

September 4, 2015

Congress Must Act Now to End Sanctuary City Policies

The serious threat that sanctuary cities—State and local jurisdictions with policies that obstruct immigration enforcement—pose to the safety of the American people has finally received media attention after the tragic murder this summer of Kate Steinle. In July, Ms. Steinle was allegedly shot and killed in San Francisco (a sanctuary city) by Francisco Sanchez, an illegal alien with seven convictions and five previous deportations. ([FAIR Legislative Update](#), July 8, 2015) In a jailhouse interview, Sanchez admitted he went to San Francisco because he knew it is a sanctuary city that would protect him from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). (*Id.*)

Immediately after the Steinle murder, Members of Congress from both parties voiced opposition to sanctuary cities and several Republican lawmakers introduced bills that would deny federal funds to them. (See [FAIR Legislative Update](#), July 14, 2015) Even Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), who implemented San Francisco's first sanctuary policy years ago when she was Mayor, said she "strongly believe[s] that an [illegal alien], convicted of multiple felonies and with a detainer request from ICE, should not have been released." ([Washington Times](#), July 7, 2015) She continued, "We should focus on deporting convicted criminals, not setting them loose on our streets. As a member of the Judiciary Committee, I am looking at whether additional federal legislation may be necessary." (*Id.*)

Yet, despite the public posturing by lawmakers, Congress failed to pass any legislation before they departed for the annual August recess that would end sanctuary city policies. With Congress back in Washington, FAIR's Government Relations team has prepared the following package of resources to demonstrate that lawmakers must immediately get back to work and pass legislation that ends dangerous sanctuary cities.

The Cost of Inaction: Illegal Alien Crime in Summer 2015

During the summer of 2015, criminal illegal aliens continued to victimize Americans. Below is a list of noteworthy cases. However, because the immigration status is not always revealed in news reports when an American becomes the victim of a crime, this list should not be viewed as exhaustive.

Francisco Chavez:

Francisco Chavez is a Mexican national with an [extensive criminal history](#) that includes serving time in jail for felony assault in 2006, a conviction for drug possession in 2011, and four other arrests. He was deported from the U.S. last year following a DUI conviction in San Luis Obispo County, California. He

was arrested on July 30 in Paso Robles, CA for beating a 2 year old girl, the daughter of his live-in girlfriend, nearly to death. He was booked into Paso Robles jail, and then ICE issued a detainer. He was released the following day on \$ 100,000 bail—with the sheriff saying his hands were tied by the policy. Chavez then failed to appear in court for his criminal charges—he may have fled the country.

Juan Emmanuel Razo:

Juan Emmanuel Razo is a Mexican national who was arrested by local sheriffs in Lake County Ohio on July 7. He had no identification and admitted to them he was an illegal alien. The sheriffs called the Border Patrol, which refused to issue a detainer, because he did not meet the Obama administration's enforcement "priorities." He was released. On July 27, Razo allegedly went on a crime spree that included the attempted rape of a 14 year old girl, shooting and wounding one woman in front of her children, and killing another. His crime spree ended the same day when police arrested him after a shoot-out. Remarkably, amnesty activists have claimed the fact that Razo would have ultimately been eligible for a green card based on his U.S. citizen father's petition for one means that "immigration" is not an issue in the case.

Victor Aureliano Martinez Ramirez

Victor Martinez Ramirez is a Mexican national who also had numerous brushes with the law, with six arrests in the last fifteen months. Ramirez was first arrested in this country for driving without a license in 2009 in Santa Barbara and released a few weeks later. In May 2014, he was charged with felony assault with intent to commit a sexual assault and drug possession, and ICE issued a detainer. Days later, his charges were downgraded to a misdemeanor count of battery, and he was released. On July 17, 2015, Ramirez was booked by the police in Santa Maria, CA on a felony count of possessing a concealed weapon, and a misdemeanor charge of possessing drug paraphernalia. He pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor weapons charge and was sentenced to serve 30 days in jail at the end of October. He was released on July 20. On July 24, he was arrested for allegedly breaking into the home of 64 year old U.S. Air Force Veteran Marilyn Pharis, sexually assaulting her, and killing her with a hammer. Santa Maria Police Department Chief Ralph Martin, noting that his officers had arrested Ramirez just before the murder but had to let him go: "from Washington, D.C., to Sacramento there's a blood trail leading to the bedroom of Marilyn Pharis."

Keane Dean

Keane Dean is a Filipino national and registered sex offender who was released from immigration detention in April before allegedly sexually assaulting a minor in July. His first conviction, for lewd conduct in public, was in 2008. In March 2014, he was caught inappropriately touching himself in a department store in Los Angeles, and afterwards was sentenced to six months in prison for indecent exposure and 16 months for burglary, to be served concurrently. After serving time in state prison, he was turned over to immigration authorities in October 2014 and put into immigration detention. However, because of a 2012 lawsuit by the ACLU guaranteeing illegal aliens in his position a bond hearing within six months, Dean was given a hearing and released on April 29 after posting \$10,000 bond. Despite the fact that he had been given a GPS monitor to wear and was supposed to regularly check in with ICE, on July 14, he allegedly lured a 14 year-old-girl into his garage, where he sexually assaulted her.

Aurelio Hernandez-Gomez

Aurelio Hernandez Gomez is a Mexican national who was arrested on July 12 in Michigan for kidnapping and sexually assaulting a 13-year old Florida girl. He pled guilty to third degree sexual assault conduct a few days later. Deputies in Michigan also reported he has been accused of crimes in several other states as well.

Eliazar Rivas-Rodriguez

Eliazar Rivas-Rodriguez, a Mexican national, was arrested for groping two 17 year-old girls in a water park in Michigan on July 4. He has been in the country illegally for 10 years.

Brian Omar Hyde

Brian Omar Hyde, is a 19 year old national of Belize who was wanted there for robbery and assault on a police officer. He fled the Central American country to avoid trial there and crossed the Texas border illegally about seven months ago and was living with his aunt in Florida while waiting for his immigration hearing. On August 14, he was charged with killing his aunt, his pregnant cousin and her boyfriend by sharp force trauma to the head and neck.

Manuel Perez-Vasquez

Manuel Perez-Vasquez is a Mexican national who has been deported back to Mexico six times since May 2012. On July 4, he allegedly was driving on the wrong side of a road in Arizona when he hit a car and injured and nearly killed three people, a mother and her two children. He fled the scene but later returned and admitted to police he had been driving while under the influence of marijuana.

Ever Olivos-Gutierrez

Ever Olivos-Gutierrez, is a Mexican national who has been in the country illegally since 2004. He killed a teenager in Aurora Colorado last year when he sped at 80 miles an hour through a red light with a blood alcohol level more than three times the legal limit. He had three prior DUI convictions. ICE released a statement that it had been notified of some of his past arrests but he had been released from jail before ICE could take custody. He was sentenced to 40 years in prison this past July 1.

Guaymar Cabrera-Hernandez

Guaymar Cabrera-Hernandez , who has already been deported at least once, allegedly carjacked a woman in Montgomery Country Maryland on August 21 just 30 minutes after being released from an immigration center, where he had been detained since June. After his arrest, D.C. police found that, notwithstanding his release, he already had an outstanding arrest for carjacking. He was first arrested in 2007 for being in the U.S. illegally, and was arrested again and deported in 2011. ICE stated that the crime he had been arrested for did not meet ICE's civil immigration enforcement "priorities."

Congress Must Pass Meaningful Legislation to End Sanctuary Cities

Congress can no longer stand idly by and allow sanctuary jurisdictions to defy federal immigration laws. As a first order of business in September, Congress should pass the following bills and make President Obama choose between protecting American citizens or protecting criminal illegal aliens:

- Sen. Jeff Sessions's (R-AL) "Protecting American Lives Act" (S. 1842). Read FAIR's summary [here](#).
- Sen. David Vitter's (R-LA) "Stop Sanctuary Cities Act" (S. 1814) and Rep. Duncan Hunter's (R-CA) "Enforce the Law for Sanctuary Cities Act" (H.R. 3009). Read FAIR's summary of the bills [here](#).
- Kate's Law ([H.R. 3011](#)/[S. 1762](#)). Named after Kate Steinle, the "Establishing Mandatory Minimums for Illegal Reentry Act" requires a five year minimum sentence for previously deported illegal aliens who unlawfully return to the country.
- Grant's Law ([H.R. 2942](#)). Named after Grant Ronnebeck, who was allegedly murdered by a criminal illegal alien, the "Stop Catch and Release Act" requires Homeland Security to keep criminal aliens in custody and complete removal proceedings instead of releasing them back onto the streets.
- Rep. Lou Barletta's (R-PA) "Mobilizing Against Sanctuary Cities Act" ([H.R. 3002](#)) which denies federal funds for at least one year to any state or local government with a policy or law that prevents them from assisting immigration authorities enforce immigration laws.