SENSITIVE
STATE FOR DS/IP/WHA
CONSULATE MATAMOROS FOR DEA

R.O. 13526: N/A
TAGS: ASEC, MX
SUBJECT: Timeline of major violence or events occurring in Matamoros consular district September 4 through September 10, 2010

REF: 10 MATAMOROS 228; 10 MATAMOROS 246

1. Below is a timeline of major violence or events occurring in Matamoros consular district September 4 through September 10, 2010.

2. September 7: Open sources report that the head of public safety in Tamaulipas has resigned because of the escalation of violence in the state.

3. September 7: Mexican officials verify to RSO that the bodies of Roberto Jaime SUAREZ VASQUEZ, State Prosecutor in San Fernando (MPE) and Juan Carlos SANCHEZ SUAREZ, Director of the Municipal Police in San Fernando, were found on August 27. See Matamoros 228.

4. September 8: PGR contacts report that they arrested nine cartel members in the San Fernando area. Seven of those arrested were members of the Zeta DTO and two from the Gulf Cartel. PGR would not confirm that these individuals were connected with the mass execution of 72 migrants in San Fernando but is still investigating any possible connections. A small cache of weapons and ammunition were also confiscated.

5. September 8: Open Sources report that six local police were killed in a gunfight with cartel members in Padilla, Mexico,
approximately 173 miles south of Matamoros.

6. September 9: Mexican officials report to RSO and subsequently via the press that several Mexican Independence Day events (occurring on the 15th and 16th) will be cancelled and others will be scaled down. Officials report that large celebrations that normally take place at midnight on the 15th will be cancelled in nine Tamaulipas cities. Smaller festivities will take place in Matamoros, Reynosa and Ciudad Victoria. In Matamoros, there will be one event starting in the early evening.

7. September 10: RSO contacts reported that 71 inmates escaped from a prison in Reynosa. Additionally, CISEN reported to RSO that the guards may have assisted as there was no proof of violence or confrontation. RSO contacts subsequently confirmed that as of 1600 hours, 35 inmates are officially unaccounted for.

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