

**Alamo Area Council of Governments
Criminal Justice Advisory Committee Meeting
September 11, 2025 – 1:30 pm
AACOG 2700 NE Loop 410, Ste. 101, San Antonio, TX 78217**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

1. Sheriff Chris Ayala
2. Ms. Glenda Wilke for Ms. Nicole Bishop
3. Mr. Bryce Boddie
4. Captain Danny Bowermaster
5. Ms. Lisa Brothers
6. Captain Alyssa Campos
7. Dr. David Carrothers
8. Chief Linette Dury
9. Ms. Jennifer Forbes
10. Sergeant Albert Garza
11. Ms. Andrea Goff-Fontanes
12. Ms. Ellen Wheeler-Walter for D.A. Joe Gonzalez
13. Deputy Robert Guerrero
14. Chief Matthew Haynie
15. Ms. Hattie Heiner
16. Lt. Mary Krebs and Constable Paul Gonzales
17. Ms. Monica Torres for Ms. Jelynn LeBlanc Jamison
18. Ms. Rosa Lavender
19. Ms. Abigail Moore
20. Deputy Chief Armando Olguin
21. Mr. Kenneth Schmidtling
22. Ms. Cynthia Takajasi
23. Ms. Eladia Torres
24. Ms. Brenda Trevino
25. Chief Jessi Chia for Ms. Rhonda Williamson
26. Ms. Samantha Wohler

MEMBERS ABSENT:

1. Sergeant Delane Barnes
2. Ms. Donna Eccleston
3. Constable Jeff Large
4. Ms. Melissa Padron
5. Chief Deputy Gilbert Rodriguez
6. Sheriff Emmett Shelton
7. Ms. Julie Strentzch

STAFF PRESENT:

1. Ms. Laura Richardson, Public Safety Billing & Contracts Coordinator
2. Ms. Cami Goldspink, Criminal Justice Planner
- 3.

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1. Meeting was called to order at 1:34 by Ms. Samantha Wohler – Vice Chair.
 2. Roll Call was taken by Ms. Laura Richardson, and a quorum was established.

3. Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

4. Consider and act upon approval of May 14th, 2025, Minutes.

A motion was made by **Ms. Jennifer Forbes** and seconded by **Ms. Rosa Lavender** to accept the above minutes.

All Approved, Motion Carried.

5. Program Updates

A. Updates:

- Summer Event Update

ACCOG set up an Amazon wish list for the flood victims and first responders. We also took in a lot of donations which we delivered to different areas in Kerr County. Of the donations received and dollars spent, a total of 813 donated items were received and total spent on disaster relief was \$10,252.14.

- OOG Interlocal Contract Approved

Contract was approved on August 11th. Interlocal contracts will begin to be renegotiated next year for FY 2027.

- County Disposition Report Update

Technical issues with a 3rd party vendor are what is causing the below 90% county case disposition percentage for Bexar County. They are working on the issue. These reports are sent out when we receive them. DPS is aware of this.

- TARC Bi-Annual Training Review

Governor's office did training on eGrants, the types of users and the information provided to each type of user was reviewed. The Criminal Justice strategic plan template training was also provided. Recommend having community meetings after mandatory grant workshops since community partners are already present.

Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention and Truancy Prevention programs now being titled "Youth Diversion".

- FY26 Funding Status Update

It is projected that this funding will be made available by PSO to local entities for another 2-3 grant cycles. Will be able to fund this grant cycle with changes at federal level. They are unsure what future grant cycles will bring.

- 2026 Strategic Plan- Schedule of Events



6. Discussion and appropriate action on membership items

Primary Membership Items

1. Nominating **Heather Harrison** as replacement for Donna Eccleston as primary for Comal County
2. Nominating **Juanita Rendon** as replacement for Judge Rochelle Camacho as primary for Frio County
3. Nominating **Marcy Andrade** as replacement for Dr. Allen Castro as primary for Bexar County
4. Nominating **Cynthia Takajasi** as replacement for Renan Zambrano as primary for Bexar County

A motion was made by **Ms. Rosa Lavender** and seconded by **Ms. Jennifer Forbes** to approve the above membership item.

All Approved, Motion Carried

Alternate Membership Items

1. Nominating **Deputy Brian Phillips** as alternate to Sheriff Chris Ayala for Gillespie County.
2. Nominating **Melanie Cawthon** as alternate to Lisa Brothers for Bexar County.

A motion was made by **Dr. David Carrothers** and seconded by **Mr. Kenneth Schmidtling** to approve the above membership item.

All Approved, Motion Carried

7. Discussion and Review of Subcommittee's Recommended Changes

- CJAC Grant Application Guidelines

The recommended changes to the guidelines were discussed, CJAC will have 30 days to review, make further suggestions to CJ Planner, and then discussion and approval will take place at the October 8th, CJAC Meeting. One change is the presentation time will be shortened to 2 mins.

Recommended Budgets Caps suggestions:

CJAC recommends that application budget requests are below the following budget caps:

- JAG: **\$85,000,000** maximum request from OOG; Non-profits **\$25,000** maximum request from OOG. **Opportunity to gain five (5) bonus points on final score if applicant is a Law Enforcement Agency or First Responders. Note: Volunteer Fire Departments are considered First Responders and are eligible to apply for maximum request.**
- JJDP: \$50,000 maximum request from OOG; TP - Truancy Prevention – \$350,000 voluntary maximum request from OOG for all program requests; Continuation projects exceeding last year's award by 20% must provide justification.
- VAWA: **\$200,000** maximum request from OOG.

- VOCA: \$250,000 voluntary maximum request for new program requests that are determined to be Victim Focused; \$175,000 voluntary maximum request for all applying programs and organizations determined to be Victim Serving. Giving exception to those programs that offer victim focused shelter and transitional housing. Victim Focused Definition: an agency that only serves victims and usually does not charge for services. Victim Serving Definition: an agency that incorporates some services or partnerships for victims into their primary business model/operations. Continuation projects may exceed last year's award by 20% if all funds were expended in the previous grant year. (Eligibility for a 20% increase requires applying agency to have completed expending a full year's award by September 30, 2025). Opportunity to gain five (5) additional points on final score if VOCA Review Committee determines project to be Victim Focused (Projects Sole Purpose is to Serve Victims of Crime only).

Budget Review:

All applications will undergo a Peer Review of Budgets by a CJAC sub-committee and presented for approval to CJAC prior to scoring to determine ineligible expenses/activities and indirect costs ahead of scoring in effort to save on time on the day of scoring. CJAC members with conflicts must leave the room when application with conflict is up for review.

The subcommittee will present recommendations to the CJAC prior to scoring.

- Grant Summary Form

Some suggestions to change to the summary form were:

Adding to the VOCA summary form only- total hours per victim served and a formula to figure this total out. (Total service hours-Total duration/client number to get average).

Removing regional Priorities from score tool only- not summary form. PSO can use to determine if applicant meets grant requirements for region.

Removing total City/County budget and leaving only Total Project Budget.

COG staff will be providing project update report in October/November so you can see where projects are-if they are on track to spend their dollars by the end of the grant cycle or if they have fund holds,etc. that need to be addressed.

- CJAC Score Tool and Rubric

It was discussed to change the ranking terminology.

New rating scale:

Does Not Meet Expectations=0

Needs Improvement=1

Partially Meets Expectations=2

Meets Expectations=3

Exceeds Expectations=4

Exceptional=5

Changing Regional Priority Section to Project Impact Section. Now scoring applicants on the following two 5-point criteria:

Project Impact:

1. Was the projects impact clearly addressed in objectives and measures?
2. The applicant adequately describes the projects anticipated outcome.

8. Announcements

The CJAC 2026 calendar and Grant calendar were given out.

1. Grant Management USA class is Sept. 18th and 19th, 2025
2. AACOG Grant Writing Training for Law Enforcement will be held October 14th, 2025, 10am - 12pm.

9. Items to be placed on the next meeting's agenda.

N/A

10. Next meeting date: Wednesday October 8th, 2025 – 1:30pm

11. Adjournment

A motion was made by **Ms. Rosa Lavender** and seconded by **Deputy Robert Guerro** to adjourn.

All Approved, the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:17 pm.