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5	MEETING FOR THE	
6	GRANTS, BUDGET, AND REPORTING COMMITTEE OF THE	
7	BOARD OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE CRIME PREVENTION AUTHORITY	
8	JULY 15,2024	
9	VOLUME I	
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13	Proceedings were taken before DONNA QUALLS, Notary	
14	Public and Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of	
15	Texas, on Monday, July 15, 2024, from 10:12 a.m. to	
16	11:24 a.m., reported by computerized stenotype machine,	
17	at the Hilton Houston Post Oak Hotel, 2001 Post Oak	
18	Boulevard, Houston, Texas, pursuant to any provisions	
19	stated on the record or attached hereto.	
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23	Job No. 1163701	
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25	MAGNA LEGAL SERVICES 866.624.6221	



1	APPEARANCES
2	COMMITTEE MEETING MEMBERS:
3	MIGUEL RODRIGUEZ REBECCA CANTU SERANO
4	SHARON JONES DAVID RICHARDS
5	WILLIAMS DIGGS
6	DOMNA OUALIS THE COURT DEDORTED
7	DONNA QUALLS, THE COURT REPORTER
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(Proceedings commenced at 10:12 a.m.)

MS. JONES: Good morning again. My name is Sharon Jones, and I'm pleased to open the meeting of the Grants, Budget, and Reporting Committee of the board of the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority. It is 10:12 a.m., and I am now calling the committee meeting for July 15th, 2024, to order.

I have to note for the record that the public notice of this meeting containing all items on the agenda was filed with the secretary of state on July 1st, 2024. Before we begin today's meeting, please place all cell phones and other communication devices in silent mode and please as a courtesy to others do not carry on side conversations or activities in the meeting room.

I want to welcome those who are with us for today's committee meeting. If you wish to address the committee or speak on an agenda item during today's meeting, please complete a speaker sheet at the registration table. Please identify the specific item you are interested in commenting on, your name and address, and whether you are representing someone or speaking for yourself.

If your comment does not pertain to a specific agenda item, we will take your comment during a



public comment portion of the meeting. In accordance with the department's administration rule, comments to the committee will be initiated -- will be limited to three minutes.

To assist each speaker, a timer has been placed at the podium. The light will be green for the first two minutes, yellow when the speaker has one minute left, and red when a speaker's time is up.

Individuals cannot accumulate time from other speakers.

Stated on the comment sheet. When addressing the committee, please state your name and affiliation for the record. There are a few things that will assist in making the meeting room run smoother and assist the court reporter in getting an accurate record. Please identify yourself before speaking. Speak clearly and slowly. Do not speak over others. And please ask the chairperson for permission to speak, and be sure to get recognized before speaking.

I would like to thank our court reporter who is transcribing this meeting. Before we begin today, I would like to remind all presenters and those in attendance of the rules in conduct of our committee meeting. In the department administrative rule, I have authority to supervise the conduct of meetings. This



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includes the authority to determine whether a speaker is being disruptive of the meeting or is otherwise violating the timing or presentation ideas I have discussed.

The posted agenda stated that a quorum of the MVCPA board may present at this meeting. However, board members who are not members of the Grants, Budget, and Committee [sic] will not vote on any committee agenda item today, nor will have any board action to be taken. I see that member Rebecca Cantu Serano is present. As you can see, our -- our chairperson, Chief Mike Rodriguez, is sitting up with us. He has no vote, no say so. He's just here.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: They're going to turn off my mic just so everybody knows.

MS. JONES: We now move on to Agenda Item No. 1 which is roll call and establishment of quorum.

Member Brotherton (phonetic) is not present.

Member Cantu Serano?

MS. CANTU SERANO: Present.

MS. JONES: Let the record reflect that I, Sharon Jones, am here too. We have a quorum.

We now move on to Agenda Item No. 2 which is the Pledges of Allegiance. Please stand and honor



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our state and country.

(The United States Pledge of Allegiance and The Texas Pledge of Allegiance.)

MS. JONES: Please be seated.

I now move on to Agenda Item No. 3, comments and announcements from the board chair, committee members, and the MVCPA director.

For those of you who are unaware -- we're all in Harris County by the way. Houston, Texas, Harris County for those of you that are out of state and some are out of the country who are visiting. So one of Harris County deputies, he lost his life in the line of duty this week. And then we have a member, a civilian member, of the Houston Police Department who also lost his life during the flood. So as we go about our week, let's keep them in our thoughts, our prayers, our families. May God watch over their families as they move on.

Also, there are many members of the Harris County task force and the Houston task force that were affected by the flood. And so we need to keep them in our prayers and our thoughts as well as just in general Houston and the surrounding areas. There's a lot that's been happening here since the storm.

So -- which brings me to why we're hot



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today. So I swear the AC was working until yesterday. There was a power outage. The generators kicked in, brought up the air -- brought up the electricity. But the Internet and the AC did not come back up. I think the Internet is working now, correct? Yes. I got some nods. The Internet is working. The hotel asked me to let you know that they are -- they are in the -- in the process of contracting, negotiating with a company to bring in some -- some portable chillers. So that's ongoing.

We're going to have more breaks than usual. Those of you that are standing, I know why you're standing in the back. That's where the air is. So as long as you can hear, that -- that's fine. Also again, if you need to wear different clothing to make sure that you stay cool, please do so. We don't want people passing out, strokes. We don't want any of that. We have to remember how to do CPR and call 911.

Just hydrate. We have a lot of water in the back. I see water everywhere. So please stay hydrated. And if you need to get up and move out of the room, that's not a problem as well.

Member Cantu, do you have any announcements, ma'am?



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MS. CANTU SERANO: No, ma'am.

MS. JONES: Okay. I almost called you

Major Diggs.

Mr. Diggs.

MR. DIGGS: And I answer to just about anything, Madam Chair. So the only thing I would add is the general manager has advised me that he will have an update on the chiller, the main chiller, at 1:00 o'clock today. So hopefully we'll have additional information here at 1:00 p.m. today. Thank you, ma'am.

MS. JONES: Thank you, sir.

We now move on to Agenda Item No. 4 which is MVCPA fiscal year 2024 and fiscal year 2025 budget overview by MVCPA director William Diggs.

MR. DIGGS: Thank you. William Diggs, MVCPA director for the record, Madam Chair. So if you will look on pages 5, 6, and 7, you're going to see some charts, and that's going to tell a little bit about where we stand with our FY-24 budgets.

Currently for FY-24 as of the end of June in our Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention budget, which I'll refer that as our Task Force Budget, our main budget, we have \$1,655,769 remaining as of the end of June. And in our SB-224 catalytic converter funding budget, at the end of June there is \$20,201,294. I know that sounds



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like a whole lot of money, and it is. And the reason for some of those dollars to remain is the way that the SGAs have been issued out for the first round of FY-24 SB-224 catalytic converter funding and the pending second-round funding that we're going to be considering this week which totals a little over \$10 million. And so that's why you hear a lot of dollars left in the catalytic converter funding at the end of June.

And then if you will look on page 9 and 10 of your committee book, you will see some charts that reflect the FY-25 estimated budgets. And for FY-25, we have a total of -- in catalytic converter funding, we have an estimated \$30,378,803 for FY-25. And then for FY-24 -- I'm sorry -- FY-25, motor vehicle crime prevention budget, again our main budget, our task force budget, we have an estimated \$24,899,500 overall.

And those are the -- the budget reports that I have for you today. And I'm happy to take any questions.

MS. JONES: Member Cantu, do you have any questions for Director Diggs?

MS. CANTU SERANO: No, ma'am.

MS. JONES: No discussions or questions.

We now move on to Agenda Item No. 5, Grant Management Tracking System.



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Director Diggs.

MR. DIGGS: Thank you. William, Diggs, director MVCPA for the record. I'm happy to announce that -- myself, staff, the information technology division of the Texas DMV -- we continue to work closely with a number of the task forces around the state. And we are currently reviewing a number of solutions for a new grant management tracking system.

And on page 11 of your committee book, you'll see some information as it relates to some additional questions that we have narrowed the field to as far as there are a number of companies that are out there that are currently on the DRI contract. So in theory once we make a selection in working through ITSD and then the -- the finance office at Texas DMV, we will be able to move forward with that new solution.

We anticipate that new solution will be in place by the end of the calendar year '25. We don't want to rush this solution. There's a number of follow-up questions that we had for some of these companies. We're waiting for some responses to come back. Again, we want to make sure that we get this right. This is kind of, you know, one bite at the apple, and we want to make sure that we take this the right way.



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And so that's why we're still kind of working on it. We've been working on it for a few months. We'll make some decisions hopefully here soon. And I hope to have an additional update on a selected company during our October board meeting.

MS. JONES: Member --

MS. CANTU SERANO: No, ma'am.

MS. JONES: No questions. We now move on to Agenda Item No. 6, Fiscal Year '24, Senate Bill 224, catalytic converter grant second solicitation presentation by Director Diggs.

MR. DIGGS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
William Diggs, director of MVCPA for the record. So on page 12, this is where this starts. And I had mentioned to some of the task force commanders this morning how this would lay out this morning. We have three different grants that we're looking at for an award this week. The first one is the FY-24 second round. We have a total of 21 grantees who are asking for funding.

What I'm going to do today is I'm going to call you up one at a time. You're going to come up to the center table here. You'll have three to five minutes. Remember what we talked about: You can give a verbal -- a quick verbal overview, hit the highlights of what you're hoping to accomplish.



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I'm going to read your name and ask that you come up. If you would please, be sure and turn your mic on. Make sure you identify who you are and -- and your position in that -- in that agency before you start speaking. And we'll go from there. It's going to be a -- it's going to be a pretty lengthy process. We've got a total of 21 second-round grants grantees to hear from. And then in FY-25 for SB-224, we've got a total of 22. And then for FY-25 task force grants today, we've got a total of 29.

So as you can tell, there's a number of folks that we want to hear from. And after each series, we'll go back, and then I'll make a recommendation to the -- to the GBR -- to the GBR committee. And then they will make a decision today as far as how they move forward on Friday when it is presented to the full board. So that's kind of the process of how it's going to lay out.

And, Madam Chair, I would like to begin.

MS. JONES: Member Cantu Serano, do you have any questions for Mr. Diggs?

MS. CANTU SERANO: No, ma'am.

MR. DIGGS: All right. If you are in need of a PowerPoint to be put up on the screen, if you haven't already done so, please let us know when you



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walk up. We'll have staff quickly get your PowerPoint up as well as provide you with a clicker so that you can move forward or backwards during your presentation.

MS. JONES: Mr. Diggs, we have no questions or discussions for you. Let's move on to Agenda Item
No. 7, Senate Bill -- I feel we're still on 6.

MR. DIGGS: Thank you, Madam Chair. So I would like to call up the City of Andrews for the SB-224 FY-24. If you are here, please come forward. The amount is \$16,850.

All right. City of Andrews -- do not see them. Moving forward.

The next applicant is the City of Beaumont for FY-24 SB-224 catalytic converter second solicitation. If you would, please come forward. The amount is \$527,700.

Good morning.

SERGEANT KARR: Good morning. I'm Sergeant
Ken Karr with Beaumont Police Department, Southeast
Texas Auto Theft Task Force. Good morning, everybody.

MS. JONES: Good morning, sir.

SERGEANT KARR: Thank you for the opportunity to come up and speak with you. We applied for the SB-224 second round and -- to address the issue of the catalytic converter theft in southeast Texas.



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2021 through 2023 we have the all-time highs of metal prices, and the task force experienced a dramatic increase along with everybody in the country -- the state, the country, and the world for that matter. We had over 650 catalytic converter thefts reported during that time frame. The numbers are actually going to be higher, but those are the only numbers that I could verify from all the agencies in the area.

They don't have -- can everybody hear me?

Okay. They don't have -- I'm trying to work with them.

We track ours through theft and motor vehicle parts.

They have them under different things -- precious metals. They have them all under different things due to their reporting system.

The -- I have to skip -- y'all, through me,
I had -- I had made a presentation to cover all three
grants at once. So I'm having to bust this up a little
bit it.

MS. JONES: That's okay. I had that in my mind too.

SERGEANT KARR: I think it would've been a little quicker, but I'm not bitching.

The Beaumont Police Department, Southeast Auto Theft Task Force is requesting \$527,000. The equipment that we are requesting is two vehicles, two



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trucks. One is for the Jefferson County Sheriff's

Office who is currently without a vehicle. He's driving
an ancient Tahoe that used to be an interdiction car.

We're also requesting night vision binoculars to assist
us with their thermal, to assist us with operations at
night covering these parking lots where most of these
catalytic converters occur.

Oh, I'm sorry. We're also asking for a four-post lift. We have one currently that is -- it's pretty old. We'll probably try to replace it at some point. We wanted a supplement in order to assist with the catalytic converter marking events that we plan on holding. We're asking for the actual cordless peen marking system. We're also asking for a drone to assist with surveillance. It's a thermal and zoom drone to assist with apartment complexes, hotel parking lots, anywhere there's a large quantity of vehicles that we can surveil at night and during the day as well.

The main thing that we're looking for is our Flock cameras. Not unlike every department in the nation virtually, we can't hire enough people. So we're trying to concentrate on force multipliers -- Flock cameras. The City of Beaumont recently purchased Axon cameras for their patrol cars and using those as well. Those also operate as LPRs.



We're hoping that this would be the integral part of our intelligence gathering for catalytic converter theft as well as auto theft. We have already had great success with Flock cameras with the auto theft portion. Our catalytic converter theft right now is fairly small, very small actually. In the past we could've used a lot of these. Would've been great to have them.

Houston helped us a lot during that catalytic converter rampage, frenzy, whatever it was by using the Flock cameras. They have a lot more of them than we do. We were able to identify numerous suspects in Houston and work with Houston and got those guys arrested and/or identified and arrested.

That's pretty much the highlights.

Beaumont has cranked up a real-time crime center which all of this will be linked to so that we can -- any ongoing operations that we have, we can actually use Fusus where -- we're using Fusus to access public and private cameras. That will be additional force multipliers in addition to the Flock cameras.

And I'm out of time.

MS. JONES: Sir, you mentioned cordless

peen --

SERGEANT KARR: The cordless -- it's a



1 FlyMarker cordless peen. It stamps the VIN on the 2. catalytic converter. 3 MS. JONES: Okay. For the record, when you 4 guys come up here, if you're going to discuss something 5 that is a countermeasure for investigation, you don't have to, like, give the specifics of what it is that you 6 7 are requesting. So I just wanted to get the -- the gist -- I just heard something cordless. But just be 8 9 sure definitely do not divulge any -- anything that will 10 counter what we're doing. 11 Thank you, sir. Okay. 12 SERGEANT KARR: Thank you. 13 MS. JONES: Member Cantu, do you have any 14 questions? 15 MS. CANTU SERANO: Yes. How many Flock 16 cameras were you planning to purchase? 17 SERGEANT KARR: It's a lease. 88. 18 MS. CANTU SERANO: Okay. 19 SERGEANT KARR: Which would pretty much 20 seal up the City of Beaumont. 21 MS. CANTU SERANO: Okav. 22 SERGEANT KARR: And some of the outlying 23 areas. MS. CANTU SERANO: Okay. Perfect. 24 Thank 25 you.



SERGEANT KARR: Thank you.

MS. JONES: Mr. Diggs?

MR. DIGGS: Madam Chair, I don't ha

MR. DIGGS: Madam Chair, I don't have any questions. Thank you for the presentation.

So next up would be the City of Carrollton for FY-24 SB-224 catalytic converter second solicitation. The amount is \$221,000.

MS. SAYER: Thank you for having me. My name is Jessica Sayer (phonetic). I'm the compliance manager for the Carrollton Police Department. We actually put in for the FY-24 and for the '25 grant. This will be our first year applying for those. And we are also asking for Flock cameras for the majority of our grant. The first year is going to cover implementation of 57 Flock cameras for our city. That would be in addition to our 19. Originally Flock suggested that the size of our city with the population of 133,000, covers about 37 square miles would be roughly just a little over 100 Flock cameras would be necessary for full coverage. So we'll be pretty close to halfway there if we were able to implement those.

As far as our -- let me grab my notes here. So for our FY-24 grant, we are requesting \$753,000. That would cover the one lease for 57 cameras, and also we would be covering the implementation fee ourself for



\$46,300.

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And then our FY-25, we're just requesting to renew that lease. And so while the City of Carrollton -- just a few stats for us. You know, along with other agencies, we have seen a huge reduction in catalytic converter thefts. But at the same time, we're seeing an increase in just general vehicle crime overall. We've received -- we've see 60 -- 15 percent increase in vehicle theft and crimes all together while we've seen a reduction of 60 percent of catalytic converter thefts overall.

And so these Flock cameras will help us with, you know, staffing issues that people also have. And then we're also wanting to implement a real-time crime center. So we'll be able to monitor those, and also it will help with the apprehension of these situations.

And our agency is also right in the middle of several interstates. So we have I-35. We have 635. We have President George Bush highway that goes through our city as well. So we're a very major pass-through city as you can see. So these cameras will help with that so.

MS. JONES: Member Cantu, any questions?

MS. CANTU SERANO: No, ma'am.



1 MS. JONES: Mr. Diggs. 2. MR. DIGGS: (Nonverbal response.) 3 MS. JONES: Let's proceed. No questions 4 from us. 5 MS. SAYER: Thank you. MS. JONES: You're welcome, ma'am. 6 7 MR. DIGGS: I would like to call up the City of Converse for the FY-24 SB-224 catalytic 8 9 converter second solicitation. The amount is \$43,150. CHIEF LANE: Good morning. My name is 10 11 Bobby Lane. I'm the chief of police actually for 12 Converse. I've been there about three and a half years. 13 Just a little bit about our department. We're 14 56 officers in the department. We only cover 10 square 15 So we're here, of course, trying to bring in new 16 technology, bring different things into the community to 17 fight crime. 18 One thing we're here to do is, of course, 19 ask for the grant to help fight the crime on catalytic 20 converters. The last couple of years we had 41 catalytic converters stolen. But if you can imagine 21 22 41 catalytic converters for a 10-square-mile area, it's quite a few. We are seeing a lot of the property crimes 23 24 come up.



Of course our theft to vehicles is actually

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through the roof. Last year they were 110. This year we're actually tracking for the same amount of vehicle thefts or more. And these -- these -- this grant would actually help us place 11 Flock cameras throughout our city. And we've already identified strategic locations that we're able to get -- that will help us identify the people that are coming into our city.

Now one thing about San Antonio is that we are -- we are in the metroplex. So there's 46 different agencies in that metroplex. And the information that's coming from the Flock cameras will be shared with all the other agencies including the Southwest Texas Fusion Center. So it's not going to be just used for us. It's going to be shared with everybody. The Alamo area chiefs, we're all getting together and identifying areas we can place these cameras up to, of course -- you know, the criminals don't follow geographical areas. They go anywhere they want. So these cameras would actually help us, you know, find these individuals and apprehend them.

But I stand for any questions that you may have.

MS. JONES: Sir, does the Southwest

Center -- Texas Fusion Center, I know San Antonio -- do
they already have access to the Flock system?



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CHIEF LANE: So they do. They're actually working with Flock now. I know San Antonio is just -they're purchasing several cameras throughout their area, and several of the small cities are purchasing them as well so we can have -- we can have a good, you know, contingent of cameras. MS. JONES: Yes, sir. Member Serano Cantu -- Cantu Serano. MS. CANTU SERANO: No. MS. JONES: Sir, no questions. CHIEF LANE: Thank you so much. MS. JONES: You're welcome. Thank you. MR. DIGGS: Thank you, Chief. So I actually skipped over -- my apologies -- the City of Conroe for FY-24 SB-224 catalytic converter second solicitation. The amount is \$72,000. So the City of Conroe. Moving on to the City of Corpus Christi for

FY-24 SB-224 catalytic converter second solicitation.

The amount is \$72,408.

MR. KNUTSON: Can y'all hear me?

MS. JONES: Yes, sir.

MR. KNUTSON: The City of Corpus -- my name is Kyle Knutson. I am the program manager for the Corpus Christi Auto Theft Task Force. I've been in this



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position for about three months. So I'm a little bit new.

Can you hear?

MS. JONES: Can you repeat your name for the record and agency.

MR. KNUTSON: My name is Kyle Knutson. I am the program manager for the Auto Theft Task Force for Corpus Christi. The City of Corpus Christi seeks the SB-224 grant to enhance its auto theft task force to address pressing issues of catalytic converter theft. The grant will provide essential -- the grant will provide essential funding to implement advanced technology solutions, engage in community awareness campaigns, and enhance the law enforcement capabilities.

The ATTF aims to significantly reduce the theft incidents, improve public safety, and foster secure community environment. The initiative aligns with our strategic priorities to ensure safer and more resilient cities -- resilient city.

The problem statement -- the catalytic converter theft hasn't -- has increased over the past few years, driven by the high volume of the precious metals. In 2021, there were 603 cases of catalytic converter theft that were reported, making up 61 percent of all theft parts. However, in 2022, the number



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decreased to 594 with implementation of the new legislative bill -- legislation bill including harsher penalties introduced by the Senate bill. The total number of thefts drastically decreased to 164 in 2023.

The significant reduction highlights the effectiveness of the Senate bill combating catalytic converter theft. While precious metals have gone down in price in '23 and '24, we are confident that they will rise again in the future. The Auto Theft Task Force believes that criminals will eventually find their ways to circumvent these penalties, leading to potentially increase of catalytic converter thefts and the precious metal thefts in the future.

Goals -- prevent catalytic converter theft, implement proactive measures to prevent theft through advanced technology and public awareness. Enhance law enforcement capabilities, equip law enforcement with the necessary tools and resources to effectively tackle and investigate theft incidents.

Community engagement -- raise public awareness and educate the community on preventative measures.

Some activities -- public awareness and education -- educational outreach events, conduct monthly presentations, and educate the public on



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preventing catalytic converter thefts.

Etching initiatives -- implement programs to etch serial numbers on converters to deter thefts. These initiatives are critical components of the program. Etching unique identification numbers on catalytic converters, we make it difficult for thieves to steal -- to sell stolen parts as these marked converters can be traced back to their original vehicles. This method not only deters theft but also aids in the recovery of stolen converters.

Social media campaigns -- regularly updated -- update the community through social media on preventive measures and task force activities.

TCOLE trainings -- provide classes, training to law enforcement officers on recognizing, handling catalytic converter cases.

Collaborative efforts -- the ATTF will collaborate with neighboring jurisdictions sharing information and coordinating efforts to tackle the incident effectively. Joint operations and regular meetings will ensure the optimal use of the resource.

Justification of the equipment that we are asking for -- hydraulic vehicle lifts, these are crucial for safely accessing catalytic converters on various vehicles. By elevating the vehicles, law enforcement



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can easily paint, mark, etch, and engrave VIN numbers on catalytic converters deterring and aiding investigations. Laser engravers -- used to mark serial VIN numbers on catalytic converters. The laser engraver providing clear and permanent identification method, making it difficult for thieves to sell stolen converters.

Thermal surveillance and search drones -these drones are indispensable for surveillance
operations equipped with live streaming capabilities.
They will allow our law enforcement to monitor large
areas, track suspects, and gather real-time intelligence
especially in high-risk locations such as dealerships
and salvage yards.

Funds allocated for proactive operations, reactive assessments, public awareness activities conducted outside of normal business hours. The budget covers overtime for the detective to involve investigations and community outreach events.

So in conclusion, the SB-224 grant for fiscal year '24 will significantly enhance the capabilities of Corpus Christi Auto Theft Task Force, reducing catalytic converter theft, and increasing public safety. The proposed equipment and activities are critical in achieving the outlined goals and



continue, please.

1 ensuring a safer community. 2. Is there any questions? 3 MS. JONES: Member Cantu, any questions? 4 MS. CANTU SERANO: No. 5 No questions, sir. MS. JONES: MR. DIGGS: Thank you. So I think we're 6 7 going to switch the mics out real quick. 8 While they're doing that, I would like to call up the City of El Paso for the second round FY-24 9 10 SB-224 grant. The amount is \$1,391,615. 11 OFFICER COSTA: Good morning. My name is Officer Jessica Costa. I'm a member of the El Paso Task 12 13 Force. 14 MS. JONES: One moment, ma'am. When you 15 guys come up, it's really loud with the fans. And 16 it's -- yeah, the fan is interfering. So speak up 17 louder than usual, please. We apologize for the 18 inconvenience. We know you can yell. We know that. 19 Just pretend there's a crook in front of you. "Stop." 20 LIEUTENANT PORRAS: For the record, 21 Lieutenant Ricardo Porras, task force commander of the 22 El Paso Police Department Auto Theft Task Force. 23 MS. JONES: Still no? Do we need to take a five-minute break to get this together? Okay. Let's 24



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OFFICER COSTA: All right. I'm going to jump right into our largest line item which is our equipment request. We are requesting two 2024 Ford F-250s with vehicle wraps for crime prevention awareness, 35 quick-deploy LPR cameras, two vehicle-mounted LPRs, four LPR trailers also with wraps for crime prevention awareness, two catalytic converters VIN etching engravers, and bait vehicles of a Toyota Corolla, a Honda CRV, and Toyota Tundra.

Our equipment usage -- we do aim to increase crime prevention and awareness pertaining to catalytic converter thefts through the use of vehicle displays and community outreach events. We would also like to purchase and utilize more LPR cameras, both fixed and mobile, to aid in investigation and apprehension of offenders.

LPR cameras would primarily be placed at the porch entry and along the border with New Mexico. The task force will conduct bait operations utilizing the Toyota Corolla, Honda CRV, and the Toyota Tundra. These vehicles are the most targeted vehicles for catalytic converter thefts in our region. We are currently using an acid method of catalytic converters etching which is much less effective. We would like to purchase the catalytic engravers. And with those, we



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aim to partner with businesses, 68-A inspections, and various community outreach events.

Now, as far as the budget, we do request for overtime operations of \$400,000. And with such request, we do also ask for an exemption to the MVCPA grant manual, Section 4.3, pertaining to approved overtime. The reason for this exemption is to allow any El Paso Police Department sworn peace officer not assigned to the task force permission to work SB-224 OT operations targeting catalytic converter thefts. Our reason for this request is so that we could utilize marked units and uniformed officers to aid in takedowns and conducting traffic stops.

Do you guys have any questions?

MS. CANTU SERANO: No.

MS. JONES: No, ma'am.

MR. DIGGS: So next, I'd like to call up the City of Farmers Branch for SB-224 FY-24 second solicitation. The amount is \$50,000.

MS. TAVERA: Hello, Committee. Perla Tavera, deputy director of finance.

MS. ANDERS: Good morning. Ashton Anders, media and compliance specialist for the police department.

MS. TAVERA: Thank you, Committee. Today



2.

the City of Farmers Branch is asking for \$50,000. This is in regards so we can purchase the Flock Operating System. And then the remaining amount of 14,000 would be able to purchase four to five additional cameras. We have seen, since we are right in the border of Dallas and the City of Irving, an increase in burglar motor vehicles. Currently it stands at about 144 to -- 147 reports here to date with a total about 283 from prior calendar.

We're currently working on the restructure of criminal investigations division to create a property crimes unit within the division to address the uptake in crimes like these. We have about 14 cameras which represent 10 percent of the total needed. So this grant will assist us with not only purchasing the Flock system but the additional cameras as mentioned. The operating system ties into real-time crime center to help set up intelligence center to combat these crimes.

Thank you for the opportunity, and we are excited to -- the ongoing partnership. Any questions?

MS. CANTU SERANO: No, ma'am.

MS. JONES: That was very fast.

MS. TAVERA: I like to be fast, efficient,

effective, and it is really hot.

MS. JONES: I like that answer. Love,



\$2 million.

1 love, love it. 2. MR. DIGGS: Thank you, ma'am. 3 MS. TAVERA: Thank you. 4 MS. JONES: No questions. 5 MR. DIGGS: So I'd like to call up next -so I would like to --6 7 MS. JONES: Oh, yes sir. And after this 8 one, we need to take a break. 9 MR. DIGGS: Yes, ma'am. So I would like to 10 call up next the City of Frisco. The amount is \$256,000 for FY-24 SB-224 second solicitation. 11 12 LIEUTENANT MATTEI: Good morning, members 13 of the board. My name is Lieutenant Evan Mattei. Τ 14 have with me our crime analyst, Mr. Daniel --15 MR. KIM: Morning. Daniel Kim, crime 16 analyst administrator for the Frisco Police Department. 17 MS. JONES: Good morning. 18 As you stated, our LIEUTENANT MATTEI: 19 SB-224 FY-24 second solicitation is for \$256,000. 20 is for direct operating expenses of an automated license 21 plate recognition system, or LPR, cameras and software. 22 That would be for a 60-camera lease. Since 2001, the 23 City of Frisco has experienced over 700 catalytic 24 converter thefts at an estimated loss of over



Our intent is to place these cameras in areas of focus identified by our data-driven approach to crime and traffic safety hotspots and other areas of high crime in addition to other areas around the city.

We also aim to continue to support the -and work with the North Texas Auto Theft Task force
through intel sharing. And other agencies in our areas
also have this similar technology. And we are kind of a
central hub which a number of these agencies who also
experience similar thefts suspects will travel through.

And so we want to be able to provide the same intelligence and share that with them. We also seek to enhance the capabilities of our two detectives that are assigned to our auto theft and -- or auto crime specifically. And we hope to expand our requests here in the coming years.

And lastly, we also aim to work with our community to show that these crimes are important to us and we have enhanced capabilities through this technology to investigate these crimes so that we can basically resolve them without having to -- without having to just clear the case.

So, Mr. Kim, did I miss anything?

MR. KIM: Yes. And currently with the region, there's a little bit of a hole in our area when



1 it comes to technology and license plate readers --2. recognizers. We want to modernize the police 3 department, bring it up to speed in the surrounding 4 areas so that we can work in conjunction with them as 5 well. We also are working on an unofficial campaign kind of trust and transparency, working with the public 6 7 and public engagement as well as providing information regarding this system if we were to be awarded to engage 8 9 them, bring them up to speed, provide them information, and give them the opportunity to understand and 10 11 experience what a system like this would benefit for the 12 community. 13 LIEUTENANT MATTEI: With that, we will 14 answer your questions. 15 MS. JONES: Member Cantu. 16 MS. CANTU SERANO: No, ma'am. 17 MS. JONES: No questions. Thank you. 18 LIEUTENANT MATTEI: Thank you. 19 MS. JONES: It is -- let's say 11:00 o'clock. Let's take a 15-minute break. 20 21 (Recess from 10:59 a.m. to 11:24 a.m.) 22 23 24



1	COUNTY OF HARRIS)
2	STATE OF TEXAS)
3	
4	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATION
5	
6	I, Donna Qualls, Notary Public in and for the State
7	of Texas, hereby certify that this transcript is a true
8	record of the testimony given and that the witness was
9	duly sworn by the notary.
10	I further certify that I am neither attorney nor
11	counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the
12	parties to the action in which this testimony was taken.
13	Further, I am not a relative or employee of any
14	attorney of record in this cause, nor do I have a
15	financial interest in the action.
16	Subscribed and sworn to on this the 28th day of
17	July, 2024.
18	A DOMOG VILLE
19	
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