

NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY



TX DPS AIRCRAFT SECTION

ASSISTANT CHIEF PILOT TIM OCHSNER

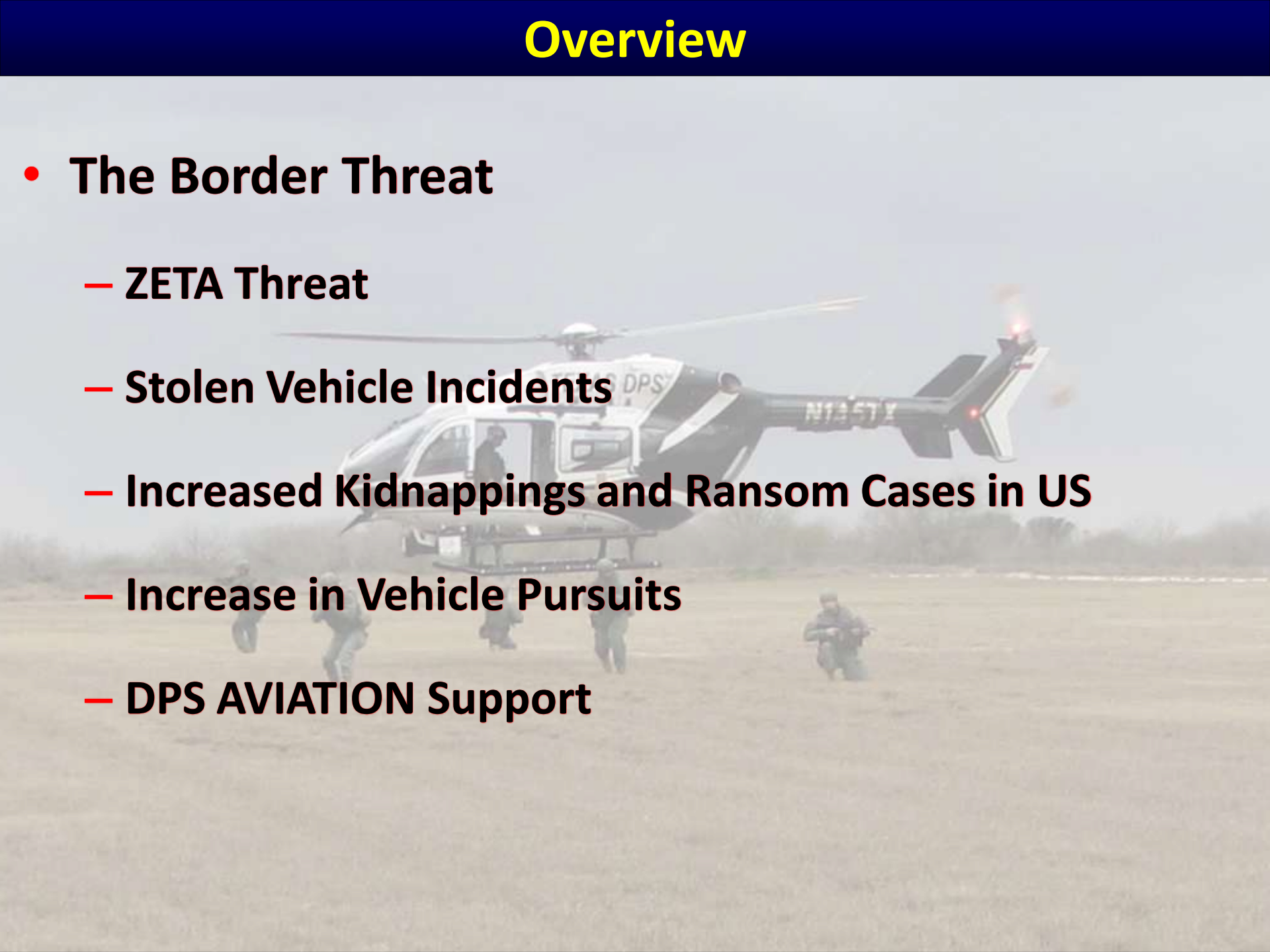
Recent Trends, Pursuits & Recovery Efforts

DATELINE MSNBC

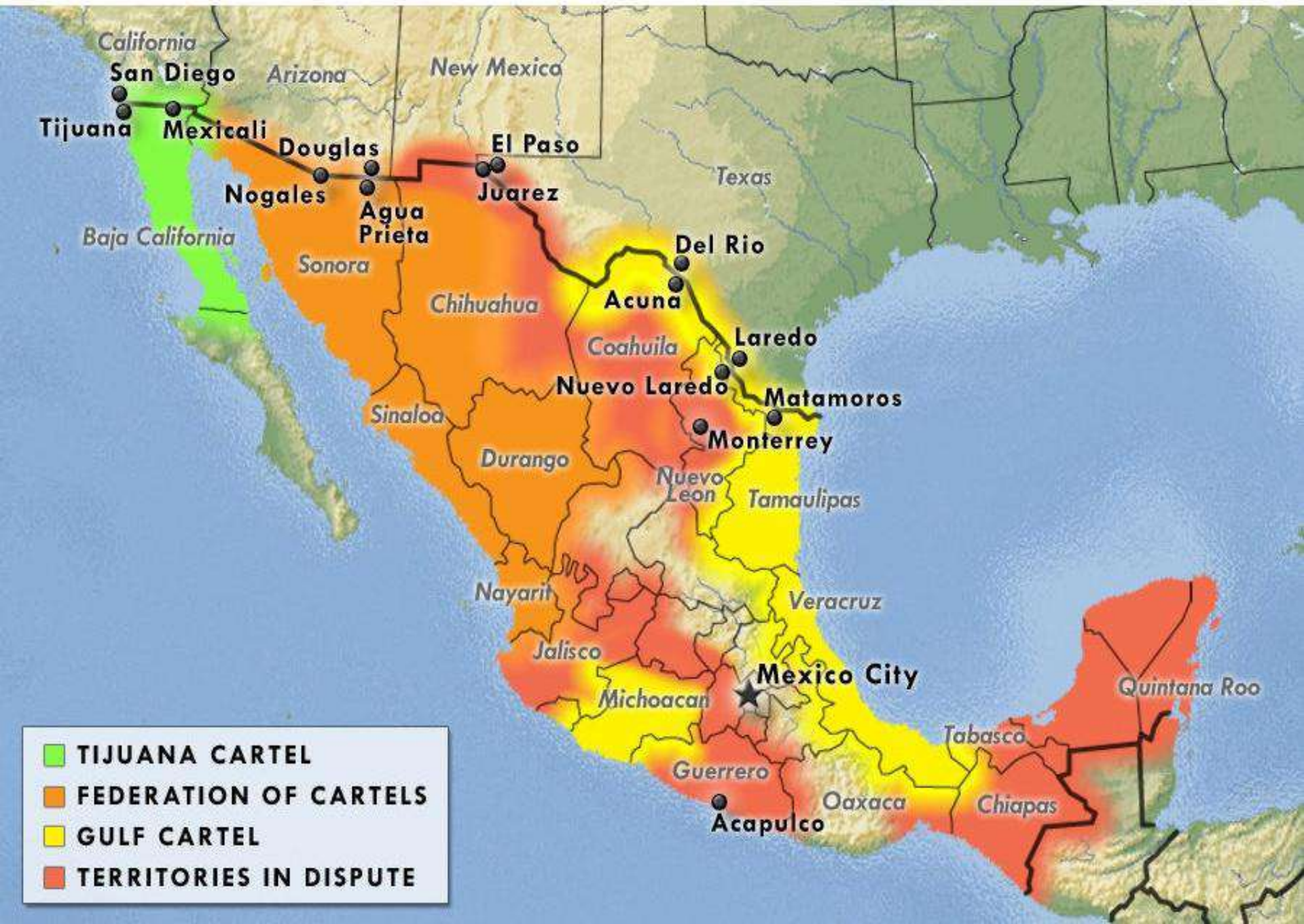


Overview

- **The Border Threat**
 - **ZETA Threat**
 - **Stolen Vehicle Incidents**
 - **Increased Kidnappings and Ransom Cases in US**
 - **Increase in Vehicle Pursuits**
 - **DPS AVIATION Support**



AREAS OF CARTEL INFLUENCES



Violence in Mexico

Body count continues to rise

Juarez

- 2008 – 1609
- 2009 - 2657
- 2010 – 1631 *

Mexico

- 6290
- 7724
- 6248 **

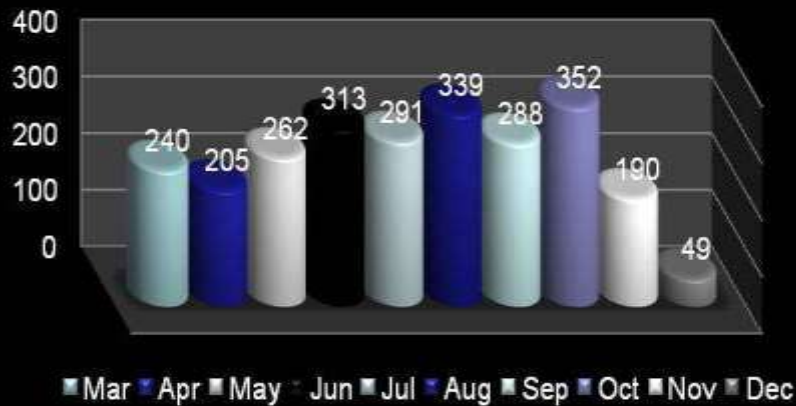
- * as of 13Jul10
- ** as of 15Jul10



Increased Violence

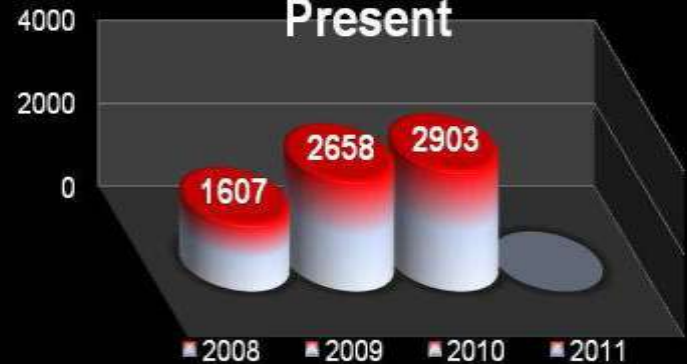
2010

DTO Related Deaths Juarez MX 2010



2008 - Present

DTO Related Deaths Juarez MX 2008 to Present

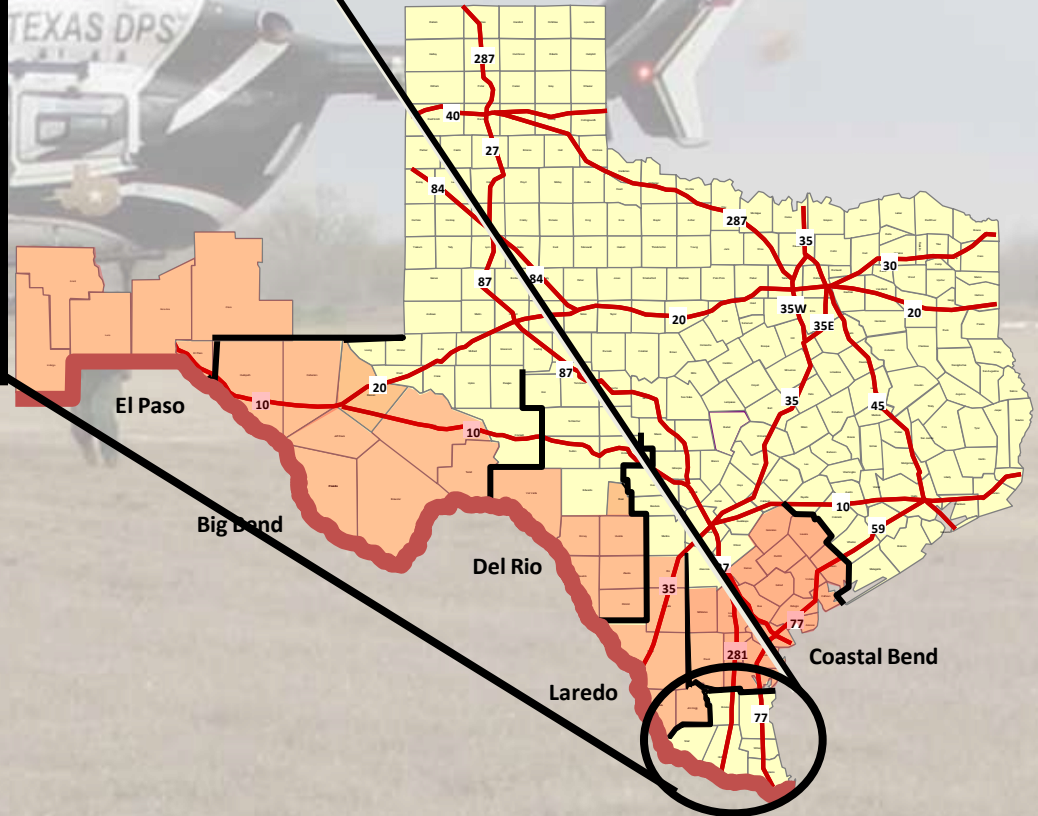


Vehicle Borne IED 15 Jul 10

Juarez, Mexico

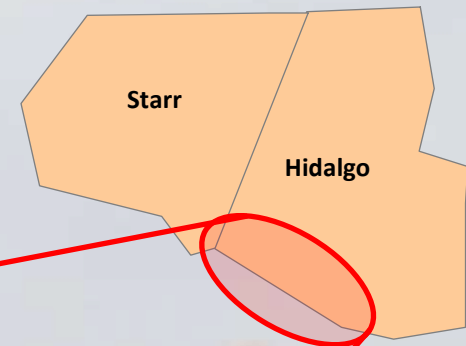


Drug trafficking is About Commerce



PRO ACTIVE PATROL OPERATIONS

Aggressive Patrol posture vs. Reactive:
Lost Loads and Assets cost schedule changes and
creates disruption up the supply chain and back
to the production facility.



Governor's Message

“Using intelligence, available state assets, and a new command and control structure, we are going to take back our border from those who exploit it.”

Governor Rick Perry

In 2007 Texas State Legislators voted on a budget of \$145 M for Operation Border Star. In 2009 an additional \$100 M was approved for continued operations.

Director's Message

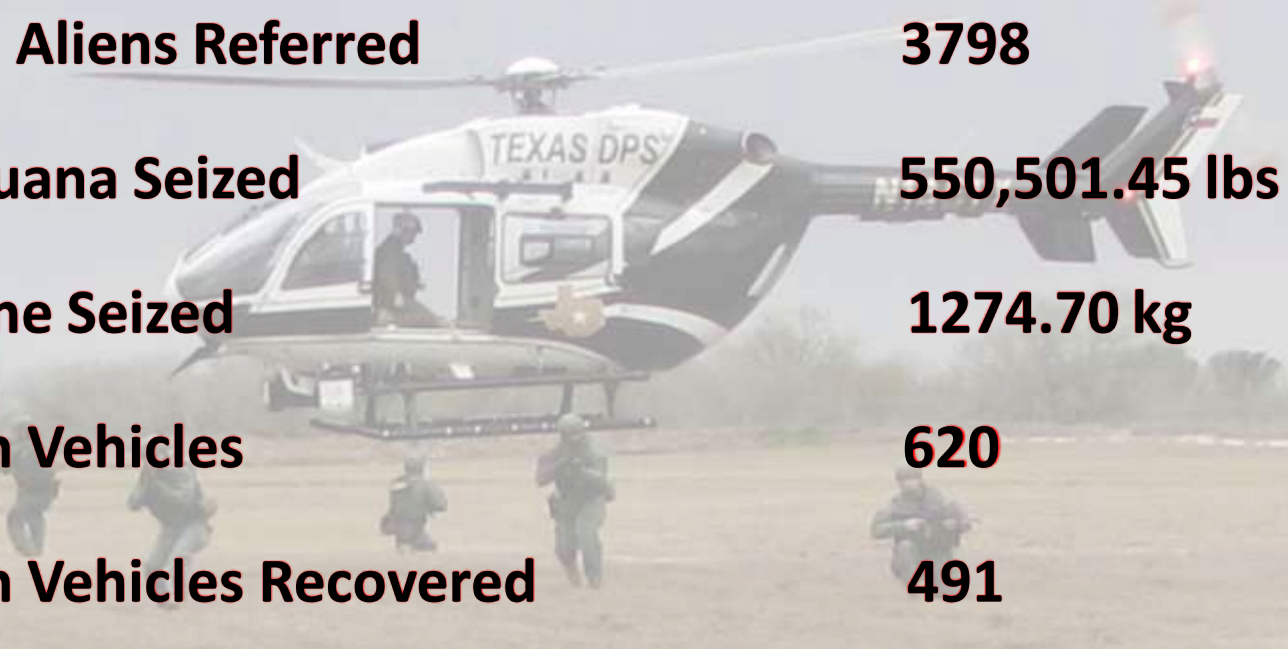
- ***“There has never been a more significant threat as it relates to cartels with human and drug smuggling on the border today”***

DPS Director. Steven C. McCraw



RGV OPERATIONAL SUCCESS

REPORTING PERIOD 02/08-06/09



— BIARs (Border Incident Assessment Report)	5559
— Illegal Aliens Referred	3798
— Marijuana Seized	550,501.45 lbs
— Cocaine Seized	1274.70 kg
— Stolen Vehicles	620
— Stolen Vehicles Recovered	491
— Currency Seized	\$11,035,399.05
— Pursuits	490

The Border Threat

An un-secure US / Mexico border is a crime and terrorism threat

- Confluence of factors:
 - Porous US / Mexico border
 - Powerful Mexican Crime Organizations dominate US drug and human smuggling
 - Urban areas serve as drug trans-shipment and retail consumption centers
 - Trans-national and regional gangs
 - ✓ MS-13 / MS-18
 - ✓ Tango Blast
 - ✓ Mexican Mafia
 - ✓ Texas Syndicate
 - Former foreign military commandos working for Mexican Crime Syndicates
 - Increased screening of foreign nationals seeking VISAs from countries with known terrorism presence
 - Increased security and screening at US and Canadian air and seaports
 - Inadequate Federal funding for local and state governments



Mexican Mafia

LA EME



The Border Threat (cont)

Enterprises

Cartels

Gulf Cartel
Sinaloa Cartel (CGO)
Juarez Cartel

Gangs

Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13)
Barrio Aztecas (BA)
Mexikanemi Hermanos de Pistoleros
Latinos (HPLS)
Texas Syndicate
Texas Chicano Brotherhood
Tri-City Bombers
Aryan Brotherhood

Other Drug Trafficking

Organizations (DTOs)

Terrorists

Al Qaeda and other Sunni Terrorist
Hamas
Hezbollah

Activities

Crimes Against People

Violent Crime
Human Smuggling
Drugs / Contraband
Identity Theft

Crimes Against Property

Vehicle theft for smuggling
Infrastructure destruction
Infrastructure denial
Cyber attacks
Property theft / destruction

Terrorism attacks

Explosives
Chemical
Biological
Radiological
Nuclear
Toxic Industrial Chemicals

Tools

Vehicles

Cars
Trucks / Containers
Boats
Aircraft

Communications

Cell Phones (disposable)
Secure Radios
Calling Cards
Internet

Intelligence

Scouts
Sensors
Monitors
Human Sources

Money Laundering

Cash
Gift Cards
Pre-paid Credit Cards
Wire Transfers

Lodging/Storage

Safe Houses
Stash/Warehouses

Evolving Operational Capability (cont)

Intent: *During Operation BORDER STAR, establish common understanding and procedures for operations and operations support activities among all agencies committed to improving border security along the Texas-Mexico border area by conducting...*

Steady State – *Normal operations*

Enhanced Patrol Operations – *Increased LEA presence within specified areas for specified periods of time according to relevant intelligence assessments*

Directed Actions – *Short notice, intel-driven, high-intensity, short-duration activities focused on high pay-off criminal targets like Ranger Recon, Operation FORDD, DPS AVN Game Cam Task Force*

CARTEL DEL GOLFO RECOVERY METHODS



CARTEL DEL GOLFO RECOVERY METHODS



CARTEL DEL GOLFO RECOVERY METHODS



Recent Trends, Pursuits & Recovery Efforts



Recent Trends, Pursuits & Recovery Efforts



Aggressive Patrol Posture

Detect Smuggling Loads between river and stash house

D.T.O's attempt to return inventory back to Mexico



Well coordinated, pre-planned, well
Executed recovery effort

Results in high intensity confrontation
between US Law Enforcement and
D.T.O's



Aborted Dope Deal

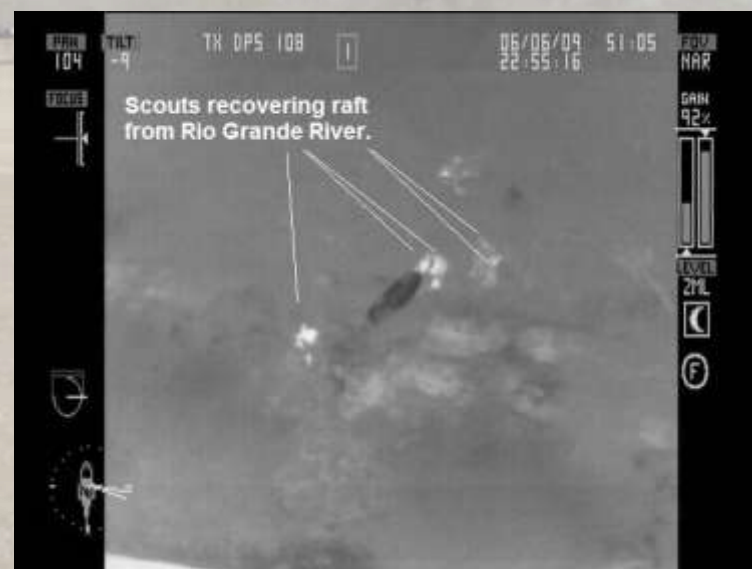


Splashdown

- Splashdown



Air Support / Intel



Air Support / Intel



DPS AVN SAR



DPS AVN – Significant Activity Report

Station: McAllen

Date: 10/9/2010

Shift: 5p – 2a

Aircraft Unit Number: "DPS 108"

Ending tach time: 1054.2

Flight hours this shift: 3.5

THP missions: 2	Estimated flight time assisting THP: 2.0
CBP missions: 2	Estimated flight time assisting CBP: 1.5
Other Agencies: 0	Estimated flight time assisting LEA: 0.0

Aircrew members with contact numbers:

1. Sgt. Pilot Marcus Tomerlin (713) 416-8542
2. Sgt. Pilot Rudy Escobar (956) 286-6529

Aircrew is working through DPS McAllen Phone # (956)984-5621

Synopsis of Flight:

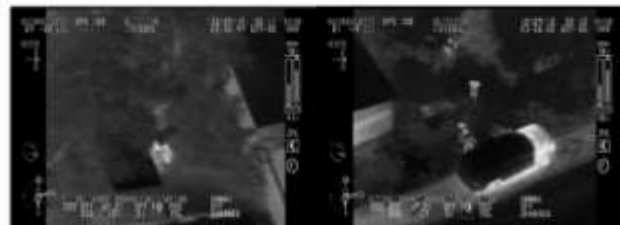
DPS 108 was called to assist US Border Patrol agents on a criminal search near the District 6 Pump inlet. The aircrew searched the area and located multiple suspects and a vehicle on the Mexico side. The information was passed on to the ground agents by the aircrew.

DPS 108 overheard a State Trooper in a pursuit near Nolana and Bentsen area. The aircrew arrived on scene within two minutes of the beginning of the pursuit and arrived on scene just after 4 suspects bailed out on foot. Due to the combined search efforts of the Troopers and the aircrew (2) of the suspects were apprehended and 703 lbs. of marijuana was seized from inside the vehicle. Two of the passengers remain at large.



DPS 108 was called to assist US Border patrol agents on a criminal search just north of the Settling Basin area on a group of about ten suspects. The aircrew searched the area with the FLIR along the canal banks but was unable to locate any heat signatures. Ground agents believed the suspects had just been picked up by a vehicle near the roadway.

DPS 108 was called by US Border Patrol agents to assist investigating a caller's report of 10-15 suspects hiding behind a residence just northwest of Settling Basin. Ground agents arrived on scene and scattered the group approximately two minutes prior to DPS 108 arriving on scene. The aircrew searched the area with the FLIR and Night Sun and located a group of (8) suspects hiding underneath a semi-trailer behind a residence. Ground units were guided into the location and all eight suspects were apprehended. No other suspects were located by the aircrew during this search.



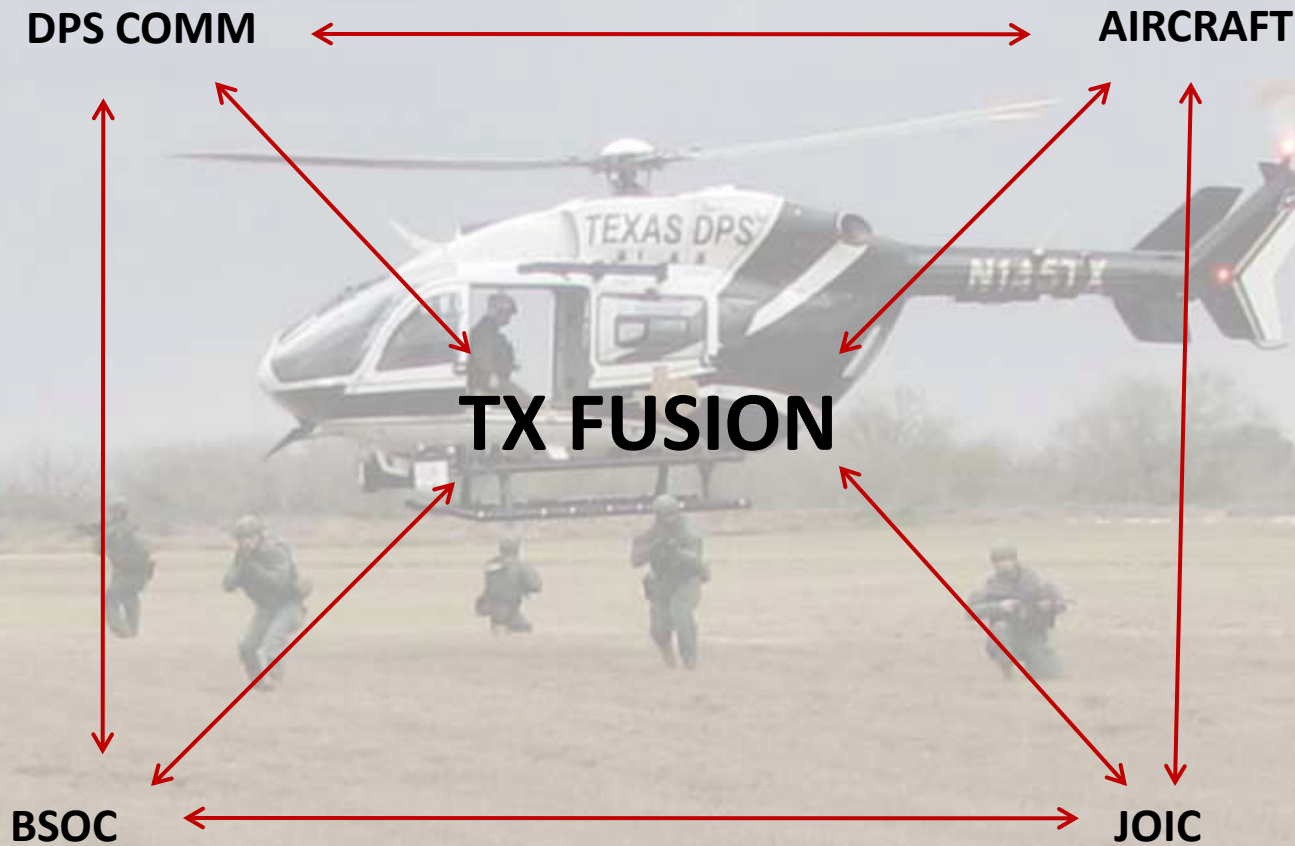
DSP 108 overheard another State Trooper initiate a pursuit near the community of Lopezville, at the intersection of I Rd. and Owens Rd. The aircrew arrived on scene within a minute of the bailout and searched the area with the Night Sun and FLIR camera. The Trooper was advised by local residents that the driver lived in the area of the bailout. The search by the aircrew yielded negative results.

DPS 108 was flying over the Hidalgo Port of Entry when the aircrew located a large raft with approximately 10-15 suspects on board. The raft was mid river when the aircrew located them. The suspects quickly turned the raft back and returned to the Mexico side. All suspects returned to a house that was near the riverbank. The aircrew relayed this information to the US Border patrol ground agents in the area in case of a future crossing on this date.



END OF REPORT.

Air Support / Intel



Air Support / Intel



Intel



Air Support / Intel



Caltrops /Spikes



Caltrops – Antipersonnel weapon made of two or three nails or spines arranged in such a way that one point is always pointing upwards from a stable base.

Caltrops /Spikes



Officer Awareness



Airplane Smuggling



Airplane Smuggling



What to Do?

Increase pressure:

- Task force, Local, State, and Federal
- Operation FORDD
- Air and Marine support



Mexican military with drug smugglers vehicle

Preventative measures:

- Barricades
- Choke points



Aircrews are still cops at heart



Threats Against DPS Aviation

FOR INTERNAL DISSEMINATION ONLY



Texas Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Information Analysis

Intelligence Bulletin

Report 2008-05-0090 (September 21, 2008)

Threat Against DPS Aircraft

Summary

Intelligence has been received indicating that drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) along the border may be considering offensive actions against DPS aircraft. These organizations could attack air assets with a variety of weaponry, including hand-held laser pointers, small arms, and surface-to-air missiles.

Details

Intelligence recently was received by US Border Patrol regarding possible threats to law enforcement air operations, specifically DPS aircraft. The information suggests that DTOs in the McAllen/Reynosa area are aware of the disruptions caused to their smuggling operations by law enforcement air assets. These organizations could threaten DPS helicopters using a variety of weapons, including single laser pointers, small arms, and surface-to-air missiles. A recent lasing incident along the border highlights this potential danger, though it is not known if the incident is connected to the DTO threats.

On September 15, a juvenile suspect from San Juan, Texas, used a green laser pointer to spotlight a DPS helicopter. The pilot was briefly distracted by the laser but was able to avoid serious injury with the assistance of his copilot. The incident occurred days after the DPS Aircraft Section assisted in breaking up a smuggling operation in Mission, Texas, along the Rio Grande River. It is not clear if the lasing incident is connected to the DTO threat.

Lasing incidents involving aircraft are common throughout the nation. According to the FAA, a single laser pointer is not capable of incapacitating a pilot above 100 feet. However, single lasers would likely be effective in impairing a pilot's ability to complete critical maneuvers close to the ground. Criminal organizations have demonstrated an interest in using laser pointers against air assets. In 2005, gang members in Los Angeles, California, taped several handheld lasers together in an attempt to ward off law enforcement helicopter pilots.

Criminal organizations could also attack law enforcement air assets with military-grade weaponry, such as rifles and shoulder-fired surface-to-air missiles. Some guidance systems and several high-powered rifles employ a laser sight to accurately hit a target. Central America has a lucrative illicit small-arms trade, and recent intelligence indicates that cartels and DTOs are obtaining military-grade weaponry from this same source. In addition, law enforcement reporting indicates an increase in DTO aggression spilling over into the United States.

Conclusion

Although the exact nature of the DTO threat is unclear, it is assessed that the threat potential against DPS aircraft is high. Possible weapons that could be used against DPS air operations include laser pointers, rifles, and shoulder-fired missiles. The use of laser protective eyewear is recommended and appropriate evasive actions rehearsed. Law enforcement pilots patrolling rural areas in Texas, especially known smuggling routes near the border, should be aware of suspicious ground activity and should take appropriate actions upon the first signs of laser activity or other significant threats.

Sources

Open Source Reporting.
Texas DPS Aircraft Section.
Texas DPS Criminal Intelligence Service.
US Border Patrol.



Threats Against DPS Aviation

UNCLASSIFIED//LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION SITUATIONAL INFORMATION REPORT

Violent Crime-Gangs Officer Safety Alert

San Antonio Division

16 October 2009

(U//LES) Local Gang Targeting Law Enforcement in the Rio Grande Valley

(U//LES) As of 16 October 2009, the San Antonio FBI was in receipt of information that indicated associates of a gang in Hidalgo County Texas, had requested assistance in targeting law enforcement officers in the Rio Grande Valley.

(U//LES) The gang was attempting to recruit individuals to physically attack law enforcement officers in the Rio Grande Valley and/or attack and/or burn their property. The time and/or scope of the attack is not known at this time.

(U) This report has been prepared by the San Antonio Division of the FBI. Comments and queries may be addressed to I-4, McAllen RA Field Intelligence Group at 956-984-6300.

UNCLASSIFIED//LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE

Threats Against DPS Aviation

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Texas Department of Public Safety, Investigations and Counterterrorism Division

OFFICER ALERT

(September 24, 2010)

Gulf Cartel Employ New Tactics Against Law Enforcement When Retrieving Drug Loads from the Rio Grande River

Details

On 09/22/2010, a senior member of the Gulf Cartel issued instructions during future drug smuggling operations where law enforcement are in pursuit of vehicles containing drugs, cartel members are to deploy road/tire spikes. They are to return to the Rio Grande River and ditch the trucks into the river.
(Source: DEA and FBI sources rated reliable.)

Gulf Cartel members on the Mexican side would assist with getting the contraband back into Mexico. If law enforcement officers enter the river in pursuit, Gulf Cartel members on the Mexican side are to open fire at law enforcement.
(Source: DEA and FBI sources rated reliable.)

Analyst Comment

It appears that the Gulf Cartel are increasing their aggressive tactics when retrieving drug loads that have been forced back to the river due to law enforcement pursuits. All officers are reminded to remain vigilant to their surroundings.

This information is being shared with local law enforcement agencies so they are aware of a possible change of tactics and possible increased threat from drug smugglers.

Anyone with comments or questions regarding this bulletin, or with additional information, should contact the DPS Texas Fusion Center at 1-866-786-5972 or by e-mail at txdpsintelcenter@txdps.state.tx.us.

Threats Against DPS Aviation



Operation Border Star Joint Situational Awareness Report

Marfa JOIC
JSAR Month Day Year
JSAR Tracking #: 00000008



- 1 .223 RUGER ASSAULT RIFLE
- 4 7.62X39 SAIGA ASSAULT RIFLE
- 1 30-06 WINCHESTER
- 2 .30" CALIBER RIFLES
- 1 LAW ROCKET LAUNCHER 66MM
- 1 .45 CHAMPION
- 1 .40 GLOCK
- 1 .22 FRATELLI PISTOL
- AMMUNITION FOR ALL WEAPONS WERE ALSO CEASED

- 1.- ARMANDO GUZMAN NARES (A) "LA MONA", OF 22 YEARS OF AGE,
- 2.- BENJAMIN DOSAL RODRIGUEZ (A) "EL BENJA" OF 22 YEARS OF AGE,
- 3.- CARLOS VILLA ROSALES (A) "EL TOPO" OF 23 YEARS OF AGE.

http://www.chihuahuaal instante.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1198:captura-ejercito-celula-de-sicarios-del-ochapoq&catid=15:relevantes&Itemid=1

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Threats Against DPS Aviation



Date of Event (OCTOBER/19/2009):

Synopsis:

HITMEN ARE ARRESTED IN THE VALLEY

(CHIHUAHUA) A CRIMINAL TRIO BELONGING TO THE SINALOA CARTEL WERE DETAINED BY THE MEXICAN ARMY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE VALLEY WHERE THEY EXECUTED PEOPLE OPENLY AND ALSO BURNING BUSINESSES AND HOUSES.

CRIMINALS INVOLVED ARE ARMANDO GUZMAN NARES, ALIAS "LA MONA", BENJAMIN DOZAL RODRIGUEZ, ALIAS "EL BENJA" AND LUIS CARLOS VILL ROSALES, "EL TOPO".

THESE CRIMINALS HAD HIGH CALIBER WEAPONS IN THEIR POSSESSION 4 AK-47S, 2 AR15S AND 2 .9MM AND ALSO 2 CARTRIDGES, 15 OZ OF COCAINE AND 8 KILOGRAMS OF MARIJUANA.

SSG SAENZ OCT 20, 2009

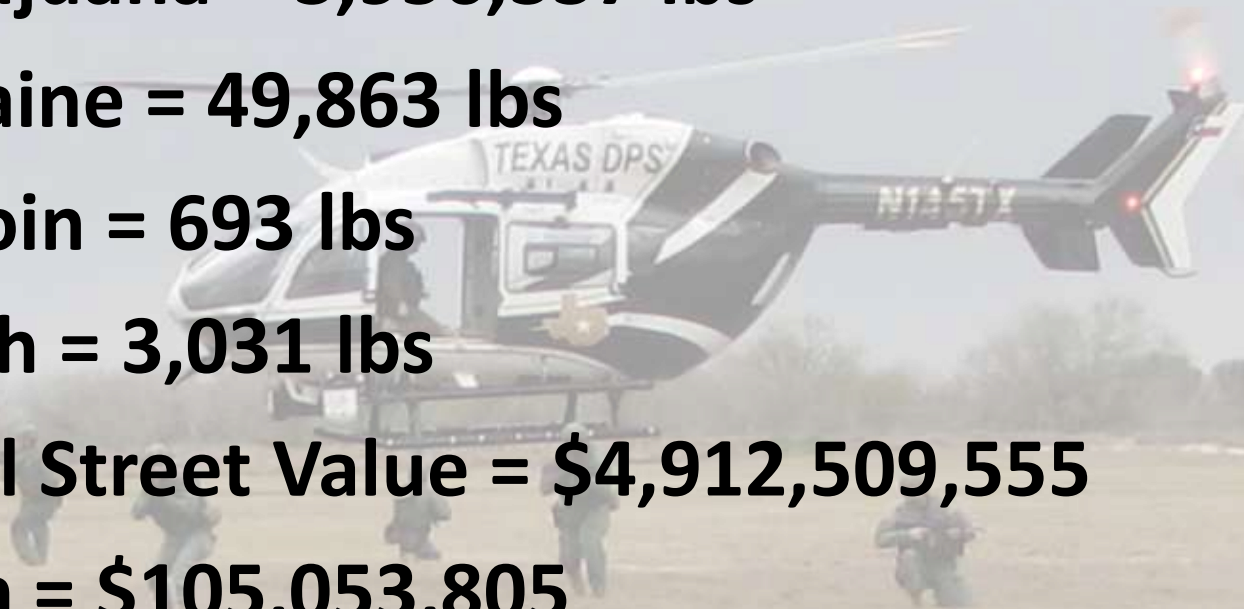
CHIHUAHUAALINSTATE.COM

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Impact from April 2006 – December 2009

- **Marijuana = 3,956,337 lbs**
- **Cocaine = 49,863 lbs**
- **Heroin = 693 lbs**
- **Meth = 3,031 lbs**
- **Total Street Value = \$4,912,509,555**
- **Cash = \$105,053,805**
- **IA Referrals to BP = 42,436**





Questions?