



A Statement from USHCC CEO and President Ramiro A. Cavazos on the Death of Lorenzo Salgado Araujo

WASHINGTON, D.C. — On July 7, the Hispanic business community lost Lorenzo Salgado Araujo, a small business owner, employer, and father of three who was tragically killed during a federal enforcement operation in Houston. By all accounts, Mr. Araujo was not the intended target. He lived and worked in the United States for decades, built a construction business from the ground up, and created jobs and opportunity in his community.

Entrepreneurs like Mr. Araujo represent the backbone of the American economy. Small business owners take risks, create jobs, and contribute to the growth and stability of communities across the country. The loss of a business owner is not only a personal tragedy—it disrupts livelihoods, impacts employees, and weakens the local economic fabric.

This incident highlights the need for policies that provide clarity, stability, and fairness for business owners striving to comply with the law while contributing to the economy. A system that supports entrepreneurship must also protect due process and ensure that individuals and businesses are not unintentionally harmed.

We call for a full, transparent, and independent investigation into the circumstances surrounding this incident. Accountability is essential to maintaining trust in public institutions, particularly when the consequences affect workers, businesses, and communities.

As a national organization representing entrepreneurs and business owners, we will continue to advocate for policies that protect opportunity, support small businesses, and uphold the principles that allow entrepreneurship to thrive.