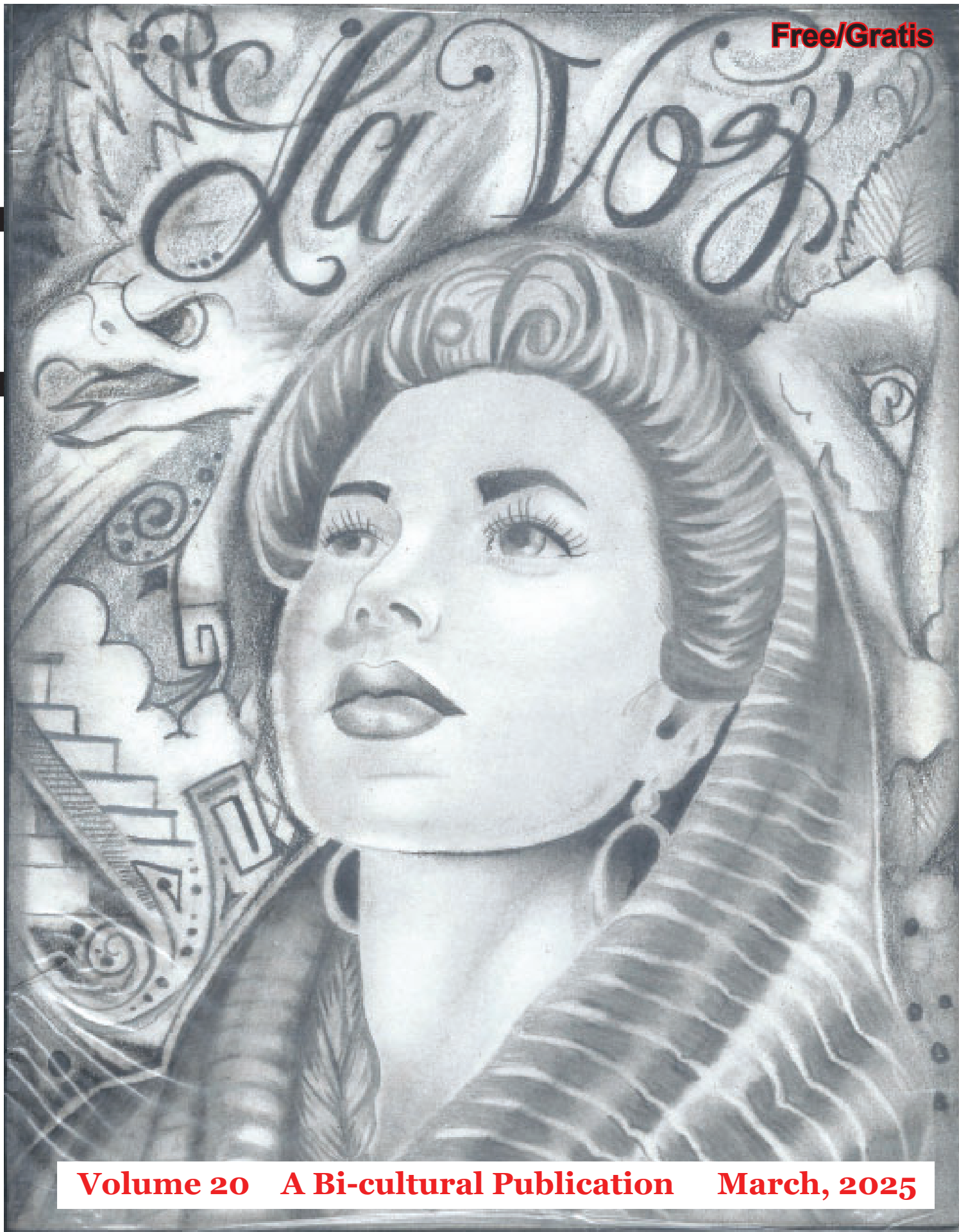


*Yo no cruzé la frontera, la frontera me cruzó a mí.*

# **La Voz** Newspaper



**Free/Gratis**

**Volume 20 A Bi-cultural Publication March, 2025**

# People in the News



## Beatriz Dominguez Alemán Named New Archivist in Austin

Beatriz is the new **Mexican American and Latino Community Archivist** at the **Austin History Center**.

She has lived most of her life in **Chile**, did her undergraduate studies in anthropology at the **Universidad Alberto Hurtado** where she wrote her thesis “Criando mis hijos... Criando a los de otros: trabajadoras peruanas de casa particular ‘puertas adentro’ en Chile”, which explored the three stories of live-in **Peruvian nannies in Santiago, Chile**.

She continued her studies at the **University of Florida** and created a capstone project for the **Smather’s Library’s Latin American and Caribbean Collections** titled “This is not a photoethnography: a critical exploration of AI tools for understanding migratory experiences and at-promise communities”.

In **Domínguez-Alemán’s** free time, she explores art through photography, mix-media art as well as embroidery. She is often seen riding her bike, on a hiking trail with a backpack, dancing or enjoying a new art class during the weekends.

“I am glad to be in Austin and look forward to meeting many members of thy community.” she said at a recent **Raza Round Table** meeting she attended.



## Dr. John Moran Gonzalez Inducted into the Texas Institute of Letters

The **Texas Institute of Letters** is a distinguished honor society established in 1936 to celebrate **Texas** literature and recognize distinctive literary achievement.

Scholar **John Moran Gonzalez** is one of 32 new writers inducted in 2025. He was born and raised in **Brownsville** and graduated from **Princeton University** in 1988 with a bachelors degree in **English Literature**. He then received his masters degree in 1991 and his doctorate in 1998 from **Stanford University**.

A longtime English professor at **The University of Texas at Austin**, **John** has also served as director of **UT’s Center for Mexican American Studies**. His scholarship deals with **Mexican American** literary traditions and the struggles for social and racial justice in the **Tex-as-Mexican** borderlands.



David Romo

**David Romo** is an author, teacher, and activist. He also is one of the 32 inductees into the **Texas Institute of Letters** in 2025. He has lived in **El Paso** for decades.

His literary work has focused on **El Paso** history and **Mexican American** history of the borderlands. **David’s** publications include **Ringside Seat to a Revolution: An Underground Cultural History of El Paso and Juarez** and his 2024 book for young adults, **Borderlands and the Mexican American Story**.

**David** graduated from **Stanford University** with a B.A. in **Judaic Studies** and attended the **Centro d’Attivita Musicale**,



## Méndez Inducted into the Texas Institute of Letters

Originally from **Galveston, Texas**, **Lupe Méndez** is a writer/educator/activist and is the author of **Why I Am Like Tequila** (Willow Books, 2019), winner of the 2019 **John A. Robertson Award** for Best First Book of Poetry from the **Texas Institute of Letters**.

**Méndez** is one of the founders of the **Librotraficante Movement** and of **Tintero Projects**, a **Texas**-based organization that works with emerging Latinx writers and other writers of color within the **Gulf Coast Region**, with **Houston** as its hub.

**Méndez** earned his MFA in poetry from the **University of Texas at El Paso**. His work has appeared in the **Kenyon Review**, **Gulf Coast Journal**, the **Texas Review**, the **Los Angeles Review of Books**, **Split This Rock**, **Poetry magazine**, and **Poem-a-Day** from the **Academy of American Poets**, among others.

He has received fellowships from **CantoMundo**, **Macondo**, and the **Crescendo Literary/Poetry Foundation** poetry incubator. **Méndez** is the 2022–2023 **Texas** poet laureate. He lives in **Houston**, where he has worked as an educator for the last 22 years.



## Charlton-Trujillo Joins the Inductees of the 2025 Texas Institute of Letters

e.E. **Charlton-Trujillo** is an award-winning author, filmmaker, and 2024 **Michael L. Printz Award** winner for their short fiction in **The Collectors: Stories**. **Charlton-Trujillo** has written several books for teens and children, notably the **Fat Angie** series, an **ALA Stone-wall Award Winner** and **Prizefighter en Mi Casa**, a **Parents’ Choice Silver Honor Winner**.

One of the most dynamic and inspiring speakers today, e.E. spends much of their time in

schools and libraries celebrating the power and possibility of young people’s stories. An MFA and **NEH** lecturer, **Trujillo** is also the co-founder of the youth literacy nonprofit **Never Counted Out**.



## Quintanilla Also Inducted into TIL Class of 2025

**Octavio Quintanilla** is the author of the poetry collection, **If I Go Missing** (Slough Press, 2014) and served as the **2018-2020 Poet Laureate of San Antonio, TX**.

His poetry, fiction, translations, and photography have appeared, or are forthcoming, in journals such as **Salamander**, **RHINO**, **Alaska Quarterly Review**, **Pilgrimage**, and **Green Mountains Review**,

His **Frontextos** (visual poems) have been published in **Poetry Northwest**, **Chachalaca Review**, and **The Museum of Americana**. **Octavio’s** visual work has also been exhibited at the **Southwest School of Art, Presa House Gallery**,

He holds a Ph.D. from the **University of North Texas** and is the regional editor for **Texas Books in Review** and poetry editor for **The Journal of Latina Critical Feminism & for Voices de la Luna: A Quarterly Literature & Arts Magazine**. **Octavio** teaches Literature and Creative Writing in the M.A./M.F.A. program at **Our Lady of the Lake University** in **San Antonio, Texas**.

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# Pensamientos

The time has come, or maybe the time has already passed, for people to do something about the direction in which our country is headed. It is no secret that there are those who have been working for years to take control of the government. But one question that is not getting much attention is just how powerful is the government? Other than withhold money for programs and projects, where is the power of the government?

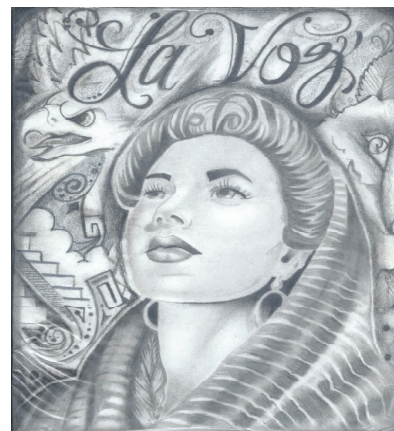
The Colonists back in the late 1700s did not believe that the all powerful British government was something invincible. When they decided to break away from England they knew there would be consequences. But if you believe in something you also believe in yourself and what you are willing to do to reach your objectives.

The time is coming or has already arrived for people to decide what they are going to do. There are going to be some difficult choices in front of us. Back in the late 1700s, Benjamin Franklin was for breaking away from England. His son William was not. His son thought it was best to remain with the powerful English.

And so the question becomes what are you, me, us, going to do? Are we going to continue to watch TV? Are we going to continue to seek out the happy hours? We know what happened to the Germans. How long do wait?

On the cover is a drawing that was sent in by **Jason Moreno** from **Lovelady, Texas** where one of the prisons in **Texas** is located. I found it in our files and thought that since March is **Women's History Month**, it would be appropriate for the cover.

Incarcerated folks in some of the units in **Texas** produce artwork that is very intricate and inspiring. Some even have websites where their work can be purchased.



## EDITORIAL



Alfredo Santos c/s  
Editor and  
Publisher

Photo taken in 1982 in  
Houston, Texas.

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## Holy Family Catholic Church

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**Rev. Dr. Jayme Mathias**  
M.A., M.B.A., M.Div., M.S., Ph.D.  
Senior Pastor



**9:00 a.m. English Mass in the Church**  
**10:00 a.m. Breakfast in the Parish Hall**  
**10:30 a.m. English Mass in the Chapel**  
**12:00 p.m. Misa en Español en la Iglesia**

**9322 FM 812 Austin, Texas 78719**  
**From Highway 183 going South, turn left onto FM 812**

**For more information: (512) 826-0280**  
**Welcome Home!**

# ARTISAN MERCADO MARCH 14 - 16

**Who: Local Artisans & Artists**

**What: Artisan Market**

**Where: Mexic-Arte Museum, 419 Congress**

**When: 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., March 14 - 16**

AUSTIN, TX-Tourists and locals can obtain a free souvenir from the **Artisan Mercado**, a Latin American art and arts and craft market, during SXSW at **Mexic-Arte Museum**, 419 Congress Ave. from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday - Sunday, March 14 - 16.

Jewelry designer **Claudio López** will offer a free stone and copper wire pendant workshop from 12 to 2 p.m. on Friday through Saturday, March 14 -16. **López** owns the online boutique **Athena Silversmith** and, together with his wife **Irma Orozco**, have organized artisan markets for 6 years at various downtown venues. All workshop materials will be provided.

At the **Artisan Mercado**, you can discover vividly colored creations made by 14 Latinx artists and artisans that live in **Austin** as well as indigenous arts and crafts sourced from Latin America. Shoppers can find handcrafted textiles, dresses, guayaberas, jewelry, dolls, headbands, handbags, keychains, paintings and ceramics, unique souvenirs that echo the deep roots of **Texas** grounded in Mexican tradition.

**24 de febrero de 2025**

**Contacto: Irma Orozco**

**Para Divulgación Inmediata**

**Teléfono: 512-660-1845**

**¿Quién?: Artesanos y Artistas Locales**

**¿Qué?: Mercado Artesanal**

**¿Dónde?: Museo Mexic-Arte**

**¿Cuándo?: 11:00 am- 5:00 pm, 14-16 de marzo de 2025**

**ARTISAN MERCADO OFRECE A LOS VISITANTES DE SXSW  
UN RECUERDO GRATUITO**

AUSTIN, TX – Turistas y locales están invitados al **Artisan Mercado** durante SXSW en el **Museo Mexic-Arte**, 419 Congress Ave., para obtener un recuerdo gratuito. El mercado de arte y artesanías latinoamericanas estará abierto de 11 a.m. a 5 p.m. de viernes a domingo, del 14 al 16 de marzo de 2025.

El diseñador de joyas **Claudio López** ofrecerá un taller gratuito de pendientes de piedra envueltos en alambre de cobre de 12 p.m. a 2 p.m. de viernes a domingo. López, dueño de la tienda en línea **Athena Silversmith**, junto con su esposa **Irma Orozco**, han organizado mercados de artesanos durante seis años en varios lugares del centro de **Austin**. Todos los materiales del taller serán proporcionados. El espacio es limitado, por lo que se requiere hacer una reservación. Para registrarse, visite <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/artisan-mercadosxsw-tickets-1255107031919?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendee-share&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl..>

En el **Artisan Mercado**, los visitantes podrán descubrir creaciones llenas de color realizadas por 14 artistas y artesanos latinx que viven en **Austin**, así como artes y artesanías indígenas provenientes de América Latina. Los compradores podrán encontrar una variedad de productos artesanales, como textiles, vestidos, guayaberas, joyas, muñecas, diademas, bolsos, llaveros, pinturas y cerámicas, recuerdos únicos que reflejan las profundas raíces en **Texas** de carácter mexicano.



# 1980

**Average Income \$21,064.61**  
**Cost of a New Home \$77,500.00**

**Dozen Eggs \$0.84**  
**White bread Loaf \$0.51**  
**Sliced bacon (1 pound): \$1.46**  
**Round steak (1 pound): \$2.77**  
**Potatos (1 pounds): \$0.19**

**President of the United States: Jimmy Carter**  
**Vice-President of the United States: Walter Mondale**

# Donald Trump's Common Sense

by Rogelio Sáenz

On January 29, as an **American Airline** flight was approaching its landing, there was a fatal collision between the airplane and a military helicopter over the **Potomac River**. A very tragic event that resulted in the loss of 67 lives. Just about 12 hours after this disastrous event, with many among us in shock and family members of the deceased mourning, **Donald Trump** saw a political opportunity.

Despite a full investigation underway, he publicly blamed **DEI** for the catastrophic event. He asserted that **DEI** programs have cut slack to allow “unqualified people”—namely, people of color, women, and people with disabilities—to obtain important jobs over more qualified individuals. The evidence? None!

How did he derive this conclusion regarding diversity having something to do with the crash, a reporter asked him. **Trump's** response: “[Because I have common sense ok and unfortunately a lot of people don't.](#)”

**Trump's** rush to judgment without any data is not new. Indeed, for **Trump**, facts and truth simply get in the way of him pushing a political position. During the presidential campaign, he regularly blamed **Biden** and **Harris** for ruining the U.S. economy and for making the nation a laughingstock of the world. **Trump** blamed immigrants for committing crimes with impunity. More recently, he blamed **California Governor Gavin Newsome** for the **Los Angeles** fires.

What could be going on in a person's head to blame **DEI** for the horrendous collision that took so many precious

lives without any evidence? While we can only imagine, we do know that he is driven by political division, chaos, and revenge. In this case, he put **DEI** at center stage of culpability. It fit in with his decision to eliminate **DEI** and anything else resembling it from the federal government.

Earlier that week he signed an executive order ending **DEI** programs in the military. Earlier in the day of the fatal collision, **Trump** signed an executive order to ban the discussion of race and racism and gender in K-12 public schools with federal funds to be terminated from schools that do not comply. In **Trump's** mind, one would reason, the hours-old catastrophe helped in pressing his case on the urgency for eliminating **DEI**. **Trump** is quick to blame people of color and women for taking advantage of the “lowering of standards” that were created to benefit them to take positions away from people who actually had the “brilliance” and “merit” to have those positions. **Trump** with his false assuredness would proclaim, “Look, how dangerous **DEI** is!”

But one small detail that **Trump** conveniently overlooked in his remarks was that the **Federal Aviation Administration** (FAA) was leaderless after the resignation of **FAA Administrator Michael Whitaker**, who announced his resignation in mid-December and who actually resigned the day of **Trump's** inauguration. [Many speculate that Elon Musk](#), **Trump's** czar of Government Efficiency, forced out **Whitaker** who he opposed because of **FAA** safety violations and fines against his **SpaceX** involving two launches in addition to the imposition of an upcoming **SpaceX** launch. **Musk**, who was happy to see **Whitaker** go, undoubtedly placed his own commercial interests over

the air safety of the American public. To **Trump**, blaming **DEI** would keep the heat away from the air collision being blamed on the leaderless **FAA** under his watch. This is reminiscent of [Charles Stuart, a white man, who killed his pregnant wife](#) in **Boston** in 1989 and blamed it on a fictitious Black man.

Back to **Trump's** illogical conclusion concerning the air disaster. Students are taught from elementary school to doctoral programs to use data and evidence to form their thoughts and arguments. A student who, without any evidence, blamed **DEI** for a fatal mid-air collision or one who blamed fire ants for the drop in the stock market would get a bad grade on their assignment.

Can we hold a U.S. president accountable for making extraordinary claims without a shred of evidence? Likely not, as **Trump** ended his remarks, [members of his administration rushed to flatter him](#). As we have seen, fealty and loyalty have trumped brilliance and merit in **Trump's** selection of his cabinet and other high administrative positions. Lord help us if these are **Trump's** frontline to protect us from catastrophic situations such as another pandemic lurking around, climate change, and war.

**Trump** is Exhibit A for the need for fact checking. Unfortunately, **Mark Zuckerberg** is not questioning **Trump's** veracity. He, too, is loyal to **Trump**.

*Rogelio Sáenz is Professor in the Department of Sociology and Demography at the University of Texas at San Antonio.*



# NEW BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

A Collection of Short Stories, Interview and Photos  
of the People of Uvalde, Texas

## Recuerdos de Uvalde, Texas

Amalia Rodriguez  
Santos in 1944  
and 2015



Amalia "Molly" Santos  
July 10th, 1926  
November 6th, 2019

Volume # 2

**Alfredo R. Santos c/s**

Finally finished **Volume # 2** of our series **Recuerdos de Uvalde**. This 160 page book contains 12 stories and interviews. Some of the stories are in Spanish. If you are from **Uvalde**, you will recognize many of the people on these pages.

Some of the chapters include, part 2 of the **Rudy Flores** interview, the life and times of **Molly Santos**, **The Man in Room #114 of the Amber Sky Motel**, 1860 - The First Federal Census of **Uvalde County**, **Remembering Frances Ybarra**, the first president of the **Mexican American Parents Association** (this the group that was formed during the 1970 school walkout)

Contact the author, **Alfredo Santos c/s** regarding how to order your copy at: [lavoztexas@gmail.com](mailto:lavoztexas@gmail.com) or call: 512-944-4123

# COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

w/ Mayor Pro Tem Vanessa Fuentes



Tue, Mar 18, 6 - 7:30 PM

Meanwhile Brewing Co.  
3901 Promontory Point Dr



Pol. Adv paid for by the Vanessa for Austin campaign.

31.78% voted for Trump  
30.84% voted for Harris  
1.06% voted third party  
36.33% did not vote

**More Americans voted for  
someone other than Trump.**

**NOT a landslide.  
NOT a mandate.**

# Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum addresses Trump:



“So, you voted to build a wall.

Well, dear Americans, even if you don’t understand much about geography, since for you America is your country and not a continent, it is important for you to know, before the first brick is laid, that there are 7 billion people beyond that wall.

But since you don’t really know the term “people,” we will call them “consumers.” There are 7 billion consumers ready to replace their iPhones with Samsung or Huawei devices in less than 42 hours. They can also replace Levi’s with Zara or Massimo Duti.

In less than six months, we can easily stop buying Ford or Chevrolet cars and replace them with Toyota, KIA, Mazda, Honda, Hyundai, Volvo, Subaru, Renault or BMW, which are technically better than the cars they produce. These 7 billion people can also stop subscribing to Direct TV, and we don’t want to do that, but we can stop watching Hollywood movies and start watching more Latin American or European productions that have better quality, message, cinematic techniques and content.

Although it may sound incredible, we can skip Disney and go to the Xcaret resort in Cancun, Mexico, Canada or Europe: there are other great destinations in South America, East America and Europe. And even if you don’t believe it, even in Mexico there are better hamburgers than McDonald’s and they have better nutritional content. Has anyone seen pyramids in the United States? In Egypt, Mexico, Peru, Guatemala, Sudan and other countries there are pyramids with incredible civilizations.

Find out where to find the wonders of the ancient and modern world. None of them in the US. Shame on Trump, he would have bought them and sold them!

We know that Adidas exists, not just Nike, and we can start wearing Mexican sneakers like Panam. We know more than you think. We know, for example, that if these 7 billion consumers don’t buy their products, there will be unemployment and their economy will collapse (within the racist wall) to such an extent that they will beg us to tear down this ugly wall.

We didn’t want to, but.... You want a wall, you get a wall.

Sincerely yours.”

# NOMAS NO TO MASS DEPORTATION

by Alicia Perez-Hodge

## FEAR AND FALSE NARRATIVES

Since the beginning of his political career, Donald Trump has railed against immigrants, consistently describing them in disparaging terms. In 2015, he denigrated Mexican immigrants by saying, "They're bringing drugs, they're bringing crime, they're rapists, and some I assume are good people." Trump continued using inaccurate, derogatory, and often racist language during his 2024 campaign, such as the ridiculous accusations that Haitian immigrants in Ohio were stealing and eating cats and dogs.

## The false narratives and frightening exaggerations continued on his first day in office with the following Executive Order,

*"America's Sovereignty is under attack. This invasion has caused widespread chaos and suffering in our country over the last four years. It has led to the horrific and inexcusable murders of many innocent American citizens, including women and children, at the hands of illegal aliens. Foreign criminal gangs and cartels have begun seizing control of parts of cities, attacking our most vulnerable citizens, and terrorizing Americans beyond the control of local law enforcement. The integrity of American sovereign borders represents a grave threat to our nation."*

## Such alarming and dehumanizing language used by the President of the United States is strategically used to incite fear and stoke hate.

Unfortunately, such fear-mongering and xenophobia from MAGA Republicans does not stop at the White House. It resounds in the Texas Statehouse. Governor Greg Abbott consistently refers to immigrants crossing at the Southern border as an "invasion." Abbott's repeated emphasis on border security is accompanied by language that implicitly links illegal immigration with criminality and disorder. For example, by frequently referring to illegal border crossings as part of a broader "invasion" or describing immigrants in terms that evoke images of criminal mobs, his language elevates security concerns and encourages hostile public sentiments toward all immigrants.

Even without using explicit slurs, the insinuation that all immigrants are criminals and

the only solution is mass deportation is wrong and misguided. Wrong because it's

based on a false premise that undocumented immigrants commit or cause crime and don't contribute to our economy. **Misguided** because of the astronomical cost of operations and transportation required to deport 13 million men, women, and children to their countries of origin. **Misguided** because Mass Deportation will cause labor shortages resulting in construction slowdowns, increased costs to U.S. consumers, and untold suffering for immigrants and US citizens alike. Let's look at the facts.

## CRIME AND IMMIGRANTS: THE DATA

Immigrants coming to the U.S. today are not much different than those of yesteryear; they come to the United States to work and seek a better life for their children and families. Scapegoating ethnic and religious minorities is an ancient practice, primarily because they make easy targets and serve as a distraction for political gains. Accusations of criminality have been hurled at the Irish, Italians, Chinese, Mexicans, Japanese, and even Germans during WWII.

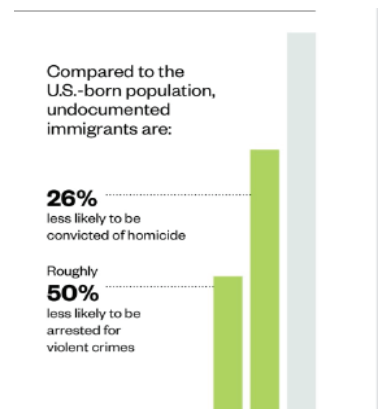
To be clear, all large populations have individuals who commit crimes. Despite their legal status, persons who commit crimes should be arrested, adjudicated, and face the consequences of their actions. There is no tolerance for crime, especially acts of violence in the Latino community nor in a civil society.

Since, the alarming rhetoric surrounding undocumented immigrants today involves consistent claims they commit crimes and are a threat to public safety, and since those narratives are often used to justify exorbitant expenditures and unjust laws, then the research and data-driven conclu-



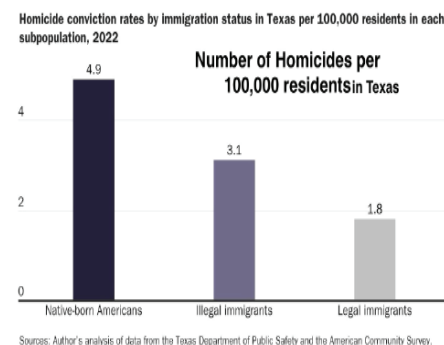
sions on the issue are worth examining.

Despite the false claims that immigrants are prone to commit violent crimes, **research consistently indicates that immigrants are far less likely to be arrested or convicted of violent crime.** The graphic below provided by the American Immigration Council shows that, when compared to the U.S. born population, undocumented immigrants are 50% less likely to be arrested for violent crimes and 26% less likely to be convicted of homicide.



A.

In conducting the research, I ran into an interesting study on immigrants and crime conducted by the American Immigration Council. The study looked at the percentage of foreign-born population (immigrants) and crime rates from 1980 to 2022. The data indicates "that as the immigrant share of population in the U.S. grew, the crime rate declined." The chart below shows that in 1980, immigrants made up 6.2 percent of the U.S. population, and the total crime rate was 5,900 crimes per 100,000 people. By 2022, the share of immigrants had more than doubled to 13.9 percent, while the total crime rate had dropped by 60.4 percent. The facts do not support the MAGA rhetoric.



Sources: Author's analysis of data from the Texas Department of Public Safety and the American Community Survey.

B.

In Texas, data provided by the Texas Department of Public Safety also confirms that despite political rhetoric fueled by Xenophobia and racism, undocumented immigrants come to the U.S. to work, not to commit crimes. This is supported by research conducted by reputable institutions such as the CATO Institute and the American Immigration Council using data from our own Texas Department of Public Safety (TDPS), as shown in the following graph:

C.

Understanding the lower crime rate among undocumented immigrants is easy and makes sense. Given the dangerous and arduous travel endured by immigrants to get to the United States, the last thing on their minds is to commit a crime. In fact, **most immigrants are running from crime, disorder, and chaos.** Undocumented immigrants are acutely aware of their precarious legal status and the severe consequences of criminal behavior. As a result, they tend to be more law-abiding to avoid drawing attention to themselves. Lower crime rates among undocumented immigrants are reflective of their commitment to the American Dream.

Immigrants focus on work and providing for their loved ones not engaging in criminal activity. Most undocumented immigrants are hardworking individuals who contribute positively to the economy.

## THE COSTS OF MISGUIDED POLICIES AND MASS DEPORTATION

According to the Pew Research Center and several other sources, there were approximately 13 million undocumented immigrants living in the U.S. at the end of 2024. During his presidential campaign, Trump vowed to remove all 13 million of them through **"the largest deportation of illegal immigrants in U.S. History.** In Texas, Governor Abbott has spent billions to militarize the southern border through Operation Lone Star, aiming to reduce illegal immigration. According to Governor Abbott, the state spent **11 billion dollars** on border security over four years, a staggering amount that could have been invested in other critical areas like education and healthcare.



# NOMAS NO TO MASS DEPORTATION

## MASS DEPORTATION IS EXPENSIVE IN MANY WAYS

The portrayal of undocumented immigrants as criminals has led to misguided policies that prioritize mass deportation. These policies come with significant costs. There are two components to assessing the fiscal cost of mass deportation. **First, is the operational costs** of arrest, detention, legal processing, and deportation. The second is the resulting labor shortage that will result in increased consumer prices, especially in industries such as construction, agriculture, healthcare, and hospitality.

The Trump Mass Deportation Plan intends to deport approximately 13 million undocumented immigrants, which is **approximately 4% of the US population.**

## COST OF OPERATIONS

A report issued by the American Immigrant Council (AIC) found that a one-time mass deportation operation would cost an estimated total of 315 billion dollars, and they call their estimate “highly conservative.” AIC explains their “*estimate does not take into account the long-term costs of a sustained mass deportation operation or the incalculable additional cost necessary to acquire the institutional capacity to remove over 13 million people in a short period. Incalculable because there is no reality in which such a singular operation is possible.*”

In simple terms, the AIC reports that such a vast operation of expelling 13 million immigrants from U.S. soil and repatriation to their native countries has never been tried and they don't believe it is possible. The majority of economists and social scientists agree. Trump's Mass Deportation Plan is unrealistic logistically and financially. In addition, it is detrimental to the US economy by causing a labor shortage and increasing prices for American consumers.

## PROVIDING CONTEXT TO THE MASS DEPORTATIONS

To put the scale of the “Mass Deportation” operation in context. The deportation of 13 million men, women, and children would be like:

- Arresting, detaining, adjudicating and transporting the entire popu-

lation of the state of Pennsylvania ( Pop. 13,002,700)

- Arresting, detaining, adjudicating and transporting all residents of the following cities **combined**:
- |                |           |
|----------------|-----------|
| ✓ Los Angeles  | 3,822,238 |
| ✓ Chicago      | 2,665,039 |
| ✓ Houston      | 2,302,878 |
| ✓ Philadelphia | 1,563,025 |
| ✓ Dallas       | 1,299,544 |
| ✓ San Antonio  | 1,472,909 |
| ✓              |           |
- **The entire US prison and jail population in 2023, comprising every person held in local county, state, and federal prisons and jails, was 1.9 million people.**

Another option is to deport one million undocumented immigrants a year. The conservative price tag for that option is estimated at \$88 billion annually or a trillion dollars over the next twelve years.

## LABOR SHORTAGE WILL INCREASE PRICES FOR U.S. CONSUMERS'

Besides the astronomical cost of deporting millions of immigrants, economists agree that mass deportation will lower the nation's GDP significantly and have disastrous impact on the U.S. economy..

Immigrants provide a ready labor force, especially in industries such as construction, agriculture, healthcare, and hospitality. A labor shortage in these areas will lead to higher grocery costs, increase restaurant prices, and slow down construction, thereby increasing building costs and decreasing the availability of affordable housing. The loss of healthcare workers will hurt older adults and increase the cost of healthcare. For this article I examined how mass deportation will negatively impact the construction and agriculture industries in Texas.

## IMPACT ON THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY IN TEXAS

The US economy has been healthy since the recovery from COVID. Texas has experienced a surge in construction. According to industry reports, the commercial construction industry in Texas is expected to grow to \$27 billion over the next five years. Unemployment rates during the Biden Administration were among the lowest in US history. The Associated Builders and Con-

tractors (ABC) projects the construction industry will need nearly 454,000 new workers in 2025, in addition to regular industry hiring trends.

In a position paper presented by the US Hispanic Contractors Association (USHCA) in January 2025, the impact of mass deportation on the construction industry in Texas is addressed. The USHCA points out that approximately 50 percent of the construction workforce in Texas is comprised of immigrants and about a quarter of those workers are undocumented. The paper goes on to state,

“Immigrants play a critical role in the Texas construction industry. The ability to support and assist the vast pool of undocumented workers in our industry is essential, as the loss of these workers could bring construction in Texas to the proverbial halt”

Some studies estimate, such as a 2022 study by the Workers' Defense Fund and the University of Texas, that undocumented workers make up 50 percent of the construction workforce in Texas. Either way, the numbers are significant and detrimental to the Texas economy. These predictions of the dire consequences of mass deportation are expressed by business leaders in Texas, not politicians. For example Stan Marek, CEO of Marek, a Houston based commercial and residential construction giant told NPR,

“It would devastate our industry we wouldn't finish our highways. We wouldn't finish our schools. Affordable housing would disappear.”

## AGRICULTURE

Undocumented workers are vital to the US agricultural sector, comprising about 50% of farm laborers, especially in California, Texas, and Florida. Mass deportation threatens to disrupt the food supply chain by contributing to labor shortages and increased food prices. Russell Boeing, President of the Texas Farm Bureau, states, “We want a secure border, but we also understand that immigrant labor is vital to agriculture.

Teresa Romero, President of the Farm Workers Union, points out that with mass deportation, US consumers will have to

import more food “**but with the proposed 25% tariffs on imports**, the US consumer will pay a much higher price for food.” Even dairy farmers in Vermont caution that mass deportation of undocumented immigrants would significantly increase the cost of milk.

Moreover, the economic contributions of undocumented immigrants are often overlooked. They are vital in various sectors, including agriculture, construction, and service industries. Deporting millions of undocumented hurts the economy, causing food prices to increase and hurting those who can afford it least.

## REFLECTION

The narrative of mass deportation is not only unrealistic but also inhumane. It ignores the complexities of immigration and the contributions of stability of our economy. While this article focuses on misguided policies, costs, and the feasibility of mass deportation, it is understood that the actual toll of mass deportation will be borne by the immigrants, their families, their American-born children, and the communities these workers serve.

Immigrants contribute significantly to the economy through labor, consumption, and tax payments. They often fill essential roles in jobs that native-born workers avoid. Studies indicate that legalization could boost their earnings and consumption, further enhancing their economic impact on the U.S. economy.

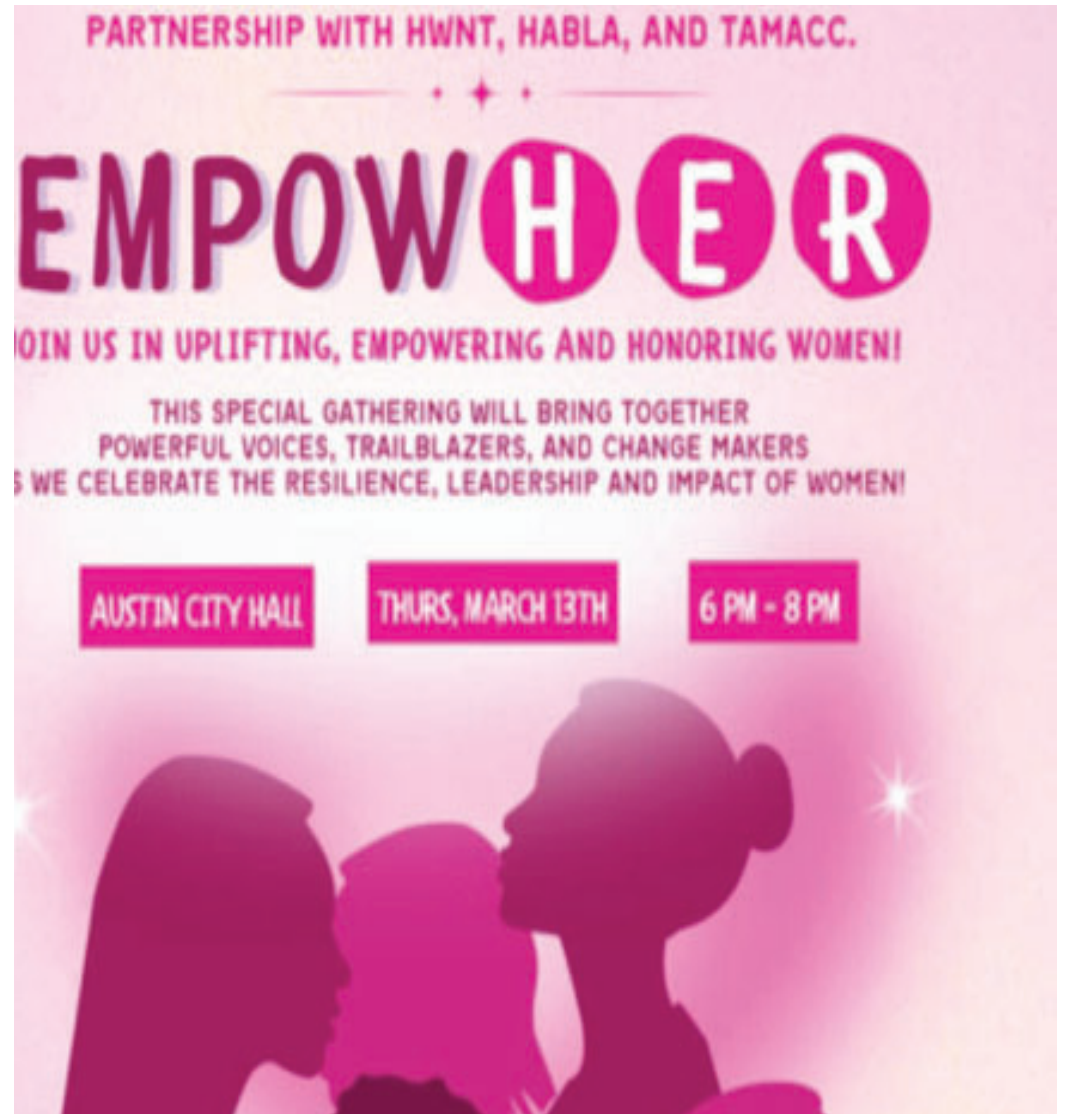
Putting aside political ideology and prioritizing the good and welfare of the U.S. economy plus the financial stability of American families, Congress must address comprehensive immigration reform. Undocumented immigrants are not criminals; the US needs workers, and immigrants need jobs; in addition, no reasonable person believes that deporting 13 million people is either feasible or affordable. Mass deportation is a bad idea! Nomas no to mass deportation. We can do better. Si se puede.

In the next installment of Nomas No to Mass Deportation, we will explore reasonable and sensible alternatives and talk to undocumented immigrants about their journey and their future.

# En la comunidad



ABOVE: **Bertha Rendon Delgado** is at **A.B. Cantu Pan-American Recreation Center Community Advisory Board** meeting. I got to see **Mr. & Mrs. Frances Martinez**, pillars of the East Side. **Mr. Martinez** was the **President of Barrio Unidos**, an old neighborhood organization created in the 1960s. Many of us grew up in this barrio and now many are passing on. As a child, I grew up watching these two fight for better schools in our neighborhood. They were also very involved as parishioners at **Cristo Rey Catholic Church**. **Mrs. Martinez** was one of those who stood up and fought to close **Holly Power Plant**.



## CONVERSACIONES DE LA COMUNIDAD CON EL ADMINISTRADOR DE LA CIUDAD DE AUSTIN T.C. BROADNAX



City of Austin  
**2025-26  
BUDGET**

Comparta lo que piensa con el Administrador de la Ciudad sobre en qué áreas deberían enfocarse los gastos de Austin y escuche su perspectiva para crear un presupuesto que maximice los servicios para todos.

### Participe en una conversación cerca suyo:

- Miércoles 5 de marzo a las 6:30 p.m. – South Austin Recreation Center, 1100 Cumberland Rd
- Lunes 24 de marzo a las 6:30 p.m. - Asian American Resource, 8401 Cameron Rd, Austin
- Sábado 29 de marzo a las 10:30 a.m. - Learning and Research Center, 5202 E. Ben White Blvd., Suite 500
- Jueves 3 de abril a las 6:30 p.m. - Northwest Recreation Center, 2913 Northland Dr



VISITE [AUSTINTEXAS.GOV/BUDGET](https://www.austintexas.gov/budget) PARA RESERVAR SU LUGAR Y OBTENER MÁS INFORMACIÓN O ESCANEE AQUÍ CON SU TELÉFONO



**SAVE THE DATE!** 24TH ANNUAL CESAR CHAVEZ ¡SI SE PUEDE! MARCH  
 SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2025, 10AM-2PM  
 TERRAZAS LIBRARY (GATHERING) MARCH TO PAN AM HILLSIDE

# Comisión De Calidad Ambiental Del Estado De Texas

**SOLICITUD Y DECISIÓN PRELIMINAR.** City of Sugar Land, 101A Gillingham Lane, Sugar Land, Texas 77478 ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Texas (TCEQ) una renovación para autorizar una renovación del Permiso No. WQ0011317001, que autoriza el vertido de aguas residuales domésticas tratadas a una tasa anual Flujo promedio que no exceda los 6,000,000 galones por día. La TCEQ recibió esta solicitud el July 17, 2024.

La planta está ubicada en 16450 Southwest Freeway en el Condado de Fort Bend, Texas. El efluente tratado es descargado al Zanja de drenaje del condado de Fort Bend D (Bullhead Bayou), de allí a Fort Zanja de drenaje A del condado de Bend (Alcorn Bayou), de allí a la zanja de drenaje H del condado de Fort Bend, de allí al río Brazos por debajo del río Navasota en el segmento No. 1202 de la cuenca del río Brazos. Los usos no clasificados de las aguas receptoras son uso mínimo de vida acuática para Ditch D (Bullhead Bayou) y el uso limitado de la vida acuática para Fort Ditch A (Alcorn Bayou) y Ditch H. Los usos designados para el Segmento No. 1202 son la recreación de contacto primario, el suministro público de agua y la alta vida acuática uso.

El Director Ejecutivo de la TCEQ ha completado la revisión técnica de la solicitud y ha preparado un borrador del permiso. El borrador del permiso, si es aprobado, establecería las condiciones bajo las cuales la instalación debe operar. El Director Ejecutivo ha tomado una decisión preliminar que si este permiso es emitido, cumple con todos los requisitos normativos y legales. La solicitud del permiso, la decisión preliminar del Director Ejecutivo y el borrador del permiso están disponibles para leer y copiar en City of Sugar Land City Hall, 2700 Town Center Boulevard North, Sugar Land, en Fort Bend County, Texas. La solicitud (cualquier actualización y aviso inclusive) está disponible electrónicamente en la siguiente página web: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/pending-permits/tpdes-applications>. Este enlace a un mapa electrónico de la ubicación general del sitio o de la instalación es proporcionado como una cortesía y no es parte de la solicitud o del aviso. Para



## AVISO DE LA SOLICITUD Y DECISIÓN PRELIMINAR PARA EL PERMISO DEL SISTEMA DE ELIMINACION DE DESCARGAS DE CONTAMINANTES DE TEXAS (TPDES) PARA AGUAS RESIDUALES MUNICIPALES RENOVACIÓN

**PERMISO NO. WQ0011317001**

la ubicación exacta, consulte la solicitud. <https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-95.629334,29.594518&level=18>

**AVISO DE IDIOMA ALTERNATIVO.** El aviso de idioma alternativo en español está disponible en <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/pending-permits/tpdes-applications>.

**COMENTARIO PUBLICO / REUNION PUBLICA.** Usted puede presentar comentarios públicos o pedir una reunión pública sobre esta solicitud. El propósito de una reunión pública es dar la oportunidad de presentar comentarios o hacer preguntas acerca de la solicitud. La TCEQ realiza una reunión pública si el Director Ejecutivo determina que hay un grado de interés público suficiente en la solicitud o si un legislador local lo pide. Una reunión pública no es una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.

**OPORTUNIDAD DE UNA AUDIENCIA ADMINISTRATIVA DE LO CONTENCIOSO.** Después del plazo para presentar comentarios públicos, el Director Ejecutivo considerará todos

los comentarios apropiados y preparará una respuesta a todo los comentarios públicos esenciales, pertinentes, o significativos. **A menos que la solicitud haya sido referida directamente a una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso, la respuesta a los comentarios y la decisión del Director Ejecutivo sobre la solicitud serán enviados por correo a todos los que presentaron un comentario público y a las personas que están en la lista para recibir avisos sobre esta solicitud. Si se reciben comentarios, el aviso también proveerá instrucciones para pedir una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo y para pedir una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.** Una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso es un procedimiento legal similar a un procedimiento legal civil en un tribunal de distrito del estado.

**PARA SOLICITAR UNA AUDIENCIA DE CASO IMPUGNADO, USTED DEBE INCLUIR EN SU SOLICITUD LOS SIGUIENTES DATOS: su nombre, dirección, y número de teléfono; el nombre del solicitante y número del permiso; la ubicación**

y distancia de su propiedad/actividad con respecto a la instalación; una descripción específica de la forma cómo usted sería afectado adversamente por el sitio de una manera no común al público en general; una lista de todas las cuestiones de hecho en disputa que usted presente durante el período de comentarios; y la declaración “[Yo/nosotros] solicito/solicitamos una audiencia de caso impugnado”. Si presenta la petición para una audiencia de caso impugnado de parte de un grupo o asociación, debe identificar una persona que representa al grupo para recibir correspondencia en el futuro; identificar el nombre y la dirección de un miembro del grupo que sería afectado adversamente por la planta o la actividad propuesta; proveer la información indicada anteriormente con respecto a la ubicación del miembro afectado y su distancia de la planta o actividad propuesta; explicar cómo y porqué el miembro sería afectado; y explicar cómo los intereses que el grupo desea proteger son pertinentes al propósito del grupo.

Después del cierre de todos los períodos de comentarios y de petición que aplican, el Director Ejecutivo enviará la solicitud y cualquier petición para reconsideración o para una audiencia de caso impugnado a los Comisionados de la TCEQ para su consideración durante una reunión programada de la Comisión. La Comisión sólo puede conceder una solicitud de una audiencia de caso impugnado sobre los temas que el solicitante haya presentado en sus comentarios oportunos que no fueron retirados posteriormente. Si se concede una audiencia, el tema de la audiencia estará limitado a cuestiones de hecho en disputa o cuestiones mixtas de hecho y de derecho relacionadas a intereses pertinentes y materiales de calidad del agua que se hayan presentado durante el período de comentarios. Si ciertos criterios se cumplen, la TCEQ puede actuar sobre una solicitud

## Comisión De Calidad Ambiental Del Estado De Texas

AVISO DE LA SOLICITUD Y DECISIÓN PRELIMINAR  
PARA EL PERMISO DEL SISTEMA DE ELIMINACION DE  
DESCARGAS DE CONTAMINANTES DE TEXAS (TPDES)  
PARA AGUAS RESIDUALES  
MUNICIPALES  
RENOVACIÓN  
PERMISO NO. WQ0011317001

para renovar un permiso para descargar aguas residuales sin proveer una oportunidad de una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.

**ACCIÓN DEL DIRECTOR EJECUTIVO.** El Director Ejecutivo puede emitir una aprobación final de la solicitud a menos que exista un pedido antes del plazo de vencimiento de una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso o se ha presentado un pedido de reconsideración. Si un pedido ha llegado antes del plazo de vencimiento de la audiencia o el pedido de reconsideración ha sido presentado, el Director Ejecutivo no emitirá una aprobación final sobre el permiso y enviará la solicitud y el pedido a los Comisionados de la TECQ para consideración en una reunión programada de la Comisión.

**LISTA DE CORREO.** Si somete comentarios públicos, un pedido para una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso o una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo, la Oficina del Secretario Principal enviará por correo los avisos públicos en relación con la solicitud. Además, puede pedir que la TCEQ ponga su nombre en una o más de las listas de correo siguientes (1) la lista de correo permanente para recibir los avisos de el solicitante indicado por nombre y número del permiso específico y/o (2) la lista de correo de todas las solicitudes en un condado específico. Si desea que se agregue su nombre en una de las listas designe cual lista(s) y envía por correo su pedido a la Oficina del Secretario Principal de la TCEQ.

**Todos los comentarios escritos del público y los pedidos una reunión**

deben ser presentados durante los 30 días después de la publicación del aviso a la Oficina del Secretario Principal, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or por el internet a [www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html). Tenga en cuenta que cualquier información personal que usted proporcione, incluyendo su nombre, número de teléfono, dirección de correo electrónico y dirección física pasarán a formar parte del registro público de la Agencia.

**CONTACTOS E INFORMACIÓN DE LA AGENCIA.** Los comentarios y solicitudes públicas deben enviarse electrónicamente a <https://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/>, o por escrito a Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Cualquier información personal que envíe a al TCEQ pasará a formar parte del registro de la agencia; esto incluye las direcciones de correo electrónico. Para obtener más información sobre esta solicitud de permiso o el proceso de permisos, llame al Programa de Educación Pública de la TCEQ, sin cargo, al 1-800-687-4040 o visite su sitio web en [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep). Si desea información en español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

También se puede obtener información adicional del City of Sugar Land a la dirección indicada arriba o llamando a Mr. Randy Lock, Brazos River Authority, al 254-307-9826.

Fecha de emission: 4 de febrero de 2025

UNIVERSITY OF  
HOUSTON - VICTORIA

# Comisión De Calidad Ambiental Del Estado De Texas

**SOLICITUD Y DECISIÓN PRELIMINAR.** Texas Department of Criminal Justice, P.O. Box 4011, Huntsville, Texas 77342, ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Texas (TCEQ) una renovación para la descarga de aguas residuales domésticas tratadas a un flujo promedio anual que no exceda los 2,000,000 de galones por día La TCEQ recibió esta solicitud 14 de septiembre de 2023.

La planta está ubicada en 1300 Farm-to-Market Road 655. en el Condado de Brazoria County, Texas 77583. El efluente tratado es descargado al Oyster Creek en el Segmento No. 110 de la Cuenca del Río San Jacinto-Brazos Coastal Basin. Los usos designados para el Segmento No. 1110 son recreación de contacto primario y uso intensivo de vida acuática. Este enlace a un mapa electrónico de la ubicación general del sitio o instalación se proporciona como cortesía pública y no forma parte de la solicitud o aviso. Para conocer la ubicación exacta, consulte la aplicación. <https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-95.541666,29.297777&level=18>

El Director Ejecutivo de la TCEQ ha completado la revisión técnica de la solicitud y ha preparado un borrador del permiso. El borrador del permiso, si es aprobado, establecería las condiciones bajo las cuales la instalación debe operar. El Director Ejecutivo ha tomado una decisión preliminar que si este permiso es emitido, cumple con todos los requisitos normativos y legales. La solicitud del permiso, la decisión preliminar del Director Ejecutivo y el borrador del permiso están disponibles para leer y copiar en Lake Jackson Public Library, 250 Circle Way Street, Lake Jackson, Texas.

**AVISO DE IDIOMA ALTERNATIVO.** El aviso de idioma alternativo en español está disponible en <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notice>.

**COMENTARIO PUBLICO / REUNION PUBLICA.** Usted puede presentar comentarios públicos o pedir una reunión pública sobre



## AVISO DE LA SOLICITUD Y DECISIÓN PRELIMINAR PARA EL PERMISO DEL SISTEMA DE ELIMINACION DE DESCARGAS DE CONTAMINANTES DE TEXAS (TPDES) PARA AGUAS RESIDUALES MUNICIPALES

### RENOVACIÓN

PERMISO NO. WQ0013804001

**esta solicitud.** El propósito de una reunión pública es dar la oportunidad de presentar comentarios o hacer preguntas acerca de la solicitud. La TCEQ realiza una reunión pública si el Director Ejecutivo determina que hay un grado de interés público suficiente en la solicitud o si un legislador local lo pide. Una reunión pública no es una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.

**OPORTUNIDAD DE UNA AUDIENCIA ADMINISTRATIVA DE LO CONTENCIOSO.** Después del plazo para presentar comentarios públicos, el Director Ejecutivo considerará todos los comentarios apropiados y preparará una respuesta a todo los comentarios públicos esenciales, pertinentes, o significativos. **A menos que la solicitud haya sido referida directamente a una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso, la respuesta a los comentarios y la decisión del Director Ejecutivo sobre la solicitud serán enviados por correo a todos los que presentaron un comentario público y a las personas que están en la lista para recibir avisos sobre esta solicitud. Si se reciben comentarios, el aviso también proveerá**

**instrucciones para pedir una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo y para pedir una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.** Una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso es un procedimiento legal similar a un procedimiento legal civil en un tribunal de distrito del estado.

**PARA SOLICITAR UNA AUDIENCIA DE CASO IMPUGNADO, USTED DEBE INCLUIR EN SU SOLICITUD LOS SIGUIENTES DATOS:** su nombre, dirección, y número de teléfono; el nombre del solicitante y número del permiso; la ubicación y distancia de su propiedad/actividad con respecto a la instalación; una descripción específica de la forma cómo usted sería afectado adversamente por el sitio de una manera no común al público en general; una lista de todas las cuestiones de hecho en disputa que usted presente durante el período de comentarios; y la declaración “[Yo/nosotros] solicito/solicitamos una audiencia de caso impugnado”. Si presenta la petición para una audiencia de caso impugnado de parte de un grupo o asociación, debe

identificar una persona que representa al grupo para recibir correspondencia en el futuro; identificar el nombre y la dirección de un miembro del grupo que sería afectado adversamente por la planta o la actividad propuesta; proveer la información indicada anteriormente con respecto a la ubicación del miembro afectado y su distancia de la planta o actividad propuesta; explicar cómo y porqué el miembro sería afectado; y explicar cómo los intereses que el grupo desea proteger son pertinentes al propósito del grupo.

Después del cierre de todos los períodos de comentarios y de petición que aplican, el Director Ejecutivo enviará la solicitud y cualquier petición para reconsideración o para una audiencia de caso impugnado a los Comisionados de la TCEQ para su consideración durante una reunión programada de la Comisión. La Comisión sólo puede conceder una solicitud de una audiencia de caso impugnado sobre los temas que el solicitante haya presentado en sus comentarios oportunos que no fueron retirados posteriormente. Si se concede una audiencia, el tema de la audiencia estará limitado a cuestiones de hecho en disputa o cuestiones mixtas de hecho y de derecho relacionadas a intereses pertinentes y materiales de calidad del agua que se hayan presentado durante el período de comentarios. Si ciertos criterios se cumplen, la TCEQ puede actuar sobre una solicitud para renovar un permiso para descargar aguas residuales sin proveer una oportunidad de una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.

**ACCIÓN DEL DIRECTOR EJECUTIVO.** El Director Ejecutivo puede emitir una aprobación final de la solicitud a menos que exista un pedido antes del plazo de vencimiento de una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso o se ha presentado un pedido de reconsideración. Si un pedido ha llegado antes del plazo de vencimiento de la audiencia o el

## Comisión De Calidad Ambiental Del Estado De Texas

### AVISO DE LA SOLICITUD Y DECISIÓN PRELIMINAR PARA EL PERMISO DEL SISTEMA DE ELIMINACION DE DESCARGAS DE CONTAMINANTES DE TEXAS (TPDES) PARA AGUAS RESIDUALES MUNICIPALES RENOVACIÓN PERMISO NO. WQ0013804001

pedido de reconsideración ha sido presentado, el Director Ejecutivo no emitirá una aprobación final sobre el permiso y enviará la solicitud y el pedido a los Comisionados de la TECQ para consideración en una reunión programada de la Comisión.

**LISTA DE CORREO.** Si somete comentarios públicos, un pedido para una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso o una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo, la Oficina del Secretario Principal enviará por correo los avisos públicos en relación con la solicitud. Además, puede pedir que la TCEQ ponga su nombre en una o más de las listas de correo siguientes (1) la lista de correo permanente para recibir los avisos de el solicitante indicado por nombre y número del permiso específico y/o (2) la lista de correo de todas las solicitudes en un condado específico. Si desea que se agregue su nombre en una de las listas designe cual lista(s) y envía por correo su pedido a la Oficina del Secretario Principal de la TCEQ.

**Todos los comentarios escritos del público y los pedidos una reunión deben ser presentados durante los 30 días después de la publicación del aviso a la Oficina del Secretario Principal, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or por el internet a [www.tceq.texas.gov/](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/)**

[about/comments.html](http://about/comments.html). Tenga en cuenta que cualquier información personal que usted proporcione, incluyendo su nombre, número de teléfono, dirección de correo electrónico y dirección física pasarán a formar parte del registro público de la Agencia.

**CONTACTOS E INFORMACIÓN DE LA AGENCIA.** Los comentarios y solicitudes públicas deben enviarse electrónicamente a <https://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/>, o por escrito a Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Cualquier información personal que envíe a al TCEQ pasará a formar parte del registro de la agencia; esto incluye las direcciones de correo electrónico. Para obtener más información sobre esta solicitud de permiso o el proceso de permisos, llame al Programa de Educación Pública de la TCEQ, sin cargo, al 1-800-687-4040 o visite su sitio web en [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep). Si desea información en español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

También se puede obtener información adicional del Texas Department of Criminal Justice a la dirección indicada arriba o llamando a Jason Pierce, Gerente III, al 936-437-7247.

Fecha de emisión: 23 de enero de 2025



# Word Power

## En Palabras Hay Poder

**No one can ever argue in the name of education, that it is better to know less than it is to know more. Being bilingual or trilingual or multilingual is about being educated in the 21st century. We look forward to bringing our readers various word lists in each issue of La Voz.**

**Nadie puede averiguar en el nombre de la educación que es mejor saber menos que saber más. Siendo bilingüe o trilingüe es parte de ser educado en el siglo 21. Esperamos traer cada mes a nuestros lectores de La Voz una lista de palabras en español con sus equivalentes en inglés.**

<b>Direction</b>	<b>Dirección</b>
<b>Country</b>	<b>País</b>
<b>Years</b>	<b>Años</b>
<b>Control</b>	<b>Control</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>Gobierno</b>
<b>Invincible</b>	<b>Invencible</b>
<b>Remain</b>	<b>Permanecer</b>
<b>Best</b>	<b>Mejor</b>
<b>Question</b>	<b>Pregunta</b>
<b>Watch</b>	<b>Ver</b>
<b>Happy</b>	<b>Feliz</b>
<b>Hour</b>	<b>Hora</b>
<b>You decide</b>	<b>Tú decides</b>

# New Kid in Town

The following first appeared in the February 27th 2025 **FaceBook** post series of Throwback Thursday for Alfredo Santos c/s.

## Entering the 8th Grade

I had always heard people talk about having “butterflies in their stomach” when they were nervous. But I had never felt that until my mother drove up to the Jr. High that first morning. I wasn’t shaking or anything like that, but my stomach was making all kinds of strange noises. I got off the car and slowly made my way inside the 8th grade building. My mother wished me well before driving off to work.

## Ingrown Toenails

About a week before school started I told my mother about a problem I was having with my foot. We went to the doctor, (**Dr. Shudde**) and he said I had an ingrown toe nail. He sat me up on a table and proceeded to cut into me. Of course it hurt, but I maintained a straight face. (No crying) We discussed how I was going walk and what shoes I was going to use. It was **Dr. Shudde** who suggested that I get an old pair of tennis shoes and cut off the tops to expose my toes. This he said, would relieve the pressure and help the healing. I thought this was a good idea and so I followed his suggestion.

## Meeting the Rat

One of the first classes I had was **Mrs. Green’s** reading class. It was upstairs. I don’t know why I was put in a reading class because I had always been good at reading. But here I was. Some of the students in my class were **Mary Helen Canales**, a tall girl whose real name was **Jesusita** but everyone called her “**Houses**,” another student was a guy named **Sostenes Gutierrez** but everyone called him “**Booger**.” Other guys I remember were **Felipe**, but everyone called him “**Pache**” and **Robert Flores**. He didn’t have a nickname. It was also in this class that first met a guy who would turn out to become a life-long friend. His name was **Richard J. Garcia**, but everyone called him “**Rata**.”

When **Rata** saw my tennis shoes and the modifications I had made, he couldn’t stop staring. He smiled and called everyone’s at-

tention to my feet. “*Wacha los tenis de este vato!*” He thought my “convertible tennis shoes” were the latest style out of **California**. I had to explain that they were not. The reason I cut off the tops was because of ingrown toenails. But he was insistent that my tennis were a fashion statement! He couldn’t stop saying in a long drawn out breath, “*Wacha, los tenis de este vato!*”

## Mrs. Green’s Reading Class

There were about 20 students in **Mrs. Green’s** reading class. One day in class we were taking turns reading out loud. **Mrs. Green** would go up and down the rows so you knew when it was your turn. Well, it was getting close to **Rata’s** turn to read and **Mrs. Green** calls on him. **Richard** began reading and then all of a sudden, he stops. The whole class looks up to see what was the matter. **Richard**, it turns out, had this habit stopping when he came to a word he did not know how to pronounce. And what he would do is say, “*Yes*” or “*No*” as he tried to decide how to publicly pronounce the word in question. If he wasn’t sure, he would continue to go back and forth with “*Yes*” or “*No*.”

Finally, he would say the word in question and lo and behold, he would get it wrong. This is when **Mrs. Green** would intervene and correct him in front of the whole class. So on this particular occasion she said, “*Richard, you are the only boy I know who can argue with himself and still lose!*” Que pinche! El pobre de **Richie** was doing his best when la **Mrs. Green** would drop this statement on him. We all felt bad for him. But what could we do? Then she would tell him the correct pronunciation of the word in question.

## Where the hell do you think you are?

During those first few months at the Junior High School, I learned some **Texas** manners that were new to me. I was out on the playground and tore my pants. I made my way to the office thinking that I may have to go home. But the people in the office said, no, there was a sewing machine they had access to and that they could fix the tear. As I sat in another room, someone took my pants, Then the principal walked

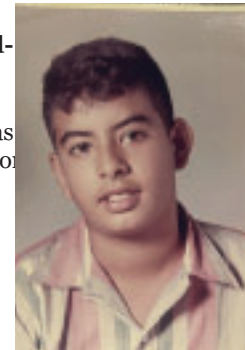
in. His name was **Mr. Robert Baldwin**. There was another man with him. I think he was the school counselor **Mr. Baldwin** asked me a question and I responded with a lackadaisical **California** “*Yeah*.” Big mistake!

Both men turned around and leaned into me and it was **Mr. Baldwin** with a stern look on his face who promptly asked “*—rhetorically, “Yeah? Where the hell do you think you are?”* I guess he sensed the fear coming out of my eyes because he followed up with, “*You are not in California! Here in Texas, it’s yes sir or no sir! Do you understand young man?*” I nervously shook my head in the affirmative and their collective glares slowly dissipated. (Que pinche susto me dieron! Y luego yo nomas en calzoncio?)

## The Knock on the Door

I think it was the last Friday of October 1965. We had been discussing Halloween in **Mrs. Green’s** reading class when we heard a loud knock on the door. **Mrs. Green** got up to go see who it was. As she opened the door, **Mr. Baldwin**, the principal, glanced at her and in a firm voice directed toward the class said, “*All the boys need to stand up and come outside into the hallway.*” Everyone exchanged looks of astonishment. **Rata** was more vocal and said in a low voice, “*Baaboso!*” This was his word for astonishment or surprise. Other people might have said “wow” but the **Rat** was figurative in his speech.

As I stepped into the hallway, I saw four uniformed police officers. They were standing so that we couldn’t see them until we went through the door. “*Up against the wall!*” came the command. Once everyone was lined up, **Mr. Baldwin** told us this was a search for drugs and weapons. “*Empty your pockets and place all items on the floor between your feet.*” We looked at each other and did as we were told.



ABOVE: Alfredo Santos c/s in the 8th grade in Uvalde, Texas

## The Inspection

The police officers began to go down the line to see what we had. All I had was some change and a little plastic car that somehow got in my pocket. As I would later learn, a lot of the students in **Mrs. Green’s** reading class were from **El Barrio de Abajo**. According to the students, this neighborhood was the toughest one in **Uvalde**. It was located in the Southeast quadrant of the city. If you were from **El Barrio de Abajo**, the word was that people needed to think twice before messing with you.

As the policemen inspected what was on the floor most of what they found was gum and lunch money. But when **Mr. Baldwin** got to **Robert Flores**, he called out to the policemen. “*I think we have something.*” What **Mr. Baldwin** and the four policemen were staring at was an object wrapped in aluminum foil. They closely examined the object and poked it with a pencil. Then they looked up at **Robert** and asked him what kind of drugs did he bring to school?

In a quiet voice and his best English, **Robert** told them, “*Sir, it is not any kind of drug. My mother gave me a bean and cheese taco with a little bit of green chile.*” The police and the school principal looked at each other puzzled by **Robert’s** response. Then they slowly unwrapped the taco to ascertain if it was in fact a bean and cheese taco. They appeared disappointed when they realized **Robert** was telling the truth.

All of the students who were lined up for this “drug search” did their best to contain their laughter. Of course **Robert** was very embarrassed that it had been publicly disclosed that he was in possession of a bean and cheese taco with chile. (Back then eating Mexican food in public was considered taboo.)

## Detention Hall

Something else at **Uvalde Junior High School** that was new to me was something called **Detention Hall**. There was a teacher over in the 7 grade building named **Mrs. Ratloff**. If you got into trouble and were assigned **Detention Hall**, it meant you would be spending time after school with **Mrs. Ratloff**. Some of the reasons why a student would be sent to **Detention Hall** included speaking Spanish on school grounds, misbehaving and violating the student dress code. I got sent to **Detention Hall** once because I was not wearing a belt. That’s right, I committed the offense of go-



# Libros para la primavera

## Warriors for Social Justice: Maria Jimenez of Houston and Mexican American Activists

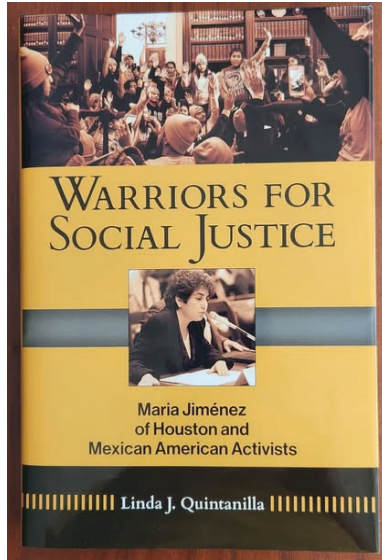
by Anita Quintanilla

*Warriors for Social Justice* examines the contributions of **Mexican American** activists to the nation's democratic values by concentrating on the activism of **Maria Jiménez** (1950–2020) in **Houston, Texas**.

**Linda J. Quintanilla** tells the life story of this admired immigrant and human rights activist who not only fought racist discriminations such as segregation but also typified other **Mexican American** activists. **Quintanilla** documents how **Jiménez** and other activists advanced social justice by promoting our nation's best virtues, especially equality.

In 1971, when only 20, **Jiménez** already had a definition of what it meant for her to be an activist: *"when I see a problem which I feel needs a solution, then I go out to solve it."* **Quintanilla** describes her lifelong battle against injustice, be it racist, sexist, or anti-immigrant animus. The **Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride** in 2003, only one of her many impressive achievements, delighted her the most. The experience introduced its participants, undocumented immigrants, to historic places and **African American** activists and descendants from the **Civil Rights Movement**. The **Freedom Ride**, **Jiménez** believed, not only was educational but also inspired the immigrants in their long and difficult fight to gain legal status—a true victory for social justice.

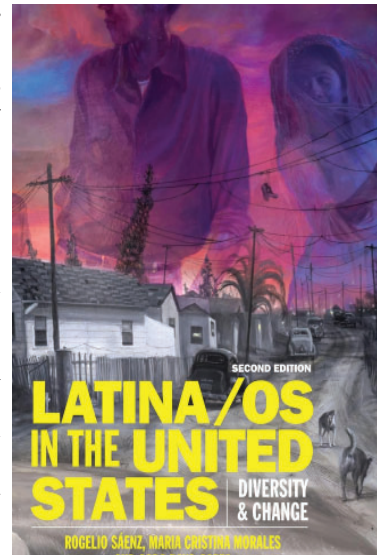
**Quintanilla** uses **Critical Race Theory** (CRT), which examines the relationship between race, racism, and power, as the framework for studying **Jiménez** and **Mexican American** activism. She describes the racial discrimination that the Mexican-origin community experienced in **Texas**, with a focus on **Houston**, dating from the state's earliest years and continuing into the twenty-first century. The commonplace belief in the inferiority of the Mexican-origin minority contributed, for example, to segregation, substandard public schools, and denial of the vote and jury duty.



## Latina/os in the United States: Diversity and Change

by Rogelio Sáenz,  
Maria Cristina Morales and Coda

As the major driver of US demographic change, **Latinos** are reshaping key aspects of the social, economic, political, and cultural landscape of the country. In this second edition of *Latina/os in the United States*, **Sáenz**, **Morales**, and **Rayo-Garza** highlight the experiences of **Latinos** in a variety of domains, including gender and sexuality, education, political engagement, work and economic life, family, religion, health and health care, crime and victimization, mass media, and the arts. This updated edition includes the latest demographic trends, discusses recent mass shootings of **Latinos**, the impact of the **Trump** administration, and COVID-19. With greater focus on the Afro-Latino population and Latina/o social thought, it offers sociological perspectives on both native-born and immigrant populations, and engages readers in thinking about the major issues that **Latinos** are facing. The book clearly illustrates the diverse experiences of the array of **Latino** groups in the United States, with some of these groups succeeding socially and economically, while other groups continue to experience major social and economic challenges. The book concludes with a discussion of what the future holds for **Latinos**. This book is essential reading for students, social scientists, and policymakers interested in **Latinos** and their place in contemporary society.



## NEW BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

**NopalitoPRESS** is pleased to announce the release of Volume # 2 of *Recuerdos de Uvalde*. This is a collection of short stories and interviews on the people of **Uvalde, Texas**. Visit **Nopalito PRESS** at: [www.nopalitopress.com](http://www.nopalitopress.com) for more information or call: **Alfredo Santos** c/s 512-944-4123

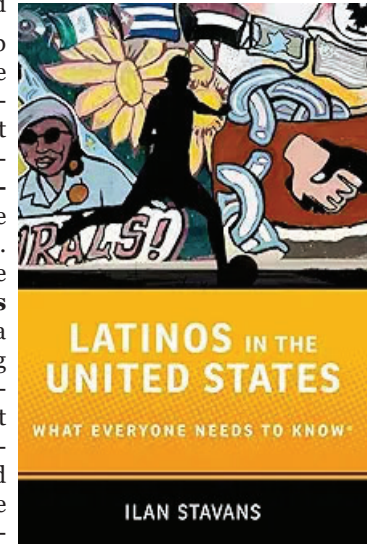
## Latinos in the United States: What Everyone Needs to Know

by Ilan Stavans

As the largest and youngest minority group in the United States, the 60 million **Latinos** living in the U.S. represent the second-largest concentration of **Hispanic** people in the entire world, after **Mexico**. Needless to say, the population of **Latinos** in the U.S. is causing a shift, not only changing the demographic landscape of the country, but also impacting national culture, politics, and spoken language. While **Latinos** comprise a diverse minority group -- with various religious beliefs, political ideologies, and social values--commentators on both sides of the political divide have lumped Latino Americans into a homogenous group that is often misunderstood.

**Latinos in the United States: What Everyone Needs to Know®** provides a wide-ranging, multifaceted exploration of **Latino** American history and culture, as well as the forces shaping this minority group in the U.S. From exploring the origins of the term "Latino" and examining what constitutes Latin America, to tracing topical issues like **DREAMers**, the mass incarceration of **Latino** males, and the controversial relationship between Latin America and the United States, **Ilan Stavans** seeks to understand the complexities and unique position of **Latino Americans**. Throughout he breaks down the various subgroups within the Latino minority (Mexican-Americans, Dominican-Americans, Cuban-Americans, Puerto Ricans on the mainland, and so on), and the degree to which these groups constitute -- or don't -- a homogenous community, their history, and where their future challenges lie.

**Stavans**, one of the world's foremost authorities on global Hispanic civilization, sees **Latino** culture as undergoing dramatic changes as a result of acculturation, changes that are fostering a new "mestizo" identity that is part Hispanic and part American. However, **Latinos** living in the United States are also impacting American culture. As **Ilan Stavans** argues, no other minority group will have a more decisive impact on the future of the United States.



# Comisión De Calidad Ambiental Del Estado De Texas



## ANUNCIO DE SOLICITUD Y DECISIÓN PRELIMINAR PARA EL PERMISO TPDES PARA AGUAS RESIDUALES MUNICIPALES

### RENOVACIÓN

#### PERMISO NO. WQ0014642001

#### COMENTARIO PUBLICO / REUNION PUBLICA. Usted puede presentar comentarios públicos o pedir una reunión pública sobre esta solicitud.

El propósito de una reunión pública es dar la oportunidad de presentar comentarios o hacer preguntas acerca de la solicitud. La TCEQ realiza una reunión pública si el Director Ejecutivo determina que hay un grado de interés público suficiente en la solicitud o si un legislador local lo pide. Una reunión pública no es una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.

**OPORTUNIDAD DE UNA AUDIENCIA ADMINISTRATIVA DE LO CONTENCIOSO.** Después del plazo para presentar comentarios públicos, el Director Ejecutivo considerará todos los comentarios apropiados y preparará una respuesta a todo los comentarios públicos esenciales, pertinentes, o significativos. **A menos que la solicitud haya sido referida directamente a una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso, la respuesta a los comentarios y la decisión del Director Ejecutivo sobre la solicitud serán enviados por correo a todos los que presentaron un comentario público y a las personas que están en la lista para recibir avisos sobre esta solicitud. Si se reciben comentarios, el aviso también proveerá instrucciones para pedir una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo y para pedir una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.** Una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso es un procedimiento legal similar a un procedimiento legal civil en un tribunal de distrito del estado.

PARA SOLICITAR UNA AUDIENCIA DE CASO IMPUGNADO, USTED DEBE INCLUIR EN SU SOLICITUD LOS SIGUIENTES DATOS: su nombre, dirección, y número de teléfono; el nombre del solicitante y número del permiso; la ubicación y distancia de su propiedad/actividad con respecto a la instalación; una descripción específica de la forma cómo usted sería afectado adversamente por el sitio de una manera no común al público en general; una lista de todas las cuestiones de hecho en disputa que usted presente durante el período de comentarios; y la declaración "[Yo/nosotros] solicito/solicitamos una audiencia de caso impugnado". Si presenta la petición para una audiencia de caso impugnado de parte de un grupo o asociación, debe identificar una persona que representa al grupo para recibir correspondencia en el futuro; identificar el nombre y la dirección de un miembro del grupo que sería afectado adversamente por la planta o la actividad propuesta; proveer la información indicada anteriormente con respecto a la ubicación del miembro afectado y su distancia de la planta o actividad propuesta; explicar cómo y porqué el miembro sería afectado; y explicar cómo los intereses que el grupo desea

proteger son pertinentes al propósito del grupo.

Después del cierre de todos los períodos de comentarios y solicitudes aplicables, el Director Ejecutivo enviará la solicitud y cualquier solicitud de reconsideración o de audiencia de un caso impugnado a los Comisionados de la TCEQ para su consideración en una reunión programada de la Comisión.

La Comisión solo puede conceder una solicitud de audiencia de un caso impugnado sobre cuestiones que el solicitante presentadas en su debido tiempo observaciones que no fueron retiradas posteriormente. **Si se concede una audiencia, el tema de una audiencia se limitará a cuestiones de hecho controvertidas o cuestiones mixtas de hecho y derecho relacionadas con preocupaciones relevantes y materiales sobre la calidad del agua presentado durante el período de comentarios. TCEQ puede actuar sobre una solicitud para renovar un permiso para la descarga de aguas residuales sin brindar la oportunidad de una audiencia de caso impugnado si se cumplen ciertos criterios.**

**ACCIÓN DEL DIRECTOR EJECUTIVO.** El Director Ejecutivo puede emitir una aprobación final de la solicitud a menos que exista un pedido antes del plazo de vencimiento de una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso o se ha presentado un pedido de reconsideración. Si un pedido ha llegado antes del plazo de vencimiento de la audiencia o el pedido de reconsideración ha sido presentado, el Director Ejecutivo no emitirá una aprobación final sobre el permiso y enviará la solicitud y el pedido a los Comisionados de la TCEQ para consideración en una reunión programada de la Comisión.

**LISTA DE CORREO.** Si somete comentarios públicos, un pedido para una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso o una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo, la Oficina del Secretario Principal enviará por correo los avisos públicos en relación con la solicitud. Además, puede pedir que la TCEQ ponga su nombre en una o más de las listas de correos siguientes (1) la lista de correo permanente para recibir los avisos de el solicitante indicado por nombre y número del permiso específico y/o (2) la lista de correo de todas las solicitudes en un condado específico. Si desea que se agre-

**SOLICITUD Y DECISIÓN PRELIMINAR.** Ciudad de Pflugerville, P.O. Box 589, Pflugerville, Texas 78691, ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Texas (TCEQ) una renovación para autorizar descarga de aguas residuales domésticas tratadas a un flujo promedio anual que no exceda los 3,000,000 galones por día La TCEQ recibió esta solicitud el 22 de enero de 2024.

La planta está ubicada en aproximadamente 2,500 pies al este de la intersección de Farm-to-Market Road 973 y New Sweden Church Road, en el Condado de Travis, Texas. El efluente tratado es descargado al un afluente sin nombre, de allí al arroyo Cottonwood, de allí al arroyo Wilbarger, de allí al río Colorado por encima de La Grange en el segmento No. 1434 de la cuenca del río Colorado. El uso no clasificado del agua receptora es el uso limitado de la vida acuática para el afluente sin nombre. Los usos designados para el Segmento N° 1434 son la recreación de contacto primario, el suministro público de agua y el uso excepcional de la vida acuática. Este enlace a un mapa electrónico del sitio o de la instalación general la ubicación se proporciona como una cortesía pública y no es parte de la solicitud o aviso. Para conocer la ubicación exacta, consulte la aplicación. <https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-97.504444,30.4075&level=18>

El Director Ejecutivo de la TCEQ ha completado la revisión técnica de la solicitud y ha preparado un borrador del permiso. El borrador del permiso, si es aprobado, establecería las condiciones bajo las cuales la instalación debe operar. El Director Ejecutivo ha tomado una decisión preliminar que si este permiso es emitido, cumple con todos los requisitos normativos y legales. La solicitud del permiso, la decisión preliminar del Director Ejecutivo y el borrador del permiso están disponibles para leer y copiar en Ayuntamiento de Pflugerville, 100 East Main Street, Suite 300, Pflugerville, Texas.

#### AVISO DE IDIOMA ALTERNATIVO.

El aviso de idioma alternativo en español está disponible en <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices>. El aviso de idioma alternativo en español está disponible en <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices>.



**Comisión De Calidad Ambiental  
Del Estado De Texas**

**PERMISO NO. WQ0014642001**

ga su nombre en una de las listas designe cual lista(s) y envia por correo su pedido a la Oficina del Secretario Principal de la TCEQ.

**Todos los comentarios escritos del público y los pedidos una reunión deben ser presentados durante los 30 días después de la publicación del aviso a la Oficina del Secretario Principal, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or por el internet a [www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html).** Tenga en cuenta que cualquier información personal que usted proporcione, incluyendo su nombre, número de teléfono, dirección de correo electrónico y dirección física pasarán a formar parte del registro público de la Agencia.

**CONTACTOS E INFORMACIÓN DE LA AGENCIA.** Los comentarios y solicitudes públicas deben enviarse electrónicamente a <https://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/ment/>, o por escrito a Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Cualquier información personal que envíe a al TCEQ pasará a formar parte del registro de la agencia; esto incluye las direcciones de correo electrónico. Para obtener más información sobre esta solicitud de permiso o el proceso de permisos, llame al Programa de Educación Pública de la TCEQ, sin cargo, al 1-800-687-4040 o visite su sitio web en [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep). Si desea información en español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

También se puede obtener información adicional del Ciudad de Pflugerville a la dirección indicada arriba o llamando a Senor Brandon Pritchett al 512-990-6402.

Fecha de emission: 3 de marzo de 2025



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# RUDY'S PLACE

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