

ISSUE / BRIEFING TOPIC:

- Allegation of PF fencing in RGV was based on affluent/non-affluent status of individual landowners

BACKGROUND/WHERE WE WERE:

- On February 19, 2008, the Texas Observer claimed biases in determining fence location
- Mr. Garza: Insinuated relationship between Hunt Development Corporation / President Bush was a major factor for fence location
- Dr. Eloisa Tamez: 2nd person claiming affluence was factor (River Bend Resort area)

CURRENT STATUS/WHERE WE ARE:

- Response was drafted to address article inaccuracies
 - Reference to historical apprehension data
 - Intel based discussions
 - Current technology being used to address activity
 - Anticipated levels of activity with new POE
- OBP Senior Leadership briefed CBP Commissioner on Texas Observer article and on overall circumstances surrounding issue
- Secretary Chertoff to respond to Chairman in letter regarding allegation and inaccuracies

CHALLENGES & CONCERNS/ WHERE WE'RE GOING:

- Barring further inquiries from Chairman, CBP will proceed forward with plans to build fence