

National Guard urged to check migrants arriving in NYC for ‘Tren de Aragua’ tattoos as gang’s numbers grow stateside

By [Craig McCarthy](#) and [Jorge Fitz-Gibbon](#)

Published Feb. 14, 2024, 2:31 p.m. ET

00:00 / 00:55

New York State National Guard troops are being told to check all migrants arriving in the Big Apple for distinctive tattoos linking them to the vicious Venezuelan “Tren de Aragua” street gang, The Post has learned.

The decree comes as the NYPD this week issued a “Situational Awareness Alert” warning that the brutal gang is increasingly making its presence known in the five boroughs — with members claiming asylum at the US border and flocking to New York to join other gangbangers.

“It’s to a point that they had to post policies on use of force like if we were in a combat zone,” one National Guard source said Wednesday.

“Tren de Aragua” — Spanish for Aragua Train, a shout-out to the gang’s origins as a railroad labor union in Aragua, Venezuela — is growing in numbers in the Big Apple and has been linked by law enforcement to a recent spree of cellphone robberies, [The Post revealed this week](#).

The brutal gang is now firmly on the NYPD’s radar, with the new bulletin warning: “Tren de Aragua’s newly established presence in New York City may incite further gang-related violence — including stabbings, assaults and robberies — raising public safety concerns.”

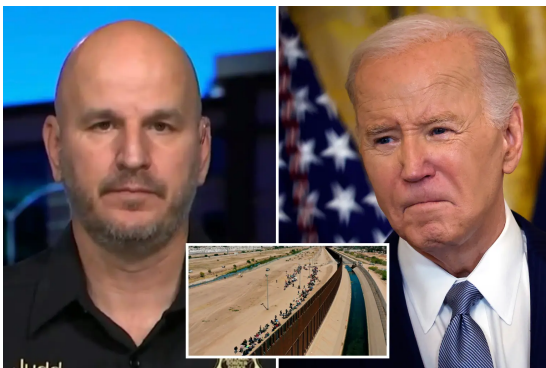


Tren de Aragua's leader in Colombia, who uses the alias "Satan," is detained by authorities.
Migration Colombia

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2 Randall's Island migrant shelter residents arrested for assaulting security guard



Head of Border Patrol union slams Biden's 'self-serving' trip to southern border: 'Too little, too late'



Legacy media shields Laken Riley's alleged killer Jose Ibarra — and his enabler, Joe Biden

"Given the potential threat posed by TdA's growing presence in the city, the [NYPD Intelligence and Counter Terrorism Bureau] recommends members of the service maintain situational awareness of symbols and iconography used by the gang to identify local activity

and trends,” the alert said.

“Should you identify any of the symbols or iconography below and would like real-time assistance, please coordinate with your precinct Field Intelligence Team.”

According to the department, gang member tattoos include the Nike logo of NBA Hall of Famer Michael Jordan along with his uniform number, 23 — with the number referring to “23 de Enero,” or 23rd of January, a Venezuelan neighborhood that spawned a revolutionary group in the 1980s.

Other common gang tats include a crown, weapons like AK-47 assault rifles, stars and gas masks.

Some “Tren de Aragua” members wear tattoos with the initials “HJ,” for “Hijos de Dios,” or Sons of God, which can be part of the gang’s lingo, or the phrase “Hasta la Muerte,” or Until Death, in body ink.

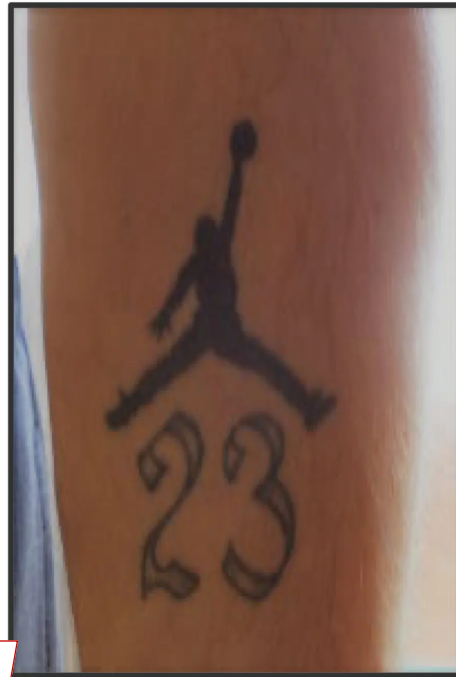
AK-47



13

AK-47 assault rifles are a popular tattoo option also.

Jordan Logo



13

In the Jordan logo, the number refers to "23 de Enero," or 23rd of January, a Venezuelan neighborhood that spawned a revolutionary group in the 1980s.

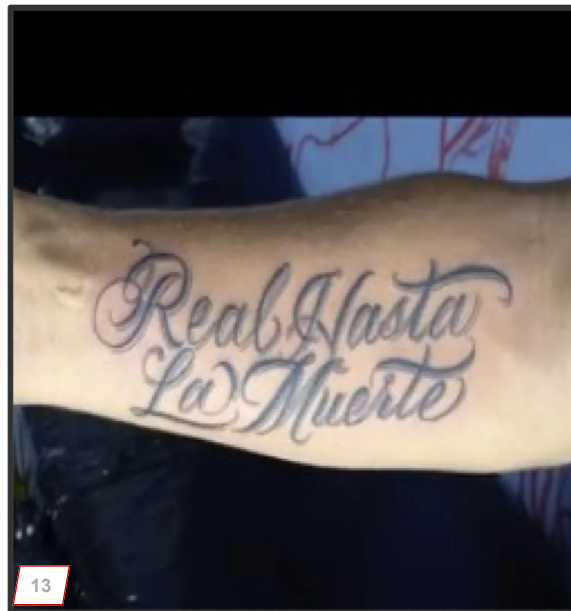
Hijos de Dios or H J



13

Some "Tren de Aragua" members wear tattoos with the initials "HJ."

Real Hasta La Muerte



The phrase "Hasta la Muerte," or Until Death, in body ink.

Clocks



Clocks are also a common gang tattoo.

Stars



13

Stars are another common tattoo.

Crowns



13

Crowns are common gang tattoos.

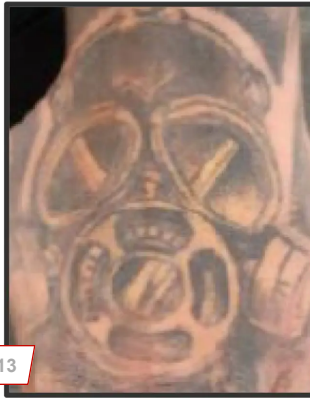
Train



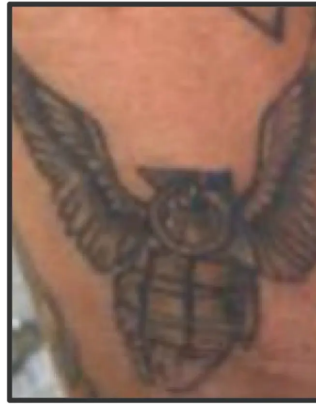
13

"Tren de Aragua" — Spanish for Aragua Train, a shout-out to the gang's origins as a railroad labor union in Aragua, Venezuela.

Gas Masks and Grenades



13



Gas masks can be seen also.

Hand Sign



There is also an alert for hand signs.
NYPD

The warnings have been passed on to about 2,000 National Guard members across the state who are assigned to patrol duties at hotels and shelters housing thousands of asylum seekers.

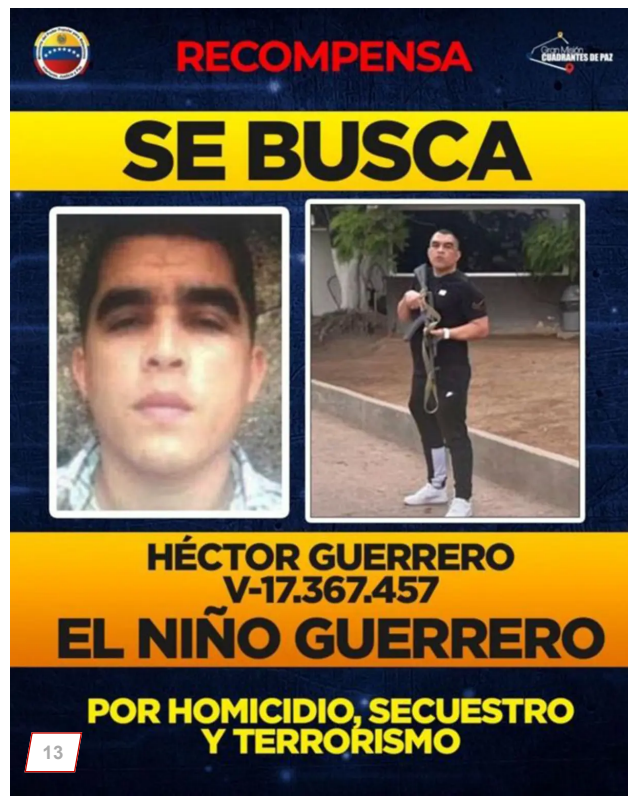
New York City alone has seen more than 170,000 migrants from the US border flooding in, with more than 65,000 still in city care — including a large contingent of Venezuelans.

The Post reported this week that “Tren de Aragua” members have been among them, and could be **behind a lucrative crew of moped-riding thieves** terrorizing the city.



Authorities believe members of the Venezuelan gang “Tren de Aragua” are claiming asylum and flocking to New York.

Go Nakamura for NY Post



A wanted poster for Hector Guerrero Flores, an alleged boss of the vicious Venezuelan "Tren de Aragua" gang.

Venezuelan Interior Ministry

According to the report, gang members are crossing the US border with Mexico, claiming asylum and making a beeline for New York, where they recruit other migrants for their criminal enterprise.



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The ringleader of one migrant robbery crew told cops the two-wheeled **crime spree** "is much bigger than me" when he was picked up by police earlier this month — and said he regularly travels to Florida to deliver the proceeds from the New York City heists.

501 **What do you think?** [Post a comment.](#)

Law enforcement sources said stolen phones, cash and other pilfered goods are then sent to Colombia through a Texas-based shipping company run by a Venezuelan husband-and-wife team.

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Randy McDonald

14 February, 2024

According to the law those with gang affiliations or criminal records are not eligible for asylum so the question is how are these people making it all the way to NYC when our border is closed and secure? Is it this administrations policy to ignore the laws concerning 'asylum' seekers?

Reply · 297 · Share

Ed In North Texas

14 February, 2024

Great rhetorical question to finish the paragraph.

We don't need NYC and other locations with such laws to repeal "sanctuary" laws, we need to eliminate the source of the problem, a wide open border. And the only way to do that is to remove this administration and change the "asylum" statutes (or th...

See more

Reply · 44 · Share

2 replies

Les Wages

14 February, 2024

This drastic influx of gang violence and crime in this country, courtesy of that open border, will be the gift that keeps on giving for decades. At some point, this country is going to need to find the appetite for mass incarceration and mass deportations, in an effort to eradicate this scourge.

Reply · 146 · Share

5 replies

Show 23 more replies

Im TheCat

14 February, 2024

I'm assuming they want to find the Tren de Aragua members so they can provide them each with an extra prepaid debit card or newer smartphone...

Reply · 47 · Share

ZR Z R

14 February, 2024

Thanks a lot Joe and company.

Reply · 16 · Share

1 reply

Show 1 more reply

MRSGOOFY

14 February, 2024

Isn't it too late? When Biden removed Trump policies, Maduro ordered to empty all jails in Venezuela and send them to our borders. At the same time, he erased all their criminal records. Those people are already here walking our street under a bogus asylum claim.

Reply · 78 · Share

Fuzzy37

14 February, 2024

IF anyone thinks Venezuela is the only country to do this, think again.

Reply ·  28 · Share

Roy Williams

14 February, 2024

Animals are being spawned south of the border. Don't worry. Obama deported 400,000 while in office. In 2025, when common sense & President Trump returns, look for more work on The Wall (electrified via solar panels & Rio Grande floating barrier) & the largest deportation of Illegals in U.S. hi...**See more**

Reply ·  20 · Share

↩ 1 reply

↩ Show 1 more reply

Michael Van Roth

14 February, 2024

This is so insane, how far are democrats going to allow this to go? They impeached Trump for just making a phone call. They're just going to sit back when they know at anytime Biden could close that border tomorrow with one executive action.

Reply ·  111 · Share

You-Voted-For-This

14 February, 2024

And not a single one voted to impeach Mayorkas, not one. So they now openly support the job, or lack thereof, that Mayorkas has done. But it's the Republican's fault for not signing the "border bill" that would have normalized 2 million illegals a year...and we're supposed to be happy about those...

See more

Reply ·  80 · Share

↩ 2 replies

Buck Truth

14 February, 2024

The question is how much destruction do the radical Dems have to cause to our nation and citizens before Dem voters wake from their stupor and vote Republican to finally stop this insanity?

Reply ·  38 · Share

↩ 1 reply

↩ Show 4 more replies

Partial Completion

14 February, 2024

Yes, by all means, let's check whether the people to whom we're about to gift free stays in Manhattan hotels, food, transportation, cell phones and work status as a thanks for illegally entering America and falsely claiming asylum are also members of violent gangs seeking to establish drug-dealing ...

See more

Reply ·  18 · Share

Hilaria Baldwin's Interpreter

14 February, 2024

Q: So what happens if someone is found to have this tattoo?

A: Nothing.

Reply ·  66 · Share

Randy McDonald

14 February, 2024

they give em another gift card and 2 more weeks in the hotel.....

Reply ·  42 · Share

Joe Joe

14 February, 2024

The elect him to city council

Reply ·  19 · Share

↩ Show 7 more replies

PostCensorsEverythingIWrite

14 February, 2024

"According to the report, gang members are crossing the US border with Mexico, claiming asylum and making a bee line for New York, where they recruit other migrants for their criminal enterprise."

I don't understand how the Democrat Party devolved to the point where they are proud of enabling this.

Reply · 👍 59 · Share

Sunapee

14 February, 2024

Their thirst for power and keeping it knows no boundaries. They are pure skim. *(Edited)*

Reply · 👍 9 · Share

↩ 1 reply

Scvmk

14 February, 2024

It's too little too late. Enjoy your vote NY

Reply · 👍 122 · Share

JK

14 February, 2024

Sanctuary life is great

Reply · 👍 38 · Share

↩ 1 reply

wc Who Cares

14 February, 2024

Since you voted for Biden & open borders enjoy your vote USA.

Reply · 👍 6 · Share

Jimmy DarkCloud

14 February, 2024

It will no longer be "Catch & Release". Effective immediately, the new policy is: "Check the Tattoo & Release"....We are on the Eve of Destruction! ☹

Reply · 👍 15 · Share

Alison

14 February, 2024

Trump was right these people aren't here to pick strawberries these are gangs, criminals and terrorists.

Mass deportation is the only answer. The prisons in Central and South America are like torture chambers-let them rot there. This is a national security threat, even the police are in danger.

(Edited)

Reply · 👍 71 · Share

Not for Nothing

14 February, 2024

Kudos to Barrack, Brandon, Schumer, Pelosi, Hochul, Adams & a host of others for transforming the U.S.A.

Reply · 👍 11 · Share

Robbie Richter

14 February, 2024

Border policy is destroying America. Why is our government allowing this. Are our leaders agents of a foreign power?

Reply · 👍 31 · Share

WC **Who Cares**

14 February, 2024

Absolutely.

Cartels & the Democrat party are partners; there's no other logical explanation.

Trump was against the cartels so Democrats are against Trump. ...**See more**

Reply ·  6 · Share

Thomas Delorme

14 February, 2024

This is a perfect example of why the ppl who think no borders should exist, that every border should be open and everyone should be allowed to travel or go live wherever they want without any restrictions are nuts. Even though I'd love to have that freedom, I realize it's completely ludicrous to th...

See more *(Edited)*

Reply ·  9 · Share

TitanicSwimTeam

14 February, 2024

Honestly I blame Kamala Harris. She was supposed to be in charge of the border ordeal. Way to go Biden Admin, you guys keep up the good work.....said no American ever.

Reply ·  42 · Share

CAT710

14 February, 2024

If you want to blame someone, blame Obama. This is his third term.

Reply ·  21 · Share

↩ 1 reply

↩ Show 1 more reply

Rumpy

14 February, 2024

I find it incredible that there is not more of an outrage with all the illegals pouring into this Country and the National Security threat that imposes. Did we learn anything from 911...We spend billions securing the airports only to have all these illegals walk in. There is something inherently wron...**See more**


Reply ·  17 · Share

↩ 1 reply

Wing Ling

14 February, 2024

What does it actually take for you Democrats to vote to save your own country?

Reply ·  97 · Share

Randy McDonald

14 February, 2024

Now hear me out , Most every person you meet in your day to day life is reasonably intelligent and sane right? So what makes you think anyone is actually voting for this insanity? Perhaps we need to open our eyes and realize our elections are rigged and have been for some time.

(Edited)

Reply ·  30 · Share

↩ 2 replies

ErrantBelle

14 February, 2024

They hate their own country

Which is why I vote we deport Democrats

Send them to Cuba, North Korea, Venezuela, China, or any other communist country of their choosing

Reply ·  43 · Share

↩ 1 reply

↩ Show 1 more reply

Ray from Delaware ...

14 February, 2024

Thanks Joey. Good job.

Reply · 👍 29 · Share

James Cuccinello ...

14 February, 2024

Oh so you're telling us that these dangerous gang members weren't vetted as they made their case for asylum. Imagine my surprise that our "secure" border didn't pick up on that initially. Who could have ever seen this coming?

Reply · 👍 13 · Share

↩ 1 reply

Advok8 ...

14 February, 2024

Or, we could just stop letting them in . . .

Reply · 👍 29 · Share

Bee the Bumble ...

14 February, 2024

Lovely. Just keep on letting in the lowest of the low while skilled Europeans that want to migrate and work in the US are basically not allowed to/ have to win a lottery green card/ or have half a million dollar to spare....

Reply · 👍 7 · Share

DB Douglas Barker ...

14 February, 2024

The Post has performed a outstanding and exemplary Public Service by sharing this vital Public Safety Information all citizens should be aware of! People must be informed so they can be more alert of their surroundings, and if they "See Something, Say Something!".

Reply · 👍 4 · Share

nyc taxpayer ...

14 February, 2024

Thanks Tom Suozzi and all the democrats.

Reply · 👍 22 · Share

Mark Werner ...

14 February, 2024

I'm hearing that a "dirty bomb" has been smuggled in through the border . They found radioactive traces and there is an active search.

Reply · 👍 18 · Share

Wing Ling ...

14 February, 2024

This is completely possible

There are those who hate US - see our own citizens marching to support terrorists

Imagine people from these countries realizing that they could walk in through an open border and make their dream of killing America come true

Reply · 👍 23 · Share

Charles Darwin ...

14 February, 2024

The House Intelligence Committee is warning of a credible threat. With certainty you know that there must be sleeper cells comprised of the illegals from Africa and the Middle East. If it does happen the blood is on the hands of Biden and Mayorkas, both of whom should be charged with treason.

Reply ·  38 · Share

↩ Show 3 more replies

Charles Darwin ...

14 February, 2024

If they have the proper gang tattoos Adams will double their stipend. Keep voting dem, NY, it's working out so well.

Reply ·  34 · Share

↩ 1 reply

Frank Lucas ...

14 February, 2024

They are only figuring this out now? Who doesn't know that gang members have tattoos identifying the gangs they are affiliated with?

Reply ·  10 · Share

Balki Bartokomous ...

14 February, 2024

All by design sheep. 🐑

Trump is our only hope! usususususususususus

Reply ·  43 · Share

↩ 3 replies

Fauci'sMask ...

14 February, 2024

Cops see that tat and should tell the owner they have two choices.

Back on the boat today or disappear today.

And they have 10 seconds to decide.

Reply ·  11 · Share

Harry Francis ...

14 February, 2024

The Border Patrol has been saying for months that they are seeing thousands of young men coming from Venezuela all tatt'd up with very questionable backgrounds and they are told by the Biden/Harris/Mayorkas administration:
Let Them IN.

Reply ·  12 · Share

↩ 1 reply

Midwest Mama ...

14 February, 2024

If Myorkis was doing his job, they could have been stopped at the border maybe?

Reply ·  15 · Share

CAT710 ...

14 February, 2024

They don't want it to stop.

Reply ·  6 · Share

C Parrish

14 February, 2024

THIS is how the migrants are being 'processed'? My biggest objection is WHY all these illegal or 'undocumented' if you prefer, are allowed to skip the immigration line. So they all get entry before foreigners who respect U.S. law and have gone through the whole process of application, interviews, c...

See more

Reply · 6 · Share

↩ 1 reply

Gerg Spacebucks

14 February, 2024

I don't understand why this was allowed to happen. This country has ceded control of its southern border to foreign powers.

We have wholesale imported violent gangs into our cities.

Reply · 9 · Share

Satch

14 February, 2024

Shouldn't we be checking these people before they get into the country rather than when they get to New York?

Reply · 10 · Share

Tippu Tip

14 February, 2024

Nice! What about the ones who got here already? A wonderful reactive action. Of course, the proactive approach would have been to not let any into here in the first place.

Reply · 3 · Share

Lazmatazz

14 February, 2024

Think of them as Biden Stamps.

Reply · 18 · Share

↩ 1 reply

You-Voted-For-This

14 February, 2024

Liberal Democrats still refuse to believe what our eyes can plainly see. Most of these criminals allowed to cross our border and burden the American people, while falsely claiming asylum, if the were even processed, are military/gang age males, and they didn't come here to work in a flower shop or ...

See more *(Edited)*

Reply · 10 · Share

JintYank61

14 February, 2024

To solve this serious problem, the NYS National Guard are going to "check all migrants arriving in the Big Apple for distinctive tattoos." Sounds like a tall order, very complicated. So how about CLOSING THE BORDER instead? A wild, off-the-wall idea, but give it a try, Joey!

Reply · 9 · Share

Pow Pow Got Your Six

14 February, 2024

No, Woke York. Accept EVERYONE, you wanted the illegal invaders, you got them, you pay the price. Have a wonderful day.

Reply · 19 · Share

Ed Gilmartin

14 February, 2024

Be a good sanctuary city and take in everyone

Reply ·  14 · Share

Crazydeb

14 February, 2024

Bostonians are bringing them into their homes now. Probably a financial incentive. In any case I can't wait to see what happens next - in those homes and in those neighborhoods.

Reply ·  6 · Share

↩ 1 reply

lluanimals

14 February, 2024

Too little, too late. The thugs are already here causing chaos. What they don't know is which American is carrying their own weapon to fight back. They should beware, they're no longer in Mexico or South America.

Reply ·  12 · Share

E.D.

14 February, 2024

Sorry, folks. Too little, too late. That horse already left the barn.

This FJB-created security crisis is just an excuse for O'Biden to declare a national emergency and institute indefinite martial law. They have been waiting and hoping for this. Then FJB's mental acuity can be shoved aside.

Reply ·  9 · Share

LTO-T1

14 February, 2024

New York is in for some hard times this summer. Once these gangs get there hooks into the community it's going to become Dodge City gun wise

Reply ·  9 · Share

↩ 1 reply

Linguini

14 February, 2024

Comparing to gangs in the U.S. These people are rabid dogs. What a bad time for New York. Rampant crime prior to illegal migrante arriving, Prosecutors not prosecuting, police unable to do their jobs due to woke politicians, rampant unchecked illegal migration, a bumbling president who only activat...

See more *(Edited)*

Reply ·  9 · Share

honeybunny

14 February, 2024

What a shame that this is happening to what was once a great country ...

Reply ·  8 · Share

↩ 1 reply

BD

14 February, 2024

When are people going to understand what Biden has done? You're no longer safe and he continues to let them pour in. Biden, Mayorkas, Schumer and the entire upper management and liberal who infest CIS need to be removed.

Reply ·  10 · Share

I Claudius

14 February, 2024

Maybe newly welcomed gangs can run for Congress from NY. Can only be an improvement!

Reply 10 Share

Leftistsarehypocrites

14 February, 2024

But AOC cried to us that these were just people who want to work and have the "American dream" and that we are racist for not wanting these illegals here so this story must be "fake news".

Reply 13 Share

Iheart Badonkadonk

14 February, 2024

It's just a matter of time until our many enemies attack us with multiple fronts across the country. Chaos will ensue they will have divisions of men and women who have illegally come into our country with the encouragement of Joe Biden to kill us. The media and the democrats will do their best to ...See more

Reply 5 Share

TBD Cobra

14 February, 2024

The solution is quite simple. CLOSE THE BORDERS!!!

Reply 11 Share

Juvawave Red Light Therapy

14 February, 2024

“They’re sending their best.”

Joe Biden

“We’ve got a lot of bad hombres here and we’re going to get them all out”

Donald Trump

Reply 16 Share



DJM123

14 February, 2024

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OMG this is maddening. The NG are not cops. They are not trained for any of this. Even if they were - so what? You can't arrest someone for having a scary tattoo. That alone is not even probable cause for an arrest - again even if the NG could arrest anyone. What are they going to do - write an ema...

See more

Reply 7 Share

America1st

14 February, 2024

But don't impeach Mayorkas, Democrats say.

Reply 10 Share

College Hottie 24

14 February, 2024

New Yorkers are weak.

You did nothing and now your city is gone.

And I'm loving every minute of it!

Reply 8 Share

2 replies

Ralph D

14 February, 2024

My BP agent friends tell me that thousands of gang and prison tattooed men and women from all over the world where allowed in because of limited access to databases to vet people. Agents only take fingerprints and photos to run checks as most names given are fake. If they were once in our criminal...

See more

Reply 4 Share

Clem

14 February, 2024

This is what all the “diversity” gets you. Congressional districts now demographically unrecognizable as being part of the United States. How long before some congressional district in Texas or Arizona elects a representative who is openly “pro drug-cartel”-- speaking, introducing bills, and voting...

See more (Edited)

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1 reply

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What's your reaction to this article?



Top Notch

201



So-so

2



Next!

11