



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

January 29, 2025

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
TEXAS SECRETARY OF STATE

12:15pm O'CLOCK

JAN 29 2025

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jane Nelson".

Secretary of State

The Honorable Jane Nelson
Secretary of State
State Capitol, Room 1E.8
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Secretary Nelson:

Pursuant to his powers as Governor of the State of Texas, Greg Abbott has issued the following:

Executive Order No. GA-54 relating to state agencies assisting federal immigration officers working under the direction of the Trump Administration in carrying out functions under federal immigration laws.

The original executive order is attached to this letter of transmittal.

Respectfully submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "GSD".

Gregory S. Davidson
Executive Clerk to the Governor

GSD:gsd

Attachment

Executive Order

BY THE
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

Executive Department
Austin, Texas
January 29, 2025

EXECUTIVE ORDER
GA 54

Relating to state agencies assisting federal immigration officers working under the direction of the Trump Administration in carrying out functions under federal immigration laws.

WHEREAS, for four years, the Biden–Harris Administration adopted open-border policies that invited mass illegal entry into Texas and other States, including by ignoring laws that require the federal government to secure the border, construct barrier infrastructure, detain illegal aliens, vet would-be entrants, and swiftly remove aliens pressing frivolous asylum claims; and

WHEREAS, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, launched Operation Lone Star, consistent with Article I, Section 10, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution, to defend the people of Texas against a hostile invasion by employing strategies to deter efforts to illegally enter outside a port of entry, deny efforts to enter illegally, and detain illegal immigrants; and

WHEREAS, the Biden–Harris Administration not only refused to enforce federal immigration laws but also took deliberate steps to obstruct Texas’s efforts to secure the border and defend its sovereign territory, both under state law and under Texas’s inherent and constitutional right to defend itself; and

WHEREAS, when I ordered state personnel to deploy a floating marine buoy system designed to channel aliens to lawful ports of entry and away from dangerous waters at illegal entry hotspots, lawyers for the Biden–Harris Administration sought to dictate how Texas used its own waterways by suing to remove the buoys from the Rio Grande; and

WHEREAS, when I ordered state personnel to install razor wire fencing to deter and deny illegal entries, Customs and Border Protection officers under the Biden–Harris Administration claimed the power to destroy state property—cutting open, tearing up, and smashing state fencing to invite thousands of illegal aliens daily into Texas; and

WHEREAS, when I signed into law Senate Bill 4, which makes it a state crime to illegally enter or reenter Texas, just like the federal criminal laws the Biden–Harris Administration ignored, Department of Justice lawyers sought to prevent the sovereign State of Texas from administering its own criminal code; and

WHEREAS, by reelecting Donald J. Trump as President of the United States, 77 million Americans—including a clear majority of Texans—rejected former President Joe Biden’s legacy of breaking his oath to uphold the Constitution, ignoring rather than

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faithfully executing federal laws, and undercutting Texas's efforts to counteract federal failures; and

WHEREAS, on January 20, 2025, President Trump issued an Executive Order, *Protecting the American People Against Invasion*, Section 11 of which directs the Department of Homeland Security "to authorize State and local law enforcement officials ... to perform the functions of immigration officers," either "through agreements under section 287(g) of the INA (8 U.S.C. 1357(g)) or otherwise"; and

WHEREAS, the stated purpose of Section 11's directive is to allow those States that consent to "assist with the protection of the American people" to supplement federal efforts to enforce immigration laws and do so in a way that is most effective for differing regional needs; and

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 10 of the Texas Constitution provides that the Governor of Texas is the sole organ of Texas's diplomatic affairs, authorized by state law to conduct all business between this State and the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GREG ABBOTT, Governor of Texas, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and Statutes of the State of Texas, do hereby direct all appropriate state agencies to assist federal actors working under the direction of the Trump Administration with carrying out functions under federal immigration laws, including investigating, apprehending, detaining, and removing illegal aliens found in Texas.

This executive order supersedes all previous orders in conflict or inconsistent with its terms and shall remain in effect and in full force until modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded by the Governor.

Given under my hand this the
29th day of January, 2025.



GREG ABBOTT
Governor

ATTESTED BY:



JANE NELSON
Secretary of State

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