

# COUNTY of HIDALGO



**HIDALGO COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE**  
**Hidalgo County Administration Building**  
**2808 South Business Highway 281**  
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**PHONE: (956) 318-2511**  
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December 9, 2024

The Honorable Richard F. Cortez, Hidalgo County Judge  
The Honorable David L. Fuentes, Commissioner, Precinct No. 1  
The Honorable Eduardo "Eddie" Cantu, Commissioner, Precinct No. 2  
The Honorable Everardo "Ever" Villarreal, Commissioner, Precinct No. 3  
The Honorable Ellie Torres, Commissioner, Precinct No. 4

## **RE: Certification of Revenue**

Dear Judge and Commissioners:

Pursuant to Local Government Code § 111.0706 SPECIAL BUDGET FOR GRANT OR AID MONEY:


The county auditor shall certify to the commissioner's court the receipt of all public or private grant or aid money that is available for disbursement in a fiscal year but not included in the budget for that fiscal year. On certification, the court shall adopt a special budget for the limited purpose of spending the grant or aid money for its intended purpose.

I, Letty Chavez, Hidalgo County Auditor, certify to the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court the receipt of an award from the State of Texas - Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority (MVCPA). These funds may now be made available by creating a new special budget or amending a current budget for its intended purposes.

AMOUNT  
\$388,062.00

PURPOSE  
Grant Number: 608-25-1080000  
Hidalgo County Combined Auto Theft Task Force FY25

CERTIFIED BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Letty Chavez  
County Auditor

12/9/2024  
Date

### **HIDALGO COUNTY DISTRICT JUDGES**

LUIS M. SINGLETERRY JUDGE, 92<sup>ND</sup> D.C.    FERNANDO MANCIAS JUDGE, 93<sup>RD</sup> D.C.    J. R. "BOBBY" FLORES JUDGE, 139<sup>TH</sup> D.C.    ROSE GUERRA REYNA JUDGE, 206<sup>TH</sup> D.C.    MARLA CUELLAR JUDGE, 275<sup>TH</sup> D.C.    MARIO E. RAMIREZ, JR. JUDGE, 332<sup>ND</sup> D.C.    NOE GONZALEZ JUDGE, 370<sup>TH</sup> D.C. OVERSEER    LETICIA LOPEZ JUDGE, 389<sup>TH</sup> D.C.    L. KENO VASQUEZ JUDGE, 398<sup>TH</sup> D.C.    ISRAEL RAMON, JR. JUDGE, 430<sup>TH</sup> D.C.    RENEE R. BETANCOURT JUDGE, 449<sup>TH</sup> D.C.    JOSE "JOE" RAMIREZ JUDGE, 464<sup>TH</sup> D.C.    YSMAEL FONSECA JUDGE, 476<sup>TH</sup> D.C.

AI-97680

Sheriff's Office 9. A.

**CC REGULAR AGENDA SPECIAL MTG**

**Meeting Date:** 12/10/2024

**Submitted For:** Rocky Serna, SHERIFF DEPT.

**Submitted By:** Jose Rodriguez

**Department:** SHERIFF DEPT.

**CAPTION**

**Sheriff's Office - Combined Auto Theft Task Force Grant FY25 Acceptance**

1. Authorization and approval to accept the FY 2025 Auto Theft Task Force Grant from Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority, in the grand total of \$827,096.00 and a cash match of \$170,279 (10/17/2024 - 10/16/2025). Grant is award to Hidalgo County with participating agencies (Edinburg Pd, Mercedes PD, Weslaco) Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office is responsible for an amount of \$388,062 and a cash match of \$77,615 for a total of \$465,677.00 Auto Theft Task Force
2. Approval of Certification of Revenues, as certified by the Co. Auditor, for the FY25 ~~Catalytic Converter~~ Grant in the amount of \$465,677.00 and appropriation of the same.
3. Approval of interfund transfer to fund cash match in the amount of \$77,615.00

**BACKGROUND**

AI-95440 Application 05/28/2024

**Fiscal Impact**

**CALENDAR YEAR:** 2024

**ACCT. #:** 4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-XXX

**FUNDS AVAILABLE Y/N?:** Y

**MATCHING FUNDS Y/N?:** Y

**BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$388,062.00 for the Auto Theft Task Force Grant (10/17/2024-10/16/2025)

Cash Match Required in the amount of \$77,615.00

Rev Account. 4-1284-334-10-280-108-5-000

**Attachments**

Award Letter  
COR Request  
appropriation-revised

**Form Review**

**Inbox**

**Reviewed By**

**Date**

Final Approval

Monica Salinas

12/06/2024 05:43 PM

Form Started By: Jose Rodriguez

Started On: 12/06/2024 01:44 PM





FY25 Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority  
Statement of Taskforce Grant Award and Grantee Acceptance Notice  
Tier 2

Grant Number: **608-25-1080000**  
 Grantee: **Hidalgo County**  
 Program Title: **Hidalgo County Combined Auto Theft Task Force FY25**  
 Grant Award Amount: **\$827,096**  
 Total Cash Match Amount: **\$170,279**  
 In-Kind Match Amount: **\$0**  
 Reimbursement Percent\*: **83.33%**  
 Grant Term: **October 17, 2024 to October 16, 2025**

**Grant Budget Summary: Hidalgo County (App ID: 271)**

Budget Category	MVCPA Expenditures	Cash Match Expenditures	Total Expenditures	In-Kind Match
<b>Personnel</b>	\$211,286	\$42,258	\$253,544	\$0
<b>Fringe</b>	\$83,246	\$16,650	\$99,896	\$0
<b>Overtime</b>	\$14,679	\$2,936	\$17,615	\$0
<b>Professional and Contract Services</b>	\$370,594	\$78,974	\$449,568	\$0
<b>Travel</b>	\$20,666	\$4,134	\$24,800	\$0
<b>Equipment</b>	\$48,333	\$9,667	\$58,000	\$0
<b>Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)</b>	\$78,292	\$15,660	\$93,952	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$827,096</b>	<b>\$170,279</b>	<b>\$997,375</b>	<b>\$0</b>

\*Reimbursement Percent: 83.33% - \$827,096-MVCPA Amt / (\$827,096-MVCPA Amt. plus 170,279-Cash Match)

That whereas, **Hidalgo County** (hereinafter referred to as Grantee), has heretofore submitted a grant application in response to the Request for Application issued on April 12, 2024, to the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority, State of Texas, entitled **Hidalgo County Combined Auto Theft Task Force FY25** and further identified by grant number **608-25-1080000** and

Whereas, the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority has approved the grant application as evidenced by this FY25 Statement of Grant Award and certain special requirements from the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority dated **12/5/2024** and

Whereas, the Grantee desires to accept the FY25 grant award and use all funds for purposes and in compliance with the following requirements that are adopted in their entirety by reference:

- Texas Transportation Code Chapter 1006;
- Texas Administrative Code: Title 43; Part 3; Chapter 57;

- Texas Grant Management Standards (TxGMS) as promulgated by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts including TxGMS Standard Assurances by Local Governments and Standards for Financial and Program Management;
- The Request for Applications issued on April 12, 2024;
- The current Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority Grant Administrative Manual and forms and subsequently adopted grantee instruction manuals and forms;
- The Final Adopted Application attached to this Statement of Grant Award; and
- The Approved Grant Budget Summary

Now, therefore, the Grantee accepts the FY25 Statement of Grant Award under the conditions above including the special requirements in the grant application and the Statement of Grant Award as evidenced by this agreement, executed by the official authorized to sign the original grant application, or the official’s designated successor, as presiding officer of and on behalf of the governing body of this grantee; and

The Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority has awarded the above-referenced grant subject to the availability of state funds. The approved budget is reflected in the above Approved Grant Budget Summary. This grant is subject to and conditioned upon the acceptance of the MVCPA Grant Administrative Guide promulgated for this specific program fund (referenced above) by the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority. Applicable special conditions are listed below.

**Special Conditions and Requirements (MVCPA will only apply special conditions to applicable jurisdictions):**

X  **Non-Supplanting** - The grantee agrees that funds will be used to supplement, not supplant, funds that would otherwise be available for the activities under this grant. This includes demonstrating that new funded positions will be added to the department and not replacing local funds with state funds.

X  **Intelligence Sharing** - The grantee is required to ensure that Law Enforcement personnel funded in whole or in part by this grant actively participate in Law Enforcement intelligence sharing webinars and Motor Vehicle Crime Investigator Virtual Command Centers organized and promoted on behalf of the MVCPA program operation and statewide collaboration.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Official

\_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name and Title

\_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed

DATE: August 28, 2024

2024

Appropriation  
AI-96554



DEPARTMENT HEAD: Hidalgo County Sheriff J.E. Eddie Guerra

DEPARTMENT NAME: Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-XXX

Contact Person: Jose Rodriguez Ph#: 956-393-6176

**SUBJECT:** **Appropriations of Funds** (increase (decrease)) in accordance with Local Government Code, Chapter 111, § 111.070, Item C (2).

Honorable Commissioners' Court of Hidalgo County:

I would like to request the following Appropriations of Funds (increase (decrease)) in accordance with Local Government Code, Chapter 111, § 111.070, Item C (2).

INCREASE ACCOUNT NUMBER(S)	ACCOUNT (OBJECT) NAME		AMOUNT
4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-113	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	Full-time employees	\$240,740.00
4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-115	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	Longevity pay	\$4,104.00
4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-117	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	Supplemental pay	\$7,200.00
4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-119	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	Clothing allowance	\$1,500.00
4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-131	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	Overtime pay	\$12,037.00
4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-211	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	Health insurance	\$45,936.00
4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-212	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	Life insurance	\$224.64
4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-220	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	FICA	\$19,337.44
4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-230	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	Retirement contributions	\$32,881.26
4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-250	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	Unemployment compensation	\$1,516.66
4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-260	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	Workers' compensation	\$0.00
4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-442	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	Rental of equipment and vehicles	45,000.00
4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-532	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	Wireless devices	2,400.00
4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-583	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	Out-of-county employee travel	24,800.00
4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-610	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	General supplies	5,000.00
4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-626	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	Gasoline/diesel	10,000.00
4-1284-421-00-280-108-5-660	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	Furnishings and equipment	13,000.00
4-1284-334-10-280-108-5-000	FY25 AUTO THEFT T.F. GRANT	REVENUES	\$388,062.00
4-1284-391-01-280-108-5-100	TRANSFER IN	SHERIFF GF	\$77,615.00
4-1100-491-01-280-108-5-284	TRANSFER OUT	GRANYS LVL4	\$77,615.00
<b>TOTAL BUDGET INCREASE (DECREASE)</b>			<b>\$465,677.00</b>

**REASON:** Appropriation of funds for FY25 Auto Theft Task Force Grant

DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE

APPROVED COMMISSIONERS' COURT

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

ATTEST COUNTY CLERK

Hidalgo County Taskforce Grant Negotiation for Fiscal Year 2025

[Request for Application \(RFA\)](#) (need link to rfa)

Primary Agency / Grantee Legal Name: *Hidalgo County*  
Organization Type: *Law Enforcement*  
Organization ORI (if applicable): *TX1080000: HIDALGO CO SO (MIP)*

**Program Title** Please enter a short description of the proposed program that can be used as the title.  
*Hidalgo County Combined Auto Theft Task Force FY25*

**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
- 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**

**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.

Participating Agencies	Coverage Agencies
TX1080000 HIDALGO CO SO (MIP)	
TX1080400 EDINBURG PD	
TX1080900 MERCEDES PD	
TX1081400 WESLACO PD	

**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](mailto: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 MVCPA and Cash Match Amounts

Budget Category	MVCPA Expenditures	Cash Match Expenditures	Total Expenditures	In-Kind Match
<i>Personnel</i>	\$211,286	\$42,258	\$253,544	
<i>Fringe</i>	\$83,246	\$16,650	\$99,896	
<i>Overtime</i>	\$14,679	\$2,936	\$17,615	
<i>Professional and Contract Services</i>	\$370,594	\$78,974	\$449,568	
<i>Travel</i>	\$20,666	\$4,134	\$24,800	
<i>Equipment</i>	\$48,333	\$9,667	\$58,000	
<i>Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)</i>	\$78,292	\$15,660	\$93,952	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$827,096</b>	<b>\$170,279</b>	<b>\$997,375</b>	
Cash Match Percentage		20.59%		

Description	Subcategory	Pct Time	MVCPA Funds	Cash Match	Total	In-Kind Match
<b>Personnel</b>						
HCSO Lieutenant III	Investigator/LEO	100	\$68,524	\$13,705	\$82,229	
HCSO Sr. Deputy III	Investigator/LEO	100	\$53,734	\$10,747	\$64,481	
HCSO Sr. Deputy IV	Investigator/LEO	100	\$58,293	\$11,659	\$69,952	
HCSO Admin. Assistant III	Administrative / Support	100	\$30,735	\$6,147	\$36,882	
<b>Total Personnel</b>		<b>400</b>	<b>\$211,286</b>	<b>\$42,258</b>	<b>\$253,544</b>	
<b>Fringe</b>						
HCSO Lieutenant III	Investigator/LEO		\$24,243	\$4,849	\$29,092	
HCSO Sr. Deputy III	Investigator/LEO		\$20,663	\$4,133	\$24,796	
HCSO Sr. Deputy IV	Investigator/LEO		\$21,863	\$4,373	\$26,236	
HCSO Admin. Assistant III	Administrative / Support		\$16,477	\$3,295	\$19,772	
<b>Total Fringe</b>			<b>\$83,246</b>	<b>\$16,650</b>	<b>\$99,896</b>	
<b>Overtime</b>						
HCSO Lieutenant III	Investigator/LEO		\$3,277	\$655	\$3,932	
HCSO Sr. Deputy III	Investigator/LEO		\$2,474	\$495	\$2,969	
HCSO Sr. Deputy IV	Investigator/LEO		\$2,743	\$549	\$3,292	
HCSO Admin. Assistant III	Administrative / Support		\$1,537	\$307	\$1,844	
Weslaco PD	Investigator/LEO		\$4,648	\$930	\$5,578	
<b>Total Overtime</b>			<b>\$14,679</b>	<b>\$2,936</b>	<b>\$17,615</b>	
<b>Professional and Contract Services</b>						
Edinburg PD TFOs	Investigator/LEO - personnel	100	\$197,339	\$39,468	\$236,807	
Mercedes PD TFOs	Investigator/LEO - personnel	100	\$49,515	\$14,758	\$64,273	
Weslaco PD TFOs	Investigator/LEO - personnel	100	\$123,740	\$24,748	\$148,488	
<b>Total Professional and Contract Services</b>		<b>300</b>	<b>\$370,594</b>	<b>\$78,974</b>	<b>\$449,568</b>	
<b>Travel</b>						
HCSO Law-Enforcement In-State	Law enforcement In-State		\$11,250	\$2,250	\$13,500	
HCSO Training In-State	Training In-State		\$4,833	\$967	\$5,800	
HCSO Training Out-of-State	Training Out-of-State		\$4,583	\$917	\$5,500	

Description	Subcategory	Pct Time	MVCPA Funds	Cash Match	Total	In-Kind Match
Total Travel			\$20,666	\$4,134	\$24,800	
<b>Equipment</b>						
HCSO Laptop			\$8,333	\$1,667	\$10,000	
HCSO Misc. Equipment			\$2,500	\$500	\$3,000	
Weslaco PD			\$37,500	\$7,500	\$45,000	
Total Equipment			\$48,333	\$9,667	\$58,000	
<b>Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)</b>						
HCSO Rental of Vehicle			\$37,500	\$7,500	\$45,000	
HCSO Cellular Service and Cell Phone			\$2,000	\$400	\$2,400	
HCSO Promotional Item			\$4,167	\$833	\$5,000	
HCSO Fuel			\$8,333	\$1,667	\$10,000	
Edinburg PD Fuel			\$5,460	\$1,092	\$6,552	
Edinburg PD Rental of Vehicles			\$20,832	\$4,168	\$25,000	
Total Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)			\$78,292	\$15,660	\$93,952	

**Budget Narrative**

**A. Personnel**

-Hidalgo County Sheriff Office aims to hire 1 Lieutenant to over see the task force and 2 TFOs and an Admin Assistant to assist with overseeing the task force.

**B. Fringe**

-HCSO Fringes related to salaries and Overtime for 1 Lieutenant, 2 TFOs and 1 Admin.

**C. Overtime**

-HCSO Overtime for Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office for 1 Lieutenant, 2 TFOs and 1 Admin. -Weslaco Overtime for 2 task force officers

**D. Professional and Contract Services**

-Edinburg PD Salary for 2 full time task force officers. -Mercedes PD Salary for 1 full time task force officers. Mercedes PD Match will be higher than 20% due to an increase in the salary of their officers pay. Mercedes PD is aware they will be responsible for this difference as part of their match. -Weslaco PD Salary for 2 full time task force officers

**E. Travel**

-HCSO Law enforcement In-State travel will be utilized to attend MVCPA meetings in October, January, April, July and August. For 4 officers, Captain, Task Force Commander and 2 TFOs. -Training In-State will be utilized for at least 2 beneficial in-state trainings for the Task Force for 4 officers, Captain, Task Force Commander and 2 TFOs -Training Out-of-State will be utilized for 1 beneficial out-of-state trainings for the Task Force for 4 officers, Captain, Task Force Commander and 2 TFOs

**F. Equipment**

-HCSO Laptop will be used by investigators and admin staff to enter reports and access databases from HCSO and keep in contact with the participating agencies. -HCSO Misc. Equipment to purchase any equipment that the investigators will require as - Weslaco PD will purchase a Ford Explorer at \$45,000, the vehicle is to be used for surveillance, follow ups on open cases and conduct general investigative work.

**G. Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)**

- HCSO Promotional items to be utilized for promo items including brochures, flyers, etc. to provide info on combating catalytic converter theft and auto theft. - HCSO Cellular Services and Cell Phone assigned to analyst and deputy being paid by grant to be used for daily use and operations. - HCSO Rental of three vehicles for twelve months to be used by investigators on the grant. Vehicles to be used for surveillance, follow ups on open cases and conduct general investigative work. - HCSO Fuel will be utilized to fuel up the lease vehicles for the investigators. - Edinburg PD Fuel will be utilized to fuel up the lease vehicles for the investigators. - Edinburg PD Rental of 2 vehicle to be used by TFOs for surveillance, follow ups on open cases and conduct general investigative work.

**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.

<b>Source of Cash Match</b>		
HCSO General Fund	Grantee	\$77,615
Mercedes General Fund	Subgrantee	\$14,758
Weslaco General Fund	Subgrantee	\$33,178
Edinburg General Fund	Subgrantee	\$44,728
<b>Total Cash Match</b>		<b>\$170,279</b>

**Statistics to Support Grant Problem Statement**

Reported Cases	2022			2023		
	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)
Hidalgo County	348	514	627	580	11	7

**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 Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) plays a vital role in our community with over 270 sworn officers and a focus on combatting specific crimes. Amid a rise in auto thefts and nationwide police shortages, HCSO faces significant challenges. Currently, the Auto Theft Division operates with only two officers handling a workload of 380 motor vehicle theft cases, among other crimes. This strain necessitates immediate action and additional resources to effectively combat auto-related crimes.*

*Proposed is the formation of an Auto Theft Task Force, augmenting manpower and resources. This task force, covering Hidalgo County, aims to increase field presence, conduct thorough investigations, and employ specialized skills to identify patterns and apprehend offenders. With dedicated resources, comprehensive investigative strategies can be implemented, including analytics, digital forensics, LPR alerts, business inspections, bait vehicle operations, and intel sharing.*

*Investing in this task force not only improves efficiency and reduces auto theft rates but also addresses broader vehicle-related crimes and organized criminal networks involved in stolen vehicles and parts trade. By taking proactive measures, HCSO aims to enhance community safety and security.*

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)?

*The Hidalgo County Auto Theft Task Force aims to address auto-related crimes throughout Hidalgo County. Operating from our headquarters in north Edinburg, it will serve as a central reporting agency for coordinated efforts. The Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office seeks cooperation from local police departments like McAllen P.D., Edinburg P.D., Pharr P.D., and Mission P.D. By pooling resources and intelligence, we can identify crime patterns using statistical data from police reports. The Task Force strategy includes deploying License Plate Readers (LPRs), sharing intel with local agencies, conducting analytical work, covert operations, business inspections, and public education to deter theft. Given Hidalgo County's proximity to Mexico, it faces heightened risks of vehicle smuggling and slow inter-agency communication on stolen vehicles. The Task Force's proactive efforts are crucial in reducing auto theft and dismantling criminal networks, ensuring community safety.*

**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 issue of burglary from motor vehicles in our coverage area is a significant concern that mirrors the magnitude of motor vehicle theft. In 2023, the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office reported a staggering 331 incidents of burglary from motor vehicles. As of April 30, 2024, a total of 88 such incidents have already been reported, indicating a persistent problem. It's important to note that these figures don't encompass numbers reported within the municipalities within Hidalgo County, suggesting that the actual scale of the issue could be even larger.*

*The proliferation of junk and salvage yards, pawn shops, and clandestine locations that trade in stolen auto parts exacerbates the situation. The lack of stringent regulations governing these establishments increases the likelihood of them engaging in transactions involving stolen vehicle parts. This creates a lucrative market for organized criminal organizations, particularly those operating across the border in Mexico, who specifically target vehicles for dismantling and selling the metal parts in the U.S.*

*By allocating dedicated resources to investigate and disrupt these illicit operations, law enforcement agencies can significantly reduce the impact of auto theft and related crimes on the community. This includes conducting thorough inspections of businesses suspected of dealing in stolen auto parts, collaborating with regulatory bodies to enforce stricter regulations, and leveraging intelligence-sharing mechanisms to track down and dismantle criminal networks involved in the illegal trade of stolen vehicle parts. Such proactive measures are essential in safeguarding public safety and security while also deterring criminals from engaging in these illicit activities.*

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.

*Hidalgo County's geographical position along the border makes it highly vulnerable to auto theft, a trend that has had a significant impact on the local community. In 2022, the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) reported a staggering 397 auto thefts. This number increased even further, with an additional 664 thefts reported to neighboring law enforcement agencies within the county. The*

*trend continued into the following year, with HCSO recording 380 auto thefts in 2023. As of 2024 year-to-date, there have already been 140 reported auto thefts.*

*The unique driving force behind auto theft in our coverage area stems from our close proximity to the Mexican border. A considerable percentage of stolen vehicles are smuggled into Mexico, often ending up in the hands of organized criminal groups and cartels. Unfortunately, the recovery rate for these stolen vehicles is extremely low, leading to significant losses for victims and posing a persistent challenge for law enforcement agencies.*

*The transnational nature of auto theft in our region underscores the need for collaborative efforts between local, state, and federal agencies. This includes implementing advanced tracking and surveillance technologies, enhancing border security measures, and fostering cooperation with Mexican law enforcement counterparts to combat cross-border vehicle smuggling.*

*Additionally, public awareness campaigns and community engagement initiatives are vital in educating residents about preventive measures and reporting suspicious activities. By addressing the root causes and implementing targeted interventions, we can work towards reducing the prevalence of auto theft and minimizing its impact on our community and beyond.*

- 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.

*In 2023, the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office diligently investigated 10 false reports of stolen vehicles, a number that has slightly decreased to 4 as of 2024 year-to-date. This reduction can be attributed to the implementation of enhanced strategies, including the use of License Plate Readers (LPRs) to verify the locations and times of alleged stolen vehicles. The integration of intelligence-driven tracking techniques has also proven successful in identifying false or fraudulent claims related to stolen vehicle incidents.*

*The adoption of additional equipment and resources has significantly bolstered the agency's ability to uncover fraudulent claims consistently. Advanced technologies such as LPRs provide real-time data and precise location information, enabling law enforcement to validate reported thefts more effectively. Furthermore, intelligence-driven investigations leverage data analysis and collaboration with other agencies, enhancing the accuracy of identifying false reports.*

*As a result of these enhanced strategies and technological advancements, the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office has seen an improvement in the detection and verification of false reports related to stolen vehicles. This proactive approach not only reduces the burden on law enforcement resources but also contributes to maintaining the integrity of reported crime incidents and ensuring swift and accurate responses to genuine theft cases.*

- 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...

*In recent years, there has been a concerning surge in stolen vehicles being trafficked to Mexican cartels and organized criminal enterprises. Criminals have adopted sophisticated techniques, using electronics to aid in theft and swiftly transporting vehicles across the border before they are reported missing. This trend poses a significant challenge for law enforcement agencies, requiring innovative strategies to combat.*

*To address this issue, the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office has strategically deployed mobile License Plate Readers (LPRs) near ports of entry, focusing on outbound traffic. This proactive approach aims to receive alerts and track stolen vehicles before they can cross the border, enhancing interception capabilities and preventing successful smuggling attempts. Additionally, intelligence sharing among agencies has played a pivotal role in identifying cartel members receiving stolen vehicles and operatives involved in thefts within the U.S.*

*By combining proactive surveillance measures, intelligence-driven investigations, and collaborative efforts, law enforcement can effectively disrupt the flow of stolen vehicles to criminal organizations. This multifaceted approach not only aids in recovering stolen property but also serves as a deterrent to future criminal activities, safeguarding communities on both sides of the border.*

### **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 Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Task Force is implementing a comprehensive strategy to combat burglary of motor vehicles, including theft of parts. Task Force personnel will be experienced investigators, particularly in motor vehicle theft, and will conduct various operations to identify, recover, and apprehend individuals and groups involved in these crimes.*

*One major initiative involves business inspections targeting salvage yards, repair shops, and parts recycling centers to uncover stolen parts or vehicles. Task Force investigators will conduct these inspections, tracing the origins of stolen goods and holding businesses accountable for any involvement in the trade of stolen items.*

*Additionally, the Task Force plans to conduct "bait car" operations in high theft areas, utilize analysts to develop trends and patterns, deploy License Plate Readers (LPRs), and collaborate with other HCSO divisions and local agencies to share information.*

*The Task Force will also raise public awareness through outreach events, educating the community on prevention measures, conducting etching programs on frequently stolen items, and making public announcements to increase awareness. This proactive approach aims to catch organized groups, hold businesses accountable, assist in arrests, recover stolen parts, and ultimately reduce incidents of theft from motor vehicles, safeguarding the community against these crimes.*

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

*The Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Task Force is implementing proactive strategies to combat motor vehicle theft, focusing on collaboration across judicial boundaries and developing regional strategies with other agencies. Given the proximity to the Mexican border and the cartels' involvement in vehicle theft, the Task Force aims to unify intel sharing and strategic efforts. They will send electronic updates on trends or "hot sheets," hold monthly meetings with invited agencies, and deploy License Plate Readers (LPRs) county-wide and near ports of entry for quick response and monitoring of stolen vehicles.*

*Similarly to combating burglary the Task Force will also conduct "bait car" operations in high theft areas, using surveillance during regular and overtime hours. Analysts will develop trends to identify high crime areas and repeat offenders, and the Task Force will work with other divisions for surveillance on persons of interest. Monthly or quarterly meetings will be held to discuss updates and trends, along with law enforcement training activities.*

*Specialized equipment will be used to identify cloned or fraudulent vehicle identification numbers (VIN) and capture data useful for locating stolen vehicles and suspects. Additionally, the Task Force will raise public awareness through outreach events, social media campaigns, and outdoor signage to educate the community on theft prevention measures and deter potential criminals.*

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

*The Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Task Force will systematically combat fraud-related motor vehicle crimes using a technologically advanced approach. Investigators will employ tools such as OBD readers, scope cameras, and infotainment software to verify vehicle identification numbers (VINs) and secondary VINs, ensuring accurate ownership determination and stolen vehicle identification.*

*In cases of cloned or stolen vehicles, specialized equipment will detect VIN tampering and gather crucial data to uncover fraudulent registrations. Analysts will utilize data collection software and applications to identify patterns of fraudulent activity related to vehicle ownership and registration, enabling the detection of sophisticated fraud schemes.*

*Additionally, digital forensics will be applied to electronic devices in vehicles, extracting information like GPS locations and usage history. This comprehensive strategy ensures the Task Force is well-equipped to tackle complex fraud-related motor vehicle crimes, aiming to reduce vehicle fraud and enhance ownership security in the community.*

### 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)

*To prevent motor vehicle crimes, a HCSO task force can implement a multifaceted strategy that includes proactive patrols in high-crime areas, utilizing technology such as license plate readers (LPRs) to monitor and identify stolen vehicles, and conducting undercover operations to catch thieves in the act. Engaging the community through educational programs about vehicle security and theft prevention measures is also vital. Additionally, collaboration with other law enforcement agencies to share intelligence and conduct joint operations can enhance efforts to curb motor vehicle crimes. Regular inspections of salvage yards and repair shops to identify stolen parts and enforcing strict regulations can also deter criminal activities related to vehicle theft.*

### 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...)

*To prevent motor vehicle crimes, the Hidalgo County Task Force will undertake multiple operations employing various tactics. This includes proactive patrols in high-crime areas, deploying license plate readers (LPRs) for real-time monitoring, and conducting undercover operations to apprehend thieves. Additionally, we will maintain open communication with border security to keep them informed of any suspicious vehicles heading southbound towards the Mexican border. Collaboration with other law enforcement agencies will enhance our intelligence sharing and joint operations, ensuring a comprehensive approach to tackling motor vehicle crimes. These efforts aim to reduce vehicle theft, increase recovery rates, and improve overall community safety.*

### 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 Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Task Force will work extensively with partnering agencies to combat motor vehicle-related crimes through various strategies:*

*1. Direct Action Operations: The Task Force will conduct targeted missions to apprehend suspects, recover stolen vehicles, reduce fraud, and decrease vehicle burglaries. Analysts will research targets and employ surveillance, traffic stops, business inspections, and other techniques. Operations will be consistent across jurisdictions, with approved operational plans. Due to the border proximity, crime information will be shared with all participating agencies before, during, and after missions.*

*2. Interdiction Operations: The Task Force will focus on routes used by thieves to transport stolen vehicles. Analysts will use LPR data and other intelligence to identify these routes. Marked units will make traffic stops, while plain clothes officers follow vehicles to their*

*destinations to confirm intelligence and identify targets for future missions. High-traffic routes will be communicated to neighboring jurisdictions.*

*3. Intelligence Sharing: Regular group meetings and briefings will facilitate the sharing of intelligence, including "hot sheets" and BOLOs. Alerts will be standardized for easy understanding across agencies.*

*4. LPR Alerts: License plate readers will be used to generate alerts for vehicles linked to theft, aiding in immediate response and surveillance efforts.*

*This comprehensive approach aims to enhance coordination and efficiency in combating motor vehicle crimes across jurisdictions.*

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.

*We request a waiver of the 20% cash match requirement for the grant awarded to Hidalgo County. As one of the larger counties in Texas, Hidalgo County faces significant economic challenges that necessitate financial flexibility to meet the grant requirements.*

*With a population of over 860,000, Hidalgo County is the eighth most populous county in Texas. Despite its size, the county struggles with a high poverty rate of 30.2% in 2020, well above the national average of 10.5%. The economic hardship is further compounded by the county's location along the U.S.-Mexico border, requiring substantial resources to manage unique cross-border issues such as heightened security and law enforcement demands. A 20% cash match would impose a significant financial burden, potentially diverting crucial resources from essential public services. Granting a waiver will allow us to maximize the grant funds' impact, focusing on initiatives to improve community safety and public welfare.*

**Part II**

**Goals, Strategies, and Activities**

Select Goals, Strategies, and Activity Targets for the proposed program.

Click on the link above and select the method by which statutory measures will be collected. Law Enforcement programs must also estimate targets for the MVCPA predetermined activities. The MVCPA board has determined that grants programs must document specific activities that are appropriate under each of the three goals. Applicants are allowed to write a limited number of user defined activities.

ID	Activity	Measure	Target
<b>Statutory Motor Vehicle Theft Measures Required for all Grantees.</b>			
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	
<b>Statutory Burglary of a Motor Vehicle Measures Required for all Grantees</b>			
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	
<b>Statutory Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Crime Measures Required for all Grantees</b>			
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	
<b>Measures for Grantees. Add Target values for those that you will measure.</b>			
1	<b>Goal 1: Reduce the Incidence of Motor Vehicle Theft through Enforcement Strategies</b>		
1.1	<b>Strategy 1: Conduct Activities that Result in the Arrest, Clearance, and Recoveries of Motor Vehicle Theft</b>		
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	4
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	10
1.1.5	Conduct inspections of local businesses related to vehicle enterprise (transportation	Number of businesses inspected	4

ID	Activity	Measure	Target
	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)		
1.1.6	Conduct bait vehicle operations that target MVT offenders	Number of bait vehicle deployments. Include BMV bait operations here.	3
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.	365
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	24
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.	2
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	5
1.2	<b>Strategy 2: Conduct Collaborative Efforts that Result In Reduction of Incidents of Motor Vehicle Theft</b>		
1.2.1	Provide Agency Assists for MVT and motor vehicle related fraud	Number of agency assists related to MVT. <b>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.</b>	12
1.2.2	Collaborate with other units or divisions (i.e. homicide, vice, narcotics, etc.) <b>within the taskforce department(s)</b> where a motor vehicle was used in the commission of the crime (includes identification of vehicles). Include all participating jurisdiction departments here.	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, 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.	5
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 MVTtheft investigations.	8
1.2.5	Conduct intelligence information-sharing (Personal attendance)	Number of intelligence meetings attended ( <b>include attending as presenter, participant or attendee</b> )	4
1.2.6	Conduct intelligence information-sharing (Written information)	Crime analysis bulletins disseminated ( <b>include information distributed to law enforcement agencies via text, e-mail, or intra-net communications</b> )	24
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.	4
1.3	<b>Strategy 3: Prevent and Reduce the Incidence of Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Activities</b>		
1.3.1	Collaborate with agencies relating to investigation and enforcement of vehicle insurance fraud and FRMVC	Number of collaborations	4
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)	150
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.	4

ID	Activity	Measure	Target
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.	6
2	<b>Goal 2: Reduce the Incidence of Theft from Motor Vehicles through Enforcement Strategies</b>		
2.1	<b>Strategy 1: Conduct Activities that Result in the Arrest, Clearance, and Recoveries of Burglary of Motor Vehicles and Theft of Vehicle Parts and Accessories</b>		
2.1.1	Conduct bait vehicle operations that target vehicle burglary offenders	Number of bait vehicle burglary deployments	4
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	12
2.2	<b>Strategy 2: Conduct Collaborative Efforts that Result in the Reduction of Incidents of Theft From a Motor Vehicle</b>		
2.2.1	Provide Agency Assists BMV.	Number of agency assists related to BMV or stolen parts. <b>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.</b>	2
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.	2
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 by the taskforce that aids in the furtherance of motor vehicle theft investigations.	2
3	<b>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</b>		
3.1	<b>Strategy 1: Conduct Public Awareness Related Activities Used to Educate Citizens</b>		
3.1.1	Conduct educational outreach events (include trade show, exhibits, booths at community events, vehicle displays, brochures, etc.)	Number of outreaches	4
3.1.2	Conduct educational presentations to the public	Number of presentations. Presentation means in person, on-line, original written document, article, or webpage.	2
3.1.4	Conduct vehicle identification initiative/event	Number of etching events. Include windows, component parts, VIN stamps and catalytic converters.	2
3.1.4.1	Conduct vehicle identification initiative/event	Number of Participants/Attendees (Vehicles Marked)	20
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	40
3.1.8	Deploy outdoor public notification signage	Number of deployments per month (if sign remains several months, count as 1 deployment per month)	2
3.1.10	Conduct media outreach, including, public service announcements, press releases, and interviews	Number of outreaches	4

ID	Activity	Measure	Target
3.2	<b>Strategy 2: Conduct Law Enforcement Training Activities to Educate Officers on Recognition and Apprehension of Stolen Vehicles and Property</b>		
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.	5

#### 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.

*The Task Force will utilize the current Records Management System (RMS), "Spillman," within the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office. As the agency prepares to transition into the "New World" system, TFT will ensure all statistics are maintained in both systems. This dual approach enables the team to generate reports and easily convert them to Excel format for enhanced usability and analysis. Before inputting data into the RMS, supervisors will review collected data for accuracy. This meticulous review process ensures that the information entered into the system is reliable and can be effectively utilized for strategic decision-making and operational planning within the TFT*

- 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.

None

#### 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.

#### Current Documents in folder

[Resolution.pdf](#) (12/5/2024 8:41:45 AM)

#### Certifications

The certifying official is the authorized official, Richard F Cortez, Hidalgo County Judge.

By submitting this application I certify that I have been designated by my jurisdiction as the authorized official to accept the terms and conditions of the grant. The statements herein are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties.

By submitting this application I certify that my jurisdiction agrees to comply with all terms and conditions if the grant is awarded and accepted. I further certify that my jurisdiction will comply with all applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations in the application, acceptance, administration and operation of this grant.

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STATE OF TEXAS                   §  
  §  
COUNTY OF HIDALGO           §

**INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN**  
**THE COUNTY OF HIDALGO, TEXAS, AND THE**  
**CITY OF \_\_\_\_\_, TEXAS REGARDING MVCPA TASK FORCE**

THIS Agreement is made on and entered into, effective as of the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_, by and between **HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS**, by and through the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office (the "County"), and **CITY OF \_\_\_\_\_** (the "City"), collectively referred to as the "Parties", pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Interlocal Cooperation Act ("Act"), Chapter 791, et seq., Texas Government Code. The purpose of this Agreement is for County to provide City with law enforcement services within its jurisdiction in accordance with the Texas Government Code Chapter 791. This Agreement shall be fully executed and enforceable on the date it is signed by both of the Parties.

**WITNESSETH:**

**WHEREAS**, the City is a municipality defined as a "Political Subdivision" under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, a political subdivision organized under the laws of the State of Texas;

**WHEREAS**, the County is defined as a "Local Government" under the Act, and a county in the State of Texas;

**WHEREAS**, County and City are authorized to enter into this Agreement pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act, Chapter 791 Texas Government Code, which authorizes local governments to contract with each other to perform governmental functions and services under the terms of the Act;

**WHEREAS**, this agreement is intended to further the purpose of the Interlocal Cooperation Act, which is to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of local government;

**WHEREAS**, County and City have the objective to operate a multi-agency taskforce funded in part by the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority of the State of Texas (MVCPA) grant, for funding in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the items described below;

**WHEREAS**, County and City have agreed to contribute an amount of matching funds in an amount indicated below if said application is approved;

**WHEREAS**, the source of funds would not normally be used for this purpose;

**WHEREAS**, the County and City have the authority and it is in their best interest to join in the application to develop a multijurisdictional MVCPA Task Force;

**WHEREAS**, the County and City agree to each accept the responsibility for their respective commitments and to adhere to all applicable federal, state and local laws or regulations, as well as all grant rules and conditions.

**WHEREAS**, County and City have determined that it is in the best interest and benefit of the citizens of City and County to cooperate in this agreement and that it serves a public purpose;

**NOW THEREFORE**, County and City in consideration of the mutual covenants expressed hereinafter, agree as follows:

1. All of the above statements are incorporated herein and fully restated.
2. **Purpose.** The purpose of this Agreement is to allow County and City to operate a multi-agency taskforce with the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority of the State of Texas, which application is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and made a part hereof for all purposes.
3. **Term.** The term of this Interlocal agreement commences on the effective date indicated above and ends on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, or unless otherwise terminated as provided herein.
4. **Termination.** This Agreement may be terminated for convenience by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party. This Agreement may also be terminated immediately by mutual written agreement of the parties. The parties intend this provision to be a continuing right to terminate this Agreement.
5. **Consideration.** As consideration for this Agreement, County and City agree to contribute a total of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in matching funds for the enhancement of the funded grant program in the amounts and methods as follows:

Item Description	Amount	Method (Cash Paid/In Lieu of/In Kind)

**6. Allocation of Funds.** The specific allocation of the County and City fund is set out in the attachments to this Agreement, marked as Exhibits “      ” through “      ” inclusive, and made part hereof for all purposes.

**7. Equipment.** Upon termination of this Agreement, equipment including vehicles, hardware, and other non-expendable items will revert back to the applicant. The Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority of the State of Texas will be notified and inventory records will be updated.

**8. Amendments.** This Agreement may be amended by the mutual agreement of the parties hereto in writing to be attached to and incorporated into this agreement.

**9. Indemnity.** TO THE EXTENT AUTHORIZED BY LAW AND WITHOUT WAIVING ANY GOVERNMENTAL OR OFFICIAL IMMUNITIES OR DEFENSES, CITY AGREES TO AND SHALL INDEMNIFY, SAVE AND HOLD HARMLESS, AND DEFEND COUNTY, ITS OFFICIALS, OFFICERS, AGENTS, AND EMPLOYEES FROM AND AGAINST ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, LOSSES, DAMAGES, CAUSES OF ACTION, SUITS AND LIABILITY OF EVERY KIND, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ATTORNEY’S FEES AND RELATED COSTS, FOR PERSONAL INJURY, DEATH, OR PROPERTY DAMAGE, DESTRUCTION, OR LOSS ARISING OUT OF OR CONNECTED IN ANY WAY WITH THE PERFORMANCE BY CITY OFFICIALS, AGENTS, AND EMPLOYEES OF CITY’S RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS AGREEMENT, WHERE SUCH PERSONAL INJURY, DEATH, OR PROPERTY DAMAGE, DESTRUCTION, OR LOSS IS CAUSED BY THE JOINT NEGLIGENCE OF CITY AND ANY OTHER PERSON OR ENTITY OR THE JOINT INTENTIONAL ACT OR OMISSION OF CITY AND ANY OTHER PERSON OR ENTITY. SUCH INDEMNITY SHALL APPLY WHERE THE CLAIMS, LOSSES, DAMAGES, CAUSES OF SUCH ACTION, SUITS OR LIABILITY ARISE IN WHOLE OR IN PART FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OR INTENTIONAL ACT OR OMISSION OF CITY.

**10.** This Agreement is not intended to extend the liability of the Parties beyond that provided by law. Neither County nor City waive, nor shall be deemed to have hereby waived, any immunity or defense that would otherwise be available to it against claims arising from third parties.

**11. Entire Agreement.** This Agreement contains the entire contract between the parties hereto and each party acknowledges that neither has made (either directly or through any agreement or representative) and representation or agreement in connection with this Agreement not specifically set forth herein. This Agreement may be modified or amended only by agreement in writing executed by City and County, and not otherwise.

**12. Texas Law to Apply.** The validity of this Agreement and of any of its terms or provisions, as well as the rights and duties of the Parties, shall be governed by the laws of the State of Texas. This agreement shall be construed under and in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, and all obligation of the parties created hereunder are performable in Hidalgo County, Texas. The City hereby consent to personal jurisdiction in Hidalgo County, Texas.

**13. Conflict of Applicable Law/Severability.** Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed so as to require the commission of any act contrary to law, and whenever there is a conflict between and provisions of their Agreement and any present or future law, ordinance or administrative, executive or judicial regulation, order or decree, or amendment thereof, contrary to which the parties have no legal right to contract, the latter shall prevail, but in such event the affected provisions or provision of the Agreement shall be modified only to the extent necessary to bring them within the legal requirements and only during times such conflict exists. In case any one or more of the provisions contained in this Agreement will for any reason be held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability will not affect any other provision thereof, and this Agreement will be construed as if such invalid, illegal or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein.

**14. Authority to Execute.** The execution and performance of this Agreement by each Party to this Agreement has been duly authorized by all necessary laws, resolutions or corporate action, and this Agreement constitutes the valid and enforceable obligations of the Parties to this Agreement in accordance with its terms.

**15. Notice.** Except as may be otherwise specifically provided in this Agreement, all notices, demands, requests or communication required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and shall either be (i) personally delivered against a written receipt, or (ii) sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid and addressed to the parties at the addresses set forth below, or at such other addresses as may have been theretofore specified by written notice delivered in accordance herewith:

If to County: County of Hidalgo  
Attention: County Judge  
100 E. Cano, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Edinburg, TX 78539

w/ copy to: Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office  
Attn: Hidalgo County Sheriff  
711 El Cibolo Rd.  
Edinburg, TX 78541

If to City: City of \_\_\_\_\_  
Attn: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Each notice, demand, request or communication which shall be delivered or mailed in the manner described above shall be deemed sufficiently given for all purposes at such time as it is personally delivered to the addressee or, if mailed, at such time as it is deposited in the United States mail.

**16. Governmental Purpose.** Each party hereto is entering into this Agreement for the purpose of providing for governmental services or functions and will pay for such services out of current revenues available for the paying party, as herein provided.

**17. Commitment or Current Revenues Only:** In the event that during any term hereof; the governing body of any party does not appropriate sufficient funds to meet the obligations of such party under this Agreement, then any party may terminate this Agreement upon ninety (90) days written notice to the other party. Each of the parties hereto agrees, however, to use its best efforts to secure funds necessary for the continued performance of this Agreement. The parties intend this provision to be a continuing right to terminate this Agreement at the expiration of each budget period of each party hereto pursuant to the provisions of Tex. Loc. Govt. Code Ann. §271.903.

**18. Liability Insurance.** Each entity will carry sufficient liability insurance at the statutorily required limits, pursuant to the Texas Tort Claims Act.

**19. No Waiver of Immunities/Defenses:** Nothing in this Agreement is intended to and the Parties to this Agreement do not hereby waive, release or relinquish any right to assert any of the defenses the Parties to this Agreement may enjoy by virtue of the state or federal constitution, laws, rules or regulations, and any sovereign, official or qualified immunity available to the Parties to this Agreement as to any claim or action of any person, entity, or individual against the Parties to this Agreement.

**20. Non-Discrimination.** The Agreement and all related activities shall be conducted in a manner that does not discriminate against any person on a basis prohibited by applicable law or by each Party's respective policy, including without limitation race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, disability or any other protected category.

**21. Additional Documents.** The parties hereto covenant and agree that they will execute such other and further instruments and documents as are or may become necessary or convenient to effectuate and carry out the terms of this Agreement.

**22. Successors.** This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, successors, and assigns where permitted by this Agreement.

**23. Assignments.** This Agreement shall not be assignable.

**24. Gender and Number.** All pronouns used in this Agreement shall include the other gender, whether used in the masculine, feminine or neuter gender, and singular shall include the plural whenever and so often as may be appropriate.

**22. Authority to Execute:** The execution and performance of this Agreement by each Party to this Agreement has been duly authorized by all necessary laws, resolutions or corporate action, and this Agreement constitutes the valid and enforceable obligations of the Parties to this Agreement in accordance with its terms.

**23. Governing Provisions.** Parties shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

**24. Headings.** The headings and captions contained in this Agreement are solely for convenience reference and shall not be deemed to affect the meaning or interpretation of any provision of any paragraph hereof.

**25. Prior Agreements.** This Agreement supersedes and terminates all previous Interlocal Agreement(s) between the parties hereto concerning the subject matter hereof, except for any Interlocal Agreement dated prior to this Agreement to the extent work is being performed under said Agreement at the time of executing this Agreement. Once ongoing work under any such previous Interlocal Agreement(s) is completed and payment is remitted such previous Interlocal Agreement shall terminate at such time.

**26. Appendix II to CFR 200-Contract Provisions.** Pursuant to 2 CFR 200.327, a non-Federal entity's contracts must contain the applicable provisions described in Appendix II to 2 CFR 200-Contract Provisions for non-Federal Entity Contracts under Federal Awards. Therefore, if applicable, the provisions of Appendix II to 2 CFR 200 are incorporated by reference into this County contract should it be subject to Federal award.

[SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW]

WITNESS THE HANDS OF THE PARTIES effective as of the day and year first written above.

THE CITY OF \_\_\_\_\_,  
TEXAS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Secretary

THE COUNTY OF HIDALGO

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard F. Cortez, County Judge

ATTEST

\_\_\_\_\_  
Arturo Guajardo, Jr., County Clerk

*Approved by Hidalgo County Commissioners Court on: \_\_\_\_\_  
Agenda Item No. \_\_\_\_\_*

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**  
Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney's Office  
Toribio "Terry" Palacios

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, Assistant District Attorney



Jose Rodriguez <jose.rodriguez@hidalgo.org>

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## Request for COR Auto Theft Task Force

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Jose Rodriguez <jose.rodriguez@hidalgo.org>

Fri, Dec 6, 2024 at 4:02 PM

Draft To: Jesse Gonzales <jesse.gonzales@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Cc: Myra Montoya <myra.montoya@hidalgo.org>, Rocky Serna <rocky.serna@hidalgo.org>, Isabel Rodriguez <isabel.rodriguez@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>, Rossana Schettino <rossana.schettino@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Good afternoon Jesse,

Can you please prepare a COR for AI-97680 for the FY25 Auto Theft Task Force Grant in the amount of \$ 465,677 ( \$388,062 + \$77,615 cash match)

Respectfully,  
Jose L Rodriguez  
Program Manager I  
Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office  
[jose.rodriguez@hidalgo.org](mailto:jose.rodriguez@hidalgo.org)  
956-393-6176



Jesse Gonzales &lt;jesse.gonzales@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us&gt;

---

**AI-97680 Corrections**

5 messages

**Jose Rodriguez** <jose.rodriguez@hidalgo.org>

Mon, Dec 9, 2024 at 9:54 AM

To: Monica Salinas &lt;monica.salinas@co.hidalgo.tx.us&gt;

Cc: Myra Montoya &lt;myra.montoya@hidalgo.org&gt;, Jesse Gonzales &lt;jesse.gonzales@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us&gt;, Margaret Mungia &lt;margaret.mungia@co.hidalgo.tx.us&gt;, Isabel Rodriguez &lt;isabel.rodriguez@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us&gt;, Rossana Schettino &lt;rossana.schettino@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us&gt;

Good morning Monica,

In the rush to make AI-97680 I made some errors that auditor's caught this morning.

Caption:

2. "FY25 Catalytic Converter Grant" changed to "FY 2025 Auto Theft Task Force Grant"

Fiscal Impact:

Rev Account. 4-1284-334-10-280-180-5-000

Replace the appropriation with the attached document.

Respectfully,

Jose L Rodriguez

Program Manager I

Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office

[jose.rodriguez@hidalgo.org](mailto:jose.rodriguez@hidalgo.org)

956-393-6176

**FY25 Auto Theft Task Force Grant.xlsx**

125K

**Jose Rodriguez** <jose.rodriguez@hidalgo.org>

Mon, Dec 9, 2024 at 9:58 AM

To: Monica Salinas &lt;monica.salinas@co.hidalgo.tx.us&gt;

Cc: Myra Montoya &lt;myra.montoya@hidalgo.org&gt;, Jesse Gonzales &lt;jesse.gonzales@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us&gt;, Margaret Mungia &lt;margaret.mungia@co.hidalgo.tx.us&gt;, Isabel Rodriguez &lt;isabel.rodriguez@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us&gt;, Rossana Schettino &lt;rossana.schettino@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us&gt;

Please see the corrected rev account. I transposed the program number in yellow.

Respectfully,

Jose L Rodriguez

Program Manager I

Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office

[jose.rodriguez@hidalgo.org](mailto:jose.rodriguez@hidalgo.org)

956-393-6176

On Mon, Dec 9, 2024 at 9:54 AM Jose Rodriguez &lt;jose.rodriguez@hidalgo.org&gt; wrote:

Good morning Monica,

In the rush to make AI-97680 I made some errors that auditor's caught this morning.

Caption:

2. "FY25 Catalytic Converter Grant" changed to "FY 2025 Auto Theft Task Force Grant"

Fiscal Impact:

Rev Account. 4-1284-334-10-280-108-5-000

[Quoted text hidden]

**Monica Salinas** <monica.salinas@co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Mon, Dec 9, 2024 at 10:01 AM

To: Jose Rodriguez <jose.rodriguez@hidalgo.org>

Cc: Myra Montoya <myra.montoya@hidalgo.org>, Jesse Gonzales <jesse.gonzales@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>, Margaret Mungia <margaret.mungia@co.hidalgo.tx.us>, Isabel Rodriguez <isabel.rodriguez@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>, Rossana Schettino <rossana.schettino@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Hi Jose,



I can no longer make changes to the caption once it is finalized/posted. It can be read for the record.

I will replace the form.

**Respectfully,**

**Monica Salinas, Asst. County Executive Officer**

**Hidalgo County Executive Office**

**505 S. McColl Rd., Ste. J (2nd floor)**

**Edinburg, Texas 78539**

**(956)292-7655 ext. 5602**

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On Mon, Dec 9, 2024 at 9:54 AM Jose Rodriguez <jose.rodriguez@hidalgo.org> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

---

**Jesse Gonzales** <jesse.gonzales@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Mon, Dec 9, 2024 at 10:07 AM

To: Monica Salinas <monica.salinas@co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Cc: Jose Rodriguez <jose.rodriguez@hidalgo.org>, Myra Montoya <myra.montoya@hidalgo.org>, Margaret Mungia <margaret.mungia@co.hidalgo.tx.us>, Isabel Rodriguez <isabel.rodriguez@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>, Rossana Schettino <rossana.schettino@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Good morning Monica,

Can you please disregard the last form attached and include this one instead?

Thank you.

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Respectfully,

*Jesse James Gonzales*

Accountant | Hidalgo County Auditor's Office

2808 S. Business Highway 281 | Edinburg, TX 78539

(956)318-2511 Ext. 4659 | [jesse.gonzales@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us](mailto:jesse.gonzales@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us)



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 **FY25 Auto Theft Task Force Grant.xlsx**  
125K

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**Monica Salinas** <monica.salinas@co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Mon, Dec 9, 2024 at 10:18 AM

To: Jesse Gonzales <jesse.gonzales@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Cc: Jose Rodriguez <jose.rodriguez@hidalgo.org>, Myra Montoya <myra.montoya@hidalgo.org>, Margaret Mungia <margaret.mungia@co.hidalgo.tx.us>, Isabel Rodriguez <isabel.rodriguez@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>, Rossana Schettino <rossana.schettino@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Yes, will do.

**Respectfully,**

**Monica Salinas, Asst. County Executive Officer**

**Hidalgo County Executive Office**

**505 S. McColl Rd., Ste. J (2nd floor)**

**Edinburg, Texas 78539**

**(956)292-7655 ext. 5602**

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[Quoted text hidden]