ORT Prevention Grant Program

Local Evaluation Plan

Organized Theft Prevention Project
City of Jurupa Valley

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Project Background

The city of Jurupa Valley is facing a pressing issue with the rising incidents of motor vehicle theft, motor vehicle accessory theft (specifically catalytic converters), and organized retail theft. A comprehensive and organized theft prevention (OTP) project is urgently needed to address these growing problems. An in-depth analysis of crime data and criminal trends has revealed a disturbing pattern of long-term conflicts with thefts over the past three years. On average, the city has experienced approximately 340 vehicle thefts per year, 200 commercial burglaries per year, and a staggering 3000 reported thefts in 2022 alone.

Implementing an OTP project is crucial to effectively combat these rampant thefts in Jurupa Valley. The steady increase in motor vehicle thefts (MVT) indicates a need for targeted measures to safeguard residents' vehicles and ensure their peace of mind. Additionally, the skyrocketing incidents of motor vehicle accessory theft (MVAT), specifically catalytic converters, pose a significant financial burden on vehicle owners and negatively impact the community's overall safety.

The alarming rise in organized retail theft (ORT) highlights the need for intervention to protect local businesses. These thefts not only result in financial losses for retailers but also disrupt the city's economic stability. By implementing a well-structured theft prevention project, Jurupa Valley can establish a safer environment for both residents and businesses, deterring criminals and reducing the overall crime rate.

Additionally, the need for the Organized Theft Prevention (OTP) project in Jurupa Valley is influenced by several contributing factors. Firstly, the city's disadvantaged status plays a significant role. According to CalEnviroScreen 4.0, a staggering 55% of Jurupa Valley residents fall within the top 25% of the most disadvantaged individuals in the state. Living in underinvested areas with minimal police presence makes these residents more vulnerable to property theft. This disparity in resources and support creates an environment where criminal activity thrives, leading to an increased need for a comprehensive OTP project.

Moreover, Jurupa Valley's geographical location exacerbates the challenges faced in combating crime. The city straddles the border of San Bernardino County and Riverside County, and it is within close proximity to Orange and Los Angeles counties. Criminals often exploit jurisdictional boundaries, making investigations complex and challenging for law enforcement agencies such as the Riverside County Sheriff's Department (RCSD). The limited resources and technology available to the RCSD further hinder their ability to effectively manage and respond to the evolving crime patterns within Jurupa Valley.

The inadequate surveillance system in the city is another factor contributing to the need for the OTP project. With only 20 cameras spread over a vast area of 44 square miles, the police's monitoring and tracking capabilities are severely limited. This deficiency in surveillance equipment hampers the RCSD's efforts to identify and apprehend criminals

involved in organized MVT and ORT. Additionally, the RCSD's resources are thinly spread across the entire county, rather than being focused on a single city like Jurupa Valley. This leaves the department ill-equipped to address the escalating rates of theft within the city effectively.

In light of these conditions, it becomes imperative to implement an OTP project that addresses the unique challenges faced by Jurupa Valley.

The OTP project in Jurupa Valley aims to address three key areas: organized MVT, organized MVAT, and ORT. To effectively combat these crimes, the project will establish a specialized team that will receive specialized training and stay up to date with current trends in theft activities. This dedicated team will be responsible for conducting enforcement operations and implementing proactive strategies to prevent organized theft within the city.

One of the crucial components of the OTP project is the acquisition and deployment of Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) devices throughout Jurupa Valley. These devices will serve as important tools in the fight against theft. By strategically placing ALPR devices throughout the city, law enforcement will be able to track and monitor vehicles associated with theft activities. This technology will assist in identifying suspect vehicles, allowing for the eventual identification and apprehension of suspects involved in organized theft.

In addition to the specialized team and ALPR devices, the OTP project will also bolster staffing hours, resulting in higher visibility of law enforcement in the community. This increased presence acts as a proven crime deterrent, making potential thieves think twice before engaging in criminal activities. Moreover, the additional staffing hours will provide more time for staff to conduct thorough follow-up investigations, ensuring that no leads are left unexplored.

The OTP project recognizes the importance of community engagement and education in preventing theft. As part of the project, law enforcement will actively engage with the public and retailers to educate them on theft prevention measures. By developing partnerships with retailers, law enforcement can gather valuable insights and data that will inform targeted enforcement operations. These operations will be structured around crime data analysis, ensuring that resources are deployed efficiently to address areas with the highest incidence of theft.

Overall, the OTP project in Jurupa Valley takes a comprehensive approach to combat organized theft. Through the development of a specialized team, the acquisition of ALPR devices, increased staffing hours, and community engagement, the project aims to create a safer environment by deterring theft activities, identifying suspects, building partnerships with retailers and the public. By implementing these strategies, Jurupa Valley can significantly reduce organized theft and protect its residents and businesses.

The OTP project will facilitate the acquisition of 60 ALPR devices, which will be strategically deployed throughout the city. These ALPR devices will be strategically placed along major corridors, which serve as large arterial roadways connecting Jurupa Valley to neighboring cities, extensive commercial centers, and various retailers.

By deploying ALPR devices along these major corridors, law enforcement will be able to effectively monitor and track vehicles entering and exiting the city. The strategic placement of these devices takes into consideration the flow of traffic and the areas with high commercial activity, ensuring maximum coverage and surveillance of potential theft activities.

The major corridors connecting Jurupa Valley to neighboring cities act as gateways for both residents and criminals. By deploying ALPR devices along these routes, law enforcement can effectively identify and track vehicles that may be involved in organized theft activities. This proactive approach allows for the quick detection of suspect vehicles, providing valuable leads for investigations and eventual apprehension of suspects.

Furthermore, the placement of ALPR devices in extensive commercial centers and various retailers enhances the effectiveness of the OTP project. These areas are often targeted by organized theft groups due to the high concentration of valuable goods. By strategically deploying ALPR devices in these locations, law enforcement can closely monitor vehicles entering and leaving commercial areas, identifying potential suspects and stolen vehicles.

The acquisition and strategic deployment of 60 ALPR devices in Jurupa Valley demonstrate the commitment of law enforcement to combat organized theft. These devices serve as a force multiplier, augmenting the capabilities of law enforcement officers and enabling them to efficiently monitor a large area. By strategically placing the ALPR devices along major corridors, extensive commercial centers, and various retailers, law enforcement can effectively deter and detect organized theft activities, ensuring the safety and security of the community.

Overall, the acquisition of 60 ALPR devices and their strategic deployment throughout Jurupa Valley will significantly enhance the ability of law enforcement to combat organized theft. These devices will provide valuable real-time information, enabling quick identification of suspect vehicles and enhancing the efficacy of investigations.

Jurupa Valley has not had any prior programs specifically targeting ORT, MVT, or MVAT. While the Riverside Sheriff operates a regional MVT team that offers services, their efforts are dispersed across the entire county and not concentrated in any particular area. As a result, Jurupa Valley has not had a dedicated and focused approach to combating ORT and MVT within its city limits.

In contrast, the neighboring city of Eastvale has taken proactive measures to address the issue of ORT. They have successfully developed a strong working relationship with

large box retailers located within their city. This collaboration has proven to be highly effective in the prevention and apprehension of ORT suspects. By fostering close ties with retailers, Eastvale has created a system that allows for swift communication and coordinated efforts in identifying and apprehending individuals involved in ORT activities.

The success of Eastvale's approach highlights the potential benefits of implementing similar programs in Jurupa Valley. By establishing partnerships with local businesses and adopting targeted strategies, Jurupa Valley can enhance its ability to combat ORT, MVT, and MVAT, ultimately creating a safer environment for its residents and businesses.

The OTP project will prioritize its efforts within the city limits of Jurupa Valley by employing a targeted and data-driven approach. The program will utilize crime data analysis to identify crime trends specific to Jurupa Valley, allowing law enforcement to allocate resources effectively and address the areas of greatest concern.

By analyzing crime data, the OTP project will gain valuable insights into the patterns and hotspots of ORT, MVT, and MVAT within Jurupa Valley. This information will guide enforcement efforts, to concentrate resources in areas where these crimes are most prevalent.

Furthermore, the OTP project will establish and nurture relationships with retailers in Jurupa Valley. Collaboration with retailers is crucial in gathering real-time information about potential ORT incidents. Through regular communication and sharing of information, law enforcement can stay informed about current crime trends, suspect descriptions, and modus operandi. This partnership will enable quicker response times and more effective apprehension of offenders.

The combined efforts of crime data analysis and strong relationships with retailers will form the foundation of the OTP enforcement strategy. By tailoring an approach to the specific crime trends identified within Jurupa Valley and leveraging the information provided by retailers, law enforcement will be able to proactively address ORT, MVT, and MVAT.

As previously stated, there are three main goals the OTP project will focus on. They are as follows:

Goal #1: Reduce vehicle theft crime in Jurupa Valley.

Objectives: Create officer overtime hours dedicated to vehicle theft investigations. Conduct special field operations targeting vehicle theft (bait car operations, high saturation patrol in known motor vehicle theft areas, proactive sweeps, and compliance checks of known suspects on parole or probation for vehicle theft). Implement and manage proven theft prevention and investigation technology.

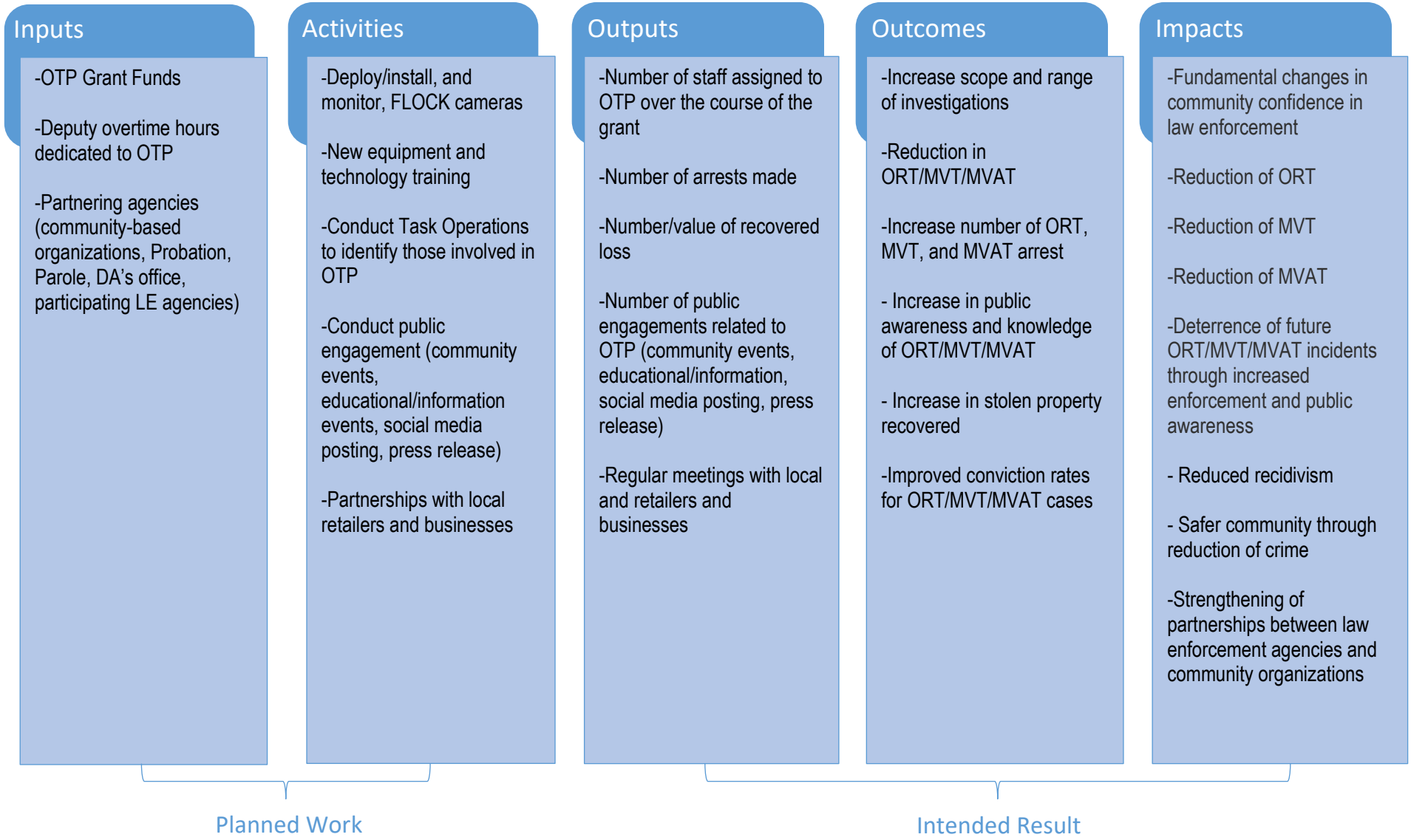
Goal #2: Reduce retail crime rates.

Objectives: Increase staff hours and special operations dedicated to investigations of retail theft. Manage proven theft prevention and investigation technology. Implement the Small Business Retail Prevention Program.

Goal #3: Demonstrate project influence and fidelity.

Objectives: Perform analysis of pre-/post-project data to demonstrate project influence. Conduct quarterly meetings to share data and track project performance. Perform financial audit to demonstrate project's fiscal competence.

Project Logic Model



Process Evaluation Method and Design

Research Design

The process evaluation will utilize a mixed methods approach, combining quantitative and qualitative methods to provide a comprehensive understanding of program implementation.

Project Oversight Structure and Decision-Making Process

The project will be overseen by a leadership team consisting of representatives from the Riverside County Sheriff's Department and the City of Jurupa Valley, including project managers, program staff, and external evaluators. Ultimate decision-making authority will rest with the project lead, who will consult with the team for major decisions.

Monitoring, Evaluation, and Adjustment

Project components will be continuously monitored through monthly meetings. Effectiveness will be determined through a combination of quantitative metrics and qualitative feedback. The project lead, in collaboration with the evaluation team, will be responsible for analyzing data, identifying areas for improvement, and making necessary adjustments.

Ensuring Fidelity

Procedures will be established to ensure fidelity to the program model, including standardized training protocols, regular supervision, and quality assurance measures. Any deviations from the model will be documented and addressed promptly.

Input/Resource/Activity/ Output	Data Element(s)	Data Source(s)	Frequency of Data Collection
OTP grant funds	OTP grant funds received	BSCC	Quarterly
Grant funded overtime hours worked	Number of grant hours worked	Riverside Sheriff and Jurupa Valley accounting and finance	Quarterly
New equipment technology training	Number of trainings conducted	Training records, Operational logs	Annually throughout duration of grant
Installation of FLOCK surveillance camera equipment	60 FLOCK cameras installed/deployed	Flock database	Quarterly
Public engagement (community events, educational/informational events, social media posting, press releases)	# of events attended, # of social media posts, # of press releases	Operational logs	Quarterly
Task Operations related to ORT, MVT, and MVAT	# of operations conducted	Operational logs	Quarterly
Recovered stolen property	Value and quantity of recovered property	Case management system, operational logs	Quarterly
ORT, MVT, and MVAT arrest	# of arret made	Case management system, operational logs	Quarterly
Filing ORT, MVT, and MVAT cases with DA's office	# of cases filed	Case management system, operational logs	Quarterly

Outcome Evaluation Method and Design

Outcome Evaluation Research Design

The outcome evaluation research design for this project will be a mixed methods approach, incorporating both quantitative and qualitative methodologies. This design is chosen to provide a comprehensive understanding of the project's impact on reducing vehicle theft crime in Jurupa Valley, reducing retail crime rates, and demonstrating project influence and fidelity.

Quantitative methods will involve the analysis of numerical data to measure the effectiveness of the implemented interventions, such as the number of vehicle thefts reported before and after the implementation of Flock Cameras, the number of retail theft incidents, and the number of arrests made. Qualitative methods will involve gathering insights from stakeholders, such as law enforcement officers, community members, and small business owners, through interviews, focus groups, or surveys, to understand their perceptions of the project's impact on crime reduction and community safety.

Evaluation Questions:

1. How effective were the implemented interventions, including Flock Cameras, increased officer hours for organized crime operations, and the Small Business Retail Theft Prevention Program, in achieving the project goals of reducing vehicle theft crime, reducing retail crime rates, and demonstrating project influence and fidelity?
2. To what extent did the project activities contribute to the reduction in vehicle theft crime and retail crime rates in Jurupa Valley?
3. What were the experiences and perceptions of stakeholders regarding the project's influence on crime reduction and community safety?

Estimated Number of Activities Accomplished: The estimated number of activities accomplished will be determined based on the completion of specific tasks outlined in the project work plan. These activities may include:

- Installation of Flock Cameras
- Establishment of Organized Theft Task Force Teams
- Implementation of the Small Business Retail Theft Prevention Program
- Data analysis to demonstrate project influence
- Fiscal management and reporting

Criteria for Determining Activity Completion and/or Success: Each activity's completion and success will be assess based on predefined criteria, including:

- Successful installation and functioning of Flock Cameras
- Formation and operational effectiveness of Organized Theft Task Force Teams
- Implementation and utilization of the Small Business Retail Theft Prevention Program
- Adequate data analysis demonstrating the project's influence on crime reduction
- Adherence to fiscal management guidelines and successful reporting

Quantitative and Qualitative Outcome Data Analysis

Quantitative outcome data, such as crime statistics and arrest rates, will be analyzed using statistical tools such as descriptive statistics, chi-square analysis, and regression analysis to identify trends and measure the significance of changes over time. Qualitative data, fathered from interviews, focus groups, or surveys, will be analyzed using thematic analysis to identify recurring themes and patterns related to stakeholders' perceptions of the project's impact.

Determining Project Outcomes

To determine whether outcomes are attributable to the project and not to other factors, a comparison group may be used where feasible. Additionally, ongoing review of policy and system changes outside of the project's scope will be conducted to assess any external influences on project outcomes. By comparing outcomes between the project site and control groups, as well as considering external factors, the project's true impact can be assessed accurately.

Outcome	Definition	Data Source(s)	Frequency of Data Collection
Increase scope and range of investigations	Increase the number of investigative leads obtained from FLOCK and task operations	FLOCK database, case management system	Quarterly
Reduction in ORT, MVT, and MVAT incidents	Quantitative data depicting a decline of criminal incidents related to ORT, MVT, and MVAT.	Case management system	Quarterly
Increase number of ORT, MVT, and MVAT arrest	Quantitative date depicting number of arrests related to ORT, MVT, and MVAT	Case management system	Quarterly
Increase in public awareness and knowledge of ORT, MVT, and MVAT	Community events, social media postings, and press releases related to ORT, MVT, and MVAT.	Operational logs	Quarterly
Increase in recovered stolen property	Increase in the number of recovered stolen motor vehicles, motor vehicle accessories, and retail products	Case management system	Quarterly
Improved conviction rates for ORT, MVT, and MVAT cases	Increase in the number of ORT/MVT/MVAT convictions in relation to the number of cases filed.	Case management system	Quarterly