



Memorandum

To: Galveston County Commissioners Court
From: Grant Administration Department
Court Date: February 2, 2026
Subject: Galveston County Sheriff's Office
FY 2027 Criminal Justice Grant Program: Strategic Marine Investigations: Phase One -
Capacity Enhancement – Project Application

Background

The purpose of the FY2027 Criminal Justice Grant Program is to fund projects that promote public safety, reduce crime, and improve the criminal justice system. The Galveston County Sheriff's Office utilizes a variety of specialty teams and techniques to adapt to the variety of crimes they may be called to investigate and process, including their Dive Team. The Galveston County Sheriff's Office Dive Team has recently expanded and is transitioning into a county-wide collaborative public safety dive team, increasing its operational responsibilities across multiple jurisdictions. Public Safety Divers work in low to zero visibility water, which is majority of the time contaminated with either biological or chemical substances and precautions must be taken to keep the diver safe. Without specialized equipment or specialized training Public Safety Divers could not do their job efficiently or effectively. The County is seeking to apply for FY2027 Criminal Justice Grant Program funding via the Office of the Governor to pay for required Public Safety Diver training and continuing education for divers at various levels, specifically UCI, MUCI and ERDI certified training courses, and specialized equipment required to keep divers safe in all conditions.

The County is seeking to apply for FY2027 Criminal Justice Grant Program funding via the Office of the Governor to pay for required Public Safety Diver training, specifically ERDI certified training courses, and specialized equipment required to keep divers safe in all conditions. Funding is essential to ensure diver safety, protect public health, reduce operational risk, and maintain a highly trained and effective regional dive team capable of responding to emergencies, criminal investigations, and maritime security threats throughout Galveston County.

Summary

The County is seeking to apply for FY2027 Criminal Justice Grant Program with the Strategic Marine Investigations- Phase One, Capacity Enhancement project, asking for funding via the Office of the Governor to pay for required Public Safety Diver training, specifically certified training courses and continuing education trainings, and specialized equipment required to keep divers safe in all conditions as they expand their capacity. Funding is essential to ensure diver safety, protect public health, reduce operational risk, and maintain a highly trained and effective regional dive team capable of responding to emergencies, criminal investigations, and maritime security threats throughout Galveston County.

Financial Summary

County Contribution:	\$ 0.00
Grant Application:	<u>\$148,520.40</u>
Total Project Cost:	\$148,520.40

Recommendations

Grant Administration requests that the Court approve the submission Strategic Marine Investigations: Phase One - Capacity Enhancement – Project Application for the FY2027 Criminal Justice Grant Program and authorize the County Judge to execute the accompanying resolution.

Documents for Wet Signature

FY 2027 Criminal Justice Grant Program: Strategic Marine Investigations: Phase One - Capacity Enhancement – Project Application



Galveston County

Resolution

WHEREAS, the Galveston County Commissioners Court finds it in the best interest of the citizens of Galveston County that the FY 2027 Criminal Justice Grant Program: Strategic Marine Investigations: Phase One - Capacity Enhancement – be operated for the 2027 fiscal year; and

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

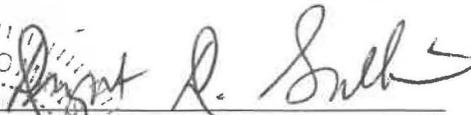
WHEREAS, the Galveston County Commissioners Court designates the Galveston County Judge as the grantee’s authorized official. The authorized official is given the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate the grant on behalf of the applicant agency.

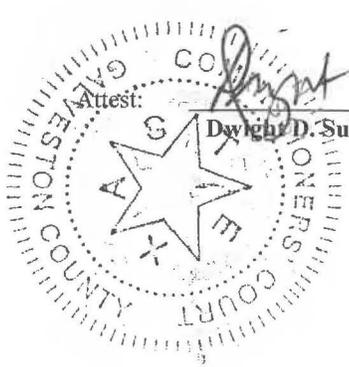
WHEREAS, the Galveston County Commissioners Court designates the County Auditor for Galveston County as the grantee’s financial officer. The financial officer is given the power to submit financial and/or programmatic reports or alter a grant on behalf of the applicant agency.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Galveston County Commissioners Court approves submission of the grant application for the **FY 2027 Criminal Justice Grant Program: Strategic Marine Investigations: Phase One - Capacity Enhancement – Project Application** to the Office of the Governor.

Passed and approved this 2nd day of February, 2026

Signed by: 
Mark Henry Galveston County Judge

Attest: 
Dwight D. Sullivan Galveston County Clerk

The seal of the Galveston County Commissioners Court is circular. It features a five-pointed star in the center, surrounded by a wreath. The words "GALVESTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT" are written in a circle around the star.

Grant Number: 5699301

[Print This Page](#)

Agency Name: Galveston County
Grant/App: 5699301 **Start Date:** 10/1/2026 **End Date:** 9/30/2027

Project Title: Strategic Marine Investigations: Phase One - Capacity Enhancement
Status: Application Pending Submission

Eligibility Information

Your organization's Texas Payee/Taxpayer ID Number:
17460009081010

Application Eligibility Certify:

Created on:12/23/2025 10:02:06 AM By:Mark Henry

Profile Information

Applicant Agency Name: Galveston County
Project Title: Strategic Marine Investigations: Phase One - Capacity Enhancement
Division or Unit to Administer the Project: Galveston County Sheriff's Office
Address Line 1: 601 54th St
Address Line 2:
City/State/Zip: Galveston Texas 77550-2317
Start Date: 10/1/2026
End Date: 9/30/2027

Regional Council of Governments(COG) within the Project's Impact Area: Houston-Galveston Area Council

Headquarter County: Galveston

Counties within Project's Impact Area: Brazoria,Harris,Jefferson

Grant Officials:

Authorized Official

Name: Mark Henry
Email: mark.henry@co.galveston.tx.us
Address 1: 722 Moody
Address 1:
City: Galveston, Texas 77550
Phone: 409-766-2244 Other Phone: 409-765-2639
Fax: 409-766-4582
Title: The Honorable
Salutation: Judge
Position: County Judge

Financial Official

Name: Sergio Cruz
Email: sergio.cruz@galvestoncountytexas.gov
Address 1: 722 Moody Avenue
Address 1: 4th Floor
City: Galveston, Texas 77550
Phone: 409-770-5398 Other Phone:
Fax:
Title: Mr.
Salutation: Mr.
Position: County Auditor

Project Director

Name: Clayton Pope
Email: clayton.pope@galvestoncountytexas.gov

Address 1: 601 54th St.

Address 1:

City: Galveston, Texas 77553

Phone: 409-766-2369 Other Phone:

Fax:

Title: Mr.

Salutation: Captain

Position: Captain

Grant Writer

Name: Ahmad Adams

Email: ahmad.adams@galvestoncountytexas.gov

Address 1: 722 Moody Ave

Address 1:

City: City of Galveston, Texas 75590

Phone: 409-770-5543 Other Phone:

Fax:

Title: Mr.

Salutation: Mr.

Position: Grant Coordinator I

Grant Vendor Information

Organization Type: County

Organization Option: applying to provide services to all others

Applicant Agency's State Payee Identification Number (e.g., Federal Employer's Identification (FEI) Number or Vendor ID): 17460009081010

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI): DRP9KU1PVJN4

Narrative Information

Introduction

The purpose of this funding is to support projects that promote public safety, reduce crime, and improve the criminal justice system.

Certifications

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

Constitutional Compliance

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

Information Systems

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

Bulletproof Vests

Applicant assures that if it plans to purchase body armor with grant funds, that it has adopted a mandatory wear policy and that all vests purchased have been tested and found to comply with the latest applicable National Institute of Justice (NIJ) ballistic or stab standards. Additionally, vests purchased must be American-made.

Resolution from Governing Body

Applications from nonprofit corporations, local units of governments, and other political subdivisions must submit a fully executed resolution with the application to be considered eligible for funding. The resolution must contain the following elements (see [Sample Resolution](#)):

- 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;
- A commitment to provide all applicable matching funds;
- 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;
- A designation of the name and/or title of a financial officer who is given the authority to submit financial and/or performance reports or alter a grant; and
- A written assurance that, in the event of loss or misuse of grant funds, the governing body will return all funds to PSO.

Cybersecurity Training Requirement

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

Criminal History Reporting

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

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

Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR)

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

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

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

DNA Testing of Evidentiary Materials

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

Interoperable Communications

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

Twelve-Step Programs

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

Program Income

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

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

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

National Instant Background Check System (NICS)

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

Body-Worn Cameras (BWCs)

Applicant assures that if it plans to purchase body-worn cameras with grant funds, that it has adopted adequate policies and procedures related to BWC equipment usage, data storage and access, privacy considerations and training. The certification form related to BWC policies and procedures can be found [here](#).

Compliance with State and Federal Laws, Programs and Procedures - Local Units of Government

Local units of government, including cities, counties and other general purpose political subdivisions, as appropriate, and institutions of higher education that operate a law enforcement agency, must comply with all aspects of the programs and procedures utilized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") to: (1) notify DHS of all information requested by DHS related to illegal aliens in Agency's custody; and (2) detain such illegal aliens in accordance with requests by DHS. Additionally, counties and municipalities may NOT have in effect, purport to have in effect, or make themselves subject to or bound by, any law, rule, policy, or practice (written or unwritten) that would: (1) require or authorize the public disclosure of federal law enforcement information in order to conceal, harbor, or shield from detection fugitives from justice or aliens illegally in the United States, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii); (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); (3) encourage or induce an alien to come to, enter, or reside in the United States in violation of law, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iv); (4) result in the illegal transport or movement of aliens within the United States, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(ii). 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, 2027 or the end of the grant period, whichever is later.

Compliance with State and Federal Laws, Programs and Procedures – Nonprofit Organizations

Each non-profit 501(c)(3) organization must certify that it does not have, and will continue not to have any policy, procedure, or agreement (written or unwritten) that in any way encourages, induces, entices, or aids any violations of immigration laws. Additionally, the organization certifies that it does not have in effect, purport to have in effect, and is not subject to or bound by any rule, policy, or practice (written or unwritten) that would: (1) encourage the concealment, harboring, or shielding from detection of fugitives from justice or aliens who illegally came to, entered, or remained in the United States, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii); (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); (3) encourage or induce an alien to come to, enter, or reside in the United States in violation of law, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iv); (4) result in the illegal transport or movement of aliens within the United States, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(ii). Lastly, the organization certifies that it will not adopt, enforce, or endorse a policy which prohibits or materially limits the enforcement of immigration laws, and will not, as demonstrated by pattern or practice, prohibit or materially limit the enforcement of immigration laws.

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

Civil Rights Liaison

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

Enter the Name of the Civil Rights Liaison:

Miriam Moran

Enter the Address for the Civil Rights Liaison:

722 Moody Avenue, 3rd Floor Grants Administration Department Galveston, Texas 77550

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

(409) 770-5550

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.

I certify to all of the application content & requirements.

Project Abstract :

The Galveston County Sheriff's Office utilizes a variety of specialty teams and techniques in order to adapt to the variety of crimes they may be called to investigate and process, including their Dive Team. Public Safety Dive Teams are underwater crime scene experts. They use specialized equipment, have highly specialized training, and use specialized search techniques in order to locate, retrieve, collect, report and maintain chain of custody of evidence which leads or aids in criminal prosecution. Public Safety Divers work in low to zero visibility water, which is majority of the time contaminated with either biological or chemical substances and precautions must be taken to keep the diver safe. Without the specialized equipment or specialized training Public Safety Divers could not do their job efficiently or effectively. The County is seeking to apply for FY2027 Criminal Justice Grant Program funding via the Office of the Governor to pay for required Public Safety Diver training and continuing education for divers at various levels, specifically UCI, MUCI and ERDI certified training courses, and specialized equipment required to keep divers safe in all conditions.

Problem Statement :

The Galveston County Sheriff's Office Dive Team has recently expanded and is transitioning into a county-wide collaborative public safety dive team, increasing its operational responsibilities across multiple jurisdictions. Current and anticipated partner agencies include the Port of Galveston Police Department, Dickinson Police Department, League City Police Department, and the League City Volunteer Fire Department. As this regional collaboration grows, the need for standardized, advanced, and recurring Public Safety Diver (PSD) training and specialized response equipment has become critical to ensure operational readiness, diver safety, and public protection. Public Safety Diving is a high-risk discipline conducted in environments that are often contaminated, zero-visibility, confined, and inherently hazardous. Industry standards require PSDs to complete specialized training beyond recreational scuba certifications in order to safely conduct underwater search, rescue, and recovery operations. These operations frequently involve submerged vehicles, human remains, criminal evidence, vessel inspections, and emergency response in waterways with biological and chemical hazards. Without proper training and certification, divers and topside personnel face increased risk of injury, mission failure, and liability exposure. PSD training provides divers with essential skills such as structured search pattern execution in zero-visibility conditions, rope and line signal communication in the event of underwater communication failure, underwater evidence recovery, and maintenance of evidentiary chain of custody. Additional training includes vehicle recovery, body recovery, underwater metal detection, and other mission-critical techniques. These skills are perishable and require regular refresher training to maintain proficiency and ensure safe operations. Currently, the Dive Team lacks sufficient funding to provide consistent, standardized training to all members of the expanding regional team. The ERDI Contaminated Water Operations Course is essential for preparing divers to safely enter, operate in, and exit biologically and chemically contaminated waterways common throughout Galveston County. This course emphasizes contamination control, proper personal protective equipment use, and decontamination procedures that protect both divers and topside personnel from secondary exposure and long-term health risks. The ERDI Hull Inspection Operations Course is necessary to support port and maritime security operations within the county. Hull inspections are classified as overhead environment dives and introduce significant additional hazards, including restricted access, propulsion systems, intakes, exhausts, and limited egress. This training enables divers to identify hazards such as pollution threats, explosives, contraband, and structural dangers while conducting security screenings, evidence recovery, and critical infrastructure protection missions. The ERDI Night Operations Course prepares divers to safely conduct missions during nighttime or low-light conditions, which are common during emergency responses. Training includes specialized lighting techniques, buoyancy control, communications, tending procedures, and hazard recognition to ensure safe and effective operations when visibility is severely limited. The ERDI Supervisor Course develops qualified dive supervisors capable of managing emergency dive operations, ensuring adherence to safety protocols, and providing effective leadership during high-risk missions. Proper supervision is a key component of risk management and is required to maintain industry best practices. In addition to training, the Dive Team requires specialized recovery equipment to support its expanded mission set. The SUBSALVE USA VRS-4000 Vehicle Recovery System is a portable, self-contained system designed for rapid deployment during submerged vehicle recovery operations. This equipment enhances operational efficiency, reduces diver risk, and improves the team's ability to respond effectively to vehicle-related water incidents. Without grant funding, the Galveston County Sheriff's Office Dive Team will be unable to provide the required level of training and equipment necessary to safely support a county-wide, multi-agency public safety dive response. Funding is essential to ensure diver safety, protect public health, reduce operational risk, and maintain a highly trained and effective regional dive team capable of responding to emergencies, criminal investigations, and maritime security threats throughout Galveston County.

Supporting Data :

Galveston County is comprised of nearly 50% water and borders the Gulf of Mexico, along with numerous creeks, bayous, lakes, ponds, and retention ponds. Because of this unique geographic environment, a specialized Dive Team is essential to safely access underwater locations and recover critical evidence that supports criminal investigations and successful prosecutions. The Galveston County Dive Team is a regional resource frequently requested by surrounding counties and agencies, including Brazoria County, Harris County, Galveston Police Department, League City Police Department, Dickinson Police Department, Hitchcock Police Department, Texas City Police Department, La Marque Police Department, Santa Fe Police Department, Lake Jackson Police Department, TDCJ, the Texas Rangers, and others. Additionally, the team has provided support to federal partners such as the DEA, FBI, NASA, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the U.S. Army, and has deployed out of state to assist with specialized underwater search and recovery operations. Recovering evidence from underwater environments requires highly trained personnel and specialized equipment to mitigate biological and chemical hazards present in local waterways. Team members must obtain advanced certifications and maintain rigorous training standards to operate safely, efficiently, and effectively. Continued investment in training and equipment is critical to ensuring divers can perform this mission while protecting both themselves and the integrity of recovered evidence.

Project Approach & Activities:

This project will enhance the operational readiness, safety, and investigative capabilities of the Galveston County Dive Team through advanced training and the acquisition of specialized underwater search technology. Training priorities will begin with ERDI Decontaminated Operations to ensure divers are prepared to safely operate in waterways containing biological and chemical hazards. Divers will then complete ERDI Night Operations and ERDI Hull Search Operations to expand readiness for low-visibility and high-risk environments. Leadership capacity will be strengthened through the ERDI Supervisor Course to improve mission planning, oversight, and operational coordination. A core component of this project includes the Underwater Criminal Investigator (UCI) certification track. This program significantly enhances diver proficiency in underwater crime scene investigation, evidence recognition, and recovery. Divers will then advance to the Master UCI level, receiving specialized training in underwater body recovery, vehicle recovery, and advanced forensic evidence procedures. Upon completion, team members will earn certifications including Body Recovery Specialist, Vehicle Recovery Specialist, Evidence Recovery Specialist, CSI Metal Detector Specialist, and Master Underwater Criminal Investigator. To support strategic leadership development, designated personnel will attend the Public Safety Diver Commander Course. This training prepares command staff for legal responsibilities, ethical considerations, team organization, personnel management, equipment accountability, risk management, diver safety, mission briefing and debriefing, and emergency medical oversight. In addition to training, the project includes the acquisition of a SARbot underwater Remote Operated Vehicle (ROV). This technology enhances underwater search capability in low-visibility and contaminated environments while reducing diver exposure risk. The ROV will support search operations by locating evidence, vehicles, and victims, allowing divers to focus on documentation, recovery, and maintaining chain-of-custody standards. Continued investment in specialized training and technology will significantly improve team effectiveness, reduce agency liability, enhance diver safety, and increase mission success. These advancements will further strengthen regional response capability and ensure continued high-quality service to Galveston County, partner agencies, and the community.

Capacity & Capabilities:

The history of the Dive Team started just prior to 1992 with just two "off-duty" Deputies who were SCUBA certified. In 1996, the Dive Team became more official and was made up of "full-time" deputies and the Sheriff's Office purchased dry suits for the divers. In 1998 the Dive Team moved under the direction and guidance of the Marine Division and the Marine Division Commander. In 2000, the Dive Team made a substantial change, and a purchase was made for full-face masks and switched to the Life Guard Systems (LGS) certification. In 2001 another purchase was made for underwater communications with buddy phones for the full-face masks and a top side communication unit. In 2003 the Sheriff's Office completed a transition to all Agency owned dive gear. In 2004 the dive team made another transition from regular SCUBA gear to a surface supply system with bail-outs. In 2007 new dry suits were purchased along with some more surface supply items to augment what was previously purchased. Since I have taken over as the Lead in 2018, we have transitioned back to regular SCUBA and no longer rely on the LGS certification. I have also gone out on my own and became a certified Dive Master and even obtained a SCUBA Dive Instructor, PSD Instructor and a DFA Pro (Diving First Aid for Professionals) Instructor. No other major purchases have been made aside from two dry suits in 2018, three regulator sets in 2021, one additional regulator set in 2023 and a tank fill whip in 2024. After three years of continuously applying for training, I was finally able to get four divers full-face mask certified in 2023. As you can see from the history of the dive team, we have gone without the necessary and required training certifications and equipment for years. Two team members have even gone out on their own

and paid for some of the specialized training required. The required basic training certifications are for specialized equipment used on almost every dive operation. Having certified divers; certified, confident, and qualified in the use of specialized equipment minimizes the Agency's liability, and not to mention it is also the industry standard. Either way, we still manage to show up when called out, not just for our Agency, but also for surrounding Agencies and surrounding Counties, as well as some Federal Agencies have requested our assistance. The Dive Team has even been to another state, Louisiana, for an operation. The Dive Team averages twelve callouts a year, and we currently train once a month. Being a Public Safety Diver is a very small niche within Law Enforcement and this type of specialization is not for everyone.

Performance Management :

Project success will be evaluated through measurable training, certification, and operational performance outcomes. Primary performance indicators will include the number of Public Safety Divers completing required specialized training, achievement of nationally recognized certifications, and demonstrated increases in operational readiness and capability. Each specialized course requires completion of an online academic component, including graded testing, prior to advancing to the in-water practical phase. Divers must successfully pass these assessments to receive certification, and certificates of completion will be retained for documentation and audit purposes. If needed, remedial instruction will be provided to ensure competency and successful certification completion. Operational effectiveness will be monitored through standardized reporting and documentation practices. All dive deployments are recorded under an incident number and supported by supplemental case reports and external dive team documentation. Utilization of the underwater ROV will be tracked in the same manner, including incident reporting and specialized equipment usage records. These data points will support accountability, demonstrate program impact, and provide quantifiable evidence of improved capability, efficiency, and safety. This structured performance management approach ensures clear tracking of progress, verification of outcomes, responsible use of grant funds, and sustained operational excellence for the Dive Team and the community it serves.

Target Group :

Galveston PD Bayou Vista PD Tiki Island PD Texas A&M PD Texas City PD UTMB PD La Marque PD Santa Fe PD Dickinson PD League City PD Friendswood PD Texas Rangers / Department of Public Safety Coast Guard DEA FBI NASA US Marshals Service Harris County Brazoria County Chambers County Jefferson County Liberty County Any Law Enforcement Agency or Entity that requests assistance.

Evidence-Based Practices:

The methods, approach and activities described above are the industry standard, not just nationally but internationally recognized standards as it pertains to Public Safety Diving. Public Safety Diving is a mix of recreational diving, scientific diving, and commercial diving.

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
Law Enforcement	100.00	The Underwater Crime Scene Unit "Dive Team" is a specialized unit and the only one in Galveston County. Their activities include the recovery of all types of evidence from bodies of water. This includes but is not limited to bodies, weapons, and vehicles. This unit provides this unique service to several agencies in and around the Galveston County area. In addition to evidence recovery, the unit is capable of conducting vessel hull searches for large quantities of drugs and other contraband.

CJD Purpose Areas

PERCENT DEDICATED	PURPOSE AREA	PURPOSE AREA DESCRIPTION
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Measures Information

Objective Output Measures

OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
Equipment or technology: Individuals/Operators equipped	
General Law Enforcement or Public Safety: Arrests resulting from grant	
Targeted Investigation: Criminal cases resulting in arrest	
Targeted Investigation: Grant-funded investigations carried out by the unit/division	
Training or professional development: Individuals provided	
Training or professional development: Individuals received	
Training, professional development, or technical assistance: Hours provided	
Training, professional development, or technical assistance: Hours received	

Objective Outcome Measures

OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
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Custom Output Measures

CUSTOM OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
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Custom Outcome Measures

CUSTOM OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
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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

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/%
Travel and Training	In-State Registration Fees,	The Galveston County Sheriff's Office will host	\$6,372.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,372.00	0

Training,
and/or Travel

a mobile training unit to conduct a local Underwater Criminal Investigator (UCI) certification course, a 4-day intensive program that provides 6 public safety divers with critical knowledge and forensic skills required for underwater crime scene investigation and evidence recovery. By hosting the course locally within the county, the Marine Division gains the strategic advantage of training in the specific zero-visibility and high-current environments unique to Galveston's waterways while maintaining operational on-call readiness for the region. This advanced-level training is a foundational element of the project, with a total cost of \$6,372.00; this is comprised of a \$5,370.00 registration fee (\$895.00 per diver x 6 divers) and a \$1,002.00 instructor

		<p>mobilization fee which covers the instructor's travel, lodging, and per diem in lieu of student travel. This investment directly remediates decade-long training gaps and optimizes diver safety during the 10/1/2025 – 9/30/2026 period of performance, ensuring the unit is equipped with the specialized subject matter expertise required for the project.</p>						
Travel and Training	In-State Registration Fees, Training, and/or Travel	<p>The Galveston County Sheriff's Office will host a 4-day Master Underwater Criminal Investigation (MUCI) certification course as the advanced follow-on to the foundational UCI training. This specialized program for law enforcement divers expands upon prerequisite skills by teaching advanced body, vehicle, and evidence recovery techniques. By hosting this course locally, investigators</p>	\$8,172.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,172.00	0

		<p>have the unique opportunity to demonstrate mastery of underwater processing and documenting within the challenging maritime environments of Galveston County. This training is critical for gaining project-specific subject matter expertise and ensuring optimal safety during complex recovery operations. The total cost of \$8,172.00 includes a \$7,170.00 registration fee (\$1,195.00 per diver x 6 divers) and a \$1,002.00 instructor mobilization fee for travel and per diem. This ensures 6 investigators achieve the Master level of certification during the 10/1/2025 – 9/30/2026 period of performance without requiring out-of-state travel for the unit.</p>						
<p>Travel and Training</p>	<p>In-State Registration Fees, Training, and/or Travel</p>	<p>Public Safety Dive Commander certification course - The Public Safety</p>	<p>\$3,580.00</p>	<p>\$0.00</p>	<p>\$0.00</p>	<p>\$0.00</p>	<p>\$3,580.00</p>	<p>0</p>

		<p>Dive Commander course is an advanced level course designed to train public safety dive team leaders to understand their role and characteristic elements that include legal and ethical responsibilities. In addition, this course teaches risk management and mission safety skills and provides for practical application of dive operation management. This course is needed to gain project-specific subject matter expertise and ensure optimal safety while diving. Course registration fee for 4 divers @ \$895 each. Total cost: \$3,580. Date(s) the course will be taken by all 4 divers is TBD, but will occur only within the period of performance. Location of the course is TBD.</p>						
<p>Travel and Training</p>	<p>In-State Registration Fees, Training, and/or Travel</p>	<p>Top Side Support Specialist training course - The Top Side Support Specialist course</p>	<p>\$5,500.00</p>	<p>\$0.00</p>	<p>\$0.00</p>	<p>\$0.00</p>	<p>\$5,500.00</p>	<p>0</p>

		<p>is an advanced level course designed for either a diver or a non-diving team member and is focused on supporting the vital role of a top side support specialist public safety dive team member. This course teaches underwater crime scene search and recovery dive planning, organization, documentation, procedures, and techniques and imparts knowledge critical to keeping the entire dive team safe during investigations. This course is needed to gain project-specific subject matter expertise and ensure optimal safety while diving. Course registration fee for 10 divers @ \$550 each. Total cost: \$5,500. Date(s) the course will be taken by all 11 divers is TBD, but will occur only within the period of performance. Location of the course is TBD.</p>						
<p>Travel and Training</p>	<p>In-State Registration</p>	<p>SARbot training course - The</p>	<p>\$4,500.00</p>	<p>\$0.00</p>	<p>\$0.00</p>	<p>\$0.00</p>	<p>\$4,500.00</p>	<p>0</p>

	<p>Fees, Training, and/or Travel</p>	<p>SARbot training course will provide training for all public safety dive team members involved in underwater crime scene investigations to learn how to optimally and efficiently utilize the SARbot (Search and Rescue Robot) during underwater crime scene investigations. This training course is needed to gain project-specific subject matter expertise and ensure optimal safety while diving. Course registration fee for all dive team members @ \$3,000. Total cost: \$3,000. Date(s) the course will be taken by all dive team members is TBD, but will occur only within the period of performance. Location of the course is TBD.</p>						
<p>Travel and Training</p>	<p>In-State Registration Fees, Training, and/or Travel</p>	<p>The Emergency Response Diving International (ERDI) Decontaminate Operations course trains public safety divers to establish</p>	<p>\$5,000.00</p>	<p>\$0.00</p>	<p>\$0.00</p>	<p>\$0.00</p>	<p>\$5,000.00</p>	<p>0</p>

		<p>contamination control zones, perform in-water and topside decontamination, manage hazardous exposures, and document procedures. For law enforcement divers, it is critical to protect health, preserve evidence integrity, prevent secondary contamination, and ensure compliance with OSHA, NFPA, and agency risk-management standards during operations in polluted or biohazardous environments while maintaining operational readiness and public trust. The Galveston County Sheriff's Office wants to send 10 divers to this training at a cost of \$500 each for a total cost of \$5,000.</p>						
<p>Travel and Training</p>	<p>In-State Registration Fees, Training, and/or Travel</p>	<p>The Emergency Response Diving International (ERDI) Nighttime Operations course trains public safety divers to conduct safe, effective underwater operations in low-light and</p>	<p>\$5,000.00</p>	<p>\$0.00</p>	<p>\$0.00</p>	<p>\$0.00</p>	<p>\$5,000.00</p>	<p>0</p>

		<p>zero-visibility conditions. For law enforcement divers, it is essential for evidence recovery, body recovery, and vehicle searches conducted after dark, improving scene control, diver safety, communication, and mission success during time-critical or covert operations. The Galveston County Sheriff's Office would like to send 10 divers to this course at a cost of \$500 each for a total cost of \$5,000.</p>						
Travel and Training	In-State Registration Fees, Training, and/or Travel	<p>The Emergency Response Diving International (ERDI) Hull Inspection course trains public safety divers to systematically search and inspect vessel hulls, sea chests, and underwater appendages for contraband, explosives, or suspicious devices. For law enforcement divers, it is vital for port security, maritime interdiction, and critical-infrastructure protection,</p>	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	0

		enhancing officer safety, evidence identification, and coordinated response during high-risk maritime operations. The Galveston County Sheriff's Office would like to send 10 divers to this course at a cost of \$500 each for a total cost of \$5,000.						
Travel and Training	In-State Registration Fees, Training, and/or Travel	The Emergency Response Diving International (ERDI) Dive Supervisor course prepares leaders to plan, manage, and oversee public safety dive operations. It emphasizes risk assessment, personnel accountability, communications, emergency procedures, and documentation. For law enforcement divers, the course is essential to ensure operational safety, policy compliance, effective decision-making, and mission success during complex, high-liability underwater operations. The	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	0

		Galveston County Sheriff's Office would like to send 5 divers to this course at a cost of \$500 each for a total cost of \$2,500.						
Equipment	Surveillance Equipment and Accessories	The SARbot ROV System is the cornerstone technological asset necessary for ultimate project success. This surface-powered robotic system is optimized for underwater search and recovery in the hazardous, low-visibility conditions of the Galveston coast, specifically where human diving is restricted due to extreme currents, depth, or contamination risks. As the primary reconnaissance tool, it enables the team to fulfill the project's strategic goals by conducting remote crime scene assessments, ensuring forensic integrity, and prioritizing diver safety. The system includes the ROV, Surface Power Console, and	\$77,793.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$77,793.40	1

		Vehicle Power Supply. 1 System @ \$61,994.00.							
Equipment	Night Vision Unit and Accessories	Custom Night Vision Turnkey Package - The Custom Night Vision Turnkey Package enables investigators to navigate night time dive operations effectively. The turnkey package includes the night vision device unit, headmount adapter, weapon mount, and all options necessary for optimal performance during underwater crime scene investigations. This equipment is needed to meet target goals of the project and ensure optimal safety while diving. 2 Custom Night Vision Turnkey Packages @ \$10,301.50 each. Total cost: \$20,603.	\$20,603.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,603.00	2	
Equipment	Crime Scene Equipment	Lift Bag System- Lift bags are primarily used to: Recover submerged evidence (firearms, safes, tools), raise vehicles or vehicle components,	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00	1	

		assist in body recovery operations, relocate large debris obstructing search areas, prevent damage to fragile evidence during ascent. In law-enforcement and public safety diving, controlled recovery is critical—lift bags provide predictable, gradual buoyancy rather than uncontrolled ascents.						
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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	\$102,896.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$102,896.40
Travel and Training	\$45,624.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$45,624.00

Budget Grand Total Information:

OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL
\$148,520.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$148,520.40

Condition Of Fundings Information

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