



Public Safety Office
Office of the Governor

Regional Training Conference

Public Safety Office Programs



September 2026

Grant Program & State Office Presentations & Training

Welcome

FY27 Contract – Shelby Vaughan

Texas Crime Stoppers – Erin Cole

State Justice Programs Updates – Sam Terry

Crime Victim Notification – Donald Stout & Hillary England

SHSP and SERI – Will Ogletree

FY27 Contract Amendment

Shelby Vaughan, Contract Manager





Important Due Dates and Reminders

- Make available to potential applicants: COG priorities; workshop attendance requirements; information related to the availability of training materials or other documents regarding PSO grant application creation; and information on how the COG reviews and prioritizes projects (HS2.1 / CJ2.1). **30 Calendar Days Prior to eGrants Application Submission Deadline**
- Make the current funding opportunities publicly available on the COG's website (HS2.3 / CJ2.3). **At least 14 calendar days prior to any COG imposed application submission deadline and at least 30 calendar days prior to the PSO eGrants application submission deadline**
- Notify applicants in writing of the Region's approved prioritization results (HS4.3 / CJ5.3). **Within 14 Calendar Days of Governing Body Approval**
- Submit invoices for services performed during the previous month (HS6.1 / CJ7.1). **By the 30th of each month**
- Complete cybersecurity training and submit the PSO Contract Cybersecurity Certification Form signed by the ED. **Due NLT August 31, 2027**



Important Due Dates - Con't

- Submit ***Approved*** HS Priority List to the PSO (HS4.4). **Due on or before the 14th calendar day after the OOG batch**
- Upload into eGrants a signed resolution or approved meeting minutes containing the authorized Executive Committee's approval of the SHSP priority list (HS4.5). **Due on or before the 45th calendar day from the date the OOG batches applications to the COG**
- Submit ***Approved*** CJ Priority Lists to the PSO. (CJ5.4) **Due NLT May 10, 2027**
- Upload into eGrants a signed resolution or approved meeting minutes containing the authorized Executive Committee's approval of the priority lists. (CJ5.5) **Due NLT June 10, 2027**

If approved lists are not submitted by the deadline that deliverable will be considered delinquent, and the COG will be sanctioned.



New Requirement HS5.1

The COG shall identify and make available a minimum of two COG personnel to assist the PSO with scoring Non-Profit Security Grant Program (NSGP) applications. Designated COG personnel shall:

- a. Attend a NSGP Application Scoring Webinar hosted by the PSO;
- b. Complete a non-disclosure agreement prior to reviewing any NPSG applications;
- c. Utilize a PSO-prescribed scoresheet to evaluate each application based on the scoring criteria; and
- d. Submit completed scoresheets to the PSO using the PSO-prescribed method by the deadline specified by the PSO.

*Provide Shelby Vaughan with scorer names and contact information NLT
1/30/2027.*

Monthly Invoices

- Enter the new FY27 purchase order number provided by the OOG.
- Ensure invoice is updated to reflect the new contract and fiscal year - **FY27**
 - Contract Description
 - Contract Period
 - "From" date 9/1/2026
 - "To" date 8/31/2027
 - Update SOW numbers on HS invoice
- "Invoice Date" **must** be on or after the Billing Period "To" date.
- Billing Period "To" date should be the last day of the month.
- Invoice for the exact amount specified in the contract; August invoice amount may be slightly different.
- Include contract-related activities and number of hours spent working on contract tasks/deliverables **during the billing period**.
- Submit NLT the 30th day of the month following the billing period.

Regional Council of Governments Interlocal Agreement Invoice			Office of the Governor P.O. Box 12428 Austin, Texas 78711 512-463-1919 Fax: 512-475-2440 www.gov.texas.gov
Division: CJ		PO#:	
REMIT TO: COG Name:		COG Region:	
Address:			
City State Zip:			
Invoice Date:	Invoice Number:	Contract Description: CJ Services	
Billing Period: From: To:		Contract Period: From: 9/1/2023 To: 8/31/2024	
Total Invoice Amount:		Financial Contact Name and Number:	
Monthly Report/Work Performed <i>In the below section please provide: 1) The total number of staff hours worked on contract tasks/deliverables during the billing period; and 2) A brief description of contract deliverables worked on or completed during the billing period. Please provide the brief description(s) of contract activity by Task# as listed in Attachment A of the Interlocal Agreement. (HINT: Insert line breaks by pressing the "ALT" and "ENTER" keys simultaneously. If more space is needed please attach a separate sheet to the invoice.)</i>			
Hours Worked:			
CJ1 Local Policies or Bylaws:			
CJ2 Technical Assistance:			
CJ3 Oversight of CJAC:			
CJ4 Strategic Planning:			
CJ5 Application Prioritization:			
CJ6 Cooperation with PSD:			

Provide # hours worked and description of tasks performed during the month



Shelby Vaughan, CTCM
Compliance Coordinator

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512-463-8457



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Texas Crime Stoppers organizations are community-based partnerships formed by dedicated citizens, law enforcement, and the media. They work together toward a common goal: the reduction of crime and the arrest and conviction of criminals and fugitives statewide.

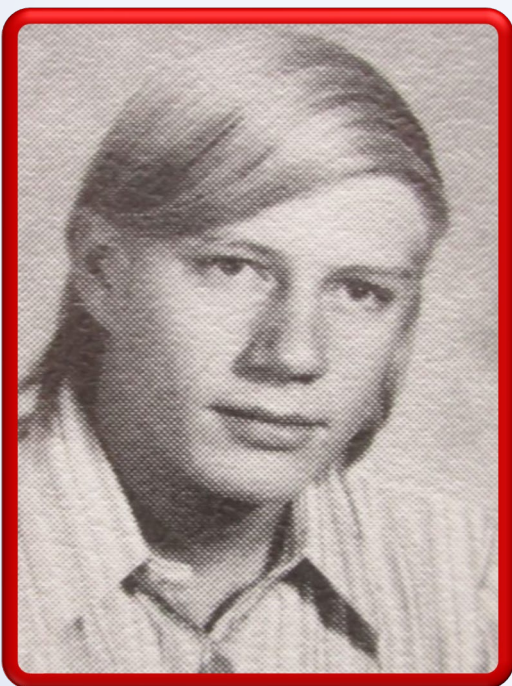
Local Crime Stoppers organizations are designed to serve as a vehicle for citizens to relay criminal information to law enforcement agencies while remaining ANONYMOUS.



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1. Anonymity
2. Establishing a reward system that compensates anonymous tipsters for information that helps solve crimes.
3. Encourage strong relationships with community, media, and law enforcement partners.
4. Statewide programs.

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- Michael Carmen 20 years old.
- College student.
- Volunteered to work double shift for a friend.
- Would have been married in two weeks.



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July 24, 1976

2:30 a.m.

Horn Gas Station





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- Afraid of media exposure
- Afraid of the courtroom experience
- Leave it up to someone else
- Afraid of retaliation



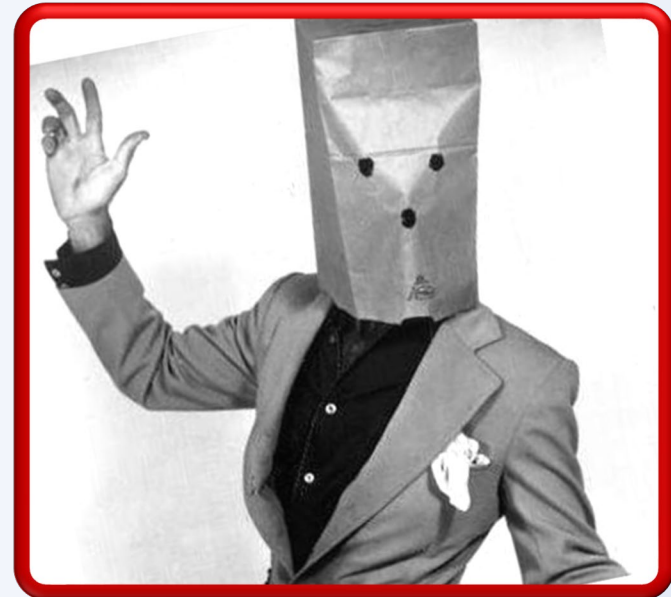


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Cash to overcome apathy



Anonymity to overcome fears



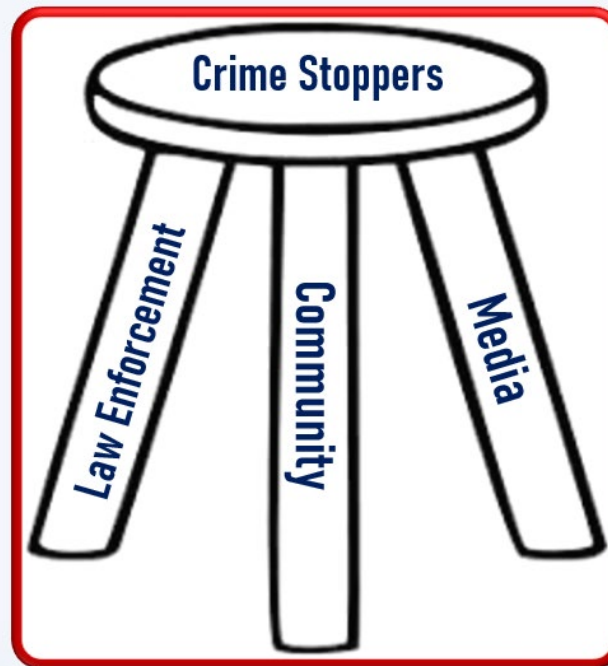
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- 1st call – a one-year-old gang rape identifying three suspects.
- 6th call – disclosed information about a robbery identifying suspects.
- Two months after the murder, suspects arrested.



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- July 1977, Central Florida Crime Watch's six county program began and recovered \$4,000,000 in stolen property it's first year
- September 1978, programs were created in:
 - Durango, Colorado
 - El Paso, Texas
- 1979, 28 programs were operating in the United States
- 1981, Texas Crime Stoppers Council
- 2021, Texas Crime Stoppers Campus Programs



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PRIMARY FUNCTIONS

- Promoting local Crime Stoppers organizations.
- Encouraging the formation of new organizations both in communities and on campuses.
- Advising & Assisting Crime Stoppers organizations.
- Certifying that organizations comply with state statutory requirements.



Chapter 414 - Texas Government Code

Chapter 414, Texas Government Code

- Chapter 414 of the Government Code authorizes the creation of the Texas Crime Stoppers Council and the duties to be performed by the Council and staff.
- Five members appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate.
- This law is applicable to both communities and campus programs.
- Details can be found at www.thetexascrimestoppers.org



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- Manages certification requirements of approximately 150 organizations
- Administers grants under the Crime Stoppers Assistance Fund (CSAF).
- Provides technical and operational assistance statewide.
- Biannual & Annual reporting: Programmatic, Statistical data and Probation Fees
- Training & Conferences
- Statewide program expansion to different counties and into schools across the state
- Texas Crime Stoppers Ambassador Program



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In addition to these duties, Sec. 414.005 of the Texas Government Code authorizes specialized state-wide programs:

- Texas 10 Most Wanted Fugitives & Sex Offenders
- Texas Stash House Rewards Program
- Texas Fallen Heroes Reward Program
- Texas Criminal Illegal Immigrants Reward Program
- Unique Incidents Rewards



Texas 10 Most Wanted Sex Offenders

[illegible][illegible]



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Texas 10 Most Wanted Criminal Illegal Immigrants

To be eligible for the cash rewards, fugitives must provide information to authorities using one of the following methods:

- Call the Texas Crime Stoppers hotline at 1-800-252-1971 (8477).
 - Submit a web tip through the Texas 10 Most Wanted website or Facebook page • Submit a tip through the DPS Mobile App
- All tips are anonymous - regardless of how they are submitted, and fugitives will be provided a tip number instead of using a name.

Callers' anonymity is guaranteed by law and you could earn up to the CASH REWARD amount listed for each fugitive.

These fugitives should be considered Armed and Dangerous! Never try to apprehend a fugitive yourself.

Luis Perez Mendoza  White (Hispanic) Male 11/13/1980, 5'9", 160lbs. Wanted For: Indecency With A Child By Sexual Contact, Probation Violation (Original Offense, Sexual Offense Public Servant) Criminal History: Aggravated Robbery, Terrorism Threat, Sexual Assault Public Servant, Injury To Child/Elderly/Disabled, Re-Entry After Deportation, Alien Removal Last Known Address: Corpus, Texas Up To \$5,000 Reward	Francisco Alexis Ventura  White (Hispanic) Male 1/1/1959, 5'2", 160lbs. Wanted For: Sex Abuse Of Child Contributing Victim Under 14 Criminal History: Sex Abuse Of Child Contributing Victim Under 14, Driving While Intoxicated, Deportation Proceedings Last Known Address: Irving, Texas Up To \$5,000 Reward	Octavio Cruz Hernandez  White (Hispanic) Male 3/22/1992, 5'6", 145lbs. Wanted For: Sex Abuse Of A Child Contributing Victim Under 14 Criminal History: Driving While Intoxicated With Child Under 15, Child Abandonment/Endanger Child Involvement Danger Of Bodily Injury, Possession Of Controlled Sub Last Known Address: Crispin Springs, Texas Up To \$5,000 Reward	Oscar David Zavala  White (Hispanic) Male 5/11/1994, 6'1", 160lbs. Featured Fugitive Wanted For: Sexual Assault, Terrorism Threat, Obstruction/Retaliation Criminal History: Terrorism Threat/Intimidate Public Peace, Obstruction/Retaliation, Failure To Comply With Requests Of Officer, Child Alien Inadmissibility Last Known Address: Spring, Texas Up To \$4,000 Reward	Wilean Alexander Berrios Ulloa  White (Hispanic) Male 3/8/1985, 5'7", 150lbs. Wanted For: Aggravated Sexual Assault Of A Child, Burglary Of Habitation With Intent To Commit Other Felony Criminal History: Aggravated Sexual Assault Of A Child, Driving While Intoxicated, Alien Removal Last Known Address: Austin, Texas Up To \$3,000 Reward
Jose Miguel Zelaya-Ponce  White (Hispanic) Male 9/25/2003, 6'0", 170lbs. Wanted For: Aggravated Sexual Assault Of A Child Under 14 Criminal History: Alien Removal Last Known Address: Houston, Texas Up To \$5,000 Reward	Salvador Cortez Vasquez  White (Hispanic) Male 6/20/1992, 5'7", 160lbs. Wanted For: Aggravated Sexual Assault Of A Child, Sexual Assault Of A Child Criminal History: Soleil Prostitution/Other Prostitution, Alien Previously Removed/Not On Writs, Texas, Alien Inadmissibility Last Known Address: Chenoweth, Texas Up To \$3,000 Reward	Jorge Dionicio Hernandez  White (Hispanic) Male 4/22/1991, 6'3", 130lbs. Wanted For: Indecency With Child By Sexual Contact Criminal History: Driving While Intoxicated, Driver License/D False, Alien Removal Last Known Address: Houston, Texas Up To \$3,000 Reward	Oscar Oswaldo Madrid Cartagena  White (Hispanic) Male 6/15/1987, 5'8", 150lbs. Wanted For: Sexual Assault Criminal History: Sexual Assault, Alien Inadmissibility Last Known Address: Marshall, Texas Up To \$3,000 Reward	Gilberto Castro Zubiate  White (Hispanic) Male 4/17/1996, 5'9", 235lbs. Wanted For: Attempt To Smuggle Smuggling Of Persons For Pecuniary Benefit (2) Criminal History: Smuggling Of Persons For Pecuniary Benefit, Page Entry Entry Without Inspection Last Known Address: El Paso, Texas Up To \$3,000 Reward



Texas Stash House Rewards

- Combat transnational crime, human trafficking, drug smuggling, and human smuggling

Texas Fallen Hero Rewards

- Cold-cases, unsolved law enforcement related cases

Unique Rewards

- Explosive packages case, US Border Patrol ambush, UT Austin homicide case, Shooting death of 8-year-old Houston girl, Deputy Greenwood, Baytown homicide case, I-35 rock throwing incidents, Governor's Mansion fire, State of Texas Capitol Riots



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1. Tip Reporting

- Tips can be submitted via hotline, mobile app, or website.
- Tipster is assigned a tip identification number.

2. Rewards Paid

- A pay scale is pre-determined by each organization.
- Board of Directors votes to confirm information and payment amount .
- Tipster is paid out at a secure location.
- For the DPS programs, tips are paid out via purchase requisition to local Crime Stoppers organizations who coordinate with anonymous tipster on a pickup location.

Type of Crime / Fugitive	
Description (including... Who, What, When, Where and How Do You Know) *	
Offense Type *	
Address of Incident	
County	City, State (required) *
Nearest Intersection or Crossing Street	
Neighborhood or Subdivision	
Directions to Location	
How did you hear about our program?	
Links to any online news stories you are reporting in reference to. (copy/paste the URL if possible)	
Additional Information	
School Related & Bullying	
Wanted/Fugitive	Number Involved: 1
Suspect	Suspects Involved: 1
Vehicle	Vehicles Involved: 1
Drugs	
Abuse	
Weapons	
File Upload	



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- ANONYMOUS Tip Reporting
- Increased Crime Solving
- Community Engagement
- Educational Outreach
- Partnership with Media



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Crimes that can be reported include but are not limited to:

- Animal Cruelty
- Arson
- Assaultive Offenses
- Burglary/Robbery/Theft
- Child Abuse
- Domestic Violence
- Weapons
- Elder Abuse
- Fraud/Forgery
- Murder/Homicide
- Sex Crimes
- Terroristic Threats
- Trafficking



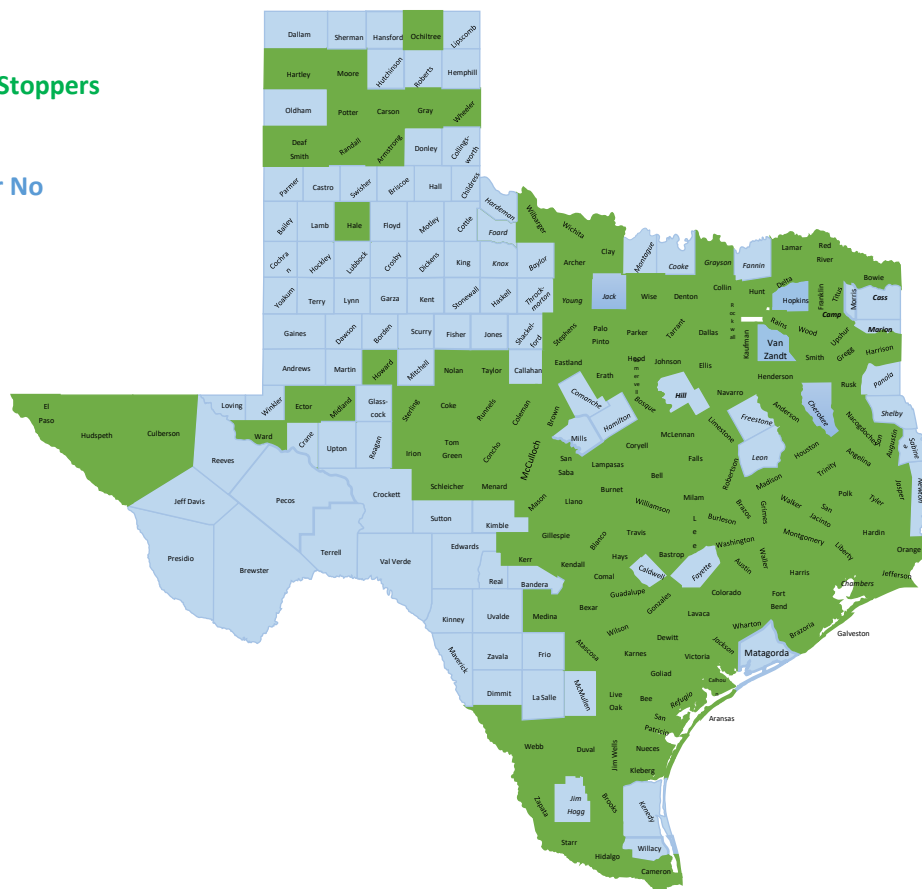
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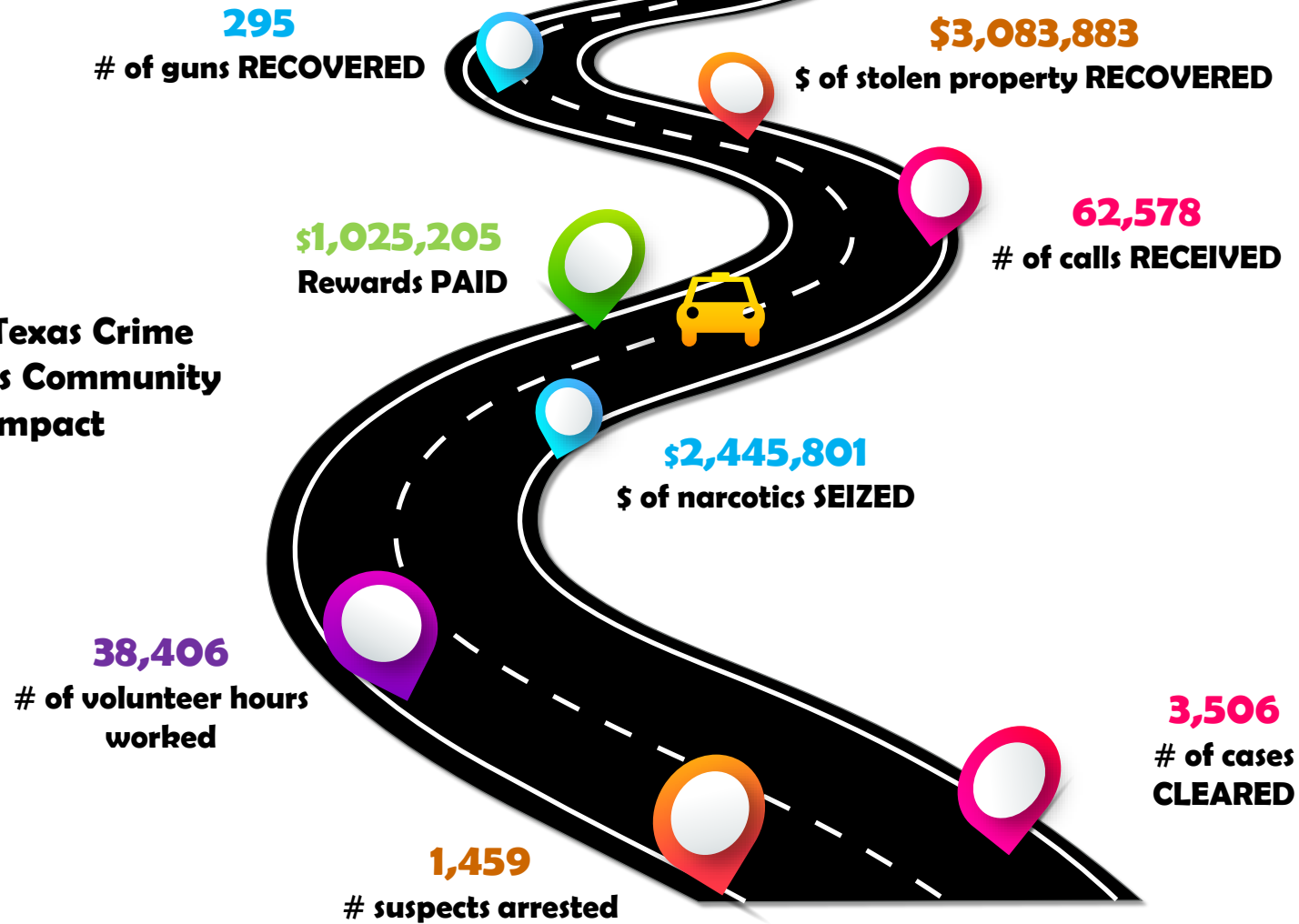
- Abuse
- Bullying
- Burglary/Robbery/Theft
- Drugs
- E-Cigarettes
- Gang Activity
- Weapons
- Harassment
- Teen Dating Violence
- Threats
- Self-Harm
- Sexual Misconduct
- Vandalism



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2025 Texas Crime Stoppers Community Impact



Texas Crime Stoppers

Campus Impact

2025



Value of Stolen
Property
Recovered

\$352,851



Rewards Paid

\$109,645



Anonymous
Tips Received

9,868



Value of Illegal
Drugs Seized
from Campuses

\$46,652



Number of Cases
Cleared

2,782



Number of
Weapons Seized
from Campuses

165

TEXAS CRIME STOPPERS TEAM



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Main Line: (512) 463-1919

Email: txcrimestoppers@gov.texas.gov

STATE JUSTICE PROGRAMS



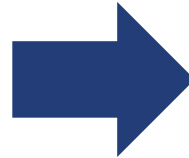
Sam Terry
Associate Administrator
sam.terry@gov.texas.gov



NAME CHANGE, NOT A NEW PROGRAM

FY2026 & Prior

Juvenile Justice &
Truancy Prevention



Effective FY2027

Juvenile Justice &
Youth Diversion

SAME PROGRAM NEW NAME



WHO CAN APPLY?

JUVENILE JUSTICE

- Independent School Districts
- Native American Tribes
- Councils of Government
- Nonprofit Organizations (including hospitals)
- Units of Local Government

YOUTH DIVERSION

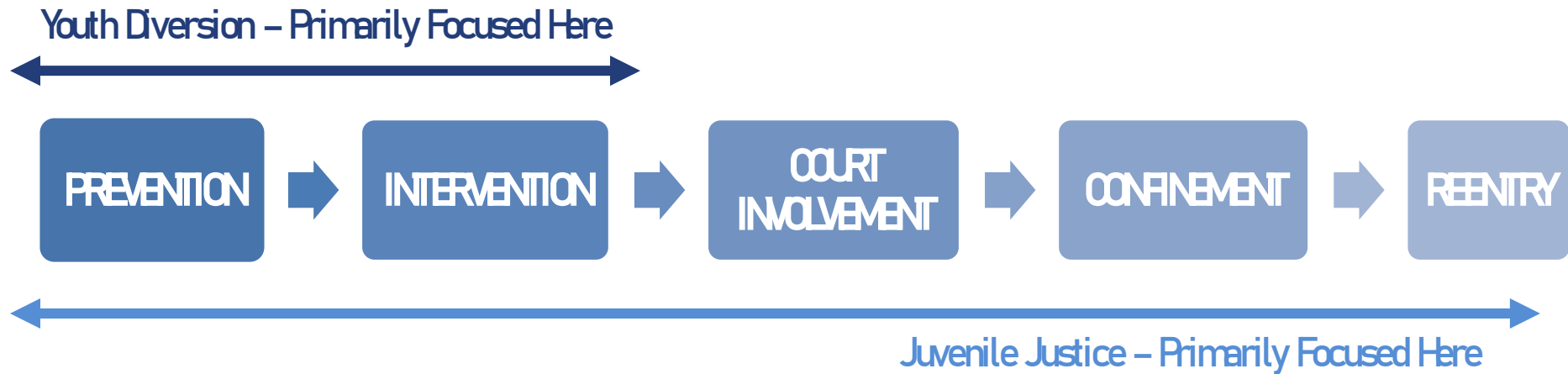
- Independent School Districts
- Native American Tribes
- Units of Local Government



JUVENILE JUSTICE VS YOUTH DIVERSION

JUVENILE JUSTICE: Broad continuum of services

YOUTH DIVERSION: Focused diversion & case management





WHAT DO THESE PROGRAMS FUND?

JUVENILE JUSTICE:

- Mental Health Services
- School Programs
- Community-Based Services
- Youth Diversion Services

YOUTH DIVERSION:

- Youth Diversion Services
- Juvenile Case Managers





EXAMPLES

Example 1:

A nonprofit provides mental health counseling and individualized treatment planning for youth in detention.

→ JUVENILE JUSTICE

Example 2:

A county employs juvenile case managers to assist the court and provide pre-filing intervention.

→ YOUTH DIVERSION

Example 3:

An organization operates a program designed to prevent delinquency among youth at risk of entering the juvenile justice system.

→ YOUTH DIVERSION

Crime Victim Notification

Donald Stout

Administrator, Victim Services

Hillary England

Deputy Director

Victim Services and Prevention Programs

Victim Notification System (IVSS-Counties)

- **IVSS-Counties** transitioned from the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to the Office of the Governor (OOG) effective **9/1/26**
 - Victims can access information & receive notifications regarding offenders in Texas county jails
- **Shared mission and commitment:**
 - Protect victims through timely, reliable notifications
 - Support advocates with better tools and improved access
 - Partner with local agencies to strengthen victim services statewide
 - Continue enhancing **IVSS-Counties** based on feedback from system users
- **Upcoming changes include:**
 - Streamlined billing and contracting processes
 - Enhanced access for Advocates
- **PSO Contact > IVSSCounties@gov.texas.gov**
- **24/7 Call Center > (866) 268-8959**



Crime Victim Notification Systems Program

Program Overview

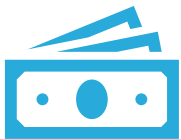
The purpose of this program is to provide financial assistance to law enforcement agencies to purchase or develop a crime victim notification system.



Applications may be submitted by any unit of government which operates a law enforcement agency



Grant may not exceed 12 months, and there is no match requirement



\$10 million was appropriated for the program last legislative session

Crime Victim Notification Systems Program

Program Requirements

Automatically, and without the requirement to download a software application to opt-in to notifications, notify a victim or relative of a deceased victim by e-mail or text message of all the following regarding a victim's case:

- The date on which the incident report is created;
- The case number;
- The names of investigators who are assigned to the case;
- The date an arrest is made;
- The date an affidavit alleging probable cause is presented to the attorney representing the state;
- The date the defendant is arraigned under Chapter 26, Code of Criminal Procedure;
- Whether the case has been dismissed by the attorney representing the state; and
- Any other information relevant to the case

Crime Victim Notification Systems Program

Program Requirements

Interface with the law enforcement agency's system of records;

Provide configurable triggers to directly send messages;

Provide the capability:

- To attach informational brochures or other electronic attachments to the messages;
- For a person to check the case status;
- To transmit notifications in English or Spanish;
- and To respond to questions via artificial intelligence;

Monitor the number and types of messages sent and enable a user to visualize that data; and

Provide a survey tool so the law enforcement agency can solicit feedback on victim services.



Donald Stout

Victim's Team Administrator

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Hillary England

Deputy Director, Victim Services & Prevention

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Terrorism Preparedness Programs

Will Ogletree

*Administrator, Terrorism Preparedness
Programs*

Terrorism Preparedness Programs

FY2025 SHSP – Updates

- Most FY2025 SHSP and UASI awards selected for funding have been released or are currently in the process of being released.
- Election Security NPA applications remain under FEMA review and will be released upon FEMA approval.
- The FY2025 HSGP Election Security compliance certification process is being finalized.

FY2026 SHSP – Updates

- FY2026 SHSP award notifications have not yet been released by FEMA; release is anticipated soon.
- Regional allocations have not yet been finalized due to outstanding issues regarding FY2026 HSGP Election Security compliance requirements.

Terrorism Preparedness Programs

FY2026 HSGP - Election Security Requirements (NPA and 20% Hold Back)

The FY2026 HSGP NOFO requires each state and high-risk urban area must spend at least 3% of its SHSP and UASI award on eligible election security investments.

In addition to the 3% spend requirement, states must also :

- **Submit a plan to transition from electronic voting systems that use bar codes/QR codes to equipment supporting hand-marked paper ballots**, with a statewide timeline and funding plan.
- **Conduct a post-election manual audit of at least 5%** of ballots to verify accurate electronic tabulation.
- **Reconcile the number of voters who participated in each federal election** with the number of ballots cast, following Secretary-issued methodology.
- **Verify citizenship of all individuals in the voter-registration database** within 120 days of grant acceptance using SAVE, and remove verified non-U.S. citizens consistent with law.
- **Verify U.S. citizenship for all election workers**, including temporary staff and vendors, and prohibit non-U.S. citizens from operating election systems or working at polling places.

Terrorism Preparedness Programs

FY2026 HSGP - Election Security Requirements (NPA and 20% Holdback)

- **20% Holdback:** FEMA will withhold 20% of each state's and UASI recipient's total HSGP award (SHSP, UASI, and OPSG) from drawdown until the recipient submits proof of compliance with FY 2026 Election Security NPA requirements and the Department verifies it.
- **3% allocation:** Each state and high-risk urban area must spend at least 3% of its SHSP and UASI award on eligible election security investments.
- **OPSG funds cannot be withheld,** so additional funds may need to be withheld from SHSP and UASI.

Terrorism Preparedness Programs

Statewide Emergency Radio Infrastructure Grant Program (SERI)

- The Public Safety Office (PSO) is preparing to release awards for the FY2027 SERI Grant.
- 26 applications** were received from eligible applicants, totaling **\$49.4 million in funding requests**.
- Applicants included:
 - **3 State Agencies**
 - **22 Councils of Governments**
- PSO plans to make **17 awards totaling \$24.03 million**.
- Planned award recipients include:
 - **2 State Agencies**
 - **15 Councils of Governments**

Terrorism Preparedness Programs

Statewide Emergency Radio Infrastructure Grant Program (SERI)

Tips for preparing for your next SERI Application:

- **Clearly Define Project Details:** Clearly identify proposed projects and activities in the narrative, budget, and performance measures, including what is being requested and where each project will be implemented.
- **Demonstrate Regional Benefit:** Explain how each project will enhance, connect, or expand regional radio systems. SERI is intended to strengthen existing regional systems and support regions working to establish them.
- **Exclude Subscriber Units:** Do not request subscriber units, including portable or vehicle-mounted radios. Base station radios are allowable when they support eligible infrastructure.
- **Ensure SWIC Interoperability level Survey Accuracy:** Regional funding tiers are based on interoperability levels determined through county surveys. Emphasize accurate reporting, neither overstating nor understating a county's interoperability level, as survey results can directly affect regional funding.



Will Ogletree

Preparedness's Team Administrator

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Questions?

Thank You!