

Vicente Gonzalez is a multi-millionaire, who as a lawyer defended criminals, including human traffickers, drug smugglers, and gang members

Vicente Gonzalez is a multimillionaire who defended drug smugglers and gang members as a lawyer in an area where cartel activity is rampant:

- **Gonzalez is a multimillionaire attorney who defended drug smugglers and a gang member in his border community.** “Before joining Congress, Vicente Gonzalez agreed to legally represent drug smugglers and gang leaders who flooded his border community with illegal drugs. Now, the Texas Democrat stresses the need to stop the flow of drugs and maintain ‘law and order.’ In 1997, Gonzalez founded his law firm, V. Gonzalez and Associates, through which the multimillionaire Democrat still earns tens of thousands of dollars a year. ... In 1997, Gonzalez founded his law firm, V. Gonzalez and Associates, through which the multimillionaire Democrat still earns tens of thousands of dollars a year. One year later, Gonzalez was retained to represent Richard Contreras, who pleaded guilty to federal charges after he conspired to import more than 2,200 pounds of marijuana from Mexico, court documents show... In 1999, meanwhile, Gonzalez was retained to defend Frank Tijerina, the leader of a Texas street gang called the ‘Corrupt Criminal Mob.’ Tijerina was sentenced to 30 months in prison on federal drug charges after conspiring to distribute nearly \$420,000 worth of marijuana. Tijerina later pleaded guilty to selling large quantities of meth in a scheme that also started in the late 1990s. In total, Gonzalez agreed to represent an array of felony drug dealers who conspired to distribute eight pounds of MDMA, nearly half a pound of cocaine, and more than 4,000 pounds of marijuana, easily worth millions of dollars.” (Collin Anderson, “This Border Dem Represented Drug Smugglers and Gang Leaders. Now, He Preaches ‘Law and Order.’” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 7/14/2022)
- **McAllen is a hotspot for cartel activity.** “McAllen, Texas, where Gonzalez lives, is no stranger to cartel activity. The city borders the Mexican city of Reynosa, which is known as a "key trafficking point" for "cartel violence." As a result, the New York Post reported in 2019, McAllen is "'ground zero' in the border crisis between the U.S. and Mexico" and even features "a new Maserati dealership and ads for Rolex and Cartier watches" as cartel traffickers look to launder their cash. Roughly two decades earlier—as Gonzalez defended drug dealers in the area—federal agents arrested individuals in McAllen and nearby Brownsville who were implicated in a Mexican trafficking ring that held more than 5,200 kilograms of cocaine, nearly 10,000 pounds of marijuana, and roughly \$11 million in cash, according to a Drug Enforcement Administration press release.” (Collin Anderson, “This Border Dem Represented Drug Smugglers and Gang Leaders. Now, He Preaches ‘Law and Order.’” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 7/14/2022)

In 2000, Gonzalez defended an illegal alien charged with conspiring to transport other aliens into the U.S. and harbor them; Gonzalez helped the defendant reach a plea deal to decrease her prison sentence:

- In 2000, Gonzalez represented defendant Guisela Janeth Pensado-Callejas in *USA v. Pensado-Callejas*.

<p>Defendant (1) Guisela Janeth Pensado-Callejas <i>TERMINATED: 10/13/2000</i></p>	<p>represented by McAllen Interpreter U S District Court P O Box 5059 McAllen, TX 78501 <i>TERMINATED: 10/13/2000</i> LEAD ATTORNEY ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED <i>Designation: Retained</i></p> <p>Vicente Gonzalez , Jr Attorney at Law 121 N 10th St McAllen, TX 78501 956-630-3266 Email: vquslaw@yahoo.com <i>TERMINATED: 10/13/2000</i> LEAD ATTORNEY ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED <i>Designation: CJA Appointment</i></p>
--	---

("Criminal Docket," *USA v. Pensado-Callejas*, Texas Southern District Court, Case No. 7:00-cr-00387-1, Filed 7/18/2000)

- Pensado-Callejas' charges included conspiracy to transport illegal aliens into the U.S. (count 1) and harboring illegal aliens in the U.S. (counts 2 and 3).

Case Summary		
7:00-cr-00387-1 USA v. Pensado-Callejas		
Date filed: 07/18/2000		
Date terminated: 10/13/2000		
Date of last filing: 02/19/2001		
Guisela Janeth Pensado-Callejas (1)		
Office: McAllen	Filed: 07/18/2000	Reopened:
County: Hidalgo	Terminated: 10/13/2000	
Magistrate Case:	7:00-mj-02653	
Complaint	Citation:	Offense Level:
Alien Smuggling [7:00-m -2653]		
Count: 1	Citation: 8:1324.F	Offense Level: 4
Conspiracy to transport illegal aliens into the United States. Title 8, USC 1324(a)(1)(A)(v)(I); Offense date: 6/23/00; Penalty: Imprisonment for not more than 10 yrs and or a fine of \$250,000		
Count: 2	Citation: 8:1324.F	Offense Level: 4
Harboring illegal aliens in the United States. Title 8, USC 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii) & 1324(a)(1)(A)(v)(II); Offense date: 6/25/00; Penalty: Imprisonment for not more than 5 yrs and/or a fine of \$250,000		
Count: 3	Citation: 8:1324.F	Offense Level: 4
Harboring illegal aliens in the United States. Title 8, USC 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii) & 1324(a)(1)(A)(v)(II); Offense date: 6/25/00; Penalty: Imprisonment for not more than 5 yrs and/or a fine of \$250,000		
Defendant Custody Status: Custody This Court		
Flag: CLOSED		

("Case Summary," *USA v. Pensado-Callejas*, Texas Southern District Court, Case No. 7:00-cr-00387-1, Filed 7/18/2000)

McALLEN Division	CR. No. M-00-387
INDICTMENT Filed: July 18, 2000	Judge: RICARDO H HINOJOSA M-00-2653-M
County: Hidalgo	Attorneys:
Promis # 2000R03067	MERVYN M. MOSBACKER, U.S. ATTORNEY
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	DAVID R. STEINMAN, ASST. U.S. ATTORNEY
v.	
GUISELA JANETH PENSADO-CALLEJAS	Cts. 1-3 Vicente Gonzalez, III App't - 682-3451
Custody: 06/30/00	
JOSE LUIS VALLEJO-TORRES	Cts. 1-3 David Davila App't - 687-2070
Custody: 06/30/00	
Charge(s):	
	Ct. 1: Conspiracy to transport illegal aliens in the United States Title 8, USC, Sections 1324(a)(1)(A)(v)(I)
	Cts. 2&3: Harboring illegal aliens in the United States Title 8, USC, Sections 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii) and 1324(a)(1)(A)(v)(II)

("Indictment," USA v. Pensado-Callejas, Texas Southern District Court, Case No. 7:00-cr-00387-1, Filed 7/18/2000)

- Pensado-Callejas was detained to "permit revocation of conditional release, deportation, or exclusion."

07/03/2000	CJA 20 as to Guisela Janeth Pensado-Callejas: Appointment of Attorney Vincent Gonzalez Jr, Voucher # 0898183 (Appointed by Magistrate Judge Dorina Ramos), entered. [7:00-m -2653] (jdelacruz) (Entered: 07/11/2000)
07/03/2000	ORDER OF DETENTION to Permit Revocation of Conditional Release, Deportation or Exclusion as to Guisela Janeth Pensado-Callejas (Signed by Magistrate Dorina Ramos), entered. [7:00-m -2653] (jdelacruz) (Entered: 07/11/2000)

("Criminal Docket," USA v. Pensado-Callejas, Texas Southern District Court, Case No. 7:00-cr-00387-1, Filed 7/18/2000)

- Gonzalez reached a plea agreement for Pensado-Callejas in July 2000.

07/27/2000	7	Re-Arrestment held before Judge Ricardo H. Hinojosa; Ct Reporter: ERO Tony Tijerina; Interpreter: C. De Pena; App: David R. Steinman f/Govt; Vicente Gonzalez, III f/Deft 1; David Davila f/Deft 2; Plea of Guilty: Guisela Janeth Pensado-Callejas (1) count(s) 2, Jose Luis Vallejo-Torres (2) count(s) 2, set disclosure order deadlines as to both Defts: PSI completion by 8/25/00; PSI due 9/8/00; Final PSI due 9/22/00; Sentencing set for 9:30 9/25/00; Defts 1, 2 remanded to custody. (jdelacruz) (Entered: 07/31/2000)
07/27/2000	8	Plea Agreement as to Guisela Janeth Pensado-Callejas, filed. (jdelacruz) (Entered: 07/31/2000)

("Criminal Docket," USA v. Pensado-Callejas, Texas Southern District Court, Case No. 7:00-cr-00387-1, Filed 7/18/2000)

- Federal prosecutors agreed to dismiss charges 1 and 3 of the indictment (conspiracy to transport illegal aliens in the United States and harboring illegal aliens in the United States); Pensado-Callejas pleaded guilty to count 2, and was sentenced to six months in prison, with two years of supervised release.

07/27/2000	7	Re-Arrestment held before Judge Ricardo H. Hinojosa; Ct Reporter: ERO Tony Tijerina; Interpreter: C. De Pena; App: David R. Steinman f/Govt; Vicente Gonzalez, III f/Deft 1; David Davila f/Deft 2; Plea of Guilty: Guisela Janeth Pensado-Callejas (1) count(s) 2, Jose Luis Vallejo-Torres (2) count(s) 2, set disclosure order deadlines as to both Defts: PSI completion by 8/25/00; PSI due 9/8/00; Final PSI due 9/22/00; Sentencing set for 9:30 9/25/00; Defts 1, 2 remanded to custody. (jdelacruz) (Entered: 07/31/2000)
07/27/2000	8	Plea Agreement as to Guisela Janeth Pensado-Callejas, filed. (jdelacruz) (Entered: 07/31/2000)

("Criminal Docket," USA v. Pensado-Callejas, Texas Southern District Court, Case No. 7:00-cr-00387-1, Filed 7/18/2000)

10/13/2000	23	Sentencing held before Judge Ricardo H. Hinojosa; Ct Reporter: ERO Tony Tijerina; Interpreter: Eugene Alvarez; Guisela Janeth Pensado-Callejas (1) count(s) 2: 6 months CBOP; 2 yrs SRT to commence upon release from confinement without supervision if deported; \$100.00 SA, filed. US Probation Officer: Olga Posada; App: Luis Martinez f/Govt; Vicente Gonzalez, III f/Deft; Deft remanded to custody. (jdelacruz) (Entered: 10/13/2000)
10/13/2000		DISMISSAL of Count(s) on Government's Motion; Counts Dismissed: Guisela Janeth Pensado-Callejas (1) count(s) 1, 3 (jdelacruz) (Entered: 10/13/2000)
10/26/2000	25	JUDGMENT as to Guisela Janeth Pensado-Callejas (1) count(s) 2 (Signed by Judge Ricardo H. Hinojosa), entered. Parties ntfld. (jdelacruz) (Entered: 10/26/2000)

("Criminal Docket," USA v. Pensado-Callejas, Texas Southern District Court, Case No. 7:00-cr-00387-1, Filed 7/18/2000)

In 2005, Gonzalez defended an illegal alien charged with smuggling other aliens across the country for private financial gain; Gonzalez personally signed off on a plea deal to decrease the defendant's prison sentence:

- In August 2005, a Customs and Border Protection Officer at a Texas port of entry filed a complaint of "alien smuggling" against Marin Martinez-Hernandez, who was also identified as an illegal alien.

Case 7:05-cr-00663 Document 2 Filed on 08/03/05 in TXSD Page 1 of 1

AO 257 (Rev. 6/78) M-05-3305-M PER 18 U.S.C. 3170

DEFENDANT INFORMATION RELATIVE TO A CRIMINAL ACTION - IN U.S. DISTRICT COURT

BY COMPLAINT INFORMATION INDICTMENT

Name of District Court, and/or Judge/Magistrate United States District Court Southern District of Texas
Dorina Ramos
U.S. Magistrate Judge, McAllen, Texas FILED
AUG - 3 2005

OFFENSE CHARGED

Alien Smuggling

Petty
 Minor
 Misdemeanor
 Felony

Place of offense Progreso, Texas, Port of Entry U.S.C. Citation 8 USC 1324(a)(1)(A)

DEFENDANT - U.S. vs. Michael N. Miiby, Clerk
Marin MARTINEZ-Hernandez

Address Frostproof, FL

Birth 1955 Male Female Alien (if applicable)

(Optional unless a juvenile)

PROCEEDING

Name of complainant Agency, or Person (& Title if any)
Jorge Jimenez
Customs and Border Protection Officer
Progreso, Texas, Port of Entry

DEFENDANT

IS NOT IN CUSTODY

1) Has not been arrested, pending outcome this proceeding if not detained give date any prior summons was served on above charges

("Complaint," USA v. Martinez-Hernandez, Texas Southern District Court, Case No. 7:05-cr-00663, Filed 8/03/05)

- Gonzalez represented defendant Martinez-Hernandez in *USA v. Martinez-Hernandez*.

Defendant (1) Marin Martinez-Hernandez <i>TERMINATED: 01/23/2006</i>	represented by Miguel Arturo Andres Nogueras Office of the Federal Public Defender 1701 W Bus Hwy 83 Ste 405 McAllen, TX 78501 956-630-2995 Fax: 956-631-8647 Email: miguel_nogueras@fd.org <i>TERMINATED: 10/04/2005</i> LEAD ATTORNEY ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED
	Vicente Gonzalez , Jr Attorney at Law 121 N 10th St McAllen, TX 78501 956-630-3266 Email: vguaslaw@yahoo.com LEAD ATTORNEY ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED <i>Designation: CJA Appointment</i>

("Criminal Docket," USA v. Martinez-Hernandez, Texas Southern District Court, Case No. 7:05-cr-00663, Filed 8/16/05)

- Gonzalez was appointed to the case in October 2005.

10/04/2005		Minute Entry for proceedings held before Judge Dorina Ramos :MOTION HEARING as to Marin Martinez-Hernandez held on 10/4/2005 re 17 MOTION to Withdraw as Attorney by Miguel Arturo Andres Nogueras. Deft was advised of the AFDP's motion to withdraw due to conflict of interest. Motion to withdraw granted and new counsel, Vicente Gonzalez, III, has been appointed. Appearances:James Leo, AUSA; Thomas G. Lindenmuth, in lieu of Miguel Nogueras, AFDP.(ERO:Candy Jones 10:02 - 10:04] (Interpreter:Beatriz Guzman/Used) Deft remanded to custody of USM. , filed.(lcorbett,) (Entered: 10/11/2005)
10/04/2005	22	CJA 20 as to Marin Martinez-Hernandez: Appointment of Attorney Vincent Gonzalez, III for Marin Martinez-Hernandez (Signed by Judge Dorina Ramos). Parties notified. (magarza,) (Entered: 10/12/2005)

("Criminal Docket," USA v. Martinez-Hernandez, Texas Southern District Court, Case No. 7:05-cr-00663, Filed 8/16/05)

1. CIR./DIST / DIV. CODE TXS7	2. PERSON REPRESENTED MARIN MARTINEZ-HERNANDEZ
3. MAG DKT./DEF NUMBER	4. DIST DKT./DEF. NUMBER 7:05-CR-663-01
7. IN CASE/MATTER OF (Case Name) USA vs MARIN MARTINEZ-HERNANDEZ	8. PAYMENT CATEGORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Felony <input type="checkbox"/> Petty Offense <input type="checkbox"/> Misdemeanor <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal
11. OFFENSE(S) CHARGED (Cite U S. Code, Title & Section) <i>If more than one offense, list (up to 3)</i> 8;1324	
12. ATTORNEY'S NAME (First Name, M I, Last Name, including any suffix), AND MAILING ADDRESS VICENT GONZALEZ, III 3602 N. McColl McAllen, TX 78504 Tel Number : .(956).630.3266...Fax Number: 630.0383.....	

("CJA 20," USA v. Martinez-Hernandez, Texas Southern District Court, Case No. 7:05-cr-00663, Filed 10/4/05)

- Martinez-Hernandez was charged with one count of "bringing in and harboring aliens."

Case Summary

7:05-cr-00663 All Defendants USA v. Martinez-Hernandez

Date filed: 08/16/2005

Date terminated: 01/23/2006

Date of last filing: 04/30/2006

Marin Martinez-Hernandez (1)

Office: McAllen Filed: 08/16/2005

County: Hidalgo Terminated: 01/23/2006 Reopened:

Magistrate Case: 7:05-mj-03305

Count: 1 Citation: 8:1324.F Offense Level: 4

BRINGING IN AND HARBORING ALIENS

Defendant Custody Status: Custody This Court

Flag: CLOSED

("Case Summary," *USA v. Martinez-Hernandez*, Texas Southern District Court, Case No. 7:05-cr-00663, Filed 8/16/05)

- According to his indictment, Martinez-Hernandez was attempting to smuggle seven illegal aliens from the Texas border to Florida for "private financial gain."

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS McALLEN DIVISION		GJ <u>13</u> United States District Court Southern District of Texas FILED AUG 16 2005 Michael N. Milby, Clerk of Court
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	§	Criminal No. M - 05 - 663
v.	§	
	§	
MARIN MARTINEZ-HERNANDEZ	§	
INDICTMENT		
THE GRAND JURY CHARGES:		
<u>Count One</u>		
On or about August 2, 2005, in the Southern District of Texas and within the jurisdiction of the Court, defendant		
MARIN MARTINEZ-HERNANDEZ		
did knowingly and intentionally conspire and agree with other person or persons known and unknown to the Grand Jurors in knowing and in reckless disregard of the fact that seven individuals were aliens, who had come to, entered, and remained in the United States in violation of law, to knowingly transport, move, attempt to transport, and attempt to move such aliens in furtherance of such violation of law within the United States, that is, from a location near Progreso, Texas Port of Entry, to another location somewhere in Florida, by means of a motor vehicle for the purpose of commercial advantage and private financial gain.		
In violation of Title 8, United States Code, Sections 1324(a)(1)(A)(ii), 1324(a)(1)(A)(v)(I), and 1324(a)(1)(B)(i).		

("Indictment," *USA v. Martinez-Hernandez*, Texas Southern District Court, Case No. 7:05-cr-00663, Filed 8/16/05)

- In November 2005, Gonzalez personally signed off on a plea deal with federal prosecutors to reduce Martinez-Hernandez's charges.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
McALLEN DIVISION

United States District Court
Southern District of Texas
FILED

NOV 07 2005

Michael N. Milby, Clerk

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA §
 §
v. § Criminal No. M-05-663
 §
MARIN MARTINEZ-HERNANDEZ §

NOTICE OF PLEA AGREEMENT

COMES NOW the United States of America, hereinafter referred to as "the Government," by and through its United States Attorney for the Southern District of Texas and its Assistant United States Attorney assigned to this matter, and would respectfully show the Court that the Government and the Defendant have entered into the following plea agreement:

1. Defendant agrees to plead guilty to the Indictment.
2. The Government will recommend:
 - a. that the offense level decrease by 2 levels pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1(a) if the defendant clearly demonstrates acceptance of responsibility; and
 - b. that the defendant receive an additional 2 level downward departure pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 5K3.1 for early disposition.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

I have read this agreement and carefully reviewed every part of it with my attorney. If I have difficulty understanding the English language, I have had a person fluent in the Spanish language interpret this agreement to me.

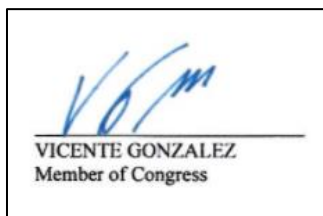
Date: 11/7/05 Defendant: Marin Martinez

I am the Defendant's counsel. I have carefully reviewed every part of this agreement with the Defendant. I certify that this agreement has been translated to my client by a person fluent in the Spanish language if my client is unable to read or has difficulty understanding the English language.

Date: 11/7/05 
Counsel for Defense

("Notice of Plea Agreement," USA v. MartinezHernandez, Texas Southern District Court, Case No. 7:05-cr-00663, Filed 11/7/05)

- o Gonzalez's signature on the plea deal appears to match his official Congressional signature.



("Vela and Grijalva Letter Opposing Funding and Construction of Border Wall," [U.S. Congressman Filemon Vela](#), 7/21/17)

- Martinez-Hernandez was sentenced to eight months in prison; it appears that the Court refused to grant the plea deal negotiated by Gonzalez and U.S. prosecutors after the defendant “failed to appear” in court.

Case 7:05-cr-00663 Document 27 Filed on 01/23/06 in TXSD Page 1 of 1

HONORABLE RICARDO H. HINOJOSA, U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE PRESIDING United States District Court
Southern District of Texas
FILED
 Courtroom Deputy Clerk: Sylvia S. Martinez
 Electronic Court Recording Operator: Tony Tijerina
 INTERPRETER: C. De Pena (used/not-used)
 USPO: Jenni Brewster
 TIME SET: 4:00 a.m./p.m.

JAN 23 2006
Michael N. Milby, Clerk

A.M. _____ / _____ P.M. 5:35 / 5:44 DATE: January 23, 2006

CRIMINAL NO. M-05-663 DEFT. 01

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA) Linda Rosabrough
) ALEX C. LEWIS AUSA
 v.)
)
MARIN MARTINEZ-HERNANDEZ) VINCENT GONZALEZ, III. CJA
) sect 12

SENTENCING 5K3.1

() New Sentencing Guidelines (NSG) case (11-1-87)
 () Def. failed to appear bench warrant to issue (kloc)
 (✓) ksen. Sentencing held (BO=12+3-15-2-13; CHC 2, 6AS 12-18, 8-14)
 () Court GRANTS Government's motion for downward departure.
 () kpstr Def. withdraws plea of guilty

(✓) SENTENCE: 8 months custody of the Bureau of Prisons.
 Ct. 1 () Court recommends Def. be placed in an institution where he/she can receive any drug and/or alcohol abuse treatment and/or counseling.
 () Court recommends Def. be placed in an institution close to his/her family.
 () Court recommends this sentence run concurrently/ consecutively with sentence in

("Sentencing," USA v. Martinez-Hernandez, Texas Southern District Court, Case No. 7:05-cr-00663, Filed 1/23/06)

- Gonzalez received \$1,557 for his efforts.

04/30/2006	<u>30</u>	CJA 20 as to Marin Martinez-Hernandez: Authorization to Pay Vicent Gonzalez, III Amount: \$ 1557.00, (Signed by Judge Ricardo H. Hinojosa). Parties notified. (mcodina,) (Entered: 05/22/2006)
------------	-----------	---

("Criminal Docket," USA v. Martinez-Hernandez, Texas Southern District Court, Case No. 7:05-cr-00663, Filed 8/16/05)