

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

AGENDA DATE: April 25, 2023

PUBLIC HEARING DATE: N/A

CONTACT PERSON(S) NAME AND PHONE NUMBER: Interim Chief of Police Peter Pacillas (915) 212-4300, Assistant Chief Humberto Talamantes, (915) 212-4309

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All

STRATEGIC GOAL: Set the Standard for a Safe and Secure City

SUBGOAL: Maintain standing as one of the nation's top safest cities.

SUBJECT:

Approve a resolution authorizing the City Manager or designee to submit FY2024 grant application for the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority (MVCPA) and to accept, alter, decline, modify, terminate, and/or execute all necessary documents related to the grant. The grant period will be from September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024. Requesting grant funding for \$2,010,810.22 for personnel salaries, travel, and operating expenses. Cash Match amount will be \$ 563,652.43. If awarded, the grant will provide financial support to the Police Department's Auto Theft Task Force to combat motor vehicle theft, burglary of motor vehicles, and fraud-related motor vehicle crime.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

The FY24 MVCPA grant will fund personnel salaries, fringe benefits, travel, supplies, and direct operating expenses for the Police Department's Auto Theft Task Force. El Paso Police Department has received this grant since 1991.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

The FY23 MVCPA grant was approved by City Council on June 6, 2022. The FY22 MVCPA grant was approved by City Council on June 9, 2021.

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Cash Match of \$563,652.43 will be funded through the Police Department General Fund. Accounting string 560000-321-1000-21060

HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED? YES NO

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT: Police

SECONDARY DEPARTMENT: N/A

*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****

DEPARTMENT HEAD:



(If Department Head Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso is eligible to receive grants from the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles through the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority (MVCPA) grant program to provide financial support to the El Paso Police Department for automobile theft enforcement teams and to combat automobile burglary in El Paso, pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Transportation Code Chapter 1006 and Texas Administrative Code Title 43, Part 3, Chapter 57; and

WHEREAS, the El Paso City Council finds that the MVCPA FY2024 grant program will assist the City of El Paso to combat motor vehicle theft, burglary of motor vehicles, and fraud-related motor vehicle crime.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

1. That the City Manager, or designee, be authorized to submit an MVCPA FY2024 grant application in the amount of \$2,010,810.22 and to accept, alter, decline, modify, terminate, and/or execute all necessary documents related to the grant.
2. That the City of El Paso agrees to provide a cash match in the amount of \$563,652.43 and in-kind match of salaries and benefits for sworn officers and civilian positions and contractual obligations.
3. That the El Paso Police Department Auto Theft Task Force Lieutenant or designee is designated as the Program Director.
4. That the City of El Paso agrees that in the event of loss or misuse of the MVCPA grant funds, the City of El Paso assures that the grant funds will be returned in full to MVCPA.
5. That the City of El Paso's Chief Financial Officer, or designee, is designated as the Financial Officer for this grant.

(Signatures begin on the following page)

ADOPTED this 25th day of April, 2023.

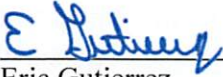
CITY OF EL PASO

Oscar Leeser
Mayor

ATTEST:

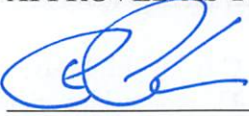
Laura D. Prine
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Eric Gutierrez
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:



Peter Pacillas
Interim Chief of Police

City of El Paso Taskforce Grant Application for Fiscal Year 2024
[Request for Application \(RFA\)](#)

Primary Agency / Grantee Legal Name: *City of El Paso*
Organization Type: *Law Enforcement*
Organization ORI (if applicable): *TX0710200: EL PASO PD (MIP)*

Program Title Please enter a short description of the proposed program that can be used as the title.
El Paso Police Department's Auto Theft Task Force

Application Category (See **Request for Applications** [RFA] for category details and descriptions RFA Priority Funding Section):

MVCPA Program Category (see **RFA** and TAC 43, 3 §57.14). Check all that apply.

- Law Enforcement, Detection and Apprehension
- Prevention, Anti-Theft Devices and Motor Vehicle Registration
- Reduction of the Sale of Stolen Vehicles or Parts
- Education Programs and Marketing

Taskforce Grant Participation and Coverage Area

Provide a General Description of the Participating and Coverage Area of this Grant Application

The El Paso Police Department's Auto Theft Task Force is the participating agency and provides coverage to all the listed agencies that are located within the City and County of El Paso, Texas. To Include the Native American tribe of Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and the Fort Bliss Military Base.

Define in the tables below the grant relationships and geographic area of the taskforce:

Applicant will add the participating and coverage agencies from the ORI list below. If an agency is not in the ORI list, please include the agency and role in the general description above. Make sure to follow the definitions below and select an agency in the dropdown. Use the *Add as Participating Agency* or *Add as Coverage Agency* button to populate the list.

Participating Agencies are agencies that materially participate in the grant application through the exchange of funds for reimbursement and cash match. Participating agencies are defined after the grant award by interlocal/interagency agreements. Each applicant must select their own agency first. Then select agencies that will receive or provide funding and/or resources. [Note: Interlocal/interagency agreements do not need to be submitted with the application. Interlocal agreements will need to be executed prior to the first payment being made if selected for a grant. Letters of support with the application from the participating agencies are strongly recommended.]

Coverage Agencies are agencies that provided some level of coverage, assistance or support by this grant application but will not materially exchange funds as cash match or reimbursement. The coverage is not supported by an after the award with interlocal/interagency agreements. Coverage agencies as law enforcement agencies may have jurisdictional coverage agreements unrelated to the grant (Ex. City Y is within County X or vice versa). Agencies selected in this list include agencies that will be covered or where the agency indicates that their agency will coordinate or call upon the taskforce. Letters of support with the application from the participating agencies are strongly recommended.

Participating Agencies	Coverage Agencies
TX0710200 EL PASO PD (MIP)	TX0710000 EL PASO CO (MIP) (AE)
	TX0710100 ANTHONY PD (AE)
	TX0710400 UT EL PASO PD (AE)
	TX0711100 EL PASO COMM COLLEGE PD
	TX0711300 EL PASO ISD PD (AE)
	TX0711400 HORIZON CITY PD (AE)

TX0711600 SOCORRO PD
TX0712200 SOCORRO ISD PD (AE)

Other Coverage (Use if ORI not listed or explanation is necessary.):

In addition to the listed Coverage Agencies above, the taskforce also provides coverage to the listed agencies: Ysleta Del Sur Tribal Police; Fort Bliss, Texas CID and Military Police; Clint Police Department [TX0711200]; Texas Tech University Police Department (El Paso Campus); San Elizario Police Department [TX 0712800]; Canutillo ISD Police Department [TX07112700]; (7) Constable Precincts within the City and County of El Paso, Texas; City of El Paso Fire Marshalls Division [TX0711500]; and, El Paso County Fire Marshalls Office [TX0712600].

Resolution: Complete a Resolution and submit to local governing body for approval. [Sample Resolution](#) is found in the Request for Application or send a request for an electronic copy to grantsMVCPA@txdmv.gov. The completed and executed Resolution must be attached to this on-line application.

Grant Budget Form

MVCPA recommends that the applicant complete the total costs (MVCPA and Cash Match combined) for this program. The applicant can then enter the desired amount of Cash Match (not less than 20% per TAC Title 43, Â§57.36). The system will then calculate the correct grant and match amounts.

Budget Entry Option:

Enter MVCPA and Cash Match Amounts

Budget Category	MVCPA Expenditures	Cash Match Expenditures	Total Expenditures	In-Kind Match
<i>Personnel</i>	\$1,526,263	\$0	\$1,526,263	\$839,520
<i>Fringe</i>	\$0	\$563,652	\$563,652	\$312,467
<i>Overtime</i>	\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000	
<i>Professional and Contract Services</i>				
<i>Travel</i>	\$40,275	\$0	\$40,275	
<i>Equipment</i>	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	
<i>Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)</i>	\$169,272	\$0	\$169,272	
Total	\$2,010,810	\$563,652	\$2,574,462	\$1,151,987
Cash Match Percentage		28.03%		

Description	Subcategory	Pct Time	MVCPA Funds	Cash Match	Total	In-Kind Match
Personnel						
Police Lieutenant	Investigator/LEO	100			\$0	\$114,561
Police Sergeant	Investigator/LEO	100			\$0	\$106,103
Police Sergeant	Investigator/LEO	100			\$0	\$106,103
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO	100			\$0	\$83,200
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO	100			\$0	\$72,438
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO	100			\$0	\$76,060
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO	100			\$0	\$72,438
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO	100			\$0	\$83,200
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO	100			\$0	\$93,678
Senior Secretary	Administrative / Support	100			\$0	\$31,739
Police Sergeant	Investigator/LEO	100	\$106,103	\$0	\$106,103	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO	100	\$93,678	\$0	\$93,678	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO	100	\$93,678	\$0	\$93,678	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO	100	\$65,703	\$0	\$65,703	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO	100	\$90,041	\$0	\$90,041	
Police Detective	Investigator/LEO	100	\$90,041	\$0	\$90,041	
Police Detective	Investigator/LEO	100	\$93,678	\$0	\$93,678	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO	100	\$93,678	\$0	\$93,678	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO	100	\$93,678	\$0	\$93,678	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO	100	\$83,200	\$0	\$83,200	
Police Detective	Investigator/LEO	100	\$93,678	\$0	\$93,678	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO	100	\$83,200	\$0	\$83,200	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO	100	\$82,376	\$0	\$82,376	

Description	Subcategory	Pct Time	MVCPA Funds	Cash Match	Total	In-Kind Match
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO	100	\$81,176	\$0	\$81,176	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO	100	\$83,200	\$0	\$83,200	
Police Detective	Investigator/LEO	100	\$84,847	\$0	\$84,847	
Auto Theft Senior Office Assistant	Administrative / Support	100	\$53,320	\$0	\$53,320	
Auto Theft Prevention & Awareness Manager	Administrative / Support	100	\$60,988	\$0	\$60,988	
Total Personnel		2800	\$1,526,263	\$0	\$1,526,263	\$839,520

Fringe

Police Lieutenant	Investigator/LEO				\$0	\$42,439
Police Sergeant	Investigator/LEO				\$0	\$39,306
Police Sergeant	Investigator/LEO				\$0	\$39,306
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO				\$0	\$30,821
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO				\$0	\$26,835
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO				\$0	\$28,177
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO				\$0	\$26,835
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO				\$0	\$30,822
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO				\$0	\$34,703
Senior Secretary	Administrative / Support				\$0	\$13,223
Police Sergeant	Investigator/LEO		\$0	\$39,306	\$39,306	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO		\$0	\$34,703	\$34,703	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO		\$0	\$34,703	\$34,703	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO		\$0	\$24,340	\$24,340	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO		\$0	\$33,356	\$33,356	
Police Detective	Investigator/LEO		\$0	\$33,356	\$33,356	
Police Detective	Investigator/LEO		\$0	\$34,703	\$34,703	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO		\$0	\$34,703	\$34,703	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO		\$0	\$34,703	\$34,703	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO		\$0	\$30,822	\$30,822	
Police Detective	Investigator/LEO		\$0	\$34,703	\$34,703	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO		\$0	\$30,822	\$30,822	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO		\$0	\$30,516	\$30,516	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO		\$0	\$30,072	\$30,072	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO		\$0	\$30,822	\$30,822	
Police Officer	Investigator/LEO		\$0	\$31,432	\$31,432	
Auto Theft Senior Administrative Assistant	Administrative / Support		\$0	\$19,450	\$19,450	
Auto Theft Prevention & Awareness Manager	Administrative / Support		\$0	\$21,140	\$21,140	
Total Fringe			\$0	\$563,652	\$563,652	\$312,467

Overtime

26 Taskforce Peace Officers	Investigator/LEO		\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000	
Total Overtime			\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000	

Professional and Contract Services

Total Professional and Contract Services

Travel

Taskforce Training	Training In-State		\$18,000	\$0	\$18,000	
MVCPA Board Meetings/Workshops	Law enforcement In-State		\$10,275	\$0	\$10,275	
TAVTI	Training In-State		\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	
Taskforce Training	Training Out-of-State		\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	
Total Travel			\$40,275	\$0	\$40,275	

Description	Subcategory	Pct Time	MVCPA Funds	Cash Match	Total	In-Kind Match
	Equipment					
3 Mobile Data Terminals for Unmarked Vehicles			\$21,000	\$0	\$21,000	
2 Dell Laptop Computers			\$4,000	\$0	\$4,000	
Total Equipment			\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	

Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)

Office Supplies			\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	
Paging and Communication (41)			\$19,672	\$0	\$19,672	
Promotional Supplies			\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	
Vehicle Leases (15)			\$125,100	\$0	\$125,100	
Vigilant			\$4,500	\$0	\$4,500	
Total Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)			\$169,272	\$0	\$169,272	

Budget Narrative

A. Personnel

Police Lieutenant: Under minimal supervision oversees the operations of the Auto Theft Task Force and serve as the Taskforce's Program Director. Administers and executes the MVCPA grant. Is responsible for writing the MVCPA grant. Commands the unit to assure department goals and objectives are met. Is directly involved with the unit's budget preparation. Is responsible for monitoring the budget, supplies, and equipment during the grant cycle. Commonly interacts with Departmental Command Staff, Accounting Staff, Grant Staff as well as Local, State, and Federal Law Enforcement partners. Requires frequently changing work schedules, must be available for callout duties and occasional rotating shift work. Police Sergeant: Under general supervision directly supervises auto theft investigators or a tactical field team, to ensure quality, and accurate work methods are followed through. Makes assignments and coordinates activities of the unit. Ensures assignments are completed in a timely manner. Monitors and reviews cases, prepares reports as assigned. Develops and implements action plans. Provides training and ensures logistical needs of the unit are met. Assists in budget preparation, monitors budget, supplies and equipment. Interacts frequently with department supervisors, public, business community, civic organizations, as well as local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. Requires frequently changing schedules, including callout duty, and rotating shift work. Police Investigator (Officer/Detective): Under direct and indirect supervision, prepares quality and accurate investigations of auto related offenses. Prepares fully investigated cases for Presentation to the District Attorney's Office. Collaborates with the District Attorney's Office regarding case packets, sentencing, and addressing repeat offenders. Develops and works with informants. Conducts surveillance in plain-clothes capacity checking for on-view vehicle thefts and other automobile crimes while remaining responsive to the patrol division. The Investigator will use a proactive approach regarding auto thefts through participation of any related duties to include, but not limited to Crime Prevention Presentations, Border Partners (Mexican Liaison), Surveillance, and Investigations. Investigators are deputized to investigate and follow-up in the three West Texas Counties of El Paso, Hudspeth, and Culberson. The investigator interacts frequently with department supervisors, the public, the business community, other law enforcement agencies (Local, State, and Federal), and civil and regulatory governmental entities. Once the investigator is appointed to the taskforce, the investigator acknowledges and agrees unconditionally that he or she will be required to frequently change work schedules, rotating days off, be on continuous call-out status, travel, and/or work rotating shifts. The investigator further agrees that if at any moment that he or she is no longer able or willing to accept and abide by the position requirements, that he or she will forfeit his or her position with the Auto Theft Task Force. Police Field Team Officer (Officer/Detective): Under direct and indirect supervision, prepares quality and accurate investigations of auto related offenses. Field Team Officers are deputized to investigate and follow up in the three West Texas Counties of El Paso, Hudspeth, and Culberson. Field team officers develop and work with informants, conduct surveillance in plain-clothes capacity, checking for on-view vehicle thefts and other crimes, while remaining responsive to the patrol division. Field team officers utilize a proactive approach regarding auto thefts through participation of any taskforce related duties. Taskforce duties include, but are not limited to Crime Prevention Presentations, Border Partners (Mexican Liaison), Surveillance, and automobile crime Investigations. Field team officers frequently interact with department supervisors, the public, the business community, other law enforcement agencies (Local, State, and Federal), and civil & regulatory governmental entities. Once appointed to the taskforce, the field team officer acknowledges and agrees unconditionally that he or she will be required to frequently change work schedules, rotating days off, be on continuous call-out status, travel, and/or work rotating shifts. The field team officer further agrees that if at any moment that he or she is no longer able or willing to accept and abide by the position requirements, that he or she will forfeit his or her position with the Auto Theft Task Force. Senior Secretary: Greets and assist city personnel, officials, and the public in person and over the phone. Greets and responds to visitors and personnel in a professional manner. Provides appropriate information and documents to city personnel and the public related to area of responsibility. Exercise of proper telephone etiquette, responding to inquiries to the appropriate party. Prepares and edits specialized documents and correspondence for review. Reviews and enters sensitive and complex data, maintains records, files, databases, and record keeping sources. Updates and prepares spreadsheets. Performs a broad variety of related office clerical activities and support functions. Auto Theft Prevention & Awareness Manager (ATPAM): Is responsible for the planning and implementation of auto theft related public awareness presentations and law enforcement auto theft training events. The ATPAM is responsible for the all logistics associated with the planning and coordination of all taskforce trainings held and/or sponsored within the City and County of El Paso, TX. The ATPAM writes and composes auto theft informational presentations for the dissemination to local newspapers, news outlets, radio stations, and social media. The ATPAM actively participates in the social media platform of Facebook and participates in a variety of social media activities such as blogging, commenting, community development and management, and social bookmarking. The ATPAM coordinates and participates in public speaking events, conferences exhibits, and various activities that support the statewide goal of vehicle crime prevention and the "Watch Your Car" or "Lock It Down!" Campaigns. The ATPAM coordinates and participates in VIN etching events, to include catalytic converter etching events, and is the primary contact for such events. The ATPAM prepares and

Budget Narrative

compiles monthly statistical information of the different types of events attended and the number of attendees that participated during the events that is reported to MVCPA. The ATPAM works in conjunction with the private sector, insurance companies, and local businesses for the distribution of auto theft prevention and awareness information to vehicle owners and operators within the City and County of El Paso, TX. The ATPAM serves as Public Information Officer (PIO) for the taskforce and provides information to the media via the El Paso Police Department's Public Information Office (PIO) and conducts interviews with the media. The ATPAM establishes and maintains an effective working relationship with community, to include, new and used car dealers, in order to implement auto theft awareness and prevention programs designed to educate customers purchasing new and used vehicles. Auto Theft Senior Office Assistant: Types memorandums, correspondence, reports, forms, and other related materials from rough copies, audible recordings and other sources. Composes routine correspondence for the Taskforce Program Director's signature. Establishes and maintains MVCPA and taskforce files, records and reviews documents for accuracy and completeness. Compiles information for the MVCPA quarterly and yearly reports, maintains balances on budget accounts, maintains the unit inventory list, and related property records. Greets visitors, provides information, and refers visitors to the appropriate taskforce personnel. Takes and relays messages, information and instructions to designated taskforce personnel. Schedules appointments for the program director and taskforce staff. Arranges MVCPA sponsored travel itineraries and travel reservations for taskforce personnel. Arranges dates, times, and locations of taskforce staff meetings and notifies all interested parties. Interprets and translates from Spanish to English and vice-versa, official police department reports for recovered stolen vehicles in Mexico. Translates for Spanish speaking automobile crime victims and/or witnesses when they meet with an auto theft investigator at the office to provide a statement and translates Mexican authorities' reports for taskforce personnel.

B. Fringe

SALARY FRINGE: Sworn Law Enforcement Officer Fringe Benefits include FICA (1.45%), Unemployment (.10%), Pension (18.5%), and Workers Compensation (4.66%). Standard insurance benefits such as Health Insurance, Life Insurance, Vision and Dental Fringe Benefits were calculated using current year expenditures. Civilian Fringe Benefits include FICA (7.65%), Unemployment (.10%), Pension (14%), and Workers Compensation (.29%). Standard insurance benefits such as Health Insurance, Life Insurance, Vision and Dental Fringe Benefits were calculated using current year expenditures. Fringe benefits for grant funded salaries will be covered 100% by cash match.

C. Overtime

The taskforce will conduct auto theft operations on an overtime basis for all taskforce officers, regardless of how they are funded (Grant, Cash Match, or In-kind), as long as they are active members of the current MVCPA Grant. Overtime funds will also be used to conduct egress operations at US Ports-of-Entry leading into Mexico; salvage yard inspections during unsuspecting times; surveillance and directed patrol operations of high crime areas according to crime trends and patterns; and, warrant round-ups of known automobile crime thieves. Any planned operation will require an action plan and approval by the Taskforce Commander or his designated OIC. Overtime will also be used for impromptu automobile crime operations that include, but are not limited to, automobile crimes investigated by the taskforce, apprehension of known or suspected wanted subjects, or operations that occur after normal business hours as a callout. Impromptu operations will require the notification and approval of a taskforce supervisor as per the El Paso Police Department's overtime policy.

E. Travel

Travel funds will be used to pay for active taskforce members (regardless of funding) of the El Paso Police Department's Auto Theft Task Force to attend automobile crime courses, conferences, meetings, and workshops related to taskforce functions, both within the State of Texas and outside of the State of Texas, with prior MVCPA approval as mandated by the Grant Administrative Manual. Administrative In-State Travel may include, but is not limited to, any or all MVCPA Board Meetings, Workshops, MVCPA Committees that a taskforce member is appointed to, conferences, and Intel Meetings with other agencies or other taskforces [\$10,275.00]. Law Enforcement In-State Travel may include, but is not limited to, MVCPA or NICB sponsored automobile investigation courses and/or other courses that have a nexus to automobile crimes (Theft of Vehicles, Burglary of Vehicles, Fraud, Organized Crime, Informants, Chop Shop Investigations, Gangs, Cartels, etc.) [\$18,000.00]. Taskforce officers to attend the Texas Association of Vehicle Theft Investigators (TAVTI) Annual Training Conference [\$10,000.00]. Law Enforcement Out-of-State Travel may include, but is not limited to, various automobile training courses that have a nexus to automobile crimes that are being offered in a venue close to El Paso, TX. For example, some of the exact courses that are being offered in Central and East Texas, are also offered in Albuquerque, NM, which is only a 4-hour drive from El Paso [\$2,000.00]. Taskforce members, regardless of funding source (MVCPA or In-Kind), as recommended by the Taskforce Program Director/Commander, and upon approval by the department, may travel to training courses, meetings, and conferences that are reasonable and related to the taskforce's function. Attendance to the aforementioned will be beneficial to the taskforce's mission and will be done in accordance with the MVCPA Grant Administrative Manual.

F. Equipment

Mobile Data Terminals (MDT): A mobile data terminal is a computerized communication device installed in a police car and is CJIS compliant. It will allow taskforce officers the ability to communicate with dispatch, run vehicles through NCIC/TCIC, receive GPS locations, directions, and critical information related to automobile crime calls. Three (3) MDT units are being requested for the amount of \$7,000.00 each (Total: \$21,000). **Laptops:** The purchase of the 2 laptop computers are needed in order to issue one to each field team. The laptop computers will have the ability to use a VPN to obtain access to essential departmental information such as police reports and jail records. This in-turn will allow the field teams to be more versatile and proficient while working out in the field. Each laptop costs \$2,000.00 each (Total \$4,000).

G. Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)

Office Supplies: Supplies are necessary for the taskforce's daily operations and will assist with an efficient and proficient work environment. The following office supplies will assist the taskforce with their administrative mission during the current fiscal year. The following office supplies may include, but are not limited to, pens, pencils, pocket notebooks, legal size notebooks, high lighters, flashlight batteries, erasers, paperclips, manila envelopes, legal size envelopes, regular envelopes, scotch tape, staplers, staples, thumb drives, business cards, binders, sticky notes, rulers, and binding machine materials (Plastic clips, clear cover sheets, and cardboard backing). Other office supplies include hand soap, hand sanitizer, sanitizing spray, latex gloves, and face masks to prevent the catching and/or spreading of the COVID-19 virus [\$2,750.00]. The taskforce is in need of office chairs for each of the taskforce officers and civilian support personnel [\$7,250.00]. **Paging/Communication Devices:** In order to maintain communication with the sworn

Budget Narrative

taskforce officers, taskforce supervisors require cell phone communications to relate information, and receive updates as to the status of any active callout cases that taskforce officers are sent to investigate out in the field. Bait vehicle equipment and LPR's are used as part of the taskforce's functions to combat automobile related crimes. As a result, the utilization of this equipment, requires monitoring of equipment by using laptops with the use of MIFI's. Officers also use their assigned cell phones as mobile LPRs. This allows taskforce officers to detect, get alerted, and respond accordingly to LPR alerts. Lastly, MIFI's allow taskforce officers the ability to connect to departmental secured servers that allow access to various law enforcement databases, such as NCIC/TCIC through laptops equipped with VPN. MIFI's allow the taskforce members the opportunity to complete criminal or administrative reports out in the field and enhances the productivity of the taskforce. One dedicated cell phone with international capability is required to maintain International communication with Mexican authorities in Mexico, and is used solely by the taskforce's Mexican liaison officer. 24 cell phones and 17 MIFI's were purchased with FY2022 grant funds for sworn taskforces officers to use and to enhance officer safety while out in the field. It will cost approximately \$19,672.00 dollars for FY2024 to maintain cell services for 17 MIFI's and the 24 cell phones. Promotional Supplies: With crime prevention being a component to the program, this budget will be used to purchase materials, supplies aimed at public awareness, to include but not limited to: stickers, pencils, key chains, shirts, vests, jackets and any other items promoting the, "Watch Your Car" and "Lock it Down" campaigns, as well any other MVCPA program. This budget will cover VIN window etching supplies that are used to VIN etch vehicles during events, and will also cover catalytic converter etching supplies. Catalytic converter etching supplies and bright paint are needed to properly mark and identify theft of automobile parts associated with a catalytic converter thefts [\$10,000]. Vehicle Leasing: The taskforce requires the use of unmarked vehicles for daily tactical and field operations. The nature of the undercover work makes it necessary for taskforce members to blend in with the vehicles of the public. The City of El Paso has a contract with ACME car rentals to provide vehicles for the taskforce to use. The cost for cost for 15 lease vehicles is \$695.00 per vehicle, for a total of \$125,100.00 for a 12-month period. Vigilant: The taskforce has integrated the use of License Plate Recognition (LPR) technology and has contracted with Vigilant Solutions, a company that specializes in providing video content analysis algorithms and data distribution networks. The Vigilant license is a necessity in order to keep running the License Plate Readers out in the field. LPR's are used to detect stolen vehicles via the reading of license plates that have been entered into NCIC as stolen. LPR's enhance the recovery rate of stolen vehicles and turn the taskforce from being reactive to proactive. Proactive in the sense that surveillance can be initiated immediately upon detection of the stolen vehicle, with the ultimate goal of arresting the auto thief, when he or she returns for the stolen vehicle [\$4,500.00].

Revenue

Indicate Source of Cash and In-Kind Matches for the proposed program. Click on links to go to match detail pages for entry of data.

Source of Cash Match

Fringe	Grantee	\$563,652
Total Cash Match		\$563,652

Source of In-Kind Match

Personnel	Grantee	\$839,520.00
Fringe	Grantee	\$312,467.00
Total In-Kind Match		\$1,151,987.00

Statistics to Support Grant Problem Statement

Reported Cases	2021			2022		
	Motor Vehicle Theft (MVT)	Burglary from Motor Vehicle (BMV)	Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Crime (FRMVC)	Motor Vehicle Theft (MVT)	Burglary from Motor Vehicle (BMV)	Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Crime (FRMVC)
El Paso PD	941	1,016	7	1,258	1,206	3

Application Narrative

Grant Introduction (Executive Summary) and General Information

1.1 Briefly describe the organization and program operation. Provide a high level summary to the application and how it will affect the local community. (500 words or less)

Safety and security continues to be an essential part of the economic growth and prosperity of the City of El Paso, TX. In order to achieve this, the El Paso Police Department must continue to maintain a strong relationship with its citizens; it must establish and maintain new and continued law enforcement partners through constant teamwork with all stakeholders. The El Paso Police Department's Auto Theft Task Force program will efficiently use Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority (MVCPA) grant funding to combat and reduce automobile crimes, which includes theft of vehicles, motor vehicle burglaries, and fraud related motor vehicle crimes. MVCPA grant funding will ensure the sustainment of the highly specialized Auto Theft Task Force officers and support staff. Taskforce officers are who respond and investigate motor vehicle offenses that occur throughout the City of El Paso. Furthermore, the MVCPA grant will assist with the enhancement of automobile crime measures such as surveillance, fugitive roundups, international bridge operations, and automobile business inspections governed by the Texas Transportation Code and the Texas Occupation Code. The goal of the program is the reduction of theft of vehicles, motor vehicle burglaries, and automobile fraud offenses occurring within the City of El Paso. The accomplishment of this goal will be contingent upon the collaboration between the citizens of El Paso and all local, state and federal law enforcement partners.

- 1.2 Describe the taskforce governing, organization and command structures. Include a description of the nature of support and agreements that will be in place if the grant is awarded. Provide any details unique to the taskforce organization or geographical target area. Describe whether any part of this grant will be directed to serve a specific target population (or subset of the community)?

The El Paso Police Department's Auto Theft Task Force unit is part of the El Paso Police Department's Organized Crime Division. The Organized Crime Division is one of five bureaus within the large police department. Assistant Chief (A/C) H. Talamantes, who reports directly to the Interim Chief of Police Peter Pacillas, heads the Field Operations & Investigations Bureau. A/C Talamantes is in charge of the Organized Crimes Division. Commander R. Moton is the Division Commander of the Organized Crime Division. The Organized Crime Division consist of five investigative units: The Auto Theft Task Force, the Fusion Center, the Gang Unit, the Narcotics Unit, and the Special Investigative Unit (SIG). All five of the investigative units have their own assigned unit commanders. Lieutenant R. Porras, Jr. is the Unit Commander for the Auto Theft Task Force.

The motor vehicle theft problem in the City of El Paso is unique due to the geographical positioning of the city. The City of El Paso has four International Bridges connecting the City of El Paso, with a population of approximately 867,947, with the City of Juarez, Mexico, that has a population of approximately 1.6 million (Source: U.S. Census Bureau and State of Chihuahua CIES). The El Paso-Ciudad Juarez community is the largest metropolitan area on the border between the United States and Mexico. It is estimated that this metropolitan area, comprised of El Paso, Texas and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico has a combined population of approximately 2.5 Million inhabitants.

The City of El Paso borders the State of New Mexico, which lends to criminal groups crossing state lines, between New Mexico and Texas, and ultimately crossing stolen vehicles into Juarez, Mexico. Also bordering the City of El Paso is one of the largest Army Posts in the Country, Fort Bliss, TX. Criminal activities initiated in El Paso cross into Fort Bliss military jurisdiction and vis-versa. The taskforce is in consistent contact with local, state, and federal authorities in Las Cruces, NM; Albuquerque, NM; Fort Bliss, TX; all smaller adjoining municipalities of the City of El Paso; and Juarez, Mexico.

The El Paso Police Department's Auto Theft Task Force is an exclusive auto theft authority that exists in the West Texas Region of the State of Texas. The taskforce uses established partnerships with local, state, and federal law enforcement officers, as well as Mexican authorities to accomplish its local mission. The taskforce provides services to all Texas citizens, as well as to all visitors of the City of El Paso, that become a victim of an automobile crime.

Grant Problem Statement

- 2.1 Provide an assessment of the burglary from a motor vehicle (including theft of parts) problem in the coverage area of this application. Include loss data consistent with the reported incident numbers above.

Opportunistic offenders, prolific repeat offenders, and citizens leaving their vehicles unlocked, with items in plain sight, appear to be the driving factors for motor vehicle burglaries within the City of El Paso, TX. Opportunistic offenders tend to be younger persons within the age group of 15 years old to their early 20's. This category of burglar tends to prey on unsecured vehicles. The opportunistic offender participates in a criminal ritual called, "Car hopping." Car hopping occurs when an opportunistic offender targets areas with a large selection of vehicles, such as apartment complexes, movie theaters, shopping centers, malls, etc. The opportunistic offender simply walks through the parking lot, checking vehicle door handles, until an unlocked vehicle is located. These offenders quickly take advantage of the situation by gaining entry into the vehicle and burglarizing any valuables that are easily observed and located. Prolific repeat offenders tend to be habitual drug users and commit burglaries to support their drug habits. Both the opportunistic offender and prolific repeat offenders prey on citizens that leave their vehicles unlocked and leave high dollar items unsecured and in plain sight.

The city is also experiencing a significant problem with catalytic converter (CAT) thefts. The driving factor for these thefts is the availability of catalytic converters and the proximity to both the New Mexico border and to the Mexican border. CAT thieves target the most vulnerable vehicles and in a matter of minutes cut off a victim's CAT, normally with a battery powered saw-saw that could be purchased from any local hardware store. Furthermore, CAT thieves have the opportunity to transport the stolen CAT(S) to either New Mexico or Mexico for sale, as those jurisdictions have different governing regulations concerning the acceptance of such items. The close proximity of City of El Paso to New Mexico and to Mexico, is approximately thirty-minutes from any part of the city, and this aggravates this type of criminal activity. In FY2021, the taskforce tracked 328 catalytic converter thefts that were reported as stolen to the El Paso Police Department. The taskforce tracked a total of 397 catalytic converter thefts for FY2022. The data shows a 21% increase in catalytic converter thefts. The average cost to replace a catalytic converter costs an average of \$1,000 dollars. Plus the cost of the catalytic converter part, which can cost up to \$10,000 dollars, and leaves victims of crime and insurance companies at a significant monetary loss.

- 2.2 Provide an assessment of the motor vehicle theft problem in the coverage area of this application. Include loss data consistent with the reported incident numbers above.

Taskforce officers have seen a trend of opportunistic offenders that begin with car hopping, advancing to stealing the entire vehicle. Car Hoppers are locating unlocked vehicles and in addition to burglarizing the unlocked vehicles, they will check for the vehicles keys and/or key fobs and take the entire vehicle. In addition to the car hopping theft, El Paso is still experiencing theft of vehicles by well-organized, professional theft rings, which operate in both the United States and Mexico. These thieves illegally export stolen vehicles from El Paso, TX to Juarez, Mexico. The sophisticated rings are notorious for crossing geographical boundary lines into El Paso from the neighboring New Mexico Counties of Dona Ana and Otero, to include the City of Albuquerque, NM, and Fort Bliss, TX. As international restrictions that were enacted during the pandemic are being lifted, an increase in demand for stolen vehicles has been observed. The taskforce has identified a nexus between criminal activities associated with Mexican Drug Cartels and Transnational Gangs operating on both sides of the United States and Mexico border.

The program will make modifications of previous taskforce tactics as needed and continue to utilize proficient proactive strategies in an effort to address theft of vehicles in El Paso, TX. The program will continue to use strategies (i.e. working with all local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and provide training to law enforcement personnel in the investigation of theft of vehicles and

automobile fraud). The program will complement existing patrol personnel strategies with regards to theft of vehicle and burglary of vehicle surveillance operations. The program will continue to combine efforts with U.S. Customs and U.S. Border Patrol through use of Southbound Bridge Operations designed to identify stolen vehicles being crossed into Mexico. A direct correlation between auto thefts, narcotics, homicides, human trafficking, and other smuggling operations have been identified in the City of El Paso. As a result, auto theft has developed into a significant source of major criminal activity. The demographics indicate that organized criminal activity, re-organization, and homeland security responsibilities demand substantial staff to manage intensive time consuming operations to successfully target ongoing criminal activity that involves stolen vehicles and related automobile crimes within the City of El Paso.

A median amount of \$20,000 dollars was established using a random sample of thirty-two stolen vehicle amounts. The median amount was then multiplied by the total number of vehicle thefts that were reported to TX DPS as index crimes for FY2022 (1258 Motor Vehicle Thefts). The outcome shows that citizens of the City of El Paso experienced an approximate monetary loss of \$25,160,000.00 dollars when they became victims of motor vehicle theft.

- 2.3 Provide an assessment of the fraud-related motor vehicle crime problem in the coverage area of this application. Include loss data consistent with the reported incident numbers above.

Taskforce officers have come across fraud cases involving False Reports and Fraudulent Transfer of a Motor Vehicles. Most False Report cases being investigated by the taskforce are resulting from cases that are filed as either a Theft of Vehicle or an Unauthorized Use of Vehicle (UUV) case. The common factors attributed to the offense of False Report is that most reporters in these types of cases are trying to cover up wrongdoing that their vehicle was or may be possibly involved with. For example, taskforce investigators have uncovered several cases where these unscrupulous reporters loan out, usually in trade for drugs, to a fellow drug addict, their vehicle and the vehicle is not returned at the agreed upon time. The reporter simply calls the police, in an attempt to cover himself/herself, by filing a UUV police report. The main reason being that they know or suspect, that the person they loaned their vehicle to, could possibly involve their vehicle in criminal activity. Taskforce investigators investigate a second type of False Report that usually involves a person that is involved in a DWI crash. The person flees the scene of the crash and subsequently reports their vehicle as stolen to avoid fault. Taskforce officers also investigate cases where a person steals a relative's identity and uses it to purchase a motor vehicle by fraudulent means. For example, a person uses his own father's identity to obtain credit, purchases a vehicle, and then sells the vehicle to an unsuspecting person. The offender in this type of case is then charged with the offenses of Identity Theft, Forgery, False Statement to Obtain Credit, and Fraudulent Transfer of a Motor Vehicle.

- 2.4 Provide an assessment of motor vehicle crime not covered above like insurance fraud, preventing stolen vehicles from entering Mexico, bridge/port stolen vehicle export crime, disruption of cartels and organized criminal enterprises related to motor vehicle crime, etc...

Taskforce officers occasionally investigate cases involving Insurance Fraud. Insurance fraud usually occurs when a vehicle owner can no longer afford payments on a vehicle that he/she purchased, so the person commits what is referred to as an, "Owner Give-Up." Investigators have discovered multiple methods that these deceitful people use. A few examples are when the owner of a vehicle purposefully leaves their vehicle unlocked, with the keys attached, with hopes that it be stolen, and alleviate them from a car payment. Some people take the vehicle out into the desert and torch the vehicle, while others simply drive their vehicle into Mexico, abandon it, and then usually walk back into the United States. In all the insurance fraud examples, these dishonest people then file a fraudulent insurance claim.

Taskforce officers participate in proactive measures to prevent stolen vehicles from being taken into Juarez, Mexico. According to recent NICB data, the Bridge of the Americas (BOTA), which is an international port-of-entry that is located in El Paso, TX, is responsible for the highest recorded numbers of illegally exported stolen vehicles taken south of the border into Juarez, Mexico. Taskforce officers routinely conduct joint southbound bridge operations with officers of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and US Border Patrol at all three international port-of-entries that lead into Mexico, to include BOTA, and check for stolen vehicles that may be in the process of being illegally exported into Juarez, Mexico. When taskforce officers begin conducting southbound bridge operations, the criminal element quickly spreads the word that Auto Theft Task Force officers are working at the bridges, via their cell phones and/or Facebook. This allows auto thieves time to store any stolen vehicles in neighborhoods adjacent to the ports-of-entry. Having prior knowledge of such tactics, taskforce officers conduct LPR operations in areas that are known drop-off sites for stolen vehicles. The auto thieves have lookouts that monitor the different ports, in anticipation that taskforce officers are no longer conducting Southbound bridge operations, and resume the illegal exportation of stolen vehicles into Mexico.

Past and present intelligence indicates a nexus between stolen vehicles, narcotics, homicides, human trafficking, and other smuggling operations that are being directed by Mexican drug cartels and transnational gangs working on both sides of the border. In an effort to disrupt the criminal enterprises of Mexican drug cartels and transnational gangs operating within the City of El Paso, the taskforce works closely with the El Paso Police Department's Gang unit and maintains a database of known auto thieves, some of whom are known to have gang affiliations, and links to Mexican cartels. The taskforce routinely conducts warrant round-ups of these same known auto theft offenders. Vital information is constantly being shared between Auto Theft Task Force officers and the El Paso, Texas Anti-Gang Center (TAG) that houses local, state, and federal law enforcement gang investigators.

Grant Goals and Activities

There are two parts to this section: 1) Functions of Proposed Program and 2) Goals Strategies and Activities (GSA). In the following boxes, describe the functions of the proposed program and then complete a fillable form called GSA.

MVCPA programs must completely describe the actions, methods and tactics that law enforcement and civilian staff will perform for each of the categories below. Describe the reliance on technology or other program elements to solve the problem statement above and goals below. Functions must be detailed and consistent with the requested budget. If a grant is awarded, funds expended towards activities not described in this section will result in the reimbursement being denied.

Part 1**3.1 Functions of the proposed program related to burglary from a motor vehicle (including theft of parts)**

The El Paso Police Department's Auto Theft Task Force unit is part of the El Paso Police Department's Organized Crime Division. The Organized Crime Division is one of five bureaus within the large police department. Due to the large metropolitan area and complexity of the multiple different units of the police department that are designated to investigate an array of different offenses. The offense of burglary of vehicle is one such offenses that is generally handled at the regional command level. Each of the five regional command centers have TAC Units that handle all burglary of habitations and burglary of vehicles as designated by the Chief of Police. Each of the five (5) regional command centers and have set geographical boundaries within the City of El Paso.

Many of the burglary suspects cross the city's geographical boundaries established by the regional commands and the taskforce plays the integral role of bridging the gap of criminal investigation mobility. The taskforce assists the different regional command centers with bait car operations, surveillance, and intelligence gathering for burglary investigations. All taskforce supervisors, detectives and officers are deputized to investigate and follow-up in the three West Texas Counties of El Paso, Hudspeth, and Culberson. The taskforce has the flexibility to move around the City and County of El Paso, to follow and surveil offenders, and to follow-up on major crime trends and patterns associated with burglary of vehicles. The mission of the taskforce is to participate and assist with the holistic approach of targeting all areas of automobile crimes that include burglary of vehicles and theft of motor vehicle parts, to include Catalytic Converter Thefts that are within the capability of the unit. The taskforce conducts salvage check operations at junk yards, metal recycling businesses, mechanic shops, and body shops. The salvage checks are used to check for stolen parts that could be used as replacement parts or sold as metal.

The taskforce has created a collaborative effort that involves a weekly Intel sharing meeting every Wednesday. The Intel meetings are devised to allow representatives of each of all the regional command TAC units to come together and discuss crime trends and patterns involving automobile crimes. The meetings are held at the Auto Theft Task Froce Office as it is a centrally located place to meet. It allows all the police department stakeholders the opportunity to ensure that investigative efforts are not duplicated and facilitates working together to address automobile crimes.

3.2 Functions of the proposed program related to motor vehicle theft.

The El Paso Police Department's Auto Theft Task Force is a unit which is part of the El Paso Police Department's Organized Crime Division. The taskforce pursues auto theft initiatives concentrating in the prevention of automobile crimes by public awareness and criminal investigations. The taskforce's objectives include the disruption and dismantling of criminal organizations with a special interest in auto theft as part of its domestic and international efforts. A multifaceted law enforcement approach to the regional area consisting of local, state, federal, and Mexican authorities has been integrated by the taskforce. The strategy was incorporated into the taskforces functions, as the taskforce is the only auto theft authority for the Southwest region of Texas. As part of the taskforce's efforts, it involves all local stakeholders, and serves as the contact for the exchange of information and planning of criminal investigation initiatives related to auto thefts.

The taskforce has a Crime Prevention & Awareness Manager, who is responsible for the planning and implementation of auto theft related public awareness presentations and law enforcement auto theft training events. The Crime Prevention & Awareness Manager also serves as the taskforce's Public Information Officer (PIO) and puts out public awareness information to the public, via the media, as it pertains to automobile crimes investigated by the taskforce.

The taskforce is a well-structured unit consisting of three investigative teams. The first team is made up of CID Investigators who frequently collaborate with the District Attorney's Office regarding case presentations, investigations, and addressing repeat offenders. The second and third teams are made up of highly trained officers whose primary mission is to conduct field operations; furthermore, as part of their duties, they conduct surveillance, initiate field investigations, recover stolen vehicles, and conduct business/salvage inspections. The taskforce incorporates street level enforcement as part of the daily mission and acts in both a proactive and reactive capacity to address crime. Assigned taskforce officers, regardless of team assignment, routinely conduct surveillance operations at high target areas that have been identified as hot spots by crime analysis.

Taskforce officers routinely use non-paid informants as a source of information pertaining to automobile crimes. The taskforce conducts bait operations with the use of a bait (decoy) vehicle, with hopes of affording the would-be thief the opportunity to steal the bait (decoy) vehicle, and catch the would-be thief in the process. The taskforce conducts salvage check operations at junk yards, metal recycling businesses, mechanic shops, and body shops. The salvage checks are used to check for stolen vehicles and stolen parts that could be used as replacement parts or sold as metal. The duty of the taskforce is to take a holistic approach of targeting all areas of automobile crimes that include burglary of vehicles, motor vehicle fraud related crimes, and theft of motor vehicle parts that are within the purview of the unit's investigative responsibilities.

3.3 Functions of the proposed program related to fraud-related motor vehicle crime (such as title and registration fraud)

Taskforce officers investigate fraud-related motor vehicle crimes associated with identity theft, forgery, false statement to obtain credit, fraudulent transfer of a motor vehicle, false report, insurance fraud, and tampering with a governmental record (registration fraud) that usually stem from a theft of vehicle investigation. Taskforce officers consistently conduct bi-weekly 68-A inspections of motor vehicles and encounter motor vehicles that a person is trying to inspect to have the vehicle registered. Some vehicles are involved with a deceptive transactions stemming from insurance fraud, fraudulent transfer of a motor vehicle, as well as VIN fraud, usually involving a VIN switch. Some vehicles also have stolen components that were installed by fraudulent means. Taskforce officers take possession of these vehicles, find all interested parties, and set the vehicle up for a Right of Possession Hearing with a Magistrate. The judge then reviews all the facts associated with the case and awards the vehicle or stolen parts of the vehicle to the rightful owner. Taskforce officers routinely work in conjunction with TX DMV enforcement investigator(s) and conduct business checks at various suspected used car dealerships that are suspected of committing fraud-related motor vehicle crimes. Taskforce officers and investigators also team-up with the TX DPS investigators and conduct business checks at various suspected used car dealerships

and automobile repair shops that are suspected of committing fraud-related motor vehicle crimes. Taskforce officers investigate identity fraud sales of motor vehicles, as well as vehicle rentals, where a vehicle was rented by fraudulent means by using someone else's identity.

3.4 Functions of the proposed program related to preventing motor vehicle crime (motor vehicle theft, burglary from a motor vehicle and fraud-related motor vehicle crime)

The El Paso Police Department's Auto Theft Task Force uses an all-inclusive approach of addressing and preventing motor vehicle crimes from occurring within the City and County of El Paso, Texas. The geographic boundaries of El Paso is an exclusive problem to the area as it offers criminals the means to cross state and international boundaries to avoid prosecution and quickly transport stolen property out of jurisdictional reach. Law enforcement partnerships with local, state, federal, and Mexican stakeholders has been a successful way to bridge that gap that has been created by this criminal mobility. The taskforce conducts a plethora of joint operations with local, state, federal, and Mexican stakeholders. Joint operations consist of surveillance, bait operations, warrant round-ups, international bridge checks, LPR operations, and business inspections. The taskforce has an officer assigned as a Mexican Liaison and has been instrumental in coordinating the location and recovery of numerous stolen vehicles that were illegally exported into Mexico. The Mexican liaison officer and the auto theft senior office assistant, who serves as a Spanish translator for the taskforce, have been very helpful in assisting victims repatriate their stolen vehicles from Mexico. The El Paso Police Department employs a crime analyst who is assigned to assist the taskforce, but is housed at the department's Fusion Center. The crime analyst tracks criminal activity involving motor vehicle crimes. The crime analyst provides a weekly summary of all cases that are being committed within the City of El Paso and quickly informs the taskforce of any significant criminal activity patterns that are noted. Taskforce investigators routinely share information on crime trends and patterns that are being investigated with local, state, and federal law enforcement stakeholders. The taskforce shares a hot sheet of all vehicles stolen within the City of El Paso, with all law enforcement shareholders on a weekly basis via the TX DPS Joint Intelligence Operations Center (JOIC) that is assigned to El Paso and housed at the El Paso Police Department's FUSION Center. The taskforce sends out bulletins to all local, state, and federal stakeholders, via the El Paso Police Department's Fusion Center, on wanted subjects and stolen vehicles.

The taskforce has a prevention and awareness manager that manages the taskforce's public awareness program. The public awareness manager develops specific marketing and communication programs regarding motor vehicle crime prevention through planning and implementing public awareness and training events. The public awareness manager coordinates and participates in public speaking engagements, conference exhibits, auto theft prevention training, and various activities that support the statewide goal of vehicle crime prevention and the "Watch Your Car" campaign. The public awareness manager works with the private sector, insurance companies, and local businesses for resources to aid in distribution of auto theft prevention information to vehicle owners and operators in the program area. The public awareness manager conducts security surveys upon request of businesses that are experiencing a problem with auto thefts or burglary of vehicles. He makes recommendations of the placement of security surveillance cameras or the installation of parking lighting. The public awareness manager works with the local business community to place "Hide, Lock, and Take" warning signs in their parking lots, in furtherance of promoting the message of not becoming a victim of an automobile crime. The public awareness manager regularly attends presentations at various schools, universities, colleges, businesses, and community watch programs. The public awareness manager regularly conducts VIN etching services as part of his presentations. The public awareness manager puts to full use all brochures and printed literature materials that are provided by the MVCPA at his scheduled events. The public awareness manager shares any concerns or issues that are related to him, or that he observes, to his taskforce supervisors for future follow-up. The public awareness manager also serves as the taskforce's Public Information Officer and is responsible for disseminating automobile crime information to the media. The public awareness manager does an outstanding job educating the public through public presentations and public service announcements through local and social media. The public awareness program has been very effective in empowering citizens to protect themselves from becoming victims of a motor vehicle crime.

3.5 Functions of the proposed program for other motor vehicle crimes investigations and activities consistent with the statutory requirements (preventing stolen vehicles from entering Mexico, stopping illegal export of stolen vehicle from bridge/ outbound port operations, disruption of cartel or organized criminal enterprises using stolen motor vehicles or fraud related motor vehicle crime, insurance fraud, etc...)

MVCPA funds the taskforce to conduct prevention strategies and criminal investigations as they relate to theft of vehicles, burglary of vehicles, and fraud related motor vehicle crime cases. The taskforce frequently encounters cases where a person files a false report and/or commits insurance fraud because he or she can no longer afford their vehicle payments. The taskforce coordinates with the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) and Insurance Investigators of the different insurance companies, in order to conduct a thorough investigation for presentation to the District Attorney's Office. The taskforce conducts southbound port operations at the International ports-of-entry that are located within the City of El Paso. The focus of these types of operations are the identification and recovery of stolen vehicles being illegally exported into Mexico. The taskforce has developed partnerships with the Mexican Law Enforcement Authorities, due to the taskforce not having any type of criminal investigation authority in Mexico, once the stolen vehicle crosses the United States-Mexico Border. The taskforce has an officer who is assigned as a Mexican Liaison and carries the title of Border Partner. The taskforce's Mexican Liaison contacts the Mexican Law Enforcement Authorities, via phone, on a consistent basis, in order to maintain a working relationship, and for the exchange of invaluable information. The taskforce in conjunction with area stakeholders (TX DPS, BATIC, TX DMV, the County Tax Assessors Office, and NICB) began offering auto theft classes to their Mexican Law Enforcement counterparts. Training is hosted by the taskforce at one of the El Paso Police Department's facilities located within the City of El Paso. The goal of the training was to educate and empower the Mexican Law Enforcement Authorities, to extend auto theft investigations into Mexico, with the hopes of disrupting and dismantling Mexican Cartels and transnational Gangs involved in auto theft activities, on both sides of the United States-Mexico Border.

3.6 Collaboration Effort -- Describe the taskforce method to collaborate, and not duplicate existing activities. Describe the cross boundaries regional approach to grant activity implementation. Describe how the applicant staff and jurisdiction will coordinate with other taskforces and law enforcement agencies to implement this program.

The El Paso Police Department's Auto Theft Task Force recognizes that it must conduct and support multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional investigations to disrupt and dismantle criminal organizations involved in auto burglary, auto theft, and fraud related motor vehicle crimes. To facilitate the goal, the taskforce members are in steady contact with local, state, and federal law enforcement authorities in Las Cruces, NM; Dona Ana County, NM; Albuquerque, NM; Fort Bliss, TX; El Paso County including the smaller municipalities; and Mexican Law Enforcement Authorities of Juarez, Mexico. In addition to the coverage agencies listed at the onset of this application, the taskforce also collaborates with the following agencies: Ysleta Del Sur Tribal Police; Clint Police Department, TX; San Elizario Police Department, TX; Canutillo ISD Police Department, TX; Seven (7) Constable Precincts; and the Fire Marshall Offices of both the City and County of El Paso, TX. One example of collaboration is the sharing of local Auto Theft Hot Sheets between all the listed agencies, to include the Las Cruces Police Department, the Albuquerque Auto Theft Task Force on a weekly basis. The local TX DPS Join Intelligence Operations Center (JOIC) that is housed at the El Paso Police Department's Fusion Center collaborates and assists the taskforce in sending the taskforce's weekly hot sheet to the various Texas Fusion Centers around the State of Texas. The JOIC forwards the hot sheets, at the request of the taskforce, on a weekly basis, in order to share current auto theft information, and to keep all Texas peace officers informed of stolen vehicles from El Paso for their own situational awareness.

The taskforce has created an Intel sharing initiative that includes all the five different Regional Command Center's CID sections and TAC Units. A weekly Intel meeting is held at the ATTF office where all El Paso Police Department stakeholders from the different Regional Command Centers come together and discuss automobile crimes involving Catalytic Converters, Burglary of Vehicles, and Theft of Vehicles. The Intel sharing initiative is a way to bridge the gap of being a decentralized department and improve on better communication to effectively address crime trends and patterns occurring within the City of El Paso. It also serves as a way to prevent all local stakeholders from duplicating enforcement efforts and work more efficiently.

3.7 If the proposed application requests any exceptions or deviation from any general grant rules, RFA conditions or grant administrative policy, please indicate in the section below. Indicate the section of the specific issue and citation that you are asking the MVCPA to consider and the rationale for the request.

No exceptions or deviations requested.

Part II

Goals, Strategies, and Activities

Select Goals, Strategies, and Activity Targets for the proposed program.

Click on the link above and select the method by which statutory measures will be collected. Law Enforcement programs must also estimate targets for the MVCPA predetermined activities. The MVCPA board has determined that grants programs must document specific activities that are appropriate under each of the three goals. Applicants are allowed to write a limited number of user defined activities.

ID	Activity	Measure	Target
Statutory Motor Vehicle Theft Measures Required for all Grantees.			
1.1.15	Increase the recovery rate of stolen motor vehicles	Report the number of vehicles recovered by taskforce	
1.1.16	Increase the clearance rate of MVTs	Report the number of MVT cases cleared	
1.1.17	Increase the number of persons arrested for motor vehicle theft	Report the number of persons arrested for motor vehicle theft by taskforce	
Statutory Burglary of a Motor Vehicle Measures Required for all Grantees			
2.1.12	Increase the clearance rate of motor vehicle burglaries	Report the number of BMV including parts cases cleared	
2.1.13	Increase the number of persons arrested for motor vehicle burglary	Report the number of persons arrested for burglary by taskforce	
Statutory Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Crime Measures Required for all Grantees			
8.1.1	Increase the clearance rate of fraud-related motor vehicle crime cases.	Report the number of fraud-related motor vehicle cases cleared	
8.1.2	Increase the number of persons arrested for fraud-related motor vehicle crimes.	Report the number of persons arrested for fraud-related motor vehicle crimes	
Measures for Grantees. Add Target values for those that you will measure.			
1	Goal 1: Reduce the Incidence of Motor Vehicle Theft through Enforcement Strategies		
1.1	Strategy 1: Conduct Activities that Result in the Arrest, Clearance, and Recoveries of Motor Vehicle Theft		
1.1.1	Identify groups of auto theft offenders through intelligence gathering, crime analysis and the use of informants	Number of MVT groups identified. Include gangs, cartels or other criminal enterprise with two or more members	25
1.1.2	Identify and document/record prolific MVT offenders [Prolific is defined as "linked to MVT offenses three or more times"]	Number identified/documented offenders	20
1.1.5	Conduct inspections of local businesses related to vehicle enterprise (transportation code or occupation code authorized companies such as salvage yard, repair shop, parts recycling center, used car	Number of businesses inspected	10

ID	Activity	Measure	Target
	dealership, salvage rebuilder, title service company, other). (see 1.3.3 to report the number of vehicles inspected in these businesses)		
1.1.6	Conduct bait vehicle operations that target MVT offenders	Number of bait vehicle deployments. Include BMV bait operations here.	10
1.1.8	Deploy license plate readers (LPR)	Number of times LPR deployed. Deploy: If stationary unit then total number of days or partial days unit was operable and on. Mobile unit number of days the unit was on and operable.	500
1.1.9	Respond to taskforce license plate reader (LPR) alert notifications	Number of times investigators responded to taskforce LPR alert notifications regardless of whether vehicle was located	100
1.1.12	Conduct covert operations targeting MVT offenders	Number of covert operations	250
1.1.13	Conduct warrant "round-up" operations targeting motor vehicle crime offenders, including people wanted for MVTs, motor vehicle burglaries, theft of vehicle parts and motor vehicle fraud related crime.	Number of warrant round-up operations performed for MVT, BMV and FRMVC.	10
1.1.20	Number of Altered Vehicles Recovered	Report the total number of vehicles recovered with altered Vehicle Identification Number. Note: Please remember that a vehicle recovered must be reported in 1.1.15	
1.2	Strategy 2: Conduct Collaborative Efforts that Result In Reduction of Incidents of Motor Vehicle Theft		
1.2.1	Provide Agency Assists for MVT and motor vehicle related fraud	Number of agency assists related to MVT. Assist means responding or answering questions via phone, e-mail, or in person. Providing recommendation, guidance, strategy, support or information that other LEOs will use to resolve their cases. The assist generally does not have the direct responsibility for an investigation nor uses LEO authority. The assist helps another LEO or agency investigate cases. Analysts and civilian employees will record their assists to outside LEOs and agencies met here along with officers.	500
1.2.2	Collaborate with other units or divisions (i.e. homicide, vice, narcotics, etc.) within the taskforce department(s) where a motor vehicle was used in the commission of the crime (includes identification of vehicles). Include all participating jurisdiction departments here.	Number of times collaborated within departments or SOs participating in taskforce related to MVT. Collaboration means physically using law enforcement resources, tactics and authority to perform activity on cases that draw upon or aid in the investigation intended to further the resolution of any case, identify parties to crime, identify vehicles, interview witnesses/suspects and apprehend suspects. Collaboration will include any help, recommendation, contribution or support requested from or provided to another unit or offered by the taskforce that aids in the furtherance of motor vehicle theft investigations.	80
1.2.3	Collaborate with all other outside LE agencies and other organizations that assist in the reduction of MVTs. Include all coverage jurisdictions here.	Number of times collaborated with coverage area agencies or other law enforcement agencies and organizations that assist in the reduction of MVT. Collaboration means physically using law enforcement resources, tactics and authority to perform activity on cases that draw upon or aid in the investigation intended to further the resolution of any case, identify parties to crime, identify vehicles, interview witnesses/suspects and apprehend suspects. Collaboration will include any help, recommendation, contribution or support requested from or provided to another unit or offered by the taskforce that aids in the furtherance of MVTtheft investigations.	200
1.2.5	Conduct intelligence information-sharing (Personal attendance)	Number of intelligence meetings attended (include attending as presenter, participant or attendee)	15
1.2.6	Conduct intelligence information-sharing (Written information)	Crime analysis bulletins disseminated (include information distributed to law enforcement agencies via text, e-mail, or intra-net communications)	75
1.2.7	Collaborate with other MVCPA taskforces	Number of times collaborated with other MVCPA taskforces that assist in the reduction in MVT, BMV and FRMVC.	
1.3	Strategy 3: Prevent and Reduce the Incidence of Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Activities		
1.3.1	Collaborate with agencies relating to investigation and enforcement of vehicle insurance fraud and FRMVC	Number of collaborations	25
1.3.2	Conduct confidential 68(A) inspections (for TxDMV assignment or reassignment of VIN required by Tx Trans. Code §501.032)	Number of vehicles inspected to complete a TxDMV 68A inspection form per TxDMV (VIN assignment, reassignment, bonded title)	80
1.3.3	Conduct VIN verification inspections. (All other reasons except bridge or port)	Number of vehicles inspected by taskforce to identify the vehicles not reported in confidential (68A) or bridge and port sections.	400
1.3.4	Coordinate with TxDMV/Tax Offices relating to investigation and enforcement of	Number of collaborations with TxDMV HQ, TxDMV Regional Service Centers or County Tax Assessor Collector offices.	25

ID	Activity	Measure	Target
	fraudulent titles and registration of stolen vehicles		
2	Goal 2: Reduce the Incidence of Theft from Motor Vehicles through Enforcement Strategies		
2.1	Strategy 1: Conduct Activities that Result in the Arrest, Clearance, and Recoveries of Burglary of Motor Vehicles and Theft of Vehicle Parts and Accessories		
2.1.1	Conduct bait vehicle operations that target vehicle burglary offenders	Number of bait vehicle burglary deployments	15
2.1.2	Identify "prolific BMV offenders" through informants and intelligence [Prolific is defined as "linked to BMV and theft of vehicle parts and accessories offenses three or more times"]	Number of offenders identified	2
2.2	Strategy 2: Conduct Collaborative Efforts that Result in the Reduction of Incidents of Theft From a Motor Vehicle		
2.2.1	Provide Agency Assists BMW.	Number of agency assists related to BMV or stolen parts. Assist means responding or answering questions via phone, e-mail, or in person. Providing recommendation, guidance, strategy, support or information that other LEOs will use to resolve their cases. The assist generally does not have the direct responsibility for an investigation nor uses LEO authority. The assist helps another LEO or agency investigate cases. Analysts and civilian employees will record their assists to outside LEOs and agencies met here along with officers.	40
2.2.2	Collaborate with other units or divisions within the taskforce department(s) (i.e. homicide, vice, narcotics, etc.) where theft of parts occurred in the commission of the crime (includes identification of vehicle). Include all participating jurisdiction departments here.	Number of times collaborated within departments or SOs participating in taskforce related to BMV or stolen parts. Collaboration means physically using law enforcement resources, tactics and authority to perform activity on cases that draw upon or aid in the investigation intended to further the resolution of any case, identify parties to crime, identify vehicles, interview witnesses/suspects and apprehend suspects. Collaboration will include any help, recommendation, contribution or support requested from or provided to another unit or offered by the taskforce that aids in the furtherance of BMV theft investigations.	80
2.2.3	Collaborate with all other outside LE agencies and other organizations where theft of parts occurred in the commission of the crime (includes identification of vehicle). Include all coverage jurisdictions here.	Number of times collaborated with coverage area agencies or other law enforcement agencies and organizations that assist in the reduction of BMV or stolen parts. Collaboration means physically using law enforcement resources, tactics and authority to perform activity on cases that draw upon or aid in the investigation intended to further the resolution of any case, identify parties to crime, identify vehicles, interview witnesses/suspects and apprehend suspects. Collaboration will include any help, recommendation, contribution or support requested from or provided to another unit or offered by the taskforce that aids in the furtherance of motor vehicle theft investigations.	40
3	Goal 3: Educate/Train Citizens and Qualified Personnel in Detection and Prevention of Motor Vehicle Theft, Burglary of Motor Vehicles and Theft of Vehicle Parts and Accessories		
3.1	Strategy 1: Conduct Public Awareness Related Activities Used to Educate Citizens		
3.1.1	Conduct educational outreach events (include trade show, exhibits, booths at community events, vehicle displays, brochures, etc.)	Number of outreaches	25
3.1.2	Conduct educational presentations to the public	Number of presentations. Presentation means in person, on-line, original written document, article, or webpage.	50
3.1.4	Conduct vehicle identification initiative/event	Number of etching events. Include windows, component parts, VIN stamps and catalytic converters.	15
3.1.4.1	Conduct vehicle identification initiative/event	Number of Participants/Attendees (Vehicles Marked)	
3.1.5	Purchase advertisements in local outlets	Number of advertisements purchased or provided complimentary for taskforce. Include all types of media purchased or provided free (social, tv, utility inserts, billboards, transportation, etc.). Describe in 6.1.1.	
3.1.6	Conduct vehicle report card initiatives.	Number report cards issued	500
3.1.7	Utilize social media outlets (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)	Number of postings in social media outlets	10
3.1.8	Deploy outdoor public notification signage	Number of deployments per month (if sign remains several months, count as 1 deployment per month)	25
3.1.10	Conduct media outreach, including, public service announcements, press releases, and interviews	Number of outreaches	10
3.2	Strategy 2: Conduct Law Enforcement Training Activities to Educate Officers on Recognition and Apprehension of Stolen Vehicles and Property		

ID	Activity	Measure	Target
3.2.1	Conduct law enforcement training (TCOLE)	Number of classes provided for TCOLE credit	1
3.2.3	Conduct vehicle crimes presentations to law enforcement agencies (non TCOLE)	Number of classes or presentations. Presentations may include electronic roll call documents, shift BOLOs and other written or presented materials based on local practices.	15

Grant Evaluation

- 4.1 Describe the local method and/or practice used to collect the data for reporting Goals, Strategies, and Activities and to evaluate the grant program effectiveness. Describe management and staff participation. Include descriptions of systems (forms and software) that will be used to ensure reliable and accurate data is collected and reported. Describe any other evaluation methods used in the applicant agency to determine effectiveness or cost efficiency of the program.

The taskforce documents and maintains monthly statistics that are reported to MVCPA on required quarterly progress reports. Each individual officer or detective is responsible for maintaining his or her own case assignment log. The administrative sergeant is responsible for daily case assignment in the department's Web-RMS system. The assignment of cases and the final disposition is recorded by the system, when the administrative sergeant assigns the case for investigation, and then when the case is returned to the administrative sergeant with a final disposition. A team meeting is held every month at shift change, when both of the taskforce's field teams change work hour shifts (Days-to-Nights and Nights-to-Days). During the team meetings, all taskforce members exchange information on all active cases and brief each other of any crime trends and patterns that are being observed. A crime analyst, which is housed at the El Paso Police Department's Fusion Center, is assigned to assist the taskforce and is in charge of tracking crime trends and patterns involving automobile crimes. The crime analyst provides taskforce supervisors a weekly Auto Theft Intel Assessment Report and a weekly Catalytic Converter Theft Report. The report provides data on most common days of auto thefts and catalytic converter thefts, based on "Days Occurred" during the last six (6) weeks. The report lists trend analysis charts, percentage charts, time occurred charts, and a citywide heat maps. The report also includes, Top Stolen Vehicles, In-Town Recoveries, Out-of-Town Recoveries, Auto Theft Arrests, UUV Arrests, Mexican Cartel Nexus Information, the Top-5 Prolific Auto Theft Offenders, and Violent Crimes Involving Auto Thefts. Taskforce supervisors also receive a weekly crime summary report that is constructed by an El Paso Police Department's crime analyst using the Data-Drive Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS). DDACTS is a law enforcement operational model supported by a partnership among the Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and two agencies of the Department of Justice: The Bureau of Justice Assistance and the National Institute of Justice. DDACTS integrates location-based crime and traffic crash data to determine the most effective methods for deploying law enforcement and other resources. Drawing on the deterrent value of highly visible traffic enforcement and the knowledge that crimes often involve motor vehicles, the goal of DDACTS is to reduce crime, crashes, and traffic violations across the country. The department's executive staff determines the effectiveness of the taskforce based on crime analysis data that is provided on a weekly basis. The crime analysis data compares current Part-I offense numbers, with a category for auto thefts and burglary of vehicles. The comparison does a four-week trend analysis, a year-to-week comparison, and a year-to-year month comparison.

- 4.2 Provide any other suggested measures that would better reflect the law enforcement or prevention work that the proposed program will perform. If the suggested measure fits into one of the stated goals above please indicate.

No suggested measures are being made at this time.

TxGMS Standard Assurances by Local Governments

- We acknowledge reviewing the [TxGMS Standard Assurances by Local Governments](#) as promulgated by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and agree to abide by the terms stated therein.

Certifications

The certifying official is the authorized official, Elda Rodriguez-Hefner, City of El Paso Grants Administrator.

By submitting this application I certify that I have been designated by my jurisdiction as the authorized official to accept the terms and conditions of the grant. The statements herein are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties.

By submitting this application I certify that my jurisdiction agrees to comply with all terms and conditions if the grant is awarded and accepted. I further certify that my jurisdiction will comply with all applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations in the application, acceptance, administration and operation of this grant.

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