OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Criminal Justice Division

2011 – 2012

BIENNIAL REPORT

TO THE

83RD TEXAS LEGISLATURE

Prepared pursuant to Government Code §772.006 directing the submission of a biennial report to the legislature reporting on the Criminal Justice Division's activities.

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INTRODUCTION

As a Trusteed Program within the Governor's Office, the Criminal Justice Division (CJD) helps Texans by establishing and supporting programs that protect people from crime, reduce the number of crimes committed, and promote accountability, efficiency, and effectiveness in the criminal justice system.

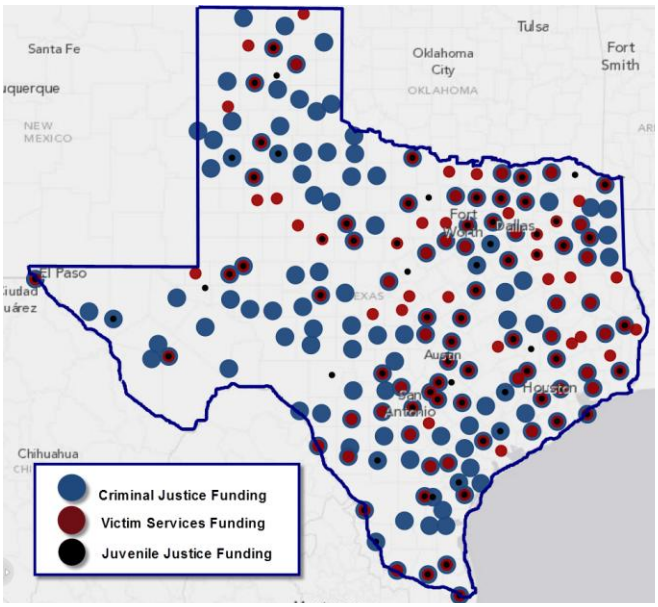
Between 2011 and 2012, CJD administered nearly $223 million in state and federal grant funds.

To accomplish this mission, CJD adheres to these principles:

- Fiscal Responsibility, Accountability, and Transparency
- Target Funding to Achieve the Greatest Impact
- Coordination Between State, Regional, Local, and Federal Entities.

Texas state government must be limited, efficient, and completely accountable. It should foster opportunity and economic prosperity, focus on critical priorities, and support the creation of strong family environments for our children… To honor the public trust; state officials must seek new and innovative ways to meet state government priorities in a fiscally responsible manner. [1]

Geographic Funding Distribution



Funding priorities for 2011-2012 include:

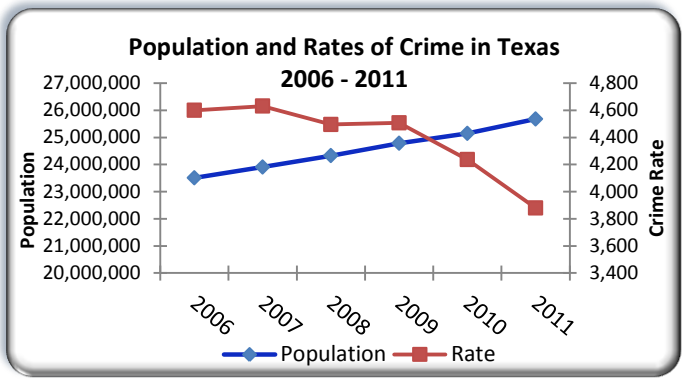
- Support border security efforts;
- Disrupt and prevent gang activity;
- Build law enforcement capacity;
- Enhance rural public safety;
- Improve outcomes for substance abusers;
- Increase core services to victims of crime;
- Reduce juvenile delinquency; and
- Support safe schools.

These priorities are categorized in three primary areas: Criminal Justice, Victim Services, and Juvenile Justice. The map above shows the geographic distribution of the $223 million administered by CJD.

[1] Strengthening Our Prosperity, Governor's Office of Budget Planning and Policy and Legislative Budget Board, 2012

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

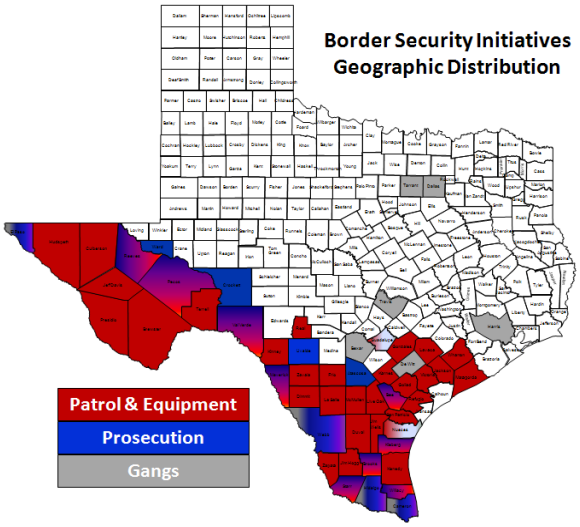
Criminal justice programs supported by CJD include those that enhance border security, address violent and organized crime, human trafficking and drug trafficking, and offer substance abuse treatment. Overall crime in Texas continues to decline. Since 2006 the crime rate has fallen more than 14% even as the population during that same time has increased 10.2%



Yearly Change in Crime Rate		
2006	↓	-5.3%
2007	↑	0.7%
2008	↓	-2.9%
2009	↑	0.3%
2010	↓	-6.0%
2011	↓	-8.4%

When looking more closely at the annual changes in the crime rate since 2006, the largest decrease has been between 2010 and 2011 at 8.4%. There were minor upticks in 2007 and 2009, but for the most part Texas continues to see a steady decline in crime.

Border Security



CJD supports the strategies outlined in the *Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan 2010-2015* developed by the Texas Office of Homeland Security in which border security is a top priority.

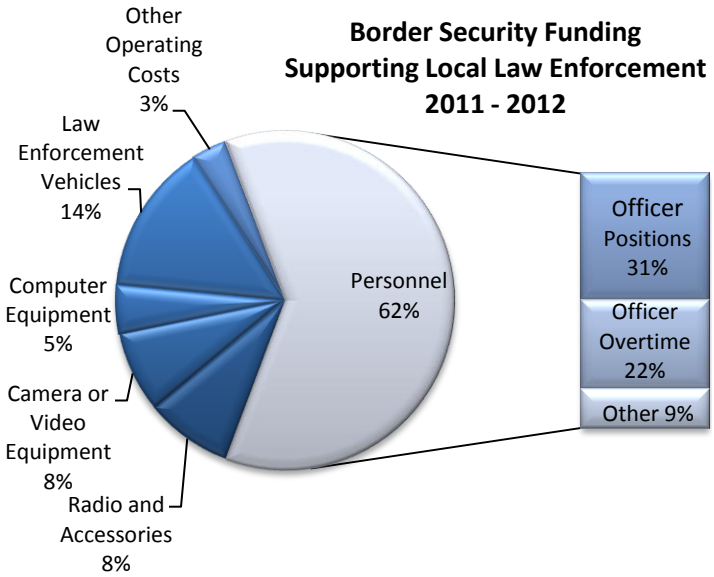
Between 2011 and 2012 CJD dedicated over $38 million to border initiatives.

These funds supported Border Star consisting of funds to local law enforcement agencies for enhanced patrol and equipment, as well as border prosecution, gang prevention and intervention, and direct funding to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS).

CJD awarded $27 million to Local law enforcement agencies in the border region between 2011 and 2012 to enhance patrol efforts resulting in a well equipped and increased police presence.

Funding was used to support:

- Personnel, including officers, special investigators, and administrative support;
- Police cruisers and other specialty vehicles;
- Records management systems;
- P-25 compliant radios; and
- Surveillance and other necessary equipment.



The Border Prosecution program began in 2010 when the Texas Legislature appropriated $2 million annually to support an initiative of District Attorneys along the border. Since then additional prosecutors have been hired to handle the increased cases resulting from border-related offenses. The Border Prosecution Unit is divided into three regions to coordinate prosecution and law enforcement assistance. Each region has a "Regional Counsel" physically housed in a DPS regional command office. These Regional Counsels are in daily contact with their DPS counterparts to help with communication and the sharing of resources and expertise.

Border Prosecution Program Outcomes

Measures	2012*	2011	2010	Totals
Cases Filed	1444	2423	2153	**6020**
Cases Prosecuted	1299	2073	2312	**5684**
Convictions or Community Supervision	964	1529	1304	**3797**
Cases Dismissed	149	219	207	**575**

*2012 includes six month data only for the period 1/1/12 – 6/30/12

Additional examples of the work being done through the Border Prosecution Unit:

- Working with DPS to target transnational organized criminal enterprises.
- Investigating and prosecuting prison gang activity both in and outside of prisons.
- Training for local law enforcement partners in the investigation and prosecution of cases.

CJD dedicated nearly $5 million between 2011 and 2012 to disrupt organized criminal activity perpetrated by transnational and domestic gangs.

Transnational gangs engage in a wide variety of criminal enterprises. They are tied to prostitution, murder, extortion, auto theft, identity theft, kidnapping, protection rackets, assaults, and other index crimes. They often engage in turf wars to seize and protect territories and trade routes. In addition to transnational gangs, violent domestic gangs have statewide impact. Many of these gangs were originally formed in prisons with members serving as middle men between cartels and criminal street gangs, who sell illegal products on the street. Gang members earn money through a variety of criminal enterprises, including trafficking, alien smuggling, auto theft, extortion, kidnapping, robbery and contract murder.

DPS categorizes the gangs operating in Texas into three tiers using a point system to assess the threat posed by each gang. The following gangs have been categorized as Tier I posing the greatest threat to Texas: Mexican Mafia, Tango Blast, Texas Syndicate and Barrio Azteca.[2]

BORDER PROSECUTION UNIT

The program successfully coordinated investigatory and prosecutorial responses with DPS and other agencies, established a mandatory cross-training program for prosecutors and law enforcement and collaborated across prosecutorial jurisdictions while focusing on border-related criminal enterprises including:

- Violent street gangs
- Drug trafficking
- Human trafficking
- Money laundering
- Car theft rings
- Illegal weapons

HIGHEST THREAT GANGS IN TEXAS

- Mexican Mafia
- Tango Blast
- Texas Syndicate
- Barrio Azteca

[2] Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Gang Threat Assessment 2011

In 2011, CJD awarded grants to the following jurisdictions to provide funding for law enforcement officers to work overtime to enhance gang investigations and enforcement:

Gang Related Activities & Outcomes	
Cash Value of Forfeitures	$3,651,239
Patrol/Overtime Hours Worked	44,815
Gang Related Arrests	3,170

- Arlington
- Austin
- Brownsville
- Corpus Christi
- Dallas
- El Paso
- Fort Worth
- Harris County
- Houston
- Irving
- Laredo
- McAllen
- Seguin
- San Antonio

In 2012, CJD awarded an additional grant to Harris County to establish a unified, multi-agency anti-gang taskforce and operations center. Equipped with the most advanced technology, the center will gather and share intelligence, analyze data to develop creative strategies and incorporate tactical thinking in order to deter, disrupt and dismantle gangs. Once completed, the Harris County, Texas Anti-Gang Operations Center will collocate an estimated 75-100 of the region's most knowledgeable and experienced federal, state and local anti-gang investigators, analysts, and prosecutors within one place.

In addition to funding local efforts, CJD also awarded $5 million directly to DPS for training and equipment to support border security.

Of this, $2 million was awarded to expand DPS' very successful Operation Drawbridge Program. This program uses low cost, off the shelf technology, such as wildlife cameras adapted to meet law enforcement needs, to improve surveillance and detection along the Texas-Mexico border. DPS partners with the Texas Border Sheriffs, U.S. Border Patrol, and Texas land owners to carry out this program.

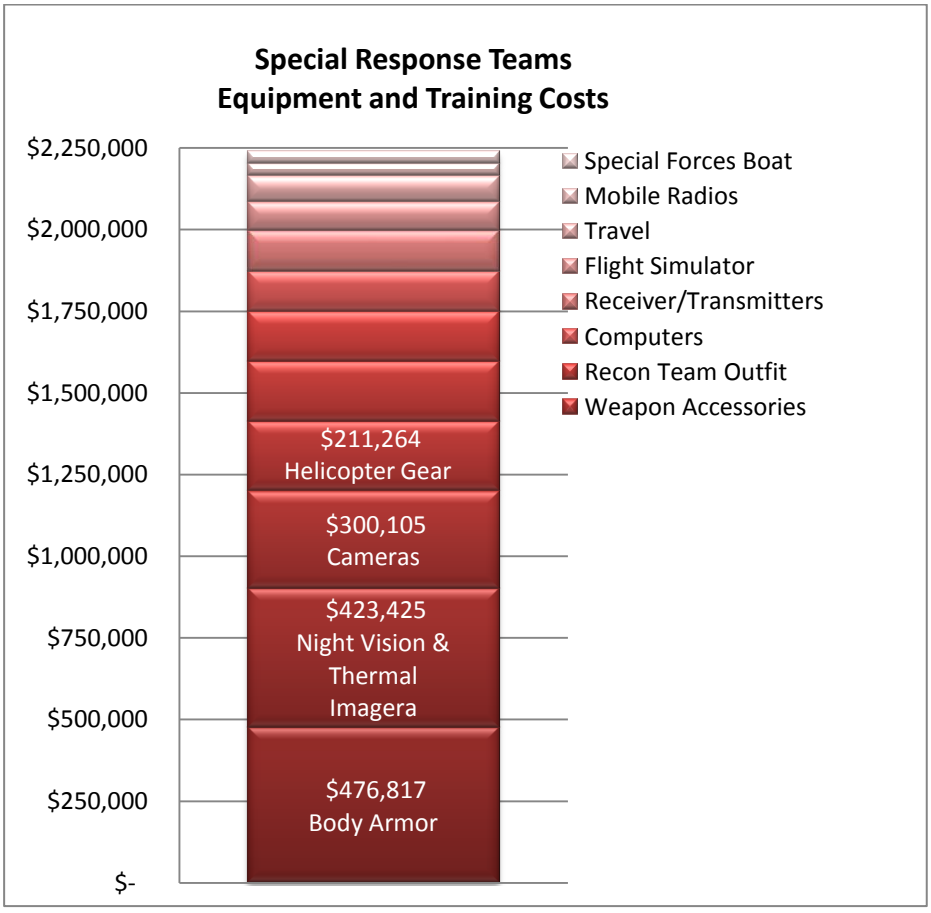
The Drawbridge cameras are monitored 24 hours a day with detection alerts sent simultaneously to the Border Patrol, the Sheriff's Office, the Fusion Center, and other border law enforcement partners.

The Drawbridge Expansion funded by CJD has been used to purchase and install additional cameras to provide the needed network and hardware infrastructure for the monitoring, collection and reporting of criminal activity in key border locations.

As of December 2012, the Drawbridge system successfully detected more than 12,000 criminal exploitations of the Texas/Mexico border, resulting in the apprehension of more than 5,000 individuals, and the seizure of over 25,000 lbs of narcotics. [3]

CJD also awarded $3 million to DPS to supply equipment and training for the Regional Special Response Teams and other DPS divisions in support of border operations and missions.

The chart below shows DPS expenditures under this program as of October 2012. Over 60% was used to purchase body armor, night vision and thermal imagers, cameras, and helicopter gear.



[3] The Drawbridge Project, 2012 Snapshot

Law Enforcement Capacity

Between 2011 and 2012, CJD provided $7.2 million to the Regional Councils of Governments (COGs) to support law enforcement training. The COGs offer a cost effective vehicle to help local governments to meet their law enforcement training needs.

Of the 23 COGs currently receiving funds, ten run their own regional law enforcement training academy; ten contract with a community college or with a local law enforcement academy and three use an alternative method (e.g., providing individual training scholarships). In addition to the Basic Corrections and Peace Officer classes, the COGs also provide in-service training to over 30,000 officers annually.

Course	Enrolled	Passing	Pass Rate
Basic Corrections	578	565	98%
Basic Peace Officer	1190	1148	96%

CJD awarded more than $5.5 million to state agencies over the biennium to train and equip state and local law enforcement officials.

ALERRT Activities 2011 - 2012	
Number of Classes Taught by Type	
Level I Active Shooter	78
Breaching	12
Low Light	12
Medical Response	14
Rural Ops	23
Attendees	
Departments Receiving Training	591
Individuals Receiving Training	3074

Texas State University received $4 million to continue the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT) program. This program trains patrol officers to safely and effectively respond to and stop active shooters.

ALERRT offers quality first responder training using "force-on-force" training techniques to patrol officers throughout the State of Texas.

CJD awarded $1.4 million to Texas Parks and Wildlife to increase the safety and effectiveness of officers in their daily patrol activities.

Of this:

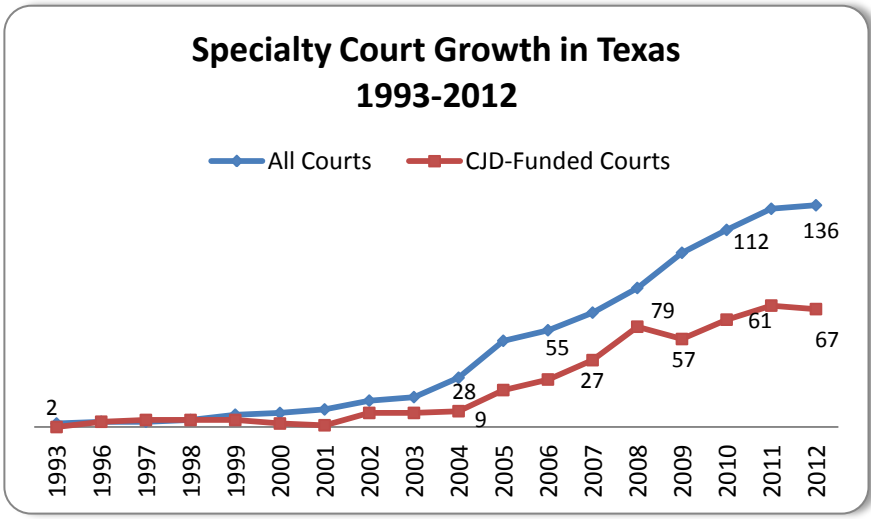
- $200,000 was used to purchase over 350 bullet proof vests;
- $667,000 was used to implement an agency records management system; and
- $564,000 was used to purchase thermal imaging technology and advanced audio visual recording equipment allowing remote viewing for officers.

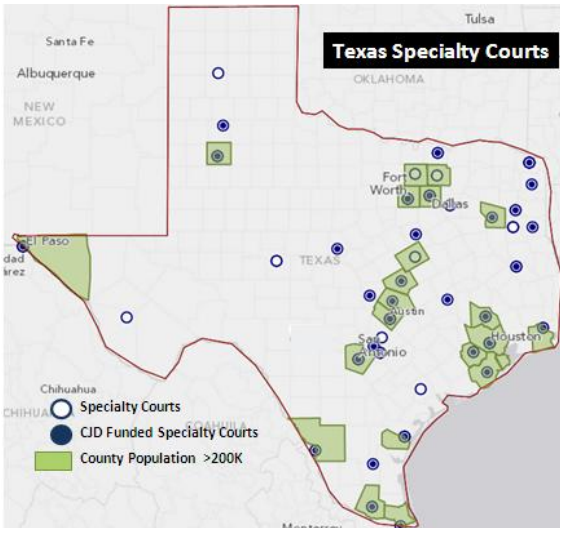
CJD awarded $265,000 to the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement and Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE) in 2012 to increase the number of commissioned peace officers who serve as field agents from six to eight. TCLEOSE is responsible for regulating approximately 2,600 law enforcement agencies that employ over 111,000 active licensed peace officers, jailers, and dispatchers. Agents will provide training, monitor compliance with regulations and conduct administrative and criminal investigations. During the first twelve months of the grant, field agents visited nearly 2,200 agencies.

Specialty Courts

Specialty Courts are judicially supervised substance abuse treatment programs serving nonviolent offenders. The number of Specialty Courts operating in Texas increases each year with 136 active programs in 2012, of which, CJD funded 67.

CJD dedicated $15.8 million in federal and state funding to Specialty Court Programs over the biennium.





Section 469.006 of the Health and Safety Code directs the commissioners' courts in counties with a population exceeding 200,000 to establish a specialty court program and apply for state and federal funds to pay for the program. The map above shows those counties required to establish a program as well as where the active and CJD-funded programs are throughout the state.

Specialty courts operating in Texas must comply with the following ten essential core components[4]:

1. Integration of Services
2. Non-Adversarial Approach
3. Prompt Placement
4. Access to a Continuum of Services
5. Abstinence Monitoring
6. Compliance Strategy
7. Judicial Interaction
8. Evaluation
9. Continuing Interdisciplinary Education
10. Partnerships with Public Agencies and Community Organizations

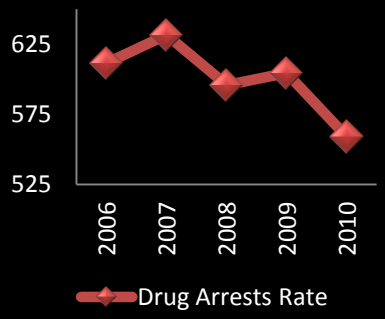
In February 2012, Governor Perry issued Executive Order RP77 reauthorizing the creation of the Governor's Criminal Justice Advisory Council.

[4] Texas Health and Safety Code §469.001

TYPES OF TEXAS SPECIALTY COURTS

- Traditional Drug Courts
- DWI Courts
- Co-Occurring Disorders Courts
- Family Dependency Courts
- Reentry Courts
- Juvenile Drug Courts
- Veterans Courts

Drug Arrests are down 9% since 2006



CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL CHARGES

Advise governor on:

1. Best Practices
2. Effectiveness
3. Participant Rights

The Council's mandate is to advise the governor on matters related to the operation of specialty courts throughout Texas. Specifically, the Council was charged with advising the governor on:

- Best practices relating to the creation, staffing, and operation of specialty courts in Texas.
- Measures by which the effectiveness of individual specialty court programs can be evaluated.
- Methods of ensuring that the rights of participants in specialty courts are respected and protected.

The Council will submit under a separate report detailing its activities to the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the House.

To the right is a snapshot of the outcomes reported by CJD-funded specialty courts from 2011 to 2012.

Measure	2011	2012
Number Assessed for Eligibility	10,297	10,115
Number of Participants	7,580	7,399
Number Successfully Completed Program	2,178	2,117
% of Negative Drug Tests While in Program	94%	99%
% Rearrested While in Program	32%	35%

Texas Crime Stoppers

Local Crime Stoppers programs receive confidential information and tips about local crime and offer rewards for information leading to the arrest and prosecution of criminals across Texas, with a guarantee of anonymity to informants. From 1981 to 2012, the number of certified local programs expanded from 43 to approximately 150, with five new programs certified in 2011 and 2012. In addition, several local programs expanded to neighboring counties and campus programs, resulting in two new regional programs. There are also 20 independently certified school districts operating Campus Crime Stoppers programs and 500 programs in middle and high school campuses throughout the state.

These programs operate on volunteer manpower without drawing upon limited tax payer funds.

Based on a national valuation of volunteer hours at $21.91[5], it is estimated that Texas Crime Stoppers volunteers donated $3.2

[5] http://www.independentsector.org/volunteer_time

million in volunteer hours serving the state via their local Crime Stoppers programs between 2011 and 2012.

Since inception in Texas in 1981, Crime Stopper volunteers have donated an estimated $40 million in volunteer hours to the state. Donated volunteer hours save limited tax dollars that can be used for other vital local and state programs.

Crime Stoppers Activities over the Biennium

Measure	Outcome
Number of arrests	10,298
Number of cleared offenses	14,933
Value of property recovered	$3,290,404
Value of narcotics seized	$141,073,946
Number of seized weapons on campuses	280
Amount paid in local rewards	$2,693,358

The Texas Crime Stoppers Council consists of five members appointed by the Governor and is responsible for certifying and de-certifying local Crime Stoppers programs under Chapter 414, Government Code. Certified programs are eligible to receive up to $50 in court fees from each convicted felony probationer. In addition, district court judges can order a felon to reimburse the local Crime Stoppers program for the reward that was paid to a tipster specific to the defendant's case.

In 2011 and 2012, Council staff worked with DPS on upgrades to the state Crime Stoppers Most Wanted Program.

36 Top Ten fugitives and 20 Top Ten sex offenders were captured in 2012.

NEW PARTNERSHIPS In 2012

Texas Bankers Association

The Council is working with the Texas Bankers Association on an initiative using local Crime Stopper programs to assist with violent crimes against banks in Texas.

Texas Workforce Commission

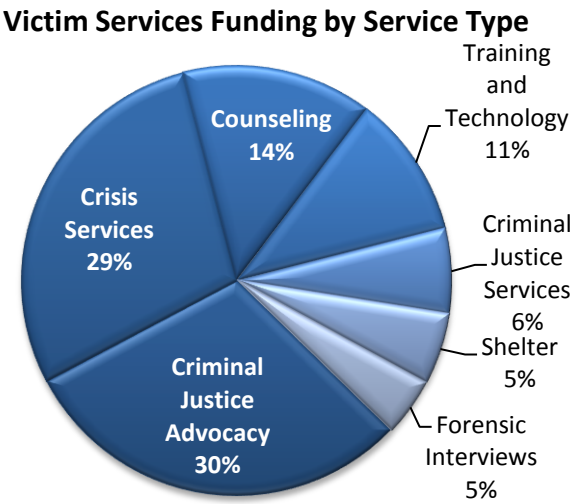
The Council is collaborating with the Texas Workforce Commission to find ways local programs can get involved in efforts to reduce unemployment insurance fraud.

How a Crime Stoppers Tipster Gets Paid

In 2012 DPS produced a PSA promoting the Crime Stoppers program and is available to the public via the DPS website and social media.

VICTIM SERVICES

CJD supports programs that provide crisis services to victims of violent crimes as well as services that address the long term needs and safety of victims. Crisis services include on-scene crisis intervention, emergency shelter, and transportation to other emergency services. Longer term services include professional counseling, support groups, and criminal justice advocacy and services.

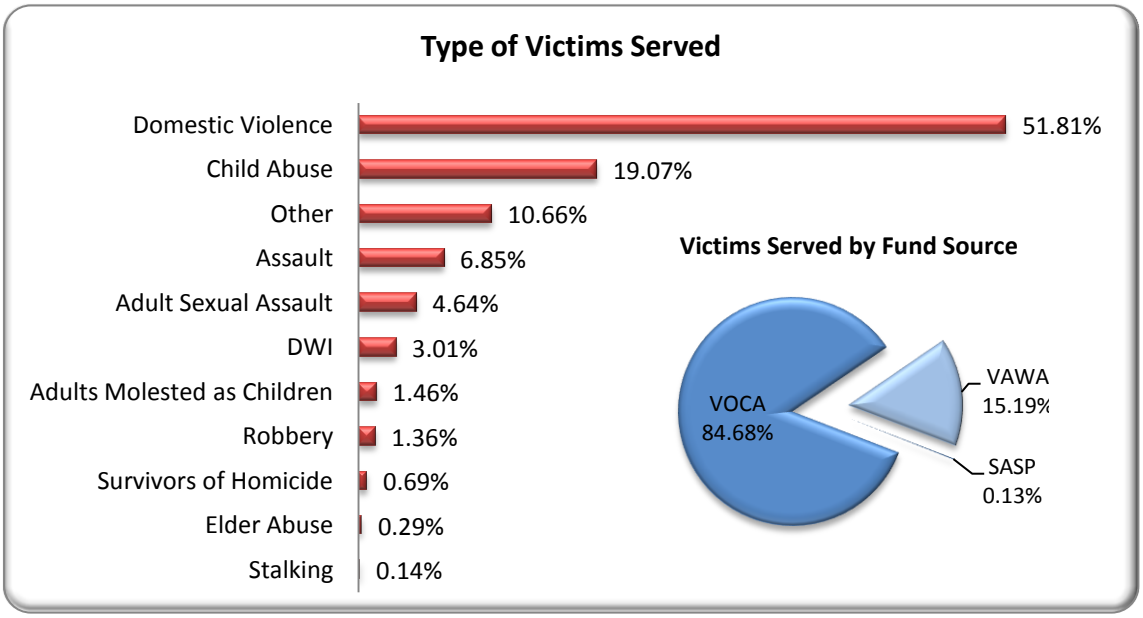


Between 2011 and 2012 CJD awarded more than $87 million to victim services programs in Texas.

CJD uses three primary fund sources for these programs:

- Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)
- Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
- Sexual Assault Services and Prevention Funds (SASP)

Over the biennium these programs served more than 800,000. As noted in the chart below, the majority of these individuals were domestic violence victims.



Victims of Crime Act

VOCA is CJD's largest fund source with over $58 million awarded out between 2011 and 2012 to 240 agencies to provide direct services to victims. VOCA funds must be used for services and assistance directly to victims of crime that speed their recovery and aid them through the criminal justice process. Specifically, grantees use these funds to assist victims with:

- Emotional and physical needs;
- Understanding the criminal justice system; and
- Safety planning.

CJD awarded the majority of this funding to local and statewide nonprofit organizations.

Local programs include women's shelters, rape crisis centers, children's advocacy centers, and counseling centers. Statewide organizations include Texas CASA, MADD, Legal Aid, and Texas Advocacy Project. Grants to cities and counties make up the next largest group of awards at just over 12% or $6.8 million. Cities and counties use this funding to place victim advocates and liaisons in district and county attorneys' offices and local law enforcement departments.

Victim Advocate Responsibilities

- Inform victims of their rights
- Assist in filing for Crime Victims' Compensation
- Referral to area social service providers
- Community awareness
- Criminal justice support
- Assistance with property return
- Victim advocacy

These individuals assist victims and their families by informing them of their rights and providing referrals to area agencies.

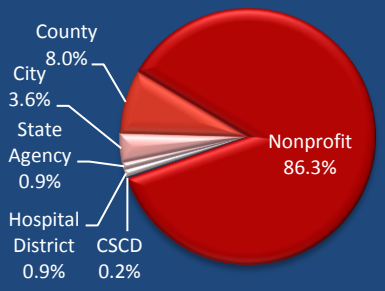
T★V★A★T

TEXAS VICTIM ASSISTANCE TRAINING ONLINE

Through a grant award from CJD the Texas Department of Criminal Justice - Victim Services Division is now offering web-based training focused on victim-centered service delivery and professional development that complements other victim services initiatives and enables new advocates to acquire baseline professional skills and competence.

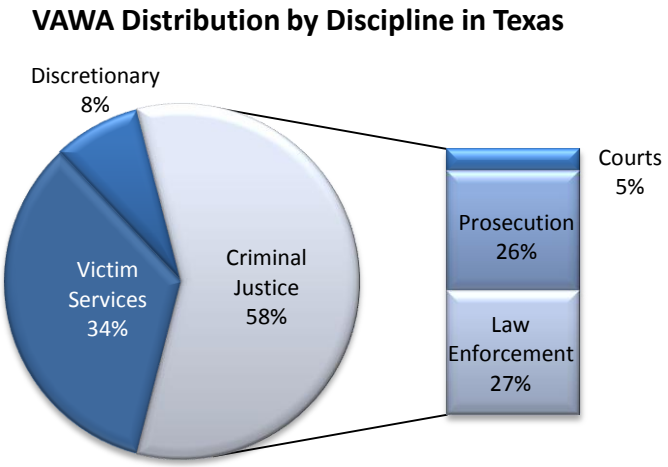
To register or obtain more information, visit **www.tdcj.state.tx.us/php/tvatonline/**

VOCA Funding Distribution By Agency Type



Violence Against Women Act

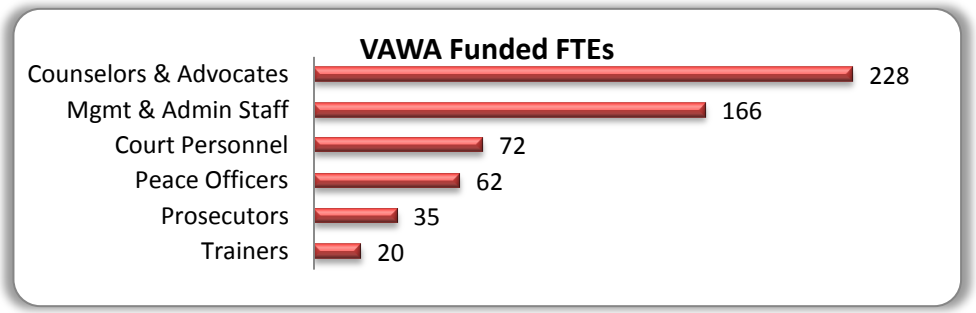
The purpose of VAWA is to assist jurisdictions in developing and strengthening effective law enforcement, prosecution, and court strategies to combat family violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking crimes against women and to develop and strengthen victim services.



With an emphasis on developing community responses to addressing violence against women, states are directed to distribute at least 55% of the VAWA funds each year to criminal justice programs including law enforcement, prosecution, and courts and at least 30% to nonprofit, nongovernmental victim services providers. Texas exceeds those goals, with 58% going to criminal justice agencies and 34% to victim service providers.

More than 70% of the VAWA funds are used by local agencies to fund staff.

The individuals funded by these grants play an integral role in carrying out the state's priorities including improving the criminal justice system's response to victims, improving court services, and increasing collaboration and communication across government and victim service agencies.



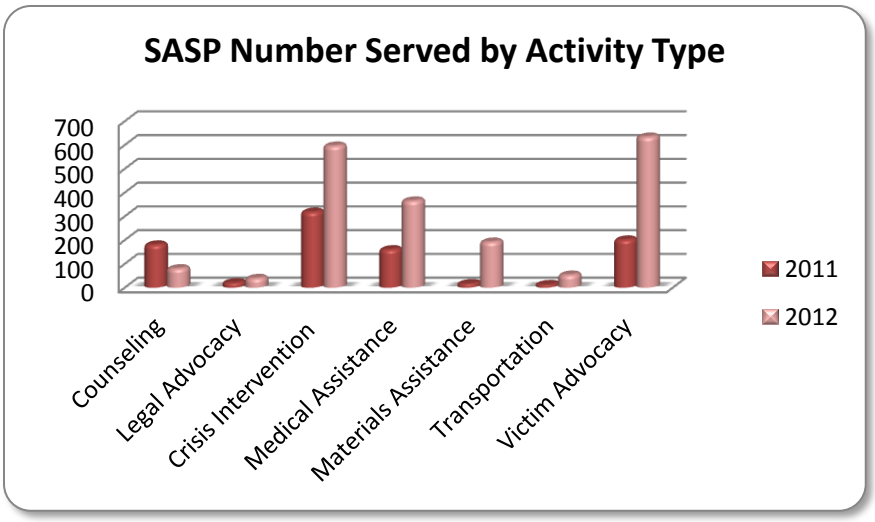
Sexual Assault Services Program

The Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) was created by the Violence Against Women Act of 2005 (VAWA 2005) and is the first federal funding stream solely dedicated to the provision of direct intervention and related assistance for victims of sexual assault. The purpose of SASP is to provide intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, support services, and related assistance for adult, youth, and child victims of sexual assault, family and household members of victims, and those collaterally affected by the sexual assault.

CJD provided nearly $600,000 to local Rape Crisis Centers between 2011 & 2012 serving 1,400 victims.

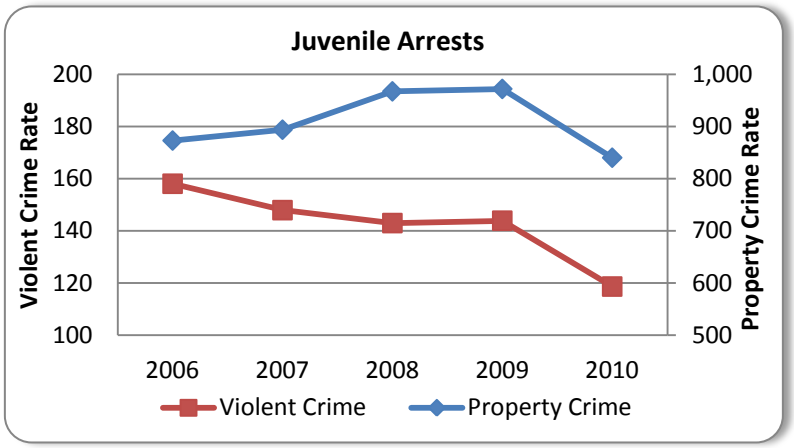
County	Grantee	Award
Bexar	Alamo Area Rape Crisis Center	$232,626
Dallas	Dallas Area Rape Crisis Center	$159,265
Eastland	Eastland County Crisis Center, Inc.	$7,928
El Paso	Center Against Family Violence	$80,000
Ochiltree	Panhandle Crisis Center, Inc.	$51,576
Taylor	Regional Crime Victim Crisis Center	$60,000
	TOTAL	**$591,394**

The funding received under the SASP Formula Grant Program compliments the State's VAWA funding by supporting sexual assault crisis centers that provide intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, support services, and related assistance to victims of sexual assault.



JUVENILE JUSTICE

CJD is committed to planning, evaluating and implementing juvenile justice programs that meet the Governor's goals of crime reduction, accountability and efficiency within the criminal justice system. CJD works collaboratively with a number of stakeholders to implement best-practice programs to support the success of vulnerable populations in schools and to provide leadership on juvenile delinquency issues.



- Arrest rate for violent juvenile crimes has decreased by 25% since 2006
- Arrest rate for property crimes has decreased by 4% since 2006

CJD requires all juvenile justice projects to address at least one of the priority needs developed with the Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Board to be eligible for funding:

- **Prevention and Early Intervention at First Offense**

  CJD targets youth in high-risk categories and funds programs designed to divert them from a path of serious, violent, and chronic delinquency.

- **Disproportionate Minority Contact**

  Programs that address the disproportionate number of minority youth either under- or over-represented in the juvenile justice system compared to non-minority (white) youth.

- **Specialized Treatment Services**

  Programs that offer substance abuse or mental health services to at-risk youth.

CJD provided over $23 million to juvenile justice programs between 2011 and 2012.

More than 256,000 youth received services!

Prevention and Intervention

A study conducted by Texas A&M's Public Policy Research Institute and the Council of State Governments followed 928,940 Texas students from sixth grade to graduation. Of those students, six in ten were suspended or expelled and more than one in seven had some involvement in the juvenile justice system while in school.[6]

In the fall of 2010 CJD initiated the 'Suspending Kids to School' program in partnership with Waco ISD. CJD awarded Waco ISD $660K for implementation.

Waco ISD acknowledges that before this program student ticketing was used as a primary strategy to manage student behavior.

School referrals for minor incidents of childish misbehavior clog the courts, consume law enforcement time that could be spent on public safety, and create lasting problems for young people. Court referrals often lead to incarceration, which keeps students out of the classroom and leaves them hopelessly behind their peers. Even without incarceration, arrest and court appearances are damaging.

Through the CJD grant grant, Waco ISD administrators and law enforcement officers began an effort to improve student and teacher relationships and change the role of law enforcement on campuses. The police chief and superintendent worked together to develop new enforcement policies, including specific guidelines for when youth can be ticketed or arrested. The responsibility for handling minor discipline infractions was given back to the campus administrators.

WHY WACO?

- Discipline incidents in Waco ISD were nearly double the state rate.
- Waco ISD had the second highest ticketing rate in the state in 2010 with 873 students ticketed.
- Waco is near Austin allowing greater opportunity for collaboration with state officials.
- Waco ISD has its own police department.

[6] Council of State Governments and Public Policy Research Institute at Texas A&M University, Breaking Schools' Rules

These new policies created a foundation for full implementation of the program during the 2011-2012 school year which gave school administrators and law enforcement a tiered sanction approach to reducing citations and referrals to the juvenile justice system.

- Tier 1 –Prevention: Includes modeling good behavior, promoting a safe and healthy environment for students and faculty, and addressing conflicts before they turn into punishable behavior.

  Waco ISD has continued their Safe School Ambassadors program under this tier which teaches socially influential student leaders how to motivate others, resolve conflicts, defuse incidents, and support socially isolated students.

- Tier 2 – Intervention: Includes addressing unresolved conflicts.

  Waco ISD implemented a peer mediation program under this tier involving specially trained students who facilitate dispute resolution. Both the mediators and the disputants learn skills that are transferable outside of the classroom. Mediation is now offered in lieu of a student receiving a referral when appropriate.

- Tier 3 – Triage: Includes programs to divert students from alternative school placement or juvenile court.

  Waco ISD offers two programs under this tier including a Student Court and a Saturday Diversion Course. Student Court offers young offenders the opportunity to appear before a student-led mock court who considers the evidence presented and then sentences the offender using constructive sanctions. Respondents are able to take responsibility for their actions and gain a better understanding of the justice system. The Saturday Diversion Program is used as an alternative to suspension or placement in the Disciplinary Alternative Education Program, officer citations, and sentencing from juvenile courts. Both students and their parents must attend two Saturday sessions. Students learn pro-social behavior as well as the consequences of continued school disruptions. Parents learn healthy and supportive strategies to help their children to meet their developmental needs.

Preliminary Ticketing Results

Law enforcement ticketing for student behavior declined by 54% from the 2010-11 to 2011-12 school year.

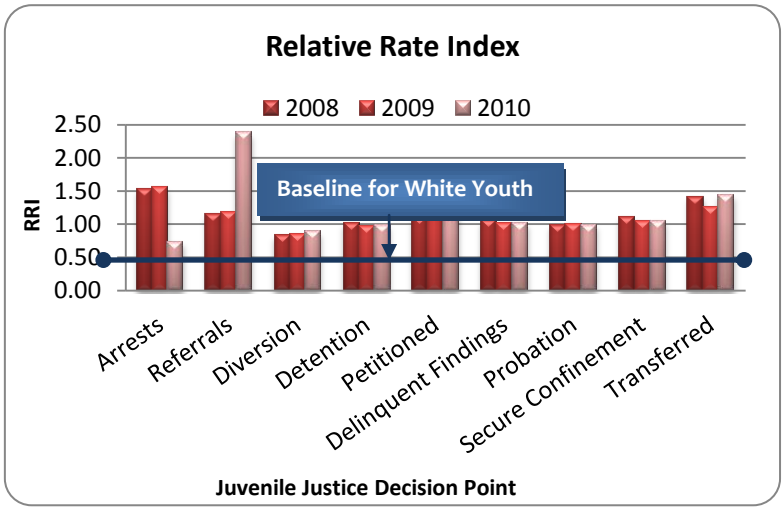
CJD has granted funds to the Public Policy Research Institute at Texas A&M University to evaluate the implementation and impact of the program.

Disproportionate Minority Contact

Texas uses a Relative Rate Index (RRI) to statistically represent disproportionate minority contact (DMC) in the state among nine juvenile justice decision points. The RRI compares the rate of occurrence for white youth to the rate of occurrence for all minority youth. Following are the possible conclusions based upon the outcome of the RRI:

- RRI = 1.00: the rate for minority youth is similar to the rate of occurrence for white youth.
- RRI > 1.00: the rate for minority youth is higher than the rate of occurrence for white youth.
- RRI < 1.00: the rate for minority youth is lower than the rate of occurrence for white youth.

The chart demonstrates the RRI findings in Texas for each of the nine decision points between 2008 and 2010. Results above the baseline indicate minorities are more likely to encounter the decision point while results below the baseline indicate minorities are less likely to encounter the decision point. Based upon the RRIs, Texas chose to focus on the decision points of Arrest, Referral and Diversion.



2010 Relative Rate Index Results

Minorities are:

- 27% Less Likely to be Arrested*
- Two Times More Likely to be Referred
- 12% Less Likely to be Diverted to Alternative Programs

** In 2010, the arrest RRI had a significant decrease; but this is offset by the substantial increased in the referral RRI.*

CJD selected four counties with high DMC at all three of the selected decision points to participate in targeted DMC reduction efforts. These four counties are Bowie, Nolan, Cameron, and Bell.

Texas A&M University's Public Policy Research Institute conducted a community assessment using listening sessions within the four communities to collect information from community stakeholders about what they saw as the main causes and solutions for DMC including[7]:

- **Family and Social Circumstances** - strengthen families, reduce the effects of poverty, and promote education.
- **Justice System Factors** - therapeutic interventions for delinquent youth, inequities experienced by poor and minority youth navigating the juvenile justice system.
- **Special Populations of Concern** –minority youth and those with mental health disorders.
- **School-Related Factors** - standardized testing policies, school discipline policies, communication between schools and families.
- **Lack of Supervised Prevention Programs** - lack of supervised community programs.

In September 2011 CJD awarded grants to the four counties to implement strategies they designed using the framework in PPRI's community assessment report. Below are the activities being implemented:

Nolan County

High risk minority youth and families are referred to the program from schools and other juvenile justice agencies to address issues that could lead them into contact with local law enforcement or courts. Youth and their parents are able to access centralized support services including counseling, employment services, life skills, and cognitive behavior programs.

Cameron County

Cameron County is implementing the Female Day Offender Program as an alternative to formal probation. The day academy includes wrap-around counseling, education and probation supervision empowering the participants to succeed. Follow-up and accountability with their probationary compliance including drug testing and curfew checks occurs as well as mentoring and encouragement.

Bell County

Bell County is implementing the COACHES program (Creating Opportunity for All Children to Have Educational Success). This research-based program promotes academic development using a

[7] Texas A&M, Public Policy Research Institute, "Addressing Disproportionate Minority Contact in the Texas Juvenile Justice System: Causes and Solutions from the Community Perspective", July 2010

therapeutic approach to manage behavior with a focus on counseling and social skills curriculum to improve success in behavior and academic achievement in an effort to reduce recidivism. For those youth that are referred to probation, a strength-based assessment is being used to identify specific needs and appropriate referrals.

Bowie County

Bowie County is working to keep children engaged in school through preventive solutions including supervised cognitive behavioral programming. Group activities address making better decisions in culturally specific formats. Prior to beginning cognitive programming, juveniles are screened for mental health, drug/alcohol and medical issues and referred to appropriate resources. A Licensed Professional Counselor is on staff for crisis interventions and a Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor provides supportive abuse/addiction treatment for those with identified needs.

CJD will closely evaluate the progress of these programs to determine their effectiveness. In addition, CJD will continue to monitor and track the changes in DMC trends and adjust interventions as needed.

Compliance Monitoring[8]

The federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 2002 (the Act) requires states to provide for an adequate system of monitoring with regards to the following core requirements:

- **Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO) –** the state must ensure that status offenders and non-offenders are not placed in secure detention or secure correctional facilities.
- **Sight and Sound Separation** – the state must ensure that juveniles do not have sight or sound contact with adult inmates.
- **Jail Removal** – the state must ensure that juveniles are not detained or confined in any adult jail or lockup.

[8] This section satisfies the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 2002, Section 223 (a)(D)(ii), requiring states to report annually to the chief executive officer and the legislature of the State on compliance monitoring standards.

CJD is responsible for ensuring the state's compliance with the Act by maintaining a list of all known facilities and conducting on-site monitoring for compliance of secure facilities. The current list contains over 3,000 known facilities with 1,000 of those as secure facilities. CJD conducts on-site monitoring of secure facilities on a five-year cycle with facilities in the 20 most populous counties receiving a visit every other year. This cycle ensures that facilities serving 73% of the state's juvenile population are visited more frequently. In 2011, CJD completed year three of this five-year cycle.

Over the course of the past two completed monitoring years, CJD conducted visits to over 800 facilities across Texas. This inspection process allows for validation of reports, discovery of possible violations of the Act, and technical assistance where needed. Below is a breakout showing the number of identified secure facilities during the last two years as well as the percentage of those facilities visited.

Facility Type	2010 Secure Facilities Identified	2010 Sites Visited	2011 Secure Facilities Identified	2011 Sites Visited
Juvenile Detention Centers	51	35%	50	30%
Juvenile Correctional Centers	52	21%	48	40%
Adult Jails	280	26%	284	42%
Adult Lock Ups	394	55%	390	75%
Approved Collocated Facilities	2	100%	2	100%

In June 2012, CJD submitted the 2012 Compliance Monitoring Report to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). Following are the results related to each requirement:

Requirement	Incident Rate Cannot Exceed:	2011 Incident Rate in Texas:
Juveniles Detained in Secure Facilities	29.40	6.67
Juveniles Detained w/in Sight and Sound of Adult	0.00	0.00
Juveniles Detained in Excess of Six Hours	9.00	0.42

CJD FUND SOURCES

	In Millions	
Juvenile Justice Section	FY 2011	FY 2012
Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG)……..	$3.3	$2.6
Title II Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Fund (JJDP)……..	$5.0	$3.7
Title V……....	$0.033	$0.085
**Child ID Kits*……..……..	$1.3	$0
Law Enforcement Section		
Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)……	$21.9	$18.2
Coverdell Forensic Sciences.....……..	$1.8	$1.5
Bullet Proof Vest Partnership……..……	$0.522	$0.040
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners (RSAT)…..	$2.8	$2.3
* *State Criminal Justice Planning Funds (421)*……..	$28.2	$9.8
**County Essential Services*……..……..	$0.780	UB
**Drug Courts*……..…….....	$1.6	$0.750
**Operators and Chauffer's Account (Border Security)*…….....	UB	$2
**Assistance to Regional Planning Commissions*……..	$2.5	$0
Victims Section		
Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)……...……....	$31.1	$32.7
Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)..…….....	$8.7	$8.8
Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP)..…….....	$0.341	$0.343
Crime Stoppers Section		
**Crime Stoppers Assistance Fund*……...……..	$0.587	$0.573
TOTALS	**$111**	**$83**

**Denotes state funds appropriated by the Texas Legislature*