



Written by [R. Cort Kirkwood](#) on December 22, 2025

DOJ Indicts Dozens of TdA Terror Gang Members Nationwide

The Justice Department [has unsealed indictments](#) against the Venezuelan Tren de Aragua (TdA) terror gang that established bases across the country during the illegal-alien invasion aided and abetted by Joe Biden's administration.

Federal prosecutors have filed charges against members in Texas, Colorado, Nebraska, New Mexico, and New York.

More than 70 gang members were indicted, DOJ announced.

The Trump administration has reported that Venezuelan dictator Nicolás Maduro controls TdA, while the *Miami Herald*, citing a former CIA official, reported that Maduro dispatched 300 gang members to the United States.



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U.S. Department of Justice

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Justice Department Highlights Nationwide Crackdown on Tren de Aragua

The Department of Justice announced the unsealing of multiple indictments against more than 70 individuals, including leaders and members of designated foreign terrorist organization Tren de Aragua (TdA), [Show more](#)

“Immediately upon taking office, I directed the Department of Justice to fiercely pursue the total elimination of cartels and transnational criminal organizations. **This latest multi-state series of charges** underscores the Trump Administration's unwavering commitment to restoring public safety, dismantling violent trafficking networks, and ridding our country of Tren de Aragua terrorists.”

-ATTORNEY GENERAL PAMELA BONDI

DECEMBER 18, 2025

11:59 AM · Dec 18, 2025



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Texas

The six-count superseding indictment in Southern District of Texas charges “Yohan Jose Romero aka Johan Petrica, 48, and Juan Gabriel Rivas Nunez aka Juancho, 44, for conspiring to provide and providing material support to TdA,” [DOJ reported](#):

Also charged in those counts are Giovanni Vicente Mosquera Serrano aka El Viejo, 37, and Jose Enrique Martinez Flores aka Chuqui, 24. Mosquera Serrano and Martinez Flores are also under indictment for conspiracy and distribution of cocaine in Colombia intended for distribution in the United States.

Romero and Serrano “are two of the three topmost leaders of TdA,” DOJ alleges. Romero is a TdA founder who commands all the gang’s “criminal operations,” including gold and narcotics smuggling as well as murder and extortion. Serrano manages the gang crime “across Colombia, Central America and the United States.”

Nunez and Flores are “high-ranking” leaders “who operate out of multiple South American countries and direct operations to include gold smuggling, narcotics export and violent crime,” [DOJ alleges](#).

Colorado

The [indictment in Colorado](#) alleges that Giovanni Vicente Mosquera Serrano and Brawins Dominique Suarez Villegas, aka Chino San Vicente, “from May 2024 through on or about March of 2025 ... conducted activity for Tren de Aragua through a pattern of racketeering activity that included robbery, extortion, kidnapping, money laundering and controlled substance offenses.”

The pair are also charged with “conspiracy to commit robbery and two counts of Hobbs Act Robbery and firearms offenses in connection with the armed robberies of two jewelry stores in the Denver, Colorado area in June of 2024.”

A [Hobbs Act robbery involves](#) interstate crimes.

Last week, one defendant was sentenced to 20 years in prison for his role in one of the robberies.

Villegas “is also charged with conspiracy to commit kidnapping, kidnapping, cyberstalking and a firearms offense related to the kidnapping, ransom, torture and disfigurement of a victim in October of 2024 in Denver, Colorado,” DOJ reported.

The TdA goons made off with \$4 million in gold and jewelry and “brutally beat several employees with a firearm” during one of the robberies, [DOJ alleges](#).

Nebraska

The terror gang indictment in Nebraska involved 54 defendants who were involved “in a large conspiracy to deploy malware and steal millions of dollars from ATMs in the United States, a crime commonly referred to as ‘ATM jackpotting,’” DOJ reported:

An indictment returned on December 9, 2025, charges 22 defendants with offenses corresponding to their role in the conspiracy, including conspiracy to provide material support to terrorists, conspiracy to commit bank fraud, conspiracy to commit bank burglary and fraud and related activity in connection with computers, and conspiracy to commit



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money laundering. The indictment also alleges that Tren de Aragua ... has used jackpotting to steal millions of dollars in the United States and then transferred the proceeds among its members and associates to conceal the illegally obtained cash. ...

A related indictment was returned on October 21, 2025. That indictment charges 32 individuals and alleges 56 counts including one count of conspiracy to commit bank fraud, one count of conspiracy to commit bank burglary and computer fraud, 18 counts of bank fraud, 18 counts of bank burglary, and 18 counts of damage to computers.

One of the defendants is Jimena Romina Araya Navarro, also a gang leader, [DOJ alleges](#). The Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control sanctioned her in early December. She helped TdA chieftain Hector Rusthenford Guerrero Flores escape from prison in 2012.

New Mexico

[Prosecutors indicted](#) 11 TdA members and leaders in New Mexico on "racketeering charges, accusing them of kidnapping, brutally interrogating, and strangling a victim in an Albuquerque apartment, before burying his body in a remote desert grave."

Two defendants, Henderson Yofre Mavo Finol, 39, and Adan Jose Ramirez Sanchez, 38, are illegal aliens who kidnapped an illegal alien from Colombia.

The two lured him into an apartment, [said DOJ](#), where Leonel Arquimedes Bustamante Sanchez, 27, Yefeso Rafael Colina Quiroz, 26, Maikol David Aponte Ramos, 26, Ichiro Eduardo Yamawaki Berrio, 22, Yorvis Michel Carrascal Campo, 26 — all illegal-alien TdA thugs — restrained him. Bustamante Sanchez pistol-whipped the victim.

Colina Quiroz, Yamawaki Berrio, Aponte Ramos, Carrascal Campo, and Milton Jesus Lopez Guedes, 23, yet another Venezuelan illegal, strangled the victim. "After the killing, TdA members allegedly photographed the victim's body and sent the images to Mavo Finol and other TdA leaders to confirm that the murder had been carried out as directed," DOJ said.



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As part of a coordinated operation across five federal districts, 11 alleged Tren de Aragua members were indicted in New Mexico on RICO and violent crime charges. The operation resulted in charges against 72 defendants nationwide.

Full details are available in the local and [Show more](#)



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But the crime didn't stop there, [according to the DOJ](#):



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Following the murder, Antoni Alfredo Herrera Montanez, 27, a Venezuelan national illegally present in the U.S., allegedly obtained luggage to transport the victim's body and later obtained cleaning supplies to help conceal the crime. Colina Quiroz, Aponte Ramos, and Carrascal Campo allegedly cleaned the apartment to remove evidence of the killing. Between June 16 and June 17, 2024, Colina Quiroz and Ron Saez allegedly searched for a burial site, obtained shovels, shared a digital map location with other TdA members, and transported the victim's body in a suitcase using a red Chevrolet Sonic owned by Herrera Montanez. Colina Quiroz, Aponte Ramos, Barrios Rojano, Carrascal Campo, Lopez Guedes, and Ron Saez allegedly buried John Doe 1 in a remote location within the District of New Mexico.

The indictment further alleges that Ramirez Sanchez was directly involved in an armed confrontation at an apartment complex in Aurora, Colorado, on or about August 18, 2024, during which rival groups exchanged gunfire and a second victim, John Doe 2, was killed.

New York

[Prosecutors here targeted fugitive](#) TdA chief Hector Rusthenford Guerrero Flores for his "leadership role" in the terror gang. The State Department is offering \$5 million for information leading to his arrest.

The indictment describes the expansion of TdA in the Western Hemisphere — including the United States — by illegal immigration, and the myriad crimes its members have committed.



The image is a screenshot of a tweet from the official account of the US Attorney for the Southern District of New York (@SDNYnews). The tweet is dated 9:40 AM on Dec 18, 2025. The text of the tweet reads: "Leader of Tren de Aragua charged. 'Hector Guerrero Flores allegedly turned a violent prison gang into a transnational terrorist organization,' said U.S. Attorney Jay Clayton. #JointTaskForceVulcan". Below the text is a link to a press release on justice.gov. The press release title is "Leader Of Tren De Aragua Charged In Manhattan Federal Court With United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, Jay Clayton, Special Agent in Charge of the Special Operations Division o...". The tweet has 56 likes and 2 replies.

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Leader of Tren de Aragua charged. "Hector Guerrero Flores allegedly turned a violent prison gang into a transnational terrorist organization," said U.S. Attorney Jay Clayton. [#JointTaskForceVulcan](#)

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Frighteningly, aside from permitting gang members into the United States, the [Biden administration financially subsidized](#) the gang's takeover of an apartment complex in Aurora, Colorado.

In March, the *Miami Herald*, citing former CIA officer Gary Berntsen, [reported that](#) Maduro controls the gang and dispatched its paramilitary-trained members to the United States.

"The Venezuelan regime has assumed operational control of these guys [Tren de Aragua] and has trained 300 of them; they have given them paramilitary training, training them to fire weapons, on how to conduct sabotage, how to use crypto," Berntsen told the newspaper:

They have given them all like a four- to six-week course. They put these 300 guys through that course and ... were deploying them into the United States to 20 locations, to 20 separate states.



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The [FBI concluded](#) likewise.

Also in March, [President Donald Trump invoked](#) the Alien Enemies Act to deport the gang members summarily.



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