

From: [Kimberly Hild](#)
To: [Kimberly Lile Dowty](#)
Cc: [Ginny Lewis Ford](#); [Aimee Snoddy](#); [Angie Martin](#); [Nancy Carrales](#); [Jason Buckner](#); [Andrew Friedrichs](#); [Andrea Sparks](#)
Subject: RE: Questions for PSO from TARC Members 3.18.20
Date: Monday, March 23, 2020 4:53:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi Kim,

Thanks for your patience as we worked to gather responses to questions posed by the COGs. See below and **Thank You** once again for gathering questions and providing our responses to the COGs! We *could not* do this without you!

This year, because of the unique pandemic situation we are facing and responding to together, the Public Safety Office (PSO) is extending the deadline and/or waiving certain OOG-COG contractual requirements related to the Prioritization of State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and Criminal Justice projects. We are NOT waiving the requirements entirely, just allowing postponement of certain elements.

HSGD (HS4.2)

The Homeland Security Grants Division (HSGD) will allow COGs to enter “preliminary” priority rankings and recommended project amounts by 3/31/2020. If a COG cannot realistically hold their HSAC prioritization meetings (telephonically or via videoconference) and have their HSAC approved rankings/recommendations entered in eGrants by the contractual deadline, the COG may find an alternate way to determine rankings/recommendations that will be considered “preliminary” by HSGD. The COG must enter their “preliminary” rankings/recommendations into eGrants by 3/31/2020 so the State has regional input on what SHSP projects are likely of most importance to that region. The COG will then be required to submit “final” rankings/recommendations after the COG’s HSAC and Executive Board have had the opportunity to review projects and approve the rankings/recommendations sometime prior to 6/30/2020. If a COG is able to provide HSAC approved SHSP rankings by the 3/31/2020 deadline, we encourage regions to do so.

CJD (CJ5.2)

The Criminal Justice Division (CJD) has made the decision to extend the due date for Interlocal Agreement Deliverable CJ5.2 (CJAC Scoring/Prioritization) to May 29, 2020. We hope this extension will provide COGs with additional time to implement measures and processes that will allow the CJACs to prioritize applications in a fair and safe manner for all involved.

The PSO received the following question regarding waivers to the criminal history reporting requirement:

Are waivers available or being granted by the State of Texas on CJIS requirements and grant funding? With Courts all over Texas being shut down or delayed extensively, and Sheriffs trying to drastically reduce their jail populations to protect the public health, diminished CJIS numbers may result. **PSO Response:** CJIS reporting is an important tool for maintaining public safety especially as it relates to information sharing and awareness regarding violent offenders. While the requirement to report data to DPS is not being waived, as far as grant funding decisions are concerned, PSO has broad discretion in implementing this eligibility requirement and would certainly take into consideration the burden COVID19 has placed on all Texas communities when it comes time to make funding decisions.

Thank you,



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