

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

MOTOR VEHICLE CRIME PREVENTION AUTHORITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Texas Department of Motor Vehicles
4000 Jackson Avenue
Lone Star Room
Austin, Texas 78731

9:00 a.m.
Tuesday,
November 29, 2022

BOARD MEMBERS:

Miguel "Mike" Rodriguez, Chair
Charla K. Brotherton
Rebecca Cantu-Serrano
Julio C. Gonzalez
Sharon Jones
Patrick D. "Dean" Smith
Katherine "Kit" Whitehill (absent)

STAFF:

Joe Canady, Interim Director
David Richards, General Counsel

ON THE RECORD REPORTING
(512) 450-0342

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P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Good morning. My name is Mike
3 Rodriguez, and I am pleased to open the meeting of the
4 Board of the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority. It
5 is 9:02 a.m., and I am now calling the Board meeting for
6 November 29, 2022, to order.

7 I want to note for the record that the public
8 notice of this meeting containing all items on the agenda
9 was filed with the Office of the Secretary of State on
10 November 18, 2022.

11 Before we begin today's meeting, please place
12 all cell phones and other communication devices in a
13 silent mode. And please, as a courtesy to others, do not
14 carry on side conversations, or other activities in the
15 meeting room.

16 I want to welcome those who are with us for
17 today's Board meeting. If you wish to address the Board
18 or speak on an agenda item during today's meeting, please
19 complete a speakers sheet at the registration table.
20 Please identify the specific item you are interested in
21 commenting on, your name and address, and whether you are
22 representing anyone or speaking for yourself. If your
23 comments do not pertain to a specific agenda item, we will
24 take your comment during the general public comment
25 portion of the meeting.

1 In accordance with the Department's
2 administrative rule, comments to the Board will be limited
3 to three minutes. To assist each speaker, a timer has
4 been provided at the podium. The timer light will be
5 green for the first two minutes, yellow for one minute.
6 And then red when your time is up.

7 Individuals cannot accumulate time from other
8 speakers. Comments should be pertinent to the issues
9 stated on the comment sheet. When addressing the Board,
10 please state your name and affiliation for the record.

11 There are a few things that will assist in
12 making the meeting run smoother, and assist the court
13 reporter in getting an accurate record. Please identify
14 yourselves before speaking. Speak clearly and slowly and
15 do not speak over others. And please ask the Chairman for
16 permission to speak, and be sure to get recognized before
17 speaking.

18 I would like to thank our court reporter, who
19 is transcribing this meeting.

20 Before we begin today, I would like to remind
21 all presenters, and those in attendance, of the rules of
22 conduct at our Board meetings. The Board Chair has
23 authority to supervise the conduct of meetings. This
24 includes the authority to determine when a speaker is
25 being disruptive of the meeting or is otherwise violating

1 the timing or presentation rules that I just discussed.

2 And now, I would like to have a roll call of
3 the Board members. Please respond verbally when I call
4 your name.

5 Member Jones.

6 MS. JONES: Present.

7 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Member Whitehill.

8 (No response.)

9 MR. GONZALEZ: Member Smith.

10 MR. SMITH: Present.

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Member Gonzales.

12 MR. GONZALEZ: Present.

13 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Member Brotherton.

14 MS. BROTHERTON: Present.

15 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Member Cantu-Serrano.

16 MS. CANTU-SERRANO: Present.

17 MR. RODRIGUEZ: And then, let the record
18 reflect that I, Mike Rodriguez, am here too. We have a
19 quorum.

20 Please stand and honor our country and state
21 with the pledges of allegiance. Member Dean Smith will
22 now lead us in the U.S. pledge.

23 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was
24 recited.)

25 (Whereupon, a pledge to the Texas flag was

1 recited.)

2 MR. GONZALEZ: Thank you Member Smith, for
3 leading us in the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance, and the Texas
4 pledge. We will now move on to Item (c), approval of
5 transcript from our August 23, 2022, meeting as minutes.

6 Members, if everyone has reviewed the
7 transcript, would anyone like to make a motion?

8 MS. JONES: Member Jones. I move that the
9 Board adopt the transcript and minutes from the August 23,
10 2022, meeting.

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Is there a second?

12 MR. SMITH: Member Smith. I second.

13 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Is there any further
14 discussion?

15 (No response.)

16 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Hearing none, I will now call
17 for the vote. All those in favor of the motion, say aye.
18 All opposed, say nay.

19 (A chorus of ayes.)

20 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Let the record reflect that I,
21 Mike Rodriguez, vote aye. The motion passes.

22 Comments from the Board Chairman. Ladies and
23 gentlemen, Grand Prairie police officer Brandon Tsai died
24 in the line of duty on November 14, after an accident from
25 the pursuit of a vehicle while the vehicle was displaying

1 fictitious paper license plates. Investigations revealed
2 that the suspect was a wanted fugitive with eight
3 outstanding warrants from multiple jurisdictions in North
4 Texas.

5 Please join me in a moment of silence for
6 Officer Brandon Tsai.

7 (Pause.)

8 MR. RODRIGUEZ: The use of fictitious license
9 plates, whether metal or paper, has long been an issue for
10 law enforcement. We know that criminals use fictitious
11 license plates to conceal the identity of stolen vehicles,
12 and on vehicles used in the commission of crimes.

13 Texas DMV has responded to law enforcement with
14 positive efforts to deter the use of fraudulent temporary
15 tags. A redesign of temporary tags has been implemented,
16 and will contain additional security elements to allow
17 officers to quickly recognize and confirm when a tag is
18 valid.

19 I commend Texas DMV for the increased
20 coordination and communication to law enforcement
21 concerning temporary tag enhancements in a process to
22 access and receive assistance in obtaining motor vehicle
23 records. I am pleased with the increased coordination,
24 communication, collaborations occurring between MVCPA and
25 other divisions within the Texas DMV.

1 The MVCPA is not structured to be a standalone
2 agency without increased costs to the program. The Texas
3 DMV can provide resources that MVCPA would not have if it
4 were not for the partnership. I am hopeful for an
5 opportunity for MVCPA to receive additional appropriations
6 during the upcoming legislative session. The Texas DMV
7 has submitted Legislative Appropriations Requests for
8 MVCPA to receive the full 20 percent funding as allowed by
9 statute.

10 I am proud of the work that the taskforces are
11 performing. And the Board understands the additional law
12 enforcement investigators that are needed to keep up with
13 the rising motor vehicle crimes.

14 Commanders, thank you for all that your
15 taskforces do in combating motor vehicle crimes. Keep up
16 the great work.

17 Again, I know that Daniel and Roland are here
18 from Texas DMV. Daniel is the Executive Director, Roland,
19 the Deputy Executive Director. And I just want to
20 formally thank them for doing what they do with MVCPA.

21 When they first got selected to their position,
22 it has been a tremendous change. The communication, the
23 access to information, and the access to any advice, any
24 counseling from them is wide open for MVCPA. And so, I
25 have got to say thank you, Daniel, and Roland, again and

1 again, for that partnership that you have created between
2 MVCPA and DMV.

3 For the commanders, again, thank you for all
4 you do. I know that there was a presentation a couple of
5 weeks back, and we are going to hear about them through
6 the GBR Committee. So I am hopeful that most of the
7 presentations were right on target. And hopefully, we can
8 move on in trying to get to the goals that we want to get
9 to.

10 I know the mission is hard, with what we have.

11 But I am hopeful that in this coming legislative session,
12 we are going to get what we need. And we continue pushing
13 forward with what we do.

14 So again, thank you for everyone for being
15 here. And thank you for what you do.

16 Moving on to Agenda Item 3(d), commendations
17 and congratulations. Interim Director Canady.

18 MR. CANADY: Joe Canady, MVCPA. None at this
19 time, sir.

20 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Agenda Item (d), consider
21 committee appointments.

22 MR. CANADY: Joe Canady, MVCPA. None at this
23 time.

24 MR. RODRIGUEZ: And the Agenda Item 4.
25 Director's report.

1 MR. CANADY: Mr. Chairman, Joe Canady, MVCPA.

2 I recommend that since all of the material was
3 in the book on the Director's reports, if any member would
4 like an individual report pulled out, we may do so, and
5 will present, but recommend referring back to the book for
6 that information.

7 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Anyone has any questions on the
8 report?

9 (No response.)

10 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Moving on. Members, we will
11 now take up Agenda Item 5, MVCPA Grants, Budget, and
12 Reporting Committee report.

13 We will now hear from Interim Director, or is
14 it Board member Gonzalez.

15 MR. GONZALEZ: Either one.

16 MR. CANADY: Joe Canady, MVCPA. I will refer
17 to Dan Price.

18 MR. PRICE: Yes. Hi. We did refer this to the
19 Grants, Budget, and Reporting Committee several weeks ago.

20 The vacancy for the directorship of the MVCPA
21 was reviewed as far as the position level, and it was
22 determined that the level of that position should be
23 increased to have somebody with better qualification.
24 That would inherently require an increase in salary. So
25 we are requesting today the transfer of \$16,161 from the

1 advertising budget line into the salary budget line, so
2 that the new MVCPA Director will be paid appropriately and
3 commensurately with their qualifications.

4 This was Dan Price. Sorry.

5 (Pause.)

6 MR. RICHARDS: David Richards, for the record,
7 Mr. Chairman.

8 Dan, you are asking for a motion and a second,
9 and a vote from the Board for the budget transfers.

10 Correct?

11 MR. PRICE: This is Dan Price. Yes, sir.

12 MR. RICHARDS: Okay. Great.

13 MR. PRICE: Thank you.

14 MR. RICHARDS: That is what I thought.

15 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Do I have a motion for
16 the Board to approve the FY '23 budget transfers?

17 MR. GONZALEZ: Member Gonzalez. I move that
18 the Board approve the FY '23-'24 budget transfer.

19 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Do I have a second?

20 MS. JONES: Second. Member Jones.

21 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I have a motion on Agenda Item
22 5(a) from Member Gonzalez. I have a second from Member
23 Jones. Any further discussion?

24 (No response.)

25 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Hearing none, I will now call

1 for the vote. All in favor, say aye.

2 (A chorus of ayes.)

3 MR. RODRIGUEZ: All opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Let the record reflect that I,
6 Michael Rodriguez vote aye. The motion passes.

7 Director Canady, the briefing on the GBR from
8 the taskforces, is that in the same agenda item 5(a), or
9 is it in another agenda item?

10 MR. CANADY: No, sir. That assessment is under
11 5(h).

12 MR. RODRIGUEZ: 5H, okay. Then we will
13 continue with 5(b).

14 We will now hear from Interim Director Canady,
15 Grants, Budget, and Reporting Committee Chairman and/or
16 designated staff on Agenda Item 5(b).

17 MR. CANADY: Joe Canady, MVCPA.

18 The Arlington Police Department submitted an
19 application for funding through the Rapid Response
20 Strikeforce Grant program. They had identified two areas
21 in their jurisdiction or areas of responsibility with a 68
22 percent and a 75 percent increase in motor vehicle thefts
23 for the previous year.

24 One of them is the AT&T Stadium, with the
25 sporting events at Cowboys Stadium. And then the mall

1 across the way, where lots of vehicles are parked, there
2 was the increase in vehicle thefts.

3 So, they are proposing to purchase or lease
4 license plate reader cameras in an effort to identify and
5 recover the stolen vehicles in these areas. This grant
6 amount was less than what was required at \$4,560 to go
7 before the GBR Committee Award, however, the City of
8 Arlington is a participating agency.

9 They are not a direct funded agency of MVCPA.
10 They participate with the Tarrant County program. So
11 while it wasn't required for GBR approval, I wanted this
12 to go through the Board, through the committee first, for
13 approval.

14 And it was -- just so that you are aware, this
15 was awarded to the City of Arlington to attack this
16 problem. And it is within policy for the Rapid Response
17 Strikeforce Grant program.

18 MR. RODRIGUEZ: You said it was a 75 percent
19 increase?

20 MR. CANADY: Yes, sir.

21 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Arlington Stadium. Well, this
22 wouldn't take -- it is not an action item for the Board.
23 The committee already approved. Correct?

24 MR. GONZALEZ: Mr. Chairman, I just want to say
25 the impact of the Flock system and the ALPRs across the

1 state have been invaluable to not only our taskforces, but
2 really to the state overall. And so we are seeing -- one
3 of the items that we saw over and over that we heard from
4 our taskforces was how much value they are getting out of
5 the Flock System, and how often that they are hitting.
6 And so, the addition of the ALPRs to Arlington, you know,
7 we can't encourage enough.

8 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I want to say it is a hot spot
9 for that area. I am thinking that with this request our
10 area task force is already responding to that 75 percent
11 increase. Correct?

12 MR. CANADY: Yes, sir.

13 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yessenia, are there any public
14 comments on this?

15 MS. BENAVIDES: No, sir.

16 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Members.

17 We will now move to the next agenda item.

18 Agenda Item 5(c), FY '24-'25 grant scoring and award
19 determination process.

20 We will now take up on Agenda Item 5(c). I
21 will turn the discussion over to Interim Director Joe
22 Canady, GBR Committee Chairman Gonzalez, and/or designated
23 staff.

24 MR. CANADY: Joe Canady, MVCPA. The Board has
25 previously identified a need to look at alternative

1 methods against the current scoring system for grantees
2 for the allocation of funds for taskforces.

3 The proposed scoring system is basis of need of
4 51 points, which would be where the need for the
5 jurisdiction -- the number of motor vehicle thefts, the
6 number of motor vehicle burglaries, or fraud-related motor
7 vehicle crime in that jurisdiction gives them a little bit
8 higher score. So, primarily that would be 51 points, the
9 majority of the score available.

10 It also factors in previous fiscal year
11 performance of taskforces for existing taskforces, on how
12 well they have worked the problem, the number of crimes
13 they prosecuted -- had prosecuted through their
14 prosecutors.

15 Then it goes on to -- if they are not a task
16 force -- say a new applicant comes in. We want to ask the
17 same questions of that task force or that law enforcement
18 agency. As, how are you working the problem in your
19 jurisdiction, and what can you do with the money or
20 funding, if there was funding available to fund your
21 program?

22 Then it goes into the budget of ten points.
23 The other -- in addition to the need, the second important
24 part is reasonable. Is the program reasonable for what
25 they are asking for?

1 And it could be that they only have two thefts
2 in their jurisdiction. Is that a reasonable thing to fund
3 for a task force? Or it could be that they have a number
4 of activities and proposed goals planned, but only have
5 two or three personnel. So, is that reasonable for them
6 to be able to do those activities to perform to the best
7 of their ability.

8 We have also factored in point reductions,
9 target numbers for previous fiscal year. Missed more than
10 25 percent.

11 We understand that there is things that happen
12 within the jurisdictions. They may have an increase in
13 the 68A inspections that decreases their ability to do
14 some public awareness events, or reach some of the goals.

15 So they will have the opportunity to adjust that, adjust
16 those goals, identify the needs of what their jurisdiction
17 is, throughout the year.

18 Factor in extra credit, border jurisdictions
19 should receive an additional five points. Multi agency
20 task forces, five points.

21 And then, programs that are demonstrating
22 successful fraud-related motor vehicle crime operations
23 and other things, such as the vehicle finance training
24 that is going on in the Houston area. Trying to create
25 and build those partnerships between dealers and law

1 enforcement to stop some of these vehicle finance fraud
2 purchases that are happening at dealerships.

3 Programs having demonstrated dedication to
4 utilizing technology. If an agency, you know, is already
5 funding an LPR program for their task force, it is not
6 receiving state funds, you know, they are going above and
7 beyond. You know, they recognize that this is needed. So
8 they believe in the program, and they are buying into the
9 program separately.

10 Border areas that are taskforces that are
11 training state and federal officers on how to identify
12 vehicles as they come through these checkpoints. Overall
13 successes of individual taskforces, that they can
14 demonstrate and prove to us that, you know, they are going
15 above and beyond, you know, to support the program for
16 their communities.

17 And when it comes through the allocation,
18 again, the top ten applicants would be scored. All
19 applicants would be scored. And the top ten applicants
20 would receive 50 percent of the entire allocated funds.

21 The remaining applicants would receive a
22 proportionate allocation, based on what is left. I mean,
23 no funding is going to be left behind. This would factor
24 in all of what is budgeted for a taskforce grant to be
25 utilized.

1 Member Gonzalez, do you have something?

2 MR. GONZALEZ: Mr. Chairman, I want to say that
3 I am very proud of the work that the GBR committee did to
4 put this together. Our primary goal was to get us closer
5 to the statutory mandate, which specifically says grant
6 funds primarily based on the number of motor vehicles
7 stolen in -- and this accomplishes that.

8 But what we also took into consideration was
9 the accountability factor. And so we made sure that there
10 were pieces in there that held our taskforces accountable
11 for certain items that we feel are important.

12 And then finally what we wanted to give
13 recognition for was for when taskforces answer the
14 Chairman's call. I know that earlier this year, you know,
15 with catalytic converters, you made the call for our
16 taskforces to attack the problem more aggressively.

17 And various taskforces did answer that call.
18 So I wanted to make sure that they are recognized for
19 that, and that they are rewarded for that.

20 In addition to that, you know, we had the issue
21 of temporary tags. And we focused on that. And so
22 really, the driving factor with that is, I want to make
23 sure that what the Board is asking of the taskforces, when
24 our taskforces answer that call, that they are
25 appropriately recognized for that.

1 So, overall, we think that this accomplishes
2 those two driving factors of getting us closer to the
3 statutory mandate, as well as increasing accountability.
4 And being responsible with these funds that we have to
5 allocate.

6 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Member Gonzalez.
7 Thank you, Mr. Canady.

8 On the 50 percent that you said, it was based
9 on volume. And on that 50 percent is also what they have
10 done historically with the amount of money that has been
11 given to them.

12 MR. CANADY: Yes, sir. Past performance is a
13 factor.

14 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Do we have a percentage on
15 that? On how much it would impact on that end, as far as
16 the 50 percent? Is it 10 percent? Is it --

17 MR. CANADY: We can run an analysis and report
18 back in the February Board meeting, on how that would --
19 how would existing funds, versus say, we are funded at 20
20 percent. And we can factor in how that would affect the
21 current grantees.

22 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I think it is important that we
23 take a very good look as to what has been done within that
24 jurisdiction.

25 MR. CANADY: Right.

1 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I think it is important that we
2 look at that. You know, we don't want to keep on funding
3 something that is not working.

4 You know, because that is an indicator as to
5 does it need more funding? Or is it just because there is
6 nothing being -- there is no change in operations. There
7 is no change in mission. And it is just the status quo on
8 that particular jurisdiction.

9 So I think it is important that we look into
10 what is it that is working, or not working. And if maybe
11 it is something that it needs more funds to get to the
12 goals that they want to get to, then that is something
13 that we can identify, or the GBR can identify, the
14 Committee can identify. And then, we can base ourselves
15 on that.

16 Because if we don't have a percentage as to how
17 is it that we are going to look at that, historically,
18 what have they done, and what impact has it been to their
19 community. You know, if the increase keeps on going up,
20 and there is nothing coming down as far as statistics,
21 then we are doing something wrong.

22 MR. CANADY: Right.

23 MR. RODRIGUEZ: So we need to look at that very
24 closely. So that is just, we can come back to the
25 February meeting, and kind of discuss that.

1 MR. CANADY: That is all I have on that
2 section, Mr. Chairman.

3 MR. RODRIGUEZ: This is an action item. Are
4 there any public comments?

5 MS. BENAVIDES: No, sir.

6 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Members, do I have a motion on
7 Agenda Item 5(c)?

8 MS. BROTHERTON: Member Brotherton. I move
9 that the Board approve the proposed rate scoring and/or
10 determinations process.

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Is there a second?

12 MR. GONZALEZ: Member Gonzalez. I second.

13 MR. RODRIGUEZ: A motion from Member
14 Brotherton, a second from Member Gonzalez. Is there any
15 further discussion?

16 (No response.)

17 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Hearing none, I will now call
18 for the vote. All those in favor of the motion, say aye.

19 (A chorus of ayes.)

20 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Let the record reflect that I,
21 Mike Rodriguez vote aye. The motion passes.

22 Moving on to Agenda Item 5(d), Grant violation
23 documentation, notification, and determination policy.
24 This is an action item.

25 We will now hear from the Interim Director

1 Canady, and/or designated staff on this agenda item.

2 MR. CANADY: Joe Canady, MVCPA. The grant
3 rules from the authority and from different statutes on
4 all the -- everything that the grantees do as far as
5 submitting reports, meeting deadlines on grant conditions,
6 interlocal agreements, resolutions.

7 There is different aspects that are involved in
8 submitting the grant all the way through to be able to
9 operate the grant. Like I said, there is rules in place
10 for this. But what there is not rules for is the
11 determination notification and documentation notification
12 and determination policy.

13 So we are proposing that the items on page 26
14 through 29 of your Board book will outline the due dates
15 for each report, whether it be a progress report, or an
16 expenditure report. Each grantee is required to submit
17 reports in accordance with the instructions given in the
18 grant administrative manual.

19 Grantees must submit required reports to MVCPA,
20 also as defined in the administrative manual, before the
21 delinquent status. We are proposing to notify grantees of
22 all the due dates and provide them with a delinquent date.

23 This is done each month through webinars. It
24 is in emails. It is in the -- again, in the manual. And
25 if they fail to meet these dates, you know, then there is

1 a process to notify them that this report is due or this
2 condition is due.

3 And if you -- we don't receive it in time, you
4 are subject to a grant violation. But we understand that
5 there are certain situations that could happen. They may
6 have a big crime case, where all their commanders, their
7 investigators are out working to -- working the problem.
8 And they may miss a deadline.

9 So there is always the option for them to
10 submit a request for extension. So it is not that this is
11 set in stone, that if they don't get this by this date,
12 that they are going to receive a violation. Because we
13 understand there are circumstances.

14 The same thing with the -- again, we are now on
15 page 28. Or major obligations such as interlocal
16 agreements, and prosecutor agreements. Especially with
17 interlocal agreements. How are -- if the taskforces don't
18 get those turned in and signed by each jurisdiction as
19 part of their taskforce, how are they working together in
20 those other jurisdictions without an interlocal?

21 So, there is just things that we want to have
22 in place if there becomes a situation or a problem that
23 requires more than just a phone call to take care of.

24 MR. RODRIGUEZ: On the expenditure report, on
25 the interlocal agreements, did we visit with the major

1 departments, the bigger departments as far as -- will 15
2 days suffice for them to get this done?

3 MR. CANADY: Most of them are turning them in
4 during this time. But then, that is where the extension
5 request is allowable, because there may be a situation
6 that we are not aware of.

7 And we want to work with them, for them to be
8 able to meet those deadlines. But if they can't, they can
9 provide justification as to why. Then we can grant them
10 an extension request on an individual basis.

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. So, we will put these
12 dates up front to them?

13 MR. CANADY: Yes, sir.

14 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Members, are there any
15 questions?

16 (No response.)

17 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yessenia, is there any public
18 comments on this?

19 MS. BENAVIDES: No, sir.

20 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Members, do I have a motion on
21 Agenda Item 5(d)?

22 MR. SMITH: Member Smith. Mr. Chairman, I move
23 the Board approve the proposed grant violation
24 documentation notification and determination policy.

25 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Is there a second?

1 MS. JONES: Sharon Jones, second.

2 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I have a motion from Member
3 Smith and a second from Member Jones. Is there any
4 further discussion?

5 (No response.)

6 Hearing none, I will now call for the vote.
7 All in favor of the motion, say aye.

8 (A chorus of ayes.)

9 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Let the record reflect that I,
10 Michael Rodriguez vote aye. The motion passes.

11 Moving on to Agenda Item 5(e), Taskforce
12 vehicle purchase and lease policy. I will turn the
13 discussion over to Interim Director Canady, GBR Committee
14 Gonzalez, and/or designated staff.

15 MR. CANADY: Joe Canady, MVCPA.

16 It is -- for a while now, vehicles, whether the
17 taskforces are trying to lease one or purchase one, they
18 are in short supply and high demand. Chip shortages,
19 supply chain issues. This all not only makes the vehicles
20 in short supply, but it has increased their values.

21 It has been the policy of MVCPA that a vehicle
22 could be purchased for an amount up to \$25,000, if it is
23 included in the application. Or they could submit a grant
24 adjustment to purchase that vehicle for up to that amount.

25 These amounts are low. Task forces are having

1 a hard time finding a vehicle within that policy set
2 amount. Any amounts above that, their agencies have been
3 having to pick it up.

4 They couldn't -- they weren't always allowed to
5 use program income to go above that amount. It had to be
6 a source of match other than that.

7 So, with that -- and the same thing with
8 leases. The lease caps were set at \$600. Taskforces were
9 having a very difficult time, if they need to lease a
10 vehicle, finding a vehicle within that amount. So, that
11 they may have the funds available in program income to
12 make up the difference, but it is unallowable because we
13 have set that hard limit.

14 So, on page 30 and page 31 of your Board book.
15 Rather than set a hard limit or a hard cap, we are
16 proposing that grantees may use MVCPA funds and cash match
17 funds, including program income, to purchase vehicles up
18 to an amount that the Director and Board designee
19 determine is reasonable and necessary to meet the goals
20 and strategies and activities of the grant.

21 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Members, are there any
22 questions or comments?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yessenia, is there public
25 comment on this?

1 MS. BENAVIDES: No, sir.

2 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Members, do I have a motion on
3 Agenda Item 5(e)?

4 MS. JONES: Sharon Jones. I move that the
5 Board approve the proposed vehicle purchase and lease
6 policy.

7 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Is there a second?

8 MR. GONZALEZ: Member Gonzalez. I second.

9 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I have a motion from Member
10 Jones, a second from Member Gonzalez. Is there any
11 further discussion?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Hearing none, I will now call
14 for the vote. All those in favor of the motion, say aye.

15 (A chorus of ayes.)

16 MR. RODRIGUEZ: All opposed, say nay?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Let the record reflect that I,
19 Michael Rodriguez vote aye. The motion passes.

20 We'll now turn to Agenda Item 5(f), FY '24-'25
21 Plan of Operation. This is an action item.

22 I will now turn this agenda item over to
23 Interim Director Canady.

24 MR. CANADY: Joe Canady, MVCPA. We surveyed
25 law enforcement. We surveyed taskforce commanders across

1 the state, trying to identify the needs of their
2 jurisdictions to be able to successfully work the problem
3 of motor vehicle theft and burglary, and fraudulent
4 crimes.

5 The biggest thing is additional funds. All of
6 them are saying that they need money to fund additional
7 employees.

8 And we see that with the backlogs of 68A
9 inspections that is occurring in jurisdictions. Because
10 what it is doing is it is taking away valuable time from
11 officers that can be working on a serious investigation,
12 because they are having to do these 68As.

13 Which -- and don't get me wrong, the 68A is a
14 very important aspect, because the taskforces recovered a
15 lot of vehicles during those inspections. It prevents a
16 lot of vehicles from being sold to innocent purchasers,
17 because they are identified as stolen during that process.

18 They are in need for additional surveillance
19 equipment, technology, updated technology. Some of them
20 have old technology that is -- there is something better
21 out there. They just don't have the funds available
22 because they would rather fund their investigators to
23 investigate these crimes. There was a need identified as
24 a statewide ALPR program -- automatic license plate
25 readers, if additional funds were identified to be able to

1 fund that.

2 We have prepared, and you should have a copy in
3 your Board book, the FY '24 and '25 Plan of Operation.
4 There is still a couple of very minor tweaks and edits to
5 it that we have worked on with the TxDMV Government
6 Strategic Communications Division, that we will be
7 addressing before DMV sends it on Thursday of this week,
8 on December 1st.

9 MR. GONZALEZ: Member Gonzalez, if I can jump
10 in.

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Go ahead, Member Gonzalez.

12 MR. GONZALEZ: Mr. Chairman, just to piggyback
13 off of what Interim Director Canady was saying, the
14 backlog of 68A inspections, it is profound. I believe
15 Laredo has already been booked through the rest of the
16 year for several months now. I know Dallas is, as well.

17 And it is causing frustration to the public
18 because it is very difficult for them to find a place
19 where they can get a 68A inspection. So it is certainly
20 something that we need to have additional conversations
21 about, of how we can provide some relief to our taskforces
22 so they can be focusing on the other objectives of the
23 Board.

24 With respect to the ALPR, one of the items that
25 Member Jones and I are very passionate about is to expand

1 the use of the ALPR system. And, specifically, to have
2 every port of entry, every bridge along the border
3 equipped with ALPRs.

4 We know that stolen vehicles are taken across
5 the border. And we feel that having such a system, such a
6 statewide system would certainly benefit our taskforces
7 significantly.

8 And so there are various ways that we are
9 exploring to be able to do that. But the benefits of
10 which are going to pay off massive dividends for us. That
11 is all I have.

12 Member Jones, do you want to --

13 MR. CANADY: Mr. Chairman, if I may. Joe
14 Canady, again, for the record.

15 The Plan of Operation report that would go to
16 the Texas Legislature also includes the amount of
17 resources that are needed -- the amount of funds needed to
18 be able to do those operations and do the work for motor
19 vehicle crime cases, up to the full 20 percent of funding.

20 That is what is in the Plan of Operation on what is
21 needed.

22 MR. RODRIGUEZ: In regards to the 68As, I think
23 it is time for us to start, I guess, pushing, or start --
24 like we say, start thinking outside the box and get our
25 partners with the TAVTI and start pushing maybe

1 legislation in getting civilians to do this.

2 Because I just think that it is -- to have a
3 city pay \$75,000, upwards of \$85,000. Some cities even
4 pay \$100,000 for an investigator to do this kind of work.

5 It is not reasonable.

6 And I think it is time for us to start pushing
7 that note that we would like for a certified person,
8 civilian, to start helping us in doing that so that we can
9 concentrate our efforts, invest investigative efforts to
10 actual cases, and bringing the bad guy in. Versus taking
11 a whole day, or two days, doing 68A inspections.

12 So we do need to start thinking that way. I
13 want to say that we need to start pushing that note and
14 trying to get some legislation. Because I know, for now,
15 it does say peace officer. Correct?

16 MR. CANADY: Yes, sir.

17 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Changing that law, and maybe
18 getting some civilians to help out in doing that kind of
19 work for us.

20 We already have civilians doing crime scene
21 investigations. We have civilians doing other kind of
22 police work. So why not this?

23 So I think it is time for us to sit down and
24 kind of get serious about this. Because it is not going
25 to stop, especially for major cities. The ports where we

1 have thousands of tractor trailers getting, you know,
2 trying to get 68As. It is not going to stop.

3 So I think it is time for us to kind of push
4 that way.

5 MR. CANADY: Mr. Chairman, Joe Canady, MVCPA.

6 One thing to consider is the level and the
7 amount of training that is required to do these 68As.
8 About 20 years ago, 25 years ago, we would have officers
9 from other jurisdictions across the state, there was no
10 regulation on who could perform the 68As. There was a lot
11 of vehicles that slipped through the cracks that weren't
12 recovered, because those officers didn't have the
13 knowledge or the education in motor vehicle crimes to be
14 able to do those inspections.

15 The databases that are required to access to
16 perform these inspections are managed by the National
17 Insurance Crime Bureau, and other private entities. It
18 may be something that we would have to explore pretty
19 deeply to be able for them to allow access to a citizen to
20 perform these inspections, just to ensure that they are
21 being performed by someone that can do them properly.

22 MR. GONZALEZ: Member Gonzalez, for the record.

23 But just to kind of piggyback.

24 If NICB is running and maintaining, you know,
25 this system, then I don't -- which is a private entity, as

1 you say. I don't see why we wouldn't be able to have
2 civilians and non-sworn individuals perform 68A
3 inspections, based off a private database.

4 Do you kind of see what I am saying? The
5 parallel there. So, it is already run by non-sworn
6 individuals, so --

7 MR. CANADY: Yes, sir.

8 MR. GONZALEZ: Might as well let them do the
9 confidential VIN inspection.

10 MR. CANADY: Right.

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: And again, you know, we have
12 police departments and sheriff's departments that can
13 hire. It is just the applicants are not there.

14 And they are having a hard time wrapping up
15 their police force or their service force. So, I think it
16 is just time for us to do that.

17 I know that DPS has just got a message from
18 Sharon, from Member Jones here. That DPS does have
19 civilians doing commercial vehicle inspections with the
20 support of a Trooper. But again, I think for us, I think
21 it is time for us to push that.

22 And let me be very clear. We are not trying to
23 get away from giving somebody's job away. Because this is
24 just going to help us concentrate on what is the real
25 issues.

1 And I am not saying 68As are not. Those are
2 things that yes, protects us from fraudulent things
3 happening. But you know, there is other things happening
4 in our cities that we need to focus on 100 percent, versus
5 giving a day or two on 68A inspections when somebody else
6 can just come in and do them for us, and be supervised by
7 a police officer or a supervisor within the Police
8 Department or Sheriff's Department.

9 So I want to continue this conversation,
10 because I am serious about it. I do want to start looking
11 into that, and see if we can get that. Because it just
12 makes sense to pay a civilian you know, that is vetted and
13 is trained, and make sure that we train and vet them
14 completely. Do the background, like if it is an officer.

15 We can even get retirees coming back and doing
16 that, you know; 43,000, 50,000, it sounds a lot better
17 than 70, 80, \$100,000 a year. So, these are things that
18 we need to start thinking about, and maybe push and start
19 a conversation about this. And get serious about it.

20 MR. CANADY: Yes, sir.

21 MR. GONZALEZ: Member Gonzalez for the record.

22 Mr. Chairman, one of the concerns, if you will turn to
23 page 16, on the Plan of Operations. You will see that the
24 number of cleared motor vehicle theft cases dropped by
25 over 40 percent.

1 And I believe that one of the key factors that
2 contributed to this is going to be the amount of time that
3 our task forces are having to spend with this backlog of
4 68A inspections. So I think that having non-sworn and
5 professional staff be able to assist with the 68A
6 inspections, I think that is a very innovative solution.
7 And I certainly think that we need to look more into that.

8 Interim Director Canady, I was hoping -- can
9 you expand on that, on that 40 percent drop on the cleared
10 UUV cases?

11 MR. CANADY: Something we need to look into
12 further. Joe Canady, MVCPA.

13 Something we may need to look into further, do
14 a deeper analysis. A lot of it has to do with the
15 shortage of personnel. Not only just 68A, the increase in
16 68A inspections.

17 As you said, Mr. Chairman, these agencies are
18 having a hard time finding personnel to hire. Every
19 agency has shortages. So it is a combination of the
20 increased activities and the decreased personnel.

21 So that is why you are seeing a reduction in
22 certain activities, because they don't have the time to
23 spend on it and dedicate as much as they could. Because
24 they are spread thin.

25 MR. RODRIGUEZ: This is where I am going about

1 68A inspection versus a motor vehicle theft. What do we
2 do.

3 MR. CANADY: Yes, sir.

4 MR. RODRIGUEZ: We have to get serious about
5 this conversation because we come here every day and we
6 say we need more people. But yet, there is departments
7 that can't hire because there is not enough people
8 applying for it. And what are we going to do.

9 So I think I want to say I feel very strongly
10 about thinking outside the box, doing something different,
11 to be able to help these taskforces get to where they want
12 to get to. Because just all I see is an increase in motor
13 vehicle theft.

14 And again, coming back to the same argument
15 that well, we need more people. Well, agencies can't even
16 hire people right now. We cannot hire police officers.
17 How are we going to get more FTEs out there, if we cannot
18 even hire?

19 So, lets say we get the money. We give it to
20 that grantee. We award it. We award that jurisdiction.

21 I would say that they -- I don't think there is
22 a chief or a sheriff out there that is going to say, oh
23 yes. Let me just give you another officer off of the
24 street, and put him in the auto theft task force.

25 I am serious about this. They are not going to

1 do that. And I just think that we just need to start
2 having this real, real -- it is a hard conversation, but
3 we need to start having it, as to what we are going to do.

4 Technology is one. Civilianize some of the
5 efforts that we are doing, and then go from there. But
6 start thinking there.

7 Get some commanders in there, maybe set up a
8 subcommittee. But start thinking outside the box, because
9 whatever we are doing is not working. And we need to
10 report back that we are doing something to bring down
11 those statistics, especially in major cities: Houston,
12 San Antonio, Dallas.

13 We are talking about major cities that have big
14 problems, big issues. Not only motor vehicle theft, but
15 also burglary, right.

16 Did you want to say something?

17 MS. JONES: I think it is a great idea --
18 Member Jones -- to civilianize, if possible. Texas DPS,
19 we have an entire division, it is a regulatory division.
20 And it is made, primarily, of civilians, but with the
21 support of the Texas Highway Patrol or the Criminal
22 Investigation Division.

23 We also reach out to DMV at times. We have an
24 MOU with DMV for certain types and vice versa. And it is
25 just a matter of working with other agencies for the

1 support. But we have to do something.

2 And we constantly talk about personnel
3 shortages, but everything else that is happening, it is
4 still continuing. So we have to come up with something
5 that is different.

6 We can try it. I think it will be successful.

7 I know it will be successful. If you put the right
8 people in place, it will be successful.

9 MR. GONZALEZ: Member Gonzalez for the record.

10

11 I do want to point out one other thing about
12 the confidential VIN inspection. So the statutory cap
13 that taskforces can collect as a fee for the 68A
14 inspection is only \$40.

15 And so that creates very much a situation where
16 if you have two, three, four investigators doing a 68A
17 inspection, and say, they are on overtime, that city is
18 not going to recuperate, you know, the amount of money
19 that they are putting into the individuals performing, the
20 FTE with the \$40.

21 And so, I certainly think that that is
22 something that the Board needs to be aware of. These
23 things are very expensive. However, it is a service to,
24 you know, the people of Texas.

25 And so I understand that we do need to come up

1 with solutions to come to a happy medium. That is all I
2 have, sir.

3 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Member Gonzalez.
4 And thank you, Member Jones. Any more comments from the
5 Board?

6 MS. BROTHERTON: Member Brotherton. I know
7 that they pay \$40 to get the -- whatever it is called. I
8 am not looking at it. But how much does it cost if they
9 were to pay the full cost of it? Does it take a half an
10 hour, an hour?

11 MR. GONZALEZ: So, the 68A inspection, it
12 depends. You know, it depends on the complexity of the
13 vehicle. It depends on the investigator's knowledge of
14 where the confidential VINs are, whether they have to
15 check ISO. I have seen them, you know, done anywhere from
16 you know, 20 to 30 minutes, depending on what type it is.

17 Whether or not -- trailers for example.
18 Trailers are a very common item that needs to be
19 inspected, but a lot of these trailers are home made. And
20 so, you have, I guess they call them Frankensteins and
21 combinations of trailers.

22 And so it can be kind of difficult on certain
23 vehicles to perform that inspection. So, we just -- it
24 varies.

25 MS. BROTHERTON: Member Brotherton. I have a

1 follow-up question.

2 MR. GONZALEZ: Yes, ma'am.

3 MS. BROTHERTON: Who makes the decision on the
4 \$40 price? Is that legislation, or --

5 MR. GONZALEZ: Yes. That is a statutory
6 requirement. And I believe that was increased. No, it
7 has always been \$40?

8 MR. CANADY: Yes, sir. Joe Canady, MVCPA. To
9 my knowledge, it has always been \$40.

10 And Member Brotherton, it is -- these
11 taskforces, the taskforces that perform the 68A
12 inspections, you know, that remains in their program. The
13 money they collect remains in their program.

14 It is considered program income, and they are
15 able to use those funds to purchase equipment needed.
16 Some of them do some -- the number of inspections over a
17 years time, where they may be able to purchase a vehicle
18 as well, too.

19 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes. And the other thing that
20 happens with those 68A inspections, if you do find a
21 cloned vehicle, what happens after that takes more time.
22 Just not just the inspection itself.

23 But it's what the -- after you -- if you find
24 something that is either fraudulent or anything like that.
25 So, yes, \$40 is not going to cover it. There is some

1 jurisdictions that are paying \$50 an hour for an
2 investigator.

3 So again, this is something that we need to
4 look at. And again, we will have this conversation more
5 in depth. But I am for, you know, getting this to the
6 GBR, and maybe having a subcommittee with some commanders
7 and start thinking outside the box.

8 Any other comments?

9 MS. BROTHERTON: Yes. Member Brotherton. So
10 if we want the Legislature to make a change, don't we need
11 to get to them like in December? Because don't they start
12 work in January?

13 And if we haven't got somebody carrying the
14 language, then how do we move forward?

15 MR. GONZALEZ: I think that if that is
16 something that the Board wants, then, you know, we can
17 work with our partners at DMV to start those discussions
18 with them. But I would say that there would probably have
19 to be a consensus of the Board and say, you know, before
20 we make that ask to DMV.

21 MR. CANADY: Yes, sir. I agree.

22 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. So what would be the
23 process to do this?

24 MR. CANADY: We work with the -- with GSC,
25 within Texas DMV, to identify what recommendation the

1 Board has as far as a potential increase in a fee.

2 I am not sure if this would be a rule process,
3 or not. I don't think it would be. It would be statute.

4

5 But we can work with GSC on that to determine
6 what is needed to be done.

7 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Keith.

8 MS. BROTHERTON: Welcome.

9 MR. YAWN: Good afternoon.

10 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Good afternoon.

11 MR. YAWN: Good morning. Keith Yawn. I am the
12 Director of the Government Strategic Communications
13 Division for the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.

14 What would you like to know?

15 MR. RODRIGUEZ: See what the process would be
16 to add language to change the language for the 68A
17 inspections that is law.

18 MR. YAWN: Yes. Our program would be happy to
19 work with Director Canady and MVCPA to determine what the
20 appropriate potential statutory language would be, changes
21 would be to implement the desires of this Board.

22 MR. RODRIGUEZ: And one of the questions from
23 Member Brotherton was, would it have to be by December,
24 actually this coming week, that we would need to push
25 this, I guess, to a legislator? It can happen next year.

1 MR. YAWN: Right. So the next legislative
2 session does convene in January, but we do have some
3 flexibility on timing. There is not a hard deadline.
4 Bills will be filed to the beginning of March.

5 So we do have some time to work on this and
6 follow the timeline that the Board would like to pursue.

7 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Great.

8 MR. YAWN: Of course the more quickly we can
9 move, the better for the process, but we do have some
10 time.

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Thank you, Keith.

12 MR. YAWN: Thank you.

13 MR. RODRIGUEZ: So, I guess we can -- it won't
14 be an action, but it can be a recommendation.

15 MR. RICHARDS: You told them --

16 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Instruct.

17 MR. RICHARDS: To advance your recommendation.

18 We will take it up at the next meeting, or go forward
19 with this item, is on the Plan of Operation.

20 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. So, it would be a
21 direction, I guess, a recommendation from the Board to
22 seek this.

23 MR. CANADY: Yes, sir. We will work with GSC.

24 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Work with GSC and then bring
25 back some language.

1 MR. CANADY: Correct.

2 MR. RODRIGUEZ: And then we need to reconvene
3 as a Board to vote on whatever it is that we need to vote
4 on. And we will try to make it happen before then.

5 Any other questions from the members on Item
6 5(f)?

7 (No response.)

8 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yessenia, do we have any public
9 comments on this?

10 MS. BENAVIDES: No, sir.

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Members, do I have a motion on
12 Agenda Item 5(f)?

13 MS. BROTHERTON: I, Member Brotherton, move
14 that the Board approve the FY '24-'25 Plan of Operation,
15 and to request TxDMV submit it to the legislation.

16 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Is there a second?

17 MS. CANTU-SERRANO: I, Rebecca Cantu, second.

18 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I have a motion from Member
19 Brotherton, and a second from Member Cantu. Is there any
20 further discussion?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Hearing none, I will now call
23 for the question. All those in favor of the motion, say
24 aye.

25 (A chorus of ayes.)

1 MR. RODRIGUEZ: All opposed, nay?

2 (No response.)

3 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Let the record reflect that I,
4 Mike Rodriguez vote aye. The motion passes.

5 Moving on to Agenda Item 5(g), FY '24-'25
6 request for application on grant timeline. This is an
7 action item.

8 Mr. Canady.

9 MR. CANADY: Joe Canady, MVCPA.

10 Historically, even as far back as it was ATPA
11 and ABTPA, there was a conference held during the time
12 that grants were awarded. This conference would include
13 training for law enforcement, training to grantees on how
14 to do certain things with the grant.

15 The Board has identified that they may want to
16 explore the option of a conference this year for the
17 issuance of the FY '24 and '25 grant awards. In your
18 handout, on page 35 and 36 of the Board book, we have
19 identified a timeline, beginning in February, for a
20 potential Committee meeting and Board meeting.

21 And it goes all the way through March, April,
22 May and June, to issue the request for applications for a
23 grant workshop, for grantee presentations to the
24 Committee. The due date for applications, the review of
25 applications, and then ultimately, the application scoring

1 and a conference in June.

2 We are recommending that in February, February
3 14th and 15th, or February 21st and 22nd for a meeting a
4 potential meeting date. I know some of you may have other
5 plans on February 14, because that will be Valentines.

6 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I don't know about that, Joe.

7 MR. CANADY: That was my thoughts, exactly.

8 And then in April, the second date in February, I am
9 sorry, was the 21st or the 22nd, is an option for a 21st
10 GBR meeting and Board meeting on the 22nd.

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Members?

12 MR. GONZALEZ: Member Gonzalez, for the record.

13 Mr. Chairman, one of the items that I didn't get a chance
14 to discuss here was -- one of the recurring items that,
15 you know, our task forces are in need of is additional
16 specialized training with respect to certain parts of our
17 mandate. With respect to the fraud, UUV, as well as other
18 issues that we're facing, you know, paper tags and
19 catalytic converters.

20 And so, I say that with -- to bolster the need
21 for a conference. We need a conference to focus on the
22 specific training that our task forces need. In addition
23 to, you know, those enforcement and investigative topics,
24 this conference right here would also focus very heavily
25 on how we want the administration of this grant to run.

1 Staff has identified various, you know, gaps
2 that we can work on with our taskforces with respect to
3 reporting and deadlines. And so really, the central theme
4 of this conference is going to be training. Training both
5 from the investigative aspect, and as well as, how our
6 expectations of how we want this grant to be ran.

7 And so, I know that historically, they have had
8 such a conference. And due to budget cuts, whatnot, it
9 wasn't able to be continued. But I think that the benefit
10 of this is going to pay off in the sense of we are going
11 to get better trained investigators. And we are going to
12 get better compliance with the grant rules and
13 administration that staff is asking.

14 So it is the recommendation of the Grants,
15 Budget -- of the GBR Committee, that we move forward with
16 hosting conference.

17 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I agree 100 percent on the
18 conference, and that the focus should be training, not
19 only for the commanders and investigators, but also
20 training for the grant administrators. It is very
21 important that we keep up with the changes and new trends,
22 and things like that.

23 I know that we do send -- some jurisdictions
24 send officers and investigators to the NICB trainings.
25 But I do want to put out trainings within our network of

1 taskforces, from the border all the way to Dallas,
2 Houston, El Paso.

3 Get instructors from those jurisdictions, and
4 come back to the table, and come back to that conference
5 and train on new investigative techniques. Things that
6 work. Things that didn't work. Major cases that can now
7 be put out there, and see how they worked it.

8 But nonetheless, I think it is important that
9 we do this. And I support it 100 percent. I know that I
10 told Member Jones about it, and she went 100 miles on it.

11

12 And I thank her for that, because she did
13 outstanding. She called me up and she said we are going
14 to get it done. I couldn't believe it.

15 We are like seven months away. We are going to
16 get it done. So I thank Member Jones for that, and the
17 staff, and you Joe, for that, because I know that it was
18 short notice, but it is very much needed.

19 So, thank you. Thank you, Member Jones.

20 MR. CANADY: Joe Canady, MVCPA. Yes, I had a
21 great tour guide that day while I was up in Kerrville.
22 Thank you, Major Jones.

23 We have identified a hotel; it is The Inn of
24 the Hills Hotel. They believe -- it is an older hotel.
25 We actually had a Texas Association of Vehicle Theft

1 Investigators conference there, back 15 years ago, or
2 more. And it was a nice hotel then.

3 So I was a little concerned that it might be
4 run down, but it has been remodeled. Everything, the
5 rooms look great. The facilities are great.

6 And but most of all, the cost for this
7 facility, for the meeting room costs are something that
8 you would expect to pay for a day or two price somewhere
9 else, versus an entire week. Very reasonable.

10 So with the Board's permission, we will look
11 into reserving the meeting room space for a conference in
12 June, so we can move forward with that. And the second
13 part of that is we will need to work -- staff will need to
14 work with DMV Financial Administrative Services to
15 identify a process that is acceptable to everyone for if
16 the Board wishes to utilize some funds to increase the
17 grant award for grantees for them to be able to attend
18 this conference.

19 Because they have already spent their budget.
20 They made their budget back previously, and may not have
21 program income available to travel to a conference and
22 attend. So we want to work with them to identify a
23 process for that.

24 MR. RODRIGUEZ: So for the members, on
25 conferences, we used to have this, I want to say, when was

1 that last conference, 2012, 2013? Does anybody remember?

2

3 MR. RICHARDS: El Paso.

4 MR. RODRIGUEZ: El Paso. When was it? 2014
5 was the last conference. Be sure the conferences focus a
6 lot on training.

7 And a lot of focus on the grant administrators.

8 And then the laws and things, the rules and the
9 administration and so on. Bring everybody in. I think it
10 is a total of how many days?

11 MR. CANADY: The conference would be four days.

12 And we are looking at the day one being a GBR Committee
13 meeting. Day two and three be training for taskforce
14 personnel on aspects of the grant, as well as law
15 enforcement training for taskforces.

16 And opening up the training to statewide. The
17 hotel has agreed to a second overflow location for us to
18 be able to provide if there is interest for area officers.

19 We met with the sheriffs offices. We met with
20 the police departments. They are very open to sending
21 personnel to receive this training.

22 And in addition, they are working, you know,
23 wanting to help us with it and provide resources that we
24 may need -- you know, grunt work. On doing things, and
25 taking care of business and providing closed patrols for

1 the officers while they are at the conference.

2 MR. RODRIGUEZ: So pretty much, everybody comes
3 in. They do the training. The best -- what everybody
4 takes from here.

5 The best thing is that the network part,
6 everybody pretty much talking to each other, which is what
7 we want. And again, it hasn't been done. I know that.

8 I thought it was a project, it could take
9 another year. But Sharon got it done. And we are moving
10 100 miles an hour now.

11 But this is what it is about. Are we okay? Do
12 we need to vote on this? David?

13 MR. RICHARDS: You will be taking a vote on
14 this item --

15 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay.

16 MR. RICHARDS: -- and the whole thing, the
17 timeline.

18 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay.

19 MR. RICHARDS: And also, Joe, there will be a
20 Board meeting at the conclusion?

21 MR. CANADY: A Board meeting on the final day,
22 which will be where the grant awards will be made for the
23 '24 and '25 taskforces.

24 MS. BROTHERTON: Member Brotherton. When we
25 approve this, are we also approving the expenses? I know

1 that we have to fund them from somewhere else, but are we
2 also approving that?

3 MR. CANADY: The expenses listed on page 36,
4 that is just an estimate. That was an estimate that staff
5 made before we even visited with the hotel in Kerrville.
6 I think what does need to be talked about and approved or
7 agreed upon is dates for the Board meetings in February
8 and March so we can get those set in stone.

9 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. So, February, March.
10 What do you think?

11 MR. CANADY: February 21st and 22nd.

12 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Are we okay with February 21st
13 and 22nd?

14 MR. CANADY: And then for April. Either the
15 18th and 19th, or the 25th and 26th.

16 MR. RODRIGUEZ: February 21 and 22.

17 MR. CANADY: Okay. And then in April, either
18 the 18th and 19th, or 25th and 26th.

19 MR. RODRIGUEZ: That is for March?

20 MR. CANADY: That is for March. I am sorry --
21 April.

22 MR. RODRIGUEZ: April. The 18th and 19th for
23 me is fine. You? The 18th and 19th?

24 MS. JONES: The 18th and 19th.

25 MR. RODRIGUEZ: The 18 and 19 of April is it.

1 MR. CANADY: Okay.

2 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay.

3 MS. JONES: Mr. Chairman, if you will? Sharon
4 Jones.

5 In reference to the conference, we need to make
6 a decision soon. If it is something that we need to vote
7 on, it needs to be done as soon as possible, because the
8 hotel is only going to hold rooms for us for a certain
9 period of time. It has been at least two weeks since we
10 have visited, yes.

11 MR. CANADY: Just over a week.

12 MS. JONES: Yes. Right before Thanksgiving.
13 So, and they have already emailed stating the urgency.

14 It is June. It is peak season. I have tried
15 many other options and they laughed at me. And this is
16 literally the only place that is willing to work with the
17 state's budget, in June.

18 So whatever processes that we need to put in
19 place, we need to do. We need a yes from you, sir.

20 MR. CANADY: Joe Canady, MVCPA. If the Board
21 will approve the timeline, I believe, on the dates for the
22 meetings and for a conference, then we can work with DMV
23 to finalize the other portions. Because the amounts, it
24 appears that the amount that the hotels will be charging
25 for meeting rooms would be an amount underneath what is

1 required to go out for bids.

2 MR. GONZALEZ: Member Gonzalez for the record.

3 I can't emphasize enough the amazing work that Member
4 Jones did on this. So, with that hotel, they will
5 honor -- they are agreeing to honor the state's per diem
6 rate of \$90 a night.

7 MS. JONES: Ninety eight.

8 MR. GONZALEZ: \$98 a night. Where that is
9 unheard of, because these hotels could make a whole lot
10 more money in June per you know, conference registry. So,
11 the fact that she was able to find one, and be that
12 judicious, you know, with our funds is remarkable.

13 But I just wanted to point out that, you know,
14 this was -- we try to do this as economically feasible as
15 possible. Member Jones.

16 MS. JONES: I had help from Joe and Yessenia.

17 MR. CANADY: And Joe Canady, MVCPA.

18 I do want to state though, that neither myself
19 nor Major Jones did any negotiating whatsoever. This was
20 all information direct from the hotel. So we didn't
21 negotiate anything.

22 But in addition, there is no minimum for food
23 and beverage. They are relying on the people in
24 attendance, that they are going to want to spend their per
25 diem at the hotel, rather than going off staff.

1 MR. RODRIGUEZ: For us in South Texas in the
2 border, it is the Hill Country. So I am good with it. I
3 am all for it.

4 MR. CANADY: Very good.

5 MR. RICHARDS: Mr. Chairman, David Richards,
6 General Counsel for the record.

7 Members, a vote on this particular item will
8 include the dates of the meetings that you discussed, as
9 well as the cost estimate.

10 I think there is one thing to your point,
11 Member Brotherton, on the cost estimates. We included
12 airfare. I don't think many people are going to fly into
13 Kerrville, unless they have their own private jet. Maybe.

14 So those costs will come down. If you look at
15 the grantee costs, that is like, estimated what, \$10,500.

16 So, if you vote on this one, you are going to include
17 approval of the conference.

18 And also working, as Joe said, to try to get
19 grantees some funding so they can attend, if they fall
20 short of having the funds available. As well as the
21 meeting dates.

22 MR. CANADY: Thank you.

23 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, David. Okay.

24 Any other questions for Mr. Canady or staff?

25 (No response.)

1 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Are there any public comments
2 on this?

3 MS. BENAVIDES: No, sir.

4 MR. RODRIGUEZ: On this item?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Members, are there any motions
7 on Agenda Item 5 (g)?

8 MR. GONZALEZ: Member Gonzalez. I move that
9 the Board approve the FY '24-'25 request for application
10 and grant timeline.

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Is there a second?

12 MS. BROTHERTON: Member Brotherton. I second.

13 MR. RODRIGUEZ: A motion from Member Gonzalez,
14 and a second from Member Brotherton. Is there any other
15 further discussion?

16 (No response.)

17 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Hearing none, I will now call
18 for the vote. All those in favor of the motion, say aye.

19 (A chorus of ayes.)

20 MR. RODRIGUEZ: All those opposed, nay?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Let the record reflect that I,
23 Mike Rodriguez vote aye. The motion passes.

24 We will now take a ten minute break. It is
25 10:19. We will be back at 10:30.

1 (Whereupon, a short recess was held.)

2 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Now going back to open session.

3 The time now is 10:37 a.m.

4 Moving on to Agenda Item 5(h), Grantee
5 presentations made to Grant Budget and Reporting Committee
6 on November 4, 2022. This is a briefing item.

7 Members, we will now hear from Interim Director
8 Canady, GBR Committee Chairman Gonzalez, and designated
9 staff.

10 MR. CANADY: Joe Canady, MVCPA. I will refer
11 this on to Member Jones and Member Gonzalez.

12 MR. GONZALEZ: Member Gonzalez for the record.

13 So, Mr. Chairman, just to kind of reiterate what we have
14 kind of touched on in limited amounts during this meeting.

15 There are multiple items that are taking up our
16 taskforces time. We are seeing an increase in the fraud-
17 related crimes. These new types of crimes are, you know,
18 taking more and more of our investigators time, but I
19 think it is the evolution of auto theft.

20 I think that as we move forward, where we will
21 see less and less of, you know, the steering column and
22 the flat head screwdriver and we will, you know, evolve.
23 Or I should say, this crime will evolve into different
24 kinds of mechanisms for auto theft, such as the fraud.
25 And so it is important that we adapt, you know, our

1 taskforces to what the criminals are doing.

2 And so the work that, you know, Houston has
3 done, with respect to their fraud dealership, partnership,
4 is nothing short of amazing. And I think that it needs to
5 continue to expand. Because I think that this is the way
6 of the future auto theft is going to go.

7 We talked about the 68A inspections ad nauseum.
8 They are just -- it is very prevalent. And the increase
9 in motor vehicle theft has led to more of a reactive
10 stance from our taskforces. So as they get more cases, it
11 makes it more difficult for them to go out and do
12 proactive measures, because they have to deal with that
13 case that has been, you know, given to them right in front
14 of them.

15 We talked about the ALPRs, and how beneficial
16 they are. We do believe that they are successful in
17 combating motor vehicle crime. We believe they would be
18 useful at border crossings and checkpoints, and strategic
19 locations across the State of Texas.

20 I know this is something that Member Jones has
21 been looking into, with respect to ALPRs. And so, we look
22 forward to being able to discuss that in depth at a later
23 date.

24 One thing that I do want to discuss is one of
25 the gaps that we heard over and over from the taskforces

1 was the prosecution component of our mission. You know,
2 taskforces are reporting difficult times, you know,
3 getting cases through successfully to prosecution.

4 I know Commander Peterson over -- has had great
5 success kind of piloting a program where a district
6 attorney is a part of their taskforce. And that certainly
7 pays dividends, in the sense of it can be kind of
8 difficult to explain to a prosecutor that has a wide
9 variety of hundreds of cases, of all kinds of crimes. It
10 can be kind of difficult to explain the concept of a VIN
11 swap, you know, and registration fraud. And how the
12 organized crime aspect of auto theft works.

13 But when you have your own prosecutor, the
14 training, it is once and done. And so, I think that the
15 prosecution piece is something that we need to expand
16 upon. I encourage more task forces to include prosecutors
17 in their taskforces.

18 And one of the other items that we discussed a
19 need for was exploring the possibility of having an
20 outside vendor, some kind of law firm, to put together
21 kind of a prosecution overview, a packet that we can give
22 to the taskforces. So that they can discuss this with,
23 you know, their prosecutors office, on how to prosecute
24 the cases that our taskforces are seeing. And
25 specifically the complex cases of engaging in organized

1 crime, conspiracy to commit theft, and those types of
2 cases.

3 I myself have had, you know, conversations with
4 district attorneys. And you know, we are trying to
5 explain, you know, the predicate offenses and how a VIN
6 swapping ring is working. And it can be difficult.

7 And so we would really like to explore that
8 possibility of having some kind of vendor to come in and
9 create, you know, just an informational booklet that our
10 taskforces can have a sit-down conversation with their
11 local prosecutors office. Just to kind of show, look.
12 This is how you prosecute motor vehicle theft.

13 And then we did discuss the need for
14 definitions. There are various key performance metrics
15 that our taskforces have a wide variety of interpretations
16 of what they mean. And as we move forward to a
17 data-driven award and allocation process, it is very
18 important that we have a uniform and standardized set of
19 definitions.

20 One example is, you know, the definition of a
21 cleared offense. My definition is exactly whatever NIBRS
22 says is that definition, which is there is a cleared by
23 arrest component, or cleared by exceptional arrest
24 component. But we found out that is not necessarily other
25 people's interpretations of that. And so we need to

1 explore ways that we can get everyone on the same page.

2 Going back to the conference, it would be great
3 if we could have a uniform set of definitions of these key
4 performance metrics in place prior to that conference. So
5 that when MVCPA staff has that training, they can say,
6 look. This is -- you know, these are the definitions that
7 we expect. These are the definitions that we want our
8 reporting to be in.

9 Any other comment on that, Member Jones?

10 MS. JONES: No, I'm good.

11 MR. GONZALEZ: And the committee does recommend
12 a comprehensive analysis of the definitions for the key
13 performance metrics. And to submit a report to the GBR as
14 well as to the Board prior to the start of fiscal year
15 '24.

16 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Member Gonzalez.
17 And I think those are -- that is an issue that we have
18 been discussing over and over again. You know, Bryan
19 tried to clean it up, but for some reason, we haven't
20 gotten there.

21 Is there a recommendation as to how to go about
22 in creating these rules for the taskforce commanders and
23 the taskforces of every jurisdiction?

24 MR. GONZALEZ: So my recommendation would be if
25 we could get some taskforce commanders in a room, and have

1 them you know, create -- go through at least the statutory
2 required metrics. At least those, but preferably all of
3 them.

4 I believe there is like, what, a hundred items
5 that they report on every quarter. I think that if we
6 could have our subject matter experts -- the ones that are
7 actually inputting these numbers every quarter -- to have
8 a discussion about it and to come to a consensus. I
9 think, and then, you know, submit a report and have it for
10 the Board to, you know, consider.

11 I think that would be the way to go, Mr.
12 Chairman.

13 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I think it is the recoveries
14 and things like that. It's just completely, you know, not
15 a true number for every taskforce.

16 So I know that one jurisdiction recovers it.
17 They put a number there, recovered. And the jurisdiction
18 that reported it stolen, they put a recovered also. So it
19 is not a true number.

20 So we clearly need to make those rules very
21 clear for everyone, as who is going to be counting that as
22 a recovered vehicle.

23 Dean?

24 MR. SMITH: Member Smith. I don't have
25 anything to add. I just, I like -- I don't like the idea

1 of creating another Board subcommittee to investigate.

2 I think that getting the commanders together
3 and have a discussion about that, and let everybody come
4 to the consensus that is actually using the data. I know
5 that classifications of these crimes have changed over the
6 years from what the FBI considers a Part 1 and Part 2
7 crime. And I don't know enough about it these days to
8 know how that lays out and how it affects us.

9 But I think the commanders are in the best spot
10 to make definitions viable and real for the Board.

11 MR. GONZALEZ: Member Gonzalez for the record.

12 One other aspect that I think that if we were
13 to bring some taskforce commanders in, and to take the
14 lead on, is that I think this would create some self-
15 policing. Because if a lot of these definitions came from
16 our taskforce commanders, then hopefully, there can be
17 some form of accountability.

18 They are holding each other, in the sense of
19 you know, one taskforce is you know, completely reporting
20 in a different manner. But maybe there can be
21 conversations held amongst the taskforces themselves,
22 without having to resort to the grant violation.
23 Procedure that we just passed. So I do think that having
24 those taskforce commanders would be key.

25 MR. RODRIGUEZ: One thing I would recommend is

1 to get as close as possible as the reporting for NIBRS.
2 If we can do that, I think we will be -- it will just
3 clear it up much faster, if we just follow those rules.

4 So, again, I think we will leave it up to the
5 Committee to bring that, and to their committee. And then
6 push forward from there, to see what they want to do. And
7 then we'll come back and bring it to this Board to see
8 what the outcome is.

9 MR. CANADY: Yes, sir.

10 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Members, any other questions?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay.

13 Members, we will now move on to the next agenda
14 item, Agenda Item 5(i), Progress report definitions and
15 data collected.

16 Members, this item will be presented by Interim
17 Director Canady.

18 MR. CANADY: Joe Canady, MVCPA. Mr. Chairman,
19 5(i). The information contained in 5(i) and 5(j) were
20 just covered in a previous agenda item by Member Gonzalez.
21 There is nothing further to add for those items.

22 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Thank you. Members,
23 will now move on to the next item on our Agenda.

24 MS. BENAVIDES: Chairman, I am sorry. We do
25 have one public comment for Item 5(i).

1 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. The one item I didn't
2 ask.

3 MS. BENAVIDES: And there was none for 5(h).
4 So you are good.

5 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. So, for 5(i), there is
6 public comment.

7 MS. BENAVIDES: Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

8 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Do we have the card?

9 MR. RICHARDS: So we can call it into the
10 record.

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. We have Bryan Roden from
12 Dallas PD --

13 MR. RODEN: Yes, sir.

14 MR. RODRIGUEZ: -- commenting on this item. Go
15 ahead, Bryan.

16 MR. RODEN: Yes. For the record, Bryan Roden
17 with the City of Dallas. I have been a taskforce manager
18 there for almost ten years now.

19 And you know, this has come up. It seems like
20 every grading season, right before we get issued money,
21 the definitions -- actually, I have been pushing for this
22 for a long time.

23 And I think NIBRS missed a spot when we went
24 from UCR to NIBRS. That would have explained a lot of
25 discrepancies in the numbers. But here we are again.

1 You know, I just kind of want to reiterate the
2 importance I think of definitions. If we kind of continue
3 to make our own definitions, it kind of pits these
4 grantees -- and especially in this season, we are about to
5 be awarded money -- against each other.

6 I feel like if we are going to be -- you know,
7 GBR went through great lengths to kind of map out, it
8 seems like, a very good plan for the awardance of money.
9 And we kind of need that same bigger for some of the --
10 especially, the definitions of the statutes that we are
11 required to make.

12 You know, right now, I am having over 12,000
13 offenses. And the last thing I really want to be worried
14 about is like definitions and, you know, what goes in this
15 category, what goes in that category.

16 I do like the idea of getting all the
17 commanders together, but I do like the idea of having it
18 on paper too. Because there is no accountability. I can
19 make a handshake suggesting to somebody, but if I got back
20 and there is money on the line, does that really -- I
21 don't know if that is going to hold up, right.

22 So I would like to see this issue get kind
23 of -- I don't know if we can get it resolved. But we can
24 at least get everybody together to be on the same page for
25 at least most of our definitions. I think that would be

1 something of great importance for us in the future,
2 especially if we are going to be asking to stay for a lot
3 more money.

4 One of the concerns I have is if our numbers
5 fluctuate, and we report those to the state, does it make
6 the MVCPA look bad? What happened in those numbers?

7 We need to be accurate in our figures that we
8 give to the state, because if something happens, and we do
9 have a big discrepancy, you know, how do we explain that
10 thing? I think most commanders, if they go into their,
11 back to their agencies, and they get called to the carpet
12 about numbers, they know what numbers to give out.

13 Those numbers are different when they are given
14 to you guys. And I want everybody to be on the same page.

15 That is pretty much all I have to say.

16 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Absolutely, Bryan. And thank
17 you for coming in and talking about this, and bringing
18 this up. But yes, I completely agree on the issues that
19 we have, and with the number reporting.

20 And especially because these are numbers that
21 are being reported to the state and the FBI. And one of
22 the things that we would hate to happen is to get audited
23 for numbers that are just being nothing.

24 I always say that there is always discrepancies
25 in numbers, but when it is a number that is being put at

1 the same time, by two taskforces, that is just something
2 that we can fix. And why have we not fixed it?

3 I have no idea. But we need to fix it now,
4 before it gets out of control again, where everybody is
5 putting a number that they shouldn't.

6 MR. RODEN: I absolutely agree. And thank you
7 sir, for your time. I appreciate it.

8 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Members, we will now move on to
9 the next item on our agenda, 5(j).

10 MR. GONZALEZ: I think Director Canady said we
11 had covered it already.

12 MR. RODRIGUEZ: We covered this already?

13 MR. GONZALEZ: Right.

14 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay.

15 Moving on to Item 5(k), DNA testing. Members,
16 this item will be presented by Interim Director Canady and
17 designated staff.

18 MR. CANADY: Joe Canady, MVCPA.

19 This was another area that we learned from the
20 GBR Committee meeting, from grantees that often times
21 there is touch DNA left in, especially in burglary and
22 motor vehicle crimes.

23 However, there is not a clear manner to submit
24 this DNA and have it tested due to the backlog in labs,
25 accredited labs across the state, to be able to perform

1 those testing. And in a lot of chances information is
2 not -- valid information is not returned from those
3 samples that are provided and tested.

4 We have identified that there is some new
5 processes, new technology involving a rapid testing of
6 touch DNA that is available to law enforcement agencies
7 across the state, to be able to send personnel to be
8 trained, to perform this testing. The issue with that is,
9 they are not an accredited lab. So a court system will
10 not take the samples that they tested, collected, and
11 processed.

12 So, however, what this could do is, if they
13 started to create -- started testing this evidence, it
14 could be able to for them to identify multiple or persons
15 that are involved in multiple burglaries and thefts of
16 vehicles within their jurisdiction. And if they have
17 taken two samples at the time of collection, then maybe
18 take that second sample and submit it to the DPS lab or
19 another accredited lab, to be tested, to see if they can't
20 identify the person.

21 Because they can also explain to them that this
22 person is believed to have committed this number of
23 offenses. And that may receive a higher priority.

24 So we would like to explore these options that
25 are available, whether it is a new taskforce that is

1 created with additional funding. If someone made an
2 application, we are funding for an existing taskforce.

3 But we would like to explore the options and
4 the true costs of the program, what it would take. And
5 see if it is viable for you as a Board to consider for FY
6 '24 or FY '25.

7 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Is this something that is
8 admissible in court? This rapid DNA test?

9 MR. CANADY: It would have to be tested by an
10 accredited lab for it to be admissible. However, like I
11 say, if there was two samples collected, the agency
12 conducts one sample. And then has another sample that
13 could be submitted to the accredited lab for analysis,
14 then that could be accepted.

15 And the agency, on their sample tested, they
16 are not going to be able to, in most cases, be able to
17 match it to an individual. Because their database may
18 be -- may not have many samples, many information in that
19 database.

20 But what it would identify is a person having
21 committed multiple crimes, the same person. And then they
22 could take that information and submit the other sample to
23 the lab. Submit the other sample to the lab, and explain
24 to them that they believe this person has committed 20 or
25 30 or 100 burglary motor vehicles. And this is their

1 potential DNA that was taken as evidence.

2 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, Dean Smith for the
3 record. Without -- I am not sold that it is cost
4 effective yet. I don't think we know that.

5 And I am not sure if we want to continue
6 discussing this, without it being in closed session. But
7 think of it as internal intelligence between the
8 taskforces, and don't think of it so much in terms of
9 being able to prosecute somebody right up front. You are
10 able to identify who your players are. Does that make
11 sense?

12 MR. RODRIGUEZ: And what I am getting is the
13 comparison part, going through the steps here. Is it a
14 taskforce officer that is picking it up, the sample?

15 MR. CANADY: Yes, sir.

16 MR. RODRIGUEZ: And submitting it where?

17 MR. CANADY: There would be, we think, two
18 samples collected. One sample, if this technology was
19 available to them, would be tested locally. And that
20 would go into their database.

21 So just for example, if they go to another
22 crime the same day, and collect evidence from a motor
23 vehicle, and they test that one as well, it is a match in
24 their system that is already there. However, they don't
25 know who it is. But it is a match to what was tested from

1 the first offense.

2 MR. RODRIGUEZ: But what agency has DNA
3 database locally?

4 MR. CANADY: We don't believe they do. But
5 that is what this system could potentially provide for is,
6 for the local agencies to be able to test this, and that
7 would put that information into their database. That
8 profile of the sample that was collected.

9 MR. GONZALEZ: Mr. Chairman, Member Gonzalez,
10 for the record, if I may. So, this item, one of the
11 purposes of the GBR Committee having the taskforces come
12 and present is that there is a section of their
13 presentation where we ask them, what it is that you need.

14 And one of our taskforces, you know, discuss
15 the problem of, they are having difficulty getting DNA
16 tested through their procedures and mechanisms, because of
17 the emphasis on violent crime. Basically, if it is not a
18 violent crime, that piece of evidence is not going to be
19 tested, because violent crime takes precedence.

20 And so, the ask of that taskforce you know,
21 was, can we explore a method whereby, you know, we can
22 have another accredited lab test for our cases, our UUV
23 motor vehicle theft, and all the other cases that we
24 investigate.

25 And so, I thought that there is a value, you

1 know, in that -- at least having that discussion of, okay.

2 So and I remember specifically, when I was a taskforce
3 commander, I was having difficulty, you know, with my own
4 crime scene section, to process fingerprints in a timely
5 manner. You know, despite the statute of limitations on,
6 you know, UUV being two years.

7 And so, I completely understand the precedence
8 for violent crime. And so, this recommendation was just
9 something to be able to help our taskforces accomplish the
10 goals that we set before them.

11 MR. CANADY: Mr. Chairman, it is something that
12 we need to explore further to see if it is a viable option
13 to be able to consider, in order to report back to the
14 Board.

15 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yessenia? This is just a
16 briefing item.

17 MR. CANADY: Yes.

18 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Members, do you have any other
19 questions on this item?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Hearing none. Any public
22 comments on this?

23 MS. BENAVIDES: No, sir.

24 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay.

25 We will now move to the next Agenda Item, 5(1),

1 Buying a Used Vehicle resource. It is a briefing item.

2 MR. CANADY: Joe Canady, MVCPA.

3 Mr. Chairman, Members. We know that there is
4 many vehicles out there that citizens across the state are
5 purchasing or buying from individuals that are stolen.
6 Their vehicle has been changed up, has had a VIN swap done
7 on it, and the individuals are none the wiser. And often
8 times, they are out thousands of dollars, that they may
9 never recover.

10 So we have developed this resource, as a
11 resource for consumers to be able to -- steps they can do
12 to help make sure that they don't buy a stolen vehicle.
13 Things to look for. Mentioning for them to check, you
14 know, check for a title check, through DMV. NICB, the
15 free VIN check service.

16 And just another small tip so that they can
17 lessen their chances of you know, becoming a victim. And
18 then, on the flip side of this, it would be all the steps
19 that are required, that the citizen is, or consumer is
20 required to do after they make that purchase, on getting
21 license plates for the vehicle legally.

22 Not just going online to buy them somewhere.
23 Getting the title transferred. Getting insurance. All
24 those steps that they need to do. There is some areas of
25 the state that may be even lower incomes that aren't

1 familiar with these processes.

2 We want to create this in Spanish and English,
3 to get the message across to reduce some of these crimes.

4 And we want to provide it for taskforces to be able to
5 use in their public awareness campaigns, for Tax Assessor-
6 Collector offices to be able to give out to their citizens
7 as a resource, as well as the DMV regional service
8 centers, for people that are inquiring about purchasing a
9 vehicle.

10 And we just wanted, just for example, for you
11 to see that this is what we are working on to get out to
12 the public.

13 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Is this going to be part of the
14 campaign that we are pushing for MVCPA?

15 MR. CANADY: That I don't believe is going to
16 be a part of it. They may get some of the message across
17 individually, but this will be a separate, a separate
18 MVCPA created that will be distributed to the taskforces
19 and Tax, and RSCs across the state.

20 MR. RODRIGUEZ: And again, I go back to the
21 social media aggressiveness from MVCPA, that we just need
22 to continue pushing that. Because the majority of these
23 vehicles that are being purchased fraudulently are through
24 either a Facebook ad or, you know, a classified ad.

25 And I think that if we push this through social

1 media outlets, it would be very helpful for the consumer
2 or for the public to know, you know, all this items that
3 we just spoke about. Where the resources that they have,
4 to make sure that they are not getting, you know, a stolen
5 vehicle, purchasing a stolen vehicle.

6 So again, I think if we are going to be pushing
7 this, we need to be very aggressive on social media,
8 especially those Facebook. And going back to Spanish,
9 there is a Facebook page. You know, they are all over in
10 Houston, Laredo, El Paso, Facebook Clasificados.

11 That is the number one page that everybody goes
12 to and buys used things, used stuff. Used items. So, if
13 we are going to do this, I suggest we push it very
14 aggressively through the social media.

15 MR. CANADY: I agree. And we can also push
16 this out with the previous If You Like it, Lock It
17 campaign. You know, just add some additional information
18 to it to increase that awareness.

19 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Maybe. Any other questions
20 from the members?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Any public comments on this?

23 MS. BENAVIDES: No, sir.

24 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Thank you, Joe.

25 Moving on to Agenda Item 6, State Auditors

1 Office update.

2 MR. CANADY: Joe Canady, MVCPA. This is just a
3 very high level overview.

4 The State Auditors Office is currently auditing
5 the MVCPA to determine whether it has a process in place
6 to ensure it awards, administers, and monitors grants in
7 accordance with applicable requirements, and whether it
8 complies with selected statutory requirements, including
9 limitations on administrative expenses.

10 The audit, like I said, is still ongoing. We
11 have provided specific requested documents to them for
12 them, in order for them to test. And we are looking for a
13 release of findings in March of 2023. And from that
14 information, any findings, we will address and inform the
15 Board and you know, correct immediately.

16 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Any questions or
17 comments from the Board members?

18 (No response.)

19 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Any public comments, Yessenia?

20 MS. BENAVIDES: No, sir.

21 MR. RODRIGUEZ: All right. Okay.

22 Agenda Item 8, closed session. We will go into
23 a closed session, pursuant to Government Code --

24 MS. BENAVIDES: Sir.

25 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I am sorry.

1 MS. BENAVIDES: You skipped my part.

2 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I am sorry. Joe said that it
3 was going to get hot, so I am trying to move it along.

4 So Agenda Item 7, Public Education and Public
5 Awareness grant update. That will be presented by Interim
6 Director Canady and staff.

7 MR. CANADY: And I will refer this to Yessenia
8 Benavides.

9 MS. BENAVIDES: So, good morning. For the
10 record, this is MVCPA program specialist, Yessenia
11 Benavides.

12 If you recall, the Board awarded a grant to the
13 National Insurance Council of Texas on June 8th of this
14 year. The name of the grant was called the Public
15 Education and Public Awareness grant. It is also referred
16 to as PEPA, for our newer Board member.

17 The purpose of the PEPA grant was to find a
18 partner to develop a campaign in both English and Spanish
19 that would be shared with our citizens, with our law
20 enforcement partners that are out there combating theft
21 and vehicle burglaries. The National Insurance Council of
22 Texas partnered with talkStrategy. It is a marketing
23 company from San Antonio.

24 And shortly after the Board awarded this grant,
25 MVCPA staff did meet with talkStrategy, along with our

1 attorney and the National Insurance Council of Texas.
2 They presented some ads.

3 One of the ads was a female reaching into a
4 fridge, and she was grabbing her lunch. And then she
5 clicked a fob. And it said, Lock it Down.

6 The second ad that was presented was a male
7 that was eating lunch with a female, and then he takes
8 something out from his pocket. It looks like he is about
9 to propose, but he actually takes out a key fob. And it
10 says, you know, lock it down, or keep it locked down.
11 Something to that effect.

12 The third one was an ad that was presented. It
13 was a female holding a catalytic converter as a theft.
14 And it said something about, it is not bougie to not lock
15 your car, something like that.

16 So, after reviewing their drawing board -- and
17 I am sorry to throw Joey under the bus. He did ask, what
18 does "bougie" mean? So, the staff collectedly, we all
19 didn't understand how the fridge and motor vehicle crime
20 kind of relate together. There were even some words that
21 our staff didn't understand.

22 So needless to say, we asked them to scrape
23 everything. We asked for an ad campaign that would be
24 understood by a broader audience. Something from, you
25 know, anywhere from kids watching an ad campaign to our

1 older generation. So we wanted something that we would be
2 proud to present to our Board and to our stakeholders, and
3 to share it across Texas.

4 So we met again on October 19th. And we were
5 really happy with the new ad campaign that they presented.

6 And on the screens that is being presented, is what they
7 developed. And we are going to walk you through it.

8 So, the beginning. The thing that we agreed
9 on, the campaign identity, was the logo, Lock it Down! On
10 the Board book is also the logo.

11 It is also printed. The O in the word Lock is
12 a lock symbol with a key. And then the second or the
13 third down, the letter O is a tire.

14 And so, you know, the MVCPA also agreed on
15 using an audio mnemonic. And basically, what a mnemonic
16 is, is something that stands out that is just branded for
17 MVCPA or specifically for MVCPA.

18 So any campaigns that we use, that mnemonic
19 will be played. And it is kind of a reminder for
20 everybody. They hear that sound, they think MVCPA.

21 So we will start with the mnemonic. And
22 essentially, it starts with a dark cityscape in the
23 background. A car drives into the scene, and in the
24 background, there is some movement. There is some audio
25 of the sound of a city.

1 And then the voiceover will say, vehicle crime
2 is on the rise. And then it goes into the car parking
3 into an unlit spot. It shows a shadow of a thief on the
4 buildings, moving across the car. And then again, you
5 still hear the sounds of the city.

6 And then the voiceover saying, every 30
7 seconds, a vehicle is broken into. And then, it goes into
8 a closeup of the thief tippy toeing towards the car. The
9 sound of the city, you know, you can hear some background
10 noise. And the voiceover says, thieves know where and
11 when to target.

12 And then, it slowly zooms in to a closeup of a
13 car parked. And then the sound goes off. A door opens
14 and closes. And then it goes into the closeup of the
15 thief. And then the voiceover says, so keep your vehicle
16 and possessions safe from auto theft.

17 Then it sees some hands holding up to, you
18 know, close it and lock the car. And then, the car lights
19 up. Then the thief has like a discouraged expression.
20 And then there is kind of a, you know, bummer sound in the
21 background.

22 And then there is the voiceover that says,
23 remember to take or hide your things. And then the
24 cityscape kind of pans out. And the voiceover says, to
25 protect your ride and what is inside. And then, the car

1 kind of drives off.

2 So, if you notice, if you look at the eyes,
3 that is pretty significant for us, because it is kind of a
4 nod to our very old logo that we used to have. And so
5 they are kind of using a more -- revamping it, to use it
6 into a more modern and current campaign.

7 The ads will be ran across social media,
8 digital displays, smart audio like iHeartRadio. And you
9 know, we know how important it is to share these across
10 social media as we just mentioned, Chairman.

11 Additionally, we were also hoping to develop a
12 coloring book with these graphics, bumper stickers with
13 the "Lock It Down!" logo. I mean, the possibilities are
14 endless.

15 And then finally, they have created also a
16 website that can be shared with the public. It is
17 lockitdown.tx.com. I did include some screenshots in your
18 Board book, but we are going to try to see if we can share
19 the actual website because it has a lot of movement, a lot
20 of action. And it goes with this ad campaign that they
21 are doing.

22 So this is the website. It is lock it down
23 Texas -- or tx.com. It has -- this is the landing page.
24 It has got several different -- it kind of phases into
25 different landing pages all in the beginning.

1 It has got information and all this. It is
2 going continuously through four different slides. And
3 then it also gives some information on vehicle theft,
4 which is really important. It also talks about catalytic
5 converters.

6 You can keep scrolling down. It has got that
7 visual, that brightness to attract the audience. It also
8 gives some more statistics in the form of visual
9 representation, some frequently asked questions that
10 people may have, and also some resources.

11 So, these are all a list of our taskforces.
12 Continuously, the number one call that I get is where is
13 my local taskforce? So we can always refer them to our
14 website, or to this website as well.

15 But it is still under review. We are still
16 going through some edits. I know Gresham and Joey had
17 some edits to submit. But essentially, this is what it
18 looks like. We wanted to show you and give you an idea
19 versus just seeing it on your Board book.

20 Are there any questions?

21 MS. BROTHERTON: Member Brotherton. Is it
22 available for us to share out? Or is it still under
23 development?

24 MS. BENAVIDES: It is still currently under
25 development. Once it is available to share and we have

1 made sure that we have verified the statistics, the
2 information that we want out there is correct, then we
3 will make it public so that insurance companies can share
4 it.

5 It can be shared in Instagram. It can be
6 shared on Facebook. I know they were working on some
7 Instagram carousels.

8 And if you are not familiar with a carousel, it
9 is pretty catchy. You keep sliding to it. So, it is a
10 big image, but it gets cut into two or three or four
11 segments. And you slide over, and it slides further into
12 the picture.

13 So I do know they are working on that. We also
14 do want to develop promotional materials. So we are in
15 the talks of maybe getting, you know, some car fresheners,
16 or something that includes the Lock it Down!, or the
17 entire campaign.

18 And maybe hopefully, if everything goes well,
19 we can also have those available when we have our
20 conference.

21 MR. CANADY: We were -- Joe Canady.

22 We were skeptical in the beginning with some of
23 the product, as Yessenia had mentioned, that we received.

24 But we are very hopeful now, and liking the direction
25 they are going.

1 Some of the information has already been
2 released. They released it on Facebook. So they will
3 maybe seeing some ads, advertisements on Facebook.

4 And then from our recommendations to them, they
5 will be modifying or editing some of the ads and some of
6 the information to make sure it includes the message that
7 should go out.

8 MR. RODRIGUEZ: There is a commercial, correct?

9 MS. BENAVIDES: Yes, sir. So, it will be a
10 commercial. And it will also be audio. So, anybody that
11 listens to like Pandora or iHeartRadio -- I know I
12 constantly have it playing sometimes on my desk.

13 The commercials that pop out, it would be, you
14 know, the MVCPA commercials. Again, that mnemonic that
15 would be specific to MVCPA. So that people, when they
16 hear it, they automatically think, oh. You know, that is
17 MVCPA.

18 And a lot of companies use that. Insurance
19 companies, you know. And it is just another way for it to
20 be attention grabbing or catchy.

21 But it would be shared on social media. So it
22 would be able to be shared with all the different
23 taskforces. We would have all the trademarks to
24 everything, so that we could, you know, spread it across
25 the state.

1 MR. RODRIGUEZ: But it would be available for
2 like the taskforces to play it on their local stations,
3 and things like that.

4 MS. BENAVIDES: Yes, sir. Yes.

5 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. It looks like an old
6 Batman cartoon movie, right.

7 MS. BENAVIDES: Well, we, a lot of times, you
8 know, what we do get from feedback is sometimes, at the
9 Regional Service Centers, when people bring you know,
10 their children. They always have coloring books that they
11 love to have on hand for the kids while their parents are
12 conducting business.

13 So we just loved it. Because it was -- you
14 know, it was something that we could share in, you know, a
15 wider audience, kids, adults. Yes.

16 MR. RODRIGUEZ: So, the Spanish version is
17 what, Ciérralo?

18 MS. BENAVIDES: We haven't gotten that far.
19 Lock it down, yes. I think Ciérralo or something to that
20 effect.

21 MR. RODRIGUEZ: One recommendation, if I may.
22 The resources, can it be changed to find my taskforce, or
23 find my something, instead of just resources?

24 MS. BENAVIDES: Yes. I mean, this is the
25 reason we wanted to present it to you.

1 If you have any input, you are more than
2 welcome to go to lockitdown.tx.com. If you feel you would
3 like something changed, please forward that to us. And we
4 would certainly, you know, refer that to talkStrategy,
5 which is the company that National Insurance Crime is
6 working with.

7 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I really like that you can just
8 go to that website. Because going through the MVCPA, it
9 is, you know, press here, press there.

10 MS. BENAVIDES: It could be difficult
11 navigating through the numerous links.

12 MR. RODRIGUEZ: A drop-down there. Yes.

13 MS. BENAVIDES: Yes.

14 MR. RODRIGUEZ: So, yes. I like it. And I
15 think -- when would it be ready, though? Did they give
16 you a date?

17 MS. BENAVIDES: We don't have a date just yet.
18 They are waiting for our feedback. And if you do go to
19 about -- what we also loved is that it also includes
20 information about MVCPA and who we are.

21 Oftentimes, a lot of people don't know what
22 MVCPA is. So I think this is fantastic that it is on the
23 About, and it explains to people what MVCPA is and what
24 MVCPA does.

25 MR. RODRIGUEZ: MVCPA goes first, and then the

1 other one goes?

2 MS. BENAVIDES: That is true.

3

4 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Just putting it out there.

5 MS. BENAVIDES: Yes.

6 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Right, Julio?

7 MR. GONZALEZ: Yes, sir.

8 MR. RODRIGUEZ: MVCPA goes first. Okay.

9 Got any other questions, comments from the
10 Board members?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Any public comments on
13 this?

14 MS. BENAVIDES: No, sir.

15 MR. CANADY: Mr. Chairman, I think we have some
16 staff comments.

17 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. From?

18 MR. CANADY: DMV.

19 MR. LUNA: Good morning, Chief Rodriguez.
20 Roland Luna, Deputy Executive Director with DMV. With
21 registered vehicles, I think this is an excellent
22 opportunity for the MVCPA program to continue that
23 collaboration with DMV.

24 As all of you know, when you register your
25 vehicle, you receive a registration renewal insert. We

1 use that as a public education campaign. We send out
2 nearly 26 million registration renewal inserts.

3 If you will think back to the last time you
4 received your renewal insert, you open it up. You see the
5 green and white paper. And then you also see two
6 different renewal inserts that are front and back.

7 We use that as an opportunity to inform the
8 public about changes in registration and title laws, to
9 inform them about things related to their vehicle. And we
10 could look at this as an opportunity to see if we could
11 create a registration renewal insert specific to this
12 education campaign.

13 In addition to that, last year we launched what
14 is called Texas by Texas. Texas by Texas is an online
15 platform that is secure, where you can renew your driver's
16 license and your vehicle registration. There is a number
17 of banners and other promotional materials that are
18 provided in this online platform.

19 There is also a mobile app that you can
20 download for iOS and for Android users. And you can
21 access this information.

22 So if we could find a way to tie this education
23 campaign to either the registration renewal inserts or to
24 Texas by Texas, I think we would reach a broader audience.
25 Because anyone that owns a vehicle or renews their

1 registration would receive the information. And we use a
2 different communication medium that is already
3 established, in addition to what MVCPA is already working
4 on. And we are happy to explore that internally, to see
5 how we can make that happen.

6 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

7 MR. LUNA: Yes, sir.

8 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I want to say that this is
9 something that, you know, we need to get onto. Any
10 partnerships that we can develop out there, especially
11 with DMV. Something like this would really help.

12 Tax Assessor-Collector, you know, keep on
13 pushing it on that end. And I was going to ask, on
14 dealership inspections, are we still -- have we had a
15 decline on those inspections because of the 68As also,
16 Joe?

17 MR. CANADY: We have, as far as like salvage
18 yard inspections and vehicle dealer inspections. There
19 has been a decline because of the other activities that
20 they are having to do, and the increase in investigations
21 as well.

22 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. We'll come back to that
23 conversation next meeting.

24 MR. CANADY: Okay.

25 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Any other comments? Questions?

1 (No response.)

2 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay.

3 We'll move on to the next agenda item. Agenda
4 Item 8, closed session. We will go into closed session,
5 pursuant to Government Code Section 551.071, 551.074,
6 551.076, and 551.089.

7 I expect that we will be in closed session for
8 approximately 30 to 45 minutes. We will now go into
9 closed session at 11:26 a.m. Let the record reflect that
10 the Board is now -- oh. I am sorry.

11 (Whereupon, the Board recessed into Closed
12 Session at 11:26 a.m.)

13 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. We are back. Let the
14 record reflect that the Board is now back in open session
15 at 12:35 p.m.

16 Agenda Item 9. There are no formal action
17 items from closed session. However, I am pleased to
18 announce that over the past couple of weeks, or the past
19 couple of weeks, the MVCPA has coordinated with the Texas
20 DMV Executive Office to screen and interview applicants
21 for the MVCPA Director position.

22 There were many qualified applicants. And one
23 individual exhibited the knowledge, skills, abilities,
24 leadership, and collaboration that the Board and Texas DMV
25 believes will continue to lead the Authority in a positive

1 direction. Coordination is underway to finalize the
2 documentation required for the new Director.

3 It is my privilege to announce Joe Canady as
4 the Director of MVCPA.

5 (Applause.)

6 MR. CANADY: Thank you all. Thank you.

7 MR. RODRIGUEZ: It is official. Effective date
8 as the permanent Director will be solidified in the next
9 couple of business days.

10 Please congratulate Joe as a new MVCPA
11 Director. Congratulations, Joe. Well deserved.

12 MS. JONES: And Chief, if I may. You know the
13 decision was the right one when the folks on the right are
14 smiling and cheering.

15 MR. RODRIGUEZ: They are all old friends. So
16 that is why. It is a big plus.

17 We do have a public comment. We have two on
18 public comment.

19 Anybody else wishes to say -- the Board,
20 anything else?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. So, we have got on the
23 appointment for Director position, we have got Tommy
24 Hansen. Mr. Tommy Hansen.

25 MR. HANSEN: Thank you. My name is Tommy

1 Hansen. I am speaking on behalf of TAVTI.

2 For the court reporter, that is the Texas
3 Association of Vehicle Theft Investigators. My wife was a
4 court reporter for 25 years, so I know your pain.

5 I have had the honor of being involved with
6 ATPA, ABTPA, MVCPA since the draft was written on a yellow
7 pad in 1989, the original bill that passed in '91.
8 Through the years, MVCPA has battled funding. However,
9 the taskforces, despite funding battles, have become known
10 worldwide for their abilities.

11 One person who has been instrumental in the
12 success of the MVCPA and who knows the ins and the outs
13 and the goods and the issues with the taskforces is Joey
14 Canady. Joey has shown his dedication to the program,
15 time and time again. He has also shown his dedication to
16 combating vehicle crimes with his actions in positions
17 held with TAVTI, IAATI, the International Association of
18 Auto Theft Investigators.

19 Joe has been extremely involved through the
20 years, and walked many, many miles to the Capitol, meeting
21 with legislators in support of the MVCPA program. Joe has
22 been a frontline vehicle crimes investigator, a supervisor
23 of a taskforce.

24 In short, no one else with the experience,
25 knowledge and drive to carry the MVCPA into the future.

1 He is the perfect fit for the position of MVCPA Director
2 with no learning curve. Zero. Not that he is a slow
3 learner. I am just saying.

4 He has clearly shown his ability as a member of
5 MVCPA staff and Acting Director. A tremendous asset to
6 both MVCPA, DMV, and most importantly, the citizens of the
7 State of Texas.

8 On behalf of TAVTI, I want to say thank you.
9 Thank you, thank you to the DMV Executive Staff and to the
10 MVCPA Board for appointing Joey Canady as the new Director
11 of the MVCPA.

12 Are you ready to go with the next comment?
13 Legislative stuff?

14 MR. RODRIGUEZ: The next public comment is on
15 the legislative activity.

16 Mr. Tommy Hansen.

17 MR. HANSEN: Again, Tommy Hansen, TAVTI. I
18 just wanted to give you guys some update of some things
19 that have been going on behind the scenes concerning MVCPA
20 and our funding.

21 As many of you all know, the last session,
22 Representative Middleton was the one that did a rider and
23 got us back \$2.5 million per year. And anybody that is
24 involved in sessions know that riders normally don't go
25 anywhere. So for him to pull that off is a major, major

1 feat.

2 And that really kept us from being, going back
3 into a bigger hole, and losing more staff. We were able
4 to at least maintain, thanks to him.

5 He is dedicated, and he and I have had many
6 conversations. He is one of our local folks in our area.

7 He is now Senator Middleton as of the last election. And
8 he is dedicated, and ready to go.

9 We have done numerous news stories in Houston
10 with him about this. And he has clearly said, the media
11 actually asked him, what is the fix? And he said,
12 funding, and we are going to fix that. We are going to
13 get these people the \$6 million a year that they are owed.

14 So, in light of that, we have been meeting with
15 him. We had several meetings with a bunch of the
16 taskforces and gave him full insight from their
17 perspective as to what we need to do to fix this.

18 Also, as you well know, Senator Huffman was the
19 Senate sponsor of House Bill 2048 on the Senate side, when
20 that bill was passed. Which says, we should be getting to
21 20 percent of the \$4 as we all know about that.

22 A very positive thing that has occurred now,
23 she is now Chairman of Senate Finance. And those of you
24 that are aware of the legislative process, the Senate
25 Finance Chairman is one of the top dogs in the state

1 government. She is now in that position.

2 And this was her bill. So that is a key thing.

3 Senator Middleton has already agreed, he is going to set
4 up a meeting with her here probably prior to session. And
5 we will get some of the taskforces again, to try to get
6 her online to jump out there for us, and get this money.

7 We are also going to try to set up -- also she
8 serves on the legislative Law Enforcement Committee. So
9 that shows her dedication to law enforcement as well as
10 House Bill 2048, which she was a Senate sponsor again. I
11 wanted to reiterate that.

12 We are also going to set up, or try to set up a
13 meeting with Senator Creighton, who covers -- he has the
14 most bizarre district in the State of Texas. His
15 Senatorial district covers five taskforces. Five.

16 He has got the most to gain. He has got the
17 most to lose. And we are going to arrange with him,
18 thanks to Senator Middleton, a meeting with him to get
19 that.

20 I will end with saying that if you have any
21 legislators that you want to get on board with him on
22 this, because he has already got the process started on
23 the funding. And the beauty part about it is, we are not
24 asking for new legislation. We are asking for them to
25 adhere to the legislation they have already passed. That

1 is it. So, this is a -- that slims our process.

2 So if you have any legislators, to everyone, we
3 would be more than happy to point them in the direction,
4 hook them up with Senator Middleton and get everybody on
5 the same track to get us the money that is due our deal.

6 And I will end with TAVTI, we will gladly
7 support a 68A bill change. That is all I have.

8 Any questions?

9 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Tommy.

10 MR. HANSEN: Thank you.

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: You did excellent. Was there a
12 bet going on back there, or what? Well, thank you.

13 We will now take up Agenda Item 11.
14 Adjournment. Members, unless there is any further
15 business, I will entertain a motion to adjourn the
16 meeting.

17 MR. GONZALEZ: Member Gonzalez. I make a
18 motion to adjourn.

19 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Do I have a second?

20 MS. JONES: Second.

21 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Member Gonzalez. Member Jones
22 seconds. The meeting is adjourned. Thank you.

23 (Whereupon, at 12:43 p.m., the meeting was
24 concluded.)

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MEETING OF: Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority
LOCATION: Austin, Texas
DATE: November 29, 2022

I do hereby certify that the foregoing pages,
numbers 1 through 99, inclusive, are the true, accurate,
and complete transcript prepared from the verbal recording
made by electronic recording by Elizabeth Stoddard before
the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.

DATE: December 7, 2022

/s/ Carol Bourgeois
(Transcriber)

On the Record Reporting
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