



FEMA

October 31, 2013

Arturo Mendez
Texas Homeland Security State Administrative Agency
PO Box 4087
Austin, TX 78773

Dear Mr. Mendez:

Please be advised that, based on the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Operation Stonegarden Grant Program (OPSG) guidelines and special conditions associated with this program, the below referenced Operations Order is *conditionally approved*:

Operations Order No: 13-MCAMCA-09-004-Version 0

Fiscal Year: 2012

Amount Approved: \$314,447.36

Operations Order Dates: 09/01/2013-11/30/2013

Recipient: Hidalgo County

Pending approval of the Personnel Cap Waiver by the FEMA Administrator, Hidalgo County is authorized to spend up to, but must not exceed, 50 percent of the FY 2012 Operation Stonegarden allocation issued by FEMA. A subsequent approval letter will be issued for this Operations Order upon receipt of the FEMA Administrator's approval.

Expenditures from the Operations Order that were reviewed and approved by FEMA and U.S. Customs and Border Protection/Border Patrol (CBP) include: overtime and fringe costs, and mileage costs. These expenses will assist the County in conducting border centric, intelligence driven operations with the goal of reduction or elimination of threat, risk and vulnerability along our Nations' borders.

Please find the below special conditions associated with OPSG and retain this letter for your grant files. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (202) 786-9668.

Sincerely,

Corey Walz

Corey Walz
Program Analyst
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Grant Programs Directorate

Cc: U.S. Customs and Border Protection/ Border Patrol

The following Special Conditions are associated with this Operation Stonegarden award:

1. Construction and construction-type activities are prohibited.
2. Lethal or less than lethal forces including, but not limited to: weapons, firearms, ammunition and tasers are prohibited.
3. Per the *Personnel Reimbursement for Intelligence Cooperation and Enhancement (PRICE) of Homeland Security Act* (Public Law 110-412), the sum of all personnel related expenses shall not exceed 50% of the recipient's allocation without first obtaining a waiver from the FEMA Administrator.
4. All participating agencies shall monitor, review and track expenditures of OPSG funds under individual Operations Orders issued. Participating agencies shall not obligate, and/or encumber OPSG grant funds beyond the total of their allocation issued by FEMA.
5. The Operations Order has been reviewed and approved under the Environmental and Historic Preservation Program (EHP) guidelines as being categorically excluded from further EHP review.
6. Recipients must submit a letter of justification for all proposed vehicles or equipment items in excess of \$100,000. This justification will be reviewed by CBP and FEMA.