



Trump's guest a Calif. man whose brother was killed by undocumented immigrant

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A Tulare County man made a tearful appearance during Tuesday's State of the Union Address as one of 11 special guests invited by President Trump.

Jody Jones was there because his brother Rocky was shot to death in the parking lot of a convenience store in December 2018. Police said Gustavo Garcia, an undocumented immigrant, killed Rocky during a 24-hour "reign of terror" that saw Garcia commit nearly a dozen crimes across Tulare County before dying in a high-speed chase.

Garcia had twice been deported and had been arrested on a drug charge shortly before killing Rocky Jones.

Trump in the speech blamed California's "outrageous law declaring their whole state to be a sanctuary for illegal, criminal immigrants."

The president claimed that in sanctuary cities, "local officials order police to release dangerous criminal aliens to prey upon the public instead of handing them over to ICE to be safely removed."

Mike Boudreaux, the county sheriff on the Jones case, also blamed the sanctuary law for what happened. Garcia's drug charge was a misdemeanor; the state's law allows for coordination with federal immigration authorities in felony cases. PolitiFact labeled Trump's sanctuary claims "mostly false."

Research has shown that immigrants, whether legal or undocumented, do not commit crimes at higher rates than U.S.-born residents. In fact, a report done by the libertarian Cato Institute that analyzed Texas data found immigrants are jailed and commit crimes at a lower rate than citizens.