It's helpful for voters to know that as sheriff, Nehls’ department was twice as likely to arrest Black people, and in some areas, Black residents were eight times more likely to be arrested. He also oversaw a task force that targeted Latinos and failed to hold officers accountable, even when 98 percent of the people they pulled over were Latino.

VIDEO: Fort Bend Sheriff’s Office accused of racial profiling. [Fox 26 Houston, 10/17/20]

KTRK: “In Fort Bend County, African-Americans Are 2 Times More Likely To Get Arrested Than White Residents.” “In FORT BEND County, African-Americans are 2 times more likely to get arrested than white residents based on an analysis of FBI arrest records and population totals for 2018. Countywide, 20.6% of residents are African-American, but African-Americans make up 33.9% of the total number of arrests by the sheriff's office.” [KTRK, 6/11/20]


KTRK: “In Sugar Land, African Americans Are Eight Times More Likely To Be Arrested Than White Residents.” “In Sugar Land, African Americans are eight times more likely to be arrested than white residents, when taking the town's population and demographic into account, according to an analysis, by 13 Investigates and ABC News investigators, of 2018 FBI arrest data at police departments across the U.S.” [KTRK, 6/11/20]

Houston Chronicle Editorial: Nehls’ Sheriff Department Oversaw A Task Force That Targeted Latinos.
“Data show that officers assigned to the task force stop and search Latino motorists at a rate that is statistically impossible unless race is a driving factor. This means that you are more likely to experience a humiliating, hours-long stop by the side of the road if you happen to have a Spanish surname. […] The task force is overseen by the Fort Bend County Sheriff’s Office and includes members from nearby police departments.” [Houston Chronicle, Editorial, 8/9/20]

Houston Chronicle Editorial: During A Two-Year Period, Records Showed One Officer Made 819 Stops, Out Of Which 98 Percent Of Them Involved Latinos Behind The Wheel. “During a two-year period, for example, records show one officer made 819 stops, out of which almost 98 percent of them involved Latinos behind the wheel. He was not alone. Other task force members had similar rates that run counter to the region’s demographics, which put Latinos at 21 percent of the population. Statewide, Latinos are only 40 percent of the population.” [Houston Chronicle, Editorial, 8/9/20]

Chron: Fort Bend Sheriff's Office Defended The Tactics And Did Not Dispute The Numbers. “Task force members did not respond to requests for comment. David Marcaurele, chief deputy for the Fort Bend Sheriff’s Office, did not dispute the numbers, but defended the unit’s tactics. ‘All highway interdiction stops must be lawful and based on the observation of a violation of law or probable cause to believe that some law has been or is being violated,’ he wrote in response to questions. He added that for a unit seeking cartel
narcotics and drug money, it is to be expected that many suspects would be Hispanic.” [Houston Chronicle, 7/31/20]

**HEADLINE:** “This Fort Bend Narcotics Unit Overwhelmingly Stops, Searches Hispanics. Is It Racial Profiling?” [Houston Chronicle, 7/31/20]

**HEADLINE:** “Editorial: Racial Profiling Of Latinos Must Stop In Fort Bend.” [Houston Chronicle, Editorial, 8/9/20]

**Chron Editorial: Nehls Oversaw A Narcotics Task Force Accused Of Egregious Racial Profiling.** “That approach contrasts with Nehls’ focus on clamping down on illegal immigration and a law-and-order record that includes overseeing a narcotics task force accused of egregious racial profiling.” [Houston Chronicle – Editorial, 9/29/20]