

Please join the directors of the film along with the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA)
AND the Southern Border Communities Coalition (SBCC)
for a special briefing:

MISSING IN BROOKS COUNTY

Honorary Hosts Representative Gonzalez and Representative Grijalva

Event Details:

Thursday, February 9, 2023

Room: HVC-215 (the Dem Caucus room)

11:30AM – 12:30PM

70 miles north of the U.S.-Mexico border lies Brooks County, a rural zone of Texas where hundreds of migrants go missing every year attempting to circumvent the Falfurrias Border Patrol checkpoint. Local humanitarian workers and law enforcement find hundreds of remains each year on surrounding ranch land. As the United States has increased the security apparatus at the border over the past three decades, it is estimated that over 9,000 migrants have lost their lives in U.S. borderlands.

Please join us for this briefing to present clips from the award-winning documentary *Missing in Brooks County*, [featured in 2022](#) on the PBS series *Independent Lens*. The clips will be followed by presentations from Dr. Kate Spradley and Eddie Canales, an expert and an advocate who work on the ground in Brooks County managing and trying to end the migrant death crisis at the border. Both are featured in the film.

They will discuss practical steps that members of Congress and other U.S. policymakers—from both parties—can take to mitigate migrant deaths and support the processing and identification of migrant remains, helping families to gain closure about what happened to their loved ones.

[MISSING IN BROOKS COUNTY](#) follows the journey of two families who arrive in Brooks County to look for their missing loved ones. It is a deeply humane portrait of the human rights workers, activists, and law enforcement personnel who confront the life-and-death consequences of the checkpoint and the choices that U.S. policymakers have made at the U.S.-Mexico border.

Opening & Welcoming Remarks

Speakers:

Dr. Kate Spradley, Biological Anthropologist, Texas State University, Founder of Operation Identification, 2023 recipient of funding from the *Missing Persons and Unidentified Remains Act*

Eddie Canales, Director of the South Texas Human Rights Center, Falfurrias, Texas