



**Grant**  
**CITY OF AUSTIN**  
**RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 29**  
**AGENDA DATE: Thu 09/30/2004**  
**PAGE: 1 of 2**

**SUBJECT:** Authorize an application to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs in the amount of \$450,000 in grant funds for the Austin Police Department Anti-"Trafficking in Persons" Program.

**AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING:** Funding is available in the Law Enforcement and Service Provider Multidisciplinary Anti-Trafficking Task Force grant program for the period April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2008. The required in-kind match will be included in the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 and future fiscal year Operating Budgets of the Austin Police Department.

**FISCAL NOTE:** There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

**REQUESTING Police**  
**DEPARTMENT:**

**DIRECTOR'S**  
**AUTHORIZATION: Rick Coy**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:** Rick Coy, Assistant Chief/974-5021

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:** N/A

**BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION:** N/A

**PURCHASING:** N/A

**MBE / WBE:** N/A

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This action authorizes the City to apply for \$450,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, FY 2004 Law Enforcement and Service Provider Multidisciplinary Anti-Trafficking Task Forces Program. The three-year grant period runs from April 1, 2005 – March 31, 2008. A required in-kind match of \$234,950 can be found in the FY 2004-2005 operating budget for the Austin Police Department and will be included in future budgets. The in-kind match will be satisfied with personnel expenses of an existing detective and program vehicle fuel and maintenance expenses.

The Austin Police Department Immigrant Protection Unit will use the grant funds to enhance investigation of cases involving "trafficking in persons." These cases involve the recruitment, transportation and harboring of persons by means of threat or use of force for the purpose of exploitation. The grant program will support state and local law enforcement that works collaboratively with victim and social service organizations and federal agencies in the identification of human trafficking victims who are in the Austin. Grant funding will be used to support an additional detective in the Immigrant Protection Unit who will work with the Austin Human Trafficking Task Force in the investigation of cases and prosecution of traffickers.

These cases will involve many federal, state and local law enforcement agencies such as the Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement; Department of Public Safety, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC), and the Travis County Sheriff's Office. Grant funds will also support a contract for a retired APD detective to serve as a Liaison with non-profit organizations that provide services to identified human trafficking victims. The contract position will also assist in providing training to local law enforcement on the identification of trafficking victims.



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The program goals and performance measures established for this program are to 1) increase the identification of trafficking victims through proactive law enforcement; 2) to ensure victim safety and access to needed services and to 3) increase the successful prosecution of human traffickers. This grant supports the Immigrant Protection Unit, which is a Unit under Centralized Investigations. The Centralized Investigation Program "*investigates and solves property and violent crimes that require a particularly high level of expertise to Area Commands, victims, suspects, external members of criminal justice agencies, and the public, in order to protect victims and the public and deter criminal activity.*"