

**Agency Name:** El Paso County

**Grant/App:** 5019202 **Start Date:** 10/1/2025 **End Date:** 9/30/2026

**Project Title:** District Attorney Domestic Violence Unit

**Status:** Application Pending Submission

**Eligibility Information**

**Your organization's Texas Payee/Taxpayer ID Number:**

17460007622006

**Application Eligibility Certify:**

Created on:1/6/2025 7:57:23 PM By:Ricardo Samaniego

**Profile Information**

**Applicant Agency Name:** El Paso County

**Project Title:** District Attorney Domestic Violence Unit

**Division or Unit to Administer the Project:** 34th Judicial District Attorney

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**City/State/Zip:** El Paso Texas 79901-2420

**Start Date:** 10/1/2025

**End Date:** 9/30/2026

**Regional Council of Governments(COG) within the Project's Impact Area:** Rio Grande Council of Governments

**Headquarter County:** El Paso

**Counties within Project's Impact Area:** El Paso

**Grant Officials:**

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**Title:** The Honorable

**Salutation:** Judge

**Position:** County Judge

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**Salutation:** Ms.

**Position:** County Auditor

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**Position:** Accounting Specialist, Intermediate

### **Grant Vendor Information**

**Organization Type:** County  
**Organization Option:** applying to provide services to all others  
**Applicant Agency's State Payee Identification Number (e.g., Federal Employer's Identification (FEI) Number or Vendor ID):**  
17460007622006  
**Unique Entity Identifier (UEI):** GJJHZSZVQWR6

### **Narrative Information**

#### **Introduction**

The purpose of this funding is to support projects that promote the prevention, intervention, and reduction of crime and violence and provide essential crisis services to at-risk populations within Texas communities.

#### **Certifications**

In addition to the requirements found in existing statute, regulation, and the funding announcement, this program requires applicant organizations to certify compliance with the following:

#### **Constitutional Compliance**

Applicant assures that it will not engage in any activity that violates Constitutional law including profiling based upon race.

#### **Information Systems**

Applicant assures that any new criminal justice information systems will comply with data sharing standards for the Global Justice XML Data Model and the National Information Exchange Model.

#### **Cybersecurity Training Requirement**

Local units of governments must comply with the Cybersecurity Training requirements described in Section 772.012 and Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code. Local governments determined to not be in compliance with the cybersecurity requirements required by Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code are ineligible for OOG grant funds until the second anniversary of the date the local government is determined ineligible. Government entities must annually certify their compliance with the training requirements using the [Cybersecurity Training Certification for State and Local Governments](#). A copy of the Training Certification must be uploaded to your eGrants application. For more information or to access available training programs, visit the [Texas Department of Information Resources Statewide Cybersecurity Awareness Training](#) page.

#### **Criminal History Reporting**

Entities receiving funds from PSO must be located in a county that has an average of 90% or above on both adult and juvenile dispositions entered into the computerized criminal history database maintained by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) as directed in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 66. The disposition completeness percentage is defined as the percentage of arrest charges a county reports to DPS for which a disposition has been subsequently reported and entered into the computerized criminal history system.

Counties applying for grant awards from the Office of the Governor must commit that the county will report at least 90% of convictions within five business days to the Criminal Justice Information System at the Department of Public Safety.

#### **Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR)**

Eligible applicants operating a law enforcement agency must be current on reporting complete UCR data and the Texas specific reporting mandated by 411.042 TGC, to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) for inclusion in the annual Crime in Texas (CIT) publication. To be considered eligible for funding, applicants must have submitted a full twelve months of accurate data to DPS for the most recent calendar year by the deadline(s) established by DPS. Due to the importance of timely reporting, applicants are required to submit complete and accurate UCR data, as well as the Texas-mandated reporting, on a no less than monthly basis and respond promptly to requests from DPS related to the data submitted.

#### **Entities That Collect Sexual Assault/Sex Offense Evidence or Investigate/Prosecute Sexual Assault or Other Sex Offenses**

In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 420.034, any facility or entity that collects evidence for sexual assault or other sex offenses or investigates or prosecutes a sexual assault or other sex offense for which evidence has been collected, must participate in the statewide electronic tracking system developed and implemented by the Texas Department of Public Safety. Visit DPS's [Sexual Assault Evidence Tracking Program](#) website for more information or to set up an account to begin participating. Additionally, per Section 420.042 "A law enforcement agency that receives evidence of a sexual assault or other sex offense...shall submit that evidence to a public accredited crime laboratory for analysis no later than the 30th day after the date on which that evidence was received." A law enforcement agency in possession of a significant number of Sexual Assault Evidence Kits (SAEK) where the 30-day window has passed may be considered noncompliant.

### **DNA Testing of Evidentiary Materials**

When funds are used for DNA testing of evidentiary materials, any resulting eligible DNA profiles must be uploaded to the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) by a government DNA lab with access to CODIS.

### **Interoperable Communications**

Funds to support emergency communications activities must ensure compliance with the FY 2018 SAFECOM Guidance on Emergency Communications Grants; adherence to the technical standards set forth in the FCC Waiver Order, or any succeeding FCC orders, rules, or regulations pertaining to broadband operations in the 700 MHz public safety band; and are fully coordinated with the full-time Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) for Texas.

### **Twelve-Step Programs**

Grant funds may not be used to support or directly fund programs such as the Twelve Step Program which courts have ruled are inherently religious. PSO grant funds cannot be used to support these programs, conduct meetings, or purchase related materials.

### **Program Income**

Applicant agrees to comply with all federal and state rules and regulations for program income and agrees to report all program income that is generated as a result of the project's activities. Applicant agrees to report program income through a formal grant adjustment and to secure PSO approval prior to use of the program income. Applicant agrees to use program income for allowable costs and agrees to expend program income immediately after PSO's approval of a grant adjustment and prior to requesting reimbursement of funds.

Deduction Method - Program income shall be deducted from total allowable costs to determine the net allowable costs. Program income shall be used for current costs unless PSO authorizes otherwise. Program income which the grantee did not anticipate at the time of the award shall be used to reduce the PSO award and grantee match rather than to increase the funds committed to the project.

Asset Seizures and Forfeitures - Program income from asset seizures and forfeitures is considered earned when the property has been adjudicated to the benefit of the plaintiff (e.g., law enforcement entity).

### **National Instant Background Check System (NICS)**

Entities receiving funds under this solicitation that are to generate or upgrade court dispositions or other records that are relevant to National Instant Background Check System (NICS) determinations must have a system in place to ensure that all such NICS-relevant dispositions or records that are generated or upgraded are made available in timely fashion to state repositories/databases that are accessed by NICS.

### **Compliance with State and Federal Laws, Programs and Procedures**

Local units of government, including cities, counties and other general purpose political subdivisions, as appropriate, and institutions of higher education that operate a law enforcement agency, must comply with all aspects of the programs and procedures utilized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") to: (1) notify DHS of all information requested by DHS related to illegal aliens in Agency's custody; and (2) detain such illegal aliens in accordance with requests by DHS. Additionally, counties and municipalities may NOT have in effect, purport to have in effect, or make themselves subject to or bound by, any law, rule, policy, or practice (written or unwritten) that would: (1) require or authorize the public disclosure of federal law enforcement information in order to conceal, harbor, or shield from detection fugitives from justice or aliens illegally in the United States; or (2) impede federal officers from exercising authority under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), § 1226(c), § 1231(a), § 1357(a), § 1366(1), or § 1366(3). Lastly, eligible applicants must comply with all provisions, policies, and penalties found in Chapter 752, Subchapter C of the Texas Government Code.

Each local unit of government, and institution of higher education that operates a law enforcement agency, must download, complete and then upload into eGrants the [CEO/Law Enforcement Certifications and Assurances Form](#) certifying compliance with federal and state immigration enforcement requirements. This Form is required for each application submitted to PSO and is active until August 31, 2026 or the end of the grant period, whichever is later.

### **Equal Employment Opportunity Plan (EEO Plan)**

If awarded, applicant agrees to comply with the Equal Employment Opportunity Program (EEOP) requirements per 28 C.F.R. § 42 Subpart E. Agencies may use the EEO Utilization Report Builder to assist with preparing Verification Forms and, if required, Utilization Reports.

### **Civil Rights Liaison**

A civil rights liaison who will serve as the grantee's civil rights point of contact and who will be responsible for ensuring that the grantee meets all applicable civil rights requirements must be designated. The designee will act as the grantee's liaison in civil rights matters with PSO and with the federal Office of Justice Programs.

Enter the Name of the Civil Rights Liaison:

Sam Trujillo

Enter the Address for the Civil Rights Liaison:

500 E. Overland El Paso Texas 79901

Enter the Phone Number for the Civil Rights Liaison [(999) 999-9999 x9999]:

915546-2218

### **Overall Certification**

Each applicant agency must certify to the specific requirements detailed above as well as to comply with all requirements within the PSO Funding Announcement, the *Guide to Grants*, the *Grantee Conditions and Responsibilities*, any authorizing or applicable state and federal statutes and regulations to be eligible for this program.

**X I certify to all of the application content & requirements.**

### **Project Abstract :**

The 24-hour contact Domestic Violence Initiative (24-hour contact) was established in 2008 and created to be a collaboration between the District Attorney and several community stakeholders to hold defendants of domestic/intimate partner violence accountable for their crimes and operated successfully until 2020. The national covid pandemic brought the judicial system to a temporary halt causing the DA's office to lose momentum in the prosecution of domestic violence cases and in 2021 the election of a new District Attorney led to the dismantling of the program. Under the current 2022 leadership of a new ambitious District Attorney and his executive Team, the Domestic Violence Unit (DV Unit) and its counterpart, the 24-hour contact visits are being revitalized. As mentioned above, the 24-hour contact Domestic Violence Initiative (24-hour contact) is an innovative model that seeks to respond to domestic/intimate partner violence crimes in ways that hold offenders accountable and restores victims' faith in accountability. The model provides increased attention to these crimes within the criminal justice system and the community at large and displays the benefits of increased community-wide collaboration to address family violence. The 24-hour contact will consist of several important components to include a home visit to victims by teams of victim advocates and investigators from the DA's office within 24-hours of an offender's arrest. A comprehensive case review meeting with a multidisciplinary team directed by the District Attorney will be held and strong recommendations will be made to hold the offender accountable for their crime. The reintegration of the DV Unit will focus on blending several best practices for the best outcome of prosecuting domestic/intimate partner violence offenders. The DV Unit attorney will train law enforcement on various topics including sensitivity for victims' issues, the importance of at the scene arrest, effective report writing for prosecution purposes, collecting evidence and witness statements; and the DV Unit attorney will train fellow prosecutors on the same issues with specific emphasis on the law on domestic/intimate partner violence. The DV Unit attorney will spearhead the teachings on trial strategies and cultivating good judgement in assessing cases. The DV Unit will be the epicenter for evidence generated for all domestic/intimate partner violence related cases at the DA's office. This will include ordering and obtaining the 911 call recordings, photographs, videotapes, medical records, and judgements of prior crimes committed by the defendant.

### **Problem Statement :**

Domestic/intimate partner violence presents complicated forces and remains a serious problem in the El Paso region year after year. Solutions to solve this social problem must use a community approach, one aspect of which is the prosecution of defendants by highly specialized professionals. The main purpose for the grant funded attorneys for the Domestic Violence Unit (DV Unit) of the District Attorney's Office are two-fold, to move domestic/intimate partner violence crimes more swiftly and efficiently through the criminal justice system; and second, to hold domestic/intimate partner violence offenders accountable for their criminal acts of violence. Although the DV Unit's major purpose is to strengthen the prosecution of domestic/intimate partner violence cases, an important element of the DV Unit involves victim restoration by providing them much needed support and resources. The reality of the crime of domestic/intimate partner violence is that women/men who are victims may want to move forward with prosecution at the time of the offense but may change their minds as the case is nearing trial. Adopting a best practices prosecution is an innovative method of holding defendants accountable and keeping victims safe since they may or may not have to testify against their abuser. Trying new and innovative ways of keeping victims safe when it comes to helping in the prosecution of defendants has been a hallmark of the DV Unit's approach. Of noteworthy mention is that some women/men will never call the police on their abuser. Therefore, it is important that the District Attorney's office train people who are in a position of trust on the signs of domestic/intimate partner violence and the services available in our community. Victims often fear the long-term repercussions the crime will have on their lives. In most cases, they have children with their abuser and depend on them financially. Further, because El Paso borders along the Country of Mexico, some victims without legal status in the United States are the most vulnerable to abuse because of their fear of deportation and separation from their children. Still others may be committed to their abuser and have intense feelings of guilt about cooperating with prosecutors. Therefore, providing the community with the tools to recognize victims of domestic/intimate partner violence as well as understand the available services, will help match victims up with services that address their fears. Officer training is one important aspect of the DV Unit's work; identifying the predominant aggressor, evidence collection and effective report writing are high priorities for the DV Unit. In addition, training officers on videotaping victims/witnesses on the scene will provide an essential piece of evidence to the prosecution. Likewise, prosecutor training and supervision are hugely important to the DV Unit's mission, because without effective prosecution in the courts, steps taken at the scene become much less effective. In the area of the courts, the DV Unit and the attorneys assigned to the grant attorney's supervision must continue to advocate in the courts the importance of these cases being heard on a timely manner. The crime of domestic/intimate partner violence is made more difficult because of the proximity between the victim and the defendant. Therefore, prosecutors must work to alleviate the duress suffered by victims living with an imminent threat of violence while the case continues to linger in the court system. It is also important to note that while the case is pending, some victims may decide to leave the relationship. The sad truth according to the Texas Council on Family Violence, honoring Texas Victims 2022 edition, Family Violence fatalities in 2022 marked the highest number of women/men killed. According to the same edition, 216 women were killed by an intimate partner in Texas, of which 4 were from El Paso, and 290 children lost their parents. With such devastation it is incumbent upon us to fight domestic/intimate partner violence in our communities. The prosecution of domestic/intimate partner violence will be significantly enhanced through the collection of better evidence, an increase in evidence gathering, improved preparation of case files, and an increase in preparedness and effectiveness from the DV Unit for trial.

### **Supporting Data :**

In 2023 there were 8,326 domestic/intimate partner violence cases from the 38,148 cases referred to the District Attorney's Office for prosecution which is a fourth of all cases presented. According to two articles published by \*El Paso Matters in May 2022 & November 22, 2021, respectively, it states that in 2021 El Pasoans made nearly 200,000 calls to police and 26,000 of those calls were domestic/intimate partner incidents. It further notes that according to data from the El Paso Police Department, officers made almost 4,000 domestic/intimate partner arrests in the first 10 months of the year. From 2008 through 2019, from the inception of the 24-hour contact initiative through its untimely end, 29,973 cases of domestic/intimate partner violence were presented to the District Attorney's office. While the program ran successful for 11 years, the average number of domestic/intimate partner violence cases averaged 2,725 per year.

Unfortunately for the El Paso community, incidents of domestic/intimate partner violence started to double. In 2018 the first spike in cases appeared where 5,272 domestic/intimate partner cases were presented to the District Attorney's office, out of the entire years' cases of 27,825. This includes both misdemeanor and combined felony cases. The source of information is a compilation of both the El Paso County's Criminal Justice System (Odyssey) and the DA's portal system. \*<https://elpasomatters.org/2022/05/23/in-el-paso-reports-of-family-and-sexual-violence-have-continued-to-rise/> & Article dated 2021/11/22.

### **Project Approach & Activities:**

The Domestic Violence Unit (DV Unit) endeavors to address the community's response to the problem of domestic/intimate partner violence; without the DA's office and DV Unit's activities, the danger level for victims in El Paso will be much greater and defendants would not be held accountable for their abusive behavior. In many ways, the DV Unit is on the front line of all efforts the El Paso community is making to overcome the scourge that is domestic/intimate partner violence. The work of the DV Unit is a prime example of this priority. However, this can only be accomplished through the daily training of prosecutors on the strategies for trying these complex cases and training of law enforcement agents on report writing, evidence gathering, and the best practices for dealing with domestic violence victims. Every officer is also trained on how to operate videorecorders and how to video tape witnesses at the scene of the crime. The DV Unit will resume working closely with the El Paso County Attorney's office to secure protective orders for victims, the Attorney General's Office for crime victim compensation, and the El Paso Police Department, the El Paso Sheriff's Office, amongst other law enforcement entities, to help victims feel safe in our community. The Fort Bliss military base has grown exponentially in our community, and we will again work closely with the military representatives to address the unique interplay between domestic/intimate partner violence and the diversity of cultures represented by the military culture. A dedicated portion of the DV Unit attorney's time will be spent training and coordinating with agency partners to make sure their involvement with victim's aids in the prosecution of defendants. Other community partners to train and educate on the role of the DV Unit are, the County Attorney's Office, the Center Against Sexual and Family Violence, the El Paso Police Department, the El Paso Sheriff's Office, and the West Texas Community Supervision and Corrections Department (when defendants are placed in the Domestic Violence Probation caseload). The DV Unit attorney will supervise an attorney who will be specially trained and have a great deal of practical experience in dealing with issues in domestic violence cases, both misdemeanor and felony cases. The DV Unit attorney will work daily with other attorneys in the District Attorney's Office in screening, evaluating cases and developing trial strategies. For the past several years aggressive approaches to fight domestic/intimate partner violence coupled with the 24-hour contact have yielded success. Within 24 hours of an arrest of a domestic/intimate partner violence offender by law enforcement, a victim advocate and investigator of the DV Unit will visit the home of the victim. They work to establish face-to-face contact with the victim and to assess whether the victims physical and emotional needs have been met. They then provide the victim with resources, leaving brochures with information regarding crime victims compensation and contact information for the local shelter. The victims will be referred to the DA's Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC's) for an assessment and intervention and referrals will be made to outside therapists. The victim advocate and investigator may also take additional photographs of the victim's injuries and asks whether victim wants to prosecute the offender. Furthermore, the DV unit investigator ensures that evidence is properly and promptly gathered, including emergency telephone call recordings, medical records, business records and other relevant materials. The Investigator prepares subpoena requests, serves subpoenas on witnesses and retrieves items of evidence from law enforcement property offices and sometimes transports victim to and from the courthouse. The cases will then be reviewed by the multidisciplinary team, composed of representatives from law enforcement, local shelter, probation, mental health agency and others, headed by the District Attorney. The multidisciplinary team will review all information gathered and the District Attorney will make a recommendation for the prosecutor of the DV Unit to proceed in court.

### **Capacity & Capabilities:**

The 34th Judicial District DA's office, with an approximate & variation of staff of 196 employees of which varies from time to time, has managed and administered numerous grants, to include a prior Domestic Violence grant from 2008 to 2020. This grant solicitation is being requested to fund the full-time salaries for a Trial Team Chief to head the DV Unit, a Sr. Trial Attorney, an Investigator, and two Victim Advocates. To continue the goal to meet the mental health, emotional and sometimes financial needs of all the victims affected by a crime, the DA's office hired two Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC's) to provide immediate assessments of the victims and make the necessary referrals for long-term care. The District Attorney's Office employs 14 victim advocates that provide as many services as possible to the victims daily. The DV Unit Trial Team Chief will assist the Grant Analyst with tracking & record statistics to measure the success of services provided to victims and/or to improve with additional services accordingly. The Grant Analyst will perform all grant duties 100% of the time to include write/maintain applications and submit quarterly reports, and this is in addition to the County's support of an entire team of Grant Analysts that are ready to assist with any grant issue at any time. Of the approximate 196 DA's staff, 78 attorneys and 22 investigators come into initial contact with the victims, paving the way for a successful prosecution of cases, but providing the victims a semblance of security and safety first. However, the proposed specialized DV Unit will be more impactful as it will move domestic/intimate partner violence crimes more swiftly and efficiently through the criminal justice system and hold domestic/intimate partner violence offenders accountable for their criminal acts of violence. As the County/City population grows so has the DA's office despite recent depletions by the prior administration. Structural alterations have been built and extended at the DA's office inside the Courthouse to accommodate the growing needs of specialized programs. Several conference rooms are available on a rotating basis to conduct pre-trials with victims. A waiting area is equipped with a television, table, sofa, and coffee maker for the availability of victims waiting to testify. Buddy, the therapy dog, is available to provide the emotional support and comfort the victim may need prior to testifying in court and is brought into the office as needed. The Licensed Professional Counselors are assigned a separate office away from the other victim assistance staff to conduct private and confidential assessments and create an ambiance of sensitivity to the victim. The work area for the victim advocates and Counselors are equipped with computers, laptops, scanners, printers, fax machines, copiers, and software necessary to accommodate & meet the daily needs of victim advocates to fulfill their daily work duties. After security clearance, the victim advocates are given access to the Odyssey (El Paso County's Justice System database), and the Secure Portal, (In-house electronic case files). Lastly, the victim advocates have access to the RMS-HxGN On Call Records Police and Sheriff portal (El Paso Police & Sheriff Department Reporting System) & C.R.A.S.H. to download police reports and self-educate on the offender's behavior towards the victim.

### **Performance Management :**

Broadly, the DV Unit's primary objective is to seek the safety for victims of domestic/intimate partner violence and enforce the accountability for offenders to reduce or eliminate the incidence of domestic/intimate partner violence in the El Paso region. The DV Unit attorney will make a continuing and concerted effort to ensure these goals govern the DV Unit's activities. \*Goal: Measure by pleas – The ordeal of trial is a difficult process that intimidates many victims from holding their abusers accountable. The length of time it takes for a case to go to trial exacerbates this problem and then once in trial, victims face the difficult task of testifying about intimate details of their abuse in front of juries that may or may not choose to believe the abuse took place. In the end, guilty or nolo contendere pleas may be better for victims and the family overall. Therefore, having a specialized unit that understands the complexity that these cases present is



essential. The DV Unit ensures that all the evidence that needs to be requested has been completed and any follow up that needs to be done by law enforcement. This is especially important when cases need to be tried without the victim to hold the offender accountable and keep increasing accountability for the victim's safety. \*Goal: Measure by guilty verdicts – Trials are unavoidable and oftentimes send a message to defendants, the community will not tolerate abusive behavior. Therefore, being ready for trial on all cases is imperative. The DV Unit investigator is in charge of making sure that all misdemeanor/felony domestic/intimate partner violence cases that end up on the trial docket have been subpoenaed, all evidence has been collected, and all law enforcement agents have been notified. \*Goal: Increasing police officer effectiveness – The DV Unit attorney will train officers to see the signs of abusive behavior, arrest the predominant aggressor, write effective and court-friendly reports, and maintain a general awareness of the realities of what it means to be a victim of domestic/intimate partner violence. The training also includes collection of evidence and videotaping of the victim at the crime scene. \*Goal: Continuing victim contact efforts and evidence collection – The DV Unit will resort to the 24-hour contact initiative with domestic/intimate partner violence victims by contacting all victims within 24 hours in which the defendant not only has been arrested, but also in the cases where there is an outstanding warrant for any domestic/intimate partner violence related offense. This will allow the DV Unit to empower victims by providing them with the services that they need and referring them to the right agencies to assist them. \*Goal: Updating Data Management – Every domestic/intimate partner violence case that is referred to the district attorney's office is entered in the county-operated criminal justice database called Odyssey. The DA's technology team collaborates on an on-going basis with the county-technology team to update & create certain files in Odyssey to be used exclusively for the specialized units. In addition, the DA's office with the assistance of the in-house technology support team, created an internal database, DA portal, to keep track of the disposition of all domestic/intimate partner violence cases that have gone through the court process. The DV Unit will utilize these two databases to generate reports that includes all referred, accepted, declined and final disposition of domestic/intimate partner violence cases. Ultimately, the DV Unit attorney will monitor any and all project's progress and implement changes if deemed necessary.

### **Target Group :**

The target group are all the adult and children victims of domestic/intimate partner violence crimes, with a median age of 32 for males and 35 for females. The District Attorney's office is the only agency qualified to interact with all the crime victims in El Paso, Culberson, and Hudspeth Counties. In 2023 El Paso counts with 677,866 residents, 73% of residents speak a language other than English. The population for the counties is vastly Hispanic or Latino, Hudspeth 76.9%, Culberson 72.9%, and El Paso 82.9%. Ft. Bliss counts with 167,358 active duty, military personnel and their families, reservists, and other civilians. The geographic region is diverse with both metropolitan and rural areas where data indicates the County & City of El Paso have grown and continue to grow exponentially. Inhabitants of the region are primarily Hispanic with family ties to Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua Mexico, with an approximate 1.5 million population. The El Paso is home to an approximate 47,893 military veterans steadily holding for the past four years. Reference: <https://www.livestories.com>statistics>texas>el-paso, 01/04/2023>. Other target groups to mention, but not completely reliable because the victims fear deportation, is the pool of 45,200 undocumented residents in the region. Reference: <https://elpasomatters.org>2022/11/22>immigrants, 01/04/2023>.

### **Evidence-Based Practices:**

In June 2011, an evaluation by outsider researchers, specifically researchers from the state's flagship research institution, with credibility and trustworthiness, \*The University of Texas at Austin, Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Center for Social Work Research, School of Social Work, conducted an evaluation named, "The 34th Judicial District Attorney Takes on Family Violence Crime: An Evaluation of the 24-Hour Contact Initiative". In its findings, and the District Attorney's Office going forward with this grant solicitation, Dr. Noel Busch Armendariz affirmed the 24-hour program is a model and best practices program. The 24-hour contact Domestic Violence Initiative (24-hour contact) is an innovative program that seeks to respond to domestic/intimate partner violent crimes in ways that hold the offenders accountable and restores the victim. The DV Unit will utilize this model for the efficacy of handling domestic/intimate partner violence cases from the prosecution viewpoint, bring increased awareness to these crimes within the criminal justice system and the community at large, and show the benefits of increased community-wide collaboration to address these issues. The DV Unit will ensure that all domestic/intimate partner violence cases continue this best practice model by giving the victims the extra attention and resources to ensure that victims are safe, and defendants are held accountable. The DV Unit will ensure that all the victims needs are being met and a community shift regarding domestic/intimate partner violence occurs. Some of the participants in the evaluation recommended using media, such as public service announcements, etc., to educate the community more effectively about domestic/intimate partner violence and increase awareness of the District Attorney's strong stance on offender accountability. The Project Director of the DA's office will ensure that multiple media outlets spread the information of the available resources to victims and post public service announcements from the District Attorney's stance on holding the offender accountable, through news media outlets. The data findings declare that the District Attorney's presence makes all the difference for the victims. An interviewed victim stated that she wishes more programs like this one existed. The Licensed Professional Counselors will utilize the best practices model of trauma informed care to continue to be consistent in the efforts to shield the victim from future harm and to continue to prosecute the offender to the fullest extent of the law. Another best practices model to continue will be the videotaping of the victim by a law enforcement officer at the scene of a domestic/intimate partner violence crime. The UT Austin researchers in 2016-2018 with a combined three grant awards from the Governor's Office, extended their research to include the effectiveness of videotaping victims at the scene when law enforcement arrive. Videotaping memorializes the events as they occurred and effectively assists in the prosecution even when victims/witnesses have either changed their minds to testify, or no longer carry the physical injuries sustained at the time of the crime to show juries. One of the victims interviewed stated, "I personally got scared at first when they started recording me and that same recording would reach the hands of my aggressor. That was my fear, that is, that at any time he could listen to it. And I'm in favor because when you don't have a way to be able to express through a letter or verbally with the police, the video reflects your feelings physically and they can tell right then and there that you're afraid, that is, a letter is not going to identify how you really feel but you're showing your fears through that video". The researchers stated that in analyzing the data of August 2017, they were able to conclude, "cases with video are significantly less likely to be dismissed (46.3% vs 49.7%)". And "cases with video have a significant increased likelihood of resulting in a plea (27.6% vs 22.4%)". The final study on videotaping by the UT Austin researchers concluded that, "quantitative and qualitative findings both support the implementation of video practice in successful case outcomes". The El Paso District Attorney's success with the videotaping project as well as the 24-hour contact initiative, embody the DV Unit's staunch stance on prosecuting perpetrators that prey on victims.

## **Project Activities Information**

### **Introduction**

This section contains questions about your project. It is very important for applicants to review their funding announcement for guidance on how to fill out this section. Unless otherwise specified, answers should be about the EXPECTED activities to occur during the project period.

**Selected Project Activities:**

ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE:	DESCRIPTION
Interpersonal Violence Prevention and Intervention	100.00	The District Attorney's Office Domestic Violence Unit (DV Unit) will provide a specialized prosecution unit dedicated to the prosecution of perpetrators of domestic/intimate partner violence. It will ensure victims are safe while holding offenders accountable. Victims of domestic/intimate partner violence will be contacted 24 hours within the offender's arrest. Community partners like law enforcement will be trained on the process of investigating, report writing, videotaping of victims for the prosecution of these domestic/intimate partner cases. A multidisciplinary team built of community partners in mental health, protective orders, law enforcement and others will aid the DV Unit with professional recommendations for a successful prosecution of an offender and victim restoration.

**CJD Purpose Areas**

PERCENT DEDICATED	PURPOSE AREA	PURPOSE AREA DESCRIPTION
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**Measures Information**

## Objective Output Measures

OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
Domestic Violence Court Programs: Number of carry-over individuals participating.	0
Domestic Violence Court Programs: Number of individuals NEWLY participating.	0
Domestic Violence Court Programs: Number of individuals who will successfully complete the program.	0
Domestic Violence High Risk Teams: Number of agencies participating.	0
Domestic Violence High Risk Teams: Number of evidence-based risk assessments conducted.	0
Domestic Violence High Risk Teams: Number of high-risk cases receiving a coordinated response.	0
Domestic Violence High Risk Teams: Number of offenders monitored.	0
Domestic Violence High Risk Teams: Number of survivors receiving supportive services.	0
Targeted Investigation: Criminal cases resulting in arrest.	4000
Targeted Investigation: Grant-funded investigations carried out by the unit/division	4000
Targeted Prosecution: Criminal cases resulting in conviction/deferred adjudication.	2000
Targeted Prosecution: Grant-funded prosecutions carried out by the unit/division.	2000
Training or professional development: Individuals provided	0
Training or professional development: Individuals received	0

## Objective Outcome Measures

OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
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Custom Output Measures

CUSTOM OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
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Custom Outcome Measures

CUSTOM OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
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### Resolution from Governing Body

Applications from nonprofit corporations, local units of governments, and other political subdivisions must include a [resolution](#) that contains the following:

1. Authorization by your governing body for the submission of the application to the Public Safety Office (PSO) that clearly identifies the name of the project for which funding is requested;
2. A commitment to provide all applicable matching funds;
3. A designation of the name and/or title of an authorized official who is given the authority to apply for, accept, reject, alter, or terminate a grant (Note: If a name is provided, you must update the PSO should the official change during the grant period.); and
4. A written assurance that, in the event of loss or misuse of grant funds, the governing body will return all funds to PSO.

Upon approval from your agency's governing body, upload the [approved](#) resolution to eGrants by clicking on the **Upload Files** sub-tab located in the **Summary** tab.

### Contract Compliance

Will PSO grant funds be used to support any contracts for professional services?

Select the appropriate response:

☐ Yes  
☒ No

For applicant agencies that selected **Yes** above, describe how you will monitor the activities of the sub-contractor(s) for compliance with the contract provisions (including equipment purchases), deliverables, and all applicable statutes, rules, regulations, and guidelines governing this project.

Enter a description for monitoring contract compliance:

### Lobbying

For applicant agencies requesting grant funds in excess of \$100,000, have any federally appropriated funds been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant loan, or cooperative agreement?

Select the appropriate response:

☐ Yes  
☒ No  
☐ N/A

For applicant agencies that selected either **No** or **N/A** above, have any non-federal funds been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress in connection with this federal contract, loan, or cooperative agreement?

Select the appropriate response:



☐ Yes  
☒ No  
☐ N/A

### Fiscal Year

Provide the begin and end date for the applicant agency's fiscal year (e.g., 09/01/20xx to 08/31/20xx).

Enter the Begin Date [mm/dd/yyyy]:

9/1/2024

Enter the End Date [mm/dd/yyyy]:

8/31/2025

### Sources of Financial Support

Each applicant must provide the amount of grant funds expended during the most recently completed fiscal year for the following sources:

Enter the amount (in Whole Dollars \$) of Federal Grant Funds expended:

44622835

Enter the amount (in Whole Dollars \$) of State Grant Funds expended:

10168498

### Single Audit

Applicants who expend less than \$1,000,000 in federal grant funding or less than \$1,000,000 in state grant funding are exempt from the Single Audit Act and cannot charge audit costs to a PSO grant. However, PSO may require a limited scope audit as defined in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F - Audit Requirements.

Has the applicant agency expended federal grant funding of \$1,000,000 or more, or state grant funding of \$1,000,000 or more during the most recently completed fiscal year?

Select the appropriate response:

☒ Yes  
☐ No

Applicant agencies that selected **Yes** above, provide the date of your organization's last annual single audit, performed by an independent auditor in accordance with the State of Texas Single Audit Circular; or CFR Part 200, Subpart F - Audit Requirements.

Enter the date of your last annual single audit:

9/16/2024

### Debarment

Each applicant agency will certify that it and its principals (as defined in 2 CFR Part 180.995):

- Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, sentenced to a denial of Federal benefits by a State or Federal Court, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency;
- Have not within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property; or
- Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in the above bullet; and have not within a three-year period preceding this application had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.

Select the appropriate response:

☒ I Certify  
☐ Unable to Certify

If you selected **Unable to Certify** above, please provide an explanation as to why the applicant agency cannot certify the statements.

### FFATA Certification

#### Certification of Recipient Highly Compensated Officers

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) requires Prime Recipients (CJD) to report the names and total compensation of each of the five most highly compensated officers (a.k.a. positions) of each sub recipient organization for the most recently completed fiscal year preceding the year in which the grant is awarded if the subrecipient answers **YES** to the **FIRST** statement but **NO** to the **SECOND** statement listed below.

In the sub recipient's preceding completed fiscal year, did the sub recipient receive: (1) 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenue from Federal contracts (and subcontracts), loans, grants (and subgrants) and cooperative agreements; AND (2) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenue from Federal contracts (and subcontracts), loans, grants (and subgrants) and cooperative agreements?

Select the appropriate response:

☐ Yes  
☒ No

Does the public have access to information about the compensation of the senior executives through periodic reports filed under Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or Section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986?

Select the appropriate response:

☒ Yes  
☐ No

If you answered **YES** to the **FIRST** statement and **NO** to the **SECOND** statement, please provide the name and total compensation amount of each of the five most highly compensated officers (a.k.a. positions) within your agency for the current calendar year. If you answered NO to the first statement you are NOT required to provide the name and compensation amounts. NOTE: "Total compensation" means the complete pay package of each of the sub recipient's compensated officers, including all forms of money, benefits, services, and in-kind payments (see SEC Regulations: 17 CCR 229.402).

Position 1 - Name:

Position 1 - Total Compensation (\$):

0

Position 2 - Name:

Position 2 - Total Compensation (\$):

0

Position 3 - Name:

Position 3 - Total Compensation (\$):

0

Position 4 - Name:

Position 4 - Total Compensation (\$):

0

Position 5 - Name:

Position 5 - Total Compensation (\$):

0

## **Fiscal Capability Information**

### **Section 1: Organizational Information**

\*\*\* FOR PROFIT CORPORATIONS ONLY \*\*\*

Enter the following values in order to submit the application

Enter the Year in which the Corporation was Founded: 0

Enter the Date that the IRS Letter Granted 501(c)(3) Tax Exemption Status: 01/01/1900

Enter the Employer Identification Number Assigned by the IRS: 0

Enter the Charter Number assigned by the Texas Secretary of State: 0

Enter the Year in which the Corporation was Founded:

Enter the Date that the IRS Letter Granted 501(c)(3) Tax Exemption Status:

Enter the Employer Identification Number Assigned by the IRS:

Enter the Charter Number assigned by the Texas Secretary of State:

### **Section 2: Accounting System**

The grantee organization must incorporate an accounting system that will track direct and indirect costs for the organization (general ledger) as well as direct and indirect costs by project (project ledger). The grantee must establish a time and effort system to track personnel costs by project. This should be reported on an hourly basis, or in increments of an hour.

Is there a list of your organization's accounts identified by a specific number (i.e., a general ledger of accounts)?

Select the appropriate response:

☐ Yes  
☐ No

Does the accounting system include a project ledger to record expenditures for each Program by required budget cost categories?

Select the appropriate response:

☐ Yes  
☐ No

Is there a timekeeping system that allows for grant personnel to identify activity and requires signatures by the employee and his or her supervisor?

Select the appropriate response:

☐ Yes  
☐ No

If you answered 'No' to any question above in the Accounting System section, in the space provided below explain what action will be taken to ensure accountability.

Enter your explanation:

### Section 3: Financial Capability

Grant agencies should prepare annual financial statements. At a minimum, current internal balance sheet and income statements are required. A balance sheet is a statement of financial position for a grant agency disclosing assets, liabilities, and retained earnings at a given point in time. An income statement is a summary of revenue and expenses for a grant agency during a fiscal year.

Has the grant agency undergone an independent audit?

Select the appropriate response:

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

Does the organization prepare financial statements at least annually?

Select the appropriate response:

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

According to the organization's most recent Audit or Balance Sheet, are the current total assets greater than the liabilities?

Select the appropriate response:

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

If you selected 'No' to any question above under the Financial Capability section, in the space provided below explain what action will be taken to ensure accountability.

Enter your explanation:

### Section 4: Budgetary Controls

Grant agencies should establish a system to track expenditures against budget and / or funded amounts.

Are there budgetary controls in effect (e.g., comparison of budget with actual expenditures on a monthly basis) to include drawing down grant funds in excess of:

a) Total funds authorized on the Statement of Grant Award?

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

b) Total funds available for any budget category as stipulated on the Statement of Grant Award?

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

If you selected 'No' to any question above under the Budgetary Controls section, in the space provided below please explain what action will be taken to ensure accountability.

Enter your explanation:

### Section 5: Internal Controls

Grant agencies must safeguard cash receipts, disbursements, and ensure a segregation of duties exist. For example, one person should not have authorization to sign checks and make deposits.

Are accounting entries supported by appropriate documentation (e.g., purchase orders, vouchers, receipts, invoices)?

Select the appropriate response:

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

Is there separation of responsibility in the receipt, payment, and recording of costs?

Select the appropriate response:

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

If you selected 'No' to any question above under the Internal Controls section, in the space provided below please explain what action will be taken to ensure accountability.

Enter your explanation:

### Budget Details Information

#### Budget Information by Budget Line Item:

CATEGORY	SUB CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL	UNIT/%
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Personnel	Court Advocate	<p>Court Advocate, Sr. (VACANT) – Victim Advocate will be assigned to the DV Unit and will participate with the Investigator in the 24 hour contact initiative, whereby a visit to the victim will be completed within 24 hours of the offender arrest; will provide services, information, referrals, crisis intervention, court advocacy, court accompaniment, court legal advocacy, and inform crime victims of their rights to all crime victims to respond to their emotional and physical needs. The Victim Advocate will provide information and will explain the criminal justice system and the court process. The Victim Advocate provides crime victims with the Victim Impact Statement form; will participate in pre-trial hearing with the crime victim and the prosecutor; will answer phones calls from the victim services direct line and accept and assist visitors to our office; will assist in visiting crime victims at their home and provides transportation to local shelters when needed; refers crime victims to local and state agencies and non-governmental organizations, and will participate in presentations and local community efforts to identify and aid crime victims when needed; will provide information on shelters, safety plans, protective orders, and may accompany victims to protective order hearings when needed; will Assist with the completion and process of the Texas Crime Victims Compensation Program and will provide follow ups; will also provide translation when needed; will attend meetings for the evaluations &amp; recommendations of an offender for court proceedings; may also provide training to volunteers and interns when needed. Annual Salary = 62,776.00 Annual Benefits = \$30,502.00 Total Salary &amp; Benefits = \$93,278.00</p>	\$93,278.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$93,278.00	100
Personnel	Court Advocate	<p>Court Advocate #2, (VACANT) – Victim Advocate will be assigned to the DV Unit and will participate with the Investigator in the 24 hour contact initiative, whereby a visit to the victim will be completed within 24 hours of the offender arrest; will provide services, information, referrals, crisis intervention, court advocacy, court accompaniment, court legal advocacy, and inform crime victims of their rights to all crime victims to respond to their emotional and physical needs. The Victim Advocate will provide information and will explain the criminal justice system and the court process. The Victim Advocate provides crime victims with the Victim Impact Statement form; will participate in pre-trial hearing with the crime victim and the prosecutor; will answer phones calls from the victim services direct line and accept and assist visitors to our office; will assist in visiting crime victims at their home and provides transportation to local shelters when</p>	\$77,384.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$77,384.00	100

		needed; refers crime victims to local and state agencies and non-governmental organizations, and will participate in presentations and local community efforts to identify and aid crime victims when needed; will provide information on shelters, safety plans, protective orders, and may accompany victims to protective order hearings when needed; will Assist with the completion and process of the Texas Crime Victims Compensation Program and will provide follow ups; will also provide translation when needed; will attend meetings for the evaluations & recommendations of an offender for court proceedings. Annual Salary = 50,281.0 Annual Benefits = 27,102.00 Total Salary & Benefits = 77,384.0						
Personnel	Prosecutor	Trial Team Chief: (VACANT) Acting as Chief of the DV Unit oversees the domestic/intimate partner cases referred to the Unit; supervises attorney, investigator and victim advocate assigned to the DV Unit; trains prosecutors in the office handling domestic violence/intimate partner cases; training involves using the best practices model of the 24 hour contact initiative that involves the visiting of the victim within 24 hours to check on welfare & recording the evidence, use of evidence and how to prove the case with or without the participation of the victim; attends all meetings when reviewing the cases and evaluation for the proper outcome; subpoenas medical records, emails prosecutors on repeated offenders; acts as liaison for cases that involve a soldier or victim in active military with Ft Bliss; communicates with JAG captains on all cases for best resolution on case; conducts training on investigation and prosecution of cases and is in charge of training law enforcement on videotaping victims/witnesses and defendant at the crime scene. Annual Salary = 151,666.0 Annual Benefits = 54,702.00 Total Salary & Benefits = 206,369.00	\$206,369.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$206,369.00	100
Personnel	Certified Peace Officer - All Others	Investigator, Sr. (VACANT) Investigator is a seasoned certified peace officer and in charge of preparing and issuing subpoenas on the domestic/intimate partner victim related cases. Investigator will serve the victims first so that a good address is confirmed; makes contact with victims and witnesses to inform of trial dates and pretrial dates when cases are reset; notifies local law enforcement of court appearances; makes travel arrangements for victims/witnesses who reside outside of El Paso County; requests and attains evidence from law enforcement agencies, acquires court orders for medical records, EMS records and ensures videos have been uploaded; provides transportation to victims/witnesses when necessary to and from courthouse; escorts victims to and from courthouse when victims fear the	\$109,565.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$109,565.00	100

		offender will harm them; sets up welfare checks for the victim as well as code watch when necessary to ensure victim safety; will assist in the 24 hour contact initiative and accompany victim advocate on visits after offender arrest; the Investigator will notify members of law enforcement and other crucial case witnesses of court dates and times; The investigator is required to be on call 24 hours a day. Annual Salary = 75,577.00 Annual Benefits= 33,988 Total Salary & Benefits = 109,565.00						
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Source of Match Information

Detail Source of Match/GPI:

DESCRIPTION	MATCH TYPE	AMOUNT
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Summary Source of Match/GPI:

Total Report	Cash Match	In Kind	GPI Federal Share	GPI State Share
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Budget Summary Information

Budget Summary Information by Budget Category:

CATEGORY	OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL
Personnel	\$486,596.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$486,596.00

Budget Grand Total Information:

OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL
\$486,596.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$486,596.00

Condition Of Fundings Information

Condition of Funding / Project Requirement	Date Created	Date Met	Hold Funds	Hold Line Item Funds
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