Customs and Border Protection and the Texas Department of Public Safety have joined in a multi-agency enforcement effort to improve border security by implementing the Texas Hold’Em Initiative. The goal of this initiative is to reduce human and illegal contraband smuggling in commercial vehicles, i.e., tractor trailers, buses and freight carriers.

Key aspects of the Texas Hold’Em Initiative are:

- Use existing state laws to disqualify Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) of any person who is convicted of felony smuggling transportation charges while operating a motor vehicle.
- Educate and inform the transportation industry, freight forwarding agencies, customs brokers, commercial drivers and the general public about the initiative through a media awareness campaign.
- Increase communication and share information between law enforcement agencies and transportation stakeholders.
- This permanent statewide initiative has become standard operating procedure for all Border Patrol sectors in the State of Texas.

**Alien Smuggling is A Federal Crime!**

*Title 8, United States Code, Section 1324*

**Transporting**

- 8 USC 1324 (a)(1)(A)(ii) - Any person who knowingly transports an alien.

**Penalties**

- Causes death of an alien or others:
  DEATH PENALTY, any term of years or life imprisonment, $250,000 fine, and seizure of the conveyance.
- Causes serious bodily injury to alien or others:
  0 - 20 years imprisonment, $250,000 fine, seizure of the conveyance.
- Profit:
  0 - 10 years imprisonment, $250,000 fine, seizure of the conveyance.
- No profit:
  0 - 5 Years imprisonment, $250,000 fine, seizure of the conveyance.

**You Will LOSE Your Commercial Driver’s License Under Texas Law!**

*Texas Transportation Code, Section 522.081*

49 CFR Chapter III, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, Part 383 - Commercial Driver’s License Standards; Requirements and Penalties

**Texas Transportation Code**

In complying with 49 CFR Chapter III, the Texas Transportation Code (Title 7 Vehicles and Traffic, Chapter 522 Commercial Driver’s Licenses also known as the Texas Commercial Driver’s License Act) establishes rules which must be complied with by holding commercial driver’s licenses and all employers who hire those persons. In addition, it also provides for the withdrawal of the privilege to drive a commercial motor vehicle (through disqualification) under a state or federal law.

**Section 522.081 - Disqualification**

A person who holds a commercial driver’s license is disqualified for life from driving a commercial motor vehicle if convicted of using a motor vehicle in the commission of a felony.