



County of El Paso Agenda Item Details

Item Title:	DA-Melissa Hightower/BPU First Amended Contract Services Agreement
Submitted By:	Bill D. Hicks, District Attorney
Department:	District Attorney's Office
Department Phone Number:	915-546-2059
Subject:	Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the First Amended Contract Service Agreement between the County of El Paso and the following service provider participating in the Border Prosecution Unit (BPU) initiative (Grant #2283712) from September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2025, Melissa Hightower. (Contract No. 2024-0700)
Background:	<p>The Border Prosecutor, Regional Border Prosecutors and Texas Anti-Gang Attorney provide direct prosecution resources to state and local law enforcement agencies, to their prosecutor counterparts in the 34th Judicial District, to prosecutors in Region 1 of the Border Prosecution Unit (BPU) and upon request to other prosecution offices in the border region. They will specifically assist the Texas Department of Public Safety and local law enforcement agencies to generate and develop long-term cases against ongoing criminal enterprises. Prosecutors work with other law enforcement agencies at the local, state, and federal level to identify and prosecute border crimes. The BPU provides technical assistance in drafting affidavits and court orders relating to stored communications, as well as the execution of those types or orders. The BPU with prosecutors from other jurisdictions target criminal enterprises who operate in multiple jurisdictions. The project provides funding from the administrative support, coordination, and training for the twenty-three (23) constituent district attorney offices, covering 54 Texas counties, that comprise the Texas Border Prosecution Unit, as well as other counties outside the border region that have been significantly affected by border crime.</p>

Contract Number: 2024-0700
Contract Term Start: 8/31/2024
Contract Term End: 8/30/2025
County Attorney Opinion Number:

Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Impact Historical

None. Contract service agreements are paid for entirely by the Border Prosecution Unit grant, awarded by the Texas Office of the Governor-Homeland Security Grants Division. No County Match required.

Fiscal Impact Projected

None. Contract service agreements are paid for entirely by the Border Prosecution Unit grant, awarded by the Texas Office of the Governor-Homeland Security Grants Division. No County Match required.

Long Account Number: Amount:

Long Account Number: GRIBRI1000-0000-000000-000-00-6000-6040-0000-601404 Amount: \$70,000.00

Budget or Unbudgeted Match:

Recommendation:

Approve and authorize the County Judge to sign the First Amended Contract Service Agreement between the County of El Paso and the following service provider participating in the Border Prosecution Unit (BPU) initiative (Grant #2283712) from September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2025, Melissa Hightower (Contract No. 2024-0700).

Prior Action:

BPU Professional Services Exemption approved by Comm Court on 06/10/2024; BPU Provider Contract #2023-0611 approved on 09/11/2023, Item 4J; BPU award accepted on 10/02/2023, Item #4V; BPU Grant Application #2023-0148 for FY23/25 approved on 03/06/2023, Item 4T.

Strategic Plan:

Goal:

null

Objective:

Strategic Plan Information:

**Estimated Time Needed
For This Item:**