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MOTOR VEHICLE CRIME PREVENTION AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING APRIL 23, 2026
9:00 A.M.
HILTON DOWNTOWN FORT WORTH
815 MAIN STREET
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102

1 BOARD MEMBERS

2 Miguel "Mike" Rodriguez - Chairman of the Board

3 Katherine "Kit" Whitehill - Board Member

4 Rebecca Cantu Serrano - Board Member

5 Charla K. Brotherton - Board Member

6 Scott Jackson - Board Member

7 Thomas "Tom" Sloan - Assistant Chief

8 Sharon Jones - Major

9 Also Attending:

10 William Diggs - Director

11 Earl Pence - Deputy Director, MVCPA

12 Yessenia Benavides - Management Analyst

13 Jason Gonzalez - Internal Audit Division Director, TxDMV

14 Jose Mena - Captain, TxDPS CID

15 Zach Hernandez - Multitude Insights

16 Chris Hayden - Deputy Director, Finance, TxDMV

17 Lauren Williams -Auditor, MVCPA

18 Matt Appelbaum - Axon

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2 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Good morning. My name is Mike
3 Rodriguez, and I'm pleased to open the board meeting of
4 the Motor Vehicle Crime and Prevention Authority. It is
5 9:10 a.m. and I'm now calling the board meeting for April
6 23, 2026 to order. I want to note for the record that the
7 public notice of this meeting containing all items on the
8 agenda was filed with the Office of Secretary of State on
9 April 10th, 2026. Before we begin today's meeting, please
10 place all cell phones and other communication devices in a
11 silent mode. Also, as a courtesy to others, please do not
12 engage in side conversations in the meeting room. I want
13 to welcome those who are with us today, today's board
14 meeting. If you wish to address the board or speak on an
15 agenda item during today's meeting, please complete a
16 speaker's sheet at the registration table. Please
17 identify the specific item you are interested in
18 commenting on, your name and address, and whether you are
19 representing anyone or speaking for yourself. If your
20 comment does not pertain to a specific agenda item, we
21 will take your comment during the general public comment
22 portion of the meeting. In accordance with the
23 department's administrative rule, comments to the board
24 will be limited to three minutes. To assist each speaker,
25 a timer has been provided at the podium. The timer light

1 will be green for the first two minutes, yellow when the
2 speaker has one minute left, and then red when your time
3 is up. Individuals cannot accumulate time from other
4 speakers, comments should be pertinent to the issue stated
5 on the comment sheet. When addressing the board, please
6 state your name and affiliation for the record. There are
7 a few things that will assist in making the meeting run
8 smoothly and assist the court reporter in getting an
9 accurate record. Please identify yourself before
10 speaking, speak clearly and slowly, do not speak over
11 others, and please ask the chair for permission to speak
12 and be sure to get recognized before speaking. I would
13 like to thank our court reporter, who is transcribing this
14 meeting. Before we begin today, I'd like to remind all
15 presenters and those in attendance of the rules of conduct
16 at our board meetings. In the department's administrative
17 rule, the chair has the authority to supervise the conduct
18 of meetings. This includes the authority to determine
19 when a speaker is being disruptive of the meeting or is
20 otherwise violating the timing or presentation rules I
21 just discussed. Moving on to Agenda Item 1, Roll Call.
22 Now I'd like to have roll call of the board members,
23 please respond verbally when I call your name. Board
24 Member Jones.

25 SHARON JONES: Present.

1 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Board Member Whitehill.

2 KIT WHITEHALL: Present.

3 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Board Member Brotherton.

4 CHARLA BROTHERTON: Present.

5 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Board Member Cantu Serrano.

6 REBECCA CANTU SERRANO: Sorry, I'm having a bad
7 connection I'm hearing every other word that Board Member
8 Mike Rodriguez is saying.

9 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Can you hear me, Board Member Cantu
10 Serrano? You can't hear. You want to try to reconnect,
11 like log off and log back in? We're going to continue
12 with roll call while member Cantu Serrano logs back in.
13 Member -- Board Member Sloan.

14 TOM SLOAN: Present.

15 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Board Member Jackson.

16 SCOTT JACKSON: Present.

17 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And let the record reflect that I,
18 Mike Rodriguez, am here too, we have a quorum. Agenda
19 Item 2, Pledge of Allegiance. Please stand and honor our
20 country and state with Pledges of Allegiance.

21 "I pledge of allegiance to the flag of the Unites
22 States of America, and to the republic for which it
23 stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty
24 and justice for all."

25 "Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee,

1 Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible"

2 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Cantu Serrano, can you hear
3 us?

4 REBECCA CANTU SERRANO: Yes, sir, I can.

5 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Let the record reflect that we have
6 member Cantu Serrano present, can hear us loud and clear.
7 Agenda item 3A, Approval of Transcript from January 14th,
8 2026 meeting as minutes. Members, we will now take up
9 item number 3A, Approval of Transcripts from January 14th,
10 2026 meeting as minutes. Yessenia, do we have any public
11 comments on this?

12 YESSANIA BENAVIDES: No, sir, there are no public
13 comments for this agenda item.

14 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Members, if everyone has reviewed
15 the transcript, would anyone like to make a motion
16 approving the transcript as minutes?

17 SHARON JONES: Member Jones, for the record, I move
18 that the board approve the meeting transcript from the
19 January 14th, 2026 meeting minutes.

20 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: We have a motion from Board Member
21 Jones. Do we have a second?

22 TOM SLOAN: Board Member Sloan, I second.

23 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: I will now call for the vote. Board
24 Members, when I call your name, please state your vote for
25 the record. Member Jones.

1 SHARON JONES: Aye.

2 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Whitehill.

3 KIT WHITEHALL: Aye.

4 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Brotherton.

5 CHARLA BROTHERTON: Aye.

6 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Cantu Serrano. Member Cantu
7 Serrano. Member Sloan.

8 TOM SLOAN: Aye.

9 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Jackson.

10 SCOTT JACKSON: Aye.

11 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And I, Chairman Rodriguez, vote aye.
12 Let the record reflect that there are six votes for, and
13 zero against --

14 REBECCA CANTU SERRANO: Aye.

15 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Cantu Serrano votes "aye."
16 Let the record reflect that there are seven votes for, and
17 zero against. The motion passes. Chair reports, I'd like
18 to take this opportunity to thank everybody that was at
19 the -- okay, we're going to take a short recess, we have
20 technical difficulties. We'll be back in 10 minutes, 15
21 minutes. About 15 minutes. So 9:30.

22 (Off the record)

23 (Back on record)

24 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: It's 9:31 and we're back in session.
25 Item 3B, Chair's Report. Just wanted to real quick thank

1 everybody that was present at the San Antonio workshop. I
2 think it was a very successful event for us just because
3 we got a bunch of new grantees -- well, agencies that are
4 willing to apply and come on board with MVCPA. But more
5 than anything is the fact that, you know, the networking
6 part, which I always love, that you're able to communicate
7 with more individuals out there in some jurisdictions that
8 I didn't even know existed, I was able to have that
9 conversation with them. No audio again? [Indiscernible]
10 We're good to go?

11 YESSENIA BENAVIDES: Yes, sir.

12 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: All right. Sorry, guys. So again
13 just, you know, very excited for what the outcome was in
14 San Antonio and then also excited for what's coming in
15 July here in Fort Worth again. But more than anything I
16 do want to say I appreciate each and every one of you
17 because I heard some of you, you know, having those
18 conversations with the people that -- the agencies that
19 want to apply for these grants and kind of navigating with
20 them as to how to go about it. I think that's an awesome
21 thing when you really, you know, sit down and think about
22 it, how we want to make sure that we help each other and
23 make this thing -- make MVCPA better. I do want to say
24 that I had a short conversation with some of you outside
25 and I'm -- we're going to be coming back to Dallas in the

1 very near future. There's a lot of things happening in
2 the border that I think it is important that everybody
3 knows about and that everybody's on the same page because
4 it's not only affecting those border cities, but it will
5 affect the interior of our state. And so everybody needs
6 to have that visibility as to what's coming and making
7 sure that we're prepared for what's coming. And just to
8 give you a little bit of what's going on that we've
9 already know, right, you know, asking for 100 vehicles
10 from the San Antonio area, it's a big red flag to us
11 because we know that that's just in that area that they're
12 requesting vehicles from there and this I'm talking about
13 the cartels. But more than anything is that -- the fact
14 that the information that's flowing into our agencies has
15 to be shared and so that everybody's on the same page, it
16 is important that everybody is on the same page because we
17 need to make sure that as they have a strategy, we also
18 have a counter-strategy for it. So our main objective
19 remains very clear that it's to prevent auto theft from
20 happening, but at the same time, we have to have a clear
21 objective as to how we're going to get it done. So be
22 back here probably first or second week of May. We'll be
23 getting together with William and Dallas PD to make sure
24 that we get it right and then also be able to host it.
25 But again, this is just to provide a little bit of what's

1 going on. But we are need to be ready for what's coming,
2 guys. That is agenda item 3B, any other board member
3 would like to say anything? Tom?

4 TOM SLOAN: We're good.

5 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Moving on to agenda item 4, MVCPA
6 Director's Report. We'll turn the meeting over to William
7 Diggs.

8 WILLIAM DIGGS: Good morning, William Digg, Director
9 of Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority. Mr.
10 Chairman, board members, unlike the last two and a half
11 years, I've walked in here and I've said hey we're full,
12 we don't have any vacancies. Well, we have vacancies in
13 staff today. And I would like to tell you that we're
14 moving nicely along on getting both our executive
15 assistant position filled, we'll start interviews next
16 week. Cassandra Flint departed on April the 10th and left
17 state service; we're happy for her moving into retirement.
18 And then also Dan Price, his last day was April the 14th.
19 I have interviewed five individuals for that position and
20 plan to interview a couple of more and those interviews
21 should conclude within the next week as well. So I
22 believe I should have both these positions filled no later
23 than the mid part of May and have both of those and we'll
24 be full again. We continue to look at additional
25 staffing, working with Executive Director Daniel Avitia

1 and others in the DMV to hopefully gain additional staff
2 during the next legislative session. But with that,
3 that's all I have on the staffing update.

4 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And I will, you know, say that, you
5 know, I applaud you for moving the -- everything forward
6 as you've been moving it. You know, I know we do have
7 some critical staffing shortages when it comes to our
8 organization. But I do want to, you know, convey to the
9 board here that I think it's very critical that
10 we -- whomever we're hiring at that type of level of
11 position, that we have an individual that's ready to roll,
12 day one. I think it's important that we understand that
13 because of the situation that we're in right now where
14 we're having -- we're no longer only have 30 something
15 grantees, right, we're having hundreds. So we definitely
16 need to know and understand that concept of as to what
17 we're getting into and treat it as it is. That from day
18 one we have somebody that's ready to go and understands
19 what MVCPA is all about and how we're going to be moving
20 it forward, right? I think you and Earl carry a lot of
21 weight into what we do day in and day out, and I think it
22 is important, you know, and I know that our staff, you
23 know, has been doing wonderful. But at the end of the
24 day, those critical positions, we have to make sure that
25 we hire the right individual every day, right? So with

1 that being said you have -- I think this board has -- is
2 in complete support of getting additional staff. But more
3 than anything is, please let us know what else we need to
4 do on our -- at our level to make sure that we get more
5 staff to you and the help that you need.

6 WILLIAM DIGGS: Mr. Chairman, thank you for that. I
7 can tell you that obviously Earl Pence and all of the
8 MVCPA staff have pitched in while we've had a couple of
9 vacancies here in the last week or two. They do a
10 phenomenal job each and every day. And then, Director
11 Avitia, Executive Director Avitia is extremely supportive
12 of the program and has been working closely with me over
13 the last few weeks and I look forward to him helping us
14 with that and he does a wonderful job. Keith Yawn is here
15 today and that's a prime example of the support that the
16 DMV is showing the program. Keith thank you for being
17 here, we appreciate your support. So with that, that's
18 all I have on the staffing update and I can move into the
19 Grant Management Tracking System Update, which is agenda
20 item 4B.

21 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Moving on to agenda item 4B.

22 WILLIAM DIGGS: So 4B is our grant management
23 tracking system. Historically, everyone knows that we
24 have been using a TAMU, Texas A&M University, system for a
25 number of years, dating back almost eight years now. And

1 we decided two years ago, that was one of our first tasks
2 that the board gave me, was to find a new system. SB224
3 was -- we felt it was critical that we had an updated
4 system. TAMU stepped in and we made all that happen and
5 got FY24 funding out on the street for law enforcement,
6 but then we continued to move forward. I will tell you
7 that our DMV legal services and finance services, they
8 worked closely with us, and we were able to recently make
9 an award to CGI Technologies and Solutions out of Austin.
10 And we recently had our kickoff meeting on March 31st with
11 the vendor, CGI, along with MVCPA staff. David Richards
12 was there, always appreciate David's support and we look
13 forward to that. We're in the discovery phase right now,
14 this phase is going to last about nine weeks. And they're
15 working closely with staff to determine all the different
16 things that we have currently today and what GMTS, the
17 TAMU system, does, but not just, you know, take that
18 system and move it over into a new platform, but to do the
19 things that I've heard the task force commanders want, I
20 know my staff wants, we need some automation. I've heard
21 from the board, Chief Sloan has told me some of his
22 wishes, what he would like to see this system do. We need
23 a lot of automation, I feel like we're going to be able to
24 get that from this new system. Once we've had about
25 another week or two working directly with staff, I'm going

1 to reach back out to the task force commanders, because we
2 brought them in early on when we were looking at putting
3 the RFP on the street to get the bids. Now we're going to
4 bring the task forces, we're going to bring them back into
5 the mix during discovery to make sure that we're hearing
6 them closely and that the vendor, CGI, is able to hear
7 them. I've actually had some communications with CGI.
8 They're going to be at our board meeting in July and come
9 to the conference, and I look forward to that, and they'll
10 get to see it firsthand. You're going to hear more from
11 Lauren Williams today, she's going to give you an update
12 on our April 8th workshop. I don't want to steal her
13 thunder. I will tell you that CGI sent three programmers
14 to our workshop in San Antonio, so they wanted to kind of
15 get a feel firsthand what it is that we're doing and how
16 it impacts Texas. And you hit on it, we've grown
17 significantly, we need this new system. The good news is
18 I've tasked CGI with this new system going into production
19 in March of 2027, everybody knows the significance of
20 that. That way when the RFAs hit the street for FY28,
21 we're going to be in the new system. Also, the good news,
22 TAMU has agreed to an amendment to where we've amended the
23 contract, and that contract now is going to run through
24 August 31st of 2027. So I feel like everything is lining
25 up the way it needs to. I'm looking forward to seeing

1 what the new system can actually do. It's actually an
2 exciting time. I've actually made the comment because it
3 is an investment, and I've told everybody during the
4 kickoff meeting, this is a 10 year investment, this is not
5 something that we need for a year or two. Because
6 programming and new systems and new platforms are pricey
7 and I want us to get the best for Texas, and for what
8 we're spending, it needs to be at least a 10 year
9 investment. So I'm looking forward to that. And with
10 that, I'm going to go ahead and close and take any
11 questions you may have.

12 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Any questions, members? Any
13 questions for Director Diggs? Well, so I spoke to Lauren
14 and Sterling at the workshop. And one of the things that
15 I did convey to them was that we definitely need a new
16 chat box, AI type of chat box where the questions can be
17 asked online and put -- drop all the guidelines and the
18 rules and everything that has to do with our grants. That
19 way they can just ask, right? And one of the other things
20 that we said also is to make sure that we involve the
21 financial individuals of the organizations that apply.
22 Because I think we, when we talk about the commanders
23 right, you know, commanders are cops, right, it's going to
24 say, "I want this and I want -- and we want everything
25 very easy," right? But I think when it comes to the

1 numbers, how to submit, and things like that, I think it's
2 important that we also involve our financial personnel.

3 WILLIAM DIGGS: Yes, sir, absolutely. I can look
4 around the room and I can see some of those people that
5 you're talking about, and we want those folks in the room,
6 and we'll make sure that we bring them to the table, as
7 we're still in the discovery phase for probably roughly
8 the next two months.

9 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Great. Good job. Okay. Moving on
10 to agenda item five, MVCPA Budget Update, this is a
11 briefing only. We'll now turn it to -- the meeting to
12 Chris Hayden, Deputy Finance Director.

13 CHRIS HAYDEN: Good morning.

14 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Good morning.

15 CHRIS HAYDEN: Chairman Rodriguez and board members,
16 for the record, I'm Chris Hayden, the acting chief
17 financial officer for the Texas Department of Motor
18 Vehicles, and today I'm here to talk to you about the FY26
19 budget for MVCPA, for the first six months through
20 February 28th, 2026. I will be mostly highlighting the
21 MVCPA portion, but there are also dedicated funds to both
22 Vehicle Titles and Registration as well as Information
23 Resources; I'll highlight those, but I'm going to be
24 mostly talking about MVCPA. So this is just an overview
25 that we have, but I'm going to go into more of the detail

1 on the spreadsheet, which is the next page. And what I
2 want to point out in 2026, MVCPA has a total adjusted
3 budget of about 75.2 million, that's all sources, of which
4 MVCPA is 73.8 million, Vehicle Titles and Registration is
5 0.1 million, and Information Technology is 1 point -- just
6 under 1.3 million, which includes unobligated funds from
7 prior years that have been brought forward into 2026. As
8 of February 28th, 2026, the board has 6.6 million dollars
9 in expenditures, 54.5 million in outstanding encumbrances,
10 and I hope you can see that up there, and outstanding
11 encumbrances, and leave an available balance of 12.6
12 million dollars for the remainder of the year and any
13 outstanding expenditure and any other obligations you
14 obligate throughout the year. More than 98 percent of the
15 board's budget is allocated to grants, contract services,
16 and professional fees and services, of which approximately
17 85 percent is for the grants and the remaining 13 percent
18 is for the contract services. And then the last 2 percent
19 is for -- used for salaries and other personal costs to
20 support the 15 FTE, which is now 13 FTE, for MVCPA. Major
21 contract expenditures for 2026 include funding for
22 interagency contracts with the Department of Public Safety
23 and the Department of Licensing and Regulation. Funding
24 in 2026 also provides technology services to assist in the
25 development of the applications related to catalytic

1 converter theft and the aforementioned that William talked
2 about, which is the establishment of the new grant
3 management tracking system. And that's just a high level,
4 and I'll just sort of go through these other slides real
5 quickly just so we can -- So this is just a breakdown of
6 the snapshot of just the MVCPA portion, not the catalytic
7 converter portion. And then this also includes the
8 detailed expenditures for each one of these. I said I'm
9 not going to -- we've already highlighted all this, and
10 this is just the catalytic converter portion, which
11 includes both IT and VTR. Except I think the key I want
12 to point out is that these are just the high points for
13 your budget. Overall, I think the board finances are very
14 strong, and for this fiscal year I think we're in great
15 shape. And then this concludes my presentation on the
16 high level of the budget and I'm here to answer any
17 questions you may have. Thank you.

18 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Any questions from the board?
19 Member Cantu Serrano, any questions?

20 REBECCA CANTU SERRANO: No, sir.

21 WILLIAM DIGGS: Yeah, William Diggs, Director MVCPA.
22 Chris, I want to say thank you as you've stepped in to
23 take Glenda's place and make the trip up here to Fort
24 Worth today to bring us this update. I know I'll be
25 working with you and staff as we get closer to July

1 because the critical thing here is, we know we're in great
2 shape in FY26 and we will continue to be, and I know some
3 of the math as was -- as it comes to September and some of
4 the dollars that were already going to be moving some
5 funding around to some of our partner agencies. And I've
6 also asked our partner agencies to give me FY 27 budget
7 information no later than May 1 for our interagency
8 contracts and I'll get those numbers, and I'll be working
9 with Chris and his team as we get closer to July to have a
10 real good handle on what does the math look like in FY27.
11 So you, the board, will feel confident when we make these
12 grant awards in FY27 during the board meeting that we
13 remain to be in great financial shape, moving into
14 calendar year '27. So again, Chris, thank you for
15 everything you're doing as you've stepped in and done a
16 phenomenal job since Glenda's departure.

17 CHRIS HAYDEN: Thank you. I'll do my best to fill
18 Glenda's shoes. I really appreciate you inviting me, Fort
19 Worth. I love coming to Fort Worth, and I look forward to
20 being here in a few more months.

21 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Director Hayden.
22 Appreciate you being here. All right, moving on to agenda
23 item 6, I'm told -- oh it's number 7? Oh, Jason is
24 number -- okay. So, moving on to agenda item 6, license
25 Plate Reader Update. I will now move on to agenda item 6,

1 we'll turn the meeting over to Major Sharon Jones.

2 SHARON JONES: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Good morning,
3 everyone. As of this morning, the statewide project with
4 the Flock cameras have reached 792 as being deployed, with
5 about 16 on hold. Those that are on hold are because of
6 maybe Flock needs to present some heavy-duty equipment, or
7 they're too close to a gas line or a private fence,
8 overgrown trees. But one of the major concerns with those
9 on hold has to do with constructions. So the decision was
10 made, if the construction is within a few months, that's
11 fine, we can wait. But then there are some that will
12 extend the construction into 2027, 2028, of course, we're
13 not going to wait for those. So we have worked with
14 Flock, they're going to remap those locations and move
15 those cameras elsewhere. So we have some dedicated space
16 to move those. But then what that will then further
17 entail, that in -- at the end of the construction projects
18 we may have some gaps, so then we'll have to come back to
19 the board. It should not be a significant amount to say,
20 "hey, let's fill in these gaps," so I don't anticipate a
21 lot of remapping and requests from there. There are still
22 three areas in Texas that have not been approved for
23 permitting yet by the Department of Transportation, but
24 Flock is communicating with them. Also, the Federal
25 Highway Administration has started to give approvals for

1 the highways, so part of those three delayed areas has to
2 do with the Federal Administration as well. They are 27
3 installs scheduled for this week throughout Texas,
4 including on the highways. TxDOT has issued, since last
5 week, 89 permits to agencies who are not receiving grant
6 funds. The reason that's important, that just basically
7 means that we have an additional footprint of the 89
8 cameras throughout Texas. The task force members and law
9 enforcement partners have, statewide, disrupted and
10 dismantled many criminal organized groups related to
11 automobiles. In one city alone, three fugitives were
12 arrested for felonious warrants pertaining to stolen
13 vehicles. Flock investigative technology aided in the
14 arrest of various criminals who committed organized theft
15 of cars, motorcycles, and trailers. Criminals were also
16 involved with license plates swapping, insurance fraud,
17 and juggling with links to multiple states. The technology
18 was often linked to additional crimes involving
19 automobiles, such as the transporting of \$1 million in a
20 truck tractor-trailer, and of course the million was
21 gained illegally. The technology was also used as an
22 additional investigative tool by law enforcement statewide
23 for the recovery of missing and exploited children,
24 fentanyl seizures, and one truck tractor-trailer alone,
25 650 kilos of meth were seized. It's also linked to

1 organized retail fraud of an estimate of 12 million, which
2 is also linked to multiple states. And then various
3 weapons were seized that were intended for felonious
4 assaults against persons. Mr. Chairman, all Flock
5 technology uses was for law enforcement purposes only and
6 was utilized as another investigative tool to keep the
7 citizens of Texas safe and its visitors safe from criminal
8 predators. If there are any specific questions for
9 investigative techniques, then we can, if we need to, we
10 can discuss those in closed session.

11 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Now, I applaud everything that
12 you've been doing, Major Jones. I think the task forces
13 are very grateful for the move that you've been doing on
14 permits and, you know, everything that has to do with
15 TxDOT, and I know the authority as well that has been
16 pushing this. More than anything, I think there's nobody
17 here in this room that can say, you know, those things
18 don't work, because they work. I mean, I can tell you
19 that just this week we had our third homicide in the city.
20 And the only reason we were able to arrest the individual,
21 wasn't even from Texas, was because of Flock. And very
22 grateful for everything that the authority has given the
23 department, but also very grateful for everything the
24 authority has, you know, been able to do across Texas.
25 And, you know, it just speaks volumes as to the work that

1 everybody in this board and everybody as the task force
2 commanders have done to make Texas a lot safer. So with
3 that being said, I know that there is some gaps across the
4 state. I will recommend for everybody in this room that
5 still has gaps within your city to make sure that we put
6 that in our grants, right, that we are -- that we're
7 adding additional Flock technology, whatever technology
8 that is needed to counter not only auto theft and
9 catalytic converter theft, burglary vehicle theft, all
10 those things that we do and that we've been doing for
11 years, now it's got a little bit easier to get the bad
12 guy. So we are recommending for everybody to make sure
13 that the task forces that have been with us for many
14 years, especially you guys, come forth with the technology
15 that you need, more than anything, this type of technology
16 that we know works. And so with that being said, also in
17 your presentations, please include success stories when
18 you come in and present into GBR during conference. Those
19 stories make a huge impact, and believe me, we take all
20 that back. I know Major Jones takes all that back through
21 the channels back to the governor's office, and it's
22 important that they understand the work that you guys are
23 doing here. So thank you for that. Thank you, Major.

24 SHARON JONES: Sir, thank you, you're welcome. And
25 so I -- let me ask this in open court, as I call it. So

1 you've given the -- those for the cities and counties to
2 request additional, what about the thought of those that
3 are still on highways that the state and that the city and
4 counties cannot get approved, that only the Texas
5 Department of Public Safety can?

6 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Absolutely. I think that if for
7 whatever reason you are within those jurisdictions that do
8 not want Flock, let's get together with DPS, that, you
9 know, we can put those in state right away. And there's
10 nothing that they can tell us, right, Major?

11 SHARON JONES: They have told us. Yes, sir.

12 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Yeah, so let's do that, guys. Is
13 that it?

14 SHARON JONES: Yes sir, that concludes my report.

15 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Members, any questions for Major
16 Jones?

17 TOM SLOAN: Just a comment, that it's all about
18 bringing awareness, and when we fill those gaps in the
19 public, they're going to be the benefit -- the
20 beneficiaries of that, because there's holes, but the
21 crime is still there, so everybody working together is
22 very important.

23 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Yeah, I think that that's very
24 important that you brought up that topic, because if we
25 continue putting out the success stories in different

1 cities across Texas, other cities are going to start
2 pretty much wanting to jump on board with this. And I
3 think the awareness is key. So thank you for bringing it
4 up.

5 SHARON JONES: Sir, I do have a question for Mr.
6 Diggs. Is Amber putting success stories out in social
7 media?

8 WILLIAM DIGGS: William Diggs, director, MVCPA.
9 Absolutely. Amber is, you know, we're reposting a lot of
10 the success stories from around the state from our task
11 forces and our catalytic converter grantees. We do that,
12 Amber's pretty much on there every day if you're following
13 us on LinkedIn or Facebook you'll see that, so she does.
14 I did want to add one other thing and just kind of a
15 comment, what -- Chief, what you were talking about as far
16 as for the jurisdictions that, you know, there may not be
17 support there for the technology to reach out to DPS.
18 I've always been a person that I say this, I think
19 sometimes that the -- sometimes the majority is silent; we
20 hear the minority. I believe the vast majority, most
21 Texans want to be safe from all sorts of crime, and the
22 technology with LPRs is making Texas a safer place, we all
23 know that, and we shouldn't be bashful about that. And
24 I'll tell you that I know that with the board support we
25 continue to make Texas a safer place. And so my hat's off

1 to you for recognizing that and to continue to push the
2 technology out all over the state of Texas so that all of
3 these crime fighters in this room can put the bad guys in
4 jail, they're doing a phenomenal job doing it because we
5 see it all the time. So fantastic job on law
6 enforcement's part in Texas, using the technology to make
7 it happen.

8 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Director Diggs. Thank
9 you, Major Jones. Moving on to agenda item 7, MVCPA Audit
10 Engagement Update, this is a briefing only. We'll turn
11 the meeting over to Jason Gonzalez, Director of Internal
12 Audition Division Director.

13 JASON GONZALEZ: Good morning, Chairman Rodriguez,
14 Board. My name is Jason Gonzalez; I'm the internal audit
15 director for the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles. So
16 our audit team just completed an audit on the MVCPA grant
17 approval process. So the audit objectives were to
18 evaluate the following topics: the process of determining
19 an applicant's eligibility to ensure grant recipients were
20 eligible to receive grant funding, the process of
21 monitoring the grants to ensure compliance with regulatory
22 requirements, and to evaluate the system access of the
23 department's Grant Management and Tracking System to
24 ensure user access was necessary and that the lowest level
25 of access required to perform duties was provided. Here,

1 we've compiled a list of strengths that we identified
2 during the audit. First, the inventory selected to review
3 was accounted for and had accurate dates reported
4 by -- dates and information reported by grantees. The
5 audit team performed inventory counts at the Austin,
6 Victoria, and Beaumont Police Departments. Next screen.
7 Next, grant auditors have processes in place to identify
8 select types of supplanting. Expenditures selected for
9 review had sufficient documentation, were allowable under
10 the grants, and were determined to be accurate. The
11 average time it took grant auditors to review expenditure
12 reporting was 18 days. Also, the average time management
13 to approve expenditure reporting was two days. And
14 finally, average time to pay the grantee for after
15 approval was six days, which we all felt were very
16 reasonable time frames. Next slide presents the results
17 of the audit. We found that the eligibility of grantees
18 could not be consistently confirmed because of evidence of
19 the eligibility verification, such as emails and
20 background checks, were not retained. Secondly, progress
21 and expenditure reporting were not submitted timely and
22 further goals were not consistently achieved. And lastly,
23 access to Grant Management Tracking System was not
24 performed on a regular basis. Just as a side note, I do
25 think all this just has to do with maturity. You know

1 they've had a lot of changes recently, and I think as they
2 become mature you'll see these numbers -- or you'll see
3 the information sort of just become stronger. So we
4 didn't see that there were any like massive red flags, I
5 think if we had, we would have had these conversations a
6 lot sooner. I think I went too far, let's go back. Okay.
7 I think we should have a, was there a slide on -- I think
8 we have a slide on -- I'm just going to speak to this.
9 So, as far as recommendations, so relating to eligibility
10 recommendations, we found that during our review of grant
11 applicants where we found applicants did not have
12 documented evidence of eligibility verification.
13 Additionally, we found that the attendance logs for
14 virtual training were not maintained, therefore attendance
15 prior to eligibility verification and application
16 submittal could not be verified. What we recommend for
17 this is that management establish a process for retaining
18 evidence that applicants were verified and eligible to
19 receive grant funding. Further, it is recommended that a
20 review and monitoring process be established so that
21 management can evaluate and ensure processes are working
22 as intended. Related to monitoring, we recommend that
23 management develop a review and monitoring process to
24 ensure the required reporting is submitted by the grantee,
25 reviewed by staff, and approved by management in a timely

1 manner. We also recommend that a formal and documented
2 process be established to ensure individual grantees
3 performance is evaluated for subsequent grant funding.
4 And finally, we recommend that management establish a
5 process to ensure that user access to grant management
6 systems is reviewed regularly to ensure that the access is
7 still needed and that the level of access is appropriate.
8 This concludes my presentations, I'd be happy to answer
9 any questions.

10 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: I want to correct something real
11 quick. So here it says, "Audition Division," it's
12 supposed to be "Auditing Division", right?

13 JASON GONZALEZ: Oh, okay. Yeah.

14 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: I want to make that clarification
15 first. And I know, it kind of sounded weird, so I have to
16 correct it.

17 JASON GONZALEZ: No, thank you.

18 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Director Gonzalez, I do want to say
19 we do have, I think, a lot of questions in regards to the
20 process.

21 JASON GONZALEZ: Sure.

22 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: But I'm going to let Major Jones
23 comment for the board.

24 SHARON JONES: Sir, in reference to eligibility and
25 monitoring, will they be progressive reports to make sure

1 that it stays on track, is on track, so is there any type
2 of planned progressive reporting?

3 JASON GONZALEZ: Yes ma'am, we do quarterly follow up
4 for recommendations. So when a recommendation is made, we
5 let the program team, A, respond to it, and William's team
6 has been very open armed in working with us as far as just
7 how things are going to be implemented and what changes
8 will be made. So once the management responses are
9 received, they'll give us an implementation date, and when
10 that implementation date becomes -- so, if it go -- when
11 it goes live, that's when we'll start our quarterly
12 reporting. That quarterly re -- that quarterly review
13 when it occurs, so it's called follow up. So when that
14 happens, we go in, we will test to see that whatever has
15 been implemented is actually working.

16 SHARON JONES: Perfect. And last question. You
17 mentioned there's recommendations pertaining to monitoring
18 about subsequent grant funding. So I wanted -- I want to
19 hear if you're saying what I've been asking for years or
20 commenting on. Tell me if I'm wrong, but what I'm hearing
21 you say is that your recommendation is if you have a
22 grantee who cannot complete the process, they don't have
23 the proper documentation, they don't have what they need
24 in place, it should not move forward and or subsequently
25 receive additional funding in the future.

1 JASON GONZALEZ: That's correct. We're saying that
2 everything should be supported prior to issuing grants.

3 SHARON JONES: Thank you.

4 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: I had a question, Director Gonzalez.
5 Is there -- or maybe address it through you, Director
6 Diggs. I know that we have our processes where we brought
7 to the board where there are certain expenses that you can
8 make without the board's approval, there are certain
9 things that we've tasked staff to take care of without the
10 board's approval. Is there any way that we can ask our
11 auditor to check that it mirrors what we're supposed to be
12 doing as a board through, you know, giving you that
13 authority to do those expenses and things like that? I
14 know the board has the authority to do that, but are we in
15 line with other boards within the state of Texas that is
16 doing the same thing that gives the grants at that
17 authority just to make sure that we're -- we can mirror
18 the same of other boards, right? We're not jumping into
19 something that, you know, we're giving you more authority
20 and then giving you, I guess, more task and, guess the,
21 more responsibility, I want to say, when you're giving
22 these approvals to do things, right? And one of the
23 things that, you know, I'm venturing into here is that
24 sometimes we made the decision within a conversation about
25 what are we going to be putting as a stat, or the

1 commanders to put as a stat? What are we going to be
2 doing for a specific item within the task forces to comply
3 with the grant? I want to make it very clear from here on
4 that I think anything that we're requesting from the task
5 forces that it'd be from the board itself saying if we're
6 going to be requesting for a catalytic converter to be put
7 as a stat, that it'd be A, B, and C first before we can
8 put as a stat. That if the catalytic converter was
9 reported stolen in Houston, and it was found in Austin,
10 right? Things like that, that what's going to be the
11 policy moving forward? I really do not want it to be a
12 conversation, I would really want for it to be a board
13 decision and saying, okay, I would like for you to bring
14 back, okay, this is how we're going to be putting that
15 stat. If it's got stolen in Houston, it was recovered in
16 Austin, the recovery, the statistic goes to Austin, that
17 goes -- doesn't go to Houston. So creating policy, I
18 think it's important that we make it as a board, versus
19 just having a conversation and saying, hey, this is what
20 we're going to do.

21 WILLIAM DIGGS: So William Diggs, Director, MVCPA.
22 And so Chief, I hear everything you're saying and I know
23 everyone knows that I talk to individual board members at
24 times and get direction. And then I always follow up with
25 you and make sure you're -- you give me a thumbs up,

1 Chief, and that you're good with it. Not that I'm
2 checking a board member, but I'm just making sure that you
3 have knowledge and you're good with it. I agree that
4 collaboratively it would be better for it to be a total
5 board decision in the future, that way all board members
6 have knowledge, and I fully support that and welcome that.
7 And I will make sure that in any conversations that I have
8 with individual board members, I'll start reminding that
9 board member that, hey, this would be an item, an agenda
10 item that we would take up on the next board meeting to
11 ensure that everybody has awareness and knowledge. As far
12 as, Mr. Gonzalez, Director Gonzalez in working with me and
13 my staff during throughout the audit over the last few
14 months, I'm very appreciative of the things that they
15 bring to us for awareness and some things that, you know,
16 we need to do moving forward. I will go on record as
17 saying that no one got money that shouldn't have, right?
18 No one got any money they shouldn't have. One of the
19 things that they pointed out was some of the grantees,
20 they would request access to GMTS, that's done through
21 email. What we didn't have that they could go back and
22 verify is we just simply didn't keep all those emails when
23 we were giving access to this agency somewhere in the
24 state of Texas. And so that was kind of part of, and
25 please Jason, if I'm putting words in your mouth, forgive

1 me, that was part of we couldn't verify that that took
2 place because we didn't save the email. Well, I'm going
3 to tell you and you'll see in our audit, and I'm going to
4 make -- I'm going to provide my audit response to all of
5 the board members, I think that's appropriate. You should
6 have not -- you should have that, I will provide that.
7 Most everything of the findings that Jason's team had, we
8 are going to implement automation just like I know Chief
9 Sloan has asked me to do months ago in this new GMTS
10 system. It's literally going to track and keep up with
11 and provide record of all decisions that are made. It's
12 going to simplify some things. And then I'm going to be
13 completely frank with you, I don't want to steal Lauren's
14 thunder, is she in the room? Because I know -- there she
15 is back there. Lauren, I promise I'm not going to steal
16 your thunder here in a little bit. But we had growth in
17 FY25 of 471 percent, right, from where we were, 471
18 percent. I anticipate based on the response that we had
19 on April the 8th, we're going to have around 200
20 applications, right? Probably 200 applications. We grew
21 from 5 to 15. Again, I go back to, we need a new platform
22 in GMTS and we need more staff. But in the meantime,
23 we're going to listen to what our internal auditor has
24 said, we're going to work together, to come up with better
25 solutions to make sure that we're fixing those things

1 mechanically right now. And then the reality of it is,
2 this new GMTS system, it's going to take care of a lot of
3 that through the technology itself. So again, I welcome
4 what you just said, Chief, and I'm going to make sure that
5 we bring agenda items and we don't just have conversations
6 on some of these other things that we've talked about.

7 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Yeah, and I think the whole approach
8 here, right, is that the responsibility doesn't just fall
9 on you, right, because this would be on record, there was
10 a request. And again, this is where I'm going with, are
11 we really just tied -- as a board, are we just, are we not
12 allowing you to do more? And that's what I really want to
13 find out, right? Because there's some items that we bring
14 that maybe it should be at Director Diggs's level, right?
15 And so that's what I was trying to figure out, because I
16 know we've brought some agenda items where we're giving
17 you the authority to do certain things, but is that
18 enough, right? And so I just want to make sure that we're
19 aligned with other boards across Texas, that we're
20 allowing him a little bit of wiggle room to do his job.
21 And at the same time also provide some level of protection
22 for him that we're not just putting a bunch of
23 responsibility to him without the board's consent, right?

24 JASON GONZALEZ: So we did benchmark against several
25 other agencies, including like, for example, Parks and

1 Wildlife, TEA, as far as like how they scored, how they
2 processed, how they made decisions. And we did feel that
3 there was alignment. So I don't think anythings
4 completely off kilter. So I think once you read this,
5 maybe that'll put it in some context, but if that's not
6 sufficient, please reach out to me and we can have
7 additional conversation about just how that was done.

8 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Appreciate it.

9 JASON GONZALEZ: Yes, sir.

10 SHARON JONES: Mr. Chair, I do echo what you're
11 stating, and William, the whole goal is to protect you.
12 It's not, we're not micromanaging, we're not trying to
13 micromanage anyone within your staff, is to protect you
14 and your staff, the agency and the state of Texas. So we
15 just want to make sure that we're doing it right, and the
16 right way to protect you on that matter. And then I do
17 have a question for you, sir. So you mentioned you're
18 anticipating 200 applications, is there a process that you
19 have developed that if an agency, they've met the
20 deadline, but they have not met the criteria in terms of
21 whatever that criteria is, whether it's submitting the
22 appropriate document, whatever that is, and they've met
23 the deadline. Do you have a process in place where
24 they're automatically eliminated? Or do you have a
25 placeholder? Oh, you go back to them, have your staff

1 contact them and say, "hey, we're still waiting on your
2 resolution," or -- so just walk me through that process,
3 please.

4 WILLIAM DIGGS: Yeah. So William Diggs, Director,
5 MVCPA. So Major Jones, the reality of it is, you know,
6 we're here, we're going to work -- we're here to work with
7 law enforcement, not to be a wall from -- in front of law
8 enforcement to get these grant funding. So absolutely, if
9 they make application, and again, applications end close
10 of business May the 8th, right? That's when this
11 application process closes, for FY27. So many of the
12 local governments, they don't -- and then whether that be
13 municipal or county governments, those meetings don't
14 place for -- don't take place for resolutions. And that's
15 probably our biggest issue 99 percent of the time is we
16 don't have resolutions in place at the time the grant
17 request for our applications close. Absolutely, I'm not
18 going to look at a local government and say, "hey, sorry,
19 you didn't get in front of your city council or you didn't
20 get in front of the Commissioner's Court and get this
21 resolution to me." So we allow for them to submit those
22 resolutions after the fact, that's in the best interest of
23 Texas. We have a process in place. Our grant specialist
24 are working closely with all of these applicants, Deputy
25 Director Pence and myself, we're locked into that. We'll

1 be having daily communication generally all the time now,
2 but absolutely after May the 8th, and we're going to know,
3 okay, we're short 25 resolutions, we're short 30
4 resolutions. We get those applicants to tell us, hey, my
5 Commissioner's Court is meeting on this date or, you know,
6 we're having our city council meeting on this date. We
7 know when to anticipate getting that resolution, we'll
8 have the resolutions prior to coming to our July board
9 meeting during the conference, and all that will be in
10 place. So there's absolutely a process and we want to
11 definitely, we don't have hard lines that say, "hey,
12 sorry, you're out of luck because you didn't meet the
13 deadline."

14 SHARON JONES: Perfect. Glad you're continuing from
15 the past with the resolutions. And we can't go and tell
16 the mayor, "hey, you need to do this," or city council,
17 but it's great that you're working with them and then that
18 also -- I wanted you to say that out loud because that
19 also cuts back on the emails and phone calls that Captain
20 Mena and I get on a regular basis about such matters.
21 Thank you, sir.

22 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Board members, any other questions?
23 Member Sloan? Member Cantu Serrano?

24 REBECCA CANTU SERRANO: No, sir.

25 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: All right, moving on to agenda item

1 8. Thank you, Mr. Gonzalez. Appreciate you. Agenda item
2 number 8, I will turn the meeting over to Major Sharon
3 Jones, Conference Update.

4 SHARON JONES: The conference is the week of July
5 20th, it's from the 20th to the 24th. Wednesday the 22nd
6 will be our off-site networking event, and that date was
7 moved from Monday to accommodate those who are just
8 applying for the Senate Bill 224 committee funding and not
9 here attending a conference, that gives them an
10 opportunity to actually network with the task forces
11 who've been doing this job tremendously for many years.
12 And that also shows support for not just larger agencies,
13 but for those rural communities who have a lot of
14 questions or for the smaller agencies. So that's why we
15 moved it on to Wednesday so that everyone can participate,
16 have the opportunity. And then Wednesday and Thursday,
17 sir, will be the awards, grant awards will be Wednesday
18 and Thursday. We have some time set aside Friday morning
19 in case there's overflow. So we'll make sure that
20 everyone gets -- they do say that we are not going to
21 rush. As usual, we're going to make sure that everyone is
22 taken care of. While we're having those meetings, the
23 conference will still be occurring in conjunction. The
24 banquet will be Thursday, again, the -- now the 224
25 Committee members, they can attend a banquet without their

1 bosses having to say, "go there and come right back."
2 Like, "why are you there? You don't need to go to
3 banquet." So we've made it easier for the bosses to say
4 yes. Our website, we are -- we, as in Yessenia, myself,
5 and William, we are hoping, fingers crossed that we'll
6 have the website up for registration within the next week
7 or two. So that's coming along. And then Justin White
8 has created a fantastic training agenda. That agenda is
9 literally in unison with the success stories that I
10 discussed earlier. We have all types of classes for law
11 enforcement, analysts, prosecutors; literally hand in hand
12 with what the LPR system does. And Mr. Diggs, as of this
13 morning, the training agenda was approved. So Justin can
14 go forth and conquer. And we're anticipating about 500 to
15 600 attendees this year. And as you know, our training
16 increases and our attendees, but this is what MVCPA is
17 about, inclusion and making sure that we can take care of
18 all agencies regardless of geographical location and our
19 size.

20 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Outstanding.

21 SHARON JONES: Thank you, sir.

22 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: I think I was going to ask Director
23 Jason and Major Jones, you chair that board with Member
24 Sloan on the GBR committee. Is there any way that we
25 can -- before we get to the conference, that we can screen

1 for those applicants that are going to be asking for items
2 that we know we're not gonna fund?

3 WILLIAM DIGGS: So, William Diggs, Director, MVCPA.
4 So Chief, absolutely. Myself and Earl, we're literally,
5 and you know, we've got a number of grants applications
6 already saved, well over a hundred combined. We are
7 having conversations with those applicants already. There
8 are certain things if we know -- we're absolutely not
9 gonna fund. We don't buy weapons, we all know that, we
10 tell our applicants we're not going to do that. There are
11 certain things, depending on the grant type, we know we're
12 not gonna do based on previous experience in the last two
13 years. And so we're having those conversations. I
14 believe it would be an excellent idea to have a
15 conversation prior to July with GBR to walk through those
16 grants and just make sure before we get into that. And I
17 will work with David Richards on how we navigate that, you
18 know, do we have to call a public meeting? Do we -- can
19 we do it virtually, right? So I believe we can do that.
20 And it could be that we could have a workshop depending on
21 the number of folks that are present versus having a
22 quorum. So excellent idea and we can have more
23 conversation about that. But I like that.

24 SHARON JONES: So, sir, after last year's meeting and
25 some of the grantees, they teased me because they always

1 say we know when she starts writing, she's up to
2 something. So that -- once I get someone who's traveled
3 so many hours to come here for us to tell them no, you
4 cannot purchase weapons, you can't start your own SWAT
5 team; that should have never made it to us. And so it's
6 not just that, there were others. So immediately before
7 we left, I had a conversation with William about, let's
8 make sure that we screen better. And I even gave him the
9 option to say, "hey, bring it to the GBR committee." If
10 there's something that you know outright, yes. No
11 weapons, no. But if you're iffy on something, just bring
12 it to us and let us know. And something else I did ask
13 him to also start doing, and this is with your blessing as
14 well, if the GBR committee has said no to a grantee, and
15 then the grantee, after the official proceedings, goes
16 back to MVCPA and said, hey, like they said I couldn't get
17 13, but I can get six, we approve it. I understand that
18 Mr. Diggs has the approval to say yes, but also the
19 committee would like to be involved. Well, not
20 necessarily involved, but we would like to be in the know
21 so we know that -- what we -- it goes back to protection,
22 right? And auditing to make sure that we're all on the
23 same page.

24 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Yeah, and I think the approach here
25 should be we screen -- and I want to say we're good with

1 that, Member Sloan, that we screen the applications. We
2 already know we're not going to fund weapons, we're not
3 going to fund a BearCat, we're not going to fund any of
4 that. They don't have to be standing here for hours like
5 I think you said, travel 7, 8 hours, 10 hours to come in
6 for -- so we can tell them no. So I think that in itself
7 needs to be definitely taken care of before we get to GBR.
8 And then plus that, I agree with you where if a grantee is
9 requesting certain things and the committee says, you know
10 what, we can definitely say yes to this part of your ask,
11 but not this, think it has to be well documented. GBR
12 reports are supposed to be submitted to the director so
13 that he can refer what was said, you know, what was
14 approved and what was not approved. I think that would be
15 a much cleaner way to take care of that versus going back
16 to the reporter and kind of navigating through it, see
17 what was approved or not. The other thing that I was
18 going to add to this is that we have to be very, very
19 direct with these agencies that, please do not stand in
20 front of the GBR committee explaining tactics, explaining
21 operations, we don't do that. We're just requesting the
22 items, and then we move forward on it. We're not going to
23 be going back and forth as to explaining, because this is
24 all public, explaining their operation.

25 WILLIAM DIGGS: Absolutely. So, Chief and Major

1 Jones, Chief Sloan, I was also going to -- I was going to
2 recommend that, again, the application process closes on
3 May the 8th. In about a month after that, we would have
4 had time to have gone through the screening and the
5 scoring. I believe what we can do is all of those
6 applications, obviously, are still saved in GMTS. We can
7 create a spreadsheet of things that we believe may be
8 concerning. And then we can either, one of two things, we
9 can provide a link to the GBR members with the spreadsheet
10 so that they could see those things that are concerned,
11 and they can, at your leisure, you can look at that
12 spreadsheet, and then you can also look at that
13 application. And then that would be a good way, I
14 believe, is screening, provide guidance to me if there's
15 just something that you know is not going to work, and
16 then we can reach back out to the grantee. So again,
17 Major, they don't make that drive halfway across Texas for
18 you guys to hear their request and say no. So I welcome
19 all that, and thank you for the guidance and the
20 recommendation.

21 SHARON JONES: Yes, sir. Member Sloan and Member
22 Cantu, does that work for both of you?

23 REBECCA CANTU SERRANO: Yes, ma'am.

24 TOM SLOAN: Member Sloan. Yes, it does. And I think
25 it just boils down to being pragmatic and efficient. We

1 talk about, you know, you think about the agencies who are
2 asking for things that they think they need, the
3 networking that's available, too, with agencies who have
4 been there and done that, that's very important so that
5 you don't have a time zap. Because we've all got bosses
6 and the bosses want things done. And then you drive or
7 you fly in and you stand here and only to be told no. We
8 could have addressed that weeks or months before. And I
9 think it's important we talk about how many additional
10 agencies are going forward with being grantees. And then
11 the drain on personnel, you know, they're calling in, put
12 them in touch with these other agencies. I saw that when
13 we went down in San Antonio and we had our training
14 session. I saw soon to be grantees, want to be grantees
15 learning from the old hats who have been there, done that.
16 And it's an FTO process that, on the back end, is helping
17 us out a great deal. But, yes, long answer to your
18 question, yeah, I'm in full support of that. I think it's
19 a good idea.

20 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Members, are we okay with that?

21 Yeah. Member Cantu Serrano --

22 REBECCA CANTU SERRANO: Yes, sir.

23 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Are we good with the recommendation?

24 REBECCA CANTU SERRANO: Yes.

25 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Perfect. So we're going to take 10

1 minute, 15 minute? 15 minute break. It is 10:35.

2 (Off the record)

3 (Back on record)

4 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: It is 10:54 a.m. We're back in
5 session. We'll now move on to agenda item 9. And I will
6 turn the meeting over to Captain Jose Mena, Texas DPS CID.

7 JOSE MENA: Good morning, chairman of the Board and
8 Board Members. I'm Jose Mena, I'm a captain with Texas
9 Department of Public Safety, I am one of its SIS program
10 captains. Let me start off this morning by saying how
11 honored I am to be here in front of this Board. I had the
12 privilege of working with Darren Almendarez when I was
13 stationed in Houston. So to be sitting in front of a
14 Board that has a committee that keeps his name alive,
15 trust me, it's an honor to be sitting in front of y'all.
16 Thank y'all for this opportunity. DPS is presenting two
17 proposals to the Board today. Now, DPS may be the agency
18 making the proposal, but we're not making these proposals
19 only to benefit DPS. We are making these proposals to
20 benefit all the surrounding agencies that may be affected
21 with these proposals. Motor vehicle crimes continue to
22 plague the cities of Texas. Now, it's difficult to get an
23 exact number of certain crimes, as Chairman Rodriguez was
24 saying earlier today, the stats is kind of difficult when
25 you start talking about catalytic converter thefts and is

1 it counted where it was taken or where it was recovered?
2 So those stats are hard to combine and to gain. But one
3 of the crimes or the motor vehicle crimes that we are able
4 to document and report are motor vehicle thefts. Now,
5 having said that, I compiled -- start this. Okay. I
6 compiled figures and numbers based off of the Texas
7 Department of Public Safety crime records. It releases a
8 monthly auto theft report, and it gets this report from
9 agencies that report to TCIC on stolen vehicles. Now, in
10 this report it has two groups when it's discussing the
11 cities. The two groups are 200 -- a population of 250,000
12 or more, and the second group is a population of 150,000
13 to 250,000, and it lists the top 10 cities in both of
14 these groups in its report. The first area we're looking
15 at is Dallas--Fort Worth area. To my surprise, many of
16 these cities in the Dallas--Fort Worth area are actually on
17 the report as one of the top tens either -- in either
18 group. These cities consist of Arlington, Dallas, Fort
19 Worth, Irving, Plano, Denton, Frisco, Garland, Grand
20 Prairie and McKinney, I consider all that the Dallas--Fort
21 Worth area and all of those cities I just named are
22 actually listed on that report as one of the top cities
23 for motor vehicle thefts. In January of this year, we
24 held a meeting with representatives from DPS, from Flock
25 Safety, the Tarrant Regional Auto Crimes Task Force, the

1 Prosper Auto Theft Task Force, the North Texas Auto Theft
2 Task Force and the Dallas Salvage Unit and discussed our
3 proposal for the Dallas-Fort Worth area. All the cities I
4 mentioned will be affected by our proposal. So I took
5 these monthly auto theft reports, and I combined the
6 figures up. Here are the monthly auto theft reports from
7 January 2025, to the first quarter of 2026. That's till
8 March because the April report hasn't come out. So after
9 combining all of them, these are the figures I have for
10 the Dallas-Fort Worth area on stolen motor vehicles, okay?
11 Now the second area we're looking at is the Austin-San
12 Antonio area, State Highway 130. So I did the same thing
13 for those cities and I came up with these totals. Right
14 there, 12,957, okay? That's the grand total of both areas
15 combined from 2025 to the first quarter of 2026. 27,794
16 documented stolen vehicles in both areas. Now I want to
17 remind everyone in this room today that there's only 365
18 days in a year. So if you start doing the math on that,
19 on how many vehicles are stolen per month, it's
20 astronomical, okay? Let me get to the first project.
21 These are our two proposed project, the Dallas toll road
22 project and the State Highway 130 project. The goal is to
23 combat and reduce motor vehicle and catalytic thefts in
24 Texas. Again, it's very difficult to get catalytic
25 converter theft numbers because some agencies don't report

1 it and some don't even keep track of it. But that's our
2 main goal. Of course, we're going to solve other crimes
3 with these two proposals. Major Jones did a fantastic job
4 just listing an array of different crimes that these
5 cameras have helped solve. Let's break it down to the
6 first proposal. These are some of the things we focused
7 on when we were thinking about the proposal for the
8 Dallas-Fort Worth area. It's going to be on the toll
9 roads and the ones that are going to be affected are Sam
10 Rayburn Tollway, the President George Bush Turnpike, the
11 Dallas North Tollway, Chisholm Trail, and the 360 Tollway.
12 We're going to focus our coverage on on and off ramps and
13 transition roadways. The license plate readers will be
14 placed on the toll roads -- or will not be placed on the
15 toll road thoroughfare at this time. We reviewed existing
16 LPRs in the areas so that there's no redundancy in it.
17 The devices will be installed on the NTTA right of way and
18 a total of 450 Flock cameras is what we intend to put up
19 in that area. Now if you look at the screen, these are
20 the Dallas tollways. And if you look closely you'll see
21 all the cities I named in or around that immediate area.
22 This is what we intend to do on those toll roads with the
23 450 Flock cameras we intend to install. I'm going to
24 break it down a little bit more and we do have the
25 pictures on the other side over there, after my

1 presentation, feel free to go look at those pictures. All
2 right, the first one is going to be the President George
3 Bush Turnpike, we intend to install 160 Flock cameras on
4 that one and that's what it's going to look like. Next is
5 going to be the Sam Rayburn Tollway with 100 -- excuse me
6 with 88 LPRs. The Dallas North Tollway, 114. The 360
7 Tollway with 26 LPRs. And the Chisholm Trail Parkway, and
8 we intend to install 62 Flock cameras there. All right,
9 the second project we intend to have is the State Highway
10 130 project, and that's the San Antonio--Austin area. Our
11 focus was on -- to be put on the State Highway 130. We
12 focused coverage on the on and off ramps and transition
13 roadways. The devices are going to be put on the TxDOT
14 right of way on this one though, and we intend to install
15 133 Flock cameras there. So why is State Highway 130
16 important? Well, it acts as a corridor between the two
17 major cities and it acts as a secondary route to avoid law
18 enforcement. And if you don't know what I mean I'm going
19 to show you right here. If you look at the blue line
20 that's Interstate 35, and if you look right next to it,
21 the State Highway 130. Now I've been on Interstate 135
22 and there's law enforcement present. Where I don't see
23 law enforcement present is State Highway 130, all right?
24 So if we get cameras there that will greatly enhance us,
25 it'll be a game changer for us in law enforcement. Now

1 State Highway 130 acts as a corridor, any illegal
2 contraband, stolen vehicles, stolen catalytics, drugs,
3 anything can be moved from San Antonio to north of Austin
4 bypassing law enforcement and cameras on Interstate 35
5 just by jumping on State Highway 130, all right? So this
6 is what we intend to do with it right there. We intend to
7 put 133 Flock cameras up and down State Highway 130. And
8 again, it's going to be on the transition roadways as well
9 as the on and off ramps, so we'll know exactly where our
10 targets or stolen vehicles are moving at any particular
11 time. I got it set up to where I can -- it's a closer
12 look north of the Austin airport on 130, that's what it's
13 going to look like. And then south of the Austin airport,
14 here's what it's going to look like after we install all
15 133 cameras on there. The total cost of both proposals
16 for fiscal year 26 and 27 combined will be 3,047,524.
17 Now, I started this presentation by saying DPS was the
18 agency making the proposal, but other agencies will
19 benefit. Right now DPS has 792 cameras up and running
20 throughout the state, that's almost 800 cameras. And I'm
21 proud to say that right now, DPS is sharing with 179
22 agencies throughout the state, and I'm expecting much,
23 much more. Sharing the data strengthens the collaboration
24 between law enforcement agencies to combat motor vehicle
25 theft, catalytic converter thefts, as well as other crimes

1 in Texas. But more importantly, sharing the data creates
2 safer communities throughout the state of Texas. I'm open
3 to any questions if anyone has any.

4 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Do you have a question, Director
5 Diggs?

6 WILLIAM DIGGS: William Diggs, Director, MVCPA.
7 Chief Rodriguez, yes, board members, I was just going to
8 say I've been working with Cap. Mena and the conversations
9 I've had with him and also with Major Jones. A few months
10 back, myself and Deputy Director Earl Pence, we came to
11 North Texas and we attended a law enforcement meeting with
12 the North Texas Regional Commander of the Texas DPS,
13 Jeremy Sherrod. The room was full of law enforcement
14 agencies throughout North Texas, both state, local,
15 municipal, sheriff's deputies from different counties.
16 I'll tell you, they're behind this. I believe we need
17 this to further protect Texas. I know I've had
18 conversations with law enforcement and other task force
19 members. The sooner we know about a stolen vehicle is on
20 the move the better opportunity, the better chance we're
21 going to have of interdicting it and stopping it before it
22 crosses the US-Mexico border. And we also heard Chris
23 Hayden say earlier during our financial report that
24 unencumbered right now for FY26, we have roughly 12.6
25 million dollars. I'm in support of this and I just wanted

1 to go on the record and let you know that I support this
2 and I believe we have the funding to do so.

3 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Director Diggs. Captain,
4 I think you hit the nail on the head, right? We have the
5 two zones in our state that are blinking red all the time
6 when it comes to auto theft. And I think, you know, it's
7 just very clear and evident, right, that Round Rock,
8 Georgetown, Austin, why it blinks red, it's that highway
9 right there, right? It's an easy way out. We're working
10 very hard as well with the I-35 corridor because we want
11 to make sure that the troops, you know, have ample time to
12 stop anybody that has a stolen vehicle going down south.

13 JOSE MENA: Yes, sir.

14 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: But the main thing is also, you
15 know, it's the numbers itself, right? Where are all these
16 vehicles going, right? How many have we recovered? These
17 are important questions that we also need to ask
18 ourselves. And this is why I think we need to refocus on
19 auto theft, I know we put 100 percent focus on catalytic
20 converter and burglary vehicles and things like that. But
21 at the end of the day, the auto theft component, right,
22 those are very high numbers for our cities here in the
23 state, especially in this area. And so I will, you know,
24 we talked about this in Brownsville, right, where we have,
25 you know, the port of El Paso, there's about over 100

1 vehicles going there on a quarterly basis for the year.
2 And I spoke to NICB, to my task force, and to talk to NICB
3 because there's more than 100 vehicles going through that
4 border. There's more than 100 vehicles going through
5 Laredo, through Brownsville, through Del Rio, through all
6 those ports. And so this tool is going to get us to make
7 sure that we go down in numbers when it comes to auto
8 theft because we'll be able to have the ability to stop
9 that individual going with that stolen vehicle, but it's
10 also going to give us a bunch of intel, and that's key to
11 every operation that we're doing. So I applaud you and
12 Major Jones and DPS and everybody that was involved in
13 this project, because it is a much needed item for those
14 highways. We don't have that visibility, we're always
15 going to lose. And, you know, we keep talking to
16 conversations with Dallas, this is why we want to come
17 back and ask, what do you guys need, also, right? What do
18 you -- what does Dallas PD need. Tarrant County, all the
19 agencies that are here, what else do we need to do to make
20 sure that we reduce the number of stolen vehicles? And
21 also we need to capture where are they going, where are
22 they taking them, and if anything, what's the connection?
23 Who are the groups? So we're going to be getting, you
24 know, we talked about it over and over again that we need
25 to refocus on where is it blinking red in our state and

1 attack it very aggressively. So thank you for everything,
2 thank you for this project, Major Jones, thank you for
3 leading the [indiscernible].

4 JOSE MENA: Yes, sir. And to reiterate, I'm the one
5 sitting in this chair, and DPS is the one making these
6 proposals, but I was just standing over there with a lot
7 of people from the task force who are reiterating, saying
8 it's going to be a game changer for us. So, and DPS will
9 share with all these agencies that want to be a part of
10 it. So I have one more slide right here, I have my
11 contact information right there. If anyone wants to take
12 a picture of my contact information and ask for any help.
13 And I also put my first line supervisor's information
14 there if anyone wants to say how fantastic I did at this
15 presentation today, I'd appreciate it.

16 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Board members, any other questions?
17 Member Cantu-Serrano?

18 REBECCA CANTU SERRANO: No, sir.

19 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Sloan? Captain Mena,
20 appreciate you. Thank you. Yess, is there any public
21 comment on this item?

22 YESSANIA BENAVIDES: No, Mr. Chair, there are no
23 public comments for this agenda item.

24 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Members, would anyone like to make a
25 motion, a motion is for this item?

1 TOM SLOAN: Board Member Sloan, I move that the Board
2 approve the proposed -- the proposal for FY26 and FY27 not
3 to exceed 3,047,524 set forth in the agenda number 9.

4 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Do I have a second?

5 [Crosstalk]

6 REBECCA CANTU SERRANO: Board Member Cantu Serrano, I
7 second.

8 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: I have a motion for member Sloan, A
9 second from member Cantu Serrano, any further discussion?
10 Hearing none, I will now call for the vote. Board
11 members, when I call your name, please state your vote for
12 the record. Member Jones?

13 SHARON JONES: Abstain.

14 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Need to hear it on record.

15 SHARON JONES: Abstain, abstain, abstain.

16 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Whitehill.

17 KIT WHITEHALL: Aye.

18 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Brotherton.

19 CHARLA BROTHERTON: Aye.

20 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Cantu Serrano.

21 REBECCA CANTU SERRANO: Aye.

22 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Sloan.

23 TOM SLOAN: Aye.

24 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Jackson.

25 SCOTT JACKSON: Aye.

1 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And I, Chairman Rodriguez vote, aye.
2 Let the record reflect that there are six votes for and
3 one abstain. The motion passes. Thank you, Captain.

4 SHARON JONES: Mr. Chairman, now that it has passed,
5 may I make some comments?

6 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Absolutely.

7 SHARON JONES: So before I used to sit behind a desk,
8 I actually did some work, some investigations. And I can
9 tell you that it -- the map that Captain Mena showed where
10 there's 35 and it's 130. They literally avoid 35, they
11 will stage when -- if they're coming from south or
12 wherever they're going, they're going to stage outside of
13 the big cities. They do not want to drive through Austin,
14 they definitely do not want to go through Round Rock or
15 Georgetown because all of that is Williamson County. So
16 they will literally get on 130 toll. And when I tell you,
17 if a truck tractor-trailer is doing 55, they're going to
18 get right behind that truck tractor-trailer, and they're
19 not going to speed up, they're not moving, they're not
20 going to move over, they're not going to pass, and they're
21 going to sit there on 130 and exit all the way in
22 Georgetown. And then when they go through to the Dallas
23 area and they get to the split, they're going to go to the
24 toll, and then coming back is literally the same thing.
25 And they literally know how to avoid where there's no law

1 enforcement. So thank you for taking care of business,
2 board members, and knowing what needs to be done. Thank
3 you for that.

4 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Member Jones. Moving on
5 to agenda item 10, MVCPA Grantee Process Update, April 8,
6 2026. I will turn the meeting over to Lauren Williams,
7 our auditor from MVCPA.

8 LAUREN WILLIAMS: Good morning, Chairman, MVCPA
9 Board. I will give an update over our MVCPA grantee
10 process, as well as the April 8th training that we had.
11 We'll start with that April 8th workshop. The MVCPA
12 hosted that FY27 RFA workshop in San Antonio just here on
13 April 8th. MVCPA staff covered a very wide range of
14 topics, I've listed a few of those here. We cover the RFA
15 itself, GMTS information and navigation of that current
16 system that we employ, application details, MVCPA required
17 documentation, all of our post-award requirements,
18 expenditure reporting. We covered supplanting, I know
19 that's one of y'all's favorite topics, of course. LPR
20 invoicing and documentation requirements, as well as our
21 grant closeout process. Oh -- okay, perfect.
22 Approximately 360 individuals attended that workshop on
23 April 8th. We've received some great feedback, we're
24 really excited to hear about it. As a result, we have
25 received an influx of questions from our grantees, and I

1 do want to emphasize that we do encourage all of our
2 current and prospective grantees to utilize MVCPA staff as
3 a resource. We do intend to provide this training
4 annually, and so if there is any request for topics to be
5 covered in the next training, we do ask that you send that
6 over to us to make sure that we're hitting on those points
7 for you all. Perfect. As of this morning, I did make
8 sure I updated these figures for you all so they're the
9 most accurate as possible. I want to provide a current
10 status update of our FY27 applications. We have zero task
11 force grant applications submitted as of now, but we do
12 have 38 applications saved. As far as SB 224, we have
13 eight applications submitted and 111 applications saved.
14 So we'll have quite a few grantees this year. Awesome.
15 On the same note, I just want to give everyone in the room
16 a reminder that all FY27 applications close at 5 p.m. on
17 May 8th. Board, I know you all probably don't need that
18 reminder, but we have a lot of grantees here, please make
19 sure that y'all get those in. If there are any
20 application related questions, please reach out to your
21 MVCPA grant specialist and/or grant auditor ahead of time
22 to make sure that we ensure that you all have time to get
23 those answers -- questions answered prior to your
24 applications being due. Please also note, on the same
25 note, that attendance of our GBR meeting over July 22nd

1 and July 23rd is required if you're seeking FY27 award.
2 Please be ready to answer any questions the Board may
3 have; come prepared. Next, I'll provide a little update
4 on the audit engagement that you all heard from Jason on
5 earlier. The MVCPA would first like to start with giving
6 a sincere thank you to Sonia, Denisha, and Jason for the
7 collaborative and productive audit process. The feedback
8 provided in the audit report highlighted significant
9 strengths on behalf of MVCPA and also gave us
10 recommendations for process improvements. We appreciate
11 both of those equally and again really, really thank IAD
12 for their collaboration with us. First, we'll go over
13 those strengths. I know y'all heard from Jason on these
14 earlier, but I'd like to reiterate them. The selected
15 inventory items were accounted for and had accurate data
16 reported. Our grant auditors have established a review
17 process to identify select types of supplanting.
18 Expenditures selected for review were supported,
19 allowable, and accurate. This actually goes for all the
20 expenditures that were tested on behalf of IAD. The
21 average time for our grant auditors to review expenditure
22 reports was 18 days. Of course, you all know you're very
23 well aware of all the extensions and everything that
24 occurred during the scope of this audit. So with that
25 being said, I think that that's something to hang our hat

1 on. On the same note, the average time to approve
2 expenditure reporting by management, thank you so much,
3 Earl, was two days. And the average time to pay the
4 grantee after approval was six days. So we're taking care
5 of our grantees in a timely manner. On the same note, I
6 would like to highlight that these strengths are
7 incredibly important to note during the scope of this
8 audit, as these strengths were highlighted during a period
9 in which the MVCPA, William, to your point earlier,
10 experienced growth of 242 percent in FY24 and 471 percent
11 in FY25, respectively, when we compare those figures to
12 FY23. There was also physical inventory here. So when we
13 talk about the strengths of having these inventory items
14 supported, these are truly verified by your grantees in
15 these years and again then verified by Jason and his team.
16 There was only one intake specialist and two grant
17 auditors solely responsible for processing 100 percent of
18 these expenditure reports. There was also only one
19 director functioning as final approval on all expenditure
20 reports. Earl, again, thank you for all of your hard
21 work. Also during this time, again, our MVCPA staff saw
22 an increase of 10 FTEs across all business segments,
23 requiring hiring and training and management by directors.
24 Again, this all occurred during the scope of that audit,
25 so I'd just like y'all again to keep that in mind, and

1 thank you to all MVCPA staff working so hard. Awesome.
2 Here we have the recommendations provided by IAD, and I
3 also have our MVCPA response to those items. I'm going to
4 give y'all a quick overview. First, IAD asks that we
5 should establish a formal and documented process
6 evaluation for all potential applicants as a metric for
7 subsequent grant awards, I know this was a topic discussed
8 earlier. Our response is that MVCPA's new grant
9 management system, the GMTS built by CGI, will have a
10 formal and documented evaluation process for all potential
11 applicants. So this is something that will help again us
12 align with IAD on their request. They also request that
13 MVCPA should establish a process for retaining supporting
14 evidence, I know this is another topic that we all
15 discussed earlier. The MVCPA will integrate and establish
16 a process for retaining all supporting documentation
17 related to the grant. For the review and monitoring
18 process to ensure that we're having key controls, the
19 MVCPA will perform a formal review of all controls and
20 monitoring processes as they exist currently. And as a
21 part of the implementation of the new grant management
22 system, we will ensure that these key internal controls
23 are implemented and also operating as designed. So we
24 want to make sure that not only are we upholding these,
25 but that they're resulting in what we want, which is, of

1 course, compliance. During the application phase, IAD has
2 asked that we should review individual grantees' prior
3 performance and adjust the goals and metrics to ensure
4 that the grantee is meeting or increasing its activities
5 annually. The MVCPA will implement a formalized grantee
6 review process that does include that annual assessment of
7 a grantee's previous performance. And we will also adjust
8 the goals and metrics to ensure that the grantee is
9 meeting again and or ideally increasing their activities
10 annually. Additionally, our new GMTS system will help
11 facilitate annual reviews of each grantee's performance,
12 including progress towards established goals, to make sure
13 that we're using this as a metric for any subsequent
14 awards. MVCPA also should establish, per IAD, a
15 monitoring and review process to ensure access to TAMU
16 GMTS is reviewed on a regular basis and is appropriate.
17 The new GMTS system will have role-based access controls
18 limiting unnecessary exposure to data, audit logs and
19 activity monitoring, as well as automated alerts regarding
20 dormant accounts. So this will provide MVCPA staff with
21 direct feedback from the system automatically on accounts
22 that should be disabled to ensure that we are monitoring
23 that access management portion. Thank you again to Jason
24 and his team for giving us all of these good
25 recommendations and for allowing us the time to assess and

1 ensure that we're addressing them appropriately. Board,
2 if y'all have any questions, I would love to answer them.

3 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Do I have any questions for Ms.
4 Lauren? Great job.

5 LAUREN WILLIAMS: Thank y'all. Thank you.

6 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Agenda item 11, oh, is it 10? yes,
7 10, I'm sorry. Agenda item 10, MVCPA Grantee Process
8 Update April 8th, 2026 Workshop Training. Is that what it
9 was? No, this is Laura's item. Okay. Agenda item 11,
10 MVCPA Training Team Update, this is a briefing only.
11 We'll now move to agenda item 11, turn it over to Earl
12 Pence, Deputy Director.

13 EARL PENCE: Good morning Chairman, Board, thank you
14 all for letting me have you about 10 minutes of your
15 lifetime. We'll give you a quick update on our training
16 division. They would be here presenting, however they're
17 out on the road training, imagine that. That is
18 not -- there we go, thank you. Wait, advance one more.
19 This is -- go back to the training mission please. Okay,
20 this is our current training mission. Our training
21 division started with one person, Justin White. We added
22 an addition of Herman Adair who is just an old auto theft
23 hand, we also added Amber Ott at a later date. These
24 three people have that magical combination and you're
25 going to see some numbers here in a minute, and just off

1 the cuff ideas between two people that have panned out to
2 be something pretty fantastic. We do live by this
3 training mission, I think it's a good one. And it's the
4 point of serving Texans better by training on law
5 enforcement and auto theft, bottom line. Change, please.
6 This is the training courses we currently offer. The
7 first one is a part one which is an intermediate auto
8 theft course. We go over VIN number structure, passenger
9 car and light truck identification, motorcycles, ATV, UTV,
10 ID, fraudulent documents, VIN swaps, current trends,
11 resources, light duty trailer, legal aspects, acid
12 restoration, and hands-on practicals. The acid
13 restoration is hands-on. I'll give you, for instance,
14 stolen vehicles are recovered in the rain believe it or
15 not, and San Antonio Monday or Tuesday proved they did
16 acid restoration in the rain, the class did, which,
17 they're in session, I believe they finish up today matter
18 of fact. Next, please. The part two auto theft which is
19 the advanced, goes more in depth with repair shop
20 inspections, the commercial motor vehicle identification,
21 heavy equipment, marine theft, the difference between a
22 PIN, HIN, and a VIN. And I hope I'm not blowing y'all out
23 I'm gonna back off. Salvage dealers, odometer fraud; we
24 just added odometer fraud. We have Bob Cowan from the
25 Dallas area with NHTSA, who I've trained with him before

1 in odometer fraud, he is very well, very versed. We're
2 adding that as a part of the part two from now on. We had
3 some reports from Northern Task Forces and believe
4 Eastern, that odometer frauds start to come back. We
5 also -- the auto hauler transportation cargo theft, we've
6 added that and as well as the hands-on practicals for that
7 course. These are the -- during our training courses
8 outside of part one and part two, we do offer an overview
9 of MVCPA, title fraudulent, and fraudulent Texas titles,
10 the auto theft and auto theft prevention, and the -- also
11 the auto haulers cargo theft, basically auto haulers
12 investigations. Next please. The new training course.
13 In April of '25 we had gotten call from three different
14 departments that said, "the LPRs are great, but our
15 patrolmen are very -- they have no training. They
16 couldn't see -- they don't know what to look for on
17 vehicle." In two weeks time, three stolen vehicles got
18 away three different departments because of the patrolmen.
19 So me and Herman Adair got together for three hours and
20 developed an auto theft for patrol. We first tried it out
21 in the farthest reach of the state which is Alpine, Texas.
22 And we filled that classroom up. We thought we're going
23 to have five or six, we ended up with 36 from all over the
24 state. From that point it has not -- the phone rings
25 every week and they stay busy just only eight hour auto

1 theft for patrol. We have auto theft grantees who want
2 the eight hour for their patrolmen. Just based off of
3 little simple ideal when I told Herman, why don't we
4 develop an eight hour let's see what happens. You're
5 going to see some numbers here in a minute for this year.
6 That was mid fiscal year last year. This year we're
7 tearing them up. We're getting the message out there,
8 more stolen vehicles are being recovered. The officers
9 feel -- just they feel like, you know, they can go out
10 there, they know what to spot in order to call a task
11 force agent; not to handle it themselves. They don't know
12 about the, you know, A lot of the secrets about VIN and
13 stuff, but just enough to say I need to call a task force,
14 I think it's stolen. It's working. We still have law
15 enforcement teams meetings every month. We discuss the
16 finance first and then we get to the meat and potatoes
17 with the law enforcement grantees, SB 224 grantees, and
18 the commanders and that will continue. Other levels of
19 training is the -- they're asked to attend certain
20 meetings where law enforcement is not present, we don't go
21 into the secrets of the trade; we go into a very general
22 overview of the identification of trailers, hands-on
23 identification of the top 10 stolen vehicles just
24 something like -- something for awareness period but
25 nothing going to the big secrets of auto theft and auto

1 theft recovery. Next please. Our training partnerships,
2 Texas Department of Public Safety, the auto theft schools,
3 Herman does the light VIN and trailers. Texas Department
4 Public Safety fraud schools, either myself or Herman Adair
5 will go over fraudulent documents and fraudulent titles.
6 We have the National Insurance Crime Bureau, we assist in
7 that auto theft school, Texas Parks and Wildlife, their
8 basic academy, we assist there, and the State
9 Comptroller's Office. We also presented various annual
10 trainings: the Texas District and County Attorneys
11 Association, the Gulf Coast winter summit, Texas
12 Association of Auto Theft Investigators, as well as the
13 vehicle finance fraud at the North Texas Auto Show. We
14 have been invited to IATTI this year, not only to attend
15 but also to present. We're working on that now which that
16 training will be in San Antonio this year. So we plan on
17 being there to instruct in their school, their training.
18 Here's our training stats for FY25. The basic auto theft,
19 you'll see five. Getting off the ground was a little
20 rough, but getting the word out, once it got out, it
21 spread like wildfire. For that five courses, we had 197
22 attendees. The intermediate auto theft investigator
23 course, three courses held 105. I'm gonna go over this
24 you can read it right there you're gonna see drastic
25 numbers in FY26 and FY25, the numbers change dramatically.

1 Next please. This is our DPS schools, the DPS fraud
2 school, the training conference, and then other trainings
3 presented by our our law enforcement trainers. Here's
4 FY26, so far this year 10 on the basic auto theft for
5 patrol, 294 officers, street officers trained. The
6 intermediate, we've had two with a total of 67. The
7 advanced auto theft, one course so far, which we have a
8 part two going this week with 31. And then the NICB
9 schools, one with 70 officers trained. Next please. The
10 DPS auto theft school, three with 97. And then other
11 trainings and conferences there were two with 190. Next
12 please. This is our '25 versus '26 totals. Our most
13 popular training right now is going to be the auto theft
14 for patrol. From three man departments all the way to 200
15 man departments they're wanting this for the Patrolmen and
16 we're going to give it to them. We average -- we can
17 average two eight hours a week depending on where they're
18 at, we may push three. I give our trainers a little break
19 in between and then hit it again, go road to road to road.
20 If you finish up a 21 hour or you know, a three day, if
21 you can squeeze in an eight hour, try to squeeze it in.
22 The bottom line is get as many peace officers trained in
23 auto theft in the state as we can, I think that's going to
24 make a big difference. Here's some photos from our
25 intermediate auto theft investigator course and some of

1 the attendees, some of the work that they're doing, some
2 of the hands-on. There's advanced auto theft, some of the
3 participants and some of the stuff that they go over.
4 There's our basic auto theft, these class -- and like I
5 said, I can't say enough these classes fill up. We do
6 tell them there's nothing hands-on, if you can if you can
7 open up a gymnasium and they can see the monitor, we'll
8 show it to them, we'll teach them. It's a full eight
9 hours of training. Here's our truck. We finally got us a
10 heavy truck to pull that heavy trailer, my truck doesn't
11 have to do it no more. Herman Adairs got it at this time,
12 we -- it's loud, it's an advertisement. It's role, people
13 take pictures of it every time he rolls into a town and
14 goes to a restaurant they want to see it. We're currently
15 working on getting a second vehicle for Amber Ott who's on
16 the opposite end of the state, not as heavy as this one.
17 Our thought is, heavy in case we have to go up in trailer
18 size, the light truck, if we get it for Amber, can also
19 pull that trailer. But in case we got to go up heavy on
20 the trailer, we just want to be prepared, that's thinking
21 ahead. Here's some upcoming trainings, basic auto theft
22 for patrol, we got seven up to date. I have a mail
23 message from this morning, somebody's wanting the eight
24 hour auto theft, so that's going to increase. We do have
25 another part one, we've got a grant workshop coming up.

1 The MVCPA conference course, we'll offer some training in
2 it and then some other law enforcement Teams meets which
3 is three, and then the NICB school still got four of those
4 left. And I think that's the end of my presentation.
5 I'll entertain any questions from the board as long as
6 they're not hard.

7 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Any questions for Pence?

8 SHARON JONES: Mr. Pence, that truck looks awesome.

9 EARL PENCE: Thank you, that was me, Herman, and
10 William, threw that thing together.

11 SHARON JONES: Whoever designed it, first of all,
12 looked good, and whoever wrapped it did an excellent job.
13 Excellent job there. So I do want to pick your thoughts
14 on something. So again, have to go back to Jose and I,
15 consistently, we, and also we have -- Texas DPS has an LPR
16 administrator, we consistently receive email, phone calls
17 regarding how to use the Flock technology. As you saw
18 in -- when we had a workshop in San Antonio, there were
19 questions about, "well, I'm sharing, I did everything I'm
20 supposed to do, but I still cannot see, and I know it's
21 like a toggle." Are you -- and, of course, Mr. Diggs, are
22 you guys okay to -- if Flock will give you a trainer to
23 trainer session, just have a few people, and I'm quite
24 sure that Flock will -- I -- before I even finish my
25 sentence, I'm quite confident that Flock would -- because

1 they do it for Texas DPS, will give you some training for
2 your trainers so that when you get those general questions
3 about what can we do, what do we need to do, and also not
4 just training for that, but also general questions that
5 can actually be answered by the local Flock
6 representative, and have that relationship between the
7 local Flock representative and TxDOT and the agency. As
8 opposed to consistently going to one person or two with
9 Flock and then there's only so many that person can
10 answer, and then that leaves a kind of a delay for
11 response. So if -- I'm sure that Flock will be able to
12 come up with some type of training to actually alleviate
13 some of the going back and forth. And also, very
14 important, I think -- actually this just popped in my
15 head. I can also get TxDOT to come in, and I think it's
16 very important for TxDOT to be there. If their
17 presentation -- because oftentimes there is a lack of
18 understanding, not communication, but a lack of
19 understanding where I'll have someone, like in a workshop,
20 well, I've submitted my application in December, and I've
21 been doing this now for a while, so I know that TxDOT
22 doesn't have it. I know that the -- Flock doesn't have
23 it. I know it's an agency, but the agency is like
24 hellbent, I submitted it. And I think having the
25 questions answered by TxDOT, understanding that if TxDOT

1 tells you to re-permit, or they may send -- if you ask for
2 10, they may send you two pages, so you need to get
3 something taken care of, well, every single thing on there
4 has to be taken care of. And then sometimes you have to
5 remap, because they do it to us, we've had it so many
6 times. Well, remapping for us is just, "I've given the
7 Flock representative, you have the authority, you go one
8 on one with TxDOT, leave me out of the equation." But for
9 the local agencies, remapping means they have to go back
10 to someone else to say, "okay, I can't keep the camera
11 here, but I need to move it here, what do we need to do?"
12 And so, oftentimes along the way, there is
13 miscommunication, or -- it's not on anyone's part, it's
14 definitely not intentional. And then as I'm sitting here
15 thinking, I also think we should involve Texas DPS TCIC.
16 Because oftentimes there is miscommunication where there's
17 an agency who went to the top of the line within DPS to
18 say that, TCIC, I've sent this email in, and they haven't
19 responded to me, and it's been like four months. Well, I
20 already know it's the agency, right? But when it's
21 reported up and it gets to me -- it's it, that's not the
22 case. Well, the agency did mail it to DPS, they really
23 did. Snail mail, they didn't email it. So if you send it
24 regular mail -- and literally the complaint came in, and
25 I'm not exaggerating, three months ago, that letter just

1 showed up on my desk two days ago. Because it's been
2 floating around, because no one knows where to send it,
3 and it doesn't even come to me. But once I was able to
4 communicate with that agency, and then I got one of the
5 local task forces to be that partner and buddy up with
6 them, and they do that a lot, then there's a lot of
7 understanding that happens. So I think it's the same
8 thing that we did for the Lubbock area, where there was, I
9 kept hearing -- every time I talked to a different person,
10 it was a different story, and just getting everyone
11 together in that one room, I think less than 30 minutes,
12 the problem was literally resolved. And it's my
13 understanding that the Lubbock task forces, they've been
14 moving while we were progress. So I think if you're open
15 to having some one-on-one training, that would be great.

16 EARL PENCE: Yes, ma'am, that's very insightful, and
17 that actually got the kick rolling. I had a discussion
18 with Bob Koenig earlier, and it did start the wheels
19 rolling about a general overview without being pinned down
20 to one certain product, but a general overview of LPR
21 operation, how they work, what to do when you get the hit,
22 the implementation, like you said, all these people that
23 have to be involved, the process itself, absolutely. No,
24 great minds think alike. Yes, ma'am.

25 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Yeah, I think it, you know,

1 piggybacking on what Major Jones just said on the whole
2 technology part of it. I think the technology part for
3 law enforcement has grown so much. And some of us, right,
4 I think I can speak for myself, that one of the things
5 that we did at the, at the command level, is okay, we need
6 to find out who is actually logging into these systems,
7 right? And I know Flock has a very good dashboard in
8 giving us that visibility, it's like, hey, only 46 percent
9 of your patrolmen are logging in, right? And so when you
10 pushing out these notifications, only 46 percent are
11 getting them that are on duty. And so also we need to
12 touch on that component that we're -- here we are
13 supplementing all this technology to the agencies and is
14 it being used the correct way, and sometimes it's because
15 they don't know, right? And then there's another part of
16 it where we tend to forget one of our biggest assets,
17 right, the majority of law enforcement agencies have index
18 cameras that are IOPRs, right? And those are moving
19 cameras, and sometimes those are better than just a
20 standing camera. Because we do it, right, we send those
21 units downtown or run the plates of every vehicle that's
22 there, and it's just driving around, and it's picking up
23 these vehicles that are being stored, that are stolen,
24 right, and are left downtown Laredo to be moved into
25 Mexico. So a lot of it has to do with how do we manage

1 the technology, not work in silos, making sure that what
2 we're pushing out, we're training our investigators and
3 our patrolmen how to navigate this technology. And again,
4 we tend to forget a lot because we have this tunnel
5 vision, right, this whole stolen vehicle -- Flock. Well,
6 y'all can also run your in-dash cam, you can also run your
7 body cam; all this technology that exists now that it can
8 help us, you know, through investigation. So definitely
9 we need to get into this technology component of it. But
10 I will ask this, I know that the number for a whole year
11 of training, we captured about 1,300 officers.

12 EARL PENCE: Give or take, yes, sir.

13 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And I was going to ask, Director
14 Diggs, what can we do to up that? Maybe we need to
15 partner with more agencies to cover, to have more
16 coverage. I know we have over 80,000 peace officers in
17 the state of Texas, you know, 1,300, we're barely making a
18 dent in that part of training.

19 WILLIAM DIGGS: Yeah, so William Diggs, Director,
20 MVCPA. So Chief and Major Jones and Earl, yeah I totally
21 agree that you know we need to we need to broaden the
22 scope of, you know, getting throughout the state. These
23 guys are all over the state right now and so what do we
24 do? Well I think we do we do a couple of different
25 things. We grow the staff, we grow the staff to give us

1 more bandwidth. And we start looking at possibly some
2 virtual courses. I still say hands-on for the basic auto
3 theft course is better, I've been to it, we went out to
4 Alpine a few months ago, had a great turnout out there.
5 I'll tell you that Herman and Amber do a phenomenal job
6 teaching this course. But I think we're already getting a
7 good response. We've touched every corner of the state,
8 we've taught this thing in every corner. But we can do
9 more. I think we can do some of it virtually, we can use
10 some technology, we can teach some of it virtually, but I
11 also really think, you know, if we look at what we need to
12 grow the staff to be able to go even more frequently out
13 there in person, I believe we can do that. I also wanted
14 to say that the syllabus for this eight hours is packed,
15 but it's a living document. I believe in the technology,
16 I believe that we need to provide some basic awareness,
17 "hey guys, here's how you use this technology." "Here's
18 how you use the camera technology." "Here's how you get
19 to it." The only thing I don't think I would want to put
20 in this eight hour block is the administrative piece of it
21 when it comes to permitting or having those conversations.
22 Because these are, I'm going to call them what they are,
23 they're road warriors, right? I wish I'd have had this
24 course back in 1987 when I went to McKinney as a highway
25 patrolman. I would have loved to have had what these guys

1 teach, you know? So they're doing a phenomenal job but I
2 don't know that we need some of that administrative piece
3 of it. We need to keep it to where we're teaching them
4 how to interdict the stolen vehicles and the catalytic
5 converters. But I also believe, Major Jones, wholly, that
6 we empower Herman and Amber with the information about how
7 to navigate some of these permitting things.

8 So -- because they're getting the questions all the time,
9 they're just, maybe they're not getting it from the from
10 the troopers and the sheriff's deputies and the patrol
11 officers, you know, they're getting it from like a lower
12 level supervisor or mid-level supervisor. So I think we
13 can do that. But again, totally agree. We've just
14 scratched the surface. Even though these guys have done a
15 fantastic job, we can we can do more.

16 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And I think the DPS does a great job
17 when it comes to CMV inspections, right?

18 EARL PENCE: Yes, sir.

19 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: But we also have to make sure that
20 we train more personnel on CMV inspections and what to
21 look for. You know, the CMV component they already
22 certify with that, they know what to look for, they're
23 great on doing that. But what about the dev component,
24 right? We have -- in Laredo we have four bridges, right?
25 I can tell you that I always see heavy machinery going

1 through that bridge south. Is it stolen? We don't know,
2 nobody's stopping it. So then we also need to get Customs
3 and Border Protection to come in and understand the
4 concept of what it is, you know, looking for stolen heavy
5 machinery, stolen property. So I think this is why I'm
6 asking we really need to have what he has to get this
7 training is over at a full capacity.

8 EARL PENCE: Yes, sir. And we've actually talked to
9 Border Patrol about providing them the eight hour auto
10 theft just for their guys on the border. Because we took
11 the tour and I actually showed one of the agents I said,
12 "you know what the VIN swap is?" He goes, "what?" I mean
13 really we would love to go down there and train CBP,
14 Customs, do an eight hour just solid information. I think
15 it would be -- recoveries would pick up on the border.
16 There's no doubt in my mind.

17 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Yeah I mean we're talking about you
18 know in Laredo we stopped the guy that, you know, he said
19 I have a 680 inspection here, signed.

20 EARL PENCE: Yes, sir.

21 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: The customs inspector didn't know
22 what it was, he called auto theft and he's like, "do you
23 know what this is?" Yeah, it's a form, it was a fake
24 form, right? And so here we are, right, it's a good thing
25 that they called but they could have said, "oh, okay well,

1 it's signed. Go on your way," right? But these are
2 things that we really need to get on top of.

3 EARL PENCE: Yes, sir. Absolutely.

4 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Major Jones?

5 SHARON JONES: While we were visiting one of the
6 checkpoints, one of the CBP guys said that the heavy
7 machinery oftentimes is insurance fraud. And they cross
8 over to the border, the person is paid to take it across
9 the border and then it's reported stolen after it crosses,
10 and then that's the insurance fraud. So I do know, I
11 can't say all checkpoints, but one of them that we went to
12 that -- I was literally told that by CBP because I asked
13 that question about heavy machinery because I saw one
14 going through and also a part of my current job duties is
15 oil field-related organized crime. So that popped in my
16 head to ask that question. And as far as the additional
17 training for the technology, it was not intended for you
18 to load your class down, it's just something that you guys
19 can have like once or twice as needed as people ask, and
20 it could be online. But I also find that you learn, at
21 least I do, learn better in person, but I'll leave that up
22 to you guys. And I wanted to make this clear and I know I
23 did in the San Antonio workshop, I mentioned Flock today
24 for training because we have -- we as in Texas DPS, have a
25 huge contract with Flock. But also as I mentioned in San

1 Antonio, we also have a contract with Axon, we have a
2 contract with Motorola and so I'm just making it clear
3 there is no -- I'm not partial to any one LPR company.
4 I'm just making it clear based on what I see on a daily
5 basis what the needs are for training in our local law
6 enforcement.

7 EARL PENCE: Absolutely, yes, ma'am.

8 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Members, any questions? Member
9 Cantu Serrano?

10 REBECCA CANTU SERRANO: No, sir.

11 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Earl, thank you.

12 EARL PENCE: You bet. Thank you.

13 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: We do not have an agenda item 12, we
14 don't have a closed session. We're going over 13. Also,
15 in regards to closed sessions, we don't have that. We're
16 going on to agenda item 14, Public Comments. Yess, are
17 there any public comments?

18 YESSANIA BENAVIDES: Mr. Chairman, there are two
19 speakers who have submitted comment cards. The first
20 comment card received is from Mr. Matt Appelbaum.

21 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: We will now hear from Matt
22 Appelbaum.

23 MATT APPELBAUM: Let me get a timer just to make sure
24 that I don't go over my three minutes here. All right.
25 First of all, appreciate the time today, Chairman, Board,

1 for letting us be here. My name is Matt Applebaum, I'm
2 here on behalf of Axon. It's amazing to see the success
3 that you guys have touted as far as the recoveries from
4 stolen vehicles from LPR cameras, and what the plan is for
5 the greater state. Our kind of goal of being here today
6 is make sure that everyone who's applying for the grant,
7 the grantees, all of that, are fully aware of all of their
8 options as to what sort of technology is fully available
9 to them, as they go through this process. With motor
10 vehicle being something, or theft being something that
11 happens very, very quickly, the importance of being able
12 to pass information faster, being able to get that correct
13 information to the right place faster, is instrumental in
14 being able to go solve those crimes and be able to capture
15 those vehicles before they hit the border, right? At the
16 beginning of last year, we actually announced the release
17 of our fixed LPR cameras here at Axon, both Axon Outpost,
18 which I have a version of it with me today, and Axon
19 Lightpost, which are essentially in addition to the Fleet
20 3 LPR family that we've been running since about 2020 here
21 at Axon. That Fleet 3 network already captures about 8
22 billion reads a year, this is an extension to allow
23 agencies to be able to put fixed LPRs and bolster that
24 network and be able to consolidate all of this into one
25 place. Now within this Axon Lightpost and Axon Outpost

1 unit, not only does this capture LPR capabilities, but it
2 also has the ability to bring in live feeds directly from
3 this camera into evidence.com and the Fusus platform,
4 along with the capability of recording, allowing those
5 investigators to be able to go back, look at that camera
6 feed, and be able to capture the information that's really
7 needed. So whether it's a hit coming from an LPR or just
8 cars driving by, being able to go back, capture, "hey,
9 this car drove by in this instance," pull that into your
10 investigation, pass those to the people who need it,
11 faster is going to be very important. On top of that, we
12 take data security very, very seriously here at Axon.
13 While some LPRs offer, "hey, you pay us, we'll put a
14 camera in your town, we manage all of your data and you
15 get access to that," we truly believe if there's a camera
16 in your city or town, you guys should own that data and
17 that camera. So everything that we do is based off of you
18 guys owning everything that comes from these Outpost
19 cameras, just like you do with body cameras today. On top
20 of that, being able to consolidate this into one ecosystem
21 where that data is passed, where investigators are already
22 doing their investigations in evidence.com, and being able
23 to do this with the consciousness of, we want to make sure
24 the state has X amount of money that y'all can spend, how
25 can you get the most for that amount of money? So we can

1 get all of this technology for \$2,199 a year, and put a
2 camera in these people's hands that add additional data
3 points, whether it's for auto theft, bringing this into
4 their retail or their organized crime kind of prevention,
5 and being able to build out that network. So that puts me
6 at 2:58 right there. Appreciate the time, and we'll be
7 here to answer any sort of questions if people want some
8 more information.

9 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Mr. Appelbaum.

10 ZACH HERNANDEZ: Good morning, Board, Chair, thank
11 you for the time. Ms. Jones, pleasure to see you again.
12 My name is Zach Hernandez, I'm the new account executive
13 for Multitude Insights. The MVPCA's work saves Texans
14 billions and helps law enforcement close cases faster.
15 What I want to share today connects directly to that
16 mission, specifically the speed at which the work gets
17 done. We all know thefts are happening, but here's a
18 friction point. The bad guys move at the speed of the
19 highway, your detectives are moving the speed of email,
20 phone trace, and fax. That gap between the crime happens
21 and when the investigator hears about it is where cases go
22 cold and criminals literally drive away. Sitting here
23 today, I heard over and over again about the information
24 gap that the agencies have between the task forces, and
25 that's literally what BLTN was built to do. BLTN closes

1 that gap; it's built exactly for the way MVPCA task forces
2 operate, that's independently spread across the state and
3 crossing jurisdiction lines. We've heard about the
4 tremendous work today being done throughout Texas. What
5 BLTN allows is for those task forces to actually talk to
6 each other, getting the right intelligence to the right
7 people at the right time. Faster intel sharing means
8 faster case solving, which means faster reductions in
9 crime. We have a smart link in the back end that links
10 these bulletins together with same suspects, same vehicles
11 used or same MOs being used. Think of it as your
12 always-on crime analyst. We're here not design to replace
13 your people, but it's designed so nothing slips through
14 the cracks so you can leash them onto what they do best,
15 and that's solve crime. Again, these tools aren't a
16 replacement for the work that you guys fund, they're a
17 force multiplier for it. So I have a QR code that we can
18 scan, set up some time to do a demo for the board or any
19 of the task force commanders behind me. We can meet
20 specifically in person and get the demo going, but I'd
21 love to especially connect with some of the board members
22 and show them what we have. It's a social media feel, so
23 the officers get to use it. We're currently in Carrollton
24 now serving their listserv. So if you guys have any
25 contacts over there, give them a shout, let them know how

1 it works. But thank you for your time. Thank you for
2 your service to Texas and Texans alike. Appreciate it.

3 SHARON JONES: One moment, sir. So can you be very
4 clear of what your software does, how it relatesm and how
5 it can support law enforcement personnel?

6 ZACH HERNANDEZ: Yeah, so LAPD said, word for word,
7 that BLTN essentially digitizes crime alerts and
8 bulletins, moving the workflow to a cloud-based solution,
9 iOS app, allowing the information to get out to the
10 officers immediately. And again it's kind of social media
11 feel to it so it's adopted easily. You can upload videos,
12 multiple documents at a time, multiple pictures. So it's
13 not a static PDF, it's a live document that works and then
14 you can edit it at live time, pull that back so there's no
15 stale bulletins out there and they don't get lost in a
16 email. You can set up notifications specifically for task
17 forces that have specific needs and those notifications
18 come to their phone via push notification and they have
19 access to that immediately. So again, that sharing
20 information that you guys are doing now, it gets it out to
21 the task force and it gets it out to the people that need
22 to see it immediately.

23 SHARON JONES: Can you give an example of a bulletin?

24 ZACH HERNANDEZ: I have one on my laptop that I can
25 show you.

1 SHARON JONES: No, sir, tell me.

2 ZACH HERNANDEZ: I mean just catalytic convertible,
3 tint, posting, anything like that that you guys put out on
4 a daily basis can be digitized and put into PDF. Anything
5 really that you guys put out in a PDF now can be
6 digitized.

7 SHARON JONES: Got it. Thank you.

8 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Appreciate it. Any other questions?
9 Thank you, sir.

10 ZACH HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Thank you for your time.
11 Appreciate it.

12 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: All right. Agenda item 15,
13 adjournment. Unless there's any further business, I would
14 like to entertain a motion to adjourn.

15 SHARON JONES: Member Jones, for the board, I move
16 that we adjourn.

17 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Do we have a second?

18 KIT WHITEHALL: Member Whitehill, second.

19 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Motion from Member Jones, a second
20 from Member Whitehill. Board members, when I call your
21 name, please state your vote for the record. Member
22 Jones.

23 SHARON JONES: Aye. I'm sorry, I got distracted by
24 David, what was your question, sir?

25 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: We're going to adjourn.

1 SHARON JONES: Yes, we adjourn.

2 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And we made a motion without
3 knowing?

4 SHARON JONES: So I made a vote, I reserve.

5 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Jones.

6 SHARON JONES: Aye.

7 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Whitehill.

8 KIT WHITEHALL: Aye.

9 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Brotherton.

10 CHARLA BROTHERTON: Aye.

11 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Cantu Serrano.

12 REBECCA CANTU SERRANO: Aye.

13 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Sloan.

14 TOM SLOAN: Aye.

15 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: Member Jackson?

16 SCOTT JACKSON: Aye.

17 MIKE RODRIGUEZ: And I, Chairman Rodriguez, vote aye.

18 Let the record reflect that their vote is unanimous. It
19 is now 12:01 p.m., this meeting is adjourned.

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1 BOARD MEETING
2 THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2026.
3 9:00 A.M.
4 815 MAIN STREET.
5 FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102

6
7 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
8
9

10 I, Rylie Austin, Reporter and Notary Public for
11 the State of Texas, hereby certify to the following:

12 I certify that I am neither counsel for, related
13 to, nor employed by any of the parties or attorney in
14 the action in which this proceeding was taken, and
15 further that I am not financially or otherwise
16 interested in the outcome of the action.
17
18

19 Certified to me this 6th of May, 2026
20

21 _____
22 Rylie Austin
23 Certification Number 4114
24 Notary Commission No. 135501321
25 Commission Expires: February 7, 2029
Firm Registration No. 115
Ken Owen & Associates, L.P.
2525 Wallingwood Drive
Building 6 Suite A
Austin, Texas 78746
(512) 472-0880

1 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPTIONIST

2
3 I, Rylie Austin, legal transcriptionist, do
4 hereby certify:

5 That the foregoing is a complete and accurate
6 transcript of the original digital audio recording of the
7 testimony and proceedings captured in the above entitled
8 matter. As the transcriptionist, I have reviewed and
9 transcribed the entirety of the proceeding to ensure a
10 verbatim record to the best of my ability.

11 I further certify that I am not neither attorney
12 for, nor a relative or employee of any of the parties to
13 the action; further, that I am not a relative or employee
14 of any attorney employed by the parties hereto, nor
15 financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of this
16 matter.

17 In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand
18 this 6th of May, 2026.

19
20
21 _____
22 Rylie Austin
23 Legal Transcriber
24
25

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