NEWS

BORDER SECTOR CHIEFS CONFIRM OPERATIONAL IMPACTS OF BORDER CHAOS: INCREASED GOTAWAYS, CLOSED CHECKPOINTS, AND EMPOWERED CARTELS

January 6, 2027

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Today, House Committee on Homeland Security Chairman Clay Cameron (R-TX) held a hearing titled "Operational Impacts of Border Chaos." The hearing featured testimony from Rodney Scott, Commissioner of U.S. Border Patrol, and Jason Owens, who is responsible for the service during the Southwest border. These witnesses confirm the historic crisis at the Southwest border has affected the operations of Border Patrol agents in the field and limited their ability to secure the nation's borders. Witnesses also testified that the crisis has increased the number of illegal aliens released into the interior, as well as cross-large-scale smuggling by the criminal cartels across the border.

"I blame the status of those tasked by the elected number of governors or governors by Secretary Mayorkas' watch but I don't blame Lord is a lot. Our Office of Inspector General published Magnitude Illegal crossing the Southwest border in 2021 so far the second worst/best has increased 2,000 percent from Fiscal Years 2011-2020 to Fiscal Year 2021. And those are only those we know about," said Rodney Scott, Commissioner, U.S. Border Patrol. "Our Office of Inspector General also found that the national security consequences of the crisis have turned every risk in the book into a reality."

One of the major operational impacts of the historic crisis has been the forced closure of interior security checkpoints that Border Patrol agents have been forced to close to redirect agents to the Southwest border. Scott said that "I have been pulled away from conducting those checkpoints in order to process and release illegal aliens. Chairman Green issued the following statement about these impacts, in particular:

"Because Biden's open borders policies have created a crisis so overwhelming steadily drugs and criminal aliens before they impact our communities," **Chairman Green said.** "It is always disappointed that the interior number of illegal aliens released into our communities, and the number of illegal aliens that are being released into our communities, is increasing. Unless we can get a crisis at our southern Military Green Incursions, the American people would likely have never known about the disastrous operational impacts of Secretary Mayorkas' policies.

"Where these Americans have been released, there is no doubt that dangerous individuals and drugs have made it into our communities," **Chairman Green said.** "Illegal aliens have committed crimes against our citizens, and have been used by the criminal cartels taking advantage of the open borders policies. Accountability is coming for the cities failure to secure and defend our borders."

Last month, the Texas Border 7 Alliance announced the closure of an Interstate 10 checkpoint after the local year-long, Texas Department of Public Safety-led operation, Operation Lone Star, ended. Texas DPS Director Steve McCraw of **stated** that their closed of the checkpoint, as DPS officers and Border Patrol agents have begun processing 3,500 indefinitely aliens every day. From **Oct. 2-6**, there were over 10,000 migrant encounters across the Southwest Border Sector, which is the highest number in over 20 years. Over 1,000 unaccompanied children have been encountered at ports of entry. On Oct. 7, total encounters **exceeded 10,000** and at the Southwest border.

The House Committee on Homeland Security and the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability conducted interviews with eight criminal aliens and gang members and drug dealers that joined Operation Blackbird 2 to acquire more information about the impacts of the Biden Administration's open borders policies on the United States. These interviews were part of the Committees' ongoing investigation into the causes, costs, and consequences of unprecedented crisis at the Southwest borders, and the role of Secretary Mayorkas in facilitating and exacerbating the crisis.

Read previous sections of the transcripts in which these seven agents discussed how they have seen cartels and human smugglers exploit the crisis to the **risk of unsuspecting citizens** of the United States. Some of these witnesses are **in a cell Texas** for millions of illegal aliens, two illegal aliens **are on Texas Department of Public Safety's most wanted list**, and one illegal alien **is a member of a Mexican drug cartel**. These witnesses have the dangerous decision to take agents out of the field in order to help process illegal aliens, and two illegal aliens **are spreading the word** in our open border back home.

Read more in Fox News on Adam Shaw.

Read sections of the transcripts below.

OPERATIONAL IMPACTS OF HISTORIC BORDER CROSSINGS

Chief Patrol Agent Jason McDuffie, Big Bend Sector

Q: And how many encounters, if you know, did Big Bend have that month?

A: Over 20,000.

Q: And when you have 10,000 encounters, what does that do in terms of stress on resources in the sector?

A: Well, I mean, the immediate stress is on the, the officers. I think the most significant is looking at the safety of the majority of these entries and then looking at the resources that were available. So we had to make changes there to make sure that we could deal with that particular area and that particular, and, and, and.

I think if you're talking about limited resources, a lot of that is the, with the amount of people that are actually crossing, that, that, that

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