batterers Program. [Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-4640-18-F, Judgment of Dismissal, filed 8/9/19]

Eric Flores Defended A Man Charged With Two Felonies For Assault Of A Woman He Was Dating And Secured Him A Plea Deal That Avoided Jail Time

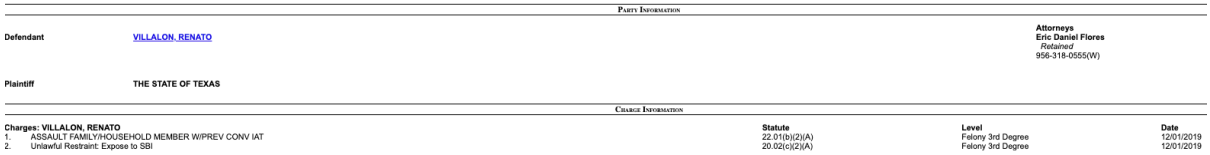
Daily Mail Headline: "Hidden Past Of Trump Congressional Pick... As Hypocritical Truth Behind His Hardline Child Predator Boasts Is Revealed" [Daily Mail, 6/21/26]

Eric Flores Worked As A Defense Attorney For Violent Criminals, Including Domestic Abusers, And Successfully Won Them Lenient Deals. "A Texas Republican running for Congress touts his record as a victims' advocate and hard-charging prosecutor – but has kept quiet about defending a domestic violence convict and an alleged child abuser in court. Court records obtained by the Daily Mail reveal Eric Flores, a former federal prosecutor, also worked as a defense attorney, where he got lenient deals for domestic abusers, and defended in court a high school coach accused of forcing a student to exercise naked." [Daily Mail, 6/21/26]

A Flores Client, Renato Villalon, Struck His Then-Girlfriend And Restrained Her By Force In 2019 – It Was His Second Domestic Violence Offense Which Made Hi Eligible For Up To Ten Years In Prison. "One of his former clients, Renato Villalon, was charged with striking his then-girlfriend Cynthia Barragan with his hand and restraining her by force in December 2019, exposing her to what prosecutors described as a substantial risk of serious bodily injury. It was not Villalon's first offense. He

had a prior domestic violence conviction dating back to 2006, making both charges third-degree felonies carrying up to ten years in prison each." [Daily Mail, 6/21/26]

Eric Flores Was Retained As Defense Counsel For Renato Villalon On Two Felonies For Assault Of A Family/Household Member And Unlawful Restraint With Exposure To Serious Bodily Injury.



Party Information

Defendant	VILLALON, RENATO	Attorneys Eric Daniel Flores *Retained* 956-318-0555(W)
Plaintiff	THE STATE OF TEXAS	

Charge Information

Charges: VILLALON, RENATO	Statute	Level	Date
1. ASSAULT FAMILY/HOUSEHOLD MEMBER W/PREV CONV IAT	22.01(b)(2)(A)	Felony 3rd Degree	12/01/2019
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2020: Count Two Of The Indictment Against Villalon Said He Restrained The Woman Without Her Consent Causing "Substantial Risk Of Serious Bodily Injury." Count two of the indictment against Renato Villalon said "on or about the 1st day of December, 2019, and before the presentment of this indictment, in Hidalgo County, Texas, did did [sic] then and there intentionally, knowingly, by force or intimidation, restrain Cynthia Barragan, without her consent. by restricting the movements of the said Cynthia Barragan, and the defendant did then and there recklessly expose the said Cynthia Barragan to substantial risk of serious bodily injury by confining her or moving her from one place to another." [Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-4640-18-F, Indictment, filed 3/10/20]

Flores Took The Case In March 2020 And Negotiated A Deal With The District Attorney To Drop The Domestic Violence Charge And All Jail Time. "Flores took the case in March 2020. By November, he had negotiated a deal with the district attorney's office in which the domestic violence charge was dropped entirely. Villalon pleaded guilty to the remaining unlawful restraint charge and was sentenced to five years of community supervision and 100 hours of community service. He served no jail time." [Daily Mail, 6/21/26]

2020: While Flores Was Defense Counsel, Villalon Agreed To A Plea Bargain Where He Received Deferred Prosecution On Community Supervision For Five Years. [Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-4640-18-F, Terms of Plea Bargain And Agreed Punishment Recommendation and Postconviction Waivers, filed 11/6/20]

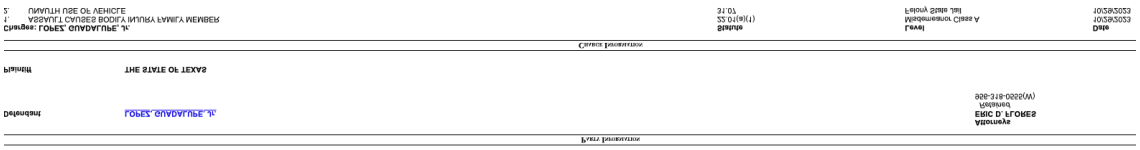
Eric Flores Defended A Man On Felony Assault For Choking A Woman He Was Dating And A Separate Misdemeanor, Receiving A Plea Bargain Where He Pleaded Guilty To Only The Misdemeanor For Driving Her Car Without Permission And Received Deferred Prosecution

Daily Mail Headline: "Hidden Past Of Trump Congressional Pick... As Hypocritical Truth Behind His Hardline Child Predator Boasts Is Revealed" [Daily Mail, 6/21/26]

Flores Represented Two Men Charged With Domestic Violence Felonies, "Helping Both Secure Plea Deals That Dramatically Reduced Their Charges And Left Them With Minimal Jail Time." "The GOP congressional candidate, a lawyer in Hidalgo County, Texas, represented at least two men charged with domestic violence felonies, helping both secure plea deals that dramatically reduced their charges and left them with minimal jail time." [Daily Mail, 6/21/26]

A Flores Client, Guadalupe Lopez Jr., Was Indicted On Two Separate Felony Strangulations Of Two Women, Charges That Carried A Sentence Of Up To Ten Years Each. "Flores also represented Guadalupe Lopez Jr., indicted on two separate felony strangulation charges involving two women. In July 2023, Lopez allegedly applied pressure to his girlfriend's throat, identified in court records under the pseudonym Tanya White, impeding her breathing. Months later, in October 2023, he did the same to another dating partner, Jessica Canales. Both incidents resulted in grand jury indictments in the summer of 2024. Trying to strangle a domestic partner is a third-degree felony in Texas, carrying a sentence of up to ten years." [Daily Mail, 6/21/26]

Eric Flores Was Retained As Defense Counsel For Guadalupe Lopez Jr. On A Felony For Assault Causing Bodily Injury Of A Family Member And Misdemeanor For Unauthorized Use Of A Vehicle.



[Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-5352-24-A, filed 9/12/24]

Flores Negotiated Lopez's Plea Deal Down To A Class A Misdemeanor And One Year In Jail, Which The *Daily Mail* Called "A Win For Lopez" As It Spared Him From Spending Years In Jail. "With Flores representing him in both cases, Lopez pleaded guilty in December 2025 to a reduced charge in each: simple assault causing bodily injury to a family member, a Class A misdemeanor. It was a win for Lopez, a significant step down from the original felony counts. He was sentenced to one year in county jail." [Daily Mail, 6/21/26]

2024: Count One Of The Indictment Against Lopez Said He Choked A Woman With Whom He Had A Dating Relationship. Count one of the indictment against Guadalupe Lopez Jr. said "on or about the 29th day of October 2023, and before the presentment pf this indictment, in Hidalgo County, Texas, did then and there intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly cause bodily injury to Jessica Canales, person with whom the defendant had or had had dating relationship as described by Section 1.0021(b) 0f the Texas Family Code, by intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly impeding the normal breathing or circulation of the blood of Jessica Canales by applying pressure to the throat or neck of Jessica Canales." [Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-5352-24-A, Indictment, filed 9/12/24]

2024: Count Two Of The Indictment Against Lopez Said He Operated A Vehicle Owned By The Woman Without Her Consent. Count two of the indictment against Guadalupe Lopez Jr. said "on or about the 29th day of October, 2023, and before the presentment of this indictment, in Hidalgo County, Texas, did then and there intentionally or knowingly operate motor—propelled vehicle, to—wit: an automobile, without the effective consent of Jessica Canales, the owner thereof." [Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-5352-24-A, Indictment, filed 9/12/24]

December 2025: While Flores Was Defense Counsel, Lopez Agreed To A Plea Bargain Where He Pleaded Guilty To The Misdemeanor And Received Deferred Prosecution With Two Years Of

Community Supervision. [Hidalgo County Judicial District Court, Case #CR-4640-18-F, Judgment of Conviction by Court, filed 12/2/25]

He Even Defended A High School Coach Who Allegedly Forced Several Teenage Students To Exercise Naked As A Form Of Punishment, Defending His Actions By Saying The School District And Coach Did Nothing Wrong,

2025: The Father Of A High School Student Filed Suit On Behalf Of His Son Alleging Football Coach Ernie Alonzo, Who Also Was A Certified Teacher, "Forced His Son To Exercise In The Nude" In What Allegedly Wasn't An Isolated Incident

September 2025: Raul Rocha, Father Of High School Student "N.R.," Filed A Suit "Alleging A Football Coach Forced His Son To Exercise While Naked As A Form Of Punishment And Humiliation." "The father of a South Texas high schooler has filed a lawsuit alleging a football coach forced his son to exercise while naked as a form of punishment and humiliation. Edinburg resident Raul Rocha filed the suit on behalf of his son — identified in court documents only as 'N.R.'— in the 476th State District Court in Hidalgo County on September 16." [MySA, 11/6/25]

- **The Lawsuit Was "Seeking Between $250,000 And $1 Million In Damages."** "Raul Rocha, the parent of the student named only as N.R., is seeking damages for medical expenses and "emotional distress," his lawyer, Javier Peña, told Raw Story. Rocha is seeking between $250,000 and $1 million in damages, according to the lawsuit." [Raw Story, 2/16/26]

The Lawsuit Alleged Coach Ernie Alonzo "Forced His Son To Exercise In The Nude" And "There Were 'Prior Complaints' Against Alonzo And That He Had A Checkered History, Including At Another School District." "In the suit, Rocha alleges that in 2024, Ernie Alonzo — who was then the head football coach at Robert Vela High School in Edinburg — forced his son to exercise in the nude, and that an investigation into the alleged incident was later covered up by powerful political players within the school district, according to court documents. […] The lawsuit further alleges that the incident wasn't a one-off — that there were 'prior complaints' against Alonzo and that he had a checkered history, including at another school district, prior to his hiring at Edinburg for the 2024- 25 academic year." [MySA, 11/6/25]

- **Ernesto Alonzo Was A Certified Teacher With The Texas Education Agency In The Fields Of Physical Education, Health, And Vocational Trades.**

Texas Educator Certificate

Click here to go to EDUCATOR SANCTION HISTORY section

This certifies that

Ernesto Alonzo

has fulfilled requirements of state law and regulations of the State Board for Educator Certification and is hereby authorized to perform duties as designated below:

STANDARD

Description	Effective Date	Expiration Date	Status
Classroom Teacher			
Physical Education	09/01/2025	08/31/2031	Valid
Grades (EC-12)			
Secondary Health Education	09/01/2025	08/31/2031	Valid
Grades (6-12)			
Vocational Trades & Industry Pre-Employment	09/01/2025	08/31/2031	Valid
Grades (6-12)			

Note: This individual is currently under review by the TEA Educator Investigations Division.

CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY APPROVALS

Approval does not necessarily mean that the individual is certified for the area(s) listed below.

Description	Date of Approval
Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice	06/14/1999

[Texas Education Agency, accessed 1/29/26]

- **Texas Required "Coaches To Be Certified Teachers."** "Texas is unique in that it requires their coaches to be certified teachers. If you have not yet gotten your Texas teaching certification, please visit the Texas Education Agency (TEA) website for more information. One of our THSCA member services is an online job board, if you choose to become a THSCA member you will be given access to the job board as well as the resume posting board." [Texas High School Coaches Association, accessed 1/29/26]

The Lawsuit Said "That An Investigation Into The Alleged Incident Was Later Covered Up By Powerful Political Players Within The School District" And The Coach's History Was "Intentionally Ignored And Covered Up By Higher-Ups." "In the suit, Rocha alleges that in 2024, Ernie Alonzo — who was then the head football coach at Robert Vela High School in Edinburg — forced his son to exercise in the nude, and that an investigation into the alleged incident was later covered up by powerful political players within the school district, according to court documents. […] That history was allegedly intentionally ignored and covered up by higher-ups, including Oscar Salinas, the district's athletic director, and Vela principal Michele Peña." [MySA, 11/6/25]

- **The Attorney For The Victim And His Son Said "That As Many As Four More Students May Have Been Victimized In The Same Incident," Which School Officials Admitted In A Meeting.** "The lawsuit further alleges that an investigation conducted by the district's police department was later quashed, despite an investigator allegedly finding 'multiple other victims.' […] Javier Peña, the Edinburg attorney representing Rocha and his son, told MySA that as many as four more students may have been victimized in the same incident. When Pena and his clients met informally with school officials — including administrators, school board trustees and attorneys — last December, they allegedly admitted that the incident occurred and even apologized." [MySA, 11/6/25]

As Attorney For The School District, Eric Flores Denied That Wrongdoing Occurred, Disputed The Allegations, And Defended The Coach For Only Telling Players To Do Drills In The Locker Room As Punishment

Eric Flores Represented The School District In The Dispute, Denying That "Wrongdoing Occurred" And Disputing The Allegations. "In a statement to MySA on Thursday, the school district's attorney reiterated that no wrongdoing occurred. 'The District disputes the allegations and stands by the integrity, professionalism, and dedication of its employees,' attorney Eric D. Flores said. Flores serves as an attorney with O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, a law firm with offices in Austin, San Antonio and the Rio Grande Valley that represents school districts around the state. 'Our focus remains on serving our students and families with the highest standards of safety, respect, and excellence in education,' Flores further said." [MySA, 11/6/25]

- **Flores: "The District Disputes The Allegations And Stands By The Integrity, Professionalism, And Dedication Of Its Employees."** "'The District disputes the allegations and stands by the integrity, professionalism, and dedication of its employees,' attorney Eric D. Flores said. Flores serves as an attorney with O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, a law firm with offices in Austin, San Antonio and the Rio Grande Valley that represents school districts around the state. 'Our focus remains on serving our students and families with the highest standards of safety, respect, and excellence in education,' Flores further said." [MySA, 11/6/25]

The School District Admitted That The Coach Made Players Do Drills In The Locker Room As Discipline But "Did Not Stay To Ensure The Football Players Did The Drill." "But in its court filings, the school district denies that any wrongdoing occurred. The district filed its first response to the lawsuit on October 2. In it, the district admits that Alonzo disciplined 'several football players for taking too long to get to their lunch period.' However, that punishment only involved Alonzo telling the players to do 'up/downs' in the locker room. And he 'did not stay to ensure the football players did the drill.' The response further claims that disciplining students falls within his scope of duties and that his verbal instructions did not involve 'excessive force.'" [MySA, 11/6/25]

Even As Lawyers Compared The School District To "Epstein's Island."

Plaintiff's Lawyer Javier Peña Called The Football Coach's School A "Temu Version Of Epstein's Island"

Javier Peña: "This Is Like [The] Temu Version Of Epstein's Island." "'They've already admitted to basically every central element of our cause of action and to the damages,' Javier Peña said. 'They've admitted they made these kids, at least four, if not more, exercise in the nude, straight out of the shower. Coach was watching them, admitted it was outside the course and scope of their employment, admitted the child was harmed, admitted that Coach has never been punished, things like that. It's insane that these lawyers have allowed that to happen.' Calling the situation 'dirty politics all around,' Peña said: 'This is like [the] Temu version of Epstein's Island. They're just covering up and protecting people and all engaged in these shenanigans.'" [RawStory, 2/16/26]

The Lawyer For One Of The Parents Seeking Damages Javier Peña On The Situation: "They've Admitted They Made These Kids, At Least Four, If Not More, Exercise In The Nude, Straight Out Of The Shower. Coach Was Watching Them, Admitted It Was Outside The Course And Scope Of Their Employment." "Raul Rocha, the parent of the student named only as N.R., is seeking damages for medical expenses and 'emotional distress,' his lawyer, Javier Peña, told Raw Story. […] 'They've already

admitted to basically every central element of our cause of action and to the damages,' Javier Peña said. 'They've admitted they made these kids, at least four, if not more, exercise in the nude, straight out of the shower. Coach was watching them, admitted it was outside the course and scope of their employment, admitted the child was harmed, admitted that Coach has never been punished, things like that. It's insane that these lawyers have allowed that to happen.'" [Raw Story, 2/16/26]

- **Plaintiff's Attorney Filed An Amended Petition Saying O'Hanlon And Flores' Partner, Benjamin Castillo, As The School's Attorney, Met With The Minor And His Parents And "Admitted That The Assault Occurred."** "An amended petition said O'Hanlon's partner, Benjamin Castillo, as the school's attorney, met with the minor and his parents and 'admitted that the assault occurred.'" [RawStory, 2/16/26]

The Coach Faced Allegations Of Inappropriate Behavior At The McAllen Independent School District. "The suit states that the coach faced allegations of inappropriate behavior at the McAllen Independent School District right before he was hired at Edinburg Vela High School. The alleged incident is also referred to throughout the lawsuit as a 'cover-up,' and the decision to hire him as a coach was driven by 'political' factors." [ValleyCentral, 11/6/25]

Plaintiff: Alonzo Was Hired As Coach "Despite Credible Reports Of Sexual Misconduct At His Previous Employment." "This is not an isolated incident. Defendant Oscar Salinas, the Athletic Director, was aware of prior complaints against Coach Alonzo. Rather than protect children, Salinas pushed for Alonzo's hiring—despite credible reports of sexual misconduct at his previous employment—due to political affiliations and personal agendas." [Raul Rocha, as next of K.R., v. Ernie Alonzo, Michele Pena, and Oscar Salinas, Case No. C-4565-25-M, amended petition, filed 9/16/25]

> 4.7 This is not an isolated incident. Defendant Oscar Salinas, the Athletic Director, was aware of prior complaints against Coach Alonzo. Rather than protect children, Salinas pushed for Alonzo's hiring—despite credible reports of sexual misconduct at his previous employment—due to political affiliations and personal agendas.

[Raul Rocha, as next of K.R., v. Ernie Alonzo, Michele Pena, and Oscar Salinas, Case No. C-4565-25-M, original petition, filed 9/16/25]

The Plaintiff Alleged Ernie Alonzo Was Hired To Be The Football Coach Despite Having A History Of Inappropriate Behavior At A McAllen ISD School, Because Of His Close Ties To High-Level Employees In Edinburg CISD. "4.2 Among the pool of applicants, however, was one individual whose coaching history did not compare favorably. Unlike the other candidates, his record reflected no extraordinary success, and his previous tenure at McAllen ISD was marred by troubling allegations of inappropriate behavior. Rather than being distinguished for his coaching ability or his results, he carried with him a cloud of concern from his prior employment. 4.3 Despite these shortcomings, this applicant was ultimately selected as the head coach of the Edinburg Vela High School football program. His selection was not the product of merit or demonstrated coaching excellence. Instead, it was driven by entrenched political influence. The applicant maintained deep ties to the powerful political machine in Edinburg and enjoyed the patronage of a high-level athletics administrator, Oscar Salinas. Their backing—not his qualifications—paved the way for his appointment." [Raul Rocha, as next of K.R., v. Ernie Alonzo, Michele Pena, and Oscar Salinas, Case No. C-4565-25-M, original petition, filed 9/16/25]

4.2 Among the pool of applicants, however, was one individual whose coaching history did not compare favorably. Unlike the other candidates, his record reflected no extraordinary success, and his previous tenure at McAllen ISD was marred by troubling allegations of inappropriate behavior. Rather than being distinguished for his coaching ability or his results, he carried with him a cloud of concern from his prior employment.

4.3 Despite these shortcomings, this applicant was ultimately selected as the head coach of the Edinburg Vela High School football program. His selection was not the product of merit or demonstrated coaching excellence. Instead, it was driven by entrenched political influence. The applicant maintained deep ties to the powerful political machine in Edinburg and enjoyed the patronage of a high-level athletics administrator, Oscar Salinas. Their backing—not his qualifications—paved the way for his appointment.

[Raul Rocha, as next of K.R., v. Ernie Alonzo, Michele Pena, and Oscar Salinas, Case No. C-4565-25-M, original petition, filed 9/16/25]

The Plaintiff Alleged Alonzo Was Hired As A Result Of Political Favoritism, Which Protected Him Despite Being A "Potential Pedophile." "By elevating political connections above professional merit, Edinburg CISD undermined the integrity of its hiring process and sacrificed the best interests of its students and community in favor of political expediency. This effort to elevate a political hire above more qualified candidates is rampant in local school districts and is one of the main factors in employees operating outside the course and scope of their official duties to illegally cover up crimes of the politically protected, even if those politically protected are potential pedophile political hires. The political corruption at the top compels acquiesce through the rank employees due to fear of being victims of the same corrupt machine." [Raul Rocha, as next of K.R., v. Ernie Alonzo, Michele Pena, and Oscar Salinas, Case No. C-4565-25-M, original petition, filed 9/16/25]

4.5 By elevating political connections above professional merit, Edinburg CISD undermined the integrity of its hiring process and sacrificed the best interests of its students and community in favor of political expediency. This effort to elevate a political hire above more qualified candidates is rampant in local school districts and is one of the main factors in employees operating outside the course and scope of their official duties to illegally cover up crimes of the politically protected, even if those politically protected are potential pedophile political hires. The political corruption at the top compels acquiesce through the rank employees due to fear of being victims of the same corrupt machine. But when there

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Hidalgo County District Clerks
Reviewed By: Jarod Gomez

is a duty to report, a duty to investigate, and they allow children to become victims, these employees, such as the defendants in this case become villains themselves.

[Raul Rocha, as next of K.R., v. Ernie Alonzo, Michele Pena, and Oscar Salinas, Case No. C-4565-25-M, original petition, filed 9/16/25]

Eric Flores Message #2 Backup

As an assistant U.S. attorney, Flores let dangerous criminals get off with a slap on the wrist. He agreed to lower the punishment of a top ten most wanted sex offender who had sexually assaulted a four-year-old girl and produced child pornography. Flores even successfully cut a deal that reduced the punishment for another pedophile who possessed child porn.

As An Assistant U.S. Attorney, Flores Let Dangerous Criminals Get Off With A Slap On The Wrist.

Backup below.

He Agreed To Lower The Punishment Of A Top Ten Most Wanted Sex Offender Who Had Sexually Assaulted A Four-Year-Old Girl And Produced Child Pornography.

As Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eric Flores Agreed To A Plea Deal With Humberto Acosta, Under Which Flores Recommended To Lower The Offense Level Of Producing Child Pornography By Two Offense Levels And Dismiss A Charge For Failing To Register As A Sex Offender

Eric Flores Was Lead Attorney For The U.S. Justice Department In The Case Filed Against Humberto Acosta On Counts Of Producing Child Porn And Failing To Register As A Sex Offender. [U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Case #7:23-cr-00344-1, filed 3/8/23]

CM ECF Query Reports Utilities Help Log Out

Humberto Acosta
TERMINATED: 01/14/2025

represented by **Oscar Rene Flores**
Attorney At Law
208 W. Cano
Edinburg, TX 78539
956-383-9090
Fax: 956-383-9050 fax
Email: oreneflores@lobo.law
LEAD ATTORNEY
ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED
Designation: Retained

Juan Enereo Bazan , Jr.
The Law Offices of J. Enereo Bazan PLLC
501 W. Cano Street
Edinburg, TX 78539
956-663-1834
Email: law.bazan89@gmail.com
ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Melissa Evelia Lopez
Federal Public Defender
1701 W. Business Hwy 83
Ste 405
McAllen, TX 78501
956-630-2995
Fax: 956-631-8647
Email: melissa_e_lopez@fd.org
TERMINATED: 03/23/2023
Designation: Public Defender or Community Defender Appointment

Pending Counts	Disposition
Production of child pornography. (2s)	260 months custody BOP, to run concurrently with other pending state matters. Lifetime SRT imposed, to comply with all standard terms and conditions. Deft to comply with all conditions related to sex offender fully set out in the appendix. $100 S/A, Fine Waived. Deft advised of right to appeal. The Court not addressing restitution at this time.

Highest Offense Level (Opening)
Felony

Terminated Counts	Disposition
FAILURE TO REGISTER AS A SEX OFFENDER (1)	Dismissed on Government's oral motion.
FAILURE TO REGISTER AS A SEX OFFENDER (1s)	Dismissed on Government's oral motion.

Highest Offense Level (Terminated)
Felony

Complaints	Disposition
18:2250.F, 18:2250.F	

Plaintiff
USA

represented by **Alexa Dinsmore Parcell**
U.S. Attorney's Office
1701 W. Bus. Hwy. 83
Ste 600
McAllen, TX 78501
956-992-9385
Email: alexa.parcell@usdoj.gov
LEAD ATTORNEY
ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Eric Daniel Flores
O'Hanlon Demerath Castillo
426 W Caffery Ave
Pharr, TX 78577
512-494-9949
Email: EFlores@808West.com
TERMINATED: 01/08/2025
LEAD ATTORNEY
ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED
Designation: Retained

In A Plea Agreement Signed By Flores, Acosta Pleaded Guilty To The Count Of Producing Child Pornography, And The Government Recommended The Offense Level Be Decreased By 2 Levels If Accosta Accepted Responsibility. "RE-ARRAIGNMENT Minute Entry for proceedings held before Magistrate Judge J. Scott Hacker on 4/25/2024 as to Humberto Acosta. Defendant placed under oath. Defendant consented to the administration of the Rule 11 colloquy by an entry of a guilty plea before the Magistrate Judge. Defendant pleaded Guilty to Count(s) 2 of the Superseding Indictment. Written plea agreement filed. Count 1 to be dismissed at time of sentencing. Defendant remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service. Appearances: Eric Flores, AUSA; Oscar Flores for Defendant. (USPO: Melinda Tobias) (ERO: Mayra Guillen) (Interpreter: Maria E. Barrett, not used) (DUSM: Edgar Hernandez) (Time in Court 9:26 - 9:52) (df7) (Entered: 04/25/2024)" [U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Case #7:23-cr-00344-1, Plea Agreement filed 4/25/24]

04/25/2024	81	PLEA AGREEMENT as to Humberto Acosta, filed. (df7) (Entered: 04/25/2024)
04/25/2024		RE-ARRAIGNMENT Minute Entry for proceedings held before Magistrate Judge J. Scott Hacker on 4/25/2024 as to Humberto Acosta. Defendant placed under oath. Defendant consented to the administration of the Rule 11 colloquy by an entry of a guilty plea before the Magistrate Judge. Defendant pleaded Guilty to Count(s) 2 of the Superseding Indictment. Written plea agreement filed. Count 1 to be dismissed at time of sentencing. Defendant remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service. Appearances: Eric Flores, AUSA; Oscar Flores for Defendant. (USPO: Melinda Tobias) (ERO: Mayra Guillen) (Interpreter: Maria E. Barrett, not used) (DUSM: Edgar Hernandez) (Time in Court 9:26 - 9:52) (df7) (Entered: 04/25/2024)

Acosta's Charge For Failure To Register As A Sex Offender Was "Dismissed On Government's Oral Motion." [U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Case #7:23-cr-00344-1, filed 3/8/23]

Pending Counts	Disposition
Production of child pornography. (2s)	260 months custody BOP, to run concurrently with other pending state matters. Lifetime SRT imposed, to comply with all standard terms and conditions. Deft to comply with all conditions related to sex offender fully set out in the appendix. $100 S/A, Fine Waived. Deft advised of right to appeal. The Court not addressing restitution at this time.

Highest Offense Level (Opening)
Felony

Terminated Counts	Disposition
FAILURE TO REGISTER AS A SEX OFFENDER (1)	Dismissed on Government's oral motion.
FAILURE TO REGISTER AS A SEX OFFENDER (1s)	Dismissed on Government's oral motion.

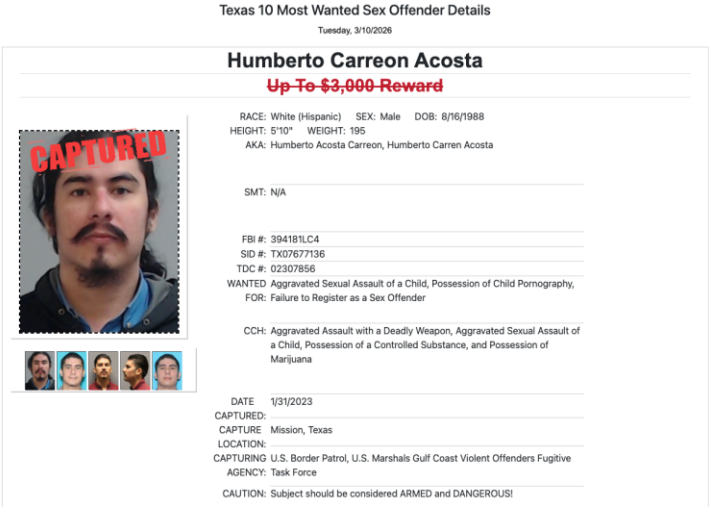
Highest Offense Level (Terminated)
Felony

Complaints	Disposition
18:2250.F, 18:2250.F	

Acosta Was Sentenced To 21 Years And 8 Months In Federal Prison Served Concurrently With Pending State Charges. [U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Case #7:23-cr-00344-1, filed 3/8/23]

Acosta Was A Top 10 Most Wanted Sex Offender With The Texas Department Of Public Safety After He Was Charged In 2020 For The Aggravated Assault Of A 4-Year-Old Girl And Sentenced To Probation

Acosta Was A Top 10 Most Wanted Sex Offender With The Texas Department of Public Safety.



[Texas Department of Public Safety, accessed 3/16/26]

2020: Acosta Was Convicted Of Aggravated Sexual Assault Of A Four-Year-Old Girl And Sentenced To 10 Years Probation. "Humberto ACOSTA, a Texas 10 Most Wanted Sex Offender, was captured on January 31, 2023, in Mission, Texas. Working off investigative information, members of the U.S. Marshals Gulf Coast Violent Offenders Fugitive Task Force, along with U.S. Border Patrol, located and arrested ACOSTA. In 2020, ACOSTA was convicted of Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child after an incident involving a four-year-old girl. He subsequently was sentenced to 10 years' probation." [Texas Department of Public Safety, accessed 3/16/26]

Acosta Was "Wanted Since December 3, 2020, After The Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Issued A Warrant For His Arrest For Aggravated Sexual Assault Of A Child." "ACOSTA had been wanted

since December 3, 2020, after the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office issued a warrant for his arrest for Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child." [Texas Department of Public Safety, accessed 3/16/26]

The Alamo Police Department Issued A Warrant For Acosta's Arrest For Possessing Child Pornography, And The Pharr PD Wanted Him For Failing To Register As A Sex Offender. "On December 23, 2020, the Alamo Police Department issued a warrant for his arrest for Possession of Child Pornography. In addition, on May 17, 2021, the Pharr Police Department issued a warrant for his arrest for Failure to Register as a Sex Offender." [Texas Department of Public Safety, accessed 3/16/26]

Flores Even Successfully Cut A Deal That Reduced The Punishment For Another Pedophile Who Possessed Child Porn.

As Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eric Flores Agreed To A Plea Deal In The Case Against Jose Hinojosa On Four Counts For Child Pornography And Firearms Dealing, Where A Smuggling Charge Was Dismissed And Lower Level Offenses Were Recommended On Sentencing

Eric Flores Was Lead Attorney For The U.S. Justice Department In The Case Filed Against Jose Angel Hinojosa Jr. For Having Child Pornography, Dealing Firearms, Making False Statements, And Smuggling Goods. [U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Case #7:22-cr-01236-1, filed 7/26/22]

Defendant (1)

Jose Angel Hinojosa, Jr.
DEFT. RELEASED ON A $30,000 BOND WITH $10,000 DEPOSIT
TERMINATED: 11/21/2024

represented by **Crispin C.J. Quintanilla , III**
Attorney at Law
5526 N. 10th Street
McAllen, TX 78504
956-682-9477
Email: cj@quintanilla-law.com
LEAD ATTORNEY
ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED
Designation: Retained

Miguel Arturo Andres Nogueras
Office of the Federal Public Defender
1701 W Bus Hwy 83
Ste 405
McAllen, TX 78501
956-630-2995
Fax: 956-631-8647
Email: miguel_nogueras@fd.org
TERMINATED: 07/06/2022
ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED
Designation: Public Defender or Community Defender Appointment

Pending Counts	Disposition
UNLAWFULLY DEALING IN, IMPORTING, OR MANUFACTURING FIREARMS. (1s)	Sixty (60) months custody of the Bureau of Prisons and three (3) years of supervised release term with special conditions noted on page 23 of the Final Presentence Report to run concurrent with Counts 2s and 4s; $100 special assessment and waived fine; Restitution in the amount of $3,000 to each of the victims of the Tara series and Sweet White Sugar Series payable in equal monthly installments, commencing 60 days upon his release from custody and any amount unpaid due and owing 60 days prior to the expiration of his supervised release term.
FALSE STATEMENTS DURING A PURCHASE OF A FIREARM. (2s)	One hundred and twenty (120) months custody of the Bureau of Prisons and three (3) years of supervised release term with special conditions noted on page 23 of the Final Presentence Report to run concurrent with Counts 1s and 4s; $100 special assessment and waived fine; Restitution in the amount of $3,000 to each of the victims of the Tara series and Sweet White Sugar Series payable in equal monthly installments, commencing 60 days upon his release from custody and any amount unpaid due and owing 60 days prior to the expiration of his supervised release term.
SMUGGLING GOODS FROM THE UNITED STATES (3s)	Dismissed on Government's oral motion
ACTIVITIES RE MATERIAL CONSTITUTING/CONTAINING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY (4s)	One hundred and twenty (120) months custody of the Bureau of Prisons and five (5) years of supervised release term with special conditions noted on page 23 of the Final Presentence Report to run concurrent with Counts 1s and 2s; $100 special assessment and waived fine; Restitution in the amount of $3,000 to each of the victims of the Tara series and Sweet White Sugar Series payable in equal monthly installments, commencing 60 days upon his release from custody and any amount unpaid due and owing 60 days prior to the expiration of his supervised release term.

Plaintiff	
USA	represented by **Eric Daniel Flores** O'Hanlon Demerath Castillo 426 W Caffery Ave Pharr, TX 78577 512-494-9949 Email: EFlores@808West.com *LEAD ATTORNEY* *ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED* *Designation: Retained* **Financial Litigation** U S Attorney's Office Southern District of Texas 1000 Louisiana St Ste 2300 Houston, TX 77002 713-567-9000 Fax: 713-718-3391 fax Email: flu.usatxs-@usdoj.gov *ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED* *Designation: Retained*

Hinojosa Had The Charge Of Smuggling Goods From The United States Dismissed, As Well As The Original Indictment's Charges For Dealing Firearms And Making False Statements In The Purchase Of A Firearm. U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Case #7:22-cr-01236-1, filed 7/26/22]

Pending Counts	Disposition
UNLAWFULLY DEALING IN, IMPORTING, OR MANUFACTURING FIREARMS. (1s)	Sixty (60) months custody of the Bureau of Prisons and three (3) years of supervised release term with special conditions noted on page 23 of the Final Presentence Report to run concurrent with Counts 2s and 4s; $100 special assessment and waived fine; Restitution in the amount of $3,000 to each of the victims of the Tara series and Sweet White Sugar Series payable in equal monthly installments, commencing 60 days upon his release from custody and any amount unpaid due and owing 60 days prior to the expiration of his supervised release term.
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SMUGGLING GOODS FROM THE UNITED STATES (3s)	Dismissed on Government's oral motion
ACTIVITIES RE MATERIAL CONSTITUTING/CONTAINING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY (4s)	One hundred and twenty (120) months custody of the Bureau of Prisons and five (5) years of supervised release term with special conditions noted on page 23 of the Final Presentence Report to run concurrent with Counts 1s and 2s; $100 special assessment and waived fine; Restitution in the amount of $3,000 to each of the victims of the Tara series and Sweet White Sugar Series payable in equal monthly installments, commencing 60 days upon his release from custody and any amount unpaid due and owing 60 days prior to the expiration of his supervised release term.

On The Three Counts To Which He Pleaded Guilty, Hinojosa Was Sentenced To A Total Of 10 Years In Prison With Five Years Of Supervised Release And Ordered To Pay Restitution To The Child Pornography Victims. [U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Case #7:22-cr-01236-1, filed 7/26/22]

Pending Counts	Disposition
UNLAWFULLY DEALING IN, IMPORTING, OR MANUFACTURING FIREARMS. (1s)	Sixty (60) months custody of the Bureau of Prisons and three (3) years of supervised release term with special conditions noted on page 23 of the Final Presentence Report to run concurrent with Counts 2s and 4s; $100 special assessment and waived fine; Restitution in the amount of $3,000 to each of the victims of the Tara series and Sweet White Sugar Series payable in equal monthly installments, commencing 60 days upon his release from custody and any amount unpaid due and owing 60 days prior to the expiration of his supervised release term.
FALSE STATEMENTS DURING A PURCHASE OF A FIREARM. (2s)	One hundred and twenty (120) months custody of the Bureau of Prisons and three (3) years of supervised release term with special conditions noted on page 23 of the Final Presentence Report to run concurrent with Counts 1s and 4s; $100 special assessment and waived fine; Restitution in the amount of $3,000 to each of the victims of the Tara series and Sweet White Sugar Series payable in equal monthly installments, commencing 60 days upon his release from custody and any amount unpaid due and owing 60 days prior to the expiration of his supervised release term.
SMUGGLING GOODS FROM THE UNITED STATES (3s)	Dismissed on Government's oral motion
ACTIVITIES RE MATERIAL CONSTITUTING/CONTAINING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY (4s)	One hundred and twenty (120) months custody of the Bureau of Prisons and five (5) years of supervised release term with special conditions noted on page 23 of the Final Presentence Report to run concurrent with Counts 1s and 2s; $100 special assessment and waived fine; Restitution in the amount of $3,000 to each of the victims of the Tara series and Sweet White Sugar Series payable in equal monthly installments, commencing 60 days upon his release from custody and any amount unpaid due and owing 60 days prior to the expiration of his supervised release term.

Hinojosa Pleaded Guilty To Straw Purchasing Over 40 Firearms To Smuggle Into Mexico, And Authorities Found Child Sexual Abuse Material On His Cell Phone During The Investigation, For Which He Faced Up To 20 Years In Prison

Hinojosa Pleaded Guilty To Straw Purchasing Over 40 Firearms To Smuggle Into Mexico And "Possessing Child Sexual Abuse Material On His Cellphone." "A South Texas man pleaded guilty to straw purchasing and possessing child sexual abuse material on his cellphone following an investigation conducted by Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Jose Angel Hinojosa Jr., 36, of Weslaco, pleaded guilty Jan. 19 before U.S. District Judge John D. Rainey. As part of his plea, Hinojosa admitted to attempting to smuggle more than 40 firearms. According to court documents, from June 5, 2016, through May 9, 2022, Hinojosa engaged in straw purchasing firearms from an online gun broker. He then arranged for the weapons to be exported into Mexico. Law enforcement officials were able to locate several weapons tied to Hinojosa." [U.S. Department of Justice via US Fed News, 1/19/24]

When Investigating Hinojosa On Firearms Charges, Federal Authorities "Found Several Videos On His Phone Showing Minors Engaging In Sexual Conduct." "During the firearms investigation, authorities also learned of possible crimes involving child sexual abuse material. They executed search warrants and found several videos on his phone showing minors engaging in sexual conduct. Hinojosa admitted to receiving child sexual abuse material on his cellphone from various third parties." [U.S. Department of Justice via US Fed News, 1/19/24]

Flores Prosecuted The Case, For Which Hinojosa Faced Up To 20 Years In Federal Prison. "Rainey has set sentencing for April 24. At that time, Hinojosa faces up to 20 years in federal prison and a possible $250,000 fine. Hinojosa was permitted to remain on bond pending sentencing. Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Texas Eric D. Flores is prosecuting the case." [U.S. Department of Justice via US Fed News, 1/19/24]

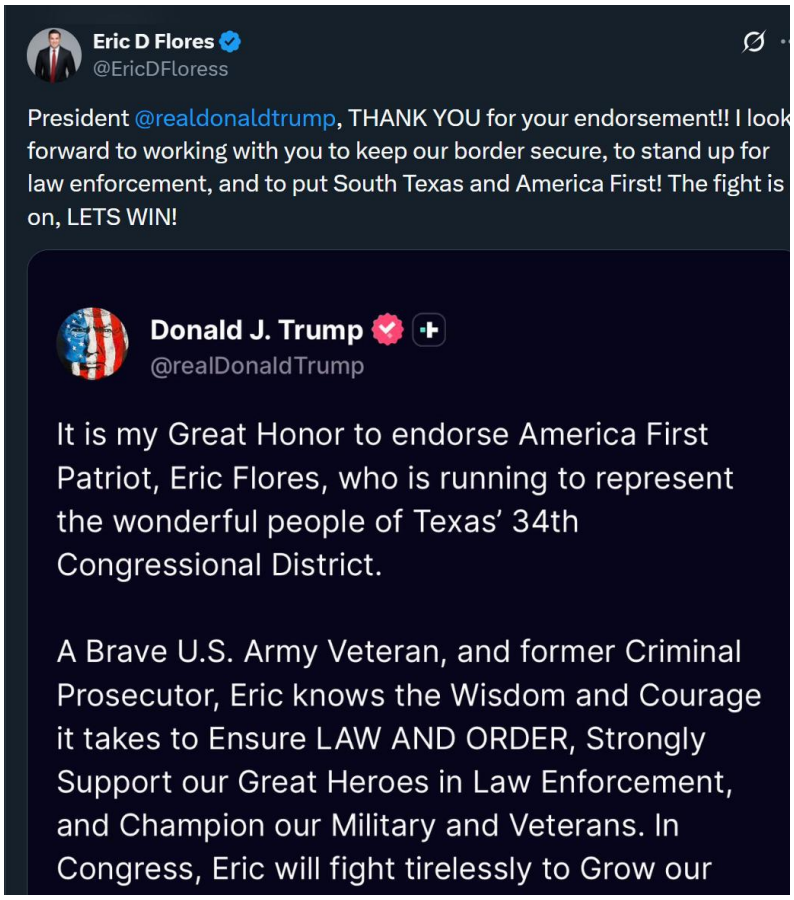
Eric Flores Message #3 Backup

Eric Flores is a Trump bootlicker who will do anything he's told, no matter how much it hurts South Texas. Flores has repeatedly said that Trump needs "reinforcements" in Washington and has promised Trump that he will "have your back." Flores will be a rubber stamp for the reckless war in Iran that is driving up the costs of gas and diesel, and the tariffs that are driving up the cost of groceries and hurting our farmers and small businesses.

Eric Flores Is A Trump Bootlicker Who Will Do Anything He's Told, No Matter How Much It Hurts South Texas.

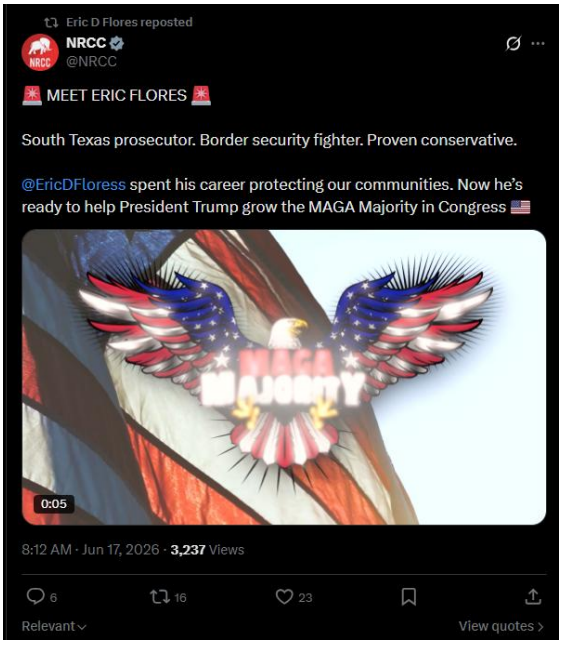
Flores Was Backed By Trump And National Republicans

Trump Endorsed Eric Flores In The Republican Primary For TX-34. "President @realdonaldtrump, THANK YOU for your endorsement!! I look forward to working with you to keep our border secure, to stand up for law enforcement, and to put South Texas and America First! The fight is on, LETS WIN!" [Twitter, @EricDFloress, 12/18/25]



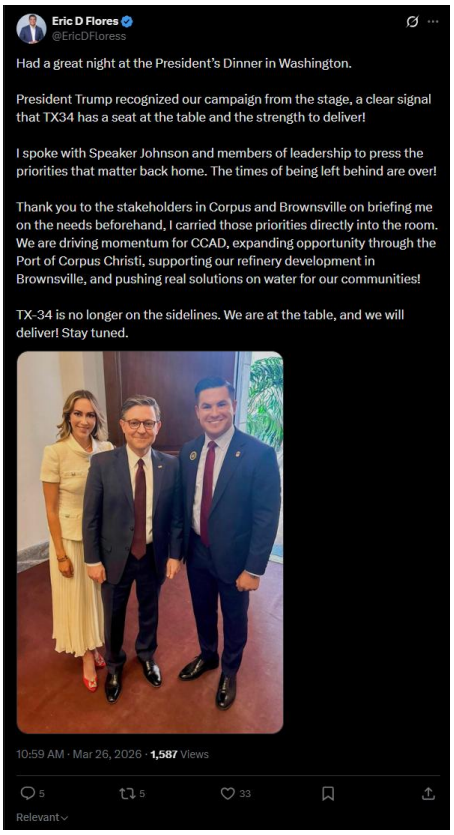
[Twitter, @EricDFloress, 12/18/25]

The NRCC Introduced Eric Flores As A "Border Security Fighter" Ready To "Help President Trump Grow The MAGA Majority In Congress." "MEET ERIC FLORES South Texas prosecutor. Border security fighter. Proven conservative. @EricDFloress spent his career protecting our communities. Now he's ready to help President Trump grow the MAGA Majority in Congress" [Twitter, @NRCC, 6/17/26]



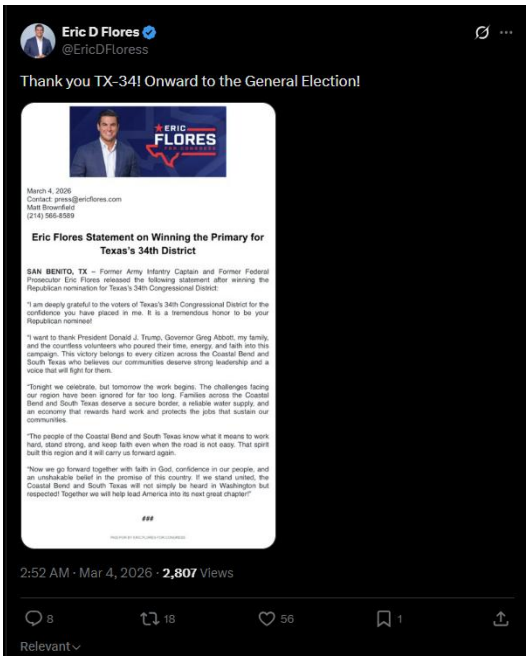
[Twitter, @NRCC, 6/17/26]

Flores Attended Trump's NRCC Dinner In Washington, D.C. And Took Photos With Speaker Mike Johnson. "Had a great night at the President's Dinner in Washington. President Trump recognized our campaign from the stage, a clear signal that TX34 has a seat at the table and the strength to deliver! I spoke with Speaker Johnson and members of leadership to press the priorities that matter back home. The times of being left behind are over! Thank you to the stakeholders in Corpus and Brownsville on briefing me on the needs beforehand, I carried those priorities directly into the room. We are driving momentum for CCAD, expanding opportunity through the Port of Corpus Christi, supporting our refinery development in Brownsville, and pushing real solutions on water for our communities! TX-34 is no longer on the sidelines. We are at the table, and we will deliver! Stay tuned." [Twitter, @EricDFloress, 3/26/26]



[Twitter, @EricDFloress, 3/26/26]

Flores Thanked Donld Trump, Greg Abbott, And His Supporters For His Victory In The TX-34 Republican Primary. "Thank you TX-34! Onward to the General Election!" [Twitter, @EricDFloress, 3/4/26]



[Twitter, @EricDFloress, 3/4/26]

Flores Has Repeatedly Said That Trump Needs "Reinforcements" In Washington

Flores Repeatedly Pledged To Support Trump In Congress

VIDEO: Flores Said He Attended The Republican National Convention In Dallas To "[Send] President Trump Reinforcements." REPORTER: "You're running in one of the most competitive house races in the country. It was important to you to make this trip to Dallas, even when other Republicans running in competitive races decided to stay home. Why come out here?" FLORES: "Look, I get it, it comes to the excitement, it comes to sending President Trump reinforcements to defeat those wrong type of Democrats, you know, my opponent included." [WOAI Interview, 1:37, 9/9/26] (VIDEO)

Flores Said "Texas Is Fired Up And Ready To Send President @realDonaldTrump Reinforcements" At The Dallas Republican National Convention. "Excited to be in Dallas for the FIRST EVER @Republicans Midterm Convention! Texas is fired up and ready to send President @realDonaldTrump reinforcements to defeat the 'wrong' kind of Democrats this November! South Texas is ready for change!" [X, @EricDFloress, 9/8/26]

[X, @EricDFloress, 9/8/26]

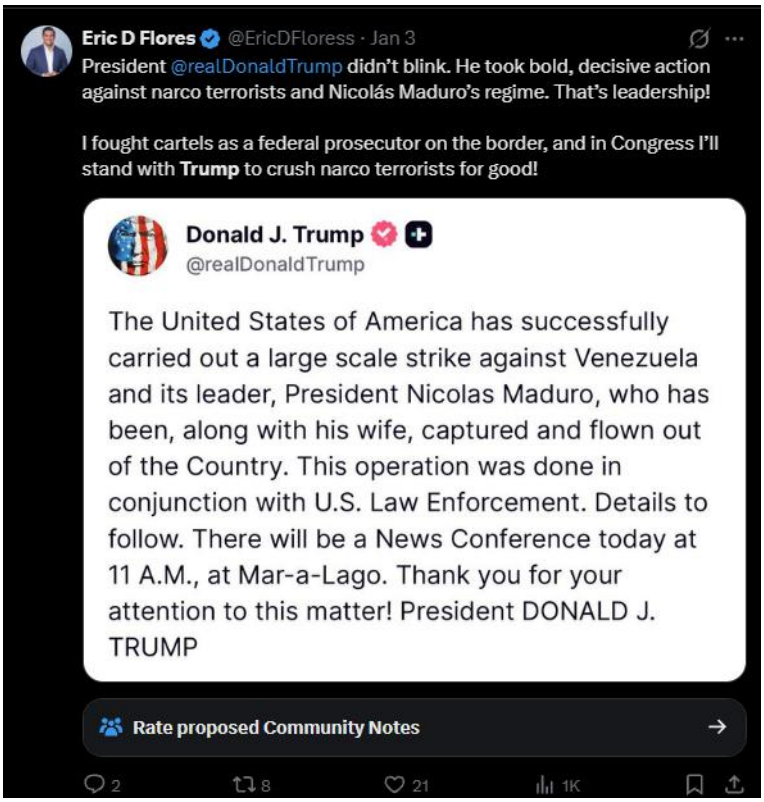
VIDEO: A Flores Ad Said Trump "Needs Backup In Congress" As Flores Pledged To Stand With Trump. "President Trump needs backup in Congress. Texas needs conservative fighter Eric Flores. Eric Flores led operations on our Southern border as an Army Infantry Captain, took on cartels as a federal prosecutor, and Eric never backs down from a fight. Eric will secure the border, defend law enforcement and fight alongside President Trump like he always has. I'm Eric Flores and I approve this message. I'll stand with President Trump, fight, and deliver for South Texas." [X, @EricDFloress, 11/14/25] (VIDEO)

Flores: "I'm Ready To Stand With President Donald Trump In Congress And Fight For Our Values." "South Texas and the Coastal Bend, today is the day! Everything we've worked for comes

down to this moment. If you believe in strong leadership, secure borders, and putting America First, now is the time to act. I'm ready to stand with President Donald Trump in Congress and fight for our values. But it only happens if you show up. Grab a friend. Make the call. Send the text. Get to the polls. Let's win this together." [X, @EricDFloress, 3/3/26]

[X, @EricDFloress, 3/3/26]

Flores Praised Trump's Operation To Capture Nicolás Maduro And Said "In Congress I'll Stand With Trump To Crush Narco Terrorists For Good!" "President @realDonaldTrump didn't blink. He took bold, decisive action against narco terrorists and Nicolás Maduro's regime. That's leadership! I fought cartels as a federal prosecutor on the border, and in Congress I'll stand with Trump to crush narco terrorists for good!" [X, @EricDFloress, 1/3/26]



[X, @EricDFloress, 1/3/26]

And Has Promised Trump That He Will "Have Your Back."

Flores Told Trump He Would Have His Back

VIDEO: Flores Told Trump He Would "Always Have Your Back" In DC. "That is the kind of leadership you have brought back to America, and that's the leadership that I willm bring to DC, to fight for TX-34 and always have your back." [X, @EricDFloress, 0:20, 2/27/26] (VIDEO)

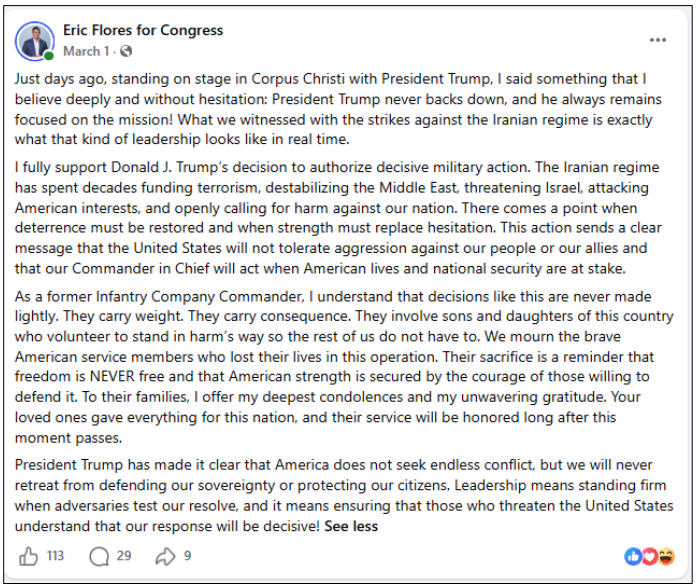
Flores Will Be A Rubber Stamp For The Reckless War In Iran That Is Driving Up The Costs Of Gas And Diesel,

2026: Flores Voiced Support For The War In Iran

Flores Voiced Support For An Iran Military Operation And Praised The Leadership Of Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth

Flores: "I Fully Support Donald J. Trump's Decision To Authorize Decisive Military Action" Against Iran. "Just days ago, standing on stage in Corpus Christi with President Trump, I said something that I believe deeply and without hesitation: President Trump never backs down, and he always remains focused on the mission! What we witnessed with the strikes against the Iranian regime is exactly what that kind of leadership looks like in real time. I fully support Donald J. Trump's decision to authorize decisive military action. The Iranian regime has spent decades funding terrorism, destabilizing the Middle East, threatening Israel, attacking American interests, and openly calling for harm against our nation.

There comes a point when deterrence must be restored and when strength must replace hesitation. This action sends a clear message that the United States will not tolerate aggression against our people or our allies and that our Commander in Chief will act when American lives and national security are at stake. As a former Infantry Company Commander, I understand that decisions like this are never made lightly. They carry weight. They carry consequence. They involve sons and daughters of this country who volunteer to stand in harm's way so the rest of us do not have to. We mourn the brave American service members who lost their lives in this operation. Their sacrifice is a reminder that freedom is NEVER free and that American strength is secured by the courage of those willing to defend it. To their families, I offer my deepest condolences and my unwavering gratitude. Your loved ones gave everything for this nation, and their service will be honored long after this moment passes. President Trump has made it clear that America does not seek endless conflict, but we will never retreat from defending our sovereignty or protecting our citizens. Leadership means standing firm when adversaries test our resolve, and it means ensuring that those who threaten the United States understand that our response will be decisive!" [Facebook, Eric Flores for Congress, 3/1/26]



Eric Flores for Congress
March 1 ·

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President Trump has made it clear that America does not seek endless conflict, but we will never retreat from defending our sovereignty or protecting our citizens. Leadership means standing firm when adversaries test our resolve, and it means ensuring that those who threaten the United States understand that our response will be decisive! See less

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[Facebook, Eric Flores for Congress, 3/1/26]

2026: Flores Voiced Support For A Military Operation In Iran, Saying Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth Oversaw "One Of The MOST Daring Rescue Operations In American History." "Today, this administration sent dozens of aircraft into the heart of Iran, deployed the CIA, and pulled a wounded American colonel from a mountain crevice after 48 hours behind enemy lines because that is what a nation of honor does for its own! Sec War @PeteHegseth was doubted, dismissed, and relentlessly attacked before he ever had the chance to prove himself and yet here he stands, having overseen one of the MOST daring rescue operations in American history! Those who underestimated him owe him the dignity of acknowledging they were wrong. America does not leave its people behind, and we are witnessing in real time what that promise looks like when it is kept! I'm lacing back up!"

[Twitter, @EricDFloress, 4/5/26]

Following The Operation, Flores Wrote "This Is What Absolute American Dominance Looks Like." "This is what absolute American dominance looks like. A pilot shot down behind enemy lines, actively hunted in hostile terrain, and the United States responded with overwhelming force and precision to bring him home! We do not negotiate with chaos, we do not accept loss, and we do not leave our warfighters behind. That is not rhetoric, that is reality! Welcome home sir!"

[Twitter, @EricDFloress, 4/5/26]

2026: Flores Promoted A Trump White House Video Touting The War In Iran And Wished Luck To The Military At The Start Of Operation Epic Fury

March 2026: Flores Reposted A Trump White House Video Promoting The Iran War With The Message "Justice The American Way."

[Twitter, @EricDFloress, 3/5/26]

- **The Trump White House Posted A Video Titled "Justice The American Way That Features A Montage Of Movie Clips" To Promote The War In Iran.** Geoff Bennett: "From video game clips to cartoon characters to blockbuster movie scenes, the administration's Iran messaging has embraced a style that critics say blurs the line between propaganda and entertainment and risks reducing a real war to spectacle." Liz Landers: "A post titled Justice the American Way that features a montage of movie clips from films like 'Iron Man,' 'Gladiator,' 'Top Gun' and other action movies has been viewed more than 64 million times on X since it was posted two weeks ago. [PBS News, 3/19/26]

- **HEADLINE: "White House's Use Of Internet Memes To Promote Iran War Sparks Criticism."** [PBS News, 3/19/26]

The Iran War Caused The Price Of Gasoline And Diesel To Spike In Texas

May 2026: Gas Prices Increased 50% Since The Start Of The Iran War

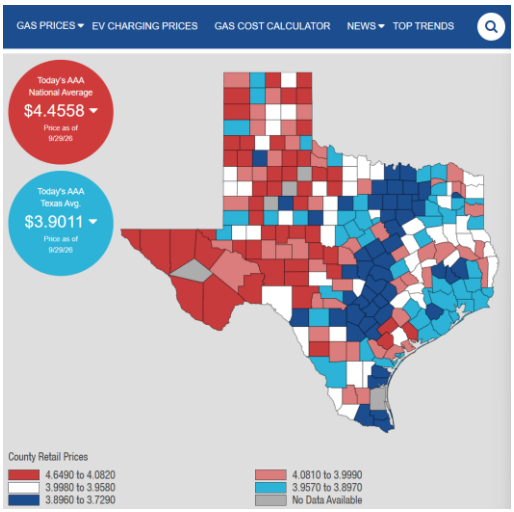
Gas Prices Increased 50% Since The Start Of The Iran War. "The price of a gallon of regular gasoline climbed 31 cents in the past week, spiking to an average of $4.48 per gallon Tuesday, according to AAA, hitting the wallets of drivers after rising 50% since the war with Iran began. The main reason drivers are paying more at the pump is because of the global energy crisis caused by the Iran War. The price of crude oil, which is the main ingredient in gasoline, has been climbing for most of the past two months because the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow passage of the Persian Gulf through which a fifth of the world's crude oil normally passes, has effectively been shut, and oil tankers have been stranded there unable to deliver crude." [PBS, 5/5/26]

May 2026: Gas Prices Were Near $5. "Rising gas prices are changing the driving behavior of many Americans, according to a new poll released by ABC News, The Washington Post, and Ipsos. The poll conducted among 2,560 U.S. adults between April 24-28, found that 44% of respondents had cut back on driving due to high gas prices. The finding comes as gas prices rose to an average of $4.55 per gallon on May 7, up from $4.30 a week earlier on April 30, according to AAA. 'U.S. gas price scorecard for May 6- $3.99/gal is no longer the most common price in the U.S., and now the top 10% of gas stations average over $6/gal,' Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy, wrote in an X post." [USA Today, 5/7/26]

- **HEADLINE: "Gas Prices Near $5 Are Changing How Americans Drive, New Poll Finds."** [USA Today, 5/7/26]

AAA: September 29, 2026: The Average Price Of Gas In Texas Was $3.90 A Gallon

As Of September 2026, The Average Price For A Gallon Of Gasoline In Texas Was $3.90. [AAA, accessed 9/29/26]



[AAA, accessed 9/29/26]

February-September 2026: The Price Of Diesel Jumped More Than $2.50 Per Gallon

The Price Of A Gallon Of Diesel In Texas Spiked From $3.30 To $5.86 Per Gallon Between February And September 2026. "The governor's disaster declaration and order comes as AAA reports an average diesel price of $5.86 per gallon in Texas. Monday also marks seven months since the U.S. and Israel launched coordinated strikes on Iran, leading to an extended disruption of oil and gas exports from the Middle East. The ongoing conflict has created elevated gas and diesel prices across the world. Diesel was $3.30 per gallon in Texas in early February." [Texas Tribune, 9/28/26]

And The Tariffs That Are Driving Up The Cost Of Groceries

April 2025: Flores Celebrated Trump's Announcement Of Liberation Day Tariffs, "The Most Sweeping Tariff Hike Since The Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act"

April 2025: Flores Celebrated Trump And Applauded His Announcement Of "LIBERATION DAY." In response to Trump's Truth Social Post that "IT'S LIBERATION DAY IN AMERICA," Flores tweeted, "It's only going to get better from here! #47 #goldenera."

[Twitter, @EricDFloress, 4/3/25]

On Liberation Day, The Trump Administration "Announced The Most Sweeping Tariff Hike Since The Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act," Including A Universal 10 Percent Tariff On All Imported Goods. "On April 2, 2025—a date President Trump proclaimed 'Liberation Day'—the administration announced the most sweeping tariff hike since the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act, the 1930 law best remembered for triggering a global trade war and deepening the Great Depression. A universal 10 percent tariff on all imported goods will take effect on April 5, followed by further tariffs on dozens of named countries, set to begin on April 9. Canada and Mexico are largely exempted from this round of tariffs, at least for the time being, and previously announced sectoral tariffs on steel, aluminum, and autos, along with anticipated tariffs on semiconductors, pharmaceuticals, copper, and lumber, will be assessed separately and not stacked onto the new tariffs." [Center for Strategic and International Studies, 4/3/25]

2026: Trump's Tariffs Were Estimated To Cost American Families Thousands Per Year

Trump's Tariffs Increased The Cost Of Living By More Than $1,700 Per Family

Trump's Tariffs Increased The Cost Of Living By More Than $1,700 Per Family. "Following the Supreme Court's decision today to overturn Trump's tariffs, the Joint Economic Committee – Minority released an updated report estimating that American families have already paid more than $1,700 each in tariff costs since President Trump took office. Combining Treasury Department data on the amount of tariff revenue collected across the first year of Trump's term with independent estimates from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office of the percent of each tariff dollar that is paid by American consumers, the Committee found that they paid more than $231 billion in total tariff costs between February 2025 and January 2026, an average of more than $1,700 per family. 'President Trump's tariffs have been a disaster for American families, driving costs up at the worst possible time,' said U.S. Senator Maggie Hassan, Ranking Member of the Joint Economic Committee. 'While the Supreme Court has thankfully and correctly ruled that much of Trump's tariff agenda was an illegal exercise of presidential power, today's ruling cannot undo the damage that tariffs have already caused.'" [Joint Economic Committee, Press Release, 2/20/26]

- **Joint Economic Committee Headline: "UPDATED DATA: American Families Have Already Paid More Than $1,700 Each In Tariff Costs Since Trump Entered Office."** [Joint Economic Committee, Press Release, 2/20/26]

2026: The Joint Economic Committee Estimated That Tariffs Would Cost American Families More Than $2,500 On Average

Joint Economic Committee Minority: "American Families Will Pay More Than $2,500 Each In Tariff Costs In 2026." "Even though the Supreme Court ruled that the bulk of President Trump's tariff agenda was illegal, the administration moved immediately to enact new tariffs that Treasury Secretary Bessent claims will result in 'virtually unchanged tariff revenue in 2026'. If Bessent's estimates hold true, the Joint Economic Committee – Minority estimates that American families will pay more than $2,500 each in tariff costs in 2026. Building on its previous tariff cost estimates, the Committee combined official data from the U.S. Treasury Department on the amount of tariff revenue collected since the start of 2025 with independent estimates from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office of the percent of each tariff dollar that is ultimately paid by American consumers. The Committee found that if tariff revenue stays at the level recorded in January 2026 for the rest of the year, American families would in total pay more than $330 billion in tariff costs in 2026, an average of more than $2,500 per household in tariff costs this year. This is substantially higher than the more than $1,700 in average tariff costs that the JEC – Minority previously estimated that families paid during the first year of Trump's second term." [Joint Economic Committee Minority, Fact Sheet, March 2026]

Joint Economic Committee Minority: With The Trump Administration's Projected Tariff Policy, "American Families Would In Total Pay More Than $300 Billion In Tariff Costs In 2026." "Even though the Supreme Court ruled that the bulk of President Trump's tariff agenda was illegal, the administration moved immediately to enact new tariffs that Treasury Secretary Bessent claims will result in 'virtually unchanged tariff revenue in 2026'. If Bessent's estimates hold true, the Joint Economic Committee – Minority estimates that American families will pay more than $2,500 each in tariff costs in 2026. Building on its previous tariff cost estimates, the Committee combined official data from the U.S. Treasury Department on the amount of tariff revenue collected since the start of 2025 with independent estimates from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office of the percent of each tariff dollar that is ultimately paid by American consumers. The Committee found that if tariff revenue stays at the level recorded in January 2026 for the rest of the year, American families would in total pay more than $330 billion in tariff costs in 2026, an average of more than $2,500 per household in tariff costs this year. This is substantially higher than the more than $1,700 in average tariff costs that the JEC – Minority previously estimated that families paid during the first year of Trump's second term." [Joint Economic Committee Minority, Fact Sheet, March 2026]

Consumers Shouldered The Burden Of Trump's Tariffs As They Raised The Price Of Basic Goods Like Food And Clothing

Consumers Shouldered 55% Of The Tariff Burden As Compared To Businesses

The Hill Headline: "US Consumers Shouldering 55 Percent Of Trump Tariff Costs: Goldman Sachs" [The Hill, 10/13/25]

Fox News Headline: "US Businesses And Consumers Shoulder The Bulk Of Tariff Cost Burden, Goldman Sachs Finds" [Fox News, 10/21/25]

Goldman Sachs Found U.S. Consumers Would Be Absorbing 55% Of Tariff Costs By The End Of 2025. "Goldman's economists assessed that by the end of 2025, U.S. consumers will be absorbing 55% of tariff costs, while 22% will fall on U.S. businesses, 18% on foreign exporters and 5% on potential tariff evasion. 'Our 22% estimate for U.S. businesses is modest because it is a net impact – companies that use or sell imported goods will bear a larger share of tariff costs, while domestic producers that are shielded from foreign competition by tariffs will be able to raise their own prices and increase their margins,' the economists wrote." [Fox Business, 10/21/25]

Goldman Sachs Found 22% Of Tariff Costs Would Fall On U.S. Businesses By The End Of 2025. "Goldman's economists assessed that by the end of 2025, U.S. consumers will be absorbing 55% of tariff costs, while 22% will fall on U.S. businesses, 18% on foreign exporters and 5% on potential tariff evasion. 'Our 22% estimate for U.S. businesses is modest because it is a net impact – companies that use or sell imported goods will bear a larger share of tariff costs, while domestic producers that are shielded from foreign competition by tariffs will be able to raise their own prices and increase their margins,' the economists wrote." [Fox Business, 10/21/25]

Trump's Tariffs Raised Prices On Cars

Kelley Blue Book: "President Trump Has Announced A 25% Tariff On All Cars Built Outside The United States And On Many Parts Used In Cars Built Here. […] Shoppers Can Expect The Tariffs To Increase Car Prices By As Much As $6,000 On Vehicles Priced Under $40,000." "President Trump has announced a 25% tariff on all cars built outside the United States and on many parts used in cars built here. See our latest news updates below on where tariffs stand. Effective Dates: Imported Cars: Tariffs began on April 3. Car Parts: Tariffs began on May 3. These tariffs have started to increase car prices. To save money, consider locking in a new car deal before any potential price increases take effect. Can You Avoid a Car Tariff? No vehicle made at an assembly plant in the United States is 100% made here. Even Tesla sources its parts from other countries. This means that with tariffs, car prices will increase for American car buyers, though the timing remains unclear. You can potentially avoid paying a tariff on a new car by purchasing one that was imported to the U.S. before the tariffs took effect, or by buying a used car. How Will Tariffs Affect Car Buying? If new cars become too expensive, used cars will become more attractive. However, if demand spikes, used car prices may also increase. Here's more information: New cars: Shoppers can expect the tariffs to increase car prices by as much as $6,000 on vehicles priced under $40,000. Higher car prices mean higher car taxes, financing, car insurance, and other ownership costs. This price pressure will make cars less affordable for consumers." [Kelley Blue Book, 9/15/25]

Trump's Tariffs Raised Prices On Groceries

Trump's Tariffs Contributed To Prices Rising For Groceries. "President Donald Trump pledged to bring down grocery costs. But his administration's policies are contributing to an acceleration in prices, food economists and companies say. Grocery prices last month rose at their fastest pace in three years, stoked by Trump's tariffs, a crackdown on immigration, and extreme weather hurting food production. Prices jumped 0.6% in August from the month prior, according to the latest reading from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and they are up 2.7% from a year ago. Food prices are deeply personal to consumers, and weekly grocery bills shape their overall perceptions of the economy. More than half of Americans count grocery costs as a major stress in their lives. Low-income and middle-income Americans, hit the hardest by rising grocery costs, are changing where they shop and what they buy. Companies are also taking extreme measures to appeal to shoppers strained by higher prices, such as bringing back paper coupons." [CNN, 9/20/25]

- **Axios Headline: "Grocery Inflation Highest Since 2022 As Trump Tariffs Pile Up."** [Axios, 9/11/25]

Trump's Tariffs Raised Prices On Apparel Goods

Trump's Tariffs Raised Prices On Apparel Goods. "The impact of President Donald Trump's tariffs on prices throughout the economy is expected to increase over the summer. At U.S. department store chains including Macy's , Nordstrom, and Dillard's , the evidence of sticker price inflation is starting to show up across more items. Recent price increases in apparel, footwear, and bags across major U.S. department-store websites tracked by DataWeave indicate a turning point in May, when prices started their ascent. DataWeave analyzes nearly 15,000 SKUs (stock keeping units), a scannable code retailers use to identify and track a product, and has been collecting that data from January to June for signs of price hikes in footwear, apparel, and bags. 'Footwear is now as much as 4% above January levels at some banners, while apparel is roughly half that pace,' said Karthik Bettadapura, co-founder & CEO of DataWeave." [CNBC, 7/2/25]

- **CNBC Headline: "Inside America's Department Stores, Tariff-Triggered Price Hikes Are Picking Up."** [CNBC, 7/2/25]

- **The Guardian Headline: "Clothing Prices Rising In US As Trump Tariffs Kick In, H&M Boss Says."** [The Guardian, 6/26/25]

And Hurting Our Farmers And Small Businesses.

The Texas Agriculture Industry Struggled To Sell Crops And Keep Up With Costs Because Of Trump's Tariffs

April 2025: South Texas Farmers Were Not Able To Sell Their Crops As Quickly Because Of The Tariffs

April 2025: South Texas Farmers Were Not Able To Sell Their Crops As Quickly Because Of The Tariffs. "South Texas farmers are already feeling the effects of the changes to trade policy traffics introduced by the Trump Administration earlier this month. The Trump Administration announced a 90-day pause on tariffs, except for China, which now faces a 145 percent tariff on all goods. Bobby Nedbalek serves on the San Patricio County Farm Bureau and said South Texas is one of the first regions in the nation to begin their grain and cotton harvests. Bobby Nedbalek serves on the San Patricio County Farm Bureau and said South Texas is one of the first regions in the nation to begin their grain and cotton harvests. Nedbalek explained by this time in a typical year about 20 percent of the crop would already be sold—but this season not a single load has moved due to the instability of trade tariffs. 'We've lost some of our customers because they've chose not to obey by those trade agreements that we've had in the past.'" [KIII TV 3 News, 4/24/25]

- **KIII TV 3 News Headline: "Tariff Uncertainty Impacting South Texas Farmers."** [KIII TV 3 News, 4/24/25]

The Texas Corn Producers Association Said Row Croppers Were Facing Significant Economic Challenges As Trump's Tariffs Hit Producers. "While President Trump's recent tariffs are hitting producers hard, especially for row crops like soybeans, the revenue from them could soon provide a lifeline. Meanwhile, area growers say if they don't get relief right now, they might not make it to next

season. 'The outlook in the farming industry is pretty grim right now,' producer Hagen Hunt said. Hunt grows cotton and corn north of Plainview. He also represents growers across the state as president of the Texas Corn Producers Association. He says his input costs have doubled in the last four years. 'We're below the cost of production. So, we are literally, it is costing us money to grow it that we are not getting back,' he said. On top of that, commodity prices around the globe are caught in the middle of a trade war. 'There's no doubt that the farm economy is in a significant challenge right now, especially our row croppers,' Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins said." [KCBD, 10/2/25]

Cotton Farmers In South Texas Lost Market Share To Brazil Because Of Trump's Tariffs

Trump Started A Trade War With Several Countries. "Since the beginning of President Donald Trump's second term, the United States has been in a trade war with several countries, most notably Mexico, Canada and China. The administration says foreign trade practices under former President Joe Biden's administration created a national emergency. Trump is using tariffs in an effort to strengthen American-made production." [Spectrum News 1, 11/6/25]

China Had Tariffs On Importing Cotton That Came From South Texas Because Of Trump's Trade War. "According to a Texas A&M extension economist, John Robinson, about 85% of America's cotton is exported all over the world. Trump's trade war with China back during his first term impacted the amount of cotton China imported from America. 'They had tariffs on importing our cotton,' Robinson said. 'We had tariffs on importing their textile products, and while that was happening, Brazil stepped in and took a lot of our market share just from China.' Even though China imposed retaliatory tariffs on U.S. cotton in March, Robinson explains the industry is seeing more indirect effects as a result of Trump's most recent trade war. 'To the extent that these tariffs worldwide slow economic growth, that in itself is, indirectly, is a bad thing for cotton consumption or it won't help, certainly,' Robinson said. Tariffs are one piece of a large economic puzzle. Farmers all the way from the Panhandle to South Texas have been struggling to get by for years." [Spectrum News 1, 11/6/25]

Brazil Stepped In And Took A Large Share Of The Market From China Because Of Trump's Tariffs And Trade War. "According to a Texas A&M extension economist, John Robinson, about 85% of America's cotton is exported all over the world. Trump's trade war with China back during his first term impacted the amount of cotton China imported from America. 'They had tariffs on importing our cotton,' Robinson said. 'We had tariffs on importing their textile products, and while that was happening, Brazil stepped in and took a lot of our market share just from China.' Even though China imposed retaliatory tariffs on U.S. cotton in March, Robinson explains the industry is seeing more indirect effects as a result of Trump's most recent trade war. 'To the extent that these tariffs worldwide slow economic growth, that in itself is, indirectly, is a bad thing for cotton consumption or it won't help, certainly,' Robinson said. Tariffs are one piece of a large economic puzzle. Farmers all the way from the Panhandle to South Texas have been struggling to get by for years." [Spectrum News 1, 11/6/25]

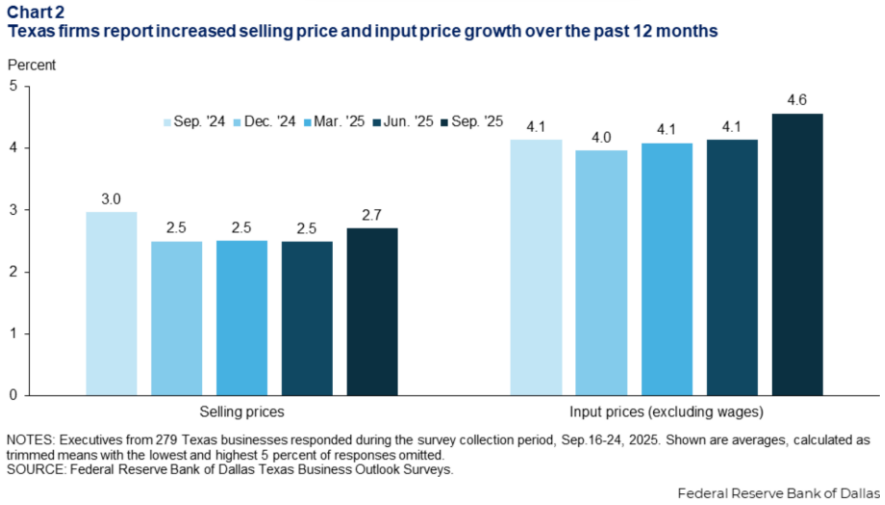
March 2026: Texas Farmers Needed Trump's $12 Billion Aid Package Because They Were Hit Hard By Tariffs Disrupted Trade Markets

March 2026: Texas Farmers Needed Trump's $12 Billion Aid Package Because They Were Hit Hard By Tariffs Disrupted Trade Markets. "In December, President Trump announced a $12-billion aid package for farmers through the Farmer Bridge Assistance Program. Those who qualify could receive payments by March 28. Farmers have been hit hard by temporary trade market disruptions, increased production costs, and unforeseen disasters like fires, floods, and parasites. Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller said it has been tough, but things are trending upward." [KFOX 14, 3/2/26]

Trump's Reckless Tariffs Cost The Texas Economy $21 Billion, Raised Prices For Texans, And Were Bad For Texas Businesses

Tariffs Increased Input Costs For Texas Businesses, Which In Turn Raised Their Prices On Texas Consumers

Federal Reserve Bank Of Dallas: "Nearly Half Of Firms Reported In August That Their Input Costs Rose Because Of Higher Tariffs, And More Than A Quarter Said They Increased Selling Prices As A Result." "Input price growth had hovered around 4.1 percent since September 2024, jumping to 4.6 percent this past September. Tariffs appeared to play a key role; nearly half of firms reported in August that their input costs rose because of higher tariffs, and more than a quarter said they increased selling prices as a result. Tariffs are increasingly working through the economy." [Federal Reserve Bank Of Dallas, 11/14/25]



- **Federal Reserve Bank Of Dallas: "TBOS [Texas Business Outlook Surveys] Firms Reported Their Selling Prices In September Rose 2.7 Percent Over The Prior 12 Months, Up From The 2.5 Percent Reported For The 12 Months Ended In June."** "TBOS firms reported their selling prices in September rose 2.7 percent over the prior 12 months, up from the 2.5 percent reported for the 12 months ended in June (Chart 2). Much of the uptick can be attributed to firms passing along some input price increases." [Federal Reserve Bank Of Dallas, 11/14/25]

Federal Reserve Bank Of Dallas: 59% Of Firms Said Increasing Tariffs Negatively Impacted Their Business, And Most Said The Costs Were Being Passed On To Consumers

Federal Reserve Bank Of Dallas: "In The April TBOS [Texas Business Outlook Surveys] […] 59 Percent Of Firms Said Increasing Tariffs Negatively Affected Them." "However, the recent broad-based decline in sentiment appears to be aligned with fundamentals, suggesting it may be a leading signal rather than noise disconnected from fundamentals. In the April TBOS, for example, 59 percent of firms said increasing tariffs negatively affected them, a rise from September 2018 when just over a third of firms noted a negative impact." [Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, 5/15/25]

Table 1 Texas firms expect greater impact from tariffs in 2025 than 2018-19

	Sept. '18 (percent)	June '19 (percent)	April '25 (percent)
Increase in input costs	44	36	67
Increase in selling prices	28	22	47
Decrease in profit margins	NA	29	58
Increase in supplier delivery time	20	18	30
Decrease in production/revenue	19	17	41
Decrease in employment	8	10	31
Decrease in capital spending	14	18	40
Decrease in company outlook	20	28	60

NOTES: Number of responses equals 271 in April 2025 survey. Most recent survey collection period was April 15–23. The April 2025 question was "What net impact do you expect higher tariffs to have on the following aspects of your firm's business this year?" The question in 2018–19 asked about the realized impact.
SOURCE: Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas Texas Business Outlook Surveys.

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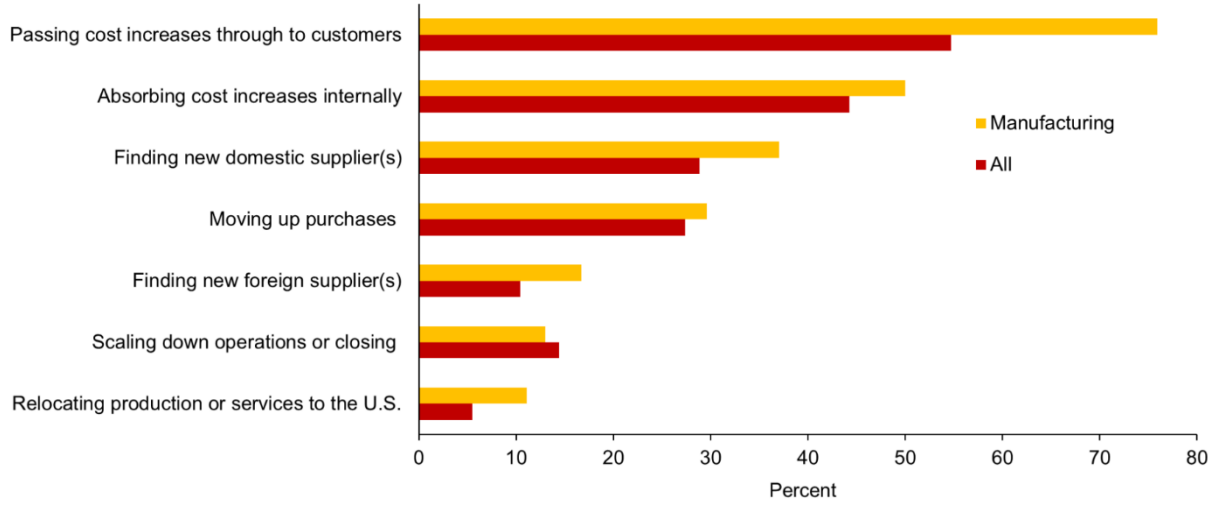
Federal Reserve Bank Of Dallas: "Texas Firms Are Taking Multiple Actions In Response To Higher Tariffs (Chart 3). Among Firms Negatively Affected, Most Are Passing Cost Increases Through To Customers (55 Percent)." "Texas firms are taking multiple actions in response to higher tariffs (Chart 3). Among firms negatively affected, most are passing cost increases through to customers (55 percent) or absorbing costs internally (44 percent). Manufacturers and retailers are especially likely to act on prices, with 76 percent of manufacturing and retail firms impacted noting plans to pass on higher costs to customers." [Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, 5/15/25]

Chart 3
Firms plan variety of business responses to tariff challenges



NOTES: Total number of responses equals 201. Manufacturing responses equal 54. The question posed was "What actions, if any, are you taking (or planning to take) in response to higher tariffs? Please select all that apply." This question was only asked of firms that said tariffs would negatively affect their business this year. "Other" and "none" are not shown. Survey collection period was April 15–23.
SOURCE: Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas Texas Business Outlook Surveys.

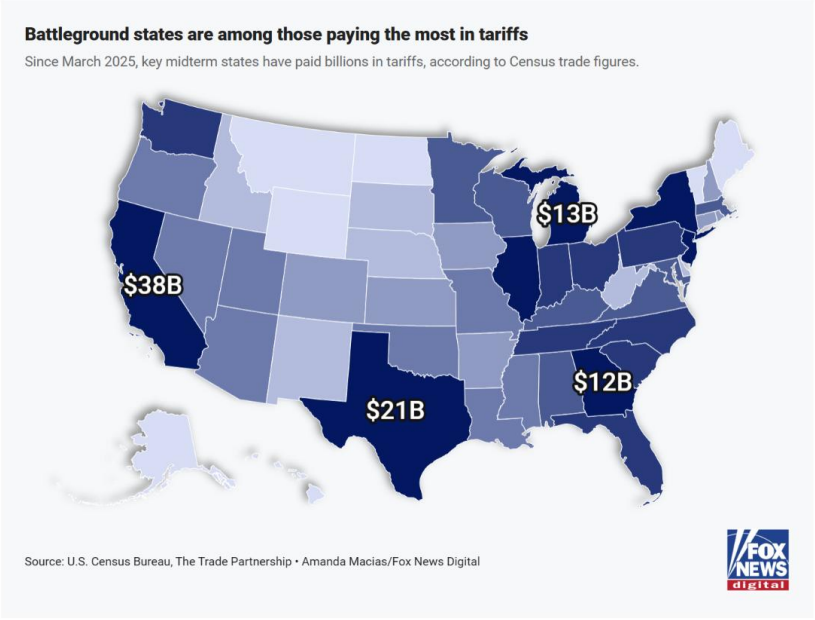
Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

March 2025 - February 2026: Trump's Tariffs Cost Texas, The Top Exporting State In The U.S., $21 Billion

Fox Business Headline: "From Cattle To Crude: How Trump's Tariffs Are Rattling The Lone Star State." [Fox Business, 7/14/25]

Fox Business: "Texas, The Nation's Top Exporter, Relies Heavily On International Commerce, Making It Highly Vulnerable To President Donald Trump's Sweeping Tariffs." "Texas, the nation's top exporter, relies heavily on international commerce, making it highly vulnerable to President Donald Trump's sweeping tariffs. From cattle to cotton to crude, Texas trade contributed a cool $850 billion to the U.S. economy in 2024, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas." [Fox Business, 7/14/25]

February 2026: Since March 2025, Paid Tariffs Cost The Texas Economy $21 Billion. "California and Texas — the nation's two largest state economies — top the list in tariff totals at $38 billion and $21 billion, driven by the volume of imports flowing through major ports and industrial supply chains. Among the states with the most consequential Senate races are Georgia and Michigan, both of which carry sizable tariff burdens, underscoring how deeply their economies are intertwined with international trade. " [Fox News, 2/13/26]



[Fox News, 2/13/26]

March 2024-March 2025: Tariffs Paid By Texas Importers Surged 165%, Dimming Business Outlook

Fox Business: "Farmers For Free Trade, A Nonprofit Advocacy Group, Estimates That Tariffs Paid By Texas Importers In March Surged 165% To $1.5 Billion Compared To March 2024." "Meanwhile, Farmers for Free Trade, a nonprofit advocacy group, estimates that tariffs paid by Texas importers in March surged 165% to $1.5 billion compared to March 2024.When asked about the potential impact of tariffs, a spokesperson for Texas Gov. Greg Abbott called it a 'rare chance to reset global supply chains.'" [Fox Business, 7/14/25]

Federal Reserve Bank Of Dallas: "Texas Firms Report That The Impact Of Higher Tariffs Has Considerably Dimmed Business Outlooks, With Weakening Demand, Policy Uncertainty And Inflation Among The Primary Concerns." "While lagging indicators reflect resilient growth for the

Texas economy, more recent survey data suggest diminished momentum amid elevated uncertainty about the outlook. Job growth was solid in the first quarter. However, the Dallas Fed's Texas Business Outlook Surveys (TBOS), which are timelier than government jobs data, point to broad-based weakening in business activity. Texas firms report that the impact of higher tariffs has considerably dimmed business outlooks, with weakening demand, policy uncertainty and inflation among the primary concerns." [Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, 5/15/25]

Fall 2025: Federal Reserve Bank Of Dallas: The Texas Economy Cooled In The Fall Due To Tariffs

Federal Reserve Bank Of Dallas: "The Texas Economy Appears To Have Cooled In The Fall […] Survey Respondents Reported Increasing Price Pressures Due To Tariffs." "After heating up during the summer, the Texas economy appears to have cooled in the fall. The Texas Business Outlook Surveys headline indexes indicate an easing of economic growth in October, and survey respondents reported increasing price pressures due to tariffs. Those tariffs along with reduced immigration and heightened policy uncertainty have affected the regional economy." [Federal Reserve Bank Of Dallas, 11/14/25]

Eric Flores Message #4 Backup

Then, Flores strongly supports ICE's harassment and mass deportation of law-abiding, hardworking residents, ripping families apart and hurting our farmers and small businesses which raises costs on South Texans. Flores even defended ICE after they killed an American calling it a "good shoot."

Then, Flores Strongly Supports ICE's Harassment And Mass Deportation Of Law-Abiding, Hardworking Residents, Ripping Families Apart

Flores Called ICE Agents "Heroes" And Said He Stood With ICE, Even As Federal Immigration Officers Shot And Killed At Least Four People, Tear Gassed A Baby, And Dragged A Disabled U.S. Citizen From Her Car

July 2025: Flores Shared A Post Calling ICE Agents "Heroes" And Tweeted "#StandWithICE"

Flores Quote Tweeted A Karoline Levitt Post That Called ICE "Heroes" And Included A Photo That Stated "I Stand With ICE." "Echoing @KLevit: #StandWithICE. As HSI's 2024 Prosecutor of the Year, I've seen firsthand the courage and resolve of our DHS (ICE/HSI) agents. We've got your back. #HSI #LawEnforcementHeroes" [Eric D Flores, Twitter, 7/10/25]

- **July 2025: Flores: "Echoing @KLevit: #StandWithICE"** "Echoing @KLevit: #StandWithICE. As HSI's 2024 Prosecutor of the Year, I've seen firsthand the courage and resolve of our DHS (ICE/HSI) agents. We've got your back. #HSI #LawEnforcementHeroes" [Eric D Flores, Twitter, 7/10/25]

Flores Defended ICE's Mass Deportation Enforcement

San Antonio Express-News: Flores "Did Little To Distinguish His Views [On Immigration] From Trump's." "During his bid to win the GOP nomination in a crowded primary, Flores was bullish on border security and did little to distinguish his views on the matter from Trump's." [San Antonio Express-News, 3/12/26]

Eric Flores: "Those ICE Agents That Are Out There In Minnesota, They Are Conducting Legal Enforcement Operations." "Those ICE agents that are out there in Minnesota, they are conducting legal enforcement operations, identifying those that have broken the law here in the United States." [Forbes Interview, 9:09, 2/4/26] (VIDEO)

Eric Flores: "The Facts Are That You Had Citizens Disrupting Lawful Operations, Right. If You See Some Of These Videos, We Had One Person Who Weaponized Their Vehicle Against An Agent." "Here are the facts: the facts are that you had citizens disrupting lawful operations, right. If you see some of these videos, we had one person who weaponized their vehicle against an agent. She was not interrupting just for 30 seconds as those videos showed, she was there since the morning interdicting in a lawful operation." [Forbes Interview, 10:34, 2/4/26] (VIDEO)

The Federal Government Deployed More Than 3,000 Immigration Enforcement Officials To Minneapolis During "Operation Metro Surge" To Arrest And Deport Thousands Of Migrants. "This deadly operation included more than 3,000 ICE and CBP officers deployed in the Twin Cities and throughout the state of Minnesota. The administration heavily targeted Somali and Southeast Asian refugee communities as an attempt to link these established immigrant communities to the fraud investigations involving a small handful of people. This operation was characterized by brutally violent arrest tactics and an overwhelming community response from Minnesotans in opposition to violent immigration arrests. DHS agents shot at least three people during this operation, two of these shootings were fatal. DHS officers shot and killed Renee Nicole Good and Alex Pretti on camera while they were engaged in constitutionally protected observation of immigration enforcement. So far, the operation has resulted in more than 4,000 arrests." [Immigrant Legal Resource Center, accessed 9/29/26]

Since Trump's Second Term Began, Federal Immigration Officers Shot Ten People, Killing Four

PBS Headline: "Shooting Deaths Climb In Trump's Mass Deportation Effort." [PBS, 1/29/26]

PBS: There Were Four Shooting Deaths Linked To Immigration Enforcement Federal Officers, Since The Start Of The Second Trump Administration. " Operation Metro Surge in Minneapolis, billed by the Department of Homeland Security as the largest immigration enforcement operation ever, has resulted in three shootings in the first month of 2026. The killing of Alex Pretti on Jan. 24 by federal officers under U.S. Customs and Border Protection is at least the fourth shooting fatality linked to immigration enforcement since Trump returned to the Oval Office." [PBS, 1/29/26]

Washington Post: "Department Of Homeland Security Officers Have Fired Shots During Enforcement Arrests Or At People Protesting Their Operations 16 Times Since July […] At Least 10 People Have Been Struck By Bullets Including Four U.S. Citizens." "Department of Homeland Security officers have fired shots during enforcement arrests or at people protesting their operations 16 times since July, and as in the recent shootings in Minneapolis, in each case the Trump administration has publicly declared their actions justified before waiting for investigations to be completed. Most of the incidents involve officers firing at drivers during enforcement stops in cities like Los Angeles and Chicago where DHS has surged federal immigration officers. At least 10 people have been struck by bullets — including four U.S. citizens." [Washington Post, 1/27/26]

January 2026: Federal Immigration Officers Smashed The Car Window Of A Disabled Woman Who Was A U.S. Citizen And Dragged Her Out Of Her Car

January 2026: NewsNation: "A Disabled Woman On Her Way To A Medical Appointment Who Was Dragged Out Of Her Car By Federal Immigration Officers Says She Feels 'Lucky To Be Alive.'" "A disabled woman on her way to a medical appointment who was dragged out of her car by federal immigration officers says she feels 'lucky to be alive.' Aliya Rahman, a U.S. citizen, was on her way to a doctor's appointment in Minneapolis when she encountered federal agents at an intersection. Video of her arrest went viral online, and it appears to show a masked agent smashing Rahman's passenger side window and others cutting her seatbelt. It also shows them dragging her out of her car through the driver's side door and guards carrying her by her arms and legs." [NewsNation, 1/17/26]

- **January 2026: NewsNation: Video "Shows [Agents] Dragging Her Out Of Her Car Through The Driver's Side Door And Guards Carrying Her By Her Arms And Legs."** "A disabled woman on her way to a medical appointment who was dragged out of her car by federal immigration officers says she feels 'lucky to be alive.' Aliya Rahman, a U.S. citizen, was on her way to a doctor's appointment in Minneapolis when she encountered federal agents at an intersection. Video of her arrest went viral online, and it appears to show a masked agent smashing Rahman's passenger side window and others cutting her seatbelt. It also shows them dragging her out of her car through the driver's side door and guards carrying her by her arms and legs." [NewsNation, 1/17/26]

January 2026: Federal Immigration Agents Deployed Tear Gas Which Filled A Family's Car, Putting A 6-Month-Old Baby In The Hospital, Then DHS Blamed The Family

Federal Immigration Agents Deployed Tear Gas Near A Family In Their Car On Their Way Home From A Basketball Game, Causing Their Car To Fill With Tear Gas

Mother Jones Headline: "ICE's Tear Gas Sent A 6-Month-Old To The Hospital, The Latest In An Alarming Pattern." [Mother Jones, 1/16/26]

Mother Jones: "A Mother In Minneapolis Rushed To Perform CPR On Her 6-Month-Old Baby On Wednesday Night After Federal Immigration Agents Deployed A Flash Bang And Chemical Agent Near Her Car." "A mother in Minneapolis rushed to perform CPR on her 6-month-old baby on Wednesday night after federal immigration agents deployed a flash bang and chemical agent near her car, leading several members of the family to be taken to the hospital. The Jackson family told local news outlets that they were coming home from their son's basketball game when they got stuck between protesters and immigration agents, unable to drive away. That's when, according to the family, their car began filling with a chemical irritant." [Mother Jones, 1/16/26]

- **Mother Jones: "The Jackson Family Told Local News Outlets That They Were Coming Home From Their Son's Basketball Game When They Got Stuck Between Protesters And Immigration Agents."** "A mother in Minneapolis rushed to perform CPR on her 6-month-old baby on Wednesday night after federal immigration agents deployed a flash bang and chemical agent near her car, leading several members of the family to be taken to the hospital. The Jackson family told local news outlets that they were coming home from their son's basketball game when they got stuck between protesters and immigration agents, unable to drive away. That's when, according to the family, their car began filling with a chemical irritant." [Mother Jones, 1/16/26]

In A Since-Deleted Post, The Department Of Homeland Security Appeared To Blame The Family For The Baby's Hospitalization, And Suggested They Were "Radical Agitators" Who Brought Their Children To A Riot

Mother Jones: "In An X Post That Appears To Have Been Taken Down, DHS Appeared To Blame The Jackson Family For Their Hospitalization. 'It Is Horrific To See Radical Agitators Bring Children To Their Violent Riots.'" "Several members of the family were taken to the hospital. Destiny called the incident 'very traumatizing' in a GoFundMe post, writing that 'never in a million years would I have thought something like this would happen to me and my family.' In an X post that appears to have been taken down, DHS appeared to blame the Jackson family for their hospitalization. 'It is horrific to see radical agitators bring children to their violent riots,' adding, 'PLEASE STOP ENDANGERING YOUR CHILDREN.'" [Mother Jones, 1/16/26]

Trump Said He Would Deport The "Worst Of The Worst," But Most ICE Detainees Had No Criminal Record, And ICE Deported U.S. Citizens, Children, And People Who Were In The Country Legally To Work

Even As Trump Said He Wanted To Deport The "Worst Of The Worst," The Majority Of People In ICE Detention Had No Criminal Convictions

Associated Press Headline: "Trump Says He Wants To Deport 'The Worst Of The Worst.' Government Data Tells Another Story." [Associated Press, 7/12/25]

AP: July 2025: "President Donald Trump Has Pledged To Deport 'The Worst Of The Worst' […] Yet The Majority Of People Currently Detained By ICE Have No Criminal Convictions." "President Donald Trump has pledged to deport 'the worst of the worst.' He frequently speaks at public appearances about the countless 'dangerous criminals' — among them murderers, rapists and child predators — from around the world he says entered the U.S. illegally under the Biden administration. He promises to expel millions of migrants in the largest deportation program in American history to protect law-abiding citizens from the violent threats he says they pose. But government data around ongoing detentions tells a different story. There has been an increase of arrests by U.S. Immigration and Customs

Enforcement since Trump began his second term, with reports of raids across the country. Yet the majority of people currently detained by ICE have no criminal convictions." [Associated Press, 7/12/25]

May 2025: ICE Deported Two Children Who They Reportedly Knew Were U.S. Citizens

Common Dreams Headline: "ICE Just Deported Two More US Citizen Children." [Common Dreams, 5/9/25]

Common Dreams: "Parra Vargas An Ankle Monitor To Wear And Told To Visit An Intensive Supervision Appearance Program (ISAP) Office To Check In With ICE Agents […] Instead She And Her Minor Children Were Detained, Including Two U.S. Citizen Children." "Authorities gave Parra Vargas an ankle monitor to wear and told to visit an Intensive Supervision Appearance Program (ISAP) office to check in with ICE agents. According to the advocacy groups, ICE told her if she attended all her ISAP appointments she would be eligible for a work permit. Parra Vargas was also told to attend a hearing for Gallardo Rodríguez at an ICE facility on May 6. 'But her partner had no hearing and instead she and her minor children were detained, including two U.S. citizen children,' said the groups." [Common Dreams, 5/9/25]

Common Dreams: "ICE Was Informed By The Family And Legal Advocates That The Children Were U.S. Citizens And ICE Knowingly Deported Them Anyway In Violation Of Their Own Policies And Laws" "The advocacy groups said that while ICE may claim it gave Parra Vargas the 'choice' to leave her young children in the U.S., the agency 'did not allow for communication with nearby family members who were willing to keep the children and instead detained them for 24 hours in secretive locations before deporting the U.S. citizen children to Mexico.' 'ICE was informed by the family and legal advocates that the children were U.S. citizens and ICE knowingly deported them anyway in violation of their own policies and laws,' said the groups." [Common Dreams, 5/9/25]

June 2025: ICE Deported An Army Sergeant's Wife In Houston Who Held A Work Permit

Texas Tribune Headline: "'They're Taking Shirly': An Army Sergeant In Houston Thought His Family Was Safe, Then ICE Deported His Wife." [Texas Tribune, 6/16/25]

June 2025: ICE Deported Houston Army Sgt. Ayssac Correa's Wife To Honduras Even Though She Had A Work Permit. "Sgt. Ayssac Correa had just started his day at the 103rd Quartermaster Company outside of Houston on the morning of March 13 when he got a phone call from his sister-in-law. She worked at the same company as Correa's wife and had just pulled into the parking lot to see three ICE agents handcuffing her […] Guardado had gotten a work permit and an order of supervision from ICE, meaning she needed to check in regularly with immigration officials, after she was apprehended crossing the border about 10 years earlier, her lawyer, Martin Reza, told The War Horse." [Texas Tribune, 6/16/25]

August 2025: Federal Immigration Officials Wrongly Deported A South Texas Man Who Had Been Working And Living In The U.S. For More Than 20 Years

Texas Tribune Headline: "After Being Wrongfully Deported, A South Texas Man And His Family Navigate Realities Of Shifting Immigration Policies." [Texas Tribune, 8/7/25]

Texas Tribune: "Jaime Galvan Sanchez, 48, Had Been Working, Driving A Tractor Down A Road In The Small Town Of Primera When A Police Officer Pulled Him Over For Obstructing The Street […] After Living In The U.S. For More Than 20 Years, It Took Less Than 24 Hours For

Immigration Officials To Deport Him To Mexico." "Geovanna's father Jaime Galvan Sanchez, 48, had been working, driving a tractor down a road in the small town of Primera when a police officer pulled him over for obstructing the street. When Jaime couldn't produce identification, the officer called U.S. Border Patrol […] Geovanna waited all night for that call. Finally, the next morning at around 8:45 a.m., Jaime called from the Mexican border city of Reynosa. After living in the U.S. for more than 20 years, it took less than 24 hours for immigration officials to deport him to Mexico. Two days later, in a surprising reversal, Border Patrol admitted they had made a mistake. Geovanna received a call from the Border Patrol chief in McAllen who apologized for the error of removing Jaime from the country without the due process he should have been entitled to." [Texas Tribune, 8/7/25]

- **Texas Tribune: "Two Days Later, In A Surprising Reversal, Border Patrol Admitted They Had Made A Mistake […] From The Border Patrol Chief In McAllen Who Apologized For The Error Of Removing Jaime From The Country Without The Due Process."** "Geovanna's father Jaime Galvan Sanchez, 48, had been working, driving a tractor down a road in the small town of Primera when a police officer pulled him over for obstructing the street. When Jaime couldn't produce identification, the officer called U.S. Border Patrol […] Geovanna waited all night for that call. Finally, the next morning at around 8:45 a.m., Jaime called from the Mexican border city of Reynosa. After living in the U.S. for more than 20 years, it took less than 24 hours for immigration officials to deport him to Mexico. Two days later, in a surprising reversal, Border Patrol admitted they had made a mistake. Geovanna received a call from the Border Patrol chief in McAllen who apologized for the error of removing Jaime from the country without the due process he should have been entitled to." [Texas Tribune, 8/7/25]

And Hurting Our Farmers And Small Businesses Which Raises Costs On South Texans.

ICE's Reckless And Sweeping Immigration Raids Harmed The Rio Grande Valley Economy And Drove Up Material And Home Prices, With Home Builders Struggling To Complete Contracted Work Due To A Lack Of Workers

ICE's Reckless Immigration Raids Alarmed Rio Grande Valley Homebuilders And Their Aligned Trade Groups And Impacted The Industry's Workforce

Wall Street Journal Headline: "Immigration Raids In South Texas Are Starting To Hit The Economy." [Wall Street Journal, 2/9/26]

Wall Street Journal: "Across The Rio Grande Valley […] Trade Groups Are Raising Alarms About Aggressive Immigration Enforcement Wreaking Economic Havoc." "Alejandro Garcia, one of several builders with homes under way in the development, said of the challenges in trying to hire workers. The situation is becoming familiar across the Rio Grande Valley, where trade groups are raising alarms about aggressive immigration enforcement wreaking economic havoc. Construction delays threaten higher prices for buyers and lower margins for builders. Some builders said they just hope to break even on delayed projects." [Wall Street Journal, 2/9/26]

NBC News: "Homebuilders Who Spoke To NBC News Said They're Worried About Whether They Will Make It Through The Year Without The Framers, Foundation Pourers, Drywallers And Other Workers Who Were Arrested In Construction Site Immigration Raids." "More than a year since President Donald Trump flipped the traditionally Democratic Rio Grande Valley, his deportation agenda is running headlong into the region's workforce. Several homebuilders who spoke to NBC News

said they're worried about whether they will make it through the year without the framers, foundation pourers, drywallers and other workers who were arrested in construction site immigration raids or who are too afraid to work. Several builders openly acknowledge that the region relies on immigrant workers, many of them undocumented, a number of whom have been working and living there for years." [NBC News, 2/24/26]

Wall Street Journal: "The American Immigration Council Estimates That About 23% Of Construction Workers In Texas Are Undocumented […] Others Figure The Share In The Rio Grande Valley Is Much Higher." "Guerrero said his industry is not unlike the agriculture industry, which has long used unauthorized workers — about 40% as of 2022, according to the U.S. Agriculture Department. The American Immigration Council estimates that about 23% of construction workers in Texas are undocumented. Cavazos and others figure the share in the Rio Grande Valley is much higher." [NBC News, 2/24/26]

Home Buyers Faced Higher Prices And Delays In Construction As Builders Struggled To Recruit Builders

Wall Street Journal: "Homes Are Months Behind Schedule, And Contractors Face An Uphill Battle To Recruit More Workers To Finish Them." "'They hear Monte Cielo and say, 'No, no. You can pay me whatever you want, but I'm not going to go work there,' Alejandro Garcia, one of several builders with homes under way in the development, said of the challenges in trying to hire workers. The situation is becoming familiar across the Rio Grande Valley, where trade groups are raising alarms about aggressive immigration enforcement wreaking economic havoc. Construction delays threaten higher prices for buyers and lower margins for builders. Some builders said they just hope to break even on delayed projects. Materials suppliers are laying off employees." [Wall Street Journal, 2/9/26]

- **Wall Street Journal: "Construction Delays Threaten Higher Prices For Buyers And Lower Margins For Builders."** "'They hear Monte Cielo and say, 'No, no. You can pay me whatever you want, but I'm not going to go work there,' Alejandro Garcia, one of several builders with homes under way in the development, said of the challenges in trying to hire workers. The situation is becoming familiar across the Rio Grande Valley, where trade groups are raising alarms about aggressive immigration enforcement wreaking economic havoc. Construction delays threaten higher prices for buyers and lower margins for builders. Some builders said they just hope to break even on delayed projects. Materials suppliers are laying off employees." [Wall Street Journal, 2/9/26]

A Rio Grande Valley Construction Material Supplier Went Bankrupt And Laid Off Over 100 Workers Due To Falling Demand That Coincided With Immigration Raids

Wall Street Journal: "Materials Suppliers Are Laying Off Employees." "'They hear Monte Cielo and say, 'No, no. You can pay me whatever you want, but I'm not going to go work there,' Alejandro Garcia, one of several builders with homes under way in the development, said of the challenges in trying to hire workers. The situation is becoming familiar across the Rio Grande Valley, where trade groups are raising alarms about aggressive immigration enforcement wreaking economic havoc. Construction delays threaten higher prices for buyers and lower margins for builders. Some builders said they just hope to break even on delayed projects. Materials suppliers are laying off employees." [Wall Street Journal, 2/9/26]

- **Wall Street Journal: "57 Concrete, A Large Regional Concrete Supplier, Saw Concrete Use Fall 60% Between Late May And November As Home Builders Lost Workers And Were Unable To Move Forward With Construction."** "57 Concrete, a large regional concrete supplier,

saw concrete use fall 60% between late May and November as home builders lost workers and were unable to move forward with construction, CEO Eliud Cavazos said. The Mission, Texas-based company had to lay off 60 of its 150 workers, shut a department focused on continuous improvement and halt new investment, Cavazos said.
The five-year-old company filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganization in December, citing the drop in demand coinciding with immigration raids." [Wall Street Journal, 2/9/26]

- **Wall Street Journal: "57 Concrete […] The Mission, Texas-Based Company Had To Lay Off 60 Of Its 150 Workers, Shut A Department Focused On Continuous Improvement And Halt New Investment."** "57 Concrete, a large regional concrete supplier, saw concrete use fall 60% between late May and November as home builders lost workers and were unable to move forward with construction, CEO Eliud Cavazos said. The Mission, Texas-based company had to lay off 60 of its 150 workers, shut a department focused on continuous improvement and halt new investment, Cavazos said. The five-year-old company filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganization in December, citing the drop in demand coinciding with immigration raids." [Wall Street Journal, 2/9/26]

- **Wall Street Journal: "57 Concrete […] The Five-Year-Old Company Filed For Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Reorganization In December, Citing The Drop In Demand Coinciding With Immigration Raids."** "57 Concrete, a large regional concrete supplier, saw concrete use fall 60% between late May and November as home builders lost workers and were unable to move forward with construction, CEO Eliud Cavazos said […] The five-year-old company filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganization in December, citing the drop in demand coinciding with immigration raids. The chapter 11 filing 'is the most responsible thing I can do,' Cavazos told The Wall Street Journal. He said that his employees, who are all U.S. citizens or have legal work status, would frequently witness immigration raids when delivering products." [Wall Street Journal, 2/9/26]

Flores Even Defended ICE After They Killed An American Calling It A "Good Shoot."

Flores Defended ICE's Killing Of Renee Nicole Good, Calling It A "Good Shoot," And Echoed Inaccurate Accounts To Try To Justify Her Death

January 2026: ICE Agents Shot And Killed Renee Nicole Good In Minneapolis

January 2026: ICE Agents Shot And Killed 37-Year-Old U.S. Citizen Renee Nicole Good. "Renee Nicole Good, a 37-year-old US citizen, was killed when an ICE agent shot into her vehicle during an encounter Wednesday morning. Good's ex-husband said she had just dropped off her 6-year-old son at school when she encountered the ICE agents, The Associated Press reported." [CNN, 1/9/26]

CNN: "Good's Ex-Husband Said She Had Just Dropped Off Her 6-Year-Old Son At School When She Encountered The ICE Agents." "Renee Nicole Good, a 37-year-old US citizen, was killed when an ICE agent shot into her vehicle during an encounter Wednesday morning. Good's ex-husband said she had just dropped off her 6-year-old son at school when she encountered the ICE agents, The Associated Press reported." [CNN, 1/9/26]

- **ABC News: The ICE Agent "Shot Through The Front Windshield Toward Good At 9:37:13 A.M., According To ABC News' Metadata Analysis."** "A Ford Explorer with California license plates that had been on the side of Portland Avenue can be seen on video pulling out onto the street. A

different video shows Good's driver-side front window is open, and she appears to gesture for the Ford Explorer to pass in front of her Honda Pilot, which it does. Good continues to wave her hand from left to right after the Ford passes as two other officers are seen pulling up in an unmarked Nissan Titan pickup truck with flashing red and blue lights. They stop in the middle of the street." [ABC News, 1/9/26]

- **According To ABC News Renee Nicole Good's Honda Pilot Was Stopped Diagonally On The Street Allowing For At Least Four Cars To Pass Perpendicularly."** "Renee Nicole Good's Honda Pilot is stopped diagonally on Portland Avenue while at least four cars pass perpendicularly, according to video footage recorded by Reini-Grandell. The passenger side front window is closed while the rear window is mostly open. Seconds later, at least three federal agents wearing masks are seen walking toward the Honda Pilot, as bystanders can be heard whistling and yelling at officers." [ABC News, 1/9/26]

Flores Defended The Shooting Of Renee Good, Calling It A "Good Shoot" And "Click Bait"

Flores On Renee Good's Shooting: "From What I Have Seen, I Have Actually Been Involved Investigations Like That. It Was A Good Shoot." HOST: "So in Minneapolis, this woman got shot, rabble rouser. I mean, let's, let's call it what is. All reports say that she was there, impeding in the way, trying to prevent ICE from doing their job. She just been a thorn in the side all day." […] FLORES: "Yeah, let's touch, let's touch that one first. You know, you have somebody, of course, the leftist media, right? What I call the MSM, they're going to just show a very short clip, right? It's click bait, but really and truly, that lady had been obstructing ICE raids, right? That's why they are, that is lawful enforcement, that they are there, that is why they are there, right? They're lawfully present in that area. But yet, you have somebody who is there obstructing law enforcement operations, right? Yeah, absolutely. So, you know, you had somebody weaponizing their vehicle, you know, in that agent acting in self-defense. From what I have seen, I have actually been involved investigations like that. It was a good shoot." [The Sergio Show, 12:35, 1/8/26] (VIDEO)

Flores On Renee Good's Shooting: "It's Click Bait, But Really And Truly, That Lady Had Been Obstructing ICE Raids." HOST: "So in Minneapolis, this woman got shot, rabble rouser. I mean, let's, let's call it what is. All reports say that she was there, impeding in the way, trying to prevent ice from doing their job. She just been a thorn in the side all day." […] FLORES: "Yeah, let's touch, let's touch that one first. You know, you have somebody, of course, the leftist media, right? What I call the MSM, they're going to just show a very short clip, right? It's click bait, but really and truly, that lady had been obstructing ICE raids, right? That's why they are, that is lawful enforcement, that they are there, that is why they are there, right? They're lawfully present in that area. But yet, you have somebody who is there obstructing law enforcement operations, right? yeah, absolutely. So, you know, you had somebody weaponizing their vehicle, you know, in that agent acting in self-defense. From what I have seen, I have actually been involved investigations like that. It was a good shoot." [The Sergio Show, 12:35, 1/8/26] (VIDEO)

Flores Said Renee Good "Weaponized Their Vehicle" Against An Agent, And Even Though The Agent Shot Her, Flores Said "Every Single One Of The Rules Of De-Escalation Was Followed"

Flores On Renee Good's Shooting: "The Facts Are That You Had Citizens Disrupting Lawful Operations, Right. If You See Some Of These Videos, We Had One Person Who Weaponized Their Vehicle Against An Agent." HOST: "So in Minneapolis, this woman got shot, rabble rouser. I mean, let's, let's call it what is. All reports say that she was there, impeding in the way, trying to prevent ice from doing their job. She just been a thorn in the side all day." […] FLORES: "Look, I think some of the

situations that have occurred, right, um, they appear, you know, to be very aggressive in nature. Um, but I think again, we're only seeing, you know, myself as being a previous investigator, you know, as a federal prosecutor, you know, a lot of those things are going to be investigated fully, right? Here are the facts: the facts are that you had citizens disrupting lawful operations, right. If you see some of these videos, we had one person who weaponized their vehicle against an agent. She was not interrupting just for 30 seconds as those videos showed, she was there since the morning interdicting in a lawful operation." [Forbes Interview, 10:14, 2/5/26] (VIDEO)

Flores On Renee Good's Shooting: "You Know, The Vehicle Is Perpendicular To Road. You Know, What Is, What Is That Indicative Of? That She Is Literally Blocking Law Enforcement Operations." HOST: "So in Minneapolis, this woman got shot, rabble rouser. I mean, let's, let's call it what is. All reports say that she was there, impeding in the way, trying to prevent ice from doing their job. She just been a thorn in the side all day." […] FLORES: "But yet, you have somebody who is there obstructing law enforcement operations, right? They gave her lawful commands. If you look in the short video that the MSM is running. You know, the vehicle is perpendicular to road. You know, what is? What is that indicative of that she is literally blocking law enforcement operations. They gave her lawful commands. And then she then proceeds to weaponize the vehicle. And if you look directly, almost at the 11:30, 12 o'clock position of the front of the vehicle, there's an ice agent there, and that vehicle was then aggressively approaching him. They, you know that you look at the rules of de-escalation, every single one of the rules of de-escalation was followed. They asked her to leave the vehicle, to leave the scene, to get out. She didn't do that." [The Sergio Show, 13:52, 1/8/26] (VIDEO)

Flores On Renee Good's Shooting: "That Vehicle Was Then Aggressively Approaching Him […] Every Single One Of The Rules Of De-Escalation Was Followed." HOST: "So in Minneapolis, this woman got shot, rabble rouser. I mean, let's, let's call it what is. All reports say that she was there, impeding in the way, trying to prevent ice from doing their job. She just been a thorn in the side all day." […] FLORES: "What I call the MSM, they're going to just show a very short clip, right? It's click bait, but really and truly, that lady had been obstructing ICE raids, right? That's why they are, that is lawful enforcement, that they are there, that is why they are there, right? They're lawfully present in that area. But yet, you have somebody who is there obstructing law enforcement operations, right? They gave her lawful commands. If you look in the short video that the MSM is running. You know, the vehicle is perpendicular to road. You know, what is? What is that indicative of that she is literally blocking law enforcement operations. They gave her lawful commands. And then she then proceeds to weaponize the vehicle. And if you look directly, almost at the 1130, 12 o'clock position of the front of the vehicle, there's an ice agent there, and that vehicle was then aggressively approaching him. They, you know that you look at the rules of de-escalation, every single one of the rules of de escalation was followed. They asked her to leave the vehicle, to leave the scene, to get out. She didn't do that." [The Sergio Show, 13:52, 1/8/26] (VIDEO)

Video Analyses Concluded The ICE Agent Was Not In The Path Of Renee Good's SUV When He Fired Three Shots At Close Range, And Good Could Be Seen Turning Her Car's Steering Wheel Away From The Agent

NBC News: "An Autopsy Commissioned By The Family Of Renee Good […] Found That She Suffered Three Clear Gunshot Wounds, Including One To Her Head." "An autopsy commissioned by the family of Renee Good, who was fatally shot by an immigration officer in Minneapolis this month, found that she suffered three clear gunshot wounds, including one to her head, lawyers for her family said Wednesday." [NBC News, 1/21/26]

- **NBC News: "A Third Shot Entered The Left Side Of Good's Head Near The Temple And Exited On The Right Side."** "One of the injuries was to Good's left forearm, the lawyers said in a statement, while another gunshot struck her right breast without piercing major organs. Neither of those wounds was immediately life-threatening, the attorneys said. A third shot entered the left side of Good's head near the temple and exited on the right side, according to the statement, and she also appeared to have sustained a graze wound." [NBC News, 1/21/26]

New York Times: "Trump Administration Officials Said These Were "Defensive Shots" Fired Because The Officer Was Being Run Over." "On Wednesday in Minneapolis, a federal agent fatally shot a motorist, 37-year-old Renee Nicole Good. Trump administration officials said these were "defensive shots" fired because the officer was being run over. But our analysis of bystander footage, filmed from different angles, appears to show the agent was not in the path of the victim's SUV when he fired three shots at close range." [New York Times, 1/8/26]

New York Times: "Our Analysis Of Bystander Footage, Filmed From Different Angles, Appears To Show The Agent Was Not In The Path Of The Victim's SUV When He Fired Three Shots At Close Range." "On Wednesday in Minneapolis, a federal agent fatally shot a motorist, 37-year-old Renee Nicole Good. Trump administration officials said these were "defensive shots" fired because the officer was being run over. But our analysis of bystander footage, filmed from different angles, appears to show the agent was not in the path of the victim's SUV when he fired three shots at close range." [New York Times, 1/8/26]