

STATE OF CALIFORNIA • OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY
OTS-136a Grant Application-General Grant Application (Rev. 10/14)

GENERAL GRANT APPLICATION
Federal Fiscal Year 2016
(10/1/15 - 9/30/16)

APPLICATION TITLE: VENTURA COUNTY SHERIFF DRE TRAINING PROGRAM

AGENCY: COUNTY OF VENTURA

DEPARTMENT: VENTURA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Check ONE area that best describes the focus of this application:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol-Impaired Driving | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Medical Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Distracted Driving | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycle Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Traffic Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drug-Impaired Driving | <input type="checkbox"/> Occupant Protection | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Records/Roadway Safety |

APPLICATION SUMMARY

1. PROBLEM STATEMENT

(Describe the problem(s) to be addressed, supported by current and relevant local collision data. Define the target population the grant intends to serve and describe how they are impacted by the problem(s).)

The County of Ventura is no exception to drunk impaired driving, drug impaired traffic collisions, including drug impaired driving resulting on traffic fatalities. The challenge for Ventura County law enforcement is to bridge the gap with related training for effective enforcement to reduce these risks, involving all law enforcement agencies in a collaborative effort.

In Ventura County there has not been any regional Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) training available at the regional level, to address the above listed concerns. Geographically, Ventura County some distance between two established DRE hubs; Sacramento and Los Angeles. As a result, there has been limited training offered to police officers and deputies working on patrol in the County and surrounding counties.

Lack of training and expertise in the area of serious injury/fatal traffic collisions related to drunk/drugged impaired driving previously resulted in dismissal of criminal cases, lack of support of expert courtroom testimony.

There also has been a lack of certified DRE trained officers/deputies available to assist with DUI checkpoints, saturation patrols, and public safety education opportunities. In addition, there is a lack of consistency in investigative procedures related to DRE investigations due to the lack of local training and coordination among DRE's.

- **Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement**

An additional tool has been provided by NHTSA to help combat drugged driving. The NHTSA-sponsored ARIDE curriculum was developed to bridge the gap between SFST and DRE courses. The ARIDE class is a 2-day course that provides students with general knowledge related to drug-impaired driving.

The training consists of a review of the NHTSA SFSTs, the 7 drug categories, physiology of drugs, courtroom testimony, report writing, and drug combinations. The training is available to sworn peace officers through certified DRE instructors across the state. The 2-day ARIDE course can be used as a valuable resource for law enforcement agencies across the state to obtain intermediate drug training without having to commit resources for the 104 hours of DRE training. The ARIDE program provides additional drugged driving training while alleviating the strain on removing patrol personnel from the street for extended periods of time.

The ARIDE course is a prerequisite for acceptance into the Drug Recognition Evaluator School.

- **Standardized Field Sobriety Test Training**

The prerequisite SFST training is vitally important in the implementation of the DRE program and augments California's aggressive enforcement efforts directed toward the deterrence, detection, and arrest of driving under the influence (DUI) violators. Currently, 484 SFST instructors from 140 agencies statewide have been trained. However, the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) academy DUI instruction is not NHTSA-certified, which means nearly 80,000 police officers in California need SFST training. The demand for SFST training is great, but limited availability reduces the overall effectiveness of DUI enforcement statewide.

The SFST course is a prerequisite for acceptance into the Drug Recognition Evaluator School.

- **Drug Recognition Evaluator Schools**

The DRE school consists of academic training followed by field experience and certification. Initial DRE academic training requires completion of the prerequisite 16-hour NHTSA SFST course, followed by successful completion of 72 hours of classroom DRE instruction. Trainees must then attend 1 of the established DRE certification sites to demonstrate full comprehension and application of DRE knowledge during 32 hours of field certification. The DRE certification is valid for a period of 2 years, at which time, officers must recertify.

Currently, California has 38 POST-approved law enforcement academies, 4 of which provide the DRE training and certification course.¹ Although the remaining POST academies provide advanced officer training (e.g., crime scene investigation and drug lab training), it has long been problematic for these academies to provide DRE training. Since these academies are

¹The CHP, the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), Seal Beach Police Academy (California Narcotics Officer's Association), and the Fullerton Police Department.

traditionally based on college campuses, which restrict certain alcohol-related activities, they have difficulty providing the required alcohol lab and field certification portions of the class. Moreover, classes are instructed by off-duty or retired peace officers who do not have the authority to conduct the field certification phase. All of the academies with DRE schools are overwhelmed with requests for this vital advanced officer training, and are unable to satisfy the current demand.

A. Traffic Data Summary: N/A

Complete the table below using local data, do not use the OTS Rankings or SWITRS.

Collision Type	2011		2012		2013	
	Collisions	Victims	Collisions	Victims	Collisions	Victims
Fatal						
Injury						

2. PROPOSED SOLUTION

A. Strategies:

(Describe how the applicant agency will work to solve the problem(s) identified above.)

The Ventura County Sheriff's Office realized the need for a countywide network for training for all law enforcement agency DRE's. In 2012, the Ventura County Sheriff's Office implemented a department DRE Committee to strategize the needs of DRE's and drug impaired driving training. The first phase of this process involved making sure current DRE's were in certification compliance. The second phase sought to increase DRE participation on all DUI checkpoints throughout the County. These two phases have been achieved successfully. As an agency, all of our DRE's have maintained certification and we now participate in all DUI checkpoints and saturation patrols.

The third phase is the training component that is specific to the address the Problem Statement. The Ventura County Sheriff's Office has established our regional Academy as a training hub to increase the number of DRE's for all law enforcement agencies in the County. This will be done by offering the 72 hour Drug Recognition Evaluator School as well as the Standardized Field Sobriety Test (SFST) and Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) prerequisite courses. We currently have four certified DRE Instructors to provide all of these courses in 2016.

The DRE instructors will instruct one DRE School, two SFST courses, and two ARIDE courses in 2016. This DRE School will graduate at least 30 new DRE's from agencies within Ventura County and neighboring counties.

B. Agency Qualifications:

(Describe the applicant agency's resources and skills to adequately manage the proposed grant.

- *Are staffing levels adequate to complete the requested activities?*
- *Briefly describe qualifications of both program and fiscal staff, or plans to train staff.*
- *If the proposed activities involve direct contact with youth, provide information on how criminal background checks are conducted for paid and volunteer staff.)*

The Ventura County Sheriff's Office realized the need for certified DRE instructors. Over the past two years the Department has trained instructors. By June 2015 the number of certified DRE instructors will reach five.

Currently the Department has three certified instructors. Those instructors have presented the SFST course over the past year. The instructors are also instructing the ARIDE courses and instructing blocks at the DRE School by mid February 2015.

The DRE instructors are also members of the Department's DRE Committee, so they are able to share, build, and update blocks of training on a consistent basis. A sixth DRE instructor will be added in the coming months to compliment the staff, which will allow more flexibility with instructor scheduling.

C. Program Sustainability:

(Describe the plan for reducing reliance on federal funding in the future.

- *Is a portion of funding for this activity/program being provided by another source, such as other grants, an MOU, use of General Funds, etc? If yes, list the type and approximate amount of additional funding.*
- *Has the proposed activity/program been previously funded by OTS? If yes, list the years funded, approximate dollar amounts and progress to date in addressing the identified problem.*
- *What other funding opportunities has your **Department** applied for, is planning to apply for, or has received for activities that compliment/address the objectives listed in this application?*
- *What other funding opportunities has your **Agency/City/County/Jurisdiction** applied for, is planning to apply for, or has received for activities that compliment/address the objectives listed in this application?*

Currently, the Ventura County Sheriff's Office pays all overtime for all Sheriff's DRE instructors to teach courses. There is no funding provided by any other grants. This proposed program has not been previously funded by OTS. Our Department has not applied for any other funding opportunities at this time.

The Ventura County Sheriff's Office recognizes the need for its regional training academy to provide valuable training through the guidance of our DRE Committee to sustain DRE participation by hosting the training for area law enforcement agencies and providing a platform of instructors to accomplish this training.

The City of Thousand Oaks, which contracts for police services with the Ventura County Sheriff's Office, currently participates in STEP grants to conduct DUI checkpoints, saturation patrols, etc.

3. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Goals and objectives should follow the SMART method:

S	=	Specific
M	=	Measurable
A	=	Action-Oriented
R	=	Realistic
T	=	Time-Framed

State the goals and objectives in measurable terms that relate directly to the identified problem(s). The objectives should be concise, address a specific issue, and be realistic with a reasonable probability of achievement.

A. Goals: Reduce fatal injury crashes

- To reduce the number of persons killed in traffic collisions.
- To reduce the number of persons injured in traffic collisions.
- To reduce the number of persons killed in alcohol/drug-involved collisions.
- To reduce the number of persons injured in alcohol/drug-involved collisions.

B. Objectives:

(List here.)

- To increase the number of DRE instructors countywide by providing SFST, ARIDE, and DRE School training.
- To maintain all county law enforcement agency peace officers' DRE maintain certification.
- To have DRE's participate in all DUI checkpoints to conduct evaluations and take impaired drivers off our roads.
- To have DRE's participate in saturation patrols and utilize their training to evaluate and take impaired drivers off the road.

4. METHOD OF PROCEDURE

Identify the work (tasks) to be conducted in order to accomplish the stated objectives.

A. Phase 1 - Program Preparation, Training and Implementation (1st Quarter of Grant Year)

(List here)

- The Ventura County Sheriff's Office will work with CHP to provide training and certification documentation.

Media Requirements

- Issue a press release announcing the kick-off of the grant by November 15. The kick-off press releases and media advisories, alerts, and materials must be emailed to the OTS Public Information Officer at pio@ots.ca.gov, and copied to your OTS Coordinator, for approval 14 days prior to the issuance date of the release.

B. Phase 2 - Program Operations (Throughout Grant Year)

(List here)

- 1 DRE School
- 2 SFST Schools
- 2 ARIDE Schools
- 10 DRE Recertification events

Media Requirements

- Send all grant-related activity press releases, media advisories, alerts and general public materials to the OTS Public Information Officer (PIO) at pio@ots.ca.gov, with a copy to your OTS Coordinator.
 - a) If an OTS template-based press release is used, the OTS PIO and Coordinator should be copied when the release is distributed to the press. If an OTS template is not used, or is substantially changed, a draft press release shall be sent to the OTS PIO for approval. Optimum lead time would be 10-20 days prior to the release date to ensure adequate turn-around time.

- b) Press releases reporting the results of grant activities such as enforcement operations are exempt from the recommended advance approval process, but still should be copied to the OTS PIO and Coordinator when the release is distributed to the press.
- c) Activities such as warrant or probation sweeps and court stings that could be compromised by advanced publicity are exempt from pre-publicity, but are encouraged to offer embargoed media coverage and to report the results.
- Use the following standard language in all press, media, and printed materials: Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.
- Email the OTS PIO at pio@ots.ca.gov and copy your OTS Coordinator at least 30 days in advance, a short description of any significant grant-related traffic safety event or program so OTS has sufficient notice to arrange for attendance and/or participation in the event.
- Submit a draft or rough-cut of all printed or recorded material (brochures, posters, scripts, artwork, trailer graphics, etc.) to the OTS PIO at pio@ots.ca.gov and copy your OTS Coordinator for approval 14 days prior to the production or duplication.
- Include the OTS logo, space permitting, on grant-funded print materials; consult your OTS Coordinator for specifics.

C. Phase 3 – Data Collection & Reporting (Throughout Grant Year)

- Agencies are required to collect and report quarterly, appropriate data that supports the progress of goals and objectives.
- Statistical data relating to the grant goals and objectives will be collected, analyzed, and incorporated in Quarterly Performance Reports (QPRs). QPRs for the quarter ending September 30 will include year-to-date comparisons of goals and objectives. If required, a separate quarterly data reporting form will be completed each quarter and submitted as part of the QPR.
- Reports will compare actual grant accomplishments with the planned accomplishments. They will include information concerning changes made by the Grant Director in planning and guiding the grant efforts.
- Reports shall be completed and submitted in accordance with OTS requirements as specified in the Grant Program Manual.

5. METHOD OF EVALUATION

Using the data compiled during the grant, the Grant Director will complete the “Final Evaluation” section in the fourth/final Quarterly Performance Report (QPR). The Final Evaluation should provide a brief summary of the grant’s accomplishments, challenges and significant activities. This

narrative should also include whether goals and objectives were met, exceeded, or an explanation of why objectives were not completed.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

This program has full support of the County of Ventura. Every effort will be made to continue the activities after the grant conclusion.

BUDGET NARRATIVE

The Budget Narrative should provide line item descriptions that include the grant relationship and/or examples of costs. It should cover all cost categories and individual line items in the same order as the Detailed Budget Estimate.

1. PERSONNEL COSTS

(Explain grant related activities and/or responsibilities for each position identified in the Detailed Budget Estimate. Employee benefits and rates must be itemized.)

Personnel costs will include overtime worked by DRE instructors during the course of presenting the DRE School, SFST Course, and ARIDE courses

The following are the current salary/benefit hourly salary rates for the classifications that teach the above listed courses:

Deputy:

hourly OT rate: \$72.01 benefits: \$6.34 total hourly: **\$78.35**

Senior Deputy:

hourly OT rate: \$79.38 benefits: \$6.99 total hourly: **\$86.37**

ARIDE Course (2 courses) – 4 instructors per course (3 Deputies, 1 Senior Deputy)
24 hour course curriculum

128 Deputy OT Hours = \$10,028.80

32 Senior Deputy OT Hours = \$2,763.84

SFST Course (2 courses) – 4 instructors per course (3 Deputies, 1 Senior Deputy)
16 hour course curriculum

144 Deputy OT Hours = \$11,282.40

48 Senior Deputy OT Hours = \$4,145.76

DRE School (1 course) - 5 instructors per course (4 Deputies, 1 Senior Deputy)
72 hour course curriculum

288 Deputy OT Hours = \$22,564.80

72 Senior Deputy OT Hours = \$6,218.64

DRE Certification Site Training (10 certification events – 3 days each at 8 hours each day), 5 instructors per site training (3 Deputies, 2 Senior Deputies)

720 Deputy OT hours = \$56,412.00

480 Senior Deputy OT hours = \$41,457.60

DRE Arrest Teams – 2 deputy teams (4 deputies - 3 days each at 8 hours each day)

960 Deputy OT hours = \$75,216.00

2. TRAVEL EXPENSE

IACP(Describe the travel necessary to accomplish objectives. Specifically identify conferences or training seminars to be funded.)

The Ventura County Sheriff's office is requesting funding for tuition, lodging, airfare, per diem food, and rental car costs for five (5) positions to attend the IACP DRE Conference.

3. CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

(Provide a brief description of the services that will be provided by each contract identified in the Detailed Budget Estimate and describe how they relate to meeting the objectives.)

N/A

4. EQUIPMENT (\$5,000 OR MORE PER UNIT)

(Provide a brief description of each item identified in the Detailed Budget Estimate and its intended use. Description should also mention if costs include any attachments, accessories, auxiliary apparatus, installation or modification necessary to prepare for intended use. Do not list equipment brand names. Items requested must be supported by the grant goals and objectives.)

N/A

5. OTHER DIRECT COSTS

(Provide a brief description, and justification for each line item identified in the Detailed Budget Estimate. Include the name, quantity, description of how the item would be used for grant activities and justification for why the item is reasonable and necessary to accomplish the objectives of the grant.)

Printing costs for handouts for ARIDE, SFST, and DRE Schools - \$2,000

6. INDIRECT COSTS

(OTS rarely funds indirect costs. Only applications submitted with an approved indirect cost rate letter from the applicant's federal cognizant agency will be considered.)

N/A

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

- ✓ **Application packet to be received on or postmarked by the posted deadline (refer to OTS homepage www.ots.ca.gov).**
- ✓ **Completed application packet includes:**
 - OTS-136 Grant Application Cover Sheet and Budget.
 - OTS-136a Grant Application
 - Letters of Support (optional)
- ✓ **Submit three signed hardcopies (one original, two photocopies) of your application packet to:**

California Office of Traffic Safety
2208 Kausen Drive, Suite 300
Elk Grove, CA 95758
- ✓ **OTS may contact the authorized representative to request an electronic copy of the application**