



November 2021 Newsletter

Tracy Gee Community Center

3599 Westcenter Dr.
(2 blocks east of
Beltway 8, South on
Westcenter Drive
from Richmond Dr.)

Houston TX

Registration:

5:30 - 6:00

Dinner 5:45 - 6:45

Meeting begins at

6:45pm

Next Meeting:

November 16, 2021

Todd Bensman is author of the new book, **America's Covert Border War, the Untold Story of the Nation's Battle to Prevent Jihadist Infiltration** (Posthill Press/Bombardier Books, February 23, 2021). He currently serves as the Texas-based Senior National Security Fellow for the Center for Immigration Studies (CIS), a Washington, D.C. policy institute for which he writes, speaks, and grants media interviews about the nexus between immigration and national security. He frequently reports from the southern border, in Mexico and in Latin America. He has testified before Congress as an expert witness and regularly appears on radio and television outlets to discuss illegal immigration and border security matters.



Todd Bensman,
Senior National Security Fellow,
Center for Immigration Studies
CIS

Bensman holds an M.A. in Security Studies from the Naval Postgraduate School, Center for Homeland Defense and Security (2015, Outstanding Thesis designee). He also holds an M.A. in Journalism from the University of Missouri School of Journalism (2009). He holds an undergraduate degree in journalism (with honors) from Northern Arizona University.

We look forward to meeting this fascinating speaker.

*Join us for dinner at our Tuesday, November 16th meeting
Barbeque Beef & Sausage by Demeris - \$17.00, including drink, with
Beans, Potato Salad, Condiments, and Sliced French Bread
(Desserts are donated by TFIRE members)*

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT EVERYONE MAKES A RESERVATION

When you call the number below, please let Jane know how many of you are coming together and who wants to eat our delicious dinner. Remember that if you order a dinner, we have to pay for it even if you are a no-show, so if you order it, be sure to show up to eat it! Note: Please make reservations early rather than late! We need to know we have enough people coming.

Demeris requires us to order a minimum of 50 servings. Deadline for reservations: **Monday, November 15, 2021 at 2:30 PM** **But we would appreciate it if you would reserve by Friday before the meeting so we know we have enough dinners sold to pay for 50.** We have not been selling enough meals to break even, so we are considering ending the meal service in future meetings. If you want to keep the meals at future meetings, **BUY A MEAL!**

Email: jane@tfire.org or Phone: 1-877-246-0473 0473

President's Message

TFIRE receives many messages each month asking what can we personally do about the border and other situations in our country. At the present time it seems that we are powerless and it is more depressingly so when our state leaders make a discouraging remark such as "we cannot do anything, or the federal government will do this or that."

There is a lot that we can do, starting locally with cleaning out rot in the city and county we live in. Not so easily done when socialists are in charge, but still possible. One thing about freeloaders is that they are envious about the loot of other freeloaders. Getting socialists to turn their envy, greed and avarice against each other is a great step forward.

Some will still say: "What about the border?" There are state, county, city and land owner efforts to turn the situation around and there is some success. It is hard to report on what is happening at the border in any timely way to TFIRE members on a daily basis due to dynamic rapid change. May we recommend that you watch the newly revamped **FAIR - Federation for American Immigration Reform's daily webpage** at <https://www.fairus.org/>.

Elsewhere we can take action is by working at the polls as election workers and especially as poll watchers. Your President has served as an election worker, election judge, and poll watcher. Presently I am the Central Counting Election Judge for my county that is undergoing spectacular growth and needs

help with growth issues. The county also has issues with illegal aliens and the people who hire them. No matter where you live, there are opportunities for you to influence matters, even if they are small.

Libraries are notorious for ordering books just to satisfy a few patrons who want to be able to read or steal the book. Sometimes the books are totally improper, immoral or otherwise unfit for young - or older people. Why is public money being used to buy pornographic, satanic, sadomasochistic or violent revolutionary ideas? This is a question that needs to be asked of public officials.

Even if you are ignored as a conservative speaker, remember that most public meetings (such as city council or county commissioners) are taped, broadcast live or otherwise distributed. Many people are watching and hearing your comments at the time of the meeting and later on re-broadcasts..

Remember when you are testifying that you are on TV and your position on a subject is greatly enhanced by having pre-written your testimony, practiced your delivery to not exceed three minutes, and speaking, rather than talking. Give your reasons and position, and then end by asking a question such as "How would you defend this to someone who is looking to move his or her company to this town? Or perhaps "Would you want your innocent child exposed to the risk of people from a culture that thinks it is permissible to have sexual relations with children?"

TFIRE has members who can instruct you on how to speak to city council or county commissioners. Put on your full armor and join us.

Thanksgiving will be upon us soon and Christmas soon after. Remember your family and neighbors who may need your help and actually make both of these holidays more memorable to everyone. To share your love of this country give out copies of the Constitution and inspirational books appropriate for the age of the recipient.

I have a neighbor who is 92 years old. We help each other. I put in light bulbs for her and when Carolyn recently burned her hand she came over quickly with Aloe Vera that quickly healed the hand. This is an example of what we can all do for each other. We do not need intrusive government, we just need good neighbors and citizens.

We will not be meeting in December, but will be back in January. Jeanne is working on some great speakers for next year and there may be great surprises.

Remember that those who do not love our country hate the words Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Hanukah, and Merry Christmas. Send Holiday cards, and speak words of joy and happiness.

Remember also that we need to be the light of the world.

Larry Kerkmas,

President, TFIRE

Afghan Military Interpreter Resettled In New Jersey Went Bad
Smuggled Fellow Afghan 'Security Risk' Over The Texas-Mexico Border by Todd Bensman

September 15, 2021

Case provides fair warning about the limits of U.S. security screening for Afghans

With tens of thousands of Afghan evacuees in the pipeline for U.S. resettlement, the largely unreported federal prosecution of New Jersey resident Mujeeb Rahman Saify begs visitation as a reminder that national security screening has sharp limitations.

The 34-year-old Saify, a former interpreter for U.S. forces, in 2009 secured a "special immigrant visa" of the sort the Biden administration is planning to pass out to tens of thousands of incoming Afghan evacuees. After passing Department of Defense security vetting for his military interpreter job and then again when he became a Lawful Permanent Resident, Saify settled in New York and then New Jersey. He was pursuing the American dream for years already by the time ICE Homeland Security Investigations arrested him in August 2019 on human smuggling charges.

The still-pending indictment shows the limits to which national security vetting for visas can truly plumb hearts and minds of Afghans sired in a pre-modern nation steeped in fundamentalist Islam. It accuses Saify of conspiring with a Pakistan-based smuggling network to transport at least two other Afghans through Mexico and over the U.S. southern border in 2016 and 2017, exposing yet another open flank for Afghans of uncertain character and danger to easily enter America when other avenues close.

An Afghan US national 'security threat' is smuggled over the Texas border. As if Saify's alleged violation of a compact with his adopted host nation was not bad enough on its own, one of the Afghans he allegedly helped smuggle over the Texas-Mexico border had been fired from U.S. Army employment as a "security threat," had been banned from setting foot on another U.S. base and was barred for life from ever receiving a special immigrant

visa.

That Afgan's name is Wasiqu Ullah. (The Saify case court records only identify Ullah as "Alien 2," however other court records soundly identify Alien 2 as Ullah) Neither could care about what America did or didn't want. They took matters into their own hands.

With Saify working on illegal arrangements from New Jersey, Ullah paid \$16,000 for his border end-run. He came across the Rio Grande at Brownsville, Texas on January 19, 2018.

Ullah applied for asylum, a more forgiving legal way in than obtaining a special immigrant visa. He would have made it had American border security officers not found his Department of Defense records and got them to an immigration judge who denied his asylum claim on "security grounds," court records from the Saify case say.

According to court records from Ullah's appeal of his asylum denial, Ullah had worked as a linguist for the U.S. Army at Camp Leatherneck from January 2011 to January 2014, even though one of his brothers was terminated as a linguist for involvement with Taliban sympathizers.

Ullah ran into trouble when he applied for a special immigrant visa to come live in the United States, a benefit of service to the American operation in Afghanistan.

But during the security screening, he failed a routine polygraph in answering whether he was a member of an anti-coalition group or had ever participated in an attack against coalition forces. An army counterintelligence memorandum judged that Ullah was suspected of affiliating with a foreign intelligence security service "such as the Taliban", which meant Ullah had some communications that could pose a "force protection threat," the appellate court record stated.

To get his Afghans across the U.S. southern border was not a problem that money couldn't overcome. Saify and his Pakistani co-conspirators used fraudulent Moroccan, Bolivian, and Peruvian passports and visas indicating fake names under real photographs. They carried fake "letters of invitation," electronic visas, and papers indicating finite hotel reservations that matched bogus return-flight itineraries. All of this was necessary for the transcontinental flights over oceans required for smuggling on the South America route. Or on this route for Afghan border crossers The Washington Post documented in 2016.

Saify didn't merely arrange these dealings from afar; he used his immigrant status to fly to Afghanistan and then flew legs of the journey with his clients.

By legal or illegal means, pathways open to Afghans who pose security risk could be problematic. The willingness of Saify to smuggle such a person into America, and Ullah's willingness to brazenly cross the Rio Grande knowing America did not want him, underscores the probability that many more just like them are in the pipeline right now and won't get caught as easily.

A reasonable expectation is that other dangerous Afghans who have themselves smuggled to the southern border, perhaps denied legal visas in Afghan refugee camps forming in Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Pakistan, and Iran, won't have discoverable records residing with the U.S. military, like Ullah's. The Saify case serves as a reminder of national security vetting problems at both the southern border with asylum and with the legal visa vetting processes that will be used for up to 130,000 Afghans now in the care and custody of the United States military. Saify used the former; Ullah the latter. (cont'd on page 4)

Neither case has attracted any media attention even though the cases so starkly demonstrate that policy choices regarding legal immigration benefits will drive Afghans to lie their way through whatever vulnerabilities they can find. There are many more such vulnerabilities today than before the Biden administration took office, on both pathways.

Former President Donald Trump understood the risks of blank slates in databases. He substantially scaled back the special visa programs for Afghans and also Iraqis, when multiple cases of fraud and terrorism cases emerged for

the special immigrant visas. For the land border, he also instituted asylum-deterrence policies requiring asylum seekers to apply in countries they were transiting first.

But the Biden administration has taken steps that substantially increase the risk of terrorism and related crime. The administration substantially expanded the special immigrant visa programs and then promptly ended Trump asylum-deterrence policies at the border. At the land border, the result was an epic mass illegal immigration crisis not seen in more than 20 years that has swamped all normal border

management systems of the sort that netted Ullah when times were considerably less chaotic.

These moves only heighten the chance of a terrorist or security threat infiltration when more Afghans start to cross along the same route that Ullah took, or that bad apples among the throngs of evacuees who will get a legal pass into the country on a visa.

Todd Bensman is with Center for Immigration Studies (CIS)

We look forward to Mr. Bensman being our November speaker.

As Dietrich Bonhoeffer put it —

“Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act.”

RAT AND ROACH REPORT

Raising the Debt Ceiling

11 Republicans ultimately voted to advance the debt ceiling vote. They were:

Senate Minority Leader

Mitch McConnell,

Alabama Sen. Richard

Shelby, Alaska Senator

Lisa Murkowski,

Maine

Missouri Sen. Roy Blunt,

Ohio Sen. Rob Portman,

S.Dakota Sen. John Thune,

S. Dakota

Sen. Mike Rounds

Texas Sen. John Cornyn,

West Virginia Sen. Shelly

Moore Capito, and

Wyoming Sen. John

Barrasso

The first member of the Republican conference to cast a yes vote was Cornyn, who, after a long pause, gave a firm thumbs up to the clerk.

Then the rest of them followed his lead.

These senators should be scolded by their constituents for harming the future for coming generations.

REMINDER ABOUT MEETINGS AND NEWSLETTER

You may remember that we do not have newsletters or meetings in January or July. We look forward to seeing you on November 16. We wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving with your family and friends, a very Merry Christmas, and then we hope to see you on January 18 for our next meeting. Jeanne, our Program Chair, has a great speaker lined up for us. God Bless You and Your Family!

Mexican Border Violence, Drug Smuggling Surge

August 24, 2021 While President Biden's Afghanistan debacle justifiably receives the world's attention and vast media coverage, the Mexican border in the U.S.'s own backyard should not be ignored. Besides the unparalleled onslaught of illegal immigrants, the region is becoming increasingly violent with unprecedented criminal activity that includes a distressing escalation in drug smuggling and brazen attacks against **American federal agents Organized Transnational Criminal Organizations** (TCOs) are behind the movement, and they are a serious threat to national security and public safety, according to Customs and Border Protection (CBP), the frontline Homeland Security agency charged with keeping terrorists and their weapons out of the U.S.

Examples provided by the agency in the last few days alone help illustrate the disturbing reality along the nation's 2,000-mile border with Mexico. Federal agents are overwhelmed as criminal elements are fortified and boldly execute human and drug smuggling missions. Federal agents that might get in the way of their illicit operations have become targets of the TCOs, which "are heavily involved in smuggling people, including terrorists, criminals and trafficking victims, as well as weapons, cash, and drugs through sophisticated criminal networks," CBP writes in a recent statement confirming that several Border Patrol agents have come under gunfire recently in Texas and California. The agency goes on to say that "TCOs conduct their operations without regard for human life—money and power are their

only motivation."

In recent incidents surrounding the California and Texas border regions, suspects used firearms to shoot at several Border Patrol agents, CBP confirms. The agency does not provide further details, presumably for security reasons, but indicates that federal agents are increasingly getting attacked as "criminals will stop at nothing to further their illegal activities." Life-threatening confrontations are on the rise for agents working to secure America's borders, the Homeland Security agency discloses. "In many cases, agents find themselves in remote locations where they are significantly outnumbered and do not have immediate backup," CBP writes in the statement released earlier this month. The agency assures it has protocols in place to protect the safety of the agents enforcing the nation's laws and that it is collaborating with Mexican law enforcement authorities about the recent shootings. That last part may seem a bit laughable considering Mexico's notoriously corrupt government, military, and police.

Days after revealing the agent shootings, CBP announced the arrest of more than a dozen fugitives and the seizure of over \$2.5 million worth of narcotics in El Paso area ports of entry. In the span of just a few days, the feds seized 650 pounds of marijuana, more than 60 pounds of cocaine, 12 pounds of fentanyl, and seven pounds of methamphetamine. They also arrested 17 fugitives. One of them, a 41-year-old man had violated his probation related to a murder charge. The others committed crimes involving dangerous drugs,

alien smuggling, and robbery. The subjects were arrested by CBP officers and turned over to local and federal authorities where their criminal charges were pending. The drugs were seized in various crossings, including Paso Del Norte, Ysleta, and Santa Teresa. During a routine inspection at the Union Pacific railroad yard, CBP drug sniffing dogs discovered 650 pounds of marijuana hidden in the center beams of a rail car.

Other crossing ports along the southern border also report increased criminal activity. In the Rio Grande Valley Sector agents have arrested more than 140 illegal immigrant gang members, including four in the last few days. In the same sector this week, federal agents interdicted three narcotic smuggling attempts with more than 130 pounds of marijuana and 50 pounds of cocaine. "Even with the spread of the COVID-19 virus, human smugglers continue to try these brazen attempts with zero regard for the lives they endanger nor to the health of the citizens of our great nation," CBP writes in an announcement published this week. Maritime smuggling is also on the rise in southern California, according to CBP figures made public this week. "The transnational criminal organizations involved with maritime smuggling are a continuing threat to border security, public safety and national security," according to the Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Special Agent in Charge in Los Angeles.

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If you haven't checked out FrankSpeech.org you are missing much!

[Click Here to View 2020 Election Data | Frank Speech the Home of Free Speech](#)

USEFUL IDIOTS

“Useful idiots” is a derogatory term for a person who believes in and blindly supports a cause without fully understanding the cause’s true goals. Useful idiots are used as pawns by the cause’s leaders, and they don’t even realize it. The term was used by Lenin and Stalin to describe those who were not communists, but believed the communist propaganda and were easily manipulated.

Senator Ted Cruz’s father, Raul Cruz is a good example. Raul Cruz believed Castro’s propaganda and lies about overthrowing Batista’s dictatorship and establishing a democratic government in Cuba. He joined Castro’s army and enthusiastically supported what he thought was a noble cause. It wasn’t until after Batista was over

thrown and Castro established a new government that Raul Cruz realized that he had been duped. To his horror and dismay he realized that he had been used to exchange one dictator for another communist dictator. Raul Cruz escaped from Cuba to the United States a much wiser man.

Today useful idiots are being manipulated to riot, burn, loot, and create economic and racial division among the American people. This is all part of the left’s plan and ultimate goal to “fundamentally change” our government.

Jeanne C. Hall
TFIRE

Congresswoman Stefanik Introduces FAIR-Supported Legislation to Block and Deport Sexual Predators

October 2021: Congresswoman Elise Stefanik (R-N.Y.) introduced the BE GONE Act alongside 58 members of the House of Representatives. The BE GONE Act is the House companion to Senator Joni Ernst’s (R-Iowa) bill which would block and deport immigrants with prior sexual assault convictions from trying to enter the United States.

Under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), current language bars aliens who commit certain crimes from receiving deportation relief. It also prevents such illegal aliens from applying for asylum, which is the primary mechanism driving our current crisis. Rep. Stefanik’s BE GONE Act would ensure that “sexual abuse, sexual assault, and aggravated sexual violence” would constitute an aggravated felony under the INA, and therefore bar aliens who commit such crimes from remaining in the U.S. or applying for asylum. This legislation comes at a time when the topics of immigration and border security are at the forefront of the American conscious. A recent

poll shows that more than 58 percent of voters disapprove of President Biden’s handling of immigration issues. Related to the BE GONE Act, an illegal alien recently raped a woman on a commuter train in Philadelphia. He was in the country despite having a lengthy criminal record and was once released from immigration detention following a separate sexual abuse crime. Had Rep. Stefanik’s BE GONE Act been in place, this heinous crime may have not happened.

FAIR supports the BE GONE Act as a commonsense bill that fixes a significant oversight in the INA as it is currently written. Commenting on the legislation, Former Acting Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and current FAIR fellow Mark Morgan said:

“Having triggered and mismanaged a border crisis on top of a refusal to enforce immigration laws in American communities, it is clear that the Biden Administration does not prioritize public safety. Senator Ernst and Congresswoman Stefanik do, however. Their bill would keep sexual predators out of the country and

off our streets. I’m proud to support it.”

FAIR’s Government Relations Director RJ Hauman said:

“We applaud Senator Ernst and Congresswoman Stefanik for introducing commonsense, well-timed legislation to ensure that sexual predators are deportable and inadmissible. Not only should sexual predators ‘be gone,’ so should Majority Leader Schumer and Speaker Pelosi’s indefensible opposition to every immigration bill that seeks to enhance enforcement or secure the border. This bill should be voted on immediately. Enough is enough.”

Congress has the opportunity to fix a significant blind spot in the INA with Rep. Stefanik’s BE GONE Act. No criminal illegal alien should escape justice – this legislation ensures that criminal illegal aliens who commit heinous sexual offenses will face a quick removal.

By Preston Huennekens
Federation For American
Immigration Reform
FAIRUS.org

Record-Breaking Mexican Border Arrests, Caravan En Route, Panama Warns 65K More

Not only was the record for illegal immigrant apprehensions along the southern border shattered in 2021, the fiscal year, which ended in September, concluded with a bang—a final month spike of migrants from Haiti (132%), Turkey (89%), India (82%), Ukraine (81%) and even China (75%). The number of illegal aliens from Russia nearly doubled from 758 to 1,432 during the same period, according to year-end figures provided this month by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The chilling stats illustrate the magnitude of the national security and humanitarian crisis created by the Biden administration's disastrous open border policies.

Federal agents apprehended an astounding 1,659,206 illegal immigrants at the southwest border in 2021, breaking the previous high of 1,643,679 in 2000. In fiscal year 2020, federal agents only arrested 400,651 on the southern border. The upsurge in just one year is difficult to grasp. Eight of the nine Border Patrol sectors saw triple-digit percentage increases in illegal immigrants over last year and one, Yuma in Arizona, reported an eye-popping 1,200.4% hike in apprehensions. The agency's Del Rio sector in Texas had an unbelievable 542.7% surge. The Rio Grande Valley sector, also in Texas, saw a 508.7% increase and led all stations with 549,000 arrests. Del Rio reported 259,000 apprehensions which surpassed Border Patrol divisions in Texas and Arizona that typically see more traffic. Two other Texas

stations, Big Bend and EL Paso, recorded apprehension gains of 331.9% and 256.5% respectively. Big Bend and El Centro in California were the only sectors that did not see six-digit apprehensions this year, though both reported major increases over 2020—331.9% for Big Bend and 115.4% for El Centro.

Most of the illegal aliens, 608,000, arrested by the U.S. in 2021 came from Mexico followed by the Central American nations of Honduras (309,000), Guatemala (279,000) and El Salvador (96,000). In the last month of the fiscal year, migrants from those four Latin American countries accounted for well over half (63.7%) of apprehensions along the Mexican border. The records show that 367,000 arrests included Haitians, Cubans, Brazilians, Venezuelans, and Ecuadorans. To top the year, Border Patrol encounters with Haitians rose from 7,590 in August to a startling 17,639 in September. The final month also saw big increases in migrants from other countries as well, including Venezuelans (71%), Romanians (49%) and Colombians (44%).

As the government released last year's record-breaking figures, various Spanish-language news outlets report that the "mother of all caravans" (also known as the "march for liberty, dignity and peace.") just embarked from the southern Mexican state of Chiapas, which borders Guatemala.

One news story estimates that more than 4,000 illegal immigrants are in

the caravan, which of course, is heading to the U.S. Another Spanish online article, which includes video of the caravan, says the group consists mainly of Haitians and Central Americans. Mexican authorities have reportedly committed to "respecting the rights" of the illegal aliens, allowing them to march through the country on the way to the American border. Mexico Foreign Affairs Secretary Marcelo Ebrard is quoted in a local news story saying that the government will act with prudence and caution in accordance to human rights laws, though he added that migrants are being fooled because they will not be allowed to enter the U.S.

It appears that the most recent caravan is just the beginning. A few weeks ago Panama's foreign minister, Erika Mouynes, warned that there are more than 65,000 mostly Haitian illegal aliens ready to head north through Latin America. Since January, more than 86,000 migrants who arrived at the U.S.-Mexico border went through Panama, according to Mouynes. "We have been sounding the alarm for months about this," the Panamanian official said in a Spanish news article published on September 29, adding that the numbers indicate migration will increase.

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WATCH.ORG](http://www.JUDICIALWATCH.ORG)**

MEAL SERVICE AT TFIRE MEETINGS

A number of years ago TFIRE moved its meeting from Saturday morning to Tuesday Evening. In order to accommodate those members who come to the meeting after work we offer meals to those who wish to participate. Over the last two years we have had problems meeting costs of the meals because caterers charge us for a minimum number of meals regardless of whether we attain our break-even sales of at least 50 people. If you enjoy the meals, please let Jane know in advance if you wish to order. If you order a meal and find you cannot be there, please call Jane to cancel your order. If you are a no-show and do not cancel, please pay for that meal. Our ability to continue the meals is under constant watch of the Board. If we continue to fail to meet our quota, then we will be forced to terminate meal service.

WALL STREET JOURNAL, October 13, 2021

Middle-Class Migrants Fly to Mexico and Then Cross U.S. Border Illegally -
WSJ (archive.fo) Read this article at the following site:
[www.wsj.com/articles/middle class migrants 2021.10.13](http://www.wsj.com/articles/middle-class-migrants-2021-10-13) migrants fly to Mexico
and then walk through the border of Texas to get inside the United States.

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Pay in person or mail a check to:

TFIRE, P.O.Box 771014, Houston TX 77215-1014.

Only \$25 for a single and \$35 for a couple.

Donations above this amount are welcome and

(very much) needed!

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