



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

January 29, 2025

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
TEXAS SECRETARY OF STATE

12:15 PM O'CLOCK

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

JAN 29 2025

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

Secretary of State

Dear Secretary Nelson:

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

Executive Order No. GA-50 relating to state agencies assisting federal actors working under the direction of the Trump Administration to deploy physical infrastructure to improve operational security at the southern border.

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "GSD" in a stylized, cursive font.

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 50

*Relating to state agencies assisting federal actors working under the direction of the Trump Administration to deploy physical infrastructure to improve operational security at the southern border.*

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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, the surge of individuals crossing the southern border continued, resulting in roughly 12 million people—a number larger than the population of 43 different States—entering this country illegally in less than four years; and

WHEREAS, this *en masse* entry into the country includes violent criminals, gang members, known terrorists, and other hostile foreign actors smuggling weapons and drugs like deadly fentanyl, trafficking women and children, and raping and murdering innocent Americans; and

WHEREAS, such illegal entry by hostile non-state actors—largely military-aged males who come in open defiance of our laws and often by force, outfitted with body armor, burying improvised explosive devices, and decorating trees with trophies from sexual assaults—is an invasion, as former Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) officials told Congress last year; 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 this hostile invasion by employing an array of defensive strategies to deter, deny, and detain; and

WHEREAS, Texas National Guard soldiers and Texas Department of Public Safety troopers, at my direction, have built over 260 miles of strategic barrier infrastructure along the southern border to deter and deny illegal entry and to ensure successful apprehension and detention; and

WHEREAS, Texas National Guard soldiers, Texas Department of Public Safety troopers, and Texas Facilities Commission employees, at my direction, have contracted to build over 100 miles of border wall; and

WHEREAS, Texas National Guard soldiers and Texas Department of Public Safety troopers, at my direction, have installed and fortified more than 200 miles of concertina wire and border fencing; and

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WHEREAS, Texas National Guard soldiers and Texas Department of Public Safety troopers, at my direction, have deployed and are continuously expanding a floating marine buoy system in hotspots for illegal crossings; and

WHEREAS, these efforts proved that barrier infrastructure “serves as a deterrent—an effective one at that,” *Texas v. DHS*, 123 F.4th 186, 214 (5th Cir. 2024), resulting in Texas National Guard soldiers and Texas Department of Public Safety troopers, at my direction, repelling over 140,000 attempted illegal entries, apprehending over half a million illegal aliens, making over 50,000 criminal arrests, and seizing over half a billion lethal doses of fentanyl; and

WHEREAS, the Biden–Harris Administration not only refused to build border barrier infrastructure required by federal law but also took affirmative steps to undercut Texas’s efforts to address this crisis by destroying state barriers and suing state officials to have such barriers removed, rather than prosecuting the thousands of illegal immigrants daily entering this country in violation of federal criminal laws; and

WHEREAS, on January 20, 2025, President Donald Trump issued an Executive Order, *Guaranteeing the States Protection Against Invasion*, which recognizes that the dangerous conditions along our southern border persist and continue to constitute an invasion, consistent with Article I, Section 10, Clause 3 and Article IV, Section 4 of the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, on January 20, 2025, President Trump also issued a Proclamation, *Declaring a National Emergency at the Southern Border of the United States*, Section 2 of which directs the U.S. Department of Defense and U.S. Department of Homeland Security to “coordinate with any Governor of a State that is willing to assist with the deployment of any physical infrastructure to improve operational security at the southern border”; 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 the Texas Military Department, the Texas Department of Public Safety, the Texas Facilities Commission, and other appropriate state agencies to assist federal actors working under the direction of the Trump Administration to deploy any physical infrastructure to improve operational security at the southern border.

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

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ATTESTED BY:

  
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JANE NELSON  
Secretary of State

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