



# CÉSAR J. BLANCO

TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE • DISTRICT 76

March 10, 2015

Director Steven McCraw  
Texas Department of Public Safety  
5805 N. Lamar Blvd.  
Austin, TX 78773-0170

Dear Director McCraw:

Thank you for your service and commitment to public safety. On February 18, 2015, Maj. Gen. Nichols testified before the House Defense and Veterans' Affairs Committee. During that hearing, I requested metrics on the Texas National Guard's work during Operation Strong Safety.

As a result, my office received correspondence from the Office of the National Guard, stating that they have served in support of the Department of Public Safety's (DPS) operational framework since the beginning of the Guard's participation in Operation Strong Safety. They also stated that DPS maintains the metrics for the overall mission. Further, the office of the National Guard specified that since August 24, 2014, within their primary mission of detecting threat activity, the Texas Military Forces have observed and reported 13,584 individuals to DPS and other agencies along the border in the Rio Grande Valley.

As a follow up, I am requesting information as to the actions taken by DPS with regard to the 13,584 individuals observed and reported by Texas Military Forces. Of the 13,584 individuals identified please provide data, by county, on the following:

- The number of individuals with whom DPS made contact,
- The number of arrests and the charges associated with the arrest if applicable,
- The number of individuals released,
- The number of individuals who were U.S. citizens,
- The number of individuals who were legal permanent residents or present in the country legally, and
- The number of individuals who were present in the country without lawful status.

As the legislature continues to craft policy related to border security, it is imperative that lawmakers have information on the outcomes of Operation Strong Safety and on other activities related to border security. I look forward to your prompt response. Thank you once again for your dedicated service.

Sincerely,

Cesar J. Blanco

State Representative (HD-76)