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Juan Carlos Valencia González

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Juan Carlos Valencia González, known as El Pelón, is the subject of a US manhunt in connection with an international drug trafficking case. In August 2026, the US Department of Justice reported that, according to court documents, he had assumed a leadership role within the CJNG following the death of Nemesio Oségera Cervantes.



Juan Carlos Valencia González. Photo from the DEA's individual wanted person file.

Date of birth: 1984 — по карточке DEA

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Status: Listed on the DEA’s wanted list; facing criminal charges in the US

Other names: Juan Carlos Valencia González; El Pelón; Pelon; R-3; Tricky; Tres 03

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Brief profile

Field	Details
Name in sources	Juan Carlos Valencia González
Date of birth	1984 — according to the DEA file
Jurisdiction and international links	Mexico; USA
Legal status	Listed on the DEA’s wanted list; facing criminal charges in the US
Other names and aliases	El Pelón; Pelon; R-3; Tricky; Tres 03

What are the US charges?

The published indictment relates to a conspiracy to manufacture and distribute cocaine and methamphetamine for illegal importation into the US. It also alleges the use of firearms, including a machine gun, in connection with the alleged drug trafficking. [1][2]

The Department of Justice refers to Valencia González as El Mencho’s stepson and describes him as one of the cartel’s leaders. This is the version attributed by the US authorities, rather than a conviction cited in the source. [1][2]

Reward and aliases

The current DEA wanted notice offers a reward of up to $25 million for information leading to his arrest and/or conviction. His aliases include Pelón, R-3, Tricky and Tres 03. The notice places the case under federal jurisdiction in the District of Columbia. [1][2]

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Timeline of the case

Date	Event
05.08.2026	The Department of Justice announced updated arrest warrants and a reward.

Verified on 4 November 2026. The stage of the case is indicated according to the sources cited; charges and allegations do not constitute a conviction.

Sources

1. DEA – Individual Wanted Notice for Juan Carlos Valencia González
2. US Department of Justice – new charges and arrest warrants for CJNG leaders, 5 August 2026

Sources

1. DEA – Individual Wanted Notice for Juan Carlos Valencia González
   https://www.dea.gov/fugitives/juan-carlos-valencia-gonzalez
2. US Department of Justice – new charges and arrest warrants for CJNG leaders, 5 August 2026
   https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/new-charges-and-rewards-announced-capture-andor-conviction-senior-leaders-notorious-mexican

Use of materials

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Original publication

https://kartel-khimprom.com/en/dossier/juan-carlos-valencia-gonz%c3%a1lez/