



## SAFETY GRANT PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

Thank you for your agency's interest in being considered for a Spirit of Blue Safety Equipment or Training Grant. Attached to this sheet is a submission form that will aid you in submitting information for consideration. While we are not able to approve all requests that are received, we review all submissions for their potential impact on officer safety, financial hardship of the agency and the Foundation's ability to meet those needs with its resources and partnerships.

## QUALIFYING SAFETY CATEGORIES

All requested equipment or training must have a clearly articulated Officer Safety impact. The Spirit of Blue has defined 15 safety categories that it will grant towards:

<b>Protecting Life</b>	Ballistic Protection, Medical Supplies, Safety Training, Traffic Awareness and Sensory Protection
<b>Projecting Force</b>	Lethal Force Options, Less-Lethal Force Options, Target Acquisition, Illumination and Firearms Accessories
<b>Creating Advantage</b>	Operational Gear, Communications, Footwear/Apparel, Intelligence Gathering and Security Solutions

## GRANT FULFILLMENT

The Spirit of Blue rarely provides a cash award to a receiving agency. Instead, the Foundation will coordinate with the manufacturer, distributor or provider of the good or service being awarded and will donate the product or service to the receiving agency. Agencies who receive a Spirit of Blue grant are generally ineligible to receive additional grant funding for a two (2) year period.

## PROCESS DURATION

Agencies that submit for consideration will remain in the Spirit of Blue database indefinitely. There is no need to re-apply, but agencies may update their need statements as their situations change. Grants are awarded year-round based on availability of funds and coordinating partner support. Grants are not fulfilled until they are officially accepted by the agency, which may include approval from their local governing authority (city council, county commission, etc.). This process can take as short as a few weeks and has taken up to 12-18 months for some agencies to obtain. The Spirit of Blue will work with agencies to navigate their individual process for acceptance. A grant will not be withdrawn once awarded, unless the agency's local governing authority refuses the award or the grant is not accepted within 24 months of its award.



Agency Name: Hidalgo County Constable Pct. 4  
Agency Point of Contact: Deputy Christopher R. Barrera  
Point of Contact Phone: 956-383-8560  
Point of Contact Email: christopher.rbarrera@co.hidalgo.tx.us  
Agency Address: 2814 S. BUS, HWY 281, Edinburg, Tx 78539  
Number of Sworn Officers: 21  
Head of Agency Name: Constable - Atanacio "J.R." Gaitan

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Prioritized list of un-funded safety needs (with item quantities, detail and associated costs as available):

1. 20 Gen7 C-A-T Tourniquets for duty belts \$29.99 each, duty belt RIGID TQ case \$41.99 each = Total \$1,439.60
2. 20 First Defense MK3 Police Pepper spray \$16.99 each  
Total \$339.80
3. 20 Stinger LED Flashlights \$159.99 each Total \$3,199.80
- 4.
- 5.

Agency Description:

Hidalgo County Constable Pct. 4 is located in the Rio Grande Valley in south Texas, our existing capability levels include: 1 Constable, 1 Chief Deputy, 2 Sergeant, and 16 Deputy Constables. We have the following division within our agency Civil Process, Patrol, K9, Court Security, Environmental Investigations, Communications and Special operations. We patrol the Rural area just north of the U.S. Border in south Texas.



**Funding Situation:**

The capability gap is that Pct. 4 Constable is lacking local funding for enhance patrol and equipment.

**Other Information to demonstrate merit or for consideration:**

Our area is a high crime traffic area for narcotics crossing from Mexico to the U.S. We encounter human smuggling, illegal Aliens, stash houses and vehicle pursuits. We assist the Texas Department of Public Safety, Hidalgo County Sheriff's office and Border Patrol when working patrol and special operations.



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