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**El Paso County
Agenda Item Details**

Item Title: SO - FY26 Operation Lone Star Grant Application Approval for EPCSO

Submitted By: Ricardo Perales, Lieutenant

Department: EPCSO West Texas HIDTA

Department Phone Number: (915) 273-3448

Subject: GRANT APPLICATION – Approve and authorize the County Judge to accept the FY26 Operation Lone Star grant (OLS) application in the amount of \$1,302,222.91 in replacement of Local Border Security Program grant (LBSP) from September 1, 2025, through August 31, 2026. No County Match is required. (Contract No. 2025-0217)

Background: Operation Lone Star grant will reimburse overtime and mileage to make it possible for the law enforcement officers to accomplish their investigative/enforcement goals after regular duty hours, easing the burden on the Department's overtime budget.

New
Match Required: No
Personnel: Yes

Fiscal Impact: Fiscal Impact Historical
FY25 Local Border Security Program grant was awarded \$418,190.00. Grant # 295310
No county match required.

Fiscal Impact Projected
FY26 OLS Grant amount \$1,302,222.91. Grant # 5440101
No County match required.
An account will be set up once the grant application is approved by the County Commissioners.

Long Account Number: Amount:

Long Account Number: Amount: \$0.00

Budget or Unbudgeted Match: N/A

Recommendation: Grant Application – Approve and authorize the County Judge to accept the FY26 Operation Lone Star grant (OLS) application in the amount of \$1,302,222.91 in replacement of Local Border Security Program grant (LBSP) . Grant period from September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026. No County Match required. (Contract No. 2025-0217)

Prior Action: Commissioner’s approved FY25 LBSP grant \$418,190.00 on 10/16/2024, Item #4-AJ. Contract # 2024-0877

Strategic Plan: Goal:

null

Objective:

Strategic Plan Information:

**Estimated Time Needed
For This Item:**



RICARDO A. SAMANIEGO

El Paso County
Judge

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, El Paso County Commissioners Court finds it in the best interest of the citizens of El Paso County, that the El Paso County Sheriff's Office- Operation Lone Star Grant Program is operated for the period of September 01, 2025 through August 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, El Paso County Commissioners Court agrees that in the event of loss or misuse of the Office of the Governor funds, El Paso County assures the funds will be returned to the Office of the Governor in full.

WHEREAS, El Paso County Commissioners Court designates the El Paso County Judge as the grantee's authorized official. The authorized official is given the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate the grants on behalf of El Paso County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of El Paso Commissioners Court adopts the recitals stated above and approves the grant application for the El Paso County Sheriff's Office to the Office of the Governor, Public Safety Office -Criminal Justice Division.

Signed by:

Passed and approved this 10th of March, 2025.

Ricardo A. Samaniego
County Judge
County of El Paso, Texas

Grant Number: 5440101

Commented [am1]: The Grant Number (ex: 1650304) can be found in eGrants after you create a new or continuation funding solicitation.

Print This Page

Agency Name: El Paso County

Grant/App: 5440101 **Start Date:** 9/1/2025 **End Date:** 8/31/2026

Project Title: El Paso County Sheriff's Office Operation Lone Star

Status: Application Pending Submission

Eligibility Information

Your organization's Texas Payee/Taxpayer ID Number:

746000762

Application Eligibility Certify:

Created on:1/29/2025 4:35:32 PM By:Ricardo Samaniego

Profile Information

Applicant Agency Name: El Paso County

Project Title: El Paso County Sheriff's Office Operation Lone Star

Division or Unit to Administer the Project: Sheriff's Office

Address Line 1: 3850 Justice Drive

Address Line 2:

City/State/Zip: El Paso Texas 79938-7472

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:

Grant Officials:

Authorized Official

Name: Ricardo Samaniego

Email: cjdjudge@epcounty.com

Address 1: 500 E San Antonio, st. 301

Address 1:

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

Email: b.parker@epcountytexas.gov

Address 1: 320 S. Campbell

Address 1: Suite 140

City: El Paso, Texas 79901

Phone: 915-273-3262 Other Phone: 915-887-1044

Fax: 915-273-3266

Title: Ms.

Salutation: Ms.

Position: County Auditor

Project Director

Name: Ricardo Perales

Email: RiPerales@epcounty.com

Address 1: 3850 Justice Rd.

Address 1:

City: El Paso, Texas 79938
Phone: 915-538-2058 Other Phone:
Fax:
Title: Mr.
Salutation: Lieutenant
Position: Lieutenant

Grant Writer

Name: Deborah Candia
Email: d.candia@epcounty.com
Address 1: 13463 Bradford St
Address 1:
City: El Paso, Texas 79928
Phone: 915-538-2058 Other Phone: 915-433-6060
Fax:
Title: Ms.
Salutation: Ms.
Position: Stonegarden Administrative Coordinator

Grant Vendor Information

Organization Type: County
Organization Option: applying to provide homeland security services
Applicant Agency's State Payee Identification Number (e.g., Federal Employer's Identification (FEI) Number or Vendor ID): 746000762
Unique Entity Identifier (UEI): GJJHZSZVQWR6

Narrative Information

Introduction

The purpose of the program is to enhance interagency border security operations supporting Operation Lone Star including the facilitation of directed actions to deter and interdict criminal activity. Program participants shall assist DPS in the execution of coordinated border security operations in an effort to:

Law Enforcement

- Increase the effectiveness and impact of Operation Lone Star.
- Reduce border-related criminal activity in Texas.
- Implement and increase the effectiveness of operational methods, measures, and techniques for outbound/southbound operations.
- Decrease the supply of drugs smuggled into and through Texas from Mexico.
- Disrupt and deter operations of gang and cartel criminal organizations.
- Decrease specifically targeted tactics (such as conveyance methods) for drugs in the Texas border region.
- Decrease use of specific areas for crime as targeted in directed action missions.
- Increase the effectiveness of directed action missions based upon intelligence and analysis to ensure they target the most serious threats and are conducted in high pay-off areas.
- Increase the number and quality of analytical intelligence products developed at the Unified Command and state levels.
- Increase coordination between local and state law enforcement agencies in planning, execution, and analysis of border security operations.

Jail Operations

- Increase capacity for detention operations and other supporting functions associated with increased criminal activity due to surges in illegal migration.

Human Remains Processing

- Support county medical examiner offices in the humane processing of the remains of undocumented migrants.

Court Administration

- Increase capacity and expediency in the case preparation, magistration, pre/post-adjudication proceedings, and criminal trials of OLS defendants.

Fire/EMS Operations

- Increase capacity for fire/EMS operations in direct support of OLS.

Program Requirements

Regional Joint Operations Intelligence Center (JOIC) Coordination

Grantees must agree to perform the following activities:

- Participate in operational planning and coordination meetings, information/intelligence sharing meetings, and After Action Reviews (AARs) established by the Texas Department of Public Safety's (DPS) Joint Operations and Intelligence Centers (JOICs).
- Participate weekly on the JOIC Unified Command conference calls or meetings as required by the JOIC.
- Report significant border-related events that occur during each 24-hour period.
- Conduct enhanced law enforcement patrolling activities
- Recognize and react to information/intelligence to adjust times and locations of enhanced patrol activities.
- Identify significant border-related trends or areas of interest that may be developed into focus areas for future operations.
- Conduct surveillance, interdictions, investigations, and collect and disseminate information within its jurisdiction or cross-jurisdiction lines as required.
- Conduct Steady State operations and respond to calls for service.
- Integrate air, ground, marine, and remote operations.

Border Incident Assessment Report (BIAR) Submission

Grantees must agree to submit BIAR reports to the JOIC:

The grantee shall report all border-related events to the JOIC using the BIAR. BIAR reporting shall include events that occur during Enhanced Operation activities AND events that occur during Steady State activities.

Enhanced (Surge) Operations originate out of the use of Operation Lone Star funds when the local agency chooses to increase the hours of patrol or the number of investigative bodies. Steady State activities are defined as normal patrol or investigative duties that do not use grant funds, but directly impact the overall Operation Lone Star mission, such as organized crime arrests, terroristic activities, weapons trafficking arrests, kidnappings, human trafficking, human smuggling, home invasions with a border or organized crime nexus, illegal immigration, border-related murders, gang-related murders, vehicle thefts, or drug trafficking.

The BIAR is the primary incident and information-reporting tool for the grantee in Operation Lone Star activities. The grantee shall ensure all BIARs conform to the respective standards outlined by the JOIC and are submitted within 24 hours of the end of shift and/or the timeframes established by the JOIC.

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:

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.

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).

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.

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 and requirements.

Project Summary :

Briefly summarize the project, including proposed activities and intended impact.

Operation Lone Star (OLS) Grant funds will be used to pay for salary and overtime costs associated with directed drug and gang criminal investigations for our Criminal Investigations Division (CID)/Narcotics section (Soon to be CID/ Gangs and Narcotics Unit (GNU). Based on intelligence and community tips, the Criminal Investigations Division/Gang and Narcotics Unit will conduct investigative research and surveillance of reported illegal activity. The CID/GNU will enhance the ability to detect, prevent and deter smuggling of contraband, street gang offenses, weapon offenses, and much more. By increasing operations and law enforcement personnel in targeted areas of mass activity, the likelihood of detecting illegal actions transiting in El Paso County will have exponential growth. This funding will allow our detectives to reduce border related activity, disrupt and deter gang operations and crime overall. The intent to work with the OLS funding is to bring the ability to track and gather intelligence to increase the effectiveness and impact of the overall purpose of this grant. Any intelligence gathered will be implemented in undercover operation capacities to be able to infiltrate and seize as many drugs, weapons, and gang members. Therefore, helping target specific large gangs and cartel criminal operations and impacting crime rate affecting our immediate border and county.

Problem Statement :

Provide a detailed account of the issues, threats or hazards that your project will target. For federal Homeland Security Grants, include specific references to the regional or state *Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA)*, as applicable.

The El Paso County jurisdictional area has continued to be a major corridor for gangs and Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTO) to move their contraband and conduct criminal activities. Violent crimes South of United States/Mexican Border have also remained steady, possibly due to arrests of certain gang and DTO leadership. Organized gang crime such as weapon trafficking, kidnappings, human trafficking, home invasions, major drug trafficking has risen due to the immigration influx through our border. The high presence of major criminal elements operating in our community demands our officers work more strenuous hours to conduct surveillance, interdictions, investigations to gather and disseminate intelligence within our area and cross-locations as needed. Participation associated with these tactical operations will increase the probability of detecting potential terrorists and weapons of mass destruction moving from the immediate border area to major population areas. This funding will help to facilitate the continuation of these operations as well as cooperating and coordinating between Federal, State and local law enforcement agencies. During the FY24 grant period, there were a total of 119 indictments and 112 convictions. There was a noticeable increase in drug seizures from the operation conducted in FY24. Drug seizure resulted in a total of 263.72 pounds of marijuana (175.94 pounds in FY23), 75,582.35 grams of cocaine compared to 44,670.17 grams in FY23, and 747.30 grams of THC compared to 447 in FY23 for the period. Narcotics seized during this period were valued at \$4,154,908.59. Furthermore, during the FY24 grant

period, a total of \$59,910.00 in drug related currency and 27 guns were seized. While most of the cases investigated by the Criminal Investigations Division/Narcotics are predominately drug related crimes, the CID/Narcotics section has also investigated criminal street gang related activity. Due to the nexus between gangs, drugs and weapons, CID/Narcotics section has encountered street gang criminal offenses. Narcotics section has encountered 19 gang associates, 13 members and 6 gang felony arrest along with 54 non-gang arrest, with 17 state felony convictions. Within these encounters the Narcotics section has seized 5 assault rifles, 9 handguns and one long gun off the streets.

Existing Capability Levels :

Describe the existing capability levels, including resources that are currently in place to support this project prior to the use of grant funds.

The existing capability levels consists of 1 Lt, 1 Sgt, 5 Det., 3 Deputies, 3 K-9's and 3 K-9 handlers that conduct narcotic investigations. With a potential growth of 5 more officers. When required, additional detectives and deputies are recruited from within the Sheriff's Office to assist investigations and operations. The CID Narcotics Unit works closely with other Local, State, and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies pooling resources and working in unison to address border crime in our geographical area. 1. Federal Bureau of Investigation – Federal Cases 2. Homeland Security Investigations – Federal Cases 3. Drug Enforcement Administration – Federal Cases 4. Department of Public Safety – Cases within the state of Texas 5. District Attorney's Office 34th Judicial District 6. El Paso Police Department-Cases within the City limits.

Capability Gaps:

Describe the capability gaps which will be addressed by the project. For federal Homeland Security Grants, include specific references to the regional or statewide State Preparedness Report (SPR).

As for the El Paso County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division- Narcotics Section, it is imperative to enhance and continue the deployment of patrols along the Texas-Mexico border; to continue operations and investigations on dismantling/disrupting drug, adult gangs, and human trafficking organizations; and to promote regional coordination and collaboration in order to enhance and strengthen information sharing and/or exchange system(s) for the availability to law enforcement. If EPCSO CID/Narcotics Section (GNU) did not have the grant funds awarded, we would not be able to provide the officers for overtime to perform these operations. We have this specific section to cover the operations needed to increase the success and impact of the OLS grant.

Impact Statement :

Describe the project goals/objectives and how this project will maintain capabilities or reduce capability gaps.

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division-Narcotics section and other units within the department will continue to deploy all resources to prioritize and target the illegal activities associated with drug trafficking organizations and adult gangs, to include money laundering and human trafficking. The El Paso County Sheriff's Office will continue to target the general population with no discrimination of age, gender, social or financial status.

Homeland Security Priority Actions:

Identify the Texas Homeland Security Priority Action most closely aligned with this project. Each Priority Action is linked with an *Objective from the Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan (HSSP)*. List the Priority Action by number and text (e.g. 1.2.3 Expand and enhance the network of human sources that can provide detailed and relevant information on known or suspected terrorist and criminal enterprises.)

1.3.2. Conduct and support integrated multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional investigations to disrupt and dismantle criminal organizations operating in the Texas border region.

Target Group :

Identify the target group and population expected to benefit from this project.

This project will locally benefit the community of El Paso County and the surrounding incorporated jurisdictions (Tornillo, Fabens, Clint, San Elizario, Socorro, Canutillo, and Anthony) in the County of El Paso, with an estimated population of 996,000. When funded, this will help with co-location of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies together to conduct joint investigations to effectively prosecute and disrupt violent criminal gang activity and drug trafficking organizations in our West Texas region and local communities.

Long-Term Approach:

Describe how the applicant agency will maintain the capabilities supported by this project without additional federal or state funds. If sustainment is dependent upon federal or state grants, describe the ongoing need for future grants, as applicable.

Without additional grant funding, narcotic investigations within the EPCSO CID Narcotics section (GNU) would be able to continue, but on a much smaller scale. Lack of funding would lead agency to decrease on overtime operations targeting drug trafficking within the El Paso County jurisdictional area, which in turn would lead to a

reduction of narcotic seizures. Reduced funding would also impact enforcement on drug trafficking and investigations with criminal gangs in the region. Being granted this additional funding to our agency will help to continue the efforts against violent crimes, the different forms of trafficking and smuggling of drugs and much more. The funding will also continue the growth of our new objectives of our Gangs and Narcotics Unit, in addition to the growth of collaboration with federal, state and local law enforcement agencies.

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
Operation Lone Star - Law Enforcement	100.00	The El Paso County Sheriff's Office CID/Gang and Narcotics unit will dedicate 90% of their activity to narcotic investigations. Operations will be based on actionable intelligence derived from all sources of information to include the El Paso and Marfa JOICS, El Paso Fusion Center, El Paso Intelligence Center. These operations will reduce border crime in the El Paso region with an additional purpose of disrupting narcotic activities associated with gangs and cartels. The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office Gang and Narcotic Section will continue to collaborate and work jointly with other law enforcement agencies, such as prosecutorial entities, DEA, FBI, ICE and HSI to determine the best courses of action to achieve the designated objectives. The remaining 10% of the activity will involve Enhanced patrol and will coordinate highway interdiction operations within the County of El Paso. These operations will involve the use of marked Sheriff’s Office units that will patrol and target major roadways of ingress/egress to El Paso County. Personnel will utilize roadside interview skills to ascertain if any criminal activity is suspected. Through this type of operation, the region will have continued success in criminal narcotic apprehension, ensuring a safer community for the citizens of El Paso County.

Measures Information

Objective Output Measures

OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
Number of weapons seized by grant-funded officers supporting the border initiative.	25

Objective Outcome Measures

OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
Number of adult apprehensions (transferred to USBP custody) made by	1

grant-funded peace officers	
Number of arrests (felony) made by grant-funded officers supporting the border initiative.	165
Number of arrests (misdemeanor) made by grant-funded officers supporting the border initiative.	50
Number of minor/juvenile apprehensions (transferred to USBP custody) made by grant-funded peace officers	1
Value of all forfeitures (cash and other assets) attributed to grant-funded officers supporting the border initiative.	60000

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** tab and following the instructions on *Uploading eGrants Files*.

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]:

10/1/2025

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

9/1/2025

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.

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/%
Personnel	Overtime for All Other Personnel	The manager will work overtime to audit daily activity reports from peace officers within the Gang and Narcotics Unit. The manager will create biweekly, monthly, quarterly and annual reports to track the financial performance, operational activities and key achievements over the grant period. This information will be reported to the OOG and regulate the progress and current status to stay within budget. Manager	\$33,865.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$33,865.44	100

		- Overtime according to local overtime policy (approximately 588 hours @ 57.59 OT rate which includes fringes) for 12 months = \$33,865.44						
Personnel	Overtime for First Responders	<p>The Sheriff's Office Gang and Narcotic officers will work out in the field performing operations such as but not limited to surveillance, undercover work, buy-walks, etc. that will lead to seizures of drugs, narcotics and prevention of violent crimes from gang members that are local street gangs and transnational criminal organizations..</p> <p>Overtime reimbursement cost for 1 Lt., 1 Sgt. 10 Detectives, and 4 Deputies including fringes for FY2026. .</p> <p>Overtime according to local OT policy - estimate of 16 employees x 6.63 hours of overtime x 6 days/month = 636.48 hrs./ mo. At Avg. OT rate of \$ 89.59/hr. Salary</p>	\$756,026.12	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$756,026.12	100

		\$48,853.52 plus 29.01% of fringes \$14,172.41 Total Mo. Salary of \$63,025.93 for 12 months = \$756,026.12						
Equipment	Police / Sheriff Department Vehicle (with no law enforcement equipment installed)	The Gang and Narcotics unit intends to purchase 8 new vehicles to help support operations and investigations. The unit will increase in staffing with the addition of new detectives. As such, the purchase of these vehicles will be crucial in meeting the needs of a growing unit that performs undercover surveillance and operations. Additionally, it has become necessary to replace some of the current unmarked units assigned to the unit, as they are close to or over 10 years old. Funding for these vehicles will support our detectives with the proper equipment to accommodate agency needs more efficiently. We are requesting \$482,163.83 for 8 units.	\$482,163.83	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$482,163.83	8

Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses	Vehicle Operating Cost (e.g., fuel, lubricants, maintenance, storage)	Actual vehicle operating costs pro-rated for the hours deputies work on grant paid overtime up to a total of \$30,167.52. This is one of the largest components of a car's overall operating costs and a necessity to make sure our units operate efficiently and effectively.	\$30,167.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,167.52	0
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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
Equipment	\$482,163.83	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$482,163.83
Personnel	\$789,891.56	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$789,891.56
Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses	\$30,167.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,167.52

Budget Grand Total Information:

OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL
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\$1,302,222.91	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,302,222.91
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Condition Of Fundings Information

Condition of Funding / Project Requirement	Date Created	Date Met	Hold Funds	Hold Line Item Funds
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You are logged in as **User Name:** 318830dc



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**BUDGET AND FISCAL POLICY DEPARTMENT
GRANTS ADMINISTRATION DIVISION**

FY26 GRANT APPLICATION SUBMISSION APPROVAL FORM

DEPARTMENT INFORMATION	
Date:	February 20, 2025
Requesting Department/Division:	EPCSO Criminal Investigations Division/ Gang and Narcotics Unit
Department/Division Contact:	Deborah Candia d.candia@epcounty.com
Anticipated Commissioners Court Meeting Grant Approval Date:	March 10, 2025
Who from your department/division will speak on the agenda item?	Commander Jerome Washington jwashington@epcounty.com (915)538-2884
Please list accompanying grant documents requiring the County Judge's signature.	Resolution to be signed by County Judge
GRANT OPPORTUNITY INFORMATION	
Grant Opportunity Title (as provided by Grantor):	FY 2026 Operation Lone Star Grant Program (OLS)
Grantor Agency:	Office of the Governor
Type of Grant (State, Federal, Private, Local, Other):	State
Is this a continuation or a new grant?	New
Is this grant for a new program?	No
CobbleStone Number for Most Recent Grant Award:	N/A
Grant Due Date:	March 13, 2025
Grant Period: (start date to end date)	September 01, 2025 through August 31, 2026

Grant Proposal Summary (one paragraph or less):	The Operation Lone Star Program (OLS) grant funds will be used to reimburse overtime costs associated with direct gang and narcotic criminal investigations conducted by the Criminal Investigations Division/ Gang and Narcotics Unit of the El Paso County Sheriff's Department
GRANT FINANCES	
A. Grant Funding to be Requested:	\$1,302,222.91
B. Total Match Contribution (if applicable):	None
I. Cash Match Amount and Description (i.e. County employee salaries, anticipated operating expenses, third-party monetary donations, etc.):	No Cash Match Required
a. Match Source Account(s) (if applicable):	N/A
b. What fiscal year(s) will County match funding be needed? Please indicate the fiscal years and the match needed per fiscal year.	N/A
II. In-kind Match Amount and Description (i.e. donated supplies/equipment, volunteer hours, donated professional services, etc.):	N/A
C. Anticipated Program Income (if applicable):	N/A
D. Total Project Amount (A + B + C):	\$1,302,222.91
FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT	
1) What are the staffing requirements or needs for this grant? Please include salary and benefit amounts and anticipated salary and benefit increases for multi-year grants. Have Job Descriptions and Impact forms been created for personnel?	
Overtime reimbursement cost for 1 Lt., 1 Sgt. 10 Detectives, and 4 Deputies including fringes for FY2026. 16 employees x 6.63 hours of overtime x 6 days/month = 636.48 hrs./ mo. At Avg. OT rate of \$ 89.59/hr. Salary \$48,853.52 plus 29.01% of fringes \$14,172.41 Total Mo. Salary of \$63,025.93 for 12 months = \$756,026.12. Manager (approximately 588 hours @ 57.59 OT rate which includes fringes) for 12 months = \$33,865.44 Actual vehicle operating costs pro-rated for the hours deputies work on grant paid overtime -16 units for 6 days per month for 12 months; estimated total of = \$30,167.52 Eight units = \$482,163.83 Total Request amount= \$1,302,222.91 – No impact forms needed as this will be overtime for peace officers.	
2) Has this grant has been awarded in the past? If so, please provide the financial results of the most recently completed grant award cycle to include the award amount and the balance at the closing of the grant.	

No, this grant has not previously been granted to our unit as this grant will be replacing our Local Border Security Program (LBSP). We were awarded LSBP since 2008. Last award was FY2024/35 in the amount of \$418,190.00.

3) What is the sustainability plan for this grant and the services being provided if this funding is significantly reduced or is not awarded in future?

Without additional grant funding, gang and narcotics investigations within the EPCSO CID Narcotics section would be able to continue, but on a much smaller scale. Lack of funding would lead agency to decrease on overtime operations targeting drug trafficking within the El Paso County jurisdictional area, which in turn would lead to a reduction of narcotic seizures and higher gang crimes. Reduced funding would also impact enforcement on drug trafficking in the region.

PROGRAMMATIC ASSESSMENT

1) How is this grant and its purpose(s) aligned with the County strategic plan?

2) How will this grant benefit your department/division and the El Paso County community?

This project aligns with the County's Safety Strategic Plan. The El Paso County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division- Gang and Narcotics Unit and other units within the Department target illegal activities associated with drug trafficking organizations and adult drug gangs to include money laundering and human trafficking to keep our communities safer.

3) Please explain the capacity of your department/division to administer this grant and complete all programmatic reporting requirements during the grant period.

This grant has been awarded for the past nine years and is administered by the Department's Administrative Manager with the assistance of the Grant Department and Auditors Staff.

4) Will this grant require the use of contractual services? *If so, please contact the Purchasing Department, upon award acceptance to ensure your department follows applicable procurement policies and procedures.*

No.

Name:

Operation Lone Star Grant Program (OLS) - FY2026

Available
01/13/2025

Due Date
03/13/2025

Purpose:

The Public Safety Office (PSO) is soliciting grant applications for local projects that support Operation Lone Star.

The purpose of the program is to enhance interagency border security operations supporting Operation Lone Star including the facilitation of directed actions to deter and interdict criminal activity. Program participants shall assist in the execution of coordinated border security operations to:

Law Enforcement

- Increase the effectiveness and impact of Operation Lone Star.
- Reduce border-related criminal activity in Texas.
- Implement and increase the effectiveness of operational methods, measures, and techniques for outbound/southbound operations.
- Decrease the supply of drugs smuggled into and through Texas from Mexico.
- Disrupt and deter operations of gang and cartel criminal organizations.
- Decrease specifically targeted tactics (such as conveyance methods) for drugs in the Texas border region.
- Decrease use of specific areas for crime as targeted in directed action missions.
- Increase the number and quality of analytical intelligence products developed at the Unified Command and state levels.
- Increase coordination between local and state law enforcement agencies in planning, execution, and analysis of border security operations.

Jail Operations

- Increase capacity for detention operations and other supporting functions associated with increased criminal activity due to surges in illegal migration.

Human Remains Processing

- Support county medical examiner offices in the humane processing of the remains of undocumented migrants.

Court Administration

- Increase capacity and expediency in case preparation, magistration, pre/post-adjudication proceedings, and criminal trials of OLS defendants.

Fire/EMS Operations

- Increase capacity for fire/EMS operations in direct support of OLS.

Available Funding:

State funds for these projects are authorized under the Texas General Appropriations Act, Article I, for Trusteed Programs within the Office of the Governor. All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law.

Eligible Organizations:

1. Units of local government; and
2. Federally Recognized Native American tribes.
3. Eligible applicants must be a county, or a municipality located in a county that has issued a disaster declaration relating to border security. The applicant's county must also be included in the most current Governor's Proclamation renewing the Border Security Disaster Declaration.
4. Preference will be given to eligible applicants within or providing support services to a County that is:
 5. adjacent to or a portion of which are located within 20 miles of an international border;
 6. adjacent to two counties located on an international border with a population of more than 5,000 and less than 7,500 according to the most recent federal decennial census; or
 7. adjacent to the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, as defined by Section 51.002, Transportation Code;
8. Jurisdictions not physically located within a county described in item 4. above (border county) but applying to provide support services to a jurisdiction that is physically located within a border county must submit a letter of support, memorandum of understanding or other similar documentation from the border county(ies) requesting their supportive services.

Application Process:

Applicants must access the Office of the Governor's eGrants grant management website at <https://eGrants.gov.texas.gov> to register and apply for funding.

Key Dates:

Action	Date
Funding Announcement Release	01/13/2025
Online System Opening Date	01/13/2025
Final Date to Submit and Certify an Application	03/13/2025 at 5:00PM CST
Earliest Project Start Date	03/13/2025

Project Period:

Projects selected for funding must begin on or after September 1, 2025 and expire on or before August 31, 2026.

Funding Levels

Minimum: \$20,000

Maximum: \$5,000,000

Match Requirement: None

Standards

Grantees must comply with standards applicable to this fund source cited in the Texas Grant Management Standards ([TxGMS](#)), [Federal Uniform Grant Guidance](#), and all statutes, requirements, and guidelines applicable to this funding.

Eligible Activities and Costs

Funding may be used to provide additional personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, travel, and training in support of **Operation Lone Star** activities, including for any one or more of the following activities.

Operation Lone Star - Law Enforcement. Activities related to law enforcement operations in support of OLS:

LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL - OVERTIME

- Overtime for increased patrol, search and rescue, recovery operations, and/or investigative capacity for certified peace officers.
- Overtime for law enforcement support personnel. These costs may include overtime for personnel necessary to support officers that are on patrol and participating in Operation Lone Star, such as Communications Officer/Dispatcher overtime necessary to maintain a safe Officer to Dispatcher ratio.

- Overtime for non-exempt administrative personnel supporting Operation Lone Star.
- Overtime backfill costs for non-border county agencies directly supporting OLS. Agencies must upload a letter of support from the border county for which the non-border county intends to provide law enforcement personnel.

LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL – REGULAR or STRAIGHT-TIME & TEMPORARY POSITIONS

- Augmentees: Personnel costs for law enforcement personnel who are not regular employees of a funded agency, but are brought on as needed to specifically cover border security operations so that there can be a force multiplier during Operation Lone Star.
- Regular time for law enforcement personnel working border operations. Grant funds must be used to supplement existing funds and not supplant funds that have been budgeted for the same purpose.
- Part-time to Full-Time: Personnel costs for part-time law enforcement personnel in order to bring them to temporary full-time status.
- Regular time for administrative personnel supporting OLS law enforcement activities.
- Hiring or contracting temporary staff to support OLS law enforcement activities.
- Personnel backfill costs for non-border county agencies directly supporting OLS. Agencies must upload a letter of support from the border county for which the non-border county intends to provide law enforcement personnel.

LAW ENFORCEMENT - EQUIPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

- Costs for equipment, technology, or the rental of equipment, which will benefit the border security mission and will be routinely utilized during Operation Lone Star.

LAW ENFORCEMENT - SUPPLIES and DIRECT OPERATING EXPENSE

- General office supplies and program supplies related to OLS law enforcement activities. Operational costs are also allowable, such as vehicle operating costs or costs for minor emergency repairs as described below, or for other services pre-approved by the PSO that are critical to success of the program. Examples include:
 - The cost of fuel, lubricants, and minor emergency repairs or maintenance for vehicles, and similar equipment used during the hours in which grant-funded staff are working.
 - Only actual expenses supported by invoiced gas, oil, and repair or maintenance receipts may be reimbursed under this grant.
 - Maintenance costs must be prorated to show the usage of vehicles or equipment for regular law enforcement duties as compared to usage while officers are working grant-paid patrols.

LAW ENFORCEMENT – TRAVEL & TRAINING

- Travel, per diem, and lodging costs associated with personnel, augmentees, or contractors engaged in OLS activities.

Operation Lone Star - Human Remains Processing. Activities related to the humane processing of the remains of undocumented migrants:

MEDICAL EXAMINER PERSONNEL – OVERTIME

- Overtime for OLS death investigations conducted by a medical examiner, deputy examiner, trained technician, or a forensic pathologist as authorized under Article 49.25 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.
- Overtime for non-exempt administrative personnel supporting a County Medical Examiner's Office.

MEDICAL EXAMINER PERSONNEL – REGULAR or STRAIGHT-TIME & TEMPORARY POSITIONS

- Regular time for county medical examiner personnel conducting OLS death investigations. Grant funds must be used to supplement existing funds and not supplant funds that have been budgeted for the same purpose.
- Part-time to Full-Time: Personnel costs for part-time county medical examiner personnel to bring them to temporary full-time status.
- Regular time for administrative personnel supporting a County Medical Examiner's Office.
- Hiring or contracting temporary staff to assist or conduct OLS death investigations.

MEDICAL EXAMINER - EQUIPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

- Costs for equipment, technology, or the rental of equipment related to the processing of OLS death investigations, temporary morgues, and/or additional body storage capacity.

MEDICAL EXAMINER - SUPPLIES and DIRECT OPERATING EXPENSE

- Costs for supplies and direct operating expenses related to conducting OLS death investigations.

MEDICAL EXAMINER – CONTRACTUAL

- Costs associated with the outsourcing of OLS death investigations, temporary body storage, and other contractual costs incurred by a county medical examiner's office related to the humane processing of the remains of undocumented migrants.

Operation Lone Star – Jail Operations. Activities related to the intake, processing, and holding of OLS inmates in local detention facilities.

JAIL OPERATIONS PERSONNEL – OVERTIME

- Overtime for jailers and support staff related to the intake, processing, and holding of OLS inmates.
- Overtime for non-exempt administrative personnel supporting a local detention facility.
- Overtime backfill costs for non-border county agencies directly supporting OLS. Agencies must upload a letter of support from the border county for which the non-border county intends to provide jailers.

JAIL OPERATIONS PERSONNEL - REGULAR or STRAIGHT-TIME & TEMPORARY POSITIONS

- Augmentees: Personnel costs for jailers who are not regular employees of a funded agency, but are brought on as needed to specifically assist in the intake, processing, and holding of OLS inmates.
- Regular time for jailers. Grant funds must be used to supplement existing funds and not supplant funds that have been budgeted for the same purpose.
- Part-time to Full-Time: Personnel costs for part-time jailers to bring them to temporary full-time status.
- Regular time for administrative personnel supporting OLS corrections activities.
- Hiring or contracting temporary jail staff to support OLS corrections activities.
- Personnel backfill costs for non-border county agencies directly supporting OLS. Agencies must upload a letter of support from the border county for which the non-border county intends to provide jailers.

JAIL OPERATIONS - EQUIPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

- Costs for equipment, technology, or the rental of equipment related to the intake, processing, and holding of OLS inmates.

JAIL OPERATIONS - SUPPLIES and DIRECT OPERATING EXPENSE

- Costs for office supplies, program supplies, and other direct operating expenses related to the intake, processing, and holding of OLS inmates. Examples include: Inmate transportation to court proceedings or state custody.

JAIL OPERATIONS – CONTRACTUAL

- Costs associated with outsourcing OLS inmates to other county jail facilities and/or other contractual costs incurred by a county jail facility related to the intake, processing, and holding of OLS inmates.

JAIL OPERATIONS – TRAVEL & TRAINING

- Travel, per diem, and lodging costs associated with jail personnel, augmentees, or contractors engaged in OLS corrections activities.

Operation Lone Star – Court Administration. Activities related to the case preparation, magistration, pre/post-adjudication proceedings, and criminal trials of OLS defendants.

COURT ADMINISTRATION PERSONNEL – OVERTIME

- Overtime for courtroom staff, court coordinators, and clerks supporting court operations, including but not limited to, case preparation, magistration, pre/post-adjudication proceedings, and criminal trials for OLS defendants.

COURT ADMINISTRATION PERSONNEL - REGULAR or STRAIGHT-TIME & TEMPORARY POSITIONS

- Regular time for courtroom staff, court coordinators, and clerks. Grant funds must be used to supplement existing funds and not supplant funds that have been budgeted for the same purpose.
- Part-time to Full-Time: Personnel costs for part-time courtroom staff, court coordinators, and clerks to bring them to temporary full-time status.
- Hiring or contracting temporary courtroom staff, court coordinators, and clerks to support OLS courts activities.

COURT ADMINISTRATION - EQUIPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

- Costs for equipment and technology to support court operations, including but not limited to, case preparation, magistration, pre/post-adjudication proceedings, and criminal trials for OLS defendants.

COURT ADMINISTRATION - SUPPLIES and DIRECT OPERATING EXPENSE

- Costs for office supplies, program supplies, and other direct operating expenses to support court operations, including but not limited to, magistration, pre/post-adjudication proceedings, and criminal trials for OLS defendants.

COURT ADMINISTRATION – CONTRACTUAL

- Costs associated with contractual costs incurred to support court operations, including but not limited to, magistration, pre/post-adjudication proceedings, and criminal trials for OLS defendants.

Operation Lone Star – Fire/EMS Operations. Activities related to emergency response efforts provided by locally operated Fire/EMS agencies.

FIRE/EMS OPERATIONS (RESCUE) – OVERTIME

- Overtime for increased rescue call volume, search and rescue, and/or recovery operations.

- Overtime for rescue support personnel. These costs may include overtime for personnel necessary to support rescue personnel that are operating on incident scenes and participating in Operation Lone Star, such as telecommunications professional overtime necessary to maintain a safe responder to dispatcher ratio.
- Overtime for non-exempt administrative personnel supporting Operation Lone Star.

FIRE/EMS OPERATIONS (RESCUE) – REGULAR or STRAIGHT-TIME & TEMPORARY POSITIONS

- Part-time to Full-time: Personnel costs for part-time rescue personnel in order to bring them to temporary full-time status.
- Hiring or contracting temporary staff to support OLS rescue activities.

FIRE/EMS OPERATIONS - EQUIPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

- Costs for equipment, technology, or the rental of equipment, which will benefit the border security mission and will be routinely utilized during Operation Lone Star.

FIRE/EMS OPERATIONS (RESCUE) – SUPPLIES and DIRECT OPERATING EXPENSE

- General office supplies and program supplies related to OLS rescue activities. Operational costs are also allowable, such as vehicle operating costs or costs for minor emergency repairs as described below, or for other services pre-approved by the PSO that are critical to success of the program. Examples include:
 - Costs associated with fuel, lubricants, and minor emergency repairs or maintenance for vehicles, and similar equipment used during the hours in which grant-funded staff are working.
 - Only actual expenses supported by invoiced gas, oil, and repair or maintenance receipts may be reimbursed under this grant.
 - Maintenance costs must be prorated to show the usage of vehicles or equipment for regular rescue duties as compared to usage while first responders are working grant-funded rescue operations.
- **FIRE/EMS OPERATIONS – TRAVEL & TRAINING**
 - Travel, per diem, and lodging costs associated with personnel, augmentees, or contractors engaged in OLS activities.

Program-Specific Requirements

1. Eligible applicants, as applicable, assure to continue and/or renew a local disaster declaration relating to border security for the entirety of the project period. The expiration or dissolution of a local disaster declaration may result in the early termination of the grant agreement.
2. Eligible applicants in a border county, as described in the Eligible Organizations section, must upload a letter from the county attorney expressing their office's active participation in

prosecuting misdemeanor and felony offenses, as appropriate, in support of Operation Lone Star.

3. Eligible applicants performing law enforcement functions must agree to perform the following activities:

- Participate in operational planning and coordination meetings, information/intelligence sharing meetings, and After Action Reviews (AARs) established by the Texas Department of Public Safety's (DPS) Joint Operations and Intelligence Centers (JOICs).
- Participate weekly on the JOIC Unified Command conference calls or meetings as required by the JOIC.
- Report significant border-related events that occur during each 24-hour period.
- Conduct enhanced law enforcement patrolling activities if funded for those activities through this grant and recognize/react to information/intelligence to adjust times and locations of enhanced patrol activities.
- Identify significant border-related trends or areas of interest that may be developed into focus areas for future operations.
- Conduct surveillance, interdictions, investigations, and collect and disseminate information within its jurisdiction or cross-jurisdiction lines as required.
- Submit information on incidents using the Border Incident Assessment Report (BIAR).
 - The grantee shall report all border-related incidents to the appropriate JOIC using the BIAR. BIAR reporting shall include events that occur during Enhanced Operation activities AND events that occur during Steady State activities. Enhanced (Surge) Operations originate out of the use of Lone Star funds when the local agency chooses to increase the hours of patrol or investigations. Steady State activities are defined as normal patrol or investigative duties that do not use grant funds, but directly impact the overall Lone Star mission, such as organized crime arrests, terroristic activities, weapons trafficking arrests, kidnappings, human trafficking, human smuggling, home invasions with a border or organized crime nexus, illegal immigration, border-related murders, gang-related murders, vehicle thefts, or drug trafficking.
 - The BIAR is the primary incident and information-reporting tool for the grantee in local border security operations. The grantee shall ensure all BIARs conform to the respective standards outlined by the JOIC and are submitted within 24 hours of the end of shift and/or the timeframes established by the JOIC.

4. Applicants performing overtime activities must provide a copy of the local overtime policy as approved by its governing board. This policy will be considered the official policy for grant purposes and must be used throughout the grant period. The policy must:

- Clearly describe how overtime will be calculated;
- Be consistent with the agency's local overtime policy;
- Treat overtime for grant-paid personnel the same as non-grant paid personnel.

5. Project Overtime (OT) shall be reimbursed following the grantee's overtime policy and the requirements as stated below:

- OT is time actually worked that exceeds the required number of hours during an employee's designated work period, as per grantee's policies and procedures.
- OT must be worked to support border security operations.
- The project OT rate shall be no more than one-and-one-half (1.5) times the employee's regular pay rate.
- Exempt salaried employees working border security operations may be reimbursed for overtime only if the grantee's overtime policy specifically allows for this.
- PSO will only reimburse the grantee for OT that does not exceed a total of 16 hours worked (regular plus OT) during any 24-hour period.

Eligibility Requirements

1. 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.

2. 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 percent of convictions within five business days to the Criminal Justice Information System at the Department of Public Safety.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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 OOG and is active until August 31, 2026 or the end of the grant period, whichever is later.

6. Eligible applicants must be registered in the federal System for Award Management (SAM) database and have an UEI (Unique Entity ID) number assigned to its agency (to get registered in the SAM database and request an UEI number, go to <https://sam.gov/>).

Failure to comply with program eligibility requirements may cause funds to be withheld and/or suspension or termination of grant funds.

Prohibitions

Grant funds may **not** be used to support the unallowable costs listed in the **Guide to Grants** or any of the following unallowable costs:

1. Inherently religious activities such as prayer, worship, religious instruction, or proselytization;
2. Lobbying;
3. Any portion of the salary of, or any other compensation for, an elected or appointed government official;
4. Vehicles or equipment for government agencies that are for general agency use;
5. Weapons, ammunition, tasers, or explosives;
6. Admission fees or tickets to any amusement park, recreational activity or sporting event;
7. Promotional gifts;
8. Food, meals, beverages, or other refreshments, except for eligible per diem associated with grant-related travel;
9. Membership dues for individuals;
10. Any expense or service that is readily available at no cost to the grant project;
11. Any use of grant funds to replace (supplant) funds that have been budgeted for the same purpose through non-grant sources;
12. Fundraising;
13. Salary stipends;
14. Construction;
15. Aircraft (fixed wing & rotary wing including sUAS, drones, unmanned aerial aircraft);
16. Fire engines;
17. Ambulances (types 1, 2, & 3);
18. Any other prohibition imposed by federal, state, or local law.

Selection Process

PSO will screen all applications to ensure that they meet the requirements included in the funding announcement.

Applications will then be reviewed by PSO staff members, or a review group selected by the executive director. PSO will make all final funding decisions based on eligibility, reasonableness,

availability of funding, and cost-effectiveness.

The Office of the Governor may not fund all applications or may only award part of the amount requested. In the event that funding requests exceed available funds, the Office of the Governor may revise projects to address a more limited focus.

Contact Information

For more information, contact the eGrants help desk at eGrants@gov.texas.gov or (512) 463-1919.

Total Funds

\$TBD