

Resolution of Governing Body

County of Fort Bend

Unique Application Number: V0041-14-0189

Be it known as follows:

WHEREAS, the County of Fort Bend has applied or wishes to apply to the Office of the Attorney General, (OAG) Crime Victim Services Division for the following grant program, Victim Coordinator and Liaison Grant (VCLG)

WHEREAS, the Fort Bend County Commissioners' Court has considered and supports the Application filed or to be filed with the OAG;

WHEREAS, the County of Fort Bend has designated or wishes to designate the following individual as the "Authorized Official" who is given or has been given the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter, or terminate that certain grant with the OAG, Crime Victim Services Division as well as given the authority to sign all grant adjustment requests, inventory reports, progress reports and financial reports or any other official documents related to the grant on behalf of the grantee:

Robert Hebert
Fort Bend County Judge

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this governing body approves the submission of the Application to the Office of the Attorney General, Crime Victim Services Division as well as the designation of the Authorized Official.

Passed and Approved this 7 Day of May 2013

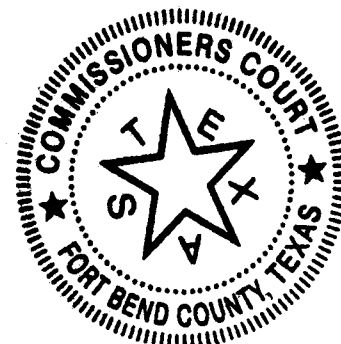


Robert Hebert, County Judge

Robert Hebert
County Judge

ATTEST: 

Dianne Wilson, County Clerk



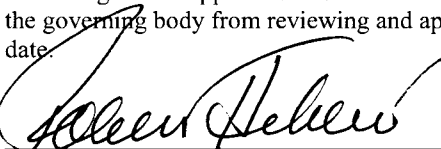
**STATEMENTS SUPPORTING SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION
TO THE
OAG CRIME VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION— REQUIRED
REQUIRED TO BE SUBMITTED WITH THE APPLICATION BY 5:00 P.M CDT WEDNESDAY, MAY
15, 2013, OR THE APPLICATION WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**

INSTRUCTIONS: Initial each numbered line and submit this signed required document with the Application.

LEGAL NAME OF APPLICANT: Fort Bend County

UNIQUE APPLICATION NUMBER: V0041-14-0189

1. RAM **THIS APPLICATION IS FOR** (check one):
____ Other Victim Assistance Grant (OVAG)
☒ **X** Victim Coordinator and Liaison Grant (VCLG)
____ Sexual Assault Prevention and Crisis Services (SAPCS) – State Funds
2. RAM **TRUE AND CORRECT INFORMATION.** The undersigned certifies that the information contained in this Application is true and correct to the best of his or her knowledge.
3. RAM **OAG CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES.** The undersigned has read and understands the Certifications and Assurances contained in the Application Kit.
4. RAM **DEADLINES AND SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION.** The undersigned understands that the deadline for submission is 5:00 p.m. CDT Wednesday, May 15, 2013 and that to meet the deadline, the Applicant must submit electronic (email) documents as required in the Application Kit. The undersigned further acknowledges that:
- It is the Applicant's responsibility to submit the Application to the OAG in the specified manner and by the specified date and time
 - Applications submitted in other formats will not be accepted
 - The OAG accepts no responsibility for delays in electronic submission delivery
 - Late Applications will not be considered under any circumstance
 - Proof of sending a document by email or other means is not proof that the OAG received the information
5. RAM **JOB DESCRIPTIONS FOR EACH REQUESTED POSITION.** The undersigned understands that the most recent job description for each position requested in the proposed budget must be submitted with the Application. Missing job descriptions may impact the Applicant's score.
6. RAM **RESOLUTION OF GOVERNING BODY.** The undersigned states it is either submitting the Resolution of Applicant's governing body with this Application or will submit one at a later date as established by the OAG. If the timing of the Application due date and requirements of the Open Meetings Act or other requirements prevents the governing body from reviewing and approving the Resolution, then it may be submitted to the OAG at a later date.


Signature/Title **Robert Hebert**
County Judge

Robert Hebert
Printed Name

5-7-2013
Date



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS GREG ABBOTT

Grants and Contracts

In cooperation with the Texas Legislature, the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) provides vital support to victims of crime throughout the state by awarding grants and contracts to hundreds of local and statewide victim assistance programs.

IMPORTANT: In order to apply for a grant, applicants are required to first **register on-line**. **Applications will not be accepted unless the on-line registration process has first been completed.** Once on-line registration is complete, there will be a prompt to download the Application Kit and related materials.

FY 2014-2015 OVAG, VCLG and SAPCS-State Funding

The OVAG, VCLG and SAPCS-State Application Registration and Application Kits are now available.

IMPORTANT: In order to apply for a grant, applicants are required to first **register on-line**. *Applications will not be accepted unless the on-line registration process has first been completed.* Once on-line registration is complete, there will be a prompt to download the Application Kit and related materials. Below are PDFs, for review only, of the Application Kits which include information on Purpose Areas and Eligibility.

Registration will close at 5:00 p.m. CDT on Wednesday, May 1, 2013.

Applications are now being accepted for the following grant programs:

FY 2014-2015 OVAG-VCLG Application Kit and Related Materials:

- OVAG Request for Applications (PDF)
- VCLG Request for Applications (PDF)
- Application Instructions (PDF)
- Application (PDF)

FY 2014-2015 SAPCS-State Application Kit and Related Materials:

- SAPCS-State Request for Applications (PDF)
- SAPCS-State Application Instructions (PDF)
- SAPCS-State Application (PDF)

Refer back to this page for frequent updates.

Working in partnership with local and statewide law enforcement agencies and nonprofit organizations, the OAG continues to focus on minimizing the physical and emotional trauma experienced by children and adults who are victims of crime.

Through victim service grants and contracts, the OAG demonstrates a commitment to cultivating an environment where the needs of crime victims are expediently identified and effectively met in communities of varying size. The fiscal support provided by the OAG helps to empower

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS:

FY 2008-2009 CVSD Grantees

FY 2010-2011 CVSD Grantees

FY 2012 CVSD Grantees

Victim Coordinator and Liaison Grants (VCLG)

Other Victim Assistance Grants (OVAG)

Sexual Assault Prevention and

communities to develop robust local networks that reflect their respective crime victim population needs.

The Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 56.541, authorizes the OAG to use monies appropriated from the Compensation to Victims of Crime Fund for grants and contracts supporting victim related services or assistance. The OAG administers the following victim assistance grant programs as authorized by the Legislature.

* **Victim Coordinator and Liaison Grants (VCLG)**

The purpose of the VCLG program is to fund the mandated positions described in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 56.04, specifically Victim Assistance Coordinators (VAC) in prosecutor offices and Crime Victim Liaisons (CVL) in law enforcement agencies.

VCLG Purpose Areas: In addition to the duties imposed in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 56.04 (and more specifically described in Article 56.02), VACs and CVLs are also expected to promote and educate the community and other professionals about victim rights and services in an effort to identify crime victims and provide or refer them to needed services.

Eligible Applicants: The following entities are eligible to apply under the VCLG Program:

- A local criminal prosecutor may apply for a grant to fund a position, or part of a position, for a victim assistance coordinator.
- A local law enforcement agency may apply for a grant to fund a position or part of a position, for a crime victim liaison.

Other Victim Assistance Grants (OVAG)

The purpose of the OVAG Program is to provide funds, using a competitive allocation method, to programs that address the unmet needs of victims by maintaining or increasing their access to quality services.

OVAG Purpose Areas: Grant contracts awarded under the OVAG Program may be used for victim-related services or assistance for the following purposes:

- Providing direct victim services including, but not limited to, counseling, crisis intervention, assistance with Crime Victims' Compensation, legal assistance, victim advocacy, and information and referral;
- Providing outreach or community education to help identify crime victims who might not otherwise be reached and provide or refer them to needed services;
- Connecting crime victims to services for the purpose of supporting or assisting in their recovery;
- Training professionals and volunteers to improve their ability to inform victims of their rights, to assist victims in their recovery, or to establish a continuum of care for victims; or
- Other support for victim-related services or assistance as determined by the OAG.

OVAG Statewide Project: An OVAG Statewide project is one that actively offers or provides victim-related services or assistance in six or more COG regions.

In addition to the purpose areas stated above, only Statewide projects may apply for funding for public awareness campaigns designed for connecting crime victims to services for the purpose of supporting or assisting in their recovery.

Eligible Applicants: The following entities are eligible to apply under the OVAG Program:

- Local units of government;
- Non-profit agencies with 26.U.S.C. § 501(c)(3) status; or
- State agencies, including universities.

Sexual Assault Prevention and Crisis Services (SAPCS)

Crisis Services (SAPCS)

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE)

Statewide Automated Victim Notification System (Texas VINE)

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)

Children's Advocacy Centers (CAC)

Crime Victim Civil Legal Services (CVCLS)

Sexual Assault Services Program Grant

Recovery Reporting

SAPCS-FEDERAL:

Primary Prevention Guidance Documents

Grantee Training

IV. OAG Certifications and Assurances

A. THE UNIFORM GRANT MANAGEMENT STANDARDS (“UGMS”), PART III, SECTION .14; PROMULGATED BY THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, STATE OF TEXAS.

THE OAG HAS ADOPTED THOSE ASSURANCES AS APPLICABLE TO ALL RECIPIENTS OF OVAG AND VCLG FUNDS.

The Applicant agrees to:

- (1) Comply with Texas Government Code, Chapter 573, Vernon’s 1994, by ensuring that no officer, employee, or member of the applicant’s governing body or of the applicant’s contractor shall vote or confirm the employment of any person related within the second degree of affinity or the third degree of consanguinity to any member of the governing body or to any other officer or employee authorized to employ or supervise such person. This prohibition shall not prohibit the employment of a person who shall have been continuously employed for a period of two (2) years, or such other period stipulated by local law, prior to the election or appointment of the officer, employee, or governing body member related to such person in the prohibited degree.
- (2) Comply, as applicable, with Texas Government Code, Chapter 552, (“Texas Public Information Act”) which requires the public information that is collected, assembled or maintained by the applicant relative to a project to be available to the public during normal business hours.
- (3) Comply with Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, (“Texas Open Meetings Act”) which requires all regular, special or called meeting of governmental bodies to be open to the public, except as otherwise provided by law or specifically permitted in the Texas Constitution.
- (4) Comply with Section 231.006, Texas Family Code, which prohibits payments to a person who is in arrears on child support payments.
- (5) If Applicant is a health and human services agency or public safety or law enforcement agency, it may not contract with or issue a license, certificate or permit to the owner, operator or administrator of a facility if the license, permit or certificate has been revoked by another health and human services agency or public safety or law enforcement agency.
- (6) If Applicant is a law enforcement agency regulated by Texas Government Code, Chapter 415, it must be in compliance with all rules adopted by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education pursuant to Chapter 415, Texas Government Code or must provide the OAG with a certification from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education that the agency is in the process of achieving compliance with such rules.
- (7) Agrees that when incorporated into a grant award or contract, these standard assurances become terms or conditions for receipt of grant funds and that the Applicant shall maintain an appropriate contract administration system to insure that all terms, conditions, and specifications are met.

(8) Comply with the Texas Family Code, Section 261.101 which requires reporting of all suspected cases of child abuse to local law enforcement authorities and to the Texas Department of Child Protective and Regulatory Services. Applicant shall also ensure that all program personnel are properly trained and aware of this requirement.

(9) Comply with all federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. § 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1974, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to the nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§ 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. 290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. § 3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

(10) Comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. § § 276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. § § 276c and 18 U.S.C. § § 874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. § § 327-333), regarding labor standards for federally assisted construction sub-agreements.

(11) Comply, as applicable, with the requirements of the provisions of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisitions Act of 1970 (P. L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.

(12) Comply with the provisions of the Hatch Political Activity Act (5 U.S.C. § 7321-29) which limit the political activity of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

(13) Comply with the minimum wage and maximum hours provisions of the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act and the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970, as applicable.

(14) Insure, as applicable, that the facilities under its ownership, lease or supervision which shall be utilized in the accomplishment of the project are not listed on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) list of Violating Facilities and that it will notify the Federal grantor agency of the receipt of any communication from the Director of the EPA Office of Federal Activities

indicating that a facility to be used in the project is under consideration for listing by the EPA, (EO 11738).

(15) Comply, as applicable, with the flood insurance purchase requirements of 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, Public Law 93-234. Section 102 (a) requires the purchase of flood insurance in communities where such insurance is available as a condition for the receipt of any Federal financial assistance for construction or acquisition proposed for use in any area that has been identified by the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development as an area having special flood hazards.

(16) Comply, applicable, with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§ 1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of federal actions to State (Clear Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clear Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (P.L. 93-205).

(17) Comply, as applicable, with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§ 1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.

(18) Comply, as applicable, in assisting the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 469a-1 et seq.).

(19) Comply, as applicable, with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.

(20) Comply, as applicable, with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residential structures.

(21) Comply, as applicable, with Public Law 103-277, also known as the Pro-Children Act of 1994 (Act), which prohibits smoking within any portion of any indoor facility used for the provision of services for children as defined by the Act.

(22) Comply, as applicable, with all federal tax laws and are solely responsible for filing all required state and federal tax forms.

(23) Comply, as applicable, with all applicable requirements of all other federal and state laws, executive orders, regulations and policies governing this program.

(24) Certifies, as a signatory party to the grant contract, that it is not debarred or suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in federal assistance programs.

(25) Comply, by adopting and implementing the applicable provisions of the model HIV/AIDS work place guidelines of the Texas Department of Health as required by the Texas Health and Safety Code, Ann., Sec. 85.001, et seq.

B. Other Certifications and Assurances

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM CERTIFICATION

The Applicant certifies that if it is required to file an Equal Employment Opportunity Plan (EEOP), the Applicant will do so in compliance with the applicable federal requirements.

DISCLOSURE AND CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

The Applicant certifies:

1. No federal/state appropriated funds have 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 or the Texas Legislature, or an employee of a member of Congress or the Texas Legislature in connection with the awarding of any federal/state contract, the making of any federal/state grant, the making of any federal/state loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal/state contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement; and

2. If any non-federal/state funds have 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 or the Texas Legislature, an officer or employee of Congress or the Texas Legislature, or an employee of a member of Congress or the Texas Legislature in connection with this federal/state contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall contact the CVSD of the OAG for the "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying."

NON-PROCUREMENT DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION

The Applicant certifies that it and its principals:

(a) 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 covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;

(b) 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;

- (c) 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 paragraph (b) of this certification; and
- (d) 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.

If Applicant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this Non-procurement Debarment certification, the Applicant shall attach an explanation. Funding is contingent upon OAG review of this explanation.

DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE CERTIFICATION

The Applicant certifies that it will provide a drug-free workplace by:

- A. Publishing a statement notifying employees/assignees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the applicant's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition.
- B. Establishing a drug-free awareness program to inform employees/assignees about:
 - 1. The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
 - 2. The applicant's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
 - 3. Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
 - 4. The penalties that may be imposed upon employees/assignees for drug abuse violations.
- C. Making it a requirement that each employee/assignee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (A).
- D. Notifying the employee/assignee in the statement required by paragraph (A) that, as a condition employment/assignment under the grant, the employees/assignee will:
 - 1. Abide by the terms of the statement, and
 - 2. Notify the applicant agency and CVSD, of the OAG of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace not later than five days after such conviction.
- E. Notifying the agency within ten days after receiving notice under subparagraph (D) (2) from an employee/assignee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction.
- F. Taking one of the following actions with respect to any employee/assignee so convicted:
 - 1. Taking appropriate personnel action with respect to any employee/assignee so convicted;
 - 2. Requiring such employee/assignee to participate satisfactorily in drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a federal, state, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency.
- G. Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through the implementation of paragraphs (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), and (F).

ANNUAL SINGLE AUDIT CERTIFICATION

The Applicant certifies to the best of their knowledge and belief that one of the following applicable requirements will be met:

1. The applicant currently expends \$500,000 or more, in combined federal funds during the fiscal year; and, therefore, is required to submit an annual single audit by an independent auditor made in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular A-133.
2. The applicant currently expends \$500,000 or more in combined state funds during the fiscal year; and, therefore, is required to submit an annual Single Audit by an independent auditor made in accordance with the Uniform Grant Management Standards (UGMS).
3. The applicant currently expends less than \$500,000 in either federal or state funds during the fiscal year; and therefore is exempt from the Single Audit Act and cannot charge audit costs to an OAG grant. Applicant agrees that the OAG may require a limited scope audit as defined in OMB Circular A-133.

If this application is for funds in excess of \$25,000, the Applicant certifies the following:

By submission of this proposal, that neither the applicant agency nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or state agency.

If the Applicant is unable to certify the above statements, the Applicant has attached an explanation to this application.

COMPLIANCE WITH ANNUAL INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL AUDIT FILING REQUIREMENT

The Applicant assures that it will file an Annual Independent Financial Audit of the complete program and/or organization and management letter of the audit findings within nine months of the end of the fiscal year of the agency. An annual independent financial audit is a requirement for this OAG grant. The audit will meet Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 and Uniform Grant Management Standards (UGMS) requirements. Additionally, the annual independent financial audit will meet GAGAS standards in the event a Single Audit is not required.

COMPLIANCE WITH UGMS AND THE APPLICABLE OMB CIRCULARS

The Applicant assures that it will follow the guidelines in the Uniform Grant Management Standards (UGMS). Both governmental entities as well as non-profit entities are required to follow UGMS guidelines.

The Applicant assures compliance with all federal/state statutes, regulations, policies, guidelines and requirements, including, but not limited to, UGMS as well as OMB Circulars No. A-21, A-110, A-122, A-128, A-87; E.O. 123 72.

RETURN OF GRANT FUNDS IN THE EVENT OF LOSS OR MISUSE

The Applicant agrees that in the event of loss or misuse of the OAG funds, the Applicant assures that the funds will be returned to the OAG in full.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Applicant assures that there is no conflict of interest that would preclude it from filing the Application or providing the services under this grant. By submitting this Application, Applicant affirms that it has neither given, nor intends to give, at any time hereafter, any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, or service to a public servant or any employee or representative of same, at any time during the procurement process or in connection with this grant application, except as allowed under relevant state and federal law. The Applicant further agrees that it will establish safeguards to prohibit its employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest or personal gain. The Applicant shall operate with complete independence and objectivity without actual, potential, or apparent conflict of interest with respect to the activities conducted under this grant.

Without diminishing the provisions of the prior paragraph, the Applicant assures that as a grantee, grantee personnel, members of a grantee board or governing body, or other persons affiliated with the grant project shall not participate in any proceeding or action where grant funds personally benefit, directly or indirectly, the individuals or their relatives. For the purposes of this provision, "relatives" means persons related to the individual within the third degree by consanguinity or within the second degree by affinity, as determined by Chapter 573 of the Government Code. Grant personnel and officials must avoid any action that results in or creates the appearance of using their official positions for private gain; giving preferential treatment to any person; losing independent judgment or impartiality; making an official decision outside of official channels; or adversely affecting the confidence of the public in the integrity of the program or the OAG.

AUTHORITY TO FILE APPLICATION

The Applicant has the authority or will receive the appropriate authority by the Applicant's governing body to file the Application, including the authority to agree to the assurances and certifications contained herein.

VCLG Grant

Summary

It is the mission of persons employed by the Sheriff's Office of Fort Bend County, to protect the lives, property and rights of all people in this County. In accomplishing this mission, Sheriff's Office employees shall be at all time courteous, impartial and diligent. In the execution of their duties, they shall be guided by those constitutional and legal principles, which are the foundation of the United States of America and the State of Texas.

Our Victim Services Unit is ultimately committed to having a positive impact in providing appropriate responses to the needs of all crime victims in a timelier manner in which to avoid inflicting "secondary victimization" that is often characterized much of the plight of the victims of crime. We strive to provide assistance and support to victims throughout their entire Criminal Justice process. In addition, we continue to raise public awareness of victims' rights and services offered through this agency to the public and law enforcement. With the addition of a Victim Liaison Assistant funded by the grant, we have been successful in accomplishing our goal to help meet the needs of all crime victims.

Services provided by our Victim Services Unit are listed as follows: Assist in contacting & providing victims with support, through case disposition, referrals to counseling services, community resources and local financial aid; Assist victims with securing Magistrate E.P.O's & safety planning; Assist victims in accordance with the application process of C.V.C. and V.I.N.E; Assist in conducting presentations to the public & law enforcement to increase awareness of victim's rights & services available.; Attend conferences & training seminars to remain current on victim related issues; Respond to major crime scenes to provide immediate assistance to victims when needed; Arranged transportation is also provided; Assist in handling phones & follow-up calls. An updated educational brochure has been created to be distributed by our 1st Responders stating their rights of crime victims, CVC procedures, as well as a list of resources and phone numbers available to assist crime victims.