



Texas Department of Public Safety

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Public Safety Commission discusses Border Security report and the Criminal Alien threat to Texas

During today's Public Safety Commission (PSC) meeting, Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Director Steven C. McCraw discussed the border security strategic assessment that was conducted by General Barry McCaffrey (Ret.) and Retired Major-General Robert Scales as a part of HB 4 from the 82nd Session.

The report highlighted the efforts that Texas has put in place in order to combat the threat from the Mexican cartels and commended Texas for being "the most aggressive and creative in confronting the threat."

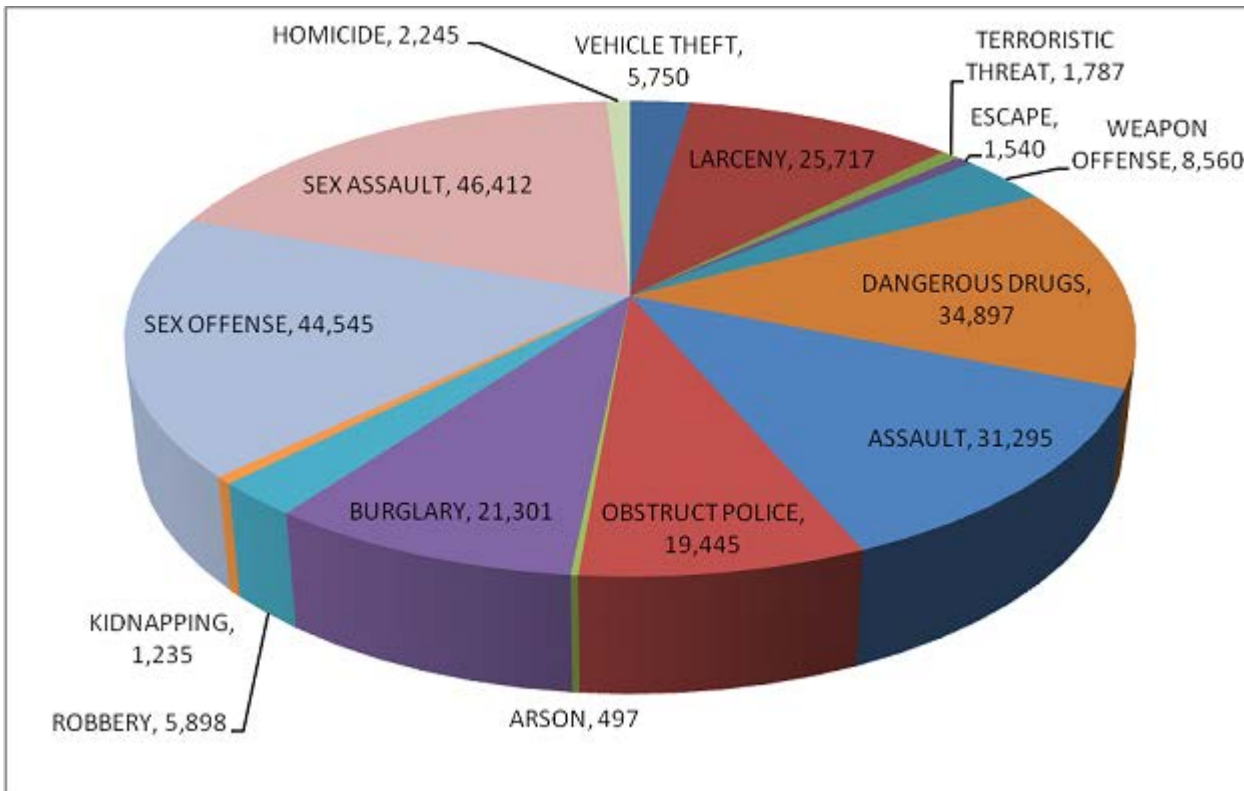
The report further determined that "criminality spawned in Mexico is spilling over to the U.S. and Texas is the tactical close combat zone and frontline of this conflict."

The Commission also discussed the impact criminal aliens were having on communities in Texas. Director McCraw stated that criminal aliens were responsible for a significant amount of crime and constituted a serious threat.

As of September 15, 2011, 6,508 illegal aliens have been identified in Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) units. These 6,508 criminal aliens are responsible for 27,880 total crimes over their criminal careers.

Furthermore, from October 2008 through August 2011, Texas has identified a total of 88,080 unique criminal alien defendants in Texas. These defendants are responsible for 344,398 individual criminal charges over their criminal careers, including 2,245 homicides and 46,412 sexual assaults. Director McCraw provided a detailed breakdown of the violations committed by the 88,080 criminal aliens.

Breakdown of 15 of the 50 Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) crime categories committed by the 88,080 criminal aliens



Public Safety Commission Chairman Allan Polunsky questioned the federal government’s use of the catch and release policy. “We are in a situation where illegal aliens are arrested and sent to jail and the federal government takes little to no action, subjecting our citizens to great harm. I am disgusted by the federal government’s lack of responsibility in this area.”

Public Safety Commissioner, and former prosecutor and Judge, Ada Brown recounted that when she served as a prosecutor she had numerous cases in which illegal aliens were convicted of serious crimes and were later released by the federal government. Commissioner Brown commented: “This is a great place to commit crime if you are an illegal alien because the prosecutors will put you away, but the federal government won’t take you away.”

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