



FORT BEND COUNTY FIRE MARSHAL

Fort Bend County, Texas

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NICB Gas Detector Donation to Fort Bend County Fire Marshal Office

With a 108-year heritage, the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) is the nation's premier not-for-profit organization dedicated exclusively to fighting insurance fraud and crime.

NICB is an intelligence-driven and operationally focused organization that leads a united effort of insurers, law enforcement agencies, and representatives of the public to proactively identify, combat, and prevent insurance crime.

Thier Vision: To be the preeminent organization fighting insurance fraud and crime.

Their Proposal :

The Fort Bend County Fire Marshal Arson Unit serving the unincorporated areas of Fort Bend County, Texas, routinely investigate suspicious fires that are related to insurance fraud. They often search for signs of accelerants and ignitable liquid residues at fire scenes to establish an arson. Due to the pandemic, individuals are losing their jobs, can't make payments for their homes and vehicles, and are suspected of deliberately setting fire to them to reap the insurance proceeds. K9's that are specially trained to sniff these accelerants and ignitable liquid residues, and their handlers, are not responding to all of the suspected arson scenes with fears of being infected with the coronavirus. Several personnel with Fort Bend County Agencies were infected by the coronavirus since March of this year.

This is a proposed Special Operations Plan to assist the Fort Bend County Fire Marshal Arson Unit in targeting individuals committing the crimes of Arson and subsequent Insurance Fraud against NICB Member Companies in Fort Bend County. The primary purpose of this Special Operation is to identify, target and prosecute the individuals who are responsible for the Arsons and subsequent Insurance Frauds.

Arson Investigators with the Fort Bend County Fire Marshal's Arson Unit have made a request for assistance to the NICB to fund the purchase of four Hydrocarbon and Photoionization Detection Units in an effort to detect hydrocarbons and accelerant gases at arson scenes. The Hydrocarbon and Photoionization Detection Units will be utilized to rule out incendenary origins and causation of fire, a service normally performed by the specially trained canines. Investigators with the Fort Bend County Fire Marshal's Arson Squad and Special Agents of the NICB will identify, target and build prosecutable cases against the individuals responsible for the Arsons and subsequent Insurance Fraud.