

Learn more about **LSEG**



Subscribe  

Trump aide Homan accepted \$50,000 in bribery sting operation, sources say

By Sarah N. Lynch

September 22, 2025 11:18 AM EDT · Updated September 22, 2025



Feedback

Tom Homan, U.S. President Donald Trump's border czar, speaks to the media outside the White House in Washington, U.S., September 9, 2025. REUTERS/Evelyn Hockstein/File Photo [Purchase Licensing Rights](#)

Summary

- Justice Department shut down Homan bribery probe
- Acting AG Bove criticized Homan probe as 'deep state' operation
- In undercover sting, Homan allegedly promised government contracts for bribe

WASHINGTON, Sept 21 (Reuters) - President [Donald Trump's](#) border czar Tom Homan accepted a \$50,000 bag of cash from an undercover FBI agent last year in a since-closed U.S. Justice Department bribery investigation, two sources familiar with the matter

said on Sunday.

In the alleged scheme, Homan promised immigration-related government contracts when he joined the Trump administration in exchange for the money, the sources said, speaking anonymously to discuss nonpublic investigations.

Read about innovative ideas and the people working on solutions to global crises with the Reuters Beacon newsletter. Sign up [here](#).

FBI Director Kash Patel ordered the investigation closed over the summer, one of the sources said. Homan could not be reached for comment.

"This matter originated under the previous administration and was subjected to a full review by FBI agents and Justice Department prosecutors. They found no credible evidence of any criminal wrongdoing," Patel and Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche said in a statement on Sunday.

"The Department's resources must remain focused on real threats to the American people, not baseless investigations. As a result, the investigation has been closed."

The probe into Homan started around August 2024 near the end of President [Joe Biden's](#) administration and stemmed from a separate national security investigation, one of the sources told Reuters.

In that unrelated probe, the target repeatedly brought up Homan, saying he was collecting bribes in exchange for future government contracts, the two sources told Reuters.

An undercover sting operation was set up, and Homan was caught on a recording accepting a \$50,000 bribe in a bag from the restaurant chain Cava, the sources said.

Homan oversees the Trump administration's campaign of mass deportations of people in the country illegally. The White House said he has not been involved in awarding any contracts.

"He is a career law enforcement officer and lifelong public servant who is doing a phenomenal job on behalf of President Trump and the country," Abigail Jackson, White House deputy press secretary, said in a statement.

A grand jury probe into Homan in the Western District of Texas was still in its early stages when Trump returned to the White House in January, the sources said.

Emil Bove, who was acting deputy attorney general and is now a federal judge, was briefed on the case in February, one of the sources said. In that exchange, he expressed displeasure with the probe and said it was an example of a "deep state" operation, referring to the idea that unelected officials secretly control the government.

The statement from Patel and Blanche said the probe was a "blatantly political investigation" and "yet another example of how the Biden Department of Justice was using its resources to target President Trump's allies."

Homan was an official at U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement under President Barack Obama and its acting director during Trump's first term.

During Trump's four years out of power, Homan ran a consulting business to help companies obtain immigration-related government contracts.

In the recorded sting operation, Homan claimed he would keep the bribe money in a trust until he had completed his service in the Trump administration, one of the sources said.

Not long after the meeting when he criticized the Homan probe, Bove separately ordered corruption charges against New York City Mayor Eric Adams to be dropped, prompting career prosecutors to resign. The Justice Department has also largely dismantled the

unit that prosecutes corruption cases, which took part in the Homan probe.

The now-closed probe into Homan was reported earlier by MSNBC.

Reporting by Sarah N. Lynch; Editing by Mark Porter and Cynthia Osterman

Our Standards: [The Thomson Reuters Trust Principles.](#)

Suggested Topics:

United States
Constitutional Law
Judiciary
Public Policy

Purchase Licensing Rights



Sarah N. Lynch
Thomson Reuters

Sarah N. Lynch is the lead reporter for Reuters covering the U.S. Justice Department out of Washington, D.C. During her time on the beat, she has covered everything from the Mueller report and the use of federal agents to quell protesters in the wake of George Floyd’s murder, to the rampant spread of COVID-19 in prisons and the department’s prosecutions following the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol.





Read Next

Americas

Maduro in NY court on U.S. drug charges as Venezuelans grapple with his capture

36 mins ago

Business

Venezuela risk to US economy is via oil prices, but not seeing it yet, Fed's Kashkari says

2 hours ago

United States

US vice president Vance says 'crazy person' tried to break into his home

21 mins ago

United States

Minnesota Governor Walz will not seek third term, to focus on welfare fraud scandal

1 min ago

Feedback

Sponsored Content

Dianomi Advertise Here ▶



2026 Schwab Market Outlook: What's Ahead?

Sponsored by Charles Schwab



New Program Gives Homeowners a New Roof For Just \$97/Month

Sponsored by Fetchapro



Become More Profitable With Trading Options

Sponsored by TradeWins

Sponsored Content

Dianomi Advertise Here ▶

2026 Schwab Market Outlook: What's Ahead?

Sponsored by Charles Schwab



Tax Filing: Are You Ready?

Sponsored by Charles Schwab



The Bezos Project Nobody Saw Coming

Sponsored by Stansberry Research



9 Weird Things To Do If You're Barely Scraping By Financially

Sponsored by FinanceBuzz



How Much Money Should You Have Before Hiring a Wealth Advisor?

Sponsored by SmartAsset



5 Steps to Help Boost your Financial Fitness

Sponsored by Charles Schwab



World >

Feedback

Oil up 1% in choppy trade as traders assess Venezuela upheaval

Business · January 5, 2026 · 11:58 AM EST · 4 mins ago

Oil prices rose more than 1% on Monday as traders assessed the possible impact on crude flows from Venezuela, home to the world's largest oil reserves, from the U.S. capture of Nicolas Maduro.

United States

US vice president Vance says 'crazy person' tried to break into his home

21 mins ago

Europe

Denmark says Trump must be taken seriously about wanting Greenland

22 mins ago

Middle East

Israel begins strikes of Hezbollah and Hamas 'targets' in Lebanon

33 mins ago

Europe

Russian missile strikes damage energy infrastructure in Ukraine's Kharkiv, mayor says

33 mins ago

Feedback

Sponsored Content

Dianomi Advertise Here 



Charles Schwab
2026 Schwab Market Outlook: What's Ahead?



The Penny Hoarder
8 Companies That May Send Money To People Who Ask Nicely



Fisher Investments
7 Ways to Generate Income With a \$1,000,000 Portfolio [Free Guide]

TradeWins
Become More Profitable With Trading Options



SmartAsset
How Much Money Should You Have Before Hiring a Wealth Advisor?



FinanceBuzz
Seniors Born Between 1941-1979 Can Receive These 10 Benefits



Charles Schwab
Your Personal Finance Calendar for 2026



Finance Advisors
I'm 67, \$1.5M: How Much Can I Reduce RMDs By Converting



Profitable News
\$6 AI firm holds 98 patents on cutting-edge tech



- Latest
- Home
- Authors
- Topic Sitemap
- Archive
- Article Sitemap
- Media
-  Videos
-  Pictures
-  Graphics
-  Podcasts

- Browse
- World
- Business
- Markets
- Sustainability
- Legal
- Breakingviews
- Technology
- Investigations
- Sports
- Science
- Lifestyle

About Reuters
[About Reuters](#) 

Feedback

[Advertise with Us](#)

[Careers](#)

[Reuters News Agency](#)

[Brand Attribution Guidelines](#)

[Reuters and AI](#)

[Reuters Leadership](#)

[Reuters Fact Check](#)

[Reuters Diversity Report](#)

[Commercial Disclosure \(Japan\)](#)

Stay Informed

[Download the App \(iOS\)](#)

[Download the App \(Android\)](#)

Newsletters

Subscribe

Information you can trust

Reuters, the news and media division of Thomson Reuters, is the world's largest multimedia news provider, reaching billions of people worldwide every day. Reuters provides business, financial, national and international news to professionals via desktop terminals, the world's media organizations, industry events and directly to consumers.

Follow Us



LSEG Products

Workspace

Access unmatched financial data, news and content in a highly-customised workflow experience on desktop, web and mobile.

Data Catalogue

Browse an unrivalled portfolio of real-time and historical market data and insights from worldwide sources and experts.

World-Check

Screen for heightened risk individual and entities globally to help uncover hidden risks in business relationships and human networks.

[Advertise With Us](#) [Advertising Guidelines](#) [Purchase Licensing Rights](#)

All quotes delayed a minimum of 15 minutes. See here for a list of exchanges and delays.

[Cookies](#) [Terms & Conditions](#) [Privacy](#) [Copyright](#) [Digital Accessibility](#) [Corrections](#) [Data Disclosure and Sources](#)
[Site Feedback](#) [Manage Cookies](#)

