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MOTOR VEHICLE CRIME PREVENTION AUTHORITY

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

BOARD MEETING

JANUARY 14, 2026

1:00 PM

EMBASSY SUITES

1001 E McCarty Lane  
SAN MARCOS, TEXAS 78666

1 APPEARANCES:

2 BOARD MEMBERS:

3 Mr. Miguel "Mike" Rodriguez - Chairman of the Board

4 Mr. Thomas "Tom" Sloan - Assistant Chief, Round Rock Law  
Enforcement Representative

5 Major Sharon Jones - Ex Officio Board Member Designee Texas  
Department of Public Safety

6 Ms. Katherine "Kit" Whitehill - Coppell, Consumer Insurance  
Representative (Remote)

7 Ms. Rebbecca Cantu Serrano - Houston, Consumer of Insurance  
Representative (Remote)

8 Ms. Charla K. Brotherton - Fort Worth, Insurance Representative

9 Mr. Scott Jackson - San Antonio, Insurance Representative.

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1 APPEARANCES Cont.  
2 Mr. William Diggs - Director of MVCPA  
3 Mr. Earl Pence - Deputy Director, MVCPA  
4 Ms. Yessenia Benavides - Management Analyst  
5 Ms. Cassandra Flint - Executive Assistant  
6 Mr. Mark Berry - Captain  
7 Mr. Michael "Ford" Strawn - Manager  
8 Ms. Annette Quintero - Director  
9 Ms. Wendy Barron - Director  
10 M?. Corrie Thompson - Director  
11 Mr. David Richards - General Counsel  
12 Ms. Sandra Castro - Grant Specialist.  
13 Mr. Daniel Price - Audit Manager  
14 Ms. Sterling Fielder - Grant Auditor  
15 Mr. Jason Gonzalez - MVCPA Audit  
16 Ms. Amber Ott - Law Enforcement Trainer  
17 Mr. Zach Warden - Board and Mobile Technician.

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1	INDEX	
2		PAGE
3	AGENDA	
4	1. Roll Call	7
5	1. Establishment of Quorum	8
6	2. Pledges of Allegiance - United States of America	9
7	2. Pledges of Allegiance - Texas	9
8	3. Chair's Report - Mike Rodriguez, Chairman	
9	A. Approval of Transcript as Minutes (October 8, 2025)(Action Item)	9
10	B. Chair's Report	10
11	4. MVCPA Director's Report - William Diggs, Director	12
12	A. Staffing Update	
13	B. MVCPA Grant Management Tracking System Update	
14	BRIEFING AND ACTION ITEMS.	
15	5. TxDPS-RSD SB 224 Update - Mark Berry, Captain (BRIEFING ONLY)	16
16	6. Texas Department of Licensing Regulation SB 224 Update - Michael "Ford" Strawn, Manger (BRIEFING ONLY)	21
17	7. TxDMV-VTR SB 224 Update - Annette Quintero, Director (BRIEFING ONLY)	32
18	8. TxDMV ITSD SB 224 Update - Wendy Barron, Director (BRIEFING ONLY)	37
19	9. TxDMV Enforcement SB 224 Update - Corrie Thompson, Director (BRIEFING ONLY)	51
20	10. License Plate Reader/Flock Update - Sharon Jones, Major, TxDPS (BRIEFING ONLY)	51
21	11. SB 224 Advisory Committee Continuation - David Richards, General Counsel (ACTION ITEM)	58
22	12. Grant Management Tracking System Self-Help Module - Laura Williams, Auditor, Sterling Fielder, Auditor, MVCPA and Sandra Castro, Grant Specialist, MVCPA BRIEFING ONLY)	59

## INDEX CONT.

## AGENDA

13.	FY 2024 SB 224 Grant Extensions - William Diggs, Director (ACTION REQUIRED)	63
14.	FY 2025 SB 224 Grant Extensions - William Diggs, Director (ACTION REQUIRED)	66
15.	MVCPA Audit Engagement Update - Jason Gonzalez, Internal Audit Division Director, TxDMV (BRIEFING ONLY)	70
16.	MVCPA Social Media/Advertisement Update - Amber Ott, Trainer (BRIEFING ONLY)	76
17.	Delegated MVCPA Budgetary Authority - William Diggs, Director (ACTION REQUIRED)	104
CLOSED SESSION		
18.	Texas Open Meetings Act, Government Code Chapter 551:	104
19.	Action Items from Closed Session	104
20.	Public Comment	104
21.	Adjournment	105
22.	Certificate of Transcriptionist	106

1 (Proceeding begins, 1:05 P.M.)

2 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Alright. Good afternoon.  
3 My name is Mike Rodriguez, and I'm pleased to open the board  
4 meeting of the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority. It is  
5 1:05 p.m., and I am now calling the board meeting for January  
6 14, 2026, to order.

7 I want to note for the record that the public notice  
8 of this meeting containing all items in the agenda was filed  
9 with the Office of Secretary of State on December 22, 2025.  
10 Before we begin today, please, place also put phones and other  
11 communication devices on -- in a silent mode. Also, as a  
12 courtesy to others, please do not engage in side conversations  
13 in the meeting room. I want to welcome those who are with us  
14 for today's board meeting. If you wish to address the board or  
15 speak on an agenda item during today's meeting, please complete  
16 a speaker's sheet at the -- at the registration table. Please  
17 identify the specific item you are interested in commenting on,  
18 your name and address, and whether you are representing anyone  
19 or speaking for yourself. If your comment does not pertain to  
20 a specific agenda item, we will take your comment during the  
21 general public comment portion of the meeting.

22 In accordance with the department's administrative  
23 rule, comments to the board will be limited to three minutes.  
24 To assist each speaker, a timer has been provided at the  
25 podium. The timer light will be green for the first two  
minutes, yellow when the speaker has one minute left, and the

1 red -- and then red when your time is up. Individuals cannot  
2 accumulate time from other speakers. Comments should be  
3 pertinent to the issue stated on the comment sheet. When  
4 addressing the board, please state your name and affiliation  
5 for the record. There are a few things that will assist in  
6 making this meeting run smoothly and assist the court reporter  
7 in getting an accurate record. Please identify yourself before  
8 speaking, speak clearly and slowly, do not speak over others,  
9 and please ask the chair for permission to speak, and be sure  
10 to get recognized before speaking. I would like to thank our  
11 court reporter who is transcribing this meeting today.

12 Before we begin today, I'd like to remind all  
13 presenters and those in attendance of the rules of conduct at  
14 our board meetings. Being the department's administrative  
15 rule, the chair has the authority to supervise the conduct of  
16 meetings. This includes the authority to determine when a  
17 speaker is being disruptive of the meeting or is otherwise  
18 violating the timing or presentation rules I just discussed.

19 Moving on to agenda item one, roll call. I'd like to  
20 have a roll -- roll call of the board members, please respond  
21 verbally -- verbally, when I call your name. Board member  
22 Jones?

23 MAJOR JONES: Present.

24 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Board member of Whitehill?

25 Board member of Whitehill? Board member Whitehill,  
can you un-mute please?

1 CASSANDRA FLINT: She's trying.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PENCE: She's got -- she's on, she's  
3 on mute.

4 CASSANDRA FLINT: She's trying. I'm texting her.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PENCE: See if we can get her.

6 MAJOR JONES: You can go to the next, you can always  
7 go back to her.

8 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: Can you hear me now?

9 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: I can hear you, we can  
10 hear you.

11 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: Sorry about that, present.

12 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Board Member Brotherton?  
13 Board Member Cantu Serrano? Board Member Cantu Serrano? Move  
14 on.

15 MAJOR JONES: Do you want to give her a chance say  
16 yes?

17 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: We have to be able to see  
18 them, so member Cantu-Serrano, we'll come back to her. Board  
19 Member Sloan?

20 BOARD MEMBER SLOAN: Present.

21 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Board Member Jackson? And  
22 let the record reflect that I Mike Rodriguez am here too.  
23 We do have a quorum.

24 Let's go on to agenda item two, Pledges of  
25 Allegiance. Please all stand and honor our country and  
state with the Pledges of Allegiance.



1 "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States  
2 of America, and to the republic for which it stands one  
3 nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice  
4 for all."

5 "Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee,  
6 Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible."

7 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. So we will now  
8 take up agenda item three A, approval the transcript from  
9 October 8th 2025 meeting as minutes. Is there a motion?

10 MAJOR JONES: Yes, sir. Sharon Jones, I move that  
11 the board approve the minutes from the October 8th, 2025,  
12 minutes -- meeting minutes.

13 BOARD MEMBER SLOAN: Board Member Sloan. I second  
14 the motion.

15 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Before we move forward on  
16 this action, Cass, do we have any public comments on this  
17 item?

18 CASSANDRA FLINT: No, sir. There are no public  
19 comments.

20 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: I have a motion from Member  
21 Jones and a second from Member Sloan. Any further discussion?  
22 I now call for the vote. Board members, when I call your name,  
23 please state your vote for the record. Board member Jones?

24 MAJOR JONES: Aye.

25 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Whitehill?

BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: Aye.

1           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Brotherton? Is  
2 absent. Member Cantu-Serrano?

3           MAJOR JONES: She said Zach's trying to help her.

4           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Sloan?

5           BOARD MEMBER SLOAN: Aye.

6           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And I, Chairman Rodriguez,  
7 vote aye. Let the record reflect that there are four votes and  
8 zero against, motion passes.

9           Agenda item Three B, Chair's report. I just to make  
10 sure that we are all caught up on the -- the situations that  
11 we've been having with Flock. I know we have some agenda items  
12 today in regards to that. Please, tomorrow we will have SB224  
13 committee meeting there -- it's going to be a bunch of  
14 presentations there. But for my -- my part, I hope everybody  
15 had an awesome holidays, you know -- Christmas and New Year,  
16 you all spent it with your family, were able to disconnect from  
17 our -- from our daily duties. Our -- our mission continues  
18 very strongly to decrease the number of auto thefts, auto  
19 burglaries, and of course, now the catalytic converter issue  
20 that we have.

21           But nonetheless, we continue to -- to move forward on  
22 a couple of things that we're going to be doing this year a  
23 little bit different. But, I do want to commend every single  
24 one of you because, after I checked the numbers for the state  
25 of Texas for this coming year, it looks like  
    we -- we went ahead and beat another dive into

1 decreasing the numbers of auto thefts for 2025. So that is  
2 very good on -- on everybody's part, especially our task forces  
3 across the state. But more importantly, also the ones that are  
4 engaging daily -- day in and day out, which is our patrolmen  
5 and everybody in our organization. So I want to thank  
6 everybody for that.

7           Moving forward, I think there is a lot of technology  
8 that's coming into play. And the vision for MVCPA continues to  
9 be not only for each specific jurisdiction. And we want to  
10 make sure that everybody's on the same page when it comes to  
11 the vision of MVCPA. And that -- the vision is that everybody  
12 is one, and the state of Texas is going to be one when it's  
13 combating auto theft. And what I mean by this is that the  
14 entire network that we're doing with Flock, with the softwares  
15 that we're putting in play, and now that with a lot of  
16 artificial intelligence that's coming on board, I think we're  
17 going to be much better with our objectives and our strategic  
18 plan that we're deploying by the end of year this year. So,  
19 again, I want to thank everybody for what you've been doing;  
20 and contin(sic)-- let's continue the push. I am very proud of  
21 everybody, so thank you. Members, are there any comments?

22           We'll move on to agenda item four. I will now turn  
23 the meeting over to MVCPA Director William Diggs for agenda  
24 items Four A and Four B, Mr. Diggs.

25           DIRECTOR DIGGS: Thank you. Mr. Chairman and  
members. William Diggs, MVCPA Director for the record. I'm --

1 I'm happy to report on our staffing update. We remain full.  
2 We have FTEs that are fully employed and we have no vacancies.  
3 I do want to kind of give some of the audience a little bit of  
4 a preview. We're looking ahead to the future. We've ex --  
5 experienced a lot of growth in the last two years with our  
6 catalytic converter funding and the number of grantees that we  
7 have. We've actually grown our task forces over the last two  
8 years as well. So we're looking at working with the executive  
9 team over in the DMV, as well as looking -- working with you,  
10 the board, to request some additional staff to help us navigate  
11 that, help us have the -- the proper oversight of that. And  
12 I'm -- I'm looking forward to some conversations later today to  
13 discuss with you the future and bringing some official requests  
14 to you -- to -- to get your guidance and your approval to work  
15 with the executive office at the DMV, to ask in the next  
16 legislative session for some additional staff.

17 So, I'm -- I'm glad to report today, though, that  
18 we're -- that we're fully staffed and we look forward to the  
19 future and to the next legislative session, and looking at some  
20 additional folk to come in here and help us be sure -- and we  
21 serve Texas, the right way, and serve Texas law enforcement to  
22 the best of our ability. And -- and we'll be able to do that  
23 with some additional folks I believe that we -- we absolutely  
24 need. So, more to come on that, and I hope to have an official  
25 update for you in April during our board meeting in Fort Worth.  
So that's all I have on 4A.

1           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Director Diggs.  
2 Moving on to 4B.

3           DIRECTOR DIGGS: So, this has been something that you  
4 tasked me with -- it's been two years ago, right after I took  
5 the reins here as the Director of MVCPA on December 15th it was  
6 two years. We talked about the need for another grant  
7 management tracking system, and the desire to get that done  
8 quickly, and we -- we then realized that our current system  
9 would actually help us navigate the grants that we were  
10 bringing on board for the catalytic converter funding. So we -  
11 - we -- we-- didn't slow down, but we took the amount of time  
12 that we needed to -- to make sure that we got it right, and we  
13 got it right the first time. I can tell you that a vendor is  
14 in the final phases of being selected. I know that they have  
15 been sent a contract to sign. I can't yet say in public who  
16 that vendor is, but I will absolutely be able to share that  
17 information with everyone -- here soon. And -- and we're  
18 looking forward to what is and we're looking forward to getting  
19 this kicked off. There's so many things, we've worked with  
20 some of you in the room, task force commanders around the  
21 state. To what is it that you need in the field to help us  
22 better navigate the grant application process, the progress  
23 reports, the reimbursement process.

24           Oh, and then that wonderful thing we all call  
25 inventory, right? There's a lot of improvements that we're  
looking at bringing on board. We are very close to getting

1 started on our new grant management tracking system. The --  
2 the -- the -- Chief Information Officer, Wendy Barron, is in  
3 the audience today. Hello, Wendy. And she's also been very  
4 supportive and helpful in making this happen, and I want -- I  
5 want to extend my gratitude to Wendy and her team -- all of her  
6 team, to get us to where we're at. We're -- we're -- we're  
7 this close, and it's going to be an exciting time in the next  
8 few months.

9           And there's a lot of information that I hope we'll be  
10 able to share during our April the eighth training seminar that  
11 we're going to have workshop in San Antonio, and we'll be able  
12 to provide even more information about that to all the  
13 prospective grantees on the new system as we're starting to  
14 build it out and get ready to transition. So a lot to come,  
15 with that -- all that being said is we're -- we're almost  
16 there. And so -- and I appreciate the patience that the -- the  
17 MVCPA board has provided me in getting to this point. And  
18 it's -- it's been quite the lift, and I think it's going to be  
19 money well spent and it's going to get us into the next decade.  
20 When it comes to managing all these assets, and -- and we need  
21 to do it right. And I want us to do it in a way that is  
22 reasonable and helpful to Texas law enforcement. Because, I  
23 tell you that in that I realized that you've had some  
24 challenges. With our system that we have today, and we're  
25 going to get it right the first time as we rebuilt this. So  
that's all I have on that. And like I said, more to come in

1 April.

2 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you for that update,  
3 Director Diggs. And I -- I thank our Texas DMV staff, you know  
4 and especially our Chief Technology Officer, you know --  
5 changing Technologies; we all know it's not an easy task,  
6 right? And every time that we -- that we change something, we  
7 always think that we just broke it again, right?

8 So, I know that right now we are going to be going  
9 into that phase of training everybody and making everybody  
10 aware as to what's coming, and change is always change. So  
11 we're preparing for that, and I know our -- our guys are going  
12 to be very happy with the product. But you mentioned selection  
13 and then you mentioned chief and I forgot to say something  
14 very, very important today to everyone here. I do want to  
15 congratulate our board member, Sloan. He was only assistant  
16 chief of the Round Rock Police Department.

17 (Applause from the audience)

18 So, very well deserved, and like I've always told him  
19 Right? I -- I know that when we talk about chiefs', I just  
20 grew a lot more gray hair. I'm losing my hair now, and now you  
21 need to protect that. So make sure you put something on there.

22 BOARD MEMBER SLOAN: Chief, if you'll notice, I went  
23 back to the Marine Corps and I got a high and tight so that I  
24 could hide the gray hairs because they've already started  
25 growing.

CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: That's a good start.

1           BOARD MEMBER SLOAN: Thank you for that. I  
2 appreciate it. Thank you, everybody. Means a lot.

3           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Alright so, going on to --  
4 moving on to agenda item number five. Before we do that --  
5 let's -- I know that Board Member Cantu-Serrano is having  
6 issues with her technology. We would need to take a break,  
7 Director Diggs. So we're going to go ahead and take a break so  
8 that we can get Board Member Cantu Serrano on board. And then  
9 we'll circle back as soon as we're ready to go. So we'll  
10 take -- let's do a 10 minute break. It's 1:22 p.m., let's be  
11 back at 1:32, please.

12                   (Off the record, 1:22 P.M.)

13                   (Back on record, 1:37 P.M.)

14           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Alright it's 1:37 p.m., we  
15 could not get Member Cantu Serrano on board. But we -- we have  
16 a quorum, so we will continue.

17           MAJOR JONES: We need to get Kit on camera.

18           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Board member Whitehill, can  
19 you hear us?

20           BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: Yes, I can. Can you hear  
21 me?

22           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Can -- can you turn on  
23 your camera please?

24           BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: Yes.

25           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you very much.  
Alright. Moving on to agenda item five, I will turn the



1 meeting over to Mark Barry, Captain from Texas DPS. This is a  
2 briefing only on DPS RSD SB224.

3 JOSS MARTIN: Good afternoon for the record, my name  
4 is Joss Martin. I'm with Compliance Enforcement Specialist  
5 with the Regulatory Services Division of DPS. I Apologize,  
6 captain Berry couldn't make it today, so you have to deal with  
7 me. So, good afternoon, chairman and board members.

8 In reference to the Senate Bill 224, the regulation  
9 of catalytic converter purchases by metal recycling entities  
10 continues to stay on the forefront for our field personnel at  
11 DPS. Our team's actions -- alright where are they? I  
12 Apologize, I may have hit the wrong slide button. Our team's  
13 actions continue to include educating the businesses on the  
14 rules and laws, ensuring they are operating in compliance, and  
15 taking the appropriate enforcement action when they are not.  
16 Our division has been busy with a focus on. Updating resources  
17 to assist the metal recycling entities in identifying stolen  
18 metal and providing guidance reiterating the rules and laws.

19 So new for 2026, the department's Quick Reference  
20 Guide for Metal Recycling Entities, it has been updated. And  
21 the new version has been published and is live on our website.  
22 So, in relation to Senate Bill 224 and catalytic converters,  
23 we've added information regarding the catalytic converter  
24 declaration. That requirements informing MREs they must  
25 declare with the department if their business activity involves  
catalytic converters removed from vehicles and to what extent.

1           Also, we've added details from the Occupations Code  
2   1956.0321, that's concerning -- providing clear guidance on the  
3   required steps prior to purchasing a catalytic converter from  
4   an individual seller. The information includes obtaining the  
5   year, make, model and VIN for the vehicle from which the  
6   catalytic converter was removed obtaining a copy of the title  
7   or other ownership documentation for that vehicle. Determining  
8   if the catalytic converter is consistent with the  
9   manufacturer's specifications of that vehicle. Marking each  
10   catalytic converter purchased with a unique number that  
11   identifies the entity, the date, and the individual  
12   transaction, and then keeping this information as part of the  
13   required record.

14           We've also added to the reference guide details from  
15   Occupations Code 1956.123., which provides clear guidance when  
16   purchasing catalytic converters from other business entities.  
17   This information includes maintaining an accurate record for  
18   each of these catalytic converter transactions. The record  
19   must contain a description of the volume of catalytic  
20   converters purchased, the business name from whom the catalytic  
21   converters were purchased from, and the date of the  
22   transaction.

23           Lastly, we've added some reference images of  
24   catalytic converters removed from vehicles. And we list the  
25   corresponding violations when a metal recycling entity is found  
not in compliance with rule or law. The updated Quick

1 Reference Guide for Metal Recycling entities is available to  
2 the public, and can be found at [dps.texas.gov](http://dps.texas.gov) under the Texas  
3 Metals Program Laws and Regulations page.

4           So also with education training mind, we're currently  
5 updating the online training required for metal recycling  
6 entities. These updates add deeper training on catalytic  
7 converter record requirements and add additional quiz questions  
8 on the subject matter. Implementation for this is scheduled  
9 for the end of the month. As you may know, we have 16  
10 personnel filling the grant funded positions dedicated to the  
11 Texas Metals program. There are 14 investigators and two Case  
12 Support Specialists that are stationed throughout the state.  
13 These personnel completed an average of two routine  
14 inspections. At each license model recycling entity for the  
15 last calendar year.

16           So the number of licensed metal recycling entities in  
17 the state has remained consistent. There are around 625 active  
18 metal recycling entities currently licensed. DPS is  
19 responsible for the eligibility and the issuance of these  
20 licenses, and all MRE(s) are required to be registered with  
21 State.

22           So, we continue to investigate all complaints, tips  
23 from the public and leads generated from data. Which involve  
24 potential stolen metal purchased by metal recycling entities.  
25 Our investigators work closely with our troopers and our  
agents, providing them necessary assistance. And information

1 when coordinating targeted operations. So on the commission  
2 side of things, to provide some background in 2023, There were  
3 no arrests or investigations by RSD involving metals that were  
4 done that year. This was due to a high focus on vehicle  
5 inspection that year, as well as a lack of personnel.

6 Then Moving forward into 2024, there were three  
7 undercover operations that led to one arrest in San Antonio.  
8 And then in 2025, we obtained some assistance from the Highway  
9 Patrol to loan our division some officers. With those  
10 officers, there were operations at nine metal recycling  
11 entities that led to three arrests.

12 The individual in this slide photo purchased in six  
13 catalytic converters unlawfully without requiring any paperwork  
14 or identification at the time of purchase. So, also in June of  
15 last year, RSD conducted an undercover operation to sell  
16 catalytic converters. This operation was planned due to  
17 information provided by one of our own program investigators.  
18 The investigator indicated this location was buying catalytic  
19 converters from the public, without being a licensed MRE. The  
20 investigator obtained this information by simply asking a local  
21 licensed MRE if they had any information about people in the  
22 area that might be conducting illegal business.

23 Our trooper was able to sell the owner four catalytic  
24 converters. The owner told him that he couldn't pay him as  
25 much since he didn't have the appropriate paperwork. An arrest  
warrant was obtained and the owner was arrested. So this is an

1 example of a good investigative work by an employee whose  
2 salary is funded by the SB224 grant.

3 So currently in 2026. We already have information on  
4 no less than eight metal recycling entities who have received  
5 complaints that they may. Be engaged in illegal activity. So  
6 our increase in personnel has increased our presence, which has  
7 increased our enforcement.

8 So ideas on how to coordinate with the Texas Metals  
9 program, information sharing and collaboration opportunities  
10 are always welcome and can be directed to DPS metals at  
11 dps.texas.gov and that concludes the DPS Regulatory Services  
12 update. Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you very much for the  
14 update. Appreciate it. Any questions from the board members?  
15 Member Whitehill? Okay, go ahead, director Briggs.

16 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: No, sir.

17 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Thanks, William Briggs, director  
18 for the record. Josh, I was curious, you know -- I've had your  
19 report for a few days now, and I realize you say the number of  
20 MRE(s), has been somewhat consistent you know --over -- over  
21 the last few months. I was curious, how does the number of  
22 MRE(s), today compared, let's say, prior to the legislation; do  
23 you have any information on that?

24 JOSH MARTIN: Yeah. The total MREs statewide is  
25 virtually unchanged since Senate Bill 224 was signed into law.  
With that being said, the number of licensed MREs that -- whose

1 operations involve purchasing catalytic converters has  
2 decreased significantly. I think the number today -- less than  
3 50 percent of licensed MREs actually -- actively purchased  
4 catalytic converters.

5 And so, anecdotally, our field personnel reported  
6 that many of these businesses, which are not purchasing  
7 catalytic converters, have stated they don't want to deal with  
8 the scrutiny or the repercussions that, if they make a mistake  
9 -- so they opt not to purchase them at all. And it's just my  
10 opinion that I -- I believe that, if we're funneling these  
11 transactions to MREs that are knowledgeable about catalytic  
12 converters, understand the rules and laws and are confident  
13 they can comply with them, then that -- that would be a good  
14 thing.

15 DIRECTOR DIGGS: And Josh, thank you for that. And  
16 Chief, I did want to just echo myself. I -- I think the  
17 Department of Public Safety, under the leadership of Colonel  
18 Martin and also, chief Wheeler, and Ron Joy, over there, I  
19 think you all have done -- and Josh, you all have done, a  
20 phenomenal job. And -- and I appreciate the partnership over  
21 the last couple of years. So, thank you for that.

22 JOSS MARTIN: Thank you.

23 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Thank you for the additional  
24 information.

25 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: For the record, I believe  
member Cantu-Serrano is now online. Member Cantu-Serrano?

1 CASSANDRA FLINT: She's muted.

2 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Cantu-Serrano? Can  
3 you hear us? I think you're muted.

4 CASSANDRA FLINT: She just un-muted.

5 YESSENIA BENAVIDES: Tell her to turn the volume up.

6 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Can you try again member, Cantu-  
7 Serrano, see if we can hear you?

8 ZACH WARDEN: Technical differences with her  
9 microphone.

10 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: We'll come back again. So,  
11 I was going to ask while we wait for member Cantu-Serrano, on  
12 the -- the current system, we do not collect how many  
13 inspections our task forces do on recycling business, right?  
14 We -- we don't collect that data? On the new one, are we going  
15 to be able to collect that?

16 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Yes, I'd believe there'd be no  
17 reason why we can't be able to put those two dots together.  
18 Yes, sir.

19 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. Moving on to  
20 agenda item six, TDLR SB224 update. We -- we turn the meeting  
21 over to Michael "Ford" Strawn, manager.

22 MORGAN DRYER: I don't know which one works. Oh,  
23 thank you. I might look a little bit different than Michael.  
24 I get that sometimes that I look alike, but -- you know -- let  
25 me -- I don't know how this thing works. So hopefully I can  
use my knowledge. Hello. Good afternoon, Board. Thank you

1 for your time. I am Morgan Dryer, and I will be speaking for  
2 the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations for our  
3 updates about funding utilization and our program enhancements.  
4 I am the Program Liaison, Morgan Dryer.

5 Like I said, I have been in this role since July  
6 2025. Tomorrow will actually be my six months with. The  
7 organization. So really exciting. In my time so far, I have  
8 been able to build partnerships with the industry and we are  
9 slowly getting up to pace -- and I am learning a lot in this  
10 role so far. So far, the outreach that we have done so far  
11 with not only our licensees but with different programs is I  
12 was able to speak the September 2025, Texas Auto Part Recycler  
13 (sic), association Conference. We were able to really talk to  
14 the program and hear about unlicensed activity. Also,  
15 discussions about -- like ideas they had as a organization to  
16 look out for different crimes. And again, since our last  
17 meeting that we had, which Ford presented at, there have been  
18 no changes to our rules, or updates. But, as I will show you  
19 guys in a later slide, there has been things that our rules  
20 have -- since last time of May 2025 that -- we've enforced  
21 that -- those have created some changes.

22 Alright. So my outline today is going to go over the  
23 breakdown of some of the allotted funds that we've been given.  
24 What we will use and what we are continuing as a state agency  
25 to continue with. We will go over the purpose of these  
investments. The new abilities -- capabilities that they'll



1 provide to us -- and the strengths that they have provided.

2           So this is so far what we did last year with  
3 expenditure and going forward. So, the different categories in  
4 which we have been utilizing the different funds are for our  
5 travel and field operations, for our motorful(sic) -- Motor  
6 vehicle program specific, inspection programs, vehicles,  
7 software, and then additional initiatives.

8           So, something that has been really great with our  
9 funds is for our travel and field operations. This has allowed  
10 us to go out to our programs more frequently and do more on  
11 site inspections with a lot of our programs --our used on a  
12 part recyclers, we were only going to them every couple of  
13 years, but now with the different coverage, we're able to  
14 actually meet more often with our used auto part recyclers and  
15 get out to these different areas and actually -- again discuss  
16 with, them more, do more inspections, be more hands on, and  
17 have more eyes on our licensees.

18           The next thing that we are working on is, our motor  
19 vehicles program specific inspection positions. We are looking  
20 at getting four inspectors assigned to TDLR in four different  
21 regions, this will allow them to be really big knowledge points  
22 for us. We again, licensed -- I believe it's 42 different  
23 programs. And we do inspections on eight or nine of those  
24 programs, and so for this, these four individuals will actually  
25 be the knowledge -- really in depth for used auto part  
recyclers and our vehicle storage facilities. So, they'll have

1 stronger insights on these programs. And they'll be able to  
2 recognize motor vehicle crime related -- crimes. These  
3 specialists have not yet been hired, but we are looking at  
4 getting those in the next two to three months.

5 So far, we've already had really great initiatives of  
6 working with different programs, DPS and local law enforcement,  
7 with some operations so far. And so we've actually been able  
8 to -- even without having those people on staff. But we're  
9 looking to do more in the future with working with the  
10 different law agencies and different organizations and  
11 agencies.

12 The next thing that we will be doing with the funds  
13 is fleet vehicles for used auto partners by re -- recycler  
14 (sic), inspectors the ones that we previously talked about.  
15 This will help cut down on the cost of renting vehicles, but  
16 also allow us to access these licensees in a timely manner and  
17 then also be able to do more coverage. We are looking at  
18 getting these vehicles provided to us by the end of the  
19 physical year; and this will help increase coverage, which I'll  
20 show some of our data points later on.

21 The next really big thing for us is that we are  
22 starting to implement a software for electronic inspections, it  
23 is filled to base. Right now, we are in the process of testing  
24 the software and some of its helpful indicators. Something  
25 that we're really looking at capturing when we do go to these  
used auto part recyclers (sic), is the missing VINs, large

1 numbers of new vehicles, catalytic converters, the number of  
2 them.

3           Some of this stuff is not stuff that our licensees  
4 necessarily -- we look at, but it's something that if we're  
5 capturing this information, we hope that we're able to work  
6 with different agencies and maybe share and collaborate and  
7 show our data with yours and see if, oh, San Antonio seems like  
8 a place that somethings happening or just different hot spots  
9 for these things and maybe even collaborate with different law  
10 agencies or law enforcement agencies.

11           Some of the initiatives that we have and will be  
12 doing is -- like I previously stated, we did a joint operation  
13 with DMV, DPS, and the Maverick County Sheriff's Office that  
14 led to an inspection of two used auto part recyclers (sic), and  
15 a VSF. Something that we are really looking forward to as well  
16 is next -- in two weeks we'll be a -- doing a training with  
17 Barzon County Sheriff's Office. And we hope to do more of  
18 these in the future, really work with sheriff's offices and  
19 different agencies to let them know how we can help and how we  
20 can collaborate with them and also what they might want from  
21 us.

22           This shows throughout the years -- our physical  
23 years, the different inspections that we've been able to ramp  
24 up since SB224. And we're already on track for -- just in our  
25 first quarter -- or our -- you know, early into our second  
quarter, already doing more inspections than we did in the

1 previous year. And we're hoping to ramp that up again as we  
2 continue to hire those specific inspectors.

3 This shows the look into the inspection of our  
4 catalytic converters, also the mileages that we've been  
5 traveling. Like I was talking about previously we did  
6 implement some rules into the Texas Administrative Code. And  
7 this shows that last year we did not have any for those  
8 specific rules of violations. But in this physical year from  
9 September to now, we have already seen, A couple different of  
10 those violations being cited. We have six that were for  
11 Cadillac preventative thef(sic) -- theft and then five more for  
12 different ones of record keeping insufficient. And so, we hope  
13 to make sure that those are one of the biggest things that we  
14 look into. And also, we're big on educating our licensees  
15 about record keeping and also, proper maintenance -- handling  
16 of these catalytic converters.

17 Overall, the impact has been strengthening our used  
18 auto partner programs -- with the oversight that we've been  
19 given. And then improvement in operational efficiencies,  
20 increase inspection capabilities, enhancement of compliance and  
21 reporting accuracy, and then better resource allocation across  
22 programs.

23 And then, as always, you can visit our website if you  
24 would like more information on news updates. Rules, new  
25 legislation, filing a complaint, about any unlicensed activity,  
and participating in our advisory board. And then I have

1 provided my email for anybody that would like to reach out and  
2 collaborate with us, or has any insight. And I'm welcome to  
3 any questions, and thank you guys for your time.

4 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Great -- great  
5 presentation, Ms. Dryer. Is -- is there like, a contact list  
6 or -- a contact person that our task force commanders can reach  
7 out to in their own -- in their jurisdiction? Or do you all  
8 have regions the same way that DPS has regions? Or is it  
9 directly to Austin?

10 MORGAN DRYER: Yeah, if you reach out to my email  
11 contact, I can get you guys any of the regions for the ones  
12 that are -- like, the inspections, or compliance, or any of  
13 those necessary. And can we get that list to the task force  
14 commanders?

15 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Yes, sir, we can. And Chief, I was  
16 just going to say, we've had some success around the state.  
17 Support from TDLR looking at vehicle storage facilities as well  
18 as used auto parts recyclers working with Ford in the past, and  
19 so they've -- they've done a really great job. Yeah -- I want  
20 to say, you know -- my hat's off to a -- to Brandy Myers over  
21 there, the Chief Financial Officer over there, working with us,  
22 trying to make sure that this funding is getting where it needs  
23 to go at TDLR and when it needs to get there. So, you know --  
24 my hat's off to the leadership over there. And so they've --  
25 they've done a really good job coming in the last two years and  
growing their program in support of SB224.

1           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And, the last thing that  
2 brought us up for that you're implementing, it's a great idea,  
3 right? Anything that's pink and red across the state of  
4 somebody that continues to be in violation, I think that would  
5 be very good information for -- for law enforcement to know,  
6 so -- so great job.

7           MORGAN DRYER: Yeah, and just a note on that -- just  
8 a note on that, if there is anything that you guys would like  
9 us -- or have recommendations for other things that you would  
10 like us to capture, please reach out and let us know, and it  
11 would be much appreciative of any different advisement you all,  
12 thank you.

13           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you very much. And I  
14 think we're having a -- a workshop soon before the grant cycle.  
15 I think it -- it will be great to get TDLR is also involved in  
16 this workshop, so definitely somebody that can be on -- be with  
17 us on the table.

18           MORGAN DRYER: Okay. Yeah -- we would much  
19 appreciate being brought -- brought to the table. Thank you.

20           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Any questions from the  
21 Board Members? Member Whitehill, Member Cantu-Serrano?

22           BOARD MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: No.

23           BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: No, sir.

24           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

25           MORGAN DRYER: Thank you.

          CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: We'll now move on to agenda

1 item seven, and I will turn the meeting over to Annette  
2 Quintero, Director for DMV.

3 ANNETTE QUINTERO: Good afternoon, Chairman  
4 Rodriguez, Board Members, Director Diggs. My name is Annette  
5 Quintero. I am the Director of the Vehicle Titles and  
6 Registration Division, over at the Texas Department of Motor  
7 Vehicles.

8 SB224 amended the Occupations Code, Chapter 2305, and  
9 introduced new record keeping requirements for used auto part  
10 recyclers and metal recyclers when buying and selling catalytic  
11 converters.

12 The bill also required coordination with Texas  
13 Department of Public Safety, and the Texas Department of  
14 Licensing and Regulation. The goal is to establish a -- a  
15 shared framework to support real time reporting and enforcement  
16 and reduce opportunities for fraudulent inspection --  
17 transactions, excuse me. To support these efforts, VTR,  
18 Vehicle Titles and Registration, originally hired two full time  
19 staff members dedicated to fraud prevention activities to --  
20 tied to SB224, and other related initiatives.

21 As of January 1, 2026, unfortunately, both positions  
22 experienced very high turnover. Since then, we filled one  
23 position and are expecting that person to start on January  
24 15th; but after further consideration, VTR, with the support of  
25 MVCPA, has decided that only one position is necessary moving  
forward. And the second position will not be filled. The new

1 team member will help bridge the work of our division with  
2 MVCPA, ensuring seamless communication and consistent policy  
3 alignment.

4           They will also support innovation in our systems and  
5 processes, looking at how we can better use data to flag  
6 suspicious activity and support enforcement -- our enforcement  
7 partners. VTR will support MVCPA and our Enforcement Division  
8 as needed on SB224 efforts while continuing to focus on  
9 developed -- development planned to improve fraud prevention  
10 across the salvage and non repairable title space. This will  
11 include enhancing our web salvage system and leveraging other  
12 internal systems to create efficiencies.

13           This programming includes expanding electronic  
14 titling capabilities to reduce reliance on paper titles, which  
15 are more vulnerable to forgery. Allowing recyclers to report  
16 scrapped or destroyed vehicles electronically to help us more  
17 efficiently update motor vehicle records. Improving the  
18 reporting and validation of repairs made to salvage vehicles by  
19 salvage dealers before the vehicles operate on the roadways.  
20 This will allow salvage dealers to apply for rebuilt titles  
21 electronically. Further closing a loop between salvage events  
22 and rebuilt vehicle activity.

23           A key component involves tracking major component  
24 parts, those damaged during an insurance total loss event and  
25 later reported as repaired or replaced during the rebuilding  
process. By comparing these two data sets, we aim to identify



1 discrepancies that may indicate fraudulent or unsafe repairs,  
2 or even reuse of stolen parts. This is a critical layer of  
3 fraud prevention that we believe will significantly improve the  
4 integrity of salvaged vehicle rebuilds in Texas.

5 Overall, these changes will streamline operations,  
6 help us act faster when tracking vehicles that have been  
7 dismantled or identified vehicles -- identifying vehicles that  
8 should not be operating on the roads. VTR has begun working  
9 closely with the Information Technology Services Division, the  
10 Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, to prioritize programming  
11 deliverables in order to begin requirement gathering and review  
12 sessions. Thank you again for the opportunity to share this  
13 update. We're excited about the progress being made and look  
14 forward to further partnerships with MVCPA and our enforcement  
15 partners to help make this possible.

16 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you so much for that  
17 update. Going back Director Quintero, on the position for that  
18 second position is not going to get filled is that what you  
19 said?

20 ANNETTE QUINTERO: That's correct.

21 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Are we still -- do we still  
22 feel that we're being efficient by just having one?

23 ANNETTE QUINTERO: We do feel like one position is  
24 sufficient. We had such a difficult time filling both  
25 positions and maintaining both positions that it really  
required more upfront investment than we were getting out of

1 both, and so one position just is a more appropriate investment  
2 on -- on both organizations' behalf.

3 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Do you know why -- why  
4 there is such, I -- guess, the -- the turnaround? Why -- why  
5 is it not that very attractive to be that person?

6 ANNETTE QUINTERO: I will tell you that on VTR we  
7 have similar positions, policy type positions, and we  
8 experience high turnover in those positions as well. It's not  
9 specific to the MVCPA work or that type of partnership.  
10 Actually, we found that we had more applicants for that type of  
11 position because the job description does talk about fraud and  
12 working with MVCPA and other organizations than we have on our  
13 standard Vehicle Titles and Registration policy -- analyst  
14 positions. So the enthusiasm is there. But I think we work in  
15 Austin in such a competitive market that it's very difficult  
16 for state agency to pay somebody policy salary that's  
17 sufficient for them to stay for a long time.

18 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: I agree. Director Diggs?

19 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Yeah. William Diggs, Director,  
20 MVCPA. Director Quintero, thank you for being here today and  
21 explaining -- you know, the things that we've spoken about over  
22 the last few weeks.

23 We've made this decision with the Executive Office of  
24 the Texas DMV to change from the two FTEs to the one just  
25 looking at or we've been over the last two years, I think  
Director Quintero explained it really much better than I could.

1 This makes sense, I'm in full support of -- of going back to  
2 one FTE and then I'm also -- I'm excited about what web salvage  
3 is going to bring to law enforcement throughout the state of  
4 Texas, to help us identify those that would do wrong in all  
5 those criminal activities. And we're going to be able to help  
6 reduce some fraud and also put some folks in jail that need to  
7 go to jail that are actually committing criminal offenses.

8 ANNETTE QUINTERO: That's right.

9 DIRECTOR DIGGS: So, this is going to go a long way  
10 to help the state of Texas and to help us keep Texas safe. So,  
11 my hat's off to VTR and thank you, Annette, for being here  
12 today to explain that.

13 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Great job. Any questions  
14 from the board members? Okay.

15 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: No, sir.

16 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Whitehill?

17 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: No, sir.

18 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Cantu-Serrano?

19 BOARD MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: No, sir.

20 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And, we got Member Cantu-  
21 Serrano now. We hear you loud and clear.

22 BOARD MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Thank you so much.

23 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, director  
24 Quintero.

25 ANNETTE QUINTERO: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: We'll now move on to agenda

1 item eight. And I will turn the meeting over to Wendy Barron,  
2 Division Director.

3 DIRECTOR BARRON: Good afternoon, Chairman Rodriguez,  
4 board members. For the record, I am Wendy Barron, Chief  
5 Information Officer for the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.  
6 I'm here today to present on the ITSD efforts to support the  
7 SB224 initiatives, and -- a both William and Annette have kind  
8 of stolen my thunder a little bit in the presentation, but I'll  
9 go into a little bit more detail of the -- of the -- the  
10 efforts that the IT division are -- are doing to support the  
11 224 initiative.

12 We, as William mentioned -- we are hoping to kick off  
13 the grant management upgrade. That solicitation -- you know,  
14 will be executed -- or that the contract will be executed very  
15 quickly. I believe very soon in the next few weeks, and we  
16 will begin the work. We have a dedicated project manager and  
17 business analyst. We are also loading in our -- this will be a  
18 Salesforce application with a tie-in to our Box content  
19 management solution. So we will also be loading in our  
20 Salesforce developers on the project to participate and -- and  
21 learn about the system from the vendor as we move forward.

22 The beauty of this solution is that MVCPA will now  
23 have a robust, modern solution to support the grants management  
24 process. This will enhance their capabilities reporting, how  
25 things are processed, the interface with the law enforcement  
community will be much improved. And with this solution, you

1 will have the flexibility -- IT will be able to support the  
2 system because we do have those technology resources in-house.  
3 But, if the time comes where there's an upgrade or an  
4 enhancement and you need additional resources, you also have  
5 the flexibility to contract that out to a vendor for  
6 enhancements if you so choose.

7           So, that is a great option. It gives you flexibility  
8 to kind of handle things and manage your budget as appropriate  
9 when -- when things happen in the future. Hopefully we don't  
10 have to see a lot of changes -- you know as we -- you know, get  
11 this rolled out. But we are also -- in addition to the project  
12 manager and BA, we will be loading in -- as I mentioned the  
13 developers, but other resources in IT as appropriate throughout  
14 the project. For example, our Data Management Officer and his  
15 staff to help William -- you know, with the back-end data  
16 management and -- and reporting features as well.

17           Moving on beyond the grants management system, as  
18 Annette mentioned, we are partnering with the MVCPA Division  
19 and the Vehicle Titles and Registration Division to implement  
20 related system changes that Annette reviewed in the Web Salvage  
21 System and the Registration and Titling System. We have two  
22 dedicated FTEs that are specific to the 224 work and then we  
23 have two additional contractors for development and for  
24 testing. So, two FTE developers and two contract developers  
25 and then two testers.

          On top of that we also have the committed project

1 management and business analysis resources and other IT  
2 resources as is project develops such as data management  
3 infrastructure as needed. We are currently in the requirements  
4 gathering phase right now, and we will be moving forward into  
5 development in the near future. Deliverables will be rolled  
6 out over time in a phased approach.

7 We anticipate that the first set of deliverables will  
8 be coming out in our next major release. We're still working  
9 on a timeline for that, because we've had some new priorities  
10 identified for the agency, so we're readjusting time lines at  
11 this time, but it will probably be late spring, early summer,  
12 when that first deliverable is rolled out and that we will  
13 continue to roll out the next phases as we develop those  
14 requirements. And, I am here to take any questions, if you  
15 have any.

16 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Great -- great job by DMV,  
17 right? And, I mean -- all these -- you know, updates that  
18 we're getting -- you know, this is exactly where we wanted to  
19 be, right? And we did it fast, right? Because we were talking  
20 about this 2024, you know, and -- and I think -- you know,  
21 we've -- we've just you -- guys have done tremendous work, so  
22 we're really are appreciative of that; and the collaboration  
23 that we've had between DMV and MVCPA. So, thank you for that.  
24 And I know that, you know, we're going to stay tuned to  
25 technology, right? Because that's where everything is going.  
So I know that this is going to be very -- very different from

1 the current system that we have but, then again, I talk about  
2 change, and I think we're going to definitely have to get our  
3 grantees a lot of training as to how to navigate this, right?  
4 And so thank you for that, and -- and again, Director Diggs,  
5 you -- maybe on that workshop we can include that already if  
6 we're going to be rolling it out -- you know, within the  
7 months that -- that we're talking about.

8 DIRECTOR DIGGS: So absolutely, Chief, we'll be --  
9 we'll be explaining some additional updates as it relates to  
10 the new Grant Management Tracking System. We won't be deployed  
11 yet then, but we're going to talk about the future and that  
12 it's coming. I -- I did, want to take an opportunity and say  
13 again, thank you to Wendy and -- and to her team. All of her  
14 team that helped us get through the statement of work, helped  
15 us get through the procurement process, helped us get through  
16 the legal process at DMV, and -- and the support that the  
17 Executive Office, Deputy Executive Director Roland Luna, and  
18 then also Executive Director Avitia, have played in getting us  
19 to where we are today on this new Grant Management Tracking  
20 System. I -- I will say this, Assistant Chief Sloan, you made  
21 the comment months ago in one of these reviews when we were  
22 getting a demo that you wanted, and -- and forgive me if I  
23 don't -- if I butcher this and I misspeak, you wanted some sort  
24 of preliminary automated scoring system for these applications.

25 And I'm going to tell you that's going to be one  
thing I'm absolutely going to ask for. That's not going to say

1 that it's going to take all the subjectivity out of it.

2 There's going to be some objective things in there, but we --  
3 we definitely need that, I'm going to make sure we have that.

4 That was in our SOW and as well as, you know, being  
5 agile and having the ability to navigate new systems, our --  
6 and I promise not to steal any of Jason's thunder sitting back  
7 there, our auditor for the Texas DMV. But you know, we --  
8 there's risk involved in this, right? Everybody knows that,  
9 and -- and we want a new system that's going to help us reduce  
10 some of those risks when it comes to this funding, provided by  
11 the state of Texas. And so I'm -- I'm excited about all these  
12 opportunities that we have right in front of us. And it's  
13 taken us a minute to get there, but we're there. We're there -  
14 - we're going to do better, and we're going to do better for  
15 law enforcement, and we're going to make sure that we're doing  
16 everything that the -- that you, the board, has asked us to do.  
17 So, Wendy, thank you again.

18 DIRECTOR BARRON: Well, thank you for that feedback.  
19 You're welcome. We're glad to help support MVCPA, and  
20 mentioning that change, organizational change management is a  
21 practice that we have in IT to support all our business  
22 customers through major system changes like this.

23 So, we will definitely be loading in the right  
24 resources to help you guys navigate this change and -- and  
25 navigate the partnership with the law enforcement --  
enforcement community. And change is sometimes hard, but I



1 think this change is going to be welcome, and I think the  
2 features and the capabilities that you all are going to get  
3 with this new system are going to -- going to be worth the --  
4 the effort of going through the change.

5 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you so much. And I  
6 think the -- the other thing that we're -- we're going to be  
7 pushing over to our MVCPA staff is -- you know, we've been  
8 talking a lot about numbers and statistics and where we're  
9 going with -- with what we do on a day in and day out. And so  
10 -- I know DPS puts out on a monthly basis our statistics for  
11 every jurisdiction whether it's major cities or smaller  
12 jurisdictions. And, one of the things that we -- we really  
13 would like to -- to come out with is on our website and that we  
14 can also share it with across every task force, is when we add  
15 monthly across Texas, right? Not per jurisdiction, as per  
16 where we are monthly. And so the marker goes down, we have a  
17 down arrow saying, hey, we have -- we're going down on auto  
18 thefts that way on the awareness part everybody knows where  
19 we're -- we're at in auto theft across the state, right? And  
20 so, I know that it takes a lot of programming and a lot of  
21 coding and a lot of that stuff -- that -- that you guys do.  
22 But that is something that I think it's needed and especially  
23 for public awareness. And once Amber gets to -- to the podium,  
24 we're going to be asking a bunch of questions in regards where  
25 we want to go with that awareness to the public as to what  
we're doing here.

1           And because a lot of it goes unnoticed, and I think  
2   it's very important that -- that the public knows exactly what  
3   every single person here is doing for -- to protect their --  
4   belongings and their -- their vehicles. So thank you for  
5   everything.

6           DIRECTOR BARRON: Yes.

7           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And I know there's more  
8   work coming to you so.

9           DIRECTOR BARRON: Yes, you're welcome. And with that  
10   new solution, those types of reports will be absolutely a  
11   possibility and -- and relatively easy to -- to do.

12          CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Yes.

13          DIRECTOR BARRON: Once you get the new system built  
14   out.

15          CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you so much.

16          DIRECTOR BARRON: Thank you sir.

17          CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Appreciate it. Alright,  
18   agenda nine. Turning the meeting over to Director Carrie  
19   Thompson, welcome.

20          DIRECTOR THOMPSON: Yes. Good afternoon Chairman,  
21   Board Members, Director Diggs. Carrie Thompson, Director of  
22   the Enforcement Division for the Texas Department of Motor  
23   Vehicles. What happened? I just put myself forward and I took  
24   myself back. Okay, hopefully I can get through the next four  
25   slides.

          So, within a regulation under SB224 for the

1 Enforcement Division. It's a little bit different within DMV  
2 than it is for DPS or TDLR. Both of those agencies have  
3 awareness about their licensed entities conducting business in  
4 the sphere of catalytic converters, and so they know where  
5 those entities are engaged in that work and that they are  
6 engaged in that work.

7           So, it's kind of also information gathering process  
8 as well as an enforcement process when it comes to the DMV work  
9 and the enforcement work associated with the implementation of  
10 SB224. For us, this is a new sphere, we are traditionally  
11 engaged in motor vehicle sales and distribution and  
12 violations -- violations associated therewith. So those are  
13 driven primarily by consumer complaints. You buy a car from  
14 someone, maybe they don't transfer the title. You find  
15 yourself filing a complaint with the Department and Motor  
16 Vehicle. That does not, however, see you dealing with the  
17 service center that -- that dealership might have but, SB224 in  
18 fact, does. And so for us, this speaks to our franchise  
19 dealers are independent motor vehicle dealers that might be  
20 engaged in work that involves catalytic converter theft --  
21 theft work.

22           So for us, we are going out. We have staff in the  
23 form of motor vehicle investigative staff and my new staff that  
24 are associated with dealer compliance in support of House Bill  
25 718 regarding metal plates. And together that is a force of  
approximately 70 employees who are out and able to go visit our

1 20 some odd thousand licensed dealer locations. And so with  
2 the implementation of this bill, we are charged with one  
3 learning, if our entities that are licensed with the department  
4 are engaged in this type of work, and then if they are, we are  
5 gathering record information about that.

6 So again, as other agencies have stated today, it's a  
7 record requirement for us. So we're ensuring when we go out  
8 and we conduct a regular premises inspection, we're ensuring  
9 that you meet proper signature requirements, location  
10 requirements, vehicle space, display requirements, things of  
11 that nature, other licensure things that you also are being  
12 asked now whether or not you engage in catalytic converter  
13 repairs in any capacity. And so that now puts staff talking to  
14 different segments of the dealer -- the dealership, when we go  
15 on location.

16 So, they might be talking not just to the office  
17 manager, but we might now be talking to service managers for  
18 the dealerships as well too. So in gathering that information,  
19 we're asking, okay, if you have affirmatively answered yes, you  
20 are engaged in this type of work, are you keeping records  
21 pursuing it to the requirements of the bill?

22 So, making sure that they have a description of that  
23 item that they took off the vehicle or that they scold that  
24 they have the full name of the individual for which they  
25 transacted business with and then the date that, that  
transaction occurred. And so we began this work in September

1 of 2024, as you stated earlier. And since then, we have done  
2 over 3,000 dealer visits across all of the staff that are  
3 again, motor vehicle investigators. And then these dealer  
4 compliance specialists that will be conducting plate  
5 inventories as well. But it helps us maximize efficiency if we  
6 have staff already out on site conducting a visit at a  
7 dealership location. And we're also trying to serve the  
8 purpose of gathering information to be helpful about who is  
9 engaged in this type of work. We've added in those questions.

10 Those questions are also being added in on the front  
11 end now. So at the time of licensure, if somebody seeking to  
12 become licensed as a dealer by the Department of Motor  
13 Vehicles, our Motor Vehicle Division has included questions  
14 asking are you going to be engaged in this type of work that  
15 involves catalytic converters? And if so, please let us know  
16 where that work will be occurring. So we're gathering on the  
17 front end, and then we're gathering it on the back end for our  
18 existing dealer population. And again, we've done over 3,000  
19 visits so far. And you'll see that we are at 105 dealers so  
20 far that have affirmatively answered the question, yes, we are  
21 engaged in this type of work.

22 We have not yet cited any violations but, we are  
23 maintaining this heat map that you see here about where  
24 those dealers that answered affirmatively, the 105 are  
25 located and no surprise -- in the larger areas; and I  
think that -- that will expand once we get out into the

1 larger dealer community. Which again, is approaching  
2 20,000, and so data like this will be helpful to law  
3 enforcement. So, I have a law enforcement assistance team  
4 under me within the Enforcement division that can be  
5 reached at LEATeam@txdmv.gov, and that would be the  
6 quickest, most efficient way for law enforcement officers  
7 to get this type of information or other motor vehicle  
8 record documentation or any sort of education about DMV  
9 areas and scope of responsibility.

10 So, a map like this, if somebody's conducting an  
11 investigation with a law enforcement entity, can reach out  
12 to LEAT and say, hey, I'm at this dealership location.  
13 Here's what I found here. Have they indicated to y'all  
14 that they're engaged in this type of work? If yes or no,  
15 we can provide the information to the law enforcement. We  
16 can also then go back and impose additional administrative  
17 sanction action if somebody has provided false information  
18 to the Department regarding their involvement in the scope  
19 of work.

20 So again, that will be helpful to us to ensure the  
21 veracity of our licensed dealer population within TXDMV  
22 and then also serve to help our law enforcement partners.  
23 Happy to answer any questions. You all have.

24 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. That's very  
25 impressive. And again Director Diggs, I know you have  
some words.

1           DIRECTOR DIGGS: Absolutely. So, Chief, again,  
2 William Diggs, Director, MVCPA, for the record. Again,  
3 you know, Corrie's one of my peers. You know, we -- we  
4 communicate routinely. And so they've done a phenomenal  
5 job, over 3,000 visits all over Texas, and you talked  
6 about, Chief, earlier, about putting some of these dots  
7 together.

8           This, again, is something that we anticipate that  
9 when it's all said and done, when everything is updated  
10 and we finalize some of these software things that we're  
11 working on -- rather it be VTR, or ITSD, or enforcement.  
12 Putting everything together -- I know Major Jones,  
13 she's -- she's waiting on a final inter-agency contract  
14 for me -- for us to be able to -- to be able to put a  
15 couple of crime analysts over there -- at the Texas DPS --  
16 you know, funded by the program.

17          This, again, is something that I can see those folks  
18 working on to help inform law enforcement of everything  
19 that's going on -- you know, on the regulatory side, as we  
20 can get a bigger picture of where is the catalytic  
21 converter issues at today? Were they going to be  
22 tomorrow? Where were they yesterday? And be able to stop  
23 and prevent some of this, especially some of the organized  
24 activities; because there's no doubt that those organized  
25 efforts are around -- going on around the state. And when  
it comes to catalytic converter theft, there's some law

1 enforcement units in here that have talked about it for  
2 two years.

3 We're going to get some -- some really nice updates  
4 tomorrow morning in our advisory committee meeting and  
5 talk about some of those efforts. And so, again, Texas  
6 law enforcement is doing the things that they need to do.  
7 They -- I believe they're doing what the Legislature asked  
8 us to do with this funding, as well as our state partner  
9 agencies, and in Texas DMV, again being one of those,  
10 working with TDLR and DPS to make all this happen. So  
11 again Corrie, thank you for everything that you're working  
12 on in everything that your team has done all over Texas.

13 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Going back to -- you  
14 know, these are amazing metrics. Going back as to showing  
15 the public what we're -- we're doing to prevent this from  
16 happening. I think it's -- it's a great idea that we --  
17 that we post it and we make sure that we're pushing it out  
18 there. And at the same time -- you know, there's bad  
19 elements that are doing the wrong things. They get to see  
20 that -- you know, DMV is -- is doing their inspections,  
21 law enforcement is doing their inspections, everybody's  
22 doing inspections. So, keeps them on their toes, and I  
23 want to make sure that -- you know, everybody knows the  
24 great work that you guys are doing. So thank you. Great  
25 work. And again, four members anything to say?

BOARD MEMBER SLOAN: I'll -- I'll just add, Chief,



1       leveraging your team as a leader to do that amount of  
2       premises inspections is a heavy lift, so that's  
3       commendable. And it does keep them on their toes because  
4       it's volume and it -- it's recurring, so they don't know  
5       when to expect it, and that's good.

6               DIRECTOR THOMPSON: Absolutely. Thank you.

7               CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. We'll now move  
8       to agenda item 10, and I will turn the meeting over to Major  
9       Sharon Jones.

10              MAJOR JONES: Mr. Chairman, I'll give an update on  
11     the 1183 initial cameras for LPRs for the statewide project.

12              So as of January 13, we still have 269 requests with  
13     the federal agencies they have to respond to those. They're  
14     behind -- they were behind before the temporary shutdown -- and  
15     they were already behind then.

16              So again, those 269 are literally on interstate  
17     highways proper. So basically, I-10, and 35, those are on any  
18     state highway. So we cannot proceed until we get the approval  
19     from the federal government. With that said, we have 440 of  
20     the 1183 that were approved by the TxDOT, depart -- department  
21     of Transportation, and out of those 440, we also have -- we  
22     installed 432. And these installations are throughout Texas.  
23     There's not any rhyme or reason there -- as we get the approval  
24     from permit -- from -- as we get the approval permits, the  
25     installation starts.

      We also have nine on hold those that are on hold are

1 in hold because it could be a reason where TxDOT says, hey,  
2 there's going to be construction in this area for nine weeks.  
3 There's no point in putting a camera where we're going to have  
4 construction. So they're really great at telling us ahead of  
5 time before we even make an installation, like, can you hold  
6 off? So we have nine that are holding for various reasons. We  
7 have two that we -- we install -- I keep saying we, we're all  
8 in this together. There's LPR Company, TxDOT and DPS, but  
9 there were two that were installed, but we had to remove them  
10 because the district for TxDOT made the approval.

11 So they were a badge, so two of those were installed  
12 in another TxDOT district that were not mapped or approved. So  
13 it was just a matter of crossing jurisdictions. And so, for  
14 liability purposes, until we get the approval for where those  
15 placements were, we had to remove them. So we have those --  
16 those are on hold. And I am confident there are two more that  
17 we need to pull from a jurisdiction and then we were re --  
18 relocate them.

19 We also have 31 that we are going to reassign. We're  
20 reassigning these 31 simply because, again, it could be for  
21 many reasons. Some of the reasons are that initially when the  
22 map was position, we already knew that agencies were already  
23 planning to install their cameras. So if an agency again, is  
24 going to install their cameras -- and I know I've mentioned  
25 this before, and it's in the vicinity of one of the statewide  
projects, we would just pull those. So, Texas is large, so I'm

1 not concerned about the relocating of the 31 cameras, that's  
2 not an issue.

3           Between December eighth and today, TxDOT issued  
4 permits for the Fort Worth area, seven-teen cameras there. And  
5 let me explain, TxDOT districts. The districts -- they have  
6 25, and they're very large. So to you and I, we may say Fort  
7 Worth area, but that may branch out way beyond Fort Worth. But  
8 for TxDOT district purposes, Fort Worth approved for 17, Pharr  
9 47, San Angelo 17, Yoakum 25, and Tyler 17.

10           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: So far, Texas is in the  
11 Fort Worth district?

12           MAJOR JONES: Fort Worth, Pharr, San Angelo, Yoakum,  
13 and Tyler, those are TxDOT's districts.

14           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Wow, okay.

15           MAJOR JONES: So, for -- for instance, this is how  
16 vast some of them are. So I can relate it to Texas DPS in our  
17 regions. So, when you have Bay City; Bay City for us is in the  
18 Houston area. And then you will have Tyler; Tyler is in the  
19 Dallas area but then there is Rockport, which to us is South  
20 Texas. Well, everything that I just mentioned, that's a  
21 district for TxDOT. So,

22           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: To you it's South Texas.

23           MAJOR JONES: Yes, so, to me, South Texas --  
24 Rockport -- yes, South Texas. So that is the -- between  
25 Aug -- December eighth and the 14th. So, those were  
literally -- permits were issued, I've signed off, and TxDOT

1 has said these are good to go.

2           They also give me the -- the permit that are issued  
3 for non-MVCPA task force agencies. So, I still -- I do assist  
4 those, even if they're not part of our task force. If an  
5 agency calls and they have questions, I do assist those. And  
6 then last week in our commanders meeting was an agency that --  
7 they were waiting on permits, I've already addressed that.  
8 They're going to have to wait some more but it's not -- it's  
9 not a TxDOT issue. That agency, there's some things that they  
10 have to do. There's some homework before they can get their --  
11 their cameras, but they were made aware. So, they are quite  
12 aware of what needs to be done.

13           So, in addition to my report, I want to talk and be  
14 clear about the sharing of the cameras. If you have cameras,  
15 if your agency has cameras, you can share. If your agency does  
16 not have cameras, you cannot share, the statewide project. You  
17 can -- and I -- I'm reluctant to say that DPS cameras, but I'm  
18 just going to say that for simplicity sake, because the cameras  
19 are for the local agencies. But, if your agency -- if you are  
20 with Clute PD -- is there a Clute PD? Or did I just make that  
21 up?

22           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: There is.

23           MAJOR JONES: Okay, cool. If there's a Clute Police  
24 Department and you have cameras, you can share. If you do not  
25 have cameras, you cannot share. With that said, DPS, we are  
sharing with 426 agencies, right? But, do you have any idea

1   how many agencies are sharing with us?  Seventy-nine, which  
2   means that -- there 426 that we are seeing your data, but  
3   you're are not seeing the statewide project -- you're not  
4   seeing that data.  So in order to see that -- you can -- there  
5   are many ways you can get to that information.  You can go  
6   through the Flock website and request, or we have created -- we  
7   as in DPS, we've created an email for you and it's  
8   alpr@dps@texas.gov, and you can send an email there and request  
9   it.  You can also keep emailing me, keep calling me.  I'm still  
10   going to help you.  And then in the back we have Captain Jose  
11   Mena in the back from DPS, you can -- you can pelt him with any  
12   questions that you have today.  Feel free to throw some rotten  
13   tomatoes at him, anything you need, you have him.

14           But again, just request access to share, because this  
15   is the whole reason why we fought so hard to get these cameras  
16   for you guys and you're not utilizing them.  Once you start the  
17   sharing agreement, it is automatic.  Every time there's a new  
18   camera that's installed, you will have access to that.  We also  
19   have some sharing agreements with agencies that are out of  
20   state.  So utilize the tools that you have to help you with --  
21   with -- with your job, that's why we got the cameras.

22           And finally, I wanted to say thank you to those  
23   agencies who provided the data and the -- any descriptions of  
24   investigations that pertain to LPR in Texas.  I literally  
25   presented before a law enforcement congressional caucus in  
  Washington, D.C., and that information was extremely useful.

1 You guys are still sending that to me, so keep sending it.

2 Anything that pertains to violent crime, crimes against  
3 persons, any link to -- to the border -- organized crime.

4 All of that is needed, because since I've been to  
5 D.C., I was also requested to continue on that mission. And  
6 literally, the caucus is about there is a proposed federal fact  
7 about license plate readers for the nation, and funding is  
8 attached to that. So I will stay abreast of that, keep you  
9 guys updated and yes, I did mention MVCPA when I was there, and  
10 I got some questions about it. So you guys are like the --  
11 you're the model for the nation and once again, thank you for  
12 that information. It was last minute, but I appreciate it.  
13 Keep sending them to me so I don't have to bug you last minute.  
14 Mr chair, that is my report.

15 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Member Jones.  
16 That's a -- great work, that's a lot of cameras. I think the -  
17 - that everybody knows it's a force multiplier, but more than  
18 anything is the fact that -- we know for a fact, that these  
19 cameras have been approved through TxDOT and installed through  
20 DPS, they're not going anywhere.

21 So, even if you put one camera in your jurisdiction,  
22 just put one camera -- and then you'll be able to share and get  
23 all that information that we need. So thank you again.

24 MAJOR JONES: Absolutely. You're welcome. And  
25 that's an excellent point. So I get a lot of calls from the  
sheriff of here and there, and the sheriff wants to share

1 cameras. He's upset cause I say no -- politely, and explain  
2 it, but I told him -- apply. The grant funding is here -- and  
3 like chief just said all you need is one camera. We're not  
4 asking you to go out and get 50, you just need one camera to  
5 share.

6 So just keep that in mind when the -- the police  
7 chief is asking questions or the -- the sheriff department,  
8 just keep that in mind. And also something that, I'm  
9 constantly -- and I don't mind having to explain, is, please  
10 tell anyone who's asking, anybody who has a little bit of  
11 concern, that these cameras are not tracking people. Like --  
12 literally, people believe they're being tracked, they're being  
13 followed. Just explain that to them -- no one -- you can't  
14 identify who's in the car with you, next to you, who's in the  
15 car. None of that is -- is possible.

16 So I -- just keep -- keep educating those that are a  
17 little bit skeptical about what we're doing. It is for law  
18 enforcement purposes, but that's where the numbers that you  
19 give me with the -- the crime, that's where that comes in. But  
20 just please help me -- help our citizens we are not tracking  
21 people, just help me with that. And you guys know that but  
22 sometimes it's little uphill battle where people literally  
23 still believe that we're tracking them. So thank you for the  
24 assistance on that part.

25 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Member Jones.  
Any questions for Member Jones?

1 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: No, sir. Excellent report.

2 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Moving on to agenda  
3 item 11. We'll turn the meeting over to David Richards, our  
4 General Counsel.

5 DAVID RICHARDS: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman, Board  
6 Members, David Richards, General Counsel for the record.  
7 Agenda item number 11 is an action item, can be found on --  
8 on page 12 of your board book and simply involves a  
9 continuation of Senate Bill 224, advisory committee. Which as  
10 you know, we -- we met last year for our four meetings and it  
11 dissolved. We're essentially recreating or resurrecting,  
12 whatever term you want to use, to continue the SB224 advisory  
13 committee for calendar year 2026. And with that, I -- I'll  
14 entertain any questions. CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Any  
15 questions for mister -- mister Richards? Alright, this is an  
16 action item. Cass, are there any public comments?

17 CASSANDRA FLINT: Mr. Chairman, there are no  
18 comments, thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Alright. I will now  
20 entertain a motion on agenda item 11.

21 BOARD MEMBER SLOAN: Mr. Chairman, I move the board  
22 approve the continuation of the Senate Bill 224 advisory  
23 committee for calendar year 2026.

24 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: A motion from Member Sloan.  
25 Do I have a second?

MAJOR JONES: Member Jones, second.



1 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: Member Whitehill, second.

2 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: We have a second from Member Jones.

3 Any further discussion? Hearing none, I will now call for the  
4 vote. Board members, when I call your name, please state your  
5 vote for the record. Member Jones?

6 MAJOR JONES: Aye

7 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Whitehill?

8 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: Aye.

9 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Cantu-Serrano?

10 BOARD MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Aye.

11 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Sloan?

12 BOARD MEMBER SLOAN: Aye.

13 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And I Chairman Rodriguez,  
14 vote aye. Let the record reflect that there are five votes to  
15 none, motion passes. Agenda item 12, I will turn the meeting  
16 over to Lauren Williams, our MVCPA auditor, Sandra Castro, our  
17 grant specialist.

18 STERLING FIELDER: Good afternoon. My name is  
19 Sterling Fielder, I'm an auditor at the MVCPA. We also have  
20 Lauren Williams, who's also an auditor, and Sandra Castro,  
21 who's a grant specialist. We're going to discuss the self help  
22 modules that we've been creating the past couple of months.

23 LAUREN WILLIAMS: Thank you so much, Sterling. I'm  
24 Lauren Williams, I'm one of the grant auditors here, MVCPA.  
25 And the MVCPA has created six self help modules that cover  
relevant grant information as well as frequently asked

1 questions.

2           These are going to cover great information and  
3 overview, grant application process and requirements,  
4 expenditure reports, progress reports, inventory and budget  
5 adjustments. Any of our grantees as well, of course, you our  
6 board members can access these videos directly through GMTS, as  
7 well as our MVCPA homepage. I'm actually going to have Zach  
8 navigate that and show you all how to access these videos from  
9 these pages.

10           So, here's the MVCPA homepage. From here, you'll  
11 scroll down, and on the right hand side you'll see the MVCPA  
12 self help modules button. Go ahead and press that and that'll  
13 take you directly to the YouTube play list, from which you can  
14 select the self help module that's relevant to your search.

15           From GMTS, it'll look relatively similar. From that  
16 home page after you log in, on the left hand side, underneath  
17 the grantees title, you'll see the MVCPA Self Help module  
18 button. You can click that and that'll also take you directly  
19 to that YouTube link. Welcome to the Motor Vehicle Crime  
20 Prevention Authority self help module. (Video playing) Thank  
21 you so much. Perfect. Okay, so that's why you'll be able to  
22 access him is a super simple process. We wanted to make sure  
23 that we got these up and accessible for you all. Hopefully  
24 this will mitigate some of the wait time that you all see when  
25 you have questions for us.

          This is a great starting point for you all in

1 addition to the Grant administrative manual for you to utilize  
2 again, of course. Any questions after that, you could direct  
3 to us.

4 SANDRA CASTRO: And if you all have any additional  
5 topics we can do a self-help module on, please let us know.

6 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Go ahead member Jones.

7 MAJOR JONES: Who's evers(sic), idea that was,  
8 excellent. It's brilliant!

9 LAUREN WILLIAMS: I have to give credit to Mr. Diggs.

10 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Really?

11 MAJOR JONES: Oh, Boy! Oh, see his head is getting  
12 bigger.

13 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Yeah.

14 MAJOR JONES: Great job, William. Great job.

15 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Great job.

16 DIRECTOR DIGGS: I just wanted to say -- you know, I  
17 want to say thank you to obviously, to Lauren, Sterling, and  
18 Sandra, you guys did a fantastic job. When --whenever we sat  
19 down and we talked about this, both Earl and Dan, very  
20 supportive. They quickly got the team on this, and -- you  
21 know, we didn't need to reinvent the wheel because Director  
22 Quintero had already done that over in VTR. And I reached out  
23 to her. She had her team sit down with our folks and MVCPA.  
24 They put this together pretty quickly, and then also Director  
25 Yon, Keith Yon is here.

His team worked with me to make sure we got this on

1 our website, got it up and running. We worked with TAMU to  
2 flip it over there to our GMTS system so it all was really  
3 seamless and it -- it didn't make any sense to wait another  
4 year until we were fully functional on our new system before we  
5 got this -- got this out there. Because, there are certain  
6 things that the staff seem to get the questions about. You  
7 know -- we've got so many new grantees, right? And so it just  
8 made sense -- and so it really came together pretty quick.

9 I hope it cuts down on some of the wait time for the  
10 law enforcement folks for our team to get back to them to kind  
11 of help them navigate it. They'll be able to look at it, most  
12 of these modules are seven, eight, nine minutes, I think, at  
13 the most, something like that. And it's pretty specific how  
14 you go to where you need to go and do progress reports, expense  
15 reports, just some overall stuff. So again, thank you for  
16 getting this done so quickly. You -- you literally knocked it  
17 out of the park. You all do a phenomenal job each and every  
18 day in your daily dulies(sic), -- duties, so thank you for  
19 this. Again, it was a team effort fantastic job on everybody's  
20 part.

21 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: I -- you know, this is a  
22 great job -- you know, about two weeks ago, I got a phone call  
23 from one of the commanders, no names. But it was -- it was a  
24 question about I don't want to hit with an audit and I might be  
25 doing something wrong, right? Now I can direct them, go to the  
website. Don't listen to me, just go in there, find the video

1 and get it done, right? So, this is awesome. So thank you so  
2 much for this. Any Questions? Member Cantu-Serrano? Member  
3 Whitehill?

4 BOARD MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: No, no sir.

5 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: No, sir.

6 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Awesome, guys. Thank you.  
7 It's 2:51, guys, let's take a five minute break. Let's be back  
8 here at 2:56.

9 (Off the record, 2:56 P.M.)

10 (Back on record, 3:06 P.M.)

11 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Alright. It's 3:06 p.m.  
12 we're back in session. Moving on to agenda item 13, we turn  
13 over -- turn the meeting over to MVCPA Director William Diggs.

14 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Mr. Chairman, board members.  
15 William Diggs, Director, MVCPA, for the record. As we all  
16 know, whenever we issued our SB224 catalytic converter grants  
17 back in FY24, that was done so in the spring, early summer of  
18 calendar year 24.

19 A number of things transpired as the state was  
20 navigating permits for Flock camera installation. There was a  
21 necessity to a -- to extend these grants, and -- and we -- we  
22 further have -- have found that we need to extend some of them.  
23 After communication with the board, I've -- I've done that and  
24 today, the agenda item, and it's an action item number 13.  
25 It's about the board ratifying my decision to extend certain  
FY24, SB224 catalytic converter grants.

1           This is done in the interest of keeping Texas a safer  
2 place. And it was the right thing to do for law enforcement,  
3 and so I've done so, and I ask that the board ratify my  
4 decision to extend the following FY24, SB224 catalytic  
5 converter grants until June the first of 2026. The first one  
6 is the City of Beaumont, the next one is the City of  
7 Brownsville, then there is the City of Carrollton, the City of  
8 Converse, the City of Eagle Pass, Hidalgo County the City of  
9 Laredo, the Lubbock County, Montgomery County, the City of New  
10 Braunfels, Polk County, potter County, Smith County, and the  
11 City of Sulphur Springs. These grants were extended until June  
12 the first 2026.

13           I believe that this is an ample amount of time and  
14 that we'll be able to have all of the -- the grant requirements  
15 fulfilled and those cameras fully installed and operational by  
16 June one with the efforts of both the Texas DPS working with  
17 TxDOT, working with the local jurisdictions to get the permits  
18 issued and then with Flock's awareness of the timing that these  
19 installs will be done and we'll be able to make this happen and  
20 get these grants closed out. But they have been extended until  
21 June one and I ask that the board ratify my decision to do so.

22           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Any questions for Mr.  
23 Diggs? Cass, are there any public comments on this agenda  
24 item?

25           CASSANDRA FLINT: Mr. Chairman, there are no  
comments.

1 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: I will now entertain a  
2 motion on agenda item 13.

3 BOARD MEMBER SLOAN: Board Member Sloan, I move the  
4 board approve the FY 2024, SB224 grand extension as presented  
5 by the MVCPA, Director, Diggs.

6 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Do I have a second?

7 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: I Member Whitehill, second.

8 BOARD MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: I Board Member  
9 Cantu.

10 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: I a motion from member  
11 Sloan, and a second from Member Whitehill, are there  
12 any further discussion?

13 BOARD MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Yes.

14 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Hearing none. I will now  
15 call for the vote. Board members, when I call your name please  
16 state your vote for the record. Member Jones?

17 MAJOR JONES: Aye.

18 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Whitehill?

19 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: Aye.

20 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Cantu-Serrano?

21 BOARD MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Aye.

22 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Sloan?

23 BOARD MEMBER SLOAN: Aye.

24 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And I Chairman Rodriguez,  
25 vote Aye. Let the record reflect that there are five votes to  
none. Motion passes. Moving on to agenda item 14, MVCPA

1 Director William Diggs.

2 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Mr. Chairman, board members, William  
3 Diggs, Director, MVCPA for the record. And this is the same  
4 information, but it's FY25, SB224 catalytic converter grants.  
5 And my request that the board ratify my decision to extend  
6 certain FY25, SB224 grants until August 31st of 2026.

7 The following grants were extended, and I ask that  
8 you ratify my decision to do so. The City of Bulverde, the  
9 City of Caddo Mills, the City of Carrollton, the City of Castle  
10 Hills, the City of Cibolo, the City of Cuero, the City of  
11 Elgin, the City of Farmers Branch, the City of Holland, the  
12 City of Jacinto City, the City of Jasper, the City of Kaufman,  
13 the City of Marble Falls, the City of Mexia, the City of  
14 Monahans, the City of New Braunfels, the City of Palmer, the  
15 City of Round Rock, the City of Sealy, the City of Sour Lake,  
16 the City of Sulphur Springs, the City of Temple, the City of  
17 Terrell, the City of Weslaco, Cooke County, hood County,  
18 Killeen Police Department, Potter County, Rains County, Rusk  
19 County, waller County, the City of West Columbia.

20 I believe again that August 31st, with the efforts of  
21 Texas DPS, TxDOT, and Flock and the local governments. That  
22 these grants will be fulfilled in the install of these camera  
23 systems will take place and be operational by August 31st. And  
24 so I ask that the board ratify my decision to extend these  
25 grants in the interest of public safety.

CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Director Diggs.



1 Any questions for Mr. Diggs?

2 MAJOR JONES: Not a question, but a comment to -- to  
3 the commanders, make sure that whatever the issues are  
4 pertaining to permitting -- if it gets kickback, there's  
5 something they're asking you for, you need to relocate -- you  
6 need to provide. Make sure that you are following and quickly  
7 get that done, because I cannot help you if you're still  
8 lacking, and there's no point of pushing the LPR company  
9 because they can't help you either.

10 So just make sure that you are following the  
11 instructions. They're getting kickback from TxDOT, which they  
12 have a policy -- they're very restrictive about it. They do --  
13 they don't make any concessions. There are certain things you  
14 have to do, so when you're asked to do whatever that something  
15 is, you have to do it. If you do not do it, we can't help you.  
16 I cannot speak with Flock, there -- there's no point of me even  
17 contacting TxDOT until you actually have finished what needs to  
18 be done. So, just keep that in mind, because when it's time  
19 for that grant to expire, it's going to expire. We're not  
20 going to extend it, so just keep that in mind. I cannot stress  
21 that anymore. Whatever that issue is, you have to take care of  
22 it. I get a lot of -- a lot of questions and comments. "Well,  
23 I've been waiting since October", "I've been waiting for the  
24 last three or four months." And when I look into it, they're  
25 waiting on you.

So, just make sure that whatever it is that needs to

1 be done -- if you do not understand, then ask. And this is  
2 not -- last week there was a comment like , the -- the state  
3 agencies are trying to fig -- figure out who's going to be the  
4 slowest to get something done -- like that's ridiculous. Just  
5 make sure that if it's something on you, take care of it. If  
6 it's something dealing with the TCIC process and you don't  
7 understand, sometimes new commanders come in and they don't  
8 understand, and they'll call and -- or they'll send me the  
9 email chain -- it's going back and forth, and I make sure that  
10 you guys are taken care of.

11 So I will help you where I can, but if it's something  
12 on your end where you need to relocate, go back six feet,  
13 remove it to the left, or to the right, or find another  
14 location, or also with the private in -- industries.

15 So if you're going to put a camera on a private  
16 location, whatever that business is, you're going to have to  
17 have permission from that business. Well, until you get that  
18 done, no installation can take place, so you may have -- you  
19 may have, "Okay, I can put it up," but until there's something  
20 in writing that's between your agency and that private company,  
21 no installation is going to occur, because if something  
22 happens, you guys know what that looks like -- liability. So  
23 there's also that aspect of it. So again, just make sure that  
24 whatever the issue is, that you take care of it, because we're  
25 not going to extend beyond that. Thank you, sir.

CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, member Jones.

1 Any other questions or comments for Mr. Diggs? Cass, are there  
2 any public comments on this agenda?

3 CASSANDRA FLINT: Mr. Chairman, there are no  
4 comments. Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: I will now entertain a  
6 motion on agenda Item 14.

7 BOARD MEMBER SLOAN: Board Member Sloan, I move the  
8 board, approve the FY2025, SB224 grant extensions as presented  
9 by the MVCPA director, William Diggs.

10 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Do I have a second?

11 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: Member Whitehill, second.

12 BOARD MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: I Board Member Cantu.

13 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: I have a motion from Member  
14 Sloan and a second from Member Whitehill. Are there any  
15 further discussion? I will now call for the vote. Board  
16 Members when I call your name, please state your name for the  
17 record. Member Jones?

18 MAJOR JONES: Aye.

19 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Whitehill?

20 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: Aye.

21 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Cantu-Serrano?

22 BOARD MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Aye.

23 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Sloan?

24 BOARD MEMBER SLOAN: Aye.

25 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And I Chairman Rodriguez,  
vote aye. Let the Director reflect that there are five votes

1 for and zero against, motion passes.

2 Moving on to Agenda Item 15, I will turn the meeting  
3 over to Jason Gonzalez, Internal Audit Division Director for  
4 Texas DMV.

5 AUDIT DIRECTOR GONZALEZ: Good afternoon. Sorry  
6 about that. Good afternoon, Chairman Rodriguez, Board Members.  
7 For the record, my name is Jason Gonzalez, I'm the Director of  
8 Internal Audit for the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles. I'm  
9 joined by Senior Internal Auditor Sonja Murillo and Internal  
10 Auditor Danaisha Lewis, who will now provide you with the  
11 project update.

12 SONJA MURILLO: Good afternoon, MVCPA Board, David  
13 and William. For the record, my name is Sonja Murillo, Senior  
14 Internal Auditor with the Department of Motor Vehicles. Thank  
15 you for having us today. Next slide, sorry -- if I can get  
16 this.

17 Okay, so first, we would like to present to you the  
18 updated objective, which now includes a review of grant  
19 oversight processes. Our objective is to evaluate the  
20 financial grant review, approval and monitoring processes used  
21 to ensure eligibility for potential grantees and provide  
22 oversight to ensure compliance with regulations and statutory  
23 requirements. During the planning phase, we had the  
24 opportunity to meet with MVCPA staff and management and staff  
25 to learn about MVCPA's grant program.

Part of this phase was to conduct a program-level

1 risk assessment to identify potential areas of risk. We  
2 identified the following risk areas. So, the first one is  
3 ineligible entities may receive grant funding. Grantees may  
4 not be monitored to ensure compliance with required statute and  
5 regulations and achievement of grant program goals.  
6 Unauthorized or inappropriate access to the grant management  
7 system may occur. Once we identified the risk areas, we were  
8 able to put together an audit plan that details how the team  
9 intends to evaluate the internal controls, mitigating the risks  
10 identified to ensure that they are working as management  
11 intended.

12 We have combined our evaluation into three  
13 categories: eligibility, monitoring, and system access. The  
14 review of eligibility processes will include a review of  
15 scoring criterion methodology. This process will take the  
16 scoring criteria and methodology for grants administered by ten  
17 state agencies and comparing it to our own and determine if  
18 it's adequate or if improvements can be made.

19 The eligibility review will also include reviewing  
20 potential applicant training logs, and the grantee vetting  
21 process will include evaluation of application and board  
22 decisions. The evaluation of monitoring processes will consist  
23 of reviewing progress, expenditure, and inventory reporting to  
24 ensure that reports submitted were timely, goals were achieved,  
25 that expenditures were supported, eligible, and allowable for  
reimbursement and, finally, to ensure that inventory was

1 accurate.

2           Lastly, we will evaluate user access to the grant  
3 management system and ensure users had appropriate access. In  
4 order to facilitate our evaluation processes, we first have to  
5 identify the population of applicants and grantees. As you can  
6 see from the table on the right, for our evaluation of  
7 eligibility processes, we identified a total of 185 task force  
8 and SB224 applicants within our scope of fiscal year 24 and 25.  
9 From the total population, 15 -- or 15 percent, or 28 were  
10 selected at random for review. Further, we identified a total  
11 population of 101 unique Task Force and SB224 grantees within  
12 our scope.

13           If you look at the table on the left, using a  
14 combination of the stratified and randomized sampling methods,  
15 15 percent, or 16 individual grantees, were selected for the  
16 evaluation of monitoring processes. The stratified sampling  
17 method consists of placing the grantees into categories to  
18 facilitate a risk-based approach of the selection process.  
19 Here we used the total grant award amounts during the scope to  
20 calculate whether a grantee is a high, medium, or low category.  
21 When we --then we selected 15 percent from each category. The  
22 medium category, as you can see, is rounded up to select two  
23 from that category. We will review all grants awarded during  
24 our scope for each grantee selected.

25           So what's next? The audit team has officially begun  
fieldwork procedures. In fieldwork, we will assess two things.

1 One, were controls appropriately designed to address identified  
2 risks? Two, are controls operating consistently and  
3 effectively? We will gather data and perform tests to  
4 determine if potential applicants were eligible to receive the  
5 grant. Once a grantee did, MVCPA management -- monitor the  
6 grantee to ensure compliance with applicable statute and  
7 regulations, such as submitting reporting timely, reviewing  
8 reporting timely to ensure grantees are achieving their goals  
9 and adhering to contractual obligations.

10 Further, the system's user access will be evaluated  
11 to ensure it meets NIST best practices. NIST is the National  
12 Institute of Standards and Technology, and they are a  
13 government agency that is part of the Department of Commerce,  
14 and they are responsible for developing cyber security  
15 frameworks. In the next couple of days, the audit team intends  
16 to meet with MVCPA management to coordinate the evaluation of  
17 inventory, and we will also meet throughout the fieldwork phase  
18 to present results as they are completed.

19 The reporting phase of an audit is a crucial step  
20 that transforms our audit work -- our audit work into  
21 actionable insight for management and the Board. It's primary  
22 purpose is to communicate what is found, why it matters, and  
23 what should be done about it clearly, accurately, and  
24 objectively. The key purpose of reporting is not just to  
25 identify issues but to recommend practical, prioritized, --  
prioritized corrective actions, align recommendations with

1 organizational objectives and risk appetite, and encourage  
2 management ownership of remediation.

3 The reporting phase provides management with the  
4 opportunity to review and provide feedback to the audit report.  
5 It requires management responses to findings, and it documents  
6 agreed upon action plans, process owners, and target dates. It  
7 establishes a baseline for future follow-up and vol --  
8 validation. Management and the Board will be provided a week  
9 or two to provide responses to the results of the audit. Once  
10 that feedback is received, the report will be presented to the  
11 Texas DMV executive team for feedback. We anticipate the  
12 project will be completed in late February and overall final  
13 report will be submitted to legislation by early April.

14 During the wrap-up phase, MVCPA management and staff  
15 will have the opportunity to provide feedback on audit  
16 processes in the form of a client survey. We use client  
17 surveys to obtain valuable insight into our strengths and areas  
18 for improvement, that will support our ongoing efforts to  
19 enhance audit quality and effectiveness. This concludes our  
20 status update.

21 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Director Diggs.

22 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Yeah. Chief and board members, I --  
23 I want to say I appreciate Jason and Sonia and their patience  
24 with us as they've navigated the preparation for the audit and  
25 getting to this -- where we're at today. I've always been  
somebody and -- you know, 40 years of working for Texas that I



1 say I love my attorneys, and I love auditors, right? Because  
2 you got to have them both.

3 The reality of it is that we let a -- a third set of  
4 eyes, our auditors, even though there are internal auditors at  
5 DMV, come in, take a look at her processes and our procedures.  
6 And we're going to do one thing from this. We're just going to  
7 get better right? And so I -- I welcome it. The timing is  
8 perfect I think as we get ready to navigate a new GMTS system,  
9 we're going to take this opportunity to take some of the things  
10 that they see -- you know, and incorporate some of that into  
11 our new GMTS system so that we better track and navigate all of  
12 our grants and our grant processes.

13 I'll tell you also, the timing again is perfect  
14 because I know we have some needs and we have some needs for  
15 FTEs as we have grown so much. And I think their audit will  
16 probably point to some of that direction. And so I welcome it.  
17 And again, thank you for what you're doing, and I look forward  
18 to seeing the results. So thank you all very much.

19 AUDIT DIRECTOR GONZALEZ: No, thank you, William.

20 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you very much. We  
21 appreciate you guys. Agenda item 16, and turn the meeting over  
22 to Ms. Amber Ott, MVCPA trainer.

23 AMBER OTT: Good afternoon, Chairman and Board. So,  
24 let me change this here. So, today I'm going to walk you  
25 through MVCPA's outreach initiatives and how they are being  
strategically developed, where they are currently positioned,

1 and how they support our mission of preventing vehicle crime  
2 and educating Texans.

3 So, our outreach efforts focus on four core statewide  
4 problems. We're doing a billboard project. Targeted sports  
5 publications, digital engagement on social media, professional  
6 training invitations. Each initiative is designed to maximize  
7 visibility, credibility, and responsible use of public funds.

8 So, MVCPA purchased an ad in a professional sports  
9 publication, and we started to choose the Houston Astros  
10 because it was about baseball season. And Director Diggs is  
11 going to pass around our sports publication. The placement of  
12 this ad allowed MVCPA to reach large, diverse audiences in  
13 high-traffic professional sports venues across Texas. PSP  
14 reports approximately 990,000 printed programs were distributed  
15 annually. These are physical publications placed directly into  
16 the hands of fans attending these major sporting events.  
17 Unlike our digital platforms, PSP does not provide impression  
18 analytics beyond print distribution counts. So for  
19 transparency, our reporting reflects only what we can verify:  
20 printed and distributed publications, rather than estimated  
21 digital impressions. So this is like -- going backwards.

22 So this is an example of a sports ad that we  
23 purchased for the Mavericks. We also did it for the Rockets  
24 and the Spurs. I have a QR code on there if anybody wants to  
25 scan it and see the digital platform of it. But basically  
we're -- we're presenting our platform, we also have a QR code

1 included that links followers to our Facebook. Now, according  
2 to PSP Sports, they printed 150,000 of those programs per  
3 basketball team. So if you think about it, that was about  
4 450,000 sports publications distributed throughout each  
5 sporting event. And with those games, they have to purchase  
6 those programs. They don't get them for free.

7 This is an example of our ad that was in the Dallas  
8 Stars PSP Sports publication. I also have a QR code up there  
9 if you want to see the digital copy. According to PSP Sports,  
10 they did 140,000 printed copies, and those were distributed  
11 annually to the Dallas Stars. And then the one that I showed  
12 you, my example, that is from the Houston Astros. We plan to  
13 do the Rangers next year as well as the Dallas Cowboys and  
14 Texans sporting events.

15 So, because this is a print product, we are unable to  
16 track individual readership or engagement once the publication  
17 goes into circulation. So, there's no reliable method to  
18 measure how long a program is kept, shared, or viewed.

19 Basically, our primary goal of this placement is branding and  
20 brand awareness. So we're ensuring that the MVCPA name, our  
21 logo, our preventive messaging, is consistently visible to the  
22 public. Audiences trust us and we want them to know who we  
23 are. So to add a measurable digital component, again, like I  
24 said, we include that QR code in each ad that directs readers  
25 to the MVCPA Facebook. And then while our print distribution  
itself again cannot be tracked individual level, the approach

1 supports our long term public recognition(sic), of MVCPA and  
2 reinforces our statewide preventive presence.

3 Our next project that we're currently working on is  
4 our digital billboard campaign. We had five vendors submit  
5 bids to us, we chose Clear Channel Outdoor. They met our goals  
6 and what we were looking for. The current phase that we are  
7 in -- so, they just got done reviewing the contracts. So we're  
8 waiting for the vendor to submit the required contracts and  
9 final review. Once they have done final review, then the OGC  
10 will sign off on that contract and we will start putting our  
11 campaign together.

12 Basically, for our billboard initiative, MVCPA  
13 selected that digital format rather than static billboards, and  
14 this was for strategic reasons. Digital billboards allow us to  
15 change messaging within, say, approximately 24 hours or less.  
16 That gives MVCPA the ability to adjust content quickly based  
17 on, say, crime trends, seasonal theft patterns, holidays,  
18 legislative updates, or even public safety priorities.

19 So with static boards, once the message is printed,  
20 installed, it can't be modified without additional cost or  
21 delay. So digital billboards provide significantly higher  
22 impressions delivery due to rotational placement and continuous  
23 visibility throughout the day. This results in a higher  
24 audience exposure compared to static placements in the same  
25 locations. So, the digital format supports again a high volume  
delivery across major corridors, maximizing statewide public

1 awareness while maintaining flexibility and locations. And so  
2 our approach to ensure is MVCPA's prevention messaging remains  
3 timely, relevant and responsive to public safety needs.

4 And again, with the formatting of the digital  
5 billboards, depending on what cities -- so say we -- for  
6 example, have one in Dallas or we have one in El Paso, we can  
7 fit those messages for that specific city and what crime trends  
8 they're having there. Auto theft trends, whatever it is, we  
9 can change all the messaging across the state and have  
10 different programs. So hopefully that will be kicked off soon.

11 So, let's get into our Facebook analytics. Facebook  
12 remains MVCPA's primary public facing outreach program. We use  
13 it to share prevention messaging, task force successes, and  
14 public education. So, with our print -- our print billboard  
15 and our print advertisements in the PSP sports publications, we  
16 also want to focus on a broad public visibility, which is our  
17 social media. Which allows us to engage directly with the  
18 public and law enforcement in real time. Facebook, in  
19 particular(sic), remains our primary digital outreach platform  
20 for prevention messaging, task force highlights, training  
21 announcements, and our public education.

22 So, the next section we're going to talk about is  
23 going to focus on our Facebook performance and what our  
24 analytics tell us about our audience reach, engagement and  
25 content effectiveness. So, these are our analytics for the  
last 90 days. I tried to pull them as close as I could to our

1 board meeting, these reflect how people are finding and  
2 interacting with MVCPA's Facebook page. So if you look at the  
3 page review -- the page views, which is the top left corner,  
4 that represents traffic that is visiting our page. So this  
5 shows a general interest and visibility, but by itself it does  
6 not indicate engagement. So when you look at content  
7 interaction, which is the next block down on the left, that is  
8 our primary indicator of a healthy and effective page. This  
9 measures when people actively engage with our post through  
10 likes, comments, shares, or reactions. So spikes in the areas  
11 indicate periods when our content resonated with our audience  
12 and encouraged interaction.

13           So when you look at link clicks to the right, that's  
14 the second block. Users following the links we post, such as  
15 training registrations, flyers, or information resources, those  
16 numbers are lower in November and December. Why? That aligns  
17 with we schedule fewer training sessions then, so we don't  
18 really do a lot of training in December or November.

19           And then if you look again at the visits, the bottom  
20 left hand corner, that represents how users found our page,  
21 which includes like Google searches or other search engines.  
22 So this shows that MVCPA content is discoverable beyond social  
23 media alone; so people are searching us on Google, for example.  
24 And then our follower growth increased by 156.3 percent during  
25 this period, in 90 days. And something I'm very proud of, all  
our growth was organic. We didn't pay for followers, we didn't

1 pay for ads, we didn't pay for anything on Facebook. We got  
2 all that organically. So this reflects a genuine interest in  
3 MVCPA content, in outreach efforts.

4 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: What happened -- Sorry.  
5 What happened December 6th and December 26th that we had that  
6 up take?

7 AMBER OTT: That's where -- when we don't really do  
8 any training, so we're not posting -- like, flyers and links to  
9 our training or anything, because we kind of take those months  
10 off to reconnect for 2026.

11 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: But, it says December 6th  
12 it went up to 60,000 views.

13 AMBER OTT: Are you talking about our followers?

14 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Yeah, followers and viewers.

15 AMBER OTT: Followers and viewers, it may be because  
16 we've been posting. I was off -- I know, a couple of weeks,  
17 and so our content wasn't getting posted like I do every day  
18 for the days that I was off. So that could have caused an up  
19 slide -- an up down.

20 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: I'm saying it was flat  
21 where -- where it was average, and then it went up on December  
22 sixth and December 26th correct? Is that what I'm looking at?

23 AMBER OTT: Correct. It looks like it was peaked on  
24 December -- I can't read that far

25 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Sixth.

AMBER OTT: Fifth --sixth and then it kind of flat

1 lined again -- I was off, so it could be because I wasn't  
2 posting on a normal basis during that period, and then I came  
3 back to work.

4 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: But, compared to October  
5 seventh -- I mean, it was flat, right? And then it went up  
6 December sixth?

7 AMBER OTT: Correct.

8 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And that's what I'm asking  
9 for. Do we know what?

10 (Simultaneously speaking)

11 AMBER OTT: Could just be a follow people clicking  
12 and not following us or following us.

13 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Okay. I mean -- something  
14 happened that it went up, right?

15 AMBER OTT: Yes, sir.

16 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: That's what I want to find  
17 out.

18 MAJOR JONES: I did -- I have a question.

19 AMBER OTT: Yes, ma'am.

20 MAJOR JONES: For the locals in here. When do you  
21 guys do the -- those campaigns to lock your car and don't get  
22 things stolen? Do you do those around the holidays, like  
23 Christmas?

24 DIRECTOR DIGGS: That's what it is.

25 MAJOR JONES: That's what I'm thinking, sir. It's  
the -- it's them. It's -- it's the task force commanders doing



1 their ads, their agencies' Facebook analytics, MVCPA.

2 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: But this Facebook analytics  
3 is specifically for MVCPA --

4 (simultaneously speaking)

5 AMBER OTT: Is specifically for MVCPA. Correct.

6 MAJOR JONES: What I'm saying is like -- some of the  
7 information, when they're -- they're tagging -- they're tagging  
8 MVCPA as well, right? And in the Facebook so, it's -- it's  
9 very possibly it -- it could be from them.

10 AMBER OTT: And it could be just our content that  
11 we're publishing. Maybe I published something that didn't get  
12 a lot of follows that day, and then the next day maybe I post -  
13 - published something that drew a lot of attention and gained  
14 more followers depending on the post. I can tell you with  
15 content sometimes when I post -- say for example, when Houston  
16 sends me something, when they send me photos and I post those  
17 photos, I tend to draw a lot of attention.

18 If I do, say, just a share or maybe I just do a PSA  
19 post with no pictures, you don't tend to have a lot of  
20 followers, or likes, or comments or clicks on that.

21 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: How many do we have now?

22 AMBER OTT: Say it again, I'm sorry.

23 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: How many followers do we  
24 have?

25 AMBER OTT: We are almost right at 6K, I think we're  
like 5.7 as of today. Which we've grown since I've been here -

1 - this will be, what, February be my second year here, we  
2 started it from the bottom.

3 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Yeah. Director Diggs.

4 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Yeah. So, Chief, Board members, I just wanted  
5 to -- you know, Amber's done a phenomenal job, and I think  
6 Major Jones is onto something -- so I agree. I don't follow  
7 this thing on Facebook, but I'm not on Facebook but, I'm -- I'm  
8 actually on LinkedIn, and so I'm following what Amber is doing  
9 on LinkedIn. And so she does -- Major Jones is accurate. She  
10 reposts a lot of the activities of our task forces, right? So  
11 we're doing some of these repostings. And so I believe that's  
12 what it is, Amber's -- I believe, writing some of the material  
13 herself and putting it on there. But -- but, yet we're also  
14 reposting it draws a lot interesting -- could be a lot of the -  
15 - the spikes that we're seeing. Because, there's some pretty  
16 cool stuff that we're seeing -- that the task forces around  
17 Texas are doing Amber's reposting. Amber's got some  
18 information out there trying to get the message across. Don't  
19 leave valuables out there in plain view, lock your cars and all  
20 the different things that we all know that we're supposed to  
21 do. She's putting that out there, and I think sometimes it  
22 generates loss of interest. There's some pretty cool photos  
23 sometimes that some of the task forces that are putting on  
24 there. So it's getting a lot of -- so I -- I believe that's  
25 probably, like Major Jones said, it's probably drawing in on  
some of these peak days, December 6th, December 26th -- 26th --

1 you know, that -- that we're seeing. So anyway, I just -- I  
2 just say great job Amber -- great job.

3 AMBER OTT: And, it could be -- it could be that the  
4 time I post it. Sometimes I post them in the morning,  
5 sometimes it's lunch, some times it's at the evening. So, it  
6 could also be the views that they're getting from that time.

7 ZACH WARDEN: I -- I just took a peak at the  
8 Facebook, on the 1st and the 30th, she had two posts that went  
9 viral and that would explain the uptake on those days.

10 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Oh, that explains it.

11 AMBER OTT: I will say this -- thank you, Zach. I  
12 appreciate that.

13 MAJOR JONES: Thank you.

14 AMBER OTT: When we're posting on Facebook, it's just  
15 not about task forces. Like -- I write articles on PSAs, like  
16 -- about what's going on -- say, catalytic converter theft. A  
17 good example, so I was contacted by Howard from Heart of Texas  
18 Task Force last week when I got done teaching on Friday. So I  
19 wrote an article about vanity plates, people -- because our  
20 task forces were saying, hey, they're going on this site called  
21 Hooligan. They're purchasing these vanity plates that says,  
22 like -- Tire Slayer or whatever they're driving around. I  
23 wrote an article, published it on our Facebook, that said, hey,  
24 you can't be riding around with basically vanity plates --  
25 they're illegal. Kind of wrote a little article about them.  
Fox News actually saw the post, contacted Heart of Texas, said

1 -- hey, we're going to do a new story on that post, but we want  
2 to use Heart of Texas to use -- gather information. So they're  
3 -- actually Fox News went out with Heart of Texas and is doing  
4 a story based off our Facebook post.

5 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Very good.

6 MAJOR JONES: Awesome.

7 AMBER OTT: And then I also did analytics just so you  
8 could see what it looks like over a year. So the last one was  
9 90 days, this is actually from a -- for a full year so, you can  
10 see that we have consistent, again, organic growth without any  
11 paid advertising support. And this demonstrates that our  
12 content is reaching and retaining audiences based solely on  
13 relevance and value.

14 And unlike print media -- you know, social  
15 advertising only charges -- you know, for what is delivered.  
16 So, if we ever got a budget, say for 500 a quarter or  
17 something, we could probably do some advertising and push that  
18 information even further out there.

19 Also, like to just show you the Facebook page  
20 demographics and what the makeup is of our Facebook page, you  
21 see in Houston views this a lot. We do post a lot of content  
22 from Houston, they provide us with a lot of content as well.  
23 And what's interesting -- so pay attention to these  
24 demographics, because when I get into our other social media  
25 links, you'll see that the demographics actually change.  
So we are new to LinkedIn, we do now have a LinkedIn

1 page. That's for people that don't like Director Diggs, who  
2 don't do Facebook, they can go to LinkedIn and see our content  
3 there. We're only about 2.5 weeks -- three weeks old in  
4 LinkedIn, but again, it's a new platform for MVCPA. So, the  
5 current analytics are not yet comparable to our Facebook  
6 performance. However, early activity shows some strong  
7 potential for long term growth. Our expectations for LinkedIn  
8 -- it will develop into a parallel reach and educational tool,  
9 especially toward the professionals such as law enforcement  
10 leadership, prosecutors, industry partners, legislators and  
11 grant stakeholders. So as this platform matures, we anticipate  
12 growth patterns similar to our Facebook. With the benefit of  
13 reaching audiences who may not engage again, like Director  
14 Diggs, in traditional social platforms. So you can see again,  
15 it's only three weeks old. So these metrics reflect the newly  
16 launched LinkedIn page, so they're still early in growth.  
17 Because the audience space is small, a percentage increase and  
18 decrease appears kind of more dramatic and are expected during  
19 this growth stage. These fluctuations are not an indicator of  
20 our declining interest or performance. So as our follower base  
21 grows and our post in cadence becomes more consistent, these  
22 analytics will begin to normalize and show more stable upward  
23 trends.

24 So, I want you to look at the top box, that's our  
25 competitor highlight. So LinkedIn provides competitor  
highlights which compare MVCPA's performance to similar

1 organizations. So when I looked at what organizations it was  
2 comparing us to, it compared us to I Addie, Michigan has like  
3 an auto theft prevention association as well as Arizona. So it  
4 compared us to five of those that are similar to what we do.  
5 So, in this comparison, MVCPA was actually up 26.3% higher in  
6 our posting activity than our competitors. And then 37.9%  
7 higher in engagement rate with our competitors as well. So you  
8 can see we rank pretty good when it comes to our competitors.

9           So again, these results, they do indicate early  
10 growth MVCPA content is performing strongly when measured  
11 against our competitor organizations. You can see on our  
12 impressions, we got about 5723, five thousand seven hundred  
13 twenty-three, that demonstrates early visibility and traffic to  
14 our page.

15           Our reposts are Increased activity indicates content  
16 is being shared beyond MVCPA's direct followers. And then also  
17 metrics are being compared against a very short and fluctuating  
18 baseline. Again, that's why it's so fluctuating, because we've  
19 only been active three weeks on LinkedIn. As you can see, I  
20 told you to remember the demographics from Facebook. Our  
21 LinkedIn demographics are quite different from our Facebook.  
22 Again, that's typically because it concentrates in heavy areas  
23 of the city where the organization is based. Since I'm  
24 typically posting -- I'm from the Dallas Fort Worth area, it's  
25 going to show that area is a little higher.

What is encouraging is that we are also seeing

1 engagement from other major metropolitan areas in Texas. As  
2 well as activity outside of Texas, which shows that our  
3 outreach is extending beyond our immediate geographic  
4 footprint. So the broader geographic spread supports MVCPA's  
5 role as a statewide and nationally relevant organization and  
6 vehicle crime prevention. We also have maintain additional  
7 social media accounts to support public outreach, that's  
8 Instagram and X. We don't do as much activity on those as we  
9 do on LinkedIn and Facebook. The reason is X is limiting us in  
10 characters, so sometimes it's hard to put out a PSA because you  
11 can't put all the information. And Instagram is a photo  
12 sharing, so when we are getting photos from our task forces, we  
13 do tend to share those on Instagram. But again, if we're doing  
14 a PSA type post without a photograph, then we typically can't  
15 post on Instagram.

16           And our last slide -- so additional outreach, we have  
17 gotten several invitations to speak outside of our normal task  
18 forces and law enforcements. So, Director Diggs and I spoke at  
19 the Texas Gulf Coast Crime Prevention Summit last week in League  
20 City. We did a two hour presentation. I covered auto  
21 theft(sic), -- auto theft trends, he covered fraudulent  
22 documents. And then we have been invited to speak at the Texas  
23 District and County Attorney Association DA Investigator  
24 Conference, that will be held in Conroe, in February. Herman  
25 and I will be doing an hour and half class there.

So, these invitations they reflect growing

1     recognition(sic), of MVCPA, as a subject matter resource, and  
2     not just for task forces, and the broader criminal justice and  
3     crime prevention community, and that is all I have, if you have  
4     any questions for me.

5             MAJOR JONES: I have questions.

6             CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Jones?

7             MAJOR JONES: So Amber.

8             AMBER OTT: Yes, ma'am.

9             MAJOR JONES: Tremendous growth, outstanding,  
10     fantastic details, presentation, I have some questions.

11             AMBER OTT: Okay. I'll see if I can answer them,  
12     not making any promises.

13             MAJOR JONES: For the printed media, how -- what's  
14     the cost of each ad?

15             AMBER OTT: I would have to revert that to Director  
16     Diggs.

17             DIRECTOR DIGGS: Yeah so, William Diggs, Director,  
18     MVCPA. So, Major Jones, I'm gonna -- I'm gonna tell you that  
19     our first go around, it was a little over six thousand dollars,  
20     it's not gonna be exact. But when we ventured into a multiple  
21     agreement with PSP to do all the other sports teams in Texas.  
22     Unfortunately, Chief, we were not able to get any of the farm  
23     leagues -- you know, the AAA teams. But I believe we're  
24     around.

25             MAJOR JONES: The what leagues? Did you say farm?  
   Like F-A-R-M, farm?



1           DIRECTOR DIGGS: That's what we call it out in the  
2 country.

3           MAJOR JONES: Oh, I thought you were making fun of  
4 the rural areas -- hey I was sticking up for you guys.

5           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: We are.

6           DIRECTOR DIGGS: You're -- you're good Major, so but  
7 anyway, I'm looking at Yesenia, because she did -- I believe  
8 she did my PO for me on this. I want to say we're around  
9 forty-six hundred dollars a piece, when we did the four, five  
10 that we did it once. Is that it's -- it's cheaper than the  
11 original.

12           YESSENIA BENAVIDES: It's -- for the record it's  
13 Yessenia, MVCPA Management Analyst. It's -- it came out to  
14 about fifty-six hundred per --per year book.

15           MAJOR JONES: Okay. And, digital billboards are to  
16 plan. What is the cost of that? And the planned locations?

17           DIRECTOR DIGGS: Okay. So, do you want to go ahead?

18           CASSANDRA FLINT: I know your budget's a \$100,000.00.

19           DIRECTOR DIGGS: Right. I was going to say we have  
20 a -- I have it budgeted for \$100,000 this year to do digital  
21 billboards. The billboards are around 800 dollars apiece, and  
22 we can strategically pick where Clear Channel is offering those  
23 billboards. We're going to pick and choose those around the  
24 state of Texas. To include the direction that a -- that Chief  
25 Rodriguez gave us, it's been over a year ago to make this  
happen. It's just taking a while to navigate all this -- and

1 so what -- we're going to look all over Texas and -- and  
2 because we don't need to duplicate the efforts of -- of some of  
3 our task forces -- you know, the reality of it is, Beaumont,  
4 they've got a phenomenal billboard presence out there on I-10.  
5 And so there's no reason for us to duplicate that. They've  
6 already -- they've already branded us really out there.

7           And so we're going to look all over Texas and put it  
8 where we need to. But I'm -- I'm going to -- I'm -- we're  
9 going to start -- I'm going to tell you, with \$100,000 for this  
10 year, and we're going to see what that looks like with the  
11 impressions we get, they -- they're able to provide us with  
12 some analythic(sic) -- analytics. Based on traffic counts at  
13 times of day, certain days of the week, certain hours of the  
14 day. So, look for more on that when we get on the ground  
15 running.

16           I feel like that this 50 -- thank you for that  
17 Yesenia, the -- the fifty-six hundred dollars that we spent per  
18 sporting group is well spent for the number of a -- you know,  
19 hard copies of this thing that are out there. And I believe  
20 they're \$10 apiece or something like that.

21           AMBER OTT: Correct.

22           MAJOR JONES: And so I -- I go back to -- and I've  
23 said it before, I believe, you know, folks are going to spend  
24 \$10.00 dollars, if I spend \$10.00 dollars, I'm not leaving it  
25 in the seat I'm going to take it home and look at it later.  
Right? So I think it's -- again, money well spent when it

1 comes to the hundreds of thousands of these that we got printed  
2 for around \$25,000.00 dollars or something like that.

3 AMBER OTT: And with the billboards, once the  
4 contracts are approved, they actually will provide us a list of  
5 where those digital billboards are, and then we can kind of  
6 pick and choose based on our traffic control in that area.

7 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Tom?

8 BOARD MEMBER SLOAN: A question -- I'll get to it in  
9 just a moment. Amber, as a consumer myself, of social media.  
10 If I can go back to social media again, good -- good work. I  
11 know it's difficult being a PIO and doing what you're doing.  
12 Means that you've got to constantly create content because you  
13 have consumers who take it in and share it. And I want to  
14 reiterate to the task force and all the grantees that, please  
15 use and leverage social media. It's one of the best tools we  
16 have to inform our community of what we're doing. It creates  
17 more work for you. I know that because we share and then --  
18 and then it gets re-shared and sent back to you. But it's an  
19 evergreen, grassroots movement that our public can see what  
20 we're doing as a state and also as a local community.

21 And I think more and more agencies should be  
22 connecting with MVCPA, sharing and using your posts as kind of  
23 a -- a template, if you will. My question is, TikTok? When  
24 can we see Earl do a dance video?

25 AMBER OTT: We have not touched on TikTok because I  
know the government does not like the TikTok.

1           DEPUTY DIRECTOR PENCE:   Good answer.

2           AMBER OTT:   So I do have some ideas, eventually we  
3   want to do some PSA videos.   I bought some equipment, the  
4   microphones, the little readers, so you can read what -- what  
5   we're going to talk about.   So we're eventually going to get  
6   there.   That -- that's in my thought process.   I mean, most of  
7   the time when I'm doing social media, if I'm not sharing what  
8   task forces, I create all the graphics they love.   So I take  
9   y'all's DPS every other month, report that you send out for  
10   auto theft, and I create a graphic out of it.   It probably gets  
11   more shares than anything.   Every -- every other month I put  
12   that graphic out, and it's most popular.   So, we did a video of  
13   it this month I did a video and put the graphics.

14          BOARD MEMBER SLOAN:   So thanks.   And for the record,  
15   I am joking about that.   But I make a point -- I make a point  
16   that your consumers are of various ages.   And so if you can  
17   adapt your product to reach the different demographics.

18          AMBER OTT:   Right.

19          BOARD MEMBER SLOAN:   That's one way of doing that, to  
20   get it dry, otherwise dry content consumable.

21          MAJOR JONES:   Absolutely.

22          AMBER OTT:   And I think that's why we went for  
23   LinkedIn too, because like I said, in LinkedIn, you're reaching  
24   out more professional people that are on there for professional  
25   reasons.   Whereas Facebook, it's -- it's a different analytic.

          CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ:   I think I'm -- I'm going to

1 piggyback on that -- you know, the -- I think this is where  
2 we're at right? And, and I'm going to go with. What is MVCPA  
3 trying to put out there, right? What are we trying to -- what  
4 content are we trying to create? Number one. Number two, the  
5 demographic right? And -- and we know -- I think everybody's  
6 going to agree. The task forces, the ones that are -- they are  
7 leaving their doors open, are your 20 year olds to your 38 year  
8 olds.

9 AMBER OTT: Correct.

10 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: When we're talking about  
11 professionals and we're talking about the older generation.  
12 They're locking doors, right? They -- they're already valuing  
13 the amount of work and the cost of leaving your doors open.  
14 They already do that, and so if we're targeting Gen Z and we're  
15 targeting millennials'.

16 It's a very different environment for them in social  
17 media, and we have to make sure that we understand that, and so  
18 where I'm going with this is that I -- I -- I really think that  
19 we need to invest some money in putting some training not only  
20 for you, Amber, but I think all the task forces that are  
21 creating content.

22 As to really -- we need to identify that demographic.  
23 I know for Laredo, I identified that, that -- that demographic  
24 that is leaving their doors open and all that.

25 AMBER OTT: Sure.

CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Just by the people that are

1 reporting it, right? We know they're from 1991, 1988, 1999.

2 AMBER OTT: Right.

3 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: All those are the ones that  
4 are leaving their doors open. At the end of the day, they're  
5 being sometimes careless, right? And so once -- once we get to  
6 that generation, they're not going to look at Facebook.  
7 They're going to look at X, they're going to look at -- they're  
8 going to look at Insta, they're going to look at TikTok, right?  
9 And so, they're not going to read, they're going to look at  
10 videos.

11 AMBER OTT: Right, they do not read.

12 AMBER OTT: And so those are things that we need to  
13 really understand.

14 AMBER OTT: Right.

15 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: To make sure that we grow  
16 and we are ahead of the game when we're talking about  
17 awareness. So I -- I really would like the board to make sure  
18 that we get Director Diggs to get somebody that, first and  
19 foremost -- you know, train us to do -- create content train us  
20 as to what is exactly do we need to do to attract that  
21 generation. To make sure that they follow us on Insta(sic) --  
22 follow us on whatever platform that we want to put content in,  
23 right? And -- and I know that we're at that point where, you  
24 know, people are -- people love -- people love chaos, right?  
25 As soon as you put a graphic content, they're going to click  
that right away, right?

1           AMBER OTT:   They do.

2           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ:   But they are -- the  
3 majority of the new generation now is still they want charity,  
4 Right? They don't want -- they want to see what's -- what's  
5 going to happen, right? And so we need to understand all those  
6 things before we continue pushing this note, right? And so I  
7 want to -- I'm going -- I'm going to make that recommendation  
8 that we, that we get somebody. That we get somebody that can  
9 train us. And let's get all the task forces, right? To -- to  
10 make sure that we -- we understand what we're trying to do.

11          MAJOR JONES:   I assign Tom.

12          CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ:   Because again, we -- we  
13 want to be in Facebook, right? Because that's the easy one.  
14 We know how to navigate it, we know how to post, right? We can  
15 put a whole bunch of things -- it's like me, right? I go on  
16 Instagram as soon as you want to hit more, I -- I don't want to  
17 hit more.

18          AMBER OTT:   Right.

19          CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ:   I just want to see what the  
20 graphic is.

21          AMBER OTT:   Correct.

22          CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ:   And let's move on, right?

23                 And I'm -- I'm Gen X, I'm old already. So this is  
24 where we -- it's get very interesting, right? Because, first,  
25 we need to identify our demographic. Who are the ones that are  
really leaving their doors open? Who are the ones that are

1 being careless? And then we also need to know, like, whenever  
2 GM, Ford puts out a -- a announcement there that -- hey, you  
3 need to bring your car here because the module right now,  
4 everybody's using these other -- you know, tools to steel your  
5 car. We need to post that. Make sure that the -- the public  
6 is aware.

7 Hey, this is an announcement, right? You need to  
8 take your vehicle because they're -- they're turning them on.  
9 The KIA thing that -- that a lot of jurisdictions went through,  
10 right? We need to get very aggressive, and how are we going to  
11 get to that demographic if that demographic is not on Facebook?

12 AMBER OTT: Right.

13 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: So, I think that's first  
14 steps. And you're doing a tremendous -- tremendous job getting  
15 this off the ground, because we were at zero. So, I think --  
16 you know, kudos to you and the team. But I think we really  
17 need to get very aggressive with this. And I keep on bringing  
18 it back -- I know it's been a year about billboards and stuff  
19 like that. But then again, our demographic, right? They're on  
20 the phone, they're singing, they're jamming out. They're not  
21 going to pay attention to a billboard.

22 AMBER OTT: Right?

23 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: So, those are things that  
24 we need to understand and we need to pivot -- you know, in our  
25 generation, we need to pivot too and understand them before we  
continue engaging. So I'm -- I'm going to recommend that.



1           AMBER OTT: I mean, I like TikTok. I am -- I'm a big  
2   TikToker(sic).

3           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: DPS is on TikTok.

4           AMBER OTT: I love videos.

5           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: They're always there.

6           AMBER OTT: But again, that's something I have to  
7   visit with the attorney because I know, again, Texas DMV is  
8   anti TikTok. So again, that's something I would have to speak  
9   to them about.

10          CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And really Amber, I think  
11   we really need to invest in -- in making videos as to who we  
12   are, right?

13          AMBER OTT: Right.

14          CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: We can make a video that is  
15   awesome, very dramatic, where we're talking about Houston,  
16   we're talking about Dallas, we're talking about El Paso, we're  
17   talking about Laredo, we're talking about the Valley.

18          AMBER OTT: Correct.

19          CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: We're everywhere, right?  
20   Let's put some scare tactics into the bad element as well  
21   because they follow social media too.

22          AMBER OTT: They do.

23          CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: So we put that video saying  
24   that we're all over and all this -- what they're doing, I think  
25   it'll send us a different direction to where we're at, right?

          AMBER OTT: Yeah, I agree.

1 MAJOR JONES: Mr. Chair, member Sloan has volunteered  
2 to spearhead that.

3 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: There we go (laughs).

4 MAJOR JONES: For the Board, thank you, sir.

5 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: So, that -- that's my  
6 recommendation, Director Diggs. Member Whitehill? Member  
7 Cantu-Serrano?

8 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: No questions. Great  
9 information, great work.

10 AMBER OTT: Thank you.

11 BOARD MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Yeah, sounds great.

12 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: And great ideas too.

13 AMBER OTT: Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Alright. Any other  
15 questions?

16 AMBER OTT: Thank you, board. Thank you very much.

17 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. We're now  
18 moving to Agenda item 17, and I will turn the meeting over to  
19 MVCPA Director Diggs.

20 DIRECTOR DIGGS: Mr. Chairman, William Diggs,  
21 Director, MVCPA. First, I'd like to say -- before I finish up,  
22 I would like to say thank you to everybody for sticking it out  
23 throughout the day.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: (Phone ringing) Is that TikTok?

25 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: That's a Gen-Xer(sic) right  
there.

1           DIRECTOR DIGGS: Anyway, I think this is the agenda  
2 items you all have all been looking for, right? So the last  
3 one -- so, this is about delegating the Director of the MVCPA  
4 budgetary authority to navigate some of our budgets between  
5 fiscal years. In March of 2024, you did something very  
6 similar. You gave me the ability to navigate budgets between  
7 categories and strategies. But we've -- we didn't quite get to  
8 fiscal years, and -- and there are times when to -- I need the  
9 ability to navigate between these fiscal years for -- for a  
10 number of different reasons.

11           And a lot of times it's going to be for our inter-  
12 agency contracts, and so I'm -- I'm -- I'm here today to ask  
13 you; and this is an action item, to provide me with that  
14 ability to navigate between budget category strategies in  
15 fiscal years as needed to ensure the efficient and effective  
16 operation of MVCPA programs.

17           And so, that -- that's what I'm basically here today. I  
18 think that'll go a long way to -- to keeping things where I  
19 won't have to come back to you -- you know, over many months  
20 and -- and ask for decisions to be made. I -- I need that -- I  
21 need that affirmative ability today. And so, with that I'll --  
22 I'll pause and take any questions.

23           CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Any questions from the  
24 Board members? Thank you, Director Diggs.

25           MAJOR JONES: No, sir.

          CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Cass, are there any public

1 comments?

2 CASSANDRA FLINT: Mr. Chairman, there are no  
3 comments. Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. I will now  
5 entertain a motion on agenda item 17.

6 MAJOR JONES: I move that the Board grant authority  
7 to the MVCPA director to reallocate funds between budget  
8 categories, strategies, and fiscal years to ensure operational  
9 efficiencies.

10 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: I have a motion from Member  
11 Jones. Do I have a second?

12 BOARD MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: I Cantu-Serrano, second.

13 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: I have a motion from Member  
14 Jones and a second from Member Cantu-Serrano. Any further  
15 discussion? Hearing none. I'll now call for the vote. Board  
16 Members, when I call your name, please state your vote for the  
17 record. Member Jones?

18 MAJOR JONES: Aye.

19 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Whitehill?

20 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: Aye.

21 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Cantu-Serrano?

22 BOARD MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Aye.

23 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Sloan?

24 BOARD MEMBER SLOAN: Aye.

25 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And I Chairman Rodriguez,  
vote Aye. Let the record reflect that there are five votes for

1 and zero against, motion passes. Members, there are no items  
2 for closed session today, so we'll move on to agenda item  
3 number 19. Is there any public comment per agenda item number  
4 19?

5 CASSANDRA FLINT: Mr. Chairman, there are no CHAIRMAN  
6 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: None? Alright guys. Item 21, unless is there  
7 any -- there's any further to business, I would like to  
8 entertain a motion to adjourn.

9 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: Member Whitehill moved to  
10 adjourn.

11 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: A motion from member  
12 Whitehill. Do I have a second?

13 MAJOR JONES: Member Jones. I second.

14 BOARD MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Member Cantu.

15 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Nobody wants to leave.  
16 Alright. Members when I call your name please state your vote  
17 for the record. Member Jones?

18 MAJOR JONES: Aye.

19 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Whitehill?

20 BOARD MEMBER WHITEHILL: Aye.

21 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Cantu-Serrano?

22 BOARD MEMBER CANTU-SERRANO: Aye.

23 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Sloan?

24 BOARD MEMBER SLOAN: Aye.

25 CHAIRMAN MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And I Chairman Rodriguez,  
vote I. Let the record reflect that was unanimous. It is now

1 4:05 p.m. This meeting is adjourned.

2 (Off the record, 4:05 P.M.)

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## 1 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPTIONIST

2  
3 I, Mariana Novoa, legal transcriptionist, do  
4 hereby certify:

5 That the foregoing is a complete and accurate  
6 transcript of the original digital audio recording of the  
7 testimony and proceedings captured in the above entitled  
8 matter. As the transcriptionist, I have reviewed and  
9 transcribed the entirety of the proceeding to ensure a  
10 verbatim record to the best of my ability.

11 I further certify that I am not neither attorney  
12 for, nor a relative or employee of any of the parties to  
13 the action; further, that I am not a relative or employee  
14 of any attorney employed by the parties hereto, nor  
15 financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of this  
16 matter.

17 In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand  
18 this 29th of January 2026.

19  
20  
21  
22 \_\_\_\_\_  
23 Mariana Novoa

24 Legal Transcriber  
25

<b>\$</b>	<b>19</b> 101:3,4	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>\$10</b> 90:20	<b>1956.0321</b> 18:2		
<b>\$10.00</b> 90:24	<b>1956.123</b> 18:15	<b>3,000</b> 45:2,18 47:5	<b>70</b> 43:25
<b>\$100,000</b> 89:20 90:9	<b>1988</b> 94:1	<b>30th</b> 83:8	<b>718</b> 43:25
<b>\$100,000.00</b> 89:18	<b>1991</b> 94:1	<b>31</b> 50:19,20 51:1	
<b>\$25,000.00</b> 91:2	<b>1999</b> 94:1	<b>31st</b> 64:6,20,23	<b>8</b>
-	<b>1:05</b> 6:1,5	<b>35</b> 49:17	<b>800</b> 89:21
--our 25:11	<b>1:22</b> 16:10,12	<b>37.9%</b> 86:6	<b>8th</b> 9:9,11
--over 21:20	<b>1:32</b> 16:11	<b>38</b> 93:7	
--per 89:14	<b>1:37</b> 16:13,14	<b>3:06</b> 61:10,11	<b>9</b>
--sixth 79:25	<b>1st</b> 83:8		<b>90</b> 77:25 78:25 84:9
--then 70:21	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>990,000</b> 74:14
--whenever 59:18	<b>2.5</b> 85:3	<b>40</b> 72:25	<b>A</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>20</b> 44:1 93:7	<b>42</b> 25:22	<b>AAA</b> 88:23
<b>1</b> 31:21	<b>20,000</b> 46:2	<b>426</b> 52:25 53:2	<b>abilities</b> 24:25
<b>10</b> 16:10 49:8	<b>2023</b> 20:2	<b>432</b> 49:22	<b>ability</b> 12:22 40:5 76:16 99:6,9,14,21
<b>101</b> 70:11	<b>2024</b> 20:6 38:20 45:1 63:4 99:5	<b>440</b> 49:19,21	<b>abreast</b> 54:8
<b>105</b> 45:19,24	<b>2025</b> 6:9 9:9,11 11:1 20:8 24:6,12,20	<b>450,000</b> 75:4	<b>absent</b> 10:2
<b>11</b> 56:3,7,20	<b>2026</b> 6:6 17:19 21:3 31:21 56:13,23 62:5, 12 64:6 79:10	<b>47</b> 51:9	<b>absolutely</b> 12:23 13:16 39:8,25 42:10 47:1 49:6 54:24 92:21
<b>1183</b> 49:11,20	<b>21</b> 101:6	<b>4A</b> 12:25	<b>access</b> 26:16 53:14, 18 58:6,8,22 69:6,13 70:2,3 71:10
<b>12</b> 56:8 57:15	<b>22</b> 6:9	<b>4B</b> 13:2	<b>accessible</b> 58:23
<b>13</b> 49:12 61:12,24 63:2	<b>224</b> 17:8,22 21:25 36:11 37:22 56:9,22	<b>5</b>	<b>accordance</b> 6:22
<b>14</b> 6:6 19:11 63:25 67:6	<b>2305</b> 31:8	<b>5.7</b> 81:25	<b>accounts</b> 87:7
<b>140,000</b> 75:10	<b>24</b> 61:18 70:8 76:15	<b>50</b> 22:3 55:4 90:16	<b>accumulate</b> 7:2
<b>14th</b> 51:25	<b>25</b> 51:6,9 70:8	<b>500</b> 84:16	<b>accuracy</b> 28:21
<b>15</b> 68:2 70:9,15,21	<b>26.3%</b> 86:5	<b>5723</b> 86:12	<b>accurate</b> 7:7 18:17 70:1 82:9
<b>150,000</b> 75:2	<b>269</b> 49:12,16	<b>6</b>	<b>accurately</b> 71:23
<b>156.3</b> 78:24	<b>26th</b> 79:5,22 82:25	<b>60,000</b> 79:12	<b>achieved</b> 69:24
<b>15th</b> 13:5 31:24	<b>28</b> 70:9	<b>625</b> 19:17	<b>achievement</b> 69:5
<b>16</b> 19:9 70:15 73:21	<b>2:51</b> 61:7	<b>6K</b> 81:25	<b>achieving</b> 71:8
<b>17</b> 51:8,9 98:18 100:5	<b>2:56</b> 61:8,9	<b>6th</b> 79:5,11 82:25	<b>act</b> 33:6
<b>185</b> 70:7			



<b>action</b> 9:16 17:15 46:17 56:7,16 61:24 72:6 99:13	<b>advertisements</b> 77:15	<b>ahead</b> 10:25 12:4 16:7 21:15 50:4 58:12 59:6 89:17 94:16	<b>analysts</b> 47:15
<b>actionable</b> 71:21	<b>advertising</b> 84:11, 15,17	<b>aim</b> 32:25	<b>analythic(sic)</b> 90:12
<b>actions</b> 17:11,13 71:25	<b>advisement</b> 30:11	<b>align</b> 71:25	<b>analytic</b> 92:25
<b>active</b> 19:17 86:19	<b>advisory</b> 28:25 48:4 56:9,12,22	<b>alignment</b> 32:3	<b>analytics</b> 74:18 77:11,24,25 81:1,2 84:7 85:5,22 90:12
<b>actively</b> 22:3 78:9	<b>affiliation</b> 7:4	<b>aligns</b> 78:16	<b>anecdotally</b> 22:5
<b>activities</b> 31:19 35:5 47:24 82:10	<b>affirmative</b> 99:21	<b>alike</b> 23:24	<b>Angelo</b> 51:9,12
<b>activity</b> 17:25 21:5 24:14 28:25 32:6,22 85:6 86:6,15 87:2,8	<b>affirmatively</b> 44:19 45:20,24	<b>allegiance</b> 8:25 9:1, 5	<b>Annette</b> 31:1,3,4 33:20,23 34:6 35:8, 11,25 36:7 37:18,20
<b>ad</b> 74:8,12,22 75:7, 24 88:14	<b>afternoon</b> 6:2 17:3,7 23:25 31:3 36:3 42:20 56:5 57:18 68:5,6,12 73:23	<b>allocation</b> 28:21	<b>announcement</b> 96:2,7
<b>adapt</b> 92:17	<b>agencies</b> 26:10,11 27:6,10,19 43:2 44:6 48:9 49:13 50:22 52:3,19,25 53:1,19, 23 66:3 69:17 91:21	<b>allowable</b> 69:25	<b>announcements</b> 77:21
<b>add</b> 19:6,7 41:14 48:25 75:23	<b>agencies'</b> 81:1	<b>allowed</b> 25:9 74:12	<b>annually</b> 74:15 75:11
<b>added</b> 17:23 18:1, 14,23 45:9,10	<b>agency</b> 24:24 34:16 38:10 50:23 52:5,6,9, 15,19 66:20 71:13 99:12	<b>Allowing</b> 32:15	<b>anti</b> 97:8
<b>Addie</b> 86:2	<b>agenda</b> 6:8,15,20 7:19 8:24 9:8 10:9,11 11:22,23 16:4,25 23:20 30:25 35:25 42:18 49:8 56:2,7,20 57:15 61:12,24 62:23 63:2,25 67:2,6 68:2 73:21 98:18 99:1 100:5 101:2,3	<b>alpr@dps@texas.gov</b> 53:8	<b>anticipate</b> 38:7 47:8 72:11 85:11
<b>addition</b> 37:11 52:13 59:1	<b>agents</b> 19:25	<b>alright</b> 6:2 16:3,14, 25 17:11 24:22 42:17 56:15,19 61:11 98:14 101:6,16	<b>Antonio</b> 14:11 20:7 27:7
<b>additional</b> 12:10,16, 20,23 19:7 22:23 25:7 37:4,23 39:9 46:16 59:4 76:20 87:6,16	<b>ages</b> 92:16	<b>amazing</b> 48:14	<b>anymore</b> 65:21
<b>address</b> 6:14,18 71:1	<b>aggressive</b> 96:10, 17	<b>Amber</b> 41:23 73:22, 23 79:7,13,15,23,25 80:7,11,15,19 81:5, 10,22,25 82:8 83:2,3, 11,14 84:7 88:7,8,11, 15 90:21 91:3,9,25 92:2,18,22 93:9,20, 25 94:2,11,12,14 95:1,18,21 96:12,22 97:1,4,6,10,13,18,22, 25 98:10,13,16	<b>apiece</b> 89:21 90:20
<b>addressed</b> 52:7	<b>agile</b> 40:5	<b>Amber's</b> 82:5,12,17	<b>apologize</b> 17:5,12
<b>addressing</b> 7:4	<b>agree</b> 34:18 82:6 93:6 97:25	<b>amended</b> 31:8	<b>appears</b> 85:18
<b>adequate</b> 69:18	<b>agreed</b> 72:6	<b>America</b> 9:2	<b>appetite</b> 72:1
<b>adhering</b> 71:9	<b>agreement</b> 53:17 88:21	<b>amount</b> 13:11 49:1 62:13 93:13	<b>applause</b> 15:17
<b>adjourn</b> 101:8,10	<b>agreements</b> 53:19	<b>amounts</b> 70:19	<b>applicable</b> 71:6
<b>adjourned</b> 102:1		<b>ample</b> 62:13	<b>applicant</b> 69:20
<b>adjust</b> 76:16		<b>analysis</b> 38:1	<b>applicants</b> 34:10 70:5,8 71:4
<b>adjustments</b> 58:5		<b>analyst</b> 34:13 36:17 89:13	<b>application</b> 13:22 36:18 58:3 69:21
<b>administered</b> 69:16			<b>applications</b> 39:24
<b>administrative</b> 6:22 7:14 28:6 46:16 59:1			<b>apply</b> 32:20 55:2
<b>ads</b> 79:1 81:1			<b>appreciative</b> 30:11 38:22
			<b>approach</b> 38:6 70:18 75:25 77:2
			<b>approaching</b> 46:1

<b>appropriately</b> 71:1	<b>Astros</b> 74:9 75:12	<b>awareness</b> 41:18, 23,25 43:3 62:18 75:20 77:1 94:17	<b>beat</b> 10:25
<b>approval</b> 9:8 12:14 49:18,23,24 50:10,14 68:20	<b>attached</b> 54:8		<b>Beaumont</b> 62:6 90:3
<b>approve</b> 9:11 56:22 63:4 67:8	<b>attendance</b> 7:13	<b>awesome</b> 10:15 61:1,6 84:6 97:15	<b>beauty</b> 36:22
<b>approved</b> 49:20 50:12 51:8 54:19 91:4	<b>attending</b> 74:16	<b>aye</b> 9:24,25 10:5,7 57:6,8,10,12,14 63:17,19,21,23,25 67:18,20,22,24,25 100:18,20,22,24,25 101:18,20,22,24	<b>began</b> 44:25
<b>approximately</b> 43:25 74:14 76:15	<b>attention</b> 81:13,17 84:23 96:21		<b>begin</b> 6:10 7:12 33:11 36:16 85:22
<b>April</b> 12:25 14:10 15:1 72:13	<b>attorney</b> 87:23 97:7		<b>begins</b> 6:1
<b>area</b> 20:22 50:2 51:4, 7,18,19 86:24,25 91:6	<b>attorneys</b> 73:1		<b>begun</b> 33:8 70:25
<b>areas</b> 25:15 45:25 46:9 69:1,2,7 72:17 78:10 86:22 87:1 89:4	<b>attract</b> 94:20		<b>behalf</b> 34:2
<b>Arizona</b> 86:3	<b>attractive</b> 34:5	<b>B</b>	<b>belongings</b> 42:4
<b>arrest</b> 20:7,25	<b>audience</b> 12:3 14:3 15:17 76:24 77:24 78:11 85:17 98:24	<b>BA</b> 37:12	<b>BENAVIDES</b> 23:5 89:12
<b>arrested</b> 20:25	<b>audiences</b> 74:12 75:22 84:12 85:13	<b>back</b> 8:7,18 15:23 16:9,11,13 23:10 33:17 35:1 40:6 42:24 45:17 46:16 48:13,14 53:10,11 60:10 61:7,10,12,17 66:9,12 80:3 90:22 91:10,18 96:18 99:19	<b>benefit</b> 85:12
<b>arrests</b> 20:3,11	<b>audit</b> 60:24 68:3,5,8 69:8 70:25 71:15,19, 20 72:4,9,15,19,24 73:15,19	<b>back-end</b> 37:15	<b>Berry</b> 17:6
<b>arrow</b> 41:17	<b>auditor</b> 40:7 57:16, 19,20 68:9,10,14	<b>background</b> 20:2	<b>bids</b> 76:5
<b>article</b> 83:19,23,25	<b>auditors</b> 57:24 73:1, 4	<b>backwards</b> 74:21	<b>big</b> 25:21 26:21 28:14 97:1
<b>articles</b> 83:15	<b>Aug</b> 51:25	<b>bad</b> 48:18 97:20	<b>bigger</b> 47:20 59:12
<b>artificial</b> 11:16	<b>August</b> 64:6,20,23	<b>badge</b> 50:11	<b>biggest</b> 28:13
<b>aspect</b> 66:23	<b>Austin</b> 29:9 34:15	<b>Barron</b> 14:2 36:1,3,4 40:18 42:6,9,13,16	<b>bill</b> 17:8,22 21:25 31:12 43:24 44:2,21 56:9,22
<b>assess</b> 70:25	<b>authority</b> 6:4 7:15, 16 58:20 99:4 100:6	<b>Barry</b> 17:1	<b>billboard</b> 74:4 76:4, 12 77:14 90:4 96:21
<b>assessment</b> 69:1	<b>auto</b> 10:18 11:1,13 24:12 25:14,25 26:13,25 27:14 28:18 29:18 31:9 41:17,19 77:8 86:3 87:20,21 92:10	<b>Barzon</b> 27:17	<b>billboards</b> 76:13,14, 21 77:5 89:15,21,23 91:3,5 96:18
<b>assets</b> 14:20	<b>automated</b> 39:24	<b>base</b> 26:23 85:20	<b>bit</b> 10:23 12:3 23:23 36:8,9 43:1 55:10,17
<b>assign</b> 95:11	<b>automatic</b> 53:17	<b>baseball</b> 74:10	<b>block</b> 78:7,14
<b>assigned</b> 25:20	<b>average</b> 19:13 79:21	<b>based</b> 76:16 84:4,12 86:23 90:12 91:6	<b>board</b> 6:3,5,14,23 7:4,14,20,21,24,25 8:8,11,12,13,18,20, 21 9:11,13,22,23,25 10:5 11:16 12:10,25 13:10,25 14:17 15:15,22 16:1,5,8,15, 18,20,24 17:7 21:14, 16 23:25 28:25 30:21,22,23 31:4 35:14,15,17,19,22 36:4 40:16 42:21 48:25 56:1,5,8,21 57:1,4,8,10,12 58:6 61:4,5,14,23,25 62:3,
<b>assist</b> 6:24 7:5,6 17:17 52:3,5	<b>Avitia</b> 39:18	<b>baseline</b> 72:7 86:18	
<b>assistance</b> 19:25 20:8 46:3 55:24	<b>award</b> 70:19	<b>basically</b> 49:17 74:25 75:19 76:12 83:24 99:17	
<b>assistant</b> 15:15 39:20	<b>awarded</b> 70:23	<b>basis</b> 41:10 80:2	
<b>association</b> 24:13 86:3 87:23	<b>aware</b> 15:10 52:11, 12 96:6	<b>basketball</b> 75:3	
		<b>battle</b> 55:22	
		<b>Bay</b> 51:17	

21 63:3,4,7,8,13,15, 19,21,23 64:2,5,24 67:7,8,11,12,15,20, 22,24 68:6,12 69:21 71:21 72:8,22 73:23 78:1 82:4 91:8 92:14, 19 94:17 98:4,8,11, 12,16 99:24 100:6, 12,15,20,22,24 101:9,14,20,22,24	84:16 99:14 100:7	<b>camera</b> 16:17,23 50:3 53:18 54:21,22 55:3,4 61:20 64:22 66:15	<b>Castle</b> 64:9
<b>boards</b> 76:19	<b>budget's</b> 89:18	<b>cameras</b> 49:11 50:23,24 51:1,4 52:11,14,15,16,17, 18,24,25 53:15,21 54:16,19 55:1,11 62:15	<b>Castro</b> 57:16,20 59:4
<b>book</b> 56:8 89:14	<b>budgetary</b> 99:4	<b>campaign</b> 76:4,11	<b>catalytic</b> 10:19 12:6 13:10 17:9,22,23,25 18:3,6,8,10,16,18,19, 20,24 19:6 20:13,16, 18,23 22:1,4,7,11 27:1 28:4,16 31:10 43:4,20 44:12 45:15 47:20,25 61:16,25 62:4 64:4 83:16
<b>border</b> 54:3	<b>budgeted</b> 89:20	<b>campaigns</b> 80:21	<b>categories</b> 25:3 69:13 70:17 99:7 100:8
<b>bottom</b> 78:19 82:2	<b>budgets</b> 99:4,6	<b>Cantu</b> 8:13 16:8,15 63:9 67:12 101:14	<b>category</b> 70:20,21, 22,23 99:14
<b>bought</b> 92:3	<b>bug</b> 54:13	<b>Cantu-</b> 23:6 35:20	<b>caucus</b> 53:25 54:6
<b>box</b> 36:18 85:24	<b>build</b> 14:14 24:8	<b>Cantu-serrano</b> 8:18 10:2 16:5 22:25 23:2, 11 30:21,22 35:18, 19,22 57:9,10 61:2,4 63:8,13,20,21 67:12, 21,22 98:7,11 100:12,14,21,22 101:14,21,22	<b>caught</b> 10:10
<b>Boy</b> 59:11	<b>built</b> 42:13	<b>capabilities</b> 24:25 28:20 32:14 36:24 41:2	<b>caused</b> 79:18
<b>branch</b> 51:7 64:11	<b>Bulverde</b> 64:8	<b>capacity</b> 44:13	<b>center</b> 43:17
<b>brand</b> 75:20	<b>bunch</b> 10:13 41:24 95:15	<b>captain</b> 17:1,6 53:10	<b>chain</b> 66:9
<b>branded</b> 90:6	<b>burglaries</b> 10:19	<b>capture</b> 30:10	<b>chair</b> 7:9,15 54:14 98:1
<b>branding</b> 75:19	<b>business</b> 17:25 18:16,20 20:22 23:13 36:17 38:1 40:21 43:3 44:25 66:16,17 101:7	<b>capturing</b> 26:25 27:5	<b>Chair's</b> 10:9
<b>Brandy</b> 29:20	<b>businesses</b> 17:13 22:6	<b>car</b> 43:13 55:14,15 80:21 96:3,5	<b>chairman</b> 6:2 7:24 8:9,12,17,21 9:7,15, 20,25 10:1,4,6 11:25 13:1 15:2,25 16:3,14, 18,22,25 17:7 21:13 22:25 23:2,6,10,19 29:4 30:1,13,20,24, 25 31:3 33:16,21 34:3,18 35:13,16,18, 20,23,25 36:3 38:16 41:5 42:7,12,15,17, 20 46:24 48:13 49:7, 10 51:10,14,22 52:22 54:15 55:25 56:2,5, 14,17,19,21,24 57:2, 7,9,11,13 59:6,10,13, 15 60:21 61:6,11,14 62:22,25 63:1,6,10, 14,18,20,22,24 64:2, 25 66:25 67:3,5,10, 13,19,21,23,25 68:6 72:21 73:20,23 79:4, 11,14,20,25 80:4,8, 13,16 81:2,21,23 82:3 83:10 84:5 88:6
<b>Braunfels</b> 62:10 64:14	<b>busy</b> 17:16	<b>care</b> 65:21 66:5,10, 24	
<b>break</b> 16:6,7,10 61:7	<b>butcher</b> 39:23	<b>careless</b> 94:5 96:1	
<b>breakdown</b> 24:23	<b>button</b> 17:12 58:12, 18	<b>Carrollton</b> 62:7 64:9	
<b>bridge</b> 32:1	<b>buy</b> 43:13	<b>cars</b> 82:19	
<b>briefing</b> 17:2	<b>buying</b> 20:18 31:10	<b>Case</b> 19:11	
<b>Briggs</b> 21:15,17	<hr/> <b>C</b> <hr/>	<b>Cass</b> 9:16 56:16 62:23 67:1 99:25	
<b>brilliant</b> 59:8	<b>Caddo</b> 64:9	<b>CASSANDRA</b> 8:1,4 9:18 23:1,4 56:17 62:25 67:3 89:18 100:2 101:5	
<b>bring</b> 35:3 96:3	<b>cadence</b> 85:21		
<b>bringing</b> 12:13 13:10,25 96:17	<b>Cadillac</b> 28:11		
<b>broad</b> 77:16	<b>calculate</b> 70:20		
<b>broader</b> 87:4 88:2	<b>calendar</b> 19:15 56:13,23 61:18		
<b>broke</b> 15:7	<b>call</b> 7:19,20,21 9:22 13:24 57:3,4 60:22 63:15 66:8 67:15,16 89:1 100:15,16 101:16		
<b>Brotherton</b> 8:12 10:1	<b>called</b> 83:20		
<b>brought</b> 30:2,19	<b>calling</b> 6:5 53:9		
<b>Brownsville</b> 62:7	<b>calls</b> 52:5 54:25		
<b>budget</b> 37:8 58:4			

89:5 91:7 92:25 93:10,25 94:3,15 95:2,12,19,22 96:13, 23 97:3,5,10,14,19, 23 98:3,5,14,17,20, 25 99:23,25 100:2,4, 10,13,19,21,23,25 101:5,11,15,19,21, 23,25	<b>city</b> 51:17 62:6,7,8,9, 11 64:8,9,10,11,12, 13,14,15,16,17,19 77:7 86:23 87:20	18 62:23,25 65:22 67:1,2,4 78:10 81:20 100:1,3	75:23
<b>challenges</b> 14:24	<b>class</b> 87:25	<b>Commerce</b> 71:13	<b>concentrates</b> 86:22
<b>chance</b> 8:15	<b>clear</b> 18:2,15 35:21 52:14 76:5 89:22	<b>commission</b> 20:1	<b>concern</b> 55:11
<b>change</b> 15:6,10 34:24 39:2 40:20,24, 25 41:1,4 73:24 76:15 77:9 84:25	<b>click</b> 58:18 94:25	<b>committed</b> 37:25	<b>concerned</b> 51:1
<b>changing</b> 15:5	<b>clicking</b> 80:11	<b>committee</b> 10:13 48:4 56:9,13,23	<b>concessions</b> 65:13
<b>Channel</b> 76:5 89:22	<b>clicks</b> 78:13 81:20	<b>committing</b> 35:7	<b>concludes</b> 21:11 72:19
<b>chaos</b> 94:24	<b>client</b> 72:16	<b>communicate</b> 47:4 71:22	<b>conduct</b> 7:13,15 44:8 68:25
<b>Chapter</b> 31:8	<b>close</b> 13:25 14:7 77:25	<b>communication</b> 6:11 32:2 61:23	<b>conducted</b> 20:15
<b>characters</b> 87:10	<b>closed</b> 62:20 101:2	<b>community</b> 36:25 40:25 46:1 88:3 91:16,20	<b>conducting</b> 20:22 43:3 45:4,6 46:10
<b>charged</b> 44:2	<b>closely</b> 19:25 33:9	<b>company</b> 50:8 65:8 66:20	<b>Conference</b> 24:13 87:24
<b>charges</b> 84:15	<b>closing</b> 32:21	<b>comparable</b> 85:5	<b>confident</b> 22:12 50:16
<b>charity</b> 95:3	<b>Clute</b> 52:20,23	<b>compare</b> 85:25	<b>congratulate</b> 15:15
<b>cheaper</b> 89:10	<b>code</b> 18:1,15 28:6 31:8 74:24,25 75:8, 24	<b>compared</b> 21:22 76:24 80:4 86:2,4,17	<b>congressional</b> 53:25
<b>checked</b> 10:24	<b>coding</b> 41:21	<b>comparing</b> 32:25 69:17 86:2	<b>connecting</b> 91:22
<b>chief</b> 14:2 15:4,13, 16,22 22:16,18 29:15,21 36:4 39:8, 20 47:1,6 48:25 55:3, 7 72:22 82:4 88:22 89:24	<b>collaborate</b> 27:6,9, 20 29:2	<b>comparison</b> 86:5	<b>Conroe</b> 87:24
<b>chiefs'</b> 15:19	<b>collaboration</b> 21:9 38:22	<b>competitive</b> 34:15	<b>consideration</b> 31:24
<b>choose</b> 37:6 74:9 89:23 91:6	<b>collect</b> 23:12,14,15	<b>competitor</b> 85:25 86:11	<b>consist</b> 69:22
<b>chose</b> 76:5	<b>Colonel</b> 22:17	<b>competitors</b> 86:6,7, 8	<b>consistent</b> 18:8 19:17 21:20 32:2 84:10 85:21
<b>Christmas</b> 10:15 80:23	<b>Columbia</b> 64:19	<b>complaint</b> 28:25 43:15	<b>consistently</b> 71:2 75:21
<b>Cibolo</b> 64:10	<b>combating</b> 11:13	<b>complaints</b> 19:22 21:5 43:13	<b>consists</b> 70:17
<b>circle</b> 16:9	<b>combination</b> 70:14	<b>complete</b> 6:15	<b>constantly</b> 55:9 91:12
<b>circulation</b> 75:17	<b>combined</b> 69:12	<b>completed</b> 19:13 71:18 72:12	<b>construction</b> 50:2,4
<b>cited</b> 28:10 45:22	<b>commanders</b> 13:20 29:6,14 52:6 60:23 65:3 66:7 80:25	<b>compliance</b> 17:4,14 18:25 28:20 29:12 43:24 45:4 68:22 69:4 71:6	<b>consumable</b> 92:20
<b>cities</b> 41:11 77:5	<b>commend</b> 10:23	<b>comply</b> 22:13	<b>consumer</b> 43:13 91:9
<b>citizens</b> 55:20	<b>commendable</b> 49:3	<b>component</b> 32:23	<b>consumers</b> 91:13 92:16
	<b>comment</b> 6:19,20, 21 7:3 39:21 65:2 66:2 101:3		<b>contact</b> 29:5,6,11
	<b>commenting</b> 6:17		<b>contacted</b> 83:17,25
	<b>comments</b> 6:23 7:2 9:16,19 11:21 56:16,		<b>contacting</b> 65:17

<b>content</b> 36:18 76:16 77:25 78:6,11,22 79:3,17 81:10,15 84:12,21,22 85:2 86:10,15 91:12 92:20 93:4,21 94:19,22,25	<b>coordinating</b> 20:1	<b>credit</b> 59:9	<b>dates</b> 72:6
<b>contin(sic)--</b> 11:20	<b>coordination</b> 31:12	<b>crime</b> 6:4 26:2 47:15 54:2,3 55:19 58:19 74:1 76:17 77:7 87:6, 19 88:3	<b>David</b> 56:3,5,6 68:12
<b>continuation</b> 56:9, 22	<b>copies</b> 75:10 90:19	<b>crimes</b> 24:16 26:2 54:2	<b>day</b> 11:4 41:9 60:18 76:23 79:17 81:12 90:13,14 94:4 98:23
<b>continue</b> 10:21 11:20 16:16 17:13 19:22 24:25 28:2 38:13 54:5 56:12 95:6 96:25	<b>copy</b> 18:6 75:9	<b>criminal</b> 35:5,7 88:2	<b>days</b> 21:19 71:15 77:25 78:25 79:18 82:25 83:9 84:9 90:13
<b>continues</b> 10:17 11:8 17:10 30:4	<b>core</b> 74:3	<b>criteria</b> 69:16	<b>deal</b> 17:6 22:7
<b>continuing</b> 24:24 32:8	<b>corner</b> 78:3,20	<b>criterion</b> 69:15	<b>dealer</b> 43:24 44:1,14 45:2,3,12,18 46:1,21
<b>continuous</b> 76:22	<b>Corps</b> 15:23	<b>critical</b> 33:2	<b>dealers</b> 32:19,20 43:19 45:19,24
<b>contract</b> 13:15 36:14 37:5,24 47:13 76:10	<b>correct</b> 33:20 79:22, 23 80:7 81:5 90:21 93:9 95:21 97:18	<b>crossing</b> 50:13	<b>dealership</b> 43:17 44:14 45:7 46:12
<b>contractors</b> 37:23	<b>corrective</b> 71:25	<b>crucial</b> 71:19	<b>dealerships</b> 44:18
<b>contracts</b> 76:7,8 91:4 99:12	<b>corridors</b> 76:25	<b>Cuero</b> 64:10	<b>dealing</b> 43:16 66:6
<b>contractual</b> 71:9	<b>Corrie</b> 42:18,21 48:11	<b>curious</b> 21:18,21	<b>decade</b> 14:19
<b>control</b> 91:6	<b>Corrie's</b> 47:3	<b>current</b> 13:8 23:12 39:1 76:6 85:5	<b>December</b> 6:9 13:5 51:3,25 78:16,18 79:5,11,21,22,24 80:6 82:25
<b>controls</b> 69:9 71:1,2	<b>cost</b> 26:15 76:20 87:19 88:14 89:16 93:13	<b>customers</b> 40:22	<b>decided</b> 31:25
<b>conversations</b> 6:12 12:12	<b>Counsel</b> 56:4,6	<b>cut</b> 26:15	<b>decision</b> 34:23 61:25 62:4,21 64:5,8, 24
<b>Converse</b> 62:8	<b>country</b> 8:25 89:2	<b>cuts</b> 60:9	<b>decisions</b> 69:22 99:20
<b>converter</b> 10:19 12:6 13:10 17:9,23 18:3,6,8,10,18 19:7 43:20 44:12 47:21,25 61:16,25 62:5 64:4 83:16	<b>counts</b> 74:18 90:12	<b>cyber</b> 71:14	<b>declaration</b> 17:24
<b>converters</b> 17:22,25 18:16,20,21,24 20:13,16,19,24 22:1, 4,7,12 27:1 28:4,16 31:11 43:4 45:15	<b>County</b> 27:13,17 62:8,9,10 64:17,18, 19 87:23	<b>cycle</b> 30:14	<b>declare</b> 17:25
<b>Cooke</b> 64:17	<b>couple</b> 10:22 22:21 25:12 28:9 47:15 57:22 71:15 79:16	<hr/> <b>D</b> <hr/>	<b>declining</b> 85:20
<b>cool</b> 52:23 82:16,22	<b>court</b> 7:6,11	<b>D.C.</b> 53:25 54:5	<b>decrease</b> 10:18 85:18
<b>coordinate</b> 21:8 71:16	<b>courtesy</b> 6:12	<b>DA</b> 87:23	<b>decreased</b> 22:2
	<b>cover</b> 57:25 58:2	<b>daily</b> 10:17 11:4 60:18	<b>decreasing</b> 11:1
	<b>coverage</b> 25:13 26:17,19	<b>Dallas</b> 51:19 75:7, 11,13 77:6 86:24 97:16	<b>dedicated</b> 19:10 31:19 36:16 37:22
	<b>covered</b> 87:20,21	<b>damaged</b> 32:24	<b>deeper</b> 19:6
	<b>Cowboys</b> 75:13	<b>Dan</b> 59:19	<b>delay</b> 76:21
	<b>create</b> 32:12 91:12 92:8,10 93:4 94:19	<b>Danaisha</b> 68:10	<b>delegating</b> 99:3
	<b>created</b> 24:21 53:6,7 57:25	<b>dance</b> 91:24	<b>deliverable</b> 38:12
	<b>creates</b> 91:16	<b>data</b> 19:23 23:14 26:20 27:7 32:5,25 37:14,15 38:2 46:2 53:2,4,23 71:3	
	<b>creating</b> 57:22 93:21	<b>date</b> 18:11,21 44:25	
	<b>credibility</b> 74:7		

<b>deliverables</b> 33:11 38:5,7	<b>develop</b> 38:13 85:8	64:1,2,3,25 67:9,25 68:3,5,7 72:21,22 73:19 74:10 80:24 82:3,4 85:1,13 87:18 88:15,17 89:1,6,17, 19 92:1 94:18 98:6, 19,20,21 99:1,3,24 100:7	<b>documents</b> 72:5 87:22
<b>delivered</b> 84:15	<b>developed</b> 32:9 73:25		<b>dollars</b> 88:19 89:9, 21 90:17,24 91:2
<b>delivery</b> 76:22,25	<b>developers</b> 36:20 37:13,24		<b>doors</b> 93:7,12,13,24 94:4 95:25
<b>demo</b> 39:22	<b>developing</b> 71:14		<b>dots</b> 23:17 47:6
<b>demographic</b> 93:5, 22,23 95:25 96:11,19	<b>development</b> 32:9 37:23 38:5	<b>directs</b> 75:24	<b>doubt</b> 47:24
<b>demographics</b> 84:20,24,25 86:20,21 92:17	<b>develops</b> 38:2	<b>disconnect</b> 10:16	<b>DPS</b> 17:1,2,5,11 19:18 21:10,11 26:6 27:13 29:8 41:10 43:2 47:15 48:10 50:8 51:16 52:17,25 53:7,11 54:20 62:16 64:21 92:9 97:3
<b>demonstrates</b> 84:11 86:13	<b>devices</b> 6:11	<b>discoverable</b> 78:22	<b>dps.texas.gov</b> 19:2 21:11
<b>depart</b> 49:20	<b>differences</b> 23:8	<b>discrepancies</b> 33:1	<b>dramatic</b> 85:18 97:15
<b>department</b> 15:16 17:25 22:17 24:2 31:6,13 33:10 36:5 42:22 43:15 44:3 45:12 46:18 49:20 52:24 55:7 64:18 68:8,14 71:13	<b>difficult</b> 33:24 34:15 91:11	<b>discuss</b> 12:13 25:15 57:21	<b>draw</b> 81:17
<b>department's</b> 6:22 7:14 17:19	<b>Diggs</b> 11:23,24,25 13:1,3 15:3 16:7 21:17 22:15,23 23:16 29:15 31:4 34:18,19 35:9 39:4,8 42:21 46:25 47:1,2 59:9,16 61:13,14,15 62:23 63:5 64:1,2,3,25 65:1 67:1,9 72:21,22 74:10 80:24 82:3,4 85:1,14 87:18 88:16, 17 89:1,6,17,19 94:18 98:6,19,20 99:1,24	<b>discussed</b> 7:18	<b>drawing</b> 82:25
<b>depending</b> 77:5 81:14	<b>digital</b> 74:5,17,21,25 75:9,23 76:4,13,14, 21,25 77:4,19 89:15, 20 91:5	<b>discussion</b> 9:21 57:3 63:12 67:15 100:15	<b>draws</b> 82:14
<b>deployed</b> 39:10	<b>direct</b> 59:2 60:25 86:16	<b>discussions</b> 24:15	<b>drew</b> 81:13
<b>deploying</b> 11:18	<b>directed</b> 21:10	<b>dismantled</b> 33:7	<b>driven</b> 43:13
<b>depth</b> 25:25	<b>direction</b> 73:16 89:24 97:25	<b>display</b> 44:10	<b>driving</b> 83:22
<b>Deputy</b> 8:2,5 39:17 92:1	<b>direction</b> 73:16 89:24 97:25	<b>disruptive</b> 7:17	<b>dry</b> 92:20
<b>description</b> 18:19 34:11 44:22	<b>directly</b> 29:9 58:6, 13,18 74:15 77:17	<b>dissolved</b> 56:11	<b>Dryer</b> 23:22 24:1,4 29:5,10 30:7,18,25
<b>descriptions</b> 53:23	<b>director</b> 8:2,5 11:23, 25 13:1,3,5 15:3 16:7 21:15,17 22:15,23 23:16 29:15 31:2,4,5 33:17 34:18,19,20,25 35:9,23 36:2,3 39:4, 8,17,18 40:18 42:6,9, 13,16,18,20,21 46:25 47:1,2 49:6 59:16,21, 24 61:13,14,15 63:5	<b>distributed</b> 74:14, 20 75:4,10	<b>due</b> 20:4,16 76:22
<b>deserved</b> 15:18		<b>distribution</b> 43:11 74:18 75:25	<b>dulies(sic)</b> 60:18
<b>designed</b> 71:1 74:6		<b>district</b> 50:10,12 51:8,11,21 87:23	<b>duplicate</b> 90:2,5
<b>desire</b> 13:7		<b>districts</b> 51:5,13	<b>duties</b> 10:17 60:18
<b>destroyed</b> 32:16		<b>dive</b> 10:25	
<b>detail</b> 36:9		<b>diverse</b> 74:12	<b>E</b>
<b>details</b> 18:1,14 69:8 88:10		<b>division</b> 17:5,16 20:9 31:6 32:1,7 33:9 36:2,10 37:18,19 42:22 43:1 45:13 46:4 68:3	<b>Eagle</b> 62:8
<b>determine</b> 7:16 69:17 71:4		<b>DMV</b> 12:9,15 15:3 27:13 31:2 34:24 38:16,23 39:16 40:7 43:1,8 46:8 48:9,20 68:4 72:11 73:5 97:7	<b>Earl</b> 59:19 91:24
<b>Determining</b> 18:7		<b>documentation</b> 18:7 46:8	<b>earlier</b> 45:1 47:6
			<b>early</b> 27:25 38:11 61:17 72:13 85:6,16 86:9,13
			<b>easy</b> 15:5 42:11 95:13

<b>echo</b> 22:16	<b>encouraged</b> 78:12	<b>entities</b> 17:9,17,20 18:16 19:1,6,16,18, 24 20:11 21:4 43:3,5 44:3 69:3	<b>expect</b> 49:5
<b>educating</b> 17:13 28:14 55:16 74:2	<b>encouraging</b> 86:25	<b>entity</b> 18:11,25 19:14 46:11	<b>expectations</b> 85:7
<b>education</b> 19:4 46:8 77:14,21	<b>end</b> 11:18 19:9 26:18 45:11,17 66:12 94:4	<b>environment</b> 93:16	<b>expected</b> 85:18
<b>educational</b> 85:8	<b>enforced</b> 24:20	<b>equipment</b> 92:3	<b>expecting</b> 31:23
<b>effective</b> 78:8 99:15	<b>enforcement</b> 12:21 14:22 17:4,15 21:7 26:6 27:10 30:5 31:15 32:6,7 33:14 35:3 36:25 40:15,25 42:22 43:1,8,9 46:3, 4,6,11,15,22 47:11, 18 48:1,6,21 53:25 55:18 60:10 62:2 77:18 85:9	<b>essentially</b> 56:11	<b>expenditure</b> 25:3 58:4 69:23
<b>effectively</b> 71:3	<b>enforcements</b> 87:18	<b>establish</b> 31:14	<b>expenditures</b> 69:25
<b>effectiveness</b> 72:19 77:25	<b>engage</b> 6:12 44:12 77:17 78:9 85:13	<b>establishes</b> 72:7	<b>expense</b> 60:14
<b>efficiencies</b> 28:19 32:12 100:9	<b>engaged</b> 21:5 43:5, 6,11,20 44:4,20 45:9, 14,21 46:14	<b>estimated</b> 74:20	<b>experience</b> 34:8
<b>efficiency</b> 45:5	<b>engagement</b> 74:5 75:16 77:24 78:6 86:7 87:1	<b>evaluate</b> 68:19 69:9 70:2	<b>experienced</b> 12:5 31:22
<b>efficient</b> 33:22 46:6 99:15	<b>engaging</b> 11:4 96:25	<b>evaluated</b> 71:10	<b>expire</b> 65:19
<b>efficiently</b> 32:17	<b>engines</b> 78:21	<b>evaluation</b> 69:12, 21,22 70:4,6,16 71:16	<b>explain</b> 35:12 51:5 55:1,9,13 83:9
<b>effort</b> 41:4 60:19	<b>enhance</b> 36:24 72:19	<b>evening</b> 83:5	<b>explained</b> 34:25
<b>efforts</b> 31:17 32:8 36:6,10 47:25 48:5 62:16 64:20 72:18 74:3 79:3 90:2	<b>enhancement</b> 28:20 37:4	<b>event</b> 32:24 75:5	<b>explaining</b> 34:21 39:9
<b>eighth</b> 14:10 51:3,25	<b>enhancements</b> 24:3 37:6	<b>events</b> 32:21 74:16 75:14	<b>explains</b> 83:10
<b>EI</b> 77:6 97:16	<b>enhancing</b> 32:11	<b>eventually</b> 92:2,5	<b>exposure</b> 76:24
<b>electronic</b> 26:22 32:13	<b>ensure</b> 46:20 68:21, 22 69:4,10,24,25 70:3 71:6,8,11 77:2 99:15 100:8	<b>evergreen</b> 91:19	<b>extend</b> 14:5 61:21, 22,25 62:4 64:5,24 65:20 66:25
<b>electronically</b> 32:16,21	<b>ensuring</b> 17:14 32:2 44:7,8 75:20	<b>evers(sic)</b> 59:7	<b>extended</b> 62:11,20 64:7
<b>element</b> 97:20	<b>entertain</b> 56:14,20 63:1 67:5 100:5 101:8	<b>everybody's</b> 11:2, 10 48:21 60:19 93:5 96:4	<b>extending</b> 87:3
<b>elements</b> 48:19	<b>entire</b> 11:14	<b>exact</b> 88:20	<b>extension</b> 63:4
<b>Elgin</b> 64:11		<b>excellent</b> 54:25 56:1 59:8	<b>extensions</b> 67:8
<b>eligibility</b> 19:19 68:21 69:13,14,19 70:7		<b>excited</b> 33:13 35:2 40:11	<b>extent</b> 17:25
<b>eligible</b> 69:25 71:4		<b>exciting</b> 14:7 24:7	<b>extremely</b> 53:25
<b>email</b> 29:1,10 53:7,8 66:9		<b>excuse</b> 31:17	<b>eyes</b> 25:17 73:4
<b>emailing</b> 53:9		<b>executed</b> 36:14	
<b>employed</b> 12:2		<b>executive</b> 12:8,15 34:23 39:17,18 72:11	<hr/> <b>F</b> <hr/>
<b>employee</b> 21:1		<b>existing</b> 45:18	<b>F-A-R-M</b> 88:25
<b>employees</b> 43:25		<b>expand</b> 45:25	<b>Facebook</b> 75:1,25 77:11,18,23 78:2 79:1 81:1,2,8 82:7 83:8,14,23 84:4,19, 20 85:2,5,12 86:20, 21 87:9 92:25 94:6 95:13 96:11
<b>encourage</b> 72:1		<b>expanding</b> 32:13	<b>facilitate</b> 70:4,18

<b>facilities</b> 25:25 29:17	<b>finalize</b> 47:10	20,23 86:16	<b>frequently</b> 25:10 57:25
<b>facing</b> 77:12	<b>finally</b> 53:22 69:25	<b>footprint</b> 87:4	<b>Friday</b> 83:18
<b>fact</b> 43:18 54:6,18	<b>financial</b> 29:21 68:20	<b>force</b> 13:20 29:6,13 41:14 43:25 52:3,4 54:17 70:7,11 77:13, 20 80:25 83:18 91:14	<b>front</b> 40:12 45:10,17
<b>Falls</b> 64:13	<b>find</b> 43:14 60:25 66:13 80:16	<b>forces</b> 11:2 12:7 23:13 82:10,16,23 83:15,20 87:12,18 88:2 90:3 92:8 93:6, 20 95:9	<b>FTE</b> 35:2 37:24
<b>false</b> 46:17	<b>finding</b> 78:1	<b>Ford</b> 24:17 29:18 96:2	<b>FTES</b> 12:2 34:24 37:22 73:15
<b>family</b> 10:16	<b>findings</b> 72:5	<b>forefront</b> 17:10	<b>fulfilled</b> 62:15 64:22
<b>fans</b> 74:16	<b>finish</b> 98:21	<b>foremost</b> 94:19	<b>full</b> 12:1 31:18 35:1 44:24 84:9
<b>fantastic</b> 59:18 60:19 88:10	<b>finished</b> 65:17	<b>forgery</b> 32:15	<b>fully</b> 12:2,18 60:4 62:15
<b>farm</b> 88:22,25	<b>fiscal</b> 70:8 99:5,8,9, 15 100:8	<b>forgive</b> 39:22	<b>fun</b> 89:3
<b>Farmers</b> 64:11	<b>fit</b> 77:7	<b>forgot</b> 15:13	<b>functional</b> 60:4
<b>fast</b> 38:19	<b>flag</b> 9:1,5 32:5	<b>form</b> 43:23 72:16	<b>funded</b> 19:10 21:2 47:16
<b>faster</b> 33:6	<b>flat</b> 79:20,25 80:5	<b>format</b> 76:13,25	<b>funding</b> 12:6 13:10 24:3 29:22 40:10 48:8 54:7 55:2 69:3
<b>features</b> 37:16 41:2	<b>fleet</b> 26:13	<b>formatting</b> 77:4	<b>funds</b> 24:23 25:4,9 26:12 74:7 100:7
<b>February</b> 72:12 82:1 87:24	<b>flexibility</b> 37:1,5,7 77:1	<b>Fort</b> 12:25 51:4,6,7, 8,11,12 86:24	<b>funneling</b> 22:10
<b>federal</b> 49:13,19 54:6	<b>FLINT</b> 8:1,4 9:18 23:1,4 56:17 62:25 67:3 89:18 100:2 101:5	<b>forty-six</b> 89:9	<b>future</b> 12:4,13,19 26:9 27:18 37:9 38:5 39:11 72:7
<b>feedback</b> 40:18 72:4,10,11,15	<b>flip</b> 60:2	<b>forward</b> 9:15 10:21 11:7 12:12,18 13:18 20:6 25:3 27:15 31:25 33:14 36:21 38:4 42:23 73:17	<b>FY</b> 63:4
<b>feel</b> 33:22,23 53:12 90:16	<b>Flock</b> 10:11 11:14 53:6 61:20 64:21 65:16	<b>fought</b> 53:15	<b>FY2025</b> 67:8
<b>feet</b> 66:12	<b>Flock's</b> 62:18	<b>found</b> 18:25 19:2 34:10 46:13 56:7 61:22 71:22 78:20	<b>FY24</b> 61:17,25 62:4
<b>fewer</b> 78:17	<b>fluctuating</b> 86:17,18	<b>Fox</b> 83:25 84:3	<b>FY25</b> 64:4,6
<b>field</b> 13:21 17:10 22:5 25:5,9	<b>fluctuations</b> 85:19	<b>framework</b> 31:15	
<b>Fielder</b> 57:18,19	<b>flyers</b> 78:15 79:8	<b>frameworks</b> 71:15	<b>G</b>
<b>fieldwork</b> 70:25 71:17	<b>focus</b> 17:16 20:4 32:8 74:3 77:16,23	<b>franchise</b> 43:18	<b>gained</b> 81:13
<b>fifty-six</b> 89:14 90:17	<b>folk</b> 12:20	<b>fraud</b> 31:19 32:9 33:3 34:11 35:6	<b>game</b> 94:16
<b>fig</b> 66:3	<b>folks</b> 12:23 35:6 47:17 59:23 60:10 90:23	<b>fraudulent</b> 31:16 33:1 87:21	<b>games</b> 75:5
<b>figure</b> 66:3	<b>follow</b> 80:11 82:6 94:21,22 97:21	<b>free</b> 53:12 75:6	<b>gather</b> 71:3 84:2
<b>filed</b> 6:8	<b>follow-up</b> 72:7		<b>gathering</b> 33:11 38:4 43:7 44:5,18 45:8,16,17
<b>filing</b> 28:25 43:15	<b>follower</b> 78:24 85:20		<b>gave</b> 89:25 99:6
<b>filled</b> 26:23 31:22,25 33:18	<b>followers</b> 75:1 78:25 79:13,14,15 81:14,		<b>Gen</b> 93:14 95:23
<b>filling</b> 19:10 33:24			<b>Gen-xer(sic)</b> 98:25
<b>final</b> 13:14 47:13 72:12 76:9			



<b>general</b> 6:21 56:4,6 78:5	<b>grantees</b> 12:6 14:13 39:3 58:5,17 60:7 68:21 69:3 70:5,11, 15,17 71:8 91:14	66:10,22 73:21 80:21 89:4 101:6	83:20,23 84:1 89:4 96:2,7
<b>generated</b> 19:23		<hr/> <b>H</b> <hr/>	<b>Hidalgo</b> 62:8
<b>generates</b> 82:22	<b>grants</b> 13:9 36:23 37:17 61:16,21,25 62:5,11,20 64:4,6,7, 22,25 69:16 70:23 73:12	<b>hair</b> 15:20	<b>hide</b> 15:24
<b>generation</b> 93:11 94:6,21 95:3 96:25	<b>graphic</b> 92:10,12 94:25 95:20	<b>hairs</b> 15:24	<b>high</b> 15:23 20:4 31:22 34:8 70:20 76:25
<b>genuine</b> 79:2	<b>graphics</b> 92:8,13	<b>half</b> 87:25	<b>high-traffic</b> 74:13
<b>geographic</b> 87:3,4	<b>grassroots</b> 91:19	<b>hand</b> 58:11,16 78:20	<b>higher</b> 76:21,23 86:5,7,25
<b>get all</b> 95:9	<b>gratitude</b> 14:5	<b>handle</b> 37:8	<b>highlight</b> 85:25
<b>give</b> 8:15 12:3 49:10 52:2 55:19 59:9	<b>gray</b> 15:20,24	<b>handling</b> 28:15	<b>highlights</b> 77:20 85:25
<b>glad</b> 12:17 40:19	<b>great</b> 25:8 26:5 29:4, 19 30:2,6,15 35:13 37:7 38:16 48:16,24 50:4 54:16 58:2,25 59:14,15 60:22 83:2 98:8,9,11,12	<b>hands</b> 25:16 74:16	<b>highway</b> 20:8 49:18
<b>GM</b> 96:2	<b>green</b> 6:25	<b>happen</b> 14:4 37:9 48:10 62:19 89:25 95:5	<b>highways</b> 49:17
<b>GMTS</b> 58:6,15 60:2 73:8,11	<b>grew</b> 15:20	<b>happened</b> 42:23 79:4,5 80:14	<b>Hills</b> 64:10
<b>goal</b> 31:14 75:19	<b>ground</b> 90:14 96:15	<b>happening</b> 27:8 48:16	<b>hire</b> 28:2
<b>goals</b> 69:5,24 71:8 76:5	<b>group</b> 90:18	<b>happy</b> 12:1 15:12 46:23	<b>hired</b> 26:3 31:18
<b>God</b> 9:3,6	<b>grow</b> 94:15	<b>hard</b> 40:25 53:15 87:10 90:19	<b>hit</b> 17:12 60:24 95:16,17
<b>Gonzalez</b> 68:3,5,7 73:19	<b>growing</b> 15:25 29:25 87:25	<b>hat's</b> 29:20,24 35:11	<b>hold</b> 49:25 50:1,5,16
<b>good</b> 6:2 11:2 15:25 17:3,7 21:1 22:13 23:25 29:25 30:5 31:3 36:3 42:20 49:5 52:1 56:5 57:18 68:5, 6,12 73:23 83:17 84:5 86:8 89:6 91:10 92:1	<b>grown</b> 12:7 73:15 81:25	<b>head</b> 59:11	<b>holding</b> 50:6
<b>Google</b> 78:21,23	<b>grows</b> 85:21	<b>healthy</b> 78:8	<b>holidays</b> 10:15 76:17 80:22
<b>government</b> 49:19 71:13 91:25	<b>growth</b> 12:5 78:24, 25 84:10 85:7,12,16, 19 86:10 88:9	<b>hear</b> 8:8,9,10 16:19, 20 23:3,7 24:14 35:21	<b>Holland</b> 64:11
<b>governments</b> 64:21	<b>guess</b> 34:4	<b>Hearing</b> 57:3 63:14 100:15	<b>home</b> 58:16 90:25
<b>grand</b> 63:4	<b>guidance</b> 12:14 17:18 18:2,15	<b>Heart</b> 83:17,25 84:2, 3	<b>homepage</b> 58:7,10
<b>grant</b> 13:6,22 14:1 19:10 21:2 30:14 36:13 39:10,19 55:2 57:17,21,24,25 58:3 59:1 62:14 65:19 67:8 68:18,20,25 69:3,5,6 70:2,19 71:5 73:12 85:11 100:6	<b>guide</b> 17:20 18:14 19:1	<b>heat</b> 45:23	<b>homework</b> 52:10
<b>grantee</b> 69:20 70:20, 24 71:5,6	<b>Gulf</b> 87:19	<b>heavy</b> 49:2 86:22	<b>honor</b> 8:25 9:5
	<b>guys</b> 15:11 24:19 29:3,11 30:8 38:21 40:24 41:21 48:24 53:16 54:1,9,10 55:21 59:18 61:6,7	<b>held</b> 87:24	<b>hood</b> 64:17
		<b>helped</b> 39:14,15	<b>Hooligan</b> 83:21
		<b>helpful</b> 14:4,22 26:24 45:8 46:2,20	<b>hope</b> 10:14 12:24 14:9 27:5,17 28:12 60:9
		<b>helps</b> 45:5	<b>hoping</b> 28:1 36:12
		<b>Herman</b> 87:24	<b>hot</b> 27:8
		<b>hey</b> 41:17 46:12 50:1	<b>hour</b> 87:20,25
			<b>hours</b> 76:15 90:13
			<b>House</b> 43:24
			<b>Houston</b> 51:18 74:9

75:12 81:15 84:21,22 97:15	<b>improved</b> 36:25	<b>informing</b> 17:24	<b>intended</b> 69:11
<b>Howard</b> 83:17	<b>improvement</b> 28:19 72:18	<b>infrastructure</b> 38:3	<b>intends</b> 69:9 71:15
<b>hundred</b> 86:12 89:9, 14 90:17	<b>improvements</b> 13:25 69:18	<b>initial</b> 49:11	<b>inter-</b> 99:11
<b>hundreds</b> 91:1	<b>Improving</b> 32:17	<b>initially</b> 50:21	<b>inter-agency</b> 47:13
<hr/> <b>I</b> <hr/>	<b>in-house</b> 37:2	<b>initiative</b> 36:11 74:6 76:12	<b>interacting</b> 78:2
<b>I-10</b> 49:17 90:4	<b>inappropriate</b> 69:6	<b>initiatives</b> 25:7 26:5 27:11 31:20 36:7 73:25	<b>interaction</b> 78:7,12
<b>idea</b> 30:2 48:16 52:25 59:7	<b>include</b> 17:13 32:11 39:5 69:14,19,21 75:24 89:24	<b>innovation</b> 32:4	<b>interest</b> 62:1 64:25 78:5 79:2 82:22 85:20
<b>ideas</b> 21:8 24:15 92:2 98:12	<b>included</b> 45:13 75:1	<b>insight</b> 29:2 71:21 72:17	<b>interested</b> 6:17
<b>identification</b> 20:14	<b>includes</b> 7:16 18:4, 17 32:13 68:18 78:21	<b>insights</b> 26:1	<b>interesting</b> 82:14 84:23 95:24
<b>identified</b> 33:7 38:10 69:2,7,10 70:7, 10 71:1 93:23	<b>incorporate</b> 73:10	<b>inspection</b> 20:5 25:6,19 27:14 28:3, 20 31:16 44:8	<b>interface</b> 36:25
<b>identifies</b> 18:11	<b>increase</b> 21:6 26:19 28:20 85:17	<b>inspections</b> 19:14 23:13 25:11,16,23 26:22 27:23,25 29:12 48:20,21,22 49:2	<b>internal</b> 32:12 68:3, 8,9,14 69:9 73:4
<b>identify</b> 6:17 7:7 32:25 35:4 55:14 69:1 70:5 71:25 93:22 95:25	<b>increased</b> 21:6,7 78:24 86:15	<b>inspectors</b> 25:20 26:14 28:2	<b>interstate</b> 49:16
<b>identifying</b> 17:17 33:7	<b>independent</b> 43:19	<b>Insta</b> 94:8	<b>introduced</b> 31:9
<b>illegal</b> 20:22 21:5 83:25	<b>indicator</b> 78:8 85:19	<b>Insta(sic)</b> 94:21	<b>inventories</b> 45:5
<b>images</b> 18:23	<b>indicators</b> 26:24	<b>Instagram</b> 87:8,11, 13,15 95:16	<b>inventory</b> 13:25 58:4 69:23,25 71:17
<b>impact</b> 28:17	<b>individual</b> 18:4,11 20:12 44:24 70:15 75:16,25	<b>install</b> 50:7,23,24 64:22	<b>invest</b> 93:19 97:11
<b>implement</b> 26:22 28:6 37:19	<b>individuals</b> 7:1 25:24	<b>installation</b> 49:25 50:5 61:20 66:18,21	<b>investigate</b> 19:22
<b>implementation</b> 19:8 43:9 44:2	<b>industries</b> 66:14	<b>installations</b> 49:22	<b>investigation</b> 46:11
<b>implementing</b> 30:2	<b>industry</b> 24:8 85:10	<b>installed</b> 49:22 50:9, 11 53:18 54:19 62:15 76:20	<b>investigations</b> 20:3 53:24
<b>important</b> 15:14 42:2	<b>ineligible</b> 69:3	<b>installs</b> 62:19	<b>investigative</b> 21:1 43:23
<b>importantly</b> 11:3	<b>inform</b> 47:18 91:16	<b>instance</b> 51:15	<b>investigator</b> 20:18, 20 87:23
<b>impose</b> 46:16	<b>information</b> 13:17 14:2,9,12 17:23 18:4, 12,17 19:25 20:17, 20,21 21:3,9,23 22:24 27:5 28:24 30:5 33:9 36:5 43:7 44:5,18 45:8 46:7,15, 17 53:5,25 54:12,23 57:25 58:2 64:4 78:15 81:7 82:18 84:2,18 87:11 98:9	<b>Institute</b> 71:12	<b>investigators</b> 19:11,25 20:17 45:3
<b>impression</b> 74:17		<b>instructions</b> 65:11	<b>investment</b> 33:25 34:1
<b>impressions</b> 74:21 76:22 86:12 90:11		<b>insufficient</b> 28:12	<b>investments</b> 24:25
<b>impressive</b> 46:25		<b>insurance</b> 32:24	<b>invitations</b> 74:6 87:17,25
<b>improve</b> 32:9 33:3		<b>integrity</b> 33:4	<b>invited</b> 87:22
		<b>intelligence</b> 11:16	<b>involve</b> 19:23 22:1
			<b>involved</b> 30:15 40:8
			<b>involvement</b> 46:18

<b>involves</b> 17:25 32:23 43:20 45:15 56:8	<b>Jones</b> 7:22,23 8:6,15 9:10,21,23,24 10:3 16:17 47:12 49:9,10 51:12,15,23 52:23 54:15,24 55:25 56:25 57:2,5,6 59:6,7,11,14 63:16,17 65:2 66:25 67:17,18 80:18,20,25 81:6 82:6,9,25 83:13 84:6 88:5,6,7,9,13, 18,25 89:3,15 90:22 92:21 95:11 98:1,4 99:25 100:6,11,14, 17,18 101:13,17,18	<b>Kit</b> 16:17	<b>learn</b> 36:21 68:25
<b>involving</b> 20:3	<b>Jose</b> 53:10	<b>knew</b> 50:22	<b>learning</b> 24:9 44:3
<b>issuance</b> 19:19	<b>Josh</b> 21:18,24 22:15, 19	<b>knocked</b> 60:16	<b>LEAT</b> 46:12
<b>issue</b> 7:3 10:19 51:2 52:9 65:21 66:24	<b>Joss</b> 17:3,4 22:22	<b>knowledge</b> 23:25 25:21,25	<b>LEATEAM@ TXDMV.GOV</b> 46:5
<b>issued</b> 51:3,25 52:2 61:16 62:18	<b>Joy</b> 22:18	<b>knowledgeable</b> 22:11	<b>leave</b> 82:19 101:15
<b>issues</b> 16:6 47:21 65:3 71:25	<b>July</b> 24:5	<b>kudos</b> 96:16	<b>leaving</b> 90:24 93:7, 13,24 94:4 95:25
<b>item</b> 6:15,17,20 7:19 8:24 9:8,17 10:9 11:22 16:4,25 23:20 31:1 36:1 44:23 49:8 56:3,7,16,20 57:15 61:12,24 62:24 63:2, 25 67:6 68:2 73:21 98:18 99:13 100:5 101:2,3,6	<b>June</b> 20:14 62:5,11, 16,21	<hr/> <b>L</b> <hr/>	<b>led</b> 20:7,11 27:14
<b>items</b> 6:8 10:11 11:24 99:2 101:1	<b>jurisdiction</b> 11:9 29:7 41:11,15 50:17 54:21	<b>lack</b> 20:5	<b>left</b> 6:25 58:16 66:13 70:13 78:3,7,20
<b>ITSD</b> 36:6 47:11	<b>jurisdictions</b> 41:12 50:13 62:17 96:9	<b>lacking</b> 65:8	<b>legal</b> 39:16
<hr/> <b>J</b> <hr/>	<b>justice</b> 9:3 88:2	<b>Lake</b> 64:15	<b>legislation</b> 21:22 28:25 72:13
<b>Jacinto</b> 64:12	<hr/> <b>K</b> <hr/>	<b>Laredo</b> 62:9 93:23 97:17	<b>legislative</b> 12:16,19 76:18
<b>Jackson</b> 8:21	<b>Kaufman</b> 64:12	<b>large</b> 26:25 50:25 51:6 74:12	<b>legislators</b> 85:10
<b>jail</b> 35:6,7	<b>keeping</b> 18:12 28:12,15 31:9 44:20 62:1 99:18	<b>larger</b> 45:25 46:1	<b>Legislature</b> 48:7
<b>jamming</b> 96:20	<b>Keith</b> 59:25	<b>Lastly</b> 18:23 70:2	<b>level</b> 75:25
<b>January</b> 6:5 31:21, 23 49:12	<b>key</b> 32:23 71:24	<b>late</b> 38:11 72:12	<b>leverage</b> 91:15
<b>Jason</b> 68:3,7 72:23	<b>KIA</b> 96:9	<b>laughs</b> 98:3	<b>leveraging</b> 32:11 49:1
<b>Jason's</b> 40:6	<b>kick</b> 36:12	<b>launched</b> 85:16	<b>Lewis</b> 68:10
<b>Jasper</b> 64:12	<b>kickback</b> 65:4,11	<b>Lauren</b> 57:16,20,23, 24 59:9,17	<b>liability</b> 50:14 66:22
<b>job</b> 22:20 29:19,25 30:6 34:11 35:13 38:16 47:5 53:21 59:14,15,18 60:17, 19,22 82:5 83:2 96:14	<b>kicked</b> 13:19 77:10	<b>law</b> 12:21 14:22 18:25 21:25 26:6,10 27:9,10 30:5 35:3 36:25 40:15,25 46:2, 3,6,11,15,22 47:18, 25 48:6,21 53:25 55:17 60:10 62:2 77:18 85:9 87:18	<b>Liaison</b> 24:4
<b>joined</b> 68:9	<b>Killeen</b> 64:18	<b>laws</b> 17:14,18 19:3 22:12	<b>liberty</b> 9:3
<b>joint</b> 27:12	<b>kind</b> 12:3 36:7 37:8 43:7 60:10 79:9,25 83:25 85:18 91:5,22	<b>layer</b> 33:2	<b>license</b> 19:14 54:7
<b>joking</b> 92:15		<b>leader</b> 49:1	<b>licensed</b> 19:16,18 20:19,21 21:25 22:3 25:22 43:3 44:1,3 45:12 46:21
		<b>leadership</b> 22:17 29:24 85:10	<b>licensees</b> 24:11 25:17 26:16 27:3 28:14
		<b>leads</b> 19:23	<b>licenses</b> 19:20
		<b>League</b> 87:19	<b>Licensing</b> 24:2 31:14
		<b>leagues</b> 88:23,25	<b>licensure</b> 44:11 45:11
			<b>lift</b> 14:18 49:2
			<b>light</b> 6:25

<b>likes</b> 78:10 81:20	<b>losing</b> 15:20	<b>majority</b> 95:3	22:18,22
<b>limited</b> 6:23	<b>loss</b> 32:24 82:22	<b>make</b> 10:9 11:10	<b>material</b> 82:12
<b>limiting</b> 87:9	<b>lot</b> 11:7,15 12:5	13:12 15:21 17:6	<b>matter</b> 19:8 50:13
<b>lined</b> 80:1	13:25 14:9,14 15:20	18:5 22:8 28:13	88:1
<b>lines</b> 38:10	16:2 24:9 25:11	29:22 33:15 40:3,15	<b>matters</b> 71:22
<b>link</b> 54:3 58:19 78:13	37:10 39:3 41:8,20,	48:10,17,23 50:5	<b>matures</b> 85:11
<b>Linkedin</b> 82:8,9	21 42:1 54:16,25	52:20 58:22 59:25	<b>Maverick</b> 27:13
84:25 85:2,4,7,16,25	65:22 78:18 81:12,	60:3 62:19 65:3,6,10,	<b>Mavericks</b> 74:23
86:19,21 87:9 92:23	13,17,19 82:10,14,24	13,25 66:5,9,23	<b>maximize</b> 45:5 74:6
<b>links</b> 75:1 78:14 79:8	84:21,22 96:9 99:11	89:25 92:15 93:17	<b>maximizing</b> 76:25
84:25	<b>loud</b> 35:21	94:15,17,21 95:7,10	<b>means</b> 16:2 53:2
<b>list</b> 18:24 29:5,13	<b>love</b> 73:1 92:8 94:24	96:5 97:14	91:12
58:13 91:4	97:4	<b>makes</b> 35:1	<b>measurable</b> 75:23
<b>listen</b> 60:25	<b>low</b> 70:20	<b>makeup</b> 84:20	<b>measure</b> 75:18
<b>literally</b> 49:16 51:25	<b>lower</b> 78:16	<b>making</b> 7:6 14:4	<b>measured</b> 86:10
53:24 54:6 55:12,22	<b>LPR</b> 50:8 53:24 65:8	15:9 44:22 88:12	<b>measures</b> 78:9
60:16	<b>LPRS</b> 49:11	89:3 97:11	<b>media</b> 74:5 77:17
<b>live</b> 17:21	<b>Lubbock</b> 62:9	<b>manage</b> 37:8	78:23 84:14,24 87:7
<b>loading</b> 36:17,19	<b>Luna</b> 39:17	<b>management</b> 13:7	88:13 91:9,10,15
37:12 40:23	<b>lunch</b> 83:5	14:1 36:13,19,23	92:7 93:17 97:21
<b>loan</b> 20:9		37:14,16,17 38:1,2	<b>medium</b> 70:20,22
<b>local</b> 20:20 26:6		39:10,19 40:20 68:24	<b>meet</b> 25:14 44:9
52:19 62:17 64:21		69:6,10 70:3 71:5,16,	68:24 71:16,17
91:20		21 72:2,3,5,8,14	<b>meeting</b> 6:4,5,8,13,
<b>locals</b> 80:20		89:13	14,15,21 7:6,11,17
<b>located</b> 45:25		<b>manager</b> 23:21	9:9,12 10:13 11:23
<b>location</b> 20:18 44:9,		36:16 37:12 44:17	12:25 17:1 23:20
15 45:7 46:12 66:14,		<b>managers</b> 44:17	24:17 31:1 36:1
16		<b>managing</b> 14:20	42:18 48:4 49:8 52:6
<b>locations</b> 44:1 76:25		<b>manner</b> 26:16	56:3 57:15 61:13
77:1 89:16		<b>manual</b> 59:1	68:2 73:21 78:1
<b>lock</b> 80:21 82:19		<b>manufacturer's</b>	98:18 102:1
<b>locking</b> 93:12		18:9	<b>meetings</b> 7:14,16
<b>log</b> 58:16		<b>map</b> 45:23 46:10	56:10
<b>logo</b> 75:21		50:22	<b>meets</b> 71:11
<b>logs</b> 69:20		<b>mapped</b> 50:12	<b>member</b> 7:21,24,25
<b>long</b> 34:17 35:9		<b>Marble</b> 64:13	8:8,11,12,13,18,19,
75:18 76:1 85:7		<b>March</b> 99:5	20,21 9:13,20,21,23,
99:18		<b>Marine</b> 15:23	25 10:1,2,4,5 15:15,
<b>looked</b> 86:1		<b>Mark</b> 17:1	22 16:1,5,8,15,18,20,
<b>loop</b> 32:21		<b>marker</b> 41:16	24 21:15,16 22:25
		<b>market</b> 34:15	23:2,6,11 30:21,22,
		<b>marking</b> 18:9	23 32:1 35:15,16,17,
		<b>Martin</b> 17:3,4 21:24	18,19,20,22 48:25
			54:15 55:25 56:1,21,
			24,25 57:1,2,5,7,8,9,

10,11,12 59:6 61:2,4, 5 63:3,7,8,10,11,13, 16,18,19,20,21,22,23 66:25 67:7,11,12,13, 14,17,19,20,21,22, 23,24 88:6 91:8 92:14,19 98:1,6,8,11, 12,24 100:10,12,13, 14,17,19,20,21,22, 23,24 101:9,11,13, 14,17,19,20,21,22, 23,24	<b>Michael</b> 23:21,23 <b>Michigan</b> 86:2 <b>microphone</b> 23:9 <b>microphones</b> 92:4 <b>Mike</b> 6:2,3 7:24 8:9, 12,17,21,22 9:7,15, 20,25 10:1,4,6 13:1 15:2,25 16:3,14,18, 22,25 21:13 22:25 23:2,6,10,19 29:4 30:1,13,20,24,25 33:16,21 34:3,18 35:13,16,18,20,23,25 38:16 41:5 42:7,12, 15,17 46:24 48:13 49:7 51:10,14,22 52:22 54:15 55:25 56:2,14,19,24 57:2,7, 9,11,13 59:6,10,13, 15 60:21 61:6,11 62:22 63:1,6,10,14, 18,20,22,24 64:25 66:25 67:5,10,13,19, 21,23,25 72:21 73:20 79:4,11,14,20,25 80:4,8,13,16 81:2,21, 23 82:3 83:10 84:5 88:6 89:5 91:7 92:25 93:10,25 94:3,15 95:2,12,19,22 96:13, 23 97:3,5,10,14,19, 23 98:3,5,14,17,25 99:23,25 100:4,10, 13,19,21,23,25 101:6,11,15,19,21, 23,25	<b>mistake</b> 22:8 <b>mister</b> 56:15 <b>mitigate</b> 58:24 <b>mitigating</b> 69:9 <b>mode</b> 6:11 <b>model</b> 18:5 19:14 54:11 <b>modern</b> 36:23 <b>modified</b> 76:20 <b>module</b> 58:14,17,20 59:5 96:3 <b>modules</b> 57:22,25 58:12 60:12 <b>moment</b> 91:9 <b>Monahans</b> 64:14 <b>money</b> 14:19 90:25 93:19 <b>monitor</b> 71:5 <b>monitored</b> 69:4 <b>monitoring</b> 68:20 69:13,22 70:16 <b>Montgomery</b> 62:9 <b>month</b> 19:9 92:9,11, 13 <b>monthly</b> 41:10,15,16 <b>months</b> 14:8 21:21 24:6 26:4 39:7,21 57:22 65:24 79:9 99:19 <b>Morgan</b> 23:22 24:1,4 29:10 30:7,18,25 <b>morning</b> 48:4 83:4 <b>motion</b> 9:9,14,20 10:8 56:20,24 57:15 63:2,10,25 67:6,13 68:1 100:5,10,13 101:1,8,11 <b>motor</b> 6:4 25:5,18 26:2 31:6 32:17 33:10 36:5 42:22 43:11,15,19,23 45:3, 12,13 46:7 58:19 68:8,14	<b>motorful(sic)</b> 25:5 <b>move</b> 8:13 9:10,15 10:21 11:22 30:25 35:25 36:21 49:7 56:21 63:3 67:7 95:22 100:6 101:2 <b>moved</b> 101:9 <b>movement</b> 91:19 <b>moving</b> 7:19 11:7 13:2 16:4,25 20:6 23:19 31:25 37:17 38:4 56:2 61:12 63:25 68:2 98:18 <b>MRE</b> 20:19,21 <b>MRE(S)</b> 19:20 21:20, 22 <b>MRES</b> 17:24 21:24, 25 22:3,11 <b>multiple</b> 88:20 <b>multiplier</b> 54:17 <b>Murillo</b> 68:9,12,13 <b>mute</b> 8:3 <b>muted</b> 23:1,3 <b>MVCPA</b> 11:8,11,23, 25 13:5 14:17 31:25 32:2,7 33:14 34:9,12, 20 36:22 37:18 38:23 40:19 41:7 47:2 54:9 57:16,19,24,25 58:7, 10,11,17 59:23 61:13,15 63:5,25 64:3 67:9 68:12,24 71:5,16 72:14 73:22 74:8,12 75:20,25 76:1,12,16 78:22 79:3 81:1,3,5,8 85:4 86:5,10 88:1,18 89:13 91:22 93:2 98:19,21 99:3,16 100:7 <b>MVCPA's</b> 68:25 73:25 77:2,12 78:2 85:25 86:16 87:4 <b>Myers</b> 29:20
<b>members</b> 7:20 9:22 11:21,25 17:7 21:14 30:21 31:4,19 35:14 36:4 42:21 48:25 56:6 57:4 58:6 61:14 63:15 64:2 67:16 68:6 72:22 82:4 99:24 100:16 101:1, 16 <b>Mena</b> 53:11 <b>mention</b> 54:9 <b>mentioned</b> 15:12,13 36:12 37:12,18 50:24 51:20 <b>mentioning</b> 40:20 <b>message</b> 76:19 82:18 <b>messages</b> 77:7 <b>messaging</b> 75:21 76:15 77:2,9,13,20 <b>met</b> 56:10 76:5 <b>metal</b> 17:9,17,18,20 18:25 19:1,5,16,18, 24 20:10 21:4 31:10 43:25 <b>metals</b> 19:3,11 20:3 21:8,10 <b>method</b> 70:17 75:17 <b>methodology</b> 69:15,16 <b>methods</b> 70:14 <b>metrics</b> 48:14 85:15 86:17 <b>metropolitan</b> 87:1 <b>Mexia</b> 64:13	<b>mileages</b> 28:4 <b>millennials'</b> 93:15 <b>Mills</b> 64:9 <b>mind</b> 19:4 55:6,8,9 65:18,20 <b>minute</b> 6:25 16:10 40:13 54:12,13 61:7 <b>minutes</b> 6:23,25 9:9, 11,12 60:12 <b>missing</b> 26:25 <b>mission</b> 10:17 54:5 74:1 <b>misspeak</b> 39:23		

N	O		
<b>names</b> 60:23	<b>objective</b> 40:2 68:18,19	<b>operation</b> 20:15,16 27:12 99:16	<b>outstanding</b> 88:9
<b>nation</b> 9:3 54:7,11	<b>objectively</b> 71:24	<b>operational</b> 28:19 62:15 64:23 100:8	<b>oversight</b> 12:11 28:18 68:19,22
<b>National</b> 71:11	<b>objectives</b> 11:17 72:1	<b>operations</b> 20:1,7, 10 22:1 25:5,9 26:7 33:5	<b>overview</b> 58:3
<b>nationally</b> 87:5	<b>obligations</b> 71:9	<b>opinion</b> 22:10	<b>owner</b> 20:23,24,25
<b>nature</b> 44:11	<b>obtain</b> 72:17	<b>opportunities</b> 21:9 31:16 40:12	<b>owners</b> 72:6
<b>navigate</b> 12:10 13:9, 22 39:3 40:5,24,25 58:8 60:11 73:8,11 89:25 95:14 99:4,6,9, 14	<b>obtained</b> 20:8,20,25	<b>opportunity</b> 33:12 39:12 68:24 72:4,15 73:9	<b>ownership</b> 18:7 72:2
<b>navigated</b> 72:24	<b>obtaining</b> 18:4,6	<b>opt</b> 22:9	
<b>navigating</b> 61:20	<b>Occupations</b> 18:1, 15 31:8	<b>option</b> 37:7	<b>P</b>
<b>necessarily</b> 27:4	<b>occur</b> 66:21 69:7	<b>order</b> 6:6 33:11 53:4 70:4	<b>p.m.</b> 6:1,5 16:10,12, 13,14 61:9,10,11 102:1,2
<b>necessity</b> 61:21	<b>occurred</b> 44:25	<b>organic</b> 78:25 84:10	<b>pace</b> 24:9
<b>needed</b> 13:12 32:8 38:3 41:22 54:4 99:15	<b>occurring</b> 45:16	<b>organically</b> 79:2	<b>pages</b> 58:9
<b>network</b> 11:14	<b>October</b> 9:9,11 65:23 80:4	<b>organization</b> 11:5 24:7,15 86:23 87:5	<b>paid</b> 84:11
<b>newly</b> 85:15	<b>odd</b> 44:1	<b>organizational</b> 40:20 72:1	<b>Palmer</b> 64:14
<b>news</b> 28:24 83:25 84:3	<b>offenses</b> 35:7	<b>organizations</b> 26:10 34:12 86:1,11	<b>paper</b> 32:14
<b>nice</b> 48:3	<b>offering</b> 89:22	<b>organizations'</b> 34:2	<b>paperwork</b> 20:13,25
<b>NIST</b> 71:11	<b>office</b> 6:9 12:15 27:13,17 34:23 39:17 44:16	<b>organized</b> 47:23,24 54:3	<b>parallel</b> 85:8
<b>non-mvcpa</b> 52:3	<b>Officer</b> 14:2 15:4 29:21 36:5 37:14	<b>original</b> 89:11	<b>park</b> 60:17
<b>nonetheless</b> 10:21	<b>officers</b> 20:9,10 46:6	<b>originally</b> 31:18	<b>part</b> 10:14 11:2 18:12 24:12 25:12,14,25 26:25 27:14 31:9 41:18 52:4 55:24 60:20 68:25 71:13
<b>normal</b> 80:2 87:17	<b>offices</b> 27:18	<b>Ott</b> 73:22,23 79:7,13, 15,23,25 80:7,11,15, 19 81:5,10,22,25 83:3,11,14 84:7 88:8, 11,15 90:21 91:3,25 92:2,18,22 93:9,25 94:2,11,12,14 95:1, 18,21 96:12,22 97:1, 4,6,13,18,22,25 98:10,13,16	<b>participate</b> 36:20
<b>normalize</b> 85:22	<b>official</b> 12:13,24	<b>Outdoor</b> 76:5	<b>participating</b> 28:25
<b>note</b> 6:7 30:7,8 95:6	<b>officially</b> 70:25	<b>outline</b> 24:22	<b>particular(sic)</b> 77:19
<b>notice</b> 6:7 15:22	<b>OGC</b> 76:9	<b>outreach</b> 24:10 73:25 74:3 77:12,19 79:3 87:3,7,16	<b>partner</b> 28:18 48:8
<b>November</b> 78:16,18	<b>older</b> 93:11		<b>partnering</b> 37:18
<b>number</b> 10:18 12:6 16:4 18:10 19:16 21:19,21,25 22:2 27:1 56:7 61:19,24 90:18 93:4 99:10 101:3	<b>olds</b> 93:7,8		<b>partners</b> 26:13 32:7 33:15 46:22 85:10
<b>numbers</b> 10:24 11:1 27:1 41:8 55:18 78:16	<b>ongoing</b> 72:18		<b>partnership</b> 22:20 34:9 40:25
	<b>online</b> 19:5 22:25		<b>partnerships</b> 24:8 33:14
	<b>open</b> 6:3 93:7,13,24 94:4 95:25		<b>parts</b> 29:18 32:24 33:2
	<b>operate</b> 32:19		<b>Paso</b> 77:6 97:16
	<b>operating</b> 17:14 33:8 71:2		

<b>pass</b> 62:8 74:11	<b>permitting</b> 65:4	<b>placements</b> 50:15 76:24	33:17,18,23 34:1,11 50:22
<b>passes</b> 10:8 57:15 63:25 68:1 101:1	<b>person</b> 29:6 31:23 34:5 42:3	<b>placing</b> 70:17	<b>positioned</b> 73:25
<b>past</b> 29:18 57:22	<b>personnel</b> 17:10 19:10,13 20:5 21:6 22:5	<b>plain</b> 82:19	<b>positions</b> 19:10 25:19 31:21 33:25 34:7,8,14
<b>patience</b> 14:16 72:23	<b>persons</b> 54:3	<b>plan</b> 11:18 69:8 75:12 89:16	<b>possibility</b> 42:11
<b>Patrol</b> 20:9	<b>pertain</b> 6:19 53:24	<b>planned</b> 20:16 32:9 89:16	<b>possibly</b> 81:9
<b>patrolmen</b> 11:4	<b>pertaining</b> 65:4	<b>planning</b> 50:23 68:23	<b>post</b> 48:17 78:9,14 81:12,14,15,16,19 83:4,25 84:1,4,21 85:21 87:14,15 95:14 96:5
<b>patterns</b> 76:17 85:12	<b>pertains</b> 54:2	<b>plans</b> 72:6	<b>posted</b> 79:17
<b>pause</b> 99:22	<b>pertinent</b> 7:3	<b>plate</b> 45:4 54:7	<b>posting</b> 79:8,16 80:2 83:14 86:6,24
<b>pay</b> 20:24 34:16 78:25 79:1 84:23 96:21	<b>Pharr</b> 51:8,12	<b>plates</b> 43:25 83:19, 21,24	<b>posts</b> 83:8 91:22
<b>PD</b> 52:20	<b>phase</b> 15:9 38:4 68:23,25 71:17,19 72:3,14 76:6	<b>platform</b> 74:25 77:19 85:4,11 94:22	<b>potential</b> 19:24 68:21 69:1,20 71:4 85:7
<b>peak</b> 82:25 83:7	<b>phased</b> 38:6	<b>platforms</b> 74:17 85:14	<b>potter</b> 62:10 64:18
<b>peaked</b> 79:23	<b>phases</b> 13:14 38:13	<b>play</b> 11:8,15 58:13	<b>practical</b> 71:25
<b>peers</b> 47:3	<b>phenomenal</b> 22:20 47:4 60:17 82:5 90:4	<b>played</b> 39:18	<b>practice</b> 40:21
<b>pelt</b> 53:11	<b>phone</b> 60:22 96:20 98:24	<b>playing</b> 58:20	<b>practices</b> 71:11
<b>PENCE</b> 8:2,5 92:1	<b>phones</b> 6:10	<b>pleased</b> 6:3	<b>preliminary</b> 39:24
<b>people</b> 20:21 26:8 55:11,12,21,22 78:1, 9,23 80:11 83:19 85:1 92:24 93:25 94:24	<b>photo</b> 20:12 87:11	<b>pledge</b> 9:1,5	<b>premises</b> 44:8 49:2
<b>percent</b> 22:3 70:9, 15,21 78:24	<b>photograph</b> 87:14	<b>Pledges</b> 8:24,25	<b>preparation</b> 72:24
<b>percentage</b> 85:17	<b>photos</b> 81:16,17 82:22 87:12	<b>PO</b> 89:8	<b>preparing</b> 15:11
<b>perfect</b> 58:21 73:8, 13	<b>physical</b> 26:19 27:22 28:8 74:15	<b>podium</b> 6:25 41:23	<b>presence</b> 21:6 76:2 90:4
<b>perform</b> 71:3	<b>pick</b> 89:22,23 91:6	<b>point</b> 14:17 50:3 54:25 58:25 65:8,16 73:16 92:15 94:23	<b>present</b> 7:23 8:11,20 36:6 68:17 71:18
<b>performance</b> 77:23 85:6,20,25	<b>picture</b> 47:20	<b>points</b> 25:21 26:20	<b>presentation</b> 7:18 29:5 36:8 87:20 88:10
<b>performing</b> 86:10	<b>pictures</b> 81:19	<b>police</b> 15:16 52:23 55:6 64:18	<b>presentations</b> 10:14
<b>period</b> 78:25 80:2	<b>piece</b> 89:9	<b>policy</b> 32:2 34:7,13, 16 65:12	<b>presented</b> 24:17 53:25 63:4 67:8 72:10
<b>periods</b> 78:11	<b>piggyback</b> 93:1	<b>politely</b> 55:1	<b>presenters</b> 7:13
<b>permission</b> 7:9 66:17	<b>pink</b> 30:3	<b>Polk</b> 62:10	<b>presenting</b> 74:25
<b>permit</b> 49:24 52:2	<b>PIO</b> 91:11	<b>popular</b> 92:12	
<b>permits</b> 49:24 51:4, 25 52:7 61:20 62:17	<b>pivot</b> 96:24,25	<b>population</b> 45:18 46:21 70:5,9,11	
	<b>place</b> 6:10 27:8 62:2 64:23 66:18	<b>portion</b> 6:21	
	<b>placement</b> 74:11 75:19 76:22	<b>position</b> 31:23,25	

<b>press</b> 58:12	12	<b>provided</b> 6:24 14:17 20:17 25:1 26:18 29:1 40:10 46:17 53:23 72:8	54:21,22 59:24 66:15,19 69:8 87:10, 11 90:7 92:11,13 93:3 94:22,25 95:15 97:20,23
<b>pretty</b> 59:24 60:8,13 82:15,22 86:8	<b>procurement</b> 39:15		<b>puts</b> 41:10 44:13 96:2
<b>prevent</b> 47:23 48:15	<b>product</b> 15:12 75:15 92:17	<b>providing</b> 17:18 18:2 19:25	<b>putting</b> 11:15 47:6, 12 50:3 76:10 82:13, 21,23 93:19
<b>preventative</b> 28:11	<b>professional</b> 74:5, 8,13 92:24	<b>PSA</b> 81:18 87:10,14 92:3	
<b>preventing</b> 74:1	<b>professionals</b> 85:9 93:11	<b>PSAS</b> 83:15	<hr/> <b>Q</b> <hr/>
<b>prevention</b> 6:4 31:19 32:9 33:3 58:20 77:2,13,20 86:3 87:6,19 88:3	<b>program</b> 19:3,11 20:17 21:9 24:3,4,14 25:6,19 29:25 47:16 68:25 69:5 75:18 77:12	<b>PSP</b> 74:13,17 75:2,8, 9 77:15 88:21	
<b>preventive</b> 75:21 76:2	<b>program-level</b> 68:25	<b>public</b> 6:7,21 9:16, 18 13:15 19:2,23 20:19 22:17 31:13 41:23,25 42:2 48:15 56:16 62:23 64:25 67:2 74:7 75:22 76:1, 18,25 77:3,12,14,16, 18,21 87:7 91:19 96:5 99:25 101:3	<b>QR</b> 74:24,25 75:8,24
<b>preview</b> 12:4	<b>programming</b> 32:13 33:10 41:20	<b>publication</b> 74:9,11 75:8,16	<b>quality</b> 72:19
<b>previous</b> 28:1	<b>programs</b> 24:11 25:6,10,11,23,24 26:1,6 28:18,22 74:14 75:2,6 77:10 99:16	<b>publications</b> 74:5, 15,20 75:4 77:15	<b>quarter</b> 27:25 84:16
<b>previously</b> 26:14 27:12 28:5	<b>progress</b> 13:22 33:13 58:4 60:14 69:23	<b>published</b> 17:21 81:11,13 83:23	<b>question</b> 45:20 60:24 65:2 80:18 91:8,23
<b>primarily</b> 43:13	<b>project</b> 36:16,20 37:11,14,25 38:2 49:11 52:16 53:3 68:11 72:12 74:4 76:3	<b>publishing</b> 81:11	<b>questions</b> 19:7 21:14 29:3 30:20 35:13 38:14 41:24 45:9,10,13 46:23 52:5 53:12 54:10 55:7,25 56:14,15 58:1,25 59:2 60:6 61:2 62:22 65:1,22 67:1 88:4,5,10 98:8, 15 99:22,23
<b>primary</b> 71:21 75:19 77:12,19 78:8	<b>projects</b> 50:25	<b>pull</b> 50:17,25 77:25	<b>quick</b> 17:19 18:25 60:8
<b>print</b> 74:18 75:15,25 77:14,15 84:14	<b>promise</b> 40:6	<b>purchase</b> 20:14 22:9 75:5	<b>quickest</b> 46:6
<b>printed</b> 74:14,20 75:2,10 76:19 88:13 91:1	<b>promises</b> 88:12	<b>purchased</b> 18:10, 20,21 19:24 20:12 22:3 74:8,23	<b>quickly</b> 13:8 36:15 59:20,24 60:16 65:6 76:16
<b>prior</b> 18:3 21:22	<b>proper</b> 12:11 28:15 44:9 49:17	<b>purchases</b> 17:9	<b>Quintero</b> 31:2,3,5 33:17,20,23 34:6,20, 25 35:8,24,25 59:22
<b>priorities</b> 38:9 76:18	<b>proposed</b> 54:6	<b>purpose</b> 24:25 45:8 71:22,24	<b>quiz</b> 19:7
<b>prioritize</b> 33:10	<b>prosecutors</b> 85:10	<b>purposes</b> 50:14 51:8 55:18	<b>quorum</b> 8:23 16:16
<b>prioritized</b> 71:25	<b>prospective</b> 14:13	<b>pursuing</b> 44:21	<hr/> <b>R</b> <hr/>
<b>private</b> 66:14,15,20	<b>protect</b> 15:21 42:3	<b>push</b> 11:20 84:17	<b>Rains</b> 64:18
<b>problems</b> 74:4	<b>proud</b> 11:20 78:25	<b>pushing</b> 41:7 48:17 65:8 95:6	<b>ramp</b> 27:23 28:1
<b>procedures</b> 70:25 73:5	<b>provide</b> 14:12 20:2 25:1 46:15 65:6 68:10,21 72:4,9,15 74:17 76:21 84:22 90:11 91:4 99:13	<b>put</b> 6:10 15:21 23:17 35:6 42:23 47:14	<b>random</b> 70:10
<b>proceed</b> 49:18			
<b>proceeding</b> 6:1			
<b>process</b> 13:22,23 26:23 32:25 36:24 39:15,16 43:7,8 58:3, 22 66:6 69:15,21 70:18 72:6 92:6			
<b>processed</b> 36:25			
<b>processes</b> 32:5 68:19,20 69:14,22 70:4,7,16 72:16 73:5,			



<b>randomized</b> 70:14	<b>received</b> 21:4 72:10	<b>registered</b> 19:20	<b>remove</b> 50:9,15 66:13
<b>Rangers</b> 75:13	<b>recognition(sic)</b> 76:1 88:1	<b>registration</b> 6:16 31:6,18 34:13 37:19, 21	<b>removed</b> 17:25 18:6,24
<b>rank</b> 86:8	<b>recognize</b> 26:2	<b>registrations</b> 78:15	<b>renting</b> 26:15
<b>rate</b> 86:7	<b>recognized</b> 7:10	<b>regular</b> 44:8	<b>repairable</b> 32:10
<b>ratify</b> 62:3,21 64:5,8, 24	<b>recommend</b> 71:25 96:25	<b>regulation</b> 17:8 31:14 42:25	<b>repaired</b> 32:25
<b>ratifying</b> 61:25	<b>recommendation</b> 95:7 98:6	<b>regulations</b> 19:3 24:2 68:22 69:5 71:7	<b>repairs</b> 32:18 33:1 44:13
<b>re-shared</b> 91:18	<b>recommendations</b> 30:9 71:25	<b>regulatory</b> 17:5 21:11 47:19	<b>repercussions</b> 22:8
<b>reach</b> 29:1,6,10 30:10 46:11 74:12 77:24 85:8 92:17	<b>reconnect</b> 79:10	<b>reimbursement</b> 13:23 69:25	<b>replaced</b> 32:25
<b>reached</b> 46:5 59:22	<b>record</b> 6:7 7:5,7 8:22 9:23 10:7 11:25 16:12,13 17:3 18:13, 17,18 19:7 21:18 22:25 28:12,15 31:9 36:4 44:5,7 46:8 47:2 56:6 57:5,14 61:9,10, 15 63:16,25 64:3 67:17 68:7,13 89:12 92:14 100:17,25 101:17,25 102:2	<b>reinforces</b> 76:2	<b>report</b> 10:9 12:1,17 21:19 32:15 52:13 54:14 56:1 72:4,10, 13 92:9
<b>reaching</b> 84:12 85:13 92:23	<b>records</b> 32:17 44:20	<b>reins</b> 13:5	<b>reported</b> 22:5 32:25
<b>reactions</b> 78:10	<b>recreating</b> 56:11	<b>reinvent</b> 59:21	<b>reporter</b> 7:6,11
<b>read</b> 79:24 92:4 94:9, 11	<b>recurring</b> 49:4	<b>reiterate</b> 91:14	<b>reporting</b> 28:21 31:15 32:18 36:24 37:16 69:23 71:7,8, 19,24 72:3 74:19 94:1
<b>readers</b> 54:7 75:24 92:4	<b>recycler</b> 24:12 26:13	<b>reiterating</b> 17:18	<b>reports</b> 13:23 42:10 58:4 60:14,15 69:24 74:14
<b>readership</b> 75:16	<b>recyclers</b> 25:12,14, 25 26:25 27:14 29:18 31:10 32:15	<b>relate</b> 51:16	<b>reposting</b> 82:14,17
<b>readjusting</b> 38:10	<b>recycling</b> 17:9,17,20 18:25 19:1,5,14,16, 18,24 20:10 21:4 23:13	<b>related</b> 26:2 31:20 37:20	<b>repostings</b> 82:11
<b>ready</b> 14:14 16:9 73:8	<b>red</b> 7:1 30:3	<b>relates</b> 39:9	<b>reposts</b> 82:10 86:15
<b>real</b> 31:15 77:18	<b>reduce</b> 31:16 32:14 35:6 40:9	<b>relation</b> 17:22	<b>representing</b> 6:18
<b>reality</b> 73:3 90:3	<b>reference</b> 17:8,19 18:14,23 19:1	<b>release</b> 38:8	<b>represents</b> 78:4,20
<b>realize</b> 21:19	<b>reflect</b> 8:22 10:7 57:14 63:25 67:25 78:1 85:15 87:25 100:25 101:25	<b>relevance</b> 84:13	<b>republic</b> 9:2
<b>realized</b> 13:8 14:23	<b>reflects</b> 74:19 79:2	<b>relevant</b> 57:25 58:14 77:3 87:5	<b>request</b> 12:10 53:6, 8,14 64:5
<b>reallocate</b> 100:7	<b>regions</b> 25:21 29:8, 11 51:17	<b>reliable</b> 75:17	<b>requested</b> 54:5
<b>reason</b> 23:17 49:23 50:1 53:15 87:9 90:5		<b>reliance</b> 32:14	<b>requests</b> 12:13 49:12
<b>reasonable</b> 14:22		<b>relocate</b> 50:18 65:5 66:12	<b>required</b> 18:3,13 19:5,20 31:12 33:25 69:4 76:8
<b>reasons</b> 50:6,21 76:14 92:25 99:10		<b>relocating</b> 51:1	<b>requirement</b> 33:11 44:7
<b>reassign</b> 50:19		<b>reluctant</b> 52:17	<b>requirements</b> 17:24 19:7 31:9 38:3,14
<b>reassigning</b> 50:20		<b>remain</b> 12:1	
<b>rebuilding</b> 32:25		<b>remained</b> 19:17	
<b>rebuilt</b> 14:25 32:20, 22		<b>remains</b> 77:2,12,19	
<b>receive</b> 69:3 71:4		<b>remediation</b> 72:2	
		<b>remember</b> 86:20	
		<b>remind</b> 7:12	

44:9,10,21 58:3 62:14 68:23	<b>roadways</b> 32:19	<b>rounded</b> 70:22	<b>scare</b> 97:20
<b>requires</b> 72:5	<b>robust</b> 36:23	<b>routine</b> 19:13	<b>schedule</b> 78:17
<b>requiring</b> 20:13	<b>Rock</b> 15:16 64:15	<b>routinely</b> 47:4	<b>scheduled</b> 19:8
<b>resonated</b> 78:11	<b>Rockets</b> 74:23	<b>RSD</b> 17:2 20:3,15	<b>scold</b> 44:23
<b>resource</b> 28:21 88:1	<b>Rockport</b> 51:19,24	<b>rule</b> 6:23 7:15 18:25	<b>scope</b> 46:9,18 70:8, 12,19,24
<b>resources</b> 17:16 37:2,4,13 38:1,2 40:24 78:15	<b>Rodriguez</b> 6:2,3 7:24 8:9,12,17,21,22 9:7,15,20,25 10:1,4,6 13:1 15:2,25 16:3,14, 18,22,25 21:13 22:25 23:2,6,10,19 29:4 30:1,13,20,24,25 31:4 33:16,21 34:3, 18 35:13,16,18,20, 23,25 36:3 38:16 41:5 42:7,12,15,17 46:24 48:13 49:7 51:10,14,22 52:22 54:15 55:25 56:2,14, 19,24 57:2,7,9,11,13 59:6,10,13,15 60:21 61:6,11 62:22 63:1,6, 10,14,18,20,22,24 64:25 66:25 67:5,10, 13,19,21,23,25 68:6 72:21 73:20 79:4,11, 14,20,25 80:4,8,13, 16 81:2,21,23 82:3 83:10 84:5 88:6 89:5, 25 91:7 92:25 93:10, 25 94:3,15 95:2,12, 19,22 96:13,23 97:3, 5,10,14,19,23 98:3,5, 14,17,25 99:23,25 100:4,10,13,19,21, 23,25 101:6,11,15, 19,21,23,25	<b>rules</b> 7:13,18 17:14, 18 22:12 24:18,19 28:6,8,24	<b>scoring</b> 39:24 69:15, 16
<b>respond</b> 7:20 49:13	<b>Roland</b> 39:17	<b>run</b> 7:6	<b>scrapped</b> 32:16
<b>responses</b> 72:5,9	<b>role</b> 24:5,10 87:5	<b>running</b> 60:1 90:15	<b>scroll</b> 58:11
<b>responsibility</b> 46:9	<b>roll</b> 7:19,20 38:13	<b>rural</b> 89:4	<b>scrutiny</b> 22:8
<b>responsible</b> 19:19 71:14 74:7	<b>rolled</b> 37:11 38:5,12	<b>Rusk</b> 64:18	<b>Sealy</b> 64:15
<b>responsive</b> 77:3	<b>rolling</b> 39:6	<hr/> <b>S</b> <hr/>	<b>seamless</b> 32:2 60:3
<b>restrictive</b> 65:12	<b>Ron</b> 22:18	<b>safe</b> 35:10	<b>search</b> 58:14 78:21
<b>results</b> 71:18 72:9 73:18 76:23 86:9	<b>room</b> 6:13 13:20	<b>safer</b> 62:1	<b>searches</b> 78:21
<b>resurrecting</b> 56:11	<b>rotational</b> 76:22	<b>safety</b> 22:17 31:13 64:25 76:18 77:3	<b>searching</b> 78:23
<b>retaining</b> 84:12	<b>rotten</b> 53:12	<b>sake</b> 52:18	<b>season</b> 74:10
<b>reuse</b> 33:2	<b>Round</b> 15:16 64:15	<b>salary</b> 21:2 34:16	<b>seasonal</b> 76:17
<b>revert</b> 88:15		<b>sales</b> 43:11	<b>seat</b> 90:25
<b>review</b> 33:11 68:18, 20 69:14,19 70:10,23 72:4 76:9 78:3		<b>Salesforce</b> 36:18,20	<b>Secretary</b> 6:9
<b>reviewed</b> 37:20		<b>salvage</b> 32:10,11, 18,19,20,21 35:2 37:20	<b>section</b> 77:22
<b>reviewing</b> 69:19,23 71:7 76:7		<b>salvaged</b> 33:4	<b>security</b> 71:14
<b>reviews</b> 39:21		<b>sampling</b> 70:14,16	<b>seeking</b> 45:11
<b>rhyme</b> 49:23		<b>San</b> 14:11 20:7 27:7 51:9,12	<b>segments</b> 44:14
<b>Richards</b> 56:3,5,6, 15		<b>sanction</b> 46:17	<b>select</b> 58:14 70:22
<b>ridiculous</b> 66:4		<b>Sandra</b> 57:16,20 59:4,18	<b>selected</b> 13:14 70:10,15,21,24 76:13
<b>riding</b> 83:24		<b>sat</b> 59:18	<b>selection</b> 15:12 70:18
<b>ringing</b> 98:24		<b>SB224</b> 10:12 17:2 21:2 23:20 27:24 29:25 31:8,20 32:8 36:7 42:25 43:10,17 56:12 61:16,25 62:4 63:4 64:4,6 67:8 70:8,11	<b>self-help</b> 59:5
<b>risk</b> 40:8 69:1,2,7 72:1		<b>scan</b> 74:25	<b>sell</b> 20:15,23
<b>risk-based</b> 70:18			<b>seller</b> 18:4
<b>risks</b> 40:10 69:9 71:2			<b>selling</b> 31:10
<b>roads</b> 33:8			<b>seminar</b> 14:10
			<b>Senate</b> 17:8,22 21:25 56:9,22
			<b>send</b> 53:8 66:8 81:16 92:9 97:25
			<b>sending</b> 54:1,13

<b>sends</b> 81:16	<b>shows</b> 27:22 28:3,7 78:5,22 85:6 87:2	56:21,24 57:11,12 63:3,11,22,23 67:7, 14,23,24 91:8 92:14, 19 98:1 100:23,24 101:23,24	<b>speakers</b> 7:2
<b>Senior</b> 68:9,13	<b>shutdown</b> 49:14	<b>slow</b> 13:11	<b>speaking</b> 6:19 7:8, 10 24:1 80:10 81:4
<b>sense</b> 35:1 60:3,8	<b>sic</b> 24:13 26:14,25 27:14	<b>slowest</b> 66:4	<b>speaks</b> 43:18
<b>September</b> 24:12 28:9 44:25	<b>side</b> 6:12 20:2 47:19 58:11,16	<b>slowly</b> 7:8 24:9	<b>spearhead</b> 98:2
<b>Serrano</b> 8:13 16:8, 15 23:7 35:21	<b>sign</b> 13:15 76:10	<b>small</b> 85:17	<b>specialist</b> 17:4 57:17,21
<b>serve</b> 12:21 45:7 46:22	<b>signature</b> 44:9	<b>smaller</b> 41:11	<b>specialists</b> 19:12 26:3 45:4
<b>service</b> 43:17 44:17	<b>signed</b> 21:25 51:25	<b>Smith</b> 62:10	<b>specific</b> 6:17,20 11:9 25:6,19 28:2,8 34:9 37:22 60:13 77:7
<b>Services</b> 17:5 21:11 33:9	<b>significantly</b> 22:2 33:3 76:21	<b>smoothly</b> 7:6	<b>specifically</b> 81:3,5
<b>session</b> 12:16,19 61:12 101:2	<b>silent</b> 6:11	<b>social</b> 74:5 77:17 78:22 84:14,24 85:14 87:7 91:9,10,15 92:7 93:16 97:21	<b>specifications</b> 18:9
<b>sessions</b> 33:12 78:17	<b>similar</b> 34:7 58:15 85:12,25 86:4 99:6	<b>software</b> 25:7 26:22, 24 47:10	<b>spend</b> 90:23,24
<b>set</b> 38:7 73:3	<b>simple</b> 58:22	<b>softwares</b> 11:14	<b>spent</b> 10:16 14:19 90:17,18,25
<b>sets</b> 32:25	<b>simplicity</b> 52:18	<b>solely</b> 84:12	<b>sphere</b> 43:4,10
<b>seven-teen</b> 51:4	<b>simply</b> 20:20 50:20 56:8	<b>solicitation</b> 36:13	<b>spikes</b> 78:10 82:15
<b>seventh</b> 80:5	<b>simultaneously</b> 80:10 81:4	<b>solution</b> 36:19,22, 23,25 42:10	<b>spoke</b> 87:18
<b>Seventy-nine</b> 53:1	<b>singing</b> 96:20	<b>somebody's</b> 46:10	<b>spoken</b> 34:21
<b>share</b> 13:16 14:10 27:6 33:12 41:14 52:15,16,24,25 53:14 54:22,25 55:5 77:13 81:18 87:13 91:13,17	<b>single</b> 10:23 42:3	<b>somethings</b> 27:8	<b>sporting</b> 74:16 75:5, 14 90:18
<b>shared</b> 31:15 75:18 86:16	<b>sir</b> 9:10,18 21:16 23:18 29:15 30:23 35:15,17,19 42:16 56:1 61:4,5 66:25 80:15,25 98:4 99:25	<b>Sonia</b> 72:23	<b>sports</b> 74:4,8,11,13, 22 75:2,4,8,9 77:15 88:21
<b>shares</b> 78:10 92:11	<b>sit</b> 59:23	<b>Sonja</b> 68:9,12,13	<b>spots</b> 27:8
<b>sharing</b> 21:9 52:14, 25 53:1,17,19 87:12 91:22 92:7	<b>site</b> 25:11 45:6 83:20	<b>sort</b> 39:23 46:8	<b>spread</b> 87:4
<b>Sharon</b> 9:10 49:9	<b>sitting</b> 40:6	<b>sounds</b> 98:11	<b>spring</b> 38:11 61:17
<b>sheet</b> 6:16 7:3	<b>situations</b> 10:10	<b>South</b> 51:19,22,23, 24	<b>Springs</b> 62:11 64:16
<b>sheriff</b> 54:25 55:7	<b>sixth</b> 79:22,25 80:6	<b>SOW</b> 40:4	<b>Spurs</b> 74:24
<b>sheriff's</b> 27:13,17,18	<b>skeptical</b> 55:17	<b>space</b> 32:10 44:10 85:17	<b>stable</b> 85:22
<b>short</b> 86:17	<b>Slayer</b> 83:22	<b>speak</b> 6:15 7:8,9 24:12 65:16 87:17,22 97:8	<b>staff</b> 12:10,16 15:3 26:8 31:19 37:15 41:7 43:22,23 44:13 45:2,6 60:6 68:24 72:14
<b>show</b> 24:18 26:20 27:7 58:8 84:19 85:22 86:25	<b>slide</b> 17:12 20:12 24:19 68:15 79:19 87:16	<b>speaker</b> 6:24,25 7:17	<b>staffed</b> 12:18
<b>showed</b> 75:11	<b>slides</b> 42:25	<b>speaker's</b> 6:16	<b>staffing</b> 12:1
<b>showing</b> 48:14	<b>Sloan</b> 8:19,20 9:13, 21 10:4,5 15:15,22 16:1 39:20 48:25		<b>stage</b> 85:19

<b>stakeholders</b> 85:11	<b>steps</b> 18:3 96:14	<b>summer</b> 38:11 61:17	<b>talking</b> 28:5 38:19 39:7 41:8 44:13,16, 17 79:13 93:10,11 94:16 97:15,16,17
<b>stand</b> 8:25	<b>Sterling</b> 57:18,19,23 59:17	<b>Summit</b> 87:19	<b>TAMU</b> 60:1
<b>standard</b> 34:13	<b>sticking</b> 89:4 98:22	<b>super</b> 58:22	<b>target</b> 72:6
<b>Standards</b> 71:12	<b>stolen</b> 17:17 19:24 33:2 36:8 80:22	<b>supervise</b> 7:15	<b>targeted</b> 20:1 74:4
<b>stands</b> 9:2	<b>stop</b> 47:22	<b>support</b> 19:12 29:17,25 31:15,17,24 32:4,6,7 35:1 36:6, 10,23 37:1 39:16 40:19,21 43:24 72:18 74:1 84:11 87:7	<b>targeting</b> 93:14,15
<b>Stars</b> 75:8,11	<b>storage</b> 25:25 29:17	<b>supported</b> 69:25	<b>task</b> 11:2 12:7 13:20 15:5 23:13 29:6,13 41:14 52:3,4 70:7,11 77:13,20 80:25 82:10,16,23 83:15, 18,20 87:12,17 88:2 90:3 91:14 92:8 93:6, 20 95:9
<b>start</b> 15:25 31:23 53:16 76:10 90:9	<b>story</b> 84:1,4	<b>supportive</b> 14:4 59:20	<b>tasked</b> 13:4
<b>started</b> 14:1 15:24 74:9 82:2	<b>strategic</b> 11:17 76:14	<b>supports</b> 76:1,25 87:4	<b>TCIC</b> 66:6
<b>starting</b> 14:13 26:22 58:25	<b>strategically</b> 73:25 89:22	<b>supposed</b> 82:20	<b>TDLR</b> 23:20 25:20 29:17,23 30:15 43:2 48:10
<b>starts</b> 49:25	<b>strategies</b> 99:7,14 100:8	<b>surprise</b> 45:25	<b>teaching</b> 83:18
<b>state</b> 6:9 7:4 8:25 9:6,23 10:24 11:3,12 13:21 19:12,17,21 24:24 29:16 30:3 34:16 35:3,10 40:11 41:19 47:25 48:8 49:18 53:20 57:4 61:19 63:16 66:2 67:16 69:17 77:9 89:24 91:20 100:16 101:16	<b>stratified</b> 70:14,16	<b>survey</b> 72:16	<b>team</b> 12:9 14:5,6 32:1 39:13,14 46:3 48:12 49:1 59:20,23, 25 60:10,19 69:8 70:25 71:15 72:11 75:3 96:16
<b>stated</b> 7:3 22:7 27:12 44:6 45:1	<b>Strawn</b> 23:21	<b>surveys</b> 72:17	<b>team's</b> 17:11,12
<b>statement</b> 39:14	<b>streamline</b> 33:5	<b>suspicious</b> 32:6	<b>teams</b> 88:21,23
<b>States</b> 9:1	<b>strengthening</b> 28:17	<b>system</b> 13:7,8 14:1, 13,24 23:12 32:11 36:21 37:2,17,20,21 39:1,10,20,24 40:9, 22 41:3 42:13 60:2,4 69:7,13 70:3 73:8,11	<b>Technical</b> 23:8
<b>statewide</b> 21:24 49:11 50:25 52:16 53:3 74:3 76:2,25 87:5	<b>strengths</b> 25:1 72:17	<b>system's</b> 71:10	<b>Technologies</b> 15:5
<b>static</b> 76:13,19,24	<b>stress</b> 65:20	<b>systems</b> 32:4,12 40:5 64:23	<b>technology</b> 11:7 15:4 16:6 33:9 37:2 38:25 71:12
<b>stationed</b> 19:12	<b>strong</b> 85:6	<b>T</b>	<b>telling</b> 50:4
<b>statistics</b> 41:8,10	<b>stronger</b> 26:1	<b>table</b> 6:16 30:17,19 70:6,13	<b>template</b> 91:23
<b>status</b> 72:20	<b>strongly</b> 10:18 86:10	<b>tactics</b> 97:20	<b>Temple</b> 64:16
<b>statute</b> 69:4 71:6	<b>stuff</b> 27:3 41:21 60:15 82:16 96:18	<b>tagging</b> 81:7	<b>temporary</b> 49:14
<b>statutory</b> 68:22	<b>subject</b> 19:8 88:1	<b>takes</b> 41:20	<b>ten</b> 69:16
<b>stay</b> 17:10 34:17 38:24 54:8	<b>subjectivity</b> 40:1	<b>taking</b> 17:15 89:25	<b>tend</b> 81:17,19 87:13
<b>steal</b> 40:6	<b>submit</b> 76:4,8	<b>talk</b> 15:19 24:13 34:11 39:1,11 48:5 52:13 77:22 92:5	<b>term</b> 56:12 76:1 85:7
<b>steel</b> 96:4	<b>submitted</b> 69:24 72:13	<b>talked</b> 13:6 26:14 47:5 48:1 59:19	<b>Terrell</b> 64:17
<b>step</b> 71:19	<b>submitting</b> 71:7		
	<b>success</b> 29:16		
	<b>successes</b> 77:13		
	<b>sufficient</b> 33:24 34:17		
	<b>Sulphur</b> 62:11 64:16		

<b>testers</b> 37:25	<b>Thompson</b> 42:19, 20,21 49:6	44:6 47:21 51:3 53:12 61:24 68:15 72:25 73:24 81:25 99:12,17,21 101:2	<b>transcribing</b> 7:11
<b>testing</b> 26:23 37:24	<b>thought</b> 89:3 92:6		<b>transcript</b> 9:8
<b>tests</b> 71:3	<b>thousand</b> 44:1 86:12 88:19	<b>today's</b> 6:14,15	<b>transfer</b> 43:14
<b>Texans</b> 74:2 75:14	<b>thousands</b> 91:1	<b>toes</b> 48:22 49:3	<b>transforms</b> 71:20
<b>Texas</b> 9:5,6 10:25 11:12 12:21 14:22 15:3 17:1 19:2,11 21:8 24:2,12 28:6 31:6,12,13 33:4,10 34:24 35:4,10 36:5 40:7,11 41:15 42:22 47:5,15 48:5,9,12 49:22 50:25 51:10, 16,20,22,23,24 53:24 62:1,16 64:21 68:4,8 72:11,25 74:13 82:17 83:17,25 84:2,3 87:1, 2,19,22 88:21 89:24 90:1,7 97:7	<b>threft(sic)</b> 87:21	<b>told</b> 15:18 20:24 55:2 86:20	<b>transition</b> 14:14
	<b>throw</b> 53:12	<b>Tom</b> 91:7 95:11	<b>transparency</b> 74:19
	<b>thunder</b> 36:8 40:6	<b>tomatoes</b> 53:13	<b>transpired</b> 61:19
	<b>tie-in</b> 36:18	<b>tomorrow</b> 10:12 24:6 47:22 48:4	<b>Transportation</b> 49:21
	<b>tied</b> 31:20	<b>tool</b> 85:8	<b>travel</b> 25:5,9
	<b>tight</b> 15:23	<b>tools</b> 53:20 91:15 96:4	<b>traveling</b> 28:5
	<b>Tiktok</b> 91:23,25 94:8 97:1,3,8 98:24	<b>top</b> 37:25 78:3 85:24	<b>tremendous</b> 38:21 88:9 96:14
	<b>Tiktoker(sic)</b> 97:2	<b>topics</b> 59:5	<b>trends</b> 76:17 77:7,8 85:23 87:21
<b>texting</b> 8:4	<b>time</b> 7:1,2 13:11,13 14:7,25 15:6 20:14 24:1,7,20 29:3 31:15, 18 33:24 34:17 37:3 38:6,10,11 45:11 48:18 50:5 53:17 58:24 60:9 62:13 65:18 77:18 83:4,6 92:7	<b>total</b> 21:24 32:24 70:7,9,10,19	<b>trooper</b> 20:23
<b>that'll</b> 58:12,18 99:18	<b>timeline</b> 38:9	<b>touched</b> 91:25	<b>troopers</b> 19:25
<b>thee</b> 9:5	<b>timely</b> 26:16 69:24 71:7,8 77:3	<b>track</b> 27:24 73:11 75:16	<b>trust</b> 75:22
<b>thef(sic)</b> 28:11	<b>timer</b> 6:24,25	<b>tracked</b> 55:12 75:25	<b>tuned</b> 38:24
<b>theft</b> 11:13 28:11 41:19 43:20,21 47:25 76:17 77:8 83:16 86:3 87:21 92:10	<b>times</b> 83:5 90:13 99:8,11	<b>tracking</b> 13:7 14:1 32:23 33:6 39:10,19 55:11,20,23	<b>turn</b> 11:22 16:22,25 23:5,20 31:1 36:1 49:8 56:3 57:15 61:12,13 68:2 73:21 98:18
<b>thefts</b> 10:18 11:1 41:18	<b>timing</b> 7:18 62:18 73:7,13	<b>traditional</b> 85:14	<b>turnaround</b> 34:4
<b>there'd</b> 23:16	<b>tips</b> 19:22	<b>traditionally</b> 43:10	<b>turning</b> 42:18 96:8
<b>therewith</b> 43:12	<b>Tire</b> 83:22	<b>traffic</b> 78:4 86:13 90:12 91:6	<b>turnover</b> 31:22 34:8
<b>thing</b> 13:24 22:14 23:25 25:18 26:12,21 30:1 39:25 41:6 62:2 73:6 82:7 90:19 96:9	<b>title</b> 18:6 32:10 43:14 58:17	<b>train</b> 94:19 95:9	<b>twenty-three</b> 86:13
<b>things</b> 7:5 10:22 13:19 20:2 24:19 27:9 28:13 30:9 34:21 36:25 37:8,9 40:2 41:12 44:10,11 47:10 48:6,19 52:9 60:6 61:19 65:13 70:25 73:9 80:22 82:20 94:12 95:6,15 96:23 99:18	<b>titles</b> 31:5,18 32:14, 20 34:13 37:19	<b>trainer</b> 73:22	<b>TXDMV</b> 46:21
<b>thinking</b> 80:25	<b>titling</b> 32:14 37:21	<b>training</b> 14:10 15:9 19:4,5,6 27:16 39:3 69:20 74:6 77:20 78:15,17,18 79:8,9 93:19	<b>Txdot</b> 49:20 50:1,8, 10,12 51:3,5,8,21,25 52:9 54:19 62:17 64:21 65:11,17
	<b>today</b> 6:10 7:11,12 10:12 12:12,17 14:3, 24 15:14 17:6 21:22 22:2 24:22 34:20 35:12 36:6 39:19	<b>transacted</b> 44:25	<b>Txdot's</b> 51:13
		<b>transaction</b> 18:12, 22 44:25	<b>Tyler</b> 51:9,13,18
		<b>transactions</b> 18:18 22:11 31:17	<b>type</b> 34:7,9,10 44:4, 20 45:9,14,21 46:7, 14 87:14
			<b>types</b> 42:10
			<b>typically</b> 86:22,24 87:14

<b>U</b>			<b>W</b>
<b>un-mute</b> 7:25	<b>utilization</b> 24:3	<b>videos</b> 58:6,8 92:3 94:10 97:4,11	<b>wait</b> 23:11 52:8 58:24 60:3,9
<b>un-muted</b> 23:4	<b>utilize</b> 53:20 59:1	<b>view</b> 82:19	<b>waiting</b> 47:13 52:7 65:23,25 76:8
<b>unable</b> 75:15	<b>utilizing</b> 25:4 53:16	<b>viewed</b> 75:18	<b>walk</b> 73:24
<b>unanimous</b> 101:25	<b>V</b>	<b>viewers</b> 79:14,15	<b>waller</b> 64:19
<b>Unauthorized</b> 69:6	<b>vacancies</b> 12:2	<b>views</b> 78:3 79:12 83:6 84:21	<b>wanted</b> 38:18 39:22, 23 53:22 58:22 59:16 82:4
<b>unchanged</b> 21:25	<b>validation</b> 32:18 72:8	<b>VIN</b> 18:5	<b>WARDEN</b> 23:8 83:7
<b>undercover</b> 20:7,15	<b>Valley</b> 97:17	<b>VINS</b> 26:25	<b>warrant</b> 20:25
<b>underneath</b> 58:16	<b>valuable</b> 72:17	<b>violating</b> 7:18	<b>Washington</b> 53:25
<b>understand</b> 22:12 66:1,7,8 93:17 94:13 95:5,10 96:24,25	<b>valuables</b> 82:19	<b>violation</b> 30:4	<b>ways</b> 53:5
<b>unique</b> 18:10 70:11	<b>valuing</b> 93:12	<b>violations</b> 18:25 28:8,10 43:12 45:22	<b>we--</b> 13:11
<b>United</b> 9:1	<b>vanity</b> 83:19,21,24	<b>violent</b> 54:2	<b>web</b> 32:11 35:2 37:20
<b>units</b> 48:1	<b>vast</b> 51:16	<b>viral</b> 83:9	<b>website</b> 17:21 28:23 41:13 53:6 60:1,25
<b>unlawfully</b> 20:13	<b>vehicle</b> 6:4 18:5,7,9 20:4 25:6,25 26:2 29:17 31:5,18 32:17, 22 33:4 34:13 37:19 43:11,16,19,23 44:10,23 45:3,13 46:7 58:19 74:1 87:6 96:8	<b>visibility</b> 74:7 76:23 77:16 78:5 86:13	<b>week</b> 52:6 66:2 72:8 83:18 87:19 90:13
<b>unlicensed</b> 24:14 28:25	<b>vehicles</b> 17:25 18:24 25:6,19 26:13, 15,18 27:1 31:7 32:16,18,19 33:6,7, 10 36:5 42:4,23 45:13 68:8,14	<b>visible</b> 75:21	<b>weeks</b> 27:16 34:22 36:15 50:2 60:22 79:16 85:3,15 86:19
<b>unlike</b> 74:17 84:14	<b>vendor</b> 13:13,16 36:21 37:5 76:8	<b>vision</b> 11:8,11	<b>Wendy</b> 14:2,3,5 36:1,4 39:13 40:17
<b>unnoticed</b> 42:1	<b>vendors</b> 76:4	<b>visit</b> 28:23 43:25 45:6 97:7	<b>Weslaco</b> 64:17
<b>unsafe</b> 33:1	<b>ventured</b> 88:20	<b>visiting</b> 78:4	<b>West</b> 64:19
<b>update</b> 12:1,25 15:2 21:12,14 23:20 32:17 33:13,17 49:10 68:11 72:20	<b>venues</b> 74:13	<b>visits</b> 45:2,19 47:5 78:19	<b>wheel</b> 59:21
<b>updated</b> 17:20 18:25 47:9 54:9 68:18	<b>veracity</b> 46:21	<b>vol</b> 72:7	<b>Wheeler</b> 22:18
<b>updates</b> 19:6 24:3, 18 28:24 38:17 39:9 48:3 76:18	<b>verbally</b> 7:21	<b>volume</b> 18:19 23:5 49:4 76:25	<b>Whitehill</b> 7:24,25 8:8,11 9:25 16:18,20, 24 21:15,16 30:21,23 35:15,16,17 56:1 57:1,7,8 61:3,5 63:7, 11,18,19 67:11,14, 19,20 98:6,8,12 100:19,20 101:9,12, 19,20
<b>updating</b> 17:16 19:5	<b>verify</b> 74:19	<b>volunteered</b> 98:1	<b>William</b> 11:23,25 21:17 34:19 36:7,12 37:15 47:2 59:14 61:13,15 64:1,2 67:9
<b>upfront</b> 33:25	<b>version</b> 17:21	<b>vote</b> 9:22,23 10:7 57:4,5,14 63:15,16, 25 67:15,25 100:15, 16,25 101:16,25	
<b>upgrade</b> 36:13 37:3	<b>vetting</b> 69:20	<b>votes</b> 10:7 57:14 63:25 67:25 100:25	
<b>uphill</b> 55:22	<b>vicinity</b> 50:25	<b>VSF</b> 27:15	
<b>upset</b> 55:1	<b>video</b> 58:20 60:25 91:24 92:12,13 97:14,23	<b>VTR</b> 31:17,24 32:7 33:8 34:6 35:11 47:11 59:22	
<b>uptake</b> 83:9		<b>vulnerable</b> 32:15	
<b>upward</b> 85:22			
<b>user</b> 70:2 71:10			
<b>users</b> 70:3 78:14,20			

68:13 73:19 88:17  
98:20  
**Williams** 57:16,20,  
23,24 59:9  
**wonderful** 13:24  
**words** 46:25  
**work** 12:14 19:25  
21:1 27:5,18 32:1  
34:9,14 36:16 37:22  
38:21 39:14 42:8  
43:5,6,8,9,20,21  
44:4,20,25 45:9,14,  
16,21 46:14,19  
48:24,25 54:16 71:20  
80:3 91:10,17 93:13  
98:9  
**worked** 13:19 59:25  
60:1  
**working** 12:8,9  
25:18 26:6,9 29:18,  
21 33:8 34:12 38:8  
47:11,18 48:10,11  
62:16,17 69:10 72:25  
76:3  
**works** 23:22,25  
**workshop** 14:11  
30:14,16 39:5  
**worth** 12:25 41:3  
51:4,7,8,11,12 86:24  
**Wow** 51:14  
**wrap-up** 72:14  
**write** 83:15  
**writing** 66:20 82:12  
**wrong** 17:12 35:4  
48:19 60:25  
**wrote** 83:19,23,25

---

## Y

---

**y'all** 46:13  
**y'all's** 92:9  
**year** 10:15,22,25  
11:18 18:5 19:15  
20:4,5,15 25:2 26:19  
28:1,7,8 56:10,13,23  
60:4 61:18 70:8

75:13 82:1 84:8,9  
89:14,20,25 90:10  
93:7 96:18  
**years** 12:5,8 13:4,6  
22:21 25:13 27:22,23  
29:25 34:25 48:2  
72:25 99:5,8,9,15  
100:8  
**yellow** 6:25  
**Yesenia** 89:7 90:17  
**Yessenia** 23:5  
89:12,13  
**yesterday** 47:22  
**Yoakum** 51:9,12  
**Yon** 59:25  
**Youtube** 58:13,19

---

## Z

---

**Zach** 23:8 58:7 83:7,  
11  
**Zach's** 10:3

---

## â

---

**â€œœfordâ€•** 23:21