

## Tarrant County Taskforce Grant Application for Fiscal Year 2024

[Request for Application \(RFA\)](#)

Primary Agency / Grantee Legal Name: *Tarrant County*

Organization Type: *Law Enforcement*

Organization ORI (if applicable): *TX2200000: TARRANT CO SO*

**Program Title** Please enter a short description of the proposed program that can be used as the title.

*Tarrant Regional Auto Crimes Task Force*

**Application Category** (See **Request for Applications** [RFA] for category details and descriptions RFA Priority Funding Section):

**MVCPA Program Category** (see **RFA** and TAC 43, 3 §57.14). Check all that apply.

- Law Enforcement, Detection and Apprehension
- Prosecution, Adjudication and Conviction
- Prevention, Anti-Theft Devices and Motor Vehicle Registration
- Reduction of the Sale of Stolen Vehicles or Parts
- Education Programs and Marketing

**Taskforce Grant Participation and Coverage Area****Provide a General Description of the Participating and Coverage Area of this Grant Application**

The TRACTF provides LE assistance to all police agencies in Tarrant, Parker, Wise, Palo Pinto, Somervell, Hood and Jack counties. The TRACTF provides technical assistance to the Fort Worth Regional DMV office and tax offices of the above listed counties. In addition, the TRACTF supports the Wichita Falls Regional DMV office and tax offices/citizens by providing VIN inspections for Archer, Clay, Montague, Wichita and Young counties.

**Define in the tables below the grant relationships and geographic area of the taskforce:**

Applicant will add the participating and coverage agencies from the ORI list below. If an agency is not in the ORI list, please include the agency and role in the general description above. Make sure to follow the definitions below and select an agency in the dropdown. Use the *Add as Participating Agency* or *Add as Coverage Agency* button to populate the list.

**Participating Agencies** are agencies that materially participate in the grant application through the exchange of funds for reimbursement and cash match. Participating agencies are defined after the grant award by interlocal/interagency agreements. Each applicant must select their own agency first. Then select agencies that will receive or provide funding and/or resources. [Note: Interlocal/interagency agreements do not need to be submitted with the application. Interlocal agreements will need to be executed prior to the first payment being made if selected for a grant. Letters of support with the application from the participating agencies are strongly recommended.]

**Coverage Agencies** are agencies that provided some level of coverage, assistance or support by this grant application but will not materially exchange funds as cash match or reimbursement. The coverage is not supported by an after the award with interlocal/interagency agreements. Coverage agencies as law enforcement agencies may have jurisdictional coverage agreements unrelated to the grant (Ex. City Y is within County X or vice versa). Agencies selected in this list include agencies that will be covered or where the agency indicates that their agency will coordinate or call upon the taskforce. Letters of support with the application from the participating agencies are strongly recommended.

| Participating Agencies            | Coverage Agencies                   |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| TX1840000 PARKER CO SO (IBR)      | TX1110000 HOOD CO SO                |
| TX1840100 WEATHERFORD PD          | TX1110100 GRANBURY PD               |
| TX2200000 TARRANT CO SO           | TX1190000 JACK CO SO (AE)           |
| TX2200100 ARLINGTON PD (MIP)      | TX1190100 JACKSBORO PD              |
| TX2200900 EULESS PD               | TX1820000 PALO PINTO CO SO          |
| TX2201200 FORT WORTH PD (MIP/IBR) | TX1820200 MINERAL WELLS PD          |
| TX2201300 GRAPEVINE PD (AE)       | TX1840300 SPRINGTOWN PD             |
| TX2201400 HALTOM CITY PD          | TX1840400 HUDSON OAKS PD            |
| TX2201600 HURST PD                | TX1840500 WILLOW PARK PD            |
| TX2201900 LAKE WORTH PD           | TX2130000 SOMERVELL CO SO           |
| TX2202900 WHITE SETTLEMENT PD     | TX2200200 AZLE PD                   |
| TX2490000 WISE CO SO              | TX2200300 BEDFORD PD (IBR)          |
|                                   | TX2200400 BENBROOK PD               |
|                                   | TX2200500 BLUE MOUND PD (AE)        |
|                                   | TX2200600 CROWLEY PD                |
|                                   | TX2200700 DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS PD |
|                                   | TX2201000 EVERMAN PD                |
|                                   | TX2201100 FOREST HILL PD            |
|                                   | TX2201800 LAKESIDE PD               |
|                                   | TX2202100 NO RICHLAND HILLS PD (AE) |
|                                   | TX2202200 RICHLAND HILLS PD         |
|                                   | TX2202300 RIVER OAKS PD             |
|                                   | TX2202400 SAGINAW PD                |

TX2202500 SANSOM PARK VILLAGE PD  
 TX2202600 WATAUGA PD  
 TX2202700 WESTOVER HILLS PD  
 TX2202800 WESTWORTH PD  
 TX2203000 KELLER PD (AE)  
 TX2203100 PANTEGO PD  
 TX2203200 SOUTHLAKE PD (AE)  
 TX2203300 UT ARLINGTON PD  
 TX2203600 D/FW AIRPORT PD (IBR)  
 TX2203700 TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIV PD  
 TX2204000 COLLEYVILLE PD  
 TX2204800 Pelican Bay PD  
 TX2204900 UNT HTH SCI CTR PD (AE)  
 TX2205000 TARRANT CO HOSP DIST PD (  
 TX2490100 BRIDGEPORT PD (AE)  
 TX2490200 DECATUR PD (IBR)  
 TX2490800 RUNAWAY BAY PD (AE)  
 TX2490900 BOYD PD

• **Other Coverage** (Use if ORI not listed or explanation is necessary.):

*Hood CO Constable's Office PCT 1-4 [TX1110800; TX1110600; TX1110700; TX1110500]; Jack CO Constable's Office [TX1190500]; Palo Pinto CO Constable's Office PCT 1-4 [TX1820900; TX1821000; TX1820700; TX1820500]; Reno PD [TX1840700]; Weatherford College PD [TX1840600]; Parker CO Constable's Office PCT 1-4 [TX1840200; TX1841100; TX1841000; TX1841300]; Tarrant CO Constable's Office PCT 1-6 [TX2203500; TX2204100; TX2204200; TX2204300; TX2204400; TX2204500]; Tarrant CO Constable's Office PCT 8 [TX2204700]; Somervell CO Constable's Office PCT 1-2 [TX2130200; TX2130300]; Rhome PD [TX2490300]; Wise CO Constable's Office PCT 1-4 [TX2490400; TX2490500; TX2490600; TX2490700]; The TRACTF supports the Wichita Falls Regional DMV office and tax offices/citizens by providing VIN inspections for Archer, Clay, Montague, Wichita and Young counties.*

• **National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB)** Used as Match (Documentation and time certification required.)

**Resolution:** Complete a Resolution and submit to local governing body for approval. [Sample Resolution](#) is found in the Request for Application or send a request for an electronic copy to [grantsMVCPA@txdmv.gov](mailto:grantsMVCPA@txdmv.gov). The completed and executed Resolution must be attached to this on-line application.

### Grant Budget Form

MVCPA recommends that the applicant complete the total costs (MVCPA and Cash Match combined) for this program. The applicant can then enter the desired amount of Cash Match (not less than 20% per TAC Title 43, Â§57.36). The system will then calculate the correct grant and match amounts.

**Budget Entry Option:**

Enter MVCPA and Cash Match Amounts

| Budget Category                                     | MVCPA<br>Expenditures | Cash<br>Match<br>Expenditures | Total<br>Expenditures | In-Kind<br>Match |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| <i>Personnel</i>                                    | \$432,749             | \$0                           | \$432,749             |                  |
| <i>Fringe</i>                                       | \$55,181              | \$121,982                     | \$177,163             |                  |
| <i>Overtime</i>                                     | \$9,281               | \$0                           | \$9,281               |                  |
| <i>Professional and Contract Services</i>           | \$1,144,260           | \$447,281                     | \$1,591,541           |                  |
| <i>Travel</i>                                       | \$9,190               | \$0                           | \$9,190               |                  |
| <i>Equipment</i>                                    | \$169,274             | \$0                           | \$169,274             |                  |
| <i>Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)</i> | \$103,887             | \$0                           | \$103,887             |                  |
| Total   | \$1,923,822           | \$569,263                     | \$2,493,085           |                  |
| Cash Match Percentage                               |                       | 29.59%                        |                       |                  |

| Description              | Subcategory              | Pct<br>Time | MVCPA<br>Funds | Cash Match | Total     | In-Kind<br>Match |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|----------------|------------|-----------|------------------|
| <b>Personnel</b>         |                          |             |                |            |           |                  |
| Commander                | Investigator/LEO         | 100         | \$123,618      | \$0        | \$123,618 |                  |
| Administrative Assistant | Administrative / Support | 100         | \$51,555       | \$0        | \$51,555  |                  |
| General Office Clerk     | Administrative / Support | 100         | \$52,340       | \$0        | \$52,340  |                  |
| Deputy                   | Investigator/LEO         | 100         | \$81,724       | \$0        | \$81,724  |                  |
| ACDA                     | Legal                    | 100         | \$123,512      | \$0        | \$123,512 |                  |
| Total Personnel          |                          | 500         | \$432,749      | \$0        | \$432,749 |                  |
| <b>Fringe</b>            |                          |             |                |            |           |                  |
| Commander                | Investigator/LEO         |             | \$11,530       | \$33,787   | \$45,317  |                  |
| Administrative Assistant | Administrative / Support |             | \$10,250       | \$15,451   | \$25,701  |                  |
| General Office Clerk     | Administrative / Support |             | \$10,264       | \$15,651   | \$25,915  |                  |
| Deputy                   | Investigator/LEO         |             | \$11,629       | \$23,338   | \$34,967  |                  |
| ACDA                     | Legal                    |             | \$11,508       | \$33,755   | \$45,263  |                  |
| Total Fringe             |                          |             | \$55,181       | \$121,982  | \$177,163 |                  |
| <b>Overtime</b>          |                          |             |                |            |           |                  |
| Administrative In-state  | Administrative / Support |             | \$2,578        | \$0        | \$2,578   |                  |
| General Office Clerk     | Administrative / Support |             | \$2,617        | \$0        | \$2,617   |                  |
| Deputy                   | Investigator/LEO         |             | \$4,086        | \$0        | \$4,086   |                  |
| Total Overtime           |                          |             | \$9,281        | \$0        | \$9,281   |                  |

| Description                               | Subcategory                  | Pct Time | MVCPA Funds | Cash Match | Total     | In-Kind Match |
|---|------------------------------|----------|-------------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| <b>Professional and Contract Services</b> |                              |          |             |            |           |               |
| Enforcement Team Leader (Sergeant) Hurst  | Investigator/LEO - personnel | 100      | \$100,365   | \$0        | \$100,365 |               |
| Enforcement Team Leader (Sergeant) Hurst  | Investigator/LEO - fringe    | 100      | \$11,451    | \$27,954   | \$39,405  |               |
| Enforcement Team Leader (Sergeant) Hurst  | Investigator/LEO - overtime  | 100      | \$5,018     | \$0        | \$5,018   |               |
| Euless Detective                          | Investigator/LEO - personnel | 100      | \$98,954    | \$0        | \$98,954  |               |
| Euless Detective                          | Investigator/LEO - fringe    | 100      | \$2,157     | \$25,278   | \$27,435  |               |
| Euless Detective                          | Investigator/LEO - overtime  | 100      | \$4,948     | \$0        | \$4,948   |               |
| Grapevine Detective                       | Investigator/LEO - personnel | 100      | \$98,443    | \$0        | \$98,443  |               |
| Grapevine Detective                       | Investigator/LEO - fringe    | 100      | \$5,045     | \$25,872   | \$30,917  |               |
| Grapevine Detective                       | Investigator/LEO - overtime  | 100      | \$4,922     | \$0        | \$4,922   |               |
| Haltom City Detective                     | Investigator/LEO - personnel | 100      | \$91,888    | \$0        | \$91,888  |               |
| Haltom City Detective                     | Investigator/LEO - fringe    | 100      | \$21,106    | \$28,249   | \$49,355  |               |
| Haltom City Detective                     | Investigator/LEO - overtime  | 100      | \$4,594     | \$0        | \$4,594   |               |
| Lake Worth Detective                      | Investigator/LEO - personnel | 100      | \$74,822    | \$0        | \$74,822  |               |
| Lake Worth Detective                      | Investigator/LEO - fringe    | 100      | \$11,492    | \$21,578   | \$33,070  |               |
| Lake Worth Detective                      | Investigator/LEO - overtime  | 100      | \$3,741     | \$0        | \$3,741   |               |
| Parker County Detective                   | Investigator/LEO - personnel | 100      | \$83,024    | \$0        | \$83,024  |               |
| Parker County Detective                   | Investigator/LEO - fringe    | 100      | \$10,256    | \$23,320   | \$33,576  |               |
| Parker County Detective                   | Investigator/LEO - overtime  | 100      | \$4,151     | \$0        | \$4,151   |               |
| Weatherford Detective                     | Investigator/LEO - personnel | 100      | \$82,522    | \$0        | \$82,522  |               |
| Weatherford Detective                     | Investigator/LEO - fringe    | 100      | \$13,320    | \$23,960   | \$37,280  |               |
| Weatherford Detective                     | Investigator/LEO - overtime  | 100      | \$4,126     | \$0        | \$4,126   |               |

| Description                              | Subcategory                  | Pct Time | MVCPA Funds | Cash Match | Total       | In-Kind Match |
|--|------------------------------|----------|-------------|------------|-------------|---------------|
| White Settlement Detective               | Investigator/LEO - personnel | 100      | \$67,494    | \$0        | \$67,494    |               |
| White Settlement Detective               | Investigator/LEO - fringe    | 100      | \$9,681     | \$19,294   | \$28,975    |               |
| White Settlement Detective               | Investigator/LEO - overtime  | 100      | \$3,375     | \$0        | \$3,375     |               |
| Wise County Detective                    | Investigator/LEO - personnel | 100      | \$70,783    | \$0        | \$70,783    |               |
| Wise County Detective                    | Investigator/LEO - fringe    | 100      | \$7,038     | \$19,455   | \$26,493    |               |
| Wise County Detective                    | Investigator/LEO - overtime  | 100      | \$3,539     | \$0        | \$3,539     |               |
| Arlington Detective                      | Investigator/LEO - personnel | 100      | \$93,990    | \$0        | \$93,990    |               |
| Arlington Detective                      | Investigator/LEO - fringe    | 100      | \$7,893     | \$25,471   | \$33,364    |               |
| Arlington Detective                      | Investigator/LEO - overtime  | 100      | \$4,700     | \$0        | \$4,700     |               |
| Fort Worth Detective                     | Investigator/LEO - personnel | 100      | \$111,045   | \$0        | \$111,045   |               |
| Fort Worth Detective                     | Investigator/LEO - fringe    | 100      | \$22,825    | \$33,468   | \$56,293    |               |
| Fort Worth Detective                     | Investigator/LEO - overtime  | 100      | \$5,552     | \$0        | \$5,552     |               |
| NICB Special Agent "Cash in Lieu"        | NICB - personnel             | 100      | \$0         | \$74,878   | \$74,878    |               |
| NICB Special Agent "Cash in Lieu"        | NICB - fringe                | 100      | \$0         | \$35,353   | \$35,353    |               |
| NICB Inv Specialist "Cash in Lieu"       | NICB - personnel             | 100      | \$0         | \$49,744   | \$49,744    |               |
| NICB Inv Specialist "Cash in Lieu"       | NICB - fringe                | 100      | \$0         | \$13,407   | \$13,407    |               |
| Total Professional and Contract Services |                              | 3700     | \$1,144,260 | \$447,281  | \$1,591,541 |               |
| <b>Travel</b>                            |                              |          |             |            |             |               |
| Administrative In-state                  | Administrative In-state      |          | \$1,680     | \$0        | \$1,680     |               |
| MVCPA Grant Conference                   | Administrative In-state      |          | \$1,250     | \$0        | \$1,250     |               |
| New Investigator Training                | Law enforcement In-State     |          | \$5,760     | \$0        | \$5,760     |               |
| Emergency Investigative Travel           | Law enforcement In-State     |          | \$500       | \$0        | \$500       |               |
| Total Travel                             |                              |          | \$9,190     | \$0        | \$9,190     |               |
| <b>Equipment</b>                         |                              |          |             |            |             |               |
| Laptop computer and docking station (4)  |                              |          | \$15,112    | \$0        | \$15,112    |               |

| Description     | Subcategory | Pct<br>Time | MVCPA<br>Funds | Cash Match | Total     | In-Kind<br>Match |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|------------|-----------|------------------|
| Cell phone (4)  |             |             | \$782          | \$0        | \$782     |                  |
| Vehicle (4)     |             |             | \$153,380      | \$0        | \$153,380 |                  |
| Total Equipment |             |             | \$169,274      | \$0        | \$169,274 |                  |

#### Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)

|   |  |  |           |     |           |  |
|---|--|--|-----------|-----|-----------|--|
| Bonds   |  |  | \$110     | \$0 | \$110     |  |
| Casualty Insurance                                    |  |  | \$11,345  | \$0 | \$11,345  |  |
| Subscriptions   |  |  | \$7,800   | \$0 | \$7,800   |  |
| Equipment Maintenance                                 |  |  | \$2,857   | \$0 | \$2,857   |  |
| Field Supplies  |  |  | \$3,500   | \$0 | \$3,500   |  |
| Fuel  |  |  | \$25,000  | \$0 | \$25,000  |  |
| Office/Computer Supplies                              |  |  | \$3,850   | \$0 | \$3,850   |  |
| Postage   |  |  | \$350     | \$0 | \$350     |  |
| Prevention Supplies                                   |  |  | \$2,500   | \$0 | \$2,500   |  |
| Printing  |  |  | \$500     | \$0 | \$500     |  |
| Radio Maintenance                                     |  |  | \$8,300   | \$0 | \$8,300   |  |
| Telephone Basic                                       |  |  | \$3,700   | \$0 | \$3,700   |  |
| Telephone Cellular/Data Access                        |  |  | \$10,700  | \$0 | \$10,700  |  |
| Tuition/Training                                      |  |  | \$3,375   | \$0 | \$3,375   |  |
| Vehicle Maintenance                                   |  |  | \$15,000  | \$0 | \$15,000  |  |
| Wrecker Service                                       |  |  | \$5,000   | \$0 | \$5,000   |  |
| Total Supplies and Direct Operating<br>Expenses (DOE) |  |  | \$103,887 | \$0 | \$103,887 |  |

#### Budget Narrative

##### A. Personnel

Commander - Tarrant County: This position provides monitoring and oversight of all Task Force operations including administrative, investigative, enforcement, intelligence, education, and prevention activities. The position reports directly to the Program Director, Tarrant County Sheriff and the Board of Governors on all matters. The position is responsible for developing the mission, values, goals and objectives of the grant program and leading project directional change as needed. The position is also responsible for grant application, correspondence, analysis, reporting and monitoring, including facilitating/coordinating with agency departments to accomplish required oversight and application. The position facilitates the Task Force Board of Governors meetings and participates in the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority meetings and ad hoc committees, maintaining effective communication with area law enforcement executives and stakeholders. Administrative Assistant - Tarrant County: This position functions as the program's grant manager. Responsibilities include (but are not limited to) the oversight and monitoring of daily office operations; preparing and processing budget transactions; preparing the grant budget, adjustments and projections; coordinating with the county's grant auditor and various other departments; supervising civil seizure protocols; attending the Board of Governors and MVCPA meetings; and

### Budget Narrative

preparing and submitting grant documentation in cooperation with the Task Force Commander. Additionally, this position serves as the Prevention Coordinator and is directly responsible for coordinating prevention goals and activities and supervising the support/prevention volunteer and reserve team. General Office Clerk - Tarrant County: This position performs daily clerical duties for the administrative staff and investigators. Duties include (but are not limited to) maintaining office and investigator/asset case files; coordinating JP Court property hearings; assisting with grant and county inventories; preparing training materials; performing computer/phone administration; coordinating seized property tracking; tracking, monitoring and coordinating fleet vehicle maintenance/insurance; preparing and coordinating with county departments for requisitions and acquisitions; tracking vehicle inspection appointments/field payments; and answering phone calls and delivering mail. Investigator (Enforcement Team) - Tarrant County: This position is responsible for investigating reports of pertinent criminal violations initiated by the Task Force from confidential informants, law enforcement intelligence/assists, and agency referrals. Duties include (but are not limited to) interviews and interrogations; the preparation and execution of search and arrest warrants; recovering stolen property; arresting criminals responsible for offenses; conducting covert operations; assisting with bait operations; gathering and disseminating intelligence; and preparing criminal complaints for prosecution. These positions are on-call 24/7 to assist officers, investigators and agencies in the program area and assist the prevention coordinator by participating in prevention events. Prosecutor (Assistant District Attorney) - Tarrant County: This position is a full-time prosecutor dedicated to the indictment and prosecution of auto-crime offenders. The prosecutor will be responsible for legal counsel to the Task Forces as well as investigators and agencies within the program area regarding law interpretations, warrant review, case guidance, conflict resolution and prosecutorial presentation. The prosecutor serves as a liaison between law enforcement and the district attorney's office to resolve issues, strengthen case preparation and mitigate obstacles preventing the successful prosecution of auto-crime offenders. Assistance will be available to other district attorney offices across the state needing guidance on complex auto crimes cases.

#### B. Fringe

Tarrant County pays certain fringe benefits through payroll to all County employees. These Fringe Benefits include FICA (Social Security and Medicare), Retirement, Health Insurance Premium, Worker's Comp, and in some cases, eligible employees receive Certifications Pay and Longevity. The fringe benefits are based either on percentages set by the Commissioners Court and Federal Government or they are a flat rate each month based on the projected actual costs. The fringe benefits paid to ACTF grant employees at Tarrant County are as follows: FICA (Social Security and Medicare) - FICA is 7.65% of an employee's salary every pay period. This percentage is set by the Federal Government. Retirement - The Commissioners Court sets the retirement rate each year. Full time employees contribute a mandatory 7% of their earnings each pay period and participate in the Texas County and District Retirement System (TCDRS). The County's contribution exceeds the employee's contribution at a current employer rate of 19.5%. Health Insurance Premium - The health premium is a flat amount per employee every month. The County pays \$1,000 per employee per month, regardless of what health plan an individual has chosen. The \$1,000 monthly premium was determined by the budget office and approved by the Commissioner's Court at a projection of what the actual, average monthly cost would be for Health Insurance. Worker's Compensation - The percentage is different for different classes of employees. The County Budget office determines each job's risk classification (for example Law Enforcement is at a higher risk than Auditor's Office employees). ACTF worker's comp rate is either 1.36% or 0.07% or 0.05% of employee salary each pay period, depending on position. LE Certification - Tarrant County pays a benefit to eligible full-time law enforcement and Criminal District Attorney personnel who have obtained certification above what is required for their current position. Eligible personnel must inform and provide human resources proof of attainment to receive this benefit of \$60.00 to maximum \$120 monthly. Longevity - Tarrant County pays a benefit to eligible full-time law enforcement and Criminal District Attorney personnel for years of service credit. LE benefit is paid \$5.00 per month for up to and including 25 years of service not to exceed \$125 per month. CDA full-time eligible personnel who have accrued four years of lifetime service credit and are deemed eligible by the CDA are paid \$20 per month for each year of lifetime service credit not to exceed \$5,000 annually.

#### C. Overtime



### Budget Narrative

The personnel overtime budget is used for enforcement duties generated by on-call requests after hours and on weekends. It is also used for special enforcement details planned to target an immediate emerging crime trend. A combination of flex time, compensatory time and overtime is used for special details. The majority of public awareness events are conducted during weekends or after normal business hours. Administrative personnel and investigative officers are required to staff these events in addition to their regular work week hours. Overtime is necessary if they are unable to flex or accept compensatory time for the additional hours in their work week. Administrative overtime is added for non-scheduled emergency and support assigned duties.

#### D. Professional and Contract Services

Enforcement Team Leader (Sergeant) - Hurst PD: This is the unit's first-line supervisor responsible for administering guidance, direction and supervision to the enforcement team of investigators. Duties include (but not limited to): Monitoring investigators' regular and overtime schedules; serving as the unit's Training Coordinator; supervising the special equipment inventory; planning and executing field operations; and coordinating the regional intelligence network. Investigators (Enforcement Team) - Euless PD, Grapevine PD, Haltom City PD, Lake Worth PD, Parker County SO, Weatherford PD, White Settlement PD, and Wise County SO: These positions are responsible for investigating reports of pertinent criminal violations initiated by the Task Force from confidential informants, law enforcement intelligence/assists, and agency referrals. Duties include (but are not limited to) conducting interviews and interrogations; preparing and executing search and arrest warrants, recovering stolen property; arresting criminals responsible for offenses, conducting covert operations; assisting with bait operations; gathering and disseminating intelligence; preparing criminal complaints for prosecution and conducting vehicle/business inspections. These positions are on-call 24/7 to assist officers, investigators and agencies in the program area and assist the prevention coordinator by participating in prevention events. Investigators (Enforcement Team/Bait Operations) - Arlington PD and Fort Worth PD: In addition to the essential duties outlined above for Enforcement Team members, these detective positions are also responsible for coordinating and/or assisting in the operations, maintenance, and deployment of the C.O.B.R.A. bait programs associated with the Task Force as well as within their respective participating agencies. Special Agent - NICB: This position is a full-time investigator who is responsible for investigating reports of pertinent criminal violations initiated by the NICB and/or the Task Force. Duties include (but are not limited to) coordinating with insurance companies for the tracking and return of recovered vehicles; assisting with or filing criminal cases related to auto-crime offenses. The position also coordinates with bait programs throughout the state providing technical assistance. The position is on call 24/7. Salary and Fringe are in lieu of cash match. Investigative Specialist - NICB: This is a full-time civilian investigative specialist who assists with insurance fraud investigations, identifying suspects and vehicles, providing information on crime trends, assisting with investigative research, and coordinating with the NICB HQ for the use and deployment of NICB resources. Salary and Fringe are in lieu of cash match. Each agency is asked for a salary and benefits estimate at the beginning of the process projecting the coming year's salary and fringe cost. 80% of the estimate is charged to the MVCPA and 20% is reserved for cash match (local funds). Overtime is billed and reimbursed at 100% in this category. Overtime is budgeted at 5% of salary cost.

#### E. Travel

Administrative Travel In-State: (MVCPA Board Meetings) - Budgeted for two (2) persons to attend four (4) quarterly Board Meetings in Austin, Texas that include one night each, lodging at a government rate of \$125 per night approximate cost may vary totaling \$1,120 and two days per diem at current County rate of \$35 per day cost \$560. Task Force fleet vehicles are utilized for this travel and fuel costs are included in the grant's annual budget. Annual cost varies \$1,680.00 Administrative Travel In-State: (MVCPA Annual Grant Conference) - Budgeted for up to three (3) staff members (financial and LEO) to attend 3-day conference in Texas, that includes (education, awards, grant award hearing and required grantee program presentation). Includes lodging at \$98 per night and per diem at \$120. Task Force fleet vehicles are utilized for this travel and fuel costs are included in the grant's annual budget. Annual cost \$1,250. New Investigator Training - Lodging and per diem for 4 additional investigators to attend Intermediate and Advanced Trainings total lodging eight nights at a cost of \$125 per night and per diem of \$220 for 8 days travel and two weeks travel each. Total Costs vary at \$5,760 provided trainings are available throughout the grant year. Emergency Investigative Travel In-State - Budgeted investigative

## Budget Narrative

travel for enforcement cases that require investigator(s) to travel outside region to investigate or assist another task force. This cost varies on a case-by-case basis. \$500

### F. Equipment

Mobile Computer Terminals (MCTs) - This cost is determined by the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office IT department and selected vendor. These computers serve as both the office desktop and mobile laptop computers for detectives that is necessary to complete their day-to-day operations including, but not limited to, entering reports into the record management system (RMS), accessing department shared files, operating the Visual MCT software (NLETs/TLETs), accessing/using Microsoft Office tools, and remotely accessing home agency computer systems and files (VPN). The total cost includes the computer, office docking station and associated power/connection cords. The budgeted cost (\$3,777.81/ea) is calculated based on the addition of four (4) investigators provided by new sub-grantees. No software purchases or license costs are necessary with the addition of these computers. Cell Phones - This cost is determined by the Tarrant County Sheriff's IT department and selected vendor. Cell phones and protective covers are standard issued equipment for each investigator and necessary to complete their day-to-day operations. Each investigator is required to maintain 24-hour accessibility by telephone to respond to investigative callouts, answer agency/investigator inquiries and serve on a rotational on-call schedule. The budgeted cost (\$195.49/ea) is calculated based on the addition of four (4) investigators provided by new sub-grantees. Total monthly recurring charges per phone are calculated as supplies and direct operating costs (subscriptions). Per quote, (cell phones (4) MSRP \$3,200; covers (4) MSRP \$260.) Total MSRP \$3,460 Total hardware equipment cost with applied discount \$782. Vehicle - This cost is determined by the Tarrant County bid process and covers all Task Force vehicles and equipment. The current fleet of vehicles is owned by the Task Force and has been obtained through purchase or seizure. Lease options have not proven fiscally viable. Years of Task Force operations have demonstrated the need to deploy investigator vehicles that have the capability of hauling issued equipment, personnel, property, and trailers. Full-size pickup trucks meet these basic operational requirements that include, but are not limited to, conducting surveillance (height/vantage point), hauling seized property (bed), towing trailers, operating off-road and transporting multiple personnel as operations require. The vehicle estimate includes basic features including full-size, half-ton, gasoline, 8-cylinder, short bed, two-wheel drive with a minimum towing capacity of 5,000. The budgeted cost (\$38,345/ea) is calculated based on the addition of four (4) investigators provided by new sub-grantees.

### G. Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses (DOE)

Bonds - Errors and Omissions bond is requested for the General Office Clerk position to assist with the unit's notarization of legal documents. The annual cost is approximately \$110. Casualty Insurance - This cost is determined from the Tarrant County bid process and covers all Task Force vehicles and equipment. Tarrant County Vehicle Policy requires all expenses related to grant-purchased vehicles must be paid by the grant including insurance cost. Based on the vehicle's depreciated value is whether the vehicle has full or liability coverage. Annual premium cost under the previous bid was \$10,182. Casualty Insurance is also included in this figure annually to cover internal office contents. Annual premium cost under previous bid was \$1,163. A possible increase is expected next bid. Additional funds of \$500 cover claims deductible. Total costs vary \$11,345 Subscriptions - This line item covers existing, recurring annual subscription fees. The recurring subscription fees include (1) databases that provide officers investigative tools to locate persons, track property and research asset (\$1,540); (2) an online geo-mapping platform used in tracker and bait operations (\$6,000; 13 devices) and (3) annual dues, membership, entry, and registration fees covering participation in associations and/or prevention events (\$300). Annual cost varies \$7,800 Equipment Maintenance - The cost for maintenance to the Record Management System (RMS) is \$1,960.00 annually. Mobile Computer Terminals (MCT) connection and authentication cost varies. The addition of four (4) new computers add maintenance of \$697.00 annually (Monthly rate of \$174.00) Total annual maintenance costs \$2,657.00 This equipment is necessary for continued enforcement operations. Vendors and costs are determined by the Tarrant County Purchasing Department Bid Process. Copier Maintenance cost varies at \$200 annually including costs per copy. Equipment maintenance is requested for repair to purchased and seized equipment used by the Task Force. Annual cost varies dependent upon need or type of repair \$2,857.00 Field Supplies - These costs cover items needed by the officers such as equipment batteries, tie downs, power cords, grease markers, engine cleaner, degreaser, rags, brushes, and mirrors to identify vehicles through confidential VINs. COBRA bait

### Budget Narrative

program supplies are included in this category. These costs include extended-life marine batteries, wiring, cameras, and replacement parts. Annual cost varies \$3,500. Fuel - Fuel is necessary for unit operations in vehicles assigned to the enforcement and prevention teams. These vehicles are also used for business travel. The cost is based on current and prior year expenses. The Task Force supervisors monitor fuel use closely and measures are taken to hold the cost to a minimum. All supplies and materials are purchased through a vendor determined by the Tarrant County Purchasing Department bid process. Annual cost varies 25,000. Office/Computer Supplies - These expenses are necessary for efficient operations. Office supplies include standard items such as paper, files, markers, calendars, laminating materials, etc. Computer supplies include printer toner, USB drives, replacement cables, etc. The cost is based on current and anticipated expenses. Annual cost varies \$3,850. Postage - Postage is necessary for unit operations, legal and public awareness mailings. Costs are determined based on current and prior usage. Annual Cost \$350. Prevention Supplies - These expenses are necessary for efficient public awareness operations. They include supplies for community events, outdoor signage, parades, trade shows and promotional handouts. VIN-etch system supply costs vary based on need and include stencil paper, spray, acid markers, glass cleaner and shop towels. Vendors are determined by the Tarrant County Purchasing Department. Annual cost varies \$2,500. Printing - Costs associated with printing materials include business cards, tow cards, forms and documents using Tarrant County's in-house graphics department. Annual Cost \$500. Radio Maintenance - This cost is for the infrastructure, as well as routine maintenance for the eighteen (18) radios used by the Task Force full time officers. The cost is established by contract between Tarrant County and the Cities of Fort Worth and North Richland Hills. Annual Cost \$8,300. Telephone - Basic/LD- Basic telephone and long-distance costs have changed due to the installation of a new office phone system used for business. Annual Cost \$3,700. Telephone Cellular/Data Access - The recurring cost for cell phones and online data is based on an average of \$339 monthly for cell phones assigned to personnel. They are required for communication in the field and outside the office. One phone is dedicated as an "on-call" and rotates between officers. Cost and provider are determined by the Tarrant County Purchasing Department bid process. Cellular data used by the investigators eleven (11) mobile computer terminals (MCT) included in this cost. The additional equipment, 4 computers and 4 cell phones add a monthly cost of \$1,920 annually. Annual costs vary \$10,700. Tuition/Training - Tuition is requested for training registrations for the Texas Auto Vehicle Theft Investigators Association (TAVTI) annual training conference in September for up to eight (12) officers at \$200 each. The conference certifies twenty (20) TCOLE credit hours upon completion. Annual Conference Training Costs \$2,400. Other training costs include training and development classes for investigative and professional personnel within the region. Tuition annual costs vary based on need \$975. Annual costs vary \$3,375.00 Vehicle Maintenance and Repairs - These costs are based on current and anticipated expenses for repairs determined by previous year's costs to Task Force vehicles. All vehicles are owned versus leased and cost includes both mechanical repairs and routine maintenance. Annual cost varies \$15,000. Wrecker Service - This service is necessary to transport vehicles and assets to the counties impound yard, maintenance garage, auction and recycling locations. Costs and vendors are determined by the Tarrant County Purchasing bid process. The average cost of light duty tow ranges with distance between \$90.00 to \$125. Many tow fees are reimbursed by victims, owners and insurance companies. Annual cost varies \$5,000.

### Revenue

Indicate Source of Cash and In-Kind Matches for the proposed program. Click on links to go to match detail pages for entry of data.

#### Source of Cash Match

|                         |            |                  |
|-------------------------|------------|------------------|
| Tarrant County          | Grantee    | \$88,227         |
| City of Hurst           | Subgrantee | \$27,954         |
| City of Euless          | Subgrantee | \$25,278         |
| City of Grapevine       | Subgrantee | \$25,872         |
| <b>Total Cash Match</b> |            | <b>\$569,263</b> |

**Source of Cash Match**

|  |                |                  |
|--|----------------|------------------|
| City of Haltom City                    | Subgrantee     | \$28,249         |
| City of Lake Worth                     | Subgrantee     | \$21,578         |
| Parker County                          | Subgrantee     | \$23,320         |
| City of Weatherford                    | Subgrantee     | \$23,960         |
| City of White Settlement               | Subgrantee     | \$19,294         |
| Wise County                            | Subgrantee     | \$19,455         |
| City of Arlington                      | Subgrantee     | \$25,471         |
| City of Fort Worth                     | Subgrantee     | \$33,468         |
| National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) | NICB           | \$173,382        |
| Generated Program Income               | Program Income | \$33,755         |
| <b>Total Cash Match</b>                |                | <b>\$569,263</b> |

**Statistics to Support Grant Problem Statement**

| <b>Reported Cases</b>   | <b>2021</b>                      |  |  | <b>2022</b>                      |  |  |
|---|----------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|--|--|
|   | <b>Motor Vehicle Theft (MVT)</b> | <b>Burglary from Motor Vehicle (BMV)</b> | <b>Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Crime (FRMVC)</b> | <b>Motor Vehicle Theft (MVT)</b> | <b>Burglary from Motor Vehicle (BMV)</b> | <b>Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Crime (FRMVC)</b> |
| Tarrant County (all LE jurisdictions excluding Mansfield & Kennedale) | 6,704                            | 14,743                                   | 71   | 6,223                            | 14,419                                   | 80   |
| Parker County (all LE jurisdictions)                                  | 180                              | 341                                      | 5  | 222                              | 359                                      | 2  |
| Hood County (all LE jurisdictions)                                    | 53                               | 97                                       | 0  | 58                               | 88                                       | 0  |
| Jack County (all LE jurisdictions)                                    | 7                                | 5  | 0  | 4                                | 6  | 0  |
| Palo Pinto County (All LE jurisdictions)                              | 58                               | 42                                       | 0  | 70                               | 28                                       | 0  |
| Somervell County (all LE Jurisdictions)                               | 0                                | 1  | 0  | 0                                | 6  | 0  |
| Wise County (all LE jurisdictions)                                    | 32                               | 38                                       | 2  | 63                               | 94                                       | 3  |

**Application Narrative**

### Grant Introduction (Executive Summary) and General Information

- 1.1 Briefly describe the organization and program operation. Provide a high level summary to the application and how it will affect the local community. (500 words or less)

*The Tarrant Regional Auto Crimes Task Force's ("Task Force") program area incorporates seven counties serving an estimated 2.4M Texas consumers. Nearly 100 law enforcement agencies, including hospital districts, collegiate/secondary school districts and constable offices stand to benefit from Task Force resources. The unit also serves five additional non-program counties (188,000 consumers) for VIN inspections required by the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV). The Task Force is comprised of sworn and civilian investigators, a special agent, an investigative assistant, and administrative professional staff from various local law enforcement agencies as well as the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB). The Task Force also enjoys the benefit of a dedicated prosecutor who assists with increasing prosecution rates and navigating the evolving legal complexities related to auto crimes. Additionally, the Task Force has a cooperative working agreement to house three investigators from the TxDMV at no cost to the grant.*

*The Task Force's operational foundation consists of five pillars: (1) investigations, (2) enforcement, (3) intelligence, (4) prevention, and (5) education. The Task Force seeks to accomplish established goals/objectives by leveraging resources, providing subject-matter expertise, coordinating multi-jurisdiction efforts, capitalizing on the use of technology, and employing intelligence-led practices to address auto crimes. The Task Force serves as a force-multiplier for area agencies providing manpower, knowledge, and resources to support various needs. Through its partnerships with the NICB and TxDMV, the Task Force provides administrative and technical resources not commonly known or leveraged by area agencies.*

*Task Force operations concentrate on identifying/investigating organized criminal rings and prolific offenders involving multiple suspects, vehicles, and jurisdictions. The Task Force collaborates with local, state, and federal partners, including other MVCPA-funded task forces, in enforcement strategies and large-scale investigations with wide-reaching implications. The Task Force spearheads auto-crime intelligence efforts, managing a regional intelligence network and disseminating information that enables investigators to connect offenses and offenders across Texas. The Task Force also partners with local and regional training academies, the NICB and the MVCPA to provide specialized auto crime training to recruits, officers, and investigators across Texas.*

*Our cooperative prevention efforts with local agencies build upon long-established relationships to serve the greatest number of citizens and businesses while carefully balancing enforcement efforts. The MVCPA's prevention campaigns fuel our prevention efforts and serve as the primary mission and message conveyed to citizens through media outreach and community education programs. The goal is to educate the public, solicit their assistance and foster positive partnerships to help prevent offenses and mitigate community victimization.*

*MVCPA funds provide necessary resources to equip Task Force personnel to positively affect community stakeholders on multiple fronts while targeting historic and emerging trends. Coverage agencies would continue to benefit from the Task Force's investigative support, pooled technical resources, and subject-matter expertise. Texas consumers would benefit from prevention efforts, positive police partnerships, public education, crime trend awareness and access to qualified vehicle inspectors. In concert, these efforts and benefits would contribute to a global approach in identifying, preventing, enforcing and solving auto-related crime trends across the region.*

- 1.2 Describe the taskforce governing, organization and command structures. Include a description of the nature of support and agreements that will be in place if the grant is awarded. Provide any details unique to the taskforce organization or geographical target area. Describe whether any part of this grant will be directed to serve a specific target population (or subset of the community)?

*The Task Force, administered by the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office (TCSO), is governed by a 10-member board of governors ("Board") with the TCSO Sheriff serving as the chair. This will increase to 14 members with the addition of four new participating agencies requested in this application. Current Board members include Chiefs of Police from Arlington, Euless, Fort Worth, Haltom City, Hurst, and Lake Worth; the Parker County Sheriff; the NICB Southwest Regional Director; and the Tarrant County District Attorney. The Texas Department of Public Safety (TxDPS) serves as an ex-officio Board member. Pursuant to the acceptance of this application and funding, additional Board members would include the Wise County Sheriff, and the Chiefs of Police from Weatherford, White Settlement, and Grapevine. The TCSO CID Chief Deputy serves as the Project Director. The Task Force Commander reports to the TCSO Sheriff (internally) and the Board of Governors (externally), overseeing all task force operations. A Hurst PD sergeant serves as the enforcement team leader (supervisor) for the criminal investigators. An administrative aide from Tarrant County serves as the Program Manager and Prevention Coordinator. The Tarrant County Auditor is the Financial Officer and the Tarrant County Judge is the grant's Authorized Official.*

*Tarrant County maintains interlocal agreements (ILAs) with all participating law enforcement agencies who receive funds as sub-grantees. The Task Force also has a cooperative working agreement with the TxDMV for three positions (two investigators; one assistant chief of investigations) to be housed in the same office. The NICB provides a special agent and investigative specialist to the Task Force. The addition of four criminal investigators would help supplement the current investigative team, improving the Task Force's ability to provide efficient service to one of the largest program areas in the state while meeting the demand created by increases in auto crime offenses.*

*If awarded, this will mark the Task Force's 31st year of funding through the MVCPA program. Over the course of time, the Task Force has built strong relationships with law enforcement (LE) agencies and a vast network of auto-crime investigators in the program area and across the state. The collaboration, cooperation, and technical expertise of Task Force personnel is sought by numerous agencies. Statewide LE agencies have attended specialized instruction developed by this group. The Task Force provides support and investigative assistance to numerous other state and federal agencies including the Texas Department of Insurance, Texas Department of License and Regulation, TxDMV, DEA, FBI, HSI, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Immigration and Customs Enforcement and other MVCPA task forces. The level of inter-agency support and dependence has developed over years of cooperation, face-to-face investigator contact, statewide instruction, and the Task Force's willingness to go above and beyond to assist agencies and consumers, whether covered by the program area or not, in furtherance of the MVCPA's mission and in service to Texas residents and visitors alike.*

### **Grant Problem Statement**

- 2.1 Provide an assessment of the burglary from a motor vehicle (including theft of parts) problem in the coverage area of this application. Include loss data consistent with the reported incident numbers above.

*Over the past two years (2021-2022), the Task Force's program area experienced a 4% increase in the total number of burglaries from a motor vehicle, including the theft of parts (30,267), compared to 2019-2020 (29,222) according to statistics reported by the TxDPS (Crime in Texas). When considered separately, vehicle burglaries experienced a 19% decrease in reported offenses in the same time period (2019/20=23,956; 2021/22=19,325), but the theft of parts experienced a staggering 108% increase in reported offenses (2019/20=5,266; 2021/22=10,942). Though crime data does not separate the types of parts taken during these offenses, it is safe to assume based on self-reporting from agencies in the program area and Task Force experience, the thefts of catalytic converters (CATs) provided the catalyst to this drastic uptick in offenses. The NICB reported that CAT thefts increased 1,215% between 2019 and 2022. The two largest jurisdictions in the program area (Arlington and Fort Worth) remained relatively consistent in their vehicle burglary and part theft rates, but accounted for 10,755 offenses in 2022, which is approximately 72% of the total number of reported offenses in the program area.*

*Based on the most complete and available data, total loss values for vehicle burglary in the program area, including the theft of parts, increased approximately 24% from 2021 (\$16.8M) compared to 2022 (\$20.9M). Vehicle burglary trends have not experienced a significant change in terms of modus operandi (M.O.). Vehicle owners continue to leave their vehicle doors unlocked at high rates and suspects appear to narrow in on vehicles that they believe may carry firearms. Though the values of recycled precious metals and the overall profit margin has decreased since the record highs reached during the pandemic (2020-2021), catalytic converter (CAT) thefts continue to drive the number of part thefts. The estimated total loss value for part thefts increased 11% in 2022 (\$7.2M) compared to the previous year (2021 = \$6.7M).*

*Three of the four jurisdictions that the Task Force is seeking to fund and add as participating agencies (Grapevine [29%], Weatherford [14%], and Wise County [380%]) have collectively experienced a 31% increase in vehicle burglaries, including the thefts of parts in 2022 (805) compared to the previous year (613). Though White Settlement has experienced a decrease in vehicle burglaries during the same time period, they have experienced a 12% increase in the thefts of parts in 2022. The White Settlement PD worked closely with the Task Force to identify and apprehend an organized criminal vehicle burglary and theft ring in 2022, which may have accounted for the decrease in overall BMVs during the years compared.*

2.2 Provide an assessment of the motor vehicle theft problem in the coverage area of this application. Include loss data consistent with the reported incident numbers above.

*For decades, motor vehicle thefts have declined in the United States due to advancements in technology and security. In Tarrant County alone, the number of auto thefts declined nearly 70% since the Task Force's inception 30 years ago. An analysis of auto crime rates released in January by the Council on Criminal Justice, which analyzed 30 major cities, determined that the trend has since reversed, beginning to spike amidst the Covid-19 pandemic. The NICB reported that vehicle theft nationwide surpassed 1 million for the first time since 2008. Texas was second in the country with a 10% increase from 2021 to 2022. The motor vehicle theft rate in our program area has been on a steady incline each year since 2018, averaging a 5%-8% increase. Reported auto theft rates in our Task Force's program area, however, have experienced a decrease of 5%, thanks in large part to the region's collaborative efforts spearheaded by the Task Force and funded by the MVCPA. In 2022, the Task Force's program area reported approximately 6,640 stolen vehicles as compared to the previous year (7,034). When looking at the theft rates of the seven individual counties covered by the program area, however, four of the seven counties (Parker, Wise, Hood, and Palo Pinto) experienced a significant (36%) increase in auto thefts. The addition of four investigators, two from counties to our West, will assist greatly in expanding the Task Force's reach into the part of our program area most affected by current auto theft trends. Total loss values for the program area, based on the most complete and available data, increased approximately 21% over the same period (\$94M vs. \$114M).*

*One of the driving factors behind the steady increase in auto theft rates in Texas is the fact that used car values have increased substantially, 35% according to NICB, over the past couple years. The global shortage of semiconductors and the chips used to program them led to record-low new car inventories across the country, leading to an increased demand (and cost) on the used car market, all of which negatively affected the auto theft rate. Several factors locally continue to impact the auto theft rate, including the increase in theft efforts by organized criminal rings, including engine control module (ECM) swaps, the popularity of Mopar (Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep) vehicles and fraud. As manufacturers make attempts to enhance their security measures, criminals are working twice as hard to stay a step ahead. When ignition systems became harder to defeat, criminals adapted by bringing their own ECMs and transponder keys to theft scenes. Most recently, organized criminal rings have determined that key programmers, available on the internet for \$600 or free if you burglarize a repair shop or a locksmith's truck, provide an easy ability to reprogram fobs on scene and facilitate a vehicle's theft.*

*Aside from thefts committed with the use of technology to bypass ignitions, traditional auto thefts continue to plague communities across our program area. A recent Tik Tok challenge and videos on social media showing how to easily defeat Kia and Hyundai ignitions led to a drastic increase in thefts of those vehicles. Community members who leave keys in their vehicles make themselves*

*susceptible to vehicle thefts that typically originate as vehicle burglaries. Cases involving thefts committed with tow trucks remained consistent over the past couple years and "warm-up" or "puffer" thefts tend to emerge during colder weather. The most crucial factor driving current thefts rates, especially in our program area, are thefts by fraud, which will be discussed in problem statement 2.3 below. An increase in the number of participating agencies will better-equip this Task Force and, by association, the coverage agencies in battling the overall effects of auto thefts and the organized criminal groups who are impacting our citizens.*

- 2.3 Provide an assessment of the fraud-related motor vehicle crime problem in the coverage area of this application. Include loss data consistent with the reported incident numbers above.

*Over the years, criminals have had to adapt to the different technologies used by manufacturers to protect their vehicles from theft. Unless a criminal can physically obtain a key (theft; deception) or bypass the ignition (ECM swaps, key programmers), they must resort to trickery to steal newer-model vehicles. As a result, fraud-related motor vehicle crime (FRMVC) has become the single most critical driving force behind the increases in theft rates in the past three years. When dealerships were forced to halt face-to-face sales and conduct business transactions online resulting from Covid restrictions, it exposed a susceptibility in the dealership industry that criminals continue to exploit today. Currently, there is no effective way to quantify FRMVC rates due to the fact that fraud offenses are lumped together when reported. This makes it difficult to extrapolate specific auto fraud offenses including insurance, title, registration/eTag, inspection, odometer, and dealer. Similarly, crime data does not effectively reflect the frequency that synthetic and traditional identity theft, fictitious documents, illicit title transfers and the sales of stolen vehicles with tampered identification numbers occur and how these crimes specifically correlate with overall theft numbers. The slight decrease in auto thefts in our program area provides a deceptive outlook on the overall theft problem due to the fact that vehicles stolen by fraud are often reported by agencies as fraud versus vehicle theft. Task Force experience, the increase in number of identified fraudsters/criminal rings and tracking investigative resources, however, serve to corroborate the claim that the overall number of frauds are increasing at alarming rates, including the fraudulent purchases of motor vehicles.*

*In 2022, Task Force investigators reported approximately \$3.1M loss in auto fraud to the state, local jurisdictions, insurers, or consumers within the program area as opposed to \$393,990 the previous year. This was a loss associated with criminal investigations directly linked to cases investigated by our Task Force and does not include the total loss associated with similar investigations worked by our coverage agencies. Though these measures have obvious limits in describing the scope of the problem, they provide a clear understanding that the problem is massive and growing.*

*The TxDMV reported receiving 58 fraud complaints in our program area in 2020, 78 in 2021 and 85 in 2022, demonstrating a steady increase consistent with other types of auto crimes. The fraudulent use of Texas eTags (paper plates), so pervasive that it required the TxDMV to refocus department strategies and efforts in 2022, were associated with nearly all organized crime investigations in our office. Most recently, odometer fraud (costing US consumers nearly \$1B/year per Carmax) and Texas inspection fraud (clean scans) have been featured in national and local news. Finally, the amount of loss to citizens in the fraudulent sale of stolen vehicles (VIN-flips) and the associated use of fraudulent documents has commandeered the majority of our investigators' time and resources, and it appears that the trend will not be slowing soon. This is one of the driving factors behind our requested unit expansion from eight (8) to 12 investigators to assist in dealing with the major influx in fraud and organized criminal groups impacting the region.*

- 2.4 Provide an assessment of motor vehicle crime not covered above like insurance fraud, preventing stolen vehicles from entering Mexico, bridge/port stolen vehicle export crime, disruption of cartels and organized criminal enterprises related to motor vehicle crime, etc...

*Heavy equipment thefts are prevalent in our program area due to the size and amount of construction projects in North Texas. A November 2022 report from the National Equipment Registry (NICB) corroborated our local observations when it reported Texas as the number one targeted state and work sites as the number one targeted location by thieves. Equipment thefts continue to reflect*



*historic and national trends of high theft frequency and low recovery rates. In the past three years, the Task Force recovered 21 pieces of heavy equipment valued at an estimated \$863,830. There is evidence however, primarily through intelligence gathering and information from informants, that a large quantity of stolen equipment from North Texas is still making it across the border into Mexico, so the entirety of the heavy equipment theft situation and effects are unknown.*

*Task Force investigations continued to demonstrate a consistent increase in the number of organized criminal rings and specialized auto thieves involving trans-national suspects. For example, one group identified with thefts, VIN-flips and sales of high-end vehicles were identified as Cubans with ties to Florida. A group using tow trucks to pose as legitimate contractors hired to tow vehicles from auction house holding lots involved suspects from Central America. A suspect arrested in a covert operation targeting the online sales of Texas temporary tags (eTags) claimed only to deliver them and collect payment from online buyers, stating that she received them via email from a contact in Columbia. Our most recent group of suspects stealing vehicles from the greater Houston and Dallas areas, VIN-flipping and selling to unsuspecting third-party buyers through social media were linked to Venezuela. This trend is sure to continue, especially as the issues at the Texas border continue to intensify.*

*Cargo theft remains a billion-dollar industry in the United States, specifically affecting communities where there are major distribution centers and transportation routes tied to the trucking industry. The Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex meets both of these criteria as cargo is received from the Port of Houston and travels north through DFW on their way to distribution points throughout the country. Amazon and other major retail distribution centers are located in the Task Force's program area, making it a target-rich environment for cargo thieves. Though the grant does not specifically focus on cargo, agencies continue to reach out to the Task Force for assistance when cargo theft issues arise to help navigate the complexities the crime presents.*

### **Grant Goals and Activities**

There are two parts to this section: 1) Functions of Proposed Program and 2) Goals Strategies and Activities (GSA). In the following boxes, describe the functions of the proposed program and then complete a fillable form called GSA.

MVCPA programs must completely describe the actions, methods and tactics that law enforcement and civilian staff will perform for each of the categories below. Describe the reliance on technology or other program elements to solve the problem statement above and goals below. Functions must be detailed and consistent with the requested budget. If a grant is awarded, funds expended towards activities not described in this section will result in the reimbursement being denied.

#### **Part 1**

##### **3.1 Functions of the proposed program related to burglary from a motor vehicle (including theft of parts)**

*The Task Force will continue to approach the vehicle burglaries/thefts of parts in the program area in the same way the vehicle theft problem is approached in regard to intelligence sharing, proactive enforcement and investigative assistance. Task Force investigators will continue to (1) adopt cases involving prolific offenders and offenses that are tied to multiple jurisdictions; (2) conduct surveillance operations as needed; (3) monitor businesses commonly associated with stolen parts (business inspections), (4) conduct covert operations involving the sale of suspected stolen parts and property, and (5) use prevention strategies to assist in educating the public on ways to mitigate the effects of vehicle burglary offenses.*

*The major proactive approach to vehicle burglary enforcement is the use of and cooperation with established bait car programs. The Task Force assists with providing bait vehicles, supplies and equipment, manpower, deployments, arrests, and maintenance by working directly with our participating agencies and assisting coverage agencies when resources permit. By studying "hot spot" areas, communicating with crime analysts and investigators at various agencies and researching historical trends, vehicles can be placed in*

areas where they may experience the most beneficial effect. Often the suspects who are arrested in bait vehicle operations are found to be prolific offenders with extensive auto crime histories.

Catalytic converter (CAT) thefts continue to be a driving source of vehicle part theft rates and trends in our program area. The most requested call for assistance from our coverage agencies related to vehicle burglary and part thefts are for intelligence and enforcement related to CAT thefts. House Bill 4110 was signed into law in 2021, which, for the most part, made it more difficult for individuals to sell CATs to recycling businesses. This legislation did not necessarily slow the theft rate, but changed the way criminals could and would eventually dispose of their stolen CATs. Thieves now offload their cut CATs to individuals who stockpile the CATs until the loads are big enough to fill trucks/vans and transport out-of-state to sell in areas where restrictions are less stringent. Enforcement efforts will target prolific offenders who are identified through tips, intelligence, and agency referrals. Emphasis will be placed on determining the individuals purchasing stolen CATs, the locations they are being stored, and collaborating with outside agencies to try to deter where they are being transported and sold.

Investigators are tasked with serving as a liaison between the Task Force and each of their respective agencies, especially when it comes to identifying prolific vehicle burglary offenders and adopting cases with known suspects. Since vehicle burglaries and thefts of vehicle parts are mostly fueled by opportunity, the majority of offenses have little pattern, correlation or leads. Task Force investigators, therefore, concentrate on cases with viable leads and known suspects with the hopes of tying them to several offenses and being able to obtain information on other criminal associates, modus operandi (MO) or suspect locations to improve enforcement and investigative efficiency.

### 3.2 Functions of the proposed program related to motor vehicle theft.

The Task Force specializes in vehicle theft investigations, made evident by the volume of success stories and program area's theft rate. The proactive approach as it relates to vehicle theft offenses, similar to vehicle burglary offenses, will continue to involve the use of intelligence, covert operations, multi-jurisdiction cooperation and technology. The Task Force will continue to locate/recover stolen vehicles, investigate/arrest prolific offenders, file/clear criminal cases, conduct covert operations and inspect and monitor businesses commonly associated with vehicle thefts. The current staffing model of seven (7) investigators, a sergeant and an NICB special agent produce an impressive amount of productivity but is small in comparison to the size of the program area and the anticipated affects that the fraud trend with have on regional vehicle theft rates. The addition of four (4) investigators, one of which would expand the team's reach to an unrepresented county, will provide significant help and improved operational coverage and efficiency.

The Task Force will continue to serve as the intelligence hub for area agencies, assisting investigators from around the region in identifying offenders, linking suspect vehicles, and connecting offenses that reach across city/county lines. This information will allow Task Force investigators to better direct proactive enforcement operations, identify prolific offenders and coordinate prosecutorial efforts when offenses and offenders are linked in differing jurisdictions. The two major forms of communicating the intelligence are the distribution of intelligence bulletins and coordinating monthly, face-to-face intelligence meetings for auto crimes investigators across North Texas.

Task Force investigators are often requested by agencies to provide covert operations in the form of undercover meets/buys with potential suspects and surveillance operations since investigators operate in a plain clothes capacity. These operations assist in identifying theft suspects who try to offload stolen vehicles through social media and internet sites under fictitious names. It also contributes to our overall intelligence gathering functions when investigators can monitor locations and offenders, which help direct future investigations.

In addition to covert operations, Task Force investigators are most consulted about criminal investigations, suspect methods and vehicle identification by various agencies that may lack the level of experience and expertise possessed by Task Force personnel.

*Task Force investigators can coordinate multi-jurisdictional investigations that can often get dropped, forgotten, or lost in the mix of inexperienced investigators, sophisticated cases, jurisdictional lines, and prosecutorial indifference. Whether adopting cases or simply providing direction through consultation and experience, Task Force investigators will be able to ensure proper charges are pursued, vehicles get correctly identified and cases are placed in the best position possible for successful prosecution.*

*Technology continues to serve as a major investigative resource in fighting auto crime not only for the Task Force, but for the various agencies it serves. Access and expertise in the use of license plate readers (LPRs) and camera applications and platforms makes the Task Force a valuable resource in locating and identifying stolen vehicles. This often leads to surveillance operations resulting in the identification of suspects or, at minimum, useful leads that can be investigated. Investigators immediately respond to events to assist with criminal investigations. Based on the number of multi-jurisdictional and organized criminal activity in MVT, the Task Force has adapted to serve as a coordinator and liaison for connecting large scale investigations in the area. The Task Force holds strategy meetings with agencies involved to (1) link local cases, (2) coordinate case filings in multiple jurisdictions, (3) coordinate interviews, and (4) ensure that all the evidence is processed and shared among the group. The Task Force will also commonly assist program agencies with tracker operations by providing trackers along with the instruction, direction and expertise required to be successful.*

### 3.3 Functions of the proposed program related to fraud-related motor vehicle crime (such as title and registration fraud)

*As discussed in the problem statement, FRMVC has become the driving factor behind the increased auto theft rates around the country and the state beginning with dealership vulnerabilities exposed by the pandemic. Criminals determined a better way to obtain new vehicles by using stolen identities and making online transactions, which also decreased their exposure to capture. The most significant impact on Task Force operations was the drastic difference in the amount of time and resources required to investigate fraudulent sales versus "traditional" vehicle theft. A typical traditional vehicle theft case may average 2-4 weeks to investigate where a fraud case may average 4-6 months, or in the case of organized criminal fraud rings, a year or more. The other difficulty is quantifying the amount of work dedicated to a fraud investigation in relation to the productivity or statistics required for grant measures. For example, a large odometer fraud case involving two dealerships and resulting in the seizure of 61 vehicles in 2017 was investigated for nearly two years, finally being disposed in 2021, resulting in one arrest with no incarceration time.*

*The Task Force often receives case referrals from area agencies or questions from investigators seeking consultation on how to proceed with various fraud investigations. The sophistication of the offenses combined with their frequency tend to cause investigators to rely on the Task Force to handle or assist. Our unique partnerships with the NICB and the TxDMV places the Task Force in a great position to be able to offer more experience, expertise and resources to these agencies and investigators. Having investigators from the NICB and TxDMV assigned to the Task Force office provides for a more efficient flow of information as well as simplify the prioritization and collaborative efforts on fraud-related investigations that come either through agency referrals or in-house. Task Force investigators will continue to foster positive working relationships with local prosecutors to ensure that proper charges are determined and pursued.*

*The Task Force will continue to foster our partnership with the North Texas Auto Dealers Association to share non-law enforcement sensitive intelligence bulletins, information on current trends and requests to watch for identified suspects who are traveling among businesses looking to commit fraud. This partnership has led to a cooperative working arrangement for in-progress fraud calls at dealerships, leading to several arrests, often times connecting to larger organized groups. The Task Force will also continue to provide vehicle identification number (VIN) inspections to 11 counties in the North Texas region to prevent fraudulently titled vehicles from being registered by the state. In FY22, the Task Force completed 2,409 of these inspections and on multiple occasions recovered stolen vehicles, many of which were fraudulently sold to the buyer (VIN-flipped).*

3.4 Functions of the proposed program related to preventing motor vehicle crime (motor vehicle theft, burglary from a motor vehicle and fraud-related motor vehicle crime)

*Task Force prevention efforts currently rely on both enforcement officers and professional staff to participate and fulfill our prevention mission. The pandemic negatively affected volunteerism around the country when restrictions on face-to-face community events were imposed. A January 2023 article from The Hill reported that, "From 2019 to 2021, rates of formal volunteering in the United States dropped 7 percentage points, according to new survey results." The Task Force has not been immune to this trend as our previous volunteer team members, for personal reasons, did not return when restrictions lifted and events resumed. A goal for the FY24/FY25 grant cycle will be to re-build a volunteer team consisting of community members to help ease the prevention workload on Task Force staff in meeting our goals and objectives.*

*Our approach to prevention efforts is founded on a well-built support system with our participating and coverage agencies, working in conjunction with their crime prevention and community engagement personnel. Task Force members will continue to work in cooperation with these personnel to provide additional staffing, exposure, and materials to citizens at community events. The Task Force regularly participates in parades, safety events and employee health and safety fairs. Task Force personnel provide special emphasis on prevention messaging and participation during the months of July ("Watch Your Car" month) and October (National Night Out). The Task Force will continue to seek out partnerships with neighborhood associations, churches, and community centers to find opportunities to provide prevention materials and participation as resources permit.*

*Our mobile messaging board (box truck) is susceptible to catalytic converter theft, therefore it is no longer able to be left unattended, but will still be used during attended events. The Task Force will research and employ, as feasible, other message boards options in support of our prevention efforts. The Task Force will also continue to partner with the Tarrant County SO's media team for the distribution of prevention messaging on social media and through traditional (television, print) media outlets. Press releases are proven powerful tools to provide prevention alerts as well as fraud/scam alerts as they relate to trending auto crimes.*

*Continued funding is requested to provide supplies, resources, and registration costs for continued participation in community events. The Task Force will continue to support and promote the public awareness campaigns created and distributed by the MVCPA and its prevention grant recipient, the Insurance Council of Texas.*

3.5 Functions of the proposed program for other motor vehicle crimes investigations and activities consistent with the statutory requirements (preventing stolen vehicles from entering Mexico, stopping illegal export of stolen vehicle from bridge/ outbound port operations, disruption of cartel or organized criminal enterprises using stolen motor vehicles or fraud related motor vehicle crime, insurance fraud, etc...)

*The Task Force will continue to actively seek cases involving organized groups and criminal enterprises that involve multiple suspects, vehicles, victims, and jurisdictions with a positive correlation or nexus to our program area. Most of these cases are brought to our attention through agency referrals, our intelligence group, and networking with investigators across the state. Throughout the years, various investigations have revealed cartel links and informants have provided information on vehicles and/or parts that are headed to or toward Mexico. This information is shared with our federal partners as well as the other MVCPA-funded task forces working in the affected jurisdictions, often involving trans-national actors. Recently, an organized criminal ring with active cases in Tarrant County was also discovered, though our intel group, to be operating in neighboring jurisdictions and it was discovered that the main suspect had possible terrorism ties to South America, which required federal homeland security involvement. This is just one example of a local case that has far-reaching implications.*

*The Task Force will continue to leverage our partnerships with the TxDMV and the NICB daily in adopting and pursuing FRMVC cases that are affecting North Texas consumers. These agencies and the resources they provide have been crucial in developing*

*successful cases involving various types of fraud. Most notably, cases involving the fraudulent use of temporary tags and the fraudulent sales of stolen vehicles. The Task Force will continue to conduct an organized effort into curbing these illegal sales in the coming grant year and identify opportunities to partner with neighboring task forces or interested agencies in working related operations.*

*The Task Force will also continue to assist coverage agencies with cases involving complex crimes that may not directly tie into the scope of our day-to-day operations but has some form of affirmative link to auto crimes. Past examples include organized cargo theft groups, marine craft theft cases and criminal gangs who traffic weapons and/or narcotics, often using stolen vehicles to transport or the sale of stolen vehicles to finance their criminal operations. Task Force investigators will aid with offenses within the program's scope, while coordinating with other specialized units or divisions to address related crimes outside of the grant mandates.*

- 3.6 Collaboration Effort -- Describe the taskforce method to collaborate, and not duplicate existing activities. Describe the cross boundaries regional approach to grant activity implementation. Describe how the applicant staff and jurisdiction will coordinate with other taskforces and law enforcement agencies to implement this program.

*Created in 1993 as a multi-jurisdictional task force, the Task Force has excelled over the years at developing a collaborative relationship between agencies within the program area. Many outside agencies seek counsel and assistance from the Task Force because of an equally well-developed and earned professional relationship. The collaboration efforts are most clearly visible in our management of the North Texas Auto Crimes Intelligence Network (NTACIN) that meets once per month. This group shares knowledge and insight and continues to develop a growing network of auto-crime investigators who work tirelessly to assist each other with suspect or vehicle identification, linking offenses, case preparation, field operations and information regarding evolving trends. In addition to face-to-face meetings, our Task Force manages an intel email distribution list that currently consists of 147 rostered investigators, supervisors and analysts representing 56 local, state, and federal agencies operating in the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex. Due to the popularity of the group and the documented successes, additional personnel and regional fusion centers across the state have requested to participate, leading to an additional 30+ agencies outside of North Texas.*

*The Task Force possesses access to equipment, resources, and databases that many coverage agencies do not have and, as a result, often request our assistance. Examples of these functions include: (1) vehicle scan reports on license plates through LPR databases; (2) adding suspect vehicles and obtaining quality digital suspect vehicle photographs from the Flock system managed by local partners; (3) obtaining title histories, accessing the WebDealer eTag registration system, and researching licensed dealers through our embedded TxDMV investigators; (4) obtaining insurance company records, providing access to crime analysts and vehicle identification data, mapping cellphone data and contact with major manufacturers through our NICB agent; (5) supplementing manpower with covert operations and plain clothes surveillance; (6) conducting vehicle inspections and identification; (7) case adoption and filing of large-scale multi-jurisdiction investigations; (8) conducting business inspections; and (9) coordinating field response across the state with other MVCPA task forces for our local agencies to name a few.*

*Task Force investigators serve as liaisons between the Task Force and their home agencies, also establishing relationships with non-participating, neighboring agencies so they each have a reliable and knowledge point-of-contact. Likewise, investigators have established partnerships with federal agencies and prosecutors to assist when criminal charges are determined to be more appropriately filed in the federal courts. Our dedicated prosecutor routinely consults with area agencies to help streamline cases, determine successful prosecution strategies and brainstorm various approaches on case-handling and investigations. Task Force investigators also host local trainings for investigators and patrol officers helping develop an effective workforce, educate frontline officers on current trends/topics and create a larger network of contacts to help leverage resources among jurisdictions.*

*As resources permit, the Task Force collaborates with community liaisons in crime reduction efforts in the North Texas region by providing prevention experts, graphic displays and promotional items. The Task Force has partnered with the North Texas Auto*

*Dealers Association to develop and distribute dealer alerts and to open lines of communication to help improve upon the recognition and apprehension of fraud-related motor vehicle crime suspects.*

3.7 If the proposed application requests any exceptions or deviation from any general grant rules, RFA conditions or grant administrative policy, please indicate in the section below. Indicate the section of the specific issue and citation that you are asking the MVCPA to consider and the rationale for the request.

*At present, the Task Force requests no exceptions or deviation from any general grant rules, RFA conditions or grant administrative policy.*

## Part II

### Goals, Strategies, and Activities

Select Goals, Strategies, and Activity Targets for the proposed program.

Click on the link above and select the method by which statutory measures will be collected. Law Enforcement programs must also estimate targets for the MVCPA predetermined activities. The MVCPA board has determined that grants programs must document specific activities that are appropriate under each of the three goals. Applicants are allowed to write a limited number of user defined activities.

| ID  | Activity  | Measure   | Target |
|---|---|---|--------|
| <b>Statutory Motor Vehicle Theft Measures Required for all Grantees.</b>              |   |   |        |
| 1.1.15  | Increase the recovery rate of stolen motor vehicles   | Report the number of vehicles recovered by taskforce  |        |
| 1.1.16  | Increase the clearance rate of MVTs   | Report the number of MVT cases cleared  |        |
| 1.1.17  | Increase the number of persons arrested for motor vehicle theft   | Report the number of persons arrested for motor vehicle theft by taskforce                                    |        |
| <b>Statutory Burglary of a Motor Vehicle Measures Required for all Grantees</b>       |   |   |        |
| 2.1.12  | Increase the clearance rate of motor vehicle burglaries   | Report the number of BMV including parts cases cleared  |        |
| 2.1.13  | Increase the number of persons arrested for motor vehicle burglary  | Report the number of persons arrested for burglary by taskforce   |        |
| <b>Statutory Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Crime Measures Required for all Grantees</b> |   |   |        |
| 8.1.1   | Increase the clearance rate of fraud-related motor vehicle crime cases.   | Report the number of fraud-related motor vehicle cases cleared  |        |
| 8.1.2   | Increase the number of persons arrested for fraud-related motor vehicle crimes.                                   | Report the number of persons arrested for fraud-related motor vehicle crimes                                  |        |
| <b>Measures for Grantees. Add Target values for those that you will measure.</b>      |   |   |        |
| 1   | <b>Goal 1: Reduce the Incidence of Motor Vehicle Theft through Enforcement Strategies</b>                         |   |        |
| 1.1   | <b>Strategy 1: Conduct Activities that Result in the Arrest, Clearance, and Recoveries of Motor Vehicle Theft</b> |   |        |
| 1.1.1   | Identify groups of auto theft offenders through intelligence gathering, crime                                     | Number of MVT groups identified. Include gangs, cartels or other criminal enterprise with two or more members | 15     |

| ID     | Activity  | Measure  | Target |
|--------|---|--|--------|
|        | analysis and the use of informants  |  |        |
| 1.1.2  | Identify and document/record prolific MVT offenders [Prolific is defined as "linked to MVT offenses three or more times"]   | Number identified/documented offenders   | 30     |
| 1.1.5  | Conduct inspections of local businesses related to vehicle enterprise (transportation code or occupation code authorized companies such as salvage yard, repair shop, parts recycling center, used car dealership, salvage rebuilder, title service company, other). (see 1.3.3 to report the number of vehicles inspected in these businesses) | Number of businesses inspected   | 15     |
| 1.1.6  | Conduct bait vehicle operations that target MVT offenders   | Number of bait vehicle deployments. Include BMV bait operations here.  | 350    |
| 1.1.8  | Deploy license plate readers (LPR)  | Number of times LPR deployed. Deploy: If stationary unit then total number of days or partial days unit was operable and on. Mobile unit number of days the unit was on and operable.  |        |
| 1.1.9  | Respond to taskforce license plate reader (LPR) alert notifications   | Number of times investigators responded to taskforce LPR alert notifications regardless of whether vehicle was located   | 350    |
| 1.1.12 | Conduct covert operations targeting MVT offenders   | Number of covert operations  | 350    |
| 1.1.13 | Conduct warrant "round-up" operations targeting motor vehicle crime offenders, including people wanted for MVTs, motor vehicle burglaries, theft of vehicle parts and motor vehicle fraud related crime.  | Number of warrant round-up operations performed for MVT, BMV and FRMVC.  | 20     |
| 1.1.20 | Number of Altered Vehicles Recovered  | Report the total number of vehicles recovered with altered Vehicle Identification Number. Note: Please remember that a vehicle recovered must be reported in 1.1.15  | 50     |
| 1.2    | <b>Strategy 2: Conduct Collaborative Efforts that Result In Reduction of Incidents of Motor Vehicle Theft</b>   |  |        |
| 1.2.1  | Provide Agency Assists for MVT and motor vehicle related fraud  | Number of agency assists related to MVT. <b>Assist means responding or answering questions via phone, e-mail, or in person. Providing recommendation, guidance, strategy, support or information that other LEOs will use to resolve their cases. The assist generally does not have the direct responsibility for an investigation nor uses LEO authority. The assist helps another LEO or agency investigate cases. Analysts and civilian employees will record their assists to outside LEOs and agencies met here along with officers.</b> | 800    |
| 1.2.2  | Collaborate with other units or divisions (i.e. homicide, vice, narcotics, etc.) <b>within the taskforce department(s)</b> where a  | Number of times collaborated within departments or SOs participating in taskforce related to MVT. Collaboration means physically using law enforcement resources, tactics and authority to perform activity on cases that  | 75     |

| ID    | Activity  | Measure   | Target |
|-------|---|---|--------|
|       | motor vehicle was used in the commission of the crime (includes identification of vehicles). Include all participating jurisdiction departments here.               | draw upon or aid in the investigation intended to further the resolution of any case, identify parties to crime, identify vehicles, interview witnesses/suspects and apprehend suspects. Collaboration will include any help, recommendation, contribution or support requested from or provided to another unit or offered by the taskforce that aids in the furtherance of motor vehicle theft investigations.  |        |
| 1.2.3 | Collaborate with all other outside LE agencies and other organizations that assist in the reduction of MVTs. Include all coverage jurisdictions here.               | Number of times collaborated with coverage area agencies or other law enforcement agencies and organizations that assist in the reduction of MVT. Collaboration means physically using law enforcement resources, tactics and authority to perform activity on cases that draw upon or aid in the investigation intended to further the resolution of any case, identify parties to crime, identify vehicles, interview witnesses/suspects and apprehend suspects. Collaboration will include any help, recommendation, contribution or support requested from or provided to another unit or offered by the taskforce that aids in the furtherance of MVTtheft investigations. | 350    |
| 1.2.5 | Conduct intelligence information-sharing (Personal attendance)  | Number of intelligence meetings attended <b>(include attending as presenter, participant or attendee)</b>   | 40     |
| 1.2.6 | Conduct intelligence information-sharing (Written information)  | Crime analysis bulletins disseminated <b>(include information distributed to law enforcement agencies via text, e-mail, or intra-net communications)</b>  | 325    |
| 1.2.7 | Collaborate with other MVCPA taskforces   | Number of times collaborated with other MVCPA taskforces that assist in the reduction in MVT, BMV and FRMVC.  | 60     |
| 1.3   | <b>Strategy 3: Prevent and Reduce the Incidence of Fraud-Related Motor Vehicle Activities</b>   |   |        |
| 1.3.1 | Collaborate with agencies relating to investigation and enforcement of vehicle insurance fraud and FRMVC  | Number of collaborations  | 125    |
| 1.3.2 | Conduct confidential 68(A) inspections (for TxDMV assignment or reassignment of VIN required by Tx Trans. Code §501.032)  | Number of vehicles inspected to complete a TxDMV 68A inspection form per TxDMV (VIN assignment, reassignment, bonded title)   | 2000   |
| 1.3.3 | Conduct VIN verification inspections. (All other reasons except bridge or port)   | Number of vehicles inspected by taskforce to identify the vehicles not reported in confidential (68A) or bridge and port sections.  | 1000   |
| 1.3.4 | Coordinate with TxDMV/Tax Offices relating to investigation and enforcement of fraudulent titles and registration of stolen vehicles                                | Number of collaborations with TxDMV HQ, TxDMV Regional Service Centers or County Tax Assessor Collector offices.  |        |
| 2     | <b>Goal 2: Reduce the Incidence of Theft from Motor Vehicles through Enforcement Strategies</b>   |   |        |
| 2.1   | <b>Strategy 1: Conduct Activities that Result in the Arrest, Clearance, and Recoveries of Burglary of Motor Vehicles and Theft of Vehicle Parts and Accessories</b> |   |        |
| 2.1.1 | Conduct bait vehicle operations that target vehicle burglary offenders  | Number of bait vehicle burglary deployments   | 350    |
| 2.1.2 | Identify "prolific BMV offenders" through informants and intelligence [Prolific is  | Number of offenders identified  | 20     |



| ID    | Activity  | Measure  | Target |
|-------|---|--|--------|
|       | defined as "linked to BMV and theft of vehicle parts and accessories offenses three or more times"]   |  |        |
| 2.2   | <b>Strategy 2: Conduct Collaborative Efforts that Result in the Reduction of Incidents of Theft From a Motor Vehicle</b>  |  |        |
| 2.2.1 | Provide Agency Assists BMV.   | Number of agency assists related to BMV or stolen parts. <b>Assist means responding or answering questions via phone, e-mail, or in person. Providing recommendation, guidance, strategy, support or information that other LEOs will use to resolve their cases. The assist generally does not have the direct responsibility for an investigation nor uses LEO authority. The assist helps another LEO or agency investigate cases. Analysts and civilian employees will record their assists to outside LEOs and agencies met here along with officers.</b>   | 25     |
| 2.2.2 | Collaborate with other units or divisions within the taskforce department(s) (i.e. homicide, vice, narcotics, etc.) where theft of parts occurred in the commission of the crime (includes identification of vehicle). Include all participating jurisdiction departments here. | Number of times collaborated within departments or SOs participating in taskforce related to BMV or stolen parts. Collaboration means physically using law enforcement resources, tactics and authority to perform activity on cases that draw upon or aid in the investigation intended to further the resolution of any case, identify parties to crime, identify vehicles, interview witnesses/suspects and apprehend suspects. Collaboration will include any help, recommendation, contribution or support requested from or provided to another unit or offered by the taskforce that aids in the furtherance of BMV theft investigations.   |        |
| 2.2.3 | Collaborate with all other outside LE agencies and other organizations where theft of parts occurred in the commission of the crime (includes identification of vehicle). Include all coverage jurisdictions here.  | Number of times collaborated with coverage area agencies or other law enforcement agencies and organizations that assist in the reduction of BMV or stolen parts. Collaboration means physically using law enforcement resources, tactics and authority to perform activity on cases that draw upon or aid in the investigation intended to further the resolution of any case, identify parties to crime, identify vehicles, interview witnesses/suspects and apprehend suspects. Collaboration will include any help, recommendation, contribution or support requested from or provided to another unit or offered by the taskforce that aids in the furtherance of motor vehicle theft investigations. | 25     |
| 3     | <b>Goal 3: Educate/Train Citizens and Qualified Personnel in Detection and Prevention of Motor Vehicle Theft, Burglary of Motor Vehicles and Theft of Vehicle Parts and Accessories</b>   |  |        |
| 3.1   | <b>Strategy 1: Conduct Public Awareness Related Activities Used to Educate Citizens</b>   |  |        |
| 3.1.1 | Conduct educational outreach events (include trade show, exhibits, booths at community events, vehicle displays, brochures, etc.)   | Number of outreaches   | 20     |
| 3.1.2 | Conduct educational presentations to the public   | Number of presentations. Presentation means in person, on-line, original written document, article, or webpage.  | 8      |
| 3.1.4 | Conduct vehicle identification initiative/event   | Number of etching events. Include windows, component parts, VIN stamps and catalytic converters.   | 8      |

| ID      | Activity   | Measure   | Target |
|---------|--|---|--------|
| 3.1.4.1 | Conduct vehicle identification initiative/event  | Number of Participants/Attendees (Vehicles Marked)  |        |
| 3.1.5   | Purchase advertisements in local outlets   | Number of advertisements purchased or provided complimentary for taskforce. Include all types of media purchased or provided free (social, tv, utility inserts, billboards, transportation, etc.). Describe in 6.1.1. |        |
| 3.1.6   | Conduct vehicle report card initiatives.   | Number report cards issued  |        |
| 3.1.7   | Utilize social media outlets (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)  | Number of postings in social media outlets  | 25     |
| 3.1.8   | Deploy outdoor public notification signage   | Number of deployments per month (if sign remains several months, count as 1 deployment per month)   | 10     |
| 3.1.10  | Conduct media outreach, including, public service announcements, press releases, and interviews  | Number of outreaches  |        |
| 3.2     | <b>Strategy 2: Conduct Law Enforcement Training Activities to Educate Officers on Recognition and Apprehension of Stolen Vehicles and Property</b> |   |        |
| 3.2.1   | Conduct law enforcement training (TCOLE)   | Number of classes provided for TCOLE credit   | 25     |
| 3.2.3   | Conduct vehicle crimes presentations to law enforcement agencies (non TCOLE)   | Number of classes or presentations. Presentations may include electronic roll call documents, shift BOLOs and other written or presented materials based on local practices.  |        |

### Grant Evaluation

- 4.1 Describe the local method and/or practice used to collect the data for reporting Goals, Strategies, and Activities and to evaluate the grant program effectiveness. Describe management and staff participation. Include descriptions of systems (forms and software) that will be used to ensure reliable and accurate data is collected and reported. Describe any other evaluation methods used in the applicant agency to determine effectiveness or cost efficiency of the program.

*The "Crime in Texas" (TxDPS) report provides the most accurate data available to reflect the auto crime rate as well as to measure enforcement impact on the program area. The MVCPA Goals, Strategies and Activities (GSAs) provide a measure of Task Force productivity throughout the year and is posted in the office for transparency. The Tarrant County Sheriff's Department Records Management System (RMS) is the Task Force's primary reporting system and can provide a statistical analysis on individual investigator productivity. Investigators also complete weekly activity sheets in Microsoft Word and Excel to capture grant activities and to ensure good fiscal stewardship and proper use of state funds. At the end of the month, the enforcement team leader (sergeant) completes a monthly analysis and report of work product by reviewing officer activity, which ensures activity is reported accurately and supported by documentation. The Task Force Commander reviews the unit's efforts with each monthly report and extrapolates the data used to complete the MVCPA quarterly progress reports submitted online via the GMTS. Weekly staff meetings provide an additional measure of unit activity and provide Task Force leadership the ability to guide grant activities. The administrative assistant, designated as the Program Manager, coordinates the budget, spending and Chapter 59 reporting with Tarrant County various departments and provides the monthly prevention activity, monitoring, and report.*

*Internal program oversight is conducted by the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office chain-of-command, which includes monthly Command Staff meetings and periodic status updates. External program oversight is conducted by the Task Force's Board of Governors, which is comprised of law enforcement executives from the participating agencies and executives from the NICB, the Tarrant County District*

*Attorney's Office and the TxDPS. The Task Force Commander submits a monthly Commander's Update email summarizing the unit's activities and providing grant-related news and information. All performance, financial and audit reports are reviewed and approved by the Board of Governors at scheduled meetings.*

*All non-enforcement oversight functions are maintained in Tarrant County's SAP System and reviewed at several managerial levels within the county administration. The Tarrant County Budget Office reviews and maintains the budget for the program. Routine inventory and procedural audits are conducted on an annual basis. The Auditor's Office facilitates internal/external audits and reviews all monetary transactions, prepares the monthly expenditure report, and prepares all requests for reimbursement from the MVCPA. The Tarrant County District Attorney's Office provides necessary legal review on interlocal agreements, grant stipulations and contracts. Tarrant County is also subject to the Single Audit Act.*

4.2 Provide any other suggested measures that would better reflect the law enforcement or prevention work that the proposed program will perform. If the suggested measure fits into one of the stated goals above please indicate.

*The current measures captured by the GMTS are exhaustive and appear to appropriately capture grant goals and activities, in some cases capture the activities twice (repetitive). Additional measures captured by the Task Force aim at reporting the activities performed by the assigned prosecutor, including number of (1) felony cases, (2) misdemeanor cases, (3) jury trials, (4) convictions, (5) plea agreements, (6) felony incarcerations, (7) misdemeanor incarcerations and (8) offenders sentenced to probation.*

#### **TxGMS Standard Assurances by Local Governments**

☐ We acknowledge reviewing the [TxGMS Standard Assurances by Local Governments](#) as promulgated by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and agree to abide by the terms stated therein.

#### **Certifications**

The certifying official is the authorized official, Tim O'Hare, County Judge.

By submitting this application I certify that I have been designated by my jurisdiction as the authorized official to accept the terms and conditions of the grant. The statements herein are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties.

By submitting this application I certify that my jurisdiction agrees to comply with all terms and conditions if the grant is awarded and accepted. I further certify that my jurisdiction will comply with all applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations in the application, acceptance, administration and operation of this grant.

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