

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

MOTOR VEHICLE CRIME PREVENTION AUTHORITY  
GRANTS, BUDGET & REPORTING COMMITTEE MEETING

Hilton Downtown  
Crystal A Ballroom  
815 Main Street  
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

Via Microsoft Teams and in person

9:30 a.m. CT  
Thursday,  
July 17, 2025

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Sharon Jones, Chair  
Rebecca Cantu-Serrano (absent)  
Scott Jackson  
Tom Sloan

STAFF:

William Diggs, MVCPA Director  
David Richards, MVCPA General Counsel

*ON THE RECORD REPORTING*  
*(512) 450-0342*

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(9:30 a.m.)

MS. JONES: Good morning. We're going to get started. Thank you. My voice is in and out, so William is going to read my speech for me.

MR. DIGGS: Good morning. My name is William Diggs, and I am pleased to open the meeting of the Grants, Budget and Reporting Committee of the Board of the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority. It is 9:30 a.m. and Major Jones is now calling the committee meeting for July 17, 2025 to order.

I want to note for the record that the public notice of this meeting containing all items on the agenda was filed with the Office of the Secretary of State on July 7, 2025. Before we begin today's meeting, please place all cell phones and other communications devices in silent mode. Also, as a courtesy to others, do not engage in side conversations in the meeting room.

I want to welcome those who are with us for today's Committee meeting. If you wish to address the Committee or speak on an agenda item during today's meeting, please complete a speaker sheet at the registration table.

Please identify the specific item you are interested in commenting on, your name and address, and

1 whether you are representing anyone or speaking for  
2 yourself. If your comment does not pertain to a specific  
3 agenda item, we will take your comment during the general  
4 public comment portion of the meeting.

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

12 Individuals cannot accumulate time from other  
13 speakers. Comments should be pertinent to the issue  
14 stated on the comment sheet. When addressing the  
15 Committee, please state your name and your affiliation for  
16 the record.

17 There are a few things that will help to make  
18 the meeting run smoothly and assist the court reporter to  
19 get an accurate record. Please identify yourself before  
20 speaking. Speak clearly and slowly. Do not speak over  
21 others, and ask the Chair for permission to speak, and be  
22 sure to get recognized before speaking.

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

25 Before we begin today, I'd like to remind all

1 attenders and those in attendance of the rules of conduct  
2 at our committee meetings. In the Department's  
3 administrative rule, the Chair has the authority to  
4 supervise the conduct of meetings. This includes the  
5 authority to determine when a speaker is being disruptive  
6 of the meeting or is otherwise violating the timing or  
7 presentation rules I just discussed.

8 The posted agenda stated that a quorum of the  
9 MVCPA Board may be present at this meeting. However,  
10 members who are not members of the Grants, Budget and  
11 Reporting Committee will not vote on any Committee agenda  
12 items today nor will any Board action be taken.

13 I see that Chairman Rodriguez is present for  
14 discussion and gathering information.

15 And now, I would like to have a roll call of  
16 the Committee members. Please respond verbally when I  
17 call your name.

18 Member Sloan?

19 MR. SLOAN: Present.

20 MR. DIGGS: Member Cantu-Serrano?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. DIGGS: Member Jackson?

23 MR. JACKSON: Present.

24 MR. DIGGS: Chairperson Jones?

25 MS. JONES: Present.

1 MR. DIGGS: Let the record reflect that we have  
2 a quorum.

3 Please stand in honor of our country and state  
4 with the Pledges of Allegiance. I will now turn the  
5 meeting over to Member Jackson for the pledge.

6 (The pledges were recited.)

7 MR. DIGGS: Please be seated. So we do have  
8 just some brief comments before we get started today.  
9 We're going to have the presentations shortly after we  
10 have our budget update.

11 Up there at the podium, there's a button that  
12 you will press to turn the speaker on and off. Please be  
13 sure it is green and on.

14 You will also see a small clicker. The large,  
15 green button is to move your presentation forward.  
16 There's a smaller, red button that will move it backwards  
17 if you get ahead.

18 And we can, you know, go over that again if you  
19 need to. It's -- it has a -- it looks like a little  
20 portable radio. So anyway, it will be up there.

21 I would now like to call Agenda Item No. 4. We  
22 will now move and have Chief Financial Officer Glenna  
23 Bowman -- will now provide us with a budget update.

24 (Pause.)

25 MS. BOWMAN: Well, it's not on. There we go.

1 For the record, my name is Glenna Bowman, Chief Financial  
2 Officer for TxDMV.

3 This morning, I'm going to present an overview  
4 of the MVCPA FY 2026 operating budget. This includes  
5 revenues, expenditures, other estimated funding needs, and  
6 estimated remaining balances available for future Board  
7 needs.

8 As you all know, MVCPA is self-supporting, and  
9 it's funded from motor vehicle insurer fees that are  
10 deposited to the general revenue fund. In FY 2026, the  
11 Comptroller's Office, in their biennial revenue estimate,  
12 included \$22.7 million in estimated fee collections for  
13 the Crime Prevention Program, and 28.4 million for the  
14 Catalytic Convertor Program.

15 In addition, the Board has the authority to  
16 carry forward balances from prior years. That would  
17 include last year, and we are estimating \$3.3 million for  
18 Crime Prevention and 14 million for the Catalytic  
19 Convertor Program.

20 Staff also expect to receive revenue in an  
21 amount estimated to be \$8.2 million for Crime Prevention  
22 and about 438,000 for Catalytic Convertor. This is from  
23 additional insurance collections that were identified  
24 during the audit process.

25 Board staff estimate that expenditures and

1 funding obligations for 2026 will be \$31.7 million for the  
2 Crime Prevention Program and 32.2 for Catalytic Converter.

3 This includes amounts for grant awards, operating  
4 expenditures, and the interagency contracts with Texas  
5 state agency program partners.

6 The Board has received a request for a refund  
7 of overpayments of vehicle insurer fees, and if the Board  
8 approves that tomorrow, then MVCPA will be responsible for  
9 just a portion of that refund, the amount that is  
10 estimated to be about \$1-1/2 million. In addition, Board  
11 staff have set aside funds in a contingency reserve in the  
12 event that actual collections of revenues are less than  
13 what has been estimated or if the Board identifies  
14 additional needs throughout the year that are not  
15 contemplated in the current budget.

16 That concludes my formal remarks and I'm happy  
17 to answer any questions you have.

18 MS. JONES: So ma'am, you did a breakdown, but  
19 just give me one total. Do you have that?

20 MS. BOWMAN: Which total, the expenditures,  
21 revenues? What --

22 MS. JONES: I want to know expenditures, the  
23 amount of funding that we have, and then how much is in  
24 contingency.

25 MS. BOWMAN: Okay. We have a total for '26 of



1     \$77 million. That's for both programs. Expenditures is  
2     63.9.

3             So that leaves a balance of 13.2 million. And  
4     out of that, there may be a refund issued to an insurer of  
5     1.5, and we have contingency of approximately \$6 million.

6             MS. JONES: Thank you.

7             MS. BOWMAN: Uh-huh.

8             MS. JONES: Any other questions?

9             (No response.)

10            MS. JONES: Thank you, ma'am.

11            MS. BOWMAN: Okay. Thank you.

12            MR. DIGGS: All right. So now, we're going to  
13     get started with Agenda Item No. 5, and we are going to go  
14     ahead and start with our task force presentations. And  
15     whenever I call you up, remember you've got about five  
16     minutes -- is what we've -- I think staff have relayed to  
17     all of you.

18            You're going to have some -- I think everyone  
19     in this room has a slide presentation, and just go ahead  
20     and hit the highlights. The Committee will be considering  
21     both your applications that we have in a summary for the  
22     Committee members, as well as your presentations today.

23            So with the first, I would like to call up the  
24     Austin Police Department, FY '26 Task Force solicitation.

25            MS. JONES: And while Austin is coming up, bear

1 in mind that when you come up here, you have five minutes  
2 to showcase your best efforts. So make sure you cover  
3 who, what, why, when, and where. Also, so we don't have  
4 to ask you continuously, prior, if you should have a  
5 social media program, touch on that.

6 If you are a new grantee, then touch on what is  
7 your plan for social media, so we don't have to keep  
8 asking you. And also, equally important is about  
9 community engagement. What are you doing for the  
10 Committee to make sure that they are aware of what you do  
11 and how you do it.

12 And also, very important, if you're a first-  
13 time agency and you do not have a catalytic convertor  
14 issue in your city, be prepared to address -- you don't  
15 have issues, but you're asking for the funding. Also,  
16 those of you who are new, follow those who have been here  
17 for a while, the veterans. Just follow their lead, and  
18 you're going to get through it. Okay? Thank you.

19 Go ahead, ma'am.

20 MS. TOVAR: Good morning. Can you hear me?  
21 Okay. Good morning.

22 My name is Lupita Tovar, and I am the crime  
23 analyst assigned to the Austin Police Department's Auto  
24 Theft Unit. I would like to thank the MVCPA and their  
25 Board for their constant support, and that has been

1 crucial in keeping our community safe.

2 There we go. Okay. So like many other  
3 agencies, our auto theft trend line has been steadily  
4 increasing over time. Through various proactive  
5 approaches, the unit has worked tirelessly to reduce auto  
6 thefts.

7 This past May, the unit received the Superior  
8 Service Citation for contributing to a 29 percent decrease  
9 in auto thefts. We continue to see thefts decrease, and  
10 comparing January to May 2024 to 2025, we are down  
11 28 percent.

12 Our work is not done, though. We still are a  
13 target-rich environment and there has been an increase in  
14 auto thefts used in other crimes throughout our city. We  
15 constantly are using current data to stay on top of  
16 current offenders, targeted victims, vehicles and  
17 locations. Through the monthly MVCPA meetings, we stay  
18 aware of the uprising trends and share that intel with all  
19 of our unit members.

20 Getting to more specific proactive efforts, we  
21 have hosted two Hyundai Anti-Theft Software events, and  
22 that's serviced over 1,000 vehicles. We have now attended  
23 over 14 community events, conducted over seven news  
24 interviews, over 34 68A inspections, and over 46 bait  
25 vehicle deployments, over 32 salvage/business inspections,

1 and delivered over 240 steering wheel locks throughout our  
2 four sectors -- four substations. We have 270 more on the  
3 way, and we recently started doing a podcast through the  
4 City to reach more citizens.

5 With the continued generosity and support from  
6 the MVCPA, we hope to continue our proactive measures and  
7 services, like conducting the 68A inspections, salvage and  
8 business inspections, bait op deployments, and community  
9 events. We want to leverage and strategically use  
10 technology, signs, social media to again reach a larger  
11 audience in our community. We want to try new things, new  
12 services, like VIN etching as well.

13 All of this with the support of the MVCPA will  
14 help us better empower, educate, and protect our community  
15 members.

16 Thank you for your time. Pending any  
17 questions, this concludes my briefing.

18 MR. DIGGS: Thank you, ma'am. Any questions  
19 from the Committee?

20 MR. JACKSON: Just one real quick question. On  
21 the -- can you go back to the slide that you had where you  
22 showed the reduction in overall thefts by percentage?  
23 Come back one more. Next one. There you go.

24 So the proactive events that you staged with  
25 the Hyundai Anti- Software Updates, do you see a direct

1 reflection in the reduction in theft after those events?  
2 You can see there, in 2025, there's a pretty serious  
3 reduction in both of those for that -- for those makes.  
4 Did you -- when did those actual events occur?

5 MS. TOVAR: The events occurred in spring and  
6 very early summer of 2024. And then going back one, that  
7 is when we do start to see those dips in our trend line.  
8 So we do think that they did contribute, because our  
9 juveniles are still in full force out there, as you can  
10 see in the next one.

11 These are just some of our juvenile offenders,  
12 and there is no reason for them to have just stopped. So  
13 we do think that has contributed.

14 MR. JACKSON: Great. Thank you.

15 MS. JONES: Ma'am, can you go over  
16 expenditures, what you're asking for? And by the way,  
17 when you come here to present, make sure that you bring  
18 your backup, so you don't have to reach for them and call  
19 them up in the back.

20 So whoever has all the information that's  
21 needed, that's who needs to present. And be sure to have  
22 your backup person with you.

23 MR. SIMS: Good morning, Board. Ethan Sims,  
24 financial analyst, APD, for the record. So our request  
25 for next fiscal year -- we're requesting the 532,588.

1 With this money, we will be funding three detectives,  
2 their base salary, along with an administrative  
3 specialist.

4 And my colleague Lupita can expand on the  
5 actual role that these people have within the unit. But  
6 we will be funding an admin specialist, their fringe as  
7 well, and base salary. The -- a part-time neighborhood  
8 liaison at 20 hours a week, along with their fringe  
9 benefits, and then an investigative support specialist at  
10 40 hours per week, fringe included.

11 And then we also include funds for the annual  
12 AITA conference. However, this year, it fell outside of  
13 our grant period, so we will not be attending. Would you  
14 like me to go over match as well for that?

15 MR. DIGGS: All right. Thank you very much.  
16 Any other questions from any of the Committee members?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. DIGGS: Thank you.

19 MR. SIMS: Thank you.

20 MR. DIGGS: So I would now like to call up the  
21 Beaumont Police Department. And as Major Jones mentioned,  
22 please speak about your request, your -- the dollar amount  
23 and what those things are for during your presentation.  
24 Thank you.

25 MS. JONES: The reason why we're asking for

1 full disclosure is that way, everyone knows what  
2 everyone's asking for. And also, for those who --  
3 especially the new ones, who may not be sure what to ask  
4 or what they need, they can get ideas from other agencies.

5 MR. TINER: Good morning, members of the Board.  
6 My name is Lance Tiner. I'm the commander for the  
7 Southeast Texas Auto Theft Task Force, lieutenant with the  
8 Beaumont Police Department.

9 Here with me is Sergeant Ken Karr, who is  
10 actually my backup. This is my first time to present, so  
11 it's going to be hard to follow the last.

12 So the Southeast Texas Auto Theft Task Force  
13 has been in existence for the past 32 years. The grantee  
14 agency is Beaumont Police Department, which is what I work  
15 for. The task force has six Beaumont Police Department  
16 officers that work for it: myself, a lieutenant, Sergeant  
17 Karr, and four detectives. Also assigned to our task  
18 force is one officer, a detective for the Port Arthur  
19 Police Department, and one officer from the Jefferson  
20 County Sheriff's Office.

21 Our task force covers four counties:  
22 Jefferson, Orange, Hardin, and Jasper County. Within  
23 these four counties, there are 25 agencies that the task  
24 force assists with motor vehicle crime type incidents.  
25 The four-county area that we cover is approximately 2,361

1 square miles.

2 Major highways that run through our  
3 jurisdiction are Interstate 10, Highway 90, State Highway  
4 69, State Highway 96, State Highway 105, and State Highway  
5 73. On I-10 alone, there are over 100,000 vehicles that  
6 travel through our task force area each day.

7 So some of the statistics that I wanted to  
8 bring to y'all, these cover from January 1, '25 to May 29,  
9 2025. So our task force has investigated 114 auto thefts.

10 This time last year, we had investigated 128, which means  
11 that, in that timespan, our auto thefts have been down  
12 11 percent.

13 257 burglary of motor vehicles. Last year, we  
14 had done 315, which was down 30 percent. Juggings this  
15 year, we've had 11, for a total loss of \$40,578, but we  
16 have had six jugging arrests. Thirty-nine stolen guns.  
17 Most of the -- 86 percent of the stolen guns from auto  
18 burglaries were taken from unlocked vehicles.

19 Fourteen percent of all burglary of motor  
20 vehicle involve stolen firearms. Twenty-nine -- I'm  
21 sorry -- 28 Kia/Hyundai thefts, which composed 23 percent  
22 of all our UUMVs. Three 18-wheeler CPCs stolen, two semi  
23 truck tractors stolen.

24 We have one significant arrest for a fraudulent  
25 purchase in progress, thanks to HPD. They assisted us,



1 and we recovered a \$110,000 Cadillac SUV in a sting  
2 operation and arrested the suspect. He recently -- or  
3 last week, he was convicted and sentenced.

4 But we have no catalytic convertor thefts  
5 reported, by themselves. So the Southeast Texas Auto  
6 Theft Task Force is requesting from MVCPA \$760,241 in  
7 grant funding from MVCPA. Our cash would be 152,830, for  
8 a total program cost of \$913,071.

9 One of the changes that we did from our last  
10 year is we added -- overtime costs were increased to  
11 \$30,000, with an aggregate of \$5,000 per investigator.  
12 And this is just for us to be able to implement more  
13 proactive operations. The way that our contract works is  
14 that our task force is considered a flex unit, and with  
15 the complexity and the type of cases that the guys are  
16 working, we just -- we are asking for a little bit of  
17 money for some overtime so we can get out and do way more  
18 proactive stuff.

19 Other grant funds remain relatively the same.  
20 Of the \$760,241 that we're asking for, \$643,131 is salary,  
21 fringe and overtime for the task force members.

22 Just an addendum at the end, we are asking for  
23 two laptop computers, which were listed in the grant, for  
24 myself and for the sergeant. These laptops we use just  
25 for task force business and be able to do grant work

1 remotely. The approximate of each of these computers is  
2 \$2,250, for a total of \$4,500.

3 And since the grant application was submitted  
4 and locked, the lease for the task force building has  
5 increased by \$299.25 a month. We will -- the lease went  
6 from 4,407 to 4,692.25. So what we'll do is -- in  
7 negotiations, we'll speak to MVCPA about that.

8 So as far as our community outreach, we do have  
9 Facebook. We do have a Southeast Texas Auto Theft Task  
10 Force Facebook page that we send out information on. We  
11 were pretty active in -- as -- I'm sorry.

12 We're pretty active within the community. We  
13 go to Sunday -- we have what's called Sunday in the Park,  
14 within the city of Beaumont, to where we bring our auto  
15 theft trailer out and all of our detectives get out and  
16 they talk to the citizens. They talk to the kids.

17 We also go to all the community meetings, the  
18 neighborhood association meetings, and try to instill in  
19 them the importance of locking their cars. Our main thing  
20 in Beaumont is the theft of firearms and vehicles. We've  
21 done many, many social media presentations to try to get  
22 people to lock their cars and to take their firearms and  
23 valuables out. And we continue that, because sometimes it  
24 doesn't work.

25 I'm sorry I went over my time. Do you have any

1 questions?

2 MR. DIGGS: All right. Any Committee members  
3 have any questions for Beaumont Police Department?

4 MR. SLOAN: I do, Director Diggs.

5 LT TINER: Yes, sir?

6 MR. SLOAN: Commander, good morning. I've see  
7 that you've got some direct operating expenses here for a  
8 billboard for that Committee engagement.

9 LT TINER: Yes, sir.

10 MR. SLOAN: Can you elaborate on what's going  
11 to be displayed on those billboards?

12 LT TINER: Oh, yes, sir. We -- each year, we  
13 try to do a canvas campaign of the community, of our whole  
14 coverage area, because we have to go through the  
15 three-bidder process. It just -- we'll -- once we get  
16 our -- the three bids, then we basically -- it's a Lock  
17 Your Car campaign through Auto -- in Auto Theft Prevention  
18 Month.

19 And we prefer the digital signs over the other,  
20 just because, you know, that's the flashy, new thing. But  
21 we try to get coverage. Many of our state highways and  
22 interstate highways, we can, just to instill what we're  
23 trying to accomplish for the task force.

24 MR. SLOAN: Thank you.

25 LT TINER: Yes, sir.

1 MR. DIGGS: All right. Thank you very much.

2 LT TINER: Yes, sir. Thank you.

3 MR. DIGGS: I did want to mention to the folks  
4 in the back, there are still chairs scattered throughout  
5 that are available. So feel free to move on up and move  
6 in to one of the chairs.

7 Also, after you present today, feel free to  
8 continue your conference attendance and attend classes.  
9 After the Committee has no further questions for you, you  
10 are free to go back to the conference and attend classes.

11 All right.

12 So now, I'd like to call up the Brownsville  
13 Police Department.

14 SGT DELGADO: Good morning, Sergeant Humberto  
15 Delgado. I'm the program manager for the State Task  
16 Force. Also with me is finance personnel, Ms. Imelda  
17 Trejo.

18 So for this fiscal year, the whole program  
19 funds that we requested were \$2,352,414. Out of those, it  
20 would be 1,417,727 that we are requesting from MVCPA, and  
21 392,071 would be cash match from our part.

22 I know on the application itself it says  
23 something different: 913,150 for MVCPA, and then 182,630  
24 for cash match. That was due to a situation where we let  
25 the system do the 80/20 percentage, and that's why it came

1 out to that, but the actual request were the numbers that  
2 I had mentioned before.

3 So our task force does have five agencies, and  
4 we are looking to incorporate a sixth one, which would be  
5 the Cameron County Sheriff's Office. I would be one  
6 investigator, which would bring about 18 agents total for  
7 the whole task force. For the contract services  
8 themselves, as mentioned, would be the 507,612 from MVCPA.

9 On the personnel, to keep the current staff  
10 task force, as well as that other agent from Cameron  
11 County, even though we are looking into bringing them, we  
12 have already been in collaboration with them throughout  
13 this whole time. It has been a fruitful collaboration,  
14 which has helped us recover vehicles as long as -- I mean,  
15 along with us, helping them recover vehicles as well.

16 What I can say for this part is the Brownsville  
17 area, for last year, we had approximately 590 vehicles  
18 that were stolen. I'm happy to say that up to now, we  
19 have 169. So that has been a great decrease in reference  
20 to that. And I do attribute that to the collaboration  
21 that we have had with several agencies that are along the  
22 border, to include DPS, along with federal agencies and  
23 ICB as well.

24 Grant funds, as mentioned, would cover the  
25 salaries, fringes. We would continue to assist into

1 outreach, community events, where we do like to talk to  
2 community in reference to the ongoing trends.

3 For us, in our area, it's more of the GM  
4 problem. Recently, though, these past months, it has been  
5 the Jeeps, the Jeep Gladiator, also the Dodge Charger,  
6 Dodge Rams, which -- whenever we see the trend changing,  
7 we try to go into our social media, try to alert the  
8 public, as well as use our PIOs to try to give out that  
9 message.

10 Recently, though, we did have a social media  
11 dedicated just for our task force. However, somebody  
12 reported that and they actually took it down. We're  
13 working on getting it back up. That way, we can continue  
14 those PSAs to the public.

15 Equipment, our current lease is actually coming  
16 to an end the 31st of July. We did ask for a new lease,  
17 which would actually go \$25 more than the previous one,  
18 from 550 to 575. However, we looked into the 2025-2026  
19 Ram Tradesman.

20 Due to the terrain that sometimes we have to go  
21 into recover vehicles, this is not the best for vehicles  
22 and that -- also, those are leases. Those would be  
23 selling, but we're also looking into hopefully purchasing  
24 a vehicle straight for a task force, which would be in  
25 Donna. The plan for that -- we would ask if we could use

1 a current vehicles, which is an older model F150, to use  
2 that as trade-in, to go into this total.

3 License plate readers, Flock, those have been  
4 tremendous use, I believe, for everybody. It has been  
5 good for us as well, has helped us get leads to several of  
6 our cases that we've actually been able to follow and make  
7 arrests, as well as find stolen vehicles.

8 We were able to actually isolate a certain  
9 hotspot in the area, where we kind of started going  
10 towards that area whenever we got stolen vehicle reports.

11 And sure enough, we were able to find the vehicles.

12 And for trainings meetings funds, you know, the  
13 annual conference, TAVTI, Board meetings, registrations,  
14 and other trainings that come up. And that will conclude  
15 my presentation.

16 Thank you.

17 MS. JONES: You mention in your application  
18 lease vehicles. Where are you purchasing the vehicles  
19 from?

20 SGT DELGADO: So --

21 MS. JONES: I mean, leasing.

22 SGT DELGADO: -- the leasing, we bond through  
23 D&M Leasing. I believe there are actually headquarters  
24 here in Ft. Worth. So far, we have not had any issues.

25 And something that we do like is that they have

1 unlimited mileage. So there is no restriction in  
2 reference to that.

3 MS. JONES: Okay.

4 MR. DIGGS: Are there any other questions from  
5 the Committee?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. DIGGS: Thank you.

8 SGT DELGADO: Thank you.

9 MR. DIGGS: I would now like to call up the  
10 Burnet County Sheriff's Office.

11 CAPT STEINER: Good morning. With your  
12 permission, I'd like to present our grant application,  
13 please. My name is Investigator Howard Steiner.

14 I'm a captain with the Heart of Texas Auto  
15 Theft Task Force. We were created back in 2001.

16 See if I can figure this thing out. Get this  
17 thing to go --

18 MR. DIGGS: If you --

19 CAPT STEINER: You got it? Okay.

20 MR. DIGGS: Yes.

21 CAPT STEINER: You got it?

22 MR. DIGGS: Go ahead.

23 CAPT STEINER: We're a specialized unit, multi-  
24 jurisdictional. We're between basically -- we say Dallas  
25 and Austin. We have Tri-County pretty close to us, but we



1 are -- our biggest focus is the Waco area. I-35 is our  
2 busiest area, obviously.

3 We're housed in Burnet, but we've got  
4 investigators in McLennan County, Coryell County, and then  
5 Burnet County. Have an analyst in Burnet, an admin  
6 assistant also. Program's goal is to reduce -- of course,  
7 and utilizing proactive -- reduce reactive, preventive  
8 measures, techniques acquiring some specialized training  
9 allows personnel to keep up to date with the trends,  
10 recovering stolen vehicles and property, reducing the  
11 number of instances of vehicles and theft burglaries.

12 We've conducted 3,870 inspections in '24.  
13 We're already up to 3,120. And that's been so high for  
14 Heart of Texas, because everybody comes to Central Texas  
15 from all over because of the backlogs in the Dallas, Fort  
16 Worth, Austin areas. We don't make appointments.

17 We just -- first come, first serve. So they  
18 all learn, and they just come to us for it. So it's -- we  
19 recover stolen vehicles every week. It's a guarantee in  
20 Waco and in Georgetown.

21 So I'm all for the 68A process. It's a  
22 learning tool. It teaches us. Our investigators are  
23 constantly doing the VINs and we're keeping up to date  
24 with the trends, the VIN swaps.

25 We've purchased a frame reader which is really

1 cool. The new trend is taking these frame numbers and  
2 writing them off. So it's -- that's a pretty good asset  
3 to us.

4 We recovered 180 stolen vehicles in '24, for 3  
5 million, over \$3 million, 115 already in '25, for \$2  
6 million. We're constantly collaborating with the TAC  
7 offices and the regional offices. Since we're in Waco,  
8 the regional office is a really good asset to us.

9 We have an NICB agent that's with us. He's not  
10 part of the grant, but he's attached to us. He comes out  
11 to all of our 68A's, and when we do search warrants and  
12 things, he comes out and helps out with all of that.

13 So that's a really good deal. We collaborate  
14 with Fort Hood and lot of other agencies. The part that  
15 keeps us the busiest is usually the smaller agencies  
16 asking for help with things. So that keeps us going.

17 We have over 14 counties in our coverage area,  
18 which is basically all of Central Texas. We're asking to  
19 add an additional agency. We put Williamson County on the  
20 application to try to get them on board. Waco PD is also  
21 wanting on, but that will come when we get to  
22 negotiations.

23 We've got Flock cameras. We've got M500  
24 cameras in the vehicles' LPR readers. And I already went  
25 over the frame reader, so we're good on that.

1                   And basically, we're asking for \$892,950 for  
2 the '26 grant application. I think that's it.

3                   Any questions?

4                   MR. DIGGS: Any questions from the Committee  
5 members?

6                   MS. JONES: I have a question. You've  
7 mentioned Williamson County. You approached them? Are  
8 they going to participate, or you're in the honeymoon  
9 phase --

10                  CAPT STEINER: Honeymoon phase. Negotiating --  
11 they were on. They were on board, wanted on board. We  
12 gave -- we got all of the numbers, everything into the  
13 application, and the uppers kind of went, well, what about  
14 the fringe benefits?

15                  So we're still in negotiations. So Waco PD  
16 said, hey, we'll jump on. So we've got all their numbers.  
17 So it's not far off from the grant application.

18                  So we'll -- if it is approved, we'll just --  
19 we'll figure out which one we're going do without.

20                  MS. JONES: Got you.

21                  MR. DIGGS: Thank you, sir.

22                  I would now like to call up Corpus Christi  
23 Police Department.

24                  (No response.)

25                  MR. DIGGS: The Corpus Christi Police

1 Department?

2 (No response.)

3 MR. DIGGS: No. You're fine. You do not.

4 I would now like to call up the Dallas County  
5 Sheriff's Office.

6 MS. KNIGHT: Which button? I'm sorry. Oh,  
7 perfect. Hi. I am Captain Shelley --

8 MR. DIGGS: So if I could stop for just a  
9 second?

10 So when you walk up, push the green -- push the  
11 button that says, speak. The green button will come on.  
12 And then the clicker is the large, green arrow, and  
13 then -- to go forward. To go backwards is the small, red  
14 arrow right below it, to the left, to go to the rear.  
15 Thank you.

16 MS. KNIGHT: Hi. I'm Captain Shelley Knight  
17 with the Dallas County Sheriff's Department, and the  
18 program manager for the North Texas Auto Theft Task Force.

19 A little bit about us. We were created in 1993. We  
20 cover five counties, including Collin, Dallas, Denton,  
21 Kaufman, and Rockwall Counties.

22 We currently have eight full-time  
23 investigators. Two of them are -- and we also have an  
24 additional two at 20 percent, one from Corsicana and one  
25 from the Parkland Police Department. We have one NICB

1 agent.

2 Of course, there's myself, the captain, and my  
3 sergeant, Jerry Jones, who is our Task Force commander,  
4 and I have one admin assistant. Our participating  
5 agencies are Dallas Sheriff's Office, Rockwall Sheriff's  
6 Office, DeSoto Police Department, Corsicana Police  
7 Department, Parkland, and NICB.

8 Before I got into the financials, I was going  
9 to give you a little bit on the stats. In 2025, we  
10 requested more staff, and I just want to show what that  
11 has done for our numbers. So far this year, we've  
12 recovered 1,080 vehicles, and last year for the total was  
13 1,350.

14 So we're definitely going to be surpassing the  
15 recoveries. As far as our arrests, last year we had 45  
16 arrests, and we've already made 47 this year, and we still  
17 have another quarter to go. And as far as our clearances,  
18 we cleared 72 auto thefts last year, and we're already at  
19 148 this year. So the additional staff has really, really  
20 helped us out, and we appreciate that.

21 As far as the financials are going, we are  
22 requesting 1,214,888 for personnel, fringe benefits,  
23 professional and contract services, to include some  
24 overtime. And I do have that breakdown if you need it.

25 We're requesting \$57,000 for equipment and

1 direct operating expenses, and 12,000 in our travel  
2 budget, for a total of \$1,283,888. As far as the  
3 equipment, as y'all know, the personnel -- we have several  
4 people that the task force -- MVCPA pays for their 100  
5 percent. And we do have cash match with some of those  
6 employees on there also.

7 In fact, with this grant, we're trying to add  
8 another employee from Dallas County. And I have DPS  
9 that's also asking to join at 40 -- or 20 percent.

10 As far as the equipment, we're purchasing 20  
11 stationary LPR cameras and two mobile LPR cameras and a  
12 tracker for a new bait vehicle that we just received from  
13 NICB this year. As far as the social media, we have a  
14 community relations officer or person with Dallas County  
15 that quit in October or November of last year, and they  
16 hadn't replaced that person until about three weeks ago.

17 And we're really excited and we've already hit  
18 the ground running, and we have several activities that  
19 we're going to be going out and presenting to the public,  
20 and including -- we've already scheduled three VIN etching  
21 events. We also do the 68A inspections weekly, including  
22 going up into Celina once every quarter so that we're  
23 spreading it out throughout our whole district. And I  
24 believe that's everything.

25 MR. DIGGS: Does the Committee have any

1 questions?

2 (No response.)

3 MR. DIGGS: Thank you, ma'am.

4 MS. KNIGHT: Thank you.

5 MR. DIGGS: I would now like to call up the  
6 Dallas Police Department.

7 SGT RODEN: Is it the green one, Mr. Diggs?

8 MR. DIGGS: [Inaudible].

9 SGT RODEN: For the record, I am Sergeant Bryan  
10 Roden with the Dallas Police Department. I've been a  
11 program manager there for about 13 years ago, and with the  
12 City a little over 21 years. I actually thought I had  
13 three minutes to talk, so I was talking real fast  
14 practicing this. So it's going to take me a little bit to  
15 slow down to get everything in now.

16 So why fund our task force? Dallas is the  
17 third-largest city in Texas, with over 1.3 million  
18 residents. A significant portion of funds collected come  
19 from those residents. So it's been a pleasure for us to  
20 represent them with our task force.

21 NICB identified Dallas Metroplex as the top  
22 five areas in the United States with some of the highest  
23 number of car thefts and some of the highest in Texas. In  
24 2023 -- just some quick stats -- we had over 18,000 auto  
25 thefts, and that was a record number for us. We've been

1     able to cut that number down. I think we're on pace this  
2     year to hit about 11,000 to 12,000.

3             There's been a lot of good work that our team  
4     has done, thanks to the funding, but there's still a lot  
5     more work that we have to do. What we have seen, though,  
6     even though those numbers have dropped, is an increase in  
7     chop shops, illegal crushing yards, and more complex cases  
8     that, you know, engaging in organized crime cases.

9             We've had several cases recently that's gone  
10    federally because just the intricacies, the value of the  
11    vehicles, and just everything that's been involved in it  
12    from, you know, a -- human smuggling to, you know,  
13    narcotics. And so we've been -- had a privilege to part  
14    of some of those big investigations.

15            Our personnel expenses -- really, our grant is  
16    almost the same from last year to this year, with just a  
17    few little differences. What we're trying to request is  
18    eight fully funded officers, with one office assistant,  
19    100 percent of their time dedicated to the grant. That  
20    gives us two cash match detectives, two in-kind  
21    detectives.

22            Again, and those officers are all 100 percent  
23    dedicated of their time to the grant. Total cost for  
24    those personnel is a little over 1.4 million.

25            So other expenses that we're requesting for



1 this year -- and real quick, while -- before I get into  
2 this, our social media. We do have a social media person  
3 with the City, and we kind of have to abide by those  
4 rules. And we set things forth and stuff like that.

5 So we do go to public events, usually once a  
6 month, where we hand out brochures to the citizens. We do  
7 68As weekly, and now, when our VIN etching devices -- the  
8 last one should be coming in soon -- we've been doing VIN  
9 etching -- or on catalytic convertor etching events with  
10 our 68A inspections.

11 Other expenses that we're requesting, 2,000 for  
12 travel. That gets us through TAVTI and next year's  
13 conference.

14 I'd be happy to talk about the cooling trailer.  
15 That is something we're going to definitely be needing,  
16 especially with the FIFA World Cup coming up.

17 We want to keep our three rental trucks.  
18 That's the price for them up there. 12,000 for vehicle  
19 maintenance on our existing fleet.

20 Overtime is really what we requested last year.  
21 And the only difference between last year and this year  
22 is the 2026 FIFA World Cup is going to be hosted in  
23 Dallas. I'm told that's a once-in-a-lifetime event. And  
24 the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center is being  
25 transformed into an international broadcasting center.

1           So they're saying anywhere from 3,000 to 5,000  
2 international broadcasters at any given time at the Kay  
3 Bailey Hutchison Convention Center. There's also some  
4 games that are going to be played at the Cotton Bowl. So  
5 we've already been told, from May through July, there's no  
6 exception on leave.

7           So there's -- I mean, unless you get sick,  
8 there's -- you're going to have to come to work. So  
9 it's -- obviously, it's a once-in-a-lifetime event for us.  
10       So it's going to take a lot of our effort, a lot of time.

11           And it's -- we're -- it's going to be -- put us  
12 into to prevent offenses, because I'm not going to be able  
13 to fly to Germany to talk, to complain, unless you want me  
14 to. Then I will. But we're going to be in crime  
15 prevention mode for those months, for sure.

16           And the cooling trailer -- the other equipment  
17 that we've been able to purchase is really going to help  
18 us out, that we've been able to get through the last  
19 year's grants, the side-by-sides and all the other stuff,  
20 our F150s that are decaled, that we use, you know, for the  
21 picture the other day. All that stuff is going to come  
22 into play, especially when we doing the event for the  
23 World Cup.

24           Total expenditures, a little over \$1.7 million.  
25       So really, in conclusion, it says, some -- you know,

1 Dallas is continuing to grow. We went from 18,000, record  
2 number. With proper funding, we're down now to, you know,  
3 11,000 to 12,000.

4 We have a lot of major events that are taking  
5 place this year. We even expanded our Women's Soccer  
6 League. We have the State Fair of Texas. All this is  
7 good opportunity to get MVCPA name brand out, almost to a  
8 worldwide stage, if, you know, possible.

9 So -- and we've been a part of this  
10 organization for well over 25 years. And we've been a  
11 part of this when it was pretty lean and we were getting  
12 cut during the middle of the biennium. And so hopefully,  
13 we get funded.

14 No, I just -- you know, hopefully some of  
15 that -- you know, we came up -- we're with this  
16 organization because of what they believed in, through the  
17 good times and the bad times. And we hope that loyalty is  
18 rewarded by continuing to fund our task force.

19 Any questions?

20 MR. DIGGS: Any questions for the Dallas Police  
21 Department?

22 MS. JONES: Yes, sir. Did you have -- do you  
23 want to first with yours?

24 MR. JACKSON: Yeah. So -- and can you tell me  
25 again, in reference to the World Cup and the overtime, how

1 much of this request is for security?

2 SGT RODEN: I don't know if I would use the  
3 word for security. We're not there to secure anybody.  
4 We're there to prevent offenses and the operations that --  
5 nothing has come to fruition yet on the paper, just the  
6 idea is that we're going to be, you know, unable to be  
7 taken off, and that we're going to be working long days to  
8 prevent offenses and to give police presence down there.

9 It's at the Cotton Bowl and the Convention  
10 Center and things like that. I broke down some stats in  
11 the application itself where I think it was, like, \$30,000  
12 for those months in overtime.

13 And -- but to be clear, we're not security  
14 force. You know, we're police, but our main focus for our  
15 unit is to prevent auto theft offense from happening at  
16 these locations.

17 MR. JACKSON: And there would be focus on  
18 catalytic convertor theft as well?

19 SGT RODEN: Yes, sir.

20 MS. JONES: The trailer you mentioned --  
21 explain the trailer, the purpose. Describe it.

22 SGT RODEN: Yeah. So it's actually -- we  
23 discovered it last grant cycle. And I actually wanted it  
24 then, but it's a trailer with fans on each side. You take  
25 a six-foot trailer with three fans on each side, and has a

1 cooling tank in the middle with blowers.

2 One thing we found pretty quick when we was  
3 doing these VIN etchings for 68A is, everything is hot.  
4 And so with this cooling trailers, in the summer months  
5 especially -- with the World Cup, we're going to be  
6 outside quite a bit -- we could set this trailer. And  
7 let's say, we're having an event at the State Fair of  
8 Texas.

9 It keeps the citizens cool. It keeps us cool.

10 It keeps -- when the people bring their vehicles up to be  
11 VIN-etched, it cools the vehicles down.

12 Last two or three chop shops, you know, that  
13 we've had, it gets hot. Middle of summer, we can bring  
14 that out there, cool everybody off. It's more of a safety  
15 feature, but lets us keep working in the heat a little bit  
16 longer than normal. Go ahead.

17 MS. JONES: So you're asking for an expensive  
18 fan -- is what you're asking for?

19 SGT RODEN: It's a --

20 MS. JONES: Outdoor AC. Right?

21 SGT RODEN: Yeah.

22 (General laughter.)

23 MR. DIGGS: Any other questions from the  
24 Committee?

25 (No response.)

1 MR. DIGGS: Thank y'all.

2 SGT RODEN: Thank you.

3 MR. DIGGS: I would now like to call up the  
4 Eagle Pass Police Department.

5 SGT DURAN: Good morning. Sergeant Duran with  
6 Eagle Pass Police Department Auto Theft Task Force. I'm  
7 also the Task Force commander. Thanks for having us here  
8 today.

9 Our -- basically, what we're asking for is  
10 continued funding for FY '26, carryover from fiscal year  
11 '25. Our task force consists of four detective, one  
12 sergeant, three detectives, and then administrative  
13 assistant. There's -- okay. There you go.

14 Eagle Pass is a border town, small town,  
15 southwest Texas. Although the Census says that our  
16 population is 20,000, I'd like to show that, this year  
17 alone, from September 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025, we had  
18 2,377,316 crossings from Eagle Pass to Mexico: 2,139,000  
19 was noncommercial vehicles, 238,000 were commercial  
20 vehicles.

21 That just explains how, at any given time,  
22 there's a large amount of people in our community. That  
23 includes our restaurants, our stores, our parks, or  
24 whatnot. So just brief stats here.

25 We had 33 motor vehicle thefts in FY '25 and 47

1 recovered stolen vehicles. Nineteen of those 47 were  
2 recovered at the bridge and -- at both bridges in Eagle  
3 Pass. We engage in outbound operations. That's the task  
4 force.

5 And we're -- and another thing that we've done  
6 is, we've moved on to a proactive approach. Thanks to  
7 SB224, we've been able to obtain overtime. We didn't have  
8 overtime under the task force, so we've obtained overtime,  
9 and we are actually out working proactive operations,  
10 daily or at least three, four times a week. And those  
11 operations include outbound operations.

12 Quick numbers is -- we've had eight four-day  
13 bi-national operations, two national targeting center  
14 operations, one week-long operation, and like mentioned  
15 before, 47 stolen vehicles recovered, 19 outbound -- 19 of  
16 those vehicles were outbound operations.

17 An average of 18 vehicles are denied entry into  
18 Mexico, and that's due to the relationship that we have  
19 with CBP and the Mexican authorities. We have -- we will  
20 join the bi-national meetings with CBP where we have  
21 conversations with the Mexican authorities and explain  
22 what our -- what we're targeting. These guys will pick up  
23 on it and send the vehicles back.

24 What we're -- sorry. How do I go back here?  
25 There you go.

1           What we're asking for, for FY '26, is the  
2   361,449, and that is MVCPA, with our cash match, 72,291, a  
3   total of 433,740. And we do engage in the Crime  
4   Prevention.

5           We have an LED billboard placed outside our  
6   agency, with constant messages on motor vehicle crime and  
7   crime prevention, whatnot. Social media, we are involved  
8   in social media. We regularly make crime prevention  
9   posts.

10          This last week, we had two vehicle thefts, and  
11   thanks to social media, we were able to recover those  
12   vehicles right away. One vehicle was recovered within  
13   eight hours, thanks to social media.

14          And that's pretty much what I have now.

15          MR. DIGGS: Thank you, sir. Are there any  
16   questions from the Committee?

17          (No response.)

18          SGT DURAN: Thank you.

19          MR. DIGGS: Thank you very much.

20          SGT DURAN: Yes.

21          MR. DIGGS: The time now is 10:28 a.m. We are  
22   going to adjourn for 10 minutes, and then we'll be right  
23   back in session. Recess. Thank you.

24          (Whereupon, a short recess was taken.)

25



1 MR. DIGGS: The time is now 10:46 a.m. We are  
2 now back on the record. We will break for lunch at  
3 12:00 p.m.

4 So I would now like to call up the El Paso  
5 Police Department.

6 MS. RUCKER: Good morning. My name is Officer  
7 Jessica Rucker with the El Paso Police Department Auto  
8 Theft Task Force. And with me is my Auto Theft commander,  
9 Lieutenant Ricardo Porras.

10 So the border region of El Paso is a major  
11 metropolitan area which encompasses the city and county of  
12 El Paso, Fort Bliss, Dona Ana County, New Mexico, Otero  
13 County, New Mexico, and Juarez, Mexico. The approximate  
14 combined population is 2.9 million people, and we are the  
15 only auto theft task force in Far West Texas. Criminal  
16 auto theft rings, drug trafficking organizations, and  
17 Mexican cartels tend to cross international boundaries of  
18 Mexico, and the United States, as well as state lines  
19 between New Mexico and Texas, in furtherance of illicit  
20 activities.

21 We provide services, collaborate with  
22 approximately 27 local, state, federal and Mexican  
23 agencies, and we have five ports of entry within our  
24 jurisdiction. We utilize four LPR databases which include  
25 Vigilant, Flock, Axon, and DEASIL.

1           And we conduct various community outreach and  
2           educational events, media outreaches, and VIN etching  
3           events. This also includes static displays and parades  
4           with our wrapped vehicles, booth displays. We do public  
5           and private presentations, and we have begun to work more  
6           closely with our department's PIO's office, who runs our  
7           social media.

8           All right. For fiscal year 2026, we are  
9           requesting \$2,023,985. Our in-kind match will be  
10          \$1,267,598. And our cash match percentage is  
11          29.47 percent.

12          Our department is budgeted for 25 -- our task  
13          force is 25 sworn personnel, three civilians, which  
14          includes a crime prevention officer, and 18 of those are  
15          grant-funding. Also included in our funding would be  
16          \$150,000 for overtime. All right.

17          We have money allocated for travel, which  
18          includes task force training, MVCPA Board meetings and  
19          workshops, and TAVTI. For equipment, we are requesting  
20          three tactical ballistic shields, a heavy-duty front  
21          bumper for an F250, a bumper winch for an F250, four  
22          Vigilant LPR camera systems, two StarChase launchers with  
23          GPS tracking, and a Covert Track bait vehicle system.

24          Included in our supplies and direct operating  
25          expenses would be 20 vehicle leases, which are \$695 per

1 vehicles for 12 months, for a total of \$166,800. And we  
2 will be leasing those through Acme.

3 For fiscal year 2025, we were awarded \$100,000  
4 specifically for overtime. With that money, we have  
5 conducted nine overtime operations, year-to-date, with 36  
6 persons checked, 70 vehicles checked, 3,316 LPR reads, 12  
7 felony arrests, one misdemeanor arrest. Six vehicles were  
8 recovered with a total value of \$129,000, and we patrolled  
9 over 8,000 miles.

10 As of May 31, for fiscal year 2025, we have  
11 actually seen an increase in 2025 in our vehicle thefts by  
12 4 percent. And so far, we have conducted 537 days of LPR  
13 deployments, 200 arrests, 627 vehicle recoveries, valued  
14 at \$11,017,800. Two items of equipment were recovered,  
15 valued at \$83,241. Recovered four component parts valued  
16 at \$19,300.

17 Eight vehicles have been recovered from Mexico,  
18 valued at \$327,449. We recovered five weapons, conducted  
19 82 presentations, with -- correction -- 4,759 attendees.  
20 671 citizen assists, 21 social media posts, 14 VIN etching  
21 events, with 459 vehicles marked. Passed out 500 steering  
22 wheel clubs.

23 Conducted 29 law enforcement presentations,  
24 with 121 attendees. Had 44 collaborations with Customs  
25 and Border Patrol, 38 collaborations with federal

1 agencies, 128 collaboration with DPS, 322 inter-  
2 departmental collaborations, 349 collaborations with other  
3 agencies. Conducted 19 bait operations and 23 bridge  
4 operations, with a total of 73 vehicles inspected.

5 Wow. It's right on time. Wow.

6 MS. JONES: Any questions?

7 (No response.)

8 MS. JONES: Ma'am, you -- how many personnel  
9 are assigned to your task force?

10 MS. RUCKER: So there is 25. Eighteen of those  
11 are funded from the grant. Twenty from the grant? We  
12 have 18.

13 LT PORRAS: Lieutenant Ric Porras, El Paso PD.  
14 To answer your question, ma'am, we have a total of  
15 28 people. Eighteen of those are actually grant-funded.  
16 The rest of the people are in-kind.

17 MS. RUCKER: Yeah. It's 25 sworn and three  
18 civilian total, but only 18 of the sworn personnel are  
19 grant-funded.

20 LT PORRAS: Correct.

21 MS. JONES: So I was wondering. And I counted  
22 28. It's a lot.

23 MS. RUCKER: Yeah, yeah. Twenty-five sworn,  
24 three civilians, but only 18 of those sworn personnel are  
25 grants.

1 MS. JONES: Okay. You mentioned a lot of  
2 collaboration.

3 MS. RUCKER: Yes, ma'am.

4 MS. JONES: What do you collaborate in about?

5 MS. RUCKER: Multiple investigations. Because  
6 of all the different jurisdictions and us being the only  
7 auto theft task force in the region, we collaborate  
8 regularly with our Sheriff's Office, with other small,  
9 local agencies. We have the Horizon Police Department,  
10 the Anthony Police Department. We collaborate very often  
11 with the law enforcement agencies in Mexico and in New  
12 Mexico.

13 MS. JONES: Give me an example or two.

14 MS. RUCKER: Okay. For instance, recently we  
15 had a vehicle that was freshly stolen from Las Cruces, New  
16 Mexico. It was then stopped going southbound, during a  
17 southbound operation.

18 So not only did we collaborate with Customs and  
19 Border Patrol, we collaborated with the Dona Ana Sheriff's  
20 Office to get a hold of the victim, conduct that  
21 investigation, see how it was stolen on their  
22 jurisdiction, and then proceed with charges for the  
23 individual who was driving the vehicle in an attempt to  
24 take it south into Mexico.

25 MR. DIGGS: Any other questions?

1 MR. JACKSON: Just a quick comment. Fantastic  
2 presentation.

3 MS. RUCKER: Thank you, sir.

4 MR. JACKSON: I mean, you covered a lot of  
5 material. There's a lot of data here to support your ask.  
6 I'm curious on the proactive work that you've done. Is  
7 there one that you feel like you've gotten the biggest  
8 bang for your buck out of?

9 MS. RUCKER: Oh, wow. We do a lot of proactive  
10 work. I think that's kind of our bread and butter in this  
11 department -- is, you know, our day really starts with,  
12 hey, what can we go after right now, instead of, like,  
13 waiting for it to come to us. So I feel like it would be  
14 a little bit hard for me to pick one, because that's our  
15 day-in and day-out operations.

16 MR. JACKSON: Thank you.

17 LT PORRAS: Oh, an example?

18 MS. RUCKER: Oh, Avis. Actually, here. My  
19 partner has a great idea. We had one incident where -- we  
20 had -- what -- 10 vehicles stolen from an Avis rental car.  
21 Nineteen under -- sorry -- 19 vehicles were stolen from  
22 an Avis rental car facility overnight, and we were very  
23 quickly able to not only collaborate with, like, Customs  
24 and Border Patrol -- some of them had already been taken  
25 into Mexico.

1           Some were turned around, but we immediately  
2       jumped on that, and we recovered most of those vehicles  
3       before the end of that day. Yes, with arrests made, so it  
4       was pretty substantial.

5           MR. DIGGS: Any other questions?

6           (No response.)

7           MR. DIGGS: Thank you.

8           MS. RUCKER: Thank you.

9           MR. DIGGS: I would now like to call up the  
10       Farmers Branch Police Department.

11          MS. SMITH: That button is the one I need. All  
12       right. Thank you. Good morning.

13          I'm here with the Farmers Branch Police  
14       Department, in collaboration with the Carrollton Police  
15       Department, to request funding for our Joint Auto Theft  
16       Task Force, utilizing Drone as a First Responder  
17       technology. The goal of this task force to engage in  
18       joint action with smarter technology with the safety of  
19       our communities in mind.

20          While this task force is a new endeavor for  
21       us, the collaboration between our departments is well  
22       established. As neighboring cities, we share assets,  
23       including our regional SWAT team, 9-1-1  
24       telecommunications, and our CAD system. Launching a  
25       formal joint Auto Theft Task Force is a logical and

1 strategic evolution of our cooperative efforts.

2 Auto Theft Task Force remains a persistent  
3 problem [sic] in the DFW Metroplex. And our cities are  
4 particularly vulnerable due to the location. With  
5 multiple major highways running through around us,  
6 offenders can enter, commit a theft, and escape quickly  
7 along I-35, 635, George Bush Turnpike, Sam Rayburn  
8 Turnpike, and the Dallas North Tollway.

9 These easy routes out make our area a frequent  
10 target, placing constant strain on our patrol and  
11 investigative resources. This crime costs our community  
12 over \$10 million annually. The Carrollton/Farmers Branch  
13 Auto Theft Task Force proposes a smarter, faster response  
14 using shared resources and expanded coverage to increase  
15 the effectiveness of our operations.

16 With the request of \$240,000, we will equip  
17 both cities with Flock, Drone as a First Responder 2.0  
18 drones, radar and advanced software to help us deter and  
19 detect crime more efficiently. The coverage area will  
20 extend across both cities and will even provide support to  
21 nearby communities that are interested in joining our  
22 efforts.

23 We've already designated space for a real-time  
24 crime center in Carrollton, and are expanding our pool of  
25 trained drone pilots. We also recognize that this



1 technology must be matched with transparency. To address  
2 public concerns about surveillance, we will conduct  
3 community education efforts, explaining how the program  
4 works and share tips with residents to prevent theft.

5 Each agency regularly hosts community events,  
6 including Coffee with a Cop, Citizen Police Academies, and  
7 Spanish-speaking outreach, such as UNIDOS. Carrollton and  
8 Farmers Branch both have a large presence on social media,  
9 including Facebook and Instagram, and we utilize these to  
10 continue to spread word and offer updates to our citizens.

11 We are proud of the relationship that we've  
12 built with our community, and we'll leverage our existing  
13 outreach efforts to keep the public informed, engaged, and  
14 confident in these initiatives. We respectfully request  
15 this funding to turn our proven partnership into a  
16 powerful solution. Together, through innovation and  
17 collaboration, we will create a safer future for our  
18 residents.

19 Do y'all have any questions? Yes, ma'am?

20 MR. DIGGS: Any questions from Committee  
21 members?

22 MS. JONES: How effective is UNIDOS?

23 MS. SMITH: It is incredibly effective. If you  
24 are familiar with the DFW Metroplex, specifically my city,  
25 Farmers Branch, there has been distrust in the past with

1 our Spanish-speaking community, and especially now with  
2 the increase of news of ICE raids, that kind of thing, you  
3 know.

4 For us, it's really important to develop those  
5 relationships. Each agency has a large Spanish-speaking  
6 load of officers who work with us, and we try to utilize  
7 them at events to make sure people feel comfortable and  
8 feel familiar with that staff, and in that, being able to  
9 get them on board with what we're doing.

10 So right now, with our social media in Farmers  
11 Branch, we're putting out monthly updates about our LPR  
12 hits. So some of those are things that you guys would be  
13 interested in seeing, you know, finding stolen cars and  
14 that, but we've also included stats on there to let them  
15 know, hey, we had a missing person that came through two  
16 hours away. We found them in Farmers Branch.

17 So you know, kind of putting all that  
18 information together so that they see that it is working  
19 for them in the community, and not just a police effort.  
20 It's a community effort.

21 MS. JONES: Thank you.

22 MR. DIGGS: Any other questions?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. DIGGS: Thank you very much.

25 MS. SMITH: Okay. Thank you.

1                   MR. DIGGS: I would now like to call up the  
2 Galveston County Sheriff's Office.

3                   MR. HILL: Good morning. I'm Smitty Hill. I'm  
4 the program manager for the Galveston County Sheriff's --  
5 the Gulf Coast Auto Crimes Task Force, or the Galveston  
6 County Sheriff's Office.

7                   Currently, as you can see above, we have a few  
8 detectives dispersed all throughout the county from  
9 multiple agencies. And most recently -- I took over as  
10 the program manager in July -- January, and which caused a  
11 50 percent reduction in the salary for that position  
12 because they were requesting me to supervise another unit  
13 on top of this one.

14                  So we currently have one sergeant, two  
15 detectives from Galveston County, and one crime intel  
16 analyst. We have one detective from the La Marque Police  
17 Department, two detectives from the Brazoria County  
18 Sheriff's Office, and one detective from the Galveston  
19 Police Department.

20                  So our area of responsibility is mainly  
21 Galveston County and Brazoria County. We do handle  
22 Chambers County. Matagorda County is part of southern  
23 Harris County, by request. Mainly, that part of southern  
24 Harris County is just the outliers, which border Galveston  
25 County.

1           Between the two, we have roughly 1,700 square  
2 miles of coverage area, just between the two main that we  
3 cover. Our current population in Galveston County sits  
4 around 360,000, and the current population of Brazoria  
5 County is around 420,000, with solid 20 percent projected  
6 increases over the next five years.

7           Two of the big issues or main things that we  
8 have in our county are our cruise and cargo port  
9 terminals. We conduct thousands of inspections a year at  
10 those terminals, just based on the influx, especially down  
11 in the Freeport area.

12           Both counties have major highways that run  
13 through them. We have I-45 through Galveston County,  
14 which is a huge thoroughfare for us, and Highway 288,  
15 amongst other -- Brazoria County.

16           So the challenging issue with Galveston County  
17 in particular is it is a tourist destination, right? So  
18 we deal with high population influx through summer months  
19 and whatnot, or at events like Lone Star Rally, Mardi  
20 Gras, those sort of things. So we deal with a very  
21 unique, diverse crowd, on top of being located just under  
22 Houston.

23           We all know San Antonio, Houston, Galveston.  
24 They're large population areas, large hotspots, and we do  
25 deal with a lot of bleed-over. They like what we call as

1 "hit and get." They'll come down from Harris County,  
2 Houston, hit our subdivisions, neighborhoods, stuff like  
3 that, and get right back out. And we deal with that  
4 pretty frequently.

5 So as far as the changes from last year to this  
6 year, we are actually asking for a little bit less, about  
7 \$31,000 less in funds, while requesting an additional task  
8 force participant. And I'll get into the agency here in  
9 just a second.

10 There's going to be -- other than the  
11 50 percent reduction in the pay for this position, the  
12 existing equipment is as it stands. We're not asking for  
13 any of [inaudible] existing equipment. And the contracts  
14 are going to be relatively similar. The only thing that  
15 comes with the request of the new position for the agency  
16 that wants to on-board is the equipment to outfit that  
17 person, and that's also part of the request.

18 So in January, Texas City Police Department  
19 reached out to the Sheriff, and they were interested in  
20 rejoining the task force. Texas City Police Department  
21 was part of the task force about 15 to 20 years ago, and  
22 they had to depart for whatever reason that may be.

23 But before they departed, the person that was  
24 part of our task force is now the Chief of Police in Texas  
25 City. So they believe in the program strongly. The Texas

1 City Police Department actually applied the previous year  
2 for an SB224 grant, and they were granted some funds and  
3 that, and they actually elected to forego applying for  
4 that grant this year because they want to transition their  
5 focus into being a part of the task force.

6 Texas City itself ranks, I'd say, top three in  
7 here, top three out of the last 10 years. It's actually  
8 top two out of the eight, of the 10, so -- as far as motor  
9 vehicle thefts in Galveston County. So we kind of checked  
10 them out.

11 They reached out to us, and we want to make  
12 sure we're being good stewards of the dollar. Right? We  
13 want to make sure it's a fit.

14 So Texas City alone accounts for 14 percent of  
15 auto thefts in all the population in Galveston County,  
16 which is 24 percent of all auto theft related crimes in  
17 Galveston County. So we believe it's a solid fit because  
18 they're dealing with one-fourth of our problem. So the  
19 other thing that was not really done before, just because  
20 of a position stance on administration, they've kind of  
21 given me free rein to really push the social media aspect  
22 for the task force, and for auto theft prevention.

23 Just some blind numbers, as far as what we've  
24 done since January, we're up reaching over 75,000 people.  
25 We've had roughly 100,000 views on it. And we've

1 increased about 400 percent as far as people following.  
2 Yes, sir.

3 MS. JONES: Any questions from the Board?

4 (No response.)

5 MS. JONES: No questions, sir. Thank you.

6 MR. HILL: Thank you for your time.

7 MR. DIGGS: So I'd now like to call up Harris  
8 County Sheriff's Office.

9 LT GONZALEZ: Good morning. My name is John  
10 Gonzalez, and I hold the rank of lieutenant. And I'm  
11 currently the Task Force commander for the Harris County  
12 Sheriff's Office Auto Theft Unit.

13 A quick overview about Harris County Sheriff's  
14 Office. The Harris County Sheriff's Office was founded in  
15 1837. It's the largest sheriff's office in Texas, and the  
16 third largest in the nation. The HCSO has nearly 5,100  
17 employees and 200 volunteer reservists dedicated to  
18 ensuring the safety that more than 4.8 million residents  
19 who call Harris County home.

20 Harris County encompasses 1,788 square miles  
21 and includes 41 incorporated municipalities. So you can  
22 see on the map right there, that's just a quick overview  
23 of states that have a population of less than Harris  
24 County. There's 23.

25 Just a little breakdown of our unit. We have

1 an investigative and proactive side of it. That's  
2 composed of one lieutenant, being me, four sergeants, 10  
3 investigative detectives, four undercover detectives, or  
4 what we call classified personnel, two civilian clerks,  
5 for a total of 21 personnel.

6 Again, our coverage area is about 1,000 -- I  
7 realized that I had fat-fingered that. It's supposed to  
8 be 1,788 square miles. 3.5 million registered vehicles in  
9 Harris County. Our tax assessor's office, they handle  
10 anywhere -- about 3.2 million vehicle registrations  
11 annually.

12 Just some stats. Auto thefts -- or excuse  
13 me -- auto thefts by year. This isn't my SB224  
14 presentation, so I see -- Sharon, I see you smiling at me.

15 Auto thefts by year, 2022, 7,395. And BMVs, we had  
16 20,627. That number fell -- or excuse me -- the motor  
17 vehicle theft number climbed the next year to 9,796, but  
18 the BMVs fell.

19 In 2024, that number dropped significantly to  
20 5,950, but -- and the BMVs fell as well. Year to date, as  
21 of the date that I made this presentation, motor vehicle  
22 theft is at 2,178, and BMVs are right at 3,600.

23 How did the MVCPA grant awards help the HCSO?  
24 It provides the newest equipment and innovative technology  
25 to auto theft detectives to help target and prevent motor



1 vehicle related crimes and to help identify prolific  
2 offenders. Provide training opportunities for the HCSO  
3 personnel to educate themselves on newest criminal trends  
4 and provides opportunities for networking and  
5 collaboration with partner law enforcement agencies and  
6 auto theft task forces. It also provides fiscal support  
7 for the ongoing budget shortage in Harris County, Texas.

8 For funding requests, again, I believe this is  
9 the wrong presentation that's uploaded. I had submitted  
10 an SB224. So I'm going to just read off my notes.

11 We are asking for a total of \$306,180, 255,150  
12 of that being MVCPA funds, with a 20 percent cash match of  
13 \$51,030. That breakdown is: overtime, 87,680; \$73,066  
14 being MVCPA funds, with a cash match of 14,614. That's  
15 overtime for four sergeants, 14 detectives, and two  
16 civilian clerks.

17 We also asked for \$3,500 in funding for  
18 miscellaneous travel within the state of Texas. \$2,917 of  
19 those dollars are MVCPA funds, \$583 cash match for that  
20 total.

21 Equipment. We are asking for \$61,500 total,  
22 \$51,250 being MVCPA funds, with a cash match of \$10,250.  
23 That is for a lift trailer and miscellaneous tools  
24 affiliated with catalytic convertor, you know, removals  
25 and etching events and so forth. We're also asking for

1     \$3,500 in promotional items, \$125,000 from the MVCPA for  
2     Flock cameras.

3             We did an audit with Brandon, and they actually  
4     had 850 cameras in Harris County total, unincorporated  
5     Harris County. None of those were owned by the Sheriff's  
6     Office. I was ashamed to say that. Most of those -- in  
7     fact, all of those are owned by private entities,  
8     neighborhood, HOAs, MUDs, and stuff like that.

9             So I'd like to start building that network of  
10    our own. Last quarter, we did 21 covert operations. We  
11    had 11 inspections of salvage yards, mechanic shops.

12            Etching events, we did -- we were averaging  
13    about one a month in partnership with Walmart, just to  
14    utilize their bays, but we're also offering etching event  
15    services during 69A inspection days, which is once a week.

16            Last quarter, we did about 100 convertors  
17    etched, and that's including each convertor. We do those  
18    per vehicle. We basically multiple that times two and  
19    that's the actual amount of convertors. Yeah, right on  
20    the money.

21            MR. DIGGS: Any questions for John?

22            MS. JONES: Yes, sir. For this meeting, how  
23    much money are you requesting?

24            LT GONZALEZ: This is SB224. Correct?

25            MR. DIGGS: This is the --

1 LT GONZALEZ: No. Okay.

2 MR. DIGGS: -- Task Force.

3 LT GONZALEZ: Task Force. I apologize.

4 That's -- so then I messed up. All right. Well, it's  
5 going to be about 1.3 million. So my notes are off.

6 MS. JONES: I was about to give you the 52,000  
7 that you asked for. I mean, they --

8 LT GONZALEZ: That's an error on me. I  
9 apologize.

10 MS. JONES: It --

11 LT GONZALEZ: Yeah.

12 MS. JONES: -- works for me.

13 LT GONZALEZ: I thought the wrong slideshow was  
14 uploaded, and I had the wrong --

15 MR. DIGGS: We're going to save some --

16 LT GONZALEZ: -- yeah.

17 MR. DIGGS: -- money this morning.

18 LT GONZALEZ: Yeah. No. That's on. So no.

19 It's 1.4. And if I can get those numbers to you?

20 MS. JONES: I have them here.

21 LT GONZALEZ: I saw you smile. I know you have  
22 them, but --

23 MS. JONES: Well, I wanted to be sure, because  
24 I kept looking, and I hear the 52-, and then you're saying  
25 to do four, and going back and forth. So I wanted to make

1       sure that what I had in front of me was for the Task  
2       Force --

3               LT GONZALEZ:   Yes.   Correct.

4               MS. JONES:   -- and not for 224.

5               LT GONZALEZ:   No.   I was giving SB224.   I  
6       apologize.

7               MS. JONES:   Okay.   Perfect.   Thank you.

8               MR. DIGGS:   Any other questions?   Any other  
9       questions for Harris County?

10              (No response.)

11              MR. DIGGS:   Okay.

12              LT GONZALEZ:   Thank you.   Sorry about that.

13              MR. DIGGS:   No worries.   I'd now like to call  
14       up the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office.

15              SGT CASAREZ:   Good morning.   My name is Daniel  
16       Casarez.   I'm the sergeant with the Hidalgo County  
17       Sheriff's Office, and the Task Force commander.   I just  
18       want to start off saying thank you for having us here, and  
19       just want to start off by saying that this is our first  
20       year as a task force.

21              We're still going through growing pains, but  
22       give you a little touch on Hidalgo County.   Hidalgo County  
23       has 22 cities, and it's a border county.   It has about 918  
24       [sic] approximate residents there.   Last year alone, we  
25       had about 500 auto thefts and 300 burglaries, and we

1 continue to see those numbers come in.

2 So far this year to date, we have had over --  
3 let's see -- we're already at 349 auto thefts, and  
4 currently, we have 132 arrests, 2.9 million in vehicles  
5 recovered, and 115 recoveries. We did a six-month  
6 comparison of last year to this year, from January to  
7 June, and we saw a decrease in auto thefts of 5 percent.  
8 And we want -- and we believe it's still going to  
9 continue. We're still going to see a far larger number,  
10 and a 20 [sic] decrease in burglary of vehicles.

11 So with the task force, we have gone out and  
12 reached out to the community and provided services for  
13 them, provided public awareness, talking with the  
14 community. We've gone out and done public safety expos  
15 where we talk to them about the crimes that are occurring  
16 in their county, and explain to them how to protect their  
17 investments and how to protect themselves from becoming a  
18 victim.

19 We've done 68A inspections for free. We've  
20 never charged anybody. We've always had 68A's conducted  
21 there at the office. Every Friday, we have people come  
22 in.

23 We've done VIN etchings. We've partnered up  
24 with Walmart, a local Walmart. We did about 40 VIN  
25 etchings at that Walmart.

1           We had one at our Sheriff's Offices as well.  
2       We did some VIN etchings there. Those were great  
3       outcomes. A lot of people asked about it. They wanted to  
4       know more about it.

5           We got in contact with the media. They had  
6       also asked about it. And we're starting to see a lot more  
7       people come out and talk about the task force. A lot of  
8       people did not know that there was a task force in Hidalgo  
9       County, and it's starting to come, surely but slowly.

10          So going into technology, we have one drone  
11       assigned to the task force. We have a total of four  
12       pilots, including myself. I assist my team, which  
13       consists of a total of 10 personnel, including myself, and  
14       I assist them by going out to these vast properties.

15          A lot of them are covered in dense brush. A  
16       lot of farmland. A lot of these suspects are using these  
17       places to hide these vehicles. What took us hours to  
18       search, with a drone takes minutes now. And it's been a  
19       very useful tool for us.

20          That's not -- we also have Flock, Vigilant, and  
21       a lot of other technologies. That helps with our  
22       investigations. And currently, the one major thing that's  
23       been helping us a lot is these drones, because they are --  
24       we're seeing the pattern of how they're using these  
25       farmlands and these dense brush areas to hide these

1 vehicles, with the assistance of other agencies like DPS  
2 108 and the local agencies that come out and help us with  
3 the searches.

4 And with that said, we have -- let me just go  
5 into the team. We have two TFOs from Edinburg, one from  
6 Weslaco PD, one from Mercedes, and two from the Sheriff's  
7 Office. So we're a combined Auto Theft Task Force.

8 And currently we have another agency that's  
9 interested in the task force. It's Palmview. And they  
10 want to bring on two additional investigators to assist  
11 with the task force.

12 We have seen a great outcome with the task  
13 force going out there and helping our citizens and  
14 bringing awareness and bringing that education to them.  
15 And also, with the funding that you guys provide, it has  
16 helped us with sharpening our skills, learning about how  
17 to better investigate, how to better recover these  
18 vehicles, and prevent auto theft from occurring, and  
19 bringing that information to the community.

20 And with -- as far as the funding is concerned,  
21 we're just asking for the renewals, nothing major. Eighty  
22 percent of the funding is going to salary, basically. And  
23 we're asking for \$1,052,143, and our cash match would be  
24 210,431, a total of 1,262,574.

25 MS. JONES: In the beginning of your

1 presentation, you mentioned growing pains. What are all  
2 of the growing pains?

3 SGT CASAREZ: Learning how to -- we're just  
4 learning how to get structured with the other agencies,  
5 just growing with them, cooperating with them,  
6 collaborating with them. Basically, that's about it.

7 As far as the manpower, what -- we're learning  
8 how to adjust with the cases and what they can work and  
9 they can't -- and what we can work with them. But so far,  
10 it's been coming all together. We've been able to get  
11 together, tackle a lot of the issues that we've had as far  
12 as the cases are concerned.

13 MS. JONES: Okay. Thank you.

14 MR. DIGGS: I did have one question, if I may.  
15 So you had mentioned, in your 68A inspections, you --  
16 Hidalgo County doesn't charge the \$40 --

17 SGT CASAREZ: [Inaudible].

18 MR. DIGGS: -- for that? Okay. And are you  
19 guys aware that, within the grant structure, you are able  
20 to -- if the Sheriff chose to charge that \$40 fee, he  
21 could charge it, and then those funds could then be used  
22 towards program income? You could be able to -- to be  
23 able to repurpose those funds within the program.

24 SGT CASAREZ: Yes, we are aware, but we haven't  
25 brought that up to the community. We haven't charged



1 anybody for any of those 68A's. And through the 68A's,  
2 we've been able to detect some stolen vehicles and clone  
3 vehicles as well.

4 MR. DIGGS: All right. Very good. Thank you.  
5 Any other questions?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. DIGGS: Thank you very much.

8 SGT CASAREZ: Thank you.

9 MR. DIGGS: I'd now like to call up the Houston  
10 Police Department.

11 LT HARDING: Good morning. My name is Tolan  
12 Harding. I'm a lieutenant with the Houston Police  
13 Department. I'm the Task Force commander for the Houston  
14 Auto Crimes Task Force.

15 The Houston Auto Crimes Task Force has  
16 participated with the MVCPA for over 30 years. And we  
17 appreciate your support. The current task force is  
18 approximately -- I'm sorry -- not approximately.

19 The current task force is 25 officers and one  
20 civilian. We cover three counties, Harris County, Fort  
21 Bend County, and Montgomery County, which combined have  
22 about 4.8 million cars. Our crime trends, so far, for  
23 comparison on calendar year '23 to calendar year '24, our  
24 auto thefts are down approximately 15 percent.

25 We still suffered approximately 16,000 thefts.

1       Our burglaries of motor vehicles are down slightly, but  
2       we still had 25,000 burglaries of a motor vehicle in our  
3       area.

4               Thefts of a motor vehicle have had a slight  
5       decrease. This includes catalytic convertor, tires,  
6       wheels, and other accessories, and that was about 5,300  
7       incidents.

8               Gun thefts have remained steady. We have  
9       been -- despite our best efforts, we've been unable to  
10      change citizen behavior about leaving guns in cars. That  
11      consisted of about 4,000 guns being stolen.

12              We continue to conduct proactive jugging  
13      operations. In the last year, we've made approximately 70  
14      arrests for jugging suspects, but unfortunately, they're  
15      not getting much punishment and the crime continues.

16              Why are we asking for funding? Well, because  
17      we have 3,700 square miles of area where our criminals  
18      operate. We cover three counties. Like I said,  
19      4.8 million vehicles, and the city of Houston is also a  
20      port jurisdiction.

21              Your funding helps the Houston Police  
22      Department, because the City of Houston has a current  
23      budget shortfall. And as many of the other presenters  
24      have said, motor vehicle crimes spread out from Houston.  
25      So we try to attack them where they start.

1           The funding from the MVCPA allows my officers  
2           to focus on the criminals who are organized and conducting  
3           crimes for economic benefits, which includes cartels. It  
4           also allows to collaborate with all the other task forces  
5           across Texas. We get to share information with them.  
6           They share information with us, and we learn about the new  
7           trends that are coming.

8           Your funding also allows us to attend  
9           conferences like this, to received specialized training,  
10          purchase equipment, and adapt new technology.

11          What are we spending your money on? Well,  
12          we're spending it on 12 full-time investigators, overtime,  
13          technology, which includes surveillance equipment. We  
14          are -- hopefully, with this grant, we're going to have a  
15          dedicated prosecutor so that we can address some of the  
16          issues of the lack of punishment in Harris County.

17          It also pays for leased vehicles for conducting  
18          our investigations, travel and training. It also helps  
19          fund our public outreach and our crime prevention efforts  
20          with Sergeant Tracy Hicks. It allows us to get  
21          specialized investigative equipment, and of course, an  
22          etching device.

23          We are currently asking for \$2.4 million. The  
24          City of Houston is also providing a cash match and an in-  
25          kind match of \$2.4 million. So I think your investment is

1 going to get a pretty good return on it.

2 What's new for fiscal year '26? What's  
3 changed? This year, we were able to add two new officers  
4 to our fraud squad, and the -- hopefully, we'll have the  
5 dedicated district attorney. So that increased our  
6 funding request.

7 Our social media outreach in our crime  
8 prevention -- this is an image of the wrapped trailer that  
9 we take to different events. And we have a dedicated  
10 person for that position, Sergeant Tracy Hicks, that his  
11 sole job is outreach in crime prevention.

12 We do post to the Department's social media.  
13 They control what we put on. We also forward directly to  
14 Amber Ott when we have significant events and other  
15 interesting cases. We forward them directly to her so she  
16 can post on the MVCPA website.

17 We also regularly respond to media requests for  
18 information and interviews. If you have any other  
19 questions, I can answer them now.

20 MR. DIGGS: Any questions from the Committee?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. DIGGS: Thank you, sir.

23 LT HARDING: Thank you.

24 MR. DIGGS: So I would now like to call up the  
25 Laredo Police Department.

1           LT RODRIGUEZ: Good morning. Jaime Rodriguez  
2 is my name. I'm with the Laredo Police Department, a  
3 lieutenant. Joining me here is our field operations  
4 sergeant, Michael Wu.

5           To begin, the population of Laredo is just  
6 under 300,000 people, 260,000 to be exact, but we are the  
7 number one inland port in the nation by trade volume, and  
8 number one port of entry in the nation, with four  
9 international bridges and one more on the way.  
10 Additionally, we service Zapata, Freer, Encinal, Rio  
11 Bravo, and El Cenizo. Our biggest priority remains to  
12 counter cartel-related activity.

13          Without going into too much detail, we have  
14 several active cases of groups working directly with those  
15 criminal elements. Currently, we are working with  
16 multiple state and federal agencies located along the IH-  
17 35, up to San Antonio, and we will be expanding further  
18 north into the San Marcos area.

19          Specifically, our Auto Theft Task Force  
20 consists of 25 total personnel, one lieutenant, two  
21 sergeants -- sorry about that -- go back, one lieutenant,  
22 two sergeants, 13 investigators. We have one patrol  
23 officer, a senior office assistant, one intel analyst, two  
24 investigative specialists who assist our ADA. We have an  
25 ADA, two drone operators, and a strategic community

1 specialist.

2 So what we're asking for to be added,  
3 concern -- some of these FTEs are being funded through  
4 SB224. So what we're asking for this one is to transition  
5 two investigative support specialists and two drone remote  
6 pilots and one strategic communication specialist into  
7 this grant.

8 Now, the PIO -- we have over 10,000 followers  
9 in Facebook, and with the Laredo PD on Facebook, we have  
10 over 124,000 followers. With that -- go the next page --  
11 our supply and direct operating expenses -- we're going to  
12 need more promotional items, because we are involved  
13 throughout the community with a lot of people. We're  
14 known for that.

15 We go, we visit with people. We do Coffee with  
16 a Cop and constantly communicating with our community.  
17 With our expanding, growing group, we need help with  
18 building lease and electricity, and that goes  
19 communication, air cards, internet, and landline.

20 Travel, we need to get the personnel that we  
21 already have -- we need to get them the training and  
22 specialty to further help us.

23 So year-to-date, our burglary of motor vehicles  
24 are down 36 percent, and our motor vehicle thefts are down  
25 32 percent. Specifically, we are asking for 1.8 million.

1       It's going to be \$1,886,825 from -- for our task force.  
2       But we in turn are putting into that task force  
3       \$1,681,000.

4               With that, if you all have any questions?

5               MR. DIGGS: Thank you. Any questions from the  
6       Committee?

7               (No response.)

8               MR. DIGGS: Thank you, sir. Oh, we have one.

9               LT RODRIGUEZ: I'm sure.

10              MS. JONES: So how many are assigned to the  
11       task force?

12              LT RODRIGUEZ: Right now, there's 29 total  
13       assigned to the task force. I believe we're in the  
14       process of getting a strategic communications specialist.

15              MS. JONES: Thank you.

16              LT RODRIGUEZ: Any other questions?

17              (No response.)

18              MR. DIGGS: Thank you.

19              LT RODRIGUEZ: I appreciate it. Thank you.

20              MR. DIGGS: I'd now like to call up the Lubbock  
21       County Sheriff's Department.

22              MR. CLEMENTS: Excuse me. Actually, it's the  
23       Lubbock County District Attorney's Office.

24              I'm Doug Clements. I'm the commander of the  
25       Auto Theft Task Force out of Lubbock. I have Chad

1 Goodman, the chief investigator, with me.

2 This is what makes up our task force. We have  
3 seven commissioned officers and two civilian personnel.  
4 In addition, we have an NICB agent assigned to the task  
5 force, one DPS agent assigned to the task force -- come  
6 on -- and also three Lubbock County sheriff's deputies, a  
7 Terry County sheriff's deputy, and one Hereford police  
8 officer. And all of them, besides our full-time people,  
9 are on the task force at 50 percent as in-kind match.

10 Our request is basically two-fold. First, we  
11 want to continue our operation, our salary, our supplies,  
12 travel, things like that. And secondly, we want to expand  
13 the resources through equipment and technology.

14 Our request this year is for \$1,088,277. With  
15 that, we have a cash match of \$349,191. And we have in-  
16 kind matches of \$286,056. That makes us a 30 percent --  
17 or 32 percent cash match task force.

18 And this is what we cover. We're a relatively  
19 small task force that covers a huge area. We have 27,239  
20 square miles, which makes us larger than 10 U.S. states.

21 Our task force covers over 10 percent of the  
22 land mass in Texas and over 10 percent of the counties in  
23 Texas. And we are the second largest city west of I-35,  
24 with the exception of El Paso, and the 10th largest city  
25 in the state of Texas.



1           With this grant, we are intending to add one  
2 additional county, bringing us up to 29 counties. Within  
3 that 29 counties, we have 29 sheriff's departments, 41  
4 municipal police departments, five universities or  
5 colleges. So we reach out and collaborate with all of  
6 these various agencies.

7           This is just a short overview of our regional  
8 problem, and this is based on a three-year average. So we  
9 have approximately 1,600 vehicles stolen a year. And then  
10 on the right-hand side is some of the results of the task  
11 force. And I'm happy to announce that we are looking to  
12 drastically exceed some of these statistics.

13           That's just a short overview, nowhere near what  
14 all we do, such as -- our average over the last three  
15 years have been 30 altered -- recovered vehicles. This  
16 year, we have already recovered over 70. So we've already  
17 recovered more stolen vehicles than our average, and we  
18 expect most of these to exceed these averages.

19           And like I say, that is just a snapshot of what  
20 we do. It don't cover covert ops or Flock, stuff like  
21 that. We've already recovered 19 vehicles during covert  
22 ops, 16 LPR recoveries.

23           So that's just a short snapshot of what we do.  
24 We have a very active Crime Prevention Program. We do  
25 set some presentations, community outreaches, etching

1 events. We do have a social media -- one of our civilian  
2 employees manages that.

3 We have a lot of media releases. When we  
4 release something to the media, if we're doing it region-  
5 side, that's 59 media outlets, when we take into account  
6 our TV, our radio, and our printed media outlets. So we  
7 reach out a lot.

8 Law enforcement instruction, we have just  
9 finished doing, I think, 32 briefings at the Lubbock  
10 Police Department in our anti-gang center. We've made  
11 every briefing at every substation, teaching them about  
12 the new metal license plates that DMV is pushing out.

13 So -- and then from -- what we want to expand.

14 We're asking two additional vehicles -- or not  
15 additional -- replace two vehicles, but we're also asking  
16 for some of these mobile surveillance poles. We have a  
17 huge burglary problem around our larger community events,  
18 especially around the university, around the sporting  
19 events, when we have graduation, we have rodeos.

20 These mobile surveillance poles, we can deploy  
21 them either on our license plate reader trailer, or they  
22 can be deployed on the back end of a pickup, remotely.  
23 And that will allow us to utilize a license plate reader,  
24 like at the fair. Record every vehicle going in there.  
25 And during the hours, we can remotely survey that area for

1 burglaries, catalytic convertor thefts, or whatever.

2 So that's basically what we're asking for.

3 Y'all have any questions?

4 MS. JONES: The pole cameras --

5 MR. CLEMENTS: Yes?

6 MS. JONES: -- who manufactures those?

7 MR. CLEMENTS: Trinity, who is -- who  
8 manufactures the license plate reader trailers.

9 MS. JONES: Great.

10 MR. CLEMENTS: Thank y'all for your time.

11 MR. DIGGS: Any other questions?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. DIGGS: Thank you, sir.

14 MR. CLEMENTS: Thank you.

15 MR. DIGGS: I would now like to call up the  
16 Mansfield Police Department.

17 CAPT HARRELL: Good morning. Jim Harrell. I'm  
18 a Captain with the Mansfield Police Department, and I'm  
19 here for the Tri-County Auto Theft Task Force.

20 The task force itself, we serve Ellis,  
21 Johnston, and Tarrant Counties. A lot of small cities  
22 within there, approximately 1,300 square miles. We're  
23 a -- all of the agencies are officed out of the City of  
24 Mansfield's office. So with the cohabitation, we're able  
25 to use the intel and pass it out to our agencies.

1           We have four primary agencies, which is  
2   Mansfield, Midlothian, Burleson, and Kennedale, and four  
3   part-time agencies, Tarrant County, Alvarado, Cedar Hill,  
4   and Ellis County. The purpose of our grant request is to  
5   enhance law enforcement operations, data sharing,  
6   intelligence, and support of public education, targeting  
7   auto theft reduction.

8           We currently seven full-time investigators and  
9   one admin. Six of them are paid for by the grant. One of  
10   them is cash match -- or in-kind match.

11          We have -- the grant is to be used for the  
12   investigators vehicles, bait vehicles, operating expenses  
13   to include the offices and supplies for the offices,  
14   overtime for the enforcement details, license plate reader  
15   upgrades, and public outreach, and also training for local  
16   law enforcement.

17          Our existing campaigns that we use are VIN  
18   etching and community presentations on auto theft. That  
19   includes Citizen Police Academies, having the VIN  
20   etchings, also attending National Night Out or any agency-  
21   sponsored events. They make a request. The task force  
22   shows up, and we're out there passing out the literature  
23   and supplies that y'all provide us to the citizens.

24          We do use social media. That's to include  
25   Instagram, Facebook, and X.

1           We also use the City of Mansfield electronic  
2 signs that they have. They have six of them. We place  
3 some of those around our program area with messages like  
4 how to, you know, take your keys with you. It's yours.  
5 Don't lose it.

6           We do VIN verification, inspection 68A's, every  
7 week on Thursday. We do not do them for just our area.  
8 We'll do them for anybody that shows up, first come, first  
9 serve, and we'll work till the last car's done for that  
10 day. We usually average about 60, 70 vehicles a week.

11           We're working towards starting the dealership  
12 outreach training again. We don't have a lot of them in  
13 the Mansfield area, but Burleson, Waxahachie, in that  
14 area, they do have dealerships.

15           Last year, we had about -- almost \$8 million  
16 in -- or almost \$9 million in recoveries, 334 vehicles.  
17 We're already at over \$6-1/2 million this year. We've  
18 done about 4,000 VIN inspections to date and dismantled  
19 three chop shops. We filed eight EOC cases in 2024 and  
20 four this year so far.

21           We've trained about 165 officers to date, and  
22 those are basically -- we teach an eight-hour  
23 identification apprehension class, and those classes are  
24 for every officer within the region, not just for our  
25 program area, but anybody who wants to sign up. And we

1 try to teach those about once a month. We do about seven  
2 to eight classes a year.

3 We've got about 46 altered vehicles this year.

4 And for us, total amount we're asking for this year is  
5 \$963,810, a cash match of \$369,158, and that's at about  
6 38.3 percent. It is up a little bit over what we  
7 requested last year, only because we're requesting to  
8 replace three vehicles that are over 10 years old that's  
9 got about 150,000 miles on them, and we're starting to  
10 have a lot of major problems.

11 One thing that we're looking at is that the  
12 City of Mansfield does have its own mechanics and shop.  
13 So most of the maintenance, we don't have to pay for  
14 through the grant. Oil changes, stuff like that, they do  
15 it there, and they don't charge anything to the task  
16 force, since we're a major city in the grant application.

17 So we do save a lot of money there in that fact.

18 So that's about all I have for us. If y'all  
19 have any questions?

20 MR. DIGGS: Any questions for Mansfield Police  
21 Department?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. DIGGS: Thank you, sir.

24 CAPT HARRELL: Thank you.

25 MR. DIGGS: I would now like to call up

1       Maverick County Sheriff's Department.

2               MR. RUIZ: Good morning. I have one of the  
3       investigators, Investigator Carrasco, with us.

4               MR. CARRASCO: Good morning.

5               MR. RUIZ: My name is Isaak Ruiz. I serve as  
6       the grant administrator for Maverick County. Today, I'm  
7       presenting to you fiscal year '26 application for the  
8       Maverick County Sheriff's Office Auto Theft Task Force,  
9       submitted through the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention  
10      Authority Task Force grant.

11              Through this grant, Maverick County is seeking  
12      to continue the existing Auto Theft Task Force Program.  
13      The initiative has become essential in addressing the rise  
14      in motor vehicle theft, vehicles burglaries, and fraud-  
15      related auto crimes across our region. The crimes  
16      continue to increase over the years and are often linked  
17      to organized theft rings operating along the Texas-Mexico  
18      border.

19              Maverick County spans over 1,200 square miles,  
20      including 80 miles of Texas and international border. It  
21      has two international bridges and a vast rural territory.

22      Many areas, particularly ranch lands and colonias, face  
23      limited law enforcement coverage -- excuse me -- making  
24      them vulnerable to smuggling operations.

25              Our residents, many of whom are low income,

1 depend on their vehicles for work, school, and medical  
2 needs. When a vehicle is stolen, it's not just a property  
3 loss. It's a destruction of life.

4 The total program budget is \$291,216, which  
5 includes the required 20 percent match from Maverick  
6 County. This funding will allow us to continue staffing  
7 three full-time positions dedicated solely to auto theft  
8 enforcement, a commander and two deputy sheriff  
9 investigators.

10 The grant also includes \$10,000 specifically  
11 for media outreach, advertising and bilingual education  
12 materials. The public outreach funding will be used to  
13 inform and engage residents through newspaper ads, radio  
14 announcements, and promotional materials across various  
15 local media outlets there locally.

16 In addition, the Sheriff's Office will continue  
17 using social media platforms it already has to provide  
18 timely information about auto theft prevention, crime  
19 trends, and active investigations. These platforms have  
20 proven highly effective in reaching the public, improving  
21 awareness, and even assisting in real-time apprehensions.

22 Over the past two years, Maverick County has  
23 recorded 130 motor vehicle thefts and 71 burglaries from  
24 vehicles. We've also seen signs of fraud-related crimes  
25 such as VIN tampering and title fraud, which often go



1       unreported. Due to the past staff limitations, many of  
2       these crimes would have gone un-investigated.

3               Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority  
4       funding has made a measurable difference in our ability to  
5       respond. We also prioritize community education, holding  
6       high school -- holding school presentations and public  
7       safety meetings. Continued grant support will allow us to  
8       expand these efforts and keep the public informed, aware,  
9       and engaged in protecting their property.

10              We respectfully request your support in  
11       continuing this important program for the people of  
12       Maverick County.

13              MR. DIGGS: Thank you.

14              Are there any questions from the Board --  
15       Committee?

16              (No response.)

17              MR. DIGGS: Thank you, sir.

18              MR. RUIZ: Thank you.

19              MR. DIGGS: I would now like to call up the  
20       Montgomery County Sheriff's Office.

21              LT SANCHEZ: Good morning. My name is John  
22       Sanchez. I'm a lieutenant in Montgomery County, and I'm  
23       the commander of the task force.

24              Thank you for this time to present our grant  
25       request. We have -- we're asking for funding to maintain

1 the current task force personnel, equipment, and  
2 operational needs.

3 We were seeking new funding to add an auto  
4 crimes analyst. We have -- we are in the process of  
5 withdrawing that request. I think they've already  
6 submitted that from our finance department.

7 We have a new sheriff, new command staff, and  
8 they're trying to get a baseline for expenses and stuff.  
9 So we've decided to pull that for now. That made it  
10 easier for us. It's going to be easier for us.

11 Our new financial director came from the  
12 Auditor's Office, and she was involved in this grant  
13 several years ago, so she is very well versed in the  
14 grant, and she'll be a big asset to us.

15 We're asking MVCPA to give us \$1.1 million,  
16 with a match of \$227,000. The task force has been in  
17 existence for 30 years. We cover Montgomery County,  
18 Walker County, Grimes County, San Jacinto County, Angelina  
19 County, Liberty County, Madison County, Pope County,  
20 Trinity County, and Leon County, upon request.

21 We do a lot of work -- actually do a lot of  
22 work with them. We have representatives on the task force  
23 from San Jacinto County, Walker, and Grimes County, along  
24 with the Montgomery County folks. The funding will be  
25 used to continue the efforts that we have.

1           When looking at our last full year's of  
2     statistics from '23 to '24, which is how my department  
3     keeps them, our BMVs are down 17 percent, and our auto  
4     thefts are down 20 percent. So we believe that our  
5     efforts are having an impact on the citizens of not only  
6     our county, but our area that we cover. And it's a  
7     positive impact, and we're very proud of that.

8           Funds will be also utilized to educate and  
9     increase the effectiveness of task force members. We  
10    send -- bring them to this conference. We bring them to  
11    TAVTI conference and any other classes that we find that  
12    we deem are beneficial to our investigators to make them  
13    better.

14          We also use this to -- also use funds to  
15    educate the public regarding Auto Theft's prevention  
16    methods, and we do this by covering -- we have a very  
17    heavy presence in our National Night Out events throughout  
18    our counties and the other counties that we cover. We do  
19    Citizen Academy, and we will do whatever other events that  
20    the Sheriff's Office or the other sheriff's offices put  
21    on. We always try to send representatives to those to  
22    help educate the public.

23          Our media team does a nightly reminder on  
24    social media, you know, the typical, you like your car,  
25    lock it, take your keys, that kind of thing. We are in

1 discussions with them to start our own Facebook page, less  
2 administration. Only wanted one Facebook page for the  
3 Sheriff's Office. But we are in discussion to kind of  
4 start our own task force media pages so we can immediately  
5 put things out and make reminders like that ourselves.

6 We are -- just a couple other things that are  
7 not up there. We have -- we're comprised of 10 members.  
8 I have one sergeant. I have three detectives from out of  
9 county; I have one from San Jacinto, one from Walker, one  
10 from Grimes County.

11 We have two detectives from Montgomery County.  
12 One's on the grant. One's in-kind.

13 And I have four deputy specialists that are on  
14 the grant. They kind of have a hybrid role. When we need  
15 them in uniform and in marked cars, they respond to that  
16 and help us be are marked presence. They also -- when  
17 they're not doing that, they're also working on the  
18 investigative side, so they double up for us.

19 That's my presentation. Do you have any  
20 questions?

21 MR. DIGGS: So John, could --

22 LT SANCHEZ: Yes?

23 MR. DIGGS: -- I want to make sure I was clear  
24 on -- so you are adjusting your request, your total  
25 request. What was that total dollar amount you gave me?

1 LT SANCHEZ: We're asking now for \$1,113,137.

2 MR. DIGGS: And you said that was to back out  
3 the analyst position.

4 LT SANCHEZ: Correct.

5 MR. DIGGS: Is that correct?

6 LT SANCHEZ: Yes, sir.

7 MR. DIGGS: Okay. All right. Thank you, sir.  
8 Any other questions from the Committee?

9 (No response.)

10 MR. DIGGS: Thank you.

11 LT SANCHEZ: Thank you for your time.

12 MR. DIGGS: I would now like to call up the  
13 Paris Police Department.

14 DET LOGSDEN: Good afternoon. I'm Detective  
15 Cody Logsdan with the Paris Police Department. I am the  
16 program manager and the Task Force commander for the  
17 Northeast Texas Auto Theft Task Force. I have with me  
18 City of Paris Assistant Finance Director Samantha Gudel.

19 So Northeast Texas Auto Theft Task, we've been  
20 funded by the MVCPA since 1994. We cover 10 counties  
21 across the northeast portion of Texas, and we assist  
22 several others, and we also assist a lot of southeastern  
23 Oklahoma. We have over 40 law enforcement agencies in our  
24 coverage area, many of which are small, rural agencies  
25 that don't have very much training in auto theft.

1           Our grant funds would be used to continue our  
2 task force, our mission of reducing auto-related crimes  
3 across Texas, spread awareness of auto-related crimes to  
4 the public. We conduct free VIN etching events, and  
5 attend community events, pass out literature, inform the  
6 public of current auto theft related trends, ways to  
7 protect their vehicles. We attend all the National Night  
8 Outs.

9           We attend our county fairs. Any events that  
10 come up that they'll allow us to attend, we attend and set  
11 up pavilions at. We conduct shop inspections and bait  
12 operations on a consistent basis to locate stolen  
13 property, dismantle criminal organizations, and identify  
14 prolific offenders.

15           And for our FY '26 application, we're  
16 requesting \$608,121 in MVCPA funds, with 123,813 in cash  
17 match. Just for a reference, so in 2022, we were funded  
18 118,000 by the MVCPA. In 2024, we were funded 514,000.  
19 In 2022, we recovered around \$634,000 worth of stolen  
20 vehicles and equipment, made 26 arrests.

21           In 2024, with that increase in funding, we  
22 recovered over \$4.3 million worth of stolen property. And  
23 in that same time frame, 2022 to 2024, we've seen a  
24 decrease of 23 percent in motor vehicle theft in our  
25 entire area and just over 40 percent decrease in BMVs,

1 burglary of motor vehicles.

2 Part of what we're -- that 608,000 we're  
3 requesting, 311- is toward salaries. We are a four-man  
4 task force. We're conducted [sic] of Paris Police  
5 Department, La Marque County Sheriff's Office, and I have  
6 two Hopkins County Sheriff's Office deputies. 32,000 in  
7 overtime, with 92,858 in fringe being used as the cash  
8 match.

9 Part of the MVCPA funds would be used for TCOLE  
10 auto-related training. And then for equipment, we're  
11 requesting some additional tracking devices, body-worn  
12 cameras, and in-car dash cameras with the Motorola LPR  
13 capabilities. And then also registration fees. The  
14 majority of our supplies and direct operating expenses is  
15 our Flock cameras, 138,00 from that.

16 We do have a Facebook and Instagram page, which  
17 we were updating regularly. We were put on pause by the  
18 City of Paris temporarily, but we pretty much got that  
19 worked out. We are going to start posting on there again  
20 as well.

21 And other than that, any questions?

22 MR. DIGGS: Any questions?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. DIGGS: Thank you, sir.

25 DET LOGSDEN: Thank you.

1           MR. DIGGS: I would now like to call up the  
2 Pasadena Police Department.

3           MR. SANDERS: Good morning. I'm Charlie  
4 Sanders from the Pasadena Police Department. This is my  
5 Sergeant, Doug Buckert. He's our Task Force commander.

6           Our grant for FY '26 request is for a total of  
7 \$141,733. That's just a continuation of things that have  
8 already been funded. Specifically, our investigator  
9 position, one of the six full-time investigators that we  
10 have in our office, plus our one sergeant. 18,850 in  
11 equipment, which would be for some cameras and  
12 surveillance equipment, 7,000 in travel and 6,400 in  
13 supplies.

14           The make-up of our task force is, as I said,  
15 one sergeant, six investigators, all full-time officers  
16 from Pasadena Police Department. We do have a full-time  
17 social media unit at the Police Department. Like some  
18 others have mentioned, we don't have our own social media  
19 for the task force, but they're right across the hall from  
20 us and constantly do our posts and stuff for us.

21           We do National Night Out, UNIDOS, the CPA  
22 events. We teach at our police academy, both to our own  
23 folks and to others. We have our own TCOLE police  
24 academy. We also have a full-time community engagement  
25 unit, separate from the social media squad, that we work



1 with also, that hand out the plugs with us.

2 We made up some, like, little QR-code cards  
3 that give out information on common auto-related crimes,  
4 how to prevent your Kia and Hyundai from being stolen  
5 versus, you know, gun thefts from vehicles, and all that  
6 kind of stuff.

7 With that being said, do you have any  
8 questions?

9 MR. DIGGS: Any questions?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. DIGGS: Thank you, sir.

12 MR. SANDERS: Thank you.

13 MR. DIGGS: Okay. We will now recess for  
14 lunch. The time is 11:57 a.m. We will reconvene right at  
15 1:00 p.m.

16 (Whereupon, a lunch recess was taken.)

17 MS. JONES: Resume at 1:03 p.m.

18 Dallas PD, you may get recalled at the end.

19 Thank you.

20 We will begin with Potter County.

21 CMDR McBROOM: Good afternoon. My name is  
22 Patrick McBroom. I'm the commander of the Panhandle Auto  
23 Burglary and Theft Unit. This is for the Task Force grant  
24 application.

25 There's four of us associated with this grant.

1       We have myself and an investigator that was hired  
2 strictly for the task force, and then we have a Potter  
3 County sergeant and a Randall County sergeant that's  
4 assigned to the task force from those respective agencies.

5               In FY '24, we recovered a little over  
6 \$2 million worth of stolen property, conducted 427 agency  
7 assists, 768 68A inspections, public awareness, which I  
8 know is a big thing.

9               In FY '25 so far, we've conducted 730 posts  
10 over four different social media platforms. We have two  
11 Facebook, an X account, and also Instagram account that we  
12 post on those almost daily, several times a day. We've  
13 had over 100,000 views in FY '25 so far on those accounts.

14              So in our area of coverage, we cover the top 22  
15 counties in the Texas Panhandle, which is approximately  
16 22,000 square miles. We have two participating agencies,  
17 which is the Potter County Sheriff's Office and the  
18 Randall County Sheriff's Office, and we cover 39 agencies  
19 within that umbrella of the task force.

20              In FY '24, auto burglaries are down 30 percent  
21 across our area, which is outstanding. Auto theft is down  
22 24 percent. For the last two years, auto theft is down  
23 almost 40 percent overall in our area.

24              So hopefully, it's attributed to us doing what  
25 we're supposed to be doing. However, still attributed to

1 over \$7.5 million from the stolen property over last year,  
2 with auto burglaries, auto thefts.

3 A big problem that we see in our area is the  
4 theft of firearms out of vehicles. The Amarillo area is  
5 one of the most violent cities in the state of Texas, due  
6 to -- with firearm violence. And we had 138 firearms  
7 stolen out of vehicles in auto burglaries in FY 2024.

8 Even though everything is down as far as auto  
9 theft and auto burglary, our fraud-related cases are up  
10 almost 200 percent. So we're seeing a lot of fraud-  
11 related cases, a blooming -- unfortunately. And that's  
12 kind of what we focused on, since auto theft and  
13 burglaries are down so much. We really focused on trying  
14 to slow those fraud cases some.

15 So FY '26 grant application, we're asking for  
16 531,273. We'll be matching that with 123,630. Only thing  
17 additional from last year will be the addition of two  
18 vehicles we're asking for.

19 All of our vehicles are 10 years old, and  
20 they're starting to wear out quite a bit. So we're asking  
21 for those two vehicles. Our in-kind match is \$111,510 for  
22 the task force.

23 And that's my presentation. Any questions?

24 MS. JONES: Any questions, Board members?

25 (No response.)

1 MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

2 MR. DIGGS: So when you get called up here, if  
3 you would, we've got roughly 138 grants to consider  
4 between now and noon tomorrow. We're going to try and  
5 shut it off sometime a little after 5:00 p.m. today.  
6 Please try and stay with three to five minutes, and hit  
7 the highlights of your request.

8 Thank you.

9 MS. JONES: Town of Prosper?

10 DET KUNDAK: Good morning, Board. I'm Jon  
11 Kundak. I'm with the Town of Prosper Police Department.  
12 With me, I have our integral team here from Frisco Police  
13 Department, as well as our intel shop, as well as our  
14 joint first responder managers.

15 So what you'll see here as we go through this  
16 presentation -- and I know that we've asked for a lot, but  
17 we're doing a lot. We were stood up last November,  
18 October of last year, and we told y'all we're going to  
19 crawl, walk. Now, we're walking fast. We're going to hit  
20 the ground running, starting this next year.

21 So as you can see, with Collin County and  
22 Denton County, our population is skyrocketing. So what's  
23 happening is people are coming into our communities and  
24 doing a lot of vehicle-related crimes. And so part of  
25 this is -- what we're trying to do is to enhance the

1 various programs to where we can get a hold and arrest  
2 individuals who commit these crimes.

3 So one thing is, we do have several freeways,  
4 highways, that run through our areas, with Collin and  
5 Denton County, as well as with the city of Frisco and the  
6 town of Prosper.

7 So we were both awarded grants for -- in 2024  
8 and 2025. So now, one thing that we've done with Prosper  
9 is, we've joined together with the Auto Theft Task Force  
10 to enhance our cooperation. We've also joined with other  
11 communities, with Collin County as well, and other  
12 jurisdictions to where it's really, really fantastic to  
13 watch us grow.

14 So right now, we have 64 ALPRs, with plans to  
15 expand with four Flock trailers, one DFR. Frisco has 102  
16 LPRs. Celina has four, but Celina is coming before you  
17 today from the 224 to get more equipment to enhance what  
18 we're trying to do.

19 We intelligence-share. We use a drop  
20 [inaudible] policing model, which everybody is, you know,  
21 trying to do the same thing and to clamp down some of this  
22 crime. We also have cross-analyzed individuals with  
23 Homeland Security Investigations. So we can take federal  
24 cases.

25 Our social media has been up and running for a

1 few months now. We're getting the word out. We do  
2 several things such as social media, like, hide this  
3 stuff, make sure that people are cooperating, and we do a  
4 lot of outreaches, like with Rotary Club and our auto  
5 dealers.

6 This is what we're looking for. This is why  
7 we're here. So as you will see here, we're looking at  
8 joining our DFR Program with Frisco. So our DFR Program  
9 is going to cover all of Frisco, all of Prosper, some  
10 parts of Celina, some parts of McKinney, and some parts  
11 into the western part, into Aubrey and so forth.

12 I have brought subject matter experts on our  
13 DFR Program, if y'all have questions with that. We do  
14 have a lot of equipment requests, but we are growing.  
15 We're growing pretty good. We do have a lot of partners  
16 who are coming on board and are interested in what we're  
17 trying to do.

18 So I'll take any questions y'all have.

19 MS. JONES: Committee members, any questions?

20 (No response.)

21 MS. JONES: There were none. Thank you.

22 DET KUNDAK: Okay. Thank y'all so much.

23 MS. JONES: The City of River Oaks, you're up  
24 next.

25 LT NANCE: I'm Lieutenant Nance from the River

1     Oaks Police Department. Those of you that don't know,  
2     River Oaks is a small, two-square-mile town about five to  
3     10 minutes northwest of here. We've got a population of  
4     8,000.

5             Like I said, two square miles, 17 sworn  
6     positions, and a major highway, connecting Jacksboro  
7     Highway to the Carswell JRB. And we're a small city. We  
8     have big city crimes, crime trends, like stolen cars,  
9     BMVs.

10            We currently have nine license plate readers,  
11     seven of them with -- are grant-funded right now. We're  
12     looking to continue that with the same seven. And our  
13     daily vehicle traffic is about 40,000 to 60,000 through  
14     the entries.

15            Here's the map I got set up. The green's the  
16     city limit boundaries, and the dots are where all of our  
17     current cameras are deployed, catching people going in and  
18     out. And we're asking for 17,500 from the MVCPA, with a  
19     match, 3,500, to pay for the seven subscriptions for LPRs.

20            And our benefits are going to be data from  
21     investigations for stolen vehicles, all the deterrence  
22     from visible entry points into the city, and it also helps  
23     them locating missing persons and endangered persons.  
24     We've put a custom hotlist on there if we have a known  
25     person that's breaking into cars. We'll alert the

1 officers, hey, this entered into this neighborhood, go  
2 there.

3 That's it.

4 MS. JONES: Can you quickly touch on social  
5 media community engagement.

6 LT NANCE: The community engagement, I would  
7 say, is through the deterrence, because the cameras are  
8 not hidden. They're out there. The community knows that  
9 we're doing something to protect them, recover the  
10 vehicles.

11 And as far as, like, social media, we do the  
12 hide it, lock it, [inaudible] it, on Facebook,  
13 sporadically.

14 MS. JONES: Okay. Committee members, any  
15 questions? Mr. Diggs?

16 MR. DIGGS: Lieutenant, when you said seven  
17 subscriptions, were those for current cameras that you  
18 have in place? And are those grant-funded through MVCPA?  
19 Or are those cameras that you've already funded through  
20 the City?.

21 LT NANCE: No. So FY '24, we already had two,  
22 prior to that one. That was our first year for the grant.  
23 So the seven are the only ones that are funded under the  
24 grant.

25 MR. DIGGS: Okay. Thank you.



1 LT NANCE: Uh-huh.

2 MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

3 LT NANCE: Thank you.

4 MS. JONES: City of San Angelo? And then after  
5 San Angelo is San Antonio.

6 LT CANNADY: Good afternoon. My name is Jeremy  
7 Cannady. I'm a lieutenant with the San Angelo Police  
8 Department, and transitioning to being charge of the  
9 Criminal Investigation Division.

10 Currently, we have about 100,000 population,  
11 with a transient population of 10,000 college students and  
12 another 3,000 to 5,000 military members. We have 180  
13 sworn officers, and our crime rates are in line with the  
14 state average.

15 We have a large problem with burglary of motor  
16 vehicles, as well as vehicle theft. Approximately 10  
17 percent of all of our crime is auto theft in one form or  
18 another, including vehicles, trailers, catalytic  
19 convertors, and burglaries of motor vehicles. We found  
20 that 17 percent of burglary of motor vehicles in our city  
21 result in a firearm being stolen, and those are frequently  
22 tied to our violent crime.

23 Currently, we have 11 detectives that are non-  
24 narcotics, non-child abuse. They're responsible, among  
25 the 11 of them, for all the auto crime, as well as all the

1 murders, aggravated assaults, and any other crimes.  
2 Currently, there -- are units are reactive to reports of  
3 auto theft crimes, with the lack of real-time intelligence  
4 and information.

5 And so we currently are planning and have  
6 funded 13 cameras in fiscal year '26 that are ALPR. We're  
7 asking for funds for an additional 30 cameras, for a total  
8 of 43 cameras, to be placed throughout the city. Funding  
9 for -- as well as funding for two auto theft force  
10 investigators that will solely dedicated to auto theft  
11 investigation.

12 The 30 cameras with installation fees, we're  
13 requesting \$71,708, matching of 14,382, and the  
14 investigators, including benefits, requested funds of  
15 \$90,899 per investigator. And so matching funds of 18,180  
16 per investigator, with the total for two investigators of  
17 218,158.

18 So the total camera police request is \$71,708.

19 The total investigator is \$181,797. The total request  
20 being 253,505, with the total match of 50,702 cash match.

21 So as far as social media and community  
22 engagement, we have a neighborhood outreach officer that  
23 they will partner with. We also have public information.

24 Our Facebook has 43,000 followers. And they'll partner  
25 with our drone unit as well to conduct nighttime

1 operations.

2 MS. JONES: Any questions from the Committee?

3 (No response.)

4 MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

5 San Antonio? And then San Marcos, you're up  
6 next.

7 SGT ROMERO: Good afternoon. My name is Raul  
8 Romero. I'm a supervisor with the San Antonio Police  
9 Department. I'm one of three sergeants attached to our  
10 ReACT, Regional Auto Crimes Taskforce.

11 San Antonio has a population of almost 1.5  
12 million. We are located in Bexar County, a population of  
13 just over 2 million.

14 In 2023, we had 19,294 thefts. In 2024, we had  
15 12,946, and we're on pace to do about 10,000, bringing  
16 that to a 31 percent reduction. ReACT is staffed with 29  
17 members, with funding from MVCPA, SAPD, NICB, and DPS.

18 That chart there is a breakdown of our staffing  
19 and who it's funded by. We have one lieutenant, three  
20 sergeants, 20 detectives, one admin 2, and two admin 1s.  
21 We also have an NICB agent and a DPS agent attached to our  
22 unit.

23 ReACT is requesting 1.369 million to fund one  
24 sergeant, nine detectives, one admin 1 and one admin 2,  
25 and a crime intel analyst. Ninety-six percent of that

1 will go to salary costs and overtime, and 4 percent covers  
2 travel, equipment, and supplies.

3 For fiscal year '26, we're requesting a crime  
4 intel analyst. We do not have an analyst on our unit.  
5 Those duties are being performed by supervisors. We can't  
6 keep up with the demand.

7 We do have intel analysts on the Department  
8 that are spread out through different units and the fusion  
9 center, but they're tightly compliant when we use them,  
10 and they're not very effective. They go back to their  
11 parent unit, and we're left to conduct those duties. This  
12 position will be housed within our office space dedicated  
13 to the Vehicle Crimes Unit. Getting together the  
14 patterns, putting together the patterns, and identifying  
15 these suspects so we can go out and apprehend them, along  
16 with helping out other MVCPA task forces.

17 That's our request for fiscal year '26. I'd be  
18 happy to answer any questions.

19 MS. JONES: Any questions?

20 (No response.)

21 MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

22 SGT ROMERO: Thank you.

23 MS. JONES: After San Marcos, Smith County.

24 CMDR SPRIEGEL: Good afternoon. I'm Erik  
25 Spriegel, San Marcos Police Department, commander of our

1 Criminal Investigation Division and the program director  
2 for our grant. I will try to make this brief.

3 Going the wrong way. That's how brief.

4 The city of San Marcos is located on the IH-35  
5 corridor. We're 30 miles south of Austin and 40 miles  
6 north of San Antonio, which is obviously a very rapidly  
7 growing area within the state. In January 2025, our  
8 estimated population is 90,988, with a daytime population  
9 significantly higher, due to the home of Texas State  
10 University, which is the seventh largest university in the  
11 state of Texas, just over 40,000 enrollment.

12 And also home to the San Marcos Outlet Mall,  
13 which has both Prime and Tanger side, which encompasses  
14 about 340 tenants, and attracts 11 million visitors  
15 annually, including a number of tourists from Latin  
16 America, Europe, and Asia. And of course, the San Marcos  
17 River also attracts some summertime population.

18 We are approximately 35 square miles, the city  
19 itself, but what we lack in size, we make up for in crime.

20 In 2023, we had 468 BMVs, and we had 226 vehicles stolen.

21 That increased in 2024 when we went to 284, which is just  
22 over five a week, with a 21 percent increase.

23 Fortunately, we're seeing a slight reduction in  
24 that for 2025. Through the end of May, I think we're down  
25 17 percent from our 2024 numbers. So we're making some

1 progress.

2 2025 -- I'm sorry -- fiscal year 2025 was our  
3 first foray into MVCPA, when we requested a grant to stand  
4 up an Auto Crimes Unit, which is currently one detective.

5 We had hoped to increase those numbers this year, but we  
6 weren't able to do so.

7 So the grant actually became official in  
8 December 2024. So the last seven months is more or less  
9 laying the groundwork. The detective has gone to part one  
10 and part two. Along with the TAVTI conference, they -- we  
11 liaison with our sister agencies, Hays County Sheriff's  
12 Department, which used to be part of the Travis County  
13 Task Force.

14 We also liaison with Guadalupe County and Comal  
15 County. So with Hays County, we started sending our  
16 detective to do 68A inspections. So they've been  
17 assisting with that. And in that time, we've been able to  
18 recover two VIN swap vehicles, which we've used to train  
19 some of our patrol officers on what to look for and  
20 detect.

21 As it relates to community relations, we are  
22 working with our Community Services Division to start  
23 attending with our Coffee with a Cop, and along with their  
24 two CPA classes they do yearly. Social media wise, we're  
25 starting to push some of that stuff out.

1           We also meet with our hotel managers, which  
2 meet quarterly. And the Outlet Mall has monthly meetings  
3 with their tenants, and so we attend those as well.

4           MS. JONES: Sir, does your analytical research  
5 suggest why there's a continued increase in auto theft?

6           CMDR SPRIEGEL: We've had our analysts look at  
7 it, and to be honest, I hate to say it, for those that  
8 have kids that go to Texas State University, but we're a  
9 target-rich environment. So we have Highway 80,  
10 Highway 21 and 123. And they've shown, due -- through  
11 their analysis, 20 percent of our crime comes from  
12 Houston, Harris County -- thank you. So --

13          MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

14          CMDR SPRIEGEL: Yes, ma'am.

15          MR. SLOAN: Commander, your stolen vehicle  
16 numbers also including those on campus, or is that not a  
17 factor?

18          CMDR SPRIEGEL: Those are separate, although  
19 the vast majority of the students for Texas State  
20 University live within the city of San Marcos. There  
21 is -- I think they only require freshmen to stay on  
22 campus. So the majority live within our boundaries, as  
23 opposed to Texas State University.

24          MR. DIGGS: Any other questions?

25          MS. JONES: Any additional questions?

1 MR. JACKSON: Where do you see the majority of  
2 those being recovered at?

3 CMDR SPRIEGEL: Usually, outside of our city.  
4 A lot of trucks are getting stolen. We have the  
5 Kia/Hyundai issues as well.

6 And we've seen some of the Mopar products being  
7 taken from hotels in the area. Those typically we see in  
8 Austin or San Antonio, going to chop shops. They're  
9 getting recovered there.

10 MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

11 CMDR SPRIEGEL: Thank you.

12 MS. JONES: Smith County? And then Tarrant  
13 County.

14 Tarrant County, if you would like to move up  
15 front. We have plenty of space up front for you. Thank  
16 you, sir.

17 LT RICHBOURG: Good afternoon. Kenneth  
18 Richbourg. I'm with DPS. I'm a lieutenant with them, and  
19 I'm the commander of the Smith County East Texas Auto  
20 Theft Task Force.

21 We have -- for our task force, we have four  
22 participating agencies in this multi-agency task force.  
23 We've been established since 1993. And the agencies  
24 include Smith County, Tyler Police Department, Henderson  
25 County, Rusk County, myself with DPS.



1           We have one part-time administrator assistant.

2           And Smith County District Attorney prosecutes our cases  
3           and provides a cash match for us as well. We cover 11  
4           counties, mainly rural counties and communities that have  
5           difficulty maintaining officers, and rely on us for  
6           investigative help for their auto theft crimes.

7           Our primary function is vehicle theft  
8           investigations. We do 68A inspections, and we dedicate  
9           one day to those, which on -- it's Mondays. Last year, we  
10          did approximately 1,400. This year, at the end of the  
11          third quarter, we had just under 1,000.

12          We provide agency assists. We do trade shows,  
13          booths, National Nights Out, and we are active on social  
14          media again, thanks to Amber. We use bait trailers,  
15          trackers, pole cameras, LPRs. We do a lot of fraud  
16          investigations now, with title and registrations that come  
17          to the tax offices.

18          We assist our partner task forces, NICB, and  
19          other non-law enforcement organizations. And we do our  
20          own training for our local jurisdictions, as well as  
21          police academies that we use our investigators for.

22          Last year, we had 47 arrests just for motor  
23          vehicle crimes, and then all the others included came out  
24          to 60, with 55 cases filed with the District Attorney's  
25          offices. You can see a chart of last year versus this

1 year. We're down both in recoveries and thefts, from 220  
2 to 120 at the third quarter.

3 We're asking for funding to continue at the  
4 same amount, to continue our operations. And what we're  
5 asking for from MVCPA is \$420,084. That will be cash  
6 match with a total of 505. We have in-kind of 174,000,  
7 which is mainly provided by some of the agencies and DPS,  
8 that provides me at no charge to the MVCPA, saving them  
9 that money, as well as vehicles and equipment.

10 Of the 420-, the main portion of it is for  
11 personnel, which is 345-, travel which is about 7,500,  
12 supplies and DOE, which is 2,300.

13 So that's my presentation. If you have any  
14 questions, I'll answer.

15 MS. JONES: Any questions for the Lieutenant?

16 (No response.)

17 MS. JONES: No questions, sir.

18 LT RICHBOURG: Thank you.

19 MS. JONES: Thank you. Tarrant County, you're  
20 up, and if Travis County can switch seats and move up,  
21 that would be great. Thank you.

22 SGT PEDERSEN: Madam Chair and Committee,  
23 greetings. I want to thank you for having us today. My  
24 name is Matt Pedersen. I'm the Commander of the Tarrant  
25 Regional Auto Crimes Task Force. And with me for support,

1 mostly emotional, is Ann Marie Peña, my grant manager.

2 The Tarrant Regional Auto Crimes Task Force,  
3 consisting of 14 participating agencies, employing two  
4 supervisors, 12 investigators, a crime analyst, two  
5 professional staff, and an assistant district attorney.  
6 We also benefit from a cooperative working agreement with  
7 the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles by providing them  
8 office space for five investigators.

9 The task force's program area consists of seven  
10 counties, covering nearly 100 local law enforcement  
11 agencies and 2.4 million Texas consumers. In addition to  
12 our program area, we offer support to Texas DMV Regional  
13 Service Centers and citizens in the form of 68A  
14 inspections to five additional counties to our northwest.

15 The task force serves as a force multiplier for  
16 these agencies, employing a five-pronged approach to auto  
17 crime detection and suppression, including investigations,  
18 enforcement, intelligence, training, and prevention.  
19 Operations concentrate on large-dollar losses that target  
20 prolific offenders and expose and prosecute organized  
21 criminal rings.

22 In grant year '24, our program experienced  
23 decreases in auto thefts, vehicle burglaries, and thefts  
24 of parts, while the number of reported fraud offenses  
25 remained roughly the same. Though not as statistically

1 significant as state and national trends, it demonstrates  
2 that our operational blueprint is both sound and  
3 effective. And despite national and state decreases,  
4 Texas ranks second behind California in the number of  
5 thefts by volume, and the DFW Metroplex ranked fifth in  
6 the country among the top ten metro areas, behind LA, San  
7 Francisco, New York City, and Houston.

8 This, according to a 2024 NICB report,  
9 demonstrates that there were -- we are collectively making  
10 a significant impact on auto theft. The continued funding  
11 will help to ensure continued success at a local level.  
12 In grant year '25, the majority of our task force's  
13 activity measures on our track to either equal or exceed  
14 the previous year's levels.

15 Our task force expects to exceed 800 assigned  
16 cases, 200 arrests, 600 vehicle recoveries, and 5,500  
17 agency and citizen assists, to name a few. To maintain  
18 this level of service, we applied for a total operating  
19 budget of \$2.7 million, consisting of \$2 million in MVCPA  
20 funds, in addition to a \$703,000 cash match from our  
21 participating agencies.

22 Eighty-seven percent of our budget is dedicated  
23 to salaries, as the DFW Metroplex remains one of the most  
24 competitive regions of law enforcement pay. The remaining  
25 13 percent of our budget is required for daily operating

1 costs.

2 New requests specifically include two  
3 replacement vehicles, a four-post vehicle lift, extended  
4 warranties for our MDCs, and funds to update our  
5 prevention displays and promotional materials. So whether  
6 we're conducting undercover operations, connecting  
7 suspects and schemes via intel sharing, offering certified  
8 instructions, statewide trainings -- I hear you --  
9 prosecuting organized groups, or capitalizing on social  
10 media and that sort of thing, the positive -- the main  
11 foundation that we have is this MVCPA funding, which is  
12 why we're here today, to request essentially continuation  
13 for our 33rd year.

14 MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

15 Any questions from the Committee?

16 Thank you, sir.

17 SGT PEDERSEN: Thank you.

18 MS. JONES: Travis County, you are next.

19 City of Victoria, if you are in the back or  
20 middle, please move up.

21 LT KRENEK: Good morning.

22 MS. JONES: Good morning.

23 LT KRENEK: Hi. My name is Jason Krenek. I'm  
24 a lieutenant with the Travis County Sheriff's Office, and  
25 recently assigned for the program manager for the task

1 force. I do have Sergeant Hughes here with me. He's the  
2 task commander.

3 And I've recently taken the role. This is  
4 obviously new for me, so I appreciate the patience in  
5 getting through this.

6 We -- to give you a little history of the  
7 SCATTF currently, it's been in existence since 1996. And  
8 it -- at some point, at the highest point of its task  
9 force endeavor, it's had 16 counties.

10 We are now currently Travis, Bell, and Gonzales  
11 County, and the transition for this task force is going to  
12 Travis County only. So we're going to drop Bell and  
13 Gonzales at the new fiscal year. So that -- with that  
14 being said, to highlight what the task force is going to  
15 be comprised of, TC-ACE is going to be the Travis County  
16 Auto Crimes Enforcement.

17 As you know, Travis County's population for the  
18 county is 1.3 million. Collectively, with the Austin  
19 Metro, and to include Georgetown, Round Rock, and Austin  
20 is 2.5 million. That being said, we know that, you know,  
21 obviously what crime comes with that.

22 Our current task force is comprised of the task  
23 commander. We have four detectives with Travis County,  
24 two investigators, one from Bell and one from Gonzales.  
25 We have one law enforcement specialist, and we have one

1 community liaison.

2 Currently, we are in a transition with that  
3 position. The person who was holding that position  
4 actually went to police academy, and we currently have 62  
5 applicants to fill that vacancy currently. So there will  
6 no changes in that.

7 As you know, we cover about 1,000 square miles.

8 We want to shift from the multi-county task force  
9 essentially to our own. This is in efforts to become a  
10 more proactive task force.

11 We want to -- and we will continue, and it's  
12 been a longstanding tradition with the Travis County  
13 Sheriff's Office to work and collaborate with other  
14 agencies, bordering counties, and such as that. And we do  
15 continue to do that.

16 We have social media. Right now, we currently  
17 have Facebook. We're exploring the idea of Instagram and  
18 X to enhance that citizen awareness and things such as  
19 that.

20 We're doing VIN etchings in FY '25. Have  
21 conducted four. And we want to expand our capabilities  
22 through equipment and technology to upgrade our efforts.

23 The transmission to this task force, I  
24 request -- while we're reducing two investigators, we want  
25 to absorb -- we're essentially losing the two from Bell

1 County and Gonzales. We want to add that from four Travis  
2 County to six. This allows us to conduct more proactive  
3 activities.

4 We want to purchase and deploy LPR equipment,  
5 and through major roadways of Travis County. We also want  
6 to upgrade and replace the existing LPR systems that we  
7 currently have. And the use of our crime analysts and LES  
8 to recognize the trends and patterns, as they go along.

9 The biggest thing is we've had three homicides  
10 directly related to PFFs in Travis County, and -- or two  
11 homicides, and both have been Kias. And we've had one  
12 officer-involved -- close officer-involved shooting  
13 related to a stolen vehicle within this fiscal year. So  
14 this effort is to continue.

15 This is what we're requesting.

16 MS. JONES: Sir, are you shifting from multi to  
17 single?

18 LT KRENEK: Yes, ma'am.

19 MS. JONES: So it's Bell County and Gonzales?  
20 Or are they going to be absorbed by another task force?

21 LT KRENEK: Do not know --

22 MS. JONES: Are they --

23 LT KRENEK: -- if they're going to be absorbed.

24 MS. JONES: Okay.

25 LT KRENEK: We do not know that.



1 MS. JONES: Okay. All right. Thank you, sir.

2 Any questions?

3 (No response.)

4 MS. JONES: Thank you.

5 LT KRENEK: All right.

6 MS. JONES: Victoria? And then the Town of  
7 Addison. How did we get from -- okay. Got it.

8 So Victoria?

9 SGT ROGERS: Got to push the button. Forgot.

10 The Victoria PD Auto Theft Task Force. We  
11 cover the city and county of Victoria, as well as counties  
12 of Goliad, Calhoun, Lavaca, Refugio, DeWitt, and we  
13 actually cover Gonzales County in our grant. I don't know  
14 if Travis County also had it in theirs previously, but we  
15 also have it in ours.

16 Victoria is the largest city in a seven-county  
17 area in South Texas. We're centrally located, two hours  
18 from four major Texas cities. And we are at the  
19 intersection of major U.S. highways, including US-59, 77,  
20 and 87. We encompass -- our coverage area encompasses  
21 over 5,600 square miles.

22 We've had an MVCPA-funded task force for over  
23 30 years. Our Department is 130 officers when we're fully  
24 staffed, and our task force is two detectives and a  
25 sergeant.

1           The reasons that we're requesting grant funding  
2           or continued funding is, so far this year, year-to-date,  
3           we've recovered 52 stolen vehicles, made 21 arrests for  
4           motor vehicle theft, recovered over 1.1 million in stolen  
5           vehicles, over 300,000 in stolen equipment. We routinely  
6           provide coverage to -- or assistance to our coverage  
7           agencies, almost daily, everything from vehicle  
8           identification to assisting with search warrants.

9           And the funding that we're requesting, it's  
10          315,865 for the two detectives and the sergeant's salary,  
11          \$5,000 for equipment for one of our new vehicles that we  
12          just got, 21,000 for Vigilant LPR cameras, 4,000 -- excuse  
13          me -- 15,000 in software subscriptions, which also  
14          includes the Vigilant, as well as Covert Track  
15          subscriptions, \$4,000 in advertising, and 500 in  
16          miscellaneous supplies. We also have 65,488 in cash  
17          match.

18          And some of our awareness campaigns -- we run  
19          the Lock, Take, Hide billboards during peak seasons for  
20          burglaries in major areas, in shopping centers. We've  
21          done auto theft awareness campaigns at livestock shows in  
22          Victoria. We've done public awareness campaigns as well  
23          at our colleges.

24          We do VIN etching usually twice a year, with an  
25          average of 120 participants. And we run social media

1 posts on our Facebook -- or Department Facebook around 20  
2 times a year.

3 Questions?

4 (No response.)

5 MS. JONES: No, sir. Thank you.

6 SGT ROGERS: Thank you.

7 MS. JONES: Good afternoon, sir. We have --  
8 we're going all the way back to C.

9 MR. KNUTSON: Good afternoon. My name is Kyle  
10 Knutson, and I serve as the program manager for the Corpus  
11 Christi Auto Theft Task Force. And this is Lieutenant --  
12 you look different -- Lieutenant Hager was the Task Force  
13 commander.

14 Today, I'm presenting our FY '26 MVCPA Task  
15 Force grant application. Our task force has proudly  
16 partnered with MVCPA for over 20 years, building a long  
17 term -- building long term results through consistent  
18 collaboration and commitment.

19 The Corpus Christi Auto Theft Task Force is a  
20 specialized unit within the Criminal Investigation  
21 Division of CCPD. Our city's location, as both a poor and  
22 border city, places us at a high risk for motor vehicle  
23 crimes, including theft, trafficking, and fraud.

24 The task force comprises of seven law  
25 enforcement officers and operational officer, a Task Force

1 commander, a part-time NICB agent, a crime analyst, a  
2 program manager, and an investigative intake specialist.  
3 We serve areas of Corpus Christi, Nueces County, and San  
4 Pat. We provide investigative and enforcement support to  
5 neighboring jurisdictions that lack specialized units as  
6 well.

7 The reason we are requesting MVCPA funds is  
8 driven through high volume of auto theft, burglary. In  
9 2024, we had over 2,300 BMVs, and nearly 1,000 UUMVs. Our  
10 strategic location as a poor border city means we are a  
11 key trafficking route for stolen vehicles headed to  
12 Mexico. We also face increasing challenges, including  
13 fraud-related crimes and felony-level crimes linked to  
14 stolen vehicles.

15 Plans for the funds, we are requesting 894,028  
16 from MVCPA, supported by 191,861 cash match and 770 in-  
17 kind. This funds primarily personnel costs, including  
18 salaries, fringe benefits, and overtime for field  
19 operations from MVCPA. It's funding one Task Force  
20 commander, three detectives, one crime analyst, a program  
21 manager, and an intake specialist.

22 Additional support will go towards travel and  
23 professional development, interagency collaboration. Our  
24 staff regularly attends TAVTI, IATI, MVCPA conferences,  
25 MVCPA Board meetings, and crime analyst training. Staying

1 ahead of trends is critical to combating motor vehicle  
2 crimes.

3 We also are allocating funds towards  
4 investigative tools, including LPR licensing readers,  
5 Covert Tracking technology and related equipment to ensure  
6 high quality investigative recoveries.

7 Public awareness. Public awareness remains a  
8 cornerstone of our prevention strategy. One of the  
9 flagship efforts too are If You Like It, Lock It campaign.

10 Basically, we go to the Hooks game and we throw the first  
11 pitch, and we do a lot of public awareness.

12 Just short enough.

13 MS. JONES: Not.

14 MR. KNUTSON: Any questions?

15 (No response.)

16 MS. JONES: No questions from us, but I do  
17 like, when you were looking for your backup, and  
18 Lieutenant tapped you up, as though you're getting ready  
19 to execute a search warrant.

20 (General laughter.)

21 MS. JONES: He wanted you to know that he was  
22 there. Great teamwork.

23 LT HAGER: Sorry about that.

24 MR. KNUTSON: Thank you.

25 MS. JONES: You're welcome. Stand by, Dallas.

1 Stand by. Dallas PD? And bring your partner.

2 SGT RODEN: Hello.

3 MR. DIGGS: If you could, go ahead and state  
4 your name again.

5 SGT RODEN: Sergeant Bryan Roden, for the  
6 record.

7 MR. JACKSON: Sergeant, if you would walk us  
8 through your overtime ask. Break that down for us between  
9 your scheduled and unscheduled overtime.

10 SGT RODEN: Scheduled? What's the difference  
11 between scheduled and unscheduled?

12 MR. JACKSON: So scheduled, meaning that you're  
13 going to proactively and do some type of event.  
14 Unscheduled, you're working over on an ongoing  
15 investigation.

16 SGT RODEN: Well, how I broke it down in my  
17 narrative was that there's 16 personnel, people in the  
18 task force, with an average overtime rate of around \$60 an  
19 hour. That's 16 people working five hours per week on  
20 auto theft prevention operation activities, equals  
21 80 hours of overtime per week.

22 Eighty hours at \$60 an hour is 4,800 per week,  
23 19,200 per month. With the 12-month fiscal year, that's  
24 \$230,400. Now, the two months where the FIFA World Cup  
25 was there, I upped that just a little bit more, just

1 because of the nature of what's going on and what's going  
2 to be required of us.

3 MR. JACKSON: So walk us through that piece  
4 there, with the special activities. Is it -- are you  
5 going to be working in patrol, uniform? Or are you going  
6 to be working proactive auto theft activities for those  
7 events?

8 SGT RODEN: So I have a mixture of both.  
9 The -- couple of years past, the grants purchased us two  
10 F150s that are outfitted for police vehicles. They're not  
11 covert trucks.

12 They're police vehicles and F150s. We have two  
13 UT4 side-by-side vehicles. So we're going to be doing a  
14 combination of both.

15 There's going to be undercover officers going  
16 around looking to see what's going on, up and down parking  
17 garages and things like that. And whether they find  
18 something or they don't, then they're going to call the  
19 uniformed officers to be able to take action on that. So  
20 there are going to be a mixture of uniform activities and  
21 covert activities.

22 The reason we expanded our task force to  
23 include police officers and uniformed officers -- so we  
24 could be more self-sufficient, and not have to pull  
25 resources from patrol. If all of us are out in covert

1 capacity and then we have to get on the radio to call for  
2 uniformed officers, it just slows down the response time.

3 It pulls resources from other people.

4 So this is how we kind of built this around, so  
5 we're more self-sustained. We don't have to pull any  
6 resources from patrol stations or any other units.

7 MR. JACKSON: And a last question for you, what  
8 is the percentage of increase of overtime that you're  
9 asking for in this fiscal year versus last year?

10 SGT RODEN: There's really no percentage of  
11 increase. The only difference is, I think -- the total  
12 number is the same, the exact same. The only difference  
13 in the breakdown is that the -- for the months when the  
14 World Cup is there, it came up to \$30,000, instead of what  
15 the 20,000 basically for the regular months without the  
16 World Cup.

17 And that's just because we're going to be, like  
18 I said -- we have been mandated not to have any  
19 discretionary leave. So we're going to be used in several  
20 covert capacities, several overt capacities. Lord knows  
21 what they're going to have us do.

22 But I would want to make something very clear,  
23 that we aren't in the business of protection. We're out  
24 there to prevent offenses, because these people are coming  
25 from all over the country and all over the world. We're



1 not there to escort.

2 We're not there to -- dignitary protection. We  
3 are there for proactive and overt active measures to be  
4 able to prevent offenses.

5 MS. JONES: So, sir, I have to commend you on a  
6 great job for knowing your presentation, knowing the needs  
7 of your department, and being able to answer questions,  
8 and you didn't need backup. Thank you.

9 SGT RODEN: Y'all can clap.

10 (General laughter.)

11 MS. JONES: Mr. Diggs?

12 MR. DIGGS: Yeah. So Sergeant Roden -- so  
13 basically, what we've got here is -- you've planned for  
14 one hour of overtime per person a day. That doesn't  
15 necessarily means that you're going burn that overtime.  
16 But you're prepared to be able to fund that if necessary?

17 SGT RODEN: Yes, sir. And that's not counting  
18 the call-back duties that we -- if we're working a case  
19 and we're automatically on something, or if we get called  
20 in from patrol, and we have to work a chop shop and things  
21 like that. This is the really -- I know the dollar  
22 amounts seems to be a lot, but when it comes to one hour a  
23 day or two hours for the people on the payroll, it's not  
24 as egregious as it sounds.

25 MR. DIGGS: Thank you.

1 MS. JONES: Excellent job.

2 SGT RODEN: Can I go back? Okay.

3 MS. JONES: We're now going into our SB224  
4 portion, and if you know that you are up next, just on  
5 standby to come up. I don't know if you guys want to make  
6 a hole so people can come through, if they need to sit in  
7 the front.

8 Do not be afraid of the front. Just be  
9 efficient and ready to go. We have the Town of Addison.  
10 After that is the City of Allen.

11 MR. DIGGS: Get a picture now.

12 (Pause.)

13 MS. JONES: Okay. Sir, we are going to move on  
14 to Agenda Item No. 6, and then we're going to come back to  
15 224. You get a reprieve.

16 Can you read for me, please? Thank you.

17 MR. DIGGS: So we're going to go ahead and move  
18 into FY '26 Taskforce Grant Solicitation Application  
19 Recommendations. So this will conclude the task force.  
20 And then the Committee will -- it's an action item for the  
21 Committee, and they will either give it a thumbs-up --  
22 they will vote yea or nay to move forward into the Board  
23 meeting tomorrow.

24 So for the Austin Police Department, the amount  
25 recommended is \$532,588. Beaumont Police Department is

1 \$760,241. Brownsville Police Department is \$1,960,343.

2 Burnet County Sheriff's Office is \$744,122.

3 Corpus Christi Police Department is \$894,028.

4 Dallas County Sheriff's Office is \$1,283,888. The Dallas

5 Police Department is \$1,732,442. Eagle Pass Police

6 Department is \$361,449.

7 El Paso Police Department is \$2,023,985.

8 Farmers Branch Police Department is \$240,000. Galveston

9 County Sheriff's Office is \$1,075,096. Harris County

10 Sheriff's Office is \$1,240,191.

11 Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office is \$1,052,143.

12 Houston Police Department is \$2,402,936. Laredo Police

13 Department is \$1,904,825. The Lubbock County DA's Office

14 is \$1,088,277.

15 The Mansfield Police Department is \$963,810.

16 The Maverick County Sheriff's Department is \$242,679.

17 Montgomery County Sheriff's Office is \$1,074,187. Paris

18 Police Department is \$608,121.

19 Pasadena Police Department is \$141,733. The

20 Potter County Sheriff's Office is \$531,273. The Prosper

21 Police Department is \$1,320,829. River Oaks Police

22 Department is \$17,500. San Angelo Police Department is

23 \$253,505.

24 The San Antonio Police Department is

25 \$1,369,199. The San Marcos Police Department is \$182,922.

1       The Smith County Sheriff's Office is \$420,957. The  
2       Tarrant County Sheriff's Office is \$2,088,421.

3               The Travis County Sheriff's Office is  
4       \$1,164,849. And the Victoria Police Department is  
5       \$315,865.

6               MS. JONES: Thank you for helping me out there.

7               Cassandra, are there any items for discussion  
8       from the public?

9               MS. FLINT: No, ma'am. There are no comments  
10       or questions.

11              MR. DIGGS: So Madam Chair, I would just move  
12       that we approve these recommendations.

13              MR. SLOAN: Make a motion we move to approve  
14       the recommendations.

15              MR. JACKSON: Make a second motion to approve.

16              MS. JONES: It's two to three. I'm thinking  
17       about Dallas.

18              (General laughter.)

19              MS. JONES: Oh, it's hot. They need a fan.  
20       It's approved. We'll recommend to the Board.

21              This is why there's an attorney up here, to  
22       keep me in line. He's probably over there, like,  
23       sweating. Great job, everyone. Excellent presentations.

24              We're now going to go into our 224 portion of  
25       it. Same thing. You guys are doing an excellent job.

1 Just stick to the flow.

2 Stick to the minutes, and if we have any  
3 questions, we'll ask. Just make sure you cover everything  
4 as needed. Perfect.

5 ASST CHIEF SMETZER: Good afternoon. My name  
6 is T.J. Smetzer. I'm an assistant chief with the Addison  
7 Police Department. Also with me is Sergeant Kirk  
8 McFarland, also with the Addison Police Department.

9 This is the first year that Addison has applied  
10 for a grant. Addison is a suburb of Dallas and located in  
11 Dallas County. Addison is a unique city with over 200  
12 bars and restaurants, several large office buildings, and  
13 a large general aviation airport, but a small residential  
14 population.

15 I should note, it is the commercial areas where  
16 we've seen the biggest issues with thefts of catalytic  
17 convertors and of vehicles. The Addison Police Department  
18 does have a robust community engagement program, including  
19 a newly appointed community engagement officer who  
20 frequently meets with residents and businesses, giving  
21 them crime prevention tips, including catalytic convertor  
22 and vehicle theft tips.

23 We also use social media, including Facebook  
24 and X, to share crime prevention tips with the community.  
25 Addison Police Department does have a robust crime

1 analyst program, including one full-time crime analyst who  
2 works with neighboring cities and regional law enforcement  
3 partners to help combat catalytic convertor thefts and  
4 vehicle thefts.

5 Over the last several years, Addison has seen a  
6 large spike in catalytic convertor and vehicle thefts. We  
7 have found that many of these thefts involve organized  
8 crime groups conducting the thefts. Often these suspects  
9 arrive using stolen vehicles or vehicles with no or fake  
10 license plates, making identification difficult.

11 However, using license plate readers, targeted  
12 patrols, in collaboration with regional law enforcement,  
13 Addison has been able to decrease the number of catalytic  
14 convertor and vehicle thefts over the last year. Addison  
15 Police Department first began using license plate readers  
16 in 2018, and has had great success in using this  
17 technology. As a busy city with limited resources,  
18 leveraging technology to help our officers do their job  
19 easier and safer is key.

20 In fact, since first using LPRs in 2018, LPRs  
21 have allowed us to bring leads, warrants, and/or  
22 convictions in 392 cases. Unfortunately, the current  
23 license plate readers are becoming end-of-life and not as  
24 reliable as when they were first installed. Frequently,  
25 as many as 25 percent of our cameras are down and waiting

1 on maintenance to get them back online.

2 Additionally, the Department currently uses two  
3 different vendors of LPR, which makes it more difficult  
4 for our officers.

5 This chart shows the catalytic convertor and  
6 vehicle thefts over the last four years, highlighting the  
7 spike in reduction we were able to achieve, thanks to our  
8 targeted patrols, enforcement, and LPR. I should also  
9 note that we added nine additional modern LPR cameras when  
10 we found these newer cameras are much more user-friendly  
11 for officers and more reliable than the older cameras.

12 Addison PD is asking for approximately \$216,000  
13 to help install a new, modern license plate readers  
14 network, with 66 cameras all under one single vendor.  
15 Additionally, the vendor we are planning to utilize is the  
16 same vendor all of our neighboring agencies use, allowing  
17 us to be more efficient and leverage cameras on our  
18 borders. This will allow Addison PD to continue our great  
19 work we have achieved over the last few years in helping  
20 to reduce crime.

21 Happy to answer any questions.

22 MS. JONES: Mr. Diggs?

23 MR. DIGGS: I did -- and thank you for the  
24 presentation. I did want to remind all of the applicants,  
25 both task force and SB224, your attendance tomorrow is

1 still required. The full Board still may have questions  
2 tomorrow.

3 It starts at 1:00 p.m. tomorrow. So please be  
4 in attendance. Thank you.

5 MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

6 ASST CHIEF SMETZER: Thank you.

7 SGT ERTER: Ready?

8 MS. JONES: Yes, sir.

9 SGT ERTER: All right.

10 MS. JONES: Allen. City of Allen.

11 SGT ERTER: Thank you for your time, especially  
12 after lunch. Hopefully you're staying awake through all  
13 these presentations.

14 City of Allen, we're asking for a little over  
15 \$81,000 for -- to go towards two surveillance and speed  
16 trailers. City of Allen is 27 square miles. We're  
17 located along 121 and 75.

18 We have a tremendous amount of growth, just  
19 like all the other cities around us. Lots of retail  
20 space, which increases our theft, including the motor  
21 vehicle and BMVs, with all the extra attractions we have  
22 in the whole area, including McKinney, Frisco, Prosper,  
23 bringing a lot of criminality up to our area.

24 We had, in 2023, 87 catalytic convertor theft  
25 reports. Like everybody else, this has drastically



1 reduced. A lot of it had to do with the legislation from  
2 the State. We've only had seven this year.

3 But with our motor vehicle burglaries, in 2023,  
4 we had 191 BMVs, 113 stolen vehicles. 2024, we had 87  
5 stolen vehicles. A lot of this had to do with our  
6 proactive, using LPR and additional surveillance trailers.

7 So with that, we would like to request a little  
8 over \$81,000 from the funds. City of Allen will pitch in  
9 \$16,000, with the total cost for two trailers being  
10 \$98,000.

11 That's it.

12 MS. JONES: Any questions?

13 (No response.)

14 MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

15 SGT ERTER: Thank you for your time.

16 MS. JONES: Alvarado? She is ready. I love  
17 it.

18 LT LOPEZ: Good afternoon. My name is  
19 Lieutenant Casey Lopez. I have the honor of presenting on  
20 behalf of Lieutenant Tom Gross. I want to begin by saying  
21 that the presentation you're about to see was prepared by  
22 him, and out of respect for his efforts, his name has been  
23 left on all the material.

24 Unfortunately, Lieutenant Gross is unable to be  
25 here today. He is recovering from an injury in the line

1 of duty on July 4. I'm sure we've all seen the news. He  
2 was part of the ambush at the Prairieland Detention Center  
3 where he was shot.

4 So he's currently recovering on that. So thank  
5 you for your flexibility in this.

6 Located in Johnson County, the City of Alvarado  
7 is intersected by two major highways, US Highway 67 and  
8 Interstate 35W. It serves an estimated population of  
9 approximately 20 -- or sorry -- I'm dyslexic -- 7,200  
10 residents. The city is home to several commercial  
11 businesses with substantial vehicle inventories, including  
12 a major car dealership, three large RV dealerships, a  
13 Kenworth dealership, and a commercial vehicle uplifting  
14 company.

15 The City of Alvarado is respectfully requesting  
16 \$24,000, with a cash match of \$6,000, to purchase eight  
17 LPR cameras and two pan-tilt-zoom cameras. The  
18 technologies for these will be used for investigative  
19 purposes and to solve crimes, deter criminal activities,  
20 improve traffic enforcement, and interdiction efforts.

21 Case in point, in 2022, we suffered a major  
22 loss prior to us having any type of technology like this.  
23 We had 50 catalytic convertors stolen from an RV  
24 dealership. That case has gone unsolved. We still have  
25 absolutely no active leads.

1           It is our belief that if we had had this  
2           technology during that time, we would have at least had  
3           some type of suspect vehicle, some actionable lead of  
4           sorts.

5           Collaborative efforts. Our Department  
6           maintains a strong partnership with several surrounding  
7           agencies, including Johnson County Sheriff's Office, the  
8           Johnson County S.T.O.P. Task Force, Tri County Auto Theft  
9           Task Force, as well as the Department of Public Safety.

10          Through Flock Safety Network, data collected  
11          from our current LPR systems -- we have four at this  
12          time -- is actively shared across jurisdictions, promoting  
13          regional coordination in both criminal crime prevention  
14          and investigative efforts. As a part of the expansion  
15          strategy, two of the proposed LPR units will be mounted on  
16          portable trailers. These can be deployed in high traffic  
17          zones and known criminal hotspots, offering flexible and  
18          responsive coverage, as the need arises.

19          The Alvarado Police Department has experienced  
20          significant growth. Yep.

21                 MS. JONES: Lots of growth, lots of growth.

22                 Members, any questions?

23                 (No response.)

24                 MS. JONES: Lieutenant, please give your  
25          Lieutenant our best.

1 LT LOPEZ: We will.

2 MS. JONES: Thank you, ma'am.

3 City of Andrews?

4 LT DAVIS: Hello. Sorry. I already messed up.

5 Lieutenant Chris Davis. I'm with the City of  
6 Andrews Police Department. Probably don't know where  
7 Andrews is at. We're out in West Texas. We don't get  
8 enough rain for trees and we rope bushes out there, so --

9 MS. JONES: Yes, you do.

10 LT DAVIS: We're about 30 miles north of  
11 Odessa. So we come before the Committee to ask for new  
12 handheld portable radios for our Department. We're asking  
13 for 25 of the Motorola APX NEXT all-band radios. I've got  
14 another slide here in a minute, to kind of show you our  
15 problems we've been having.

16 But in addition to the radios, we're also  
17 asking for batteries to be able to last a 12-hour shift  
18 for our guys. The total that we're asking for from MVCPA  
19 is \$246,354. The City of Andrew would cash-match \$49,271.  
20 We have 24 sworn officers.

21 That would give every officer a new radio, plus  
22 have one radio at the Department, for secure  
23 communication. This map is -- it's kind of hard to tell.

24 If you don't know what Andrews looks like, it's 1,500  
25 square miles of mesquite bushes and caliche roads with

1 pump jacks.

2 In the middle there, the middle marker is where  
3 the city of Andrews is. The green represents decent  
4 portable radio coverage. If you notice that the yellow is  
5 a problem area for us. Currently, right now our guys are  
6 having to pull their radio out of their vest, hold it up  
7 to the sky to try to get out.

8 And you can imagine that that's an issue. Also  
9 we don't have any encrypted channels that we can use to  
10 conduct operations. If I'm out of line of sight from my  
11 guys, I can't talk to them. And it's just an issue.

12 We actually get better coverage on our walkie-  
13 talkies that you can buy from Amazon than what we're  
14 getting on our current radios. The new radios would be  
15 LTE. So they would run off of hotspots that are in our  
16 cars that we already have hooked up with Axon.

17 So -- and this is -- I'm not the Motorola guy.  
18 I don't know all the technology. I just know that these  
19 are supposed to be able to help us in our current  
20 predicament.

21 Real quick, I do want to brag on our community  
22 relations. We're a town of 15,000 people. We've got  
23 close to 8,000 people on Facebook. We have an awesome  
24 marketing lady, Sarah. Everybody needs a Sarah.

25 We've got -- I looked back, just on the

1 insights. In the last 180 days, we've had over  
2 2.2 million views on our Facebook page. We target kids.  
3 We're a small community, so we do a lot of stuff with our  
4 kids, and that's kind of our outreach. And we try to  
5 catch them young.

6 Especially vehicle burglaries, juveniles do a  
7 lot of them. So that's it. Thank you. Any questions?

8 MS. JONES: Sir, you're asking for 25 handheld  
9 radios --

10 LT DAVIS: Yes, ma'am.

11 MS. JONES: Correct? Can you relate the uses  
12 of these cameras for the entire department and relate them  
13 to Senate Bill 224, catalytic convertor?

14 LT DAVIS: Yes, ma'am. So we're not in an auto  
15 theft task force or anything like that. So we have to  
16 kind of, you know, catch our own cases and do all of our  
17 own things. We need the radios to be able to run  
18 operations.

19 Anybody that's ever tried to run an operation  
20 off of Facetime or something like that, it's hard to  
21 communicate. So that's one thing that we've tried to  
22 address, is to get -- to be more proactive. You know,  
23 we're out in the middle of the oilfield.

24 We have a whole lot of oil theft. We have a  
25 lot of vehicle trailer theft. Knock on wood, we don't

1 have a lot of catalytic convertor problems, but we're  
2 also -- we're subject to doing everything ourselves.

3 So it's really to be more proactive and  
4 actually be able to communicate. In all of our major  
5 incidents, we've always had an issue with communication.

6 MS. JONES: Thank you.

7 Members, do you have any questions?

8 MR. SLOAN: What are your stolen vehicle  
9 numbers per year?

10 LT DAVIS: We average, I want to say, around 30  
11 to 40, just in town, which we just cover the stuff city-  
12 wide, 30 to 40. We have seen a big increase on commercial  
13 vehicles that are being stolen. Most of those are  
14 recovered out in the county, but several of those -- right  
15 now, the big thing that they're doing is, they're using  
16 stolen 18-wheelers to go out to tank batteries and  
17 actually steal oil.

18 I'm sure there's other West Texas towns that  
19 are having the same issues, using a stolen truck and  
20 trailer to steal oil. And then when we get -- when we  
21 catch them, you know, it's usually a bail out, and then  
22 they have people picking them up. So it's a very  
23 organized thing that we're trying to go against.

24 MR. SLOAN: Thank you.

25 LT DAVIS: Yes, sir.

1 MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

2 LT DAVIS: Okay. What --

3 MS. JONES: You may be seated.

4 LT DAVIS: All right. Thank you.

5 CHIEF KEEGAN: Figure this thing out here.

6 Okay. So my name is Joe Keegan. I'm the Chief of Police  
7 for Arp Police Department. Oh, yes, ma'am.

8 (Pause.)

9 MS. JONES: Chief, my apologies.

10 CHIEF KEEGAN: That's okay. So good afternoon,  
11 ma'am, gentlemen. So I'm Joe Keegan, Chief of Police for  
12 Arp.

13 We are a small, rural community in East Texas.

14 It falls in Smith County. We are in between Tyler and  
15 Henderson, which is where 75 percent of our crime actually  
16 comes from. So we run about -- a little over 1,000  
17 residents, but we have two major highways -- or state  
18 highways that cut through our city, which is what is used,  
19 I guess, for these nefarious individuals to come in and  
20 commit their crimes.

21 So our problem is identified. This year alone,  
22 we've only four motor vehicle thefts, and we had two last.

23 So we're already seeing an uptick in them, and we're  
24 basically just trying to use -- we're requesting to get  
25 eight Flock cameras. That way, we can track this down and



1 put a stop to it before it becomes a bigger problem.

2 So what we're requesting for -- the total cost  
3 of the project is 26,5-. The City's match will be 5,300.

4 And that's about it.

5 We're going to share with all the local cities  
6 and county and everybody else. And that's us. We do run  
7 a pretty active social media page on Facebook. We do  
8 National Night Out, Citizens Police Academy, Coffee with a  
9 Cop, all that stuff.

10 So we will be making the monthly updates, the  
11 weekly updates, as crimes are affected by these LPRs. Any  
12 questions?

13 MS. JONES: Great to hear.

14 Committee?

15 MR. JACKSON: Just a real quick question for  
16 you. Are --

17 CHIEF KEEGAN: Yes, sir?

18 MR. JACKSON: Not familiar with your city. Are  
19 there neighboring jurisdictions where there's criminal  
20 activity occurring, that you frequently see them come  
21 through your city that would add value to the neighboring  
22 jurisdictions, if you added these cameras?

23 CHIEF KEEGAN: Yes, sir. Actually, just a  
24 couple months ago, I was contacted by the Texas Rangers.  
25 They wanted me to use our CCTV cameras that we have

1 outside of City Hall to see if we could find a vehicle  
2 where someone had been murdered out in Smith County,  
3 driven through our city, and then dumped in the  
4 neighboring county, where they lit the car on fire.

5 So we were able to catch the vehicle, you know,  
6 make and model and then the color, whereas something like  
7 this would have actually picked up the license plate and  
8 helped them in their investigation.

9 MR. JACKSON: Thank you.

10 CHIEF KEEGAN: Yes, sir.

11 MS. JONES: Thank you, Chief. I'm not going to  
12 attempt to pronounce that. I don't know.

13 DET WINTERROWD: This one. Right? Just making  
14 sure.

15 Ladies and gentlemen of the Board, I'm  
16 Detective Mike Winterrowd with the Azle Police Department.

17 My backup will be my Chief of Police, Chief Dan Hall.  
18 First-time grant applicant, so I'm here to learn, so  
19 please be hard on me.

20 Our city is growing like a weed. I don't know  
21 any other way to put it. And -- forward. Since we're  
22 first-time, I'll give you a snapshot. We straddle Parker  
23 and Tarrant County.

24 We're transected by two highways. High  
25 traffic, high crime. It's been a while, but the last time

1 we did UCR, we were five times more busy than any  
2 [inaudible] jurisdiction. So plenty of customers.

3 We currently have 10 Flock cameras, which we  
4 put to great use. We estimate 20 percent growth by 2030.

5 We do have a Vagos motorcycle gang clubhouse just outside  
6 of our city in the ETJ. My county DA has cautioned me not  
7 to call them career criminals, so I'll just say that  
8 they're very well-rounded.

9 We experienced a 27 percent increase in vehicle  
10 thefts, 30 percent increase in vehicle burglaries, and a  
11 100 percent increase in catty thefts in the data-gathering  
12 window. We are asking for a vehicle that will be  
13 outfitted for surveillance and for drone deployment.  
14 We're asking for an aerial drone package, a significant  
15 amount of which is software licensing, data storage,  
16 things like that. Handheld night vision and high quality  
17 optics for surveillance.

18 Total request is \$166,500. Grant total,  
19 138,750, with a city match of 20 percent. Our community  
20 outreach ranges from high to burdensome.

21 For a small town, we have 12 concerts, four  
22 parades, Coffee with a Cop at least every month. We have  
23 a very active and talented social media and data analyst  
24 who was on Facebook, I think, 23 out of 24 hours.

25 We hope to use this is as an outreach to let

1 the community know what we're going to try to do with the  
2 equipment. In my long experience at Azle, since it's  
3 "small town," a lot of our active customers are also going  
4 to see this, and I think that will act as a deterrent.

5 We will conduct targeted surveillance of known  
6 suspects, of which there are many. We will increase  
7 collaboration with other agencies. We currently have  
8 through MOUs in place. In conjunction with a grant, we  
9 will be seeking another three to six as the grant  
10 progresses.

11 We're lucky enough to have a civilian oversight  
12 board. Some of the people on that board are auto shop  
13 dealers in town. We will be liaising with them on  
14 education for catty thefts and also for general prevention  
15 of motor vehicle crime.

16 Any questions?

17 MR. JACKSON: Just one real quick question. On  
18 the slide that you had with respect to the catalytic  
19 convertor theft --

20 DET WINTERROWD: Yes, sir?

21 MR. JACKSON: -- you had a percentage of  
22 increase. What are the raw numbers?

23 DET WINTERROWD: I don't have the raw numbers  
24 with me, sir. I know that the percentage increase was a  
25 combination of reporting as far as call type, and also

1 from offense type, which are two different places that the  
2 analyst could gather the data from. We didn't always  
3 report a vehicle theft as a catty theft, even if there was  
4 a subsequent chop, sale, or anything else associated with  
5 that after the fact.

6 MR. JACKSON: Thank you.

7 MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

8 DET WINTERROWD: Thank you.

9 MS. JONES: Bandera?

10 MR. TEER: Good afternoon. My name is Deputy  
11 Marshal Brandon Teer. I'm with the Bandera Marshal's  
12 Office.

13 We are a first-time applicant with this. City  
14 of Bandera is known as the Cowboy Capital of the World.  
15 We have a population of less than 1,000 residents.

16 We employ five full-time officers -- that's  
17 including the Marshal -- and four reserve officers. We  
18 are the main thoroughfare to and from many tourist  
19 destinations.

20 One thing most people get confused with, that  
21 we are named the Marshal's Office. However, we function  
22 as a police department under our guidelines and charter.  
23 The reason for the Marshal's Office is because the police  
24 department was disbanded in 2010 over a City Council  
25 dispute, and we were re-branded under the Marshal's

1 Office.

2 According to TxDOT's Statewide Traffic Analytic  
3 Reporting System, several thousands of travelers come  
4 through our town. We have two major highways that  
5 intersect, Highway 16 and Highway 173.

6 We're looking -- while we don't currently have  
7 any reported catalytic convertor thefts, we are looking to  
8 be progressive -- or proactive with this. And because of  
9 our unique situation, we're looking for four full-mounted  
10 cameras, LPR cameras that will be mounted on each entry  
11 point into the city. So they'll be -- no direction they  
12 can come in. They're going to have to pass one of the  
13 cameras to come into the city.

14 We intend to share this with the Bandera County  
15 Sheriff's Office, as well as the school district, who the  
16 Sheriff's Office also maintains as the SROs. We also plan  
17 to let the dispatch -- let the Sheriff's Office utilize  
18 some access to this as a dispatch for us.

19 We are the only incorporated city within  
20 Bandera County, and our population can go from -- like I  
21 said, from 1,000 up to 7,000 people in one weekend. We  
22 host two major motorcycle rallies, have a Bandito problem.  
23 We have several rodeos that occur within our -- just  
24 right outside the city.

25 Everybody ends up in town. Within our town, we

1 have nine bars in a one-square-mile city. And I'm just  
2 coming off the night shift, so you see where I deal with  
3 most of my time.

4 So we're looking for four Flock Safety Falcon  
5 full-mounted cameras to be positioned in those four  
6 strategic locations. We're asking for \$17,000, with the  
7 20 percent city matching \$3,400.

8 We are in close proximity just west of San  
9 Antonio. They just did a two-year construction on Highway  
10 16, widening 16, increasing the traffic flow to Bandera.  
11 So that's where we're seeing a lot of our influx.

12 MS. JONES: Any questions?

13 (No response.)

14 MS. JONES: Thank you, sir. We are going to  
15 recess at 2:25 for 10 minutes.

16 (Whereupon, a short recess was taken.)

17 MS. JONES: We will now resume at 2:44 with the  
18 City of Beaumont.

19 LT TINER: Good afternoon. Lance Tiner,  
20 Lieutenant with the City of Beaumont, and the commander  
21 for Southeast Texas Auto Theft Task Force. This is for  
22 the SB224 grant for the FY 2026 year.

23 After the meeting this morning -- yeah -- and  
24 the previous presentation, I said we had zero catalytic  
25 convertor thefts. However, after listening to the

1 industry experts this morning, that's just wishful  
2 thinking, because I know that it's going to increase. So  
3 that's why we're here to ask for funding from MVCPA.

4 So just to start it off, the Beaumont PD Real-  
5 Time Crime Center is the hub of Flock and FUSUS activity  
6 for our task force. Thanks to funding from MVCPA, the  
7 RTCC has assisted the task force on numerous auto theft  
8 recoveries, auto burglaries, jugging cases, and assisting  
9 and identifying suspects and suspect vehicles alike. The  
10 intel-gathering aspect has been instrumental in the  
11 prevention of catalytic convertor theft.

12 Just briefly, some quick statistics, since I  
13 only have a minute and 56 seconds. Flock has assisted the  
14 task force on 38 UUMV recoveries in '24 and 20 UUMV  
15 recoveries in '25. Flock, plus Axon integration into  
16 Flock, have resulted in the assists on 136 UUMV cases.

17 Flock has assisted the task force on 16 jugging  
18 cases, has the task force area in Beaumont on 20 homicide  
19 investigations, 39 robbery/ag robbery cases, 21 ag  
20 assault/assault cases, and 11 deadly conduct drive-by  
21 shooting cases.

22 It went fully in operation on February 2025.  
23 So they've done a lot since then. Just a tidbit: one of  
24 the Flock cameras in our jurisdiction they put on a  
25 garbage truck. And as of June 24, 2025, it had 108,695



1 license plate reads.

2 One of them, which was out of service for two  
3 months, had 39,366, and then the other garbage truck had  
4 69,329 reads. So Flock is really making an impact as far  
5 as what we're doing.

6 So the Southeast Texas Auto Theft Task Force is  
7 requesting \$283,834 from MVCPA, with a cash match of  
8 \$57,166, for a total of 343,000. So 293 of that is going  
9 to be for the yearly subscription for Flock for fiscal  
10 year 2026, and then two Flock Safety license plate  
11 recognition trailers, valued at -- or subscription  
12 purchases for one year is \$25,000 each, times two. So  
13 that would be 50,000, making it a -- the total of \$343,000  
14 of funding.

15 That concludes. I just want to say that the  
16 addition to the Flock system is in thanks -- or thanks to  
17 MVCPA. Being added to FUSUS and Axon technology has  
18 become a force multiplier for our task force.

19 I guess I'm out of time. Sorry. Any  
20 questions?

21 (No response.)

22 MS. JONES: No, sir.

23 LT TINER: Oh. Thank you --

24 MS. JONES: Thank you.

25 LT TINER: -- very much.

1 MS. JONES: Bellmead, you're up. No, sir.  
2 Someone's coming to help you. Help? Thanks, Rick.

3 LT McGEE: My name is Lieutenant Andrew McGee.  
4 I'm from the Bellmead Police Department. If you don't  
5 know, the city of Bellmead is on the northeast corner of  
6 the city of Waco, attached to Waco. We have 23 sworn  
7 officers, approximately 10,300 people in our city.

8 We're requesting a grant this year -- we're  
9 first-time applicants -- to combat vehicle-related crimes,  
10 mostly auto thefts, including catalytic convertor thefts.

11 The city is -- has a very high crime rate for the  
12 population. Currently, my detectives are working with the  
13 Heart of Texas Auto Theft Task Force, and they're having  
14 to utilize analysts and other departments to access LPRs  
15 in the area when they have a crime, so they're sort of  
16 shooting into a barrel, blindly, guessing the direction of  
17 travel to hope they find something.

18 We're hoping to integrate these cameras so we  
19 have our own data so we can also share with the task force  
20 and other analysts in the area to assist. So we're  
21 contributing to the knowledge and the information  
22 gathering.

23 The total grant we're requesting is \$8,500.  
24 That will get two Flock cameras, and like I said, allow us  
25 to contribute and gather information ourselves, rather

1       than relying on others.

2               Any questions?

3               (No response.)

4               MS. JONES: No, sir.

5               LT McGEE: Thank you.

6               MS. JONES: Thank you. Belton? And  
7       Brownsville, you're next. After Brownsville, the City of  
8       Bullard.

9               Good afternoon, sir.

10              DEP CHIEF AGUIRRE: Good afternoon. Everyone  
11       probably knows how do this. How do you advance the  
12       slides? Okay. Got you. Got you. Good now.

13              All right. I'm Daniel Aguirre. I serve as the  
14       Deputy Chief for the Belton Police Department. With me, I  
15       have Captain Daniel Ontiveros, and we're here on behalf of  
16       our Department, presenting our proposal for grant funding  
17       to support our ALPR initiative.

18              A little bit about our city. Or let me start  
19       off with our Department. We have 46 officers, 12 civilian  
20       staff, and we serve a population of about 27,000. Belton  
21       is the county seat for Bell County, formerly a part of the  
22       Travis County Combined Auto Task Force, but -- I'm  
23       kidding. Anyway, and we have a section of I-35 and I-14.

24              Yeah. Moving on. Sorry. Our ALPR initiative  
25       proposes the use of Flock Safety cameras to monitor high

1 traffic entry and exit points across the city. These  
2 cameras will increase our ability to investigate catalytic  
3 convertor thefts, stolen vehicles, and other related  
4 crimes.

5 And the funding we're requesting will cover the  
6 purchase and installation of six ALPR cameras, along with  
7 the data subscription and system integration. The camera  
8 placement is based on crime heat maps and entry and exit  
9 points that correlate with auto-related thefts.

10 Let me backtrack for a little bit. As far as  
11 our crime data goes, in 2024, we had 60 reported auto  
12 thefts and seven instances that were separate, where only  
13 the catalytic convertors were stolen. So far for this  
14 year, for the first quarter, we had 11 auto thefts and  
15 zero reported instances of catalytic convertors.

16 As far as our numbers for this year go, we're  
17 expecting that to rise for the second and third quarter.  
18 Typically during our summer months, that's when our auto-  
19 related criminal activity tends to spike. So we haven't  
20 seen those numbers yet.

21 We believe this technology will support our  
22 regional partnerships and assist real-time crime center  
23 operations. The City of Killeen has one going right now.  
24 Temple has heavily invested in Flock. So we hope to  
25 utilize our system, if we get this funding, to support

1 their efforts.

2 Specific to our project -- the total cost of  
3 our project is \$21,900. Requesting \$18,250 from the MVCPA  
4 grant. Our Department will provide the 20 percent match.

5 That comes out to \$3,650 to fully fund our project.

6 These funds will directly support the purchase  
7 of the cameras, the integration into our system, and  
8 subscription and cost for one year of data access.

9 Oh. I think I went ahead. As far as our  
10 community engagement goes, that's a core part of our  
11 implementation strategy. We have a pretty respectful  
12 following on social media, Facebook and Instagram, and we  
13 hope to utilize these for public awareness in our  
14 campaign. We want to explain, for one, what ALPR is --  
15 there you go -- what ALPR is, and dispel any myths that  
16 people may have about this technology.

17 We also have -- we participate in events like  
18 Coffee with a Cop, National Night Out, and other --  
19 Citizen Police Academy. This is a great opportunity for  
20 us to bring printed material so we can explain FAQs and  
21 just engage with the community and just educate them on  
22 what this.

23 Am I done? Three minutes? Or -- okay. Yeah.

24 Any questions?

25 Sorry. I know I went through that --

1 MS. JONES: Sir, how many cameras are you  
2 asking for?

3 DEP CHIEF AGUIRRE: Six.

4 MS. JONES: Your application lists -- I had to  
5 put my glasses on, but it says one. Does --

6 DEP CHIEF AGUIRRE: So our grant writer listed  
7 it as a system. So her idea, over time -- and we're  
8 talking strategic plan -- is to 30 cameras in the future,  
9 over five years. So our plan with our city was to do one  
10 system of six cameras for this year. That's all we're  
11 requesting in this grant application.

12 MS. JONES: If you're asking for six cameras,  
13 does that equate to 18,000 -- or well, 21,900? Is that  
14 math correct for six cameras?

15 DEP CHIEF AGUIRRE: That's the quote we  
16 received from Flock.

17 MS. JONES: Okay. So we'll have to some  
18 amendment on our end, because you only have --

19 DEP CHIEF AGUIRRE: One camera?

20 MS. JONES: -- one camera.

21 DEP CHIEF AGUIRRE: Okay.

22 MS. JONES: Yes, sir.

23 DEP CHIEF AGUIRRE: All right.

24 MS. JONES: Okay. Mr. Diggs will make sure  
25 that's taken care of.

1 DEP CHIEF AGUIRRE: Thank you.

2 MS. JONES: Any questions?

3 (No response.)

4 MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

5 Brownsville, Bullard, and then Bunker Hill.

6 SGT DELGADO: Good afternoon, members.

7 MS. JONES: Good afternoon.

8 SGT DELGADO: It is cooler up here. Yeah. So  
9 in reference to the catalytic convertor grant, we are  
10 asking for 388,517 from MVCPA. Our agencies will put  
11 78,586 cash match, for a total of 467,103, total  
12 expenditures.

13 So for this grant, it will cover two  
14 actually -- two actual personnel, one with Brownsville,  
15 one from McAllen, but we will cover the agencies of  
16 Harlingen, Cameron County, Pharr, and Donna as well.  
17 These funds, as mentioned, they will fund the personnel  
18 who will participate in outreach events, to do a more  
19 human, in-person interaction with the community.

20 Sometimes people have questions that they would  
21 rather be answered by an actual person. Also we keep the  
22 printed material. I know we do live in the digital age,  
23 but there's still people that still like that newspaper,  
24 per se.

25 We will continue to do business inspections.

1 That has been good throughout this fiscal year. We've  
2 been able to visit more recycling businesses, so now they  
3 are more aware that we are out there. We're actually  
4 going to these locations, going in there and trying  
5 inspect their processes, making sure that they're going to  
6 right way.

7 At this point, I believe we have one only, one  
8 catalytic convertor that has been reported. We do know  
9 that there are instances where people would rather just go  
10 with the insurance than do an actual police report, to get  
11 that repaired.

12 Equipment, we are asking for one video trailer,  
13 like the one listed here or shown here. We have one that  
14 has been in operation. People have seen it.

15 There's been businesses that actually make a  
16 request. Okay. You place your trailer here from this day  
17 to this day. We try to accommodate as we can.

18 We got two more that hopefully should be  
19 rolling out with the previous fiscal year, and we already  
20 have requested to have it lined up, so hopefully we're  
21 able to accommodate that.

22 We did purchase a SkyWatch on the last one as  
23 well, and that has worked out well with the community.  
24 They see that out there. It's got the light, so people  
25 feel this presence here. So that's always good.



1           We would like to expand our current Flock  
2 system. We do have 35. We would like to implement 15  
3 more, to make it a total of 50 throughout the county of  
4 Cameron.

5           Of course, to continue with the cell phone  
6 services, as well as supplies throughout the fiscal year.  
7 And trainings, travel, MVCPA Board meetings as well.

8           Thank you.

9           (Pause.)

10          MS. JONES: You're fine. Okay.

11          SGT DELGADO: Thank you. Appreciate it.

12          MS. JONES: You're welcome. Bullard, Bunker  
13 Hill, and Caddo Mills.

14          Adjust the mic. Is it green? Green means go.

15          SGT TUELL: Okay. Good. Well, hello. I am  
16 Sergeant Judith Tuell with the Bullard Police Department,  
17 and I serve in our Criminal Investigation Division. With  
18 me is our Chief of Police Jeff Bragg. This is our first  
19 time applying for this grant.

20          And a little bit about our city is, we have 13  
21 full-time sworn officers, and we have five reserve  
22 officers. We have a population of approximately 4,800  
23 people, with an annual growth rate of 6.4 percent. We are  
24 geographically located between Smith and Cherokee County,  
25 which are both regions experiencing rapid growth rate.

1           We are requesting \$21,600 in grant funds, and  
2           we will match that with our city cash funds of \$5,400.  
3           The total expenditure for equipment is \$27,000. Those  
4           funds will be for nine LPR cameras, three of which will be  
5           situated in the city, two at the park, one in the downtown  
6           area, six of which would be situated on the major  
7           entry/exit points of our city, the north, south, east, and  
8           west. The north and south cameras are also the entry/exit  
9           points for the main thoroughfare for Smith and Cherokee  
10          County.

11           So the goal of this program is to reduce and  
12          prevent motor vehicle related crimes by utilizing license  
13          plate reader cameras to monitor heavily trafficked areas  
14          throughout the city. This would not only be a huge asset  
15          to us, but to Cherokee County as well, as they do not have  
16          anything like this, and their crime rates are -- I'm not  
17          going to give you their statistics, as they're not mine,  
18          but they are substantially higher than ours.

19           Last year, we did have four stolen motor  
20          vehicles through our city, which would amend my  
21          information in my grant from zero catalytic convertor  
22          thefts, because we obviously had four. This year, we've  
23          only had one stolen vehicle to date, which was recovered  
24          by Dallas PD.

25           We do utilize social media, and we are involved

1 in our community through -- from programs like National  
2 Night Out, Coffee with a Cop. We are looking to put  
3 together a Citizens on Patrol program as well.

4 MS. JONES: Members, any questions?

5 (No response.)

6 MS. JONES: Thank you, ma'am.

7 SGT TUELL: Thank you.

8 MS. JONES: Thank you, Chief.

9 CHIEF SCHULTZ: Good afternoon, members of the  
10 Commission. I'm Chief Ray Schultz, Chief of Police for  
11 the Memorial Villages Police Department.

12 We're kind of in a unique situation. Memorial  
13 Villages is a independent police department, municipal  
14 police department, set up by the State statutorily, and we  
15 police the cities of Bunker Hill Village, Piney Point, and  
16 Hunter's Creek. For the simplicity of this grant, we ran  
17 this grant through one of our three cities, which is the  
18 city of Bunker Hill, and they support this grant  
19 wholeheartedly.

20 We're kind of unique position. The city of --  
21 the cities that represent the Memorial Villages are a  
22 concrete island located in the middle of Houston, in the  
23 middle of, unfortunately, Harris County. And we have a  
24 very unique situation.

25 We were one of the very early adopters of ALPR

1 technology. We adopted this in 2019. We have 34 ALPRs  
2 that are currently ours. There's 34 that are owned by  
3 residents that feed into our system.

4 We read 4.2 million license plates a month.  
5 We've been very, very successful in solving other people's  
6 crimes and other people's cases and recovering their  
7 vehicles. Of the vehicles we recovered, none of them were  
8 ours. They were not stolen in our jurisdiction.

9 But we also have the luxury of having a great  
10 group of investigators who, when we recover these  
11 vehicles, can do extensive investigations, and those  
12 investigations end up solving a lot of other cases. What  
13 we want to do is we want to take that to the next level  
14 and help address the ongoing crime issues that we see in  
15 Harris County, because what we've realized; when we  
16 recover these stolen vehicles, 59 percent are involved in  
17 other crimes.

18 Everything that you can see on this list, from  
19 catalytic convertor thieves, to burglars, robbers,  
20 homicides, and everything else in between, and we also  
21 solve, on a regular basis, a great number of cases only  
22 because of the use of our ALPR technology. We import 99.5  
23 percent of our criminals, because we are all multi-  
24 million-dollar houses, and 99 percent of our  
25 investigations take us out of our jurisdiction, and we

1 want to be able to expand on that.

2 Here's a quick map showing where we're at in  
3 the city of Houston. We're that little blue dot left of  
4 center. There are 83 law enforcement agencies in Harris  
5 County, and we want to create a way for us to better  
6 collaborate with them to address the ongoing auto crimes  
7 that are occurring within the Villages.

8 We take a great deal of pride in the amount of  
9 work we do with our ALPR technology and how we solve  
10 crimes. As you can see, the -- in the center column, the  
11 cases that are yellow are cases where we also recovered  
12 firearms from the stolen vehicles. The cases in red are  
13 vehicles that had stolen plates that also had stolen  
14 vehicles -- on a stolen vehicle that also had altered  
15 VINs.

16 Our 2025 request has three components. We want  
17 to create a virtual task force so we can share this  
18 information when we identify the suspects, when we make  
19 these arrests, when we gather evidence of these criminals  
20 as a result of our ALPR technology, to let them know that  
21 we can help them solve their cases.

22 We do that now through hard BOLOs, but we know  
23 we're not hitting all 87 of those agencies. We want to  
24 expand our ALPRs. We want to add seven to nine more,  
25 primarily Condors, so we can track those vehicles as they

1 move through our jurisdiction, and we want to provide a  
2 crime data investigative software to help us link those  
3 cases together.

4 We're asking for \$64,167. I already have my  
5 '26 budget approved, with \$12,833 in matching funds.  
6 We'll spend a total of \$77,000, and I will accomplish  
7 everything that I just told you, if we are lucky enough to  
8 receive the grant.

9 Any questions?

10 MS. JONES: Any questions for Chief Schultz?

11 (No response.)

12 MS. JONES: None, sir. Thank you.

13 CHIEF SCHULTZ: Thank you.

14 MS. JONES: The next chief is ready. Love it.

15 Thank you, Lieutenant.

16 LT MCGUIRE: Am I supposed to hit that?

17 MS. JONES: No, sir. The green is good.

18 LT MCGUIRE: Okay. I'm Lieutenant McGuire of  
19 the Caddo Mills Police Department.

20 Caddo Mills is located in Hunt County, 40 miles  
21 east of Dallas, 140 miles west of Texarkana, with I-30 and  
22 State Highway 66 running through it. Has several small  
23 projects in the works right now, including three new  
24 parks, six new neighborhoods, an expansion at the airport  
25 to include three new hangars, providing for an additional

1 34 plans and a runway expansion.

2 Caddo Mills has been labeled as one of the  
3 top -- third-fastest growing town in North Texas at --  
4 supposed at this time. With the current population  
5 explosion and high increase in vehicle traffic and air  
6 traffic, crime has increased, especially in vehicle crimes  
7 recently. An attempt -- this includes the attempted theft  
8 of two catalytic convertors a month ago.

9 The LPR will assist in prevention and  
10 intelligence and gathering intelligence in vehicle crimes,  
11 the prevention of catalytic convertor thefts and vehicle  
12 theft. The targeted areas are the car lots along Highway  
13 66, where dealerships store their vehicles and auto repair  
14 shops along 66, along with the truck stops on 30 and the  
15 airport.

16 We are implementing a traffic officer dedicated  
17 to traffic enforcement and vehicle crimes. The LPR will  
18 assist this unit in deployment times to best combat  
19 catalytic convertor thefts and other vehicle crimes.

20 Caddo Mills PD works in conjunction with three  
21 different county sheriff's offices and three different  
22 police departments, due to our location in the county. We  
23 will continue to work in collaboration with them, using  
24 this LPR information.

25 We utilize Facebook and other social media on

1 the computer. What they are, I don't know. But we are  
2 very active with the homeowner associations in the  
3 neighborhoods that are existing and coming in. We also  
4 attend, with the booth, four, five different community  
5 events they have throughout the year, Fox Fest, Fox  
6 Stroll, things of that nature.

7 We're requesting five LPRs and two PTZs for a  
8 total of 25,000, with a match of 4,167.

9 Any questions?

10 MS. JONES: Any questions for the Lieutenant?

11 (No response.)

12 MS. JONES: None, sir. Thank you.

13 LT McGUIRE: Thank you. After Caldwell is  
14 Castroville, and then Cedar Hill.

15 MR. EASTERLING: Good afternoon. And thank you  
16 for the time.

17 MS. JONES: Good afternoon, sir.

18 MR. EASTERLING: I'm the Constable for Caldwell  
19 County. My name is Paul Easterling, and I took office  
20 January 1. As I was taking office -- before I took  
21 office, I met with the local area law enforcement officers  
22 and talked about what my experience is.

23 My experience up there, I've done criminal  
24 interdiction. I worked IH-10. I helped Houston HIDTA  
25 develop the LPR system on IH-10 through Seguin, all the



1 way to Fayette County.

2 They knew what I could do and what I was  
3 capable of, and I asked them, what do you guys need?  
4 What -- where are their problems here? Auto theft and  
5 warrants. Those were the two big things.

6 So the Caldwell County Sheriff's Office is  
7 getting 15 Flock cameras put up, permanently mounted.  
8 Luling PD is doing the same thing, and I'm helping them  
9 figure out where they need to go. What we're asking for  
10 is two mobile -- a speed trailer and a Flex LPR camera  
11 that we can move around to identify the hotspots.

12 As soon as I took office, I networked with the  
13 surrounding counties, talked about the same thing. What  
14 do you guys experience? Auto theft, auto theft, auto  
15 theft.

16 The guy from San Marcos mentioned about the  
17 outlet mall. Those vehicles were coming into Caldwell  
18 County when I worked an operation about three years when I  
19 was at another agency. That's where they were going.

20 We're a very rural area and we have some big  
21 areas. Lockhart, Luling are pretty good-sized areas.  
22 Austin is right above us. 183 goes right through.

23 If you look at the map, you can see, we have  
24 183. We have the toll road. We have 21, 20. Those are  
25 really, really major routes.

1 I always like to say, Luling is the crossroads  
2 to everywhere. You pretty much -- if you're going south,  
3 you've got to go through Luling. If you're going across,  
4 you're going to go I-10. There's lots and lots of traffic  
5 that goes through there.

6 My whole history has been networking, working  
7 with other agencies, because we're all trying to  
8 accomplish the same goal. My goal now is to help with  
9 auto theft.

10 The catalytic convertor part, I've received  
11 some information that there's some areas out in the  
12 county. But this is all new to me. This is all new to  
13 me. And I'm just starting out, and this will be a really  
14 great start, if you guys could award this grant to help  
15 us.

16 Strategically place -- we're going to place  
17 these trailers and increase our effort and make a dent in  
18 what's going on there. Talked about the major corridors.

19 The speed trailers -- there's a few different places  
20 where we're kind of worried about the speed trailer.

21 We're worried about -- because it's so rural in  
22 places, and that's why we want the Flex camera, to where  
23 we can disguise it. I'm out of time.

24 MS. JONES: I know you're out of time, but  
25 you -- did you -- your last sentence that stopped in half,

1 did you get everything out that you need to get out?

2 MR. EASTERLING: Yes, ma'am.

3 MS. JONES: Perfect. Any questions for  
4 Constable?

5 (No response.)

6 MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

7 MR. EASTERLING: All right. Thank you for your  
8 time.

9 SGT HAIRSTON: Good afternoon. I'm Sergeant  
10 Hairston with the City of Caldwell Police Department.  
11 Caldwell is located in Burleson County. It's the county  
12 seat. We have two major highways that run through there.  
13 It's going to be State Highway 21 and State Highway 36.

14 We're about an hour from Austin, about 30  
15 minutes from College Station, and about two hours from  
16 Houston. We're kind of centrally located in between all  
17 of those.

18 We are requesting four LPRs and one fixed  
19 camera to place at 21 and 36. We'd like to place those at  
20 the east and west, north and south city limits, as well as  
21 a fixed camera at 21 and 36, so we can monitor which way  
22 that vehicle goes, once we get that hit. We're requesting  
23 17,791, with a match of 3,559, for a total of 21,350.

24 Thank you.

25 MR. DIGGS: Did you say five cameras?

1 SGT HAIRSTON: Yes, sir. It will be a total of  
2 five. One of those will be fixed, not an LPR.

3 MR. DIGGS: Okay. Thank you.

4 MS. JONES: So you'll get a call from one of  
5 the staff members, because you only asked for one.

6 SGT HAIRSTON: Okay. All right.

7 MS. JONES: Any questions?

8 (No response.)

9 MS. JONES: Okay. You're good.

10 SGT HAIRSTON: Thank you.

11 MS. JONES: You'll get a phone call.

12 MR. SAPPER: So green, good? Good afternoon.

13 My name is Officer John Sapper. I'm the grant  
14 administrator and writer for the City of Castroville.

15 A little bit about Castroville Police  
16 Department. We've got nine patrol officers, two  
17 sergeants. One sergeant is a detective and our chief.  
18 Funny enough, I sent this presentation to him for  
19 approval, and he sent it back with his name in there.

20 So Castroville is a really small town. It's  
21 about three and a half square miles, with a population of  
22 about 3,000 people. But the location of it -- it just  
23 sees a lot of traffic. We're so close to San Antonio.

24 We're about -- I don't know -- about an hour  
25 and a half from Del Rio, the border. So -- but we do --

1 is 24-7 coverage. We at least have one officer on duty  
2 every day.

3 As far as our need, like I was talking, we see  
4 30,000 vehicles a day come through town. It's a really  
5 small town, so it's actually a lot of traffic. We have  
6 two major car dealerships that have seen recent vehicle  
7 thefts.

8 A couple of years back, we had a rash of  
9 catalytic convertor thefts at one of the park and rides.  
10 The last few years, we haven't seen anything, but we're  
11 trying to kick it in the butt before it starts, which is  
12 why we're asking for this money.

13 In addition to the threat, we have an  
14 elementary school right off of Highway 90. So there's  
15 tertiary effects of getting this, you know, the -- later  
16 on -- investigative effects of being able to see the  
17 traffic coming through. Oddly enough, federal agencies  
18 are using our parking lot, which is actually open to the  
19 public, because there's so many vehicle break-ins and all  
20 the recent activity.

21 Let's see here. So what we're asking for,  
22 we're asking for nine Flock ALPR cameras and three PTZ  
23 cameras. Those cameras will cover all of the ingress and  
24 egress location of the city. One's next to a Walmart,  
25 where we see a lot of activity.

1           And I'll show you a photo on the next slide.  
2       But -- so specifically, what we're asking for, the total  
3       budget is 36,000. We're asking for 28,800. We're going  
4       to match 25 percent at \$7,200.

5           So this is that city. With this grant  
6       approval, we basically -- you won't be able to get into or  
7       out of the city without getting your license plate on  
8       camera. What we hope to do is continue to help the  
9       surrounding agencies as we are.

10          We have -- since the writing of this grant,  
11       we've had two stolen vehicles locally, which  
12       unfortunately, those are going unsolved. We want to be  
13       proactive with this, so as many others have stated,  
14       joining those intelligence networks is important. We  
15       already do that through some of our local agreements, you  
16       know, such as Lone Star and Stone Garden.

17          We share a lot of intel as it is. This is only  
18       going to bolster that. It's completely a game-changer.

19          To touch on social media, we do have Facebook.

20       If you look it up, I think most people are just going to  
21       complain about getting tickets. But -- so Facebook, small  
22       town -- most of our outreach is through our community  
23       meetings and city meetings. Whenever we have one, half  
24       the town shows up.

25          Yeah. That's it. Any questions?

1 (No response.)

2 MS. JONES: No, sir.

3 OFCR SAPPER: All right. Thank you.

4 MS. JONES: Thank you. After Cedar Hill is  
5 Celina. Celina, like cilantro? I'm sorry. Okay.  
6 Celina.

7 Did I say it right? Celina, Celina.

8 CHIEF LAFFERTY: Celina. It's Celina.

9 MS. JONES: Celina?

10 CHIEF LAFFERTY: Celina.

11 MS. JONES: Celina.

12 CHIEF LAFFERTY: Or Celina.

13 MS. JONES: And Cibolo. I got that one right.

14 CHIEF LAFFERTY: You good?

15 MS. JONES: Yes, sir.

16 CHIEF LAFFERTY: All right. I'm Assistant  
17 Chief Steve Lafferty. I'm with the Cedar Hill Police  
18 Department.

19 Cedar Hill Police Department, a little history  
20 about us. We're about 52,000 people, located in South  
21 Dallas County, right on the borderline of Ellis. We have  
22 73 sworn officers, and about 37 square miles. So we stay  
23 relatively busy.

24 Our motor vehicle thefts, down from 2023, we  
25 had 223 thefts, to 145 thefts in 2024. We are showing a

1 slight uptick. We currently have 71 thefts as of June 23.

2 I think we're sitting at about 82.

3 So we're showing, potentially, we could exceed  
4 our 2024 numbers. We had no catalytic convertor thefts.  
5 However, every vehicle stolen has a catalytic convertor.  
6 So for reporting purposes, I used 145.

7 Sorry. Our BMVs have also shown a downward  
8 tick. We had 211 in '23, down to 194 in '24, and we're  
9 currently sitting at 76, so we're doing a pretty good job,  
10 a downward trend.

11 Currently, we have two grants. We have the  
12 security deterrent trailers through MVCPA, and five  
13 automatic license plate readers. We are asking for a  
14 continuation grant to fund both of those projects for  
15 \$55,209, with a cash match of \$11,041, for a total cost of  
16 \$66,250.

17 We currently have 50 other Flock cameras in the  
18 city. Of those, 41 cameras are purchased through HOA,  
19 PIDs, and community groups in their neighborhoods. Of the  
20 five cameras we have funded through MVCPA, they were  
21 installed -- they were awarded in October of last year.

22 They were installed January-ish, December, the  
23 last one in June. We had the TxDOT issues, so we moved it  
24 to a new location to get it installed. We're averaging  
25 over 700,000 detections on those five cameras. So they



1 are very beneficial.

2 Since then, we've received almost 2,200 hot  
3 lists -- I've listed them right there -- to capture the  
4 information of us responding to the ALPR hits. Because we  
5 have it on our MBCs, and we have it on our phones, we  
6 created a nature code so the officers could self-initiate  
7 and respond to those hits.

8 As you see, we had 35 documented ones where we  
9 recovered eight stolen cars, five stolen license plates,  
10 five warrant arrests, and 17, we were unable to locate.  
11 Just remember, those are the only five cameras out of the  
12 55 we currently have.

13 The mobile security deterrent trailers were  
14 awarded end of January. They were set up in April. We  
15 deployed at the mall, Hillside Village and Target,  
16 originally, very beneficial when they were at Hillside  
17 Village. We had no BMVs, and we had no vehicle thefts.

18 It's down from the previous month. We had two  
19 at Hillside Village. And then at Target, we only had one  
20 stolen vehicle, down from four from the previous month --  
21 I'm sorry -- five from the previous month.

22 We did a request from Duncanville, who is a  
23 regional coverage agency with ours for the cameras for one  
24 of their location. It's the Duncanville Field House.  
25 They have large events there, large venue. And they had

1 it for 25 days within no BMVs and no vehicle thefts.

2 So it's been very, very beneficial to our city.

3 That's it.

4 MS. JONES: Any questions for Chief?

5 (No response.)

6 MS. JONES: Thank you.

7 CHIEF LAFFERTY: Thank you.

8 MS. JONES: Next city.

9 (General laughter.)

10 LT PECK: Oh, sorry about that. This is our  
11 first time applying for the grant, so I get it. My name's  
12 Kyle Peck. I'm the Lieutenant for the Celina Police  
13 Department.

14 Brief overview of us. In 2024, we were named  
15 the fastest-growing city in the United States. Right now,  
16 we're sitting at about 70,000 people with approximately 63  
17 square miles of city. We have patrols, support services,  
18 the traffic division, with motor, CVE, and school resource  
19 officers.

20 But the biggest thing that has changed this  
21 year is, we have had a significant increase in commercial  
22 and residential expansion, meaning that all of our box  
23 stores decided to build all at the exact same time and  
24 will open next year. So Walmart, Home Depot, Lowes,  
25 Costco, HEB. It's been great.

1           The problem with the catalytic convertor with  
2   us is, just last year, we had 150 vehicle-related calls  
3   for service, and that can be anything from the theft of a  
4   motor vehicle, BMVs, or any stolen recoveries. Also, our  
5   catalytic convertor thefts have increased last year, along  
6   with a lot of theft from construction sites, either being  
7   vehicles or trailers.

8           Another thing is, we have a high median income.  
9   We have a lot of wealthy people that -- I don't know if  
10   it's like every other city -- they don't believe they have  
11   lock their vehicles, and they can leave weapons and  
12   computers in their car. So the criminal activity spans  
13   multiple jurisdictions, because everybody loves to come  
14   see us.

15           What we're asking for is 41 license plate  
16   readers for city-wide coverage. We're asking for  
17   \$112,000. We're going to match \$28,000, and it will total  
18   140-.

19           The locations will be the major ingress and  
20   egress points, commercial and construction zones. Like  
21   our neighbors to the south, Prosper and Frisco, you can  
22   see we're trying to cover a lot of that area. Along with  
23   us, we'll integrate with the Flock network real-time data,  
24   and it will be supported by patrol and traffic.

25           The public awareness, we have a high social

1 media, where our plan is, once we implement these cameras,  
2 we'll have a bunch of different HOA meetings and all the  
3 social media posts to help show and prevent catalytic  
4 convertor thefts.

5 We plan on sharing our LPR data and enhancing  
6 our coordination across Collin, Denton, and Grayson  
7 County. Essentially, with the implementation of the Flock  
8 cameras, we hope to increase the amount of arrests and  
9 figure out all these theft ring groups that are coming and  
10 collect more data.

11 That's all I have. Do you have any questions?

12 MS. JONES: Any questions for the City of  
13 Celina?

14 MR. SLOAN: I do. Lieutenant, with the growth  
15 of your commercial and residential -- or retail partners  
16 happening all at once or -- have you approached with them  
17 sharing in the cost of putting up cameras? Or what's that  
18 look like, since they're taking --

19 LT PECK: Yes, sir.

20 MR. SLOAN: -- such a large footprint? Yeah.

21 LT PECK: Walmart has been very helpful so far.

22 We just started a conversation with them about two months  
23 ago. And then I believe Lowes is already going to help  
24 put up LPR cameras in there, so --

25 MR. SLOAN: Thank you.

1 MS. JONES: After Cibolo, Clear Lake Shores.  
2 Stand by. Be ready, please. Clute is next. And then  
3 College Station.

4 Go ahead, sir.

5 CHIEF ANDRES: Okay. Good afternoon, esteemed  
6 Board. I appreciate you here inviting me up. I'm  
7 Thedrick Andres, and I'm the Chief of Police in the City  
8 of Cibolo, Texas.

9 What we're asking for this year is \$584,541  
10 total expenditures, with expenditures from MVCPA being  
11 about \$487,118, and the City of Cibolo cash match of  
12 \$97,423.

13 So what are we planning to do with that? The  
14 MVCPA's objective is to combat catalytic convertor thefts  
15 through proactive law enforcement, proactive recovery of  
16 stolen vehicles, case clearances, arrests of law  
17 violators, and the disruption of organized motor vehicle  
18 crime in the Texas community. And the City of Cibolo  
19 aligns with that.

20 The City of Cibolo Police Department, in the  
21 second solicitation, requested two officers. We were  
22 fortunate enough that the MVCPA Board allowed us to add a  
23 crime analyst to our grant and the 41 Flock cameras.  
24 These resources are needed in the City of Cibolo to help  
25 us to reduce crime efforts and create a safer environment.

1           City of Cibolo is about 38,000 residents, and  
2 we have about 28 square miles to cover. During the  
3 presentation that I had the opportunity to present the  
4 second solicitation, I informed the esteemed Board that  
5 the City of Cibolo has already invested in 11 cameras that  
6 are in our community. We currently share data with many  
7 of those in the northeast San Antonio area who will inform  
8 you, like Live Oak, where we show data to solve a  
9 catalytic convertor theft that occurred in both of our  
10 cities, and through stolen vehicles.

11           We believe in intelligence-led policing, and  
12 this technology and officers will only allow us to  
13 continue to expand on that. In addition, the Cibolo  
14 Police Department is data driven, and many of our  
15 strategies that we currently use to combat catalytic  
16 convertor thefts and vehicle thefts, it's already  
17 occurring in our city.

18           We've recovered stolen vehicles with our five  
19 cameras. We have helped other jurisdictions, as I  
20 mentioned earlier, to solve crime in their area. We will  
21 continue to do that as well.

22           As we go into talking a little bit about data  
23 analytics, one of the things that we know is important  
24 with our crime analysis is to make sure that we're giving  
25 real-time information to our officers on the street to

1 solve crime patterns and place them in the best possible  
2 area to be effective each day in the patrol.

3 For me, the addition of the two heat [phonetic]  
4 officers will only help us to increase our presence in  
5 this city. It will allow us to hit our vehicle hotspot  
6 areas. Currently, right now, with the 11 cameras I got  
7 and not having a proactive unit, there are many times that  
8 we get stolen vehicle hits, we just don't have the patrol  
9 officers in the area to make the impact.

10 So as we continue to engage and add real-time  
11 information with that, I think it will only increase our  
12 ability to prevent catalytic convertor thefts, make those  
13 recoveries, and to disrupt stolen vehicles in our  
14 community.

15 I just want to add that, in 2024, we had 42  
16 stolen vehicles, and we had 21, right now, today, stolen  
17 vehicles in our city. So we would, obviously, welcome the  
18 addition of the officers, continuing the grant that we  
19 were fortunate enough to get.

20 Going to answer any questions for you.

21 MS. JONES: Any questions for Chief?

22 (No response.)

23 CHIEF ANDRES: I thank you so much.

24 MS. JONES: Clear Lake Shores? Clute is after,  
25 and then College Station.

1 MS. RAMIREZ: Hi. Good afternoon. I'm Officer  
2 Ramirez. I'm with the Clear Lake Shores Police  
3 Department. How do I switch over?

4 FEMALE VOICE: It's fancy.

5 MS. RAMIREZ: Thank you. As you can see, I'm  
6 not the individual in the picture that is speaking to you  
7 today. Chief David Donaldson and Chief's assistant, Julie  
8 Criddle -- Ms. Julie Criddle were originally going to be  
9 the ones to present.

10 However, Ms. Julie was rushed to the hospital  
11 due to a medical emergency, and then I advised I would  
12 present so my Chief could support Ms. Julie during this  
13 scary time for her. So please bear with me, as I'll try  
14 my best to provide you with the information and answers  
15 needed.

16 We are a first-time applicant. Our Department  
17 is currently -- currently has eight officers serving with  
18 the City of Clear Lake Shores. A little about us, City of  
19 Clear Lake Shores has a very wide, diversified group of  
20 residents who share a love of living by the water and a  
21 unique coastal island community.

22 The dedicated professionals of the Clear Lake  
23 Shores Police Department, in cooperation with the citizens  
24 of Clear Lake Shores, strive to provide a safe and secure  
25 and viable community through -- hopefully through this



1 program.

2 Why we want to apply for this grant, although  
3 we aren't small, we're proud -- although we are small, we  
4 are proud to report that we have zero thefts for this  
5 issue. However, we are seeing a growth in BMVs. So just  
6 two weeks ago, I had to work a -- where a couple handguns  
7 were stolen from a vehicle. We would like to continue the  
8 prevention of those thefts in our city and community.

9 Grant funds will be spend on the LPR system,  
10 which will be deployed at strategic ingress and egress  
11 points throughout the city and will be integrated into the  
12 border Flock Safety network across the state.

13 Thank you for your time. Questions?

14 (No response.)

15 MS. JONES: No, ma'am. Thank you.

16 MS. RAMIREZ: Thank you.

17 CHIEF FITCH: Good afternoon. James Fitch,  
18 Chief of Police for Clute Police Department. Coming to  
19 you, total grant was for 144,000. That's five LPRs, a  
20 long range camera, and also a mobile trailer with five  
21 cameras on that as well.

22 I will kind of explain where that'll all kind  
23 of come in. Why do we need those in Clute? Well, first  
24 let me tell you about Clute.

25 We're 45 minutes southwest of Houston. They

1       won't admit it, but we are the home of the original  
2       Buc-ee's, which is still there. So in that five square  
3       miles, crammed down, we've got about 10,000 residents, 13  
4       apartment complexes, 12 hotels.

5               And I will be -- I will also pile on to Houston  
6       and Harris County, in that we have plenty that come out of  
7       that, hit our hotels, hit our apartment complexes, and go  
8       back out of town.

9               On the other side of it, on the other side, we  
10       have the port of Freeport, and so we have plenty of  
11       traffic that comes down 332 and 288 Business, going to the  
12       port. So we have the travel of those stolen vehicles, of  
13       the stolen parts as well, coming through our town.

14              As far as our community awareness, we already  
15       have a program in effect, to where we had a local vendor  
16       that actually does it for free for us, and we continue to  
17       do community notice and awareness through our National  
18       Night Out, the great Texas Mosquito Festival that we have,  
19       as well as our social media.

20              We are supported by all the organizations, all  
21       the cities that are around us, and that we will work with  
22       them, as well as they will work with us, and share that  
23       information and help one another. Open to any questions.

24              (No response.)

25              MS. JONES: Chief, no, sir. Thank you.

1 CHIEF FITCH: Thank you.

2 MS. JONES: College Station? Collinsville, and  
3 the City of Commerce, in that order.

4 LT REITER: Howdy.

5 MS. JONES: Hi, ma'am.

6 LT REITER: Good morning -- or afternoon now.  
7 I'm Lieutenant Reiter with the College Station Police  
8 Department. Just to tell you a little bit about our  
9 Department, we are a mid-sized department with 165. We  
10 have 72 civilian positions, and a city population over  
11 120,000.

12 We are located in Brazos County which is also  
13 the home of Texas A&M University, a student population of  
14 over 74,000. If you look at it nationally, we are in the  
15 top five for university sizes, for population and land  
16 mass.

17 We are central to Austin, Houston, and Dallas-  
18 Ft. Worth Metroplex. All those are also connected through  
19 State Highway 6, which runs through our city, connected by  
20 I-35, Highway 290, and Highway 21, which makes us easy  
21 targets.

22 Reasons for requesting the grant funds. We are  
23 trying to put in license plate reader cameras in fixed  
24 locations throughout our city. We believe this will be a  
25 benefit to our local community and to our visitors and

1 student population in our city by acting as a force  
2 multiplier.

3 We know this will create a faster response,  
4 creating a better chance to catch thieves in the act, as  
5 well as recovering stolen property and helping deter auto  
6 theft crimes from happening in the first place. Because  
7 of our centralized location, catalytic convertor thieves  
8 travel through our city to get to salvage yards and other  
9 places they can either sell to or steal from. Adding  
10 these ALPR cameras will just strengthen the network within  
11 the state of Texas through our sharing of data with every  
12 other agency.

13 Some of our stats, numbers for our city -- in  
14 2022, we had 315 cat thefts, we had 162 stolen vehicles.  
15 Compared to this year, so far, we've only had -- we've had  
16 zero cat thefts and 38 stolen vehicles at the time this  
17 presentation was made. Now, we know that with students  
18 coming back in August and the new freshman class, that we  
19 will see a rise in those numbers. We also expect that, as  
20 precious metal costs rise, the criminals will find another  
21 way to get around the obstacles we've put in place for cat  
22 thefts as it is.

23 As far as projected spending, for the MVCPA we  
24 are requesting \$301,492. Our cash match will be 60,298.  
25 Total expenditure at \$361,790. Out of that, 359,100 will

1 be for 79 automatic license plate reader cameras, which  
2 will be located at all the ingress and egress through the  
3 city, as well as key points within the city, surrounding  
4 the university, at the mall, those type of locations.

5 The other \$2,690 will be for travel and  
6 training costs to attend the conference next year for the  
7 grant manager, as well as the property sergeant.

8 As far as public awareness and drones, we are  
9 not asking for grant funds for those two topics. We  
10 already have those areas covered with our own equipment  
11 and staff. Our social media officer will do public  
12 awareness campaigns at community funded -- or community  
13 events.

14 MS. JONES: Any questions for Lieutenant  
15 Reiter?

16 (No response.)

17 MS. JONES: Thank you, ma'am.

18 LT REITER: Thank you for your time.

19 (General discussion.)

20 MS. JONES: Somebody wants a new job.

21 MR. BLACK: Howdy. How are y'all doing?

22 Another day in paradise. So this is our first time doing  
23 this, so bear with me. We're still learning.

24 I'm Officer Chris Black. I'm with the  
25 Collinsville Police Department. We have five full-time

1 officers and a canine officer.

2 We're located on the southwest corner of  
3 Grayson County. Our main thoroughfare is Highway 377, and  
4 if anybody knows anything about 377, especially nowadays,  
5 there is tons and tons of traffic. It runs all the way up  
6 to Oklahoma, where marijuana is legal and meth possession  
7 is a misdemeanor. So that's what we get to deal with.

8 So we have chief -- mistype -- we have FM 902.

9 It's a 41-mile road that goes all the way from Tom Bean,  
10 out west towards Gainesville. So we have two major  
11 ingress and egress roads that we deal with in our city.

12 Currently, knocking on wood, we don't have a  
13 cat theft problem, because we try to stay as proactive as  
14 we can. But there is a large issue within Grayson, Cooke  
15 County, and southern Oklahoma, with 377 being a feeder  
16 road that puts in a position to help identify and locate  
17 and hopefully capture these people.

18 So the reason that we're looking for the  
19 cameras is to help identify, locate, capture, deter crime  
20 and assist all the agencies around us, especially with  
21 Highway 377. What we're looking for is four stationary  
22 Flock cameras at all four corners of the city, as well as  
23 a Flock mobile trailer.

24 The City of Collinsville hosts several events  
25 throughout the year. We have National Night Out, Pioneer

1 Days, and the very big Battle of the Bridges, us versus  
2 Tioga. Go Bulldogs. And each of those events, we have  
3 hundreds upon hundreds of people coming into the city,  
4 going into the shops, plus all the car and vehicle  
5 traffic.

6 So the total cost of the project is \$37,000.  
7 We're asking for the grant for 29,600, and the City is  
8 going to match 7,400, to bring the total to \$37,000.  
9 Yeah. So we're just -- we're looking to try to stay ahead  
10 of the growth and helping our partner agencies everywhere.

11 I know y'all are going to hear from Gunter PD  
12 here in a little bit too. They're looking to do the same  
13 thing, and we're trying to get integrated with all the  
14 surrounding agencies and counties and hopefully put a dent  
15 in theft and cat theft, and basically all crime,  
16 essentially.

17 MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

18 Any questions for Officer Black?

19 MR. SLOAN: I've got one.

20 MR. BLACK: Sure.

21 MR. SLOAN: Your application has five cameras.

22 Will you go back to the slide that says you're going to  
23 do, I guess, four and one on a trailer? Explain the  
24 trailer, please.

25 MR. BLACK: So the trailer -- the Flock person

1 sent me all sorts of cool pictures and convinced us. It's  
2 a mobile trailer with the telephone pole. We can extend  
3 it out. It's got the license plate reader and the real-  
4 time camera systems.

5 The main reason for that again is because we  
6 have National Night Out, Battle of the Bridge and things  
7 where we need to be able to put a camera to observe a  
8 large portion -- the large crowds in the downtown area,  
9 and for the football games when we have hundreds and  
10 hundreds of extra cars in the city.

11 MR. SLOAN: Okay. Thank you. We'll just have  
12 to get one of the staff members to talk about an  
13 amendment. Yeah.

14 MS. JONES: You'll be contacted. We need to  
15 your amend your application, you're asking.

16 MR. BLACK: Okay.

17 MS. JONES: Okay. Thank you, sir.

18 MR. BLACK: All right.

19 MS. JONES: City of Commerce? Then Converse  
20 and Cooke County.

21 It's your turn, ma'am.

22 MS. BRINCEFIELD: Thank you. Thank you for  
23 having me today. Jennifer Brincefield with the City of  
24 Commerce. I'm the officer manager, dispatcher, property  
25 tech. You name it, I'm the go-to, the one that gets it



1 done.

2 We currently do not have any LPRs, but we are  
3 looking to obtain some with your help. We have a small  
4 population, 9,800. During the time that the university --  
5 East Texas A&M University sits in the middle of our  
6 town -- when they are in school, that population more than  
7 doubles. It goes up to about 2,100, just a little over --  
8 I'm sorry -- 21,000.

9 We have an area of 8.41 square miles. The  
10 university does large gatherings. We do large gatherings.

11 We do National Night Out. We do community events at the  
12 city park for the children.

13 We do all sorts of large gatherings. And we  
14 sit in an area that has five major roads going through it.

15 These major roads also -- place that sits on one of those  
16 is a large scrap metal recycling place that has had  
17 catalytic convertor thefts before.

18 We're hoping that, with the use of the LPRs, we  
19 can station some around that area to catch these  
20 individuals. The five major roadways, they connect the  
21 cities between us. Hopkins County has LPRs. They help us  
22 out often with locating vehicles.

23 We would like to be able to help them out,  
24 Delta County out, Hunt County out, and even the university  
25 out, in return, with the use of these LPRs, along with

1 fighting some crimes within our own city. With the grant  
2 funds, we plan to install 15 stationary LPRs in strategic  
3 locations around the city, mainly focused around these  
4 five major roadways that come in and the scrap metal  
5 place. We also would like to have a mobile trailer with  
6 multiple livestreams in order to take to places, such as  
7 National Night Out, the events that we do at the park, the  
8 events that the college puts on that are located off-  
9 campus, closer to our properties, our city properties.

10 If we can station one there, not only we will  
11 help our city, but we'll also help out the university.  
12 That's all I have.

13 MS. JONES: Any questions?

14 (No response.)

15 MS. JONES: Thank you, ma'am.

16 MS. BRINCEFIELD: Thank you.

17 MS. JONES: Converse, Cooke, and Cuero.

18 MR. PENCE: Good afternoon. I'm Deputy  
19 Director Earl Pence. I'll be presenting for Converse.

20 It is some unforeseen circumstances. They were  
21 unable to make it. The Converse Police Department's  
22 mission is to effectively and efficiently provide for the  
23 protection of lives and property, preserve public peace,  
24 provide needed community services, with the highest level  
25 of professionalism and ethical standards.

1           This program will allow the Converse Police  
2 Department to utilize the proposed Flock license plate  
3 recognition cameras and the Flock aerial dome DFR drones  
4 the ability to automatically identify vehicles and  
5 apprehend potential offenders in a timelier manner. This  
6 equipment can provide around-the-clock surveillance and  
7 record data to assist police officers in responding to any  
8 criminal activity, which includes motor vehicle theft and  
9 including, but not limited to, catalytic convertor theft.

10           The purpose of the license plate reader cameras  
11 and the drones is to provide real-time information and to  
12 improve the situational awareness regarding motor vehicle  
13 theft. This equipment can be remotely identify -- can  
14 remotely identify critical incidents to allocate the task  
15 force efficiently, where most needed, thereby improving  
16 operational effectiveness of the Converse Police  
17 Department.

18           A stolen vehicle will be swiftly identified and  
19 therefore increase the efficiency of the task force. The  
20 cameras and drones will provide objective evidence for  
21 solving crimes and provide initiatives, taking alerts, to  
22 help avoid potentially dangerous situations and  
23 encounters.

24           This program will impact the community in a  
25 positive manner, providing efficient and quick responses

1 and addressing only those causing disturbances, hereby  
2 bolstering public trust and cooperation with law  
3 enforcement.

4 This is crucial for an overall effective crime-  
5 fighting tool.

6 MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

7 I wanted to clarify, normally, we do not allow  
8 a substitute. We don't do that, but in this case, force  
9 majeure, Converse is assisting with flood duty, and then  
10 Earl will present again for -- and in the line of death.  
11 So I just want it to be clear on our record, that's why we  
12 made the exception.

13 Thank you, sir.

14 MR. PENCE: Yes. And their total they ask for  
15 is \$288,800.

16 MS. JONES: Thank you. Any questions for Earl?

17 (No response.)

18 SGT MCGREGOR: All right. Are you ready? My  
19 name is Nick McGregor. I'm an investigator with the  
20 Cooke County Sheriff's Office. We are located on 35,  
21 north of DFW, right before you get to Oklahoma, so at the  
22 crossroads of 35 and 82.

23 I threw some numbers up there just for y'all to  
24 be able to read, to understand that, in 900 square miles,  
25 one mile south of WinStar Casino, we deal with a lot of

1 vehicles. We deal with a lot of vehicles, and an uptick  
2 with 50,000 people that live in Cooke County, but a  
3 greater population that passes through.

4 And so unlike anybody else that has explained,  
5 we're dealing with the Metroplex traffic. We even recover  
6 stolen vehicles from Harris County. They actually make  
7 their way up there, ironically.

8 So what we are asking for is a continuation,  
9 though, of -- SB224 is -- last year's grant, we were  
10 before in January. We graciously were granted money for  
11 five cameras. Four of those are in the final phase with  
12 TxDOT right now, to be applied. So one camera is up.

13 This is a little bit of data that's coming not  
14 only from that camera, but also the ability to access the  
15 Flock system in general. That is what the money has  
16 brought to our agency, to be able to leverage with other  
17 local agencies, Collinsville being one of those that have  
18 seen that, and they're continuing to come and try to work  
19 towards motor vehicle theft.

20 Motor vehicle theft, obviously, brings  
21 catalytic convertor theft. That's what we've seen. We've  
22 seen the uptick of not only vehicles that are stolen, but  
23 also I'm finding junk vehicles that are being reported  
24 stolen that were supposed to be out in a field, but they  
25 have had parts removed from them. So that's increasing

1       our caseload as well.

2               Simply put, what we're asking for is 13 license  
3       plate cameras. Five of those are a continuation of SB224  
4       second solicitation, six new cameras. Four of those are  
5       long range. Two are regular.

6               These are implementing intentional with the  
7       Flock Safety system. And then two of the speed trailers.

8       The unique aspect of this is, the speed trailers are  
9       going to be mobile. That can not only be TxDOT friendly,  
10      so that way, we don't have to go through the permitting  
11      process, but also to be able to put out -- for example, in  
12      west Cooke County, we have Muenster.

13              They host a couple of -- GermanFest and  
14      OktoberFest, different events. We've got a lake. We've  
15      got various other things. What I would like to see is the  
16      branding of MVCPA on those trailers to be able to partner  
17      with y'all and to be able to continue to advocate for  
18      catalytic convertor theft.

19              That's our numbers. We're asking for \$66,292  
20      with the partnership. Do y'all have any questions?

21              (No response.)

22              MS. JONES: No, sir.

23              SGT MCGREGOR: Okay.

24              MS. JONES: Thank you.

25              SGT MCGREGOR: Thank you.

1 MS. JONES: On a different note, TxDOT issued  
2 the first permit today for -- so. Yes, sir? Go ahead.

3 CHIEF ELLIS: Good afternoon. My name is  
4 Steven Ellis. I'm the Chief of Police for the Cuero  
5 Police Department.

6 First, I want to thank y'all for the second  
7 solicitation when we're able to present. And again, we're  
8 hoping our cameras, our Flock cameras are going to go into  
9 place in the next month or so.

10 The city, a little bit about it, we're about  
11 8,500 people. We have a department of 17 officers, sworn,  
12 10 of those on patrol. Our department is a member of the  
13 Lone Star Task Force, and we're part of the area,  
14 crossroads HIDTA, which is -- we're right next to  
15 Victoria.

16 So talking to the Victoria guys, they do help  
17 us quite a bit with their task force. We do community  
18 outreach through our Civilian Police Academy, which  
19 started three years ago. Since then, we've been able to  
20 use our Civilian Police Academy graduates to police  
21 parking lots for big events, our Turkey Fest.

22 Our football team is pretty well known in the  
23 state. So we draw a lot of crowds there. Fourth of July  
24 events. So we have been able to train our graduates to go  
25 out and kind of help us give us an extra set of eyes on

1 the parking lots, because that's where we do have a  
2 majority of our BMVs.

3 We also do community outreach through our  
4 annual First Responder Meet and Greet, and we do  
5 presentations through our local volunteer organizations,  
6 such as Rotary Club and Lions Club. So anyway we can get  
7 out the word on -- in how these people can prevent these  
8 crimes, we want to do it. And we do have an active  
9 Facebook for the Department.

10 So we have a couple of major roadways running  
11 through Cuero. Three of those is U.S. Highway 183, coming  
12 from the Austin area, 87, which comes down from San  
13 Antonio. State Highway 72, again, can come through the  
14 San Antonio area. And then we have some back ways in from  
15 Harris County.

16 Thank y'all. We have a lot of stolen vehicles  
17 coming from Harris County, a lot of heavy-duty trucks  
18 being used for smuggling. And that's where we have found  
19 that we have some areas that we need to cover.

20 So the areas in yellow are our current fixed  
21 locations. We have ELSAG cameras at those locations, the  
22 major highways coming in. What we're wanting to do is  
23 implement the Flock cameras on our FM roadways, which will  
24 help cover all of the entrances into the city. So that  
25 would be three camera locations.



1           In this grant that we're asking for would be a  
2 continuation to keep the three cameras we asked for in the  
3 second solicitation going in the next year. One of the  
4 other things we're asking for is to assist us with  
5 licensing for Vigilant.

6           We have eight marked patrol units. We've got a  
7 brand-new camera system in the beginning of this year.  
8 And they have the ability for the mobile LPRs. And so  
9 we're testing those in a free version right now, but we  
10 want to continue with that.

11           That would give us Flock, Vigilant, and ELSAG.  
12 And I think, having a -- multiple will give us the best  
13 opportunity for solving these crimes.

14           What we're asking for, our request is for  
15 13,750. That's the grant portion. We would come in with  
16 2,750 for our cash match. And that's to get this program  
17 with the Vigilant and the Flock up and running.

18           So any questions?

19           MS. JONES: Questions for Chief?

20           (No response.)

21           MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

22           CHIEF ELLIS: Thank you.

23           CHIEF HACKNEY: I'm not sure if somebody had a  
24 CU name before me, but --

25           MS. JONES: I was not going to attempt to

1 pronounce it. Cumby?

2 CHIEF HACKNEY: That's it.

3 MS. JONES: Perfect.

4 CHIEF HACKNEY: Super easy. So I'm Kaleb  
5 Hackney. I'm the Chief of Police for Cumby. I'm going to  
6 brief this a little bit, because this is exactly what I  
7 presented to you guys in January down in San Antonio. We  
8 had a good time presenting to you guys, so decided to keep  
9 it in Ft. Worth this time.

10 So we're a small town. We're off of I-30. We  
11 have seven officers. We're only about 1,000 people big.

12 We just have more roadway jurisdiction than we  
13 do people. We do have -- we have the ability to and we do  
14 assist six surrounding departments and two task forces,  
15 not including any of the ISD police departments that we  
16 have throughout the county.

17 And as I say, we just presented in January. At  
18 that time, we were awarded four cameras and a mobile  
19 trailer. That was supposed to have an LPR system on it.  
20 So far, the updates on that grant is just -- we don't have  
21 any of it installed there, due to the TxDOT and the DPS  
22 just approving the permitting process.

23 We did get a trailer delivered. Didn't have  
24 any cameras on it. We've since been assigned a second  
25 Flock rep, so we kind of have a rocky start with our

1 grant, with the program people.

2 I actually just got the notification: they're  
3 fixing to deliver a second new trailer to us, as we were  
4 standing here today. So that will help us out a little  
5 bit. We expect the stationary cameras during the next  
6 three to four weeks, now that the permitting process has  
7 been done, and we submitted our last MUA to TxDOT.

8 Even though we don't have the cameras yet, we  
9 have already been expanding our network throughout the  
10 Flock system. So when they are installed, we're going to  
11 be ready to go and share that data and collect it and get  
12 it back to show reads. For you guys, at this time, we're  
13 not asking for any more or any less than what was already  
14 approved.

15 It's \$29,000 -- \$29,600, with a matching of  
16 7,400 from us, total 37,000. That's going to be for four  
17 cameras and a trailer, four stationary cameras and a  
18 mobile trailer.

19 We do actually hold the community events once a  
20 month. Even though we don't have the camera reads, we are  
21 holding community events once a month, not only to  
22 strengthen our relationship, but to be able to spread the  
23 word about the MVCPA. We also announce the grant every  
24 month at our council meetings and stuff like that.

25 So -- but like I said, no more, no less than

1 we're asking for. We just want to continue it into the  
2 next year and try to hopefully get everything installed  
3 that was already awarded us to begin with.

4 Any questions?

5 MS. JONES: Any questions for Chief?

6 (No response.)

7 CHIEF HACKNEY: Thank you, guys.

8 MS. JONES: You're welcome. Thank you. It --  
9 stand by -- it is 4:00 p.m., and we're going to take a  
10 five-minute recess break.

11 (Whereupon, a short recess was taken.)

12 (4:13 p.m.)

13 MS. JONES: Resume with the Dallas Police  
14 Department. Oh boy. Bring -- come on, partner. You need  
15 to get some.

16 SGT RODEN: Love this --

17 MS. JONES: Get some.

18 SGT RODEN: Now I'm scared.

19 MS. JONES: You should be.

20 SGT RODEN: I'm used to it. So for the record,  
21 I'm Sergeant Bryan Roden, Dallas Police Department. I've  
22 been a program manager for a little over 13 years now.  
23 I've been with the City a little over 21 years.

24 And this is our SB224 FY '26 grant application.  
25 It's pretty much a continuation of what we received last

1 year and last cycle. Why a need for an SB224 Task Force?

2 Dallas is the third-largest city in Texas, with over 1.3  
3 million residents, and that's not counting people driving  
4 in daily to work there.

5 A significant portion of funds collected by  
6 MVCPA from Dallas residents, and it's been an honor to be  
7 able to give them representation through our task force.  
8 Most vehicle thefts include two catalytic convertors. And  
9 so in '23, we had well over 18,000 offenses.

10 That means, if you just think of the catalytic  
11 convertors lost there, you're looking at 36-, almost  
12 37,000 catalytic convertors missing. Now, with the raw  
13 numbers, just with catalytic convertors, you know,  
14 collected by NIBRS, we had over 642 catalytic convertors  
15 in '23.

16 We were able to drop those numbers  
17 significantly due to proper funding. So it was last year,  
18 we had, like, around 113 catalytic convertors, and I think  
19 about 14,000 UUVs for '24. So we've been making a lot of  
20 progress.

21 We've still got a lot more work to do. We've  
22 seen an increase in chop shops and illegal crushing yards  
23 for the sole purpose of harvesting catalytic convertors.  
24 One reason I think why catalytic convertor numbers are so  
25 low is the ease of auto theft these days.

1           Why take the time to cut the catalytic  
2     convertor? When I steal the whole car, I can take it to a  
3     crushing yard, and now I crush the evidence and I still  
4     have the catalytic convertor. SB224 did give us penal  
5     code for the possession of -- illegal possession of  
6     catalytic convertors.

7           This past, like, two months, we've been able to  
8     make five arrests either by theft of catalytic convertor  
9     or possession of catalytic convertor, all deemed -- all  
10    coming from these illegal crushing yards, where they're  
11    just harvesting catalytic convertors and crushing  
12    everything else.

13          So personnel expenses, one funded officer,  
14    100 percent of their time to grant activities, two cash  
15    match officers. Again, 100 percent of their time to grant  
16    activities. A total of 135,000. Other expenses -- don't  
17    look -- 2,000 for travel, SB224 funding.

18          We were able to buy some pretty good equipment  
19    the past cycle, so one of them was a Bobcat skid steer,  
20    which is extremely heavy, and so I am asking for a truck  
21    to be able to haul that, to keep that mobile. When I did  
22    ask for this, I wasn't too sure how long SB224 was going  
23    to keep rolling. So I wanted to put that in there in case  
24    we did lose that funding. We could stay mobile.

25          We did get to 200 Flock cameras and -- which,

1 for this to keep them running, is \$563,500. We had 200.  
2 I think 198 cameras are up and active. I think the other  
3 two maybe have just been damaged.

4 But all of them should be up and running by  
5 now. Again, we're asking for the overtime, pretty much  
6 the same from last year's. Thank you.

7 Is that -- oh, okay. Thank you.

8 MS. JONES: Thank you. Any questions?

9 (No response.)

10 MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

11 SGT RODEN: Thank you.

12 MS. JONES: Eagle Pass? Eastland? Eastland is  
13 after Eagle Pass, and then the City of Eastland.

14 Eagle Pass, you're up. Eagle Pass, this is  
15 last call.

16 (No response.)

17 MS. JONES: Okay. Thank you. We will move --  
18 there you go. County of Eastland?

19 MR. HOWELL: Good afternoon.

20 MS. JONES: Good afternoon, sir.

21 MR. HOWELL: My name is Kent Howell. I'm the  
22 investigator for Eastland County Sheriff's Office. First  
23 time we've applied for this application, for this grant.

24 And a little bit about our county, up to 17,000  
25 residents for the county, with over 900 square miles for

1 the entire county. I've got 19 sworn officers, 10 patrol,  
2 one investigator, and that's me. I've got the Sheriff and  
3 the Chief, and I'm the only one working these cases right  
4 now.

5 So we have a pretty big highway. Interstate 20  
6 runs through our entire county, 43 miles of Interstate 20,  
7 47 miles of Highway 6, 20 miles of Highway 16. These  
8 highways are used pretty heavily. TxDOT -- I'll go back  
9 to that here in a second.

10 2024, we -- 26 vehicles were reported for  
11 stolen. We recovered \$800,000 worth of vehicles,  
12 trailers, side-by-sides. We recovered stuff from Harris  
13 County, like everybody else, that was stolen.

14 2025, so far, we've already had six vehicles,  
15 just from our county. We've already recovered \$100,000  
16 worth of vehicles, but most of that stuff we're  
17 recovering, it's from other counties. Because of the  
18 highways that are going through our county, we're able to  
19 get a lot of -- you know, recover a lot of stolen vehicles  
20 and other equipment.

21 We've also had several armed robberies along  
22 Interstate 20, and these gas station people driving  
23 through our county, you know, and stopping off at these  
24 gas stations and then stealing vehicles, and a couple of  
25 them, robberies.



1           We're wanting -- if you're not familiar with  
2   Eastland County, west of here, you have Weatherford and  
3   Abilene -- are the two biggest cities, closest cities.  
4   Eastland County is right in the middle, and it's about  
5   120 miles of highway between Abilene and Weatherford, and  
6   there's no LPRs at all. We kind of fall in kind of a dark  
7   area, where there's not a whole lot of technology, and we  
8   have no technology or the funds to get these LPRs.

9           TxDOT reports 35,000 vehicles travel through  
10   Eastland County daily. We're asking to install seven  
11   Flock LPR cameras throughout the county, and also a mobile  
12   Flock trailer, speed trailer, to where we can move the  
13   trailer in vulnerable spots when we have events.

14           As far as social media and outreach, we have a  
15   lot of events that goes on in our community, that we will  
16   continue to grow that, as far as with the grant's  
17   requirements there. So any questions?

18           MS. JONES: Any questions for the Investigator?

19           (No response.)

20           MS. JONES: No, sir.

21           MR. HOWELL: Thank y'all.

22           MS. JONES: You're welcome. Thank you.

23           LT McDADE: Ready. Oh, now it's -- I'm Scot  
24   McDade, Lieutenant with the Eastland Police Department.  
25   You kind of just heard where Eastland is from my buddy

1 back there from the Sheriff's Department, and we're right  
2 in between here and Abilene on I-20.

3 We've got a population just under 4,000 people,  
4 but according to a study by TxDOT in 2023, we've got 16-  
5 to 20,000 people that travel through town daily, and  
6 35,000 through on the Interstate, as you just heard.

7 We're applying to get a license plate reader  
8 program going, just like everybody else. We don't have  
9 that technology right now. We've got crimes that have  
10 gone unsolved in the past that I believe I would have  
11 solved with some of this stuff. I suspect some of their  
12 catalytic convertor thefts, other motor vehicle parts,  
13 burglaries of motor vehicles, drugs, all the other crimes.

14 This technology is not only going to aid our  
15 department, but all the other departments in the  
16 surrounding area in our county and surrounding counties.  
17 We all work together. Like he said, there's a void in the  
18 license plate readers in our area.

19 So we're trying to correct that and get a  
20 little bit of the technology everybody else has. We're  
21 trying to take a proactive stance. We haven't had many  
22 catalytic convertor thefts in the last couple years, but  
23 you asked for the data on that application, but we have  
24 had them previous to that.

25 We've never put a goose egg up on stolen

1 vehicles, so we've always got some of those, so those  
2 would be thefts of those as well, I guess. And of course,  
3 we've got the criminal rings that come out here from --  
4 come out to us from here.

5 Just the other day, we had someone trying to  
6 break into some of our businesses. They were unsuccessful  
7 getting in, so they jumped on 20, went to a neighboring  
8 county. They were successful there. They're still trying  
9 to identify that guy.

10 If we'd had these up and running, we'd probably  
11 be solving their burglary for them at least, you know. I  
12 let them know that we're trying to get this program  
13 started. We've got support from all around.

14 What we're asking for is nine pan-tilt-zoom  
15 live cameras, eight Flock Safety license plate readers,  
16 and then the software that comes with it so we can run  
17 everything. The total amount due for that is 56,000.  
18 We'd be asking for \$46,667. We'd be matching \$9,333 to  
19 get everything covered.

20 And that's where we plan on putting everything  
21 in town, all the entry points, exit points, through the  
22 middle of town, and think it will make a big difference.

23 Any questions?

24 MS. JONES: Thank you, sir. Any questions?

25 (No response.)

1 MS. JONES: El Paso?

2 LT McDADE: Appreciate your time.

3 MS. JONES: Yes, sir. Thank you.

4 El Paso, Elgin, and Elm Ridge Denton County  
5 Water District. That's a lot. Can't wait to hear that  
6 presentation.

7 Go ahead, sir.

8 MR. VILLALOBOS: Madam Chair, Committee  
9 members, good afternoon.

10 MS. JONES: Good afternoon.

11 MR. VILLALOBOS: I'm Officer Villalobos with  
12 the El Paso Police Department. My Task Force commander,  
13 Lieutenant Porras.

14 As we know, May 29, '23, the SB224 grant passed  
15 which gives us the tools to combat catalytic convertor  
16 thefts. The El Paso Auto Theft Task Force was awarded the  
17 grant and we were fully funded on October 28, which played  
18 a huge role in us being able to combat the catalytic  
19 convertor thefts. We did not -- we weren't able to apply  
20 for the SB224 FY '25 grant, due to some funding issues on  
21 our Department's behalf.

22 Just an overview of some cases throughout the  
23 year. 2022 to 2023, we saw a dramatic increase of  
24 catalytic convertor thefts reported throughout the city,  
25 and then as that bill passed, we were able to see that

1 number drastically change, as many throughout the state  
2 saw that. Year-to-date, through June, we are down to six  
3 thefts in the city of El Paso reported.

4 Some FY '24 stats, the Auto Theft Task Force,  
5 we conducted 46 operations through the overtime grant, 168  
6 catalytic convertors that were etched for VIN etching  
7 events. That was done through our officer that's assigned  
8 through the Crime Prevention. Thirty-two stolen catalytic  
9 convertors that were recovered, 36 total arrests  
10 throughout the grant, three of which were prolific  
11 catalytic convertor thieves who have been caught multiple  
12 times, one confirmed gang member.

13 And we've conducted eight MRE business  
14 inspections with the assistance and collaboration of Texas  
15 DPS investigator that's located in El Paso, 13 bait  
16 operations, and eight presentations to law enforcement, to  
17 include CBP at the bridge to enlighten them about the bill  
18 that had passed, so they know what to look for at the  
19 border.

20 With the financial assistance, we were able to  
21 purchase three bait vehicles, a Toyota Corolla, Tundra,  
22 and a Chevy Colorado, two crime prevention awareness  
23 wrapped Ford F250s, which are pictured, 150 Flock LPR  
24 cameras, which recently became operational within the last  
25 month. We're at 70 percent operation.

1           So far, we've had 15 successful cases solved  
2 through Flock, and that's for the auto theft side. And  
3 we've also assisted our tactical unit with the aggravated  
4 robbery that was solved in approximately one hour.

5           Right here, this is -- looking forward, we're  
6 going to be requesting this for FY '26, which is overtime  
7 for CAT operations, again, the SB224 Advisory Committee  
8 travel, two Covert Track bait systems, two emergency light  
9 packages, and a FUSUS center for the police department.

10           Here's just an overview of the budget. We're  
11 currently requesting from the Committee \$370,833, with a  
12 cash match of 128,034, with a total of 445,000.

13           Any questions?

14           (No response.)

15           MS. JONES: No, sir. Thank you.

16           MR. VILLALOBOS: Thank you.

17           MS. JONES: Elgin? Then Elm Ridge Denton  
18 County Water District and Euless is next.

19           MR. NOBLE: Good afternoon and thank you.

20           MS. JONES: Good afternoon.

21           MR. NOBLE: And I'd like to start off with  
22 saying that we are asking for a total of \$54,850. Of that  
23 is 43,880 -- is in equipment, and -- I'm sorry -- 39,880  
24 is equipment, and \$4,000 is for training. And so finance  
25 person and my intelligence analyst can attend this

1 conference in the future.

2 And so -- and there's a \$10,970 cash match from  
3 the City. I'd first like to start with -- just give a  
4 quick update about fiscal '25, where we are with the 224  
5 grant, with that. And first, I have to say, thank you,  
6 for getting the TxDOT issue resolved.

7 Now I can finally move forward with getting  
8 those cameras placed, and -- because we have not placed  
9 any of them yet. However, we did get the trailer in three  
10 weeks ago, and we already have a waiting list of where to  
11 deploy that in the neighborhoods and whatnot. And just  
12 for fun, we went and put it -- even though it wasn't  
13 operational, we put it in the parking lot of Walmart. The  
14 results was nothing less than amusing, and so nonetheless,  
15 it has paid off with some other things we've been doing  
16 with it.

17 So what we are asking for now is -- we already  
18 have 13 Flock cameras in the city but not on TxDOT right-  
19 of-way. And all of our cars have LPRs in them as well,  
20 and up on 290, which is the main thoroughfare between  
21 Austin and Houston, Harris County, of the stolen cars that  
22 are coming through. And vehicle-mounted ALPRs are picking  
23 those up, which then in turn leads to pursuits, and then  
24 ultimately, foot pursuits. And most of these are  
25 occurring at night.

1           And so with officers chasing people in the  
2 middle of the night, officers are getting hurt, and then  
3 also suspects are hiding. And it's just an officer safety  
4 thing. So that being said, we are asking for nine high-  
5 resolution thermal imaging cameras and an additional 10  
6 wiring harnesses, so -- because I have nine patrol cars on  
7 duty at night at any given time and then the additional  
8 wiring harnesses where we put in the other cars so --  
9 because the cameras are interchangeable.

10           And because the officers take their cars home,  
11 this way, they don't have to change cars in the future.  
12 You just pull the camera out, stick it in the other car.  
13 And you watch it on your MDT in the car.

14           And for community engagement -- I need to go on  
15 this thing -- there's a picture of the camera -- of the  
16 trailer itself, and some of the minutiae. Or -- and then  
17 talking about our social media campaigns, we have multiple  
18 festivals during the year. We just concluded one at the  
19 end of June. And anyway, full-page ad in the local  
20 newspaper, and -- with MVCPA. And we gave out over 150  
21 wheel locks as well from Hyundai.

22           Thank you.

23           MS. JONES: Any questions?

24           (No response.)

25           MS. JONES: Thank you, sir. Like your



1 advertisement.

2 MR. NOBLE: Thank you.

3 MS. JONES: You're welcome.

4 MR. SMITH: How are you doing? I'm Darin Smith  
5 with the Elm Ridge Police Department.

6 A little background from Elm Ridge, since you  
7 wanted to know what Denton County Water District is, we  
8 are actually a water control improvement district. We  
9 established a PD in 2019 for only Denton County Water  
10 District -- changed our name two years to Elm Ridge, so  
11 nobody would be confused of what a water district was.

12 We're actually a police department. So with  
13 that said, we serve approximately 21,000 residents,  
14 projected to double by 2030.

15 In '24, we had about four catalytic convertor  
16 thefts, 40 BMVs, numerous vehicle thefts. I think that  
17 raw number is about eight. What we're looking for from  
18 the grant is to lease nine LPR readers, three solar panel  
19 live video surveillance cameras, three power video  
20 surveillance cameras, one mobile live surveillance  
21 trailer, one DFR command station drone.

22 And we're looking for \$104,132, matched with  
23 21,868, with a total of \$126,000. That's it.

24 Any questions?

25 (No response.)

1 MS. JONES: No, sir. Thank you.

2 MR. SMITH: Thank you.

3 MS. JONES: Euleless?

4 CAPT ZACHARY: Yes, ma'am.

5 MS. JONES: And then we have Fairfield and Fort  
6 Stockton.

7 CAPT ZACHARY: Ready? Good. We're ready,  
8 ma'am?

9 MS. JONES: Yes, sir.

10 CAPT ZACHARY: Good afternoon. I'm Brandon  
11 Zachary. I'm a Captain of the Euleless Police Department,  
12 at a little over 28 years with Euleless, three with Denton  
13 County prior to that. So it's 32 years and things have  
14 changed.

15 We are a first-time applicant, so I appreciate  
16 your patience.

17 Eighty percent of crime in Euleless is committed  
18 by people who do not live in our city. They drive to our  
19 city to commit crime. If you know anything about where  
20 the city of Euleless is, it's smack-dab in the middle of  
21 millions of people.

22 We are directly between Dallas and Ft. Worth.  
23 We're the entire west side of DFW Airport. We pack a  
24 little over 65,000 people, I think, in 12 square miles.  
25 We're busy.

1           DFR technology substantially decreases response  
2 times in most cases, arriving on scene prior to first  
3 responders sending valuable real-time information back --  
4 oops, I skipped -- back to the responding officers. And  
5 we have multiple success stories in the limited amount of  
6 time we've had that added. Euless already has 33 LPR  
7 cameras that we worked with our regional partners on to  
8 make sure we were maximizing our coverage for ourselves as  
9 well as our partnering cities.

10           So what we're asking for 20 cameras, 10 of  
11 those being fixed, two PTZ, eight high-speed cameras. We  
12 have Airport Freeway 183, 121, Highway 360, Highway 10 --  
13 I could just keep going. We've got a lot of highways and  
14 freeways coming through the city, with a lot of traffic  
15 between Dallas and Ft. Worth.

16           So what we're trying to do is, we're trying to  
17 fill in the holes that we've identified that help not only  
18 us but our neighboring cities. Drone as a first  
19 responder -- and I'm sorry. I didn't throw the number out  
20 there, but that's 87,250 for those cameras.

21           Drone as a first responder. We're asking for  
22 33,000 for this. We just started this. We have two of  
23 them right now, and it's been a game-changer, and has  
24 already shown incredible results.

25           We can respond to a scene almost anywhere in

1 the city in under 90 seconds. But we're seeing is that  
2 Glade Parks, which is one of the busiest shopping  
3 districts in the entire state of Texas, that holds large  
4 events on a regular basis, that our DFRs just aren't  
5 available for the call load that we're seeing up there.  
6 And you can see the numbers of thefts that we see up  
7 there.

8 How do we get the word out? We have a very  
9 robust social media on all of the various platforms. We  
10 have open houses every year that we share with the fire  
11 department. We do presentation at citizen police  
12 academies, and we're very involved in our ISD in our  
13 criminal justice program.

14 And I have multiple success stories, but I have  
15 five seconds, so I appreciate your time.

16 MS. JONES: No questions, sir. Thank you.

17 After Fort Stockton is Frisco.

18 MR. ASHLEY: Good afternoon, everybody. How  
19 are y'all? I'm Officer Josh Ashley with the Fairfield  
20 Police Department. I've been at the Fairfield Police  
21 Department for about five years.

22 I'm here today ask for a total of \$147,950.40.  
23 Eighty-percent of that will be \$118,360.32. The 20  
24 percent match from the City of Fairfield will be  
25 \$29,590.08.

1 City of Fairfield is located right in between  
2 Dallas, Houston, Waco, and Tyler. We have the  
3 Interstate 45 running straight through us, which is where  
4 most of our crime comes from. Our city has most of its  
5 businesses right off the interstate, which makes it very  
6 easy for them to come off the interstate, do what they  
7 need to do, and get on the interstate, you know, out of  
8 our city.

9 We're going to ask for eight ruggedized  
10 tablets, two central-mounted LPRs, and then two standalone  
11 LPRs. We're going to be outfitting our current vehicles  
12 with the equipment asked. We won't be purchasing any new  
13 vehicles for this.

14 The City of Fairfield operates through the  
15 Freestone County Sheriff's Office for our dispatch. And  
16 we have recently acquired a CAD system through them.  
17 Unfortunately, we're unable to use it right now with our  
18 equipment that we have. That is why we're asking for the  
19 ruggedized tablets, to be able to use that central CAD  
20 system that we have.

21 So City of Fairfield, with us being off the  
22 interstate, in the last year and a half, we've had eight  
23 burglary of a motor vehicles. We've had 83 vehicle  
24 thefts, five DWIs, and 34 drug arrests from traffic stops.  
25 We have had several catalytic convertor thefts.

1           Unfortunately, we have a new report management  
2           system, and the older report management system we had did  
3           not keep track of that for us, but the total, I think, was  
4           about six to seven catalytic convertor thefts. One of the  
5           thefts happened at night at one of the used car  
6           dealerships right off the interstate. They come through,  
7           hit them, took them about 10, 15 minutes, and then they're  
8           gone.

9           So unfortunately, if we would have had the  
10          LPRs, we could have mounted them on the exits to the  
11          interstate, and we could have at least caught, you know,  
12          the vehicle and tracked them where they were going, and  
13          maybe caught some leads on that. Unfortunately, it was  
14          unsolved because of that reason.

15          So for the City of Fairfield, we have 10 police  
16          officers and 17 deputies. Average is about 757 people per  
17          law enforcement officer. According to TxDOT, on average,  
18          we have about 24 vehicles coming through our city daily.

19          So do you guys have any questions for me?  
20          Questions?

21          (No response.)

22          MR. ASHLEY: Thank you guys so much.

23          MS. JONES: You're welcome. Thank you.

24          SGT STRATTON: All right. Good afternoon,  
25          Board. Thank you for having me.

1 I'm Sergeant Derek Stratton. On deck, I have  
2 Chief Velasquez with me. We're from Fort Stockton Police  
3 Department.

4 Some agency details, we have an allotted budget  
5 for 18 sworn personnel. We currently have 13 actively  
6 employed. So our numbers are a little lower.

7 We service a population of approximately 8,000  
8 citizens, and we are at the intersection of four major  
9 highways. So we have Interstate 10 that runs straight  
10 through our town, US Highway 285, US Highway 385. US 67  
11 comes up a little further west of us, but that hits I-10.  
12 We get a lot of traffic coming through from there.

13 And then Highway 285 leads north through Pecos,  
14 and then Highway 18 up through Monahans. So we get a lot  
15 of traffic, especially since we have a direct nexus to the  
16 border. Well, we get traffic in and out of the national  
17 park, coming up from Mexico, people traveling down for  
18 holidays and stuff like that.

19 We see all kinds of stuff, narcotics, stolen  
20 vehicles, human trafficking. None of that is uncommon in  
21 our area.

22 The current use of LPR, albeit somewhat  
23 limited, we do Flock -- or not Flock -- we have Axon  
24 Fleet 3 systems in all of our units, which have a Flock  
25 integration, so we're able to see all those hits and

1 everything, through there. Somewhat limited, just because  
2 of the block on those permits, but like y'all said, we're  
3 getting those up and running, so hopefully, here soon,  
4 we'll have our actual cameras set up.

5 Through negotiations, on our last -- in  
6 January's grant, we upped our, I guess, allotment of  
7 cameras we were awarded to be able to get 11 ALPR cameras,  
8 one LPR trailers, and three pan-tilt-zoom cameras  
9 throughout the city. The goal with that was to go ahead  
10 and put cameras in all the ingress and egress points  
11 throughout the city, which is all those major throughways,  
12 interstates, highways. So basically, you won't be able to  
13 get into or out of Fort Stockton without hitting one of  
14 those LPR cameras.

15 So we plan on -- once we get those set up,  
16 we're going to go ahead and continue sharing data like  
17 we've been doing with all of our fleet stuff, what we've  
18 been doing so far. And the goal is just to continue to  
19 deter crime.

20 Our area in Fort Stockton, we're probably the  
21 last big city before you get out to El Paso. I call us a  
22 big city. It's not really a big city, but the last big  
23 area.

24 You have to stop there for gas. It's a given,  
25 or else you're going to run out of gas. So between San



1 Antonio and El Paso, we're probably the last stop, and  
2 currently there's no ALPR system right now, except for  
3 Reeves County has two cameras sitting there on Interstate  
4 10.

5 So as far as the funding, we're requesting the  
6 60,000 from MVCPA, with a \$15,000 cash match, for a total  
7 of 75,000, just as a continuation to cover the  
8 subscription for those LPR cameras, the trailer, and the  
9 pan-tilt-zoom cameras.

10 We do utilize social media frequently for any  
11 kind of tips, leads on crimes. We try to push out public  
12 service announcements as far as things going on in the  
13 city. If something's going on, we have road closures or  
14 whatever, we utilize that social media.

15 So we're not unaccustomed to being able to push  
16 stuff out to our citizens as far as being transparent with  
17 stuff that's going on with the Department. Our main goal  
18 is to maintain and enhance real-time information, sharing  
19 a suspect vehicle's criminal travel with the use of that  
20 LPR technology to help our partner agencies.

21 Some of them are here today, Pecos, and I know  
22 Monahans has been awarded in the past. And basically, we  
23 just want to be able to assist another agency, assist  
24 ourselves, and assist other agencies that are combating  
25 their motor vehicle thefts and their catalytic convertor

1 thefts.

2           Within the past year, we've only had about  
3 three -- three or four stolen vehicles, but we recovered  
4 all three of those. So -- and we're nowhere close to  
5 Harris County, but I'm going to go ahead and throw them  
6 under the bus. All their stuff's coming this way.

7           MS. JONES: Just sweep it. Sweep it there.  
8 Okay. Perfect, sir.

9           Any questions for Fort Stockton?

10           (No response.)

11           MS. JONES: Okay. Thank you.

12           SGT STRATTON: Thank you.

13           MS. JONES: Thank you, Chief.

14           We will have Frisco, Fulshear. After Fulshear,  
15 Eagle Pass. That may get us to the end of the day.

16           LT MATTEI: Very good. Good afternoon. For  
17 the record, I'm Lieutenant Evan Mattei with the Frisco  
18 Police Department. I'm currently the Lieutenant over our  
19 Property and Special Investigations Division, as well as  
20 our Crime Information and Analysis Unit.

21           In FY '24, we were awarded SB224 funds to  
22 establish our Flock ALPR system. In FY '25, we were able  
23 to expand on that system, as well as add additional tools  
24 for catalytic convertor and auto theft investigations. In  
25 FY '26, we are asking for just over 586,000, and we intend

1 to sustain these programs and enhance those technologies  
2 and enhance the capabilities of our recently launched  
3 real-time information center.

4 Like many other agencies, we have seen a great  
5 success with these programs, and thanks to the funds  
6 provided by the MVCPA Board, we are able to -- hope to be  
7 able to continue and enhance on these capabilities, as --  
8 if we are awarded.

9 Happy to answer any questions.

10 (No response.)

11 MS. JONES: No questions, sir.

12 LT MATTEI: Thank you.

13 MS. JONES: Thank you. Frisco? Or was that  
14 Frisco? Fulshear.

15 And then Eagle Pass, are you ready? Are you  
16 here? All right.

17 Hello, sir.

18 LT HENRY: Hello. I'm Lieutenant William Henry  
19 with the Fulshear Police Department.

20 Fulshear is located six miles below I-10,  
21 directly below the city of Katy, and we also butt up next  
22 to the city of Houston's ETJ. So we have them on one side  
23 to the east, and then Katy and I-10 up to the north.

24 We currently have 38 positions. We are at 32  
25 actual filled at the moment. So we're -- about a quarter

1 of patrol is technically being filled at this time.

2 We are asking for \$165,000 total. 137,500 is,  
3 obviously, for the match. What we're seeking is -- the  
4 first thing is the Flock's DFR program. We searched  
5 several things for -- we've searched four different DFR  
6 companies, and what we like is the Flock system, based on  
7 our coverage.

8 We're currently just under 50,000 people.  
9 We're the second-fastest-growing city in the nation,  
10 behind Celina. One of the safest cities in Texas. So we  
11 try to keep that record.

12 My Chief says, we don't care what you did  
13 yesterday. What are you doing today? So we're trying to  
14 be innovative and come up with ideas that cover our city.

15 One of those things is the DFR Program. We  
16 like it because we can cover our entire city with one  
17 apparatus, and we can also -- and it integrates with the  
18 Flock system. We currently have 38 Flock cameras. We  
19 want to add five more, and that's part of the grant, to  
20 cover all of our entry and exit points into the city.

21 With the Flock cameras and the DFR Program, our  
22 entire city is enveloped by this system. They talk to  
23 each other. We like the software, mainly for the reason  
24 that it integrates with our CAD system and also with the  
25 Flock cameras.

1           So we do a lot with social media. We have a  
2 pretty robust social media page, approximately 86,000  
3 followers. We're very involved with the community. We go  
4 to all of our HOA meetings, at least annually, and speak  
5 with them.

6           We put on a couple of CPA -- or citizen police  
7 academies throughout the year. And we have collateral  
8 duties. We have two officers that do our events. We go  
9 to -- besides National Night Out, we have a couple of city  
10 events.

11           We send them to anything in the city the HOAs  
12 might be hosting just to get that word out like that. Any  
13 questions?

14           (No response.)

15           MS. JONES: No, sir.

16           LT HENRY: Thank you. Thank you.

17           MS. JONES: Thank you. Eagle Pass? Zach's  
18 going to go backward.

19           Are you going to have to do it by memory?

20           SGT DURAN: Uh-huh. I'm good. Before the  
21 [inaudible] starts, I want to apologize for not being here  
22 on time. I received a call from DPS, and Eagle Pass --

23           MS. JONES: Oh, just blame us for everything.

24           SGT DURAN: No, no, no, yeah, no. We just --

25           MS. JONES: We get blamed for everything.

1                   SGT DURAN: So actually, this is pretty cool.  
2 They just pulled over a truck with a bed full of catalytic  
3 convertors, and the guy called me to tell me, and he was  
4 asking, so what are we going to do about this? I'm in Ft.  
5 Worth.

6                   So he's -- I'm handing them over to Maverick,  
7 because they have some guys in Maverick. So we'll see.  
8 We'll see what happens.

9                   MS. JONES: Did you tell him, asset forfeiture?

10                  SGT DURAN: So apologies. I do apologize.  
11 Sorry we were -- all right.

12                  So for -- Sergeant Duran, Jose Duran, for the  
13 record, Eagle Pass Police Department, Auto Theft Task  
14 Force.

15                  For fiscal year '26, under the catalytic  
16 convertor grant, we're asking for \$339,133 from MVCPA,  
17 which is an increase of about 35,000 from last fiscal  
18 year. And mainly what we're asking for is continued  
19 funding for our intel analysts. We're asking for  
20 continued funding for the Flock LPR system, which is  
21 40 cameras and -- 40 LPRs with four cameras, and the cell  
22 service for the -- for two cell phones for our positions.

23                  Also I'd like to add that Eagle Pass PD has  
24 agreed to give us one detective in-kind under this grant,  
25 to come in this next fiscal year. So I feel that's a big

1 win for us, because we haven't had an in-kind match or a  
2 cash match position in about five years, if I'm not  
3 mistaken.

4 So under the 224 grant, we've been able to  
5 utilize those funds to be proactive. We haven't had a  
6 single report of a catalytic convertor theft. We haven't  
7 received a report.

8 It doesn't mean that it's not happening; it  
9 hasn't been reported. And I'm okay with zero. As of  
10 today, we recovered -- DPS recovered a large amount of  
11 catalytic convertors. We're going to get back home and  
12 start investigating that.

13 We do community policing events, crime  
14 prevention. We go out with our other divisions. We go  
15 out to schools, community events, to promote auto theft.

16 We have a -- through SB224, we obtained a  
17 mobile lift trailer, and it's eye candy. That's a huge  
18 trailer, and it's nice and pretty, and we take it out and  
19 spark up a conversation about that and take the  
20 opportunity to talk about auto theft.

21 So mainly, that's our biggest approach -- is  
22 crime prevention. And we're happy with the low numbers  
23 that we have. I'm not envious of any other agency with  
24 higher numbers.

25 That means that, you know, it's working. Crime

1 prevention is working.

2 So any questions?

3 (No response.)

4 SGT DURAN: No? Thank you.

5 MS. JONES: You're welcome.

6 SGT DURAN: And I'm sorry.

7 MS. JONES: Thank you. Yes, sir.

8 Who was next? Don't come. Who's next?

9 Galveston. Okay.

10 Galveston, you will be next tomorrow at 7:00

11 a.m. Thank you.

12 It is -- see you all this evening. Don't  
13 forget, the banquet is this evening. See you then.

14 It's 4:53. We're adjourned until tomorrow.

15 (Whereupon, at 4:53 p.m., the meeting recessed  
16 to reconvene Friday, July 18, 2025.)



C E R T I F I C A T E

MEETING OF: TxDMV MVCPA Grants, Budget & Reporting

Committee

LOCATION: Via Teams

DATE: July 17, 2025

I do hereby certify that the foregoing pages,  
numbers 1 through 225, inclusive, are the true, accurate,  
and complete transcript prepared from the verbal recording  
made by electronic recording by Elizabeth Stoddard before  
the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.

DATE: July 31, 2025

/s/ Adrienne Evans-Stark  
(Transcriber)

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