

# LOS ANGELES POLICE COMMISSION

**BOARD OF  
POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

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MATTHEW J. BARRAGAN  
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EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
POLICE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
100 WEST FIRST STREET, SUITE 134  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012-4112

(213) 236-1400 PHONE  
(213) 236-1410 FAX  
(213) 236-1440 TDD

February 27, 2026

BPC #26-033

The Honorable Karen Bass  
Mayor, City of Los Angeles  
City Hall, Room 303  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Honorable City Council  
City of Los Angeles, Room 395  
c/o City Clerk's Office

Dear Honorable Members:

RE: 2025 INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE PROGRAM – CITY  
COUNCIL FILE NO. 25-0015

At the regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners held on Tuesday, February 10, 2026,  
the Board APPROVED the Executive Director's report regarding the above-referenced matter.

Accordingly, this report is respectfully submitted for your consideration and approval.

Respectfully,

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rebecca Munoz".

REBECCA MUNOZ

Commission Executive Assistant

Attachment

c: Chief of Police

## INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

February 2, 2026  
14.1

**TO:** The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

**FROM:** Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:** TRANSMITTAL OF THE APPLICATION AND SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT AWARD FOR THE OJJDP FISCAL YEAR 2025 INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE PROGRAM - (Council File 25-0015)

### RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

1. That the Board of Police Commissioners (Board) REVIEW and APPROVE this report;
2. That the Board TRANSMIT the attached grant application and supplemental grant award, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 14.6(a), to the Mayor, Office of the City Administrative Officer (CAO), Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst, and to the City Clerk for Committee and City Council consideration; and,
3. That the Board REQUEST the Mayor and City Council to:
  - A. AUTHORIZE the Chief of Police or his designee to retroactively APPLY for and subsequently ACCEPT the Supplemental grant award of \$1,042,765 for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, United States Department of Justice; for the period of October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026;
  - B. AUTHORIZE the Chief of Police or his designee to negotiate and execute the Cooperative Agreement, subject to the review of the City Attorney as to form and legality;
  - C. AUTHORIZE the Chief of Police or his designee to negotiate and execute new agreements or amend existing agreements with affiliate task force agencies in collaboration to prevent, interdict, investigate and prosecute Internet crimes against children, subject to the review of the City Attorney approval as to form and legality;
  - D. AUTHORIZE the Controller to increase appropriations to Account No. 70A416, in Fund No. 339, Department No. 70, by the amount of \$1,042,765 for the receipt and disbursement of 2025 ICAC Task Force Program funds;
  - E. AUTHORIZE the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to spend up to \$1,042,765 in accordance with the grant award agreement;
  - F. AUTHORIZE the LAPD to submit grant reimbursement requests to the grantor and deposit grant receipts in Fund No. 339, Department No. 70;

G. AUTHORIZE the Controller to increase appropriation on an as needed basis for the 2025 ICAC Task Program as follows:

<u>From:</u>	<u>Fund/Dept</u>	<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	339/70	70A416	2025 ICAC Task Force Program	\$164,694
 <u>To:</u>	 <u>Fund/Dept</u>	 <u>Account No.</u>	 <u>Account Name</u>	 <u>Amount</u>
	100/70	001090	Civilian Overtime	\$11,100
	100/70	001092	Sworn Overtime	\$140,400
	339/70	To Be Determined	Related Costs	\$13,194

H. INSTRUCT the City Clerk to place the following action relative to the 2025 ICAC Task Force Program on the City Council agenda on July 1, 2026, or the first meeting day thereafter:

Authorize the Controller to transfer \$164,693 as follows:

<u>From:</u>	<u>Fund/Dept</u>	<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	339/70	70A416	2025 ICAC Task Force Program	\$164,693
 <u>To:</u>	 <u>Fund/Dept</u>	 <u>Account No.</u>	 <u>Account Name</u>	 <u>Amount</u>
	100/70	001090	Civilian Overtime	\$11,099
	100/70	001092	Sworn Overtime	\$140,400
	339/70	To Be Determined	Related Costs	\$13,194

I. AUTHORIZE the LAPD to prepare Controller's instructions for any technical adjustments, subject to the approval of the CAO, and AUTHORIZE and INSTRUCT the Controller to implement the instructions.

**DISCUSSION**

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP) Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program funds state and local law enforcement agencies to develop effective responses to online enticement of children by sexual predators, child exploitation, and child obscenity and pornography cases. The Los Angeles Regional ICAC Task Force (LA ICAC), led by the LAPD, is part of the national network of coordinated task forces dedicated to investigating, prosecuting, and developing effective responses to Internet crimes against children. The LA ICAC currently consists of 103 law enforcement agencies and serves five Southern California counties: Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, and Ventura; and covers approximately 29,500 square miles and 19 million residents. The mission of

the LA ICAC is to coordinate efforts among affiliates to address Internet child sexual exploitation.

Since 2003, the OJJDP have provided continuous supplemental funding to the Los Angeles Regional ICAC Task Force Program intended to:

- Coordinate, plan and organize the law enforcement agencies affiliated with the LA ICAC Task Force as directed by ICAC Commander and Program Director;
- Ensure local and law enforcement agencies are better equipped to investigate computer crimes against children by offenders using the Internet, on-line communication systems, and other technologies;
- Prosecute cases at the local, state and federal level;
- Provide educational programs and computer safety tips for law enforcement officers, teachers, parents, and children;
- Serve as a forensic resource to law enforcement agencies within the service area; and,
- Participate in nationally-coordinated investigations.

Juvenile Division will utilize the FY 2025 ICAC Task Force grant award to continue leading the LA ICAC in its mission. Grant funds have been allocated to purchase \$69,464 in supplies; \$280,800 for sworn overtime; \$22,199 for civilian overtime; \$26,388 for fringe benefits; \$51,297 for LAPD travel; \$121,027 for affiliate travel and training, and \$471,590 for other costs such as forensic software, licenses, cellular phone service and registration fees for conferences and training.

If you have any questions, please contact Senior Management Analyst Barbra Montesquieu, Strategic Policing and Policies Division, Grants Section, at (213) 486-0380.

Respectfully,



JIM McDONNELL  
Chief of Police

Attachments

BOARD OF  
POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
Approved February 10, 2024  
Secretary Rebecca Murray

**Award Letter**

December 23, 2025

Dear Jim McDonnell,

On behalf of Attorney General Pamela Bondi, it is my pleasure to inform you the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) has approved the application submitted by CITY OF LOS ANGELES for an award under the funding opportunity entitled 2025 OJJDP FY25 Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program – Invited To Apply. The approved award amount is \$1,042,765.

Review the Award Instrument below carefully and familiarize yourself with all conditions and requirements before accepting your award. The Award Instrument includes the Award Offer (Award Information, Project Information, Financial Information, and Award Conditions) and Award Acceptance. For COPS Office and OVW funding the Award Offer also includes any Other Award Documents.

Please note that award requirements include not only the conditions and limitations set forth in the Award Offer, but also compliance with assurances and certifications that relate to conduct during the period of performance for the award. These requirements encompass financial, administrative, and programmatic matters, as well as other important matters (e.g., specific restrictions on use of funds). Therefore, all key staff should receive the award conditions, the assurances and certifications, and the application as approved by OJP, so that they understand the award requirements. Information on all pertinent award requirements also must be provided to any subrecipient of the award.

Should you accept the award and then fail to comply with an award requirement, DOJ will pursue appropriate remedies for non-compliance, which may include termination of the award and/or a requirement to repay award funds.

Prior to accepting the award, your Entity Administrator must assign a Financial Manager, Grant Award Administrator, and Authorized Representative(s) in the Justice Grants System (JustGrants). The Entity Administrator will need to ensure the assigned Authorized Representative(s) is current and has the legal authority to accept awards and bind the entity to the award terms and conditions. To accept the award, the Authorized Representative(s) must accept all parts of the Award Offer in the Justice Grants System (JustGrants), including by executing the required declaration and certification, within 45 days from the award date.

To access your funds, you will need to enroll in the Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) system, if you haven't already completed the enrollment process in ASAP. The Entity Administrator should have already received an email from ASAP to initiate this process.

Congratulations, and we look forward to working with you.

Maureen A. Henneberg  
Deputy Assistant Attorney General

**Office for Civil Rights Notice for All Recipients**

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) enforces federal civil rights laws and other provisions that prohibit discrimination by recipients of federal financial assistance from OJP, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), and the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW).

Several civil rights laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, require recipients of federal financial assistance (recipients) to give assurances that they will comply with those laws. Taken together, these and other civil rights laws prohibit recipients from discriminating in the provision of services and employment because of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, and sex or from discriminating in the provision of services on the bases of age.

Some recipients of DOJ financial assistance have additional obligations to comply with other applicable nondiscrimination provisions like the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of religion in addition to race, color, national origin, and sex. Recipients may also have related requirements regarding the development and implementation of equal employment opportunity programs.

OCR provides technical assistance, training, and other resources to help recipients comply with civil rights obligations. Further, OCR administratively enforces civil rights laws and nondiscrimination provisions by investigating DOJ recipients that are the subject of discrimination complaints. In addition, OCR conducts compliance reviews of DOJ recipients based on regulatory criteria. These investigations and compliance reviews permit OCR to evaluate whether DOJ recipients are providing services to the public and engaging in employment practices in a nondiscriminatory manner.

For more information about OCR, your civil rights and nondiscrimination responsibilities, how to notify your employees or beneficiaries of their civil rights protections and responsibilities and how to file a complaint, as well as technical assistance, training, and other resources,

1/13/26, 12:14 PM

Funded Award FAW-185913

please visit [www.ojp.gov/program/civil-rights-office/outreach](http://www.ojp.gov/program/civil-rights-office/outreach). If you would like OCR to assist you in fulfilling your civil rights or nondiscrimination responsibilities, please contact us at [askOCR@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:askOCR@ojp.usdoj.gov) or [www.ojp.gov/program/civil-rights-office/about#ocr-contacts](http://www.ojp.gov/program/civil-rights-office/about#ocr-contacts).

**Memorandum Regarding NEPA**

NEPA Letter Type

NEPA Letter

NEPA Coordinator

First Name

Middle Name

Last Name



# Department of Justice (DOJ)

## Office of Justice Programs

### Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention

Washington, D.C. 20531

<b>Name and Address of Recipient:</b>	CITY OF LOS ANGELES 200 N MAIN ST
<b>City, State and Zip:</b>	LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
<b>Recipient UEI:</b>	ZRXCMNNSUEJ1
<b>Project Title:</b> Los Angeles Regional ICAC Task Force	<b>Award Number:</b> 15PJDP-24-GK-04187-MECP
<b>Solicitation Title:</b> OJJDP FY25 Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program – Invited To Apply	
<b>Federal Award Amount:</b> \$1,042,765.00	<b>Federal Award Date:</b> 12/23/25
<b>Awarding Agency:</b>	Office of Justice Programs Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention
<b>Award Type:</b>	Continuation
<b>Supplement Number:</b>	01
<b>Funding Instrument Type:</b>	CA
<b>Opportunity Category:</b> C	
<b>Assistance Listing:</b> 16.543 - Missing Children's Assistance	
<b>Project Period Start Date:</b> 10/1/24	<b>Project Period End Date:</b> 9/30/26
<b>Budget Period Start Date:</b> 10/1/24	<b>Budget Period End Date:</b> 9/30/26
<b>Project Description:</b> The Los Angeles Regional Internet Crime Against Children (LA ICAC) Task Force, led by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), is part of the national network of coordinated task forces dedicated to investigating, prosecuting, and developing effective responses to internet crimes against children. The LA ICAC Task Force currently consists of 109 law enforcement agencies and serves five Southern California counties: Los Angeles, Orange County, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, and Ventura. The Task Force covers an approximate area of 29,500 square miles and 19 million residents. The mission of the Task Force is to coordinate efforts among affiliates to address Internet child sexual exploitation. Through this award, the LA ICAC Task Force will address three overarching goals: (1) Maintain and expand the LA ICAC Task Force; (2) Improve LA ICAC Task Force's effectiveness to prevent, interdict, investigate and prosecute Internet crimes against children and technology-facilitated child exploitation; and (3) Increase resources and efforts towards proactive investigations. The ICAC Task Force will move to include all law enforcement agencies in the target area and strive to provide a safer environment for children on the Internet.	

#### Award Letter

December 23, 2025

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Congratulations, and we look forward to working with you.

Maureen A. Henneberg  
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Several civil rights laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, require recipients of federal financial assistance (recipients) to give assurances that they will comply with those laws. Taken together, these and other civil rights laws prohibit recipients from discriminating in the provision of services and employment because of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, and sex or from discriminating in the provision of services on the bases of age.

Some recipients of DOJ financial assistance have additional obligations to comply with other applicable nondiscrimination provisions like the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of religion in addition to race, color, national origin, and sex. Recipients may also have related requirements regarding the development and implementation of equal employment opportunity programs.

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**Memorandum Regarding NEPA**

**NEPA Letter Type**

OJP - Categorical Exclusion

**NEPA Letter**

**National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) record**

**Solicitation Title:** OJJDP FY 2025 Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program

**Award number:** 15PJDP-24-GK-04187-MECP

**Date:** 12/16/25

**NEPA determination:** Categorical Exclusion

The ICAC Task Force Program furthers the Department of Justice's mission by helping state and local law enforcement agencies develop effective responses to online enticement of children by sexual predators, child exploitation, and child obscenity and child sexual abuse material cases. This program was developed in 1998 to assist state and local law enforcement agencies with acquiring the necessary knowledge, equipment, and personnel needed to prevent, interdict, and investigate offenses that constitute technology-facilitated crimes against children. The task forces provide forensic and investigative technical assistance to law enforcement and prosecutorial officials, and provide community education information to parents, educators, prosecutors, law enforcement, and others concerned with child victimization.

The ICAC Task Force Program consists of 61 task forces, each led by a single law enforcement agency. Every state has at least one task force, with the more populated states having multiple task forces. Each lead agency receives an annual award from OJJDP, and then serves as the primary entity responsible for improving the effectiveness and sustainability of their state or regional task force.

None of the following activities will be conducted whether under the Office of Justice Programs federal action or a related third-party action:

- (1) New construction
- (2) Any renovation or remodeling of a property located in an environmentally or historically sensitive area, including property (a) listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, or (b) located within a 100-year flood plain, a wetland, or habitat for an endangered species
- (3) A renovation that will change the basic prior use of a facility or significantly change its size
- (4) Research and technology whose anticipated and future application could be expected to have an effect on the environment
- (5) Implementation of a program involving the use of chemicals (including the identification, seizure, or closure of clandestine methamphetamine laboratories)

Additionally, the proposed action is neither a phase nor a segment of a project that when reviewed in its entirety would not meet the criteria for a categorical exclusion.

Consequently, the subject federal action meets the Office of Justice Programs' criteria for a categorical exclusion as contained in paragraph 4(b) of Appendix D to Part 61 of Title 28 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Questions about this determination may be directed to Lou Ann Holland, OJJDP's NEPA Coordinator.

**NEPA Coordinator****First Name**

Lou Ann

**Middle Name**

no.value

**Last Name**

Holland

**Award Information**

This award is offered subject to the conditions or limitations set forth in the Award Information, Project Information, Financial Information, and Award Conditions.

**Recipient Information****Recipient Name****UEI**

ZRXCMMNSUEJ1

**Street 1**

200 N MAIN ST

**Street 2****City**

LOS ANGELES

**State/U.S. Territory**

California

**Zip/Postal Code**

90012

**Country**

United States

**County/Parish****Province****Award Details****Federal Award Date**

12/23/25

**Award Type**

Continuation

**Award Number**

15PJDP-24-GK-04187-MECP

**Supplement Number**

01

**Federal Award Amount**

\$1,042,765.00

**Funding Instrument Type**

CA

**Assistance Listing****Number**

16.543

**Assistance Listings Program Title**

Missing Children's Assistance

**Statutory Authority**

Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2025 (P.L. 119-4, 139 Stat. 9, 40; see Pub. L. No. 118-42, 138 Stat. 25, 150)

[ ] I have read and understand the information presented in this section of the Federal Award Instrument.

## Project Information

This award is offered subject to the conditions or limitations set forth in the Award Information, Project Information, Financial Information, and Award Conditions.

### Solicitation Title

2025 OJJDP FY25 Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program – Invited To Apply

### Awarding Agency

OJP

### Application Number

GRANT14548136

### Program Office

OJJDP

### Grant Manager Name

William Sarrano

### Phone Number

202-616-3978

### E-mail Address

William.Sarrano@usdoj.gov

### Project Title

Los Angeles Regional ICAC Task Force

### Performance Period Start

#### Date

10/01/2024

### Performance Period End Date

09/30/2026

### Budget Period Start Date

10/01/2024

### Budget Period End Date

09/30/2026

## Project Description

The Los Angeles Regional Internet Crime Against Children (LA ICAC) Task Force, led by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), is part of the national network of coordinated task forces dedicated to investigating, prosecuting, and developing effective responses to internet crimes against children. The LA ICAC Task Force currently consists of 109 law enforcement agencies and serves five Southern California counties: Los Angeles, Orange County, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, and Ventura. The Task Force covers an approximate area of 29,500 square miles and 19 million residents. The mission of the Task Force is to coordinate efforts among affiliates to address Internet child sexual exploitation. Through this award, the LA ICAC Task Force will address three overarching goals: (1) Maintain and expand the LA ICAC Task Force; (2) Improve LA ICAC Task Force's effectiveness to prevent, interdict, investigate and prosecute Internet crimes against children and technology-facilitated child exploitation; and (3) Increase resources and efforts towards proactive investigations. The ICAC Task Force will move to include all law enforcement agencies in the target area and strive to provide a safer environment for children on the Internet.

I have read and understand the information presented in this section of the Federal Award Instrument.

## Financial Information

This award is offered subject to the conditions or limitations set forth in the Award Information, Project Information, Financial Information, and Award Conditions.

The recipient budget is currently under review.

I have read and understand the information presented in this section of the Federal Award Instrument.

## Award Conditions

This award is offered subject to the conditions or limitations set forth in the Award Information, Project Information, Financial Information, and Award Conditions.

I have read and understand the information presented in this section of the Federal Award Instrument.

## Award Acceptance

### Declaration and Certification to the U.S. Department of Justice as to Acceptance

By checking the declaration and certification box below, I--

A. Declare to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), under penalty of perjury, that I have authority to make this declaration and certification on behalf of the applicant.

B. Certify to DOJ, under penalty of perjury, on behalf of myself and the applicant, to the best of my knowledge and belief, that the following are true as of the date of this award acceptance: (1) I have conducted or there was conducted (including by applicant's legal counsel as appropriate and made available to me) a diligent review of all terms and conditions of, and all supporting materials submitted in connection with, this award, including any assurances and certifications (including anything submitted in connection therewith by a person on behalf of the applicant before, after, or at the time of the application submission and any materials that accompany this acceptance and certification); and (2) I have the legal authority to accept this award on behalf of the applicant.

C. Accept this award on behalf of the applicant.

D. Declare the following to DOJ, under penalty of perjury, on behalf of myself and the applicant: (1) I understand that, in taking (or not taking) any action pursuant to this declaration and certification, DOJ will rely upon this declaration and certification as a material representation; and (2) I understand that any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent information or statement in this declaration and certification (or concealment or omission of a material fact as to either) may be the subject of criminal prosecution (including under 18 U.S.C. §§ 1001 and/or 1621, and/or 34 U.S.C. §§ 10271-10273), and also may subject me and the applicant to civil penalties and administrative remedies under the federal False Claims Act (including under 31 U.S.C. §§ 3729-3730 and/or §§ 3801-3812) or otherwise.

### Agency Approval

Title of Approving Official	Name of Approving Official	Signed Date And Time
Deputy Assistant Attorney General	Maureen A. Henneberg	12/22/25 4:23 PM

### Authorized Representative

Declaration and Certification

### Entity Acceptance

**Title of Authorized Entity Official**  
no value

**Signed Date And Time**  
no value

Budget Summary

**Budget Summary**

*Note: Any errors detected on this page should be fixed on the corresponding Budget Detail tab.*

Budget Category	Year 1		Year 2 <i>(if needed)</i>		Year 3 <i>(if needed)</i>		Year 4 <i>(if needed)</i>		Year 5 <i>(if needed)</i>		Total(s)
	Federal Request	Non-Federal Request	Federal Request	Non-Federal Request	Federal Request	Non-Federal Request	Federal Request	Non-Federal Request	Federal Request	Non-Federal Request	
A. Personnel	\$303,000	\$0	\$302,999	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$605,999
B. Fringe Benefits	\$27,623	\$0	\$26,388	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$54,011
C. Travel	\$53,322	\$0	\$51,297	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$104,619
D. Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
E. Supplies	\$153,394	\$0	\$69,464	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$222,858
F. Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
G. Subawards (Subgrants)	\$121,018	\$0	\$121,027	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$242,045
H. Procurement Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
I. Other	\$470,290	\$0	\$471,590	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$941,880
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>	<b>\$1,128,647</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,042,765</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,171,412</b>
J. Indirect Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>\$1,128,647</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,042,765</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,171,412</b>

Does this budget contain conference costs which is defined broadly to include meetings, retreats, seminars, symposia, and training activities? - Y/N

No

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT  
FY 2025 INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN (ICAC) TASK FORCE

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**PROPOSAL NARRATIVE**

In 2005, the Los Angeles Police Department, under the guidance of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), created the Los Angeles Regional Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (LA ICAC or Task Force). The Task Force, led by the LAPD, is part of the national network of coordinated task forces dedicated to investigating, prosecuting, and developing effective responses to internet crimes against children. The Task Force currently consists of 109 law enforcement agencies (LEA or affiliates) and serves five Southern California counties: Los Angeles, Orange County, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, and Ventura. The Task Force covers an approximate area of 29,500 square miles and 19 million residents. The mission of the Task Force is to coordinate efforts among affiliates to address Internet child sexual exploitation. Over the course of 20 years, the network of the LA ICAC Task Force affiliates works in partnership by sharing resources, assisting in investigations, and providing forensic personnel when requested. This is a critical element in fighting ICAC since the victims and suspects often reside in different jurisdictions. During April 2025, the Task Force conducted a large scale investigative and arrest operation aptly named "Operation Spring Cleaning." Over the course of two weeks, the LA ICAC Task Force identified numerous targets associated with sexual exploitation of children. The Task Force contacted many of the targets and conducted 265 arrests. During the operation, communication and cooperation were vital to the Task Force to ensure safety of involved personnel, partnerships development, and the successful outcome of the operation.

The Task Force's specialized investigators monitor and intercept wireless data, prevent destruction of computerized evidence, assist in the physical transportation of hardware, and respond rapidly as needed to facilitate successful prosecution of perpetrators. By utilizing digital

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forensic tools to triage digital devices on-scene, members of the task force can determine if other crimes against children have occurred.

**I. PROBLEM STATEMENT**

*Scope of ICAC across the country.* The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) released new data that reflects a 52% increase in “reports of suspected child sexual exploitation” in 2024.” This increase accounts for approximately 359.5 million reports. An increase of this magnitude for one year has never been encountered before. To add to the disturbing increase, the increase of reports was not limited to one specific type but were seen across all types of exploitation reports in 2024, including a 1,237%% increase in online enticement from 2021. Exploitation of this nature involves an adult grooming a child with the purpose of engaging in online conversations of a sexual nature, obtaining sexually explicit images, of meeting the child in person for the purpose of engaging in sexual activity.<sup>1</sup>

This increasing trend could be attributed to a combination of factors – an increase in children’s access to computers, the amount of time children spends using the Internet daily, an increase in the number of online child predators, and an increase in the technological advances of the computer devices used. Digital devices are readily available to children at home, in schools, public libraries, community youth centers, and countless other public places where youth congregate. Based on data from the 2018 United States Census Bureau, 92% of all households had at least one type of computer and 85% had broadband internet subscription.<sup>2</sup> A recent survey, published by Common Sense Media, a nonprofit research organization, found

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.missingkids.org/gethelpnow/cybertipline/cybertiplinedata>

<sup>2</sup> “Computer and Internet Use in the United States: 2018”, Census.gov, <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2021/computer-internet-use.html> April 21, 2021

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that children in America are spending more time than ever using screens and social media, with the number of hours spent rising sharply during the pandemic. The survey found that overall use increased by 17% from 2019 to 2021.<sup>3</sup>

Although the advancement in technology has created a tremendous learning potential for these youth, unfortunately, it has also brought with it the increased potential for online victimization including unwanted exposure to sexual material, unwanted sexual solicitations, and online harassment. Over the last several years, the aggressive marketing of sexual material on the Internet has also increased. Young people encounter unwanted exposure to sexual material through pop-up ads and malicious software. These items have even been found bundled in game demonstrations.

***Scope of ICAC in the Task Force Area.*** The national statistics is indicative of what is locally happening in the Task Force area. In 2021, LA ICAC received, 24,192 CyberTips<sup>4</sup>. In 2022, the Task Force received 36,575 CyberTips, representing a 51% increase within one year. In 2024, the Task Force received 37,759 CyberTip, representing an 3.23% increase within one year. Additionally, in 2024, the Task Force completed 79 Federal search warrants and 619 subpoenas; obtained 4,325 State/Local search warrants and 145 subpoenas; and made 1,204 arrests on complaints filed. The Task Force continues to receive documented complaints regarding the manufacturing, distribution, and possession of child sexual abuse material (CSAM). In addition to the documented complaints and CyberTips received, they also received

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<sup>3</sup> "Kids as Young as 8 Are Using Social Media More Than Ever, Study Finds". New York Times.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/03/24/well/family/child-social-media-use.html>. Retrieved September 2022

<sup>4</sup> National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's (NCMEC) CyberTipline is the nation's centralized reporting system for the online exploitation of children. The public and electronic service providers can make reports of suspected online enticement of children for sexual acts, child sexual molestation, child sexual abuse material, child sex tourism, child sex trafficking, unsolicited obscene materials sent to a child, misleading domain names, and misleading words or digital images on the internet.

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phone calls and referrals from parents, teachers, relatives, and other agencies regarding possible online crimes committed against children.

In 2024, the Task Force provided 4,431 instances of technical assistance, reflecting a 9.5% increase from 2022. Technical assistance refers to the dissemination and delivery of specialized knowledge or expertise to organizations or groups not currently part of the Task Force. This increase highlights the proactive collaboration among Task Force investigators, as they continue to support one another and extend their expertise to external entities. Law enforcement agencies across the country and in Los Angeles, including the LAPD, have been inundated by a surge in tips about online child sex abuse, with social media platforms and other service providers flagging explicit content and suspicious interactions at an alarming rate.

Children have been spending more time online makes them prone to online enticement which includes sextortion, where children, through their social media accounts, are manipulated by adults posing as peers into sending money or additional CSAM under the threat that their sensitive images will be exposed to friends and family. This alarming trend has consistently risen since the onset of COVID, largely due to children spending more time on social media platforms.

Victims and suspects often reside in different areas under different jurisdictions. More than ever, a network of LEAs working together and sharing resources is needed to effectively combat exploitation of children through the Internet. Communication and cooperation are enhanced when law enforcement agencies are part of a task force.

***Need to Increase Capacity to Investigate ICAC.*** It is a crime under Federal law to take, distribute, or possess sexually explicit images of children younger than 18 years of age. Many of these photographs would constitute CSAM. When a person under the age of 18 complies with these requests, he/she may not realize the potential impact of his/her actions. The picture(s) could

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be circulated online to thousands of people. The child would have no way of retrieving the images. With the rising ICAC-related reports received by the LA ICAC Task Force, there is a need to increase capacity to investigate ICAC in the region.

***Need for Continuous Training for Investigators.*** Since the summer of 2020, law enforcement agencies across the nation have faced the harsh reality when it comes to recruitment, and retention, of qualified police candidates. The challenge facing the law enforcement community is the need to uphold the high standards of law enforcement professionals in the wake of increasing violent crimes.<sup>5</sup> One of the challenges faced by the Task Force is the changing of experienced personnel, especially when working with smaller affiliate agencies. Due to staffing shortages, with both the LAPD ICAC unit and the affiliate agencies, there has been an increase in the turnover of experienced investigators and forensic specialists. As the lead agency over the LA ICAC Task Force, the LAPD continue to work on providing training to new personnel, which include in-person training forums such as the National Conferences in Atlanta, Seattle and Florida. In addition to the conferences offered to Task Force members, the LAPD continue to provide regular training and updates on investigations, digital forensics, and prepare meetings for the Task Force members to discuss and exchange important information.

***Need for Community Training.*** The Task Force is dedicated to expanding community outreach across all five counties. As the Task Force observed, there has been a significant increase in the sexual exploitation and extortion of our youth. It is important to recognize the significance of educating and creating awareness to parents, caregivers, and educators.

By supporting the affiliates with a strong community outreach program, the Task Force is able to reach a large population with a unified message about educating and protecting children

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<sup>5</sup> A Crises Facing Law Enforcement: Recruits in 2021 [A Crisis Facing Law Enforcement: Recruiting in the 21st](#)

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from the unseen dangers of the internet.

***Need to coordinate and oversee the Task Force.*** As the Task Force continues to grow in number of affiliates, cases handled, inter-agency training, and the need to support affiliates, there is a vital need to maintain the Regional ICAC Commander, also known as the Task Force Commander (TFC), Assistant Commander and additional supervisory positions within the LAPD ICAC Unit. With a dedicated cadre of trained and experienced personnel, the Task Force is able to efficiently purchase and distribute equipment and software, provide guidance to the affiliates, hold bi-monthly meetings, and the ICAC supervisors will assist the TFC with day-to-day operations.

***Proposal:*** The Los Angeles Regional Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force propose to address three overarching goals: (1) Maintain and expand the LA ICAC Task Force; (2) Improve LA ICAC Task Force's effectiveness to prevent, interdict, investigate and prosecute Internet crimes against children and technology-facilitated child exploitation; and (3) Increase resources and efforts towards proactive investigations. These will be achieved through the following objectives:

- Maintain and expand the LA ICAC Task Force to prevent, interdict, investigate, and prosecute Internet crimes against children;
- Maintain and Support Task Force operations and affiliates;
- Serve as a resource for communities and agencies within its geographic area;
- Serve as a forensic resource to affiliate and non-affiliate agencies within the Task Force's geographical service area;
- Assist with the successful prosecution of cases at the local, State and Federal level; and
- Conduct both proactive and reactive investigations into the computer/technology crimes

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perpetrated against children and youth;

Through these goals and activities, the LA ICAC will move to include all LEAs in the target area and strive to provide a safer environment for children on the Internet.

## II. PROJECT DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

### *Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures:*

Guided by Section 104 of the PROTECT Act, the LA ICAC proposes the following goal, objectives and performance measures during the 12-month grant period:

#### **Goal 1. Maintain and Expand the LA ICAC Task Force**

**Objective 1.1: Expand the LA ICAC Task Force to prevent, interdict, investigate and prosecute Internet crimes against children.**

Objective 1a: Add new law enforcement partnerships in the LA ICAC Task Force.

Objective 1b: Obtain a signed MOU from new partner agencies, which includes adoption of federal ICAC Task Force investigative standards.

Activities: To achieve the objectives, the Task Force will:

- Contact and conduct presentations to agencies that have requested assistance, training, information or had CyberTips referred to them in the past year and formalize the working relationship by inviting them to join the Task Force.
- Ensure the MOU includes language requiring partner agencies to adopt ICAC Task Force Investigative Standards for all ICAC-related investigations.
- Provide a copy of ICAC Task Force Investigative Standards, including procedures for handling seized evidence in compliance with the PROTECT ACT, to all partner agencies; to ensure that the LA ICAC Task Force complies with national standards regarding the investigation and prosecution of Internet crimes against children, as the

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Attorney General sets them forth, to the extent they are consistent with California law.

- Keep copies of signed MOUs on file and add the new agency to list of formal ICAC partners, and maintain reports and records, as the Attorney General requires.
- Keep agencies apprised of training opportunities, nationally coordinated investigations, planning meetings, and quarterly Task Force meetings.
- Maintain a Task Force consisting of state and local investigators, prosecutors, forensic specialist, and education specialists dedicated to addressing the goals of such Task Force.

***Objective 1.2: Coordinate and manage the administration of the Task Force and contacts with affiliate agencies.***

Objective 1.2a: Ensure that affiliate-assigned equipment and software is documented and accounted for.

Objective 1.2b: Provide assistance and information to agencies that the Task Force Commander, recruitment of possible affiliates, site visits to review affiliate ICAC related equipment, and determine the needs of the LA ICAC Task Force affiliates.

Objective 1.2c: Organize ICAC related meetings with ICAC Task Force investigators and forensic examiners to ascertain what equipment and training is needed in order to perform ICAC related investigations and digital forensics.

Objective 1.2d: Identify available training needs and research available courses that would benefit LA ICAC Task Force members.

Activities: To achieve these objectives, the Task Force will:

- Ensure that the TFC, the Assistant Task Force Commander (ATFC), and experienced LAPD ICAC supervisors manages and oversees the LA ICAC Task Force grant.

**Goal 2. Improve LA ICAC Task Force's effectiveness to prevent, interdict, investigate and prosecute Internet crimes against children and technology-facilitated child exploitation.**

**Objective 2.1: Serve as a resource for communities and agencies within its geographic area.**

Objective 2.1a: Increase the number of ICAC-related referrals and requests received and forwarded to the appropriate agency.

Objective 2.1b: Engage in law enforcement and community outreach activities including training, prevention, and educational activities. In accordance with the *National Project Safe Childhood Initiative*, the Task Force recognizes the need to train Federal, State, and local law enforcement. The Task Force also recognizes the need for continued awareness and a public education campaign.

The LA ICAC Task Force, in partnership with Los Angeles Police Departments Community Safety Partnership Bureau (CSPB), will conduct education training for parents, caregivers, and educators. By utilizing personnel from CSPB it will enable us to continue increasing our community outreach and educating the community on how to protect their children from internet dangers.

The LA ICAC, in cooperation with the NCMEC, will focus community outreach by utilizing Be Safer Online! ([netsmartzkids.org](https://www.netsmartzkids.org)). This website offers age-appropriate games, discussion topics, and other resources for parents, caregivers and educators to start the discussion with children regarding internet safety. In addition to NCMEC, the LAPD will work with affiliate agencies on training personnel for presentations at community meetings, schools, and other events that will allow us to share our experiences with the dangers of the internet and ways

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to keep children safe.

Objective 2.1c: Provide over 25% of grant funding in financial assistance to partner agencies through training opportunities, equipment, etc.

Activities: To achieve these objectives, the Task Force will:

- Accept and assess referrals and requests for information from participating agencies, citizens, teachers, NCMEC, other ICAC task forces, and other related entities; giving priority to investigate leads that hold out the possibility of identifying or rescuing child victims or leads that point to a serious offense or danger to the community.
- Refer non-ICAC related referrals and requests to the appropriate agency.
- Identify and provide information/resources requested.
- Identify, advise and register attendees for potential training classes that may be applicable to law enforcement and community-based partner agencies.
- Identify equipment needs and assist with the purchase and acquisition of needed equipment and software of partner agencies.
- Receive requests via telephone, mail or email for presenters from people representing LEAs and community groups (community groups include, but are not limited to, schools, youth organizations, community-based organizations, state and local law enforcement associations and chapters, local businesses, business organizations, victim service providers, faith-based organizations, the media, and family advocacy organizations).
- Track and report the presentations and financial assistance provided to partner agencies on the monthly statistical reports.

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***Objective 2.2: Serve as a forensic resource to affiliate and non-affiliate agencies within the Task Force's geographical service area.***

Objective 2.2a: Complete at least 120 forensic examinations.

Objective 2.2b: Respond effectively to at least 250 ICAC related referrals from agencies (other task forces, federal partners, Cybertips, etc.).

Objective 2.2c: Participate in nationally coordinated investigations as requested.

Activities: To achieve these objectives the Task Force will complete the following activities:

- Receive and assess forensic requests from Task Force members and affiliate and non-affiliate agencies within the Task Force service area.
- Refer non-ICAC related referrals and requests to the appropriate agency.
- Triage forensic requests based on Task Force guidelines (based on pending court dates, seriousness of the crime, etc.).
- Coordinate forensic requests/requirements with the respective prosecutor to minimize unneeded analysis.
- Assist in conducting previews and search warrants.
- Provide forensic, preventive, and investigative assistance to parents, educators, prosecutors, law enforcement, and others concerned with Internet crimes against children.
- Complete statistical tracking forms for forensic examinations completed.
- Provide and identify information/resources needed by a requesting party.
- Ensure personnel resources are available for all necessary meetings as identified by the investigation leader.
- Develop procedures for handling seized evidence.

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***Objective 2.3: Assist with the successful prosecution of cases at the local, state and federal level. The Task Force will strive to increase federal involvement in the prosecution of these cases as set forth in the National Project Safe Childhood Initiative.***

Objective 2.3a: Submit at least 30 total cases for federal, state, or local prosecution.

Activities: To achieve these objectives, the Task Force will:

- Prepare cases for prosecution based on the prosecutor's standards.
- Complete statistical tracking to include the number of cases submitted for Federal prosecution, the number of cases accepted for Federal prosecution, the number of cases submitted for State prosecution, and the number of cases submitted for local prosecution.
- Complete statistical tracking to include case dispositions (e.g., unfounded, suspended, plea, or trial).
- Plan for collecting the data required for this program's performance measures.

***Goal 3: Increase resources and efforts towards proactive investigations***

***Objective 3.1 To conduct both proactive and reactive investigations into the computer/technology crimes perpetrated against children and youth.***

Objective 3.1a: Investigate reactive and proactive cases.

Objective 3.1b: Conduct criminal investigations initiated from Task Force members, allied agencies (local, state, and federal), citizen complaints, teachers, Cybertips, NCMEC, and other similar sources. The Task Force will strive to integrate and collaborate with federal, state and local affiliates as identified in the U.S. Attorney General's *Project Safe Childhood Initiative*.

Objective 3.1c: Develop and complete a statistical tracking form for investigation to include

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information on case outcome (arrests, search warrant, etc.).

Activities: To achieve these objectives, the Task Force will complete the following activities:

- Assess initial report information to identify the responsible jurisdiction related to prosecution and additional investigative follow up.
- Develop suspect information and probable cause through appropriate investigative techniques.
- Write and execute search and arrest warrants.
- The LA ICAC Task Force will conduct a proactive operation in the Spring of 2026. The operation will include undercover investigations such as undercover chat, Peer-to-Peer, monitoring of social network sites, e.g., Snapchat, Facebook, Discord, etc. The LA ICAC will strive whenever possible to integrate and collaborate with Federal, State and local affiliates as stated in the *Project Safe Childhood Initiative*.
- The LA ICAC Task Force will offer undercover chat training to its investigators to ensure they operate in accordance with ICAC standards.
- Coordinate case presentation with appropriate prosecutorial designee (Assistant United States Attorney, District Attorney, Deputy Attorney General, etc.).
- Ensure all Task Force members are registered in the ICAC Data Systems where their individual statistical data is entered and tracked on a monthly basis. Currently all Task Force members are registered.

***Program Design and Implementation***

An LAPD Lieutenant is the officer-in-charge of the LAPD ICAC Unit and is responsible for managing and supervising the day-to-day activities of the detectives within the unit. The officer-in-charge of the LAPD ICAC Unit is also the LA Regional ICAC Task Force

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Commander (TFC). The TFC ensures that all investigators follow the ICAC Task Force Operational and Investigative Standards. The TFC is responsible for case assignments and public presentation assignments as well as assigning requests for technical assistance and requests for resources. On an as-needed basis, the TFC will support requests for technical assistance, requests for resources and training by other LEAs and the community. The TFC reports to a Captain who is the Project Director for the program and provides direction for Task Force activities.

The Task Force assists with the successful prosecution of cases at the local, State and Federal levels as well as strive to increase Federal involvement in prosecutions. Cases will be prepared based on the prosecutor's standards. It is the goal of the Task Force to submit at least 30 additional cases for prosecution during the grant period.

Over the past seven years, the LA ICAC Task Force has actively recruited affiliate agencies to join the Task Force. This active recruitment has resulted in a 100% increase in six years, from 61 affiliates in 2016 to 108 affiliates in 2025. The goal is to continue to meet with non-affiliate agencies that receive CyberTips. In addition to on-going recruitment, the LAPD will continue to build partnerships among existing affiliate agencies by conducting site visits, forensic assistance, training, and guidance on investigations. The LAPD plans to support current Task Force members by providing equipment, software and training. For example, extra Cell phone extraction equipment and software could be allocated and utilized by affiliate agencies to aid in investigating and prosecuting ICAC cases. Additionally, vendor specific training to obtain various certifications would benefit ICAC investigators and digital forensics personnel build expertise to assist with giving testimony. The Task Force will seek to expand its membership during the grant period. A list of agencies seeking the Task Force's technical

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assistance or investigative assistance with ICAC- related cases has been compiled. Those agencies will be targeted and contacted about establishing a formal relationship with the Task Force. They will also be provided with a presentation on the ICAC Program and the process for becoming an affiliate agency.

*Proactive and Reactive Investigations.* The Task Force will conduct criminal investigations initiated from the Task Force members, other agencies (local, State and Federal), public complaints, NCMEC's CyberTip line and other similar sources. It will assess initial report information, identify jurisdiction related to prosecution and additional investigative follow up. The Task Force will write and serve search and arrest warrants and collect and process evidence. In addition, it will coordinate case presentation with the appropriate prosecutorial designee (District Attorney, Deputy Attorney General, Assistant U.S. Attorney, and City Attorney).

The LA ICAC will conduct both proactive and reactive investigations. Proactive investigations occur when undercover investigators enter various Internet chat rooms posing as children to engage and arrange meetings with predators who are interested in traveling to meet children for sex. During these proactive investigations, the investigators will also capture any sexually explicit images and videos that the predator sends them. In California, sending lewd material to a child in order to lure that child for sex is an additional felony charge that can be filed along with the attempt to molest a child when the predator travels to a meet location. Reactive cases arise from reports from a variety of sources, although most come from citizens directly or from NCMEC. In the event that the report is about a child who has already been molested, officers will attempt to assume the persona of the abused child to re-engage the predator through the Internet to gather corroborative evidence. If the

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predator agrees to meet for sex again, the individual can be charged with additional offenses.

The Task Force will conduct both proactive and reactive investigations into computer and technology crimes perpetrated against children throughout its geographic service area. The Task Force resources will be directed at communities within its multi-county service area. Services will be provided to children, teachers, parents, other concerned community members, and LEAs. Crimes committed by suspects residing in the service area will be investigated. Cases involving suspects residing outside of the service area/jurisdiction will be referred to the appropriate LEA.

The LA ICAC Task Force will engage in proactive investigations by conducting a task force operation in the Spring of 2026. The operation will involve Undercover Chat (UC Chat), Peer to Peer, and dark web investigations. The LA ICAC Task Force, with Fox Valley, will be providing training on UC Chat to our affiliates in March 2026. Some of the challenges with conducting proactive investigations is the limited in person training available, and the affiliate turnover of ICAC Personnel. The Task Force will be working with Fox Valley to schedule additional UC Chat classes and Peer-to-Peer training. Another challenge with the UC Chat is the change in social media platforms, and the elimination of Craigslist and Backpage. In addition to the large-scale operation, affiliates conduct individual proactive investigations, such as UC Chats and other proactive measures, i.e. compliance checks during Halloween.

*Forensic Resources.* The LA ICAC is located within the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) regional headquarters in Long Beach, California. This allows HSI and the LA ICAC to work together and collaborate on cases as well as have access to the forensic capabilities and laboratory housed within HSI.

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As a member of the HSI Task Force with cross Federal status, the LA ICAC members housed at HSI have become Task Force Officers, allowing them to facilitate investigations and computer forensic examinations beyond the City boundaries. This enables the LA ICAC to establish better working relationships with other agencies through the work the computer forensic examiner provides.

The LA ICAC also serves as a forensic resource to affiliate and non-affiliate agencies within the Task Force's geographical service area. When forensic resource requests are received, they are assessed and either processed or referred to the appropriate agency. The Task Force then coordinates the forensic requests with respective prosecutors to minimize unnecessary analysis. Forensic reports are generated based on Task Force policy and statistical tracking. The LA ICAC has invested time, training, software and equipment into numerous affiliate agencies in order to support their digital forensic capabilities. Additionally, the LA ICAC is planning to establish designated affiliate digital forensic specialists within their respective counties in order to serve their surrounding agencies that may not have such resources. These designated agencies will be provided with various hardware tools, software, training, and certifications such as Cellebrite and Magnet Forensics.

When it comes to computer facilitated crimes against children, the most effective tool is forensic computer examinations, which involves collecting, analyzing, and preserving computer related data. Examiners use special tools and follow certain evidence collection procedures. The forensic examiner's tools usually include operating system utilities (for backups, disk manipulation, string searches, etc.), data recovery software (to thwart file deletion attempts), file viewers and Hex editors (to perform Win/Mac data conversion and reveal information contents and patterns) and commercial firewalls (for network sniffing and port scanning during

investigations).

Digital evidence is information and data of investigative value that is stored and transmitted by an electronic device. Such evidence is acquired when data or physical items are collected and stored for examination purposes. Computer forensic evidence is often latent in the same sense as fingerprints or DNA evidence. It can cross borders with ease and speed, is fragile and can be easily altered, damaged, or destroyed, and it is sometimes time sensitive. Computer forensic evidence, like all other evidence, must be handled carefully and in a manner that preserves its evidentiary value. Certain types of computer evidence require special collection, packaging, and transportation. If precautions are not taken or the computer is not examined by a trained and experienced computer forensics specialist, then the usefulness and credibility of that evidence maybe compromised.

The ability to bring perpetrators of serious crimes against children to justice requires that the data be preserved. When prospective exploiters of children record or re-create pornography using computers or digital devices, they almost always leave digital remnants, artifacts and a recurring record of their crimes. Unfortunately, perpetrators may get away with these crimes if computers or other devices capable of storing data such as commercial servers, workstations, laptops, hard drives, USB drives, memory cards, digital cameras, palm size computers, and cellular telephones are not examined by trained and experienced forensics specialists and preserved with special precautions. When the integrity of the evidence is compromised, its use in obtaining a conviction is diminished. In jurisprudence, this is referred to as maintaining the "chain of custody." The "chain of custody" specifically refers to the documentation or trail showing the seizure, custody, control, transfer, analysis and disposition of physical and electronic evidence. Because evidence is used in court to convict persons of

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crimes, it must be handled in a scrupulously careful manner to avoid later allegations of tampering or misconduct which can compromise the prosecution's case and lead to acquittal.

For the computer forensics field, the concept of "chain of custody" equates to following best practices. Best practices can be described as the methods and procedures used to collect digital evidence, while maintaining its integrity. In order to conform to best practices, examiners require knowledge on the tools required and extensive training on how to use them and a properly equipped facility to carry them out. It is encouraged that the Digital Forensic Examiners meet periodically to share current trends and best practices, and to discuss any training opportunities that are available to them.

LA ICAC recognizes the need for prevention efforts. The Task Force will continue to reach out to the media and the public. The LA ICAC will continue to publicize prevention strategies online, through television and cable programs and radio shows. LA ICAC will continue to promote education and information to the public through the media and community presentations.

***Leveraged Resources:*** The City of Los Angeles provides full funding for one lieutenant, seven investigators, and one civilian personnel in the LAPD ICAC Unit. The LAPD ICAC Unit provides functional oversight of the LA ICAC Task Force and are dedicated to LA ICAC Task Force activities.

### **III. CAPABILITY AND COMPETENCIES**

***LAPD.*** The Los Angeles Police Department is the nation's third largest police agency and serves the City of Los Angeles with a population of approximately 4 million and covering 468 square miles. The LAPD Juvenile Division consists of 48 sworn and 5 civilian personnel who

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are responsible for child physical abuse and child sexual exploitation abuse investigations and provides Department-wide training and advice on juvenile-related crimes. The LAPD ICAC Unit, under the LAPD Juvenile Division, provides functional oversight for Los Angeles Regional ICAC Task Force operations and serves as the administrator of the grant funds. The LAPD will serve as the prime recipient and will provide fiscal and administrative oversight over the grant program.

The LAPD has extensive experience in managing federal grants. It has successfully managed grants ranging from \$100,000 to \$16,000,000 from various local, state, and federal entities including previous OJJDP's Internet Against Crime Task Force Grant Program awards. The LAPD Grants Section consists of a Grants Manager and four Grants Analysts to oversee and report on over 30 active grants. A Grants Analyst will be assigned to the ICAC grant to manage the administrative aspects of the grant including preparing and submitting financial and progress reports in JustGrants and ensuring that all grant expenditures are in compliance with the grant's special conditions and both the City's and DOJ's financial policies and guidelines. The LAPD's accounting system establishes a separate account for each funding source and has the capability to track and identify the receipt and expenditure of each grant award.

***LA Regional ICAC Task Force:*** The LAPD has been successful in reaching out to several media outlets and the public to provide awareness on ICAC. Specifically, the LAPD has publicized prevention strategies on the Dr. Phil Show, the Early Show on NBC with Katie Couric, the Doctors, and various computer radio shows on KFI-AM 640 and KNX-AM 1070 to promote awareness of Internet dangers for children.

Over the last decade, the LA ICAC has been aggressively promoting education and

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information to the public through the media and community presentations. NBC's Los Angeles Region produced a special investigation regarding the LA ICAC mission during its highest rating period of "Sweeps Week." This information was also broadcast widely through the Internet. The LA ICAC also published an article for *Police Chief Magazine*, which was highlighted as the feature article and covered the mission of the LA ICAC. They also won the International Association of Chiefs of Police Award for Use of Technology for the apprehension of criminals using computers to facilitate crimes. The LA ICAC appeared on a local television program "Sunday LA." The program was about child sexual predators and helping the public understand the current laws. The news program was available in 2.3 million households in Southern California.

The Associated Press accompanied the LA ICAC during the execution of a search warrant on a suspected Internet child pornographer. The article that the Associated Press wrote regarding their experience with the ICAC investigators was very positive. The information was presented in the best way possible to educate the community regarding the very dangerous and prevalent existence of Internet predators.

In 2014, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and FOXLA / KTLA each produced half-hour news specials on the LA ICAC's operations and catching Internet predators. In 2015, nationally syndicated television shows Crime Watch Daily and the Doctors produced half-hour shows on the LA ICAC's mission and catching suspects of child sexual exploitation.

Additional appearances on national television (in English and Spanish) and local radio are expected. Moreover, the LAPD has designed and is hosting a website for the LA ICAC Task Force Program. In its effort to collaborate with the community, the LAPD has made numerous

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Internet Safety presentations to schools, parent groups, and youth conferences, most notably the 2018 Internet Cyber Symposium, where an Internet safety program was presented.

On May 21, 2020, The Los Angeles Times, published an article titled, "Online child sex abuse reports surge as kids spend more time on computers amid coronavirus". The purpose of the article was to make the public aware that there had been an uptick in CyberTips as reported by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. LAPD Lieutenant Anthony Cato and Detective Paula Meares were interviewed for the article and discussed how the LA ICAC had received nearly 3,000 CyberTips in the month of April, up from 1,355 in March.

The LA ICAC Task Force has made newsworthy arrests, which has allowed the media to share educational information to parents, caregivers, and educators on the importance of internet safety, and the dangers that are impacting our youth.

In addition to the educational community outreach, during Spring of 2022, ICAC investigators from the Fontana Police Department's Internet Crimes Against Children Unit arrested six child sexual predators in six separate child sexual exploitation investigations; The LAPD ICAC investigators arrested a high-profile actor and a police officer from a neighboring agency; in addition to other newsworthy arrests made by affiliate agencies.

During the week of September 6th through September 12th, 2022, the LA ICAC Task Force conducted Operation Protect the Innocent. This Operation spanned five counties and involved 64 of our affiliate law enforcement agencies. The goal of Operation Protect the Innocent was to conduct investigations and arrests by utilizing CT's received, identifying suspects for arrest, and contacting individuals on probation and/or parole. During the Operation, the LAPD and affiliate law enforcement agencies also conducted compliance checks on 290

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Penal Code (PC) – Requirement to Register as Sex Offender, with a nexus to internet crimes.

Multiple residential search warrants were served through-out the five counties, in addition to arrest warrants, which focused on child predators. As a result of the collaborative efforts employed by the task force, the following statistics during the Operation Period were achieved:

- Targets Identified: 657
- Targets Contacted: 510
- Targets Arrested: 149

On September 14, 2022, the LA ICAC hosted the first annual Chief's Symposium. The event started with a press conference, attended by the Police Chiefs of the LA ICAC Task Force affiliates and covered information on the ICAC task force, the details of Operation Protect the Innocent, and shared resources for parents, educators, and caregivers to protect their children from the dangers of online activities. During the Symposium, numerous speakers touched on topics related to employee wellness, leadership, forensic investigations, and how to obtain successful prosecutions on ICAC related crimes.

During the weeks of July 10, 2023 to July 21, 2023, the LA ICAC Task Force orchestrated a multi-agency operation, Operation Online Guardian. The goal of Operation Online Guardian was to identify and arrest predators who are using the Internet to facilitate the sexual abuse of children and to rescue children from said predators. Operation Online Guardian was executed in two phases. The first phase included proactive Undercover (UC) investigations on a variety of Social Media platforms. The second phase included the service of multiple residential search warrants throughout the five counties, in addition to arrest warrants, which focused on child predators.

During Operation Online Guardian, dedicated ICAC investigators demonstrated their unwavering commitment and compassion as they embarked on a critical mission to protect the

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innocent. Through their diligent efforts, vulnerable children were rescued from further abuse, and victims who had been silenced by the atrocious crimes of child sexual abuse found their voices restored. Justice was served during Operation Online Guardian as numerous suspects, who sought to prey on our young through social media and chat applications, were apprehended and brought to face the consequences of their actions.

As a result of the collaborative efforts of the LA ICAC Task Force, specially trained digital forensic dogs, the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, and Los Angeles Police Department's Gang and Narcotics Division (GND) the following statistics during the operation period were achieved:

Total Arrests:	Various Charges:
139	288.7 PC-Sodomy of a child under 10 years of age.
	288.5 PC-Continuous sexual abuse of a child.
	288 PC-Lewd acts with a child.
	288.4 PC - Meeting a minor for lewd purposes/sex.
	288.3 PC - Contact/attempt contact with minor for sex.
	288.2 PC - Sending obscene matter to a child for sex.
	289 PC - Penetration with a foreign object by force or fear.
	286 PC - Sodomy.
	311.11 PC - Possession of child sexual abuse material.
	311.1 PC - Distribution of child sexual abuse material.
	647.6 PC - Child annoying.
	290 PC - Failure to register as a convicted sex offender.
	3056 PC - Violation of conditions of parole.
1203.2 PC - Violation of conditions of probation.	

Between April 6 and April 19, 2025, the LA ICAC Task Force led a multi-agency effort known as Operation Spring Cleaning, which subsequently rolled into the National OJJDP Operation, Operation SOS (Safe Online Summer). Operation Spring Cleaning Results in 265 Arrests and the Identification and Rescue of 27 Children across Southern California Operation Spring

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Cleaning was a multi-agency initiative aimed at identifying and arresting child predators who use the internet to exploit children, and rescuing the young victims targeted by these offenders.

The operation was carried out in two phases. The first phase focused on proactive undercover investigations across various social media platforms. The second phase involved serving numerous residential and arrest warrants across five counties, targeting individuals engaged in the distribution of child sexual abuse material (CSAM), online exploitation, and other crimes against children. Twenty-seven vulnerable children were rescued from further harm. In total, 265 suspects, many of whom held positions of trust within their communities, were arrested and held accountable for their crimes. Several of those taken into custody held roles that placed them in direct contact with children or carried significant community trust. These arrests underscore the importance of vigilance and cross-agency collaboration in safeguarding children from individuals who use their trusted positions to exploit and harm the most vulnerable.

In addition to enforcement efforts, approximately 1,000 parents and children received internet safety training, empowering families with tools and knowledge to stay safe online.

Operation Spring Cleaning continued for the remainder of the month of April, and the below statistics depicts a sampling of child-exploitation-related crimes for which 299 suspects were arrested during the operation.

**The following is a sample of the child exploitation-related crimes for which the 299 suspects were arrested during Operation Spring Cleaning:**

<b>Arrest Total:</b>	<b>299</b>
Hands on Offenders	46
UC Chat Arrests	34
P2P Arrests	4

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Search Warrants - State Local	504
Search Warrants - Federal	10
<b>Community Outreach:</b>	
Public Awareness Events	21
Public Awareness Attendees	987
<b>Digital Forensics Data Examined</b>	<b>201 TB</b>
On-scene examinations	142
Examinations of Computers	66
Examinations of Phones/Tablets	262
Examination of external drives	164

The LAPD is partnered with Ireland Interpol, New Scotland Yard, NCMEC, and the Australian Police in Project Vic. This Interpol Initiative is for improving information sharing using cutting-edge technologies and approaches and will serve as a model that conclusively demonstrates the effectiveness of targeted information sharing to improve agencies' abilities to apprehend pedophiles and rescue children from sexual abuse. The project will define and publish the first standards-based protocol for connecting the dots across separate child exploitation systems and processes, which has the potential to radically transform the global response to child exploitation in the same way that other standards such as Wi-Fi have revolutionized networking. The service will support a high-quality repository of categorized image hashes, leading to major improvements in the efficiency of investigators in rescuing victims. The service will allow investigators in separate agencies to be aware of each other's activities in ongoing investigations and help make the connections across boundaries. The project will also define the protocol for connecting disparate child exploitation applications and implement the protocol as part of the service.

**Key Personnel:** Captain Ed Sun is the Project Director for the LA ICAC Task Force. He has

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been with LAPD since 1991 and has been the Commanding Officer for Juvenile Division since June 2024. He oversees the Abused Child Section and the ICAC Unit. As the Project Director, Captain Sun provides direction for all Task Force activities.

Lieutenant Robin Richards is the LA ICAC Task Force Commander (TFC). He has over 28-years with the LAPD and is the officer-in-charge of the LAPD ICAC Unit. He ensures that all Task Force investigators follow the ICAC Task Force Operational and Investigative Standards. The TFC is responsible for case assignments and public presentation assignments as well as assigning requests for technical assistance and requests for resources. On an as-needed basis, the TFC will support requests for technical assistance, requests for resources and training by other LEAs and the community. Lieutenant Richards will be the Program Director and will ensure that all program goals and objectives are met.

Detective III Maurice Kwon has been with the LAPD since 2005. He currently manages the LA ICAC Digital Forensics Laboratory and digital forensic software library as the Digital Forensic Supervisor of the ICAC Unit. He conducts and supervises digital forensic examinations for the LA ICAC Task Force, and trains affiliate forensic personnel on how to properly conduct digital forensic examinations in the field and laboratory environment. Detective Kwon will be the Project Manager and will manage the proposed program's activities.

Detective II Marvin Mancia has been with the LAPD Juvenile Division, working with the LA ICAC Task Force, since 2015. Detective II Mancia is the lead detective and has been instrumental in the success of the LA ICAC Task Force in the past years. He oversees the investigative operations and training for the LA ICAC Task Force. He will provide oversight of the grant program's goals and objectives.

#### **IV. PLAN FOR COLLECTING THE DATA REQUIRED FOR THIS PROGRAM'S PERFORMANCE**

The LAPD understands the performance data reporting requirements as identified in the FY 2025 ICAC solicitation. The TFC will work with the LAPD ICAC Unit in submitting the semiannual progress reports. The ATFC will be assisting the TFC in gathering all data and information including information from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The TFC and ATFC will use a case management and asset tracking system dedicated to mobile forensic case management and create reports for progress reporting.

On a monthly basis, the TFC and ATFC will compile a report showing the number of investigations completed, the status of each investigation (e.g., arrested, pending, etc.), the number of forensic examinations completed, the number and type of presentations given each month, the number of people trained, the frequency of technical assistance provided, and the number of times the Task Force served as a resource to the community and other LEAs. On a quarterly basis, the TFC will complete a report detailing the Task Force's status toward achieving the stated goals and objectives. This report will list each objective as shown in this application, each goal associated with the individual objectives, and status to date. The areas where target toward achieving the stated goals were not met will be reviewed by the TFC. Resources will be allocated accordingly to ensure the ability to meet stated goals and objectives.

As the lead agency, the LAPD will endeavor to coordinate and provide all resources for the investigation of computer-facilitated crimes against children in the Task Force area, and evaluate all requests for assistance, ensuring the successful operation of the ICAC Program.