

*We can't trust Henry Cuellar to keep us safe from illegal immigration and cartels. Henry Cuellar received and then donated campaign money from a criminal and his wife who were connected to cartels and Mexican politicians.*

## **Henry Cuellar Received And Then Donated Campaign Money From A Criminal And His Wife Who Were Connected To Cartels And Mexican Politicians**

**In 2007, Antonio Peña Arguelles Gave \$1,500 To Martin Cuellar's Election Campaign And His Then-Wife Gave \$1,000 To Henry's Campaign In 2006.** "In 2007, Peña Arguelles gave \$1,500 to Martin Cuellar's election campaign, and in 2006 Antonio Peña's then-wife, Armandina, gave \$1,000 to the re-election effort of Henry Cuellar." (Jason Buch, Dudley Althaus, "Former Mexico Officials With Ties To Texas Under Investigation," [My San Antonio](#), 2/18/12)

**In February 2012, Agents Raided Arguelles' Home And Arrested Him On Charges Of Money Laundering.** "On Feb. 8, federal agents raided the Stone Oak-area home of Antonio Peña Arguelles, arresting the 56-year-old legal resident from Mexico and accusing him of money laundering." (Jason Buch, Dudley Althaus, "Former Mexico Officials With Ties To Texas Under Investigation," [My San Antonio](#), 2/18/12)

**According To An Informant, Arguelles Served As A Middle Man Between Mexican Politicians And Drug Cartel Members.** "An informant 'described Antonio Peña Arguelles as a conduit between Mexican politicians, in particular Tomas Yarrington, and Zeta (drug cartel) members Miguel Treviño Morales and Heriberto Lazcano,' the agent wrote. The affidavit went on to allege that Peña Arguelles funneled millions of dollars from the Zetas to Yarrington and other elected officials." (Jason Buch, Dudley Althaus, "Former Mexico Officials With Ties To Texas Under Investigation," [My San Antonio](#), 2/18/12)

**NOTE:** *Tomas Yarrington was the Governor of Tamaulipas from 1999-2005, which is right over the border from Texas.*

**Henry Cuellar Donated The Money To Charity After Learning That Peña Arguelles' Brother Was Slain In Nuevo Laredo And His Killers Left A Note Accusing The Brothers Of Working With The Zetas, A Violent Mexican Drug Cartel.** "Martin Cuellar asked the person who solicited the donation from Peña Arguelles to return it, said spokesman Colin Strother, and Henry Cuellar donated the money to charity. They did so last year, after learning that Peña Arguelles' brother was slain in Nuevo Laredo and his killers left a note accusing the brothers of working with the Zetas. ... According to court documents, Miguel Trevino Morales, also known as Z-40, Zeta40, and 40, age 52, and Omar Trevino Morales, also known as 42 and Z-42, age 48, ascended to the highest level of leadership in Los Zetas, a violent cartel comprised of former Mexican military officers that began as an armed militaristic wing of the Gulf Cartel. Miguel Trevino Morales allegedly took over leadership of Los Zetas in October 2012 until his arrest by Mexican authorities in 2013, at which point, his brother, Omar Trevino Morales, allegedly assumed primary leadership of the cartel until his arrest by Mexican authorities in 2015. After their arrests, the defendants allegedly renamed Los Zetas to Cartel del Noreste (CDN) and continued to control the cartel while incarcerated in Mexico. Through the date of the fifth superseding indictment, CDN allegedly continued Los Zetas' criminal drug trafficking activities and acts of violence including murders, assaults, kidnappings, assassinations, and acts of torture. On Feb. 20, 2025, the U.S. Department of State designated CDN as a foreign terrorist organization." (Jason Buch, Dudley Althaus, "Former Mexico Officials With Ties To Texas Under Investigation," [My San Antonio](#), 2/18/12; (Press Release, "Leaders Of Los Zetas, A Violent Mexican Drug Cartel, Arraigned On Drug Trafficking, Firearm, And Money Laundering Charges, [U.S. Department Of Justice](#), 3/14/25)