

Terrell County Sheriff's Office End of Month Report ^{June}~~May~~ 2021

The month of June continued to have groups of illegal aliens being apprehended in Terrell County and Terrell County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) assisting the Sanderson Border Patrol. The Sanderson Station recorded a total of 446 apprehensions and 315 got away. The Sheriff's Office dispatch continues to receive numerous calls on 911 for lost or injured illegal aliens in different parts of the county. The month of June also saw minor children travelling with some of these groups, which had not been seen in this area since the border crisis began.

TCSO dispatch received two 911 calls this month regarding lost illegal aliens. The first call came from a group of approximately 21 illegal aliens. The group stated they were south of Hwy 90 / Dryden Airport lost and had three minor children in the group. TCSO and Sanderson Border Patrol (BP) responded to the area. TCSO dispatcher was able to ping the cellphone location and provide GPS coordinates to the responding Deputies and BP units. Only a few of the illegal aliens were located, the larger part of the group was not ready to give up and kept walking north. After a few hours of searching the remaining part of the group was located, including the children ages 14 and 5 years old. The group was taken into custody. The second 911 call was also from an illegal alien in distress, this individual stated to the dispatcher that he was lost on the highway. TCSO dispatch was able to ping his cellphone and provide GPS coordinates to the responding Deputy and the subject was located east of Dryden on Hwy 90.

TCSO has provided assistance to Border Patrol with transportation of apprehended groups of illegal aliens. TCSO assisted BP in transporting 15 illegal aliens 3 of which were juveniles. Our office responded twice to assist with transport in the far east end of the county. Deputies were on hand and standing by to help with transportation of 30 illegal aliens, BP was able to get enough units to the scene for transport, and on a second occasion TCSO assisted with transporting a group of 10 illegal aliens from the Cedar Station area. The Sheriff's Office continues to experience and respond to more activity outside of town than in Sanderson.

Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) presence is making a difference in the county. DPS continues to deter potential smugglers from picking up groups of

illegal aliens on county highways. DPS continues to arrest potential smugglers, before they pick up their groups, for state vehicle or narcotic violations. This assist BP because once the drivers are arrested the groups are left without a pick up vehicle and usually will have to come out to the highway and give up. DPS has also apprehended smuggling loads this month, they apprehended a group of 10 illegal aliens in a vehicle travelling north of Dryden on Hwy 349. DPS turned over to BP the vehicle driver and a passenger for disposition. DPS and TCSO had a failure to yield on Hwy 28S north of Sanderson involving two vehicles. The vehicle failed to yield when DPS attempted to pull the vehicle over for a traffic violation. The vehicle continued to travel north at a high rate of speed, stopping only for 9 subjects to bail out into the brush. TCSO attempted to stop a second vehicle involved in the pursuit, but terminated pursuit due to the excessive speed and contacted Pecos county Sheriff's Office. The vehicle crashed through ranch property fence before reaching Fort Stockton, TX. and two subjects had to be transported to Pecos County Hospital in Fort Stockton with minor injuries. Since this occurred before sun rise it was not noticed until day light hours that two other vehicles had crash through ranch property fence lines also. The property owners were contacted regarding the damages, a total of 6 illegal aliens were apprehended.

The TCSO 911 system continues to improve and the new enhancements are beginning to show. The 911 screen is now slowly displaying the areas outside of Sanderson when before only the map of town was on the screen. The screen is beginning to display more roads out east and south of Hwy. 90. It also shows areas all the way south towards the Rio Grande River. This will assist TCSO dispatchers to better provide the necessary information, and GPS coordinates to Deputies and other responding agencies.

The Sheriff's Office attended the first budget workshop for the new county budget for FY22. The sheriff's Office is requesting a fifth dispatcher for FY22, this will assist the office with dispatcher shift scheduling, and also help out the county. A fifth dispatcher will alleviate with the comp time hours that dispatchers accumulated during the previous Sheriff's Office administration, and still continue to accumulate, and the county is having to pay.

The Sheriff's Office has also submitted two jail camera system price quotes to the Commissioner Court for their consideration. We continue to inform the court that the current cameras in the jail are not approved by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards. Also, the jail lighting system needs repairs, the emergency cell lights cover have been painted over and some of the covers are missing bulbs and the Jail Commission has stated that they must be in working condition to pass inspection. The Sheriff's Office has also submitted a price quote for these repairs for the commissioners' courts consideration. The Jail inspector has also been informed of all price quotes submitted to the court. I remind the court that all these requests are not request that I am making, but rather necessities that are dictated by jail standards in order for the jail to open, and will keep the jail in operation for future sheriff administrations to come.

The Sheriff's Office also participated in a Town Hall Meeting held June 16, 2021 in Sanderson, TX. hosted by Terrell County Judge. The guest included Terrell County Sheriff's Office, Sanderson Border Patrol, Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Emergency Management Office, Fort Davis County Judge and a Representative from Congressman Tony Gonzalez Office. The meeting was to inform the residents of Terrell County of the recent meeting between Texas Governor Abbot and County Sheriff's / County Judges being affected by the current border crisis. To inform the public of the Governor's office proposals and commitments to assist the border counties and its ranch / property owners who are being affected financially due to the increase in illegal alien crossings. The meeting was also to allow the residents of Terrell County to ask questions and voice concerns regarding how the border crisis is affecting the local ranch / property owners. The meeting produced many questions for all the invited guest to answer. Earlier that same day the Sheriff's Office was invited to the Terrell Gas Plant (Occidental Petroleum Corp.). The invite to the OXY Plant was also to inform the gas plant staff on border issues and illegal alien crossings. The staff asked questions regarding safety, contact information, and illegal alien apprehensions in the surrounding gas plant area. On June, 30, 2021 The Sheriff's Office was invited to attend a meeting between Texas Governor Abbot and former President Donald Trump in Edinburg, Texas the meeting was hosted by Shawn Hannity of Fox News. The invite was limited to a few public guest, local area Sheriff's, the press and VIP's. The Sheriff's Office was honored to represent Terrell County in such an

event, during the meeting the Governor shared his ideas and future policies for solutions to the border crisis and the continuation of the wall being built in Texas along the U.S. / Mexico border. Former President Trump pledged his support for Texas during the crisis, and spoke of the lack of assistance to border counties from the current federal government. Over all the meeting was very informative.

The Terrell County Sheriff's Office continues to move forward, we are slowly moving towards our jail opening back up, TCSO Deputies and staff continue to show their dedication and commitment to serving the county.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be the initials 'TCSO' or similar, written in a cursive style.