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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES
CRIME PREVENTION AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING

HILTON HOUSTON POST OAK HOTEL
2001 POST OAK BLVD.
HOUSTON, TEXAS, 77056

On the 19th day of July, A.D., 2024,
between the hours of 9:02 a.m. and 1:33 p.m., the
above entitled Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention
Authority Board Meeting came on for discussion and the
following proceedings were held:

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A P P E A R A N C E S

MVCPA BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT AND PARTICIPATING:

Mike Rodriguez, Chair

Sharon Jones

Rebecca Cantu-Serrano

Charla Brotherton

ALSO PRESENT AND PARTICIPATING:

David Richards, General Counsel

William Diggs, Director

1	I N D E X	
2		PAGE
3	Welcome and Introductions.....	5
4	Roll Call & Establishment of Quorum.....	7
5	Pledges of Allegiance U.S. and Texas.....	8
6	Approval of Transcript As Minutes	
7	March 28, 2024.....	8
8	Chair's Reports.....	9
9	Staffing Update (William Diggs).....	9
10	Grant Management Tracking System	
11	Update (William Diggs).....	10
12	FY24 & FY25 Budget Overview (William Diggs).....	12
13	SB224 Partner Agency Inter-Agency Contract	
14	(IAC) Update (William Diggs).....	14
15	SB224 Advisory Committee Future	
16	Meeting (William Diggs).....	15
17	Grants, Budget and Reporting Committee Update....	21
18	FY24 SB224 Second Round Catalytic Converter	
19	Grant Award Recommendations (William Diggs).....	21
20	FY25 SB224 Catalytic Converter Grant	
21	Award Recommendations (William Diggs).....	30
22	FY25 Task Force Grant Recommendations	
23	(William Diggs).....	34
24	Adoption of Amendments to 43 TAC 57.36	
25	(David Richards).....	41

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

I N D E X

PAGE

Texas DMV Regional Service Center Update

Roland Luna, Sr..... 45

MVCPA Logo Redesign Review & Selection
(Earl Pence)..... 53

MVCPA Training Section Update (Earl Pence)..... 60

MVCPA 2025 Conference Venue Recommendation
and Selection (William Diggs)..... 72

68A Inspection Proposed Statutory Change
Awareness (William Diggs)..... 82

FY24 Supplanting Report Conducted By MVCPA Audit
Section (Sterling Fielder Lauren Williams)..... 84

Adjournment..... 175

Reporter's Certificate..... 176

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Good morning.

3 My name is Mike Rodriguez, and I am
4 pleased to open the meeting of the Board Of Motor
5 Vehicles Crime and Prevention Authority.

6 It is now 9:02 a.m. I am now calling the
7 board meeting for July 19, 2024, to order.

8 I want to note for the record that the
9 public notice of this meeting containing all items on
10 the agenda was filed with the office of the Secretary
11 of State on July 5th, 2024.

12 Before we begin today's meeting, please,
13 place all cell phones and other communication devices
14 on silent or remote; and, please, as a courtesy to
15 others, do not carry on-site conversations or
16 activities in the meeting room.

17 I want to welcome those who are with us
18 for today's board meeting.

19 If you wish to address the board or speak
20 on an agenda item during today's meeting, please,
21 complete a speaker's sheet at the registration table.
22 Please, identify the specific item that you are
23 interested in commenting on, your name and address and
24 whether you are representing anyone or speaking for
25 yourself.

1 If your comment does not pertain to a
2 specific agenda item, we will take your comment during
3 the general public comment portion of the meeting.

4 In accordance with the department's
5 administrative rule, comments to the board will be
6 limited to three minutes. To assist each speaker, a
7 timer has been provided at the podium. The timer
8 light will be green for the first two minutes, yellow
9 for one minute and then red when your time is up.

10 Individuals cannot accumulate time for
11 other speakers. Comments should be pertinent to the
12 issue stated on the comment sheet.

13 When addressing the board, please, state
14 your name and affiliation for the record.

15 These are a few things that will assist
16 in making the meeting run smoother and assist the
17 court reporter in getting an accurate record.

18 Please, identify yourself before
19 speaking. Speak clearly and slowly. Do not speak
20 over others; and, please, ask the chairman for
21 permission to speak and be sure to get recognized
22 before speaking.

23 I would like to thank our court reporter
24 who is transcribing this meeting.

25 Before we begin today, I would like to

1 remind all presenters and those in attendance of the
2 rules of conduct at our board meeting.

3 The board chair has the authority to
4 supervise the conduct of the meeting. This includes
5 the authority to determine when speakers are being
6 disruptive of the meeting or is otherwise violating
7 the timing or the presentation rules that I have just
8 discussed.

9 Agenda Item No. 1, roll call and
10 establishment of quorum.

11 I would like to have a roll call of the
12 board members. Please, respond verbally when I call
13 your name.

14 Member Jones?

15 MEMBER JONES: Here.

16 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: The court reporter is
17 taking it. I don't think that she has got that down.
18 You need to say it again.

19 MEMBER JONES: Here.

20 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Member Whitehill?

21 (no response)

22 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Member Brotherton?

23 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Here.

24 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Member Cantu-Serrano?

25 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Present.

1 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Let the record reflect
2 that I, Michael Rodriguez, am here, too.

3 We have a quorum.

4 Agenda Item No. 2, the Pledges of
5 Allegiance.

6 Please, stand and honor our country with
7 the Pledges of Allegiance.

8 (Pledges of Allegiance was recited)

9 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Agenda Item No. 3, the
10 members will now take up Item No. 3A, approval of
11 transcript from our March 27, 2024, meeting as
12 minutes.

13 Members, has everyone reviewed the
14 transcript; and would anyone like to make a motion
15 approving the transcript as minutes?

16 MEMBER BROTHERTON: I make a motion that
17 we approve the transcript as minutes.

18 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: I have a motion from
19 Member Brotherton.

20 Is there a second?

21 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Board Member
22 Cantu-Serrano, I second.

23 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Is there any further
24 discussion?

25 There being none, I will now call for the

1 vote.

2 All those who are in favor of the motion
3 say, "Aye."

4 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Aye.

5 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Aye.

6 MEMBER JONES: Aye.

7 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Let the record reflect
8 that I, Michael Rodriguez, vote aye.

9 The motion passes.

10 Agenda Item No. 3B, the Chairman's
11 report.

12 I do not have any Chairman's reports
13 today, so we are not taking up Agenda Item No. 3B.

14 We will now move on to Agenda Item 4, the
15 MVCPA Director's report.

16 I will now turn the meeting to MVCPA
17 Director William Diggs and this is for the staffing
18 briefing on various topics in this agenda.

19 Director Diggs.

20 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
21 William Diggs, MVCPA Director for the
22 record.

23 So, Mr. Chairman and members, on Page 5
24 of your board book, you will find Agenda Item 4A.

25 This is just a quick update on MVCPA

1 staffing. Of course, all of you know that currently
2 we have 15 FTEs, and we have currently got 14 of those
3 filled. We had a vacancy about two months ago. One
4 of our grant specialists moved on to another state
5 agency.

6 As of Monday, it was in the final phases
7 in human resources; but I am happy to report this
8 morning that Deputy Director Earl Pence has made a
9 final offer and the new employee will start on August
10 the 1st; and we will be full again.

11 I am happy to take any questions.

12 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Members, any questions
13 for Director Diggs?

14 There are no questions, all right.

15 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Mr. Chairman and
16 members, moving on to Page 6 of your board book, you
17 will find Agenda Item 4B.

18 This is related to updating our GMTS
19 system. I am glad to report that we have been working
20 closely with our ITSD counterparts along with our
21 finance office.

22 We have worked with task forces in
23 different locations in Texas as well as the MVCPA
24 staff. They have done a phenomenal job.

25 We have narrowed the field to five

1 different companies throughout the U.S. We are
2 currently awaiting on some additional questions that
3 we asked. You will see them listed at the bottom of
4 Page 6.

5 As soon as we get the responses back, we
6 plan to meet again; and we are going to narrow the
7 field to two or three companies. We don't want to
8 make a rush decision. We want to get this right. My
9 hope is that we have the new GMTS system in place by
10 the end of the next calendar year.

11 And that concludes my report.

12 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: How many systems are we
13 looking at for the GMTS?

14 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Sir?

15 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: How many systems are we
16 looking at?

17 DIRECTOR DIGGS: So right now we started
18 off with we have 24 responses. We narrowed that to
19 five, and so we are looking at five different
20 companies.

21 We are waiting for some additional
22 information to come back from them, and then we will
23 probably narrow it to two or three, and then we will
24 go from there and see if there is any additional
25 questions or possibly have those companies come back

1 and provide an additional presentation so that we can
2 ask additional questions.

3 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Are there any questions
4 for Director Diggs?

5 Thank you, director.

6 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Mr. Chairman and
7 members, on Page 7 of your board book you will find
8 some information on Agenda Item 4C is where it starts.

9 This is just a brief overview of our FY
10 2024 budget and then also our FY25 projected budget.
11 This is through the end of June, and currently we have
12 remaining in our FY24 budget \$1.3 million, and then we
13 have got -- and that's going to be for our motor
14 vehicle task force budget, and then the remaining four
15 are SB224 budget.

16 We currently have remaining \$20 million,
17 and I know that sounds like a large number, and it is.
18 Some of that is because we are finalizing the first
19 round of awards for SB224 in the system. They just
20 haven't quite hit our financial records yet in the
21 DMV, and then also we are waiting to make the final
22 award of the second round SB224, and we are doing that
23 this morning.

24 And then moving on to our FY25 projected
25 budget. On Page 12, you can see where we have

1 estimated funds to be 24 point -- just under
2 \$24.9 million for our task force budget and for, you
3 know, supporting the task forces throughout Texas.

4 And then if you move to the next page and
5 that's going to be on our SB224 FY25 budget, there is
6 just a little over \$30 million that we believe will be
7 the estimated dollar amount; and again, I say
8 estimated because we believe we have some funds that
9 are going to UB forward from FY24; and we are also
10 waiting on some additional funds that will settle from
11 some additional insurance collections over the summer
12 with the CPA's office.

13 And that concludes my budget update.

14 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So what is estimated to
15 be left from the -- after we collect the grant funds
16 to the task forces?

17 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Okay, great question.

18 In our FY25 task force budget, it is
19 dependent upon how some of the insurance settlements
20 are finalized here at the end of the summer; and we
21 get the final report back from the CPA at the end of
22 next month.

23 We have also got some funds that I
24 believe will UB forwarded. My estimate; and again,
25 Chief Rodriguez, this is clearly an estimate. I

1 believe those estimated funds that would be remaining
2 after we provide for the additional Tier Two awards
3 that we will talk about here shortly, I believe those
4 dollars will be just a little over a million dollars;
5 and again, chief, that is if everything falls into
6 place as we believe it will today.

7 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: As long as there is
8 something left there.

9 DIRECTOR DIGGS: And that again is why I
10 feel like we need to be physically responsible and
11 look at a tier system when it comes to our task force
12 budget issue.

13 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.
14 Are there any questions?
15 Thank you, director.

16 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Yes, sir.

17 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Moving on to Agenda
18 Item No. 5.

19 We will now here from Director William
20 Diggs on Agenda Item No. 5A SB224 partner agency
21 inter-agency contract update.

22 DIRECTOR DIGGS: William Diggs, MVCPA
23 Director for the record.

24 Mr. Chairman and members, on Page 14 of
25 your board book, you will find a brief update on the

1 Agenda Item 5A. It's our SB224 partner agency
2 inter-agency contract update.

3 I am happy to announce this morning that
4 a few weeks back, we were able to finalize our Texas
5 DPS MVCPA Texas DMV inter-agency contract. That was
6 fully executed; and here in just the last couple of
7 weeks, we were able to finalize that the same type of
8 contract with our partner TDLR; and that has now fully
9 been executed by both the executive director of TDLR
10 and the executive director of the Texas DMV and also
11 myself as the director of the MVCPA. So both of these
12 inter-agency contracts are fully in play now.

13 And that concludes my report on 5A.

14 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Members, are there any
15 questions on this agenda item?

16 Moving on.

17 Members, we will now hear from Major
18 Sharon Jones on Agenda Item No. 5B, Senate Bill 224
19 advisory committee updates.

20 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman, in an effort
21 to preserve my voice, Director Diggs is going to
22 present 5B.

23 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Director Diggs.

24 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Yes. William Diggs,
25 MVCPA Director for the record.

1 So I do want to give you guys a quick
2 update. We have had some phenomenal SB224 advisory
3 committee meetings. We have recently had one at the
4 beginning of the month down in San Marcos; but prior
5 to the advisory committee meeting, we actually went
6 and viewed some of the industry.

7 We did that a couple of months ago here
8 in Houston when we went to Techemet, one of the
9 smelters; and we were able to go to LKQ, an auto parts
10 recycler. They are in New Braunfels; and it was
11 amazing to see their operation; and then later that
12 afternoon, we went to PGM and viewed one of the
13 facilities for metal recycling.

14 And so again, the industry has opened
15 their doors for us to kind of get a good view of what
16 it is they do and how they do it.

17 I will tell you that obviously, you know,
18 there is different regulations and regulatory
19 functions that TDLR looks at with the auto parts
20 recyclers. The Texas DPS obviously is looking at the
21 metal recyclers, and so both TDLR, the Texas DMV and
22 the Texas DPS was with us that day along with the
23 advisory committee was there; and so we had a good
24 tour.

25 I think it was very successful. I feel

1 like the advisory committee meeting the next morning
2 was very successful. I think that it has been good
3 for law enforcement. Some of our task forces are
4 involved in these committee meetings. I think it's
5 good for industry and also for the law enforcement
6 folks to come together.

7 MVCPA Major Sharon Jones has been
8 chairing this committee and has done a phenomenal job
9 doing so, and we look forward to -- I am going to
10 refer to it as our final advisory committee meeting.
11 It is in October. It's on October the 3rd in Laredo.

12 And so, Chief Rodriguez, we look forward
13 to coming over to the border; and hopefully we might
14 be able to get some type of tour of, you know, some of
15 the border there if possible if that all works out.

16 So that will conclude my update, and I
17 will be happy to take any questions.

18 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Absolutely we will be
19 waiting for the advisory committee in Laredo, not only
20 for a tour of the border but also some great food that
21 you will be getting there also. So watch out for
22 that.

23 So going back to the advisory committee,
24 is this the last one; or are we continuing with this
25 even after?

1 No?

2 Oh, you don't have a voice.

3 Are we continuing with the --

4 DIRECTOR DIGGS: And I will go ahead and
5 speak briefly to that.

6 Whenever we formed these committees back
7 in December here in Houston, we set up some guidelines
8 in our SB224 operations plan; and as it relates to
9 SB224 partner agency meetings, myself and Deputy
10 Executive Director Luna, you know, we are working
11 closely together; and we have been having partner
12 agency meetings every two weeks; and they have been
13 really, really good as far as bringing the agencies
14 all together and putting faces with names and being
15 able to do some pretty cool stuff.

16 We have decided now to go ahead and
17 continue to meet monthly; and it makes sense; and all
18 of the partner agencies believe so, so that's kind of
19 how we have navigated that.

20 When it comes to the advisory committee
21 meetings, unless Mr. Richards feels otherwise, I
22 believe if I remember correctly, that would be
23 something that you, yourself, Mr. Chairman, could make
24 a decision on.

25 Would it -- we have been doing them

1 quarterly; and so would we continue them quarterly,
2 would it be something less, would it be twice a year;
3 or would this be the end; and so, sir, I am going to
4 yield to you and that will be your decision.

5 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So my question would
6 be, if we put this on the GBR because we already have
7 applications that can be for SB224; and so my question
8 is, who is going to be, I guess, monitoring those
9 strategic plans and those goals that, you know, when
10 we are funding those task forces, how are we doing,
11 what can we do better as we move forward because we
12 will continue receiving the SB224 money, correct?

13 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Yes, sir, that is we
14 hope that to be the plan.

15 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So how are we going to
16 be monitoring every task force's success; and at the
17 end of the day, there is going to be some areas that
18 we are going to have to tweak; and who is going to be
19 responsible to make sure that we have those
20 conversations when it comes to SB224?

21 MR. RICHARDS: Mr. Chairman, David
22 Richards general counsel for the record.

23 When we created the advisory committee,
24 they only met four times a year. As Mr. Diggs said,
25 October is the last meeting; but I would recommend

1 what the board consider is at their October meeting
2 renewing that for another calendar year, at least
3 FY25, to just see how we are doing; and when we put
4 everything in motion, we establish our plan of
5 operation.

6 I think it's real important to follow-up
7 with that and not just let it drop, so that will be
8 something that you can consider placing on your agenda
9 at the October meeting to re-establish this advisory
10 committee in 2025; and I think the board meetings work
11 really well; and to your point, that way we can keep
12 track of how the task forces are doing and our partner
13 agencies; and we would have a year under our belt to
14 know to at least look back at and see what we can
15 improve on and so forth. So I will recommend
16 re-establishing it at your October meeting.

17 Thank you.

18 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Sharon, I know that you
19 have no voice.

20 MEMBER JONES: Yes.

21 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Well, I really think
22 that we should definitely continue with this advisory
23 committee just to see where the gaps are at; and you
24 will be receiving additional funds for this to
25 continue to fund programs.

1 It is important that we continue to
2 monitor and making sure that wherever those gaps are
3 at, that we start having conversations as to how we
4 can get better.

5 At the end of the day, we are going to
6 have to report to the legislature as to how we are
7 doing and that this money has been provided to every
8 task force. So the bottom line I think is definitely
9 continue at least for another year.

10 MEMBER JONES: Yes, sir.

11 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: That would be a motion
12 in October, correct?

13 MR. RICHARDS: In October we will put it
14 on the agenda.

15 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Okay, perfect.

16 Thank you, Director Diggs.

17 We will now move on to Agenda Item No. 6,
18 grants and budget and reporting committee update.

19 We will now hear from -- we are supposed
20 to hear from Major Sharon Jones. We are going to hear
21 from Director Diggs regarding Agenda Item No. 6A,
22 fiscal year '24 Senate Bill 224 second round catalytic
23 converter grant award recommendations.

24 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman, I will make
25 the motion; and then Director Diggs is going to read

1 the awards.

2 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Okay. So are we just
3 doing the motion?

4 You are doing the motion?

5 MEMBER JONES: Uh-huh.

6 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Director Diggs.

7 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Thank you.

8 Williams Diggs, MVCPA Director for the
9 record.

10 So on Monday, the task forces actually
11 came in or the grantees; and in some circumstances, it
12 wasn't a current task force. They came in and made
13 the request for the GBR committee for SB224 second
14 round funding; and so the following -- I am going to
15 go ahead and read it now.

16 The GBR on Monday approved these task
17 forces along with the grantees along with the dollar
18 amount to be presented today to the full board for
19 approval, and we had some fantastic presentations on
20 Monday. The staff of the different agencies did a
21 great job presenting their case.

22 So I did want to say that the City of
23 Andrews, they requested \$16,850.00.

24 The City of Beaumont requested
25 \$527,700.00.

1 The City of Carrollton, the request is
2 for \$221,000.00.

3 The City of Conroe, the request is for
4 \$95,000.00.

5 The City of Converse, the request is for
6 \$43,150.00.

7 The City of Corpus Christi, the request
8 is for \$72,408.00.

9 The City of El Paso, the request is for
10 \$1,391,615.00.

11 The City of Farmers Branch, the request
12 is for \$50,000.00.

13 The City of Frisco, the request is for
14 \$256,000.00.

15 Johnson County, the request is for
16 \$250,000.00.

17 The City of La Marque, the request is for
18 \$748,665.00.

19 Lubbock County was approved for
20 381,450.00 by the GBR committee on Monday.

21 Maverick County, the request was for
22 \$175,666.00.

23 Montgomery County, the request was for
24 \$397,574.00.

25 Polk County, the request was for

1 \$55,516.00.

2 The City of Refugio, the request was for
3 \$38,250.00.

4 The City of Sulphur Springs, the request
5 was for \$30,000.00.

6 The City of Sunset Valley, the request
7 was for \$65,625.00.

8 The City of Texas City, the request was
9 for \$37,500.00.

10 The Town of Prosper, the request was for
11 \$99,166.00.

12 And the City of Wichita Falls, the
13 request was for \$114,417.00.

14 I did want to say that some of these
15 requests they weren't from the law enforcement
16 agencies. They weren't actually present; and it was
17 for one reason or another; and I know historically if
18 an agency wasn't present, then they may not have been
19 considered; but we did have communication with a
20 number of them.

21 We don't feel like that we clearly
22 spelled it out in the RFA. There might have been some
23 miscommunication that they had to actually be present
24 this week to actually present their overall request;
25 and so we will -- in the future, we will make that

1 clear in the RFA that you have to be present here to
2 give your presentation, to make your request or it
3 will not be considered.

4 But with that being said, I did want to
5 provide some additional information this morning for a
6 few of these task forces.

7 The City of Andrews is requesting
8 \$16,850.00. It's all for equipment. We are seeking
9 the grant to pay for the initial setup fees of
10 \$1,850.00 for five Flock Safety LPR cameras as well as
11 one year of service for the platform at a cost of
12 \$3,000.00 per camera times five for a total of
13 \$15,000.00. The total amount for the first year of
14 the platform is \$16,850.00.

15 The City of Conroe is requesting a total
16 of \$95,000.00, overtime \$15,000.00. This overtime is
17 to cover Flock Safety LPR camera reviewing for cases,
18 sting operations related to catalytic converter
19 thefts, auto thefts and burglary of motor vehicles.
20 There is also some dollars set aside for an LEO at
21 \$10,000.00 and a crime analyst for \$5,000.00. The
22 total equipment budget is \$80,000.00.

23 Johnson County is requesting a total of
24 \$250,000.00. It is all equipment. We intend to
25 purchase license plate reading cameras and software

1 and equipment related to those cameras and the
2 installation of those to identify suspects and
3 suspects' vehicles related to catalytic converter
4 thefts.

5 The City of Sunset Valley is requesting a
6 total of \$65,625.00. It would be for direct operating
7 expenses. The department plans to use surveillance
8 vehicles for parking lot surveillance in multiple
9 shopping centers, vehicle repair shops, hotel parking
10 lots and large stadium parking lots. The night vision
11 binoculars will assist us in the nighttime operations.
12 The license plate readers slash cameras will
13 supplement our current license plate reader cameras
14 and be placed in locations that are currently not
15 covered. The totals are surveillance vehicle,
16 \$41,667.00, license plate reader cameras, \$21,875.00
17 and night vision binoculars \$2,0083.00.

18 The City of Corpus Christi is requesting
19 a total of \$72,408.00 of which overtime will be
20 \$23,474.00. The equipment would be \$45,740.00. There
21 is hydraulic vehicle lifts listed as well as laser
22 engravers listed as well as a thermal surveillance and
23 search drone listed, and then their direct operating
24 expenses total out to be \$3,194.00.

25 And so with that, Chief Rodriguez, that

1 will conclude my update on Agenda Item 6A FY24 SB224
2 catalytic converter grants second solicitation for
3 applications and the recommendation.

4 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Director
5 Diggs.

6 I think for the technology, what are we
7 asking in return for measuring as far as the
8 deployments and things like that especially on drones?

9 DIRECTOR DIGGS: So obviously, we are
10 going to be very interested in the cases that are
11 made, the number of cases that are made, how many
12 times it's deployed. So there will be a number of
13 things that we will be looking at in the coming year,
14 and that will be for all task forces.

15 We want to take another look at how we
16 look at the successes that the task forces have
17 whether it fits with our traditional task force
18 funding or SB224 funding.

19 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Also on the -- you
20 mentioned it before where maybe we can on mobile
21 cameras, the ones that, you know, they know that they
22 are there, we can start maybe for the next meeting,
23 David, that we can do an item for putting on that type
24 of equipment that it is funded by MVCPA.

25 I know that we are always talking about

1 how can we put MVCPA out into the public and making
2 sure that other task forces know about it. Maybe
3 putting that; and if somebody is asking for a marked
4 unit, that it's also displayed there that the vehicle
5 is funded through MVCPA.

6 DIRECTOR DIGGS: That's an excellent
7 idea, chief; and I will look forward to helping work
8 with that to make that happen.

9 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

10 Are there any questions for Director
11 Diggs?

12 Are you ready for the motion?

13 MEMBER JONES: I move that the MVCPA
14 Board approve the following fiscal year '24 Senate
15 Bill 224 second round catalytic converter grant
16 awards.

17 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Williams Diggs, Director
18 MVCPA for the record.

19 City of Andrews, \$16,850.00.

20 City of Beaumont, \$527,700.00.

21 City of Carrollton, \$221,000.00.

22 City of Conroe, \$95,000.00.

23 City of Converse, \$43,150.00.

24 City of Corpus Christi, \$72,408.00.

25 City of El Paso, \$1,391,615.00.

1 City of Farmers Branch, \$50,000.00.
2 City of Frisco, \$256,000.00.
3 City of La Marque, \$748,665.00.
4 City of Refugio, \$38,250.00.
5 City of Sulphur Springs, \$30,000.00.
6 City of Sunset Valley, \$65,625.00.
7 City of Texas City, \$37,500.00.
8 City of Wichita Falls, \$114,417.00.
9 Johnson County, \$250,000.00.
10 Lubbock County, \$381,450.00.
11 Maverick County, \$175,666.00.
12 Montgomery County, \$397,574.00.
13 Polk County, \$55,516.00.
14 The Town of Prosper, \$99,166.00.
15 This totals \$9,472,212.00.
16 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Member Jones, you made
17 a motion.
18 Do I have a second?
19 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Member Brotherton, I
20 second.
21 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: I have a second from
22 Member Brotherton.
23 I will now call for the vote.
24 Members, if you are in favor of this
25 motion, say, "Aye."

1 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Aye.

2 MEMBER JONES: Aye.

3 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Aye.

4 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Any members opposed
5 say, "Nay."

6 Let the record reflect that I, Michael
7 Rodriguez, vote aye.

8 The motion passes.

9 Members, we will now hear from Major
10 Jones and Director Diggs on Agenda Item No. 6B, FY25
11 SB224 catalytic converter grant award recommendations.
12 This is an action item.

13 Director Diggs.

14 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Williams Diggs, Director
15 for MVCPA for the record.

16 And so the same thing on Monday during
17 the GBR meeting, we actually had the agencies come up
18 and present individually one at a time; and we hit
19 each agenda item one at a time. They brought some
20 good information to the table when it comes to their
21 needs and the requests of both either for FTEs or
22 equipment; and these are the following amounts that
23 were requested for FY25 SB224 funding.

24 The City of Beaumont, \$250,520.00.

25 The City of Brownsville, \$565,765.00.

1 The City of Carrollton, \$184,167.00 as
2 presented in the GMTS.
3 The City of Dallas, \$1,295.074.00.
4 The City of Eagle Pass, \$521.056.00.
5 Galveston County, \$247,898.00.
6 Harris County, \$81,683.00.
7 Hidalgo County, \$49,797.00.
8 City of Houston, \$994,740.00.
9 Johnson County, \$208,333.00.
10 City of Kyle, \$54,709.00.
11 City of Laredo, \$1,725,392.00.
12 Lubbock County, \$377,517.00.
13 Montgomery County, \$22,720.00.
14 Potter County, \$276,400.00.
15 City of Roman Forest, \$18,250.00.
16 City of San Marcos, \$38,625.00.
17 City of Schertz, \$77,342.00.
18 City of Seguin, \$28,333.00.
19 Smith County, \$26,667.00.
20 Town of Prosper, \$70,600.00.
21 City of Wallis, \$23,100.00; and that will
22 conclude my report for Agenda Item 6B.
23 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Director
24 Diggs.
25 MR. RICHARDS: Mr. Chairman -- David

1 Richards, general counsel for the record -- since your
2 task force is in this so, Mr. Chairman, you will need
3 to recuse yourself from the vote on Laredo.

4 What I will suggest is we go ahead and
5 vote on all of them now; but you will have to recuse
6 yourself for that one, okay?

7 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So we do two motions?

8 MR. RICHARDS: Two motions.

9 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: All right.

10 MR. RICHARDS: If you want to vote on
11 Laredo first, you can do that and get that out of the
12 way and then vote on the rest.

13 Thank you.

14 MEMBER JONES: I move that the MVCPA
15 Board approve the following fiscal year '25 Senate
16 Bill 224 catalytic converter grant for the City of
17 Laredo in the amount of \$1,725,392.00.

18 MR. RICHARDS: Did I hear a second?

19 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Is there a second?

20 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Rebecca
21 Cantu-Serrano, I second.

22 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Do we have a motion
23 from Member Jones and a second from Member
24 Cantu-Serrano?

25 MEMBER JONES: Members that call for the

1 vote?

2 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Aye.

3 MEMBER JONES: Aye.

4 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Aye.

5 MEMBER JONES: The motion passes.

6 I move that the MVCPA Board approve the
7 following fiscal year Senate Bill 224 catalytic
8 converter grant with the exception of the City of
9 Laredo.

10 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: I have a motion for
11 Member Jones.

12 Do I have a second?

13 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: I second.

14 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So we have a motion and
15 a second to fund.

16 Do we have to go one-by-one?

17 MR. RICHARDS: No, it's everyone on the
18 list except for Laredo.

19 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Everyone on the list
20 except for Laredo.

21 I will now call for the vote.

22 Members, if you are in favor of the
23 motion say, "Aye."

24 MEMBER JONES: Aye.

25 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Aye.

1 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Aye.

2 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Any member opposed say
3 "Nay."

4 Hearing none.

5 Let the record reflect that I, Michael
6 Rodriguez, vote aye.

7 The motion passes.

8 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: We are going to go
9 ahead and take a 15-minute break.

10 We will be back at 10:00.

11 It is 9:43. We will be back at
12 10:00 a.m.

13 (break)

14 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: It is now 10:02 a.m.

15 We will continue with Agenda Item No. 6C,
16 FY25 SB224 task force grant award recommendations, an
17 action item.

18 We will now hear from Major Jones and
19 Director Diggs on this agenda item.

20 DIRECTOR DIGGS: William Diggs, MVCPA
21 Director for the record.

22 On Monday, we had the task forces submit
23 their applications and make a presentation for FY25
24 task force funding. There were both existing task
25 forces that presented and some new requests from

1 different parts of Texas, and we were excited to see
2 that.

3 I did want to provide some additional
4 information for the full board. The FY25 MVCPA crime
5 prevention program strategy budget is estimated to be
6 \$24,899.500.00.

7 It is important for the MVCPA to be
8 physically responsible. MVCPA staff currently believe
9 that additional funds will become available from
10 unspent FY24 funding and additional insurance
11 collection deposits through the state comptroller.

12 The following agencies have submitted
13 their justification for FY25 task force grant funding.
14 I encourage the grant and budget and reporting
15 committee to recommend to the MVCPA Board to approve
16 the Tier One request above which I will read and to
17 wait until the October MVCPA board meeting to
18 reconsider the Tier II request.

19 The MVCPA's staff believe that they will
20 have a clear picture in October as it relates to
21 actual additional funding available for FY25 in this
22 strategy.

23 The Tier One requests are as follows:

24 The City of Austin, \$532,588.00.

25 The City of Beaumont, \$724,534.00.

1 The City of Brownsville, \$1,341,872.00.
2 Burnet County, \$578,566.00.
3 The City of Corpus Christi, \$864,514.00.
4 The City of Dallas, \$1,582,029.00.
5 Dallas County, \$1,208,574.00.
6 The City of El Paso, \$2,016,853.00.
7 Galveston County, \$1,106,090.00.
8 Harris County, \$1,102,216.00.
9 The City of Houston, \$1,949,349.00.
10 The City of Laredo, \$1,401,606.00.
11 Lubbock County, \$1,008,481.00.
12 The City of Mansfield, \$821,953.00.
13 Montgomery County, \$1,078,387.00.
14 The City of Paris, \$514,460.00.
15 The City of Pasadena, \$146,668.00.
16 Potter County, \$11,279.00.
17 The City of River Oaks, \$18,042.00.
18 The City of San Antonio, \$1,411,929.00.
19 Smith County, \$426,986.00.
20 Tarrant County, \$2,089,417.00.
21 Travis County, \$869,075.00.
22 The City of Victoria, \$275,894.00.
23 The City of Eagle Pass, \$432,503.00.
24 That concludes the Tier 1 requests.
25 The Tier 2 requests:

1 The City of Cedar Hill, \$14,250.00.
2 Hidalgo County, \$1,114,348.00.
3 Maverick County, \$642,623.00.
4 The City of San Marcos, \$177,401.00.
5 Town of Prosper, \$286,400.00.

6 Mr. Chairman, that will conclude my
7 update on 6C.

8 MR. RICHARDS: Mr. Chairman, David
9 Richards general counsel for the record.

10 We will need two motions on this one.
11 One separate vote for the City of Laredo that you will
12 need to recuse yourself.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Just before we move on,
15 I have a question that I heard during the presentation
16 and that's for Brownsville.

17 Is somebody from Brownsville here?

18 Good morning, Sergeant.

19 So I know that there is going to be a
20 change in structure with the South Texas Task Force.
21 I know that Hidalgo County put in for a separate task
22 force which is in the Tier 2 and more than likely will
23 be funded in October, but I know that there is a
24 change of structure to your task force.

25 I know that you mentioned that the

1 replacement for Edinburg was Harlingen, but the
2 application replacement is otherwise.

3 Am I correct, director?

4 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Yes, sir, it still
5 showed in the narrative, it still showed Edinburg PD
6 one officer.

7 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So can we get
8 clarification as to the structure of your task force?

9 SERGEANT SERRATA: Good morning, Mr.
10 President and members of the board. Sergeant Wes
11 Serrata with the Brownsville PD and patrol manager to
12 the state task force.

13 So in reference to what you mentioned,
14 yes, there is some restructuring. One of the members
15 from Edinburg had been placed for Harlingen. We
16 decided to leave one agent from that agency since we
17 had heard there were cops that were possibly joining
18 another task force; but in the case that they did not
19 go with them so they could still have an agent in the
20 task force nevertheless.

21 I know in the application that we had
22 actually also put Weslaco and that was an oversight on
23 our part. Weslaco was not in the application. They
24 decided to back off from it.

25 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Knowing that, does that

1 change the amounts and the FTEs that were provided in
2 the application?

3 DIRECTOR DIGGS: So William Diggs, MVCPA
4 Director for the record.

5 So, Mr. Chairman, my opinion would be the
6 answer is, yes, I believe that this is something that
7 we could handle through negotiations and back out the
8 Edinburg officer from the request as well as the
9 funding if approved as it is today.

10 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Now, knowing
11 this, we will have to make sure. I don't know when
12 your fiscal year starts or when Edinburg's fiscal year
13 starts; but I say the recommendation is to let those
14 agencies know that that FTE is no longer funded by
15 MVCPA through the grant, so they are going to have to
16 make some, I guess, to get to their counsel or their
17 commissioners to find out how they are going to get
18 that funding for those FTEs.

19 I am just making sure that you let them
20 know; and from here, we will make the other
21 modifications with your staff and our MVCPA staff.

22 SERGEANT SERRATA: Will do, Mr.
23 President.

24 Thank you.

25 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman, I move that

1 the MVCPA Board approve the following fiscal year 2025
2 task force grant to the City of Laredo for
3 \$1,401,606 -- pardon me -- \$1,401,606.00.

4 Members, do I have a motion?

5 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Am I second?

6 I have to make the motion?

7 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: You make the motion.

8 MEMBER BROTHERTON: I second it.

9 Member Brotherton, I second it.

10 MEMBER JONES: I will now call for the
11 vote of the members.

12 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Aye.

13 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Aye.

14 MEMBER JONES: Let the record reflect
15 that I, Sharon Jones, vote aye.

16 Motion carries.

17 I move that the MVCPA Board approve the
18 following fiscal year 2025 task force grant award in
19 Tier 1 with the exception of the City of Laredo, and I
20 also move that the October MVCPA board meeting
21 consider the Tier 2 response.

22 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: I have a motion from
23 Member Jones.

24 Do I have a second?

25 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: I second.

1 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: The motion is from
2 Member Jones. The second is from Member
3 Cantu-Serrano.

4 Is there any further discussion?
5 Hearing none, I will now call for the
6 vote.

7 Members, if you are in favor of this
8 motion say, "Aye."

9 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Aye.

10 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Aye.

11 MEMBER JONES: Aye.

12 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Let the record reflect
13 that I, Michael Rodriguez, vote aye.

14 The motion passes.

15 Agenda Item No. 7, adoption of amendments
16 to 43 TAC 57.36.

17 Members, I would now like to move on to
18 the rule adoption item.

19 Mr. David Richards.

20 MR. RICHARDS: Good morning, Mr.
21 Chairman, members and Director Diggs.

22 David Richard, general counsel for the
23 record.

24 Agenda Item No. 7 is on Page 22 of your
25 board book. It's an action item.

1 We are bringing this back for final
2 adoption. As you recall back at our March 28th
3 meeting, we had proposed or the board proposed this
4 meeting, amendments to 57.36 for a 30-day comment
5 period. It was placed in the Texas Register for that
6 comment period.

7 We received one comment, public comment
8 that was from a task force member in favor of the
9 amendment.

10 If you recall, the amendment was
11 precipitated by the need to give the board flexibility
12 in establishing the cash match or the cash match
13 requirement for each year of grant funding.

14 We kind of were blessed and cursed with
15 SB224 funding in the sense that we got plenty of money
16 to accomplish the mission of the legislation; however,
17 we had a very short time frame and window within which
18 to get the applications and requests for funding and
19 approved, vetted and so on and so forth.

20 We found out that because we were so far
21 in the fiscal year '24 that most if not all of the
22 grantees did not have a 20 percent cash match that
23 they could -- that would be required under the current
24 rules as currently written back in March.

25 So to deal with that and also the

1 financial issues that our grantees may have going
2 forward with other funding years, the board approved
3 the amendment to 57.36 to allow flexibility to
4 establish that cash match requirement were not --
5 establish a requirement at all.

6 So the board agenda item today is to file
7 with the Texas Register for final adoption. This rule
8 if approved by the board during this meeting will be
9 published in the August 2nd edition of the Texas
10 Register and will become effective on August the 12th
11 of this year.

12 So all I am asking for now is a vote,
13 motion and a vote to approve the amendments to 57.36
14 for final adoption.

15 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Are there any questions
17 for Mr. David Richards?

18 Counsel, are there any public comments on
19 this?

20 MS. FLINT: Mr. Chairman, there are no
21 comments.

22 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

23 Members, do I have a motion on Agenda
24 Item No. 7?

25 MS. FLINT: Mr. Chairman, there are no

1 comments.

2 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Cassandra.

3 Do I have a motion on Agenda Item No. 7?

4 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Member Brotherton, I
5 move that the MVCPA approve the final adoption of the
6 amendments to 43 TAC 57.36.

7 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: I have a motion from
8 Member Brotherton.

9 Is there a second?

10 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Member
11 Cantu-Serrano, I second.

12 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Is there any further
13 discussion?

14 Hearing none, I will now call for the
15 vote.

16 All those in favor of the motion say,
17 "Aye."

18 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Aye.

19 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Aye.

20 MEMBER JONES: Aye.

21 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: All those opposed say,
22 "Nay."

23 Let the record reflect that I, Michael
24 Rodriguez, vote aye.

25 The motion passes.

1 Thank you, members.

2 We will now move on to Agenda Item No. 8,
3 Texas DMV regional service center update.

4 Members, the Texas DMV Deputy Executive
5 Director Roland Luna will present Agenda Item No. 8.

6 Mr. Luna.

7 DIRECTOR LUNA: Good morning, Chairman,
8 board members and Director Diggs.

9 Roland Luna, deputy executive director
10 with the DMV.

11 I want to provide an update on what we
12 are doing at the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles as
13 it relates to facilities.

14 As you all know, we have a strong
15 partnership with MVCPA, and it's important that as we
16 plan for the future either for upgrades to our
17 existing regional service centers or for expanded
18 efforts that we consider the things that are important
19 for the 68A inspections.

20 We work closely with MVCPA Director Diggs
21 to ensure that we consider the specifications that are
22 needed to conduct 68A inspections and then for
23 officers to have a place to work at the conclusion of
24 that inspection to come inside the regional service
25 center to complete the transaction.

1 This last legislative session, the DMV
2 was awarded by an appropriated approximately
3 \$3.4 million, an additional FTEs, two stand up and two
4 additional offices, one in Houston and then one in the
5 Dallas/Fort Worth area.

6 The Vehicle Titles and Registration
7 Division has conducted a service mapping looking at
8 all transactions across the State of Texas to
9 determine what is the ideal location for the new two
10 regional service centers.

11 Per perspective, we currently have 16
12 regional service centers that are strategically placed
13 throughout the state. This will give us a total of 18
14 regional service centers. Additionally, what we are
15 considering is upgrades and renovations to existing
16 regional service centers.

17 For example in the San Antonio regional
18 service center, there is a strong partnership with the
19 San Antonio ReACT Task Forces as well as other
20 surrounding task forces where they come to the
21 regional service center on Wednesdays to conduct 68A
22 inspections.

23 After the inspection, they walk into the
24 regional service center and provide the inspection
25 report to clerks who then finalize the transaction

1 with the customer.

2 We are moving that office from its
3 current location off of 1604 Nacogdoches to the
4 Rolling Oaks Mall. It's going to be an ideal location
5 for us. It's larger. The interior has been
6 configured in such a way where it's easier for
7 customers to complete their transactions. There will
8 also be space for officers to work, and we will also
9 have space for our internal enforcement investigators
10 and compliance analysts to go in and conduct their
11 work.

12 We have renovation projects with the
13 Pharr office as well. We are currently colocated with
14 TXDOT. We will be moving one mile down the road, and
15 we will have a new facility in Pharr.

16 What's interesting about the Pharr
17 location is as task force operations continue to grow
18 and there continues to be further collaborations with
19 the South Texas task forces, we envision in
20 consultation with Director Diggs, we envision having a
21 space earmarked not only to conduct 68A inspections
22 but should the board choose so to have any type of
23 lift or pit or any other type of enhancements that are
24 provided to that office, we would have that space
25 located and earmarked for MVCPA.

1 If the board determines that no one lift
2 or a pit is not going to be necessary, you will still
3 have the space that is adequate to conduct 68A
4 inspections.

5 We are currently considering an upgrade
6 to other facilities as well. One other that I would
7 like to mention is the Odessa office. That office is
8 currently going through a renovation project, and we
9 anticipate that that project will be completed in
10 December of this year. There will be space as well to
11 conduct 68A inspections should officers need to use
12 that location as well.

13 The reason why we thought that these
14 upgrades were especially important to communicate
15 before the board today is because we understand that
16 the task force officers need to have communication
17 with regional service center employees. We know that
18 they need a location to conduct 68A inspections
19 safely; and some task forces like in the San Antonio
20 area, they do them on designated days in conjunction
21 with the regional service center.

22 So we wanted to provide that update and
23 if there are any questions about our expansion
24 efforts, I am happy to take those questions now.

25 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Well, this goes back to

1 the collaboration and the efforts and the support from
2 Texas DMV with MVCPA.

3 In the past, this was never, you know, it
4 was never -- this conversation would never have
5 happened. We were always trying to figure out where
6 can we, you know, get better and where the gaps were
7 at; but I can tell you that ever since you and Daniel
8 came onboard, the support has been tremendous; and I
9 know that with this and what you just spoke about, I
10 am going to ask Director Diggs if we can do an
11 assessment of every task force as to how they are
12 doing their 68A's and to see where we can come in and
13 support and especially now that we have this catalytic
14 converter money; and if there is any way that we can
15 expand on what you are doing with your service
16 stations; and if we can expound on that to make sure
17 that we can be more efficient and we provide that
18 customer service to the community that we do that
19 because I think that it's important not only on the
20 trying to prevent the auto thefts and the vehicle
21 clones and all of the other stuff that comes with it;
22 but also to be able to help with the task forces and
23 in a more comfortable environment be able to etch that
24 catalytic converter and be able to check those clone
25 vehicles and things like that.

1 So definitely I do want to thank you for
2 all of the efforts that you put in for the MVCPA. I
3 mean, you are here all week. It says a lot about the
4 commitment, and we are 100 percent also committed to
5 making sure that we continue this collaboration and
6 making sure of this relationship with Texas DMV.

7 So thank you for that.

8 DIRECTOR LUNA: Yes, sir, thank you,
9 chief.

10 And to further illustrate how we are
11 approaching renovation projects and expansion,
12 Director Diggs joins us on all of those field visits
13 and site visits to ensure that spacing on the exterior
14 is adequate for task force officers so that they can
15 conduct inspections; and will continue to do that as
16 we move forward.

17 Thank you very much for your kind words.

18 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

19 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chair, during the
20 Monday grant budget committee, another task force
21 requested a building; but based on certain statutes
22 and with the direction of counsel, we did not approve
23 the building.

24 However, I would like for MVCPA and DMV
25 to make Lubbock a priority in trying to figure out --

1 I know that they are asking for a lift -- to try to
2 figure out how with can best assist them in Lubbock.

3 DIRECTOR LUNA: Yes, ma'am, Major Jones,
4 thank you.

5 Roland Luna with DMV.

6 We have an office that is located in
7 Lubbock. We have a regional service center there. We
8 are colocated with TXDOT. We have an outstanding
9 relationship with the Department of Transportation,
10 and I am sure that we can work with them to explore
11 how we can use dedicated spacing there to conduct 68A
12 inspections. That's one of our smaller offices; but
13 the district office in particular, there is some room
14 there for growth. So we can add that to our
15 renovation project.

16 One of the other things that I think is
17 extremely notable as well is what the legislature
18 requires the Texas DMV to do is to conduct a long
19 range facilities plan. So in addition to opening our
20 new offices, we are required to evaluate all of our
21 existing offices as well as where we need to consider
22 placing offices in the future. That's why the service
23 mapping that I talked about at the beginning is so
24 important.

25 So with the Lubbock office in particular

1 knowing that there is a need because of geographic
2 considerations, we will certainly prioritize that a
3 little differently.

4 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

5 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Williams Diggs, MVCPA
6 Director for the record.

7 I also want to thank Deputy Executor
8 Director Luna for the work that he has done with MVCPA
9 since my arrival in the collaboration, and I do feel
10 that it's necessary for me to be able to make those
11 trips with the DMV in looking at these new facilities.

12 It gives us the ability to point out some
13 things that may or may not work, and we have had a
14 good relationship, and I look forward to that
15 continuing.

16 I also do want to mention that after
17 Monday, myself and Doug from Lubbock County, we
18 visited. He presented an option that I think gives us
19 a lot of flexibility because I think about some of the
20 challenges that we have around the state when it comes
21 to a permanently mounted lift; and some of the
22 challenges that we may have with the different, you
23 know, the lessees who are leasing these properties
24 from or for that matter being colocated even on TXDOT
25 properties.

1 Doug presented to me a trailer mounted
2 lift which I think is an excellent alternative to
3 giving us all sorts of flexibility even thinking back
4 to our recent Dallas visit not just a few weeks ago;
5 and so, I look forward to working with Doug and
6 continuing to look at options as it relate to 68A
7 inspections; and, Doug, thank you for that and the
8 understanding on Monday.

9 That's all that I have, sir.

10 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, director.

11 Does anybody else have any questions?

12 Thank you, Roland.

13 We will now move on to Agenda No. 9, the
14 MVCPA logo redesign review and selection.

15 Herman, the lead trainer, will present
16 Agenda Item No. 9, an action item.

17 Is it going to be Earl?

18 MR. ADAIR: Yes, sir, it's going to be
19 Earl today.

20 DIRECTOR PENCE: Good morning, Mr.
21 Chairman and board members.

22 Thank you all for being here.

23 There was an idea during the last board
24 meeting to redesign and maybe improve the design of
25 the MVCPA logo.

1 We actually are having some trouble
2 trying to load these onto the screen; but if you look
3 in your book under page -- there we go.

4 We put the word out to several of the
5 grantees or to all of them actually and asked for
6 ideas and creativity on a new logo to replace the
7 stale logo of the current MVCPA.

8 We actually had some very, very good
9 surprisingly good ideas come from some of the task
10 forces.

11 Director Diggs, we want you all to pick
12 and take a look. They are also in your board book.
13 If you want to know which one came from which
14 department, I do have that information; but I won't
15 disclose it right now.

16 DIRECTOR DIGGS: It's actually up on the
17 screen right now.

18 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Okay. So on that one,
19 I know that -- I want a logo that would put everybody
20 on the map, right?

21 DIRECTOR PENCE: Yes, sir.

22 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So we are talking about
23 going from Dallas/Fort Worth to Houston to Laredo to
24 going down to The Valley to El Paso kind of
25 encompassing all of the task forces and where we are

1 at.

2 DIRECTOR PENCE: Yes, sir.

3 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So I think that this is
4 a good starting point, but we need to add more to it.
5 I think that it needs a little bit more to it.

6 DIRECTOR PENCE: A little more color.

7 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Yeah, and just because
8 we want to add a little bit more as to also the -- I
9 know that the current MVCPA logo has that thin blue
10 line.

11 DIRECTOR PENCE: Yes, sir.

12 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So I just think that we
13 need a little bit more work on it; and maybe just some
14 back and forth; but this is what we are talking about
15 when we are talking about Texas, have that Texas
16 flavor put into it.

17 So, Charla and Rebecca, what do you
18 think?

19 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Are you asking my
20 opinion?

21 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Yes.

22 MEMBER BROTHERTON: That's not fair,
23 Member Brotherton.

24 So if I was looking at these, there are
25 two or three that I like. I like No. 4.

1 Is that the one that's up?

2 DIRECTOR PENCE: No, that's three.

3 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Is it three?

4 DIRECTOR PENCE: Yeah, that's four right
5 there.

6 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Yeah, that's four.

7 So I like the -- I mean, if I can merge
8 them, I might do something different; but anyway, so I
9 like four. I like six, and those are my two
10 favorites, four and six.

11 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Rebecca.

12 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: I believe my
13 favorites are three and four, yes, three and four.

14 MR. RICHARDS: Mr. Chairman, I was also
15 approached by several grantees here in the audience
16 that don't wish to be identified about a vote from
17 them also.

18 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Yeah, we are fixing to
19 maybe put it up for a vote.

20 I certainly may have been wrong. I
21 shouldn't have never said my opinion. I should have
22 started with you guys.

23 MEMBER JONES: I tried.

24 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: I know.

25 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Yours was seven.

1 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Mines was seven and
2 adding more to it. Yeah, it needs a lot more.

3 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Do we have to make a
4 decision today?

5 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: No, we don't have to
6 make a decision. I mean, I think that we are in the
7 right direction. It's just that we have to add those
8 things that we said, and then we will put it out for a
9 vote.

10 DIRECTOR PENCE: And I agree that we need
11 to add a little more color and a little more graphic
12 to No. 7.

13 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chair, if I may.
14 Why don't we involve the task forces and
15 at least narrow it down to three so we are not here
16 again doing the same thing, but just narrow it down to
17 the top three and then go from there.

18 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Yeah, but then we are
19 going to narrow it down to what's there.

20 Are we not going to add anything?

21 MEMBER JONES: Narrow it down to the top
22 three from here, and then we go back if we need to
23 tweak and add.

24 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Okay.

25 MEMBER JONES: If not, we are going to

1 come back here again and we are going to be in the
2 same boat.

3 MEMBER BROTHERTON: I agree.

4 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So we do which one?

5 MEMBER JONES: So start with No. 1 and
6 ask for input with hands up and trust me you will know
7 which one they like.

8 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Let's go with
9 No. 1.

10 Who likes No. 1?

11 MEMBER JONES: I saw one hand.

12 Be proud and put it up.

13 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: No. 2?

14 No. 3?

15 Okay. We have got ten for No. 3.

16 That's four.

17 MR. RICHARDS: Are some of you guys
18 voting twice?

19 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: 16.

20 No. 5?

21 No. 6?

22 MR. RICHARDS: Mr. Chairman, I like that
23 one as well. I don't have a vote; but I will suggest
24 that on that one, I mean, MVCPA is not prominent so we
25 need to do something I would suggest with that to make

1 it.

2 We know that we are in the State of
3 Texas, but maybe do something to enlarge the font so
4 that we can address this board and all of that.

5 So I thank you for my comment.

6 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Mr. Chairman, if I may.

7 I know Deputy Director Luna and his
8 background is similar to mine. He may have some input
9 as well.

10 DIRECTOR LUNA: Hello again, board
11 members. Roman Luna Deputy Director Texas DMV.

12 After the board has considered in concept
13 what they would like the design to be, I propose that
14 we take that design and then vet that internally.

15 Our government and strategic
16 communications division helps with our work and helps
17 with all of the public facing designs that we have to
18 ensure that we are not infringing on any copyright or
19 anyone else's intellectual property; and Keith Yawn
20 who is here with us today, he leads those efforts for
21 the Texas DMV to make sure that we are doing the
22 things that we are supposed to be doing internally.

23 So once the concept has been agreed upon
24 by the board, we will take that and we will refine
25 that in conjunction with Director Diggs and then Mr.

1 Yawn and Director Diggs can bring that back at a
2 future board meeting when it's completed.

3 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Okay. So then we can
4 pick three, and then we vet it, and then we can move
5 on.

6 MEMBER JONES: That was my suggestion.

7 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So vote on seven.

8 MEMBER BROTHERTON: You said the top
9 three.

10 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Well, it's because if
11 we would have added color, it would have been
12 different.

13 That's what I was saying, Charla.

14 So we have got No. 3.

15 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Add it in and then
16 have them vet it to make sure.

17 MEMBER JONES: No, the majority rules.
18 No, ma'am, the majority rules.

19 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: We have three, four and
20 six. So we are going to vet three, four and six.

21 DIRECTOR PENCE: Thank you.

22 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: All right. Item No.
23 10, MVCPA training section update.

24 Members, Agenda Item No. 10 will be
25 presented by Deputy Director Earl Pence, lead trainers

1 Justin White and Amber Ott.

2 DIRECTOR PENCE: Mr. Chair and board
3 members, for the record, Earl Pence Deputy Director of
4 the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority.

5 Since our last meeting, we have been
6 doing a lot of good things. There has been several
7 trainings going on.

8 We have ordered an actual truck and
9 trailer that's going to blast the MVCPA colors and
10 logo.

11 If we can have that up.

12 Everything in the truck is going to be a
13 one-ton Ram Tradesman, single axle. It's a bottom
14 line trim package. The trailer is a 14-foot, and it
15 has already been -- the appeal has been issued on it,
16 so we are getting it in the next couple of weeks. The
17 truck should be here after September. Both will have
18 the graphics put on it.

19 Can we go there, Zac, please, sir?

20 That is your splash. There may be a
21 change where the blue comes through the middle where
22 they will do an American flag faded through that
23 between the old metal rivet metal and the diamond
24 plate; and, of course, the big shield will be changed
25 to whatever the board suggest we go with on the new

1 logo.

2 On the back will be the big cat on the
3 doors of the trailer. It will have the catalytic
4 converter emblem on it and also on the hood of the
5 truck. That's our plan.

6 Everything that we have gotten so far the
7 total bill is under \$100,000.00. So we shopped. We
8 shopped smart. We have got a diesel that's going to
9 drag it around from event to event, schools, public
10 viewings, trainings; and we are just waiting to get it
11 on the road.

12 As soon as we get those graphics, we will
13 get those to you all for the truck and that's the idea
14 that we have right now. So as soon as it's finalized,
15 we can't wait to get it to you. I want you all to see
16 it.

17 I want to hand it over to Justin White.
18 He is one of our law enforcement trainers. He is
19 going to update you on some training that he has done
20 and what we have planned in the future.

21 MR. WHITE: Thank you.

22 Good morning.

23 Justin White. I am one of the MVCPA law
24 enforcement trainers.

25 So so far since September, we have

1 done -- let me get to the right slide there.

2 So far from September of 2024 to this
3 current month, we have done -- the staff has been at
4 either about four -- it says three -- but it's about
5 four NICV trainings where we have assisted them with
6 our title fraud like an introduction to what the MVCPA
7 does as well as some catalytic converter training.

8 We have also assisted the DPS at their
9 fraud schools as well as they host some Part 1 and
10 Part 2 auto theft schools as well. Herman is going to
11 be in Amarillo next week for a DPS school.

12 We have also done some outside training
13 having to do with title fraud. We did a Part 1 school
14 at TAPT in Dallas back in October or the end of
15 September, I believe; and then about just over a month
16 ago, we had one in Conroe, a Part 2 school in Conroe.

17 So far we are looking at probably about
18 354 officers and agents and investigators that we have
19 trained so far since September.

20 Starting with fiscal year '25, we are
21 looking at doing two Part 1 schools, one at TAPT in
22 Lubbock in the early part of October and possibly one
23 down in the South Padre South Texas area.

24 The same thing with the Part 2 schools in
25 FY24, possibly like the McAllen/Laredo/South Texas

1 area; and then we are also going to do -- we are also
2 going to work more with the NICB's auto theft schools,
3 some additional Part 1 and Part 2 DPS schools and then
4 possibly some title fraud training to TDLR and some
5 other agencies are requesting it as well.

6 DIRECTOR PENCE: For the record, Earl
7 Pence, Deputy Director MVCPA.

8 Let me explain to the board what Part 1
9 and Part 2 is.

10 Part 1 on the training that we provide,
11 it goes into auto theft, VIN restoration, VIN
12 recovery. It's a hands-on; and in Part 1, they
13 actually go out to a wrecker yard or a salvage yard.
14 The participants actually get up under the trucks and
15 the trailers. They identify the VINs. They do acid
16 restorations. It's a hands-on, Part 1.

17 And Part 2 is more classroom. It
18 finishes everything out where they can get their ISO
19 access. ISO is through NICB where they can do 68A
20 inspections and VIN verifications. They have total
21 access, so you have to have those in order to get that
22 ISO access.

23 So just to familiarize you with what he
24 is talking about, that's what we do; and that's what
25 we are looking at taking it south, north, central, all

1 over the state. Instead of concentrating in one area,
2 we will spread it around.

3 If we do more than two, we are going to
4 do more than two; and that's the point to get the guys
5 trained. They have been needing the training.

6 Historically we haven't had a Part 2 Part
7 One school in four years and these guys are needing
8 it, so they are standing in line.

9 The one in Conroe filled up within six
10 hours, and it was done, and that was 40 students, and
11 that is about your average that you are going to do
12 per training.

13 Also next we have got Amber who is going
14 to update you on some stuff that she has been doing
15 with social media and some signs.

16 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Before we go to Amber,
17 I have a quick question.

18 I know that Member Brotherton had asked
19 about taking the social media training that we got
20 here, the open source to the task forces; and I think
21 it's a great idea to start looking into how much it
22 will cost MVCPA to take the instructor and putting
23 that together in a city that will be able to host it,
24 just to be able to pay for the instructor and be able
25 to get some task forces and maybe other surrounding

1 areas in those jurisdictions to get into those
2 classes.

3 I think that social media open source is
4 a great task. The other one maybe be able to read the
5 data from the phone extractions. Let's start looking
6 for something like that, the handling of CI sources,
7 tactical surveillance, those things that the task
8 forces need and see how much it will cost on our end
9 to take those instructors and put it out there who
10 will be able to host a training like that coming from
11 MVCPA.

12 DIRECTOR PENCE: Yes, sir, I did. I had
13 a conversation with him after that. I heard the
14 comments after the class. I saw the packed house.
15 It's a one deal. He surprised me. I would have hate
16 to have been his kid growing up because I know he
17 ain't getting away with nothing. He said it several
18 times.

19 Mr. Lofton, we did have a conversation
20 with him. We have also talked to Jim McNally with
21 NICB. I talked to him last night about getting a
22 little more intricate with Part 2 and Part 1, bringing
23 them in and just getting into some of those -- going
24 off into the weeds on some of these subjects.

25 We have a criteria that we have to

1 follow, but there is nothing that says that you can't
2 add to it and make it better, and that's what we are
3 planning on doing, and that is what we are looking at
4 in the future.

5 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

6 MS. OTT: Amber Ott, MVCPA.

7 We have completed the task that you
8 requested the last time of getting all social media
9 platforms up and running, so we now do have an X
10 account. We do have an Instagram up and running, and
11 our Facebook is currently up and running.

12 We are sharing all events and photos from
13 those events. Even our schools and our local task
14 force, anything that they send to us or that they post
15 on their social media outlets we are sharing there.

16 I have currently asked for a request from
17 Diggs and Pence to allow us to maybe put somebody into
18 Facebook to push our posts and our Facebook page out
19 there to get more followers. We have had over 1K
20 finally, and we are still climbing each day when I
21 notice that we get more followers. So we are up and
22 running, and we are sharing everything that our task
23 force is doing.

24 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Member Brotherton.

25 Have we worked with the individual task

1 forces to make sure?

2 I know that Mansfield put something up
3 that was going on because I follow y'all so I follow
4 them, but still do all of the task forces have social
5 media; and are we helping them?

6 Is there anything in the plan to make
7 sure that they do have it and have the training on it
8 and all of that so that they are -- if they are
9 getting it out and then you are sending it out, then
10 it gets to a broader group, right?

11 MS. OTT: Correct.

12 So I did -- Amber Ott, MVCPA -- I did
13 send out an E-mail to all of the task force commanders
14 asking them to send in information. Most of the time
15 every morning we are checking either their Facebook
16 page for task force. Some of them go through their
17 actual police departments. They don't have a separate
18 Facebook for their task force. So we do collect
19 information from that.

20 If they don't have social media and they
21 don't contact us to let us know that they have an
22 event or anything, we are not showing that
23 information. So I rely heavily on the task force to
24 submit information or it's posted for me to share.

25 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Amber, I have a

1 question for you.

2 So when they share the story with you,
3 right, particularly let's just say the Houston Task
4 Force, can we start tagging their senators and their
5 representatives in those areas just to make sure that,
6 you know, the MVCPA is trying to share the story with
7 them.

8 MS. OTT: Absolutely. Most of the time
9 when I do share their information, I am tagging them
10 along with other hashtags to kind of draw in anything
11 that is related to auto theft and motor vehicle
12 crimes.

13 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Okay. So on the
14 catalytic converter SB224, I know that there are some
15 agencies that came up to us on Monday and said that
16 they were going to have these events on etching the
17 catalytic converter.

18 I think that those are great stories to
19 share whenever they do have them, so we can reach out
20 to each and every one of them whenever anything like
21 that happens to make sure that even if they go on a
22 live Facebook, that they are doing it there.

23 I think that it's important for us to
24 share all of those things because that's what is going
25 to put our name out there and also the fact that the

1 funding that was provided to us is going to be put to
2 good use.

3 MS. OTT: And we are sharing those
4 events, and we actually pin those events to the top of
5 our Facebook page for the public, and then we try to
6 re-share them the day before or the day of that those
7 are happening again, but we do keep those pinned at
8 the top of the page.

9 We have also started going out into the
10 field trying to hit some of those events as well as
11 going out to the 68A inspections and visiting with the
12 task force there.

13 I actually went out with Tarrant County
14 on those 68A inspections recently and kind of visited
15 with them and got to know their processes, and I am
16 trying to get around to each task force.

17 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Amber.

18 So when we started, how many followers
19 did we have?

20 MS. OTT: Like 400-and-something. I will
21 have to go back and look. I am not sure exactly on
22 that.

23 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Now, we have a
24 thousand.

25 MS. OTT: We are over a thousand. We are

1 like at 1,500 a month.

2 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Great job.

3 MS. OTT: In fact, we talked about maybe
4 doing a swag bag if we can get to 2k and then give it
5 away. Whoever is our 2k follower, we will give a swag
6 bag away from MVCPA.

7 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: We will celebrate big.
8 Thank you.

9 MS. OTT: You are welcomed.

10 DIRECTOR PENCE: But that's about it for
11 the update for the training division if you have any
12 questions.

13 MEMBER JONES: Member Jones for the
14 board.

15 Now, what I heard about the social media,
16 great job with the one hundred percent improvement. I
17 will also like to remind your team, Earl, that one of
18 the big suggestions from the last meeting was to have
19 a statewide coordinating etching effort and host that
20 with your social media and let's see how it goes and
21 make sure that PIOs are involved for each agency and
22 definitely for DMV as well.

23 DIRECTOR PENCE: That's a good idea.

24 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

25 DIRECTOR PENCE: Thank you.

1 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Members, we are now
2 moving on to Agenda Item No. 11, 2025 conference venue
3 recommendation and selection.

4 Member Jones.

5 MEMBER JONES: Next year, Mr. Chairman,
6 we have now narrowed down our conference to be in the
7 Dallas/Fort Worth area. We are hoping for Fort Worth
8 near the stockyard. We do have a hotel proposal from
9 a hotel that's two miles from the stockyard, and we
10 also have a proposal from a second hotel that's in the
11 Dallas area.

12 In speaking with the Dallas Task Force
13 members, their choice is they are pushing towards the
14 stockyard.

15 Also those of you who are in the
16 Dallas/Fort Worth area, and I am going to help you
17 out. If you look at the Texas DPS map, it says,
18 "Region 1 or North Texas area," you are included in
19 this next year's coordination effort. So all task
20 forces in that area are going to share the load as
21 well as throughout the state when it comes to
22 gathering sponsorships.

23 Executive Diggs and I, the executive
24 director, we had a conversation on some thoughts about
25 changing the conference event. So one of the things

1 that we constantly heard throughout the Senate Bill
2 224 committee meetings is that there is definitely a
3 disconnect between law enforcement and the auto parts
4 industry, the auto dealers, recyclers and insurance.
5 However, our training has to be for law enforcement
6 purposes as well as law enforcement sensitive.

7 So the thought process is for next year
8 to have the grant committee meeting and the board
9 meeting in October because we have a meeting in
10 October already scheduled for 2025 and in August --
11 July of this week for Fort Worth, those are the dates
12 that we gave to the hotel, for that week have the
13 first three days where it's law enforcement only; and
14 then Days 4 and 5 could be for the industry where we
15 have insurance companies, auto dealerships, auto
16 parts; and let them present to us so that we are
17 hearing each other's effort; and we present to them as
18 well.

19 So we are not excluding those who are in
20 law enforcement because this year we excluded a lot of
21 non-commissioned who actually have a lot of input and
22 direction in what we do and should be heard inclusive
23 of the community members as well.

24 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So for law enforcement,
25 it would be five days?

1 MEMBER JONES: Three, sir.

2 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: And Days 4 and 5, who
3 is the industry going to present to?

4 MEMBER JONES: To us. It's still going
5 to be -- it's a five-day conference, yes, sir; but
6 since we cannot include non law enforcement in our
7 training and even here we had some vendors who were
8 like, "Hey, I have something to say; but I can't say
9 it. I can't go into your meeting;" and so we have
10 been hearing this throughout our meeting with Senate
11 Bill 224 that there is definitely a disconnect.

12 We acknowledge that there is a
13 disconnect. We hear it at every meeting that we go
14 to, and we learn from each other. Like the very first
15 Senate Bill 224 meeting, there was a discussion about
16 regulation; and law enforcement is like, "Yes, pass a
17 bill. Pass a law. Let's put them all in jail;" and
18 then the auto industry said, "If you over regulate,
19 then there is also a downside to other states and out
20 of the country."

21 And then there was a discussion about
22 etching where law enforcement is for 100 percent for
23 etching but the auto industry is not because they
24 think that we want to regulate them to etch before the
25 converters leave the floor; and so they gave an

1 excellent explanation as to why that would be a
2 problem from their end; and then we have to explain to
3 them that why we need to etch it.

4 And something else that's very important
5 is that they are beginning to understand that you can
6 give us a hundred million dollars without prosecution.
7 We are going to do our job, of course. They were
8 under the impression that law enforcement was against
9 Senate Bill 224 and against the industry. We are not.

10 It's just that they need to understand
11 when we take a case to the prosecution, "Hey, will you
12 take this case;" and they tell us, "No," the answer is
13 no. So there is definitely a disconnect between our
14 executive powers as law enforcement and the industry
15 that do not understand. So there is a lot to learn
16 from either side.

17 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Awesome.

18 So we are moving to October.

19 Is Stacy here or somebody from TAPT?

20 Can you come forward, please?

21 I know that TAPT has their conference in
22 October, correct?

23 MR. STACY: Reid Stacy, Dallas PD, past
24 president of TAPT.

25 Yes, so our conference is typically held

1 also in October; but she was speaking in 2025 being
2 this time this month so there is no conflict there;
3 but was there a follow-up with the October date?

4 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Yes. So we are
5 thinking of doing the executive board meeting and the
6 GBR meetings in October, right?

7 MEMBER JONES: Correct.

8 I think that we have dates already,
9 right, Mr. Diggs?

10 Do we have dates for 2025?

11 DIRECTOR DIGGS: We do actually have
12 dates already posted on our website.

13 MR. STACY: I don't have those exact
14 dates for the 2025. We will be here in Houston in
15 2025. I do know that off the top of my head though I
16 think it is that last week of September into that
17 first week of October. Hold on one second. I think
18 that I took a picture.

19 If you will give me one second.

20 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Sure.

21 The reason I am asking is because if we
22 are having a board meeting and TAPT is going to be
23 having their conference, it's going to be a problem
24 for us.

25 MR. STACY: Okay. So I have got the

1 dates right here. For our 2025 conference here in
2 Houston, it's our conference will start September the
3 28th, so that's okay; and it just runs through the 3rd
4 of October which is a Friday.

5 MEMBER JONES: Mr. Chairman, I have
6 gotten several -- I don't want to say suggestions --
7 just several discussions or thoughts about combining
8 the conferences, tag teaming. I am just putting that
9 out there. Just there are pros and cons. It doesn't
10 make it MVCPA. It's combined, but we are not doing
11 basically the same type of training.

12 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: I understand.

13 MR. STACY: If I can address that.

14 I think that it was probably four years
15 ago that we were in San Marcos; and I presented that
16 to the board because sometimes we may be duplicating
17 our efforts; and we are utilizing the same trainers;
18 and something that you have to tackle is that are we
19 sending our same task force members or our
20 investigators through the same training; and at the
21 same time, are we taking them away from the caseload
22 of their work for two weeks out of a very tight
23 period, you know, from July until September/October.

24 And that's why I can't speak 100 percent
25 on TAPT, but I can present it back to the board if

1 it's something that we would like to kind of get
2 together and communicate through. It would be a dual
3 effort. It can be branded MVCPA and then TAPT, of
4 course, because we are all the same. You know, it's
5 right hand left hand. We are all together in this.

6 You know, probably there is 350 members
7 in TAPT; and I guarantee you that the vast majority
8 are either task force or were task force at one time.

9 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: And I think for some
10 agencies it works perfect; and I can tell you from the
11 Laredo side that it works perfect because we send half
12 of our group to the MVCPA conference and the other
13 half to our TAPT conference, so it works out really
14 good; but I know that there has to be additional
15 conversation just so we don't duplicate on the same
16 trainings and we send the same investigators and the
17 same crew to those conferences.

18 So definitely we can continue that
19 conversation. I just want to make sure also that the
20 board meeting, we are not having it somewhere else;
21 and you guys are in Houston; and then we are also
22 trying to put a board meeting especially a GBR one
23 where we are presenting on our grants; and then, you
24 know, everybody is going to be at the conference, so
25 we just want to make sure that we continue to have

1 that conversation.

2 MR. STACY: Understandable.

3 One thing that we used to do in the past
4 is we would always open up our Mondays 100 percent
5 directed towards ABTPA but MVCPA these days where you
6 all will have a setting provided to do business; and
7 then at the same time on a Friday or something if you
8 all wanted to do the actual awards or whatever that
9 may be, we can accommodate that.

10 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Stacy.

11 Is Gina here?

12 Gina, where were you last night?

13 One minute, Gina.

14 MEMBER JONES: Sorry, ma'am.

15 I move that the MVCPA Board approve the
16 2025 conference in the Dallas/Fort Worth area and also
17 to have discussions with TAPT.

18 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: I have a motion from
19 Member Jones.

20 Do I have a second?

21 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Member
22 Cantu-Serrano, I second.

23 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: I have a second from
24 Member Cantu-Serrano.

25 Is there any further discussion?

1 Hearing none, we will now call for the
2 vote.

3 Members, if you are in favor of the
4 motion say, "Aye."

5 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Aye.

6 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Aye.

7 MEMBER JONES: Aye.

8 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Anyone opposed say,
9 "Nay."

10 Let the record reflect that I, Michael
11 Rodriguez, vote aye.

12 The motion passes.

13 Okay, Gina, come up to the front.

14 So yesterday I read your -- the
15 recommendation that was sent over to us; and I am
16 going to read it again because it's a great
17 recommendation, Gina.

18 So you are awarded the partnership award
19 from the MVCPA. You came to Galveston -- they said
20 that you were going to get mad at me because I said
21 that you came to Galveston in 2005, so I was still a
22 CSI back in 2005; but thank you for being with us
23 since 2005.

24 So she has been with auto theft as an
25 auto theft analyst for the past 15 years. She has

1 been the go-to analyst for many years for task force
2 personnel across the state and many other outside
3 state agencies requesting assistance. Gina has helped
4 to identify thousands if not more vehicles for task
5 forces across Texas. She helps identify suspects'
6 vehicles, trailers, equipment and a multitude of other
7 items.

8 Her brilliance and keen sense of detail
9 has allowed her to take a partial VIN and rebuild it
10 to a full VIN number at a rapid pace. She conducts
11 offline searches for stolen vehicles, etc., and can
12 help identify trailers by looking at them with a
13 photo.

14 Gina has built relationships with
15 manufacturers where she can obtain additional
16 information which has been crucial for time sensitive
17 investigations.

18 Gina is a major asset as an analyst to
19 the MVCPA Task Force with her attention to detail and
20 wisdom of the databases that she uses.

21 Gina not only assists with the hundreds
22 of phone calls each week but has also assisted with
23 the Galveston Task Force commander with her grant
24 MVCPA quarterly meetings, trainings, etc.

25 The task forces describes Gina as someone

1 who never complains and is always willing to go above
2 and beyond to help. Each year many awards are
3 presented to investigators in the task forces but we
4 tend to forget the other unsung heroes who support our
5 task forces and the investigators. Gina like many
6 civilians assisting MVCPA task forces are the unsung
7 heroes.

8 Today MVCPA would look to honor Gina
9 Dolittle with the partnership award for being one of
10 those heroes who work behind the scenes at the MVCPA
11 task forces in the great State of Texas.

12 Gina, congratulations.

13 Now, turning to Item No. 12, 68A
14 inspection proposed statutory change awareness.

15 Members, Director William Diggs will
16 present Agenda Item 12.

17 Mr. Diggs.

18 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Williams Diggs, Director
19 MVCPA for the record.

20 Mr. Chairman and members, on Page 36 of
21 your board book, you will find information related to
22 Agenda Item No. 12.

23 Currently 68A inspections are only
24 required for certain circumstances. Myself and Deputy
25 Executive Director Luna met with Chief Mike Rodriguez

1 in Laredo a few weeks back and we discussed a proposal
2 that the Texas DMV is going to put towards the 89th
3 Legislative session in reference to expanding when a
4 68A inspection could take place.

5 Today this is not an action item. It's
6 just a briefing only; and if the 89th Legislative
7 session adopts a statutory change, then the
8 recommendation is going to be that you, Chief
9 Rodriguez, that you could assign me to a chair working
10 group of MVCPA staff, MVCPA grantees, task forces
11 around Texas and that we could identify when certain
12 situations could require a 68A inspection and bring
13 that back to the MVCPA Board to the executive office
14 of the Texas DMV; and then that could further move to
15 a rule adoption that would be adopted by the Texas DMV
16 and would require circumstances when additional 68A
17 inspections could take place; and that could help us
18 reduce some fraud related to motor vehicle crimes and
19 also, of course, recovering stolen vehicles that are
20 in Texas.

21 And so today again, it's just a briefing
22 only; and that's all that I have.

23 I will be glad to take any questions.

24 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Are there any questions
25 for Director Diggs?

1 Thank you, Mr. Diggs.

2 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Thank you.

3 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: We will now move on to
4 the next agenda item, Agenda Item No. 13, FY 24
5 supplanting report conducted by the MVCPA audit
6 section.

7 Members, Agenda Item 13 will be presented
8 by the audit's staff Sterling Fielder and Lauren
9 Williams.

10 MS. WILLIAMS: My name is Lauren
11 Williams. I am a grant auditor with the MVCPA; and
12 again, I will be going through the FY22 and FY23
13 supplanting process by the MVCPA.

14 To start with a very brief definition.
15 The definition of supplanting is just the replacement
16 of other funds with MVCPA grant funds, and a little
17 bit of background.

18 Through 2017, supplanting was a concern
19 and was tested for annually. After 2017, due in part
20 to the implementation of GMTS as well as the
21 requirement that cash match could not be reduced at
22 least not more than five percent or in proportion to
23 the reduction of the grant amount.

24 The need for the testing for supplanting
25 was eliminated but from FY21 to FY22, the reduction in

1 match requirement to 20 percent. To changed that, it
2 was mentioned at this point that it could impact
3 supplanting and then most grantees understood that the
4 supplanting rules could not change -- will not change
5 and move the cash match overage to in-kind match.
6 This would have demonstrated that the local
7 contribution made by grantees year over year would not
8 be reduced.

9 In FY22, the allowance of match rate
10 reduction again required supplanting testing to be
11 resumed.

12 Typically, year end financial statements
13 were required to accurately determine expenditures.
14 These financial statements are not usually available
15 until Q2 of the following fiscal year which in this
16 case was FY23.

17 Because FY23 year end close out was
18 delayed, we did include FY23 in the supplanting test
19 and that's why we are discussing that today. It was
20 determined during the initial review that 15 grantees
21 were in the range of possibility for supplanting.

22 If you all will look in your board book,
23 you can see the initial test here. This was kind of
24 an again what determined which grantees we took a
25 closer look at. So the ones there indicated in red

1 are the ones that had supplanting concerns initially.

2 At this point, the audit team then tested
3 for supplanting in six different ways for each of
4 those 15 grantees. This included year over year cash
5 amount in budget, year over year cash match percent in
6 budget, year over year cash match actual amount, year
7 over year cash match actual percent, year over year
8 match and in-kind amount and year over year match and
9 in-kind percent.

10 After testing the above calculations for
11 all 15 of those grantees that you will see there on
12 the page prior, three grantees were determined not to
13 have supplanted at all.

14 The audit team then contacted the
15 remaining 12 grantees and asked them if there were any
16 previously undisclosed or unreported expenditures for
17 the baseline, again, FY21 or the other years in
18 question, FY22 and FY23.

19 The grantees were encouraged to review
20 our initial assessment and our calculations and to
21 present any documentation or rationale that they felt
22 applicable.

23 Based on the documentation that we
24 received in response, five grantees were eliminated
25 for the possibility of supplanting. This left seven

1 grantees with supplanting concerns of which four were
2 able to reduce their supplanting amount by providing
3 us with those previously undisclosed expenditures.

4 On the next page you will see the
5 communication timeline. We have worked hand-in-hand
6 with our grantees trying to again remedy this issue.

7 So on 3/15, MVCPA sent out our initial
8 request for additional information to those 12
9 grantees. We received our first response on the 18th;
10 and at this point, grantees were providing ledgers and
11 unreported expenditures, asking questions, requesting
12 clarification and providing any explanations and/or
13 proposing new calculations.

14 We had a lot of our grantees that would
15 completely re-do the spreadsheet that they were
16 provided.

17 MVCPA in response was responding to
18 questions, E-mails, requests for phone calls, updating
19 our calculations, requesting new information as well
20 as completing some site visits in order to help with
21 this concern.

22 We received what we considered to be the
23 final or most conclusive response from all of our
24 grantees on the dates listed below, so you all can
25 find those there to kind of view the timeline again of

1 how much communication was occurring with all of these
2 grantees.

3 After reviewing all responses that we
4 received from our grantees, we determined that the
5 seven grantees below appear to have supplanted in the
6 following amounts. Please, do note that this is the
7 smallest amount that was found out of those six
8 calculations to have been reduced by five percent
9 materiality allowance.

10 These grantees include the City of
11 Beaumont, the City of Brownsville, Burnet, Eagle Pass,
12 Galveston County, Harris County and the City of
13 Pasadena and in the amount totaling approximately
14 \$1.7 million.

15 There are a few ways that we are looking
16 for compliance to be documented. Some of those
17 include fiscal or programmatic documents to confirm
18 that, in the absence of grant funds, the grantee would
19 have eliminated staff or services in the years in
20 question.

21 Any board meetings or minutes or agendas
22 with discussion of elimination of staff due to local
23 or state funds, state or local legislative actions,
24 itemized budget histories from one year to the next as
25 well as supporting information and actual reduction in

1 state or local funds, some size data from previous
2 years or any upcoming years and anything of that
3 nature again in addition to those unreported
4 expenditures.

5 All of this is rooted in the fact that
6 supplanting defeats the purpose. Supplementing is the
7 point. Of course, we will always want to draw more
8 funds to these task forces in this great State of
9 Texas rather than taking those away or maintaining the
10 same levels, then we want to make sure that we stay
11 there.

12 Here on the next page, the Texas
13 Education Agency provides some guidance here; and they
14 kind of expand on their website publicly what they do
15 in response to issues as such.

16 MVCPA actions, the standard practice
17 would, of course, be for us to recoup those funds.
18 With that being said, if the MVCPA Board wants to
19 provide some relief or take any other administrative
20 action, you all may hear the discussion at any regular
21 scheduled board meeting and make a decision in open
22 meeting.

23 That's all that I have for you all, but I
24 would love to take any questions that you may have.

25 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Do you have any

1 questions, Charla or Sharon?

2 MEMBER BROTHER: No.

3 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: I do have a question,
4 Lauren.

5 MS. WILLIAMS: Yes.

6 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: The ones that are on --
7 the final five, the ones that sent the explanation,
8 for example, Galveston.

9 MS. WILLIAMS: Yes.

10 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: After the explanation,
11 you were able to determine that they were not
12 supplanting.

13 Is that why they are not in this?

14 MS. WILLIAMS: Yes, correct. So
15 Galveston was excluded from that based on the
16 responses that they provided. I think they were again
17 one of the 12.

18 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: And we went back only
19 two years, '22 and '23, correct?

20 MS. WILLIAMS: Yes, so again the
21 reduction match rate from FY21 to FY22 is what
22 required this testing to be resumed in the first
23 place, so we used that comparison before that match
24 rate was able to be reduced. We took that as our
25 baseline year just because that's essentially, I

1 guess, when this would end or the system would stop
2 anyone from reducing their cash match year over year.
3 So we took that and compared it to FY22 and FY23 both.

4 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: After we found that
5 this final, one, two, three, four, five six, this
6 final six or this final seven agencies, have they
7 already, I guess, taken care of the issue after you
8 have announced to them that they were, in fact, in
9 violation?

10 MS. WILLIAMS: We have received responses
11 from all seven grantees. I don't think that the
12 concern has been remedied necessarily, so these are
13 the numbers that still remain at this point in time.

14 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Member Brotherton.
15 So Galveston is one of the seven, or they
16 have remedied already?

17 MS. WILLIAMS: They have not -- sorry. I
18 didn't -- sorry -- Lauren Williams MVCPA.

19 Galveston still is present on here as
20 part of the one of the seven.

21 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So we have Beaumont,
22 Brownsville, Burnet, Galveston County.

23 MS. WILLIAMS: Yes, Galveston County.

24 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Director Diggs.

25 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Williams Diggs, Director

1 MVCPA for the record.

2 And so to further bring some information,
3 Mr. Chairman, we have actually had a lot of
4 communication with the seven grantees; and we have
5 also requested that they be here today to either
6 provide any additional rebuttal that they may have
7 and/or if they have a remedy moving forward in the
8 future; and so I believe the seven are actually
9 present today; and once you are through with any
10 questions for Lauren, then what I was going to
11 recommend was that we call the grantees up one-by-one
12 and see if they have any additional information or if
13 they have a remedy that they have thought through
14 themselves.

15 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Let me ask one more
16 question.

17 So the remedy, Lauren, that you are
18 talking they are supposed to pay back the money?

19 MS. WILLIAMS: That will be up to you
20 all.

21 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Okay, but there was a
22 recommendation?

23 MS. WILLIAMS: Yes.

24 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Thank you,
25 Lauren.

1 Members, do you have any questions for
2 Lauren?

3 MEMBER BROTHERTON: No.

4 MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you so much.

5 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: We will call the City
6 of Beaumont, please.

7 MS. THOMPSON: Bailey Thompson grant
8 accountant for the City of Beaumont. I have some
9 documents.

10 Can I give them to you?

11 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Sure.

12 MS. THOMPSON: Okay. So the E-mail chain
13 that you are looking at, that is the correspondence
14 between me and Lauren. It just kind of shows how they
15 got their calculations; and there was some changes
16 along the way so the one on the first page is the most
17 current calculations that they provided for us; and
18 then on the spreadsheet that I gave you guys, those
19 are the calculations that we did internal at the City
20 of Beaumont.

21 There were many conversation between us
22 and Lauren and Dan regarding this. One of the things
23 that Dan had said to us was that basically you guys
24 are looking for us to spend the exact dollar amount at
25 least year to year to year.

1 For fiscal year '21 our grant amount was
2 \$919,000.00; and then moving to fiscal year '22 and
3 '23, it actually reduced. So the calculations that we
4 did, we actually took -- we basically wanted to
5 compare apples to apple, so we took the percentage of
6 the reduction and took that into effect for fiscal
7 year '21, so it reduced our supplanting numbers quite
8 significantly, so for fiscal year '22 the supplanting
9 amount was only \$59,000.00; and then in fiscal year
10 '23, it's only \$1,000.00.

11 So we just wanted to kind of show that
12 because if our spending is being reduced, then it's
13 not always, I guess, capable for us to continue to
14 spend the same amount.

15 Also in fiscal year '23, I do want to
16 note that we had one of our counties drop out
17 unexpectedly in the middle of the year so we did try
18 to recoup a lot of those funds and continued to spend;
19 but it just wasn't enough time left to spend
20 everything.

21 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So the grant budget for
22 2021 was \$919,000.00.

23 MS. BAILEY: That is correct.

24 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: And then it was reduced
25 to \$732,000.00, that's what you are saying?

1 MS. BAILEY: It actually was reduced to
2 \$720,951.00, but we spent \$732,246.83 and then in
3 fiscal year '23, we spent \$751,422.00, so we still
4 spent more than the grant budget; but, I guess, it
5 just still wasn't enough according to the
6 calculations.

7 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Okay. So the request
8 was \$919,000.00, that's what you are telling me; and
9 what was granted was \$720,000.00, correct?

10 MS. BAILEY: No, I am not sure what the
11 request was for fiscal years '22 and '23; but what was
12 awarded was \$720,951.00. That was for '22 and '23.
13 For fiscal year '21 the amount that was awarded was
14 \$919,010.00.

15 So from '21 to '22 and '23, the grant
16 budget dropped almost \$200,000.00 if I am doing that
17 correctly.

18 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So do you know how they
19 came to \$919,000.00, Director Diggs?

20 DIRECTOR DIGGS: William Diggs, Director
21 MVCPA for the record.

22 Chief Rodriguez, you know in light of the
23 new information that is presented this morning or this
24 afternoon rather -- I guess it's still this morning
25 just slightly -- I would like to yield back to Lauren

1 to answer any questions when it comes to any
2 additional calculations that may be provided today if
3 that would be okay with you, sir.

4 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Yes, absolutely.

5 I just wanted to make sure that -- well,
6 I think Lauren should be able to answer that.

7 MEMBER JONES: Do we have another seat
8 for Lauren, please?

9 MS. WILLIAMS: Lauren Williams, MVCPA
10 grant auditor.

11 So if you all will actually turn to the
12 E-mail that she provided as well. That first number,
13 the \$919,000.00, would be the year-to-date
14 expenditures, so that was the total amount that was
15 spent including MVCPA funds as well as the match
16 amount.

17 So that was the 919; and then I am
18 thinking I believe it's the same one here.

19 Yes, so that \$508,000.00 is the
20 reimbursement from the MVCPA, so that \$410,387.00 that
21 you see is the match amount coming from Beaumont.

22 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: And then for '22, it
23 went down to \$148,295.00, is that what I am seeing?

24 MS. WILLIAMS: Correct.

25 So the match amount was reduced from

1 410 -- yeah, 410,387 to \$148,295.83.

2 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: But our reimbursement
3 continued to be at \$500,000.00; is that correct.

4 MS. WILLIAMS: Yes, that's correct, our
5 reimbursement was \$583,951.00.

6 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So this is where it
7 comes to the violation for the supplanting?

8 MS. WILLIAMS: The first line, yes.

9 MEMBER JONES: So, Lauren, are you saying
10 your numbers are accurate based on what was provided?

11 Ma'am, do you have a rebuttal?

12 MS. BAILEY: Even though the Beaumont
13 portion decreased in fiscal year '22, that is where I
14 would like to add that our grant budget also
15 decreased; but if you look down on the next line where
16 the calculations are for the in-kind match, our
17 in-kind match did increase over \$100,000.00, like
18 \$110,000.00 from fiscal year '21 to '22; and then it
19 also increased again in fiscal year '23 even though
20 our grant budget was still less than it was in '21.

21 We were trying to spend more money. We
22 just couldn't spend enough; and also in fiscal year
23 '21, we did get some equipment, so that is something
24 that we got in that year that we don't typically get
25 every year that cost more money as well.

1 MS. WILLIAMS: If I may add -- this is
2 Lauren Williams again MVCPA grant auditor -- that the
3 calculations that you see in the E-mail correspondence
4 are correct as far as what is reported in our GMTS
5 system, so I cannot speak to again what has been
6 provided.

7 I think that logically I can follow it if
8 that makes sense. Everything here that I provided is
9 just what is internally in our system, not inclusive
10 of the extra contents that Bailey is providing here.

11 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So the cash match went
12 from in 2021 from 68.4 percent to negative 44, so it
13 brought it down significantly to about 23 percent for
14 2022?

15 MS. WILLIAMS: I don't have those numbers
16 in front of me right now.

17 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Okay. I see where the
18 supplanting has happened.

19 David, do you want to say something?

20 MR. GRAY: Hi. This is David Gray, MVCPA
21 grant audit manager.

22 I do want to say that although the
23 numbers that are being presented here are the ones
24 from GMTS, we did give ample opportunity, over
25 two-and-a-half months, for people to provide

1 responses. Many of them provided responses which did
2 alter our understanding of their actual spending
3 behaviors, and we did take those into account in the
4 numbers presented for our calculation for the
5 supplanting.

6 The other thing that I wanted to mention
7 was the assertion that is slightly inaccurate on what
8 we had discussed with them. One is we do allow a five
9 percent materiality allowance, so if somebody drops by
10 five percent, we consider it to be nonconsequential.
11 We will allow that year over year.

12 The other thing is that the baseline
13 number is the high watermark, so if we have not been
14 able to get their expenditure reports closed or their
15 audits provided to us, those are normally done in the
16 middle of the year following the end of the fiscal
17 year if one of those are completed. If those numbers
18 are not available to us, we cannot complete the
19 calculations on supplanting accurately. So as a
20 consequence, the baseline is the high watermark.

21 So if they supplanted the first year and
22 they continue to spend at a low level, we will still
23 use the high watermark as the benchmark.

24 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Are there any questions
25 for Beaumont?

1 Okay, thank you.

2 We are going to move over to the City
3 of --

4 MEMBER JONES: Let's take a break.

5 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Okay. We are going to
6 take a ten-minute break.

7 It's 11:35. We will be back at 11:45.
8 (break)

9 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: It's 11:54, and we are
10 back in session.

11 City of Beaumont, do you want to come
12 back?

13 SERGEANT KARR: Sergeant Ken Karr,
14 Beaumont PD Southeast Texas Auto Theft Task Force.

15 The year in question, I was not the
16 commander. There was a former commander and the
17 former MVCPA director had communication. The former
18 MVCPA director urged everyone to drop their match that
19 year. We were at like a 55 percent match.

20 The following grant cycle, the grant
21 person in charge at the time of our grant at the City
22 of Beaumont, the way that I understood it; and this is
23 what I was told. I was not in charge at that time.

24 The grant person worked with Dan and the
25 MVCPA to drop that match to I think they got it down

1 to 25 percent. That was from the urging of the MVCPA
2 director that that happened.

3 Also during that time when I got
4 involved, we were told not to show in-kind match if at
5 all possible. That was an urging from Mr. Price, so I
6 just wanted to add a little further context to that.
7 I should have done it when I was up here, but I needed
8 to talk to Bailey to make sure that that was what she
9 understood, so just to add a little context to that.

10 Thank you.

11 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

12 City of Brownsville.

13 COMMANDER PASCHALL: Good morning.

14 I am Commander James Paschall with the
15 Brownsville Police Department. I am representing the
16 South Texas Auto Theft Enforcement Task Force which is
17 in the Rio Grande Valley.

18 The South Texas Auto Theft Enforcement
19 Task Force has been part of the Motor Vehicle Crime
20 Prevention for the past 31 years. We came in on year
21 one of funding in 1993.

22 I have been with the Brownsville Police
23 Department for 35 years. Our responsibility covers
24 the fiscal management of the police department which
25 includes the administration of the auto theft grant.

1 I work alongside the police department's accountant,
2 Ms. Imelda Trejo, who is sitting right next to me. We
3 have worked together for the past 25 years.

4 Imelda and I conducted a forensic audit
5 based on the allocation by the Motor Vehicle Crime
6 Prevention Authority that we were supplanting our
7 budget. We determined in the investigation that there
8 was no evidence to support the allegation.

9 Furthermore, the baseline used for the
10 reference for the allegation is flawed; and it's not
11 sufficient to support the claim of supplanting.

12 If you will go to Page 2 in your packet,
13 and it's marked as Slide No. 1.

14 The allegations of supplanting is based
15 on the net difference between the year-to-date
16 expenditures and the reimbursement using the 2021
17 grant as a baseline or basis for comparison.

18 What we are talking about is the cash
19 match reported. The cash match reported in the 2021
20 grant is more than the cash match in the grant for '22
21 and '23. Using the cash match of '21 subtracting it
22 from the cash match of '22 and subtracting it from '22
23 and '23 gives us the discrepancies. The entire
24 allegation is based solely on the cash match this
25 represents.

1 If you go to Slide No. 2 which would be
2 the next page, let's take a look at it.

3 The yellow highlighted areas are the cash
4 match, and the green highlighted areas are the
5 difference in the discrepancy.

6 In '21 the cash match was \$945,668.55.
7 In '22 the cash match was \$763,408.96. Subtracting
8 the two gives us the discrepancy of \$148,458.59.
9 Likewise, the cash match in 2023 was \$723,816.35.
10 Subtract that from the '21 grant and you get a
11 discrepancy of \$188,051.20.

12 Why the difference?

13 Why the discrepancy?

14 If you will go to Slide No. 3 on the next
15 page.

16 One difference is the actual expenses.
17 The actual expenses of the grants are highlighted in
18 yellow. In the 2021 grant, the total expenses were
19 \$1.8 million, \$1.7 million in 2022 and \$1.6 million in
20 2023.

21 If you have more actual expenses, your
22 cash match will go up. Less actual expenses, then
23 your cash match will go down. That's what happened in
24 this case. Each subsequent grant shows fewer actual
25 expenses and the cash match went down accordingly.

1 That's one of the reasons for the discrepancy.

2 Let's take another look at reasons for
3 the discrepancy.

4 If you go to the next slide, Slide 4.

5 In this slide, the reimbursement rate is
6 highlighted in yellow. As you will notice, the
7 reimbursement rate is different from the 2021 grant
8 compared to the '22 and '23 grants.

9 The reimbursement rate for 2021 was
10 48 percent. The reimbursement rate for '22 and '23
11 was 57 percent, a nine percent difference. This, too,
12 was to the comparisons of the grant results. A
13 smaller reimbursement rate will increase the cash
14 match portion of your grant.

15 Let's look at an example of this. Let's
16 go to Slide 5.

17 This is a slide show being a side-by-side
18 comparison of the effects of reimbursement rates.

19 This is our fiscal 2023 grant in the
20 first column. I used this grant because it shows the
21 largest discrepancy of \$188,051.20. The reimbursement
22 rate for the 2022 grant was 57 percent.

23 Looking at the second highlighted column
24 using the reimbursement rate of the 48 percent in the
25 2021 grant, you will see that the discrepancy is

1 reduced to \$74,217.56. That is nearly a \$114,000.00
2 difference just by the reimbursement rate.

3 To use the 2021 grant as a baseline and
4 make it an apples to apples comparison, you need to
5 use the same reimbursement rate.

6 If you will go to Slide No. 6.

7 Another issue that we found using the
8 2021 grant as a baseline for comparison is that the
9 2021 grant had a lieutenant's position. This position
10 was eliminated in the '22 and '23 grants. That
11 reduced the actual expenses in the '22 and '23 grants
12 by \$130,759.11.

13 As previously stated, having fewer actual
14 expenses lowers a cash match in the grant thus causing
15 a discrepancy when compared to the baseline which
16 included a lieutenant's position. To use the 2021
17 grant as a baseline, you need to account for the
18 absent lieutenant's position in '22 and '23.

19 Slide No. 7.

20 When cities or counties submit
21 reimbursement for grants, they use a general ledger
22 also known as an accounting ledger. They use this
23 ledger as backup for reimbursement. This ledger
24 consolidates all financial data and to detail accounts
25 such as revenue and expenses.

1 During our audit, we found an error with
2 the city's ledger. We found that one of our auto
3 theft investigators who was transferred to the grant
4 since June of 2022 was not listed on the ledger.
5 Because of this error, there has been no submissions
6 of expenses for this investigator. This accounts for
7 \$22,722.93 for the 2022 grant and \$98,973.00 for the
8 2023 grant.

9 Because the expenses were not requested
10 for reimbursement, that lowered our actual expenses;
11 therefore, lowering our cash match in the grant again
12 causing a discrepancy compared to the baseline.

13 If you will go to Slide No. 8.

14 For us to more accurately compare the
15 grants, we need to do an apples to apples comparison
16 to include the lieutenant's salary in all three
17 grants. We need to also add the investigator's cost
18 that were not recorded in the '22 and '23 grants; and
19 finally, we need to use the same reimbursement rate
20 for all three grants.

21 As you can see by the slide, with all of
22 the same perimeters in place, a true apples to apples
23 comparison, we have a surplus in both the '22 and '23
24 grants with regard to the cash match.

25 As stated in the opening, we found no

1 evidence to support the allegations of supplanting.

2 Next week we will be submitting this to
3 Lauren, and she will verify that this is correct at
4 least to show for the grant, but that's what we have
5 got.

6 Are there any questions?

7 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Mr. Chairman, I have one
8 question. William Diggs MVCPA Director for the
9 record.

10 Prior to now, had you recently submitted
11 any of this information in reference to the lieutenant
12 or the other investigator that you bring forward
13 today?

14 COMMANDER PASCHALL: We were working with
15 Lauren last week and all the way until Friday with
16 Lauren. We came across part of it on Friday. She
17 went home Friday night and found more. Saturday we
18 worked. Sunday we worked. I worked with our finance
19 people on Monday to say, "Hey, you have got an error
20 on your ledger;" and so it was a work in progress.

21 Lauren helped us greatly because when we
22 first looked at I said, "Where are we going to go,"
23 you know, when we were trying to look at it; but when
24 we dissected it, just break it down like you would a
25 criminal doing a white collar crime, once you start

1 trying to prove the crime and break it all down, it
2 starts making sense.

3 DIRECTOR DIGGS: So the information that
4 we see today is relatively fresh, not in the last two
5 or three months then?

6 COMMANDER PASCHALL: No, sir, it's not.
7 Lauren was very helpful with us to help us be able to
8 see where the errors were.

9 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Thank you, sir.

10 I have no further questions.

11 MS. WILLIAMS: Lauren Williams.

12 Yeah, I have my records right here from
13 our conversation; and it looks like -- and correct me
14 if I am wrong -- the last time that we touched bases
15 was on Friday, the 12th; and after the five percent
16 allowance, the calculations for FY22 is \$141,035.00.
17 Of course, this isn't updated in the book. It was too
18 late for that; and for FY23, it was \$178,648.64.

19 So again, that's not reflected in the
20 book. I think that you can find that here in the
21 presentation. So everything further I think was done
22 over the weekend by them all. So I haven't had the
23 chance again to take a look at these calculations
24 outside of right now; but when we left off, yes, we
25 are at \$141,000.00 for FY21 and \$178 for a combined

1 total of around \$319,000.00 between the two years.

2 COMMANDER PASCHALL: So based on the work
3 over the weekend, we can account for every bit of
4 this. In fact, we have surpluses. If you are going
5 cash match against cash match, we got it.

6 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So after this that was
7 provided today, are you comfortable with what was
8 given to you; or do we need to continue the
9 conversation with Brownsville?

10 DIRECTOR DIGGS: I think that next week
11 we will finish it up, we will confirm; and we are
12 done.

13 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: And again, I think that
14 this is a good item that we are going over. I think,
15 you know, MVCPA is one of the few grants that grants
16 FTEs, grants equipment, grants overtime; and this is a
17 grant that has to be really taken care of throughout
18 any city or any county, so I appreciate you putting
19 that sense of urgency and making sure that you provide
20 the information that was needed.

21 I think that I will allow Lauren and Mr.
22 Price here to make sure that we continue to have the
23 conversation to make sure that everything that you
24 provide is accurate.

25 COMMANDER PASCHALL: Yes, sir.

1 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

2 Are there any other questions?

3 MEMBER JONES: Are you going to give a
4 time frame or a timeline to get that?

5 COMMANDER PASCHALL: It will be next
6 week.

7 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Lauren, how much time
8 do we need?

9 MS. WILLIAMS: I can meet with them next
10 week.

11 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Thank you,
12 Captain.

13 I appreciate.

14 Burnet County.

15 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Member Brotherton.

16 Before we go any further, can I ask
17 Lauren a question?

18 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Yes, absolutely.

19 MEMBER BROTHERTON: I know that you gave
20 this to them like earlier and then when was the -- not
21 particularly one particular person. I am just talking
22 about in general.

23 What was their timeline to get that to
24 you?

25 MS. WILLIAMS: So it was different for

1 each grantee.

2 Are we speaking specifically about this
3 one?

4 MEMBER BROTHERTON: No, I am not speaking
5 specifically. I didn't know if you said I need all of
6 these back by, I don't know, June the 1st or whatever
7 it is?

8 MR. PRICE: Yeah, so this is Dan Price,
9 MVCPA grant manager.

10 I signed off on the initial letter; and
11 in the initial letter we gave them until the end of
12 the month. So it was about two-and-a-half weeks to
13 respond, and some of them responded and some of them
14 did not. That would have been in March. So we have
15 given them a fair amount of time to respond to this.

16 I would also like to clarify just for the
17 record for everybody in the room, the reimbursement
18 rate is a product of their cash match. It is not a
19 consequence. It is a result, and so what we are
20 actually looking at is the actual cash match. We also
21 look at it as absolute dollars percentages.

22 When we look at it both as cash match and
23 cash match plus in-kind, we calculated it six
24 different ways; and if any of those ways indicate that
25 they are not supplanting, we accept that result. So a

1 lot of what you have heard up here is not
2 comprehensive of the working analysis that was
3 performed, but we will review it with them.

4 MEMBER JONES: Are you stating that the
5 testimony of Beaumont and the City of Brownsville
6 regardless of what they have presented, that your
7 numbers are accurate because you said that you did it
8 multiple ways?

9 MR. PRICE: If there are additional
10 expenses that they have identified that have never
11 been reported to us when requested or in the system,
12 that is something that we should probably take into
13 consideration.

14 Anything that has been previously
15 reported to us prior to this week has been
16 comprehended.

17 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: But all data has to be
18 vetted.

19 MR. PRICE: Yes.

20 MS. WILLIAMS: If I may, Ms. Lauren
21 Williams MVCPA grant auditor.

22 I wanted to expand on your question just
23 a little bit.

24 We sent first before we sent any letters
25 or again included calculation any of those 15 or 12

1 grantees at that point that we had supplanting
2 concerns about. We first sent again on 3/15, I sent
3 out requests and as well as Sterling Fielder to our
4 grantees for additional unreported expenditures
5 because again if those were provided, three of those
6 grantees were able to provide unreported expenditures
7 that made up for this supplanting amount, this
8 supplanting concern amount; and so they never even had
9 to receive a letter that said, "Here are the
10 calculations."

11 So the timeline started on 3/15. The
12 official letter came about, I think, a month later
13 around the date that he was discussing.

14 MR. PRICE: Without spending too much
15 time getting into it, the word supplanting is kind of
16 a shocking word for a lot of people in the grant
17 world; and when I initially sent a first letter or two
18 out, there was a very sharp and marked response from
19 people who were extremely upset that there was a
20 possibility of supplanting.

21 So we decided at the beginning to just
22 request the information about what was your total
23 spent during the month of March. Please, tell us
24 everything you spent on the grant; and we only
25 requested that from people where there was a question

1 as to whether they had supplanted or not. We did not
2 send that to every single grantee. Many of them did
3 that.

4 The other thing is that there was
5 discussion before the board back in 2020/2019 when the
6 match rate was reduced. There was testimony from
7 grantees as well as from the then director Brian
8 Wilson indicating that even though the match rate was
9 being reduced, that that does not change the
10 supplanting calculations and requirements and that you
11 still are not being allowed to supplant.

12 So, for example, Jordan from Houston who
13 was their financial officer came to testify. He moved
14 the spending from cash match into in-kind, and he was
15 knocked down to a supplanting because he just
16 re-characterized the spend. The spend remained
17 constant, so many of the other grantees followed that
18 example and did that, and they are not before you
19 today.

20 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

21 Burnet County.

22 COMMANDER STEINHOOR: Howard Steinhour,
23 Heart of Texas Auto Theft Task Force commander.

24 Thank you for allowing me to speak.

25 Real quick before I get going, I want to

1 thank Dan and Lauren for coming to Burnet to help us
2 with this because our auditor's office was adamant
3 that this was not supplanting. They kept telling me,
4 "Howard, this is not supplanting." They got confused
5 with it all, too, so we had to go through all of this;
6 and I have got a little blip.

7 Janet could not be here due to jury duty,
8 so she gave me a little bit of writing; and I will
9 read this to you if you don't mind.

10 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: You are the man.

11 COMMANDER STEINHOOR: So basically she
12 goes on to say during the fiscal year from 2016 all
13 the way through 2021, grant awards decreased causing
14 the Heart of Texas Auto Theft Task Force to terminate
15 employees.

16 Okay, I am sorry.

17 The Heart of Texas Auto Theft Task Force
18 had to terminate employees or decrease or match.
19 During this time, we continued the coverage area that
20 we serve. We were unable to continue to sustain the
21 administrative assistant starting in 2020.

22 So this brought up COVID. The 68A's
23 increases for the areas. This allowed us to have a
24 high balance in program income which allowed us to
25 continue our program income with permission as a cash

1 match.

2 In FY22, Limestone County was dropped
3 from the task force. We were told that since we went
4 from three counties to two counties, we can act as if
5 we were a new entity and only have to match
6 20 percent. MVCPA approved the application with
7 20 percent cash match.

8 We signed a statement of grant award.
9 FY23 was approved with the same amount. For '24,
10 McLennan and Williamson Counties were interested in
11 joining. We were told again that since we were
12 joining from two counties to four counties, we could
13 act as a new entity with cash match of 20 percent.

14 Although the Williamson County
15 commissioners chose at the last minute not to join, we
16 went ahead with the grant as awarded. Of course, we
17 didn't spend that money; and if you don't spend it, we
18 don't get it.

19 In March of 2024, we were notified by
20 MVCPA requesting any additional expenditures with '22
21 and '23 to determine if supplanting was happening
22 during those years. We were told to use FY21 as a
23 base year in calculating the supplanting and how much
24 we would owe.

25 Calculating with Burnet County only

1 expenditures, the in-kind expenditures and estimated
2 in-kind utilizing the sheriff and his assistant and
3 the grant manager with a portion of their salaries as
4 in-kind and calculating the total difference from FY21
5 less five percent as the total amount at \$24,903.42.

6 Because we signed the statement of the
7 grant reward, we feel that the amount on the document
8 should be the amount that we are required to match
9 especially since we were told that we could apply as a
10 new entity with a 20 percent match.

11 We purchased a vehicle with 100 percent
12 program income in FY21. This affected the
13 reimbursement rate. Even though the grant did not
14 reimburse any of the amount of the vehicle by removing
15 the vehicle purchased in '21 to determine the
16 supplanting difference, the amount owed would be down
17 to \$12,405.47. That's basically how we got into that
18 situation.

19 We were losing members and gaining
20 members. We were trying to stay with the same grant;
21 but we got told, "Hey, go back to '21 and use that as
22 your baseline," which again like the others said, I
23 think the reimbursement rate is what throws everybody
24 off is what we are having issues with.

25 After Dan and Lauren showed up, they

1 explained it and the board had the auditor in there
2 and our grant writer. I think that we came to an
3 agreement. My understanding is we came to an
4 agreement and everything was settled at that point.

5 MS. WILLIAMS: Yes, the amounts I think
6 it was -- let's see-- April 11th that we were provided
7 the calculations that we have accepted that are
8 reflected in the board book.

9 These amounts are what you are talking
10 about?

11 COMMANDER STINEHOUR: Yes, ma'am.

12 MS. WILLIAMS: So those are accurately
13 represented in what you see in front of you; is that
14 correct?

15 COMMANDER STINEHOUR: Yes.

16 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Member Brotherton.
17 So you are still saying that he
18 supplanted \$132,000.00?

19 MS. WILLIAMS: \$132,717.00.

20 MR. PRICE: For the record, Dan Price
21 MVCPA grant manager.

22 I would like to also thank Howard and the
23 audit staff with Burnet for the work that they did on
24 this with us. The amount that we had initially
25 estimated that they had supplanted was much higher;

1 but due to the turnover in the local sub-jurisdictions
2 that are under that grant, we allowed them; and the
3 fact that they have been removed, we allowed them to
4 adjust accordingly to eliminate the people who are no
5 longer with the program from the calculation and that
6 reduced this amount greatly.

7 So thank you, Howard.

8 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Howard; and
9 I think, you know, I know that when you talked about
10 sending those letters and some people take it
11 offensive; and they say, "I am not supplanting."
12 Nobody should get offended. It's part of what a grant
13 is, and it's good to always have checks and balances
14 and sometimes you might be wrong, right, that's why we
15 put those letters out to make sure that they prove us
16 wrong.

17 At the end of the day, we also respond to
18 a higher authority to make sure that this board is
19 responsible with the funds that are provided to every
20 task force. So, yes, it does feel ugly to get those
21 letters; but at the end of the day just to be able to
22 create a response and make sure that we understand.

23 And for the commanders, right, I
24 understand that we are cops. We don't know anything
25 about this end. This is somebody else's job, but I do

1 urge every commander to understand what it is so that
2 whenever we have a change of personnel or things that
3 happen within our task forces, that that person that
4 is the director or the project manager knows exactly
5 what is going on to be able to document and even also
6 take it further as even getting involved with the
7 reimbursements, you know, whenever somebody promotes
8 and there is a vacancy and you put that FTO back
9 there, it makes a difference because two or
10 three months will pass by; and you will have the money
11 there that you can't be asking for reimbursement
12 because nobody is there.

13 So what do we do, right, so we need to
14 make sure that we understand those things as
15 commanders to make sure that we also help our
16 financial personnel within our counties or cities to
17 understand what's going on with their task forces.

18 Yeah, definitely, Howard, I know that you
19 are here. You are just reading off of your iPhone,
20 but it is what it is, and it's for checks and
21 balances. That's all that it is.

22 COMMANDER STINEHOUR: Yes, sir, thank
23 you.

24 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Member Brotherton.
25 I have another question for Lauren.

1 Is the \$132,717.00, is that based on the
2 matching that it was supposed to be or the matching
3 that they were told because they were a new entity and
4 they could be at 20 percent?

5 MS. WILLIAMS: This is all being sent
6 again that was provided to us by Gina. I don't think
7 that there is any adjustment to the match percentage
8 from the system.

9 MR. PRICE: Dan Price, MVCPA grant
10 manager for the record.

11 I believe Howard when he says that he was
12 told that. I was not present. There was no writing
13 that told him that. At the time, Joe Canady was
14 managing the review of the grants; and he was trying
15 to get people to reduce the match rate by 20 percent,
16 so I don't know if there was another sentence or two
17 in there that was in there saying move it to in-kind
18 or not.

19 I know most of the people, again most of
20 the grantees got the message that, yes, we want your
21 cash match lowered; but we want the rest moved to
22 in-kind, so I can't speak to that conversation; and I
23 have no evidence of that conversation; but I also
24 believe that there was a conversation between Joe
25 Canady and the Burnet County Task Force about their

1 cash match; and I can't testify as to what was said
2 because I have no direct knowledge.

3 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Chief Rodriguez, if I
4 may.

5 Williams Diggs, director MVCPA for the
6 record.

7 I know that when one of the original
8 letters went out, Sheriff Boyd reached out to me; and
9 I made a trip up and sat down and visited with him;
10 and he has been nothing but supportive of the MVCPA
11 for the Heart of Texas Task Force working with us,
12 working with Howard and then also the folks that work
13 in the auditor's office and everything; and we decided
14 that, you know, obviously Lauren and Dan could go up
15 there and have a conversation.

16 So I did want to point out that Sheriff
17 Boyd has been very accommodating and has worked very
18 closely with us in this throughout this review.

19 COMMANDER STINEHOUR: Thank you for
20 coming up also to meet with the sheriff. I appreciate
21 that. That helps out a lot when they are in
22 face-to-face meetings, so it's settling when the
23 auditors are upset; and when Mr. Diggs showed up and
24 met with the sheriff to try to calm their nerves
25 because the sheriffs in my office is going, "Howard,

1 what's going on." I am on the end of this totem pole.

2 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: We are cops; and we
3 don't know, right?

4 COMMANDER STINEHOUR: I appreciate them
5 doing that.

6 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: I am about crime; but
7 this is something different, so I completely
8 understand it.

9 Thank you, Director Diggs.

10 I appreciate it.

11 City of Eagle Pass.

12 CAPTAIN FUENTES: Good morning.

13 My name is Gerardo Fuentes. I am a
14 captain with the Eagle Pass Police Department. I am
15 the captain currently assigned as the grant manager
16 for the MVCPA grant.

17 First and foremost I would like to thank
18 the board and the director for the opportunity to
19 allow us to speak and for all of the support through
20 all of these years to be members of the MVCPA for a
21 very, very long time since this issue with the
22 applications back in '93.

23 There was an issue that was brought up to
24 our attention not too long ago about this possibility;
25 however, I have been speaking with the grant auditors

1 and with our finance personnel from the City of Eagle
2 Pass. We were able to lower down some of the numbers
3 that they were initially concerned about for the
4 fiscal years 2021 and 2022 and 2023.

5 So there was some unreported expenditures
6 that were found; and for that, I will pass over the
7 microphone to our grant supervisor for the City of
8 Eagle Pass who traveled down to explain to the board
9 about this.

10 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

11 MS. SAUCEDO: Good afternoon.

12 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Good afternoon.

13 MS. SAUCEDO: If I may, I do have an
14 explanation letter.

15 My name is Emily Saucedo. I am the
16 grants specialist for the City of Eagle Pass.

17 I do have a letter of explanation for you
18 all from our grants accountant who unfortunately
19 couldn't be here today.

20 After talks with Ms. Williams, it was
21 brought to our attention that the supplanting amount
22 was \$11,592.47. Our grants accountant did review the
23 numbers to see if there were any in-kind expenditures
24 that were missed.

25 It turns out that there was just a couple

1 that I listed there on the second page. It's the
2 first table. The total of those in-kind expenditures
3 did bring that initial \$11,000.00 down to \$9,915.47,
4 and the reason why there was less expenditures from
5 the city from fiscal year '21 to '22 can be explained
6 in the graph below, and those expenditures does cover
7 the supplanting amount and should be the \$9,000.00.

8 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: It was mainly on
9 personnel?

10 MS. SAUCEDO: Yes.

11 MEMBER JONES: Are you sure?

12 MS. SAUCEDO: Yes.

13 CAPTAIN FUENTES: If I may, Mr. Chairman.

14 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Don't be nervous. We
15 are all family here.

16 CAPTAIN FUENTES: Initially, the
17 \$11,592.47 that was agreed upon that was for the
18 supplanting was able to be brought down to \$915,000.47
19 because of some unreported expenditures that were
20 found by our finance auditor; and the amount of
21 \$1,677.00 which brought it down to \$9,915.47; and upon
22 further review, you can go by our financial or health
23 insurance and some personnel increases in pay as part
24 of the annual or biannual cost of living expenses that
25 was not reported, some change in personnel that

1 retired and actually were making the very top scale of
2 their pay wage and were paid by a newer employee that
3 was making much less money.

4 Initially it brought that down or up in
5 our part from \$9,915.00 to \$14,499.52. We still have
6 yet to -- that is part of what the finance grants
7 office and the financial department were working on,
8 and we actually did have a meeting with them last week
9 just to sit down and discuss this issue.

10 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So, Lauren, you have
11 \$10,637.00; and, captain, you have \$14,000.00.

12 Is that the difference?

13 MS. WILLIAMS: Yes.

14 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: That's what you have, a
15 \$14,000.00 credit?

16 MS. WILLIAMS: Yes.

17 MEMBER BROTHERTON: You have a \$14,000.00
18 credit?

19 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: That's what you have, a
20 \$14,000.00 credit after you failed -- not failed --
21 but there was no reimbursement?

22 The reimbursement part, is that what I am
23 getting?

24 CAPTAIN FUENTES: Yes, what we are saying
25 is that it's like an -- if we look at the amount of

1 expenditures that was not reported, it initially
2 brings it down to \$9,915.47; and then on the
3 additional employee issues regarding the insurance and
4 health insurance and the replacement of personnel, we
5 went over that what's reimbursable or not. That's
6 something that we have to discuss.

7 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: And that's where I am
8 going that we would need to check on what would be
9 reimbursable on those numbers.

10 MS. WILLIAMS: Correct.

11 Based on what I am seeing here, that
12 reduced the supplanting amount to \$9,915.47. Those do
13 seem like acceptable expenditures that I am
14 comfortable with.

15 As far as everything below, it almost
16 appears it looks like if we go to Ricardo Sanchez, the
17 \$2,352.00, to Edgar Flores for \$1,753.00. It looks
18 like those amounts are reducing so it appears to me
19 that this is a rationale as to why there was less
20 expenditures in FY22.

21 I don't know if I am following how this
22 would -- how there is additional expenditures here. I
23 think that this is -- if I am not mistaken -- might be
24 a rationale as to why they spent less year over year
25 more so than unreported expenditures.

1 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Did you want to say
2 something?

3 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Yes.

4 William Diggs, MVCPA director for the
5 record.

6 So, Lauren, prior to right now, have you
7 seen these additional calculations?

8 MS. WILLIAMS: No.

9 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Okay, thank you.

10 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Are there any questions
11 for Eagle Pass?

12 MEMBER JONES: No.

13 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, captain.
14 Galveston County.

15 LIEUTENANT BURROW: Colonel Lieutenant
16 Burrow with the Galveston County Auto Crimes Task
17 Force.

18 There are a couple of points that I want
19 to make before we turn it over to Gina. She is going
20 to detail it out for you all.

21 One is back in -- and maybe Dan can
22 answer this -- why did they remove the fail safe from
23 the GTMS system that flagged this that was done by the
24 board; and if I remember correctly, chief, were you
25 the only one left on the board?

1 I mean, everybody else is new from that.
2 It was a bill to keep the investigators, but that we
3 didn't want to let go of all of our investigators at
4 that time, and it was cut ten percent because of the
5 second grant that continued, and that's when we moved
6 into how we got into this mess.

7 The other one is the program income,
8 whose program income does it belong to?

9 Does it belong to the task force?

10 Does it belong to MVCPA, so that's where
11 we utilized that money.

12 The biggest thing is that going back to
13 the original reason they removed the fail safe is to
14 keep investigators and try to fund that stuff in
15 there. The other is a lot of in-kind stuff that we
16 tried to reduce down to I think it was 20 to make the
17 reporting easier on us so that we don't have to
18 remember all of this stuff.

19 So there is a lot of unreported stuff
20 that's on these grants that the money is being spent
21 by the county, but it's not being reported in the
22 in-kind category.

23 I will turn it over to Gina.

24 MS. DOLITTLE: Gina Dolittle, Galveston
25 County Gulf Coast Auto Crimes Task Force.

1 It's pretty simple. In '21 when we took
2 the reduction statement -- the reduction in order to
3 not lose a person, we chose to fund part of the salary
4 on all of our operations out of the program income,
5 and then ask the county or the city for any additional
6 funding that we chose to write it in the grant
7 application to fund the program income, and we did and
8 that was in '21.

9 In '22 because when we applied for our
10 grant applications always, we use our fringe and our
11 benefits as the cash match. That's what we use. It's
12 roughly 30 percent based off of the different benefit
13 packages for each of the cities and the county; but
14 when we use program income, it applies as cash match.

15 It established the baseline in '21 that
16 we didn't spend in '22 and '23. We didn't budget
17 using that much program income in '22 and '23, so it's
18 pretty simple.

19 Overall we are talking about like
20 \$25,000.00 over both of the years I think; and the
21 difference is all there because, yes, \$24,000.00 to
22 \$25,000.00 over both of the years; and so -- 24 one
23 year, 25 the next or something like that; and so it's
24 not a whole lot; but it's all due to program income;
25 and I understand that there are task forces that

1 probably need to use their program income towards
2 their 20 percent, the baseline; but we don't.

3 We use our fringe and benefits which is
4 roughly 30 percent. We don't need it towards 20. I
5 would like to review the option of allowing us to use
6 program income going forth without it counting as
7 penalizing us as cash match because if we don't use
8 that same amount of cash match the following year
9 using program income, we are supplanting; and that's
10 what happened with us. We didn't spend as much
11 because we didn't use as much program income.

12 It's pretty simple. I think that is, I
13 mean, it really kind of sums it up.

14 Do you all disagree?

15 MS. WILLIAMS: No.

16 MS. DOLITTLE: I mean, we didn't spend as
17 much because we didn't use as much program income.

18 MR. PRICE: Dan Price, MVCPA grant
19 manager.

20 I think Gina is correct. We have gotten
21 hooked on the use of program income especially with
22 the increase in the 68A fees. To support a lot of our
23 grantees, we actually have a number of grantees now
24 that don't put any money in from their local general
25 funds into the grant. They use program income to do

1 it, and there have been other task forces -- you know,
2 Howard was up here a minute ago -- they have expressed
3 that if their program income is diminished now that
4 they are losing some of the 68A business to some of
5 the other grantees that are re-opening, that's going
6 to put a tremendous strain on the future-ability to be
7 able to come up with a cash match to participate and
8 continue with the MVCPA program.

9 So ultimately, it's kind of a ying and
10 yang. A lot of people loved it and needed it; and it
11 reduced the local demands; but at the same time, you
12 know, they are now hooked on it; and it's going to be
13 difficult to get the general fund funding back for
14 these programs.

15 So I do agree with her that the program
16 income can ultimately cause this issue, and I believe
17 that is probably the case with Galveston as far as
18 that goes.

19 Now, as far as what the state considers,
20 MVCPA has always treated program income as our money.
21 The state's position is that program income belongs to
22 the state; and, in fact, the statute indicates that
23 program income is to be used to offset grant expenses
24 first and foremost. It would be put back into the
25 program UB forward.

1 Before I got here, a year or two before I
2 got here, the decision was taken by the board because
3 many people were struggling with their local budgets
4 to allow NICB at the time DPS and program income to be
5 used as cash match, and so now it's kind of coming
6 back up on the other side.

7 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Well, I think the issue
8 that we have on hand right now is the fact that we are
9 using that program income to be able to sustain the
10 grant; and so I strongly believe that every city and
11 every county should be able to support the grant that
12 is being offered to them or that they are being
13 applied for, that they shouldn't put the strain on the
14 task forces to come up with the money through 68A
15 inspections to be able to support the grants.

16 I believe that it should be a win/win
17 when it goes to these types of grants where the city
18 is committed 100 percent and say, "Hey, we are going
19 to support you 100 percent" -- or a county -- "Here is
20 the 20 percent or here is however much we are applying
21 for. We are applying for \$2 million, and we are going
22 to give you \$400,000.00 from the general fund."

23 That should be the way to go with these
24 types of grants because it gets very messy when we
25 start looking into program income, and when we start

1 looking into other needs to put this grant in motion.

2 Again, the law has allowed for the
3 program income. I strongly believe that we should
4 continue pushing to develop that. The counties and
5 cities should be able to -- if you are going to apply
6 for a grant, you should be able to support this grant
7 100 percent. Whether it's 20 percent only, if that's
8 the minimum that is required to apply for a grant,
9 then so be it; but I just don't like the fact that we
10 are putting that on our task forces to come up with
11 the money through program income to support and add
12 additional funds to it.

13 So I think we need to look at this a
14 little bit more; but at the end of the day, the number
15 is not substantial. So we will have additional
16 conversations about this; but at this point, I
17 strongly believe that we should continue not using
18 program income to support the grants.

19 MR. PRICE: Dan Price, MVCPA grant
20 auditor.

21 About six years ago, I had done an
22 analysis of the local actual fund contributions to the
23 grant. We will be happy to re-do that analysis today
24 and provide that back to you at the next board meeting
25 if that's what you would like.

1 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Yes, please, thank you.
2 Thank you, Gina.
3 Harris County.

4 MR. SCHMIDT: I thank you for the
5 opportunity to address this committee.

6 My name is Brian Schmidt. I am the
7 Harris County Sheriff's Office grants manager, and I
8 am joined by Jasmine Gonzales and Felix Boutra, and
9 they are both grant analysts on this grant.

10 I also wanted to convey to you that
11 Lieutenant Johnny Gonzales who handles our auto theft
12 grant, he is on his way here. He was at a funeral for
13 an officer who was just murdered and so he was hoping
14 to make it in time, but he is actually en route right
15 now.

16 So anyway, I want to tell you first of
17 all that we take supplanting very seriously. We have
18 30 active grants; and we have had 30 active grants for
19 many years; and during that time, we have never been
20 accused of supplanting. We have undergone many audits
21 and never in an audit has anybody found evidence of
22 supplanting, so we take this concern seriously.

23 I think the way to start this
24 conversation is to -- I know that you have been kind
25 of bombarded with numbers; and they can get confusing,

1 so I am going to try to make this as simple as I can.

2 In fiscal year 2023, we received a grant
3 from MVCPA of \$853,000.00. There is also a 20 percent
4 cash match requirement, so that's about \$188,000.00,
5 okay. So in addition to the grant amount and the cash
6 match amount, we provided an in-kind match amount of
7 \$1,786,000.00.

8 So our in-kind match far exceeded the
9 grant amount or the required cash match amount. So
10 basically what we are doing is we are putting our own
11 money towards this program to an extent that it's way
12 beyond anything that we are getting from the grant.
13 So I think what that does is it's fixed to our
14 commitment to this program. We are putting a lot of
15 resources towards this program.

16 Now, it is true that we didn't actually
17 expend the full amount of our in-kind match, and there
18 are reasons for that, and they basically can be boiled
19 down to vacancies. So during this time period, we
20 have experienced a lot of vacancies.

21 We have some handouts that we can give to
22 you if you would like to see them; but essentially
23 what happened is people quit, people get promoted,
24 they get transferred. We actually had an officer who
25 was killed. He was an auto theft investigator who was

1 killed on the job. You know, various things happen;
2 but each officer gets paid about \$100,000.00; and so
3 that's salary and benefits; and so when you have a
4 vacancy over a period of time, you don't spend money
5 quickly.

6 You know, the vacancy savings accumulate
7 quickly; and when you see in your handout there that
8 we had a shortfall in our in-kind spending of about
9 \$450,000.00 per year, that's four positions, you know,
10 and that happens.

11 We are trying to fill these positions.
12 It's not like we are not trying, but I don't want you
13 to go away from here thinking that Harris County
14 doesn't think that auto theft is unimportant because
15 that's not the case at all. We are not intentionally
16 shifting money away from auto theft. It's just that
17 when we have vacancies, we are trying to fill them;
18 but it takes a long time.

19 Another thing that happens is when people
20 retire, a senior level person retires, they are
21 replaced by a junior level person who doesn't make
22 quite as much money; and so even if we do fill those
23 vacancies, they are not going to -- the new person is
24 not going to be making as much money as the old person
25 made just because he is coming in at a little bit

1 lower level.

2 So there are various things that sort of
3 almost require that we are not going to make our full
4 match amount because vacancies are just part of the
5 cost of doing business. It's the reality of Harris
6 County. We are a very large agency. We have people
7 coming and going all of the time so it's almost
8 impossible for us to meet our in-kind amount because
9 people are always coming and going.

10 But I think the main thing that I want
11 you to recognize is that we are providing a humongous
12 amount of in-kind match; and so, you know, this
13 conversation began with the idea of what should we do
14 to make supplanting right; and the chairman suggested
15 that maybe we should -- you guys should require that
16 these grant agencies return the money; but it's our
17 money that we were not spending. It's not your money,
18 and it's not the cash match amount.

19 It's in-kind money that we voluntarily
20 provided to show our commitment to this program; and
21 unfortunately, we didn't spend it all; but we are
22 trying to spend it all. We have -- Jasmine and Felix
23 can speak to this, but we have asked our command staff
24 to replace these vacant positions over and over again,
25 and it's not that they are not committed to the

1 program either. They are trying to fill these
2 positions but just haven't, you know, keep up with the
3 constant turn in these positions.

4 I would like to kind of conclude by
5 asking you what you would recommend for us to do in
6 terms of filling the vacancies because that's
7 essentially what this boils down to is unfilled
8 positions; and so, I mean, I would like to hear what
9 ideas you have.

10 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: All right.

11 MS. WILLIAMS: I just wanted to kind of
12 expand. I have pulled up the calculations in front of
13 me, and I will say that we worked -- Lauren Williams,
14 MVCPA grant auditor.

15 They did end up providing us with some
16 unreported expenditures, so these numbers are updated
17 to reflect that; but just to give you all a little bit
18 more context and provide you with the concrete
19 numbers.

20 In FY21, their match was \$1,336,610.00
21 which was reduced to \$212,763.00 in FY22, but it is
22 important to know in addition that that in-kind amount
23 increased substantially so the match was much lower
24 but in-kind went from \$748,943,000.00 reported in FY21
25 up to \$1 million -- as you discussed -- \$330,602.68 in

1 FY22.

2 So the grant amount did increase from
3 FY21 to FY22 and FY23 and MVCPA expenditures increased
4 while the total local spend of Harris County did
5 decrease for whatever reasons those may be; but that's
6 why, I guess, I wanted to explain a little bit as far
7 as why the in-kind amount increased so much. They are
8 making up to a degree for the drop in match year over
9 year, cash match.

10 MR. SCHMIDT: Can I just comment on that?

11 We were trying to right size our cash
12 match. I mean, the grant requires a 20 percent cash
13 match; and so we used to provide these giant cash
14 match; and then we thought to ourselves, that's
15 unnecessary. Like, why don't we just provide the
16 right amount, so that's why we brought it down to
17 20 percent; and like Lauren said, then we made up for
18 it by adding this, you know, very large in-kind match
19 amount.

20 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: The in-kind match,
21 that's the area that you are having problems with in
22 filling those spots?

23 MR. SCHMIDT: That's correct.

24 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So last year how much
25 of in-kind did you -- were you able to save in not

1 putting those FTEs or being able to hire those FTEs?

2 How much did the city -- or how much did
3 the county end up spending in in-kind in total?

4 MS. GONZALES: Jasmine Gonzales, grants
5 analyst HCSO.

6 So for in-kind fiscal year '22 we spent
7 1.3. The same for fiscal year '23.

8 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: And the reimbursement
9 from MVCPA was how much?

10 MS. WILLIAMS: Lauren Williams.

11 It was \$853,100.00. The year-to-date
12 expenditures were matched by that total.

13 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So for '22 you still
14 spent -- going back to Harris County -- you still
15 spent 1.3 million for -- to pay FTEs that are assigned
16 to auto theft, correct?

17 MR. SCHMIDT: Yeah, I believe that's
18 correct. I mean, I don't have the exact number; but
19 essentially we are spending the same amount of money
20 each year with some small variations; but our
21 commitment to the program hasn't changed. It's about
22 the same each year.

23 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So where is where we
24 have the issue, Lauren, for that?

25 MS. WILLIAMS: I am calculating right

1 now.

2 Lauren Williams.

3 So if we add the total local expenditures
4 of their match, cash match in FY21 as well as their
5 in-kind in FY21 and then take the difference of their
6 total local expenditures in comparison to FY22, that's
7 where we are getting the \$542,000.00 difference. So
8 their total contributions year over year was reduced
9 by these amounts that you are seeing here.

10 So, you know, their total local spent,
11 although their in-kind did increase substantially, it
12 did not increase in proportion to the amount that
13 their cash match decreased. There is still a very
14 substantial difference.

15 MR. PRICE: Dan Price, MVCPA grant
16 manager.

17 I think what we are missing here is that
18 in FY21, that was the high watermark; and from FY21 to
19 FY22 when the cash match was reduced, their total
20 local spending was reduced by just under half a
21 million dollars; and then they maintained that level
22 into '23. So they have dropped half a million dollars
23 from '21 to '22 and continued to spend that lower
24 level in '23.

25 MR. SCHMIDT: So just to comment on that.

1 We added -- we sent them some
2 documentation showing other types of expenditures that
3 had not previously been reported to the MVCPA and
4 these would include fuel costs and other deputies from
5 different units that are helping the auto theft unit
6 and our other operations when we do like SWAT,
7 sometimes they help auto theft with investigations.
8 So we sent all of those numbers to them; and it added
9 about \$100,000.00 per year, so that's why it goes from
10 half a million down to \$400,000.00 in short fall in
11 our in-kind spending per year; and I also want to
12 acknowledge that Lieutenant Gonzales just arrived from
13 the funeral. He is our auto theft commander.

14 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So we are adding that
15 cost on the additional support from those auxiliary
16 units to the grant?

17 MR. SCHMIDT: Yeah, we sent that to them.
18 They have that.

19 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Is that something that
20 we can accept as an expenditure?

21 MS. WILLIAMS: Lauren Williams.

22 They are reflected here in your board
23 book, all those additional expenses.

24 Was that your question?

25 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Yeah, I mean, are those

1 expenses that we can accept as expenses?

2 MS. WILLIAMS: Yes, they were all good.
3 We accepted those numbers and reflected them here in
4 our board book.

5 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Okay, but we are still
6 with that same number?

7 MS. WILLIAMS: Yes, so originally their
8 supplanting calculation for FY22 was \$542,000.00 and
9 in FY23 it was 506. That has now been reduced due to
10 their additional unreported expenditures to
11 \$473,859.82 in FY22 and \$450,489.43 in FY23 according
12 to this in reported expenditures.

13 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So if somebody uses the
14 SWAT team to assist their auto theft task force, where
15 do you put that number or where does it reflect on the
16 grant?

17 MR. PRICE: Dan Price, MVCPA grant
18 manager for the record.

19 What we asked them to do is they are
20 allowed to provide any reasonable and necessary
21 expenses to support the grant, but they have to also
22 do so consistently. So if they tell us, "Oh, by the
23 way, we spent \$200,000.00 or \$100,000.00 on gas in
24 '22," we say, "Okay. That's great. What did you pay
25 for gas for the task force in '21," because we have to

1 be consistent from year to year. That's a basic
2 account in time.

3 So they are allowed if there is a
4 one-time expense or if they go out and buy vehicles or
5 contribute to vehicles or anything that they do as
6 long as they are reporting that expenditure
7 consistently between the years, we will accept it if
8 it's reasonable and necessary.

9 MS. WILLIAMS: Lauren Williams.

10 I don't believe that there were any
11 expenses that were provided to us that we did not
12 accept or reflect here.

13 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: I am just saying that
14 there might be some task forces that are not putting
15 that in their grants that they are using auxiliary
16 units to support units from their PDs or their sheriff
17 departments and sending them your way. That's where I
18 am at with this.

19 MR. PRICE: Dan Price, MVCPA grant
20 manager.

21 So it's an interesting discussion.

22 For in-kind match, we traditionally have
23 not had a high level of review of in-kind expenses.
24 We do review them but not at a high level. There are
25 many grantees who honestly because of their local

1 political situations don't want to actually reflect
2 the amount that they are spending on our grant, and so
3 they will choose to omit in-kind altogether, and that
4 was the case.

5 That's why we went out and asked people
6 what were your in-kind expenses for our records so
7 that we can test it to see if, in fact, they were
8 spending in-kind amounts or they had shifted to
9 in-kind amounts that would allow us to say the local
10 spent maintained the same.

11 But I would say probably eight or
12 nine years ago, it was decided that although we wanted
13 to capture all of the expenditures for all of the
14 grantees so we could report it to the legislature,
15 many of them politically just aren't able to reflect
16 the true cost that they used to support this grant.

17 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: It seems to me that,
18 you know, when you file your return, do you go the
19 long way or the short way, itemize or not itemize; and
20 I think some are doing one or the other.

21 I think we definitely need to figure out
22 what we are going to do here; and again, I am going to
23 go back to the same as the other task forces that
24 there needs to be additional conversations as to what
25 we are going to do because you are asking for

1 recommendations.

2 I think that we need to look in depth
3 into other major task forces and then I will say, you
4 know, like Dallas and Houston, how are they, you know,
5 trying to mitigate this; and we kind of figure out how
6 they are doing it because I know for a fact that they
7 are also having problems with personnel and getting
8 personnel in their police departments or sheriff
9 departments.

10 So definitely have a conversation with
11 them; and then kind of figure out what is the best way
12 to approach this especially when you are having
13 trouble putting FTEs into your program; and making
14 sure that this doesn't happen again; and that's pretty
15 much what this board is responsible for is that it
16 doesn't continue; and that we understand that, you
17 know, sometimes you are going to have those -- that
18 red tape; and we just need to find a way and a
19 solution for it not to continue.

20 So, yes.

21 MEMBER BROTHERTON: I think you said
22 that -- tell me your name again.

23 I am Charla Brotherton for the record.

24 MR. SCHMIDT: My name is Brian Schmidt.

25 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Okay, Brian.

1 You said -- and my brain has hit on it
2 two or three times -- you guys have had many many
3 grants. Over the years you have had many many grants,
4 and that you have not had a problem with any of the
5 other grants.

6 So that, you know, I don't like to be
7 singled -- I don't want us to be the group that gets
8 singled out to be the one, right, so do you have a
9 reason for why the other grants are not having a
10 problem with it or why it's this one?

11 Is there something that's different about
12 all of the other grants in your reporting to them
13 versus reporting to us, or do you have to report to
14 them or just a differentiation between them and us?

15 MR. SCHMIDT: Okay. I think MVCPA is
16 taking a different interpretation of the supplanting
17 prohibition than other agencies take.

18 Lieutenant Gonzales is here, and he was
19 going to speak regarding the vacancies and his efforts
20 to fill those positions.

21 I know that he arrived late, but would
22 you mind if he were to speak to you about that?

23 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Lieutenant.

24 LIEUTENANT GONZALES: Good afternoon.

25 For the record, John Gonzales, lieutenant

1 Harris County Sheriff's Office Auto Theft.

2 I apologize for my tardiness. I was just
3 attending a funeral. I am not sure what has been
4 covered so if I hit on something twice, I apologize in
5 advance.

6 So when I inherited this, I understand
7 that these -- when this came to fruition, this was
8 from '21 to '22, '22 to '23. It's clearly known that
9 I inherited this problem. I inherited the task
10 force's responsibility in April of 2023, and I
11 inherited with vacancies on our in-kind side.

12 Upon this immediately coming forth, I
13 lowered the amount of our personnel on the in-kind
14 side from 13 to nine. I believe between Brian,
15 Jasmine and I, we estimated the math to be right at
16 about with the salary, fringe, fuel cost and so forth
17 at about \$100,000.00.00 per investigator.

18 Since I have started, I have lost seven
19 personnel. That's been to promotions, transfers,
20 terminations, resignations and, you know, so forth. I
21 am sure from '21 to '22, those numbers increased.

22 We had pulled some numbers, and this is
23 just overall. Again, if they have already covered
24 this, I apologize.

25 From December 31st of 2020 our entire

1 department's personnel HR numbers were 5,093
2 personnel. That number significantly dropped on
3 June 30th of 2021 to 5,041. The fiscal year '22,
4 June 30th, that number dropped to 4,584. Now, at the
5 end of fiscal year '23, that number now sits at 4,543,
6 so we have lost.

7 You know, we are hemorrhaging; and it's
8 difficult to speak on behalf of our command staff even
9 though that's essentially what I am doing here today.
10 I am in the seat. I will own it. The buck stops with
11 me, but I send out weekly reports to our command staff
12 of vacancies within our unit.

13 Our department is hemorrhaging personnel;
14 and obviously with the rise in violent crime in Harris
15 County, our command staff made the decision to
16 reallocate personnel and resources to add additional
17 squads to our homicide or violent crime units. As I
18 mentioned just earlier, I just attended a funeral of a
19 fallen officer as a result of that.

20 So with that being said -- and I am not
21 trying to make light of the situation; but when it
22 comes to numbers, that's why I asked Brian and Jasmine
23 to come up here because it all reads hieroglyphics to
24 me. I simply tell my command staff what I need, what
25 it does and what it costs essentially like I do with

1 you all.

2 So that's all that I have. If you all
3 have any other questions, I will be more than happy to
4 attempt to answer those even though this again
5 occurred before I got here.

6 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, lieutenant,
7 for that explanation; and we talked about this before
8 where, you know, we understand that there is going to
9 be some chiefs and some sheriffs that are going to be
10 moved to the resources where that are needed, you
11 know, across the board in every agency; and we
12 understand that; but what we want to get to is that
13 they understand the fact that on our side, we have to
14 reduce the -- if there is going to be a reduction in
15 personnel, that we do a reduction in the amount of
16 grant funds that we are providing from the state and
17 that's just on our side.

18 Our responsibility is to make sure that
19 does happen as well that we don't keep the same amount
20 of grant funded monies there when there has been a
21 significant reduction in personnel towards other
22 crimes because at the end of the day, the commission
23 is very clear that it's auto theft and auto burglaries
24 and not catalytic converters.

25 So I think if it's needed for us -- and

1 this is why I think these letters are always good so
2 that the command staff can also be aware that, hey,
3 you know what, this is going on in the auto theft
4 area; and we understand that there is going to be a
5 need for more attention whether it's personnel or if
6 there is going to be a significant reduction in
7 property crime, it's not going to be a priority for
8 the agency; and we understand, right; but we
9 understand also -- and we just talked about it last
10 night -- about the nexus that it has to violent crime,
11 the nexus that it could be, you know, Houston has a
12 big problem. Harris County has a big problem in auto
13 thefts.

14 So if we don't prioritize it as well with
15 violent crimes, you know, then it's okay. We
16 understand, but we need to reduce the amount of grant
17 funds that are going to be provided to the agencies.

18 So like I had told Brian here that we are
19 going to have to continue the conversation here
20 because we need Harris County and we need Houston PD
21 to make sure that they are also with our mission of
22 reducing the amount of auto thefts in the State of
23 Texas because the biggest numbers are here. I mean,
24 everybody knows it. We are not going to shy away from
25 that. Houston always comes up in the big picture

1 that, hey, this is where the auto thefts are
2 happening.

3 So we are going to have to continue this
4 conversation and making sure that we continue the
5 conversation with Director Diggs and Lauren here and
6 them to make sure that we come to an agreement that
7 again if we are going to reduce the amount of
8 personnel, that we reduce the amount of grant funds
9 that are provided to Harris County; but if we are
10 going to try to bring up the personnel numbers; and
11 it's just a waiting time, you know, a waiting period
12 to make sure that we put those FTEs back in place,
13 then we will try to figure something out so that we
14 can accommodate for that; but I think it's important
15 for you to make sure that you provide your command
16 staff and your sheriff with the information and as
17 well as for our responsibility to make sure that we go
18 back to our staff in making sure that they provide to
19 you the needed support that is needed for the grant
20 application and things like that moving forward.

21 But again, we will have additional
22 conversations; and then we will circle back with you
23 through Lauren and through Daniel and Director Diggs
24 in making sure that we figure out this supplanting
25 issue that we have; and I know that it might be a

1 different -- like you said, it's just the way that we
2 are looking at it. Let's look at it more in depth and
3 find out where we can go from here.

4 LIEUTENANT GONZALES: For the record John
5 Gonzales.

6 Also, Board Member Brotherton, I know
7 that you asked a question earlier. I was -- I
8 wouldn't say eavesdropping. I was sitting right
9 there -- but you asked how this grant was different
10 from others. So I don't have quite the grant
11 experience that they do.

12 I started working with grants as a
13 sergeant back when I was assigned to our Homeland
14 Security Bureau, and a lot of the grants -- I am not
15 sure if you have heard of them -- I have dealt with
16 UASI, SHSP and PSGP; and just from my perspective from
17 my seat where you all differ from them is those
18 grants, we use those more for equipment grants. It
19 was pretty much a one and done.

20 This one here as opposed to paying for
21 overtime, personnel, salaries, I don't want to say it
22 makes it more complex; but it's new to me. I like and
23 I see the need for it.

24 In my opinion, that's where it, you know,
25 it -- because we deal with vacancies. It's not so

1 much as it's equipment being used or did you get this
2 equipment. It's where is this personnel, and also for
3 the record.

4 When I took over, the fiscal year '24
5 application was pretty much already said and done by
6 my predecessor. It was just, you know, I didn't know
7 really what year I was looking at but fiscal year '25
8 was the first one that I actually had a hand in
9 actually authoring, you know, with my own numbers; and
10 that's when again all of this came to fruition. I
11 said, okay, well, let's at least lower our in-kind
12 personnel from the 13 to nine to close that deficit in
13 an attempt to, you know, be in compliance.

14 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: That's exactly what we
15 were talking about earlier, you know, that this is a
16 grant that grants, you know, FTEs, equipment,
17 overtime, so it's different because I think every
18 agency that's here, you know, understands that this
19 grant allows for a lot of things to be included in the
20 grant.

21 So again, yes, I think that the issue
22 here is always that the FTE, how much in-kind cash
23 match, you know, it gets a little bit difficult to
24 understand; but -- were you gong to say something?

25 MEMBER JONES: Lieutenant, thank you for

1 the explanation.

2 Mr. Schmidt, you asked the board to give
3 recommendations for recruiting. That's not the
4 purpose of this board.

5 I do have a question for you though.

6 You mentioned there are vacancies, and
7 they are being allocated by others outside of your
8 control. We understand that.

9 When those personnel are re-allocated
10 elsewhere, where is the funding for those personnel
11 re-allocated?

12 MR. SCHMIDT: Well, first I would say
13 that it's not necessarily the case that people are
14 being re-allocated away. It's just that people quit.
15 People leave the sheriff's office employment. You
16 know, there is a lot of reasons. It's not like our
17 command staff is saying, "You know what, auto theft is
18 not that important anymore. Let's move all of our
19 people over to somewhere else." That's not what is
20 happening.

21 MEMBER JONES: I understand that.

22 So when someone retires, resigns, gets
23 fired, they are no longer there, where is the money
24 that was allocated to that position, where does that
25 go?

1 MR. SCHMIDT: It doesn't get spent. If
2 the position is not filled, it doesn't get spent.
3 That's why we are having these shortfalls. It's the
4 sheriff's office -- in other words, if a position is
5 not filled, the money is not spent. It's not like we
6 are moving money elsewhere. We only get money from
7 our budget office for people for filled position.

8 MEMBER JONES: Correct, so which goes
9 back to the chairman's point of reduction. If the
10 positions are not there, then reduce.

11 MR. SCHMIDT: And that's what we are
12 trying to do. That's what the lieutenant was alluding
13 to in our application that we just submitted. We are
14 trying to right size our in-kind amount so that it
15 reflects reality in terms of how many positions are
16 actually filled rather than our hopes.

17 So like, for example, we -- I think we
18 had 17 investigators as part of our in-kind match in
19 the years in question; but we were not able to keep
20 all 17 positions filled; and so probably we should
21 have taken more of a realistic approach and said, "You
22 know what, we have 17 positions allocated for this
23 unit; but in reality, we probably are only going to be
24 able to fill 15 of them," because there is always
25 going to be some people coming and going.

1 So we should have just budgeted for 15 in
2 our in-kind match instead of the full 17; but we were
3 trying to, you know, provide the full scope of our
4 investment in auto theft to use so you would know how
5 much money we are spending.

6 We didn't know that we would be held
7 responsible for that number, you know, to be held
8 liable for the amount of our own money that we didn't
9 spend. That just seems kind of like silly to me
10 because this is our money. This is our in-kind match.

11 But anyway going forward, we will
12 probably try to not say we have 17 positions budgeted
13 to us or allocated to us from our budget office and we
14 think all 17 of them are going to be filled because
15 that's not realistic, right, because always there are
16 people coming and going.

17 So maybe what we should just do is tell
18 you we have 17 positions allocated, but really we are
19 going to fill 15 of them, and so that gives us a
20 little cushion to make room for the fact that people
21 will leave employment with Harris County.

22 Does that make sense?

23 I think that could be a solution to solve
24 this problem.

25 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: And again, you know, it

1 could be a solution; and I believe we have always, you
2 know, talked about it that we can pour -- you know, if
3 Harris County or Houston PD would say, "You know what,
4 I am going to have a 20 percent match on a \$5 million
5 grant to fund prosecutors, fund more investigators,
6 fund more equipment to make sure that we reduce the
7 amount of crimes in Houston," we will be all for it
8 because if we attack the problem in Houston, we will
9 probably reduce 30 percent of auto thefts.

10 So this is where the commitment of MVCPA
11 is; but at the end of the day, it has to be coming
12 also a commitment from the agencies, right, so, you
13 know, we are all for trying to make sure that the
14 mission continues to reduce the amount of auto thefts.

15 Midland and Odessa is another problem.
16 The Lubbock area is another problem. Amarillo, it's a
17 problem; but the biggest problem continues to be
18 Harris and Houston, so you know, we are going to be
19 one hundred percent in support of you and Harris
20 County and the Houston PD all of the time; but we also
21 need for your to support the commission in the Motor
22 Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority to make sure that
23 we continue to provide that safety for the communities
24 that we live in.

25 MR. SCHMIDT: I mean, our command staff

1 would have been here, I think, if it had not been for
2 the funeral; but I know that they are committed to
3 this; and the lieutenant can speak to that. Our
4 commitment to auto theft has not waned. It's a
5 priority for us for sure.

6 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: And it's going to be
7 tough having less personnel trying to get to reduce
8 the number of auto thefts. It's going to be tough for
9 you. You know, I have been there; and it's tough.
10 So, you know, just putting that awareness there.

11 LIEUTENANT GONZALES: I inherited an
12 issue; but, you know, like I said, there are small
13 things that I have been doing to rectify that and
14 mitigate, you know, the loss of personnel; but, you
15 know, it's just, you know, it's -- and like Brian
16 said, our command staff has been tied up with
17 everything going on recently with the storm and so
18 forth; but, you know, to piggyback off of what he said
19 about just lowering, you know, the amount of personnel
20 within I guess realistic expectations.

21 We are -- and not to single anybody out
22 here. I know that I am on record; but I am told week
23 after week; and I am honestly surprised that I haven't
24 been moved yet because I am constantly telling, "Hey,
25 I have got positions that need to be filled. Hey, I

1 need personnel;" and I get told the empty promise that
2 we are going to get you some help. We are going to
3 get you some personnel.

4 And from my understanding, Jasmine maybe
5 can comment more on this; but a few years back, our
6 command staff -- this is before I even came to auto
7 theft -- significantly decreased personnel I want to
8 say mid cycle with I believe that was back when you
9 all were ABTPA; and it kind of made some -- you know,
10 ruffled some feathers; and so that was, you know,
11 another, you know, thing that I was like, well, you
12 know, if we can do this mid grant cycle with the, you
13 know, transfer personnel or whatnot, you know; but
14 definitely I understand what you are saying; and Brian
15 does, too. We are all on the same page, and we will
16 make it right.

17 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: And again, we will
18 probably get creative, right, so I suggest that the
19 recommendation is, hey, get the surrounding cities and
20 municipalities that are in Harris County to come
21 onboard with you; and get that 20 percent from those
22 cites and those towns I think because there was a town
23 here that came in and said that they were part of the
24 Harris County area.

25 So was it a town, Sharon?

1 It was a city, right?

2 MEMBER JONES: It was a city.

3 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: It was a city.

4 There was a couple of cities that came in
5 for the SB224 that were in Harris County.

6 DIRECTOR DIGGS: I believe half in
7 Galveston County and half in Harris if I am not
8 mistaken, yes.

9 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: So I think just looking
10 at those cities maybe just bring in the body to kind
11 of help out with the task force. That would be
12 something that can be done.

13 LIEUTENANT GONZALES: So we do have a --
14 and this is just a vision for the next fiscal year.
15 Everybody knows how this goes -- we have eight
16 constable precincts that, you know, our officer that
17 was just killed a week prior was part of a task force
18 for violent offenders. It was called VIPER, and it
19 was composed of the Harris County Sheriff's Office and
20 the Harris County Constable Precincts' personnel from
21 all eight precincts.

22 And I have a vision for something like
23 that with auto theft just to see who wants to play
24 ball or whatnot. So that's definitely something that
25 is, you know, in the chamber.

1 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Great.

2 MEMBER JONES: Just something to
3 consider.

4 If you have 17 positions and you only
5 have 15 bodies, apply for 15. When you get the other
6 one or two when you have 16 or 17, come back and
7 request to fill those positions; and then you don't
8 have this problem. So it doesn't seem silly.

9 MR. PRICE: Dan Price, MVCPA grant
10 manager for the record.

11 I also wanted to point out that obviously
12 they are not the only people struggling with us, but
13 what other people are doing and we have talked a lot
14 this week about force multipliers.

15 We have talked specifically about a lot
16 of LPRs and there are a lot of people who have
17 vacancies; and they will do a grant adjustment; and
18 they will say, "Okay. I don't have the same number of
19 people. Maybe I can gain some advantage by adding
20 LPRs or other equipment or shifting those expenses
21 somewhere else where they are needed;" and we give
22 people every opportunity to do that.

23 The other issue that he had referenced
24 before he got here. I was here for that; and part of
25 the problem was that some grantees we know that our

1 investigators are highly trained. We spend a lot of
2 time and a lot of money on training our investigators,
3 and people need the opportunity to advance in their
4 careers, but there have been situations where some of
5 our grantees have literally decapitated their programs
6 by moving all of the experienced investigators to
7 other areas and narcotics comes to mind, and then they
8 are bringing in new recruits.

9 So when there is a concern, we do not
10 allow them to replace a sergeant with a Rookie B Cop
11 that is being assigned to auto theft. That is a
12 concern for us; and so, you know, again, it's not just
13 the number of people but the quality of people on our
14 task forces that we need to maintain.

15 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Are there any
16 other questions?

17 Thank you.

18 MR. SCHMIDT: Thank you.

19 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: City of Pasadena; and
20 the last statement from you, Dan.

21 I think it's that we will leave it up to
22 the agencies moving them into narcotics and moving
23 them to promotions. That's out of our control; but we
24 do ask for them to put in a new body even if it's
25 sometimes commanders prefer a brand new investigator

1 so that they can mold them the way that they want to,
2 right; and sometimes it pays dividends, right, so we
3 will leave it up to the agency.

4 The City of Pasadena, good morning.

5 Well, I am sorry, good afternoon. It's
6 already 1:00.

7 SERGEANT BUCKERT: I am Doug Buckert. I
8 am a sergeant of our auto theft task force joined by
9 Nancy Mata, our financial officer, who has our
10 adjusted calculations.

11 May I ask, what are the numbers that we
12 have submitted to you for our supplanting figures
13 because we submitted these in March?

14 They are updated.

15 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Did you give them
16 copies?

17 SERGEANT BUCKERT: Yes.

18 MS. MATA: It's been updated I believe.

19 SERGEANT BUCKERT: It's updated. Their
20 numbers reflects this.

21 So since Pasadena Auto Crimes Task Force
22 became a grantee, we have been comprised of six
23 investigators and one sergeant.

24 However, in April of 2022, one of our
25 in-kind investigators promoted to the rank of sergeant

1 and vacated this position. This personnel move left
2 us with five investigators and one sergeant; and due
3 to personnel issues and shortages on our patrol staff,
4 our position for in-kind investigator was not filled
5 between April of 2022; and January of this year I
6 finally got it filled.

7 So we are back up to six investigators,
8 five in-kind investigators and myself as a sergeant is
9 listed as in-kind.

10 We have one grant funded position that we
11 meet at that 80/20 cash match; and I believe the
12 figures that you see before you for FY22, the
13 \$5,623.14, I will let Nancy speak to that exact
14 number; but I am not a math whiz; but I think that
15 falls within the five percent allowance for that year;
16 and the figure of \$126,534.00, that is reflected of
17 that vacant investigator position and salary and then
18 fringe benefits just not being there for that year.

19 I do want to make it known, too, I
20 started in the position in November of 2022. I was
21 brand new to this. I was tasked with revamping; and
22 as Dan said, gutting our unit. I replaced three
23 senior investigators with guys with ten years or less
24 experience. So there is a paid scale difference there
25 that would be reflected.

1 Now, I have done everything that I could
2 to get that sixth position added back. We finally got
3 it. After our patrol numbers came back up, they did
4 allocate that position.

5 So I don't know if you all have any
6 questions for Nancy.

7 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Did you have this prior
8 to your conversations with the City of Pasadena?

9 MS. WILLIAMS: Yes, they provide this a
10 few months ago at this point.

11 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: And we are still at the
12 same number?

13 MS. WILLIAMS: Yes, correct.

14 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

15 SERGEANT BUCKERT: Thank you.

16 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Your recommendation.

17 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Williams Diggs, MVCPA
18 Director for the record.

19 Mr. Chairman and members, you know, in
20 light of some additional information that has been
21 provided today by at least four of the seven, I
22 believe that the MVCPA auditing has done their due
23 diligence dating back into March to gather as much
24 information about the issues of supplanting.

25 We have heard Lauren speak earlier.

1 Originally, I think there were 12 or 13 through lots
2 of conversations, lots of back and forth, that was
3 reduced to the seven that have been here and presented
4 today; and then here today, we have gotten even
5 additional information.

6 I, myself, wanted to show some leniency
7 to some of the task forces. I wanted to speak
8 publicly about that. I believe it can be complicated
9 at times. I believe the rule though is clear that we
10 are not supposed to supplant. I have even had a
11 conversation with Dan. The word just sounds terrible,
12 right; but at the same time, it is what it is; and so
13 with that, I make the following recommendation.

14 Instead of leaving three of the task
15 forces hanging until a later date or until a later
16 board meeting, I believe we go ahead and take the
17 following action.

18 I believe the City of Beaumont should pay
19 25 percent of the overall amount that is shown in my
20 calculations -- and, somebody, please, check my
21 math -- is that the City of Beaumont repay the MVCPA
22 \$56,435.66.

23 I believe that Burnet County should repay
24 25 percent of the \$132,717.00, which would be
25 \$33,179.48.

1 And that the City of Pasadena should pay
2 25 percent of their total and that amount would be
3 \$31,387.42.

4 I believe that the City of Brownsville
5 should be further reviewed.

6 The City of Eagle Pass should be further
7 reviewed.

8 Galveston County further reviewed.

9 Harris County further reviewed.

10 But yet we move forward on the three that
11 I mentioned. I don't believe that there is any reason
12 for us to hold up making some formal action today and
13 move forward and provide them with some, you know,
14 with some relief.

15 Let's get this behind us; and that we
16 also for MVCPA staff the audit team for the next
17 couple of years that they quarterly take a close look
18 at the City of Beaumont, Burnet County and the City of
19 Pasadena and provide me with a report just to see
20 where we stand as far as expenditures and reporting.

21 And so that would be my recommendation to
22 the board today, sir.

23 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: What was the
24 recommendation for Harris County, further review?

25 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Harris County that we

1 have further review of some information that they have
2 provided and that we look closer at their in-kind
3 match and some other things. As far as the
4 maintaining these in-kind levels, I think that there
5 needs to be some further conversation.

6 MR. RICHARDS: Mr. Chairman.

7 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Go ahead.

8 MR. RICHARDS: David Richards, general
9 counsel for the record.

10 Director Diggs, with respect to those
11 that you have identified as moving forward on, do you
12 have a time period in mind within which they would be
13 required to pay or repay -- I should say -- the
14 amounts that you have identified?

15 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Williams Diggs, MVCPA
16 Direct for the record.

17 Absolutely, Mr. Richards.

18 I, myself, don't believe that they should
19 have to pay us all in one payment. I believe that it
20 could be quarterly payments over the next 12 months
21 and that they could pay those dollar amounts due.

22 MR. RICHARDS: Thank you.

23 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Does the quarterly
24 reports, are they going to be directed to you,
25 Director Diggs, or are they going to be for -- are

1 they going to be for two years?

2 How many years are we talking about?

3 One year?

4 DIRECTOR DIGGS: For the payments of what
5 was owed, yes, for one year; but for the continued
6 review of what is actually occurring behind the scenes
7 when it comes to the management when it comes to the
8 financials, that would be for two years that I would
9 want to see those quarterly documents for my audit
10 team for the next couple of years.

11 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: The only thing that I
12 would like to recommend is that I know that there was
13 some information brought in today; and, you know, the
14 letters were sent on 3/15.

15 From here on, I think this is a lesson
16 learned, right, that every time that we send a letter,
17 we expect for the agency or the grantee to respond.
18 They almost had four months, to respond within the
19 three months. I think that's very doable and to kind
20 of put in a sense the urgency that the minute that
21 they receive the letter for whatever the question is
22 from MVCPA.

23 So I think this is the first that we do
24 for auditing on the supplanting part. I know that we
25 are going on '22 '23; but from here on, every time

1 that we send a letter out that we make sure that they
2 engage with a response; and we request a response if
3 they receive that letter and that they will be working
4 on it and make sure on that letter it states that they
5 have that amount of time to respond and that they keep
6 Director Diggs as well, you know, in those
7 conversations. Yeah, but we definitely need to keep
8 on tracking these kinds of actions.

9 Is there anyone on the board who wants to
10 make a motion, or are we going to go with Charla?

11 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Member Brotherton.

12 I make a motion that we go with the
13 recommendation and that Beaumont, Burnet County and
14 Pasadena pay 25 percent over the next year based on
15 quarterly payments; and that everyone else goes into a
16 review program to be updated by our next meeting.

17 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: The probation, on the
18 two-year probation -- oh, what did you call it -- the
19 two-year review?

20 MS. WILLIAMS: Two-year review.

21 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Member Brotherton.

22 And we add that the Beaumont, Burnet and
23 Pasadena will be under quarterly review for two years.

24 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Member
25 Cantu-Serrano, I second.

1 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: All right. I have a
2 motion from Member Brotherton, and I have a second
3 from Member Cantu-Serrano.

4 Is there any further discussion?

5 Hearing none, I will now call for the
6 vote.

7 Members, if you are in favor of the
8 motion say, "Aye."

9 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Aye.

10 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Aye.

11 MEMBER JONES: Aye.

12 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Any opposed?

13 Let the record reflect that, I, Michael
14 Rodriguez, vote aye.

15 The motion passes.

16 On to Agenda Item 12, 68A inspection
17 proposed statutory change awareness.

18 We did that?

19 MEMBER JONES: Yes.

20 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Oh, yeah, we are past
21 No. 12 to 13.

22 Somebody is hungry.

23 We are going to skip Agenda Item 14.
24 There is no closed session.

25 And 15.

1 DIRECTOR DIGGS: There is nothing on
2 that.

3 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Agenda Item No. 17,
4 adjournment.

5 Members, unless there is any further
6 business, I will entertain a motion to adjourn the
7 meeting.

8 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Member Brotherton, I
9 do something -- let's see.

10 I suggest that we adjourn.

11 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: Do I have a second?

12 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Member
13 Cantu-Serrano, I second.

14 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: I have a motion from
15 Member Brotherton and a second from Member
16 Cantu-Serrano.

17 Any further discussion?

18 Hearing none, I will now call for the
19 vote.

20 All those in favor adjourning say, "Aye."

21 MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Aye.

22 MEMBER BROTHERTON: Aye.

23 MEMBER JONES: Any.

24 CHAIR RODRIGUEZ: All those oppose say,
25 "Nay."

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Let the record reflect that I, Michael Rodriguez, says aye.

The motion passes.

The motion is unanimous.

It is now 1:33 p.m.

This meeting is adjourned.

Thank you.

(meeting adjourned)

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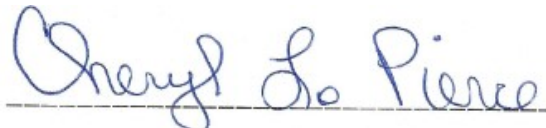
REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

THE STATE OF TEXAS)
COUNTY OF HARRIS)

I, Cheryl L. Pierce, a Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Texas, do hereby certify that the facts stated by me in the foregoing MVCPA Board Meeting hereto are true and later transcribed from stenograph into typewriting.

I further certify that the above and foregoing transcript as set forth in typewriting is a full, true and correct transcription of the statements made at the time of the taking of said MVCPA Board Meeting.

WITNESS MY HAND this the 31st day of July, 2024.



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Expiration Date: 10/31/2025
Firm Registration No. 633
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	\$110,000.00 97:18	\$21,875.00 26:16
	\$114,000.00 105:1	\$212,763.00 139:21
\$1 139:25	\$114,417.00 24:13 29:8	\$22,720.00 31:13
\$1,000.00 94:10	\$12,405.47 117:17	\$22,722.93 106:7
\$1,008,481.00 36:11	\$126,534.00 166:16	\$221,000.00 23:2 28:21
\$1,078,387.00 36:13	\$130,759.11 105:12	\$23,100.00 31:21
\$1,102,216.00 36:8	\$132,000.00 118:18	\$23,474.00 26:20
\$1,106,090.00 36:7	\$132,717.00 118:19 121:1 168:24	\$24,000.00 130:21
\$1,114,348.00 37:2	\$14,000.00 126:11,15,17,20	\$24,899.500.00 35:6
\$1,208,574.00 36:5	\$14,250.00 37:1	\$24,903.42 117:5
\$1,295.074.00 31:3	\$14,499.52 126:5	\$24.9 13:2
\$1,336,610.00 139:20	\$141,000.00 108:25	\$247,898.00 31:5
\$1,341,872.00 36:1	\$141,035.00 108:16	\$25,000.00 130:20,22
\$1,391,615.00 23:10 28:25	\$146,668.00 36:15	\$250,000.00 23:16 25:24 29:9
\$1,401,606 40:3	\$148,295.00 96:23	\$250,520.00 30:24
\$1,401,606.00 36:10 40:3	\$148,295.83 97:1	\$256,000.00 23:14 29:2
\$1,411,929.00 36:18	\$148,458.59 103:8	\$26,667.00 31:19
\$1,582,029.00 36:4	\$15,000.00 25:13,16	\$275,894.00 36:22
\$1,677.00 125:21	\$16,850.00 22:23 25:8,14 28:19	\$276,400.00 31:14
\$1,725,392.00 31:11 32:17	\$175,666.00 23:22 29:11	\$28,333.00 31:18
\$1,753.00 127:17	\$177,401.00 37:4	\$286,400.00 37:5
\$1,786,000.00 136:7	\$178 108:25	\$3,000.00 25:12
\$1,850.00 25:10	\$178,648.64 108:18	\$3,194.00 26:24
\$1,949,349.00 36:9	\$18,042.00 36:17	\$3.4 46:3
\$1.3 12:12	\$18,250.00 31:15	\$30 13:6
\$1.6 103:19	\$184,167.00 31:1	\$30,000.00 24:5 29:5
\$1.7 88:14 103:19	\$188,000.00 136:4	\$31,387.42 169:3
\$1.8 103:19	\$188,051.20 103:11 104:21	\$319,000.00 109:1
\$10,000.00 25:21	\$2 133:21	\$33,179.48 168:25
\$10,637.00 126:11	\$2,0083.00 26:17	\$330,602.68 139:25
\$100,000.00 62:7 97:17 137:2 143:9 144:23	\$2,016,853.00 36:6	\$37,500.00 24:9 29:7
\$100,000.00.00 149:17	\$2,089,417.00 36:20	\$377,517.00 31:12
\$11,000.00 125:3	\$2,352.00 127:17	\$38,250.00 24:3 29:4
\$11,279.00 36:16	\$20 12:16	\$38,625.00 31:16
\$11,592.47 124:22 125:17	\$200,000.00 95:16 144:23	\$381,450.00 29:10
	\$208,333.00 31:9	\$397,574.00 23:24 29:12

\$400,000.00 133:22 143:10	\$724,534.00 35:25	100 50:4 74:22 77:24 79:4 117:11 133:18,19 134:7
\$41,667.00 26:16	\$732,000.00 94:25	10:00 34:10,12
\$410,387.00 96:20	\$732,246.83 95:2	10:02 34:14
\$426,986.00 36:19	\$74,217.56 105:1	11 72:2
\$43,150.00 23:6 28:23	\$748,665.00 23:18 29:3	11:35 100:7
\$432,503.00 36:23	\$748,943,000.00 139:24	11:45 100:7
\$45,740.00 26:20	\$751,422.00 95:3	11:54 100:9
\$450,000.00 137:9	\$763,408.96 103:7	11th 118:6
\$450,489.43 144:11	\$77,342.00 31:17	12 12:25 82:13,16,22 86:15 87:8 90:17 112:25 168:1 170:20 173:16, 21
\$473,859.82 144:11	\$80,000.00 25:22	12th 43:10 108:15
\$49,797.00 31:7	\$81,683.00 31:6	13 84:4,7 149:14 155:12 168:1 173:21
\$5 159:4	\$821,953.00 36:12	14 10:2 14:24 173:23
\$5,000.00 25:21	\$853,000.00 136:3	14-foot 61:14
\$5,623.14 166:13	\$853,100.00 141:11	15 10:2 80:25 85:20 86:4,11 112:25 157:24 158:1,19 163:5 173:25
\$50,000.00 23:12 29:1	\$864,514.00 36:3	15-minute 34:9
\$500,000.00 97:3	\$869,075.00 36:21	16 46:11 58:19 163:6
\$508,000.00 96:19	\$9,000.00 125:7	1604 47:3
\$514,460.00 36:14	\$9,472,212.00 29:15	17 157:18,20,22 158:2,12,14,18 163:4,6 174:3
\$521,056.00 31:4	\$9,915.00 126:5	18 46:13
\$527,700.00 22:25 28:20	\$9,915.47 125:3,21 127:2,12	18th 87:9
\$532,588.00 35:24	\$915,000.47 125:18	19 5:7
\$54,709.00 31:10	\$919,000.00 94:2,22 95:8,19 96:13	1993 101:21
\$542,000.00 142:7 144:8	\$919,010.00 95:14	1:00 165:6
\$55,516.00 24:1 29:13	\$945,668.55 103:6	1:33 175:5
\$56,435.66 168:22	\$95,000.00 23:4 25:16 28:22	1K 67:19
\$565,765.00 30:25	\$98,973.00 106:7	1st 10:10 111:6
\$578,566.00 36:2	\$99,166.00 24:11 29:14	
\$583,951.00 97:5	\$994,740.00 31:8	
\$59,000.00 94:9		
\$642,623.00 37:3	<hr/> 1 <hr/>	
\$65,625.00 24:7 26:6 29:6	1 7:9 36:24 40:19 58:5,9,10 63:9, 13,21 64:3,8,10,12,16 66:22 72:18 102:13	<hr/> 2 <hr/>
\$70,600.00 31:20	1,500 71:1	2 8:4 36:25 37:22 40:21 58:13 63:10,16,24 64:3,9,17 65:6 66:22 102:12 103:1
\$72,408.00 23:8 26:19 28:24	1.3 141:7,15	20 42:22 85:1 116:6,7,13 117:10 121:4,15 129:16 131:2,4 133:20 134:7 136:3 140:12,17 159:4
\$720,000.00 95:9	10 60:23,24	
\$720,951.00 95:2,12		
\$723,816.35 103:9		

161:21		5,041 150:3
2005 80:21,22,23	<hr/> 3 <hr/>	5,093 150:1
2016 115:12	3 8:9 58:14,15 60:14 103:14	506 144:9
2017 84:18,19	3/15 87:7 113:2,11 171:14	55 100:19
2020 115:21 149:25	30 130:12 131:4 135:18 159:9	57 104:11,22
2020/2019 114:5	30-day 42:4	57.36 41:16 42:4 43:3,13 44:6
2021 94:22 98:12 102:16,19 103:18 104:7,9,25 105:3,8,9,16 115:13 124:4 150:3	30th 150:3,4	5A 14:20 15:1,13
2022 98:14 103:19 104:22 106:4,7 124:4 165:24 166:5,20	31 101:20	5B 15:18,22
2023 103:9,20 104:19 106:8 124:4 136:2 149:10	31st 149:25	5th 5:11
2024 5:7,11 8:11 12:10 63:2 116:19	35 101:23	<hr/> 6 <hr/>
2025 20:10 40:1,18 72:2 73:10 76:1,10,14,15 77:1 79:16	350 78:6	6 10:16 11:4 21:17 58:21 105:6
21 94:1,7 95:13,15 97:18,20,23 102:21 103:6,10 117:15,21 125:5 130:1,8,15 142:23 144:25 149:8,21	354 63:18	68.4 98:12
22 41:24 90:19 94:2,8 95:11,12,15 96:22 97:13,18 102:20,22 103:7 104:8,10 105:10,11,18 106:18,23 116:20 125:5 130:9,16,17 141:6,13 142:23 144:24 149:8,21 150:3 171:25	36 82:20	68A 45:19,22 46:21 47:21 48:3,11, 18 51:11 53:6 64:19 70:11,14 82:13,23 83:4,12,16 131:22 132:4 133:14 173:16
224 15:18 21:22 28:15 32:16 33:7 73:2 74:11,15 75:9	381,450.00 23:20	68a's 49:12 115:22
23 90:19 94:3,10,15 95:3,11,12,15 97:19 98:13 102:21,23 104:8,10 105:10,11,18 106:18,23 116:21 130:16,17 141:7 142:22,24 149:8 150:5 171:25	3A 8:10	6A 21:21 27:1
24 11:18 13:1 21:22 28:14 42:21 84:4 116:9 130:22 155:4	3B 9:10,13	6B 30:10 31:22
25 32:15 63:20 101:1 102:3 130:23 155:7 168:19,24 169:2 172:14	3rd 17:11 77:3	6C 34:15 37:7
27 8:11	<hr/> 4 <hr/>	<hr/> 7 <hr/>
28th 42:2 77:3	4 9:14 55:25 73:14 74:2 104:4	7 12:7 41:15,24 43:24 44:3 57:12 105:19
2k 71:4,5	4,543 150:5	<hr/> 8 <hr/>
2nd 43:9	4,584 150:4	8 45:2,5 106:13
	40 65:10	80/20 166:11
	400-and-something 70:20	89th 83:2,6
	410 97:1	<hr/> 9 <hr/>
	410,387 97:1	9 53:13,16
	43 41:16 44:6	919 96:17
	44 98:12	93 123:22
	48 104:10,24	9:02 5:6
	4A 9:24	9:43 34:11
	4B 10:17	
	4C 12:8	
	<hr/> 5 <hr/>	
	5 9:23 14:18 58:20 73:14 74:2 104:16	

A		
	7 88:25 99:2 103:16,17,21,22,24 105:11,13 106:10 111:20 134:22	affected 117:12
	ADAIR 53:18	affiliation 6:14
a.m. 5:6 34:12,14	adamant 115:2	afternoon 16:12 95:24 124:11,12 148:24 165:5
ability 52:12	add 51:14 55:4,8 57:7,11,20,23 60:15 67:2 97:14 98:1 101:6,9 106:17 134:11 142:3 150:16 172:22	agencies 18:13,18 20:13 22:20 24:16 30:17 35:12 39:14 64:5 69:15 78:10 81:3 91:6 138:16 148:17 152:17 159:12 164:22
absence 88:18	added 60:11 143:1,8 167:2	agency 10:5 14:20 15:1 18:9,12 24:18 38:16 71:21 89:13 138:6 151:11 152:8 155:18 165:3 171:17
absent 105:18	adding 57:2 140:18 143:14 163:19	agenda 5:10,20 6:2 7:9 8:4,9 9:10, 13,14,18,24 10:17 12:8 14:17,20 15:1,15,18 20:8 21:14,17,21 27:1 30:10,19 31:22 34:15,19 41:15,24 43:6,23 44:3 45:2,5 53:13,16 60:24 72:2 82:16,22 84:4,7 173:16,23 174:3
absolute 111:21	addition 51:19 89:3 136:5 139:22	agendas 88:21
absolutely 17:18 69:8 96:4 110:18 170:17	additional 11:2,21,24 12:1,2 13:10,11 14:2 20:24 25:5 35:3,9, 10,21 46:3,4 64:3 78:14 81:15 83:16 87:8 92:6,12 96:2 112:9 113:4 116:20 127:3,22 128:7 130:5 134:12,15 143:15,23 144:10 146:24 150:16 153:21 167:20 168:5	agent 38:16,19
ABTPA 79:5 161:9	Additionally 46:14	agents 63:18
accept 111:25 143:20 144:1 145:7, 12	address 5:19,23 59:4 77:13 135:5	agree 57:10 58:3 132:15
acceptable 127:13	addressing 6:13	agreed 59:23 125:17
accepted 118:7 144:3	adequate 48:3 50:14	agreement 118:3,4 153:6
access 64:19,21,22	adjourn 174:6,10	ahead 18:4,16 22:15 32:4 34:9 116:16 168:16 170:7
accommodate 79:9 153:14	adjourned 175:6,8	allegation 102:8,10,24
accommodating 122:17	adjourning 174:20	allegations 102:14 107:1
accomplish 42:16	adjournment 174:4	Allegiance 8:5,7,8
accordance 6:4	adjust 119:4	allocate 167:4
account 67:10 99:3 105:17 109:3 145:2	adjusted 165:10	allocated 156:7,24 157:22 158:13, 18
accountant 93:8 102:1 124:18,22	adjustment 121:7 163:17	allocation 102:5
accounting 105:22	administration 101:25	allowance 85:9 88:9 99:9 108:16 166:15
accounts 105:24 106:6	administrative 6:5 89:19 115:21	allowed 81:9 114:11 115:23,24 119:2,3 134:2 144:20 145:3
accumulate 6:10 137:6	adopted 83:15	allowing 114:24 131:5
accurate 6:17 97:10 109:24 112:7	adoption 41:15,18 42:2 43:7,14 44:5 83:15	alluding 157:12
accurately 85:13 99:19 106:14 118:12	adopts 83:7	alongside 102:1
accused 135:20	advance 149:5 164:3	alter 99:2
acid 64:15	advantage 163:19	
acknowledge 74:12 143:12	advisory 15:19 16:2,5,23 17:1,10, 19,23 18:20 19:23 20:9,22	
act 116:4,13		
action 30:12 34:17 41:25 53:16 83:5 89:20 168:17 169:12		
actions 88:23 89:16 172:8		
active 135:18		
activities 5:16		
actual 35:21 61:8 68:17 79:8 86:6,		

alternative 53:2	apples 94:5 105:4 106:15,22	assisted 63:5,8 81:22
altogether 146:3	applicable 86:22	assisting 82:6
Amarillo 63:11 159:16	application 38:2,21,23 39:2 116:6 130:7 153:20 155:5 157:13	assists 81:21
amazing 16:11	applications 19:7 27:3 34:23 42:18 123:22 130:10	attack 159:8
Amber 61:1 65:13,16 67:6 68:12, 25 70:17	applied 130:9 133:13	attempt 151:4 155:13
amendment 42:9,10 43:3	applies 130:14	attendance 7:1
amendments 41:15 42:4 43:13 44:6	apply 117:9 134:5,8 163:5	attended 150:18
American 61:22	applying 133:20,21	attending 149:3
amount 13:7 22:18 25:13 32:17 84:23 86:5,6,8 87:2 88:7,13 93:24 94:1,9,14 95:13 96:14,16,21,25 111:15 113:7,8 116:9 117:5,7,8,14, 16 118:24 119:6 124:21 125:7,20 126:25 127:12 131:8 136:5,6,9,17 138:4,8,12,18 139:22 140:2,7,16, 19 141:19 142:12 146:2 149:13 151:15,19 152:16,22 153:7,8 157:14 158:8 159:7,14 160:19 168:19 169:2 172:5	approach 147:12 157:21	attention 81:19 123:24 124:21 152:5
amounts 30:22 39:1 88:6 118:5,9 127:18 142:9 146:8,9 170:14,21	approached 56:15	audience 56:15
ample 98:24	approaching 50:11	audit 84:5 86:2,14 98:21 102:4 106:1 118:23 135:21 169:16 171:9
analysis 112:2 134:22,23	appropriated 46:2	audit's 84:8
analyst 25:21 80:25 81:1,18 141:5	approval 8:10 22:19	auditing 167:22 171:24
analysts 47:10 135:9	approve 8:17 28:14 32:15 33:6 35:15 40:1,17 43:13 44:5 50:22 79:15	auditor 84:11 96:10 98:2 112:21 118:1 125:20 134:20 139:14
and/or 87:12 92:7	approved 22:16 23:19 39:9 42:19 43:2,8 116:6,9	auditor's 115:2 122:13
Andrews 22:23 25:7 28:19	approving 8:15	auditors 122:23 123:25
announce 15:3	approximately 46:2 88:13	audits 99:15 135:20
announced 91:8	April 118:6 149:10 165:24 166:5	August 10:9 43:9,10 73:10
annual 125:24	area 46:5 48:20 63:23 64:1 65:1 72:7,11,16,18,20 79:16 115:19 140:21 152:4 159:16 161:24	Austin 35:24
annually 84:19	areas 19:17 66:1 69:5 103:3,4 115:23 164:7	authoring 155:9
anticipate 48:9	arrival 52:9	authority 5:5 7:3,5 61:4 102:6 119:18 159:22
Antonio 36:18 46:17,19 48:19	arrived 143:12 148:21	auto 16:9,19 25:19 49:20 63:10 64:2,11 69:11 73:3,4,15 74:18,23 80:24,25 100:14 101:16,18,25 106:2 114:23 115:14,17 128:16 129:25 135:11 136:25 137:14,16 141:16 143:5,7,13 144:14 149:1 151:23 152:3,12,22 153:1 156:17 158:4 159:9,14 160:4,8 161:6 162:23 164:11 165:8,21
anymore 156:18	assertion 99:7	auxiliary 143:15 145:15
apologize 149:2,4,24	assessment 49:11 86:20	average 65:11
appeal 61:15	asset 81:18	awaiting 11:2
appears 127:16,18	assign 83:9	award 12:22 21:23 30:11 34:16 40:18 80:18 82:9 116:8
apple 94:5	assigned 123:15 141:15 154:13 164:11	awarded 46:2 80:18 95:12,13 116:16
	assist 6:6,15,16 26:11 51:2 144:14	
	assistance 81:3	
	assistant 115:21 117:2	

awards 12:19 14:2 22:1 28:16 79:8 82:2 115:13	basis 102:17	boat 58:2
aware 152:2	Beaumont 22:24 28:20 30:24 35:25 88:11 91:21 93:6,8,20 96:21 97:12 99:25 100:11,14,22 112:5 168:18,21 169:18 172:13,22	bodies 163:5
awareness 82:14 160:10 173:17	began 138:13	body 162:10 164:24
Awesome 75:17	begin 5:12 6:25	boiled 136:18
axle 61:13	beginning 16:4 51:23 75:5 113:21	boils 139:7
aye 9:3,4,5,6,8 29:25 30:1,2,3,7 33:2,3,4,23,24,25 34:1,6 40:12,13, 15 41:8,9,10,11,13 44:17,18,19,20, 24 80:4,5,6,7,11 173:8,9,10,11,14 174:20,21,22 175:2	behalf 150:8	bombarded 135:25
<hr/> B <hr/>		
back 11:5,22,25 13:21 15:4 17:23 18:6 20:14 34:10,11 38:24 39:7 42:1,2,24 48:25 53:3 55:14 57:22 58:1 60:1 62:2 63:14 70:21 77:25 80:22 83:1,13 90:18 92:18 95:25 100:7,10,12 111:6 114:5 117:21 120:8 123:22 128:21 129:12 132:13,24 133:6 134:24 141:14 146:23 153:12,18,22 154:13 157:9 161:5,8 163:6 166:7 167:2,3,23 168:2	behaviors 99:3	border 17:13,15,20
background 59:8 84:17	belong 129:8,9,10	bottom 11:3 21:8 61:13
backup 105:23	belongs 132:21	Boutra 135:8
bag 71:4,6	belt 20:13	Boyd 122:8,17
Bailey 93:7 94:23 95:1,10 97:12 98:10 101:8	benchmark 99:23	brain 148:1
balance 115:24	benefit 130:12	Branch 23:11 29:1
balances 119:13 120:21	benefits 130:11 131:3 137:3 166:18	brand 164:25 166:21
ball 162:24	biannual 125:24	branded 78:3
base 116:23	big 61:24 62:2 71:7,18 152:12,25	Braunfels 16:10
based 50:21 86:23 90:15 97:10 102:5,14,24 109:2 121:1 127:11 130:12 172:14	biggest 129:12 152:23 159:17	break 34:9,13 100:4,6,8 107:24 108:1
baseline 86:17 90:25 99:12,20 102:9,17 105:3,8,15,17 106:12 117:22 130:15 131:2	bill 15:18 21:22 28:15 32:16 33:7 62:7 73:1 74:11,15,17 75:9 129:2	Brian 114:7 135:6 147:24,25 149:14 150:22 152:18 160:15 161:14
bases 108:14	binoculars 26:11,17	briefing 9:18 83:6,21
basic 145:1	bit 55:5,8,13 84:17 109:3 112:23 115:8 134:14 137:25 139:17 140:6 155:23	briefly 18:5
basically 77:11 93:23 94:4 115:11 117:17 136:10,18	blast 61:9	brilliance 81:8
	blessed 42:14	bring 60:1 83:12 92:2 107:12 125:3 153:10 162:10
	blip 115:6	bringing 18:13 42:1 66:22 164:8
	blue 55:9 61:21	brings 127:2
	board 5:4,7,18,19 6:5,13 7:2,3,12 8:21 9:24 10:16 12:7 14:25 20:1,10 22:18 28:14 32:15 33:6 35:4,15,17 38:10 40:1,17,20 41:25 42:3,11 43:2,6,8 45:8 47:22 48:1,15 53:21, 23 54:12 59:4,10,12,24 60:2 61:2, 25 64:8 71:14 73:8 76:5,22 77:16, 25 78:20,22 79:15 82:21 83:13 85:22 88:21 89:18,21 114:5 118:1, 8 119:18 123:18 124:8 128:24,25 133:2 134:24 143:22 144:4 147:15 151:11 154:6 156:2,4 168:16 169:22 172:9	broader 68:10
		BROTHER 90:2
		Brotherton 7:22,23 8:16,19 9:5 29:19,22 30:3 33:4 34:1 40:5,8,9, 13 41:10 44:4,8,19 55:19,22,23 56:3,6,25 57:3 58:3 60:8,15 65:18 67:24 80:6 91:14 93:3 110:15,19 111:4 118:16 120:24 126:17 147:21,23,25 154:6 172:11,21 173:2,10 174:8,15,22

brought 30:19 98:13 115:22
123:23 124:21 125:18,21 126:4
140:16 171:13

Brownsville 30:25 36:1 37:16,17
38:11 88:11 91:22 101:12,15,22
109:9 112:5 169:4

buck 150:10

Buckert 165:7,17,19 167:15

budget 12:10,12,14,15,25 13:2,5,
13,18 14:12 21:18 25:22 35:5,14
50:20 86:5,6 88:24 94:21 95:4,16
97:20 102:7 130:16 157:7 158:13

budget also 97:14

budgeted 158:1,12

budgets 133:3

building 50:21,23

built 81:14

Bureau 154:14

burglaries 151:23

burglary 25:19

Burnet 36:2 88:11 91:22 110:14
114:21 115:1 116:25 118:23
121:25 168:23 169:18 172:13,22

Burrow 128:15,16

business 79:6 132:4 138:5 174:6

buy 145:4

C

calculated 111:23

calculating 116:23,25 117:4
141:25

calculation 99:4 112:25 119:5
144:8

calculations 86:10,20 87:13,19
88:8 93:15,17,19 94:3 95:6 96:2
97:16 98:3 99:19 108:16,23 113:10
114:10 118:7 128:7 139:12 165:10
168:20

calendar 11:10 20:2

call 7:9,11,12 8:25 29:23 32:25
33:21 40:10 41:5 44:14 80:1 92:11
93:5 172:18 173:5 174:18

called 162:18

calling 5:6

calls 81:22 87:18

calm 122:24

camera 25:12,17

cameras 25:10,25 26:1,12,13,16
27:21

Canady 121:13,25

Cantu-serrano 7:24,25 8:21,22
9:4 30:1 32:20,21,24 33:2,13,25
40:12,25 41:3,9 44:10,11,18 56:12
79:21,22,24 80:5 172:24,25 173:3,
9 174:12,13,16,21

capable 94:13

captain 110:12 123:12,14,15
125:13,16 126:11,24 128:13

capture 146:13

care 91:7 109:17

careers 164:4

carries 40:16

Carrollton 23:1 28:21 31:1

carry 5:15

case 22:21 38:18 75:11,12 85:16
103:24 132:17 137:15 146:4
156:13

caseload 77:21

cases 25:17 27:10,11

cash 42:12,22 43:4 84:21 85:5
86:4,5,6,7 91:2 98:11 102:18,19,
20,21,22,24 103:3,6,7,9,22,23,25
104:13 105:14 106:11,24 109:5
111:18,20,22,23 114:14 115:25
116:7,13 121:21 122:1 130:11,14
131:7,8 132:7 133:5 136:4,5,9
138:18 140:9,11,12,13 142:4,13,19
155:22 166:11

Cassandra 44:2

cat 62:2

catalytic 21:22 25:18 26:3 27:2
28:15 30:11 32:16 33:7 49:13,24
62:3 63:7 69:14,17 151:24

category 129:22

causing 105:14 106:12 115:13

Cedar 37:1

celebrate 71:7

cell 5:13

center 45:3,25 46:18,21,24 48:17,
21 51:7

centers 26:9 45:17 46:10,12,14,16

central 64:25

chain 93:12

chair 5:2 7:3,16,20,22,24 8:1,9,18,
23 9:7 10:12 11:12,15 12:3 13:14
14:7,13,17 15:14,23 17:18 19:5,15
20:18,21 21:11,15 22:2,6 27:4,19
28:9 29:16,21 30:4 31:23 32:7,9,
19,22 33:10,14,19 34:2,8,14 37:14
38:7,25 39:10 40:7,22 41:1,12
43:16,22 44:2,7,12,21 48:25 50:18,
19 52:4 53:10 54:18,22 55:3,7,12,
21 56:11,18,24 57:1,5,13,18,24
58:4,8,13,19 60:3,7,10,19,22 61:2
65:16 67:5 68:25 69:13 70:17,23
71:2,7,24 72:1 73:24 74:2 75:17
76:4,20 77:12 78:9 79:10,18,23
80:8 83:9,24 84:3 89:25 90:3,6,10,
18 91:4,21,24 92:15,21,24 93:5,11
94:21,24 95:7,18 96:4,22 97:2,6
98:11,17 99:24 100:5,9 101:11
109:6,13 110:1,7,11,18 112:17
114:20 115:10 119:8 123:2,6
124:10,12 125:8,14 126:10,14,19
127:7 128:1,10,13 133:7 135:1
139:10 140:20,24 141:8,13,23
143:14,19,25 144:5,13 145:13
146:17 148:23 151:6 155:14
158:25 160:6 161:17 162:3,9 163:1
164:15,19 165:15 167:7,11,14,16
169:23 170:7,23 171:11 172:17
173:1,12,20 174:3,11,14,24

chairing 17:8

chairman 6:20 9:20,23 10:15 12:6
14:24 15:20 18:23 19:21 21:24
31:25 32:2 37:6,8 39:5,25 41:21
43:15,20,25 45:7 53:21 56:14
58:22 59:6 72:5 77:5 82:20 92:3
107:7 125:13 138:14 167:19 170:6

chairman's 9:10,12 157:9

challenges 52:20,22

chamber 162:25

chance 108:23	clarification 38:8 87:12	comment 6:1,2,3,12 42:4,6,7 59:5 140:10 142:25 161:5
change 37:20,24 39:1 61:21 82:14 83:7 85:4 114:9 120:2 125:25 173:17	clarify 111:16	commenting 5:23
changed 61:24 85:1 141:21	class 66:14	comments 6:5,11 43:18,21 44:1 66:14
changing 72:25	classes 66:2	commission 151:22 159:21
charge 100:21,23	classroom 64:17	commissioners 39:17 116:15
Charla 55:17 60:13 90:1 147:23 172:10	clear 25:1 35:20 151:23 168:9	commitment 50:4 136:14 138:20 141:21 159:10,12 160:4
check 49:24 127:8 168:20	clerks 46:25	committed 50:4 133:18 138:25 160:2
checking 68:15	climbing 67:20	committee 15:19 16:3,5,23 17:1, 4,8,10,19,23 18:20 19:23 20:10,23 21:18 22:13 23:20 35:15 50:20 73:2,8 135:5
checks 119:13 120:20	clone 49:24	committees 18:6
chief 13:25 14:5 17:12 26:25 28:7 50:9 82:25 83:8 95:22 122:3 128:24	clones 49:21	communicate 48:14 78:2
chiefs 151:9	close 85:17 155:12 169:17	communication 5:13 24:19 48:16 87:5 88:1 92:4 100:17
choice 72:13	closed 99:14 173:24	communications 59:16
choose 47:22 146:3	closely 10:20 18:11 45:20 122:18	communities 159:23
chose 116:15 130:3,6	closer 85:25 170:2	community 49:18 73:23
Christi 23:7 26:18 28:24 36:3	Coast 129:25	companies 11:1,7,20,25 73:15
CI 66:6	collaboration 49:1 50:5 52:9	compare 94:5 106:14
circle 153:22	collaborations 47:18	compared 91:3 104:8 105:15 106:12
circumstances 22:11 82:24 83:16	collar 107:25	comparison 90:23 102:17 104:18 105:4,8 106:15,23 142:6
cites 161:22	collect 13:15 68:18	comparisons 104:12
cities 105:20 120:16 130:13 134:5 161:19 162:4,10	collection 35:11	complains 82:1
city 22:22,24 23:1,3,5,7,9,11,13,17 24:2,4,6,8,12 25:7,15 26:5,18 28:19,20,21,22,23,24,25 29:1,2,3, 4,5,6,7,8 30:24,25 31:1,3,4,8,10, 11,15,16,17,18,21 32:16 33:8 35:24,25 36:1,3,4,6,9,10,12,14,15, 17,18,22,23 37:1,4,11 40:2,19 65:23 88:10,11,12 93:5,8,19 100:2, 11,21 101:12 109:18 112:5 123:11 124:1,7,16 125:5 130:5 133:10,17 141:2 162:1,2,3 164:19 165:4 167:8 168:18,21 169:1,4,6,18	collected 47:13 51:8 52:24	complete 5:21 45:25 47:7 99:18
city's 106:2	Colonel 128:15	completed 48:9 60:2 67:7 99:17
civilians 82:6	color 55:6 57:11 60:11	completely 87:15 123:7
claim 102:11	colors 61:9	completing 87:20
	column 104:20,23	complex 154:22
	combined 77:10 108:25	compliance 47:10 88:16 155:13
	combining 77:7	complicated 168:8
	comfortable 49:23 109:7 127:14	composed 162:19
	command 138:23 150:8,11,15,24 152:2 153:15 156:17 159:25 160:16 161:6	comprehended 112:16
	commander 81:23 100:16 101:13, 14 107:14 108:6 109:2,25 110:5 114:22,23 115:11 118:11,15 120:1, 22 122:19 123:4 143:13	
	commanders 68:13 119:23 120:15 164:25	

comprehensive 112:2	considers 132:19	convey 135:10
comprised 165:22	consistent 145:1	cool 18:15
comptroller 35:11	consistently 144:22 145:7	coordinating 71:19
concentrating 65:1	consolidates 105:24	coordination 72:19
concept 59:12,23	constable 162:16,20	Cop 164:10
concern 84:18 87:21 91:12 113:8 135:22 164:9,12	constant 114:17 139:3	copies 165:16
concerned 124:3	constantly 73:1 160:24	cops 38:17 119:24 123:2
concerns 86:1 87:1 113:2	consultation 47:20	copyright 59:18
conclude 17:16 27:1 31:22 37:6 139:4	contact 68:21	Corpus 23:7 26:18 28:24 36:3
concludes 11:11 13:13 15:13 36:24	contacted 86:14	correct 19:12 21:12 38:3 68:11 75:22 76:7 90:14,19 94:23 95:9 96:24 97:3,4 98:4 107:3 108:13 118:14 127:10 131:20 140:23 141:16,18 157:8 167:13
conclusion 45:23	contents 98:10	correctly 18:22 95:17 128:24
conclusive 87:23	context 101:6,9 139:18	correspondence 93:13 98:3
concrete 139:18	continue 18:17 19:1,12 20:22,25 21:1,9 34:15 47:17 50:5,15 78:18, 25 94:13 99:22 109:8,22 115:20,25 132:8 134:4,17 147:16,19 152:19 153:3,4 159:23	cost 25:11 65:22 66:8 97:25 106:17 125:24 138:5 143:15 146:16 149:16
conduct 7:2,4 45:22 46:21 47:10, 21 48:3,11,18 50:15 51:11,18	continued 94:18 97:3 115:19 129:5 142:23 171:5	costs 143:4 150:25
conducted 46:7 84:5 102:4	continues 47:18 159:14,17	counsel 19:22 32:1 37:9 39:16 41:22 43:18 50:22 170:9
conducts 81:10	continuing 17:24 18:3 52:15 53:6	counterparts 10:20
conference 72:2,6,25 74:5 75:21, 25 76:23 77:1,2 78:12,13,24 79:16	contract 14:21 15:2,5,8	counties 94:16 105:20 116:4,10, 12 120:16 134:4
conferences 77:8 78:17	contracts 15:12	counting 131:6
configured 47:6	contribute 145:5	country 8:6 74:20
confirm 88:17 109:11	contribution 85:7	county 23:15,19,21,23,25 25:23 29:9,10,11,12,13 31:5,6,7,9,12,13, 14,19 36:2,5,7,8,11,13,16,19,20,21 37:2,3,21 52:17 70:13 88:12 91:22, 23 109:18 110:14 114:21 116:2,14, 25 121:25 128:14,16 129:21,25 130:5,13 133:11,19 135:3,7 137:13 138:6 140:4 141:3,14 149:1 150:15 152:12,20 153:9 158:21 159:3,20 161:20,24 162:5,7,19,20 168:23 169:8,9,18,24,25 172:13
conflict 76:2	contributions 134:22 142:8	couple 15:6 16:7 61:16 124:25 128:18 162:4 169:17 171:10
confused 115:4	control 156:8 164:23	court 6:17,23 7:16
confusing 135:25	conversation 49:4 66:13,19 72:24 78:15,19 79:1 93:21 108:13 109:9, 23 121:22,23,24 122:15 135:24 138:13 147:10 152:19 153:4,5 168:11 170:5	courtesy 5:14
congratulations 82:12	conversations 5:15 19:20 21:3 134:16 146:24 153:22 167:8 168:2 172:7	
conjunction 48:20 59:25	Converse 23:5 28:23	
Conroe 23:3 25:15 28:22 63:16 65:9	converter 21:23 25:18 26:3 27:2 28:15 30:11 32:16 33:8 49:14,24 62:4 63:7 69:14,17	
cons 77:9	converters 74:25 151:24	
consequence 99:20 111:19		
consideration 112:13		
considerations 52:2		
considered 24:19 25:3 59:12 87:22		

cover 25:17 125:6	144:17 145:19 163:9 164:20 166:22 168:11	9
coverage 115:19	Daniel 49:7 153:23	dependent 13:19
covered 26:15 149:4,23	data 66:5 89:1 105:24 112:17	deployed 27:12
covers 101:23	databases 81:20	deployments 27:8
COVID 115:22	date 76:3 113:13 168:15	deposits 35:11
CPA 13:21	dates 73:11 76:8,10,12,14 77:1 87:24	depth 147:2 154:2
CPA's 13:12	dating 167:23	deputies 143:4
create 119:22	David 19:21 27:23 31:25 37:8 41:19,22 43:17 98:19,20 170:8	deputy 10:8 18:9 45:4,9 52:7 59:7, 11 60:25 61:3 64:7 82:24
created 19:23	day 16:22 19:17 21:5 67:20 70:6 119:17,21 134:14 151:22 159:11	describes 81:25
creative 161:18	days 48:20 73:13,14,25 74:2 79:5	design 53:24 59:13,14
creativity 54:6	deal 42:25 66:15 154:25	designated 48:20
credit 126:15,18,20	dealers 73:4	designs 59:17
crew 78:17	dealerships 73:15	detail 81:8,19 105:24 128:20
crime 5:5 25:21 35:4 61:4 101:19 102:5 107:25 108:1 123:6 150:14, 17 152:7,10 159:22	dealt 154:15	determine 7:5 46:9 85:13 90:11 116:21 117:15
crimes 69:12 83:18 128:16 129:25 151:22 152:15 159:7 165:21	decapitated 164:5	determined 85:20,24 86:12 88:4 102:7
criminal 107:25	December 18:7 48:10 149:25	determines 48:1
criteria 66:25	decided 18:16 38:16,24 113:21 122:13 146:12	develop 134:4
crucial 81:16	decision 11:8 18:24 19:4 57:4,6 89:21 133:2 150:15	devices 5:13
CSI 80:22	decrease 115:18 140:5	diamond 61:23
current 22:12 26:13 42:23 47:3 54:7 55:9 63:3 93:17	decreased 97:13,15 115:13 142:13 161:7	diesel 62:8
cursed 42:14	dedicated 51:11	differ 154:17
cushion 158:20	defeats 89:6	difference 102:15 103:5,12,16 104:11 105:2 117:4,16 120:9 126:12 130:21 142:5,7,14 166:24
customer 47:1 49:18	deficit 155:12	differentiation 148:14
customers 47:7	definition 84:14,15	differently 52:3
cut 129:4	degree 140:8	difficult 132:13 150:8 155:23
cycle 100:20 161:8,12	delayed 85:18	Diggs 9:17,19,20,21 10:13,15 11:14,17 12:4,6 13:17 14:9,16,20, 22 15:21,23,24 18:4 19:13,24 21:16,21,25 22:6,7,8 27:5,9 28:6, 11,17 30:10,13,14 31:24 34:19,20 38:4 39:3 41:21 45:8,20 47:20 49:10 50:12 52:5 54:11,16 59:6,25 60:1 67:17 72:23 76:9,11 82:15,17, 18 83:25 84:1,2 91:24,25 95:19,20 107:7,8 108:3,9 109:10 122:3,5,23 123:9 128:3,4,9 153:5,23 162:6 167:17 169:25 170:10,15,25 171:4
<hr/> D <hr/>		
Dallas 31:3 36:4,5 53:4 63:14 72:11,12 75:23 147:4	demand 132:11	
Dallas/fort 46:5 54:23 72:7,16 79:16	demonstrated 85:6	
Dan 93:22,23 100:24 111:8 115:1 117:25 118:20 121:9 122:14 128:21 131:18 134:19 142:15	department 26:7 45:12 51:9 54:14 101:15,23,24 123:14 126:7 150:13	
	department's 6:4 102:1 150:1	
	departments 68:17 145:17 147:8,	

172:6 174:1
diligence 167:23
diminished 132:3
direct 26:6,23 122:2 170:16
directed 79:5 170:24
direction 50:22 57:7 73:22
director 9:17,19,20,21 10:8,13,15
 11:14,17 12:4,5,6 13:17 14:9,15,
 16,19,22,23 15:9,10,11,21,23,24,
 25 18:4,10 19:13 21:16,21,25 22:6,
 7,8 27:4,9 28:6,10,17 30:10,13,14
 31:23 34:19,20,21 38:3,4 39:3,4
 41:21 45:5,7,8,9,20 47:20 49:10
 50:8,12 51:3 52:5,6,8 53:10,20
 54:11,16,21 55:2,6,11 56:2,4 57:10
 59:6,7,10,11,25 60:1,21,25 61:2,3
 64:6,7 66:12 71:10,23,25 72:24
 76:11 82:15,18,25 83:25 84:2
 91:24,25 95:19,20 100:17,18 101:2
 107:7,8 108:3,9 109:10 114:7
 120:4 122:3,5 123:9,18 128:3,4,9
 153:5,23 162:6 167:17,18 169:25
 170:10,15,25 171:4 172:6 174:1
Director's 9:15
disagree 131:14
disclose 54:15
disconnect 73:3 74:11,13 75:13
discrepancies 102:23
discrepancy 103:5,8,11,13 104:1,
 3,21,25 105:15 106:12
discuss 126:9 127:6
discussed 7:8 83:1 99:8 139:25
discussing 85:19 113:13
discussion 8:24 41:4 44:13 74:15,
 21 79:25 88:22 89:20 114:5 145:21
 173:4 174:17
discussions 77:7 79:17
displayed 28:4
disruptive 7:6
dissected 107:24
district 51:13
dividends 165:2

division 46:7 59:16 71:11
DMV 12:21 15:5,10 16:21 45:3,4,10
 46:1 49:2 50:6,24 51:5,18 52:11
 59:11,21 71:22 83:2,14,15
doable 171:19
document 117:7 120:5
documentation 86:21,23 143:2
documented 88:16
documents 88:17 93:9 171:9
Dolittle 82:9 129:24 131:16
dollar 13:7 22:17 93:24 170:21
dollars 14:4 25:20 75:6 111:21
 142:21,22
doors 16:15 62:3
Doug 52:17 53:1,5,7 165:7
downside 74:19
DPS 15:5 16:20,22 63:8,11 64:3
 72:17 133:4
drag 62:9
draw 69:10 89:7
drone 26:23
drones 27:8
drop 20:7 94:16 100:18,25 140:8
dropped 95:16 116:2 142:22
 150:2,4
drops 99:9
dual 78:2
due 84:19 88:22 115:7 119:1
 130:24 144:9 166:2 167:22 170:21
duplicate 78:15
duplicating 77:16
duty 115:7

E

E-MAIL 68:13 93:12 96:12 98:3
E-MAILS 87:18
Eagle 31:4 36:23 88:11 123:11,14
 124:1,8,16 128:11 169:6

Earl 10:8 53:17,19 60:25 61:3 64:6
 71:17
earlier 110:20 150:18 154:7
 155:15 167:25
early 63:22
earmarked 47:21,25
easier 47:6 129:17
eavesdropping 154:8
Edgar 127:17
Edinburg 38:1,5,15 39:8
Edinburg's 39:12
edition 43:9
Education 89:13
effect 94:6
effective 43:10
effects 104:18
efficient 49:17
effort 15:20 71:19 72:19 73:17
 78:3
efforts 45:18 48:24 49:1 50:2
 59:20 77:17 148:19
EI 23:9 28:25 36:6 54:24
eliminate 119:4
eliminated 84:25 86:24 88:19
 105:10
elimination 88:22
else's 59:19 119:25
emblem 62:4
Emily 124:15
employee 10:9 126:2 127:3
employees 48:17 115:15,18
employment 156:15 158:21
empty 161:1
en 135:14
encompassing 54:25
encourage 35:14
encouraged 86:19
end 11:10 12:11 13:20,21 19:3,17

21:5 63:14 66:8 75:2 85:12,17 91:1 99:16 111:11 119:17,21,25 123:1 134:14 139:15 141:3 150:5 151:22 159:11	exceeded 136:8	expressed 132:2
enforcement 17:3,5 24:15 47:9 62:18,24 73:3,5,6,13,20,24 74:6, 16,22 75:8,14 101:16,18	excellent 28:6 53:2 75:1	extent 136:11
engage 172:2	exception 33:8 40:19	exterior 50:13
engravers 26:22	excited 35:1	extra 98:10
enhancements 47:23	excluded 73:20 90:15	extractions 66:5
enlarge 59:3	excluding 73:19	extremely 51:17 113:19
ensure 45:21 50:13 59:18	executed 15:6,9	
entertain 174:6	executive 15:9,10 18:10 45:4,9 72:23 75:14 76:5 82:25 83:13	<hr/> F <hr/>
entire 102:23 149:25	Executor 52:7	face-to-face 122:22
entity 116:5,13 117:10 121:3	existing 34:24 45:17 46:15 51:21	Facebook 67:11,18 68:15,18 69:22 70:5
environment 49:23	expand 49:15 89:14 112:22 139:12	faces 18:14
envision 47:19,20	expanded 45:17	facilities 16:13 45:13 48:6 51:19 52:11
equipment 25:8,22,24 26:1,20 27:24 30:22 81:6 97:23 109:16 154:18 155:1,2,16 159:6 163:20	expanding 83:3	facility 47:15
error 106:1,5 107:19	expansion 48:23 50:11	facing 59:17
errors 108:8	expect 171:17	fact 69:25 71:3 89:5 91:8 109:4 119:3 132:22 133:8 134:9 146:7 147:6 151:13 158:20
essentially 90:25 136:22 139:7 141:19 150:9,25	expectations 160:20	faded 61:22
establish 20:4 43:4,5	expend 136:17	fail 128:22 129:13
established 130:15	expenditure 99:14 143:20 145:6	failed 126:20
establishing 42:12	expenditures 85:13 86:16 87:3,11 89:4 96:14 102:16 113:4,6 116:20 117:1 124:5,23 125:2,4,6,19 127:1, 13,20,22,25 139:16 140:3 141:12 142:3,6 143:2 144:10,12 146:13 169:20	fair 55:22 111:15
establishment 7:10	expense 145:4	fall 143:10
estimate 13:24,25	expenses 26:7,24 103:16,17,18, 21,22,25 105:11,14,25 106:6,9,10 112:10 125:24 132:23 143:23 144:1,21 145:11,23 146:6 163:20	fallen 150:19
estimated 13:1,7,8,14 14:1 35:5 117:1 118:25 149:15	experience 154:11 166:24	falls 14:5 24:12 29:8 166:15
etch 49:23 74:24 75:3	experienced 136:20 164:6	familiarize 64:23
etching 69:16 71:19 74:22,23	explain 64:8 75:2 124:8 140:6	family 125:15
evaluate 51:20	explained 118:1 125:5	fantastic 22:19
event 62:9 68:22 72:25	explanation 75:1 90:7,10 124:14, 17 151:7 156:1	Farmers 23:11 29:1
events 67:12,13 69:16 70:4,10	explanations 87:12	favor 9:2 29:24 33:22 41:7 42:8 44:16 80:3 173:7 174:20
evidence 102:8 107:1 121:23 135:21	explore 51:10	favorites 56:10,13
exact 76:13 93:24 141:18 166:13	expound 49:16	feathers 161:10
		feel 14:10 16:25 24:21 52:9 117:7 119:20
		feels 18:21
		fees 25:9 131:22

Felix 135:8 138:22	fixed 136:13	formal 169:12
felt 86:21	fixing 56:18	formed 18:6
fewer 103:24 105:13	flag 61:22	Fort 72:7 73:11
field 10:25 11:7 50:12 70:10	flagged 128:23	forward 13:9 17:9,12 19:11 28:7 43:2 50:16 52:14 53:5 75:20 92:7 107:12 132:25 153:20 158:11 169:10,13 170:11
Fielder 84:8 113:3	flavor 55:16	forwarded 13:24
figure 49:5 50:25 51:2 146:21 147:5,11 153:13,24 166:16	flawed 102:10	found 42:20 88:7 91:4 105:7 106:1,2,25 107:17 124:6 125:20 135:21
figures 165:12 166:12	flexibility 42:11 43:3 52:19 53:3	frame 42:17 110:4
file 43:6 146:18	FLINT 43:20,25	fraud 63:6,9,13 64:4 83:18
filed 5:10	Flock 25:10,17	fresh 108:4
fill 137:11,17,22 139:1 148:20 157:24 158:19 163:7	floor 74:25	Friday 77:4 79:7 107:15,16,17 108:15
filled 10:3 65:9 157:2,5,7,16,20 158:14 160:25 166:4,6	Flores 127:17	fringe 130:10 131:3 149:16 166:18
filling 139:6 140:22	folks 17:6 122:12	Frisco 23:13 29:2
final 10:6,9 12:21 13:21 17:10 42:1 43:7,14 44:5 87:23 90:7 91:5,6	follow 67:1 68:3 98:7	front 80:13 98:16 118:13 139:12
finalize 15:4,7 46:25	follow-up 20:6 76:3	fruition 149:7 155:10
finalized 13:20 62:14	follower 71:5	FTE 39:14 155:22
finalizing 12:18	followers 67:19,21 70:18	FTES 10:2 30:21 39:1,18 46:3 109:16 141:1,15 147:13 153:12 155:16
finally 67:20 106:19 166:6 167:2	font 59:3	FTO 120:8
finance 10:21 107:18 124:1 125:20 126:6	food 17:20	fuel 143:4 149:16
financial 12:20 43:1 85:12,14 105:24 114:13 120:16 125:22 126:7 165:9	force 12:14 13:2,18 14:11 21:8 22:12 27:17 32:2 34:16,24 35:13 37:20,22,24 38:8,12,18,20 40:2,18 42:8 47:17 48:16 49:11 50:14,20 67:14,23 68:13,16,18,23 69:4 70:12,16 72:12 77:19 78:8 81:1,19, 23 100:14 101:16,19 114:23 115:14,17 116:3 119:20 121:25 122:11 128:17 129:9,25 144:14,25 162:11,17 163:14 165:8,21	Fuentes 123:12,13 125:13,16 126:24
financials 171:8	force's 19:16 149:10	full 10:10 22:18 35:4 81:10 136:17 138:3 158:2,3
find 9:24 10:17 12:7 14:25 39:17 82:21 87:25 108:20 147:18 154:3	forces 10:22 13:3,16 17:3 19:10 20:12 22:10,17 25:6 27:14,16 28:2 34:22,25 46:19,20 47:19 48:19 49:22 54:10,25 57:14 65:20,25 66:8 68:1,4 72:20 81:5,25 82:3,5,6, 11 83:10 89:8 120:3,17 130:25 132:1 133:14 134:10 145:14 146:23 147:3 164:14 168:7,15	fully 15:6,8,12
finish 109:11	foremost 123:17 132:24	functions 16:19
finishes 64:18	forensic 102:4	fund 20:25 33:15 129:14 130:3,7 132:13 133:22 134:22 159:5,6
fired 156:23	Forest 31:15	funded 27:24 28:5 37:23 39:14 151:20 166:10
fiscal 21:22 28:14 32:15 33:7 39:12 40:1,18 42:21 63:20 85:15 88:17 94:1,2,6,8,9,15 95:3,11,13 97:13,18,19,22 99:16 101:24 104:19 115:12 124:4 125:5 136:2 141:6,7 150:3,5 155:4,7 162:14	forget 82:4	funding 19:10 22:14 27:18 30:23 34:24 35:10,13,21 39:9,18 42:13, 15,18 43:2 70:1 101:21 130:6 132:13 156:10
fits 27:17		funds 13:1,8,10,15,23 14:1 20:24 35:9 84:16 88:18,23 89:1,8,17
five-day 74:5		

94:18 96:15 119:19 131:25 134:12
151:16 152:17 153:8

funeral 135:12 143:13 149:3
150:18 160:2

future 24:25 45:16 51:22 60:2
62:20 67:4 92:8

future-ability 132:6

FY 12:9 84:4

FY21 84:25 86:17 90:21 108:25
116:22 117:4,12 139:20,24 140:3
142:4,5,18

FY22 84:12,25 85:9 86:18 90:21
91:3 108:16 116:2 127:20 139:21
140:1,3 142:6,19 144:8,11 166:12

FY23 84:12 85:16,17,18 86:18 91:3
108:18 116:9 140:3 144:9,11

FY24 12:12 13:9 27:1 35:10 63:25

FY25 12:10,24 13:5,18 20:3 30:10,
23 34:16,23 35:4,13,21

G

gain 163:19

gaining 117:19

Galveston 31:5 36:7 80:19,21
81:23 88:12 90:8,15 91:15,19,22,
23 128:14,16 129:24 132:17 162:7
169:8

gaps 20:23 21:2 49:6

gas 144:23,25

gather 167:23

gathering 72:22

gave 73:12 74:25 93:18 110:19
111:11 115:8

GBR 19:6 22:13,16 23:20 30:17
76:6 78:22

general 6:3 19:22 32:1 37:9 41:22
105:21 110:22 131:24 132:13
133:22 170:8

geographic 52:1

Gerardo 123:13

giant 140:13

Gina 79:11,12,13 80:13,17 81:3,
14,18,21,25 82:5,8,12 121:6
128:19 129:23,24 131:20 135:2

give 16:1 25:2 42:11 46:13 71:4,5
75:6 76:19 93:10 98:24 110:3
133:22 136:21 139:17 156:2
163:21 165:15

giving 53:3

glad 10:19 83:23

GMTS 10:18 11:9,13 31:2 84:20
98:4,24

go-to 81:1

goals 19:9

gong 155:24

Gonzales 135:8,11 141:4 143:12
148:18,24,25 154:4,5 160:11
162:13

good 5:2 16:15,23 17:2,5 18:13
30:20 37:18 38:9 41:20 45:7 52:14
53:20 54:8,9 55:4 61:6 62:22 70:2
71:23 78:14 101:13 109:14 119:13
123:12 124:11,12 144:2 148:24
152:1 165:4,5

government 59:15

Grande 101:17

grant 10:4 13:15 21:23 25:9 28:15
30:11 32:16 33:8 34:16 35:13,14
39:15 40:2,18 42:13 50:20 73:8
81:23 84:11,16,23 88:18 93:7 94:1,
21 95:4,15 96:10 97:14,20 98:2,21
100:20,21,24 101:25 102:17,20
103:10,18,24 104:7,12,14,19,20,
22,25 105:3,8,9,14,17 106:3,7,8,11
107:4 109:17 111:9 112:21 113:16,
24 115:13 116:8,16 117:3,7,13,20
118:2,21 119:2,12 121:9 123:15,
16,25 124:7 129:5 130:6,10
131:18,25 132:23 133:10,11 134:1,
6,8,19,23 135:9,12 136:2,5,9,12
138:16 139:14 140:2,12 142:15
143:16 144:16,17,21 145:19 146:2,
16 151:16,20 152:16 153:8,19
154:9,10 155:16,19,20 159:5
161:12 163:9,17 166:10

granted 95:9

grantee 88:18 111:1 114:2 165:22
171:17

grantees 22:11,17 42:22 43:1 54:5
56:15 83:10 85:3,7,20,24 86:4,11,
12,15,19,24 87:1,6,9,10,14,24
88:2,4,5,10 91:11 92:4,11 113:1,4,
6 114:7,17 121:20 131:23 132:5
145:25 146:14 163:25 164:5

grants 21:18 27:2 78:23 103:17
104:8 105:10,11,21 106:15,17,18,
20,24 109:15,16 121:14 124:16,18,
22 126:6 129:20 133:15,17,24
134:18 135:7,18 141:4 145:15
148:3,5,9,12 154:12,14,18 155:16

graph 125:6

graphic 57:11

graphics 61:18 62:12

Gray 98:20

great 13:17 17:20 22:21 65:21 66:4
69:18 71:2,16 80:16 82:11 89:8
144:24 163:1

greatly 107:21 119:6

green 6:8 103:4

group 68:10 78:12 83:10 148:7

grow 47:17

growing 66:16

growth 51:14

GTMS 128:23

guarantee 78:7

guess 19:8 39:16 91:1,7 94:13
95:4,24 140:6 160:20

guidance 89:13

guidelines 18:7

Gulf 129:25

gutting 166:22

guys 16:1 56:22 58:17 65:4,7
78:21 93:18,23 138:15 148:2
166:23

H

half 78:11,13 142:20,22 143:10
162:6,7

hand 58:11 62:17 78:5 133:8 155:8

hand-in-hand 87:5	helps 59:16 81:5 122:21	Howard 114:22 115:4 118:22 119:7,8 120:18 121:11 122:12,25 132:2
handle 39:7	hemorrhaging 150:7,13	HR 150:1
handles 135:11	Herman 53:15 63:10	human 10:7
handling 66:6	heroes 82:4,7,10	humongous 138:11
handout 137:7	hey 74:8 75:11 107:19 117:21 133:18 152:2 153:1 160:24,25 161:19	hundred 71:16 75:6 159:19
handouts 136:21	Hidalgo 31:7 37:2,21	hundreds 81:21
hands 58:6	hieroglyphics 150:23	hungry 173:22
hands-on 64:12,16	high 99:13,20,23 115:24 142:18 145:23,24	hydraulic 26:21
hanging 168:15	higher 118:25 119:18	<hr/> I <hr/>
happen 28:8 120:3 137:1 147:14 151:19	highlighted 103:3,4,17 104:6,23	idea 28:7 53:23 62:13 65:21 71:23 138:13
happened 49:5 98:18 101:2 103:23 131:10 136:23	highly 164:1	ideal 46:9 47:4
happening 70:7 116:21 153:2 156:20	Hill 37:1	ideas 54:6,9 139:9
happy 10:7,11 15:3 17:17 48:24 134:23 151:3	hire 141:1	identified 56:16 112:10 170:11,14
Harlingen 38:1,15	historically 24:17 65:6	identify 5:22 6:18 26:2 64:15 81:4, 5,12 83:11
Harris 31:6 36:8 88:12 135:3,7 137:13 138:5 140:4 141:14 149:1 150:14 152:12,20 153:9 158:21 159:3,18,19 161:20,24 162:5,7,19, 20 169:9,24,25	hit 12:20 30:18 70:10 148:1 149:4	II 35:18
hashtags 69:10	hold 76:17 169:12	illustrate 50:10
hate 66:15	home 107:17	Imelda 102:2,4
HCSO 141:5	Homeland 154:13	immediately 149:12
head 76:15	homicide 150:17	impact 85:2
health 125:22 127:4	honestly 145:25 160:23	implementation 84:20
hear 15:17 21:19,20 30:9 32:18 34:18 74:13 89:20 139:8	honor 8:6 82:8	important 20:6 21:1 35:7 45:15,18 48:14 49:19 51:24 69:23 75:4 139:22 153:14 156:18
heard 37:15 38:17 66:13 71:15 73:1,22 112:1 154:15 167:25	hood 62:4	impossible 138:8
hearing 34:4 41:5 44:14 73:17 74:10 80:1 173:5 174:18	hooked 131:21 132:12	impression 75:8
Heart 114:23 115:14,17 122:11	hope 11:9 19:14	improve 20:15 53:24
heavily 68:23	hopes 157:16	improvement 71:16
held 75:25 158:6,7	hoping 72:7 135:13	in-kind 85:5 86:8,9 97:16,17 101:4 111:23 114:14 117:1,2,4 121:17,22 124:23 125:2 129:15,22 136:6,8,17 137:8 138:8,12,19 139:22,24 140:7,18,20,25 141:3,6 142:5,11 143:11 145:22,23 146:3,6,8,9 149:11,13 155:11,22 157:14,18 158:2,10 165:25 166:4,8,9 170:2,4
helped 81:3 107:21	host 63:9 65:23 66:10 71:19	
helpful 108:7	hotel 26:9 72:8,9,10 73:12	
helping 28:7 68:5 143:5	hours 65:10	
	house 66:14	
	Houston 16:8 18:7 31:8 36:9 46:4 54:23 69:3 76:14 77:2 78:21 114:12 147:4 152:11,20,25 159:3, 7,8,18,20	

inaccurate 99:7	Instagram 67:10	item 5:20,22 6:2 7:9 8:4,9,10 9:10, 13,14,24 10:17 12:8 14:18,20 15:1, 15,18 21:17,21 27:1,23 30:10,12, 19 31:22 34:15,17,19 41:15,18,24, 25 43:6,24 44:3 45:2,5 53:16 60:22,24 72:2 82:13,16,22 83:5 84:4,7 109:14 173:16,23 174:3
include 74:6 85:18 88:10,17 106:16 143:4	installation 26:2	itemize 146:19
included 72:18 86:4 105:16 112:25 155:19	instructor 65:22,24	itemized 88:24
includes 7:4 101:25	instructors 66:9	items 5:9 81:7
including 96:15	insurance 13:11,19 35:10 73:4,15 125:23 127:3,4	ITSD 10:20
inclusive 73:22 98:9	intellectual 59:19	<hr/> J <hr/>
income 115:24,25 117:12 129:7,8 130:4,7,14,17,24 131:1,6,9,11,17, 21,25 132:3,16,20,21,23 133:4,9, 25 134:3,11,18	intend 25:24	jail 74:17
increase 97:17 104:13 131:22 140:2 142:11,12	intentionally 137:15	James 101:14
increased 97:19 139:23 140:3,7 149:21	inter-agency 14:21 15:2,5,12	Janet 115:7
increases 115:23 125:23	interested 5:23 27:10 116:10	January 166:5
indicating 114:8	interesting 47:16 145:21	Jasmine 135:8 138:22 141:4 149:15 150:22 161:4
individual 67:25	interior 47:5	Jim 66:20
individually 30:18	internal 47:9 93:19	job 10:24 17:8 22:21 71:2,16 75:7 119:25 137:1
Individuals 6:10	internally 59:14,22 98:9	Joe 121:13,24
industry 16:6,14 17:5 73:4,14 74:3,18,23 75:9,14	interpretation 148:16	John 148:25 154:4
information 11:22 12:8 25:5 30:20 35:4 54:14 68:14,19,23,24 69:9 81:16 82:21 87:8,19 88:25 92:2,12 95:23 107:11 108:3 109:20 113:22 153:16 167:20,24 168:5 170:1 171:13	intricate 66:22	Johnny 135:11
infringing 59:18	introduction 63:6	Johnson 23:15 25:23 29:9 31:9
inherited 149:6,9,11 160:11	investigation 102:7	join 116:15
initial 25:9 85:20,23 86:20 87:7 111:10,11 125:3	investigations 81:17 143:7	joined 135:8 165:8
initially 86:1 113:17 118:24 124:3 125:16 126:4 127:1	investigator 106:6 107:12 136:25 149:17 164:25 166:4,17	joining 38:17 116:11,12
input 58:6 59:8 73:21	investigator's 106:17	joins 50:12
inside 45:24	investigators 47:9 63:18 77:20 78:16 82:3,5 106:3 129:2,3,14 157:18 159:5 164:1,2,6 165:23,25 166:2,7,8,23	Jones 7:14,15,19 9:6 15:18,20 17:7 20:20 21:10,20,24 22:5 28:13 29:16 30:2,10 32:14,23,25 33:3,5, 11,24 34:18 39:25 40:10,14,15,23 41:2,11 44:20 50:19 51:3 56:23 57:13,21,25 58:5,11 60:6,17 71:13 72:4,5 74:1,4 76:7 77:5 79:14,19 80:7 96:7 97:9 100:4 110:3 112:4 125:11 128:12 155:25 156:21 157:8 162:2 163:2 173:11,19 174:23
inspection 45:24 46:23,24 82:14 83:4,12 173:16	investment 158:4	Jordan 114:12
inspections 45:19,22 46:22 47:21 48:4,11,18 50:15 51:12 53:7 64:20 70:11,14 82:23 83:17 133:15	involve 57:14	
	involved 17:4 71:21 101:4 120:6	
	iphone 120:19	
	ISO 64:18,19,22	
	issue 6:12 14:12 87:6 91:7 105:7 123:21,23 126:9 132:16 133:7 141:24 153:25 155:21 160:12 163:23	
	issued 61:15	
	issues 43:1 89:15 117:24 127:3 166:3 167:24	

July 5:7,11 73:11 77:23	97:9 98:2 107:3,15,16,21 108:7,11	lieutenant's 105:9,16,18 106:16
June 12:11 106:4 111:6 150:3,4	109:21 110:7,17 112:20 115:1	lift 47:23 48:1 51:1 52:21 53:2
junior 137:21	117:25 120:25 122:14 126:10	lifts 26:21
jurisdictions 66:1	128:6 139:13 140:17 141:10,24	light 6:8 95:22 150:21 167:20
jury 115:7	142:2 143:21 145:9 153:5,23	likes 58:10
justification 35:13	167:25	Likewise 103:9
Justin 61:1 62:17,23	law 17:3,5 24:15 62:18,23 73:3,5,6,	Limestone 116:2
	13,20,24 74:6,16,17,22 75:8,14	limited 6:6
	134:2	list 33:18,19
	lead 53:15 60:25	listed 11:3 26:21,22,23 87:24
K	leads 59:20	106:4 125:1 166:9
	learn 74:14 75:15	literally 164:5
Karr 100:13	learned 171:16	live 69:22 159:24
keen 81:8	leasing 52:23	living 125:24
Keith 59:19	leave 38:16 74:25 156:15 158:21	LKQ 16:9
Ken 100:13	164:21 165:3	load 54:2 72:20
kid 66:16	leaving 168:14	local 67:13 85:6 88:22,23 89:1
killed 136:25 137:1 162:17	ledger 105:21,22,23 106:2,4	119:1 131:24 132:11 133:3 134:22
kind 16:15 18:18 42:14 50:17	107:20	140:4 142:3,6,10,20 145:25 146:9
54:24 69:10 70:14 78:1 85:23	ledgers 87:10	located 47:25 51:6
87:25 89:14 93:14 94:11 113:15	left 13:15 14:8 78:5 86:25 94:19	location 46:9 47:3,4,17 48:12,18
131:13 132:9 133:5 135:24 139:4,	108:24 128:25 166:1	locations 10:23 26:14
11 147:5,11 158:9 161:9 162:10	legislation 42:16	Lofton 66:19
171:19	legislative 46:1 83:3,6 88:23	logically 98:7
kinds 172:8	legislature 21:6 51:17 146:14	logo 53:14,25 54:6,7,19 55:9 61:10
knocked 114:15	leniency 168:6	62:1
knowing 38:25 39:10 52:1	LEO 25:20	long 14:7 51:18 123:21,24 137:18
knowledge 122:2	lessees 52:23	145:6 146:19
Kyle 31:10	lesson 171:15	longer 39:14 119:5 156:23
	letter 111:10,11 113:9,12,17	looked 107:22
L	124:14,17 171:16,21 172:1,3,4	lose 130:3
	letters 112:24 119:10,15,21 122:8	losing 117:19 132:4
La 23:17 29:3	152:1 171:14	loss 160:14
Laredo 17:11,19 31:11 32:3,11,17	level 99:22 137:20,21 138:1	lost 149:18 150:6
33:9,18,20 36:10 37:11 40:2,19	142:21,24 145:23,24	lot 26:8 50:3 52:19 57:2 61:6
54:23 78:11 83:1	levels 89:10 170:4	73:20,21 75:15 87:14 92:3 94:18
large 12:17 26:10 138:6 140:18	liable 158:8	112:1 113:16 122:21 129:15,19
larger 47:5	license 25:25 26:12,13,16	130:24 131:22 132:10 136:14,20
largest 104:21	lieutenant 107:11 128:15 135:11	154:14 155:19 156:16 163:13,15,
laser 26:21	143:12 148:18,23,24,25 151:6	16 164:1,2
late 108:18 148:21	154:4 155:25 157:12 160:3,11	
Lauren 84:8,10 90:4 91:18 92:10,	162:13	
17,25 93:2,14,22 95:25 96:6,8,9		

lots 26:10 168:1,2	making 6:16 21:2 28:1 39:19 50:5, 6 108:2 109:19 126:1,3 137:24 140:8 147:13 153:4,18,24 169:12	Mcnally 66:20
love 89:24	Mall 47:4	measuring 27:7
loved 132:10	man 115:10	media 65:15,19 66:3 67:8,15 68:5, 20 71:15,20
low 99:22	management 101:24 171:7	meet 11:6 18:17 110:9 122:20 138:8 166:11
lower 124:2 138:1 139:23 142:23 155:11	manager 38:11 98:21 111:9 117:3 118:21 120:4 121:10 123:15 131:19 135:7 142:16 144:18 145:20 163:10	meeting 5:4,7,9,12,16,18,20 6:3, 16,24 7:2,4,6 8:11 9:16 16:5 17:1, 10 19:25 20:1,9,16 27:22 30:17 35:17 40:20 42:3,4 43:8 53:24 60:2 61:5 71:18 73:8,9 74:9,10,13,15 76:5,22 78:20,22 89:21,22 126:8 134:24 168:16 172:16 174:7 175:6, 8
lowered 106:10 121:21 149:13	managing 121:14	meetings 16:3 17:4 18:9,12,21 20:10 73:2 76:6 81:24 88:21 122:22
lowering 106:11 160:19	Mansfield 36:12 68:2	member 7:14,15,19,20,22,23,24, 25 8:16,19,21 9:4,5,6 15:20 20:20 21:10,24 22:5 28:13 29:16,19,22 30:1,2,3 32:14,20,23,25 33:2,3,4,5, 11,13,24,25 34:1,2 39:25 40:5,8,9, 10,12,13,14,23,25 41:2,9,10,11 42:8 44:4,8,10,18,19,20 50:19 55:19,22,23 56:3,6,12,23,25 57:3, 13,21,25 58:3,5,11 60:6,8,15,17 65:18 67:24 71:13 72:4,5 74:1,4 76:7 77:5 79:14,19,21,24 80:5,6,7 90:2 91:14 93:3 96:7 97:9 100:4 110:3,15,19 111:4 112:4 118:16 120:24 125:11 126:17 128:12 147:21,25 154:6 155:25 156:21 157:8 162:2 163:2 172:11,21,24 173:2,3,9,10,11,19 174:8,12,15,21, 22,23
lowers 105:14	manufacturers 81:15	members 7:12 8:10,13 9:23 10:12, 16 12:7 14:24 15:14,17 29:24 30:4, 9 32:25 33:22 38:10,14 40:4,11 41:7,17,21 43:23 45:1,4,8 53:21 59:11 60:24 61:3 72:1,13 73:23 77:19 78:6 80:3 82:15,20 84:7 93:1 117:19,20 123:20 167:19 173:7 174:5
LPR 25:10,17	map 54:20 72:17	mention 48:7 52:16 99:6
LPRS 163:16,20	mapping 46:7 51:23	mentioned 27:20 37:25 38:13 85:2 150:18 156:6 169:11
Lubbock 23:19 29:10 31:12 36:11 50:25 51:2,7,25 52:17 63:22 159:16	March 8:11 42:2,24 111:14 113:23 116:19 165:13 167:23	merge 56:7
Luna 18:10 45:5,6,7,9 50:8 51:3,5 52:8 59:7,10,11 82:25	Marcos 16:4 31:16 37:4 77:15	mess 129:6
<hr/> M <hr/>		
mad 80:20	marked 28:3 102:13 113:18	
made 10:8 22:12 27:11 29:16 85:7 113:7 122:9 137:25 140:17 150:15 161:9	Marque 23:17 29:3	
main 138:10	Mata 165:9,18	
maintain 164:14	match 42:12,22 43:4 84:21 85:1,5, 9 86:5,6,7,8 90:21,23 91:2 96:15, 21,25 97:16,17 98:11 100:18,19,25 101:4 102:19,20,21,22,24 103:4,6, 7,9,22,23,25 104:14 105:14 106:11,24 109:5 111:18,20,22,23 114:6,8,14 115:18 116:1,5,7,13 117:8,10 121:7,15,21 122:1 130:11,14 131:7,8 132:7 133:5 136:4,6,8,9,17 138:4,12,18 139:20, 23 140:8,9,12,13,14,18,20 142:4, 13,19 145:22 155:23 157:18 158:2, 10 159:4 166:11 170:3	
maintained 142:21 146:10	matched 141:12	
maintaining 89:9 170:4	matching 121:2	
major 15:17 17:7 21:20 30:9 34:18 51:3 81:18 147:3	materiality 88:9 99:9	
majority 60:17,18 78:7	math 149:15 166:14 168:21	
make 8:14,16 11:8 12:21 18:23 19:19 21:24 24:25 25:2 28:8 34:23 39:11,16,20 40:6,7 49:16 50:25 52:10 57:3,6 58:25 59:21 60:16 67:2 68:1,6 69:5,21 71:21 77:10 78:19,25 89:10,21 96:5 101:8 105:4 109:22,23 119:15,18,22 120:14,15 128:19 129:16 135:14 136:1 137:21 138:3,14 150:21 151:18 152:21 153:6,12,15,17 158:20,22 159:6,13,22 161:16 166:19 168:13 172:1,4,10,12	matter 52:24	
makes 18:17 98:8 120:9 154:22	Maverick 23:21 29:11 37:3	
	Mcallen/laredo/south 63:25	
	Mclennan 116:10	

message 121:20	133:14 134:11 136:11 137:4,16,22, 24 138:16,17,19 141:19 156:23 157:5,6 158:5,8,10 164:2	MVCPA 9:15,16,21,25 10:23 14:22 15:5,11,25 17:7 22:8 27:24 28:1,5, 13,18 30:15 32:14 33:6 34:20 35:4, 7,8,15,17 39:3,15,21 40:1,17,20 44:5 45:15,20 47:25 49:2 50:2,24 52:5,8 53:14,25 54:7 55:9 58:24 60:23 61:9 62:23 63:6 64:7 65:22 66:11 67:6 68:12 69:6 71:6 77:10 78:3,12 79:5,15 80:19 81:19,24 82:6,8,10,19 83:10,13 84:5,11,13, 16 87:7,17 89:16,18 91:18 92:1 95:21 96:9,15,20 98:2,20 100:17, 18,25 101:1 107:8 109:15 111:9 112:21 116:6,20 118:21 121:9 122:5,10 123:16,20 128:4 129:10 131:18 132:8,20 134:19 136:3 139:14 140:3 141:9 142:15 143:3 144:17 145:19 148:15 159:10 163:9 167:17,22 168:21 169:16 170:15 171:22
messy 133:24		MVCPA's 35:19
met 19:24 82:25 122:24	monies 151:20	
metal 16:13,21 61:23	monitor 21:2	
Michael 8:2 9:8 30:6 34:5 41:13 44:23 80:10 173:13 175:1	monitoring 19:8,16	
microphone 124:7	Montgomery 23:23 29:12 31:13 36:13	
mid 161:8,12	month 13:22 16:4 63:3,15 71:1 76:2 111:12 113:12,23	
middle 61:21 94:17 99:16	monthly 18:17	
Midland 159:15	months 10:3 16:7 98:25 108:5 120:10 167:10 170:20 171:18,19	
Mike 5:3 82:25	morning 5:2 10:8 12:23 15:3 17:1 25:5 37:18 38:9 41:20 45:7 53:20 62:22 68:15 95:23,24 101:13 123:12 165:4	
mile 47:14	motion 8:14,16,18 9:2,9 20:4 21:11,25 22:3,4 28:12 29:17,25 30:8 32:22 33:5,10,14,23 34:7 40:4,6,7,16,22 41:1,8,14 43:13,23 44:3,7,16,25 79:18 80:4,12 134:1 172:10,12 173:2,8,15 174:6,14 175:3,4	
miles 72:9	motions 32:7,8 37:10	
million 12:12,16 13:2,6 14:4 46:3 75:6 88:14 103:19 133:21 139:25 141:15 142:21,22 143:10 159:4	motor 5:4 12:13 25:19 45:12 61:4 69:11 83:18 101:19 102:5 159:21	
mind 115:9 148:22 164:7 170:12	mounted 52:21 53:1	
mine 59:8	move 9:14 13:4 19:11 21:17 28:13 32:14 33:6 37:14 39:25 40:17,20 41:17 44:5 45:2 50:16 53:13 60:4 79:15 83:14 84:3 85:5 100:2 121:17 156:18 166:1 169:10,13	
Mines 57:1	moved 10:4 114:13 121:21 129:5 151:10 160:24	
minimum 134:8	moving 10:16 12:24 14:17 15:16 47:2,14 72:2 75:18 92:7 94:2 153:20 157:6 164:6,22 170:11	
minute 6:9 79:13 116:15 132:2 171:20	multiple 26:8 112:8	
minutes 6:6,8 8:12,15,17 88:21	multipliers 163:14	
miscommunication 24:23	multitude 81:6	
missed 124:24	municipalities 161:20	
missing 142:17	murdered 135:13	
mission 42:16 152:21 159:14		
mistaken 127:23 162:8		
mitigate 147:5 160:14		
mobile 27:20		
modifications 39:21		
mold 165:1		
Monday 10:6 22:10,16,20 23:20 30:16 34:22 50:20 52:17 53:8 69:15 107:19		
Mondays 79:4		
money 19:12 21:7 42:15 49:14 92:18 97:21,25 116:17 120:10 126:3 129:11,20 131:24 132:20		

N

Nacogdoches 47:3

names 18:14

Nancy 165:9 166:13 167:6

narcotics 164:7,22

narrative 38:5

narrow 11:6,23 57:15,16,19,21

narrowed 10:25 11:18 72:6

nature 89:3

navigated 18:19

Nay 30:5 34:3 44:22 80:9 174:25

necessarily 91:12 156:13

needed 45:22 101:7 109:20
132:10 151:10,25 153:19 163:21

needing 65:5,7

negative 98:12

negotiations 39:7

nerves 122:24

nervous 125:14

net 102:15

newer 126:2

nexus 152:10,11	offered 133:12	Ott 61:1 67:6 68:11,12 69:8 70:3, 20,25 71:3,9
NICB 64:19 66:21 133:4	office 5:10 10:21 13:12 47:2,13,24 48:7 51:6,13,25 83:13 115:2 122:13,25 126:7 135:7 149:1 156:15 157:4,7 158:13 162:19	outlets 67:15
NICB's 64:2		outstanding 51:8
NICV 63:5	officer 38:6 39:8 114:13 135:13 136:24 137:2 150:19 162:16 165:9	overage 85:5
night 26:10,17 66:21 79:12 107:17 152:10	officers 45:23 47:8 48:11,16 50:14 63:18	oversight 38:22
nighttime 26:11	offices 46:4 51:12,20,21,22	overtime 25:16 26:19 109:16 154:21 155:17
non-commissioned 73:21	official 113:12	overview 12:9
nonconsequential 99:10	offline 81:11	owe 116:24
north 64:25 72:18	offset 132:23	owed 117:16 171:5
notable 51:17	omit 146:3	<hr/> P <hr/>
note 5:8 88:6 94:16	on-site 5:15	p.m. 175:5
notice 5:9 67:21 104:6	onboard 49:8 161:21	pace 81:10
notified 116:19	one-by-one 33:16 92:11	package 61:14
November 166:20	one-time 145:4	packages 130:13
number 12:17 24:20 27:11,12 81:10 96:12 99:13 131:23 134:14 141:18 144:6,15 150:2,4,5 158:7 160:8 163:18 164:13 166:14 167:12	one-ton 61:13	packed 66:14
numbers 91:13 94:7 97:10 98:15, 23 99:4,17 112:7 124:2,23 127:9 135:25 139:16,19 143:8 144:3 149:21,22 150:1,22 152:23 153:10 155:9 165:11,20 167:3	open 5:4 65:20 66:3 79:4 89:21	packet 102:12
<hr/> O <hr/>	opened 16:14	Padre 63:23
Oaks 36:17 47:4	opening 51:19 106:25	paid 126:2 137:2 166:24
obtain 81:15	operating 26:6,23	pardon 40:3
occurred 151:5	operation 16:11 20:5	Paris 36:14
occurring 88:1 171:6	operations 18:8 25:18 26:11 47:17 130:4 143:6	parking 26:8,9,10
October 17:11 19:25 20:1,9,16 21:12,13 35:17,20 37:23 40:20 63:14,22 73:9,10 75:18,22 76:1,3, 6,17 77:4	opinion 39:5 55:20 56:21 154:24	part 38:23 63:9,10,13,16,21,22,24 64:3,8,9,10,12,16,17 65:6 66:22 84:19 91:20 101:19 107:16 119:12 125:23 126:5,6,22 130:3 138:4 157:18 161:23 162:17 163:24 171:24
Odessa 48:7 159:15	opportunity 98:24 123:18 135:5 163:22 164:3	partial 81:9
offended 119:12	oppose 174:24	participants 64:14
offenders 162:18	opposed 30:4 34:2 44:21 80:8 154:20 173:12	participate 132:7
offensive 119:11	option 52:18 131:5	partner 14:20 15:1,8 18:9,11,18 20:12
offer 10:9	options 53:6	partnership 45:15 46:18 80:18 82:9
	order 5:7 64:21 87:20 130:2	parts 16:9,19 35:1 73:3,16
	ordered 61:8	Pasadena 36:15 88:13 164:19 165:4,21 167:8 169:1,19 172:14,23
	original 122:7 129:13	
	originally 144:7 168:1	
	other's 73:17	

Paschall 101:13,14 107:14 108:6
109:2,25 110:5
Paso 23:9 28:25 36:6 54:24
pass 31:4 36:23 74:16,17 88:11
120:10 123:11,14 124:2,6,8,16
128:11 169:6
passes 9:9 30:8 33:5 34:7 41:14
44:25 80:12 173:15 175:3
past 49:3 75:23 79:3 80:25 101:20
102:3 173:20
patrol 38:11 166:3 167:3
pay 25:9 65:24 92:18 125:23 126:2
141:15 144:24 168:18 169:1
170:13,19,21 172:14
paying 154:20
payment 170:19
payments 170:20 171:4 172:15
pays 165:2
PD 38:5,11 75:23 100:14 152:20
159:3,20
PDS 145:16
penalizing 131:7
Pence 10:8 53:20 54:21 55:2,6,11
56:2,4 57:10 60:21,25 61:2,3 64:6,
7 66:12 67:17 71:10,23,25
people 98:25 107:19 113:16,19,25
119:4,10 121:15,19 132:10 133:3
136:23 137:19 138:6,9 146:5
156:13,14,15,19 157:7,25 158:16,
20 163:12,13,16,19,22 164:3,13
percent 42:22 50:4 71:16 74:22
77:24 79:4 84:22 85:1 86:5,7,9
88:8 98:12,13 99:9,10 100:19
101:1 104:10,11,22,24 108:15
116:6,7,13 117:5,10,11 121:4,15
129:4 130:12 131:2,4 133:18,19,20
134:7 136:3 140:12,17 159:4,9,19
161:21 166:15 168:19,24 169:2
172:14
percentage 94:5 121:7
percentages 111:21
perfect 21:15 78:10,11
performed 112:3
perimeters 106:22
period 42:5,6 77:23 136:19 137:4
153:11 170:12
permanently 52:21
permission 6:21 115:25
person 100:21,24 110:21 120:3
130:3 137:20,21,23,24
personnel 81:2 120:2,16 124:1
125:9,23,25 127:4 147:7,8 149:13,
19 150:1,2,13,16 151:15,21 152:5
153:8,10 154:21 155:2,12 156:9,10
160:7,14,19 161:1,3,7,13 162:20
166:1,3
perspective 46:11 154:16
pertain 6:1
pertinent 6:11
PGM 16:12
Pharr 47:13,15,16
phases 10:6
phenomenal 10:24 16:2 17:8
phone 66:5 81:22 87:18
phones 5:13
photo 81:13
photos 67:12
physically 14:10 35:8
pick 54:11 60:4
picture 35:20 76:18 152:25
piggyback 160:18
pin 70:4
pinned 70:7
PIOS 71:21
pit 47:23 48:2
place 5:13 11:9 14:6 45:23 83:4,17
90:23 106:22 153:12
placing 20:8 51:22
plan 11:6 18:8 19:14 20:4 45:16
51:19 62:5 68:6
planned 62:20
planning 67:3
plans 19:9 26:7
plate 25:25 26:12,13,16 61:24
platform 25:11,14
platforms 67:9
play 15:12 162:23
pleased 5:4
pledges 8:4,7,8
plenty 42:15
podium 6:7
point 13:1 20:11 52:12 55:4 65:4
85:2 86:2 87:10 89:7 91:13 113:1
118:4 122:16 134:16 157:9 163:11
167:10
points 128:18
pole 123:1
police 68:17 101:15,22,24 102:1
123:14 147:8
political 146:1
politically 146:15
Polk 23:25 29:13
portion 6:3 97:13 104:14 117:3
position 105:9,16,18 132:21
156:24 157:2,4,7 166:1,4,10,17,20
167:2,4
positions 137:9,11 138:24 139:2,
3,8 148:20 157:10,15,20,22
158:12,18 160:25 163:4,7
possibility 85:21 86:25 113:20
123:24
possibly 11:25 38:17 63:22,25
64:4
post 67:14
posted 68:24 76:12
posts 67:18
Potter 31:14 36:16
pour 159:2
powers 75:14
practice 89:16
precincts 162:16,21

Precincts' 162:20	product 111:18	118:6 119:19 121:6 136:6 138:20 145:11 152:17 153:9 167:21 170:2
precipitated 42:11	program 35:5 115:24,25 117:12 119:5 129:7,8 130:4,7,14,17,24 131:1,6,9,11,17,21,25 132:3,8,15, 20,21,23,25 133:4,9,25 134:3,11, 18 136:11,14,15 138:20 139:1 141:21 147:13 172:16	providing 87:2,10,12 98:10 138:11 139:15 151:16
predecessor 155:6	programmatic 88:17	PSGP 154:16
prefer 164:25	programs 20:25 132:14 164:5	public 5:9 6:3 28:1 42:7 43:18 59:17 62:9 70:5
present 7:25 15:22 24:16,18,23,24 25:1 30:18 45:5 53:15 73:16,17 74:3 77:25 82:16 86:21 91:19 92:9 121:12	progress 107:20	publicly 89:14 168:8
presentation 7:7 12:1 25:2 34:23 37:15 108:21	prohibition 148:17	published 43:9
presentations 22:19	project 48:8,9 51:15 120:4	pulled 139:12 149:22
presented 22:18 31:2 34:25 52:18 53:1 60:25 77:15 82:3 84:7 95:23 98:23 99:4 112:6 168:3	projected 12:10,24	purchase 25:25
presenters 7:1	projects 47:12 50:11	purchased 117:11,15
presenting 22:21 78:23	prominent 58:24	purpose 89:6 156:4
preserve 15:21	promise 161:1	purposes 73:6
president 38:10 39:23 75:24	promoted 136:23 165:25	push 67:18
pretty 18:15 130:1,18 131:12 147:14 154:19 155:5	promotes 120:7	pushing 72:13 134:4
prevent 49:20	promotions 149:19 164:23	put 19:6 20:3 21:13 28:1 37:21 38:22 50:2 54:4,19 55:16 56:19 57:8 58:12 61:18 66:9 67:17 68:2 69:25 70:1 74:17 78:22 83:2 119:15 120:8 131:24 132:6,24 133:13 134:1 144:15 153:12 164:24 171:20
prevention 5:5 35:5 61:4 101:20 102:6 159:22	properties 52:23,25	putting 18:14 27:23 28:3 65:22 77:8 109:18 134:10 136:10,14 141:1 145:14 147:13 160:10
previous 89:1	property 59:19 152:7	<hr/> Q <hr/>
previously 86:16 87:3 105:13 112:14 143:3	proportion 84:22 142:12	Q2 85:15
Price 101:5 109:22 111:8 112:9,19 113:14 118:20 121:9 131:18 134:19 142:15 144:17 145:19 163:9	proposal 72:8,10 83:1	quality 164:13
prior 16:4 86:12 107:10 112:15 128:6 162:17 167:7	propose 59:13	quarterly 19:1 81:24 169:17 170:20,23 171:9 172:15,23
prioritize 52:2 152:14	proposed 42:3 82:14 173:17	question 13:17 19:5,7 37:15 65:17 69:1 86:18 88:20 90:3 92:16 100:15 107:8 110:17 112:22 113:25 120:25 143:24 154:7 156:5 157:19 171:21
priority 50:25 152:7 160:5	proposing 87:13	questions 10:11,12,14 11:2,25 12:2,3 14:14 15:15 17:17 28:10 43:16 48:23,24 53:11 71:12 83:23, 24 87:11,18 89:24 90:1 92:10 93:1 96:1 99:24 107:6 108:10 110:2 128:10 151:3 164:16 167:6
probation 172:17,18	pros 77:9	
problem 75:2 76:23 148:4,10 149:9 152:12 158:24 159:8,15,16, 17 163:8,25	prosecution 75:6,11	
problems 140:21 147:7	prosecutors 159:5	
process 73:7 84:13	Prosper 24:10 29:14 31:20 37:5	
processes 70:15	proud 58:12	
	prove 108:1 119:15	
	provide 12:1 14:2 25:5 35:3 45:11 46:24 48:22 49:17 64:10 89:19 92:6 98:25 109:19,24 113:6 134:24 139:18 140:13,15 144:20 153:15, 18 158:3 159:23 167:9 169:13,19	
	provided 6:7 21:7 39:1 47:24 70:1 79:6 87:16 90:16 93:17 96:2,12 97:10 98:6,8 99:1,15 109:7 113:5	

quick 9:25 16:1 65:17 114:25	reason 24:17 48:13 76:21 125:4 129:13 148:9 169:11	recruits 164:8
quickly 137:5,7	reasonable 144:20 145:8	rectify 160:13
quit 136:23 156:14	reasons 104:1,2 136:18 140:5 156:16	recuse 32:3,5 37:12
quorum 7:10 8:3	Rebecca 32:20 55:17 56:11	recycler 16:10
<hr/> R <hr/>	rebuild 81:9	recyclers 16:20,21 73:4
Ram 61:13	rebuttal 92:6 97:11	recycling 16:13
range 51:19 85:21	recall 42:2,10	red 6:9 85:25 147:18
rank 165:25	receive 113:9 171:21 172:3	redesign 53:14,24
rapid 81:10	received 42:7 86:24 87:9,22 88:4 91:10 136:2	reduce 83:18 87:2 121:15 129:16 151:14 152:16 153:7,8 157:10 159:6,9,14 160:7
rate 85:9 90:21,24 104:5,7,9,10,13, 22,24 105:2,5 106:19 111:18 114:6,8 117:13,23 121:15	receiving 19:12 20:24	reduced 84:21 85:8 88:8 90:24 94:3,7,12,24 95:1 96:25 105:1,11 114:6,9 119:6 127:12 132:11 139:21 142:8,19,20 144:9 168:3
rates 104:18	recent 53:4	reducing 91:2 127:18 152:22
rational 86:21	recently 16:3 70:14 107:10 160:17	reduction 84:23,25 85:10 88:25 90:21 94:6 130:2 151:14,15,21 152:6 157:9
rationale 127:19,24	recited 8:8	refer 17:10
re-allocated 156:9,11,14	recognize 138:11	reference 38:13 83:3 102:10 107:11
re-characterized 114:16	recognized 6:21	referenced 163:23
re-do 87:15 134:23	recommend 19:25 20:15 35:15 92:11 139:5 171:12	refine 59:24
re-establish 20:9	recommendation 27:3 39:13 72:3 80:15,17 83:8 92:22 161:19 167:16 168:13 169:21,24 172:13	reflect 8:1 9:7 30:6 34:5 40:14 41:12 44:23 80:10 139:17 144:15 145:12 146:1,15 173:13 175:1
re-establishing 20:16	recommendations 21:23 30:11 34:16 147:1 156:3	reflected 108:19 118:8 143:22 144:3 166:16,25
re-opening 132:5	reconsider 35:18	reflects 157:15 165:20
re-share 70:6	record 5:8 6:14,17 8:1 9:7,22 14:23 15:25 19:22 22:9 28:18 30:6, 15 32:1 34:5,21 37:9 39:4 40:14 41:12,23 44:23 52:6 61:3 64:6 80:10 82:19 92:1 95:21 107:9 111:17 118:20 121:10 122:6 128:5 144:18 147:23 148:25 154:4 155:3 160:22 163:10 167:18 170:9,16 173:13 175:1	Refugio 24:2 29:4
reached 122:8	recorded 106:18	regard 106:24
React 46:19	records 12:20 108:12 146:6	Region 72:18
read 21:25 22:15 35:16 66:4 80:14, 16 115:9	recoup 89:17 94:18	regional 45:3,17,24 46:10,12,14, 16,17,21,24 48:17,21 51:7
reader 26:13,16	recovering 83:19	Register 42:5 43:7,10
readers 26:12	recovery 64:12	registration 5:21 46:6
reading 25:25 120:19	recruiting 156:3	regular 89:20
reads 150:23		regulate 74:18,24
ready 28:12		regulation 74:16
real 20:6 114:25		
realistic 157:21 158:15 160:20		
reality 138:5 157:15,23		
reallocate 150:16		

regulations 16:18	report 9:11,15 10:7,19 11:11 13:21 15:13 21:6 31:22 46:25 84:5 146:14 148:13 169:19	responses 11:5,18 88:3 90:16 91:10 99:1
regulatory 16:18		responsibility 101:23 149:10 151:18 153:17
Reid 75:23	reported 98:4 102:19 112:11,15 125:25 127:1 129:21 139:24 143:3 144:12	responsible 14:10 19:19 35:8 119:19 147:15 158:7
reimbursable 127:5,9		rest 32:12 121:21
reimburse 117:14	reporter 6:17,23 7:16	restoration 64:11
reimbursement 96:20 97:2,5 102:16 104:5,7,9,10,13,18,21,24 105:2,5,21,23 106:10,19 111:17 117:13,23 120:11 126:21,22 141:8	reporting 21:18 35:14 129:17 145:6 148:12,13 169:20	restorations 64:16
reimbursements 120:7	reports 9:12 99:14 150:11 170:24	restructuring 38:14
relate 53:6	representatives 69:5	result 111:19,25 150:19
related 10:18 25:18 26:1,3 69:11 82:21 83:18	represented 118:13	results 104:12
relates 18:8 35:20 45:13	representing 5:24 101:15	resumed 85:11 90:22
relationship 50:6 51:9 52:14	represents 102:25	retire 137:20
relationships 81:14	request 22:13 23:1,3,5,7,9,11,13, 15,17,21,23,25 24:2,4,6,8,10,13,24 25:2 35:16,18 39:8 67:16 87:8 95:7,11 113:22 163:7 172:2	retired 126:1
relief 89:19 169:14	requested 22:23,24 30:23 50:21 67:8 92:5 106:9 112:11 113:25	retires 137:20 156:22
rely 68:23	requesting 25:7,15,23 26:5,18 64:5 81:3 87:11,19 116:20	return 27:7 138:16 146:18
remain 91:13	requests 24:15 30:21 34:25 35:23 36:24,25 42:18 87:18 113:3	revamping 166:21
remained 114:16	require 83:12,16 138:3,15	revenue 105:25
remaining 12:12,14,16 14:1 86:15	required 42:23 51:20 82:24 85:10, 13 90:22 117:8 134:8 136:9 170:13	review 53:14 85:20 86:19 112:3 121:14 122:18 124:22 125:22 131:5 145:23,24 169:24 170:1 171:6 172:16,19,20,23
remedied 91:12,16	requirement 42:13 43:4,5 84:21 85:1 136:4	reviewed 8:13 169:5,7,8,9
remedy 87:6 92:7,13,17	requirements 114:10	reviewing 25:17 88:3
remember 18:22 128:24 129:18	requires 51:18 140:12	reward 117:7
remind 7:1 71:17	resignations 149:20	RFA 24:22 25:1
remote 5:14	resigns 156:22	Ricardo 127:16
remove 128:22	resources 10:7 136:15 150:16 151:10	Richard 41:22
removed 119:3 129:13	respect 170:10	Richards 18:21 19:21,22 21:13 31:25 32:1,8,10,18 33:17 37:8,9 41:19,20 43:17 56:14 58:17,22 170:6,8,17,22
removing 117:14	respond 7:12 111:13,15 119:17 171:17,18 172:5	Rio 101:17
renewing 20:2	responded 111:13	rise 150:14
renovation 47:12 48:8 50:11 51:15	responding 87:17	River 36:17
renovations 46:15	response 7:21 40:21 86:24 87:9, 17,23 89:15 113:18 119:22 172:2	rivet 61:23
repair 26:9		road 47:14 62:11
repay 168:21,23 170:13		Rodriguez 5:2,3 7:16,20,22,24 8:1,2,9,18,23 9:7,8 10:12 11:12,15
replace 54:6 138:24 164:10		
replaced 137:21 166:22		
replacement 38:1,2 84:15 127:4		

12:3 13:14,25 14:7,13,17 15:14,23 17:12,18 19:5,15 20:18,21 21:11, 15 22:2,6 26:25 27:4,19 28:9 29:16,21 30:4,7 31:23 32:7,9,19,22 33:10,14,19 34:2,6,8,14 37:14 38:7,25 39:10 40:7,22 41:1,12,13 43:16,22 44:2,7,12,21,24 48:25 50:18 52:4 53:10 54:18,22 55:3,7, 12,21 56:11,18,24 57:1,5,18,24 58:4,8,13,19 60:3,7,10,19,22 65:16 67:5 68:25 69:13 70:17,23 71:2,7, 24 72:1 73:24 74:2 75:17 76:4,20 77:12 78:9 79:10,18,23 80:8,11 82:25 83:9,24 84:3 89:25 90:3,6, 10,18 91:4,21,24 92:15,21,24 93:5, 11 94:21,24 95:7,18,22 96:4,22 97:2,6 98:11,17 99:24 100:5,9 101:11 109:6,13 110:1,7,11,18 112:17 114:20 115:10 119:8 122:3 123:2,6 124:10,12 125:8,14 126:10,14,19 127:7 128:1,10,13 133:7 135:1 139:10 140:20,24 141:8,13,23 143:14,19,25 144:5,13 145:13 146:17 148:23 151:6 155:14 158:25 160:6 161:17 162:3, 9 163:1 164:15,19 165:15 167:7, 11,14,16 169:23 170:7,23 171:11 172:17 173:1,12,14,20 174:3,11, 14,24 175:2	<hr/> S <hr/>	see-- 118:6 seeking 25:8 Seguin 31:18 selection 53:14 72:3 Senate 15:18 21:22 28:14 32:15 33:7 73:1 74:10,15 75:9 senators 69:4 send 67:14 68:13,14 78:11,16 114:2 150:11 171:16 172:1 sending 68:9 77:19 119:10 145:17 senior 137:20 166:23 sense 18:17 42:15 81:8 98:8 108:2 109:19 158:22 171:20 sensitive 73:6 81:16 sentence 121:16 separate 37:11,21 68:17 September 61:17 62:25 63:2,15, 19 76:16 77:2 September/october 77:23 sergeant 37:18 38:9,10 39:22 100:13 154:13 164:10 165:7,8,17, 19,23,25 166:2,8 167:15 Serrata 38:9,11 39:22 serve 115:20 service 25:11 45:3,17,24 46:7,10, 12,14,16,18,21,24 48:17,21 49:15, 18 51:7,22 services 88:19 session 46:1 83:3,7 100:10 173:24 set 18:7 25:20 setting 79:6 settle 13:10 settled 118:4 settlements 13:19 settling 122:22 setup 25:9 share 68:24 69:2,6,9,19,24 72:20 sharing 67:12,15,22 70:3
Roland 45:5,9 51:5 53:12 roll 7:9,11 Rolling 47:4 Roman 31:15 59:11 Rookie 164:10 room 5:16 51:13 111:17 158:20 rooted 89:5 roughly 130:12 131:4 round 12:19,22 21:22 22:14 28:15 route 135:14 ruffled 161:10 rule 6:5 41:18 43:7 83:15 168:9 rules 7:2,7 42:24 60:17,18 85:4 run 6:16 running 67:9,10,11,22 runs 77:3 rush 11:8	safe 128:22 129:13 safely 48:19 safety 25:10,17 159:23 salaries 117:3 154:21 salary 106:16 130:3 137:3 149:16 166:17 salvage 64:13 San 16:4 31:16 36:18 37:4 46:17, 19 48:19 77:15 Sanchez 127:16 sat 122:9 Saturday 107:17 Saucedo 124:11,13,15 125:10,12 save 140:25 savings 137:6 SB224 12:15,19,22 13:5 14:20 15:1 16:2 18:8,9 19:7,12,20 22:13 27:1,18 30:11,23 34:16 42:15 69:14 162:5 scale 126:1 166:24 scenes 82:10 171:6 scheduled 73:10 89:21 Schertz 31:17 Schmidt 135:4,6 140:10,23 141:17 142:25 143:17 147:24 148:15 156:2,12 157:1,11 159:25 164:18 school 63:11,13,16 65:7 schools 62:9 63:9,10,21,24 64:2,3 67:13 scope 158:3 screen 54:2,17 search 26:23 searches 81:11 seat 96:7 150:10 154:17 Secretary 5:10 section 60:23 84:6 Security 154:14	

Sharon 15:18 17:7 20:18 21:20
40:15 90:1 161:25
sharp 113:18
sheet 5:21 6:12
sheriff 117:2 122:8,16,20,24
145:16 147:8 153:16
sheriff's 135:7 149:1 156:15 157:4
162:19
sheriffs 122:25 151:9
shield 61:24
shifted 146:8
shifting 137:16 163:20
shocking 113:16
shopped 62:7,8
shopping 26:9
shops 26:9
short 42:17 143:10 146:19
shortages 166:3
shortfall 137:8
shortfalls 157:3
shortly 14:3
show 94:11 101:4 104:17 107:4
138:20 168:6
showed 38:5 117:25 122:23
showing 68:22 143:2
shown 168:19
shows 93:14 103:24 104:20
SHSP 154:16
shy 152:24
side 75:16 78:11 133:6 149:11,14
151:13,17
side-by-side 104:17
signed 111:10 116:8 117:6
significant 151:21 152:6
significantly 94:8 98:13 150:2
161:7
signs 65:15
silent 5:14
silly 158:9 163:8
similar 59:8
simple 130:1,18 131:12 136:1
simply 150:24
single 61:13 114:2 160:21
singled 148:7,8
sir 11:14 14:16 19:3,13 21:10 38:4
50:8 53:9,18 54:21 55:2,11 61:19
66:12 74:1,5 96:3 108:6,9 109:25
120:22 169:22
sit 126:9
site 50:13 87:20
sits 150:5
sitting 102:2 154:8
situation 117:18 150:21
situations 83:12 146:1 164:4
sixth 167:2
size 89:1 140:11 157:14
skip 173:23
slash 26:12
slide 63:1 102:13 103:1,14 104:4,
5,16,17 105:6,19 106:13,21
slightly 95:25 99:7
slowly 6:19
small 141:20 160:12
smaller 51:12 104:13
smallest 88:7
smart 62:8
smelters 16:9
Smith 31:19 36:19
smoother 6:16
social 65:15,19 66:3 67:8,15 68:4,
20 71:15,20
software 25:25
solely 102:24
solicitation 27:2
solution 147:19 158:23 159:1
solve 158:23
sort 138:2
sorts 53:3
sounds 12:17 168:11
source 65:20 66:3
sources 66:6
south 37:20 47:19 63:23 64:25
101:16,18
Southeast 100:14
space 47:8,9,21,24 48:3,10
spacing 50:13 51:11
speak 5:19 6:19,21 18:5 77:24
98:5 114:24 121:22 123:19 138:23
148:19,22 150:8 160:3 166:13
167:25 168:7
speaker 6:6
speaker's 5:21
speakers 6:11 7:5
speaking 5:24 6:19,22 72:12 76:1
111:2,4 123:25
specialist 124:16
specialists 10:4
specific 5:22 6:2
specifically 111:2,5 163:15
specifications 45:21
spelled 24:22
spend 93:24 94:14,18,19 97:21,22
99:22 114:16 116:17 130:16
131:10,16 137:4 138:21,22 140:4
142:23 158:9 164:1
spending 94:12 99:2 113:14
114:14 137:8 138:17 141:3,19
142:20 143:11 146:2,8 158:5
spent 95:2,3,4 96:15 113:23,24
127:24 129:20 141:6,14,15 142:10
144:23 146:10 157:1,2,5
splash 61:20
spoke 49:9
sponsorships 72:22
spots 140:22
spread 65:2

spreadsheet 87:15 93:18
Springs 24:4 29:5
squads 150:17
Stacy 75:19,23 76:13,25 77:13 79:2,10
stadium 26:10
staff 10:24 22:20 35:8,19 39:21 63:3 83:10 84:8 88:19,22 118:23 138:23 150:8,11,15,24 152:2 153:16,18 156:17 159:25 160:16 161:6 166:3 169:16
staffing 9:17 10:1
stale 54:7
stand 8:6 46:3 169:20
standard 89:16
standing 65:8
start 10:9 21:3 27:22 58:5 65:21 66:5 69:4 77:2 84:14 107:25 133:25 135:23
started 11:17 56:22 70:9,18 113:11 149:18 154:12 166:20
starting 55:4 63:20 115:21
starts 12:8 39:12,13 108:2
state 5:11 6:13 10:4 35:11 38:12 46:8,13 52:20 59:2 65:1 72:21 81:2,3 82:11 88:23 89:1,8 132:19, 22 151:16 152:22
state's 132:21
stated 6:12 105:13 106:25
statement 116:8 117:6 130:2 164:20
statements 85:12,14
states 74:19 172:4
statewide 71:19
stating 112:4
stations 49:16
statute 132:22
statutes 50:21
statutory 82:14 83:7 173:17
stay 89:10 117:20
Steinhour 114:22 115:11
Sterling 84:8 113:3
STINEHOUR 118:11,15 120:22 122:19 123:4
sting 25:18
stockyard 72:8,9,14
stolen 81:11 83:19
stop 91:1
stops 150:10
stories 69:18
storm 160:17
story 69:2,6
strain 132:6 133:13
strategic 19:9 59:15
strategically 46:12
strategy 35:5,22
strong 45:14 46:18
strongly 133:10 134:3,17
structure 37:20,24 38:8
struggling 133:3 163:12
students 65:10
stuff 18:15 49:21 65:14 129:14,15, 18,19
sub-jurisdictions 119:1
subjects 66:24
submissions 106:5
submit 34:22 68:24 105:20
submitted 35:12 107:10 157:13 165:12,13
submitting 107:2
subsequent 103:24
substantial 134:15 142:14
substantially 139:23 142:11
Subtract 103:10
subtracting 102:21,22 103:7
success 19:16
successes 27:16
successful 16:25 17:2
sufficient 102:11
suggest 32:4 58:23,25 61:25 161:18 174:10
suggested 138:14
suggestion 60:6
suggestions 71:18 77:6
Sulphur 24:4 29:5
summer 13:11,20
sums 131:13
Sunday 107:18
Sunset 24:6 26:5 29:6
supervise 7:4
supervisor 124:7
supplant 114:11 168:10
supplanted 86:13 88:5 99:21 114:1 118:18,25
supplanting 84:5,13,15,18,24 85:3,4,10,18,21 86:1,3,25 87:1,2 89:6 90:12 94:7,8 97:7 98:18 99:5, 19 102:6,11,14 107:1 111:25 113:1,7,8,15,20 114:10,15 115:3,4 116:21,23 117:16 119:11 124:21 125:7,18 127:12 131:9 135:17,20, 22 138:14 144:8 148:16 153:24 165:12 167:24 171:24
supplement 26:13
Supplementing 89:6
support 49:1,8,13 82:4 102:8,11 107:1 123:19 131:22 133:11,15,19 134:6,11,18 143:15 144:21 145:16 146:16 153:19 159:19,21
supporting 13:3 88:25
supportive 122:10
supposed 21:19 59:22 92:18 121:2 168:10
surplus 106:23
surpluses 109:4
surprised 66:15 160:23
surprisingly 54:9
surrounding 46:20 65:25 161:19

surveillance 26:7,8,15,22 66:7	77:19 78:8 81:1,4,19,23,25 82:3,5, 6,11 83:10 89:8 100:14 101:16,19 114:23 115:14,17 116:3 119:20 120:3,17 121:25 122:11 128:16 129:9,25 130:25 132:1 133:14 134:10 144:14,25 145:14 146:23 147:3 149:9 162:11,17 164:14 165:8,21 168:7,14	thermal 26:22
suspects 26:2		thin 55:9
suspects' 26:3 81:5		thing 30:16 57:16 63:24 79:3 99:6, 12 114:4 129:12 137:19 138:10 161:11 171:11
sustain 115:20 133:9		things 6:15 27:8,13 45:18 49:25 51:16 52:13 57:8 59:22 61:6 66:7 69:24 72:25 93:22 120:2,14 137:1 138:2 153:20 155:19 160:13 170:3
swag 71:4,5		thinking 53:3 76:5 96:18 137:13
SWAT 143:6 144:14	tasked 166:21	Thompson 93:7,12
system 10:19 11:9 12:19 14:11 91:1 98:5,9 112:11 121:8 128:23	TDLR 15:8,9 16:19,21 64:4	thought 48:13 73:7 92:13 140:14
systems 11:12,15	team 71:17 86:2,14 144:14 169:16 171:10	thoughts 72:24 77:7
<hr/> T <hr/>		
table 5:21 30:20 125:2	teaming 77:8	thousand 70:24,25
TAC 41:16 44:6	Techemet 16:8	thousands 81:4
tackle 77:18	technology 27:6	throws 117:23
tactical 66:7	telling 95:8 115:3 160:24	tied 160:16
tag 77:8	ten 58:15 129:4 166:23	tier 14:2,11 35:16,18,23 36:24,25 37:22 40:19,21
tagging 69:4,9	ten-minute 100:6	tight 77:22
takes 137:18	tend 82:4	time 6:9,10 30:18,19 42:17 67:8 68:14 69:8 76:2 77:21 78:8 79:7 81:16 91:13 94:19 100:21,23 101:3 108:14 110:4,7 111:15 113:15 115:19 121:13 123:21 129:4 132:11 133:4 135:14,19 136:19 137:4,18 138:7 145:2 153:11 159:20 164:2 168:12 170:12 171:16,25 172:5
taking 7:17 9:13 64:25 65:19 77:21 89:9 148:16	terminate 115:14,18	timeline 87:5,25 110:4,23 113:11
talk 14:3 101:8	terminations 149:20	timer 6:7
talked 51:23 66:20,21 71:3 119:9 151:7 152:9 159:2 163:13,15	terms 139:6 157:15	times 19:24 25:12 27:12 66:18 148:2 168:9
talking 27:25 54:22 55:14,15 64:24 92:18 102:18 110:21 118:9 130:19 155:15 171:2	terrible 168:11	timing 7:7
talks 124:20	test 85:18,23 146:7	title 63:6,13 64:4
tape 147:18	tested 84:19 86:2	Titles 46:6
TAPT 63:14,21 75:19,21,24 76:22 77:25 78:3,7,13 79:17	testify 114:13 122:1	today 6:25 9:13 14:6 22:18 39:9 43:6 48:15 53:19 57:4 59:20 82:8 83:5,21 85:19 92:5,9 96:2 107:13 108:4 109:7 114:19 124:19 134:23 150:9 167:21 168:4 169:12,22 171:13
tardiness 149:2	testimony 112:5 114:6	today's 5:12,18,20
Tarrant 36:20 70:13	testing 84:24 85:10 86:10 90:22	
task 10:22 12:14 13:2,3,16,18 14:11 17:3 19:10,16 20:12 21:8 22:10,12,16 25:6 27:14,16,17 28:2 32:2 34:16,22,24 35:13 37:20,21, 24 38:8,12,18,20 40:2,18 42:8 46:19,20 47:17,19 48:16,19 49:11, 22 50:14,20 54:9,25 57:14 65:20, 25 66:4,7 67:7,13,22,25 68:4,13, 16,18,23 69:3 70:12,16 72:12,19	Texas 10:23 13:3 15:4,5,10 16:20, 21,22 24:8 29:7 35:1 37:20 42:5 43:7,9 45:3,4,12 46:8 47:19 49:2 50:6 51:18 55:15 59:3,11,21 63:23, 25 72:17,18 81:5 82:11 83:2,11,14, 15,20 89:9,12 100:14 101:16,18 114:23 115:14,17 122:11 152:23	
	theft 63:10 64:2,11 69:11 80:24,25 100:14 101:16,18,25 106:3 114:23 115:14,17 135:11 136:25 137:14, 16 141:16 143:5,7,13 144:14 149:1 151:23 152:3 156:17 158:4 160:4 161:7 162:23 164:11 165:8	
	thefts 25:19 26:4 49:20 152:13,22 153:1 159:9,14 160:8	

told 100:23 101:4 116:3,11,22 117:9,21 121:3,12,13 152:18 160:22 161:1	transferred 106:3 136:24	ultimately 132:9,16
top 57:17,21 60:8 70:4,8 76:15 126:1	transfers 149:19	unable 115:20
topics 9:18	Transportation 51:9	unanimous 175:4
total 25:12,13,15,22,23 26:6,19,24 46:13 62:7 64:20 96:14 103:18 109:1 113:22 117:4,5 125:2 140:4 141:3,12 142:3,6,8,10,19 169:2	traveled 124:8	undergone 135:20
totaling 88:13	Travis 36:21	understand 48:15 75:5,10,15 77:12 119:22,24 120:1,14,17 123:8 130:25 147:16 149:6 151:8,12,13 152:4,8,9,16 155:24 156:8,21 161:14
totals 26:15 29:15	treated 132:20	Understandable 79:2
totem 123:1	Trejo 102:2	understanding 53:8 99:2 118:3 161:4
touched 108:14	tremendous 49:8 132:6	understands 155:18
tough 160:7,8,9	trim 61:14	understood 85:3 100:22 101:9
tour 16:24 17:14,20	trip 122:9	undisclosed 86:16 87:3
town 24:10 29:14 31:20 37:5 161:22,25	trips 52:11	unexpectedly 94:17
towns 161:22	trouble 54:1 147:13	unfilled 139:7
track 20:12	truck 61:8,12,17 62:5,13	unimportant 137:14
tracking 172:8	trucks 64:14	unit 28:4 143:5 150:12 157:23 166:22
Tradesman 61:13	true 106:22 136:16 146:16	units 143:5,16 145:16 150:17
traditional 27:17	trust 58:6	unnecessary 140:15
traditionally 145:22	turn 9:16 96:11 128:19 129:23 139:3	unreported 86:16 87:11 89:3 113:4,6 124:5 125:19 127:25 129:19 139:16 144:10
trailer 53:1 61:9,14 62:3	turning 82:13	unspent 35:10
trailers 64:15 81:6,12	turnover 119:1	unsung 82:4,6
trained 63:19 65:5 164:1	turns 124:25	upcoming 89:2
trainer 53:15	tweak 19:18 57:23	update 9:25 13:13 14:21,25 15:2 16:2 17:16 21:18 27:1 37:7 45:3,11 48:22 60:23 62:19 65:14 71:11
trainers 60:25 62:18,24 77:17	two-and-a-half 98:25 111:12	updated 108:17 139:16 165:14,18, 19 172:16
training 60:23 62:19 63:7,12 64:4, 10 65:5,12,19 66:10 68:7 71:11 73:5 74:7 77:11,20 164:2	two-year 172:18,19,20	updates 15:19
trainings 61:7 62:10 63:5 78:16 81:24	TXDOT 47:14 51:8 52:24	updating 10:18 87:18
transaction 45:25 46:25	type 15:7 17:14 27:23 47:22,23 77:11	upgrade 48:5
transactions 46:8 47:7	types 133:17,24 143:2	upgrades 45:16 46:15 48:14
transcribing 6:24	typically 75:25 85:12 97:24	upset 113:19 122:23
transcript 8:11,14,15,17	<hr/> U <hr/>	urge 120:1
transfer 161:13	U.S. 11:1	urged 100:18
	UASI 154:16	
	UB 13:9,24 132:25	
	ugly 119:20	
	Uh-huh 22:5	

urgency 109:19 171:20	VIPER 162:18	welcomed 71:9
urging 101:1,5	vision 26:10,17 162:14,22	Wes 38:10
utilized 129:11	visit 53:4	Weslaco 38:22,23
utilizing 77:17 117:2	visited 52:18 70:14 122:9	whatnot 161:13 162:24
<hr/> V <hr/>		
vacancies 136:19,20 137:17,23 138:4 139:6 148:19 149:11 150:12 154:25 156:6 163:17	visiting 70:11	white 61:1 62:17,21,23 107:25
vacancy 10:3 120:8 137:4,6	visits 50:12,13 87:20	Whitehill 7:20
vacant 138:24 166:17	voice 15:21 18:2 20:19	whiz 166:14
vacated 166:1	voluntarily 138:19	Wichita 24:12 29:8
Valley 24:6 26:5 29:6 54:24 101:17	vote 9:1,8 29:23 30:7 32:3,5,10,12 33:1,21 34:6 37:11 40:11,15 41:6, 13 43:12,13 44:15,24 56:16,19 57:9 58:23 60:7 80:2,11 173:6,14 174:19	William 9:17,21 14:19,22 15:24 34:20 39:3 82:15 95:20 107:8 128:4
variations 141:20	voting 58:18	Williams 22:8 28:17 30:14 52:5 82:18 84:9,10,11 90:5,9,14,20 91:10,17,18,23,25 92:19,23 93:4 96:9,24 97:4,8 98:1,2,15 108:11 110:9,25 112:20,21 118:5,12,19 121:5 122:5 124:20 126:13,16 127:10 128:8 131:15 139:11,13 141:10,25 142:2 143:21 144:2,7 145:9 167:9,13,17 170:15 172:20
vast 78:7	<hr/> W <hr/>	
vehicle 12:14 26:9,15,21 28:4 46:6 49:20 61:4 69:11 83:18 101:19 102:5 117:11,14,15 159:22	wage 126:2	Williamson 116:10,14
vehicles 5:5 25:19 26:3,8 45:12 49:25 81:4,6,11 83:19 145:4,5	wait 35:17 62:15	Wilson 114:8
vendors 74:7	waiting 11:21 12:21 13:10 17:19 62:10 153:11	win/win 133:16
venue 72:2	walk 46:23	window 42:17
verbally 7:12	Wallis 31:21	wisdom 81:20
verifications 64:20	waned 160:4	word 54:4 113:15,16 168:11
verify 107:3	wanted 48:22 79:8 94:4,11 96:5 99:6 101:6 112:22 135:10 139:11 140:6 146:12 163:11 168:6,7	words 50:17 157:4
versus 148:13	watch 17:21	work 20:10 28:7 45:20,23 47:8,11 51:10 52:8,13 55:13 59:16 64:2 77:22 82:10 102:1 107:20 109:2 118:23 122:12
vet 59:14 60:4,16,20	watermark 99:13,20,23 142:18	worked 10:22 67:25 87:5 100:24 102:3 107:18 122:17 139:13
vetted 42:19 112:18	ways 86:3 88:15 111:24 112:8	working 10:19 18:10 53:5 83:9 107:14 112:2 122:11,12 126:7 154:12 172:3
Victoria 36:22	website 76:12 89:14	works 17:15 78:10,11,13
view 16:15 87:25	Wednesdays 46:21	world 113:17
viewed 16:6,12	weeds 66:24	Worth 46:5 54:23 72:7,16 73:11 79:16
viewings 62:10	week 24:24 50:3 63:11 73:11,12 76:16,17 81:22 107:2,15 109:10 110:6,10 112:15 126:8 160:22,23 162:17 163:14	wrecker 64:13
VIN 64:11,20 81:9,10	weekend 108:22 109:3	write 130:6
VINS 64:15	weekly 150:11	
violating 7:6	weeks 15:4,7 18:12 53:4 61:16 77:22 83:1 111:12	
violation 91:9 97:7		
violent 150:14,17 152:10,15 162:18		

writer 118:2
writing 115:8 121:12
written 42:24
wrong 56:20 108:14 119:14,16

Y

y'all 68:3
yang 132:10
yard 64:13
Yawn 59:19 60:1
year 11:10 19:2,24 20:2,13 21:9,22
25:11,13 27:13 28:14 32:15 33:7
39:12 40:1,18 42:13,21 43:11
48:10 63:20 72:5 73:7,20 82:2
85:7,12,15,17 86:4,5,6,7,8 88:24
90:25 91:2 93:25 94:1,2,7,8,9,15,
17 95:3,13 97:13,18,19,22,24,25
99:11,16,17,21 100:15,19 101:20
115:12 116:23 125:5 127:24
130:23 131:8 133:1 136:2 137:9
140:8,9,24 141:6,7,20,22 142:8
143:9,11 145:1 150:3,5 155:4,7
162:14 166:5,15,18 171:3,5 172:14

year's 72:19
year-to-date 96:13 102:15 141:11
years 43:2 65:7 77:14 80:25 81:1
86:17 88:19 89:2 90:19 95:11
101:20,23 102:3 109:1 116:22
123:20 124:4 130:20,22 134:21
135:19 145:7 146:12 148:3 157:19
161:5 166:23 169:17 171:1,2,8,10
172:23

yellow 6:8 103:3,18 104:6
yesterday 80:14
yield 19:4 95:25
ying 132:9

Z

Zac 61:19