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Agency Name: Fort Bend County

Grant/App: 1344728 Start Date: 9/1/2025 End Date: 8/31/2026

Project Title: Violence Against Women Prosecutor and Investigator

Status: Application Pending Submission

Eligibility Information

Your organization's Texas Payee/Taxpayer ID Number:

17460019692080

Application Eligibility Certify:

Created on:12/17/2024 9:55:07 AM By:Terri Stuart

Profile Information

Applicant Agency Name: Fort Bend County

Project Title: Violence Against Women Prosecutor and Investigator

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

Address Line 1: 301 Jackson

Address Line 2:

City/State/Zip: Richmond Texas 77469-3108

Start Date: 9/1/2025 **End Date:** 8/31/2026

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: Terri Stuart

Email: terri.stuart@fortbendcountytx.gov

Address 1: 1422 Eugene Heimann Circle, Ste 21004

Address 1:

City: Richmond, Texas 77469

Phone: 346-481-6648 Other Phone: 832-243-2593

Fax: Title: Ms.

Salutation: Ms.

Position: Grants Coordinator

Grant Writer

Name: Terri Stuart

Email: terri.stuart@fortbendcountytx.gov

Address 1: 1422 Eugene Heimann Circle, Ste 21004

Address 1:

City: Richmond, Texas 77469

Phone: 346-481-6648 Other Phone: 832-243-2593

Fax: Title: Ms. Salutation: Ms.

Position: Grants Coordinator

Grant Vendor Information

Organization Type: County

Organization Option: applying to provide services to all others

Applicant Agency's State Payee Identification Number (e.g., Federal Employer's Identification (FEI)

Number or Vendor ID): 17460019692080 Unique Entity Identifier (UEI): MJG8N8EPN2L3

Narrative Information

Introduction

The purpose of this funding is to solicit applications for projects that promote a coordinated, multi-disciplinary approach to improve the justice system's response to violent crimes against women, including domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

Culturally Specific and Underserved Populations

Does your program have a primary focus on serving a culturally specific population? (The organization must do more than merely provide services to an underserved population as defined by 34 USC § 12291 (a)(46) or culturally specific group; rather, the organization's primary focus must be on providing culturally competent services as defined by 34 USC § 12291(a)(9) designed to meet the specific needs of the target population in order to justify a YES response in the section below.)

_ Yes **X** No

Eligibility Requirements

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:

Grant Eligibility Regarding Compelling Victim Testimony:

In accordance with 34 USC § 10454, in order for a prosecutor's office to be eligible to receive grant funds under this subchapter, the head of the office shall certify to the State receiving the grant funding that the office will, during the 3-year period beginning on the date on which the grant is awarded, engage in planning, developing and implementing—

- (1) training developed by experts in the field regarding victim-centered approaches in domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking cases;
- (2) policies that support a victim-centered approach, informed by such training; and
- (3) a protocol outlining alternative practices and procedures for material witness petitions and bench warrants, consistent with best practices, that shall be exhausted before employing material witness petitions and bench warrants to obtain victim-witness testimony in the investigation, prosecution, and trial of a crime related to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking of the victim in order to prevent further victimization and trauma to the victim.

Constitutional Compliance

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

Forensic Medical Examination Payments

Health care facilities shall conduct a forensic medical examination of a victim of an alleged sexual assault if the victim arrived at the facility within 120 hours after the assault occurred and the victim consents to the examination. The victim is not required to participate in the investigation or prosecution of an offense as a condition of receiving a forensic medical examination, nor pay for the forensic examination or the evidence collection kit. Crime Victim Compensation funds may be used to pay for the medical portion of the exam unless the victim of sexual assault is required to seek reimbursement for the examination from their insurance carrier. If a health care facility does not provide diagnosis or treatment services for sexual assault victims, the facility is required to refer the victim to a facility that provides those services.

Confidentiality and Privacy

Applicant agrees to maintain the confidentiality of client-counselor information and research data, as required by state and federal law. Personally identifying information or individual information collected in connection with services requested, utilized, or denied may not be disclosed; or, reveal individual client information without informed, written, reasonably time-limited consent of the person about whom information is sought. If release of information is compelled by statutory or court mandate, reasonable attempts to provide notice to victims affected by the disclosure of information will be made and steps necessary to protect the privacy and safety of the persons affected by the release of information will be taken.

Activities that Compromise Victim Safety and Recovery

Applicant agrees to not engage in activities that jeopardize victim safety, deter or prevent physical or emotional healing for victims, or allow offenders to escape responsibility for their actions.

Polygraph Testing Prohibition

A peace officer or attorney representing the state may not require an adult or child victim of an alleged sex offense to submit to a polygraph examination or other truth telling device as a condition for proceeding with the investigation of such an offense. In addition, the refusal of a victim to submit to a polygraph or other truth telling examination will not prevent the investigation, charging, or prosecution of an alleged sex offense or on the basis of the results of a polygraph examination.

Protection Orders

Victims applying for a protective order or their attorney may not bear the costs associated with the filing of an order of protections.

Offender Firearm Prohibition

The applicant certifies that its judicial administrative policies and practices include notification to domestic violence offenders of the requirements delineated in section 18 USC \S 992(g)(8) and (g)(9).

Criminal Charges

In connection with the prosecution of any misdemeanor or felony domestic violence offense, the victim may not bear the costs associated with the filing of criminal charges against a domestic violence offender, issuance or service of a warrant, or witness subpoena.

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.

Immigration Legal Services

PSO prioritizes funding of projects that provide a full spectrum of counseling, crisis services, and other direct victim services. PSO will not fund projects that focus primarily on immigration legal services and do not provide a significant level of other types of victim services.

Legal Representation in Divorce and Custody Cases

PSO limits eligibility for legal representation in divorce and custody cases to circumstances where the survivor has been directly victimized by intimate partner violence (IPV) within the last six (6) months. This may include physical violence, sexual violence, stalking, and psychological aggression (including coercive tactics) by a current or former intimate partner against the survivor or survivor's kin sharing the residence. Additionally, legal services in divorce and custody cases funded under this award are limited to emergency order assistance, safety planning, client representation in divorce or guardianship proceedings, and other family law matters directly resulting from the victimization. Through acceptance of this award, grantee agrees that reimbursement for divorce and custody-related legal services will be limited to circumstances listed above.

Community Efforts

Applicant agrees to promote community efforts to aid crime victims. Applicants should promote, within the community, coordinated public and private efforts to aid crime victims. Coordination efforts qualify an organization to receive these funds, but are not activities that can be supported with these funds.

No Charge

Applicant agrees to provide grant-funded services at no charge to victims of crime. Applicants are also prohibited from billing Crime Victims Compensation, private insurance, Medicaid, or Medicare for services provided using VAWA funds.

Discrimination

Applicant agrees not to discriminate against victims because they disagree with the State's prosecution of the criminal case.

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 <u>EEO Utilization Report Builder</u> to assist with preparing Verification Forms and, if required, Utilization Reports.

Compliance with State and Federal Laws, Programs and Procedures

Local Units of Government: 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), § 1226(c), § 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 CEO/Law Enforcement Certifications and Assurances Form 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, 2026 or the end of the grant period, whichever is later.

Non-profit Organizations: Each non-profit 501(c)(3) organization must certify that it does not have, and will continue not to have any policy, procedure, or agreement (written or unwritten) that in any way encourages, induces, entices, or aids any violations of immigration laws. Additionally, the organization certifies that it does not have in effect, purport to have in effect, and is not subject to or bound by any rule, policy, or practice (written or unwritten) that would: (1) encourage the concealment, harboring, or shielding from detection of fugitives from justice or aliens who illegally came to, entered, or remained in the United States; or (2) impede federal officers from exercising authority under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), § 1226(c), § 1231(a), § 1357(a), § 1366(1), or § 1366(3). Lastly, the organization certifies that it will not adopt, enforce, or endorse a policy which prohibits or materially limits the enforcement of immigration laws, and will not, as demonstrated by pattern or practice, prohibit or materially limit the enforcement of immigration laws.

Each non-profit organization must download, complete and then upload into eGrants the <u>CEO/NGO</u> <u>Certifications and Assurances Form</u> certifying compliance with federal and state immigration enforcement requirements.

Legal Assistance for Victims (LAV) Certification

The applicant certifies that it meets the following federal statutory requirements in regards to the provision of legal advocacy:

- (1) any person providing legal assistance through a program funded under this section—
- (A)(i)is a licensed attorney or is working under the direct supervision of a licensed attorney;
- (ii)in immigration proceedings, is a Board of Immigration Appeals accredited representative;
- (iii)in Veterans' Administration claims, is an accredited representative; or
- (iv)is any person who functions as an attorney or lay advocate in Tribal court; and
- (B)(i)has demonstrated expertise in providing legal assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking in the targeted population; or
- (ii)(I)is partnered with an entity or person that has demonstrated expertise described in clause (i); and (II)has completed, or will complete, training in connection with domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault and related legal issues, including training on evidence-based risk factors for domestic and dating violence homicide;
- (2) any training program conducted in satisfaction of the requirement of paragraph (1) has been or will be developed with input from and in collaboration with a tribal, State, territorial, local, or culturally specific domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking victim service provider or coalition, as well as appropriate tribal, State, territorial, and local law enforcement officials;
- (3) any person or organization providing legal assistance through a program funded under subsection (c) has informed and will continue to inform State, local, or tribal domestic violence, dating violence, or sexual assault programs and coalitions, as well as appropriate State and local law enforcement officials of their work; and (4) the grantee's organizational policies do not require mediation or counseling involving offenders and victims physically together, in cases where sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or child sexual abuse is an issue.

Does the applicant meet the criteria outlined above?

X Yes

_ No

Prosecutor Certification

In order for a prosecutor's office to be eligible to receive grant funds under this subchapter, the head of the office shall certify, to the State, Indian Tribal government, or territorial government receiving the grant funding, that the office will, during the 3-year period beginning on the date on which the grant is awarded, engage in planning, developing and implementing—

- (1) training developed by experts in the field regarding victim-centered approaches in domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking cases;
- (2) policies that support a victim-centered approach, informed by such training; and
- (3) a protocol outlining alternative practices and procedures for material witness petitions and bench warrants, consistent with best practices, that shall be exhausted before employing material witness petitions and bench warrants to obtain victim-witness testimony in the investigation, prosecution, and trial of a crime related to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking of the victim in order to prevent further victimization and trauma to the victim.

Does the applicant certify to the requirements outlined above?

X Yes

_ No

_ N/A-This grant will not be administered by a Prosecutor's Office

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:

Kim Dzierzanowski, Human Resources

Enter the Address for the Civil Rights Liaison:

501 Jackson Street Richmond, TX 77469

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

281-341-8616

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.

Project Abstract:

The Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office VAWA Investigator and Prosecutor Project is a crucial initiative that promotes a coordinated, multi-disciplinary approach to improve the justice system's response to violent crimes against women, including domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. This project, which is an integral part of the Family Violence Division of the Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office, supports the prosecution of domestic violence offenders and assists victims of domestic violence in obtaining protective orders. The project allows a specialized team to focus solely on the prosecution of domestic violence cases, such as preparing for court, serving protective orders, and locating witnesses to decrease violence against women by providing legal and protective resources while holding domestic violence abusers accountable in the court system.

Problem Statement:

This grant targets the issue of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking in Fort Bend County with designated funds to support the Domestic Violence Division, an existing specialized prosecution unit of the Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office. Fort Bend County remains one of the fastest-growing counties in the United States, with a population of over 820,000. Unfortunately, the increase in the number of domestic violence cases also mirrors similar population growth rates as pre-COVID; the Fort Bend County District Attorney's office saw, on average, less than a 5% increase in the number of cases referred year after year. During the height of the pandemic in 2020, approximately 2,500 new cases were referred for prosecution - up 8.8% compared to previous years. However, by the end of 2023, only 2,297 new cases were referred, bringing activities back to pre-pandemic levels. However, between 2023 and 2024, intake data indicates a 22% increase in new domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking cases referred in 2023, with 2,297 new cases and 1,381 defendants, and in 2024, with 2,816 new cases and 1,628 defendants. In 2019, the DA's office disposed of three cases and disposed of a total of six cases between 2019 and 2021. However, in 2022, the Fort Bend County District Attorney's office disposed of 15 domestic homicide cases, including 11 convictions.

Supporting Data:

As a continuation project, the unit's caseload has shown a general increase in cases referred for prosecution and litigated cases. During the pandemic, there has been a surge in case referrals from law enforcement. In the 2022 fiscal year, the Fort Bend County District Attorney Family Violence Division received over 2,500 case referrals for domestic violence-related cases. The 2023 "Crime in Texas" report indicated 5,456 family violence cases reported in Fort Bend County, a 15% increase compared to the 2022 Crime in Texas Report, which reported a total of 4,737 family violence incidents in Fort Bend County. Year-to-year comparisons reveal a 44% increase in the number of reported family violence cases in Fort Bend County compared to only 3,780 family violence incidents reported prepandemic in 2019 (Texas DPS). For the calendar year 2023, the Fort Bend County DA's office has disposed of over 1,238 domestic violence cases compared to 916 cases in 2022.

Project Approach & Activities:

The program's overall target is to decrease violence against women by preventing domestic violence and sexual assault by identifying and stopping abusers. We believe the best way to ensure just outcomes that enhance victim safety is to maintain a well-trained group of seasoned prosecutors and District Attorney Investigators who employ an evidence-based prosecution method. The Family Violence Division is responsible for reviewing all domestic violence cases referred to the District Attorney's Office for prosecution. The Special Crimes Unit reviews all adult sexual assault cases and works in cooperation with the Family Violence Unit on domestic violence-related sexual assault cases. We must review each case and decide whether or not to prosecute. Of those cases filed, our prosecutors must attend numerous court dockets and hearings and occasionally have a full jury trial. Prosecutor responsibilities include communication with and preparation of victims for the court process. In addition, our division reviews applications for protective orders, represents applicants in court, and often has full hearings on the application.

Capacity & Capabilities:

The DA's Office represents the State of Texas in state criminal prosecutions for crimes in Fort Bend County. We have 172 employees consisting of 89 attorneys, 21 investigators, and 62 support staff. The Domestic Violence Division comprises eight assistant district attorneys, three investigators, three full-time protective order clerks, and a chief prosecutor. Having dedicated investigators as well as a senior and more seasoned prosecutor assists the division in having more successful prosecution of domestic violence cases as well as success in seeking protective

orders for victims. The Division Chief Prosecutor is a faculty member of the University of Houston School of Law's Blakely Advocacy Institute and has been a licensed attorney for over 25 years with a passion for teaching police officers and new attorneys.

Performance Management :

Our project is dedicated to successfully prosecuting domestic violence and sexual assault offenders and procuring protective orders against domestic violence offenders in Fort Bend County. By successfully prosecuting criminal cases and protective orders, we increase victim safety by keeping the abuser away through either a no-contact condition of probation or protective order, no contact with a victim via jail or prison time, or by providing counseling to abusers as a condition of either probation or a protective order. Disposition data can measure success. For us, success means justice. Sometimes justice is a conviction and jail time, sometimes justice is probation, and sometimes justice is a dismissal. Justice is difficult to measure in numbers, but we can determine success by having many case dispositions to know we are keeping the system moving. While the project's goal is to reduce the occurrence of domestic violence and properly punish and rehabilitate offenders, the objective is to increase the disposition of cases, reduce the number of cases dismissed, and enhance the safety and trust of domestic violence victims. The project's success can be measured by determining the number of cases disposed of and dismissed, in addition to selecting the number of cases reviewed for charges and the number of cases filed.

Target Group:

The Domestic Violence Division of the Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office is responsible for prosecuting domestic violence offenders and litigating protective orders in Fort Bend County, Texas, for victims of domestic violence who are primarily adults. The population that the project supports is domestic violence victims throughout Fort Bend County. These victims are mainly adult women. Fort Bend County currently has an estimated population of over 820,000. Approximately 590,000 of those individuals are adults ages 18 and older, with over 50% being women. As a result, an estimated 300,000 adult women live in Fort Bend County at any given time. Recent demographic data reflects the diversity of residents in Fort Bend County, with approximately 30.2% being Caucasian, 25.5% being Hispanic/Latino, 21.9% being African American, and 21.6% being Asian. Some statistics show that 1 in 4 women will be victims of violence by an intimate partner in their lifetimes - this means that on any given day, our targeted group could be over 70,000 women. This target group faces immeasurable challenges ranging from fear, shame, guilt, financial stress, distrust in authority, and lowered self-esteem, to name just a few barriers.

Evidence-Based Practices:

Prosecutors managing domestic violence cases face the constant challenge of supporting victims who are unable or unwilling to cooperate with prosecution. These challenges occur for a variety of reasons and manifest in the victim seeking dismissal of charges, lying to prosecutors or police, recanting statements about the abuse, refusing to talk about the abuse, perjuring themselves in court to protect the abuser, or refusing to come to court altogether. (See "Explaining Counter-intuitive Behavior in Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Cases," The Voice Volume 1, Issue 4, National Center for the Prosecution of Violence Against Women, 2006.) The District Attorney's Office practices evidence-based prosecution to prosecute individuals in domestic violence cases to avoid pressuring the victim to cooperate or when such pressure is applied but ineffective. Evidence-based prosecution focuses on the successful prosecution of domestic violence cases through evidentiary strategies that do not rely on victim testimony. The tools of evidence-based prosecution include, among other things, the use of excited utterances, photographs, medical reports, and witness testimony. (See "Evidence-Based Prosecution of Intimate Partner Violence in the Post-Crawford Era: A Single-City Study of the Factors Leading to Prosecution," Crime & Delinquency, 2012) The benefits of evidence-based prosecution include a higher number of convictions of domestic abusers and keeping victims safer by placing less emphasis on their role in prosecution. Both of these actions hopefully result in a drop in domestic violence homicides. For evidence-based prosecution to truly work, it requires dedicated, well-trained, and experienced prosecutors and cooperation, training, and awareness from other community victims response team members, including police officers. Several studies indicate that the approach and determination of prosecutors, rather than the availability of victims, accounts for varying prosecution rates. (See "Evidence-Based Prosecution: An Effective Tool in Adjudicating DV," Verve Volume 2, Number 2, Domestic Violence Crisis Center, 2012.)

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.

Violence Against Women Justice and Training Program

In the space below, briefly explain how your project will address one or more of the state priority areas listed below:

- a) Law Enforcement
- Victim-Centered/Trauma-Informed Training
- Regional Sexual Assault Response Teams: Law Enforcement participation
- Specialized Investigators/Units
- Coordination between Law Enforcement and Victim Service Providers
- b) Prosecution
- Victim-Centered/Trauma-Informed Training
- Regional Sexual Assault Response Teams: Prosecution participation
- Specialized Prosecutors/Units
- c) Victim Services
- Trauma-Informed, Professional Mental Health Therapy and Counseling
- Address Rural Needs
- Transportation and Emergency Housing
- Implementation of Telehealth/Tele-Advocacy Technology
- Language access plans
- Victim-Centered/Trauma-Informed Training
- d) Courts
- Legal Advocacy (protective order assistance, legal rights & options, court accompaniment, etc.)
- Access to Court Hearings

This grant supports the Domestic Violence Division of the Fort Bend County DA's Office. The division is a specialized unit of prosecution that prosecutes domestic violence cases and assists victims in obtaining temporary and permanent protective orders. In addition to two specialized investigators assigned to help build domestic violence cases for prosecution, investigators also assist with escorting victims before and after court appearances and serving protective orders.

Selected Project Activities:

ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE:	DESCRIPTION
Investigation	40.00	Investigates reports of domestic violence referred by local law enforcement to build cases and file charges against suspected abusers. Duties also include locating and serving protective orders to respondents and witnesses, conducting surveillance, preparing exhibits for court, working with local law enforcement and handling additional investigation requests from the prosecutors in the Domestic Violence Division.
Prosecution	40.00	Conduct intake of adult sex crimes cases, including domestic violence and intimate partner sexual assaults. The prosecutor is the contact person within the DA's Office for law enforcement officers investigating these cases. The prosecutor is available not only to file charges but also to provide investigative support by giving advice and preparing any warrants, court orders, or subpoenas required to obtain needed evidence. Once the necessary evidence is gathered, the prosecutor works with the investigators to determine the most appropriate charge and will present the case to the grand jury. After an indictment is obtained, the prosecutor will continue handling the case to disposition, including trial if required. The dedicated adult sex crimes prosecutor provides staff continuity to the victim by working along with the existing victim assistance coordinators within our office and our community partners.
Protective Order Assistance	20.00	Prosecution of protective order applications for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking, and stalking. Prosecution of Chapter 85 Texas Family Code Protective Orders and Article 7B Protective Orders free of charge to applicants. We provide interpreters to the applicant at no charge as well.

CJD Purpose Areas

PERCENT DEDICATED	PURPOSE AREA	PURPOSE AREA DESCRIPTION
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Objective Output Measures

OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
Number of arrests made.	850
Number of cases filed.	850
Number of cases investigated.	850
Number of cases referred for prosecution.	500
Number of final protective orders granted / obtained.	50
Number of final protective orders requested.	75
Number of sexual assault, domestic violence and / or stalking cases filed.	850
Number of sexual assault, domestic violence, and / or stalking cases referred.	1900
Number of temporary protective orders granted / obtained.	75
Number of temporary protective orders requested.	75
Number of victims / survivors seeking services who were served.	75

Objective Outcome Measures

OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
Number of cases resulting in conviction or deferred adjudication.	500
Number of charges dismissed or acquitted.	300
Number of convictions.	500

Custom Output Measures

CUSTOM OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL

Custom Outcome Measures

CUSTOM OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL

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

X No

_ 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]: 10/1/2025 Enter the End Date [mm/dd/yyyy]: 9/30/2026

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:

66111417

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

7780259

Single Audit

Applicants who expend less than \$1,000,000 in federal grant funding or less than \$1,000,000 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 \$1,000,000 or more, or state grant funding of \$1,000,000 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: 3/20/2024

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?

Yes

X 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:
```

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Position 1 - Total Compensation ($):
Position 2 - Name:
Position 2 - Total Compensation ($):
Position 3 - Name:
Position 3 - Total Compensation ($):
Position 4 - Name:
Position 4 - Total Compensation ($):
Position 5 - Name:
Position 5 - Total Compensation ($):
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Victim Services Information

Agency Type

Implementing Agency Type - Government

Which designation best describes your agency

Prosecutor

Purpose of Award

Continue an OOG-funded victim project funded in a previous year

Type of Crime Funding Distribution

Identify the percent of funding dedicated to each type of victimization. The percentages provided below should not include matching funds. Cumulative total for all types of victimization must equal 100%.

Type of Crime		nt of Funds Dedicated to Crime whole percentages only	Funds Dedicated to Crime Current Award x Percent Entered		
Child Physical Abuse	0		\$0.00		
Child Sexual Abuse	0		\$0.00		
Domestic and Family Violence	50		\$100,434.00		
Child Sexual Assault	0		\$0.00		
Adult Sexual Assault	50		\$100,434.00		
DUI/DWI Crashes	0		\$0.00		
DUI/DWI Crashes	0		\$0.00		
Assault	0		\$0.00		
Adults Molested As Children	0		\$0.00		
Elder Abuse	0		\$0.00		
Robbery	0		\$0.00		
Survivors of Homicide	0		\$0.00		
Adult Human Trafficking	0		\$0.00		
Child Human Trafficking	0		\$0.00		
Other Violent Crimes	0		\$0.00		
Description:			:		
Other Non-Violent Crimes	0		\$0.00		
Description:			•		
SUM of %'s Sum of % MUST = 100%	100	SUM of Funds Sum of Funds MUST = OOG Curre	nt Budget	\$200,868.00	

Use of Funds

Does this project provide DIRECT SERVICES to victims:

_ Yes **X** No

Information and Referral

Personal Advocacy/Accompaniment

Emotional Support or Safety Services

Shelter/Housing Services

Criminal/Civil Justice System Assistance

Assistance in Filing Compensation Claims

All VOCA-funded direct service projects MUST assist victims with seeking crime victim compensation benefits. Please explain why your agency is not assisting victims with crime victim compensation benefits:

Types of Victimizations

Check the types of victimization that best describe the victims the grant-funded project will serve. "Other" refers to a type that Is Not associated with any of the types provided in the list. Check all that apply:

Types of Victimizations

- · Adult sexual assault
- · Domestic and/or family violence

Budget and Staffing

Answer the questions below based on your current fiscal year. Report the total budget available to the victim services program by source of funding. Do not report the entire agency budget, unless the entirebudget is devoted to victim services program.

Annual funding amounts allocated to all victimization programs and/or services for the current fiscalyear:

Identify by source the amount of funds allocated to the victimization program/services budget for youragency. DO NOT COUNT FUNDS IN MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY. OTHER FEDERAL includes all federalfunding except the award amount for this grant.

```
OOG Current Budget:
$200,868.00

Other State Funds:
$0.00

Other Local Funds:
$0.00

Other Federal Funds:
$0.00
```

Other Non-Federal Funds: \$0.00

Total Victimization Program Budget: \$200,868.00

Total number of paid staff for all grantee victimization program and/or services: COUNT each staff member once. Both full and part time staff should be counted as one staff member.DO NOT prorate based on FTE.

Total number of staff:

Number of staff hours funded through THIS grant award (plus match) for grantee's victimization programs and/or services:

Total COUNT of hours to work by all staff supporting the work of this award, including match.

Total number of hours:

0

Number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this award (plus match) for grantee's victimization programs and/or services:

COUNT each volunteer staff once. DO NOT prorate based on FTE.

Total number of volunteer staff:

0

Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this award (plus match) for grantee's victimization programs: Total COUNT of hours to work by all volunteers supporting the work of the award, including match

Total hours to work by all volunteers:

0

Explain how your organization uses volunteers to support its victimization programs or if your organizationdoes not use volunteers explain any circumstances that prohibit the use of volunteers.

Fiscal Capability Information

Section 1: Organizational Information

*** FOR PROFIT CORPORATIONS ONLY ***

Enter the following values in order to submit the application

Enter the Year in which the Corporation was Founded: 0

Enter the Date that the IRS Letter Granted 501(c)(3) Tax Exemption Status: 01/01/1900

Enter the Employer Identification Number Assigned by the IRS: 0

Enter the Charter Number assigned by the Texas Secretary of State: 0

Enter the Year in which the Corporation was Founded:

Enter the Date that the IRS Letter Granted 501(c)(3) Tax Exemption Status:

Enter the Employer Identification Number Assigned by the IRS:

Enter the Charter Number assigned by the Texas Secretary of State:

Section 2: Accounting System

The grantee organization must incorporate an accounting system that will track direct and indirect costs for the organization (general ledger) as well as direct and indirect costs by project (project ledger). The grantee must establish a time and effort system to track personnel costs by project. This should be reported on an hourly basis, or in increments of an hour.

Is there a list of your organization's accounts identified by a specific number (i.e., a general ledger of accounts)?

Select the appropriate response	Sel	ect	the	appro	priate	response
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Yes

_ No

Does the accounting system include a project ledger to record expenditures for each Program by required budget cost categories?
Select the appropriate response: _ Yes _ No
Is there a timekeeping system that allows for grant personnel to identify activity and requires signatures by the employee and his or her supervisor?
Select the appropriate response: _ Yes _ No
If you answered 'No' to any question above in the Accounting System section, in the space provided below explain what action will be taken to ensure accountability.
Enter your explanation:
Section 3: Financial Capability
Grant agencies should prepare annual financial statements. At a minimum, current internal balance sheet and income statements are required. A balance sheet is a statement of financial position for a grant agency disclosing assets, liabilities, and retained earnings at a given point in time. An income statement is a summary of revenue and expenses for a grant agency during a fiscal year. Has the grant agency undergone an independent audit?
Select the appropriate response: _ Yes _ No
Does the organization prepare financial statements at least annually?
Select the appropriate response: _ Yes _ No
According to the organization's most recent Audit or Balance Sheet, are the current total assets greater than the liabilities?
Select the appropriate response: _ Yes _ No
If you selected 'No' to any question above under the Financial Capability section, in the space provided below explain what action will be taken to ensure accountability.
Enter your explanation:
Section 4: Budgetary Controls
Grant agencies should establish a system to track expenditures against budget and / or funded amounts. Are there budgetary controls in effect (e.g., comparison of budget with actual expenditures on a monthly basis) to include drawing down grant funds in excess of:
a) Total funds authorized on the Statement of Grant Award?YesNo
b) Total funds available for any budget category as stipulated on the Statement of Grant Award? _ Yes _ No
If you selected 'No' to any question above under the Budgetary Controls section, in the space provided below please explain what action will be taken to ensure accountability.

Enter your explanation:

Section 5: Internal Controls

Grant agencies must safeguard cash receipts, disbursements, and ensure a segregation of duties exist. For example, one person should not have authorization to sign checks and make deposits.

Are accounting entries supported by appropriate documentation (e.g., purchase orders, vouchers, receipts, invoices)?

Select the appropriate response
_ Yes
_ No

Is there separation of responsibility in the receipt, payment, and recording of costs?

Select the appropriate response:

_ Yes

_ No

If you selected 'No' to any question above under the Internal Controls section, in the space provided below please explain what action will be taken to ensure accountability.

Enter your explanation:

Budget Details Information

Budget Information by Budget Line Item:

CATEGORY	SUB CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	oog	CASH MATCH	IN- KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL	UNIT/%
Personnel	Prosecutor	Prosecutor: Johna Stallings. This full-time prosecutor position supports the Domestic Violence Division of the Fort Bend County DA's Office through a specially trained prosecutor who handles adult sex crimes. Salary is \$157,957 plus \$54,355 in fringe benefits for a total compensation of \$212,312.	\$66,956.00	\$145,356.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$212,312.00	100
Personnel	Certified Peace Officer - All Others	Investigator: Yolanda Jones- Wood. This full- time investigator position supports the Domestic Violence Division of the Fort Bend	\$66,956.00	\$65,087.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$132,043.00	100

Personnel	Certified Peace Officer - All Others	is \$93,256 plus \$38,787 in fringe benefits for a total compensation of \$132,043. Investigator: Brian Schmitt. This full-time investigator position supports the Domestic Violence Division of the Fort Bend County DA's Office. This	\$66,956.00	\$71,340.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$138,296.00	100
		position investigates reports of domestic violence cases referred by local law enforcement to build cases and file charges against suspected abusers. Duties also include locating and serving protective orders to respondents and witnesses, conducting surveillance, preparing exhibits for court, working with local law enforcement and handling additional investigation requests from the prosecutors in the Domestic Violence Division. Salary is \$93.256 plus						

violence cases	
referred by local	
law enforcement	
to build cases	
and file charges	
against	
suspected	
abusers. Duties	
also include	
locating and	
serving	
protective orders	
to respondents	
and witnesses,	
conducting	
surveillance,	
preparing	
exhibits for	
court, working	
with local law	
enforcement and	
handling	
additional	
investigation	
requests from the	
prosecutors in	
the Domestic	
Violence	
Division. Salary	
is \$98,296 plus	
\$40,000 in fringe	
benefits for a	
total	
compensation of	
\$138,296.	
Ψ130,270.	

Source of Match Information

Detail Source of Match/GPI:

DESCRIPTION	MATCH TYPE	AMOUNT
Fort Bend County General Fund	Cash Match	\$281,783.00

Summary Source of Match/GPI:

Total Report	Cash Match	In Kind	GPI Federal Share	GPI State Share
\$281,783.00	\$281,783.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Budget Summary Information

Budget Summary Information by Budget Category:

CATEGORY	oog	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL
Personnel	\$200,868.00	\$281,783.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$482,651.00

Budget Grand Total Information:

OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL
\$200,868.00	\$281,783.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$482,651.00

Condition Of Fundings Information

Requirement Created Met Funds Funds	Condition of Funding / Project	Date	Date	Hold	Hold Line Item
	Requirement	Created	Met	Funds	Funds

You are logged in as **User Name**: tstuart8430