



# Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority

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## Texas Communities Combat Crime Thanks to New Grant Funding

*Texas is fighting back against auto burglary and theft*

(AUSTIN, Texas – August 3, 2021) Auto burglars and thieves better watch out! Today, the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority (MVCPA) awarded \$13.6 million in grants to reduce and prevent motor vehicle crime across the state.

These grants provide support for motor vehicle theft and fraud-related motor vehicle crime enforcement teams. These specialized investigators identify trends, use specialized equipment and maintain statewide coordination to combat crime.

In Fiscal Year 2020, taskforces (236 officers) funded by MVCPA recovered 12,860 vehicles, cleared 19,258 motor vehicle theft cases, and arrested 3,592 people for motor vehicle theft.

“The vision of MVCPA is to empower communities to help free Texans from the harm and loss caused by motor vehicle crime,” said Laredo Assistant Chief of Police and MVCPA Board Chair Mike Rodriguez. “Not only the loss an individual faces when their vehicle is stolen, but other crimes committed with stolen vehicles like human trafficking and drug smuggling.”

This year, 24 law enforcement agencies submitted applications for grant funding. Many of the applications are for multi-jurisdictional taskforces where agencies combine resources in the fight against motor vehicle related crime.

Dallas Police Lieutenant and MVCPA Board Member Julio Gonzalez said, “These grants allow police departments and sheriff’s offices to directly target criminals who are responsible for staggering financial losses to Texans.”

### Grant Recipients

City of Austin: \$411,300	City of Laredo: \$756,565
City of Beaumont: \$583,951	Lubbock County: \$446,785
City of Brownsville: \$1,020,922	City of Mansfield: \$331,342
Burnet County: \$220,895	Montgomery County: \$372,720
City of Corpus Christi: \$429,518	City of Paris: \$117,857
City of Dallas: \$797,339	City of Pasadena: \$83,940
Dallas County: \$544,454	Potter County: \$399,494
City of Eagle Pass: \$138,059	City of San Antonio: \$815,785
City of El Paso: \$975,265	Smith County: \$357,474
Galveston County: \$518,201	Tarrant County: \$1,332,593
Harris County: \$853,100	Travis County: \$697,075
City of Houston: \$1,251,130	City of Victoria: \$144,236



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Established by the 72<sup>nd</sup> Texas legislature in 1991, MVCPA is charged with combatting motor vehicle theft, motor vehicle burglary, and fraud-related motor vehicle crime in Texas. This is the 29<sup>th</sup> year the authority has issued grant funding to law enforcement across the state.

For more information about how to protect yourself from motor vehicle crime, visit MVCPA online at [www.txdmv.gov/motorists/consumer-protection/auto-theft-prevention](http://www.txdmv.gov/motorists/consumer-protection/auto-theft-prevention).

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