



**2015 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant
Project Abstract**

Applicant Name: Town of Stratford

Title of Project: Information Technology Maintenance and Drug & Gang Surveillance Activities

Amount of Grant: \$12,895

Grant period: 2 years

Project Identifiers: Community Policing, Drug Market Intervention, Gangs, Surveillance, Computer software/hardware.

Program Description

Need:

The Town of Stratford has seen a significant increase in drug and gang-related violent crime over the past few years. The Unit's work with the regional Urban Violence Task Force has shed light on several issues requiring specific attention and additional surveillance. There has also been an increase in drug trafficking in town, as well as an incident of arson at a Stratford residence where gang affiliation is strongly suspected.

SPD has historically had very limited access to data to inform policing activities, both in the field and at headquarters. As a result, our policing activities and philosophy were predominantly reactionary and crisis-oriented, and did not allow for a shift towards analysis-based, proactive and problem-solving policing.

Goals and Objectives:

Goal 1: Reduce violent/gang related and drug related crime in Stratford by increasing the Stratford Police Department's investigative capacity.

Objective: Continue Stratford's Special Operations Team that will provide the Department with extra surveillance capacity during the first year of the grant period. This SOT will provide extra surveillance and presence in high-activity areas of Town, as informed by our internal intelligence and provided to us by our regional partners. Funds will support the deployment of SOT teams during high-activity months in the Summer.

Activities: Special Operations Team of 2 officers per team will conduct surveillance on an as-needed basis during high-activity months. The schedule of surveillance activities will be determined based on need by the Head of the Narcotics and Vice Unit.

Evaluation of Impact: Activities will be monitored by developing a specific activity sheet that will track arrests, intelligence tracking/contacts, gang affiliation, types of narcotics arrests, information on specific violations and will use Crime Reports to track and analyze.

Goal 2: Improve Predictive Policing and Quality of Information/Data Used in Policing

Review Narrative

2014 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Formula Program-Local Solicitation



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Objective: Continue iWatch Stratford program to encourage citizens to report activity that can lead to crime prevention. Continue the use of Crime Reports to improve information and predictive policing within the department. Funds will be used to cover continued annual user fees associated with both services.

Activities: Daily use and review of both services to allow the Department to predict, deploy and respond to concerns in the community more effectively. Review of Crime Reports data to make officers and leadership aware of crime trends and incident history in specific neighborhoods and residential/commercial locations.

Evaluation of Impact: Review of crime trends in the jurisdiction, officer safety data, arrest data.