

Vicente Gonzalez has paid a convicted felon over one hundred and thirty four thousand dollars to help run his political campaign.

Vicente Gonzalez Paid \$134,000 To A Political Firm Run By A Texas Man Who Was Imprisoned For Medicare And Medicaid Fraud. “Rep. Vicente Gonzalez paid \$134,000 to a political firm run by a Texas man who was imprisoned for Medicare and Medicaid fraud, according to a report. Gonzalez’s (D-TX) campaign is paying \$3,000 per month to Southern Texas Strategies and has been using the political consultant firm since 2021, Politico reported. Over the years, the campaign has paid the firm \$134,000. Valente Alaniz, the owner of Southern Texas Strategies, was arrested in 2012 for defrauding the government through Medicare and Medicaid. Since 2016, the Gonzalez campaign has paid more than \$60,000 to Alaniz personally for “door-to-door get out the vote services” and “administrative services.” Alaniz and his sister were arrested for a scheme involving power wheelchair sales. The pair created fraudulent wheelchair prescriptions from doctors that were never delivered. The scheme included fake bills to Medicare and Medicaid for wheelchairs with an inflated price. Alaniz was sentenced to 37 months in prison.” (Patrick Hauf, “Vicente Gonzalez Pays Thousands To Former Texas Criminal,” [Dallas Express](#), 8/15/24)