



# *A Border Security and Humanitarian Crisis*

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# TODAY'S BRIEFING

## The Crisis and How It Is Different

- Drugs
- Criminals, Gangs, Terrorists
- Vulnerable Populations

## The Solutions We Need

- Finishing the Border Wall
- Fixing the TVPRA law to allow consistent treatment of unaccompanied alien children
- Overriding the “Flores Settlement” to allow families to remain together



# INCREASING DRUG LEVELS

*A dramatic spike in illegal drugs at the southern border makes clear the need for an effective physical barrier.*

**38%**

*Increase in  
methamphetamine  
(FY17-FY18)*

**22%**

*Increase in heroin  
(FY17-FY18)*

**73%**

*Increase in fentanyl  
(FY17-FY18)*

In FY18 CBP seized or helped seize:

- **282,000 lbs** of cocaine
- **248,000 lbs** of methamphetamine
- **6,500 lbs** of heroin
- **2,400 lbs** of fentanyl

*1.7 million pounds of narcotics seized  
by CBP in FY18 in total*



# DANGEROUS CRIMINALS, GANG MEMBERS, AND SUSPECTED TERRORISTS

*DHS agencies are fighting an influx of dangerous people and need the resources to do so.*

**17,000**

*Adults at the Southern Border with existing criminal records arrested by CBP and border agents (FY18)*

**3,755**

*Known or suspected terrorists prevented from traveling to or entering the U.S. by DHS (FY17)*

**6,000**

*Gang members, including MS-13, apprehended at the Southern Border and removed by ICE*

*Each year criminal organizations gain **\$2.5 BILLION** in profit from migrant smuggling*



# A RISE IN VULNERABLE POPULATIONS OVERWHELMING RESOURCES

***Border security is the only effective disincentive to prevent migrants from making the dangerous journey and reducing the influx of vulnerable families.***

**60,000**

***Unaccompanied children  
arriving in FY18***

*An increase of **25%***

**161,000**

***Family units  
arriving in FY18***

*An increase of **50%***

*More children and families are being apprehended between the ports of entry than ever before. **For the first time in history, family units and children comprise the vast majority of apprehensions.***

*Over the last five years, we have seen a **2,000% increase in asylum claims**, yet 72% of migrants report making the journey for economic reasons and therefore would not typically qualify for asylum.*



# A DANGEROUS JOURNEY ADDS TO A HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

*The exponential increase in vulnerable populations arriving illegally takes vital resources away from detecting and apprehending criminals, drug traffickers, and vulnerable aliens.*

**50**

*Migrants per day referred to medical providers*

**4,300**

*People in distress rescued by CBP each year*

**31%** and **17%**  
**of women** and **of men**

*Sexually assaulted on the journey north*

## ***Migrant Sickness***

- Staggering numbers of sick people are crossing the border each day
- The danger of the journey, crowded conveyances, and flu season have resulted in significant referrals to medical providers

## ***Abuse on the Journey***

- Large populations are abused on the journey by smugglers and others
- 7 in 10 are victims of violence along the journey



# DETENTION, ADJUDICATION, AND REMOVAL CHALLENGES

## Detention Challenges

- Lack of capacity to detain those apprehended
- Facilities are out of space and Congressional budgets propose cutting further

## Adjudication Challenges

- Immigration court backlog of nearly 800,000 cases
- Only 1 in 10 asylum claims granted for persons from Northern triangle countries
- Fraudulent claims delay legitimate claims from being heard– delaying protections for those who need them

## Removal Challenges

- In just three days, CBP apprehends more families than are removed in one year
- The result is often a release with a notice to appear at a hearing
- Communities and charities are having trouble keeping up
- 98% of Family Units and Unaccompanied Alien Children are never removed



# ***SOLUTIONS NEEDED***

## ***FUND THE WALL***

Fully funding a border wall system will enable DHS to build primary wall or physical barriers in the areas of greatest need, adding a proven asset to our ability to deter and apprehend those entering illegally.

## ***AMEND THE TVPRA***

Allow the U.S. Government to treat Unaccompanied Alien Children the same, no matter where they come from.

## ***OVERRIDE THE FLORES SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT***

Allow the U.S. Government to keep parents and children together for the duration of their immigration proceedings.

