

Houston-Galveston Area Council
FY 2026 State Homeland Security Program Application

For Official Use Only (FOUO)

Complete all sections in white (instructions are shaded in red).
Submit this application to justin.riley@h-gac.com no later than close-of-business 03/19/2026.

Project Name: FY26 Protecting Soft Targets in Fort Bend County

Project Period (09/26 – 09/27)

Requested Amount: \$ 53,260.00

Applicant Jurisdiction: Fort Bend County

Division/Organization administering grant: Fort Bend County/Grant Office

Application Point of Contact Name: Katina Scott **Application Point of Contact Phone:** 281-341-8576

Application Point of Contact Email: Katina.Scott@fbctx.gov **Zip code + 4:** 77469-1477 ([USPS ZIP+4 lookup tool](#))

Type of Request: New Request Continuation (funded in the past 2 years)

eGrants number: 5922501
(if continuation)

Project certifications:

This project is shareable
 This project is deployable
 Neither sharable nor deployable

If new core capabilities are being sought, grantees must ensure that the capabilities are deployable outside of their community to support regional and national efforts or otherwise shareable with regional partners and aligned with a capability gap identified in the THIRA/SPR.

This project is scalable Scalable projects budgets can be reduced without compromising the entire project.

This is a Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities (LETPA) project Law Enforcement/Terrorism Prevention (LETPA) projects are defined in [FEMA IB 412 \(LETPA\)](#).

Core Capability

Please pick one [Core Capability](#) that best fits your project. If you have an LETPA project the core capability must fall in a Prevention or Protection Mission Areas. Screening, Search, and Detection

Project Category

Protection of Soft Targets/Crowded Places

Project Summary: Briefly summarize the project, including proposed activities and how much funding is requested.

Summary and goal: **Project Summary**

The Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office is requesting \$53,260.00 from the Texas Office of the Governor Public Safety Grant Program to purchase and install an X-ray screening system at the Fort Bend County Justice Center courthouse entrance. The equipment will be used to screen bags and packages to detect weapons and other prohibited items, enhancing security in our high-traffic public facility.

This project will strengthen protection of soft targets and crowded places, safeguarding District Attorneys, defense attorneys, witnesses, court staff, and members of the public, while deterring potential threats and improving overall courthouse safety.

If this is a sustainment project and your project budget is increasing by more than 5% or there is a significant scope change, please describe these changes: N/A

Complete all sections in white (instructions are shaded in red).
Submit this application to justin.riley@h-gac.com no later than close-of-business 03/19/2026.

Problem Statement: Describe issues, hazards, threats your project will target. (Ensure terrorism nexus is clear and reference THIRA/SPR Stakeholder Report)

Describe issues, hazards, threats your project will target. (Ensure terrorism nexus is clear.) Fort Bend County continues to face evolving security challenges that directly impact the safety of its courthouse, a high-traffic public facility and central hub for judicial proceedings and government operations. As an open-access soft target with predictable hours and daily gatherings of judges, District Attorneys, defense attorneys, witnesses, jurors, courthouse staff, law enforcement personnel, and members of the public, the courthouse remains vulnerable particularly during high-profile trials and sensitive hearings that increase attendance and media exposure. Contraband threats, including weapons, explosives, narcotics, and other prohibited items, pose persistent risks at entry points. Current screening measures rely on a dated monitoring system and handheld devices that are limited in detecting non-metallic threats, improvised devices, or concealed contraband, requiring time-consuming and less reliable manual inspections. The growing risk of targeted violence within our justice center aligns with priority threats identified in the State and Regional Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessments (THIRA/SPR). As a designated critical infrastructure asset, the Fort Bend County Justice Center plays a vital role in preventing, protecting against, and preparing for imminent or actual acts of violence or terrorism. Investment in enhanced X-ray screening technology will strengthen layered security measures, safeguard judicial officials, the public, and reinforce statewide homeland security efforts to build resilience across core areas. (Threat Noted on page 5 of 2025 Regional THIRA).

Existing Capability Levels: Describe existing capability levels in your jurisdiction and region.

The Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office provides critical public safety operations within the Justice Center; however, current security capabilities are increasingly strained by heightened regional enforcement activity, high-profile court proceedings, and the absence of modern screening technology. While personnel adhere to established courthouse security protocols, reliance on dated equipment and limited real-time detection tools create operational inefficiencies, delays at entry points, and vulnerabilities in identifying concealed threats. Incidents, including bomb threats requiring patrol division response, underscore the urgent need for strengthened on-site detection measures. The Justice Center currently lacks an upgraded X-ray scanning system, resulting in a significant security gap consistent with risks identified in the State and Regional Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessments (THIRA/SPR). This project seeks to modernize screening, search and detection capabilities through advanced X-ray technology, enhancing threat detection, improving operational efficiency, and strengthening protection of this critical infrastructure asset in alignment with State Homeland Security priorities.

Existing Capability Gap: Identify gap(s) in capability that this project will fill.

This project addresses critical security capability gaps identified in local assessments and the 2025 Regional State Preparedness Report (SPR, pg. 26), specifically related to courthouse protection and operational readiness. The Fort Bend County Justice Center experiences high daily foot traffic, including judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, witnesses, jurors, law enforcement personnel, and members of the public, making it a soft target vulnerable to acts of targeted violence. Current entry screening processes rely on limited and outdated equipment, resulting in delays, operational inefficiencies, and reduced real-time threat detection capability. During high-profile proceedings and peak attendance periods, these limitations increase the risk of weapons, explosives, or other prohibited items entering secure areas, placing court officials and the public at heightened risk. This project will close identifying gaps by modernizing screening technology, improving detection accuracy through entry points, and strengthening layered security measures. By enhancing courthouse screening capabilities, Fort Bend County will improve operational efficiency, reduce vulnerabilities, and reinforce protection of this critical infrastructure asset in alignment with priorities outlined in the State Preparedness Report, ultimately safeguarding judicial personnel, law enforcement, and the community.

Impact Statement: Explain the local/regional impact of this project & how it will reduce the gap identified above:

The primary objective of this project is to enhance the security and operational effectiveness of the Fort Bend County Courthouse by modernizing entry-point screening capabilities. Funding will support the acquisition and deployment of a high-resolution X-ray baggage scanner to strengthen threat detection, deter the introduction of weapons or prohibited items, and improve the efficiency and accuracy of security screening within our high-traffic courthouse public facility. As a central hub for judicial proceedings, the courthouse serves judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, witnesses, jurors, law enforcement

Complete all sections in white (instructions are shaded in red).
 Submit this application to justin.riley@h-gac.com no later than close-of-business 03/19/2026.

personnel, and members of the public, making it a critical infrastructure asset and soft target requiring layered protection. This investment will close identified security gaps, reduce vulnerabilities, and align with state and national homeland security priorities focused on protecting crowded places and public institutions, while reinforcing the Sheriff’s Office’s commitment to safeguarding the justice system and the community it serves.

Homeland Security Priority Action: Choose the Priority Action - OBJECTIVE most closely aligned with this project. Use this format: (e.g., 1.2.3 *Expand and enhance the network of human sources that can provide detailed and relevant information on known or suspected terrorist and criminal enterprises.* Please use the objective, not the goal.)

- 1.1 Expand and enhance the statewide intelligence capability that reduces the threat of terrorism and criminal enterprises, with an emphasis on proactive intelligence.
- 1.1.3 Enhance the states capacity to identify, assess, monitor, and disrupt potential domestic terrorism and other mass casualty threats, particularly those that could impact special events,, soft targets, and crowded places.

Target Group: Identify the target jurisdiction(s), group, and population expected to benefit from this project:

The primary target group for this project includes judges, District Attorneys, defense attorneys, witnesses, jurors, court staff, law enforcement personnel, and members of the public who enter the Fort Bend County Justice Center Courthouse each day. As a high-traffic government facility and identified soft target with open public access and predictable operating hours, the courthouse is vulnerable to acts of targeted violence and the introduction of weapons or other prohibited items. This project directly benefits all individuals who rely on the courthouse to conduct judicial proceedings safely and without disruption. By enhancing X-ray screening technology at entry points, the Fort Bend County Sheriff’s Office will strengthen layered security measures, improve threat detection, and reduce vulnerabilities associated with crowded places and critical infrastructure. The investment will reinforce protection of this soft target environment, ensuring a safer and more secure setting for all who work in and access the justice system.

Long-Term Approach: How will you sustain/maintain this project beyond SHSP grant funding to ensure continuity?

The Fort Bend County Sheriff’s Office will seek county funding for maintenance and system upgrades.

For projects sustaining/advancing a FEMA-defined typed team, please answer the questions below. Teams must be on the official list of regional certified typed teams. If it does not sustain/advance a team, please type “N/A” in Name of team and leave the remainder of this section blank.

Name of Team: N/A

Type (See region’s certification): Click or tap here to enter text.

Describe how you are sustaining or advancing your team type with this project: Click or tap here to enter text.

For projects supporting special teams, please describe how often your team has been deployed throughout the 13-county region. Does your team exercise and train with other teams across the region?

N/A

For Interoperable Communications projects: Is this project consistent with the SCIP and the RICP? Please describe how this project fills a gap identified in the Interoperability Gap Analysis? (If this is not an interoperable communications project, please type “N/A” below.)

N/A

Milestones (Starting 09/01/2026) for a 12 or 24-month period of performance (3 to 5 required).

Identify Milestone and Associated Activities	Phase	Start (MO/YEAR)	Finish (MO/YEAR)
Accept the award and complete initial local grant set up.	Initiate	09/2026	10/2026
Issue Purchase Order	Execute	11/2026	11/2026
Receive Inventory, distribute, install & train	Execute	01/2027	01/2027
Click or tap here to enter text.	Execute	11/2024	01/2025
Complete documentation and closeout the project.	Closeout	06/2025	08/2025

Houston-Galveston Area Council
FY 2026 State Homeland Security Program Application

For Official Use Only (FOUO)

Complete all sections in white (instructions are shaded in red).
Submit this application to justin.riley@h-gac.com no later than close-of-business 03/19/2026.
