



TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
WWW.TXDPS.STATE.TX.US/DEM

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
JACK COLLEY

January 29, 2010

The Honorable J. D. Salinas
Judge, Hidalgo County
100 E. Cano, 2nd Floor
Edinburg, TX 78539

Dear Judge Salinas:

This is to advise you of the availability of the FY 2010 Operation Stonegarden (OPSG-10) grant program from the U.S Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for counties directly on the U.S. – Mexico border as well as international water borders in Texas. OPSG-10 will provide funding to eligible localities to enhance cooperation and coordination between federal and local law enforcement agencies in a joint mission to secure the United States borders.

The OPSG-10 grant can be used for law enforcement overtime and certain law enforcement operating expenses while participating in border security operations approved by DHS. OPSG-10 grant funds can also be used to purchase eligible law enforcement equipment. Grant funds cannot be used to hire additional law enforcement officers. As with most federal grants, there are a host of terms and conditions attached to the grant that limit what grant funds can be used for.

Only counties may apply for OPSG-10 grants and they may include the local Sheriff's Office, other county level law enforcement agencies, such as constables, as well as municipal police departments within the county in their grant application. This is a competitive grant with \$60 million in grant funds available for award nationwide. Funding allocations will be determined by FEMA after review of the Operations Order that applicants must develop in coordination with the local Customs and Border Protection staff.

OPSG-10 grant applications from counties are due to the to the State Administrative Agency at the Texas Division of Emergency Management no later than March 19, 2010 and Operations Orders must be sent electronically in Microsoft word by that date. The State must submit its consolidated set of county grant applications and supporting documents to DHS. The period of performance for the grant will be up to 36 months.

Please see the attachments to this letter, which include the DHS Grant Guidance and Application Kit and forms that will assist you in applying for this grant. Pages 43 and 44 of the DHS Guidance and Application Kit outline allowable and unallowable costs. Attachment OPSG-10 Form A-4 is an electronic spreadsheet that you may use to build your grant budget.



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I encourage you to take advantage of this grant program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jack Colley".

Jack Colley,
Assistant Director

cc: County Sheriff

Attachments:

1. OPSG-10 Form A-1 - Local Application
2. OPSG-10 Form A-2 - Designation of Grant Officials
3. OPSG-10 Form A-3 - Application of Federal Assistance
4. OPSG-10 Form A-4 - Budget Worksheet
5. OPSG-10 Form A-5 - Assurances and Certifications
6. Form 74-176 Direct Deposit Form
7. FY 10 OPSG Grant Guidance