

DEE MARGO  
MAYOR

TOMMY GONZALEZ  
CITY MANAGER



CITY COUNCIL

PETER SVARZBEIN, DISTRICT 1  
ALEXANDRA ANNELLO, DISTRICT 2  
CASSANDRA HERNANDEZ, DISTRICT 3  
DR. SAM MORGAN, DISTRICT 4  
ISABEL SALCIDO, DISTRICT 5  
CLAUDIA ORDAZ PEREZ, DISTRICT 6  
HENRY RIVERA, DISTRICT 7  
CISSY LIZARRAGA, DISTRICT 8

9/16/2019

**NEWS RELEASE**

## International Gang Awareness Day

Date: September 16, 2019

El Paso, Texas- Bringing global awareness to the violent problems criminal street gangs pose to our community, the **El Paso Police Department Gang Unit** joins with the **West Texas Anti-Gang Center (TAG)**, the **National Alliance of Gang Investigators (NAGIA)** and the **Texas Gang Investigators Association (TGIA)** to remind the community that today is **International Gang Awareness Day**.

The **El Paso Police Department Gang Unit** in collaboration with the **West Texas Anti-Gang Center** announces the launch of the website *Stop West Texas Gangs*—  
<https://stopwesttexasgangs.org>.

The EPPD Gang Unit is committed to disrupting and dismantling gangs and their networks. The goal of the *Stop West Texas Gangs* website is to:

- **Create** a partnership between the public and law enforcement.
- **Educate** West Texas residents and businesses about gang activity in the West Texas area and provide a means for them to report criminal activity anonymously.
- **Assist** parents and guardians in identifying indicators of gang membership in their children and providing information about prevention services available in the West Texas area.
- **Inform** young people on the dangers and consequences of joining a gang.

This multijurisdictional website is supported by local, state, and federal agencies. It serves the counties of El Paso, Andrews, Borden, Brewster, Coke, Concho, Crane, Crockett, Culberson, Dawson, Ector, Gaines, Glasscock, Howard, Hudspeth, Irion, Jeff Davis, Kimble, Loving, Martin, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Midland, Pecos, Presidio, Reagan, Reeves, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton, Terrell, Tom Green, Upton, Ward, Winkler, and the municipalities of those counties.

Gangs are often involved in a multitude of criminal activity that negatively impact our communities including, robberies, home invasions, theft of automobiles, human trafficking, prostitution, child exploitation, and more. So, when you see something say something.

*Promote Transparent and Consistent Communication Among All Members of the Community*

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The West Texas Anti-Gang Center is a collaborative effort with participation from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Texas Department of Public Safety, El Paso County Sheriff's Office, Drug Enforcement Administration, Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Homeland Security Investigations, El Paso Police Department, and El Paso District Attorney, 34th Judicial District.

September is also ***Gang Free Texas Month*** as declared during an El Paso City Government Council Meeting in 2018.

Nationally, September 15<sup>h</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup> is **National Gang Violence Prevention Week** as declared in a [proclamation](#) issued by President Donald Trump.

To report suspected Gang activity call the El Paso Police Department's **GANG TIP line at (915) 212-GANG (4264)** or the [Stop West Texas Gangs](https://stopwesttexasgangs.org)— <https://stopwesttexasgangs.org>

For emergencies, call 911

*For more information, please contact the West Texas Anti-gang Center Administrator Bill Massey (915) 212-2500 or the **Police Department's** Organized Crime Division Gang Lieutenant Lawrence Lujan (915) 212-2502.*

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