

Santa Cruz Sheriff's Office

Who's in charge: Tony Estrada

Where he stands: "I think Senate Bill 1070 has had a major impact. Maybe not so much for law enforcement but for the Hispanic community in that it kind of sets a label that if you are Hispanic you are suspect or will be treated differently."

How it's documented: Classifies most referrals and assists to immigration authorities as "other agency assists federal," a category that doesn't include cases where a more serious crime was suspected because the system codes incidents by worst offense.

What the Star reviewed: "Other agency assist federal" incidents with brief summaries from Aug. 2010 – Sept. 2013 and 40 narratives from June - Sept. 2013.

Findings

The agency provided one of the most comprehensive lists of the agencies reviewed. At least 1,286 people have been referred to Border Patrol since 2010, according to "other agency assist federal" reports.

Based on the review of the four months of incident reports in which 85 people were referred to BP:

- Traffic stops initiated by deputies were a very small portion of immigration-related incidents.
- In 18 percent of incidents, deputies stopped people who were walking and ultimately referred them to Border Patrol. In every case, those stopped admitted to being in the country illegally. Two men said they were in the process of walking back to Mexico.
- Calls from the public about people they suspected were in the country illegally led to 16 referrals. In some cases, immigrants had asked for help. In others, passersby called in people they saw walking along the road.
- Almost a fourth of the reports reviewed involved task-force deployments.
- Of those referred to Border Patrol, the largest group was from Sonora.
- More than half the incidents took place in Rio Rico, the most populous unincorporated area in the county.



Tony Estrada

Overview

Sworn officers: 39

Immigration-related incidents the year after S.B. 1070 took effect that the agency provided: 154

Share of total incidents: 7%