

Senate Bill 224 Grant Application for 2025

The Application was submitted by James Winton Lowery at 6/12/2024 8:56:30 AM and is now locked.
The confirmation Number is 2024061200326.

Primary Agency / Grantee Legal Name: *City of Schertz*
Organization Type: *Law Enforcement*
Organization ORI (if applicable): *TX0940200: SCHERTZ PD*

Program Title Please enter a short description of the proposed program that can be used as the title.
License Plate Reader Program

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

- Continued Grant** - Only available to agencies that have a 2024 grant. These are annual competitive grants for the program described in the application. The program must be submitted for substantially the same program as the previous year. The requested funds, match funds, and in-kind match must be within 5% of the previous year but in any event may not go below the 20% minimum cash match requirement. The number of staff positions must be within 5% of the total positions. Awarded activities are funded on a reimbursement basis.
- Modified Grant** - Only available to agencies that have a 2024 grant. The grantee will only enter the portion with a difference more or less than 5% of their current grant. These are annual competitive grants that require a minimum cash match of 20% for the program described in the application. Awarded activities are funded on a reimbursement basis

MVCPA Program Category (see **RFA** and TAC 43, 3 §57.14). Check all that apply.

- Law Enforcement, Detection and Apprehension
- Prosecution, Adjudication and Conviction
- Reduction of the Theft of Catalytic Converters
- Education Programs and Marketing

Taskforce Grant Participation and Coverage Area

Provide a General Description of the Participating and Coverage Area of this Grant Application

The City of Schertz and the surrounding areas of Bexar, Comal, and Guadalupe Counties will be the area of coverage for this program.

Define in the tables below the grant relationships and geographic area of the Catalytic Converter program:

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 program. Letters of support with the application from the participating agencies are strongly recommended.

Participating Agencies	Coverage Agencies
TX0940200 SCHERTZ PD	TX0150000 BEXAR CO SO (MIP)
	TX0460000 COMAL CO SO
	TX0940000 GUADALUPE CO SO

- Other Coverage** (Use if ORI not listed or explanation is necessary.):
No text provided.
- National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB)** Used as Match (Documentation and time certification required.)
- Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)**
- Other State or Federal Agency** (specify:)

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%
- Enter MVCPA and Cash Match Amounts

Click on category name to edit budget detail for that category.

Budget Category	MVCPA Expenditures	Cash Match Expenditures	Total Expenditures	In-Kind Match
Personnel				
Fringe				
Overtime				
Professional and Contract Services	\$77,342	\$15,468	\$92,810	
Travel				
Equipment				
Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)				
Total	\$77,342	\$15,468	\$92,810	
Cash Match Percentage		20.00%		

Description	Subcategory Pct Time	MVCPA Funds	Cash Match	Total	In-Kind Match
Personnel					
Total Personnel					
Fringe					
Total Fringe					
Overtime					
Total Overtime					
Professional and Contract Services					
YEAR 1 SUBTOTAL FOR FLOCK CAMERA SYSTEM Other	100	\$77,342	\$15,468	\$92,810	
Total Professional and Contract Services	100	\$77,342	\$15,468	\$92,810	
Travel					
Total Travel					
Equipment					
Total Equipment					

Description	Subcategory Pct Time	MVCPA Funds	Cash Match	Total	In-Kind Match
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Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)

Total Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)

Budget Narrative

D. Professional and Contract Services

Includes the Flock Safety Platform of 1 FlockOS Advanced Package, 15 Flock Safety Falcon LPR Cameras, 1 Flock Safety Wing Gateway - 128 Streams, 6 Flock Safety Wing Gateways - 8 streams, and 2 Flock Safety Condor PTZ Cameras w/ LTE service for a total of \$71960. Also includes one time fees of the following: One Wing Gateway Implementation Fee of \$500, 6 wing gateway implementation fees of \$500 (Total \$3000), 11 MASH Tested Pole Implementation fees of \$1250 (Total \$13750), 3 standard implementation fees of \$650 (Total \$1950), 1 Existing Infrastructure Fee of \$150, 2 Standard Implementation fees of Condor cameras of \$750 (Total \$1500) Grand Total \$92810.00

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.

[Cash Match](#)

Source of Cash Match

General Funds	Grantee	\$15,468
Total Cash Match		\$15,468

[In-Kind Match](#)

Statistics to Support Grant Problem Statement

Reported Cases	2023	2024
	Catalytic Converter Theft	Catalytic Converter Theft
Jurisdiction		
Schertz	11	4

[Add/Edit Statistics](#)

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)

Schertz Police Department serves the City of Schertz and its 32 square miles located in Bexar, Comal, and Guadalupe Counties. The City of Schertz is the third largest city in the Alamo Area with a population of 42,002 and is growing quickly. The city has a strong mix of commercial and residential leading to a variety of crime that the police department combats. Like other communities in the State of Texas, Schertz has been a victim of the trend of catalytic converter theft. To combat this trend, the Schertz Police Department desires to implement a license plate reading camera program throughout the city. This program would not only assist in the prevention of catalytic converter theft in City of Schertz as well as aide in the arrest, prosecution, and conviction catalytic converter thieves; but would support these efforts in the surrounding areas of Bexar, Comal, and Guadalupe Counties. Schertz sits directly between San Antonio and New Braunfels on the IH-35 corridor, and a program such as this would serve as a safety net between these two cities. In addition to the reduction of catalytic converter theft, I believe this would also aide in the ability to prevent other property crimes in the area such as vehicle theft, vehicle burglaries, and commercial and residential burglaries. Furthermore, these cameras would also aide in the apprehension and prosecution of countless other offenses.

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 Schertz Police Department is an agency of over 60 officers commanded by 12 Sergeants, 4 Lieutenants, 2 Assistant Chiefs (with one of the positions currently unstaffed), and our Chief of Police James Lowery. The Flock Safety Camera system we wish to acquire would be serviced and supported by Flock Safety as part of their agreement with the city. One unique detail of the Schertz Police Department is the location within three counties on the IH-35 corridor servicing the area between San Antonio and New Braunfels. This grant will target the specific catalytic converter theft and other property crimes that occur in the fast growing and highly trafficked area.

Grant Problem Statement

2.1 Provide an assessment of the Catalytic Converter Theft problem in the coverage area of this application. Include loss data consistent with the reported incident numbers above.

In the 2023 year, Schertz had 11 catalytic converter thefts in the city. This was a reduction from the previous two years as in 2021 and 2022, Schertz saw numerous more catalytic converters being stolen. So far in 2024, Schertz has had four instances of catalytic converter theft. These thefts are documented in department reports which are uploaded.

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 Catalytic Converter Theft from a motor vehicle.

Using the grant funds to implement the license plate reader program would aide in preventing, apprehending, and prosecuting catalytic converter theft by providing situational awareness to officers in the area. It would allow them to locate suspect vehicles used in the commission of catalytic converter theft, place these suspect vehicles in a database that would alert officers in the area of the suspect vehicles presence, and provide unique information which would aide in the prosecution of said offenders once they are taken into custody.

3.4 Functions of the proposed program related to preventing Catalytic Converter Theft

Having a database to lean on in regards to vehicles used in the commission of catalytic converter theft would aide officers in apprehending the offenders before they are able to strike. This would also aide in the prosecution of prior offenses providing unique information of the vehicles used by the offenders.

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.

This is not currently a capability possessed by the Schertz Police Department, and would establish a LPR program and begin to form a database of vehicles used by the offenders. This would be supported by other agencies in the area using Flock Safety LPR cameras and would in turn support and assist them in their apprehension and prosecution of catalytic converter thefts in their area.

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 rational for the request.

N/A

Part II

Goals, Strategies, and Activities

[Select Goals, Strategies, and Activity Targets](#) for the proposed program described in the application.

Click on the link above to open a new table called Goals, Strategies, and Activity. Applicants will review the statutory and optional activities. The first section is the statutory measures. Grantees may not provide targets for this section but need to review the descriptions to ensure that they understand the statutory minimum requirements associated with this grant. Applicants will then review the other items and estimate targets for only the activities that the applicant has described and plans to complete under this application.

ID	Activity	Measure	Target
Measures for Grantees. Add Target values for those that you will measure.			
1	Goal 1: Reduce the Incidence of Catalytic Converter Theft through Enforcement Strategies		
1.1	Strategy 1: Conduct Activities that Result in the Arrest, Clearance, and Recoveries of Catalytic Converter Theft		
1.1.1	Identify groups of catalytic converter theft offenders through intelligence gathering, crime analysis and the use of informants	Number of catalytic converter theft groups identified. Include gangs, cartels or other criminal enterprise with two or more members	5
1.1.2	Identify and document/record prolific Catalytic Converter Theft offenders [Prolific is defined as "linked to Catalytic Converter Theft offenses three or more times"]	Number identified/documented offenders	20
1.1.5	Conduct inspections of local businesses related to vehicle enterprise (transportation code or occupation code authorized	Number of businesses inspected	50

ID	Activity	Measure	Target
	companies such as salvage yard, repair shop, parts recycling center, used car dealership, salvage rebuilder, title service company, other).		
1.1.6	Conduct bait vehicle operations that target Catalytic Converter Theft offenders	Number of bait vehicle deployments. Include Catalytic Converter Theft bait operations here.	2
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.	300
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	50
1.1.12	Conduct covert operations targeting Catalytic Converter Theft offenders	Number of covert operations	10
1.1.13	Conduct warrant "round-up" operations targeting catalytic converter crime offenders, including people wanted for Catalytic Converter Theft	Number of warrant round-up operations performed Catalytic Converter Theft	2
1.1.15	Increase the recovery rate of stolen motor vehicle Catalytic Converter Theft	Report the number of Catalytic Converters recovered by taskforce	20
1.1.16	Increase the clearance rate of Catalytic Converter Theft	Report the number of Catalytic Converter Theft cases cleared	20
1.1.17	Increase the number of persons arrested for Catalytic Converter Theft	Report the number of persons arrested for Catalytic Converter Theft by taskforce	20
1.2	Strategy 2: Conduct Collaborative Efforts that Result In Reduction of Incidents of Catalytic Converter Theft		
1.2.1	Provide Agency Assists for Catalytic Converter Theft	Number of agency assists related to catalytic converter theft. 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.	10
1.2.2	Collaborate with other units or divisions (i.e. homicide, vice, narcotics, etc.) within the taskforce department(s) where there were crimes involving catalytic converter theft. Include all participating jurisdiction departments here.	Number of times collaborated within departments or SOs participating in taskforce related to Catalytic Converter Theft. 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 Catalytic Converter Theft investigations.	15
1.2.3	Collaborate with all other outside LE agencies and other organizations that assist in the reduction of Catalytic Converter Theft. 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 Catalytic Converter Theft. 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 Catalytic Converter Theft investigations	10
1.2.5	Conduct intelligence information-sharing (Personal attendance)	Number of intelligence meetings attended (include attending as presenter, participant or attendee)	5
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)	6
1.2.7	Collaborate with other MVCPA taskforces	Number of times collaborated with other MVCPA taskforces that assist in the reduction in Catalytic Converter Theft	5
3	Goal 3: Educate/Train Citizens and Qualified Personnel in Detection and Prevention of Catalytic Converter Theft		
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	12
3.1.2	Conduct educational presentations to the public	Number of presentations. Presentation means in person, on-line, original written document, article, or webpage.	6

ID	Activity	Measure	Target
3.1.4	Conduct vehicle identification initiative/event	Number of etching events. Including catalytic converters.	1
3.1.4.1	Conduct vehicle identification initiative/event	Number of Participants/Attendees Catalytic Converters 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.)	5
3.1.7	Utilize social media outlets (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)	Number of postings in social media outlets	12
3.1.8	Deploy outdoor public notification signage	Number of deployments per month (if sign remains several months, count as 1 deployment per month)	1
3.1.10	Conduct media outreach, including, public service announcements, press releases, and interviews	Number of outreaches	3
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	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.

All activities will be documented in a police report using our departments NICHE RMS Program. This program will be transitioned to Tyler RMS in 2025. Both programs provide reliable, accurate, and comprehensive data documentation which will be used to track the target goals.

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.

The Information documented in 3.1 and 3.4 are the best reflection of the goals of the program.

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

[Supporting Documentation.pdf](#) (6/12/2024 7:50:44 AM)

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