

border Mexico. Two of those are Culberson County, where Sheriff Oscar Carrillo is the sheriff. The other one is Hudspeth County, where Arvin West is the sheriff. I was their guest over the weekend a couple of weeks ago.

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And I was asking them this very question, "How can we determine if the cross-border travelers are committing crime in the United States? Does it all stay in Mexico, where we know there is corruption and violent crime, or does it come over to the United States?"

Well, Sheriff Arvin West gave me this statistic. There are two jails in Hudspeth County, one has a little over 100, and the other one is a private jail of over 500. He said most of the people in both of those jails are foreign nationals.

And I asked him, "Are these people charged with immigration violations or are they charged with other crimes?" He said, "No, they are charged with committing crimes in my county." He said, in fact, the jail that has a little over 100, every person in the jail is illegally in the United States except for one person. He said, "If I didn't have cross-border travelers committing crime in my county, I wouldn't need a jail except for two people, one for a male and one for a female."

So we do understand that crime is coming into the United States from cross-border travelers because the United States does not enforce the rule of law on the Texas-Mexico border or the southern border of the United States.

The Justice Department has said that 80 percent of the crime in the United States now is drug related or gang related. Newsweek recently reported that Phoenix, Arizona, is the No. 1 kidnapping capital in the United States, and most of it's related to the drug cartels and human trafficking.

Recently Sheriff Arpaio from Maricopa County in Phoenix has been arresting folks that are illegally in the United States pursuant to a Federal program called the 287g Program. Federal funds go to local communities to train local peace officers to enforce immigration violations.

It's been so successful that he's now being investigated by the Federal authorities, not for seeing how successful it is, but to see if he is following the rule of law, because some people who want open borders are complaining about his work. Of course, he says, he welcomes the investigation because maybe the Federal Government could do their job better. But it's important that agencies all work together. We are all in this together.

Even my hometown in Houston is changing its attitude. For years the City of Houston has been accused by some of being a sanctuary city, like San Francisco. It claims it's not a sanctuary city, even though the Center For Immigration Studies says there are over 400,000 illegals in the City of Houston.

So at least 400,000 doesn't make you a sanctuary city, but be that as it may, violence has occurred against our peace officers, Officer James Harris, Officer Andrew Winzer, Officer Florentino Garcia, Officer Guy Gaddis, Officer Rodney Johnson and Officer Gary Gryder, a personal friend of mine. You may not know those names, Mr. Speaker, but those are all Houston police officers killed by foreign nationals, most of them illegally in the country.

As recently as March 5, Officer Richard Salter was trying to arrest an individual with an arrest warrant, and he was shot in the face by that individual. He was an individual from El Salvador who had been through the criminal justice system five times, ordered deported, and apparently he never went back to where he came from or he crossed the border again.

It's important that foreign nationals understand that we will not tolerate crime committed by them in the United States. And it makes no difference whether those people are legally in the United States or illegally in the United States.

You come to America, and you commit a crime, and you are a foreign national, those people need to be sent home first. We need to tell them to pack their toothbrush, you don't have a right to stay in this country. And our government, working with local authorities, ought to do everything it can to send those people back home.

You don't have a right to come here and commit crime and stay here. And we should enforce the rule of law first with those foreign nationals that commit crime in the United States. After all, it is the duty of our government.

The first duty of government is not building roads and bridges and naming a bunch of post offices. The first duty of government is to protect the country, protect the citizens that live here. And the government that we have, the United States of America, needs to enforce the rule of law in this country because that is the duty of government.

And that's just the way it is.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

AIG BONUSES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, to date, the Federal Government has given American International Group, AIG, \$173 billion in bailout funds.

AIG, which is now 80 percent owned by the American taxpayer, posted a record \$62 billion loss in the fourth quarter of 2008. And that's why this

week the American people were outraged to hear that AIG would be paying out \$165 million in bonuses, courtesy of the United States taxpayer.

To add insult to injury, the bulk of the payments are going to employees of AIG Financial Products, the unit of the company that sold the risky contracts that caused massive losses for AIG. The American people are angry and frustrated. They want to know why are we giving taxpayer money to failing companies so they can hand out bonuses?

Mr. Speaker, last fall I voted against this \$700 billion government bailout because I do not believe American taxpayers should pick up the tab for the poor business decisions and greed of high-flying Wall Street firms. Because the bailout was authorized, every American taxpayer has an interest in ensuring that the U.S. Treasury does not recklessly squander their hard-earned money.

And the Secretary of the Treasury, Henry Paulson, as former CEO of Goldman Sachs, allowed Lehman Brothers to fail, but AIG got a bailout. AIG went on to pay out \$13 billion of that Federal aid to trading partner Goldman Sachs.

And now, thanks to the American taxpayer, AIG is still doling out hundreds of millions of dollars in employee benefits and retention pay. To the taxpayers who are footing the bill, the Federal Government's selection of winners and losers just does not meet the smell test.

The lack of oversight in the process is outrageous. Employees in eastern North Carolina, which I have the privilege to represent, are not rewarded bonuses when their companies lose money.

Constituents in my district want to know why should the employees of Wall Street be any different? I join the American taxpayers in their frustration. I pay taxes, and I'm frustrated too.

Unfortunately, all we hear from AIG chairman Ed Liddy is that AIG's hands are tied because these bonuses are based on binding contracts that were made before the government bailout. Well, Mr. Speaker, this Congress and the current administration better make sure that no further corporate bonuses are paid for with taxpayers' money.

I thank President Obama for speaking out so clearly and plainly about these retention bonuses because, like those of us in Congress, he has been hearing from frustrated taxpayers. I call on the Federal Government to explore every legal option available to block these excessive and undeserved bonuses on behalf of the taxpayers of America.

And in closing, Mr. Speaker, I ask God to continue to bless our men and women in uniform and their families, and may God continue to bless America.