



HIDALGO COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE

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July 21, 2026

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 commissioners 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, County Auditor of Hidalgo County, 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 purpose.

AMOUNT
\$1,052,143.00

PURPOSE
Grant Number: 608-27-1080000
Application Number: S-AUTO-27
Hidalgo County Task Force Grant Application for Fiscal Year 2027

CERTIFIED BY:



LETTY CHAVEZ
COUNTY AUDITOR

9/1/2026

DATE

HIDALGO COUNTY DISTRICT JUDGES

LUIS M. SINGLETERRY JUDGE, 92ND D.C. FERNANDO MANCIAS JUDGE, 93RD D.C. J. R. "BOBBY" FLORES JUDGE, 139TH D.C. ROSE GUERRA REYNA JUDGE, 206TH D.C. MARLA CUELLAR JUDGE, 275TH D.C. JUAN R. ALVAREZ JUDGE, 332ND D.C. NOE GONZALEZ JUDGE, 370TH D.C. LETICIA LOPEZ JUDGE, 389TH D.C. L. KENO VASQUEZ JUDGE, 398TH D.C. ORLANDO ESQUIVEL JUDGE, 430TH D.C. RENEE R. BETANCOURT JUDGE, 449TH D.C. JOSE "JOE" RAMIREZ JUDGE, 464TH D.C. NEREIDA LOPEZ-SINGLETERRY JUDGE, 476TH D.C.

AI-104411

Sheriff's Office 18. B.

CC REGULAR AGENDA SPECIAL MTG

Meeting Date: 09/01/2026

Submitted For: Enrique Longoria, SHERIFF
DEPT.

Submitted By: Jose Rodriguez

Department: SHERIFF DEPT.

CAPTION

Sheriff's Office - Hidalgo County Task Force Grant Application for Fiscal Year 2027

1. Authorization and approval to accept the Hidalgo County Task Force Grant Application for Fiscal Year 2027 from Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority in the grand total of \$1,052,143.00 and a cash match of \$210,429.00

(09/01/2026-08/31/2027). The grant is being awarded to Hidalgo County with participating agencies. (Edinburg PD, Mercedes PD, Weslaco PD and Palmview PD). Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office is responsible for an amount of an award of \$679,257.00 and a cash match of \$135,851.00 for a total of \$815,108.00.

2. Approval of Certification of Revenues, as certified by the Co. Auditor, for the FY27 Auto Theft Task Force Grant in the amount of \$1,262,572.00 (1,052,143.00 + 210,429.00) and appropriation of the same.

3. Approval of inter-fund transfer to fund cash match in the amount of \$135,851.00

BACKGROUND

AI-102871 Approval to Apply 03/31/2026

Fiscal Impact

CALENDAR YEAR: 2026

ACCT. #: 1284-21-280-000-0000-50XXX0-

FUNDS AVAILABLE Y/N?: Y

MATCHING FUNDS Y/N?: Y

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$1,052,143.00 for the Auto Theft Task Force Grant (09/01/2026-08/31/2027)

Cash Match Required in the amount of \$210,429.00

Attachments

COR Request

Grant Award

Appropriation

Cash Match Interfund

Form Review

Inbox

Budget and Management

Final Approval

Reviewed By

Veronica Ortiz

Date

08/24/2026 08:18 AM



FY27 Task Force Grant
Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority
Statement of Task Force Grant Award and Grantee Acceptance Notice

Grant Number: **608-27-1080000**
Grantee: **Hidalgo County**
Program Title: **Hidalgo County Taskforce Grant Application for Fiscal Year 2027**
Grant Award Amount: **\$1,052,143**
Total Cash Match Amount: **\$210,429**
In-Kind Match Amount: **\$0**
Reimbursement Percent*: **83.33%**
Grant Term: **September 1st, 2026 to August 31st, 2027**

Grant Budget Summary: Hidalgo County (App ID: 2895)

Budget Category	MVCPA Expenditures	Cash Match Expenditures	Total Expenditures	In-Kind Match
Personnel	\$426,739	\$85,348	\$512,087	\$0
Fringe	\$162,498	\$32,500	\$194,998	\$0
Overtime	\$13,342	\$2,669	\$16,011	\$0
Professional and Contract Services	\$319,626	\$63,925	\$383,551	\$0
Travel	\$19,305	\$3,861	\$23,166	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)	\$110,633	\$22,126	\$132,759	\$0
Total	\$1,052,143	\$210,429	\$1,262,572	\$0

*Reimbursement Percent: 83.33% - \$1,052,143 MVCPA Expenditures / (\$1,052,143 MVCPA Expenditures + \$210,429 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 March 16, 2026, to the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority, State of Texas, entitled **Hidalgo County Taskforce Grant Application for Fiscal Year 2027** and further identified by grant number **608-27-1080000** and

Whereas, the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority has approved the grant application as evidenced by this FY27 Statement of Grant Award and certain special requirements from the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority dated **8/24/2026** and

Whereas, the Grantee desires to accept the FY27 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 March 16, 2026;
- 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 FY27 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.
- X **Multi-Agency Grant Operational Plan** - The grantee is required to provide an operational plan describing the communication process with participating and coverage jurisdictions. The operational plan must include how meetings are held, how often, and whether meetings are held in person or remotely. The grantee must report meetings in quarterly progress reports.
- X **Multi-Agency Grant** - The grantee is required to complete and maintain interlocal agreement with all participating subgrantees as required by law and TxGMS. The grantee must complete a process to monitor and ensure grant compliance of subgrantees. The grantee must maintain the process locally and document compliance with that plan.
- X **Border Security Report Requirement** - This Grantee is designated as a MVCPA Border Security Grant which is located along the United States of America border with the United States of Mexico and those that are adjacent to the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway. This designation requires grantee to provide additional report information required by the General Appropriations Act of the 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session. The Governor or Legislative Budget Board may request additional information regarding the report data during the term of the grant.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED BY:

Authorized Official

Printed Name and Title

Date Signed

Hidalgo County Taskforce Grant Negotiation for Fiscal Year 2027

[Request for Application \(RFA\)](#)

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 Taskforce Grant Application for Fiscal Year 2027

Application Category (See **Request for Applications [RFA]** for category details and descriptions RFA Priority Funding Section):

New Grant - 2027 is the first year of the MVCPA Taskforce Grants. All 2027 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

Hidalgo County, the eighth largest county in Texas, covers 1,569 square miles and shares about 75 miles of international border with Mexico. As of the 2020 U.S. Census, Hidalgo County had a population of 870,781

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	
TX1082200 PALMVIEW 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. 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 Total and let system calculate MVCPA Funds and Cash Match, Match Percentage: 20%

Budget Category	MVCPA Expenditures	Cash Match Expenditures	Total Expenditures	In-Kind Match
<i>Personnel</i>	\$426,739	\$85,348	\$512,087	
<i>Fringe</i>	\$162,498	\$32,500	\$194,998	
<i>Overtime</i>	\$13,342	\$2,669	\$16,011	
<i>Professional and Contract Services</i>	\$319,626	\$63,925	\$383,551	
<i>Travel</i>	\$19,305	\$3,861	\$23,166	
<i>Equipment</i>				
<i>Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)</i>	\$110,633	\$22,126	\$132,759	
Total	\$1,052,143	\$210,429	\$1,262,572	
Cash Match Percentage		20.00%		

Description	Subcategory	Pct Time	MVCPA Funds	Cash Match	Total	In-Kind Match
Personnel						
HCSO SERGEANT	Investigator/LEO	100	\$73,208	\$14,642	\$87,850	
HCSO SR DEPUTY #1	Investigator/LEO	100	\$74,280	\$14,856	\$89,136	
HCSO SR DEPUTY #2	Investigator/LEO	100	\$64,693	\$12,939	\$77,632	
HCSO SR DEPUTY #3	Investigator/LEO	100	\$73,197	\$14,639	\$87,836	
HCSO SR DEPUTY #4	Investigator/LEO	100	\$61,119	\$12,224	\$73,343	
HCSO ANALYST	Crime Analyst/LE Professional	100	\$41,461	\$8,292	\$49,753	
HCSO ADMIN	Administrative / Support	100	\$38,781	\$7,756	\$46,537	
Total Personnel		700	\$426,739	\$85,348	\$512,087	
Fringe						
HCSO SERGEANT	Investigator/LEO		\$25,921	\$5,184	\$31,105	
HCSO SR DEPUTY #1	Investigator/LEO		\$26,168	\$5,234	\$31,402	
HCSO SR DEPUTY #2	Investigator/LEO		\$23,957	\$4,791	\$28,748	
HCSO SR DEPUTY #3	Investigator/LEO		\$25,918	\$5,184	\$31,102	
HCSO SR DEPUTY #4	Investigator/LEO		\$23,957	\$4,791	\$28,748	
HCSO ANALYST	Crime Analyst/LE Professional		\$18,598	\$3,720	\$22,318	
HCSO ADMIN	Administrative / Support		\$17,979	\$3,596	\$21,575	
Total Fringe			\$162,498	\$32,500	\$194,998	
Overtime						
Edinburg PD TFOs Overtime	Investigator/LEO		\$6,014	\$1,203	\$7,217	
Mercedes PD TFOs Overtime	Investigator/LEO		\$2,289	\$458	\$2,747	
Palmview PD TFOs Overtime	Investigator/LEO		\$1,786	\$357	\$2,143	
Weslaco PD TFOs Overtime	Investigator/LEO		\$3,253	\$651	\$3,904	
Total Overtime			\$13,342	\$2,669	\$16,011	
Professional and Contract Services						
Edinburg PD TFOs	Investigator/LEO - personnel	100	\$120,278	\$24,056	\$144,334	
Edinburg PD TFOs	Investigator/LEO - fringe	100	\$34,652	\$6,930	\$41,582	
Mercedes PD TFOs	Investigator/LEO - personnel	100	\$38,163	\$7,633	\$45,796	
Mercedes PD TFOs	Investigator/LEO - fringe	100	\$15,397	\$3,079	\$18,476	
Palmview PD TFOs	Investigator/LEO - personnel	100	\$35,724	\$7,145	\$42,869	
Palmview PD TFOs	Investigator/LEO - fringe	100	\$9,717	\$1,943	\$11,660	
Weslaco PD TFOs	Investigator/LEO - personnel	100	\$54,231	\$10,846	\$65,077	
Weslaco PD TFOs	Investigator/LEO - fringe	100	\$11,464	\$2,293	\$13,757	
Total Professional and Contract Services		800	\$319,626	\$63,925	\$383,551	

Description	Subcategory	Pct Time	MVCPA Funds	Cash Match	Total	In-Kind Match
Travel						
HCSO Travel Cost	Law enforcement In-State		\$16,667	\$3,333	\$20,000	
Palmview PD Travel Cost	Law enforcement In-State		\$2,638	\$528	\$3,166	
Total Travel			\$19,305	\$3,861	\$23,166	
Equipment						
Total Equipment						
Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)						
Edinburg PD Lease			\$17,900	\$3,580	\$21,480	
Edinburg PD Fuel			\$4,167	\$833	\$5,000	
Weslaco PD Fuel			\$8,750	\$1,750	\$10,500	
Weslaco PD Cell Phones			\$188	\$38	\$226	
Weslaco PD Air Card			\$192	\$38	\$230	
HCSO Rental/Lease			\$53,750	\$10,750	\$64,500	
HCSO Cell Phone			\$3,010	\$602	\$3,612	
HCSO Registration Cost			\$3,124	\$625	\$3,749	
HCSO Promotional Items			\$956	\$191	\$1,147	
HCSO Editing Software			\$667	\$133	\$800	
HCSO Misc. Equipment			\$11,846	\$2,369	\$14,215	
Palmview PD Registration			\$2,083	\$417	\$2,500	
Palmview PD Promotional Items			\$2,500	\$500	\$3,000	
Palmview Misc Equip			\$1,500	\$300	\$1,800	
Total Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)			\$110,633	\$22,126	\$132,759	

Budget Narrative

A. Personnel

- Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office salary expenses for one (1) Sergeant, four (4) Senior Deputies, one (1) Analyst, and one (1) Administrative staff member assigned full-time to the Task Force. Personnel currently funded through the SB224 Grant will be transitioned to the Task Force Grant to enhance operational capabilities. Due to the significant decrease in catalytic converter thefts and the continued high volume of motor vehicle thefts and burglaries, our office has determined that reallocating these officers and the analyst to the Task Force Grant will better support current enforcement priorities and investigative needs. Totaling \$512,087

B. Fringe

- Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Fringe expenses for one (1) Sergeant, four (4) Senior Deputies, one (1) Analyst and one (1) Administrative staff member assigned full-time to the Task Force. Personnel currently funded through the SB224 Grant will be transitioned to the Task Force Grant to enhance operational capabilities. Due to the significant decrease in catalytic converter thefts and the continued high volume of motor vehicle thefts and burglaries, our office has determined that reallocating these officers and the analyst to the Task Force Grant will better support current enforcement priorities and investigative needs. Totaling \$194,998

C. Overtime

- Edinburg PD Overtime for Two (2) Full Time investigators assigned to the Task Force Totaling \$7,217 - Mercedes PD Overtime for One (1) Full Time investigators assigned to the Task Force Totaling \$2,747 - Palmview PD Overtime for Two (1) Full Time investigators assigned to the Task Force Totaling \$2,143 - Weslaco PD Overtime for One (1) Full Time investigators assigned to the Task Force Totaling \$3,904

D. Professional and Contract Services

- Edinburg PD TFOs Personnel and Fringes for Two (2) Full Time investigators assigned to the Task Force Totaling \$185,915 - Mercedes PD TFOs Personnel and Fringes for One (1) Full Time investigator assigned to the Task Force Totaling \$64,272 - Palmview PD TFOs Personnel and Fringes for Two (1) Full Time investigators assigned to the Task Force Totaling \$54,529 - Weslaco PD TFOs Personnel and Fringes for Two (1) Full Time investigators assigned to the Task Force Totaling \$78,834

E. Travel

- HCSO Travel Cost for Auto Theft related Trainings (Chop Shop Investigation Trainings or others of the same nature). Cost include Hotel, Per-Diem fuel and other travel related cost Totaling \$20,000.00 - Palmview PD Travel Cost for Auto Theft related Trainings (Chop Shop Investigation Trainings or others of the same nature). Cost include Hotel, Per-Diem fuel and other travel related cost Totaling \$3,166.00

G. Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)

- Edinburg PD Lease of Two (2) vehicles for the Two (2) TFOs Totaling \$21,480 - Edinburg PD Fuel Cost related to 2 lease vehicles for TFOs Totaling \$5,000 - Weslaco PD Fuel Cost related to travel performed on duty for the Auto Theft Task Force Totaling \$10,500 - Weslaco PD Cell Phone Services assigned to TFO and Analyst working Full Time on the Task Force. Totaling \$450 - Weslaco PD Air Card Services assigned to TFO and Analyst working Full Time on the Task Force. Totaling \$460 - HCSO Rental/Lease of Five (5) for the TFOs assigned to work full time on the task force. Totaling \$64,500 - HCSO Cell Phone cost for seven (7) lines assigned to the TFOS including five TFOs and 1 analyst and 1 admin. Totaling \$3,612 - HCSO Registration Cost for Auto Theft related Trainings (Chop Shop Investigation Trainings or others of the same nature). Totaling \$3,749.00 - HCSO Promotional Items to be handed out during events aimed at Auto Theft Awareness and Prevention Items include but are not limited to brochures, flyers and stress balls etc. Totaling \$1,147 - HCSO Editing Software To Purchase two (2) Adobe and Canva software to create and edit custom made handout materials Totaling \$800 - HCSO Misc. Equipment, to be utilized for the purchase of any equipment that might assist the TF in investigating auto theft. Totaling \$14,215 -Palmview PD Registration Cost for Auto Theft related Trainings (Chop Shop Investigation

Budget Narrative

Trainings or others of the same nature). Totalling \$2,500.00 -Palmview PD Promotional Items to be handed out during events aimed at Auto Theft Awareness and Prevention Items include but are not limited to brochures, flyers and stress balls etc. Totalling \$3,000.00 - Palmview PD Misc. Equipment, to be utilized for the purchase of any equipment that might assist the TF in investigating auto theft. Totalling \$1,800.00

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.

Source of Cash Match

HCSO General Fund	Grantee	\$135,851
Edinburg PD	Subgrantee	\$36,602
Mercedes PD	Subgrantee	\$11,170
Palmview PD	Subgrantee	\$11,190
Weslaco PD	Subgrantee	\$15,616
Total Cash Match		\$210,429

Statistics to Support Grant Problem Statement

Reported Cases	2024			2025		
	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 Sheriff's Office	517	306	20	262	206	4
Edinburg Police	162	291	0	116	240	0
Weslaco Police	102	159	0	61	122	0
Mercedes Police	47	71	0	25	47	0
Palmview Police	19	3	0	22	17	2

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 is crucial in protecting a growing community, operating with over 270 sworn officers and a focus on tackling priority crimes like motor vehicle theft. In response to increasing auto theft rates and a rising workload, the Sheriff's Office established the Auto Theft Task Force last year to strengthen enforcement and investigation efforts.

Since its formation, the Auto Theft Task Force has achieved noticeable and meaningful results in lowering motor vehicle theft across Hidalgo County. By expanding the workforce, deploying resources strategically, and using intelligence-driven operations, the team has greatly improved response times, case follow-up, and proactive enforcement. Our agency will continue to with the four full time TFOs and one admin, in addition the TFO and the Analyst from SB224 grant will be transferred to the Auto Theft Grant. Due to the significant decrease in catalytic converter thefts and the continued high volume of motor vehicle thefts and burglaries, our office has determined that reallocating this officers and the analyst to the Task Force Grant will better support current enforcement priorities and investigative needs

During the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the task force made 179 arrests, cleared 340 cases, and recovered 255 stolen vehicles. These results show a significant boost in productivity and effectiveness, while also contributing to a general decline in auto theft incidents. The ability to solve cases and recover stolen property at this level reflects operational efficiency and strong teamwork among task force members.

The success of this effort is fueled by a comprehensive strategy that includes crime analysis, digital forensics, license plate reader (LPR) technology, coordinated intelligence sharing, and regulatory inspections. These tools help investigators identify theft trends, focus on repeat offenders, and disrupt organized criminal networks involved in vehicle theft and parts trafficking.

Furthermore, the task force has improved collaboration with local, state, and federal agencies. This teamwork has been vital for handling crimes that cross jurisdictions, especially those involving stolen vehicles moving toward the border and broader organized crime activities.

Even with these achievements, the demand for services still exceeds current staffing levels, emphasizing the need to sustain and grow the task force. Continued investment will help maintain operational momentum, further cut auto theft rates, and dismantle organized criminal operations.

Through proactive enforcement, intelligence-led policing, and strong partnerships, the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Combined Auto Theft Task Force has proven to be a highly effective initiative in reducing vehicle crimes and enhancing public safety across the region.

- 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 Sheriff's Combined Auto Theft Task Force operates under the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office (HCSO), which serves as the lead agency and funding authority. The task force is managed through a centralized command led by a Task Force Commander, with supervisory oversight to ensure accountability, coordination, and compliance with grant goals. Investigators and analysts from participating agencies carry out daily operations.

The task force is based at its main headquarters in North Edinburg and has a substation in Weslaco, covering strategic areas across

Hidalgo County. The multi-agency team includes personnel from the Edinburg Police Department, Palmview Police Department, Mercedes Police Department, and Weslaco Police Department. Formal agreements like interlocal arrangements and memorandums of understanding (MOUs) define roles, responsibilities, and resource sharing to ensure coordinated enforcement and information exchange.

Operational support includes shared intelligence, combined investigations, and access to specialized tools such as License Plate Readers (LPRs), crime analysis, and digital forensics. Weekly intelligence meetings help identify trends, set priorities, and plan enforcement strategies.

Hidalgo County's location near the U.S.-Mexico border brings specific challenges, such as cross-border vehicle trafficking and organized crime. The task force addresses these issues with proactive, intelligence-driven policing strategies, including LPR deployment, covert operations, business inspections, and public education.

This grant benefits the entire Hidalgo County community, focusing enforcement efforts on high-crime areas and hotspots. The task force structure promotes a unified, efficient, and cooperative response to auto theft and related crimes.

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.

Burglary of motor vehicles (BMV), including the theft of vehicle parts, remains a significant and evolving threat in Hidalgo County and is closely linked to broader auto theft and organized crime activities. In 2025 year- to- date (calendar year), the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office has recorded 205 BMV cases, with 519 stolen items reported, resulting in a total loss of \$ 262, 262,268.32. 32. These numbers only reflect the Sheriff's Office jurisdiction and do not include municipal agencies, indicating the overall impact across the county is much greater. BMV crimes often involve high- value parts like catalytic converters, wheels, tailgates, and interior electronics, leading to direct financial losses and secondary effects such as higher insurance premiums, vehicle downtime, and diminished community confidence. A major contributing factor is the strong secondary market for stolen vehicle parts. Hidalgo County has numerous junkyards, salvage yards, pawn shops, and informal venues where stolen components can be quickly sold, dismantled, or redistributed. Limited regulation and inconsistent compliance create opportunities for stolen property to enter both legitimate and illegitimate markets. The county's proximity to the U. S.- Mexico border further increases the risk, as organized criminal networks exploit this geographic advantage to shuttle stolen vehicles and parts across the border. Although the Auto Theft Task Force is not primarily focused on BMV investigations, these crimes often overlap with auto theft, stolen parts trafficking, and organized criminal endeavors. Consequently, BMV enforcement is managed through a coordinated response by the Sheriff's Office involving property crimes investigators and other divisions. During Fiscal Year 2024-2025, this approach led to 18 BMV- related charges and the clearance of 155 cases. The Auto Theft Task Force supports this effort through intelligence- led strategies, including targeted enforcement in high- incidence areas, inspections of auto- related businesses, use of License Plate Reader technology, surveillance, and information sharing. Continued investment in these strategies is essential for reducing BMV incidents, minimizing financial losses, and disrupting criminal enterprises operating within and beyond the region.

- 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.

Motor vehicle theft continues to be a major public safety concern within the area covered by this application. From this point forward, the problem assessment uses fiscal year data to align with the grant performance period, reported target measures, and operational activities outlined in this proposal. In FY 2025, the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office reported 300 motor vehicle thefts within its jurisdiction, resulting in a total loss of \$4,542,212.86. These figures only reflect incidents reported by HCSO and do not include thefts reported by municipal agencies across Hidalgo County, indicating that the overall impact statewide is greater than what the Sheriff's Office numbers alone show.

Hidalgo County's location along the Texas-Mexico border, along with its five ports of entry, creates a constant risk that stolen vehicles will be quickly moved out of the jurisdiction and toward or across the international border. This geographic situation makes enforcement efforts more complicated, reduces opportunities for recovery, and leads to significant financial losses for victims. Many victims face not only the loss of their vehicle but also transportation issues, lost wages, higher insurance costs, and other financial burdens.

Motor vehicle theft in this region also presents a broader public safety issue because it is linked to organized and profit-driven criminal activity. Stolen vehicles may be trafficked across jurisdictions, dismantled for parts, sold illegally, or used in other crimes. During FY 2025, enforcement efforts by task forces resulted in 255 stolen vehicles recovered, 340 cases cleared, and 179 arrests, highlighting both the scale of the problem and the ongoing need for a specialized multi-agency approach.

For these reasons, motor vehicle theft remains a significant issue in the area and underscores the importance of continued grant-funded enforcement and prevention initiatives.

- 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.

Fraud-related motor vehicle crime continues to present a significant challenge within Hidalgo County and requires substantial investigative time and resources to verify reported offenses and determine criminal intent. In the coverage area, these offenses commonly involve false reports of stolen vehicles, deceptive claims regarding vehicle ownership or possession, and other fraudulent conduct connected to motor vehicle theft investigations. These cases place an added burden on law enforcement, as investigators must verify timelines, review inconsistencies in statements, analyze vehicle movements, and coordinate with outside agencies and available resources before determining whether a report is legitimate.

During the reporting period, the task force investigated 8 fraud-related motor vehicle crime incidents, resulting in a reported loss of \$148,880. The task force subsequently cleared 8 cases and made 7 arrests, demonstrating that these offenses are not minor reporting discrepancies, but criminal investigations requiring active enforcement and follow-through. Fraud-related vehicle crime consumes valuable investigative resources that could otherwise be directed toward confirmed motor vehicle theft offenses, while also affecting the accuracy of crime data and delaying responses to legitimate victims.

In Hidalgo County, the large volume of vehicle traffic and the county's proximity to the international border add further complexity to fraud-related vehicle investigations. The Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office and task force have strengthened their ability to detect and verify these offenses through intelligence-driven investigative methods and the use of License Plate Reader technology, which assists in confirming vehicle locations, travel timelines, and reported circumstances. This proactive approach supports case validation, improves clearance outcomes, and helps preserve law enforcement resources for legitimate motor vehicle theft investigations.

- 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...

Hidalgo County faces a unique motor vehicle crime threat due to its immediate proximity to the Texas-Mexico border and the presence of multiple international crossings, which create opportunities for stolen vehicles to be rapidly moved out of the United States. Motor vehicle crime in this region extends beyond traditional theft and includes fraudulent stolen vehicle reports, attempted export of stolen vehicles through bridges and ports of entry, cross-border trafficking, and organized criminal activity involving coordinated theft, transportation, and receiving networks. These offenses are often committed quickly and strategically, reducing the window for recovery and increasing the likelihood that stolen vehicles will be exported, concealed, dismantled, or otherwise absorbed into broader criminal enterprises.

The Hidalgo County Sheriff's Combined Auto Theft Task Force has observed that many of these offenses are not isolated property crimes, but part of organized and intelligence-driven criminal activity. Offenders exploit the border region, major roadways, and international bridge traffic to move stolen vehicles before victims discover the theft or before law enforcement can initiate a traditional response. Investigations have also shown that offenders may rely on electronic devices, altered identifiers, fraudulent documentation, and coordinated transportation methods to avoid detection and facilitate cross-border movement. This operational environment requires a specialized and proactive law enforcement response focused on interdiction, intelligence development, and multi-agency coordination.

Cross-border recovery activity further illustrates the scope of the problem. In Fiscal Year 2025, the task force recovered \$376,990 in vehicle value at the border and \$1,625,500 in vehicle value from Mexico, for a combined total of \$2,002,490 in cross-border recovered vehicle value. These recoveries demonstrate that stolen vehicle trafficking toward and across the border is not hypothetical; it is an active and measurable threat affecting the region. The high recovery value also reflects the importance of proactive enforcement efforts aimed at identifying suspicious vehicle movement, coordinating with law enforcement partners, and intercepting stolen vehicles before they are permanently lost to organized criminal enterprises.

To address this problem, the task force employs a strategy built on border interdiction, intelligence-driven investigations, coordinated enforcement, and regional information sharing. By leveraging law enforcement resources, developing actionable intelligence, and working with local, state, federal, and cross-jurisdictional partners, the task force can identify theft patterns, investigate fraud-related activity, target vehicle export attempts, and disrupt organized criminal networks involved in motor vehicle crime. This approach not only improves recovery rates, but also strengthens criminal cases and increases the ability of law enforcement to intervene before stolen vehicles are successfully trafficked across the border.

Overall, motor vehicle crime in Hidalgo County is directly influenced by its border location and by the presence of organized networks involved in theft, fraud, trafficking, and vehicle export. Continued task force operations are essential to detecting fraud, preventing stolen vehicles from entering Mexico, recovering vehicles already trafficked across the border, and disrupting the criminal enterprises that profit from motor vehicle crime

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 will target motor vehicle burglaries, including theft of vehicle parts, through coordinated, intelligence-driven enforcement and prevention efforts. Team members will include experienced investigators and support staff familiar with motor vehicle crime trends, organized theft patterns, and recovery strategies. Their main goals are to identify offenders, disrupt criminal activities, recover stolen property, and support prosecutions through detailed investigations. A primary focus of the program will be enforcing laws related to stolen vehicle parts and the illegal sale or possession of those items. Task Force investigators will inspect salvage yards, repair shops, automotive businesses, and parts recycling centers to find stolen parts, identify suspicious inventory, and trace property connected to vehicle burglary crimes. These inspections will also serve to discourage businesses and individuals from illegal trafficking of stolen vehicle parts.

The program will also conduct proactive enforcement operations in areas with recurring offenses or known theft patterns. These may include bait vehicle operations, targeted surveillance, and focused enforcement initiatives aimed at catching individuals and organized groups involved in vehicle burglaries and part thefts. Analysts will review crime data, identify hot spots, develop suspect profiles, and monitor patterns and trends to guide enforcement actions and resource deployment.

Technology will be a key component of the program. The Task Force will use available law enforcement tools, including License Plate Readers and other investigative equipment, to identify suspect vehicles, analyze criminal patterns, and help link crimes across jurisdictions. Personnel will also collaborate with other Sheriff's Office divisions and partner agencies to share intelligence, coordinate efforts, and improve investigative success.

Beyond enforcement, the program will focus on prevention and community outreach. Task Force members will participate in public awareness events, educate the community on burglary prevention, promote vehicle security practices, and conduct etching or marking programs for commonly targeted vehicle parts and property. These initiatives aim to raise awareness, reduce opportunities for theft, and foster community involvement in crime prevention.

Through a mix of proactive investigations, business inspections, technological tools, interagency cooperation, and community outreach, the program aims to decrease motor vehicle burglaries, recover stolen property, disrupt organized crime, and enhance public safety in the area.

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

The Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Combined Auto Theft Task Force will adopt a coordinated, intelligence-led approach to fight motor vehicle theft across the coverage area. Program functions will include regional cooperation across jurisdictions, sharing intelligence between agencies, targeted enforcement, vehicle recovery efforts, analytical support, and public outreach. Given Hidalgo County's proximity to the Texas-Mexico border and the ongoing threat from organized criminal groups involved in vehicle theft and

cross-border trafficking, the Task Force will focus on strategies to identify offenders, disrupt theft activities, and prevent stolen vehicles from being quickly moved out of the area. The program will continue using License Plate Reader technology throughout the county and near ports of entry to help detect, track, and recover stolen vehicles. The Task Force will also carry out bait vehicle operations in high-theft zones during regular and overtime enforcement periods. Crime analysis will help identify repeat offenders, hotspots, and theft trends, while team members will coordinate with other divisions and specialized units for surveillance and enforcement involving persons of interest. Specialized tools and equipment will be used to identify cloned or fake VINs, confirm vehicle identities, and gather evidence for criminal investigations. The Task Force will also promote public awareness through outreach events, social media campaigns, and outdoor signage to educate the public on theft prevention and encourage reporting suspicious activity. With these combined efforts, the program aims to strengthen regional enforcement, improve recovery and arrest outcomes, and deliver a comprehensive response to motor vehicle theft in Hidalgo County.

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 fight fraud-related motor vehicle crimes using advanced technology. Investigators will use tools such as OBD readers, scope cameras, and infotainment software to verify vehicle identification numbers (VINs) and secondary VINs, ensuring accurate ownership verification and detection of stolen vehicles.

In cases of cloned or stolen vehicles, specialized equipment will detect VIN tampering and gather vital data to identify fraudulent registrations. Analysts will use data collection software and apps to spot patterns of fraudulent activity related to vehicle ownership and registration, helping to uncover complex fraud schemes.

Additionally, digital forensics will be used on electronic devices in vehicles to retrieve information like GPS locations and usage history. This comprehensive approach ensures the Task Force is well-prepared to deal with complicated vehicle fraud crimes, aiming to reduce vehicle fraud and improve 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)

The proposed program will establish a proactive and coordinated approach to prevent motor vehicle crime across the coverage area, including motor vehicle theft, burglary of vehicles, and fraud-related vehicle offenses. Program activities will involve targeted enforcement, crime analysis, technology-driven investigations, interagency collaboration, regulatory inspections, and public outreach aimed at reducing opportunities for vehicle-related crimes and disrupting repeat offenders. The Task Force will carry out proactive patrols and focused enforcement in high-crime zones identified through intelligence, reported trends, and recurring patterns of theft and burglary. The program will continue to leverage law enforcement technology, such as License Plate Readers, to help identify stolen vehicles, monitor suspect behaviors, and generate investigation leads. Covert tactics, including bait vehicle operations and surveillance, will also be employed when suitable to identify offenders and aid in apprehensions. The initiative will bolster prevention efforts by working with local, state, and federal law enforcement partners through intelligence sharing, joint operations, and addressing vehicle crime trends that cross jurisdictional lines. Additionally, the Task Force will conduct inspections of salvage yards, repair shops, and related businesses-when legally permitted-to find stolen vehicles, parts, fraudulent documents, altered identifiers, and other signs of criminal activity. Specialized equipment will be used to detect cloned or fraudulent VINs and support investigations into fraud-related vehicle crimes. Public awareness and community engagement will remain vital to the prevention efforts. Through outreach events, educational campaigns, social media, and theft prevention programs, the Task Force will motivate the public to adopt safety measures, stay vigilant against suspicious activity, and report vehicle crimes. By integrating these efforts, the proposed program aims to reduce opportunities for motor vehicle crimes, enhance early detection and response, and strengthen the regional capacity to combat vehicle-related offenses.

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...)

The proposed program will support other motor vehicle crime investigations and enforcement efforts consistent with statutory requirements by using a coordinated, intelligence-driven approach. In addition to tackling motor vehicle theft and fraud-related vehicle crimes, the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Combined Auto Theft Task Force will focus on preventing stolen vehicles from being moved toward or across the Texas-Mexico border, disrupting illegal export activities through outbound bridge and port operations, and identifying organized criminal enterprises involved in vehicle theft, trafficking, and fraud. Because of Hidalgo County's border location and its five ports of entry, the program will prioritize early detection and interdiction of stolen vehicles heading southbound toward the border. The Task Force will employ License Plate Reader technology, intelligence sharing, proactive patrols, and coordinated enforcement to spot suspect vehicle movement and support timely recovery and interdiction. Members will also work with partner agencies and relevant border law enforcement entities to enhance communication regarding vehicles believed to be stolen or linked to criminal investigations. The program will further investigate fraud-related motor vehicle offenses, including false theft reports, cloned or altered VINs, fraudulent ownership documents, and other vehicle-related criminal schemes. Using specialized equipment, analytical tools, surveillance, and joint operations, the team will identify offenders, build cases, and disrupt criminal networks engaged in vehicle crimes. Through these combined efforts, the program aims to strengthen efforts to prevent stolen vehicles from leaving the area, improve detection and recovery, disrupt organized crime, and enhance regional responses to motor vehicle crime in Hidalgo County.

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 Combined Auto Theft Task Force will carry out this program through a coordinated regional strategy aimed at boosting cooperation among agencies, enhancing information sharing, and preventing duplication of current enforcement efforts. Since motor vehicle theft and related crimes often cross jurisdiction lines, the Task Force will collaborate closely with participating agencies and other law enforcement partners to develop unified approaches, exchange actionable intelligence, and coordinate enforcement throughout the area.

The Task Force will keep up regular communication with involved agencies via meetings, briefings, electronic crime updates, hot sheets, and BOLO notices about theft patterns, suspect details, stolen vehicles, and fraud activities. These efforts will help improve situational awareness and support quick coordination across different jurisdictions. To avoid overlapping efforts, the Task Force will

concentrate on cases, suspects, and trends that need multi-jurisdictional collaboration, specialized investigations, analytical support, or targeted enforcement, while local agencies continue handling routine incidents within their primary areas. Grant-funded efforts will be carried out across jurisdictional lines through coordinated operations such as surveillance, interdiction, vehicle recovery, and other focused enforcement actions in partnership with relevant agencies. Crime analysts will assist these efforts by spotting trends, gathering intelligence, analyzing License Plate Reader (LPR) and related data, and helping to identify routes, offenders, and locations linked to vehicle theft. Given Hidalgo County's position along the Texas-Mexico border, intelligence on southbound movement, ports of entry, and emerging criminal patterns will be shared before, during, and after operations to support a unified regional response.

The Task Force will also work with other task forces, specialized units, and local, state, and federal law enforcement when investigations involve organized crime groups, cross-border trafficking, motor vehicle fraud, or offenders operating across several jurisdictions. This collaborative approach will help maximize resources, build regional enforcement capacity, and provide a comprehensive response to vehicle theft without repeating existing local efforts.

- 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.

The Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office would like to request permission to utilize the salary of one (1) Hidalgo County Patrol Officer as cash match for the Task Force (TF). Over the past year and a half, this officer has dedicated nearly 100% of their regular duty time assisting the TF.

The officer has primarily supported task force operations by utilizing a marked patrol unit to establish points of contact through traffic enforcement stops and related duties. This assistance has been instrumental in reducing the need for Task Force Officers (TFOs) operating unmarked units to initiate traffic stops, thereby enhancing officer safety and operational effectiveness.

Totaling \$103,568 (Salary including Fringes)

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
Statutory Motor Vehicle Theft Measures Required for all Grantees.			
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	
Statutory Burglary of a Motor Vehicle Measures Required for all Grantees			
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	
Statutory Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Crime Measures Required for all Grantees			
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	
Measures for Grantees. Add Target values for those that you will measure.			
1	Goal 1: Reduce the Incidence of Motor Vehicle Theft through Enforcement Strategies		
1.1	Strategy 1: Conduct Activities that Result in the Arrest, Clearance, and Recoveries of Motor Vehicle Theft		
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	6
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 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)	Number of businesses inspected	24

ID	Activity	Measure	Target
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	25
1.1.12	Conduct covert operations targeting MVT offenders	Number of covert operations	15
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.	8
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	10
1.2	Strategy 2: Conduct Collaborative Efforts that Result in Reduction of Incidents of Motor Vehicle Theft		
1.2.1	Provide Agency Assists for MVT and motor vehicle related fraud	Number of agency assists related to MVT. 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.	24
1.2.2	Collaborate with other units or divisions (i.e. homicide, vice, narcotics, etc.) within the taskforce department(s) 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.	24
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.	24
1.2.5	Conduct intelligence information-sharing (Personal attendance)	Number of intelligence meetings attended (include attending as presenter, participant or attendee)	24
1.2.6	Conduct intelligence information-sharing (Written information)	Crime analysis bulletins disseminated (include information distributed to law enforcement agencies via text, e-mail, or intra-net communications)	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.	20
1.3	Strategy 3: Prevent and Reduce the Incidence of Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Activities		
1.3.1	Collaborate with agencies relating to investigation and enforcement of vehicle insurance fraud and FRMVC	Number of collaborations	15
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)	170
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.	100
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.	15
2	Goal 2: Reduce the Incidence of Theft from Motor Vehicles through Enforcement Strategies		
2.1	Strategy 1: Conduct Activities that Result in the Arrest, Clearance, and Recoveries of Burglary of Motor Vehicles and Theft of Vehicle Parts and Accessories		
2.1.1	Conduct bait vehicle operations that target vehicle burglary offenders	Number of bait vehicle burglary deployments	6
2.1.2	Identify "prolific BMV offenders" through informants and intelligence [Prolific is defined as "linked to BMV and theft of	Number of offenders identified	10

ID	Activity	Measure	Target
	vehicle parts and accessories offenses three or more times"]		
2.2	Strategy 2: Conduct Collaborative Efforts that Result in the Reduction of Incidents of Theft From a Motor Vehicle		
2.2.1	Provide Agency Assists BMV.	Number of agency assists related to BMV or stolen parts. 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.	12
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.	12
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.	8
3	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		
3.1	Strategy 1: Conduct Public Awareness Related Activities Used to Educate Citizens		
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.	4
3.1.4	Conduct vehicle identification initiative/event	Number of etching events. Include windows, component parts, VIN stamps and catalytic converters.	4
3.1.4.1	Conduct vehicle identification initiative/event	Number of Participants/Attendees (Vehicles Marked)	50
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	40
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)	15
3.1.10	Conduct media outreach, including, public service announcements, press releases, and interviews	Number of outreaches	10
3.2	Strategy 2: Conduct Law Enforcement Training Activities to Educate Officers on Recognition and Apprehension of Stolen Vehicles and Property		
3.2.1	Conduct law enforcement training (TCOLE)	Number of classes provided for TCOLE credit	3
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.	18

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), "New World," within the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office. As the agency transitioned into the "New World" system, TFF 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

[Letter of Support.pdf](#) (5/7/2026 5:27:38 PM)

[Resolution.pdf](#) (5/26/2026 9:50:33 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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DATE: August 21, 2026

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

DEPARTMENT NAME: Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 1284-21-280-000-0000-XXXXXX

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
1284-21-280-000-0000- 501130	2800010827-GRANT-SALARY-REG FT EE	\$ 478,820.08
1284-21-280-000-0000- 501150	2800010827-GRANT-SALARY-LONGEVITY	\$ 12,672.00
1284-21-280-000-0000- 501170	2800010827-GRANT-SALARY-SUPP PAY	\$ 17,200.00
1284-21-280-000-0000- 501190	2800010827-GRANT-SALARY-CLOTHING	\$ 3,394.92
1284-21-280-000-0000- 502110	2800010827-GRANT-FRINGE-HEALTH INS	\$ 74,408.12
1284-21-280-000-0000- 502120	2800010827-GRANT-FRINGE-LIFE INS	\$ 393.12
1284-21-280-000-0000- 502200	2800010827-GRANT-FRINGE-FICA	\$ 39,862.94
1284-21-280-000-0000- 502300	2800010827-GRANT-FRINGE-RETIREMENT	\$ 79,552.19
1284-21-280-000-0000- 502500	2800010827-GRANT-FRINGE-UNEMP COMP	\$ 781.63
1284-21-280-000-0000- 502600	2800010827-GRANT-FRINGE-WORKS COMP	\$ -
1284-21-280-000-0000- 504420	2800010827-GRANT-OTH OPER-RTL EQ&VEH	\$ 64,500.00
1284-21-280-000-0000- 505320	2800010827-GRANT-OTH OPER-WRLS DVCS	\$ 3,612.00
1284-21-280-000-0000- 505830	2800010827-GRANT-TRAVEL-OC EMP TRV	\$ 20,000.00
1284-21-280-000-0000- 505840	2800010827-GRANT-TRAVEL-RGSTRN	\$ 3,749.00
1284-21-280-000-0000- 506100	2800010827-GRANT-SUPPLIES-GEN SUPPL	\$ 16,162.00
1284-21-280-000-0000- 508410	2800010827-GRANT-EDINBURG- AID TO GOV-	\$ 219,613.00
1284-21-280-000-0000- 508410	2800010827-GRANT-MERCEDES- AID TO GOV-	\$ 67,019.00
1284-21-280-000-0000- 508410	2800010827-GRANT-WESLACO- AID TO GOV-	\$ 93,694.00

2026
Appropriation
AI-104411



1284-21-280-000-0000-	508410	2800010827-GRANT-PALMVIEW- AID TO GOV-	\$	67,138.00
1284-00-280-000-0000-	491100	2800010824-CASH MATCH -GEN FUND	\$	135,851.00
1284-00-280-000-0000	4341000	2800010827-ST GRANT-MVCPA-FY 2027	\$	1,052,143.00
1284-00-280-000-0000-	-437000	2800010827.CASH MATCH.EDINBURG	\$	36,602.00
1284-00-280-000-0000-	-437000	2800010827.CASH MATCH.MERCEDES	\$	11,170.00
1284-00-280-000-0000-	-437000	2800010827.CASH MATCH.WESLACO	\$	15,616.00
1284-00-280-000-0000-	-437000	2800010827.CASH MATCH.PALMVIEW	\$	11,190.00
TOTAL BUDGET INCREASE (DECREASE)			\$	1,262,572.00

REASON:

To appropriate the budget for the Hidalgo County Task Force Grmat Application for Fiscal Year 2027.

DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE

APPROVED COMMISSIONERS' COURT

/ /
DATE

ATTEST COUNTY CLERK

DATE: September 1, 2026

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Dagoberto Soto Jr., Budget Officer

DEPARTMENT NAME: Department of Budget & Management for
Sherif's Office, Auto Theft Task Force Grant

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 1XXX-XX-XXX-X00-0000-XXXXX

CONTACT PERSON: Sandra Jara, Budget Analyst III PHONE: Ext. 5408

SUBJECT: Interfund & BA - Transfer/s (transfer in/out) (increase/decrease) in Accordance with Local Government Code Chapter 111, Subchapter C.

Honorable Commissioner's Court of Hidalgo County:

I would like to request the following amendments (increases) to my departmental budget in accordance with Local Government Code, Chapter 111 Subchapter C.

INCREASE/DECREASE ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT (OBJECT) NAME	AMOUNT
FROM:		
1100-15-115-900-0000-508990-	CO WIDE ADM CONTINGENCY	(135,851.00)
TO:		
1100-91-280-000-0000-591284-	TRANSFER OUT- FY27 AUTO THEFT	135,851.00
1284-00-280-000-0000-491100-	TRANSFER IN- GENERAL FUND	135,851.00
TOTAL BUDGET INCREASE (DECREASE)		135,851.00

REASON: To fund county's cash match portion for the Hidalgo County Task Force Grant application for Fiscal Year 2027.

DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE

APPROVED COMMISSIONERS' COURT

DATE

ATTEST COUNTY CLERK



Jose Rodriguez <jose.rodriguez@hidalgo.org>

AI-104411 COR REQUEST

Jose Rodriguez <jose.rodriguez@hidalgo.org>

Fri, Aug 21, 2026 at 3:16 PM

Draft To: Tamara Flores <tamara.flores@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Cc: Myra Montoya <myra.montoya@hidalgo.org>, Isabel Rodriguez <isabel.rodriguez@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>, Rossana Schettino <rossana.schettino@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>, Bryan Garcia <bryan.sgarcia@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Good afternoon Tamara,

Can you please prepare a COR for AI-104411 for the FY27 Auto Theft Task Force grant in the amount of \$1,262,572.00?

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

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