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**Agency Name:** El Paso County  
**Grant/App:** 2431616 **Start Date:** 9/1/2025 **End Date:** 8/31/2026

**Project Title:** Protective Order Court  
**Status:** Application Pending Submission

### Eligibility Information

**Your organization's Texas Payee/Taxpayer ID Number:**  
17460007622006

**Application Eligibility Certify:**  
Created on:1/3/2025 4:52:57 PM By:Deanna Macias

### Profile Information

**Applicant Agency Name:** El Paso County  
**Project Title:** Protective Order Court  
**Division or Unit to Administer the Project:** 65th Judicial District Court  
**Address Line 1:** 500 E. San Antonio, Suite 1003  
**Address Line 2:**  
**City/State/Zip:** El Paso Texas 79901-2425  
**Start Date:** 9/1/2025  
**End Date:** 8/31/2026

**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:

#### Authorized Official

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**City:** El Paso, Texas 79901  
**Phone:** 915-546-2098 Other Phone: 915-546-2175  
**Fax:**  
**Title:** The Honorable  
**Salutation:** Judge  
**Position:** County Judge

#### Financial Official

**Name:** Barbara Parker  
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**Title:** Ms.  
**Salutation:** Ms.  
**Position:** County Auditor

#### Project Director

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**Title:** The Honorable

**Salutation:** Judge

**Position:** Judge

#### **Grant Writer**

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**Fax:**

**Title:** Ms.

**Salutation:** Ms.

**Position:** Court Coordinator

#### **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 solicit applications for projects that promote a coordinated, multi-disciplinary approach to improve the justice system's response to violent crimes against women, including domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

##### **Program-Specific Questions**

##### **Culturally Competent Victim Restoration**

Victim service providers must have the ability to blend cultural knowledge and sensitivity with victim restoration skills for a more effective and culturally appropriate recovery process. Cultural competency occurs when: (1) cultural knowledge, awareness and sensitivity are integrated into action and policy; (2) the service is relevant to the needs of the community and provided by trained staff, board members, and management; and (3) an advocate or organization recognizes each client is different with different needs, feelings, ideas and barriers.

Provide information in this section regarding how your organization is culturally competent when providing services to victims.

The Court and its staff are mindful of the sensitivity required to assist victims in this type of setting. The Court has onsite translators and interpretation services available upon request for non-English speaking parties and witnesses. The presiding Judge attends meetings such as the "Family Justice Conference" sponsored by the Texas Center for Judiciary and webinars such as "Protective Orders and Misdemeanor Crimes" sponsored by the Battered Women's Justice Project. The key to this specialized court is that it works exclusively with protective orders and issues related to protective orders.

**Culturally Specific and Underserved Populations**

Following are relevant definitions needed to answer this question.

- Underserved populations means populations who face barriers in accessing and using victim services, and includes populations underserved because of geographic location, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, underserved racial and ethnic populations, populations underserved because of special needs (such as language barriers, disabilities, alienage status, or age), and any other population determined to be underserved by the Attorney General or by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, as appropriate.
- Culturally specific means the program is primarily directed toward racial and ethnic minority groups (as defined in section 1707(g) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300u-6(g))).
- Racial and ethnic minority group means American Indians (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts); Asian Americans; Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders; Blacks; and Hispanics.
- Hispanic means individuals whose origin is Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or any other Spanish-speaking country.

Does your program have a primary focus on serving a culturally specific population? (The organization must do more than merely provide services to an underserved population or culturally specific group; rather, the organization's primary focus must be on providing culturally competent services designed to meet the specific needs of the target population in order to justify a YES response in the section below.)

☐ Yes

☒ No

If you answered '**YES**' above, you must explain in the box below how your organization's program is specifically designed to focus on and meet the needs of culturally specific populations. If this item does not apply enter '**N/A**'.

N/A

**Eligibility Requirements**

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:

**Grant Eligibility Regarding Compelling Victim Testimony:**

In accordance with 34 USC § 10454, in order for a prosecutor's office to be eligible to receive grant funds under this subchapter, the head of the office shall certify to the State receiving the grant funding that the office will, during the 3-year period beginning on the date on which the grant is awarded, engage in planning, developing and implementing—

- (1) training developed by experts in the field regarding victim-centered approaches in domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking cases;
- (2) policies that support a victim-centered approach, informed by such training; and
- (3) a protocol outlining alternative practices and procedures for material witness petitions and bench warrants, consistent with best practices, that shall be exhausted before employing material witness petitions and bench warrants to obtain victim-witness testimony in the investigation, prosecution, and trial of a crime related to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking of the victim in order to prevent further victimization and trauma to the victim.

**Constitutional Compliance**

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

**Forensic Medical Examination Payments**

Health care facilities shall conduct a forensic medical examination of a victim of an alleged sexual assault if the victim arrived at the facility within 120 hours after the assault occurred and the victim consents to the examination. The victim is not required to participate in the investigation or prosecution of an offense as a condition of receiving a forensic medical examination, nor pay for the forensic examination or the evidence collection kit. Crime Victim Compensation funds may be used to pay for the medical portion of the exam unless the victim of sexual assault is required to seek reimbursement for the examination from their insurance carrier. If a health care facility does not provide diagnosis or treatment services for sexual assault victims, the facility is required to refer the victim to a facility that provides those services.

**Confidentiality and Privacy**

Applicant agrees to maintain the confidentiality of client-counselor information and research data, as required by state and federal law. Personally identifying information or individual information collected in connection with services requested, utilized, or denied may not be disclosed; or, reveal individual client information without informed, written, reasonably time-limited consent of the person about whom information is sought. If release of information is compelled by statutory or court mandate, reasonable attempts to provide notice to victims affected by the disclosure of information will be made and steps necessary to protect the privacy and safety of the persons affected by the release of information will be taken.

**Activities that Compromise Victim Safety and Recovery**

Applicant agrees to not engage in activities that jeopardize victim safety, deter or prevent physical or emotional healing for victims, or allow offenders to escape responsibility for their actions.

**Polygraph Testing Prohibition**

A peace officer or attorney representing the state may not require an adult or child victim of an alleged sex offense to submit to a polygraph examination or other truth telling device as a condition for proceeding with the investigation of such an offense. In addition, the refusal of a victim to submit to a polygraph or other truth telling examination will not prevent the investigation, charging, or prosecution of an alleged sex offense or on the basis of the results of a polygraph examination.

**Protection Orders**

Victims applying for a protective order or their attorney may not bear the costs associated with the filing of an order of protections.

**Offender Firearm Prohibition**

The applicant certifies that its judicial administrative policies and practices include notification to domestic violence offenders of the requirements delineated in section 18 USC § 992(g)(8) and (g)(9).

**Criminal Charges**

In connection with the prosecution of any misdemeanor or felony domestic violence offense, the victim may not bear the costs associated with the filing of criminal charges against a domestic violence offender, issuance or service of a warrant, or witness subpoena.

**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 Government](#). 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.

### **Immigration Legal Services**

PSO prioritizes funding of projects that provide a full spectrum of counseling, crisis services, and other direct victim services. PSO will not fund projects that focus primarily on immigration legal services and do not provide a significant level of other types of victim services.

### **Legal Representation in Divorce and Custody Cases**

PSO limits eligibility for legal representation in divorce and custody cases to circumstances where the survivor has been directly victimized by intimate partner violence (IPV) within the last six (6) months. This may include physical violence, sexual violence, stalking, and psychological aggression (including coercive tactics) by a current or former intimate partner against the survivor or survivor's kin sharing the residence. Additionally, legal services in divorce and custody cases funded under this award are limited to emergency order assistance, safety planning, client representation in divorce or guardianship proceedings, and other family law matters directly resulting from the victimization. Through acceptance of this award, grantee agrees that reimbursement for divorce and custody-related legal services will be limited to circumstances listed above.

### **Community Efforts**

Applicant agrees to promote community efforts to aid crime victims. Applicants should promote, within the community, coordinated public and private efforts to aid crime victims. Coordination efforts qualify an organization to receive these funds, but are not activities that can be supported with these funds.

### **No Charge**

Applicant agrees to provide grant-funded services at no charge to victims of crime. Applicants are also

Applicant agrees to provide grant funded services at no charge to victims of crime. Applicants are also prohibited from billing Crime Victims Compensation, private insurance, Medicaid, or Medicare for services provided using VAWA funds.

**Discrimination**

Applicant agrees not to discriminate against victims because they disagree with the State's prosecution of the criminal case.

**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.

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

**Local Units of Government:** 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.

**Non-profit Organizations:** Each non-profit 501(c)(3) organization must certify that it does not have, and will continue not to have any policy, procedure, or agreement (written or unwritten) that in any way encourages, induces, entices, or aids any violations of immigration laws. Additionally, the organization certifies that it does not have in effect, purport to have in effect, and is not subject to or bound by any rule, policy, or practice (written or unwritten) that would: (1) encourage the concealment, harboring, or shielding from detection of fugitives from justice or aliens who illegally came to, entered, or remained 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, the organization certifies that it will not adopt, enforce, or endorse a policy which prohibits or materially limits the enforcement of immigration laws, and will not, as demonstrated by pattern or practice, prohibit or materially limit the enforcement of immigration laws.

Each non-profit organization must download, complete and then upload into eGrants the [CEO/NGO Certifications and Assurances Form](#) certifying compliance with federal and state immigration enforcement requirements.

**Legal Assistance for Victims (LAV) Certification**

The applicant certifies that it meets the following federal statutory requirements in regards to the provision of legal advocacy:

- (1) any person providing legal assistance through a program funded under this section—
  - (A)(i) is a licensed attorney or is working under the direct supervision of a licensed attorney;
  - (ii) in immigration proceedings, is a Board of Immigration Appeals accredited representative;
  - (iii) in Veterans' Administration claims, is an accredited representative; or
  - (iv) is any person who functions as an attorney or lay advocate in Tribal court; and
- (B)(i) has demonstrated expertise in providing legal assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking in the targeted population; or
- (ii)(I) is partnered with an entity or person that has demonstrated expertise described in clause (i); and
- (II) has completed, or will complete, training in connection with domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault and related legal issues, including training on evidence-based risk factors for domestic and dating violence homicide;
- (2) any training program conducted in satisfaction of the requirement of paragraph (1) has been or will be developed with input from and in collaboration with a tribal, State, territorial, local, or culturally specific domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking victim service provider or coalition, as well as appropriate tribal, State, territorial, and local law enforcement officials;
- (3) any person or organization providing legal assistance through a program funded under subsection (c) has informed and will continue to inform State, local, or tribal domestic violence, dating violence, or sexual assault programs and coalitions, as well as appropriate State and local law enforcement officials of their work; and
- (4) the grantee's organizational policies do not require mediation or counseling involving offenders and victims physically together, in cases where sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or child sexual abuse is an issue.

Does the applicant meet the criteria outlined above?

☒ Yes

☐ No

**Prosecutor Certification**

In order for a prosecutor's office to be eligible to receive grant funds under this subchapter, the head of the office shall certify, to the State, Indian Tribal government, or territorial government receiving the grant funding, that the office will, during the 3-year period beginning on the date on which the grant is awarded, engage in planning, developing and implementing—

- (1) training developed by experts in the field regarding victim-centered approaches in domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking cases;
- (2) policies that support a victim-centered approach, informed by such training; and
- (3) a protocol outlining alternative practices and procedures for material witness petitions and bench warrants, consistent with best practices, that shall be exhausted before employing material witness petitions and bench warrants to obtain victim-witness testimony in the investigation, prosecution, and trial of a crime related to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking of the victim in order to prevent further victimization and trauma to the victim.

Does the applicant certify to the requirements outlined above?

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ N/A-This grant will not be administered by a Prosecutor's Office

**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, Interim Chief Human Resources Officer

Enter the Address for the Civil Rights Liaison:

500 E. Overland Street El Paso, Texas 79901

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

915-273-3520 ext2509

**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 Protective Order Court project provides victims of domestic violence and law enforcement authorities with the legal forum necessary to immediately present protective order applications within the fourteen (14) day period mandated by law. The Court consists of a full-time associate judge, court coordinator, court reporter, and bailiff. The Court also presides over and adjudicates all ancillary matters which, if unaddressed, have a potential to aggravate domestic violence situations and possibly prevent their reporting. This includes matters related to child support, medical support, child custody, possession and access, drug and alcohol treatment and counseling, anger management and counseling.

### **Problem Statement :**

Prior to the creation of the Protective Order court, there were numerous issues that deterred victims from obtaining protective orders within the state-mandated 14-day period. This included the prior system which distributed case filings to all of the family district courts and their respective associate judges. Protective Order cases were not being heard in a timely fashion in large part due to this distribution into overflowing dockets that consisted of other general family law matters. This distribution also resulted in inconsistent rulings. This was further exasperated by a considerable increase in protective order applications being filed each year as well as a change in the protective order law which expanded who could apply for a protective order to include stalking victims.

### **Supporting Data :**

The Protective Order Court has continually sought to collect, analyze and report pertinent data from various sources. Its two primary goals are to continually improve the court's internal evidenced-based practices as well as being responsive to the court's state and county funding sources. This collection of uniform data has proved to be one of the court's most significant challenges due to the various entities involved in data collection and the various case management systems used by those entities over the last ten years. The El Paso County Attorney's Office has filed a yearly average of 700 applications for protective order over the last two years. During that same two-year period the Court has handled approximately 900 family law matters involving the parties to the protective order proceedings (this includes divorces and cases involving child custody and child support). The El Paso County Office of Court Administration reported that the Protective Order Court had a monthly disposition clearance rate of approximately 100% for years 2023 and 2024.

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

The Protective Order Court continues to provide domestic violence victims and law enforcement authorities with the legal forum necessary to immediately present protective order applications within the fourteen (14) day period mandated by law. Even now as we are going into the fourth year of the Covid 19 pandemic, we are continuing to facilitate the ability to appear for hearings via videoconferencing and telephonic means. The Court also continues to hear and adjudicate all ancillary matters which, if unaddressed, have the potential to aggravate domestic violence situations and possibly deter their reporting. This includes matters related to child support, medical support, child custody, possession and access, drug and alcohol treatment and counseling, anger management and counseling.

### **Capacity & Capabilities:**

The Court is a fully operational court that has the capacity to handle all applications for protective orders filed in El Paso County within the statutorily mandated 14-day period contained in Family Code Section 84.001. The objective is to provide timely court access to all applicants for protective orders and to issue pertinent court orders for child support, custody, health insurance, possession, access and counseling services. Evidence presented in Court proceedings has repeatedly shown that the issuance of these related orders is essential in the prevention and deterrence of future incidents of family violence. The Protective Order Court consists of a



Court Coordinator, Court Reporter and Bailiff who have a combined 18 years of experience primarily handling Protective Order cases. This experience has been essential in handling and processing the numerous protective orders filed since 2011. This is the 14th year that the Protective Order Court has been in operation. During that time we have provided the legal forum necessary for victims to obtain protective orders and other legal remedies needed to prevent any further violence over time. The Protective Order Court wants to continue to provide that same forum for victims and law enforcement authorities in the future. The funding for the Protective Order Court is necessary in order to achieve this goal. If we lose our state and federal grant funding, the El Paso County Human Resources Department has recommended that the Protective Order Court be funded through the El Paso County General Account. The recommendation would need approval from Commissioner's Court.

### **Performance Management :**

Performance management is dictated in part by compliance with Section 84.001 of the Texas Family Code which mandates that all final proceedings be set within a 14-day period. Compliance with this time period is essential to put immediate legal safeguards in place to prevent or at the minimum deter future incidents of family violence. The goal is equally to provide timely access to all applicants seeking orders related to child support, custody, possession, health insurance, counseling, and other family services for the duration of the protective order without the need of initiating additional family law proceedings. Performance management is also achieved and monitored through the Office of Court Administration Reporting System, as well as the Court's internal reporting procedures. Additionally implementing the following program audit evaluations: Improvement Area 1: Protective Order applications are not being assigned to the 65th Protective Order Court. Corrective Action: Propose meetings with the other Family Law Court Judges to request that protective order applications be transferred to the 65th Protective Order Court. Milestone(s): Set meeting with District Court and Associate Judges and staff to collaborate on the assignment/transfer of protective order applications to the 65th Protective Order Court. Timeline: \*This improvement has been met, as a local rule has been established in which all new protective orders will be transferred to the 65th Protective Order Court.\* Improvement Area 2: Family Law cases that are related to the original protective order applications are not being disposed of within the recommended guidelines. Corrective Action: Implementing deadlines which will dispose of cases in a timely matter, such as pre-trials, status conferences, final hearings and dismissal hearings in order to keep up with national guidelines and El Paso County's Family Judicial clearance rate. Milestone(s): Set meeting with Court staff to determine which cases need to be completed in a timely matter and to set hearings, such as pre-trials, status conferences, final hearings and in some cases, dismissal hearings in addition to continuing to set protective order hearings within the 14 day period mandated by law. Timeline: Quarterly Improvement Area 3: Parties have difficulties attending in person hearings because of various issues. Corrective Action: Propose that 65th Protective Order Court continue to provide alternate means for parties to attend hearings such as Zoom, GoToMeeting or Skype. Milestone(s): Developing a policy and procedure with the help of ITD and the Auditor's office to help interested parties with pending court cases utilize virtual means to attend court hearings. This would include having the information listed on the Court's website. Timeline: Quarterly and then having it in place indefinitely. Improvement Area 4: Parties have difficulties appearing at hearings via videoconference as they aren't familiar with the process or do not have access to the internet. Corrective Action: Provide those parties the opportunity to attend hearings in person in order to proceed with their hearings. Milestone(s): Including language within orders that provide information on attending and appearing at court hearings either in person or via videoconference. Timeline: Quarterly and then having it in place indefinitely.

### **Target Group :**

The target group includes residents of El Paso County and surrounding areas who are the victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and harassment. Typically, these victims are women, but there has been an increase in men who have reported similar issues. Being so close Ft. Bliss, this Court serves a large number of military victims and military respondents. El Paso is unique in that New Mexico residents are close enough to be victimized in our community. A large number of victims and respondents are transient across multiple jurisdictions. Many of the victims have limited English proficiency, so the Protective Order Court provides translators to ensure that these victims comprehend all of the legal proceedings. This court serves a variety of ages, both genders, and victims regardless of nationality (as per VAWA). The County of El Paso has an estimate of 678,815 residents (per Census QuickFacts - 07/01/23), with roughly 51% of the population being female.

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

The evidenced-based practices implemented by the Court are in line with the legislative history that led to the Texas Family Code requirement that protective orders be set within a 14-day period of filing. The Court also

tailors the provisions within the protective order on evidence-based practices. Victims applying for a Protective Orders, in almost all circumstances, are in a state of desperation and in fear for their safety, and at times, for their lives. It is imperative that victims be provided with immediate legal recourse. The Texas Family Code, Section 84.001, mandates that a protective order court "may not set a [hearing] date later than the 14th day after the date the application is filed." Texas Family Courts are generally inundated with cases which can hinder the expeditious review of cases. The El Paso 65th Protective Order Court was created to eliminate barriers and to provide seamless accessibility for victims. Protective orders are meant to limit the interaction between parties and enjoin abusers/respondents from contacting, harming, harassing, or stalking their victims. Protective Orders also help resolve additional issues and conflicts that may exist, e.g., issues involving child custody, child support, health insurance, spousal support, counseling, drug and alcohol treatment, and enforcement measures. The El Paso Protective Order Court has taken additional proactive measures to protect victims. The Court goes a step further in a Protective Order hearing to inquire if the abuser/respondent is the owner or has possession/accessibility to a firearm. The abuser/respondent will sign an affidavit swearing that he/she does not possess or has access to a firearm. If the abuser/respondent does possess or has access to a firearm, the Court implements its Gun Surrender Policy which orders abusers/respondents to surrender their firearms with the El Paso Sheriff's Office for the duration of the protective order. The abuser/respondent shall surrender the firearm within 7 days of the order and provide proof of compliance to the Court. A compliance hearing is scheduled, and failure of the abuser/respondent to comply will subject them to further findings such as fines, enforcement actions and in some cases, incarceration. The Protective Order Court's performance record shows the ability to handle the demand within the legally mandated 14-day period, despite the increases in Protective Orders cases since the Court's inception. Statistical information suggests that the requirement of having protective order hearings heard within the 14-day time frame helps victims feel reassured that once a hearing has been conducted and a protective order has been granted, that further violence will be deterred. Victims who obtain protective orders are less likely to be assaulted over the duration of the protective order than those victims without protection orders. The Governor's 2017-2021 VAWA Program Implementation Plan for the State of Texas recognized the El Paso Protective Order Court as the "template" relating to future grant funding for similar courts in other jurisdictions. The El Paso Protective Order Court also serves as a vanguard by instituting automation and paperless procedures by the use of E-filing. The new procedures promote significant efficiency in the time, effort and resources spent by the Court and litigants. The El Paso 65th Protective Order Court continues to emphasize security for the victim, resolving related Family Law issues, and addressing additional safety concerns, all in an efficient and expeditious manner. Finally, the Court can and has ordered abusers/respondents to attend Batters Intervention and Prevention Program (BIPP), Anger Management classes and Substance Abuse Counseling, as part of the Protective Order issued by the Court Pursuant to Texas Family Code Section 82.003.

## **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.

**Violence Against Women Justice and Training Program**

In the space below, briefly explain how your project will address one or more of the state priority areas listed below:

- a) Law Enforcement
  - Victim-Centered/Trauma-Informed Training
  - Regional Sexual Assault Response Teams: Law Enforcement participation
  - Specialized Investigators/Units
  - Coordination between Law Enforcement and Victim Service Providers
- b) Prosecution
  - Victim-Centered/Trauma-Informed Training
  - Regional Sexual Assault Response Teams: Prosecution participation
  - Specialized Prosecutors/Units
- c) Victim Services
  - Trauma-Informed, Professional Mental Health Therapy and Counseling
  - Address Rural Needs
  - Transportation and Emergency Housing
  - Implementation of Telehealth/Tele-Advocacy Technology
  - Language access plans
  - Victim-Centered/Trauma-Informed Training

d) Courts

- Legal Advocacy (protective order assistance, legal rights & options, court accompaniment, etc.)
- Access to Court Hearings

The Protective Order Court project provides victims and law enforcement authorities with the legal forum necessary to immediately present protective order applications within the fourteen (14) day period mandated by law. The Protective Order Court provides a dedicated and specialized forum for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

**Selected Project Activities:**

ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE:	DESCRIPTION
Court Services / Improvements (Including Specialized Courts)	100.00	The Protective Order Court provides a dedicated and specialized forum for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. It also provides orders relating to such matters as child support, health insurance, custody, possession and access of minor children, and property issues. Legal representation in the Protective Order Court is provided by the El Paso County Attorney's Office and the private bar. Additionally, law enforcement personnel and other service providers assist in victims of domestic and dating violence that appear before the Court.

**CJD Purpose Areas**

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

Objective Output Measures

OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
Number of sexual assault, domestic violence and / or stalking cases filed.	0

Objective Outcome Measures

OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
Number of cases dismissed or acquitted.	0
Number of cases resulting in conviction or deferred adjudication.	0

Custom Output Measures

CUSTOM OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
Number of protective order applications heard by the Court.	800

Custom Outcome Measures

CUSTOM OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
Number of protective orders and temporary protective orders issued	500
Number of protective orders dismissed or non-suited	200

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]:

9/1/2025

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

8/31/2026

### 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?

☐ 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?

☐ 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

**Victim Services Information**

**Agency Type**

Implementing Agency Type - Government  
  
Which designation best describes your agency

- Courts

**Purpose of Award**

- Continue an OOG-funded victim project funded in a previous year

**Type of Crime Funding Distribution**

Identify the percent of funding dedicated to each type of victimization. The percentages provided below should not include matching funds. Cumulative total for all types of victimization must equal 100%.

Type of Crime	Percent of Funds Dedicated to Crime Enter whole percentages only	Funds Dedicated to Crime Current Award x Percent Entered
Child Physical Abuse	0	\$0.00
Child Sexual Abuse	0	\$0.00

Domestic and Family Violence	71	\$74,383.43	
Child Sexual Assault	0	\$0.00	
Adult Sexual Assault	6	\$6,285.92	
DUI/DWI Crashes	0	\$0.00	
DUI/DWI Crashes	0	\$0.00	
Assault	0	\$0.00	
Adults Molested As Children	0	\$0.00	
Elder Abuse	0	\$0.00	
Robbery	0	\$0.00	
Survivors of Homicide	0	\$0.00	
Adult Human Trafficking	0	\$0.00	
Child Human Trafficking	0	\$0.00	
Other Violent Crimes	0	\$0.00	
Description:			
Other Non-Violent Crimes	23	\$24,096.04	
Description:	Stalking		
SUM of %'s Sum of % MUST = 100%	100	SUM of Funds Sum of Funds MUST = OOG Current Budget	\$104,765.40

Use of Funds

Does this project provide DIRECT SERVICES to victims:

☐ Yes  
☒ No

Information and Referral

Personal Advocacy/Accompaniment

Emotional Support or Safety Services

Shelter/Housing Services

Criminal/Civil Justice System Assistance

Assistance in Filing Compensation Claims

All VOCA-funded direct service projects MUST assist victims with seeking crime victim compensation benefits. Please explain why your agency is not assisting victims with crime victim compensation benefits:

Types of Victimizations



Check the types of victimization that best describe the victims the grant-funded project will serve. "Other" refers to a type that Is Not associated with any of the types provided in the list. Check all that apply:

#### Types of Victimizations

- Adult physical assault (includes aggravated and simple assault)
- Adult sexual assault
- Domestic and/or family violence
- Stalking/harassment

#### Budget and Staffing

Answer the questions below based on your current fiscal year. Report the total budget available to the victim services program by source of funding. Do not report the entire agency budget, unless the entire budget is devoted to victim services program.

Annual funding amounts allocated to all victimization programs and/or services for the current fiscal year:

Identify by source the amount of funds allocated to the victimization program/services budget for your agency. DO NOT COUNT FUNDS IN MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY. OTHER FEDERAL includes all federal funding except the award amount for this grant.

OOG Current Budget:  
\$104,765.40

Other State Funds:  
\$0.00

Other Local Funds:  
\$0.00

Other Federal Funds:  
\$0.00

Other Non-Federal Funds:  
\$0.00

Total Victimization Program Budget:  
\$104,765.40

Total number of paid staff for all grantee victimization program and/or services:  
COUNT each staff member once. Both full and part time staff should be counted as one staff member. DO NOT prorate based on FTE.

Total number of staff:

4

Number of staff hours funded through THIS grant award (plus match) for grantee's victimization programs and/or services:

Total COUNT of hours to work by all staff supporting the work of this award, including match.

Total number of hours:

4160

Number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this award (plus match) for grantee's victimization programs and/or services:

COUNT each volunteer staff once. DO NOT prorate based on FTE.

Total number of volunteer staff:

0

Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this award (plus match) for grantee's victimization programs:

Total COUNT of hours to work by all volunteers supporting the work of the award, including match

Total hours to work by all volunteers:

0

Explain how your organization uses volunteers to support its victimization programs or if your organization does not use volunteers explain any circumstances that prohibit the use of volunteers.

## **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 Reporter	Court Reporter (E.A.) attends all hearings and takes full shorthand notes of all proceedings of said sessions, preserving the shorthand notes until requested to produce a verbatim transcript of the same. The salary for one year is \$111,128 and fringe benefits of \$43,483 for a total of \$154,611.	\$50,882.70	\$22,454.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$73,337.43	100
Personnel	Certified Peace Officer - All Others	Court Bailiff (R.V.) provides security during Court proceedings. Work responsibilities may extend to transporting prisoners to and from detention facilities. The salary for one year is \$86,071 and fringe benefits of \$36,702 for a total of \$122,773.	\$50,882.70	\$22,444.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$73,327.43	100
Travel and Training	In-State Registration Fees, Training, and/or Travel	State Seminars and Conferences on Domestic Violence, Implicit Bias, Annual Advanced Family Marriage Dissolution. The Court Reporter and Court Bailiff are all understate-mandated continuing education requirements.	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	0

		Mileage rate is.40/mile when employee's personal vehicle is used for county-related travel. Air fare must be reported to the County Auditor's for reimbursement along with lodging and training costs.						
Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses	Office Supplies (e.g., paper, postage, calculator)	Office supplies and program expenses for every day operation of the Court. Office supplies to include toner for printers and scanners, paper, batteries, thumb drives. Expenses to include books and legal subscriptions of the Court.	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	0

Source of Match Information

Detail Source of Match/GPI:

DESCRIPTION	MATCH TYPE	AMOUNT
Cash Match from general funds	Cash Match	\$44,899.46

Summary Source of Match/GPI:

Total Report	Cash Match	In Kind	GPI Federal Share	GPI State Share
\$44,899.46	\$44,899.46	\$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	\$101,765.40	\$44,899.46	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$146,664.86
Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Travel and Training	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00

**Budget Grand Total Information:**

OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL
\$104,765.40	\$44,899.46	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$149,664.86

**Condition Of Fundings Information**

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