

Proposal Cover Sheet

RFP PROCESS

LAW ENFORCEMENT SPECIALIZED UNITS PROGRAM

Submitted by:

EL DORADO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 515 Main Street Placerville, California 95667 (530) 621-4720 (Cal OES Use Only)

	#	FIPS#		Vs _	CFDA#		Grant#	
						EMERGEN		ES
			GRANT AV	VARD FACI	E SHEET (C	al OES 2-10	01)	
ne Calif	fornia Governor's (Office of Emerg	gency Services	hereafter design	ated Cal OES, h	nereby makes a	Grant Award of	funds to the follow
Grant	Recipient: Cour	nty of El Dorac	do				1a. DUNS	# 087834029
In the	amount and for the	e purpose and	duration set for	th in this Grant	Award.			
Imple	menting Agency:	District Atto	rney				2a. DUNS	# 087834029
Imple	ementing Agency	Address: 51	15 Main Street		Placerville	3		95667-5609
		<u> </u>		Street	1 IdCol VIII	City		Zip+4
Loca	tion of Project:		Placervil	le		El Dorado		95667-5609
			City			County		Zip+4
Disa	ster/Program Title	: Law Enforce	ment Specialized	Units Program	6. Perform	mance Period:	01/01/15	to 12/31/15
ant	Fund Source	A. State	B. Federal	C. Total	D. Cash	E. In-Kind		G. Total Project
ear					Match	Match	Match	Cost
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PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

Recipient E	El Dorado County District Attorney's Office Grant Number LE14010090										
Provide the name, title, address, telephone number, and e-mail address for the project contacts named below. NOTE: If you use a PO Box address, a street address is also required for package delivery and site visit purposes.											
1. The <u>Proje</u>	1. The <u>Project Director</u> for the project:										
Name	Vernon R. Pierson Title: District Attorney										
Telephone #	£: (530) 621-6472 Fax#: (530) 621-1280 Email Address: vern.pierson@edcgov.us										
	515 Main Street, Placerville, California 95667										
2. The Finan	ncial Officer for the project:										
Name	Steve Miller Title: Accounting Systems Administrator										
Telephone #	£: (530) 621-5536 Fax#: (530) 295-2535 Email Address: steve.miller@edcgov.us										
	360 Fair Lane, Placerville, California 95667										
3. The perso	on having Routine Programmatic responsibility for the project:										
Name	Shawn Eastman Title: Supervising Investigator										
Telephone #	f: (916) 941-5082 Fax#: (530) 295-2614 Email Address: shawn.eastman@edcgov.us										
	515 Main Street, Placerville, California 95667										
	on having Routine Fiscal Responsibility for the project:										
	Steve Miller Title: Accounting Systems Administrator										
	(530) 621-5536 Fax#: (530) 295-2535 Email Address: steve.miller@edcgov.us 360 Fair Lane, Placerville, California 95667										
	utive Director of a nonprofit organization or the Chief Executive Officer (i.e., chief of police, ndent of schools) of the implementing agency:										
Name	Vernon R. Pierson Title: District Attorney										
Telephone #	E (530) 621-6472 Fax#: (530) 621-1280 Email Address: vern.pierson@edcgov.us										
	515 Main Street, Placerville, California 95667										
	ial Designated by the Governing Board to enter into the Grant Award Agreement for the city/county unity-Based Organization, as stated in Block 14 of the Grant Award Face Sheet:										
Name	Yernon R. Pierson Title: District Attorney										
Telephone #	£: (530) 621-6472 Fax#: (530) 621-1280 Email Address: vern.pierson@edcgov.us										
	515 Main Street, Placerville, California 95667										
7. The chair	of the <u>Governing Body</u> of the recipient:										
Name	Brian K. Veerkamp Title: Chair, District Three Supervisor										
Telephone #	£: (530) 621-5652 Fax#: (530) 622-3645 Email Address: brian.veerkamp@edcgov.us										
	330 Fair Lane, Placerville, California 95667										

SIGNATURE AUTHORIZATION

G	Grant Award #: <u>LE14010090</u>
Grant Recipient: El Dorado Co. Implementing Agency: El Dorado Co.	unty District Attorney
*The Project Director and Finan	cial Officer are REQUIRED to sign this form.
Project Director: Vernon R. Pierson ignature: 12/1/14	*Financial Officer: Steve Miller Signature: Steve Miller Date: 12-1-14
The following persons are authorized to sign for the Project Director Signature Name	Financial Officer Signature
Signature	Signature
Name	Name
Signature	Signature
Name	Name
Signature	Signature
Name	Name
Signature	Signature
Name	Name

CERTIFICATION OF ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE With Statutory Requirements of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) As Amended, Services*Training*Officers*Prosecutors (STOP) Formula Grant Program

I,	Vernon R. Pierso	n	hereby certify that
	(official authorized to	sign grant award; same person as Section 14 on Grant Award Face S	Sheet)
RE	ECIPIENT: EI	Dorado County District Attorney's Office	
IM	IPLEMENTING AC	GENCY: El Dorado County District Attorney's Office	
PF	ROJECT TITLE:	Law Enforcement Specialized Units Program	
		viewing the G <i>rant Recipient Handbook</i> and adhering to and/or federal) as directed by Cal OES including, but not	
l.	Federal Grant	Funds	
	pursuant to Of	pending \$500,000 or more in federal grant funds annually MB Circular A-133 and are allowed to utilize federal grant action 8000 of the Recipient Handbook for more detail.	
	The a	bove named recipient receives \$500,000 or more in fede	ral grant funds annually.
	The a	bove named recipient does not receive \$500,000 or more	e in federal grant funds annually.
II.	Equal Employ	ment Opportunity – (<i>Recipient Handbook Section 21</i>	51)
	discrimination ancestry, disal characteristics pregnancy disa with all state a	policy of the State of California to promote equal employment harassment in employment because of race, religious of harassment in employment because of race, religious of the control of	creed, color, national origin, cal condition (cancer and genetic nedical care leave, denial of certify that they will comply
	Please provide	the following information:	
	Equal Empl	oyment Opportunity Officer: Pamela Knorr	
	Title:	Director, Human Resources	
	Address:	360 Fair Lane, Placerville, California 95667	
	Phone:	(530) 621-5572	
	Email:	pamela.knorr@edcgov.us	

All appropriate documentation must be maintained on file by the project and available for Cal OES or public scrutiny upon request. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in suspension of payments under the grant or termination of the grant or both and the Recipient may be ineligible for award of any future grants if the Cal OES determines that any of the following has occurred:

(1) the Recipient has made false certification, or (2) violates the certification by failing to carry out the requirements as noted above.

CERTIFICATION
I, the official named below, am the same individual authorized to sign the Grant Award Agreement [Section 14 on Grant Award Face Sheet], and hereby swear that I am duly authorized legally to bind the contractor or grant recipient to the above described certification. I am fully aware that this certification, executed on the date and in the county below, is made under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California.
Authorized Official's Signature:
Authorized Official's Typed Name: Vernon R. Pierson
Authorized Official's Title: District Attorney
Date Executed:
Federal Employer ID #: 94-6000511 Federal DUNS # 087834029
Current Central Contractor Registration Expiration Date:
Executed in the City/County of: Placerville/El Dorado
AUTHORIZED BY: (not applicable to State agencies)
☐ City Financial Officer ☐ County Financial Officer ☐ City Manager ☐ County Manager ☐ County Manager
Signature:
Typed Name: Brian Veerkamp
Title: Chair, District Three Supervisor

FEDERAL GRANTS FUNDING LOG

List all federal grant funds awarded to the applicant during the current year. Include the fiscal year of operation, funding agency and the amount of funding.

If your agency receives no federal grant funds check this box:	
, ,	

FISCAL YEAR	FUNDING AGENCY	GRANT AMOUNT
2014-2015	U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance	\$9,398
	Federal Grant Total:	\$9,398

Grant Number: LE14010090

Project Narrative

Problem Statement

El Dorado County is a rural foothill community which serves more than 181,000 citizens spread over 1,708 square miles¹. The only two incorporated cities in El Dorado County are Placerville and South Lake Tahoe with populations of 10,429 and 24,087 respectively.² El Dorado County is unique in that it provides services to urban areas (El Dorado Hills, Cameron Park, and Placerville) in addition to extensive rural areas which make up the majority of the County. A lack of major transportation options in the entire county make it difficult for citizens to access available services. It is a combination of these geographical and social factors, as well as isolation that results from living in a rural community that leads to an increase in the population's risk of domestic violence.

El Dorado County faces the additional challenge of the South Lake Tahoe area being virtually isolated from the rest of the county due to its geographical location and extreme weather conditions almost half of the year. The South Lake Tahoe region has a predominantly tourist-driven economy and suffers from employment fluctuations depending on the season. These fluctuations can increase stress on the families living in the region and result in increased incidents of domestic violence.

There is a recognized need for greater collaboration between the El Dorado County District Attorney (EDCDA), law enforcement, and The Center for Violence-Free Relationships (CVFR) (domestic violence service provider) to address the uniqueness of the situation faced by victims of domestic violence, and their children, in El Dorado County. Such collaboration is not only necessary to provide our community with an effective coordinated response to domestic violence to get victims the assistance they

¹ As of 2010. United States Census Bureau, State and County Quick Facts. ,http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06/06017.html>

² El Dorado County 2010-11 Economic and Demographic Profile. Center for Economic Development, California State University, Chico. 2011. <www.eldoradocounty.org/pdf/ElDoradoProfile10_11.pdf>

need in an expedited manner, but also to increase the number of criminal cases that are filed and strengthen investigations to achieve more positive outcomes on those cases.

As studies and research have shown over the years, domestic violence occurs across all socioeconomic populations regardless of education or income levels and particular factors increase the likelihood of domestic violence occurring. A study published in the New England Journal of Medicine, found that drug use, alcohol abuse, and recent unemployment by the perpetrator were factors that led to the greatest increase in risk of injury being inflicted in domestic violence cases.3 Indeed, perpetrators of domestic violence in rural communities are twice as likely to abuse substances.4 El Dorado County continues to see a high rate of drug use and alcohol abuse among its citizens. The use of methamphetamine and heroin is particularly prevalent in our communities despite several drug treatment options in the county. In addition, the District Attorney's Office anticipates that the recent passage of Proposition 47 (Safe Neighborhood and Schools Act) will likely increase such drug use in the county as we are already seeing many offenders who are currently in drug treatment programs, opt out of those programs because they face lesser consequences and see no benefit to being in treatment. As such, it would likely follow that we will see an increase in domestic violence cases since it has been found that drug use and alcohol abuse lead to an increase in violence.

As noted above, the other significant obstacle faced by El Dorado County is its geographical make-up and rural lifestyle. Being a rural county, El Dorado County is not able to offers its citizens as many resources, services, and transportation options as larger, urban counties. In a rural county, citizens are often isolated with the closest

³ Demetrios N. Kyriacou, M.D., Ph.D., et al. "Risk Factors for Injury to Women from Domestic Violence." New England Journal of Medicine. 16 Dec 1999.

http://nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJM199912163412505?viewType=Print&viewClass=Print>

⁴ Logan, T.K., Walker, R., & Leukefeld, C.G. (2001). "Rural, Urban Influenced, and Urban Differences Among Domestic Violence Arrestees." Journal of Interpersonal Violence, 16(3).

neighbor being some distance away. A lack of public transportation options furthers the feeling of isolation and allows a batterer to continue in the manipulation of the victim by cutting off access to alternate means of transportation (i.e. family vehicle). For victims of domestic violence that try to reach out for assistance, the rural setting can mean a lack of immediate help from neighbors and slower response time by law enforcement due to the roads and distances that must be travelled. This situation can lead to two different outcomes: 1) The victim decides to not call for assistance because of the realization of isolation, or 2) once the victim does call for help, the victim is then left alone with the perpetrator for an extended period of time which can lead to further victimization. A 2011 study found that domestic violence victims in rural communities experienced higher rates of violence with greater frequency and severity of physical abuse, while living a greater distance away from available resources.⁵

The EDCDA recognizes that all of these circumstances - a rural community, drug use and alcohol abuse, lack of transportation and service options – places the population within El Dorado County at a particularly high risk for domestic violence and we continue strengthening our collaboration with CVFR to better serve our citizens. The EDCDA also recognizes that children are often overlooked victims in domestic violence cases. However, services and advocacy are just as important to these innocent children who witness volatile incidents so they may properly deal with the psychological harm done to them. Intervention and advocacy is also necessary so children do not learn that this type of violent behavior is acceptable, therefore breaking the cycle of domestic violence.

The Center for Violence-Free Relationships (CVFR), formerly known as the El Dorado Women's Information Center, was formed in 1979 and has operated for more

⁵ Peek-Asa, Corinne, et al. "Rural Disparity in Domestic Violence Prevalence and Access to Resources." Journal of Women's Health. November, 2011. http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3216064

than 35 years in El Dorado County. It has a long history of serving victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking, as well as their children, by providing a 24-hour crisis line, emergency shelter, emergency food, clothing and transportation, individual and group counseling, legal assistance with TRO's, protective and/or custody orders, advocacy with social services in the criminal justice system, resource information, and intervention programs. After securing a 15-bed shelter in 1991, the CVFR recently renovated the shelter in 2012 and added counseling offices as well as therapy rooms. Over the past 35 years, CVFR has served over 24,000 victims, received numerous awards for its outstanding services to victims, and continues to strive for further expansion to serve an even greater number of victims in our community. An integral part of CVFR's program is to provide outreach to the community. Community education is accomplished by conducting outreach presentations in schools, businesses and organizations as well as providing information on their website, at public events and in brochures and periodic newspaper articles.

The EDCDA and CVFR have worked closely over the years to provide victims and their children with the greatest quality of advocacy and support possible. As outreach programs have increased community awareness of domestic violence, both agencies as well as law enforcement have increased their efforts to provide adequate services to victims as well as their children. As a result, the number of domestic violence incidents reported to law enforcement has risen in recent years creating an even greater need for services, advocacy, and a strong collaborative effort.

In order to best address the domestic violence within our community, it is imperative that the El Dorado County District Attorney's Office and The Center for Violence-Free Relationships effectively coordinate their response to domestic violence cases as each agency provides essential resources that the other agency may not offer. A coordinated response between agencies is critical within the first 48 hours when the

victim is at the highest risk. Within that time frame, the victim is confronted with innumerable physical and mental affronts to his/her well-being. The District Attorney's Office, working collaboratively with law enforcement, can provide an improved sense of physical security by upholding any existing restraining orders, making necessary arrests, removing firearms from the perpetrator, securing criminal protective orders, filing criminal charges, and requesting bail increases. The domestic violence counselor, through the local provider, offers critical resources including: 24-hour availability to the victim and/or children, emotional support, individual crisis counseling, group support, confidential emergency motel/shelter, medical accompaniment, court advocacy, assistance filing Temporary Restraining Orders (TRO's), resource referrals/information, and access to basic needs, including childcare. By effectively coordinating their efforts surrounding domestic violence, the EDCDA and the CVFR can guarantee the domestic violence survivor and his/her children are immediately receiving every resource available within the community to ensure a safe, efficient response.

Investigators within the El Dorado County District Attorney's Office assist Deputy District Attorney's on a daily basis with cases involving domestic violence. Investigators assist with time sensitive follow up that is often required in domestic violence cases such as additional interviews, evidence collection, locating additional witnesses and taking photos of injuries after the occurrence of the incident. Often times these types of requests must be completed within 48 hours so that a filing decision can be made. If the investigation is incomplete, preventing a filing decision from being made, the suspect must be released from custody.

Currently these types of investigative requests are performed by a District

Attorney Investigator "investigator of the day" assigned to handle all general crimes

cases including domestic violence. When cases are not as time sensitive as described

above, they are assigned to one of several different investigators assigned who work

general crimes. When an investigative request is submitted to an investigator, the investigator completes the request and moves on to other requests. If a Deputy District Attorney were to request additional follow-up on the same case, it may be assigned to a different investigator, thus reducing the continuity of the investigation.

In addition, domestic violence cases, for a variety of reasons, can be very difficult to prove beyond a reasonable doubt. Often there are no witnesses to the act of domestic violence other than the perpetrator and the victim. For this reason, it is very important to seek out and document evidence that corroborates the victim's report. This corroboration may include prior acts of domestic violence; searching Child Prorective Service, family law, military and medical records; interviewing family, friends and coworkers of the victim; locating and interviewing prior intimate partners of the suspect; and, interviewing household members, especially children living in the house. Thus, these cases almost always require significant follow-up by an investigator trained in the specialty field of investigating domestic violence crimes. Additional funding through the Cal OES VAWA grant would allow the domestic violence full time investigator to work exclusively on domestic violence cases therefore keeping continuity with the victim, children, witnesses, and the Deputy District Attorney assigned to prosecute the case.

In El Dorado County, the primary law enforcement agencies are the South Lake Tahoe Police Department, Placerville Police Department, California Highway Patrol and the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office. The California Highway Patrol does not employ any investigators in the Placerville or South Lake Tahoe areas so when their patrol officers encounter cases involving domestic violence, there investigation ends after a suspect is arrested and booked into jail.

The El Dorado Sheriff's Office submits the greatest number of domestic violence cases to the District Attorney's Office for review. Although this agency has a detective's division, a detective is not specifically assigned to domestic violence. Per that agency's

practice, all follow-up requests from the District Attorney's Office seeking additional information or investigation go to the patrol deputy who wrote the original report. If that deputy cannot do the necessary investigation the case is forwarded to the detective division for assignment to one of several "people crimes" detectives. As a rule, these detectives carry a large case load and are usually unable to devote the immediate and significant time required to follow-up on all but the most serious of domestic violence cases. These systemic delays result in the loss or degradation of evidence, prolong the victim's exposure to additional acts of domestic violence and may unwittingly contribute to a victim's decision to not cooperate with law enforcement efforts to prosecute the offender.

After a complete investigation and the filling of charges, domestic violence cases require extensive follow-up and preparation in order for the case to be ready for a jury trial. A full-time investigator assigned to domestic violence is crucial to the successful investigation and prosecution of these types of cases. Additionally, having a full-time District Attorney Investigator assigned to these cases at their inception will result in greater consistency in their handling and building the strongest case possible for prosecution, thus holding more offenders responsible for their actions. In the absence of a dedicated, full-time investigator, victims are forced to deal with multiple different investigators who often do not know the details of the case. This can lead to a lack of confidence and distrust of law enforcement on the part of the victim. Conversely, having the same investigator from the initial filing through trial and sentencing provides consistent support and promotes the kind of trusting open communication necessary for the successful prosecution of these cases.

To understand how desperate the need is for a dedicated, full-time domestic violence investigator one only has to consider the fact that the majority of murders in El Dorado County are domestic violence or domestic violence related. In many of these

cases there was a prior history of domestic violence, restraining order violations or other criminal activity that, if fully investigated, may have resulted in a successful prosecution. It is reasonable to believe that had there been a successful prosecution of these less serious crimes before they escalated to murder, those murders may not have occurred. This principle applies equally to less extreme examples of domestic violence as well. Domestic violence often escalates in frequency and severity until there is successful intervention. That intervention usually comes in the form of a successful prosecution. To demonstrate how a dedicated domestic violence investigator improves the likelihood of a successful prosecution, consider the following recent example:

A male suspect physically assaulted his girlfriend in their residence. The incident was originally reported to the El Dorado County Sheriff's Department and the suspect was arrested on a Sunday on domestic violence charges. On Monday morning, when the case was assigned to a deputy district attorney within our office, that attorney immediately recognized the investigation was incomplete and absent significant follow-up the case could not be filed and the suspect would be released from jail. The case was assigned to the District Attorney Investigator "of the day." That Investigator quickly determined that this was not the only incident of domestic violence against the victim and was able to obtain statements as well as further evidence including additional witnesses, physical evidence, and photos of the victim's injuries. Based on the new information and evidence obtained by the investigator from our office, the original charge of domestic violence, as well as additional domestic violence charges for the prior unreported incidents, were filed against the suspect. The suspect remains in custody on those charges and is awaiting a preliminary hearing.

A secondary issue is the significant need for training, which would ensure an efficient, effective, and consistent response. Domestic violence is often considered one of the more challenging forms of violence to confront as a result of its inherently delicate

nature – domestic violence crosses the boundary into the private sphere where matters are intimate and personal; domestic violence predicates on the domination and control of another human being; domestic violence goes far beyond the physical and seeps deep into a victim's self-esteem and morale. Domestic violence cases are often convoluted and difficult to fully understand. Frequently based on he said/she said, it becomes easy for divergent explanations to arise. For these reasons, domestic violence response can vary and greater consistency in the handling of these cases is necessary. To accomplish this, regular training will be provided to law enforcement officers and other first responders in order to strengthen the initial investigation. It is anticipated that such training will be presented by the Domestic Violence Deputy District Attorney, District Attorney Investigator, and the Domestic Violence Counselor.

Beyond the initial investigation, domestic violence incidents are some of the most challenging cases in which to prove and secure a criminal conviction. Many factors make these cases difficult to prove including: reporting issues (i.e. late or incomplete), incomplete report by law enforcement, lack of expeditious follow-up with victim, lack of follow-up investigation, and recanting. On average over the past three years, the El Dorado County District Attorney's Office has received in excess of 600 domestic violence related reports from law enforcement. Of the reports received, charges are filed approximately 33 – 40% of the time. One significant aspect worth noting is that the number of felony cases filed has increased each of the past three years which indicates that the severity of abuse is increasing resulting in more serious charges being filed. It is clear from these statistics that stronger, more thorough investigations are necessary and immediate contact with the victim by the Domestic Violence Counselor needs to be made to provide greater support and advocacy to the victims. A collaborative and consistent approach to domestic violence cases between the District Attorney's office, law enforcement, and a domestic violence counselor would alleviate many of these

issues and immediate follow-up would strengthen evidence in each case and thus result in the strongest possible case being presented in court.

Recognizing the difficulties in domestic violence cases, the El Dorado County

District Attorney is committed to the consistent handling of these prosecutions and has assigned a full-time Deputy District Attorney to vertically prosecute domestic violence cases which includes filing charges, prosecuting cases in court, and handling cases at jury trial when settlement is not possible. By assigning these sensitive cases to a vertical prosecutor, greater consistency is achieved in victim contact and handling of cases which alleviates victim frustration over having to speak to multiple attorneys on their case. This allows for victims, as well as their children, to build a stronger rapport with the prosecuting attorney. In combination with a vertically assigned domestic violence investigator and increased training for first responders and cooperation and collaboration with CVFR will result in stronger cases which will lead to an increase in the number of filings as well as the number of convictions.

Plan and Implementation

With funding from the Cal OES grant, the El Dorado County District Attorney (EDCDA) will form a specialized unit to ensure a collaborative effort between law enforcement and The Center for Violence-Free Relationships (CVFR) that works to provide a coordinated response to victims of domestic violence with thorough investigation, immediate victim advocacy, training for law enforcement officers, development of effective protocols, and immediate follow-up investigation to ensure the strongest criminal case possible. This specialized unit will be made up of a Deputy District Attorney, a District Attorney Investigator, a domestic violence counselor, and a victim/witness advocate. To ensure a strong team, the highest level of victim service, effective investigation, thorough officer training, and consistent use of protocols, grant funds will be used to obtain the following objectives: 1) funds will be allocated to employ

one full-time District Attorney Investigator and a full-time equivalent domestic violence counselor; 2) the contracted domestic violence counselor will attempt contact with every victim referred to the unit for the purpose of providing support and resources; 3) 24-hours a day, the contracted domestic violence counselor will be available to provide immediate in-person response to requests for advocacy; 4) the investigator will provide immediate follow-up on cases assigned to the unit to ensure expeditious gathering and documenting of evidence; and 5) the unit (prosecutor, investigator, and counselor) will conduct a five-part training throughout the grant cycle to all law enforcement agencies with the goal of further educating officers on the need for consistent response and to inform officers of response/follow-up protocols developed by the unit to achieve greater consistency in the handling of cases.

Relevant protocols, including: 1) consistent and appropriate response by officers to violations of protective orders to ensure victim safety, and 2) adequate response to victims of domestic violence and their children, will be developed by the Domestic Violence Unit and will be a collaborative effort between the assigned Deputy District Attorney, District Attorney Investigator, and the Domestic Violence Counselor.

Developing these protocols together will ensure the most complete and consistent approach to these cases and will result in greater resources and advocacy being made available to victims and their children. Training law enforcement officers and other first responders on these protocols will result in further consistency in handling of these sensitive cases. All of this combined will ultimately lead to a new way of handling domestic violence related cases in El Dorado County which will be sustained as trainings are repeated and consistency is achieved.

The District Attorney's Office will assign a full-time investigator to this specialized unit. The experienced investigator has an intermediate POST certificate and is scheduled to complete specialized training in March, 2015 relating to the investigation of

domestic violence crimes. In conjunction with the assigned prosecutor, the investigator will be responsible for reviewing domestic violence related reports each day involving suspects that are still in-custody and unable to post bail. These reports are forwarded to the District Attorney's Office daily by law enforcement agencies in the county and require immediate attention. When appropriate, follow-up investigation will be conducted immediately and a supplemental report will be prepared. Follow-up investigation may include: gathering witness statements, investigating/discovering previous incidents of domestic violence, documenting injuries to the victim (injury progression), and retrieving other evidence related to the case. Additionally, for those cases where the suspect is not in-custody, the investigator will review reports and evaluate cases within 48 hours of the arrest of the suspect and conduct follow-up investigation where appropriate and necessary. It is anticipated that, whenever possible, the entire specialized unit will meet daily to discuss new cases received by the District Attorney's Office. By being aware of and acting on cases immediately, investigations will be strengthened and we should see an increase in the number of domestic violence related cases being filed. Finally, the entire unit (prosecutor, investigator, and counselor) will be responsible for creating and conducting a training program for law enforcement officers and personnel.

The domestic violence counselor that will be part of this team is employed by The Center for Violence-Free Relationships which is a domestic violence victim service organization, and thereby meets the requirements of the grant. Additionally, current Operational Agreements are in place between the EDCDA and the CVFR outlining their efforts toward effective collaboration. The counselor will be housed at the District Attorney's Office and be available 24-hours a day for an immediate in-person response to requests for support and advocacy. At a minimum, within 48 hours of the incident, the counselor commits to attempt to contact the victim in some capacity. The counselor agrees to make a minimum of three attempts to contact. During the initial contact, the

counselor will provide support in the following ways: crisis intervention, resources and referrals, emergency shelter, and information related to legal proceedings. After the initial contact, the counselor will also be available to provide follow-up on temporary restraining orders and counseling referrals, among other items.

In addition to providing immediate and long-term support to victims and their children, the domestic violence counselor is also an important resource for law enforcement training purposes as the counselor can provide specific resource and outreach materials. The investigator, prosecutor, and counselor will develop and conduct a five-part, comprehensive training program that aims to provide officers in El Dorado County with the necessary tools and understanding to best serve victims of domestic violence, as well as their children. The concept is to develop a training series with each part focusing on a specific topic including: 1) understanding domestic violence as a distinct form of violence; 2) information related to victim resources and references; 3) crime scene/first response investigation; and 4) consistent and appropriate officer response; and 5) the role of the District Attorney's specialized unit as well as its development and implementation of response protocols.

The first part will include information about the dynamics of power and control in violence against victims of domestic abuse, patterns of abuse, the concept of dominant aggressor, and the effect of domestic violence on children. The second part will serve to primarily familiarize officers with the many victim services provided by The Center for Violence-Free Relationships and the broader community, including: peer counseling, court and medical advocacy, shelter options, and resources available for children.

The third part will include topics such as: the need for thorough victim interviews and the importance of recording the statement, the necessity of contacting and interviewing children of the victim and/or perpetrator, the collection and booking of physical evidence gathered from the crime scene, the proper documentation of evidence

including photographs of victim injuries, and the importance of completing detailed, comprehensive crime reports. The District Attorney Investigator will offer valuable insight as to the type of evidence and crime reports that are particularly effective in court hearings, prosecution, and restraining orders.

The fourth part of the training is geared towards ensuring consistent and appropriate response by all officers when responding to domestic violence related calls, as well as violations of protective orders. The final part of training will inform officers and other personnel about procedures related to the collaborative partnership between the EDCDA and the CVFR and response protocols developed by the new specialized unit.

In order to provide the effective training, victim response, and follow-up investigation, the EDCDA and CVFR must collaborate successfully. Part of successful collaboration depends on the mechanisms that cooperating agencies have to resolve disputes. The EDCDA and CVFR must develop protocols for interagency accountability as well as a procedure for dealing with interagency concerns and conflicts. The idea is that if a concern within either agency arises, direct conflict resolution should be attempted. Where that is not successful, the executive of each agency will either mediate the issue with all parties, or meet by themselves to determine and execute appropriate actions to resolve the issue. By instituting mechanisms of interagency accountability, it is hoped that disputes between agencies are resolved before they interfere with the mission of agency collaboration.

Mechanisms for interagency accountability are just one of the many new protocols that the EDCDA will have to develop in order to ensure it exists in its most effective form. Additionally, the District Attorney Investigator will be responsible for reviewing and monitoring reports in order to ensure victim safety as well as appropriate and consistent response by officers to domestic violence offenses and violations of protective orders.

The EDCDA and CVFR have maintained an amicable relationship for many years. With the development of appropriate protocols, the two partnering agencies will be all the more equipped at ensuring a sustainable relationship for years to come. Cal OES funding will enable the EDCDA and CVFR to further enhance their cooperative practices by codifying the specific roles and responsibilities of each agency. It is the responsibility of law enforcement officers who respond to domestic violence calls to understand how to consistently and appropriately serve the victim. This can only be achieved through comprehensive officer training to be conducted by the newly created domestic violence unit within the District Attorney's Office. It is also imperative that once an initial report is made for a domestic violence offense, that the District Attorney Investigator receives and reviews the report and, at the direction of the vertically assigned prosecutor, conducts follow-up investigation in an expeditious manner. The domestic violence counselor will be notified of cases on a daily basis.

Once the domestic violence counselor is informed of a case, it is his/her responsibility to serve as the liaison between the victim and the District Attorney's Office. In this capacity, the counselor is responsible for contacting the victim within 48 hours to provide him/her with necessary information, support, and resources. The counselor will also encourage victims to meet in person to access additional serves in person, such as emergency shelter and counseling. The counselor is also responsible for providing services for the investigator, including outreach, victim confirmation of the contents of the written report, and encouraging victim cooperation with the District Attorney's Office by providing personal support.

Clearly, a strong collaborative effort between the EDCDA and CVFR is needed to address the ongoing domestic violence offenses within El Dorado County. Further, stronger, more complete investigations are necessary to the successful prosecution of these difficult and sensitive cases. Recognizing these needs, the EDCDA intends to

continue working closely with all community based, victim service providers in the county to provide services, resources and support to victims. The development and implementation of necessary protocols is critical in achieving the stated goals and will be a primary priority of the unit, as well as the creation of a training program. The El Dorado County District Attorney's Office is committed to moving forward and is confident that the involved agencies, working together, will effectuate a positive change in El Dorado County regarding advocacy and support for domestic violence victims and their children.

Capabilities

The El Dorado County District Attorney's Office has an array of resources available to it that are beneficial for developing and conducting important officer and related personnel training. The EDCDA and CVFR have years of experience working collaboratively to provide trainings on domestic violence intervention and response techniques. The personnel that will conduct trainings is comprised of a three person team, each with multiple years of domestic violence related experience and exceptional qualifications. The Center for Violence-Free Relationships counselor has over thirteen years of experience as a certified domestic violence counselor offering compassionate support and excellent advocacy services in El Dorado County. This counselor will be supervised by an attorney with over thirty years of experience who has been at The Center for Violence-Free Relationships since 1984. The domestic violence counselor has completed more than one hundred (100) hours of domestic violence and sexual assault training and will be a valuable asset to the team. The second member of this team is a Deputy District Attorney who has over ten years of experience prosecuting domestic violence cases. This attorney provides vital insight regarding the quality of evidence that increases the likelihood of successful prosecution. The prosecutor has provided training to multiple law enforcement agencies over the past five years on

numerous legal topics and therefore has already established a rapport with officers. The District Attorney Investigator is the final member responsible for training and provides immediate review and follow-up on cases submitted to the District Attorney's Office for prosecution. The investigator will also serve as a resource for other law enforcement officers regarding effective intervention and response techniques related to domestic violence.

The investigator has over eighteen years law enforcement experience and was previously employed by the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office and the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office before joining the District Attorney's Office. As a former deputy sheriff who worked the streets of Santa Cruz and El Dorado Counties as both a patrol officer as well as a homicide and narcotics detective, he is intimately familiar with the importance of thorough reporting on everything from witness statements and child identification at the scene, to determining previous incidents of violence and collecting information from the victim. He is also very experienced with the California Law Enforcement Telecommunication System (CLETS) as well as many other law enforcement database sources of information. The investigator has investigated over one hundred domestic violence cases including homicide cases as a result of domestic violence. He has been employed as an investigator by our office for the past four years and in that time has investigated hundreds of cases encompassing a wide array of crimes including domestic violence. During many of these investigations, he has been assigned to review and investigate cases within a 48 hour time frame to insure cases are filed prior to suspects being released from custody. The investigator has worked with the CVFR on numerous investigations he has been assigned and already has a good working relationship with that agency. The investigator has attended POST approved training as well as continuous professional training in the area of domestic violence. The investigator currently acts as our office's POST training coordinator and is familiar with POST training policies and procedures including those in the area of domestic violence.

An example of a case this investigator was assigned was a 2012 homicide where a male adult suspect stabbed his wife to death inside their El Dorado County home. This investigator was assigned shortly after the homicide occurred. During the course of the investigation, the investigator learned of a second wife of the suspect's that was killed in another state in a suspicious circumstance. The investigator was able to network with law enforcement officers from the other state and ultimately able to assist the prosecutor in getting that information admitted into the jury trial. The information proved very important as the defendant was found guilty of 1st degree murder. As an investigator with an advanced POST certificate and scheduled specialized domestic violence training, our investigator will prove to be a great asset to this team.

Over the years, the El Dorado County District Attorney's Office has worked closely with multiple victim service providers in the community and already has Operational Agreements in place with the South Lake Tahoe Police Department/Domestic Violence Response Team (DVRT), Live Violence Free (South Lake Tahoe), and New Morning Youth & Family Services, in addition to The Center for Violence-Free Relationships. The agreements address services such as in-person contact with victims, having a support person available and present at the victim's request, providing services such as housing, clothing, and money to victims, and assisting victims through court proceedings. These agreements demonstrate that the EDCDA, law enforcement, and service providers in the community are able to work collaboratively and are dedicated in their commitment to provide domestic violence victims with appropriate services and resources.

Budget Narrative

The proposed budget reflects the necessary expenditures to provide direct support services to victims of domestic violence as outlined in the Project Narrative. The budgeted amounts will directly support the objectives and activities of the Domestic Violence program by funding the project's personnel services and operating costs. Project-funded staff includes a District Attorney Investigator and a Domestic Violence Counselor and project-funded operating costs include only the necessary items that support the efforts of the direct service providers. The non-staffing operating expenses include costs for resource materials to be provided to victims, training related travel costs, one laptop computer, two desktop computers, communication costs, office expenses, and facility rental costs. Currently, there are no budgeted funds for equipment.

Program funds are solely budgeted in support of direct service activities with no program funds allocated for administrative or indirect costs. The project is designed to support the program objectives while utilizing resources already available. Personal services to be provided to the project, but not funded by the program, include costs for additional investigative staff, a full-time Deputy District Attorney, and fiscal staff support.

The personal services costs include funding for a 1.0 FTE District Attorney Investigator who will be assigned exclusively to the domestic violence unit. The investigator will be responsible for reviewing domestic violence related reports each day involving suspects that are still in-custody and unable to post bail. When appropriate, the investigator will conduct follow-up investigations and prepare supplemental reports. Follow-up investigation may include: gathering witness statements, investigating/discovering previous incidents of domestic violence, documenting injuries to the victim (injury progression), and retrieving other evidence related to the case. Additionally, for those cases where the suspect is not in-custody, the investigator will

review reports and evaluate cases within 48 hours of the arrest of the suspect and conduct follow-up investigation where appropriate and necessary.

The investigator has over eighteen years law enforcement experience and was previously employed by the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office before joining the District Attorney's Office. As a former deputy sheriff who worked the streets of El Dorado County, he is intimately familiar with the importance of thorough reporting on everything from witness statements and child identification at the scene, to determining previous incidents of violence and collecting information from the victim and California Law Enforcement Telecommunication System (CLETS). The investigator has an intermediate POST certificate, and is currently scheduled to complete specialized domestic violence investigation training in March, 2015.

Operating costs also include funding for a 1.0 FTE Domestic Violence Counselor. The counselor will be contracted, via operational agreement, through The Center for Violence-Free Relationships which is a domestic violence victim service organization. The counselor has over thirteen years of experience working as a certified domestic violence counselor, offering compassionate support and exceptional advocacy services in El Dorado County. Additionally, the counselor has completed over one hundred (100) hours of domestic violence and sexual assault training. The counselor will be housed at the District Attorney's Office and be available 24-hours a day for an immediate in-person response to requests for support and advocacy. At a minimum, within 48 hours of the incident, the counselor commits to attempt to contact the victim in some capacity. The counselor agrees to make a minimum of three attempts to contact. During the initial contact, the counselor will provide support in the following ways: crisis intervention, resources and referrals, emergency shelter, and information related to legal proceedings. After the initial contact, the counselor will also be available to provide follow-up on temporary restraining orders and counseling referrals, among other items. Per the terms of the operational agreement, the counselor will meet with the investigator daily to discuss strategies, timetables, and implementation of mandated services. The budgeted funding for the Domestic

Violence Counselor is based on the current counselor rates provided by The Center for Violence-Free Relationships and is consistent with pay for comparable positions based on the knowledge and years of experience the counselor possesses.

The El Dorado County District Attorney's Office will not put out a request for competitive bids for the domestic violence counselor position. There are a multitude of reasons for this decision which include: 1) there are no other domestic violence service providers on the Western Slope of El Dorado County where the majority of the population resides; 2) the Center for Violence-Free Relationships has been active in El Dorado County for over 30 years, is well-known in the community, and has successfully served over 24,000 victims in that timeframe; 3) the domestic violence counselor is already familiar with El Dorado County and has over thirteen years of experience at CVFR; 4) the El Dorado County District Attorney and CVFR already have an operational agreement in place and both agencies have met in preparation of this grant application and have agreed to the goals stated in the Project Narrative. The El Dorado County District Attorney is confident that the working relationship already in place with CVFR will make for an easy creation of the domestic violence unit to ensure personnel are ready to begin their collaborative effort on January 1, 2015.

In addition to providing direct services, the investigator and counselor will also work with a Deputy District Attorney to develop a five-part, comprehensive training program that aims to educate and provide officers in El Dorado County with the necessary tools and understanding to best serve victims, and their children, of domestic violence. Additionally, the team will work collaboratively to develop and implement necessary protocols which will also be covered during the training program.

The project-funded full-time District Attorney Investigator and full-time Domestic Violence Counselor will dedicate 100% of their time to providing victim services and community outreach related to the domestic violence program as outlined in the Project Narrative.

Applicant: El Dorado County District Attorney Gr	rant Number:
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Other than the required contract for the Domestic Violence Counselor described above, there are no other subcontracts or unusual expenses. Additionally, there are no scheduled mid-year salary range adjustments for project-funded staff.

BUDGET CATEGORY AND LINE ITEM DETAIL

A. Personal Services - Salaries/Employee Benefits	Mar 150
Salary \$ 9,415 /mo X 12 mo X 1.00 FTE \$ 112,980 Benefits b. Other Comp/Tahoe Differential 2.74% X \$112,980 Salaries 3,096 c. Retirement / PERS 33.01% X \$112,980 Salaries 37,295 d. Medicare 1.45% X \$116,076 Salaries & Other 1,683 e. Health Insurance 18.58% X \$112,980 Salaries 20,992 f. Disability 0.23% X \$112,980 Salaries 260	COST
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e. Health Insurance 18.58% X \$112,980 Salaries 20,992 f. Disability 0.23% X \$112,980 Salaries 260	37,29
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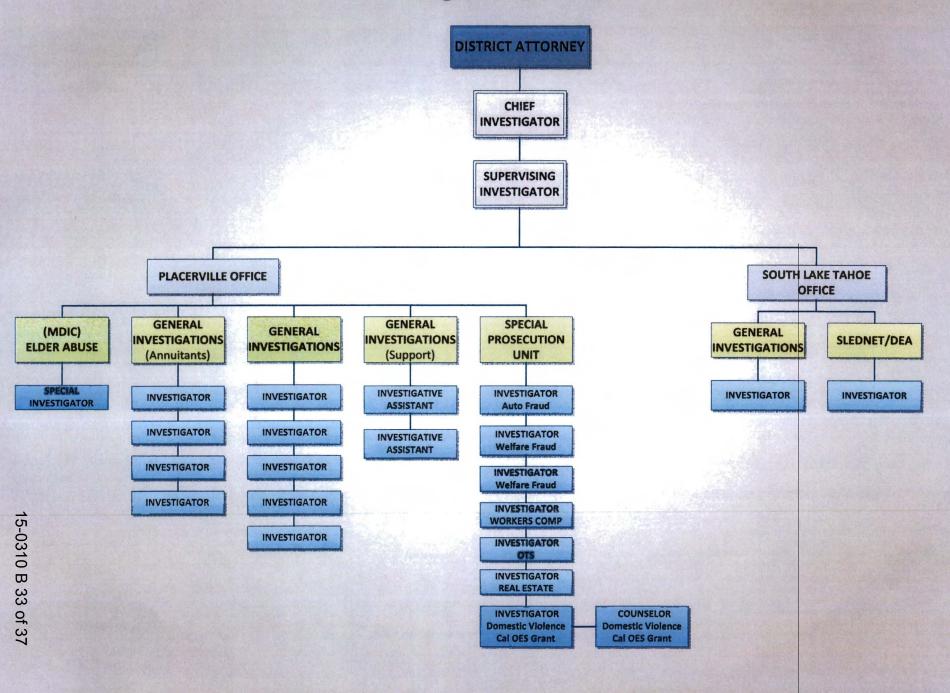
BUDGET CATEGORY AND LINE ITEM DETAIL

When the state of	Grant Recipient: El Dorado County						Grant Number:					
B. Operating Expenses									VAWA	VAWA Match (DA)		COST
1.00 FTE Domestive Violence Counse	lor -	partic	ipating st	aff c	ontracted t	throu	ah					
The Center for Violence-Free Relatio Salary												
a. Salary	\$	3,233	/mo	X	12 mo	Χ	1.00	FTE	\$ -	\$38,796		\$38,79
Benefits												
b. FICA			7.65%	X	\$38,796				-	2,968		2,968
c. Unemployment Ins.					\$38,796				-	388		388
d. Workers' Comp			0.40%	X	\$38,796				-	155		155
e. Health Insurance			20.11%	X	\$38,796				1	7,802		7,802
_aptop Computer												
1 Laptop Computer (\$700 each)									_	700		700
2 Desktop Computers (\$900 each)									-	1,800		1,800
Resournce Materials:										500		500
Brochures - English/Spanish									1	500		500
Fravel												
Training - ICI Doestic Violence Investi Hotel: \$125 per night + 10% TOT Meals (County Policy): \$40/day X	X 4	nights							1,100	-		1,100 400
Mileage		-	/mile	Х	200 mls	X	12	mos	-	1,344		1,344
Felephone/Communications												
Investigator - cell phone charges	\$	55	/mo	X	12 mo	Х	1.00	FTE	-	660		660
Investigator - mifi charges	\$	40	/mo	X	12 mo	Χ	1.00	FTE	-	480		480
Office Expense												
General office expense including												
supplies, forms, printing, postage, sm			for a		40	v	0.00	CTC		500		500
tools, publications, etc.	\$	22	/mo	X	12 mo	Х	2.00	FTE	-	528		528
Rent												
Office space 1 - Investigator	\$	1.75	/sf/mo	X	12 mo	X	125	sf	-	2,625		2,625
Office space 1 - Counselor	\$	1.75	/sf/mo	Х	12 mo	X	97	sf	-	2,037		2,037
OPERATING SECTION TOTAL		化表型		15-15		le diss		500 0	\$1,500	\$60,783	1. 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 1	\$62,28
OPERATING SECTION TOTAL			-									

BUDGET CATEGORY AND LINE ITEM DETAIL

Grant Recipient: El Dorado County				Grant Number:				
C. Equipment			VAWA	VAWA Match (DA)		COST		
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uipment Section Totals			\$0	\$0	\$0	A BE W		
QUIPMENT SECTION TOTAL						\$0		
Cotonor: Totale		***************************************						
Category Totals ame as Section 12G on the Grant Award		North Control			0.40			
ame as Section 12G on the Grant Award Face Sheet			\$181,907	\$60,783	\$0			
otal Project Cost*								
eet					\$	242,69		

El Dorado County District Attorneys Office Organizational Chart



OPERATIONAL AGREEMENT

(See Recipient Handbook Section 4000)

This Operational Agreement stands as evidence that the El Dorado County District Attorney (EDCDA) and The Center for Violence Free Relationships (CVFR) intend to work together toward the mutual goal of providing maximum available assistance for crime victims residing in El Dorado County. Both agencies believe that implementation of the Law Enforcement Specialized Units Program application, as describe herein, will further this goal. To this end, each agency agrees to participate in the program, if selected for funding, by coordinating/providing the following services:

The El Dorado District Attorney (EDCDA) will closely coordinate the following services with The Center for Violence Free Relationships (CVFR) through:

- Project staff being readily available to The Center for Violence Free Relationships (CVFR) through in-person and telephone contact with one full-time District Attorney Investigator.
- The investigator will be responsible for reviewing domestic violence related reports each
 day involving suspects that are still in-custody and unable to post bail. The investigator
 will provide immediate follow-up on cases assigned to the unit and notify the Domestic
 Violence Counselor to provide victims with an effective coordinated response to domestic
 violence to get victims the assistance they need in an expedited manner.
- Regularly scheduled meetings will be held daily between DV Investigator and DV Counselor to discuss strategies, timetables and implementation of mandated services.

Specifically:

The El Dorado County District Attorney (EDCDA) agrees to the following:

- 1. To enforce the laws regarding domestic violence in order to protect the victim(s) and to prevent future criminal acts through vigorous early intervention;
- 2. To work directly with The Center for Violence Free Relationships (CVFR);
- To notify CVFR through the full time DV Counselor, or as necessary through the 24-hour crisis line whenever a domestic violence case or adult sexual assault is initiated: and
- 4. To engage in collaborative five-part trainings with CVFR.
- 5. To develop protocols related to officer response to violations of protective orders and multi-agency response to victims of domestic violence and their children.

Operational Agreement The Center for Violence Free Relationships Page 2 of 2

The Center for Violence Free Relationships agrees to the following:

- To provide one full-time Domestic Violence Counselor to work specifically with the Domestic Violence DA Investigator and specialized unit to ensure a collaborative effort between law enforcement and the CVFR.
- 2. To provide 24-hour crisis line services, individual and group counseling, legal assistance, emergency food, clothing, shelter, advocacy and accompaniment to domestic violence victims and their children, and to adult sexual assault victims who request assistance from CVFR;
- 3. To engage in five-part training with EDCDA, as appropriate; and
- To share information regarding domestic violence and sexual assault victims with the EDCDA, if appropriate and if prior written authorization has been obtained from the victim.
- 5. To have a domestic violence counselor available 24-hours a day to respond to a victim's need for advocacy and assistance.

We, the undersigned, as authorized representatives of the El Dorado County District Attorney and The Center for Violence Free Relationships do hereby approve this document.

Vernon R. Pierson

District Attorney, El Dorado County

Date

Matt Huckabay

Executive Director, The Center for Violence Free Relationships

Date

NONCOMPETITIVE BID REQUEST CHECKLIST

Has the applicant/recipient met the following requirements of the Recipient Handbook:

	Check appropriate box:	Yes	No
Section 3511			
Do conditions exist that require a sole/single-source co	ntract?	•	0
Section 3521.1			
Is a brief description of the program or project included	?	•	0
Section 3521.2			
Occilon 3021.2			
Was it necessary to contract noncompetitively?		•	
Did the contractor submit his/her qualifications?		\odot	
Is the reasonableness of the cost justified?		•	
Were cost comparisons made with differences noted	I for similar services?		
Is a justification provided regarding the need for conf	tract?	•	
Section 3521.3			
Is an explanation provided for the uniqueness of the	contract?	•	0
Section 3521.4			
OCCUOII VOL I.T			
Are there time constraints impacting the project?			
Were comparisons made to identify the time require	d for another		ledow

PROJECT SERVICE AREA INFORMATION

 COUNTY OR COUNTIES SERVED: Enter the name(s) of the county or counties served by the project. Put an asterisk where the project's principal office is located.

El Dorado County*

 U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT(S): Enter the number(s) of the U.S. Congressional District(s) which the project serves. Put an asterisk for the district where the project's principal office is located.

4th District*, Represented by Congressman Tom McClintock

3. <u>STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT(S)</u>: Enter the number(s) of the State Assembly District(s) which the project serves. Put an asterisk for the district where the project's principal office is located.

State Assembly Districts are split between the 6th State Assembly District and 5th State Assembly District*

5th State Assembly District represented by Frank Bigelow* 6th State Assembly District represented by Beth Gaines

4. <u>STATE SENATE DISTRICT(S)</u>: Enter the number(s) of the State Senate District(s) that the project serves. Put an asterisk for the district where the project's principal office is located.

1st State Senate District* Represented by Ted Gaines

POPULATION OF SERVICE AREA: Enter the total population of the area served by the project.

El Dorado County Population 181,058