

Burnet County Taskforce Grant Negotiation for Fiscal Year 2025

[Request for Application \(RFA\)](#)Primary Agency / Grantee Legal Name: *Burnet County*Organization Type: *Law Enforcement*Organization ORI (if applicable): *TX0270000: BURNET CO SO (AE)***Program Title** Please enter a short description of the proposed program that can be used as the title.

Heart of Texas Auto Theft Task Force

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

- ☒ **New Grant** - 2025 is the first year of the MVCPA Taskforce Grants. All 2025 grant applicants use the new grant category.

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

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

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

Participating counties include Burnet, Coryell, and McLennan Counties. The coverage area includes all the municipalities within each of the participating counties as well as Bell, Freestone, Hamilton, Lampasas, Limestone, Llano, San Saba, and Williamson Counties.

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

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

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

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

Select Agencies to Add	Participating Agencies	Coverage Agencies
Select Agencies Not associated with any law enforcement Anderson ANDERSON CO SO (AE) [TX0010100] PALESTINE PD [TX0010100] FRANKSTON PD [TX0010300] Andrews ANDREWS CO SO [TX0020000]	BURNET CO SO (AE) CORYELL CO SO (AE) MCLENNAN CO SO (IBR)	BARTLETT PD (CB) BELTON PD HARKER HEIGHTS PD KILLEEN PD (MIP) CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE PD KILLEEN ISD PD (AE) SALADO PD TAMU Central Texas PD
Add as Participating Agency Add as Coverage Agency	Delete Selected	Delete Selected

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

☐ **National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB)** Used as Match (Documentation and time certification required.)

☐ **Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)**

☐ **Other State or Federal Agency** (specify:)

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

Grant Budget Form

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

Budget Entry Option:

☒ Enter Total and let system calculate MVCPA Funds and Cash Match, Match Percentage:

☐ Enter MVCPA and Cash Match Amounts

Click on category name to edit budget detail for that category.

Budget Category	MVCPA Expenditures	Cash Match Expenditures	Total Expenditures	In-Kind Match
Personnel	\$191,750	\$38,350	\$230,100	
Fringe	\$73,050	\$14,610	\$87,660	
Overtime				
Professional and Contract Services	\$196,845	\$39,368	\$236,213	
Travel	\$8,663	\$1,734	\$10,397	
Equipment	\$95,416	\$19,084	\$114,500	
Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)	\$12,842	\$2,568	\$15,410	
Total	\$578,566	\$115,714	\$694,280	
Cash Match Percentage		20.00%		

Description	Subcategory	Pct Time	MVCPA Funds	Cash Match	Total	In-Kind Match
Personnel						
Captain-Program Manager, Burnet County	Investigator/LEO	100	\$78,975	\$15,795	\$94,770	
Investigator, Burnet County	Investigator/LEO	100	\$67,817	\$13,563	\$81,380	
Administrative Assistant, Burnet County	Crime Analyst/LE Professional	100	\$44,958	\$8,992	\$53,950	
Total Personnel		300	\$191,750	\$38,350	\$230,100	
Fringe						
Captain-Program Manager, Burnet County	Investigator/LEO		\$27,895	\$5,579	\$33,474	
Investigator, Burnet County	Investigator/LEO		\$25,454	\$5,091	\$30,545	
Administrative Assistant, Burnet County	Crime Analyst/LE Professional		\$19,701	\$3,940	\$23,641	
Total Fringe			\$73,050	\$14,610	\$87,660	

Description	Subcategory	Pct Time	MVCPA Funds	Cash Match	Total	In-Kind Match
Overtime						
Total Overtime						
Professional and Contract Services						
Coryell County Investigator-Salary	Investigator/LEO - personnel	100	\$51,250	\$10,250	\$61,500	
Coryell County Investigator Fringe	Investigator/LEO - fringe	100	\$16,717	\$3,343	\$20,060	
McLennan County Investigator Salary	Investigator/LEO - personnel	100	\$59,469	\$11,894	\$71,363	
McLennan County Investigator Fringe	Investigator/LEO - fringe	100	\$20,317	\$4,063	\$24,380	
Motorola Licensing Agreement Body Cam/In Car-one year	Other	100	\$5,300	\$1,060	\$6,360	
Vigilant Commercial Licensing - one year	Other	100	\$3,542	\$708	\$4,250	
Vigilant ESA Basic Licensing - one year	Other	100	\$2,750	\$550	\$3,300	
Flock Licensing-one year	Other	100	\$37,500	\$7,500	\$45,000	
Total Professional and Contract Services		800	\$196,845	\$39,368	\$236,213	
Travel						
TAVTI - Hotel Costs	Law enforcement In-State		\$860	\$172	\$1,032	
TAVTI Hotel Estimated Tax	Law enforcement In-State		\$138	\$28	\$166	
TAVTI - Meals	Law enforcement In-State		\$333	\$67	\$400	
TAVTI - Hotel Cost	Administrative In-state		\$430	\$86	\$516	
TAVTI - Hotel Estimated Tax	Administrative In-state		\$69	\$14	\$83	
TAVTI - Meals	Administrative In-state		\$167	\$33	\$200	
Misc-Travel	Law enforcement In-State		\$5,833	\$1,167	\$7,000	
Misc - Travel	Administrative In-state		\$833	\$167	\$1,000	
Total Travel			\$8,663	\$1,734	\$10,397	
Equipment						
LPR Trailer			\$33,333	\$6,667	\$40,000	
Updated LPR System			\$28,750	\$5,750	\$34,500	
New Vehicle			\$33,333	\$6,667	\$40,000	
Total Equipment			\$95,416	\$19,084	\$114,500	
Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)						
TAVTI Registration			\$563	\$113	\$676	
Vehicle Insurance			\$2,266	\$453	\$2,719	
Cell Phones			\$2,012	\$402	\$2,414	
Hot Spots			\$1,584	\$317	\$1,901	
Investigator Supplies			\$4,417	\$883	\$5,300	
Office Supplies			\$833	\$167	\$1,000	
Office desk			\$1,167	\$233	\$1,400	
Total Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)			\$12,842	\$2,568	\$15,410	

Budget Narrative

A. Personnel

The Burnet County Captain Field Supervisor is the project manager. The responsibilities include overseeing daily operations: Field Supervision of Investigators, assisting with investigations including stolen vehicles, burglary, and title fraud, reviewing reports, assigning cases, or giving assignments to staff. Duties also include quarterly reporting of progress reports and program updates, performing 68 A Inspections, and collaborating with Burnet County Grant Administrator in preparing and administering budget, including approving all expenditure and adjusting the budget when required. The project manager is also responsible for providing program updates to the project director. This position's salary which includes longevity pay will be funded with grant funds and cash match coming from the program fund. Burnet County Captain will be 100% will be devoted to auto crimes. Burnet County Investigator is responsible for the recovery of stolen vehicles, investigating vehicle crimes including title fraud, arresting of offenders in vehicle-related crimes, clearing vehicle theft and burglary of vehicle cases, performing 68A inspections, and performing objective/goal activities. This position's salary which includes longevity pay will be funded with grant funds and cash match coming from the program income fund. Burnet County Investigator will be 100% will be devoted to auto crimes. HOTATTTF Administrative Assistant/Crime Analyst

Budget Narrative

(Employee of Burnet County) as an administrative assistant this position is responsible for providing clerical and administrative office support, scheduling 68A inspections, conducting public awareness events, and data entry of vehicle theft-related cases. The position assists with budget management, grant application, communication between agencies in the coverage area, and answering questions for the general public. This position is responsible for ordering and maintaining public awareness supply inventory. As Crime Analyst this position will perform crime analysis work for the HOTATTF including performing difficult statistical and analytical research involving the use of computer applications, random statistical samplings, correlation and regression analysis, and probability studies; gathering and analyzing crime data for crime pattern detection, suspect-crime correlation, target-specific profiles, and crime forecasting; preparing reports on crime data and trends for police personnel; making presentations to the HOTATTF personnel, members of the community, and outside agencies; and coordinating the automatic scheduling process for the HOTATTF. This position is funded with grant funds and cash match coming from the program income fund and will be 100% will be devoted to auto crimes. All task force members will participate in Community Outreach related to auto theft prevention and community awareness. This outreach includes community events such as festivals and car shows.

B. Fringe

Burnet County Personnel including Law Enforcement Officers and the Administrative Position - Fringe includes, FICA and Medicare, Medical and Life Insurance, Retirement, Unemployment, Worker's Comp, and Survivor Death Benefits.

D. Professional and Contract Services

Separate interagency agreements between Burnet County, Coryell County, and McLennan County will be executed authorizing Burnet County as the administrative county for the MVCPA grant and any agreement of each county to provide a match for their Investigator. Investigators are responsible for recovering stolen vehicles, investigating vehicle crimes, arresting offenders in vehicle-related crimes, clearing vehicle theft and burglary of vehicle cases, and performing objectives/goal. Motorola Licensing Agreement to continue using the Body Camera and In-Car Camera system Cloud. Vigilant license plate reader annual licensing fees up to 5 licenses for all investigators and the Captain. Commercial licensing allows data from all the coverage area tow trucks and other entities to be received to locate stolen vehicles. Vigilant ESA-basic License for HOTATTF LPR s. Flock Licensing for the 9 cameras we are utilizing.

E. Travel

2024 TAVTI Conference in Lubbock Tuesday, 10/8- Friday, 10/11/2024 with travel on Monday, 10/7/2024- 2 LEOs and one Administrative Assistant will be attending. Hotel costs at \$129 a night for 4 nights X 3 employees plus an estimated tax of 16% Schedule 5 days for conference and travel. Using Burnet County's meal rates. Breakfast \$10, Lunch \$15 and Dinner \$25 = \$50 per day. First day - D \$25, 2nd day - B, L, D = \$50, 3rd day - B, L, D = \$50, 4th day B, L, D = \$50, 5th day B, L. Total \$25 = \$200 X 3 employees or \$600 Misc. travel for board meetings and other required training including lodging, tax, and meals. \$2,500 for Captain/Project Director and \$1,500 per other LEO employee or \$7,000, \$1,000 for Administrative Assistant.

F. Equipment

HOTATTF is requesting a portable LPR Trailer that can be placed in areas of high traffic or crime. HOTATTF previously purchased two LPRs through the Rapid Response Strikeforce Grant in FY21. Unfortunately, these LPRs are obsolete and one has broken. Motorola can no longer service these LPRs as the parts are not available. HOTATTF is requesting an updated LPR system for 2 of their vehicles. HOTATTF has a 2nd 2017 Chevy Silverado. The first one was traded in when purchasing a truck in FY 24. This vehicle has the transmission blown and the cost to repair has been quoted to be over \$7,000. As the administrative county for HOTATTF, Burnet County will follow Texas Local Government Code Title 8, Subtitle B, Section 262: Purchasing and Contract Authority of Counties and will abide by all State and County Purchasing policies.

G. Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)

Registration for 2024 TAVTI Registration \$225 X 3 Vigilance license plate reader annual licensing fees up to 5 licenses for all investigators and the Captain. Commercial licensing allows data from all the coverage area tow trucks and other entities to be received to locate stolen vehicles. Vigilance ESA-basic License for HOTATTF LPR s. Vehicle insurance coverage for 5 vehicles Fuel and Maintenance for all vehicles. Cellphones and hot spots for all members of the task force. Investigator supplies include badges, holders, receipt books, paint removers, coveralls to get on the ground to locate VINs, moving blankets, mechanic gloves, traffic cones, 68A signs to direct traffic, and storage containers. Other office supplies include but are not limited to copy paper, folders, and pens. The Burnet County Investigator is borrowing a desk from a different department. The departments would like the desk returned. Funding for all other operating expenses will be paid by MVCPA grant funds and program income. As the administrative county for HOTATTF, Burnet County will follow Texas Local Government Code Title 8, Subtitle B, Section 262: Purchasing and Contract Authority of Counties and will abide by all State and County Purchasing policies.

Revenue

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

Cash Match

Source of Cash Match

Program Income - 68 Inspections and sales of grant vehicles and equipment	Program Income	\$99,352
McLennan County	Subgrantee	\$16,362
Total Cash Match		\$115,714

In-Kind Match

Statistics to Support Grant Problem Statement

Reported Cases	2022			2023		
Jurisdiction	Motor Vehicle Theft (MVT)	Burglary from Motor Vehicle (BMV)	Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Crime (FRMVC)	Motor Vehicle Theft (MVT)	Burglary from Motor Vehicle (BMV)	Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Crime (FRMVC)
Bellmead PD TX1550100	44	34	0	44	30	0
Bertram PD TX0270600	2	0	0	0	0	0
Beverly Hills PD TX1550200	7	9	0	5	5	0
Bosque Co SO TX0180000	2	3	0	3	6	0
Burnet Co SO TX0270000	29	38	0	16	15	0
Burnet PD TX0270100	7	5	0	8	5	0
Cedar Park PD TX2460900	79	231	0	107	262	0
Clifton PD TX0180100	2	0	0	1	0	0
Copperas Cove PD TX0500100	51	102	0	68	98	0
Fairfield PD TX0810100	6	1	0	4	6	0
Florence PD TX2460100	1	1	0	3	0	0
Fredericksburg PD TX0860100	4	3	0	16	9	0
Freestone CO SO TX0810000	11	3	0	14	4	0
Gatesville PD TX0500200	20	14	0	11	15	0
Georgetown PD TX2460200	58	250	0	92	266	0
Gillespie CO SO TX0860000	2	3	0	8	2	0
Granger PD TX2460300	1	0	0	0	1	0
Groesbeck PD TX1470200	7	15	0	7	6	0
Hamilton CO SO TX0970000	0	0	0	1	0	0
Hamilton PD TX0970100	1	1	0	3	2	0
Hewitt PD TX1550400	11	24	0	17	30	0
Horseshoe Bay PD TX0271100	2	4	0	2	0	0
Hutto ISD PD TX2462800	1	0	0	0	0	0
Hutto PD TX2460400	14	36	0	17	86	0
Jarrell PD TX2462500	3	2	0	3	2	0
Killeen PD TX0140400	428	581	0	697	674	0
Lacy Lakeview PD TX 1550500	19	36	0	11	14	0
Lampasas CO SO TX141000	2	0	0	9	0	0
Lampasas PD TX1410100	12	1	0	5	17	0
Leander PD TX2461700	29	113	0	50	122	0

Reported Cases	2022			2023		
Jurisdiction	Motor Vehicle Theft (MVT)	Burglary from Motor Vehicle (BMV)	Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Crime (FRMVC)	Motor Vehicle Theft (MVT)	Burglary from Motor Vehicle (BMV)	Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Crime (FRMVC)
Limestone CO SO TX1470000	13	28	0	10	17	0
Llano CO SO TX1500000	16	12	0	21	8	0
Llano PD TX1500100	8	0	0	5	8	0
Lorena PD TX1550600	4	3	0	6	2	0
Marble Falls PD TX0270200	12	0	0	11	0	0
Mason CO SO TX0300000	0	1	0	0	0	0
McLennan CO SO TX1550000	60	69	0	61	29	0
Meridian PD TX0180800	0	1	0	0	0	0
Mexia PD TX1470300	1	3	0	5	11	0
Mills CO SO TX1670000	1	1	0	2	1	0
Robinson PD TX1551100	10	45	0	11	18	0
Round Rock ISD PD TX2463100	1	1	0	0	1	0
Round Rock PD TX2460500	175	962	0	253	976	0
San Saba PD TX2060100	0	6	0	0	0	0
San Saba CO TX2060000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southwestern Univ PD TX2460800	0	3	0	0	1	0
Sunrise Beach Village PD TX1500500	0	0	0	0	1	0
Taylor PD TX2460600	17	60	0	26	63	0
Teague PD TX0810200	6	5	0	8	2	0
Valley Mills PD TX180200	0	1	0	0	0	0
Waco PD TX1551200	378	966	0	421	963	0
West PD TX1551300	4	4	0	2	4	0
Woodway PD TX1551400	7	23	0	4	20	0
Wortham PD TX0810300	5	0	0	3	0	0
Williamson CO SO TX2460000	127	372	0	162	367	0
Coryell CO SO TX0500000	8	7	0	13	5	0
McLennan Comm College PD TX1551600	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cottonwood Shores PD TX0271200	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harker Heights PD TX0140300	42	77	0	68	72	0
Central Texas College PD TX0140900	0	1	0	0	1	0

Reported Cases	2022			2023		
Jurisdiction	Motor Vehicle Theft (MVT)	Burglary from Motor Vehicle (BMV)	Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Crime (FRMVC)	Motor Vehicle Theft (MVT)	Burglary from Motor Vehicle (BMV)	Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Crime (FRMVC)
Killeen ISD PD TX0141500	1	1	0	1	1	0
McGregor PD TX1550700	0	0	0	0	0	0
TSTC Waco PD TX1551800	1	48	0	10	5	0

[Add/Edit Statistics](#)

Application Narrative

Grant Introduction (Executive Summary) and General Information

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

The Heart of Texas Auto Theft Task Force was created in 2001 to provide service to the Waco Region as limited specialized investigators addressed vehicle crimes between the Dallas and Austin Metroplex areas. The Task Force filled a gap and allowed additional resources for law enforcement agencies as well as citizens. Realizing the need in rural areas the coverage was expanded including the Highway 281 corridor. Assigning investigators to Burnet, Coryell, and McLennan Counties allows the Task Force to assist other agencies outside of their home agencies which expands the coverage area of the Task Force. The program's goal is to reduce vehicle crimes utilizing proactive and reactive measures. Techniques acquired from specialized training allow personnel to keep up to date with the trends by recovering stolen vehicles and property and reducing the number of vehicle theft and burglary instances. The Heart of Texas Auto Theft Task Force will provide VTR 68A inspections to the citizens of Texas. This service adds experience and expertise in identifying vehicles and trailers. These inspections assist citizens in obtaining titles and proper registration of their vehicles and/or trailers. The program generated revenue from inspections and sales of vehicles that have been utilized for budget purposes to benefit the program. As the population increases in the coverage area vehicle crimes are increasing. Task Force investigators can address specific problems both inside and outside the coverage area and are willing to assist any agency requesting assistance. Task Force members have assisted in the execution of narcotics search warrants, which often involve stolen vehicles.

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

Burnet County is the administrative county for the Heart of Texas Auto Theft Task Force. The Burnet County Commissioners Court authorizes the grant program and application. The Burnet County Sr. Commissioner is designated as the Authorized Official to apply for, accept, decline, modify, or cancel the grant application. Burnet County Auditor is designated as the Financial Officer. Burnet County Sheriff is designated as the Program Director. Burnet County Assistant Auditor/Grant Administrator is designated as the financial Administrative Contact. Burnet County Sheriff's Office Lieutenant is designated as the Program Manager, Program Administrative Contact, Taskforce Commander, and PIO/Media Contact. There are four participating county investigators from Burnet, Coryell, and McLennan that will complete the task force. The three other participating counties will engage in an Interlocal Agreement with each county's Judge or Sr. Commissioner and Sheriff's signature. Non-financial interlocal agreements signed by Burnet County Sr. Commissioner, Burnet County Sheriff and Taskforce Commander will be sent to each of the heads of the departments. District Attorney contracts will be sent to each district attorney in the coverage area. This contract will address forfeiture actions, seized money and property and the sales of the properties. 30% of forfeited money and 30% of the proceeds of sales shall be retained by the prosecuting attorney to be used for the official purposes of his office. The Heart of Texas Auto Theft Task Force coverage area is over 13,375 sq. miles. The Counties include Sheriff Offices from Burnet, Coryell, McLennan, Williamson, Bosque, Freestone, Gillespie, Hamilton, Lampasas, Limestone, Llano, Mason, Mills, and San Saba Counties. Many police departments from the cities, towns and colleges within the coverage are also within the coverage area as well as Killeen PD. The Heart of Texas AutoTheft Task Force will provide 68A inspections for any Texas citizens including those outside of coverage areas willing to bring their vehicles and trailers to a designated inspection site.

Grant Problem Statement

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

The Heart of Texas Auto Theft Task Force coverage area includes both rural and highly populated areas. Auto Burglary is a crime of opportunity. Many criminals are looking car to car to find one that is unlocked. Many residents in rural areas tend to leave their vehicles unsecured because they feel it is safe to do so. The more populated areas include Fort Hood and Baylor University. With the assignments and moving of military families and Baylor's students moving in and out of the dorms during the year, this gives criminals the opportunity to commit burglaries without being detected. Because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, many areas are finding that there is an increase in substance use. Users are looking for the opportunity to find anything of value in order to sell to obtain cash for drugs. The Heart of Texas Auto Theft Task Force includes the I-35 and Highway 281 corridors. Although I-35 corridor has a history of being used for drug and human trafficking, which are often committed using a stolen vehicle, law enforcement has been known to be highly visible. Traffickers are now utilizing the Highway 281 corridors. The coverage areas have tourist attractions which also provide opportunity for locals to prey on the tourists. Funding of the Heart of Texas Auto Theft Task Force will allow us to provide increased education opportunities on how to keep your vehicles and property safe as well as giving reminders of the ways that criminals prey. It will also allow increased surveillance operations in these areas and will let the criminals know that law enforcement is present.

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

Internet-related crimes including social media postings and purchases with cash transactions are becoming a large part of our motor vehicle theft problems. The thieves post stolen cars for sale and buyers are purchasing them with cash. The buyers are not having the vehicles properly transferred. Many times a buyer will wait until the current registration expires before updating their registrations. When registering, purchasers find that the vehicles they bought with cash had been reported stolen. 68A inspections are also locating stolen cars. Victims not only have a vehicle, their cash can not be returned. Some vehicles that are stolen in larger populated areas such as Dallas or Houston are being brought to rural areas to be broken down and sold online as parts and taken to recycle centers to receive the cash value of the scraps. Vehicles that are stolen by individuals many times are recovered after the car has been wrecked. This can cause a financial burden on the victims because not only do they not have their vehicles, but they are unable to get to work to provide for their families. Having a license plate reader system that interacts with other localities allows notifications to be immediately sent to a cell phone or computer our inspectors have been very helpful. This has increased the recovery rate of stolen vehicles.

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

Fraudulent dealer tags have continued to be a problem in our coverage area as well as fraudulent VIN labels. New vehicles are being stolen using fraudulent identification to purchase and finance vehicles to sell for cash on social media and other platforms. Fraudulent tickets are being produced where the buyer pays with cash and does not find out they are stolen until they try to register the vehicle. TAC offices are contacting HOTATTFF with the fraudulent titles which initiates the investigation of all of the above crimes. In the outreach, the HOTATTFF tries to educate the public to not pay cash and to bring the seller to the DMV to register the vehicle before paying the seller.

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

The Heart of Texas Auto Theft Task Force has had multiple organized crime-related cases. HOTATTFF is working on an organized crime investigation involving Venezuelan illegals who are stealing vehicles going to storage unit locations, stealing travel trailers, and then selling them on Facebook and other platforms out of the Austin area. Each investigator utilizes social media and facial recognition by using the services of Houston and DPS resources.

Grant Goals and Activities

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

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

Part 1

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

The Heart of Texas Task Force's current participating counties, Burnet, Coryell, and McClennan continue to assist other city and county law enforcement departments. We hope to expand our participating counties with Williamson County the 2026-2027 biennium. Educating citizens is the most successful in reducing motor vehicle-related crimes. Motor vehicle crimes are most often a crime of convenience. Personal belongings in sight in an unlocked car is the perfect opportunity for criminal activity. Educating citizens to hide their belongings and locking their cars is the best practice for reducing motor vehicle crimes. The Heart of Texas Task Force has promoted this message since the Task Force's inception. HOTATTFF has plans to involve each participating county in the community-based events including festivals, National Night Out, and other public events.

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

The Heart of Texas Task Force receives stolen vehicle notifications through license plate readers on commercial vehicle repossession and tow truck companies that open investigations of stolen vehicles. The HOTATTF works continually with other agencies throughout our coverage areas, Texas, and other states where the crimes are connected. We are eager to work with other task forces, counties, and municipalities to solve vehicle crimes. With the increase of personnel, more inspections of salvage yards and scrap metal yards will give HOTATTF opportunities to locate stolen vehicles and increase arrests and decrease the number of thefts in the areas. VTR 68A inspections continue to prove the identification of stolen vehicles and trailers before they are on the roads. Relationships with Tax Assessors and the Department of Motor Vehicles help to keep informed of suspicious activities. HOTATTF will continue to allow non-coverage area residents to have access to the VTR 68A inspections.

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

The HOTATTF will continue to inspect salvage yards and scrap metal yards giving the task force opportunities to locate stolen vehicles and VIN fraud to increase arrests and decrease the number of thefts in the areas. With access to the Vigilant software and the additional investigator from McLennan County, HOTATTF will continue to increase the number of recovered vehicles. Assisting the DMV when fraudulent titles are used to title stolen vehicles that are sold over social media sites. Outreach to educate the public concerning the possibilities of fraud-related crime to go with the seller with the addition of the administrative assistant/crime analyst hired in FY 24, social media blasts will continue to increase.

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

Working with coverage area departments and offering our support and expertise with their cases will continue. Sharing cases on social media will increase. Education is crucial for decreasing the number of motor vehicle crimes. All citizens need to remember that hiding belongings and locking doors decreases the opportunity to commit crimes and will decrease the numbers of crimes. The HOTATTF will work with local patrol officers to determine high-crime volume areas and identify persons of interest. HOTATTF has found multiple stolen vehicle cases while performing the inspections and will continue to provide this service.

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

The Heart of Texas Auto Theft Task Force is willing to expand to include areas of activities outside of our coverage area to assist other task forces and local departments in reducing motor vehicle fraud-related crime, insurance fraud, and other organized criminal enterprises. Ongoing inspections of salvage yards and scrap metal yards have given the Task Force opportunities to locate stolen vehicles and increasing the arrest of offenders while decreasing the number of thefts in the area.

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

The HOTATTF collaborates with Travis, Blanco, and Llano Counties for larger organized criminal activity occurring in the different jurisdictions by the same offenders. HOTATTF has collaborated with other MVCPA task forces to combat motor vehicle theft and title fraud cases. Assistance is being provided to Tax Assessor Collector offices and is proven successful as the Task Force has become a resource in areas with few or no investigators trained in motor vehicle crimes. We have expanded our coverage area and are working with the jurisdictions to make sure they are aware of our resources if needed. We have assisted in search warrants so that the jurisdictions can follow up with business related to the warrant and our investigators can focus on the stolen vehicles and trailers on the property. We will continue to accept 68A inspection customers from other areas outside of our coverage areas. The HOTATTF offers basic training courses to other departments which provides insight to patrol officers who are often the first contact with a stolen vehicle. Our hopes are to have as many officers in our coverage area trained in the basic points of vehicle crime prevention. Training includes detection and identification of stolen vehicles as well as education methods with citizens to increase awareness and assist in decreasing the number of incidents. The HOTATTF provides training to the Texas Game Wardens Annual Police Academy.

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

n/a

Part II

Goals, Strategies, and Activities

[Select Goals, Strategies, and Activity Targets](#) for the proposed program described in the application.

Click on the link above to open a new table called Goals, Strategies, and Activity. Applicants will review the statutory and optional activities. The first section is the statutory measures. Grantees may not provide targets for this section but need to review the descriptions to ensure that they understand the statutory minimum requirements associated with this grant. Applicants will then review the other items and estimate targets for only the activities that the applicant has described and plans to complete under this application.

ID	Activity	Measure	Target
Statutory Motor Vehicle Theft Measures Required for all Grantees.			

ID	Activity	Measure	Target
1.1.15	Increase the recovery rate of stolen motor vehicles	Report the number of vehicles recovered by taskforce	
1.1.16	Increase the clearance rate of MVTs	Report the number of MVT cases cleared	
1.1.17	Increase the number of persons arrested for motor vehicle theft	Report the number of persons arrested for motor vehicle theft by taskforce	
Statutory Burglary of a Motor Vehicle Measures Required for all Grantees			
2.1.12	Increase the clearance rate of motor vehicle burglaries	Report the number of BMV including parts cases cleared	
2.1.13	Increase the number of persons arrested for motor vehicle burglary	Report the number of persons arrested for burglary by taskforce	
Statutory Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Crime Measures Required for all Grantees			
8.1.1	Increase the clearance rate of fraud-related motor vehicle crime cases.	Report the number of fraud-related motor vehicle cases cleared	
8.1.2	Increase the number of persons arrested for fraud-related motor vehicle crimes.	Report the number of persons arrested for fraud-related motor vehicle crimes	
Measures for Grantees. Add Target values for those that you will measure.			
1	Goal 1: Reduce the Incidence of Motor Vehicle Theft through Enforcement Strategies		
1.1	Strategy 1: Conduct Activities that Result in the Arrest, Clearance, and Recoveries of Motor Vehicle Theft		
1.1.1	Identify groups of auto theft offenders through intelligence gathering, crime analysis and the use of informants	Number of MVT groups identified. Include gangs, cartels or other criminal enterprise with two or more members	15
1.1.2	Identify and document/record prolific MVT offenders [Prolific is defined as "linked to MVT offenses three or more times"]	Number identified/documented offenders	20
1.1.5	Conduct inspections of local businesses related to vehicle enterprise (transportation code or occupation code authorized companies such as salvage yard, repair shop, parts recycling center, used car dealership, salvage rebuilder, title service company, other). (see 1.3.3 to report the number of vehicles inspected in these businesses)	Number of businesses inspected	10
1.1.6	Conduct bait vehicle operations that target MVT offenders	Number of bait vehicle deployments. Include BMV bait operations here.	0
1.1.8	Deploy license plate readers (LPR)	Number of times LPR deployed. Deploy: If stationary unit then total number of days or partial days unit was operable and on. Mobile unit number of days the unit was on and operable.	150
1.1.9	Respond to taskforce license plate reader (LPR) alert notifications	Number of times investigators responded to taskforce LPR alert notifications regardless of whether vehicle was located	175
1.1.12	Conduct covert operations targeting MVT offenders	Number of covert operations	10
1.1.13	Conduct warrant "round-up" operations targeting motor vehicle crime offenders, including people wanted for MVTs, motor vehicle burglaries, theft of vehicle parts and motor vehicle fraud related crime.	Number of warrant round-up operations performed for MVT, BMV and FRMVC.	3
1.1.20	Number of Altered Vehicles Recovered	Report the total number of vehicles recovered with altered Vehicle Identification Number. Note: Please remember that a vehicle recovered must be reported in 1.1.15	15
1.2	Strategy 2: Conduct Collaborative Efforts that Result In Reduction of Incidents of Motor Vehicle Theft		
1.2.1	Provide Agency Assists for MVT and motor vehicle related fraud	Number of agency assists related to MVT. Assist means responding or answering questions via phone, e-mail, or in person. Providing recommendation, guidance, strategy, support or information that other LEOs will use to resolve their cases. The assist generally does not have the direct responsibility for an investigation nor uses LEO authority. The assist helps another LEO or agency investigate cases. Analysts and civilian employees will record their assists to outside LEOs and agencies met here along with officers.	180
1.2.2	Collaborate with other units or divisions (i.e. homicide, vice, narcotics, etc.) within the taskforce department(s) where a motor vehicle was used in the commission of the crime (includes identification of	Number of times collaborated within departments or SOs participating in taskforce related to MVT. Collaboration means physically using law enforcement resources, tactics and authority to perform activity on cases that draw upon or aid in the investigation intended to further the resolution of any case, identify parties to crime, identify vehicles, interview witnesses/suspects and apprehend suspects. Collaboration will include any help,	140

ID	Activity	Measure	Target
	vehicles). Include all participating jurisdiction departments here.	recommendation, contribution or support requested from or provided to another unit or offered by the taskforce that aids in the furtherance of motor vehicle theft investigations.	
1.2.3	Collaborate with all other outside LE agencies and other organizations that assist in the reduction of MVTs. Include all coverage jurisdictions here.	Number of times collaborated with coverage area agencies or other law enforcement agencies and organizations that assist in the reduction of MVT. Collaboration means physically using law enforcement resources, tactics and authority to perform activity on cases that draw upon or aid in the investigation intended to further the resolution of any case, identify parties to crime, identify vehicles, interview witnesses/suspects and apprehend suspects. Collaboration will include any help, recommendation, contribution or support requested from or provided to another unit or offered by the taskforce that aids in the furtherance of MVT theft investigations.	125
1.2.5	Conduct intelligence information-sharing (Personal attendance)	Number of intelligence meetings attended (include attending as presenter, participant or attendee)	65
1.2.6	Conduct intelligence information-sharing (Written information)	Crime analysis bulletins disseminated (include information distributed to law enforcement agencies via text, e-mail, or intra-net communications)	20
1.2.7	Collaborate with other MVCPA taskforces	Number of times collaborated with other MVCPA taskforces that assist in the reduction in MVT, BMV and FRMVC.	5
1.3	Strategy 3: Prevent and Reduce the Incidence of Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Activities		
1.3.1	Collaborate with agencies relating to investigation and enforcement of vehicle insurance fraud and FRMVC	Number of collaborations	25
1.3.2	Conduct confidential 68(A) inspections (for TxDMV assignment or reassignment of VIN required by Tx Trans. Code §501.032)	Number of vehicles inspected to complete a TxDMV 68A inspection form per TxDMV (VIN assignment, reassignment, bonded title)	3000
1.3.3	Conduct VIN verification inspections. (All other reasons except bridge or port)	Number of vehicles inspected by taskforce to identify the vehicles not reported in confidential (68A) or bridge and port sections.	150
1.3.4	Coordinate with TxDMV/Tax Offices relating to investigation and enforcement of fraudulent titles and registration of stolen vehicles	Number of collaborations with TxDMV HQ, TxDMV Regional Service Centers or County Tax Assessor Collector offices.	65
2	Goal 2: Reduce the Incidence of Theft from Motor Vehicles through Enforcement Strategies		
2.1	Strategy 1: Conduct Activities that Result in the Arrest, Clearance, and Recoveries of Burglary of Motor Vehicles and Theft of Vehicle Parts and Accessories		
2.1.1	Conduct bait vehicle operations that target vehicle burglary offenders	Number of bait vehicle burglary deployments	0
2.1.2	Identify "prolific BMV offenders" through informants and intelligence [Prolific is defined as "linked to BMV and theft of vehicle parts and accessories offenses three or more times"]	Number of offenders identified	5
2.2	Strategy 2: Conduct Collaborative Efforts that Result in the Reduction of Incidents of Theft From a Motor Vehicle		
2.2.1	Provide Agency Assists BMV.	Number of agency assists related to BMV or stolen parts. Assist means responding or answering questions via phone, e-mail, or in person. Providing recommendation, guidance, strategy, support or information that other LEOs will use to resolve their cases. The assist generally does not have the direct responsibility for an investigation nor uses LEO authority. The assist helps another LEO or agency investigate cases. Analysts and civilian employees will record their assists to outside LEOs and agencies met here along with officers.	65
2.2.2	Collaborate with other units or divisions within the taskforce department(s) (i.e. homicide, vice, narcotics, etc.) where theft of parts occurred in the commission of the crime (includes identification of vehicle). Include all participating jurisdiction departments here.	Number of times collaborated within departments or SOs participating in taskforce related to BMV or stolen parts. Collaboration means physically using law enforcement resources, tactics and authority to perform activity on cases that draw upon or aid in the investigation intended to further the resolution of any case, identify parties to crime, identify vehicles, interview witnesses/suspects and apprehend suspects. Collaboration will include any help, recommendation, contribution or support requested from or provided to another unit or offered by the taskforce that aids in the furtherance of BMV theft investigations.	30
2.2.3	Collaborate with all other outside LE agencies and other organizations where theft of parts occurred in the commission of the crime (includes identification of vehicle). Include all coverage jurisdictions here.	Number of times collaborated with coverage area agencies or other law enforcement agencies and organizations that assist in the reduction of BMV or stolen parts. Collaboration means physically using law enforcement resources, tactics and authority to perform activity on cases that draw upon or aid in the investigation intended to further the resolution of any case, identify parties to crime, identify vehicles, interview witnesses/suspects and apprehend suspects. Collaboration will include any help, recommendation, contribution or support requested from or provided to another unit or offered	30

ID	Activity	Measure	Target
		by the taskforce that aids in the furtherance of motor vehicle theft investigations.	
3	Goal 3: Educate/Train Citizens and Qualified Personnel in Detection and Prevention of Motor Vehicle Theft, Burglary of Motor Vehicles and Theft of Vehicle Parts and Accessories		
3.1	Strategy 1: Conduct Public Awareness Related Activities Used to Educate Citizens		
3.1.1	Conduct educational outreach events (include trade show, exhibits, booths at community events, vehicle displays, brochures, etc.)	Number of outreaches	2
3.1.2	Conduct educational presentations to the public	Number of presentations. Presentation means in person, on-line, original written document, article, or webpage.	5
3.1.4	Conduct vehicle identification initiative/event	Number of etching events. Include windows, component parts, VIN stamps and catalytic converters.	5
3.1.4.1	Conduct vehicle identification initiative/event	Number of Participants/Attendees (Vehicles Marked)	15
3.1.5	Purchase advertisements in local outlets	Number of advertisements purchased or provided complimentary for taskforce. Include all types of media purchased or provided free (social, tv, utility inserts, billboards, transportation, etc.). Describe in 6.1.1.	1
3.1.6	Conduct vehicle report card initiatives.	Number report cards issued	0
3.1.7	Utilize social media outlets (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)	Number of postings in social media outlets	20
3.1.8	Deploy outdoor public notification signage	Number of deployments per month (if sign remains several months, count as 1 deployment per month)	12
3.1.10	Conduct media outreach, including, public service announcements, press releases, and interviews	Number of outreaches	5
3.2	Strategy 2: Conduct Law Enforcement Training Activities to Educate Officers on Recognition and Apprehension of Stolen Vehicles and Property		
3.2.1	Conduct law enforcement training (TCOLE)	Number of classes provided for TCOLE credit	2
3.2.3	Conduct vehicle crimes presentations to law enforcement agencies (non TCOLE)	Number of classes or presentations. Presentations may include electronic roll call documents, shift BOLOs and other written or presented materials based on local practices.	15

Grant Evaluation

- 4.1 Describe the local method and/or practice used to collect the data for reporting Goals, Strategies, and Activities and to evaluate the grant program effectiveness. Describe management and staff participation. Include descriptions of systems (forms and software) that will be used to ensure reliable and accurate data is collected and reported. Describe any other evaluation methods used in the applicant agency to determine effectiveness or cost efficiency of the program.
- Each participating county has its own RMS for reporting and data collection. The Captain receives the reports from each county to compile the data for the quarterly reporting and will let the administrative assistant combine and report the statistics. The HOTATTFrespectively requests the MVCPA to develop a single database for the entire state in order to have accurate data collection. This would be very beneficial for reporting, viewing, and networking in order to collaborate with other task forces within the state for trends, organized crime-related offenses and sharing of information.
- 4.2 Provide any other suggested measures that would better reflect the law enforcement or prevention work that the proposed program will perform. If the suggested measure fits into one of the stated goals above please indicate.
- Provide any other suggested measures that would better reflect the law enforcement or prevention work that the proposed program will perform. If the suggested measure fits into one of the stated goals above please indicate.
- Participation in car shows and trade shows offering BMV prevention measures and stats from our coverage area. Latest trends that helpskeep the public up to date with how and why vehicle Theft and burglary occurs. Our Investigators visit with the citizens whileconducting the DMV 68A's and making sure they continue to secure vehicles with example of Lock it or Loose it, not leaving keyFOBS in vehicles. Securing or hiding valuables in the vehicles. We have face-to-face contact with over 1000 citizens while doing the 68As making this a great opportunity to get the prevention and awareness measure to the public daily. These measures are included in Goal 3: Educate/Train Citizens and Qualified Personnel in the Detection and Prevention of Motor Vehicle Theft, Burglary of Motor Vehicles, and Theft of Vehicle Parts and Accessories.

TxGMS Standard Assurances by Local Governments

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

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