



COUNTY AUDITOR
Fort Bend County, Texas

AGENDA ITEM

9

Robert Ed Sturdivant
County Auditor

281-341-3769, 281-341-3744 (fax)
sturdived@co.fort-bend.tx.us

Memo

To: Donna Ospina, Agenda Coordinator
County Judge Bob Hebert
Members of Commissioner's Court

From: Melissa Elster, Auditor's Office *ME*

Date: 11/13/2012

Re: Asset Forfeiture Report Audit

This memo shall serve as a notification that the staff of the Fort Bend County Auditor's Office has audited the Asset Forfeiture Reporting documents submitted by the Fort Bend County **District Attorney (Federal)** and recommends approval for submission to the appropriate federal agency.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Elster
Internal Auditor
281-238-3351



Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification



OMB Number 1123-0011
Expires 9-30-2014

- ☐ Police Department ☐ Sheriff's Office ☐ Task Force (Complete Table A)
☒ Prosecutor's Office ☐ National Guard Counterdrug Unit ☐ Other

* Please fill each required field. Hover mouse over any fillable field for pop-up instructions. *

Agency Name: Fort Bend County District Attorney

NCIC/ORI/Tracking Number: T X 0 7 9 0 1 5 A

Mailing Address: 1422 Eugene Heimann Circle

City: Richmond **State:** TX **Zip:** 77469

Finance Contact: First: Celena Last: Vinson
Phone: 281-341-4496 E-mail: celena.vinson@co.fort-bend.tx.us

Preparer: First: Celena Last: Vinson
☒ Same as Finance Contact Phone: 281-341-4496 E-mail: celena.vinson@co.fort-bend.tx.us

Independent Public Accountant: E-mail: asandersen@sktx.net

Last FY End Date: 09/30/2012 **Agency Current FY Budget:** \$7,166,499.00

- ☐ **New Participant:** Read the Equitable Sharing Agreement and sign the Affidavit.
☒ **Existing Participant:** Complete the Annual Certification Report, read the Equitable Sharing Agreement, and sign the Affidavit.
☐ **Amended Form:** Revise the Annual Certification Report, read the Equitable Sharing Agreement, and sign the Affidavit.

Annual Certification Report

Summary of Equitable Sharing Activity		Justice Funds ¹	Treasury Funds ²
1	Beginning Equitable Sharing Fund Balance (must match Ending Equitable Sharing Fund Balance from prior FY)	\$26,139.12	
2	Federal Sharing Funds Received		
3	Federal Sharing Funds Received from Other Law Enforcement Agencies and Task Forces (To populate, complete Table B)		
4	Other Income		
5	Interest Income Accrued Non-Interest Bearing ☐ Interest Bearing ☒	\$149.07	
6	Total Equitable Sharing Funds (total of lines 1 - 5)	\$26,288.19	\$0.00
7	Federal Sharing Funds Spent (total of lines a - m below)	\$16,157.28	\$0.00
8	Ending Balance (difference between line 7 and line 6)	\$10,130.91	\$0.00

¹ Justice Agencies are: FBI, DEA, ATF, USPIIS, USDA, DCIS, DSS, and FDA.

² Treasury Agencies are: IRS, ICE, CBP, TTB, USSS, and USCG.

Summary of Shared Funds Spent		Justice Funds	Treasury Funds
a	Total spent on salaries under permitted salary exceptions		
b	Total spent on overtime		
c	Total spent on informants, "buy money", and rewards		
d	Total spent on travel and training	\$1,207.01	
e	Total spent on communications and computers	\$935.43	
f	Total spent on weapons and protective gear		
g	Total spent on electronic surveillance equipment		
h	Total spent on buildings and improvements		
i	Total transfers to other participating state and local law enforcement agencies (To populate, complete Table C)		
j	Total spent on other law enforcement expenses (To populate, complete Table D)	\$14,014.84	
k	Total Expenditures in Support of Community-Based Programs (To populate, complete Table E)		
l	Total Windfall Transfers (To populate, complete Table F)		
m	Total spent on matching grants (To populate, complete Table G)		
n	Total	\$16,157.28	\$0.00
o	Did your agency receive non-cash assets? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, complete Table H.		

Please fill out the following tables, if applicable.

Table A: Members of Task Force

Agency Name	NCIC/ORI/Tracking Number

Table B: Equitable Sharing Funds Received from other Agencies

Transferring Agency Name, City, and State	Justice Funds	Treasury Funds
Agency Name:		
NCIC/ORI/Tracking Number:		

Table C: Equitable Sharing Funds Transferred to Other Agencies

Receiving Agency Name, City, and State	Justice Funds	Treasury Funds
Agency Name:		
NCIC/ORI/Tracking Number:		

Table D: Other Law Enforcement Expenses

Description of Expense	Justice Funds	Treasury Funds
Misc Property & Equipment	\$7,543.03	
Office Supplies	\$4,785.31	
Reporter/Interpreter Services	\$1,636.50	
Membership Fees	\$50.00	

Table E: Expenditures in Support of Community-Based Programs

Recipient	Justice Funds	

Table F: Windfall Transfers

Recipient	Justice Funds	Treasury Funds

Table G: Matching Grants

Matching Grant Name	Justice Funds	Treasury Funds

Table H: Other Non-Cash Assets Received

Source	Description of Asset
Justice ☐	
Treasury ☐	

Table I: Civil Rights Cases

Name of Case	Type of Discrimination Alleged			
	☐ Race	☐ Color	☐ National Origin	☐ Gender
	☐ Disability	☐ Age	☐ Other	

Paperwork Reduction Act Notice

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act, a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. We try to create accurate and easily understood forms that impose the least possible burden on you to complete. The estimated average time to complete this form is 30 minutes. If you have comments regarding the accuracy of this estimate, or suggestions for making this form simpler, please write to the Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering Section, 1400 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20005.

Equitable Sharing Agreement

This Federal Equitable Sharing Agreement, entered into among (1) the Federal Government, (2) the above-stated law enforcement agency ("Agency"), and (3) the governing body, sets forth the requirements for participation in the federal Equitable Sharing Program and the restrictions upon the use of federally forfeited cash, property, proceeds, and any interest earned thereon, which are equitably shared with participating law enforcement agencies. By its signatures, the Agency agrees that it will be bound by the statutes and guidelines that regulate shared assets and the following requirements for participation in the federal Equitable Sharing Program. Receipt of the signed Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification (this "Document") is a prerequisite to receiving any equitably shared cash, property, or proceeds.

1. Submission. This Document must be submitted to aca.submit@usdoj.gov within 60 days of the end of the Agency's fiscal year. This Document must be submitted electronically with the Affidavit/Signature submitted by fax. This will constitute submission to the Department of Justice and the Department of the Treasury.

2. Signatories. This agreement must be signed by the head of the Agency and the head of the governing body. Examples of Agency heads include police chief, sheriff, director, commissioner, superintendent, administrator, chairperson, secretary, city attorney, county attorney, district attorney, prosecuting attorney, state attorney, commonwealth attorney, and attorney general. The governing body's head is the person who allocates funds or approves the budget for the Agency. Examples of governing body heads include city manager, mayor, city council chairperson, county executive, county council chairperson, director, secretary, administrator, commissioner, and governor.

3. Uses. Any shared asset shall be used for law enforcement purposes in accordance with the statutes and guidelines that govern the federal Equitable Sharing Program as set forth in the current edition of the Department of Justice's *Guide to Equitable Sharing for State and Local Law Enforcement (Justice Guide)*, and the Department of the Treasury's *Guide to Equitable Sharing for Foreign Countries and Federal, State, and Local Law Enforcement Agencies (Treasury Guide)*.

4. Transfers. Before the Agency transfers cash, property, or proceeds to other state or local law enforcement agencies, it must first verify with the Department of Justice or the Department of the Treasury, depending on the source of the funds, that the receiving agency is a current and compliant Equitable Sharing Program participant.

5. Internal Controls. The Agency agrees to account separately for federal equitable sharing funds received from the Department of Justice and the Department of the Treasury. Funds from state and local forfeitures and other sources must not be commingled with federal equitable sharing funds. The Agency shall establish a separate revenue account or accounting code for state, local, Department of Justice, and Department of the Treasury forfeiture funds. Interest income generated must be accounted for in the appropriate federal equitable sharing account.

The Agency agrees that such accounting will be subject to the standard accounting requirements and practices employed for other public funds as supplemented by requirements set forth in the current edition of the *Justice Guide* and the *Treasury Guide*, including the requirement in the *Justice Guide* to maintain relevant documents and records for five years.

The misuse or misapplication of shared resources or the supplantation of existing resources with shared assets is prohibited. Failure to comply with any provision of this agreement shall subject the recipient agency to the sanctions stipulated in the current edition of the *Justice or Treasury Guides*, depending on the source of the funds/property.

6. Audit Report. Audits will be conducted as provided by the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular A-133. The Department of Justice and Department of the Treasury reserve the right to conduct periodic random audits.

Affidavit - Existing Participant

Under penalty of perjury, the undersigned officials certify that **they have read and understand their obligations under the Equitable Sharing Agreement** and that the information submitted in conjunction with this Document is an accurate accounting of funds received and spent by the Agency under the *Justice* and/or *Treasury Guides* during the reporting period and that the recipient Agency is in compliance with the National Code of Professional Conduct for Asset Forfeiture.

The undersigned certify that the recipient Agency is in compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements of the following laws and their Department of Justice implementing regulations: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d *et seq.*), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. § 1681 *et seq.*), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 794), and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. § 6101 *et seq.*), which prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, or age in any federally assisted program or activity, or on the basis of sex in any federally assisted education program or activity. The Agency agrees that it will comply with all federal statutes and regulations permitting federal investigators access to records and any other sources of information as may be necessary to determine compliance with civil rights and other applicable statutes and regulations.

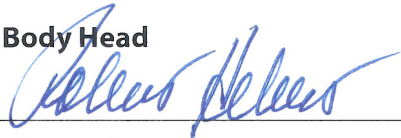
During the past fiscal year: (1) has any court or administrative agency issued any finding, judgment, or determination that the Agency discriminated against any person or group in violation of any of the federal civil rights statutes listed above; or (2) has the Agency entered into any settlement agreement with respect to any complaint filed with a court or administrative agency alleging that the Agency discriminated against any person or group in violation of any of the federal civil rights statutes listed above? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If you answered yes to the above question, complete Table I

Agency Head

Signature: 
Name: John Healey
Title: District Attorney
Date: 11/13/12
E-mail: john.healey@co.fort-bend.tx.us

Governing Body Head

Signature: 
Name: Robert Hebert
Title: County Judge
Date: 11-20-2012
E-mail: robert.hebert@co.fort-bend.tx.us

Subscribe to Equitable Sharing Wire:

The Equitable Sharing Wire is an electronic newsletter that gives you important, substantive, information regarding Equitable Sharing policies, practices, and procedures.

Final Instructions:

- Step 1: Click to save for your records
Step 2: Click to save in XML format

- Step 3: E-mail the XML file to aca.submit@usdoj.gov
Step 4: Fax THIS SIGNED PAGE ONLY to (202) 616-1344

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY

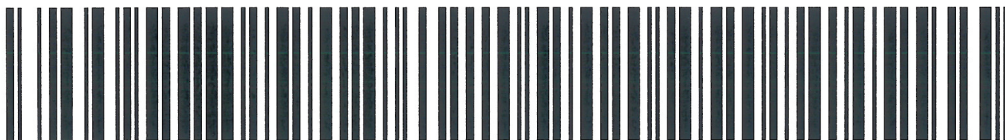
Entered by _____

Entered on _____

☐ FY End: 09/30/2012

☒ NCIC: TX079015A

☐ State: TX Finance Contact: Celena Vinson



Date Printed: November 13, 2012 09:09

Agency: Fort Bend County District Attorney

Phone: 281-341-4496

E-mail: celena.vinson@co.fort-bend.tx.us