



# BORDER SECURITY IS NATIONAL SECURITY

“We have received testimony before two different House Committees that **known terrorists and other dangerous Special Interest Aliens are seeking to reach our borders through illicit pathways.** This is a very real threat to the homeland that is no longer hypothetical. The primary constitutional duty of the federal government is to defend the country against all threats. We must finally treat border security as the national security issue that it truly is.”

- Chairman Michael McCaul

“Before 9/11, no agency of the U.S. government systematically analyzed terrorists’ travel strategies. Had they done so, they could have discovered the ways in which the terrorist predecessors to al Qaeda had been systematically but detectably **exploiting weaknesses in our border security since the early 1990s.**”

- 9/11 Commission Report, Chapter 12.4, “Protect Against and Prepare for Terrorist Attacks,” 2004

“We have also seen ISIS in written materials **encourage ISIS followers to cross our Southwest border** given the loopholes that they also are aware of.”

- DHS Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, 4/26/18

“Some of these people **have ties to terrorism and some have intentions to conduct attacks in the homeland.**”

- Rear Admiral Brian Hendrickson, U.S. Southern Command, 5/23/18

## SPECIAL INTEREST ALIEN PATHWAYS TO THE U.S. AIR, SEA, AND LAND



“People that were **known terrorists had been turned around in Panama** and sent back before reaching our shores... **[Biometric Identification Transnational Migration Alert Program] has already proven successful.** It has already proven that people who want to do harm to this country have been stopped on the way rather than on the border or inside the United States.”

- Acting ICE Director Thomas Homan, 5/22/18

“So last year in FY 2017 we prevented over **3,700 Known or Suspected Terrorists** from traveling to the United States... We’re trying to get the information ahead of time so that before they ever come to the United States we can prevent them from traveling.”

- DHS Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, 6/21/18

“We are identifying and stopping terror suspects who would otherwise have gone undetected. In fact, on average, my Department now blocks **10 Known or Suspected Terrorists a day** from traveling or attempting to enter the United States.”

- DHS Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, 6/12/18

“We face **very real threats** from so-called **Special Interest Aliens** that move at great expense from vast distances outside the hemisphere along the network into the U.S. The ‘special interest’ is that **they are from parts of the world where terrorism is prevalent**, or nations that are hostile to the United States.”

- Former DHS Secretary John Kelly, 4/18/17

“I would say we’re **increasing information sharing.** We’re working with them on ability to help them repatriate particularly **Special Interest Aliens** that they find within or identify within Mexico on their way up.”

- DHS Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, 6/21/18

“Based on declassified **CIA report** written in 2003, specific information at the time demonstrates **Al Qaeda’s “ongoing interest to enter the United States** over land borders with Mexico and Canada.”

- L.A. Times, “Bin Laden apparently sought operatives with valid Mexican passports,” 5/2/12 (CIA Report, “Al-Qaeda Remains Intent on Defeating U.S. Immigration Inspections,” 2003)