

[Print This Page](#)**Agency Name:** Hidalgo County**Grant/App:** 4461701 **Start Date:** 10/1/2022 **End Date:** 9/30/2023**Project Title:** Hidalgo County Pct. 4 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant**Status:** Application Pending Submission**Profile Information****Applicant Agency Name:** Hidalgo County**Project Title:** Hidalgo County Pct. 4 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant**Division or Unit to Administer the Project:** Hidalgo County Constable Precinct 4**Address Line 1:** 2814 S. Business Highway 281**Address Line 2:****City/State/Zip:** Edinburg Texas 78539-6243**Start Date:** 10/1/2022**End Date:** 9/30/2023**Regional Council of Governments(COG) within the Project's Impact Area:** Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council**Headquarter County:** Hidalgo**Counties within Project's Impact Area:** Hidalgo**Grant Officials:****Authorized Official****Name:** Richard F. Cortez**Email:** countyjudge@co.hidalgo.tx.us**Address 1:** 100 East Cano, 2nd Floor**Address 1:****City:** Edinburg, Texas 78539**Phone:** 956-318-2600 Other Phone:**Fax:** 956-318-2699**Title:** The Honorable**Salutation:** Judge**Position:** Hidalgo County Judge**Financial Official****Name:** Maria Arcilia Duran**Email:** arcilia.duran@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us**Address 1:** 2808 S. Business Hwy 281**Address 1:****City:** Edinburg, Texas 78539**Phone:** 956-318-2511 Other Phone:**Fax:** 956-318-2577**Title:** Ms.**Salutation:** Ms.**Position:** County Auditor**Project Director****Name:** Romeo Pena**Email:** romeo.pena@co.hidalgo.tx.us**Address 1:** 2814 S Business Highway 281**Address 1:****City:** Edinburg, Texas 78539**Phone:** 956-383-8560 Other Phone: 956-383-8560**Fax:****Title:** Mr.**Salutation:** Sergeant**Position:** Sergeant

Grant Writer

Name: Christopher Barrera

Email: christopher.rbarrera@co.hidalgo.tx.us

Address 1: 2814 S Business Highway 281

Address 1:

City: Edinburg, Texas 78539

Phone: 956-383-8560 Other Phone: 956-383-8560

Fax:

Title: Mr.

Salutation: Officer

Position: Deputy Constable

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Narrative Information

Introduction

The purpose of this funding is to support projects that promote public safety, reduce crime, and improve the criminal justice system.

The funding announcement, located on the [eGrants Calendar](#) page, describes the organization types, activities, and costs that are eligible under the announcement. The PSO's [eGrants User Guide to Creating an Application](#) guides applicants through the process of creating and submitting an application in eGrants. Information and guidance related to the management and use of grant funds can be found in the PSO's Guide to Grants, located on the [PSO Resource for Applicants and Grantees](#) webpage.

Certifications

In addition to the requirements found in existing statute, regulation, and the funding announcement, this program requires applicant organizations to certify compliance with the following:

Constitutional Compliance

Applicant assures that it will not engage in any activity that violates Constitutional law including profiling based upon race.

Information Systems

Applicant assures that any new criminal justice information systems will comply with data sharing standards for the Global Justice XML Data Model and the National Information Exchange Model.

Bulletproof Vests

Applicant assures that if it plans to purchase body armor with grant funds, that it has adopted a mandatory wear policy and that all vests purchased have been tested and found to comply with the latest applicable National Institute of Justice (NIJ) ballistic or stab standards. Additionally, vests purchased must be American-made.

Cybersecurity Training Requirement

Local units of governments must comply with the Cybersecurity Training requirements described in Section 772.012 and Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code. Local governments determined to not be in compliance with the cybersecurity requirements required by Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code are ineligible for OOG grant funds until the second anniversary of the date the local government is determined ineligible. Government entities must annually certify their compliance with the training requirements using the Cybersecurity Training Certification for State and Local Governments. A copy of the Training Certification must be uploaded to your eGrants application. For more information or to access available training programs, visit the Texas Department of Information Resources Statewide Cybersecurity Awareness Training page.

Criminal History Reporting

Entities receiving funds from PSO must be located in a county that has an average of 90% or above on both adult and juvenile dispositions entered into the computerized criminal history database maintained by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) as directed in the *Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 66*. The disposition completeness percentage is defined as the percentage of arrest charges a county reports to DPS for which a disposition has been subsequently reported and entered into the computerized criminal history system.

Counties applying for grant awards from the Office of the Governor must commit that the county will report at least 90% of convictions within five business days to the Criminal Justice Information System at the Department of Public Safety.

Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR)

Eligible applicants operating a law enforcement agency must be current on reporting complete UCR data and the Texas specific reporting mandated by 411.042 TGC, to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) for inclusion in the annual Crime in Texas (CIT) publication. To be considered eligible for funding, applicants must have submitted a full twelve months of accurate data to DPS for the most recent calendar year by the deadline(s) established by DPS. Due to the importance of timely reporting, applicants are required to submit complete and accurate UCR data, as well as the Texas-mandated reporting, on a no less than monthly basis and respond promptly to requests from DPS related to the data submitted.

DNA Testing of Evidentiary Materials

When funds are used for DNA testing of evidentiary materials, any resulting eligible DNA profiles must be uploaded to the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) by a government DNA lab with access to CODIS.

Interoperable Communications

Funds to support emergency communications activities must ensure compliance with the FY 2018 SAFECOM Guidance on Emergency Communications Grants; adherence to the technical standards set forth in the FCC Waiver Order, or any succeeding FCC orders, rules, or regulations pertaining to broadband operations in the 700 MHz public safety band; and are fully coordinated with the full-time Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) for Texas.

Twelve-Step Programs

Grant funds may not be used to support or directly fund programs such as the Twelve Step Program which courts have ruled are inherently religious. PSO grant funds cannot be used to support these programs, conduct meetings, or purchase related materials.

Program Income

Applicant agrees to comply with all federal and state rules and regulations for program income and agrees to report all program income that is generated as a result of the project's activities. Applicant agrees to report program income through a formal grant adjustment and to secure PSO approval prior to use of the program income. Applicant agrees to use program income for allowable costs and agrees to expend program income immediately after PSO's approval of a grant adjustment and prior to requesting reimbursement of funds.

Deduction Method - Program income shall be deducted from total allowable costs to determine the net allowable costs. Program income shall be used for current costs unless PSO authorizes otherwise. Program income which the grantee did not anticipate at the time of the award shall be used to reduce the PSO award and grantee match rather than to increase the funds committed to the project.

Asset Seizures and Forfeitures - Program income from asset seizures and forfeitures is considered earned when the property has been adjudicated to the benefit of the plaintiff (e.g., law enforcement entity).

National Instant Background Check System (NICS)

Entities receiving funds under this solicitation that are to generate or upgrade court dispositions or other records that are relevant to National Instant Background Check System (NICS) determinations must have a system in place to ensure that all such NICS-relevant dispositions or records that are generated or upgraded are made available in timely fashion to state repositories/databases that are accessed by NICS.

Body-Worn Cameras (BWCs)

Applicant assures that if it plans to purchase body-worn cameras with grant funds, that it has adopted adequate policies and procedures related to BWC equipment usage, data storage and access, privacy considerations and training. The certification form related to BWC policies and procedures can be found here.

Compliance with State and Federal Laws, Programs and Procedures

Local units of government, including cities, counties and other general purpose political subdivisions, as appropriate, and institutions of higher education that operate a law enforcement agency, must comply with all aspects of the programs and procedures utilized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") to: (1) notify DHS of all information requested by DHS related to illegal aliens in Agency's custody; and (2) detain such illegal aliens in accordance with requests by DHS. Additionally, counties and municipalities may NOT have in effect, purport to have in effect, or make themselves subject to or bound by, any law, rule, policy, or practice (written or unwritten) that would: (1) require or authorize the public disclosure of federal law enforcement information in order to conceal, harbor, or shield from detection fugitives from justice or aliens illegally in the United States; or (2) impede federal officers from exercising authority under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), § 1226(c), § 1231(a), § 1357(a), § 1366(1), or § 1366(3). Lastly, eligible applicants must comply with all provisions, policies, and penalties found in Chapter 752, Subchapter C of the Texas Government Code.

Each local unit of government, and institution of higher education that operates a law enforcement agency, must download, complete and then upload into eGrants the [CEO/Law Enforcement Certifications and Assurances Form](#) certifying compliance with federal and state immigration enforcement requirements. This Form is required for each application submitted to OOG and is active until August 31, 2023 or the end of the grant period, whichever is later.

Civil Rights Liaison

A civil rights liaison who will serve as the grantee's civil rights point of contact and who will be responsible for ensuring that the grantee meets all applicable civil rights requirements must be designated. The designee will act as the grantee's liaison in civil rights matters with PSO and with the federal Office of Justice Programs.

Enter the Name of the Civil Rights Liaison:

Chief Horaldo Sanchez

Enter the Address for the Civil Rights Liaison:

2814 South Business Highway 281 Edinburg, Texas 78539

Enter the Phone Number for the Civil Rights Liaison [(999) 999-9999 x9999]:

956-383-8560

Overall Certification

Each applicant agency must certify to the specific requirements detailed above as well as to comply with all requirements within the PSO Funding Announcement, the *Guide to Grants*, the *Grantee Conditions and Responsibilities*, any authorizing or applicable state and federal statutes and regulations to be eligible for this program.

I certify to all of the application content & requirements.

Project Abstract :

The Training simulator can provide our department with visual and audio training with real life scenarios. The training simulator will improve accountability and lower future reports of any officer misconduct. The training simulator will place our officers in real life scenarios that will help keep them safe while in real life calls for service. The Police Tasers are designed as nonlethal weapons, a tool for law enforcement officers to safely subdue noncompliant suspects and keeping both the officers and suspect safe from physical harm.

Problem Statement :

We patrol the south Texas area. Our area is a high crime traffic area for narcotics crossing from Mexico to the United States. Our agency assists local, state, and federal agencies in conducting traffic stops, knock and talk operations, search warrants, and arrest warrants that led to the disruption of criminal organizations involving in human smuggling, human trafficking, and illegal narcotics. Having each individual officer equipped with a taser will help our officers safely subdue noncompliant suspects and keep both officer and suspect safe from physical harm if a situation occurs. The training simulator will put our officers in real life scenarios and help keep our officers safe.

Supporting Data :

we patrol the southern border areas of the United States assisting other local agencies in calls for service that arise. Calls for service that we assist on area violent crimes in progress with police interaction with victims, witnesses, and suspects. According to Hidalgo County Sheriff domestic violence calls have increased by 30%.

Our geographical location is in high demand for law enforcement presence with border violence, drug trafficking, and human smuggling. Our officers need to be equipped and trained with equipment that will protect them, the public, and integrity of the agency they serve.

Project Approach & Activities:

Our agency will enforce a Taser and training simulator policy set in place during any civilian interaction to include traffic stops, knock and talk operations, execution of civil and criminal warrants. Officers will use their Taser if needed during calls for service dealing directly with noncompliant suspects. Our agency believes in training officers in real life scenarios in various day-to-day police work, as well as continue to advance professionally. Our approach is to be transparent with the community that we serve on a daily basis with this technology.

Capacity & Capabilities:

We have deputies patrolling the northern part of Hidalgo County capable of working traffic / criminal interdiction. Our agency is focused on civil and criminal law enforcement with the purpose of stopping or deterring criminal activity. Officers are armed with dash board cameras in their assigned patrol units and body armor to help counter any threats to our local area, the State of Texas, or the United States. The existing capability levels include: The Constable, 1 Chief Deputy, 2 Sergeants, 18 Deputy Constables.

Performance Management :

Our office will measure its success by the improving accountability and transparency with the general public. As an agency to lower future reports of complaints on officers, protect officers from false accusations or misconduct, and protect the citizens. Our agencies overall goal is to have our officers properly trained during any civilian interaction to include traffic stops, knock and talk operations, execution of civil and criminal warrants. Enforced through agency policy officers will be required to be fully trained with the equipment before it is assigned to the officer for their use as required by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement.

Target Group :

All the citizens, residence or visitors of Hidalgo County will benefit from this grant. Population 860,661.

Evidence-Based Practices:

According to the Texas Department of Public Safety crime records report and statistical information in the year 2018 Hidalgo County law enforcement deputies and officers arrested 1,154 individuals for assault causing bodily injury to a family member with an annual conviction number of 498. Hidalgo County law enforcement arrested 568 individuals in 2018 for evading arrest with 201 convictions. Hidalgo County arrested 95 individuals with Interference of Public Duties with 32 convictions. Hidalgo County arrested 97 individual with Possession of Marijuana 4oz>2oz with 54 convictions. These are only some of many charges that an officer and a suspect can interact in the field during patrol. The Taser is a use of force and is to be used only when necessary to overcome resistance while affecting an arrest, preventing an escape, in self defense, or in defense of another person from physical harm, and in accordance with this department's use of force policy. Taking a variety of training programs and classes on various police topics not only further educates officers, but also broadens their horizons. Law enforcement officers can use trainings in various day-to-day police work, as well as continue to advance professionally.

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Grant Vendor Information

Organization Type: County

Organization Option: applying to provide services to all others

Applicant Agency's State Payee Identification Number (e.g., Federal Employer's Identification (FEI) Number or Vendor ID): 17460007176041

Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS): 103110834

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Project Activities Information

Introduction

This section contains questions about your project. It is very important for applicants to review their funding announcement for guidance on how to fill out this section. Unless otherwise specified, answers should be about the EXPECTED activities to occur during the project period.

Selected Project Activities:

ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE:	DESCRIPTION
Law Enforcement	100.00	Training Simulator and Tasers intended for use by the Constable department that employ officers who are engaged in traffic, or highway patrol, otherwise regularly detain or stop motor vehicles; or are primary responders who respond directly to calls for assistance from the public. The training simulator will train the deputies with real life training scenarios.

CJD Purpose Areas

PERCENT DEDICATED	PURPOSE AREA	PURPOSE AREA DESCRIPTION
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Measures Information

Objective Output Measures

OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
Equipment or technology: Individuals/operators equipped	22
General Law Enforcement or Public Safety: Arrests resulting from grant.	50
Targeted Investigation: Criminal cases resulting in arrest.	50
Targeted Investigation: Grant-funded investigations carried out by the unit/division	50
Training or professional development: Individuals provided	22
Training or professional development: Individuals received	22
Training, professional development, or technical assistance: Hours provided	40
Training, professional development, or technical assistance: Hours received	40

Objective Outcome Measures

OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
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Custom Output Measures

CUSTOM OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
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Custom Outcome Measures

CUSTOM OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
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Budget Details Information

Budget Information by Budget Line Item:

CATEGORY	SUB CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL	UNIT/%
Equipment	Desktop System and Accessories	Apex training simulator computer system - Allows officers to conduct interactive testing and assessments, and provide immersive hands-on scenario-based exercises.	\$67,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$67,500.00	2
Equipment	Taser	The Police Tasers are designed as nonlethal weapons, a tool for law enforcement officers to safely subdue noncompliant suspects and keeping both the officers and suspect safe from physical harm. Tasers included all training material for officer certification.	\$109,286.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$109,286.20	22

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Budget Summary Information

Budget Summary Information by Budget Category:

CATEGORY	OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL
Equipment	\$176,786.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$176,786.20

Budget Grand Total Information:

OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL
\$176,786.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$176,786.20

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