



**2016 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant
Project Abstract- Public Review**

Applicant Name: Town of Stratford

Title of Project: Community Surveillance for Drug, Gang, and other Violent Crime Activity

Amount of Grant: \$10,715

Grant period: 1 year

Project Identifiers: Community Policing, Drug Market Intervention, Gangs, Surveillance.

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 have also been a rise in drug trafficking and gang-related violence in town in recent years. 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 in the community 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, and will support the deployment of officers into high-crime areas of Stratford to build positive relationships with community members and improve communications that can lead to more reliable information on criminal activity.

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. Community liaison officers will also conduct patrols in the surrounding neighborhoods, in coordination and cooperation with the SOT.

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.