Agency Name: Fort Bend County

Grant/App: 4938301 Start Date: 10/1/2024 End Date: 9/30/2025

Project Title: Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office Crime Analyst

Status: Application Pending Submission

Profile Information

Applicant Agency Name: Fort Bend County

Project Title: Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office Crime Analyst

Division or Unit to Administer the Project: Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office

Address Line 1: 301 Jackson Street

Address Line 2:

City/State/Zip: Richmond Texas 77469-3108

Start Date: 10/1/2024 **End Date:** 9/30/2025

Regional Council of Governments(COG) within the Project's Impact Area: Houston-Galveston Area

Council

Headquarter County: Fort Bend

Counties within Project's Impact Area: Fort Bend

Grant Officials:
Authorized Official

Name: KP George

Email: county.judge@fortbendcountytx.gov

Address 1: 301 Jackson Street

Address 1: Office of the County Judge

City: Richmond, Texas 77469

Phone: 281-341-8608 Other Phone: 281-633-7769

Fax: 832-471-1858
Title: The Honorable
Salutation: Judge
Position: County Judge

Financial Official

Name: Mandy Lesko

Email: accounting@fortbendcountytx.gov

Address 1: 301 Jackson St

Address 1: Suite 701

City: Richmond, Texas 77469

Phone: 281-344-3951 Other Phone:

Fax:
Title: Ms.
Salutation: Ms.
Position: Accountant

Project Director

Name: Manuel Zamora

Email: Manuel.Zamora@fortbendcountytx.gov

Address 1: 1840 Richmond Pkwy

Address 1:

City: Richmond, Texas 77469

Phone: 281-341-4616 Other Phone: 281-725-7013

Fax: Title: Mr.

Salutation: Major

Position: Executive Major

Grant Writer

Name: Elizabeth Signorotti

Email: elizabeth.signorotti@fortbendcountytx.gov

Address 1: 1840 Richmond Parkway

Address 1:

City: Richmond, Texas 77469

Phone: 281-341-8573 Other Phone:

Fax: Title: Ms.

Salutation: Dr.

Position: Grant Coordinator

Agency Name: Fort Bend County

Grant/App: 4938301 Start Date: 10/1/2024 End Date: 9/30/2025

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Narrative Information

Introduction

The purpose of the Project Safe Neighborhoods Program is to create and foster safer neighborhoods through a sustained reduction in violent crime, including, but not limited to, addressing criminal gangs and felonious possession and use of firearms.

Program-Specific Questions

What is the project's	main Project Safe	Neighborhoods	(PSN)	design feature?
Calabasia ila Espara				

Community Engagement

X Focused and Strategic Enforcement

_ Prevention and Intervention

_ Accountability

Indicate the percentage of your PSN project allocated for each of the following categories:

Police Agency (%):

50

Prevention (%):

All Other Partner Agencies (%):

Project will support the operations and coordination activities of a gang task force.

Select the appropriate response:

X Yes

_ No

If you answered 'YES' above, enter the name of the gang task force. If you selected 'No', enter 'N/A'. Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office Gang Unit

If you answered 'YES' above, enter the agencies or organizations that participate in the above-named task force. If you selected 'No', enter 'N/A'.

Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office does not belong to a multi-agency gang "task force"; however, within our agency is a dedicated Gang Unit that works with outside agencies as needed.

Certifications

In addition to the requirements found in existing statute, regulation, and the funding announcement, this program requires applicant organizations to certify compliance with the following:

Constitutional Compliance

Applicant assures that it will not engage in any activity that violates Constitutional law including profiling based upon race.

Information Systems

Applicant assures that any new criminal justice information systems will comply with data sharing standards for the Global Justice XML Data Model and the National Information Exchange Model.

Cybersecurity Training Requirement

Local units of governments must comply with the Cybersecurity Training requirements described in Section 772.012 and Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code. Local governments determined to not be in compliance with the cybersecurity requirements required by Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code are ineligible for OOG grant funds until the second anniversary of the date the local government is determined ineligible. Government entities must annually certify their compliance with the training requirements using the Cybersecurity Training Certification for State and Local Government. A copy of the Training Certification must be uploaded to your eGrants application. For more information or to access available training programs, visit the Texas Department of Information Resources Statewide Cybersecurity Awareness Training page.

Criminal History Reporting

Entities receiving funds from PSO must be located in a county that has an average of 90% or above on both adult and juvenile dispositions entered into the computerized criminal history database maintained by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) as directed in the *Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 66*. The disposition completeness percentage is defined as the percentage of arrest charges a county reports to DPS for which a disposition has been subsequently reported and entered into the computerized criminal history system.

Counties applying for grant awards from the Office of the Governor must commit that the county will report at least 90% of convictions within five business days to the Criminal Justice Information System at the Department of Public Safety.

Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR)

Eligible applicants operating a law enforcement agency must be current on reporting complete UCR data and the Texas specific reporting mandated by 411.042 TGC, to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) for inclusion in the annual Crime in Texas (CIT) publication. To be considered eligible for funding, applicants must have submitted a full twelve months of accurate data to DPS for the most recent calendar year by the deadline(s) established by DPS. Due to the importance of timely reporting, applicants are required to submit complete and accurate UCR data, as well as the Texas-mandated reporting, on a no less than monthly basis and respond promptly to requests from DPS related to the data submitted.

Entities That Collect Sexual Assault/Sex Offense Evidence or Investigate/Prosecute Sexual Assault or Other Sex Offenses

In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 420.034, any facility or entity that collects evidence for sexual assault or other sex offenses or investigates or prosecutes a sexual assault or other sex offense for which evidence has been collected, must participate in the statewide electronic tracking system developed and implemented by the Texas Department of Public Safety. Visit DPS's Sexual Assault Evidence Tracking Program website for more information or to set up an account to begin participating. Additionally, per Section 420.042 "A law enforcement agency that receives evidence of a sexual assault or other sex offense...shall submit that evidence to a public accredited crime laboratory for analysis no later than the 30th day after the date on which that evidence was received." A law enforcement agency in possession of a significant number of Sexual Assault Evidence Kits (SAEK) where the 30-day window has passed may be considered noncompliant.

Compliance with State and Federal Laws, Programs and Procedures

Local units of government, including cities, counties and other general purpose political subdivisions, as appropriate, and institutions of higher education that operate a law enforcement agency, must comply with all aspects of the programs and procedures utilized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") to: (1) notify DHS of all information requested by DHS related to illegal aliens in Agency's custody; and (2) detain such illegal aliens in accordance with requests by DHS. Additionally, counties and municipalities may NOT have in effect, purport to have in effect, or make themselves subject to or bound by, any law, rule, policy, or practice (written or unwritten) that would: (1) require or authorize the public disclosure of federal law enforcement information in order to conceal, harbor, or shield from detection fugitives from justice or aliens illegally in the United States; or (2) impede federal officers from exercising authority under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), § 1231(a), § 1357(a), § 1366(1), or § 1366(3). Lastly, eligible applicants must comply with all provisions, policies, and penalties found in Chapter 752, Subchapter C of the Texas Government Code.

Each local unit of government, and institution of higher education that operates a law enforcement agency, must download, complete and then upload into eGrants the <u>CEO/Law Enforcement Certifications and Assurances Form</u> certifying compliance with federal and state immigration enforcement requirements. This Form is required for each application submitted to PSO and is active until August 31, 2025 or the end of the grant period, whichever is later.

Equal Employment Opportunity Plan (EEO Plan)

If awarded, applicant agrees to comply with the Equal Employment Opportunity Program (EEOP) requirements per 28 C.F.R. § 42 Subpart E. Agencies may use the EEO Utilization Report Builder to assist with preparing Verification Forms and, if required, Utilization Reports.

Civil Rights Liaison

A civil rights liaison who will serve as the grantee's civil rights point of contact and who will be responsible for ensuring that the grantee meets all applicable civil rights requirements must be designated. The designee will act as the grantee's liaison in civil rights matters with PSO and with the federal Office of Justice Programs. Enter the Name of the Civil Rights Liaison:

Yvette Maldonado

Enter the Address for the Civil Rights Liaison:

301 Jackson Street Richmond, TX 77469-3108

Enter the Phone Number for the Civil Rights Liaison [(999) 999-9999 x9999]:

12813418630

Overall Certification

Each applicant agency must certify to the specific requirements detailed above as well as to comply with all requirements within the PSO Funding Announcement, the *Guide to Grants*, the *Grantee Conditions and Responsibilities*, any authorizing or applicable state and federal statutes and regulations to be eligible for this program.

X I certify to all of the application content & requirements.

Project Abstract:

Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office (FBCSO) seeks to hire a full-time Crime Analyst who will perform complex criminal intelligence research and analysis work to foster safer neighborhoods in Fort Bend County, reduce violent crime, and develop evidence-based and data-driven operational and intervention initiatives. The position will allow for a combination of tactical, operational, and strategic crime analysis to optimize the use of personnel and resources at FBCSO. The scope of the Crime Analyst's activities includes, but is not limited to, coordinating data analysis, identifying patterns of criminal activity, identifying and tracking the movements of known repeat offenders, alerting Patrol staff of known offender activity, linking offenders to trending activity, and linking offenders and their activity to networks and organizations operating in Fort Bend County. A correlation between traffic enforcement and crime has been explored by the International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training (IADLEST) and has shown that "saturating locations with high crash and crime incidents with highly visible traffic enforcement" reduces both crashes and fights crime. Since crimes often involve motor vehicles, the Crime Analyst will collect and map accurate, timely, and complete crash and crime data to identify repeat incidents, hotspots, and patterns. Work performed will include evaluation and analysis of intelligence reports on criminal activity, threats, and vulnerabilities; conducting victimology to better predict crime areas for effective deployment of staff by day of the week and by shift; forecasting criminal activity and identifying traffic/vehicle-related trends to build predictive models

specific to agency needs and available resources. This project seeks to close a significant gap between the Sheriff's Office's ongoing staffing shortage and our ability to effectively patrol a geographically large and populous county through targeted allocation of limited staff to reduce crime, including violent crime. FBCSO's Crime Analyst's methodology will be predicated on a model that integrates location-based crime and crash data to determine the most effective methods for deploying law enforcement and non-law enforcement resources. Through highly visible and targeted community/neighborhood policing, engagement, and partnerships, and with an additional objective of reducing crashes and other social harms, our goal is both a short-term and long-term reduction in crime, violent crime, crashes and traffic fatalities. The addition of a Crime Analyst to the Fort Bend County Sheriff's office will contribute to moving the agency toward a meaningful, action-oriented, data-driven, and evidence-based operational model of policing and community engagement. This project encompasses the salary and fringe benefits for the Crime Analyst, the acquisition of equipment to support the position, the purchase of software and licenses to perform the job, and the costs associated with training seminars, conferences, and professional development.

Problem Statement:

Crime analysis has been shown to be effective in a wide range of policing and crime reduction strategies, including Problem-Oriented Policing (POP), Hot Spots Policing, Pulling Levers (focused deterrence), and Disorder Policing, sometimes referred to as the "broken windows approach" (Boba, 2014). Though the degrees to which crime reduction varies depending on the policing approach, Boba's research has concluded that the role of crime analysis—and a Crime Analyst to perform these duties—is "essential." At present, Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office does not have a Crime Analyst to perform the activities described herein. We seek an Analyst to support the agency in activities including predictive analytics, forecasting, identifying patterns, and providing data-driven support to command staff to respond to short-term crime reduction needs, but also to develop proactive, short- and long-term based strategies. Currently, in the absence of a dedicated personnel to perform these duties, supervisors and command staff are tasked with gathering and assessing data if or when time permits. This impedes the timeliness in making information available to law enforcement personnel and compromises the consistency, accuracy, and quality of the overall picture that results from synthesizing a range of disparate datasets. Fort Bend County is simultaneously experiencing a tremendous population growth and reduction in law enforcement personnel due to a range of social and economic factors. FBC is one of the fastest growing counties in the state, growing at a rate of 3% annually and having grown more than 40% from 2010 to 2020. With increased population comes increased crime. In addition to County-specific crime, we are also experiencing "spill-over" crime due to our proximity to Harris County/the City of Houston. As criminal networks grow in Houston, they frequently expand to neighboring regions, such as Fort Bend. FBC has 4 major transportation corridors running through it: U.S. 59/IH69, IH 10, SH 6, SH 36; these are extreme high traffic roadways that allow for criminal groups and drug traffickers to blend in with common commuters, and we are seeing an increase in drugs and drug traffickers (who tend to be armed, violent individuals/groups) entering from the Southern border and traveling through FBC on their way to Houston and other destinations, a rate of entry higher than in previous years. It is common for armed and dangerous criminals to traverse the supplychain route from Houston and San Antonio, passing through Fort Bend, and to utilize other major highways in our County. Compounding this situation are three key factors: a geographically vast enforcement area (FBC is 885 square miles), an ongoing law enforcement staffing shortage and recruitment/retention issue, and successive years of budget cuts, obligating the SO to do more with less. To affect an organizational paradigm shift that will allow FBCSO to begin to address the basic design features/objectives of Project Safe Neighborhoods program, which are Community Engagement, Focused and Strategic Enforcement, Prevention and Intervention, and Accountability, it is critical that we begin with the addition of a Crime Analyst. We need to begin somewhere, and this is the best first step. This key staff person will: 1) help develop a foundation for a data-driven approach to crime reduction by collecting data and analyzing the most significant drivers of violence and crime in FBC, while also having a clear understanding of our resources, in particular, limited numbers of field personnel and budget limitations; 2) leverage technology and analytic capabilities; 3) advise agency decision-makers in developing and implementing enforcement strategies; 4) engage with the community through public awareness about enforcement actions and work with community stakeholders to identify issues of importance for crime reduction and deterrence.

Supporting Data:

The Vera Institute of Justice has stressed the value of crime analysis in "making sense of bits of information across divisions—and over time" (Matthie & Chiu, 2014). In addition to the benefits to a law enforcement organization, a Crime Analyst's work benefits the community at large when considering things such as "harm indexes." That is, the realistic measure of harm that a community experiences due to a range of crime types. Ratcliff (2015) amends the Cambridge Harm Index (Sherman, Neyroud & Neyroud, 2016) to include a "social

harm perspective" that takes into account poverty/cash-loss, fraud, emotional harm, psychological harm, or sexual harm that falls outside the normal rubric that captures this data. The addition of a Crime Analyst, then, benefits both law enforcement by more effective, targeted policing and resource allocation, and communities through the reduction in crime and appurtenant social harms. Various organizations have underscored the importance of data-driven crime and crash analysis by emphasizing a direct correlation between traffic accidents and crime. For example, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), and the International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement (IADLEST) advocate for the use of data-driven, evidence-based crime analysis to reduce crime, violent crime, vehicle crashes, and fatalities, and they use the following guideline/formula to estimating agency need for crime analysts. The formula for determining how many crime analysts are needed for an agency are: 1 analyst for every 1,500 UCR Part 1 crimes per year (FBCSO had 9,345 Part 1 crimes in 2023); 1 analyst for 1,800 NIBRS Group A crimes per year (FBCSO had 13,931 Group A crimes in 2023); 1 analyst for every 30,000 calls for service per year (in 2023, FBCSO's Emergency Communications Center/911 received 565,600 calls for service); 1 analyst for every 70 sworn officers (FBCSO is allocated 604 sworn officer positions, with 530 of those positions currently filled). To strictly adhere to this guideline would mean that FBCSO should have anywhere from 6 to 18 Crime Analysts on staff depending on which specific guideline is applied. FBCSO's 2023 numbers exceeded the baseline determinations stated above by 523% for UCR Part 1 crimes, by 674% for NIBRS Group A crimes, and by 1785% for calls for service. The Texas Department of Public Safety Uniform Crime Reporting System shows that crime was up in 2023 over 2022 for Murder and Non-negligent Homicide, Manslaughter by Negligence, and Rape. At the same time, the number of sworn officers has decreased by 14% over 2022. If using calls for service as the determining factor, we should have approximately 18 Crime Analysts on staff, and if using current sworn officers, 7. At full authorized strength of 604 sworn officers, FBCSO should have 9 analysts. In 2023, FBCSO's Criminal Investigations Division handled more than 9,700 cases involving crimes against persons alone (family violence, special crimes such as sexual assaults and crimes against children and the elderly, and robbery and homicide). There were 10 homicide cases in 2023. In total—including property and other crimes--CID handled more than 16,000 cases in the calendar year. Our Narcotics Task Force conducted 274 investigations resulting in the seizure of 1,241 pounds of illegal narcotics, confiscation of 44 firearms and \$3.7 million of illicitly obtained currency, 102 arrests, and the filing of 206 criminal charges. Drug trafficking often goes hand-in-hand with violence and violent crime, thus the sheer number of narcotics cases worked in 2023 (49 more than in 2022) indicates the potential for violent crime in the county. In addition, FBC is experiencing a rise in outstanding fugitives. At the time of this writing, there are 175 gang fugitives last known to have resided in Fort Bend County and 44 outstanding warrants for gang fugitives. In 2023, 88 gang fugitives were apprehended after BOLOs were created, intelligence was gathered, and addresses were confirmed in Fort Bend County. The addition of a Crime Analyst to support the agency is a key first step in trend analysis and focused, strategic enforcement. As Boba (2014) concludes, "the broader the crime analysis activities of an agency, the lower the violent crime rates and the higher the violent, property, and total clearance rates." This is the result we seek with the addition of a Crime Analyst.

Project Approach & Activities:

The methodology for this project is to reduce crime in Fort Bend County through Tactical, Strategic, and Operational crime analysis. By employing data-analytics, predictive analytics, and targeted allocation of resources, we seek both to improve the SO's ability to police in Fort Bend County and make our community safer. The activities to be employed and enhanced by this project include: 1) Tactical crime analysis, including weekly crime/arrest counts, auto theft VIN/license plate lists, year-to-year crime comparisons, suspect bulletins, and gang territory maps. In this activity, the Crime Analyst will work with FBCSO's Patrol Unit, Gang Unit, Narcotics Task Force, and the public. 2) Support the Gang Unit by researching through social media and other avenues to locate/verify last known addresses of gang members and other fugitives. 3) Operational crime analysis to identify problems, direct resources and show results. This includes hot-spot analysis/crime density mapping; correlation analysis, such as the relationship between neighborhood features and crime; incident data analysis to reveal commonalities and identify serial cases. A recent study has shown that employing a hot spot "clustering algorithm" (which involves a hierarchical clustering technique) can capture a "wide array of hot spot types; some one or two addresses, some street segments" (Wheeler & Reuter 2019). The ability to home in on micro-place hot spots "has been one of the most successful policing interventions to reduce crime" (Wheeler & Reuter 2019). Operational crime analysis will support Patrol, CID's Robbery and Theft unit, and Homicide Division. 4) Strategic analysis for long-term planning at the command-staff level to include evaluation of crime-control programs and workforce optimization. Operational crime analysis supports the agency through informed, data-driven decision-making. 5) Work with community stakeholders in identifying risks, threats, and vulnerabilities and strategizing solutions. 6) Work with Federal, State, and local agencies to create safer neighborhoods through developing evidence-based and data-driven intervention and prevention strategies and initiatives. 7) Attend trainings, conferences, and ongoing professional development

to remain abreast of cutting-edge technology and industry best practices.

Capacity & Capabilities:

Founded in 1837, Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office is the largest law enforcement agency in this geographically vast, fast-growing County of nearly one million residents. FBCSO has over 500 sworn peace officers protecting and serving Fort Bend County residents. We are headquartered in Richmond, Texas, but have staffed annexes located in Sienna, Fulshear, and Katy, Texas. The SO oversees the U.S. DOJ certified County Jail and operates the regional Gus George Law Enforcement Academy, certified by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE). This Academy provides mandated and specialized continuing education and training for law enforcement personnel in the 13-county Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) region. More than 95% of our field operations personnel are ALERRT trained, and close to the same percentage are also AIRR trained. Deputies are also trained in safety techniques by uniformed personnel who are assigned to field operations. Their advanced safety training includes de-escalation for mental health consumers who are in crisis and who may be armed with firearms or knives. FBCSO leads a Type I Regional SWAT Team, has a dedicated Gang Unit, a Type II Air Support Unit, operates the Fort Bend County Narcotics Task Force, and is part of the Houston High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Initiative. Additionally, a higher level of performance is achieved through intra- and inter-agency collaboration and partnerships. Other agencies with which the Sheriff's Office partners for a range of activities include Texas Department of Public Safety and the county and municipal agencies within Fort Bend County and within adjacent counties. These include Harris, Brazoria, Waller, Wharton, and Austin counties, as well as regional partners: Houston Police Department, Harris County Sheriff, Waller County Sheriff; four FBC precinct Constable Offices, and the municipalities of Arcola, Fulshear, Katy, Meadows Place, Missouri City, Needville, Richmond, Rosenberg, Stafford, and Sugar Land. The Narcotics Task Force is a partnership between FBCSO, the DEA, and police departments in Sugar Land, Rosenberg, Richmond, and Missouri City. The Gang Unit works with a range of outside agencies as needed. CID regularly works with local and regional agencies, particularly in investigating burglary crews that operate in Fort Bend, Harris County, and throughout the state. FBCSO is led by a team of law enforcement professionals who together have over 100 years in the field. It is led by Sheriff Eric Fagan, who was elected Sheriff in 2020 after more than 30 years with the Houston Police Department (HPD). During his tenure with HPD, Sheriff Fagan won the prestigious Officer of the Year Award three times. In 2023 Sheriff Fagan was elected Chair of the Houston High Intensity Drug Trafficking (HIDTA) Executive Board. Chief Deputy Mattie Provost was with HPD for over 31 years, where she reached the rank of Assistant Chief. She is the 2022 winner of the Melvin Drum Chief Deputy of the Year Award given by the Texas Chief Deputies Association. Assistant Chief Deputy Manuel Zamora, PhD, commands the Administrative Bureau, including the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy, the Investigations Command, Support Services, Emergency Management and Communications, Public Information Office, and Grants. Dr. Zamora began his career in 1981 with HPD, during which he authored the grant proposal and contributed toward the design of the \$2.0 million Houston Police Real Time Crime Center, led a Special Response Group field force, and managed the Planning & Research Section, where he led product and equipment evaluation, program assessment, and the analysis and development of policy. Assistant Chief Norman Wong oversees the Field Operations Command, Detention Command, Human Resources, and Internal Affairs. Assistant Chief Wong has served over three decades with the Houston Police Department and his last 10 plus years, he served at the rank of Assistant Chief. FBCSO's head of Human Resources, retired Army Colonel Mark Ned, will be instrumental in recruiting for this position though an established network of connections with former military analysts.

Performance Management :

Success will be measured by both qualitative and quantitative methodologies. From a quantitative standpoint, project success will be determined by a measurable reduction in crime and crashes due to the Analyst's activities. One way to measure this is to compare calls for service—emergency 911 and non-emergency—from the previous year (without a Crime Analyst) to the year in which the Analyst was active. Measurement can also include analyzing data to identify areas where Patrol's activities are more effective and what types of activities produce best outcomes for the agency-community relationship. Quantitative measures of success also include cost-benefit analyses of estimates for the cost of responding to and conducting investigations of different types of crimes (reactive policing), including crash-reconstructions and crimes that involve large amounts of manpower and time versus reasonable assessments of crime prevention through proactive policing. Quantitative evaluations will include a review of the allocation of agency personnel and resources. Qualitative measures of success for this project include evaluating community response to policing and enforcement efforts to reduce incidents of crime, law enforcement's efforts to engage in community policing, and an appraisal of social harm reductions as ancillary components of a community's experience of crime. In at least one study of the outcomes resulting from Data-Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety, for example, "a majority of community respondents who are aware of the initiative believe that DDACTS has improved the

quality of life" in the community where the survey was conducted (Bryant, Collins, and Villa. [2014]. An evaluation of data-driven approaches to crime and traffic safety in Shawnee, Kansas: 2010-2013.) In addition, business owners reported feeling safer as a result of this program.

Target Group:

The target group for this project will be areas of Fort Bend County experiencing high rates of crime, including violent crime, drug trafficking/crime, and locations where there are both high-rates of traffic accidents and crime. In addition to the correlation IADLEST has presented between crashes and crime, other researchers have found a correlation between crashes and violent crime. For example, Giacopassi & Forde (2000) cite an earlier study that shows "the tendency toward aggressive behavior, characteristic of a subculture of violence, influences the way an individual drives as well as his face-to-face interactions" (p. 398). Of particular focus will be the east region of the county. This area has a high frequency of crime, including violent crime. Within the first two weeks of 2023, this area already had its first homicide. Additionally, the Crime Analyst will support FBCSO's Gang Unit by assisting with the location of fugitive gang members whose last known address was Fort Bend County, and in locating gang fugitives with outstanding warrants. All citizens of Fort Bend County stand to benefit from this project through the targeted enforcement activities that will lead to both crime deterrence/reduction and reduction in crashes, with an eye toward safer roads, safer neighborhoods, and a safer County.

Evidence-Based Practices:

The benefits of utilizing a crime analyst to reduce violent crime have been demonstrated. The Los Angeles Police Department's Operation LASER (2011) is one case in point. Through operational and strategic crime analysis, the Department's crime analyst identified five hot spots with a high incidence of gun-related crime. The Analyst was assisted by sworn officers who gathered crime and arrest reports, traffic citations, and criminal histories associated with these hot spots to generate chronic offender bulletins for distribution among LAPD patrol and detectives. The combination of analysis to identify hot spots and the various crimes/criminals linked to those spots with increased, targeted patrol "reduced Part 1 violent crimes by approximately two offenses per month" (8). See Matthies and Chiu. (2014). Putting a value on crime analysts: considerations for law enforcement executives. New York: Vera Institute of Justice. Vera-CrimeAnalysts.pdf (ojp.gov) As the Vera Institute's study shows, the use of crime analysis can reduce Part 1 violent crime, which in part justifies the work of crime analysts in law enforcement. A benefit-cost analysis can also support this. A recent study of the cost of a law enforcement response to violent and property crime concludes that the "average variable cost of law enforcement response per police-reported Part 1 violent crime is \$10,900, ranging from \$6,900 to \$15,400 at the 10th and 90th percentiles, respectively. For Part 1 property crime, the equivalent figure is \$1,300, with a range from \$700 to \$1,700. Based on these numbers, if the Fort Bend Sheriff's Office Crime Analyst's work results in the reduction of just one Part 1 violent crime per month, that will reduce cost of a law enforcement response by \$130,800, which almost equals the salary, equipment, software licenses, and professional development of our proposed Analyst position. See Hunt, Saunders, and Kilmer. (2018-19). Estimates of law enforcement costs by crime type for benefit-cost analyses. Journal of Benefit -Cost Analysis, 10(1), 95-123. Estimates of Law Enforcement Costs by Crime Type for Benefit-Cost Analyses | Journal of Benefit-Cost Analysis | Cambridge Core The International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training (IADLEST) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration have studied the connections between traffic crashes and a range of crime types, and this connection was the impetus for IADLEST's development of Data-Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS). See Data-Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS) (iadlest.org) After implementing the DDACTS model, the Shawnee, Kansas Police Department's statistics and outcomes were studied, and the researchers concluded that DDACTS "has been shown statistically to be an effective means of reducing certain crime types and crashed in locations where high numbers of crimes and crashed overlap (crime and crash hotspots)," and that "these benefits extend beyond the target location to areas in close proximity" (93). See Bryant, Collins, and Villa. (2014). An evaluation of data-driven approaches to crime and traffic safety in Shawnee, Kansas: 2010-2013. 37491.pdf (iqpc.com) Researchers studying of the overlap in violent crime and fatal-injury collisions in Regina, Canada used data-driven approach avenues for reducing both. They concluded that where violent crimes and fatalinjuries overlap, one means of reducing them is to focus on "highly visible traffic enforcement." To do so, however, the areas must first be identified by an Analyst trained in aggregating and interpreting the data. See Takyi, Oluwajana, and Park. (2018). Development of macro-level crime and collision prediction models to support data-driven approach to crime and traffic safety (DDACTS). Transportation Research Record, Vol 2672(33) 56-66. 0361198118777356-libre.pdf (d1wqtxts1xzle7.cloudfront.net) Finally, Giacopassi and Forde (2000) cite a study that showed "victims and offenders of vehicular homicide were nearly identical to those involved in other violent crimes. [The research] found a strong correlation between traffic offenses and a

history of criminal aggression. See $\pm 0.047-2352_2800_2900054-420210914-30658-1$ tmf2sl-libre.pdf (d1wqtxts1xzle7.cloudfront.net)

Agency Name: Fort Bend County

Grant/App: 4938301 Start Date: 10/1/2024 End Date: 9/30/2025

Project Title: Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office Crime Analyst

Status: Application Pending Submission

Project Activities Information

Introduction

This section contains questions about your project. It is very important for applicants to review their funding announcement for guidance on how to fill out this section. Unless otherwise specified, answers should be about the EXPECTED activities to occur during the project period.

Selected Project Activities:

ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE:	DESCRIPTION
Crime Prevention	50.00	Activities include data analytics and operational crime analysis to identify problems and direct allocation of resources, hot-spot analysis, crime density mapping, incident data analysis to identify commonalities and to spot potential serial cases. Evaluation of the SO's crime control strategies and programs. Workforce optimization.
Law Enforcement	50.00	High-visible enforcement in identified hot spot areas. Identifying and allocating resources to high-profile crimes/crashes, repeat incidents, and identified patterns. Implementing identifies short-term and long-term directed patrol plans. Identifying and tracking movements of known repeat offenders. Researching outstanding gang fugitives whose last known address was Fort Bend County.

CJD Purpose Areas

PERCENT DEDICATED	PURPOSE AREA	PURPOSE AREA DESCRIPTION
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Agency Name: Fort Bend County Grant/App: 4938301 Start Date: 10/1/2024 End Date: 9/30/2025

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Measures Information

Objective Output Measures

OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
Casework, non-licensed counseling, individual advocacy, or other support: Hours delivered.	0
Casework, non-licensed counseling, individual advocacy, or other support: Individuals receiving	0
Equipment or technology: Individuals/Operators equipped	1
General Law Enforcement or Public Safety: Arrests resulting from grant.	150
Instruction and Support for Pro-social, Educational, Vocational, or Employment skills: Hours delivered.	0
Instruction and Support for Pro-social, Educational, Vocational, or Employment skills: Individuals receiving.	0
Targeted Investigation: Criminal cases resulting in arrest.	20
Targeted Investigation: Grant-funded investigations carried out by the unit/division	50
Training or professional development: Individuals provided	0
Training or professional development: Individuals received	1
Training, professional development, or technical assistance: Hours provided	0
Training, professional development, or technical assistance: Hours received	30

Objective Outcome Measures

Custom Output Measures

CUSTOM OUTPUT	MEASURE	TARGET	LEVEL

Custom Outcome Measures

CUSTOM OUTCOME MEASURE TARGET L	EVEL

Agency Name: Fort Bend County

Grant/App: 4938301 Start Date: 10/1/2024 End Date: 9/30/2025

Project Title: Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office Crime Analyst

Status: Application Pending Submission

Budget Details Information Budget Information by Budget Line Item:

CATEGORY	SUB CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	oog	CASH MATCH	IN- KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL	UNIT/%
Personnel	Specialist	Salary and Fringe for one (1) full-time Crime Analyst for a 12-month period. Salary = \$3040/bi-weekly (\$38.00/hr) X 26 pay periods = \$79,040/year. Fringe@24.5% = \$1,374.25 bi-weekly X 26 pay periods = \$35,730.61. Salary + Fringe = \$114,770.61	\$114,760.61	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$114,760.61	100
Travel and Training	In-State Registration Fees, Training, and/or Travel	Travel and In-state registration, lodging, incidentals, per diem, and/or mileage to the TXLEAN Conference.	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,800.00	0
Travel and Training	Out-of-State Registration Fees, Training, and/or Travel	Travel and out-of- state registration, lodging, incidentals, and/or mileage to Crime Analysts Conference.	\$2,800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,800.00	0
Equipment	Specialized Computer Software	CLEAR online investigation software, licensing, and annual subscription. This is an investigative tool that provides a resource of a vast	\$7,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,500.00	100

		collection of public records and can close informational gaps left by other software tools to provide a comprehensive packet of information. It enables the user to locate hard-to-find information.						
Equipment	Specialized Computer Software	Clearview AI: Software, license, annual subscription. This is a facial identification investigative tool that allows for rapid generation of leads and suspect, witness, and victim identification.	\$7,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,000.00	100
Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses	Specialized Computer Software (\$5,000 or less per unit)	GeoTime annual subscription and license. This is the license to use the software and subscription service for the web-based program. This software is used exclusively by the analyst alone for in-depth informational mapping and reports. GeoTime visualizes and analyzes cellphone data records.	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	0
Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses	Desktop System and Accessories (\$5,000 or less per unit)	Precision 7920 Tower or higher, hardware/computer integrated with the ability to operate CLEAR, CLEARVIEW AI, GeoTime, and other programs required to perform the job.	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	0

Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses	Office Supplies (e.g., paper, postage, calculator)	Paper, ink, and miscellaneous supplies necessary to run any operation which enables the user to print information from GeoTime, CLEARVIEW AI, and CLEAR for ease of information sharing.	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	0
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Agency Name: Fort Bend County

Grant/App: 4938301 Start Date: 10/1/2024 End Date: 9/30/2025

Project Title: Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office Crime Analyst

Status: Application Pending Submission

Resolution from Governing Body

Applications from nonprofit corporations, local units of governments, and other political subdivisions must include a <u>resolution</u> that contains the following:

1. Authorization by your governing body for the submission of the application to the Public Safety Office (PSO) that clearly identifies the name of the project for which funding is requested;

2. A commitment to provide all applicable matching funds;

- 3. A designation of the name and/or title of an authorized official who is given the authority to apply for, accept, reject, alter, or terminate a grant (Note: If a name is provided, you must update the PSO should the official change during the grant period.); and
- 4. A written assurance that, in the event of loss or misuse of grant funds, the governing body will return all funds to PSO.

Upon approval from your agency's governing body, upload the <u>approved</u> resolution to eGrants by clicking on the **Upload Files** sub-tab located in the **Summary** tab.

Contract Compliance

Will PSO grant funds be used to support any contracts for professional services?

Select the appropriate response:

_ Yes **X** No

For applicant agencies that selected **Yes** above, describe how you will monitor the activities of the sub-contractor(s) for compliance with the contract provisions (including equipment purchases), deliverables, and all applicable statutes, rules, regulations, and guidelines governing this project.

Enter a description for monitoring contract compliance:

Lobbying

For applicant agencies requesting grant funds in excess of \$100,000, have any federally appropriated funds been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant loan, or cooperative agreement?

Select the appropriate response:

_ Yes

X No

_ N/A

For applicant agencies that selected either **No** or **N/A** above, have any non-federal funds been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress in connection with this federal contract, loan, or cooperative agreement?

Select the appropriate response:

_	Yes	
	No	
X	N/A	

Fiscal Year

Provide the begin and end date for the applicant agency's fiscal year (e.g., 09/01/20xx to 08/31/20xx).

Enter the Begin Date [mm/dd/yyyy]: 10/1/2024

Enter the End Date [mm/dd/yyyy]:

9/30/2025

Sources of Financial Support

Each applicant must provide the amount of grant funds expended during the most recently completed fiscal year for the following sources:

Enter the amount (in Whole Dollars \$) of Federal Grant Funds expended:

116214776

Enter the amount (in Whole Dollars \$) of State Grant Funds expended:

7053433

Single Audit

Applicants who expend less than \$750,000 in federal grant funding or less than \$750,000 in state grant funding are exempt from the Single Audit Act and cannot charge audit costs to a PSO grant. However, PSO may require a limited scope audit as defined in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F - Audit Requirements.

Has the applicant agency expended federal grant funding of \$750,000 or more, or state grant funding of \$750,000 or more during the most recently completed fiscal year?

Select the appropriate response:

X Yes No

Applicant agencies that selected **Yes** above, provide the date of your organization's last annual single audit, performed by an independent auditor in accordance with the State of Texas Single Audit Circular; or CFR Part 200, Subpart F - Audit Requirements.

Enter the date of your last annual single audit: 6/30/2023

Debarment

Each applicant agency will certify that it and its principals (as defined in 2 CFR Part 180.995):

- Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, sentenced to a denial of Federal benefits by a State or Federal Court, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency;
- Have not within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property; or
- Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in the above bullet; and have not within a three-year period preceding this application had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.

Select the appropriate response:

X I Certify

_ Unable to Certify

If you selected **Unable to Certify** above, please provide an explanation as to why the applicant agency cannot certify the statements.

FFATA Certification

Certification of Recipient Highly Compensated Officers

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) requires Prime Recipients (CJD) to report the names and total compensation of each of the five most highly compensated officers (a.k.a. positions) of each sub recipient organization for the most recently completed fiscal year preceding the year in which the grant is awarded if the subrecipient answers **YES** to the **FIRST** statement but **NO** to the **SECOND** statement listed below.

In the sub recipient's preceding completed fiscal year, did the sub recipient receive: (1) 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenue from Federal contracts (and subcontracts), loans, grants (and subgrants) and cooperative agreements; AND (2) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenue from Federal contracts (and subcontracts), loans, grants (and subgrants) and cooperative agreements?

_ Yes **X** No

Does the public have access to information about the compensation of the senior executives through periodic reports filed under Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or Section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986?

X Yes No

If you answered **YES** to the **FIRST** statement and **NO** to the **SECOND** statement, please provide the name and total compensation amount of each of the five most highly compensated officers (a.k.a. positions) within your agency for the current calendar year. If you answered NO to the first statement you are NOT required to provide the name and compensation amounts. NOTE: "Total compensation" means the complete pay package of each of the sub recipient's compensated officers, including all forms of money, benefits, services, and inkind payments (see SEC Regulations: 17 CCR 229.402).

Position 1 - Name:
Position 1 - Total Compensation (\$):

Position 2 - Name:
Position 2 - Total Compensation (\$):

Position 3 - Total Compensation (\$):

Position 3 - Total Compensation (\$):

Position 4 - Name:
Position 4 - Total Compensation (\$):

O

Position 5 - Total Compensation (\$):

Position 5 - Name: