### Contract #: Automobile Insurance Fraud Grant FY 14/15

### **CONTRACT ROUTING SHEET**

Date Prepared:	8/25/14	Need Date: ASAF	
PROCESSING D	EPARTMENT:	CONTRACTOR:	
Department:	District Attorney		ent of Insurance
Dept. Contact:	Nancy Anderson	Address:	
Phone #:	621-6484		
Department		Phone:	
Head Signature:	1		
CONTRACTING	DEPARTMENT: District Attorn	2014	
	d: FY 2014-2015 Resolution	ley	
Contract Term:		Contract Value:	\$240,000
	Human Resources requirements		No:
Compliance verific		r res.	
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OTHER APPROV	AL: (Specify department(s) par	ticinating or directly affects	**
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## CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE FRAUD DIVISION

# AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE FRAUD PROGRAM REQUEST-FOR-APPLICATION

**FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015** 

# SECTION III APPLICATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

Pursuant to Insurance Code Section 1872.8(b)(1)(D), the application for funding is a public document and may be subject to disclosure. However, information submitted to the California Department of Insurance concerning criminal investigations, whether active or inactive, is considered confidential.

### AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE FRAUD INVESTIGATION/PROSECUTION PROGRAMS FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 GRANTS

#### Grant Application Checklist and Sequence

### The Application MUST include the following:

		<b>YES</b>	NO
1.	Is the Grant Application Transmittal sheet completed and signed by the district attorney? (Form 02)		
2.	Table of Contents	$\boxtimes$	
3.	Is the Program Contact Form completed? (Form 03)	$\boxtimes$	
	Is an original or certified copy of the Board Resolution included? If NOT, the cover letter must indicate the submission date. (Form 04)		$\boxtimes$
5.	The County Plan includes:		
	<ul> <li>a) County Plan Qualifications (Form 05)</li> <li>b) Staff Qualifications (Form 06(a))</li> <li>c) Organizational Chart (Form 06(b))</li> </ul>	$\boxtimes$	
	d) Program Report (Form 07) e) County Plan Problem Statement (Form 08) f) County Plan Program Strategy (Form 09)		
6.	Is the projected Budget included? (Forms 10-12)		
	a) Line-item totals are verified?		
7.	Is the Equipment Log completed and signed? (Form 13)	$\boxtimes$	
8.	Joint Plan (Attachment A)	$\boxtimes$	
9.	Case Descriptions (Attachment B)	$\boxtimes$	

# GRANT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL Instructions for Fiscal Year 2014-2015

#### **GRANT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL**

The Grant Application Transmittal is the cover page for the application. The official signing the face sheet for the applicant must be the district attorney for the county. The Grant Application Transmittal must also name the contact person who is designated to answer any questions about the proposed program.

1. Program Title: Enter the complete title of the program.

2. Grant Period: Enter the beginning and ending dates of funding as specified in the grant application instructions.

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3. Grant Amount: Enter the total amount of state funds being requested.

4. Estimated Carryover Funds:

Enter the estimated carryover funds from the previous fiscal year(s).

5. <u>Program Director</u>: Enter the name and title of the individual ultimately responsible for the program.

6. Financial Officer: Enter the name and title of the person who will be responsible for all fiscal matters relating to the program. This person must be someone other than the program director.

7. Official Submitting Application:

Enter the name, title, county, address and telephone number of the district attorney submitting the application. The district attorney's original signature (not a stamped, photocopied or faxed version) must be on the Grant Application Transmittal.

## DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE GRANT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

Office of the District Attorney, County of El Dorado, hereby makes application for funds under the Automobile Insurance Fraud Program pursuant to Section 1872.8 of the California Insurance Code.

Contact: _	JAMES A. CLINCHAR	D, ASSISTANT DI	STRICT ATTO	RN	EY
Address: _	515 MAIN STREET, PL	<u>ACERVILLE, CA</u>	95667		
		Telep	ohone: (530) 62	21-6	472
AUTOMO	BILE INSURANCE FRA	UD PROGRAM	7/1/2014 – 6	6/30	0/2015
(1) Progra	m Title	(2) G	Grant Period		
		(3) New Funds Be	eing Requested:	\$	339,996
		(4) Estimated Carr	ryover Funds:	\$_	45,000
VERN R.	PIERSON	STE	VE MILLER		
(5) Progra	um Director	(6) F	inancial Officer	r	
(7) Distric	t Attorney's Signature				
Name:	VERN R. PIERSON				
Title:	DISTRICT ATTORNEY				
County:	EL DORADO				
Address:	515 MAIN STREET				
_	PLACERVILLE, CA 95	5667			
Telephone	:(530) 621-6472				
Date:	6/20/14				

# TABLE OF CONTENTS Instructions for Fiscal Year 2014-2015

In order to facilitate the review and evaluation of the County Plan, the county is required to prepare and provide a Table of Contents. The Table of Contents should be placed immediately behind the Grant Application Transmittal face page. The format of the Table of Contents is left to the county's discretion.

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# PROGRAM CONTACT FORM Instructions for Fiscal Year 2014-2015

Complete the Program Contact Form on the following page. For the purpose of this RFA, contact the Local Assistance Programs Unit at (916) 854-5760.

## DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE PROGRAM CONTACT FORM

1.	Provide the name, title, address and telephone number of the person having day-to-day operational responsibility for the program, and who can be contacted with questions regarding the program.
	Name: JAMES CLINCHARD
	Title: ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY
	Address: 515 MAIN STREET
	PLACERVILLE, CA 95667
	E-mail address: james.clinchard@edcgov.us
	Telephone Number: (530) 621-6405 Fax Number: (530) 621-1280
2.	Provide the name, title, address and telephone number of the District Attorney's Financial Officer.
	Name: STEVE MILLER
	Title: ACCOUNTING SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR
	Address: 515 MAIN STREET
	PLACERVILLE, CA 95667
	E-mail address: steve.miller@edcgov.us
	Telephone Number: (530) 621-5536 Fax Number: (530) 621-1280
3.	Provide the name, title, address and telephone number of the person who may be contacted for questions regarding data collection/reporting for the applicant agency.
	Name: MICHELLE YOPP
	Title: LEGAL SECRETARY
	Address: 515 MAIN STREET
	PLACERVILLE, CA 95667
	E-mail address: michelle.yopp@edcgov.us
	Telephone Number: (530) 621-6720 Fax Number: (530) 621-1280

### **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESOLUTION**

The Board of Supervisors' Resolution will be sent to the Department of Insurance after it is received. The Board of Supervisors will not accept the Resolution without County Counsel approval/review of the Grant Application. The Resolution will be forwarded by December 31, 2014.

### **COUNTY PLAN**

### **Overall Instructions for Fiscal Year 2014-2015**

#### **COUNTY PLAN**

The County Plan is the main body of information about the local program. It describes the need for funding to address investigation and prosecution of insurance fraud demands through appropriate and achievable objectives and activities. Each district attorney's program award shall be based on the evaluation of the County Plan.

#### The County Plan:

- Shall include elements describing the county's qualifications and the manner in which the district attorney will use grant funds to investigate and prosecute automobile insurance fraud.
- Will address the applicability of the Insurance Commissioner's strategic initiatives.
- Shall contain the forms included in the application forms package.

The County Plan consists of the following sections:

- QUALIFICATIONS (Forms 05, 06(a), 06(b) and 07)
- PROBLEM STATEMENT (Form 08)
- PROGRAM STRATEGY (Form 09)

In order to complete the County Plan, reference the definitions on pages 11 and 12.

#### **Definitions**

For purposes of program reporting and grant applications, terms and concepts are defined as follows:

**Applicant** = Any person who knowingly makes a false statement or representation, deliberately fails to disclose material facts, or knowingly withholds information in order to obtain benefits

**Arrest** = For purposes of the grant application and reporting, arrests with charges filed; includes surrender letters and citations

Capping = Also known as "runners" and "steerers" means a person who for pecuniary benefit, procures or attempts to procure a client, patient or customer at the direction or request of, or in cooperation with, a provider that intends to obtain benefits under a contract of insurance, or file a claim against an insured or an insurer for providing services to the client, patient or customer.

Cases = Multiple defendant cases should be counted as single cases, not a separate case for each defendant unless the number or names of the individual defendants are specified

Cases in Court = Filed cases, up to and including sentencing hearing, excluding warrants and appeals

Chargeable Fraud = The total amount of fraud that would result from all the counts actually charged or would be charged

**Documented Case Referral (DCR)** = Cases received through specified dates that substantially comply with the documented case referral protocol. FD-1s/SFCs in and of themselves do not constitute a documented case referral.

#### DCRs are classified as:

Pending - Cases awaiting review

**Accepted** - Cases that are opened and assigned for investigation

Rejected - No further action will occur

Economic Car Theft = Automobile theft perpetrated for financial gain, including, but not limited to the following: theft of a motor vehicle for financial gain; reporting that a motor vehicle has been stolen for the purpose of filing a false insurance claim; switching of vehicle identification numbers to obtain title to a stolen motor vehicle; engaging in any act prohibited by Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 10801) of Division 4 of the Vehicle Code (Chop Shops).

**Fines** = Fines imposed by the court. Penalty assessments may be included. Do not include booking fees, probation or supervision fees or restitution.

**Fraud Ring** = Also known as Organized Rings, these involve collisions orchestrated by organized criminal activity involving attorneys, doctors, other medical professionals, office administrators and/or cappers

**Insider Fraud** = Fraud committed by employees or agents of an insurance company, self-insured employer, third-party administrator as defined in California Insurance Code Section 1877

**Investigations** = Investigation opened means cases in which an investigator or DDA has been assigned. It does not include screening activities such as the initial review of SFCs or phone call referrals, probation violations, or due diligence searches.

**Legal Office Fraud** = Legal provider inflates billing or materially misrepresents the facts

**Medical Provider Fraud** = Medical provider inflates billing, knowingly submits bills with improper medical codes and misrepresents facts.

**Non-Applicant** = Cases that don't fall under the "Applicant" category

**Provider Fraud** = A provider is defined as an individual or entity claiming to supply medical, legal, or other services in connection with a claim. Include in this category items such as capping, billing services, transportation, translation services.

**Staged Accident** = An automobile accident purposefully orchestrated to involve one or an unknowing insured motorist for the purpose of collecting insurance payments made as a result of claims filed against the insured motorist's insurer. Staged accidents may be committed by multiple suspects or fraud rings.

Suspected Fraudulent Claim (SFC) = A method established for insurers to report suspected insurance fraud

### THE DOCUMENTED REFERRAL

#### Summary

This section covers the reporting of *substantiated* fraud cases. Once all four (4) elements of fraud are identified, a documented referral is warranted. The entire documented referral protocol is included below.

# When is a Documented Referral Necessary?

As covered in the previous chapter, anytime there is suspected fraud within the automobile insurance arena, it is required by law that a Suspected Fraudulent Claims report (SFC/FD-1) be submitted to the authorities.

After further investigation, more evidence to substantiate the suspicion may be found. In those cases, consider submitting a "documented referral" to law enforcement. A documented referral assists law enforcement and increases the chances of prosecution.

# What is a Documented Referral?

A documented fraud referral entails much more information than allowed for on the SFC/FD-1. While each case of suspected fraud is unique, most experts in law enforcement have agreed that the items of information discussed below, in the documented referral protocol, cover the necessary items. However, be aware that individual district attorney offices may have other items that they will request based on the facts of the case.

#### Documented Referral Outline

Below is a suggested outline of the items and information that make up a documented referral. Note that all the items may not be applicable to each claim. However, the more developed the case, the greater the possibility that there will be enough information for law enforcement to open a criminal investigation.

The California District Attorneys Association and the California Department of Insurance have approved the following protocol.

# Section I. General Identification Information

Include the following general items in the report:

- Case Synopsis: A short, one-paragraph summary of the case. Include general identification information, including all information available on the suspect and a short summary of the case.
- Suspect's Information: Suspect's name, alias, address, telephone number, employer, employer's address, employer's telephone number, suspect's employment position, DOB, POB, sex, race, height, weight, hair color, eye color, social security number, DMV number and prior claim history.
- **Insurance Information**: Insurance company name, address, adjuster's name and telephone number, SIU investigator's name and telephone number, insurance company file number.
- If reporting a policy or premium fraud case, you may want to provide the name of the auditor, underwriter, etc., in lieu of, or in addition to, the adjuster name/address/phone number.
- Other Agencies: Any other agencies working on the case, along with the contact name and telephone number.

• **Referral Form**: Include a copy of the previously submitted Suspected Fraudulent Claim (SFC/FD-1) form.

#### Section II. Narrative Statement

After the general identification section, complete a narrative statement of the facts of the case. Here are some tips for writing a complete narrative statement.

- The statement should be written in chronological order. Start with the beginning of the case, include the investigation conducted, and conclude with the current status of the fraudulent claim.
- When necessary, each statement should reference exhibits that support the statement.
- Make specific reference to relevant documents in the insurance company or claims files (e.g., reports, interviews, witnesses, medical files, depositions, videotapes, etc.). For every document described in the narrative statement, there should be an explanation of the document's origin (e.g., where it came from, where it was found). Specify which witnesses can testify to its authenticity.
- The narrative should include all the facts, both good and bad.
- If aware of any potential defenses the suspect might assert, those should be included in your narrative.
- Omit opinions; use only facts.
- If a timeline would be helpful to explain the chronological order of events, it should be included in the exhibit section and referenced in the narrative statement.

For every misrepresentation alleged, the following information should be provided:

- The exact statement (misrepresentation) made;
- The date the misrepresentation was made;
- Where it was made and to whom;
- Identification of the exhibit where the misrepresentation is contained (e.g., WC claim, letter from Dr. "A," report of interview of "B," computer printout, application for insurance, etc.);
- Evidence which proves the representation is untrue (e.g., deposition pg. 1, line 15; sub rosa videotape at 2349-3542; Dr. "C" letter, dated 4/3/92; report of interview with "D");
- An explanation of why the misrepresentation is important to the case;
   and
- Identification of witnesses who will testify to this conclusion.

Section III.
Date of
Discovery of
Suspected Fraud

In the documented referral, it is imperative that the earliest date the possible criminal activity was discovered be provided. Include specific statements about when and how the fraud was discovered, who discovered it, and why it was not discovered earlier.

Section IV. Exhibit List Every exhibit referenced in the narrative statement should have a number and be listed in the order the exhibits are referenced in the narrative statement. This list should be placed just following the narrative statement

of the case. Audiotapes, videotapes, transcripts and any available photographs of the suspect should be included. If a statement is attributed to a witness in the narrative statement, there should be a report of interview for that witness in the exhibits. The report of interview should state who is being interviewed, the date, time and location of the interview. All persons present during the interview should be noted. If it is taped, this should be noted in the report or interview. For documents listed in the Exhibit List, there should be an indication of where each document came from.

**Example:** Exhibit 1 - Application for insurance policy on 1994 Toyota Tercel, contained in underwriting file for "X" Insurance Company for policy number 123456; Exhibit 2 - Faxed letter sent by Joe Suspect to "X" Insurance Company on March 5, 1993 and placed in "X" Insurance Company's claim file No. 654321 by adjuster Mary Jones.

#### Section V. Crimes Requested to be Charged

For each crime sought to be charged, there should be a short statement explaining the basis for this request.

**Example:** Insurance Code 1871.4(a)(1) – Claimant stated there were no prior injuries to his back during an appointment with Dr. Jones. (See Exhibit 8 - Dr. Jones' report, dated January 15, 1996). In fact, claimant had seen Dr. Smith previously and told him that he had injured his back in an auto collision (See Exhibit 11 - Dr. Smith intake report, dated March 20, 1995).

#### Section VI. Loss and Restitution

There should be a summary of the monetary loss to all victims (e.g., insurance company, employer, etc.) and the basis for the computation of the loss. The total loss should also be contained in the narrative, but the computation should appear in more detail in this section. In addition to the total losses, also include the costs incurred by your company to investigate the claim.

If you have information regarding assets of the suspect, place that information here. This is particularly important if the loss exceeds \$100,000.00.

### Section VII. Witness List

There should be a section that lists the names of all witnesses, their addresses, phone numbers, and any identification information available to the investigator (e.g., date of birth, social security number, driver's license information) in case the witness moves. This section should also reveal the importance of the witness by explaining, in one or two sentences, what he/she will be able to testify to.

### Example: Claimant Fraud

An example of a typical claimant workers' compensation insurance documented case referral should include, but is not limited to, the following information:

- Suspected Fraudulent Claim Report (SFC/FD-1)
- Employee Claim Form (DWC-1)
- Employers First Report of Injury (DSLR5020)

- Doctors First Report of Injury (DSLR 5021)
- Medical reports that focus on the claimant's current disabling condition and/or past medical history
- Documentation in support of the claim submitted by the claimant (e.g., letters, affidavits, medical bills, etc.)
- Copies of deposition transcription
- Copies of reports of interviews and/or recorded statements
- Photographs and/or videotapes along with investigative reports
- All claims database information
- Substantiation of employment while disabled
- Substantiation of prior claims from other insurers
- DO NOT send attorney-client privileged communications

#### Example: Premium Fraud

An example of a typical premium fraud documented referral should include, but is not limited to, the following information:

- Suspected Fraudulent Claim Report (SFC/FD-1)
- Application
- Payroll Reports
- Audits
- Certificate of Insurance
- Claims Information
- Secretary of State Information
- Department of Corporations
- Contractors State License Board
- Quarterly Employee Tax Statements
- Employee Wage Reports
- Prevailing Wage Statements
- Policy Information
- DO NOT send attorney-client privileged communications

### Other Types of Suspected Fraud

For other types of suspected fraud (e.g., medical, legal, pharmacy, employer, agent/broker, embezzlement), use the guidelines contained in this protocol.

# Sending the Documented Referral

These documented referrals should be simultaneously submitted to the California Department of Insurance, Enforcement Branch, Fraud Division and the local district attorney's office.

Include complete addresses of all agencies/entities referral information is sent to.

Do not send original documents or a copy of the entire investigative file until requested to do so.

#### **Questions?**

For questions regarding this process, please contact the local California Department of Insurance, Fraud Division Regional office or the local district attorney.

#### \*\*\* CASE CATEGORIES

#### Standard Case:

- One defendant
- Loss under \$10,000

Loss = Amount of chargeable fraud

One employer victim

#### Medium Case:

Loss from \$10,000 up to \$49,999

#### Complex Case:

Loss from \$50,000 up to \$250,000

#### Very Complex Case:

Loss greater than \$250,000

The above-stated loss amounts are only guidelines for each category. Notwithstanding the guidelines, a case shall be elevated from one category to any other higher category if the necessary number of aggravating factors, as stated below, exist:

A Standard case + at least 2 Aggravating factors = A Medium case

A Medium case + at least 2 Aggravating factors = A Complex case

A Complex case + at least 2 Aggravating factors = A Very Complex case

For example, a Standard case with at least 6 Aggravating factors becomes a Very Complex case.

#### **AGGRAVATING FACTORS:**

- Multiple defendants or suspects
- 2. Multiple claims by a single defendant or suspect
- 3. More than 2,000 pages of reviewable material
- 4. More than 20 witnesses (excluding non-suspect medical providers)
- 5. More than 6 non-suspect medical providers or other experts
- 6. A case involving a suspect legal provider(s) or a suspect medical provider(s)
- 7. More than 2 insurance carriers
- 8. Search warrant(s) involving 2 or more search locations
- 9. Special Master Warrant involved
- 10. Search warrant which requires assistance of an expert in its execution (e.g., computer expert, auditor, etc.). This does not refer to the typical expertise of the searching police officer(s).
- 11. More than 2 public agencies (excluding D.A.) involved
- 12. Undercover operation by law enforcement
- 13. Grand Jury Proceedings
- 14. One or more Motions (other than a P.C. 995 motion) requiring a filed response
- 15. More than 2 contested Court hearings, not including arraignment and preliminary hearings

# **QUALIFICATIONS COUNTY PLAN**Instructions for Fiscal Year 2014-2015

In accordance with the California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Section 2698.63, the county must submit a county plan. Please complete forms 05-09.

In answering the questions on Forms 05, 06(a), 06(b) and 07, be sure to include the following information:

#### **QUALIFICATIONS**

Complete and submit the Qualifications forms, providing updated information according to the instructions in the form section.

If the county has received a grant award from the CDI in prior years, the outcomes reported in this section shall represent activities funded by the grant award. Outcomes achieved through county or other funding sources shall be designated separately.

### AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE FRAUD QUALIFICATIONS

Answer the following questions to describe your experience in investigating and prosecuting automobile insurance fraud cases during the last two (2) fiscal years as specified in the California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Section 2698.65.

- 1. What areas of your automobile insurance fraud operation were successful and why?
- 2. Specify what unfunded contributions (e.g., financial, equipment, personnel and technology) and support your county provided to the automobile insurance fraud program.
- 3. Detail and explain the turnover or continuity of personnel assigned to your automobile insurance fraud program. Include any rotational policies your county may have.
- 4. List the governmental agencies you have worked with to develop potential automobile insurance fraud cases.
- 5. Was there a distribution of frozen assets in the current reporting period? If yes, please describe. If no, state none.

#### **EL DORADO COUNTY**

El Dorado County is contiguous to Sacramento County on the west, Placer County to the north, Amador and Alpine Counties to the south, and the Nevada Stateline to the east. Despite some population growth in recent years, El Dorado County remains a very rural county with only two incorporated cities: Placerville and South Lake Tahoe. El Dorado County, according to the 2010 census, has a population of 181,058 with the majority of the population residing in the Western Slope communities of Placerville, Shingle Springs, Cameron Park, and El Dorado Hills. Geographically, the county is comprised of 1805 square miles and is divided into two distinct areas, the West Slope and the Tahoe Basin.

The El Dorado County District Attorney's Office remains extremely active in the arena of consumer fraud protection, generally, and fighting insurance fraud specifically. This office continues to expand our Fraud Unit to initiate and prosecute more fraud cases. We also continue to look for new ways to educate our citizens and law enforcement on insurance fraud type cases and the resources available to victims. This office allows citizens of the county access to the office for protection of their rights, as well as a forum to report situations of potentially illegal conduct. As a significant part of this goal, enforcement of the laws relating to Automobile Insurance Fraud has become a cornerstone of our consumer protection effort. With the limited resources available, El Dorado County has, and is maintaining, a very aggressive program, as evidence by our accomplishments over the last year.

#### INTRODUCTION

Our elected District Attorney, Vern Pierson, has expanded the El Dorado County District Attorney's Office proactive and aggressive Insurance Fraud Program. Assistant District Attorney James Clinchard continues as the supervisor of the Special Prosecutions Unit which includes the Automobile Insurance Fraud Program. Mr. Clinchard, has over fifteen (15) years' experience as an attorney in both the civil and criminal area and has extensive experience in major and complex fraud prosecutions. Deputy District Attorney Gloria Mas transitioned out of the District Attorney's office early in this grant year. Deputy District Attorney Jodie Jensen, an attorney with over ten (10) years' experience, is now assigned to handle all auto cases in the County. Our office has maintained consistency in case filings and dispositions, as well as increasing the number of cases. Finally, our program has transitioned to a new investigator with, Clayton Steacker, with more than twenty (20) years in law enforcement investigations experience.

## 1. What areas of your automobile insurance fraud operation were successful and why?

The El Dorado County District Attorney's Office has been operating under this grant for several years under the direction of our elected District Attorney, Vern Pierson. Auto Fraud cases are a part of the Special Prosecutions Unit, which handles various forms of fraud, financial abuse, and public corruption. Factors which have shown to be very successful in the investigation of auto crimes are the involvement of an investigator, the assigned prosecutor and often the Unit Supervisor at the onset of the review process and the continued vertical prosecution of cases. This often includes a monthly Unit meeting to discuss any ongoing case issues or problems, and generally to stay on track with grant requirements. Additionally, the early collaboration with other agencies has proven productive in the investigation and prosecution of auto cases. We have been successful in increasing orders of restitution and obtaining more severe punishment due to criminals with a more extensive criminal history committing auto theft crimes which more and more often also include 1<sup>st</sup> degree burglary charges (a strike offense).

Before the Special Prosecutions unit was created, auto fraud cases were received by our office by outside agencies and reviewed by varying Deputy District Attorneys. A District Attorney Investigator would only become involved if follow up was required. Presently, with the assigned Deputy District Attorney and District Attorney Investigator now working together from the onset of the case, the process is streamlined and that allows for greater communication and collaboration throughout the investigation and prosecution.

The early collaboration with other agencies has proven to be extremely successful. In some cases they are the first agency asking for our assistance; in other situations we might be the initiating agency. In an ongoing case, our office worked in conjunction with the Special Investigation Unit of the California Highway Patrol to seize approximately nine (9) vehicles (bobcats, boats, and tow trucks) valuing over four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000). During the last reporting period, this case resulted in pleas from both defendants to four felony counts and state prison sentence. With the ongoing collaboration with the California Highway Patrol our office is able to continue to seek enforcement of this prison sentence. One of the defendants' fled our jurisdiction prior to completing his sentence. Our District Attorney Investigator was able to coordinate the defendant's return to our and with the testimony of the California Highway Patrol in an upcoming sentencing hearing we anticipate the defendant receiving a multi-year state prison sentence.

Another noteworthy ongoing case which continued from the last reporting period involved five defendants (three who pled prior to trial and who testified at trial against the remaining defendants). The case was investigated primarily by the District Attorney Investigator with direction from the assigned Deputy District Attorney. The case originated as an auto theft and later resulted in crimes of residential robbery to obtain the pink slip for the stolen vehicle and assault with a deadly weapon and witness intimidation charges. All charges stemmed from the original auto theft. The close working relationship between the two assigned, allowed for the crimes to be thoroughly investigated and aggressively charged – seeking multiple strike offenses and several years in state prison. After the trial each of the two remaining defendants were convicted of multiple felonies and sentenced to state prison.

With the assignment of highly experienced deputy district attorneys to the unit we have accomplished vertical handling of all cases countywide and brought a depth of knowledge to the program. Deputy District Attorney Jodie Jensen has monthly Unit meetings with supervisor Assistant District Attorney James Clinchard in order to ensure consistency and grant compliance. This creates an atmosphere in which each case is handled by the same attorney resulting in a vested interest in the successful prosecution, and consistency in case resolutions.

As a small county, the majority of our prosecutions are related to economic car theft. However, our office has continued working diligently over the last couple of years to steadily increase investigations of applicant/insured fraud.

Further and perhaps related to realignment and the release of many theft related convicts from prison, we have seen a tremendous rise in Vehicle Code Section 10851 crimes being committed by more experienced criminals. This often results in an increase in the severity of punishment related to auto fraud cases based on additional charges that may be exceptions to sentencing under PC 1170(h). In addition we are seeing an increase in individuals who have criminal histories which also take them out of the PC 1170(h) sentencing arena.

2. Specify what unfunded contributions (e.g., financial, equipment, personnel and technology) and support your county provided to the automobile insurance fraud program.

The following resources were provided by the El Dorado County District Attorney's Office for the 2012 - 2013 fiscal year:

- The District Office funded 100% of the vehicle costs for the vehicle used by the assigned investigator, which includes servicing, insurance, and fuel costs;
- The District Attorney's time to promote the program to secure funding from the Board of Supervisor's;
- Meetings with fellow District Attorneys to apprise them of the program;
- Investigative and attorney staff that assisted the Auto Fraud Investigator in investigations, sweeps, sting operations, service of warrants, and processing of evidence and:
- Thousands of man hours continuing to update our paperless system which allows greater efficiency and access to case file by the attorneys and/or investigators when outside the office to more quickly respond when needed even if out of the office, "e-

discovery", and even implementing an "app" to be used on smartphones and mobile devices by attorney's in court to create more efficient use of court time and scarce resources.

# 3. Detail and explain the turnover or continuity of personnel assigned to your automobile insurance fraud program. Include any rotational policies your county may have.

As we are a small office, our Deputy District Attorneys are often are called upon to multi-task various case loads. Nevertheless, we strive to maintain continuity of personnel. Fiscal year 2013-2014 brought some personnel changes to our Insurance Fraud Program from the previous year. Assistant District Attorney James Clinchard, continued to supervise the Special Prosecutions Unit, which includes the Auto Fraud Unit. Deputy District Attorney Gloria Mas transitioned out of the El Dorado County District Attorney's office early in this fiscal year. Deputy District Attorney Jodie Jensen came into the unit in August of 2013 and will continue with the fraud unit to provide and allow for vertical prosecution throughout the county, greater efficiency, and greater consistency in case filings and dispositions. Our Auto Fraud Investigator has been with the unit since November 2011. In October of 2013 we added an additional investigator to the unit. The Fraud Unit Administrative Assistant, responsible for collecting and maintaining our statistical data, has recently changed as well as the prior individual is no longer with our office. The new individual has been with the office for 15 years and is familiar with the Unit. On occasion we also use a Forensic Auditor and an Investigative Assistant for more complex cases. Further, in order to better assist us in obtaining accurate victim restitution amounts, as well as to assist in actually obtaining victim restitution, we plan to use one of our victim/witness advocates from time to time. It is the continued position of our elected District Attorney, Vern Pierson, to maintain consistency within the program and he remains dedicated to this premise

## 4. List the governmental agencies you have worked with to develop potential automobile insurance fraud cases.

Over the past few years with the funding received from the California Department of Insurance and the commitment of District Attorney Vern Pierson to the proper handling of these economic crimes, our office has been able to establish and maintain a strong working relationship with a number of agencies. These agencies include our local law enforcement agencies (EI Dorado County Sheriff's Office, Placerville Police Department, South Lake Tahoe Police Department and the California Highway Patrol) as well the California Department of Insurance (CDI), the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), California Franchise Tax Board (FTB), California Bureau of Auto Repair (BAR), local fire agencies, and other law enforcement agencies outside our county. Additionally, our investigators have established and created ongoing working relationships with insurance company investigators (SIU's) concerning a number of applicant/insured fraud cases that have been investigated by our office.

In an effort to continue community outreach, our Special Prosecutions Unit continues working with the El Dorado County Sheriff's Department, the Placerville Police Department, the California Highway Patrol, and the South Lake Tahoe Police Department through an interactive program developed by District Attorney Vern Pierson. Attorneys' schedule regular visits to the agencies mentioned above throughout the year to discuss cases and provide periodic trainings to officers on a variety of topics, including, but not limited to, better investigative techniques for economic auto theft and automobile insurance fraud. In addition, our office continues to play a pivotal role in the County's Arson Task Force.

Also of significant importance is the relationship fostered with the Department of Motor Vehicles. This working relationship grew over the past few years as we jointly investigated a complex case involving an auto dealer and two employees who were committing fraud and cheating customers and third parties out of money and services. Although this case has resolved, we expect to maintain our strong working relationship with the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Additionally, we recently created the Sierra Economic Crimes Task Force (SECTF) in early 2014. This task force, through the leadership of Assistant District Attorney James Clinchard, has reached out to various local investigative and prosecution agencies, including, but not limited to Economic Development Department, Board of Equalization, Department of Insurance, Franchise Tax Board, Department of Business Oversight, Amador County DA's Office, Placer County DA's Office, El Dorado County Sheriff, and CHP. SECTF is working with the newly created California Attorney General's Office underground economy task force (and Deputy AG Peter Williams) to create a model for State/Local cooperation on economic crimes cases. Further, Assistant District Attorney James Clinchard, and Deputy Attorney General Peter Williams, are putting on joint trainings/presentations at various statewide fraud and CDAA events to fine tune and promote this model task force working relationship.

5. Was there a distribution of frozen assets in the current reporting period? If yes, please describe. If no, state none.

None.

### **QUALIFICATIONS**

List the name of the program's prosecutor(s) and investigator(s). Include position titles and percentages for any vacant positions to be filled. For each, list:

- 1. The percentage of time devoted to the program
- 2. How long the prosecutor(s)/investigator(s) have been with the program

Prosecutors	% Time	Time With Program Start Date/End Date
JAMES CLINCHARD	5%	August 2012 to Present
JODIE JENSEN	90%	August 201 3 to Present

Investigators	% Time	Time With Program Start Date/End Date
CLAYTON STEACKER	100%	June 2014 to Present

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART Instructions for Fiscal Year 2014-2015

The Organizational Chart is to be an attachment provided by the county and is to be labeled as Form 06(b).

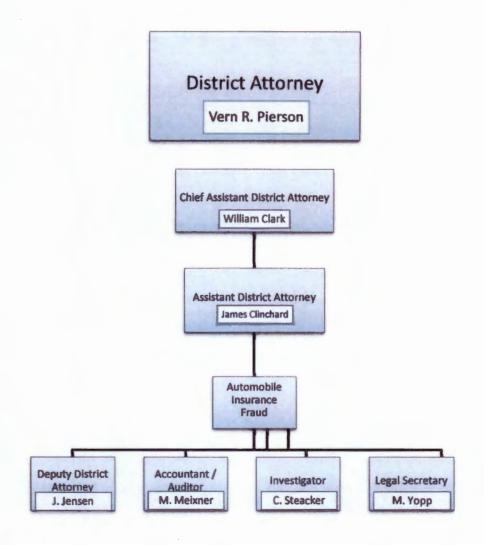
#### **ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**

Provide an organizational chart outlining:

- Personnel assigned to the program. Identify their position, title and placement in the lines of authority to the elected district attorney.
- The placement of the program staff and their programmatic responsibility.

If there are any changes of personnel as shown on Form 02 and Form 03, the county must notify the Fraud Division's Local Assistance Unit in writing within thirty (30) days.

### **ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**



# PROGRAM REPORT Instructions for Fiscal Year 2013-2014

In order to complete the Program Report, you must have access to the District Attorney Reporting (DAR) that is available on-line.

The DAR provides actual data on activities such as investigations, cases, arrests, convictions and other statistical information. Completion of the program report reflects that the Fraud Division and county district attorneys have met their mutual obligation to protect the public from economic loss and distress by actively investigating and arresting those who commit insurance fraud, and to reduce the overall incidence of insurance fraud through anti-fraud outreach to the public, private, and governmental sectors.

Counties should input their DAR data for the RFA reporting period online. To access the report, please go to the California Department of Insurance, Fraud Division home page at <a href="http://www.insurance.ca.gov/0300-fraud/0100-fraud-division-overview">http://www.insurance.ca.gov/0300-fraud/0100-fraud-division-overview</a> and click the link at Fraud Division Programs, then District Attorney Program Report. Once at the program report page, follow the instructions for completing the report and navigating the site. We recommend saving the internet address as a favorite in your internet browser.

Once submitted, a county is not required to mail the RFA reporting period DAR to the Fraud Division. The Local Assistance Unit will download and print a copy of the county's submitted DAR report and attach it to the county's RFA when received.

## COUNTIES CURRENTLY NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE FRAUD PROGRAM

To complete this section of the RFA online, please e-mail Damian Scribner at Damian.Scribner@insurance.ca.gov and request a user ID and password for your county.



### QUALIFICATIONS PROGRAM REPORT

For this application, statistical information will be captured from  $\underline{\text{July 1, 2013 to June }}$  15, 2014.

The DAR was submitted electronically on June 23, 2014.

# PROBLEM STATEMENT Instructions for Fiscal Year 2014-2015

## In answering the questions on Form 08, be sure to include the following information:

#### PROBLEM STATEMENT

Describe the nature and extent of the problem in the county. Include in your responses, the following:

- Its sources and causes
- Its economic and social impacts
- · Its unique aspects, if any
- · What is needed to resolve the problem

Supporting data and evidence, or indicators of fraudulent activity, related to automobile insurance may include data and information derived from these sources:

- Other local law enforcement entities
- Insurers
- The Fraud Division and/or the Investigation Division of the California Department of Insurance
- · Other interested parties

## COUNTY PLAN PROBLEM STATEMENT

Please describe the types and magnitude of automobile insurance fraud (e.g., applicant, medical/legal provider, staged collisions, insider fraud, insurer fraud, economic vehicle theft, fraud ring, and capping) relative to the extent of the problem specific to your county. Please use local data or other evidence to support your description.

El Dorado County has a significant economic vehicle theft problem and a growing applicant/insured fraud problem. The offenses share common underlying factors which are believed to derive from the ongoing and immense drug problem involving county residents and visitors to the area, the release of theft convicts from CDCR due to the newly established realignment from the state, the Red Hawk Casino, and the individuals traveling through our county committing crimes, and the economy.

El Dorado County suffers greatly from the sale, transportation, and use of narcotics, often due to the major interstate thoroughfare of Highway 50. We have seen an increase in these case types' particularly involving young offenders. In order to obtain funds for their addiction, they have become involved in various forms of theft including that of vehicles. This is typical with our adult population, but it has become more prevalent with our young offenders. As a result we are seeing an increase in vehicle thefts within both levels of our population.

In addition, vehicle thieves are also committing serious and violent crimes as part of their crime spree. In many instances young offenders are committing robberies and residential burglaries in combination with vehicle theft. Because of the complexity of these cases there is a higher demand upon attorney and investigator resources to ensure proper preparation and handling of the investigation and prosecution.

As a result of the change in the law with AB 109 (state prison realignment), more prisoners are being released into the community without parole supervision. Thus, this creates two types of auto theft criminals: one who has factors which may disqualify him from a PC 1170(h) and also the repeat low level offender who is constantly PC 1170(h) eligible and gets a local jail sentence without much deterrent effect, and could even be released early if there is jail overcrowding. Thus, the newly convicted criminals are receiving sentences in county prison as opposed to state prison and upon completion of their sentence are released into society again without supervision. This scenario has perpetuated the continued problem facing our county of repeat offenders in the system due to lenient sentencing.

During this past reporting year we have multiple cases where a group of individuals are responsible for numerous theft related crimes. In these cases there are auto theft charges as well as residential burglaries, possession of stolen property, and drug crimes. Based on the variety of the charges we saw state prison sentences of multiple years imposed for each of these individuals.

A few years ago Red Hawk Casino, the first casino in our county, opened its doors for business- drawing more out-of-county visitors impacting the number of economic vehicle theft cases received by our office. The casino is located directly off Highway 50 and provides a quick and easy exit route to Sacramento County and other outlying areas. The configuration and location of the parking garage provides a convenient spot for criminals to select and steal unattended vehicles. In addition vehicles are being stolen in neighboring counties, typically Sacramento, and then driven to and left in the casino parking garage.

We have much traffic in El Dorado County due to visitors traveling to and through the County. We have multiple cases where a stolen vehicle is driven into the county from outside the area, or even outside the State. The individuals are then contacted in El Dorado County and the stolen vehicles are discovered. In these cases the defendants and the victims do not reside within El Dorado County

El Dorado County was hit hard by the economic downturn. As of December 2013, the unemployment rate in El Dorado County was 7.2%. The ongoing economic issues within our county have resulted in an increase of economic vehicle theft for various reasons, including, but not limited to: 1) People cannot afford a vehicle, yet need a vehicle for transportation; 2) vehicles are stolen, used, and then abandoned; and, 3) vehicles are stolen with plans to sell it in whole or in parts for financial gain. A majority of these cases involve individuals acting spontaneously and responding to circumstances or opportunities as they arise.

As illustrated above El Dorado County has a diverse set of factors contributing to automobile insurance fraud. The use and sale of narcotics, the state realignment, the Red Hawk Casino, visitors traveling to and through the county, and the economy are all contributors to the growing problem within this county.

The continued support from the Department of Insurance is critical to the success of this program within our community.

# PROGRAM STRATEGY Instructions for Fiscal Year 2014-2015

## In answering the questions on Form 09, be sure to include the following information:

#### PROGRAM STRATEGY

This section <u>shall specify</u> how the district attorney will address the problem defined in the Problem Statement through the use of program funds.

The discussion <u>should include</u> the steps that will be taken to address the problem, as well as the estimated time frame(s) to achieve program objectives and activities. Specifically, this section <u>should describe</u>:

- the manner in which the district attorney will develop his or her caseload;
- the sources for referrals of cases; and
- a description of how the district attorney will coordinate various sectors involved, including insurers, medical and legal providers, the Fraud Division, public agencies such as the California Highway Patrol, Bureau of Automotive Repairs, U.S. Customs, and local law enforcement agencies.

<u>Required</u>: A current District Attorney/Fraud Division Joint Plan for the use of investigative resources is required and included with the application (Attachment A).

## COUNTY PLAN PROGRAM STRATEGY

1. Explain how your county plans to resolve the problem stated in your problem statement. Include improvements in your program.

As discussed in our Problem Statement the sale, transportation and use of narcotics, the recent state realignment and the Red Hawk Casino are all contributing factors to the continued problem of automobile insurance fraud and economic auto theft. Below is a breakdown of how the county will address the problem including the estimated time frame to achieve the program objectives and activities, the manner in which our office will develop the caseload, the sources for referrals, and coordination of various sectors including insurers, medical and legal providers as well as various public and law enforcement agencies.

#### Addressing the Problem/Estimated Time Frame To Achieve Objectives and Activities

The various factors mentioned in the problem statement are not one time in nature. These issues are and will continue to be a problem in our community for the foreseeable future. It is through early intervention, education and proper investigation and aggressive prosecution that we hope to deter future criminals from committing automobile fraud offenses. The achievement of our objectives will be continual through our participation in the program. Each year criminals will be convicted and punished accordingly for their crimes. Our desire is to help educate the public on how not to be victimized through the use of discussion forums and enhance our relationships with outside agencies resulting in more thorough investigations and successful prosecutions.

#### Developing the Caseload

All auto fraud cases are being handled by one assigned Deputy District attorney and two assigned District Attorney Investigators. This allows for vertical prosecution of cases resulting in improved efficiency, and greater consistency in case filings and dispositions. In addition, our automobile insurance fraud investigators are involved at the onset of each case. Both the attorney and investigator work the case from intake creating a more productive use of time for both individuals resulting in a proficient court proceeding and greater use of grant funds.

The Special Prosecutions Unit has monthly meetings which includes all unit deputy district attorneys, our forensic auditor, the legal secretary for the unit, the fraud investigators and the supervising investigators. The aim of these meetings is to assure consistency within the unit, to set outreach goals, update investigations, and review prosecutions and to encourage teamwork and communication within the Special Prosecutions Unit. Our office has transitioned to a "paperless" office. This paperless system facilitates improved efficiency in court and communications between deputy district attorneys, investigators and supervisors. Further, instant access to the "electronic case file" is possible from court, the office, at home or on the road.

#### Sources for Referrals

The various sources involved in the program come from a variety of organizations. CDI, BAR, DMV, FTB and local law enforcement agencies such as the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office, the Placerville Police Department, the South Lake Tahoe Police Department and the California Highway Patrol.

#### **Coordination of Various Sectors**

Over the last few years the District Attorney's Office has established various relationships with agencies such as CDI, DMV, BAR, FTB, and SIU's in addition to all law enforcement agencies and fire districts within our region. It is through the continued involvement with these organizations that better quality investigations and caseloads have developed. In addition to sharing resources our office will continue to educate our agencies on how to prepare a proper case.

2. What are your plans to meet any announced goals of the Insurance Commissioner? If these goals are not realistic for your county, please state why they are not, and what goals you can achieve? What is your strategic plan to accomplish the goals?

#### **Balanced Caseload**

To accomplish a balanced caseload, our Fraud Unit will continue working closely with law enforcement and other agencies to develop and investigate cases. These collaborative efforts provide additional information, guidance, and expertise as needed. Our office will continue to send deputy district attorneys and investigators to appropriate trainings and additional educational forums. In addition, we have been working diligently in our department as well as with other agencies to increase the number of applicant/insured fraud cases. Due to the transitory nature of El Dorado County and a small fraud investigative unit, it has been a challenge to increase the number of these types of cases. However, we believe that we have shown a strong effort in meeting this stated goal of the Insurance Commissioner. Finally, while we are aware of other types of automobile insurance fraud and continue watching for other violations, our county simply does not see staged collisions or insider fraud on a regular basis.

#### Performance and Continuity within the Program

This past year brought some personnel changes to our fraud unit. These changes were made for various reasons, but primarily for the benefit of the program. As stated above, Assistant District Attorney James Clinchard continues to supervise the Special Prosecutions Unit, which includes the Auto Fraud Unit. He reviews and approves all felony case dispositions, including that restitution be determined and ordered as a condition of any settlement. Deputy District Attorney Gloria Mas is no longer with the office and Deputy District Attorney Jodie Jensen transitioned into the unit in the beginning of this reporting year. Investigator Franzen has been with the program for several years, but is now transitioning our new auto fraud investigator Clayton Steacker into that position for the foreseeable future. District Attorney Pierson is aware of the Commissioner's desire to maintain

consistency within the program and remains dedicated to this premise. Our Fraud Unit continues to grow as funds are made available for an increase in personnel.

#### **Outreach**

In the coming fiscal year, a concerted effort will be made to reach out to more insurance SIU's to strengthen our working relationship with those units. We plan to discuss within the outreach presentation what is needed for a successful prosecution and how we can work together to apprehend more offenders.

The Special Prosecutions Unit will continue with our training and liaison program with local law enforcement agencies as well as to improve the quality and quantity of investigations and make the agencies aware of the District Attorney's ongoing fight against auto fraud. Additionally, our office plans to provide outreach to the elder communities within El Dorado County to inform and educate them regarding insurance fraud in hopes of fostering a relationship that leads to the apprehension of insurance fraud offenders.

We believe with enhanced outreach to the community more citizens will become increasingly aware of potential fraud. During the last reporting period our office filed a case with an elderly woman as the victim in an automobile accident. She solicited the help of a family friend (defendant) to fix her car. The defendant previously held a contractor's license; however, he allowed his license to expire. A lump sum payment was issued from the insurance company according to their estimate of the repairs, including an additional amount for other necessary work. The victim was unhappy with the final results and contacted the Bureau of Automotive Repair. Upon inspection of the vehicle the claimed repairs were found to be substandard. In addition, some of the work on the estimate was never performed; including the work that the defendant indicated was necessary and for which he received additional payment. This case continues into this reporting period and we continue to work with the victim and the Bureau of Automotive Repair to work towards a fair and just resolution.

With community outreach, we hope to impress upon potential victims, including the elderly, the importance of conducting background checks for proper licensing before work is performed on their vehicles.

Additionally, we recently created the Sierra Economic Crimes Task Force (SECTF) in early 2014. This task force, through the leadership of Assistant District Attorney James Clinchard, has reached out to various local investigative and prosecution agencies, including, but not limited to Economic Development Department, Board of Equalization, Department of Insurance, Franchise Tax Board, Department of Business Oversight, Amador County DA's Office, Placer County DA's Office, El Dorado County Sheriff, and CHP. SECTF is working with the newly created California Attorney General's Office underground economy task force (and Deputy AG Peter Williams) to create a model for State/Local cooperation on economic crimes cases. Further, Assistant District Attorney James Clinchard, and Deputy Attorney General Peter Williams, are putting on joint trainings/presentations at various statewide fraud and CDAA events to fine tune and promote this model task force working relationship. The goal of SECTF is to wage an aggressive, coordinated and proactive effort to investigate and prosecute financial crimes. The first meeting of SECTF was January 24, 2014 and the next meeting is planned for

August 2014. Our plan is to coordinate prosecution efforts with task force members as well as the newly created California Attorney General Underground Economy Unit.

#### 3. What goals do you have that require more than a single year to accomplish?

An ongoing goal of our office is to continue to increase the number of applicant/insured fraud cases. We are continually learning how best to uncover and investigate this type of fraud. We are committed to investigating and prosecuting these types of cases as they become available.

Another goal of our office is to continue to investigate, with the assistance of SECTF, more cases with regional implications. As part of the approved budget for FY 2011-2012 the District Attorney's Office purchased a four-wheel drive vehicle that allows the assigned investigator to travel throughout our very large county, to South Lake Tahoe, and when needed, to the adjacent Counties. As such, the investigator will have the opportunity to build and strengthen the relationship with the local investigative agencies, South Lake Tahoe investigators, as well as many of the other investigators located in Amador, Placer and Sacramento Counties. Greater cooperation by those various regional agencies and expansion of the program into these regions will likely take more than one year to accomplish and to continue to foster and grow relationships with other agencies. As such we believe the continued support of the Sierra Economic Crimes Task Force (SECTF) will help connect members of other agencies with resources to better investigate and prosecute financial crimes and aid victims of these crimes.

Finally, a continual goal of our office is to study case trend to, where possible, identify the extent and nature of the automobile insurance fraud problem in the county. This may include new trends related to insurance fraud in the elder community as well. Our office recognizes the importance of outreach and training and will continue with our efforts to identify those entities that may be unfamiliar with the program as well as those agencies with which we already have a strong working relationship.

#### 4. Training and Outreach

- List the training **received** by each county staff member in the automobile fraud unit during fiscal years 2012-2013 and 2013-2014.
- Describe what kind of training/outreach you provided in Fiscal Year 2013-2014 to local Special Investigative Units, public and private sectors to enhance the investigation and prosecution of automobile insurance fraud; and/or coordination with the Fraud Division, insurers, or other entities.
- Describe what kind of training/outreach **you plan to provide** in Fiscal Year 2014-2015 to local Special Investigation and prosecution of automobile insurance fraud; and/or coordination with the Fraud Division, insurers or other entities.

#### Training Received FY 12/13

- Mike Franzen, District Attorney Investigator- Western States Auto Theft Investigator Association Conference (WSATI) in October of 2012
- Marilyn Meixner, Accountant/Auditor- Association of Certified Fraud

Specialists held in San Diego, CA

- James Clinchard, Assistant District Attorney attended the CDAA Fraud Symposium insurance fraud training in December 2012.
- The Unit Legal Secretary attended Excel Training Courses.

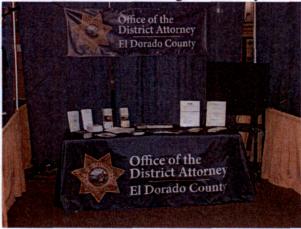
### **Training Received FY 13/14**

• James Clinchard, Assistant District Attorney attended the CDAA Winter Conferenc, which included the Insurance Fraud Committee meeting in December 2012.

Additionally, our assistant, attorney and investigator receive constant on-the-job training by meeting at our Unit Meetings and with other agencies as well as staff from other counties with similar programs.

### Outreach Provided FY 13/14

- 12/17/13 District Attorney Investigator Mike Franzen conducted a presentation to a Law Enforcement ROP class at Oakridge High School for about 20 students. Included in this presentation was a description of what categories of crimes fall underneath the umbrella of Auto Fraud as well as ways to prevent auto theft and insurance fraud.
- Sierra Economic Crimes Task Force Meeting, January 2014
- 6/12/14-6/15/2014 Multiple District Attorney Investigators manned a booth at the El Dorado County Fair. As part of this outreach effort information was provided to citizens on various types of fraud, including auto fraud. Pamphlets obtained from NICB were utilized in providing this information. Approximately 340 people were contacted at the booth during the four days of the county fair.



### Outreach Planned FY 14/15

Our Special Prosecutions Unit will continue reaching out to law enforcement agencies to strengthen, as well as increase, the number of investigations and make the agencies aware of the District Attorney's ongoing fight against auto fraud. We will continue to foster our strong relationship with investigators at CDI working cooperatively in furtherance of quality investigations. Our office acknowledges that these continued trainings and relationships are fundamental to the success of our program. It is through these meetings

with various agencies that attention is drawn to information which is helpful in the identification of potential fraud and how issues need to be addressed in written reports.

Specifically we have started to talk with the local Placerville office of the California Highway Patrol about being proactive in pursuing auto fraud. We are working in conjunction with the CHP to potentially bring one of their available bait cars to El Dorado County.

In addition the previously mentioned Sierra Economic Crimes Task Force (SECTF) plans to hold quarterly meetings, and meet regularly with the California Attorney General's Office Underground Economy Task Force. As such we will be able to collaborate with other agencies about local trends and provide support and information with agencies who attend to better prosecute financial crimes.

## 5. Describe the county's efforts and the district attorney's plan to obtain restitution and fines imposed by the court to the Automobile Fraud Account.

Over the last few years, restitution has been a primary goal of our office and of our fraud unit. In fiscal year 2009-2010, our fraud unit worked with the Court to create a restitution tracking system. Our legal assistant uses this system to access court files and to track payments on each of our cases. We are able to determine both the date and amount of each payment made by every fraud unit defendant. Our department implemented a program in fiscal year 2010-2011 to enhance the collections of fines and restitution ordered by the courts in each case. Our Special Prosecutions Unit Administrative Assistant is able to access court records (in a read only mode) and follow the payments of each defendant. The Administrative Assistant monitors the defendant's progress post-conviction or plea to determine if payments have been received per the court's order.

Additionally, in El Dorado County, the Probation Department is helpful in determining and collecting restitution on felony matters. Arrangements are in place for our Fraud Unit to be kept apprised of the status of restitution payments in relevant cases. If and when our Administrative Assistant determines, or the Probation Department notifies us, that a defendant has not made regular court-ordered payments towards fines and/or restitution, the matter is researched and a violation of probation is fi led if appropriate.

Additionally, to the extent possible, restitution is ordered in fraud cases at the time of plea/sentencing so that it becomes part of the plea agreement and the defendant cannot contest the amount. At times this is not possible due to an early plea by the defendant and/or non-receipt of restitution information from the victim. However, our unit works diligently to determine the amount of restitution owed to victims and has the court order the amount when known. In the coming fiscal year, we plan to have the assistance of a DA's Office victim/witness advocates who will continue to expand and increase our efforts in having restitution ordered at the time of plea, tracking payments by defendants to ensure timely and accurate payments to victims, and working with the victim's to assist any any way possible the collection of victim restitution.

6. Identify the performance objectives that the county would consider attainable and would have a significant impact in reducing automobile insurance fraud.

Project:

- a. An estimated 80-100 new investigations will be initiated during FY 2014-2015.
- b. An estimated 60-80 new prosecutions will be initiated during FY 2014-2015.
- 7. If you are asking for an increase over the amount of grant funds received last fiscal year, please provide a brief description of how you plan to utilize the additional funds?

The El Dorado County District Attorney's Office continues building a comprehensive and viable program to fulfill not only the needs of our county, but also to meet the goals and standards of the Commissioner and CDI. The requested increase in funds will be used to staff the program with an investigator who will continue to work closely with the Deputy District Attorney assigned to the unit. The increased funds would also provide funding for additional Deputy District Attorney time to prosecute the increased number of cases. As stated previously, we have achieved our goal of vertically prosecuting cases not only in our Placerville office, but also in the South Lake Tahoe office. The funds for additional investigator time would allow us to initiate and investigate more offenses in the South Lake Tahoe region, as well as the West Slope area of El Dorado County. As shown by our statistics over the past couple of years, increased time by both the investigator and the deputy district attorney has resulted in an increase number of cases investigated, filed, and prosecuted. Specifically we have added an investigative assistant to the unit to help process the increased needs of the Unit. In addition we have seen salary increases across the hoard.

# **BUDGET**Instructions for Fiscal Year 2014-2015

In preparing to provide the information requested on Forms 10-13, be sure to consider the information provided below, as well as follow the detailed instructions provided:

### BUDGET

### General:

The budget is the basis for management, fiscal review, and audit. Funding Formula planning levels are included with this package.

Counties may supplement grant funds with funds from other sources such as those discussed in Form 05, question #2. However, applicants should not include any funds or expenses from these sources in the program budget.

### **BUDGET CATEGORY INSTRUCTIONS**

### **PROGRAM BUDGET**

The purpose of the Program Budget is to demonstrate implementation of the proposed plan with the funds available through this program. Program costs must be directly related to the objectives and activities of the program. The budget must cover the entire grant period. In the budget, include <u>only</u> those items covered by grant funds. All budgets are subject to the CDI's modification and approval.

The CDI requires the applicant to develop a cost-effective <u>line-item</u> budget that will enable them to meet the intent and requirements of the program, and ensure the successful implementation of the program. Applicants should prepare a realistic and prudent budget that avoids unnecessary or unusual expenditures that would detract from the achievement of the objectives and activities of the program. The following information is provided to assist in the preparation of the budget. Strict adherence to all required and prohibited items is expected. Failure by the applicant to include required items in the budget does not excuse responsibility to comply with those requirements.

Program funds must be used to support enhanced investigation and prosecution of insurance fraud and shall not be used to supplant funds that, in the absence of program funds, would be made available for any portion of the local insurance fraud program.

Budget modifications are allowable as long as they do not change the grant award amount. Budget modifications across budget categories (e.g., personal services, operations and equipment) require CDI approval. Each budget modification request shall be made in writing before it can be approved.

#### 1. Non-Allowable Budget Items

- Real property purchases and improvements
- Aircraft or motor vehicle, except the purchase of motor vehicles specifically requested/justified to, and approved in advance by, the Commissioner
- Interest payments
- Food and beverages, except as purchased in connection with program-related travel. Food and beverage costs shall not exceed the applicants' per diem schedule.
- · Weapons or ammunition unless included as part of a benefit package

### 2. Allowable Budget Items

Allowable costs are those costs incurred in direct support of local program activities, including program personnel, program-related travel, equipment costs proportional to their program-related use, facilities cost, expert witness fees and audits.

### **Specific Budget Categories**

There is a separate form for each of the following three budget categories:

- A. Personnel Services Salaries/Employee Benefits Form 10
- **B.** Operating Expenses Form 11
- C. Equipment Form 12

Each budget category requires line-item detail that addresses the method of calculation and justification for the expense. Enter the amount of each line-item in the right-hand column of the Budget Category form. All charges must be clearly documented and rounded off to the nearest whole dollar. Enter the total amount of the budget category at the bottom of the form. If additional pages are needed, total only the last page of each budget category.

The bottom of the Equipment Category form contains a format for identifying the program total and other revenue items. This section must be completed and submitted even if there were no line-items identified in the Equipment Category.

### A. Personnel Services - Salaries/Employee Benefits:

- 1. Salaries: Personnel services include all services performed by staff that are directly employed by the applicant and must be identified by position and percentage of salaries. All other persons are to be shown as consultants in the Operating Expenses Category supported by a memorandum of understanding, contract, or operational agreement, which must be kept on file by the grantee and made available for review during a CDI site visit, monitoring visit, or audit. Sick leave, vacation, holidays, overtime, and shift differentials must be budgeted as salaries.
- 2. Benefits: Employee benefits must be identified by type and percentage of salaries. Applicants may use fixed percentages of salaries to calculate benefits. Budgeted benefits cannot exceed those already established by the applicant.

Employer contributions or expenses for social security, employee life and health insurance plans, unemployment insurance, and/or pension plans are allowable budget items. Other benefits, such as uniforms or California Bar Association dues, are allowable budget items if negotiated as part of an employee benefit package.

A line-item is required for each different position/classification, but not for each individual employee. If several people will be employed full-time or part-time in the same position/classification, provide the number of full-time equivalents (e.g., three half-time clerical personnel should be itemized as 1 ½ clerical positions).

### **B.** Operating Expenses:

Operating expenses are defined as necessary expenditures exclusive of personnel salaries, benefits and equipment. Such expenses may include specific items directly charged to the program, and in some cases, an indirect cost allowance. The expenses must be grant-related (e.g., to further the program objectives as defined in the grant award) and be encumbered during the grant period.

The following items fall within this category: consultant services such as subcontractors who are not employed by the applicant, travel, office supplies, training materials, research forms, equipment maintenance, software equipment rental/lease, telephone, postage, printing, facility rental, vehicle maintenance, answering service fees, audit, administrative costs, and other consumable items. Furniture and office equipment costing less than \$1,000 per unit (including tax, installation, and freight) or with a useful life of less than one-year, fall within this category.

- 1. Travel Budget for all anticipated travel related to the program is based on the travel policy established by the county. If a county does not have a travel policy, the state mileage rate can be used, which is a maximum of 56 cents per mile, unless a higher rate is justified. When program employees are authorized by program department heads or designees to operate a privately owned vehicle on program-related business and no local travel policy exists, the employee will be allowed to claim 56 cents per mile without certification.
- 2. Facility Rental up to \$18 per square foot annually (\$1.48 per square foot per month) with maintenance is allowable. If the rental costs for office space exceed these rates, it must be consistent with the prevailing rate in the local area.
- 3. Rented or Leased Equipment: If equipment is to be rented or leased, an explanation and cost analysis will be required if the application is selected for funding.
- **4. Confidential Fund Expenditures** are costs that will be incurred by grantfunded personnel working undercover or in another investigative capacity. It may include the purchase of information, physical evidence, or services.
- 5. Indirect Costs/Administrative Overhead: Applicants may set aside grant funds for indirect costs/administrative overhead. Indirect costs are those not readily itemized or assignable to a particular program, but necessary to the operation of the organization and the performance of the program. The costs of operating and maintaining facilities, accounting services, and administrative salaries are examples of indirect costs. Flat rates not exceeding 10 percent (10%) of personnel salaries (excluding benefits and overtime), or 5 percent (5%) of total direct program costs (excluding equipment) may be

budgeted by applicants for indirect/administrative costs. You must specify the amount and the method of calculation for these costs.

Applicants must have on file an indirect cost allocation plan, which demonstrates how the rate was established. This plan must clearly indicate that line-items charged to a direct cost category (e.g., postage) are *not* included in the indirect cost category. All costs included in the plan must be supported by formal accounting records that substantiate the propriety of eventual charges.

6. Audits: The budget may include a line-item for the cost of obtaining an independent financial audit. The financial audit is to be prepared by either an independent auditor who is a qualified state or local government auditor, an independent public accountant licensed by the State of California, or the County Auditor/Controller. The audit shall indicate that local expenditures were made for the purposes of the program as specified in Section 1872.8 of the California Insurance Code as adopted guidelines, in the Application and County Plan.

### C. Equipment:

Equipment is defined as non-expendable tangible personal property having a <u>useful</u> <u>life of more than one-year</u> and costing \$1,000 or more per unit (including tax, installation, and freight).

A line-item is required for each different type of equipment, but not for each specific piece of equipment (e.g., three laser jet printers must be one line-item, not three).

Rented or leased equipment must be budgeted as an Operating Expense. "Lease to Purchase" agreements are generally not allowable. If a "Lease to Purchase" is requested, prior approval is required.

An equipment log must be completed listing all equipment purchases made with the prior fiscal year CDI grant.

<u>Vehicles</u>: The purchase of vehicles must be justified to and approved by the Commissioner. A separate justification must be submitted. If approved, county procurement policies must be followed.

### PROGRAM TOTAL

Place the total amount for the entire budget in the space provided at the bottom right corner of the Budget Category and Line-Item Detail form. This amount must match the amount requested for the program.

### **OTHER PROGRAM FUNDS**

<u>Interest Income</u>: Include the amount of interest accrued to the base program funds. Interest income shall be used to further local program purposes.

### ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE

Counties are also referred to the California State Controller's Office (SCO) and its Accounting Standards and Procedures for Counties manual (Government Code Section 30200 and California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Division 2, Chapter 2) that, along with minimal required accounting practices, includes basic guidance regarding grant program budgets. Counties may download a copy of this manual at the SCO website <a href="http://www.sco.ca.gov.">http://www.sco.ca.gov.</a>

### FORM 10

BUDGET CATEGORY AND LINE ITEM DETAIL  A. Personnel Services- Salaries/Employee Benefits						COST		
	(including Tahoe diff	ferential,	bi-lingual, star	ndby, lo	ongevity ar	nd defe	rred	
Salaries	comp)		M		** 4		-	
	DA Investigator	•	Monthly	-	Months		FTE	
	DA Investigator Assistant DA	\$	9,168	x	12	X	1.00	\$110,010
			7,542	X	12	X	0.05	4,52
	Deputy DA Investigative		6,490	X	12	X	0.90	74,95
	Assistant		3,961	x	12	х	0.05	2,37
	Forensic Auditor		5,764	X	12		0.05	
	Victim Witness		3,704	X	12	X	0.03	3,45
	Advocate		2,030	X	12	х	0.25	6,09
	Legal Secretary		4,050	x	12	x	0.05	2,43
	Degat Societary		4,050		12	Α.	0.03	2,43
Benefits								
	Medicare:							
	DA Investigator	S	133	х	12	x	1.00	\$1,59
	Assistant DA		109	x	12	X	0.05	6.
	Deputy DA		101	x	12	X	0.90	1,09
	Investigative		101	A	14	A	0.90	1,09
	Assistant		58	x	12	x	0.05	3:
	Forensic Auditor		84	x	12	x	0.05	50
	Victim Witness			-			0.00	
	Advocate		31	X	12	x	0.25	9:
	Legal Secretary		59	x	12	x	0.05	3:
	EV - BAS (FIR							
	Health/Flex:		1 500		10		1.00	601.00
	DA Investigator	\$	1,783	X	12	X	1.00	\$21,39
	Assistant DA		1,365	X	12	X	0.05	81
	Deputy DA		1,547	X	12	X	0.90	16,70
	Investigative Assistant		892		12		0.05	53:
				X		X		
	Forensic Auditor Victim Witness		1,610	X	12	X	0.05	96
	Advocate		805	x	12	x	0.25	2,41
	Legal Secretary		003	x	12	x	0.05	2,71.
	Degai Secretary		•	Α.	12	A	0.03	
	Retirement/ PERS:							
	<b>DA Investigator</b>	\$	2,946	x	12	x	1.00	\$35,35
	Assistant DA		1,557	x	12	x	0.05	934
	Deputy DA		1,607	x	12	X	0.90	17,35
	Investigative							
	Assistant		818	X	12	X	0.05	49
	Forensic Auditor Victim Witness		1,190	X	12	x	0.05	71
	Advocate		443	х	12	x	0.25	1,32
	Legal Secretary		852	x	12	x	0.05	51
	***							
	Disability Insurance		22	9.0	10	**	1.00	\$26
	DA Investigator	\$	22 19	X	12	X	1.00 0.05	320
D 1/0	Assistant DA 3/14 (Auto)		45	X	12	X 1		46 of 63

	Deputy DA	17	X	12	x	0.90	184
	Investigative Assistant	10	x	12	x	0.05	6
	Forensic Auditor Victim Witness	14	X	12	X	0.05	8
	Advocate	9	x	12	X	0.25	27
	Legal Secretary	10	X	12	X	0.05	6
TOTAL							\$306,845

### FORM 11

BUDGET CATEGORY AND LINE ITEM DETAIL	
B. Operating Expenses	COST
Law Books:	
California Insurance Code	\$ 23
Professional Services:	
Cellular Solutions	1,350
Pursuit Dynamics	840
Audit Fee:	
Outside Audit Firm	9,000
Staff Development:	
Insurance Fraud Seminar90 FTE DDA (\$300/ea. X 1)	300
Insurance Fraud Seminar - 1.00 FTE Investigator (\$300/ea. X 1)	300
Software:	
Tracking & vehicle Search Software	400
Office Expense:	ł
Toner	325
Transcription:	
Foothill Transcription	228
Indirect/Administrative Cost Allocation: Base 10% calculation	20,385
TOTAL	\$ 33,151

### FORM 12

BUDGET CATEGORY AND LINE-ITEM DETAIL		
C. Equipment	CC	DST
None		
CATEGORY TOTAL	\$	(
PROGRAM TOTAL	\$	339,990
INTEREST TOTAL	\$	(

### **EQUIPMENT LOG**

### Equipment Log for FY 2013-2014 County of El Dorado

Equipment Ordered	Equipment Cost	Date Ordered	Date Received	Serial Number	Equipment Tag Number
- W					

Rows can be inserted as needed.

No equipment purchased.

I certify this report is accurate and in accordance with the approved Grant Award Agreement.

Name: VBRN R. PIERSON Title: DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Signature: Date: 4/2/14

# ATTACHMENT A JOINT PLAN

### GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING A JOINT PLAN

#### Purpose of the Joint Plan

A Joint Plan helps achieve some very important goals for both county district attorney's and the Fraud Division. The joint plan, when properly developed and agreed upon, creates the framework for effective communication and resource management in the investigation and prosecution of insurance fraud.

Additionally, a joint plan assists the Insurance Commissioner in assessing the effectiveness of shared fraud program funding in the automobile insurance fraud program.

Some of the benefits of achieving these goals are:

- Reduction or elimination of duplication of effort
- Enhanced investigative support
- An increase in the number of arrests and prosecutions.

### **ELEMENTS OF THE PLAN**

Based upon review of past and current joint plans by county prosecutors and the Fraud Division, the following elements should be covered within the plan, but should not be considered all-inclusive:

#### 1. Statement of Goals

Include what is expected to be achieved by the joint plan. The joint plan will reflect the Insurance Commissioner's objectives.

### 2. Receipt and Assignment of Cases

Discuss the procedures to deal with fraud complaints and referrals that are received by only the Fraud Division or district attorney. What if both offices receive the same complaint? What arrangements will be made to avoid duplication of effort? How often will the two agencies meet/confer to share information on case referrals?

### 3. Investigations

When the district attorney first receives a case, discuss the criteria for when/if the Fraud Division's resources will be requested. Identify the plans and methods to develop cases between the two agencies and with allied agencies. Identify how the parties will avoid any duplication of investigative efforts. Define the manner in which the case investigative plan is in concurrence to investigate and prosecute if the fact expectation is met.

Discuss the time frames for initial and follow-up meetings between the assigned Fraud Division investigator(s) and the assigned prosecutor(s) for a case. Discuss how soon after a joint investigation is opened, the named prosecutor(s) and investigator(s) will be expected to meet.

### 4. Undercover Operations

Discuss the expectations and roles of both offices with respect to undercover operations conducted by the Fraud Division or jointly with district attorney investigators.

### 5. Case Filing Requirements

Discuss the filing requirements for cases presented to the county prosecutor. Set forth the guidelines that are generally expected for case filings.

### 6. Training

Discuss plans for any joint training between the District Attorney's office and the Fraud Division. Indicate any plans to conduct joint training and outreach to insurance companies (and Special Investigative Units), other law enforcement agencies, self-insurers and others.

#### 7. Problem Resolution

Discuss the procedures and methods to resolve issues that may surface during the investigative/prosecutorial stages. At what level are they to be resolved? Include a discussion of the process to be used in resolving any conflict in the direction or scope of the investigation.

### 8. Joint Acceptance of Plan, Required Signatures and Date

Both the county prosecutor, in charge of the insurance fraud program, and the Captain of each Fraud Division Regional Office, responsible for that county and program, must agree upon the plan. Both parties must sign and date the Joint Plan. Copies of all Joint Plans will be maintained at the Fraud Division Headquarters in Sacramento for review by the Insurance Commissioner.

### JOINT INVESTIGATIVE PLAN FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

#### **Memorandum of Understanding**

#### Introduction

The "parties" to this Joint Plan are the California Department of Insurance Fraud Division, and the El Dorado County District Attorney's Insurance Fraud Unit.

The parties to this Joint Investigative Plan recognize that the California Department of Insurance, Fraud Division was established to investigate allegations of insurance fraud throughout the State of California, and is the primary investigative agency in this field. However, while the headquarters for the Fraud Division in Central Northern California is based in Sacramento, its investigative responsibilities encompass twenty-five (25) central and northern counties. Due to this considerable geographical territory, the number of referrals/cases, and the finite number of investigators available, the fraud division cannot reasonably be expected to devote its efforts in any one county. Thus, there exists a critical need for an effective joint plan to address the problem of insurance fraud in each jurisdictional territory.

1. Statement of Goals

- a) To promote a close working relationship between the District Attorney's Insurance Fraud Unit and the Fraud Division, based on dedication to the common goal of fighting insurance fraud, commitment to the highest professional and ethical standards, and mutual respect as law enforcement officers devoted to the pursuit of justice and protection of the citizens of El Dorado County and the State of California.
- b) To investigate in a timely manner, using professional standards and procedures, and prosecute, when appropriate, as many identifiable cases of suspected insurance fraud as we can.
- c) To achieve the best possible anti-insurance fraud program through the efficient and effective use of the limited resources provided, and to promote awareness in this community that the serious problem of insurance fraud is being addressed in a meaningful way by law enforcement.
- d) The Fraud Division and the District Attorney Fraud Unit will work together to identify common areas of fraud that tend to drive up the cost of automobile insurance. This would also include identifying those who commit auto fraud. Once the entities or individuals involved in this area of fraud have been identified, the parties agree to work together to arrive at a plan as to how best to reduce or minimize these fraudulent activities.

2. Receipt and Assignment of Cases

Present law requires that an insurer who knows or reasonably believes that an act of insurance fraud has been committed, report this information to the Department of Insurance - Fraud Division and/or the local District Attorney (Insurance Code Section 1877.3).

- a) When a suspected fraudulent claim (SFC) or a case referral package is received from an insurer, it will be entered into a database, available for future reference. Both parties will maintain a case tracking system to monitor all SFC's and case referral packages received.
- b) Both parties will communicate on a regular, scheduled basis to discuss SFC's and case referral packages received, with the objective being to avoid duplication of investigative efforts, and to insure that all referrals are being appropriately addressed. When a case is assigned for investigation, the assigning party will notify the other within five (5) working days. A monthly report regarding intake of SFC's and assigned cases will be generated by both parties and mailed to one another by the fifth working day of each month.
- c) If the SFC or case referral package is sent only to the fraud division, the fraud division will address the matter, exercising its best discretion on how to proceed, with appropriate notice to the district attorney's insurance fraud unit of the action taken. If the SFC or case referral package is sent only to the District Attorney's Insurance Fraud Unit, it will notify the fraud division the action it desires to take, as indicated in paragraphs (d),(e) and (f) below. The information shall include the suspect's name, carrier or administrator and the claim number.
- d) If the fraud division elects to pursue an investigation of an SFC or case referral sent by an insurer, the District Attorney's Office insurance fraud unit will suspend any further action on the case, pending the outcome of the fraud division's investigation, and will notify the insurer of the fact in writing.
- e) If the fraud division elects not to pursue an investigation of an SFC or case referral sent by an insurer, because of excessive caseloads, resource limitations, or any other reason, or chooses to defer any matter referred, the district attorney's insurance fraud unit will review the referral for investigation. The referring insurer will be notified on this fact in writing and a copy of the referral will be submitted to the District Attorney's Insurance Fraud Unit.
- f) If the District Attorney's Insurance Fraud Unit receives a referral that would be more appropriately handled in another county's jurisdiction, the District Attorney's Office will forward the referral to the appropriate county and notify the fraud division.

3. Investigations

- a) Pursuant to the above provision, and to maximize the utilization of resources, it is understood and agreed that either party will provide assistance to the other, upon request, in any investigation where such assistance is needed, this could include serving search warrants, interviewing witnesses, making arrests, etc.
- Joint investigations may be undertaken in cases where the parties determine it is beneficial to combine resources to achieve the most efficient and effective results.
   This will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- c) It is expected that cases will be developed from referrals by insurers, other law enforcement/governmental agencies (California Highway Patrol, Placerville Police Department, South Lake Tahoe Police Department, El Dorado County Sheriff's Office, California Fire Department) informants, and other responsible sources of information. Outreach programs are encouraged to promote this aspect of the plan.
- d) It is the intent of the joint investigative plan to avoid duplication of investigative efforts by maintaining regular communication to discuss case loads and share information concerning current investigations. The fraud division regional supervisors will meet at a minimum of twice a year with the District Attorneys Fraud Unit lead attorney to review the working relationship between both agencies.
- e) The Deputy District Attorney of the District Attorney's Fraud Unit, or his/her designee, will be available to meet with the fraud division investigator at any time during the investigation of a case when requested by the investigator to discuss any aspect of the case.
- f) It is the intent of the parties that by maintaining regular communication and adhering to agreed upon plans and procedures, the completed investigation will result in the filing of criminal charges and a successful prosecution. At the same time, however, it is understood that not every case that is investigated will result in prosecution. This can occur when evidence does not develop as expected, material witnesses are no longer available, the case lacks jury appeal, the reasonable likelihood of conviction is minimal, or other unforeseen circumstances develop. The parties will take all possible steps to avoid such situations, as it is not desirable to expend investigative resources that not will lead to a prosecutable case.
- g) Any investigative costs associated with a fraud division investigation prior to the complaint being filed shall be incurred by the fraud division. Any costs associated with the investigation after the complaint is filed, shall be incurred by the District Attorney's Office. Responsibility for costs incurred during a "joint" undercover operation will be determined by the Memorandum of Understanding see section 4(c).

4. Undercover Operations

- a) Both parties recognize the importance of undercover investigations in those cases where it is felt this technique is a viable means of developing evidence to prove a suspected insurance fraud. The parties agree that undercover operations need to be highly organized and may be carefully monitored by supervisor level personnel to insure the efficiency and integrity of the investigation. It is understood that undercover operations can be very labor intensive and time consuming, and don't always produce the desired result.
- b) Either party may decide to conduct an undercover operation in a particular case using its own personnel and resources. In a situation where the fraud division conducts its own independent undercover investigation in El Dorado County, the District Attorney's Insurance Fraud Unit will be available to provide advice or other assistance required.
- c) In a case where there will be "joint" undercover investigation, there will be a memorandum of understanding (M.O.U.) prepared prior to the start of the investigation, which outlines and specifies the goals and the objectives of the investigation, as well as the duties and responsibilities including personnel and financial responsibilities, of each of the parties in the investigation.

5. Case Filing Requirements

- a) The initiation of suspected insurance fraud cases will focus not only on the development of probable cause to make an arrest, but also on the obtaining of sufficient evidence to the charge beyond a reasonable doubt in a criminal court. It is understood that each case is unique, and certain actions may need to be taken in one case that would not be taken in another.
- b) When submitting a case for prosecution, the investigator will present as complete a package as possible, including a detailed report, outlining the offenses alleged to have been committed, the details of the investigation and the evidence available to prove the charges, including identification of available witnesses and supporting documentation. In cases involving alleged false statements or misrepresentations, there must also be identified evidence to show the materiality of the alleged false statement or misrepresentation relating to the claim.
- c) To promote efficiency in this area, fraud division investigators are encouraged to contact the El Dorado County District Attorney early in the investigation of a case to share ideas and develop strategies that will lead to a prosecutable case.
- d) The District Attorney will ensure that all formal case presentations made by the fraud division will be reviewed within ten (10) working days of the presentation or delivery. If additional investigation is needed by the reviewing District Attorney, he/she will notify the case investigator immediately. The case investigator will complete the additional investigation as soon as reasonably

possible and provide the district attorney with status updates at a minimum of every ten (10) working days until the investigation is completed. The District Attorney will further ensure that decisions on complaint filings shall be done in a timely fashion but no longer than thirty (30) days from the date of receipt. If a formal case is rejected for prosecution, the District Attorney will prepare a statement in writing stating the reasons for the rejection and provide the statement to the case investigator within ten (10) working days following the rejection.

6. Training

- a) Parties have been, and will continue to be active participants in the annual CDAA/CDI insurance fraud training seminar. This will provide a significant portion of the ongoing training of both parties in the area of insurance fraud.
- b) The parties will participate in joint informal training sessions as necessary, on issues important to the investigation and prosecution of insurance fraud cases. The parties will assist each other, when requested, in training sessions, for insurance carriers and administrators, or issues important to the detecting, investigation and prosecution of insurance fraud cases. Both parties will notify each other when there is a request for training by an insurance carrier and administrator.

7. Problem Resolution

a) It is the intent of this joint plan that any problems or differences that may arise between the parties be resolved quickly through early, direct and open communication by those personnel directly involved in the dispute. If necessary, the Chief Investigator of the Fraud Division and the prosecutor in charge of the District Attorney's Office Insurance Fraud Program, or the Chief Investigator in the District Attorney's Office may be called upon to resolve any dispute, concentrating on the best interests of the overall insurance program.

V .	
<b>VERN R. PIERSO</b>	N
District Attorney	
County of El Dorse	do

VIN

MARTY YORK

Captain, Department of Insurance

acta Mak

State of California

Date: 5/9/14

Date: 5/20/14

### **ATTACHMENT B**

## THIS ATTACHMENT IS SUBMITTED AS A SEPARATE ADDENDUM TO THE APPLICATION AND IS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL.

- 1. Please include in this attachment information considered confidential, specifically criminal investigations, whether active or inactive.
- 2. Briefly describe all cases that have been or are being investigated and/or pending prosecution during Fiscal Year 2013-2014.
- 3. Include those cases being worked jointly with CDI. (These descriptions shall also include investigated cases with no result.) List case prosecutor(s) and investigator(s).
- 4. Under Description, provide a brief overview of specific case activity (e.g., number of suspects, fraud type, criminal activity discovered).
- 5. Outcomes achieved through county or other funding sources shall be designated separately.

Name	Investigation Case #	Prosecutor(s) Investigator(s)	Date Assigned	Case Description
ACERBI, STEPHEN	S12CRF0213	P: JENSEN	08/08/2012	INSURED FRAUD
				(WARRANT STATUS)
ALTHOUSE, JEFFREY	S10CRF0227	P: JENSEN	08/27/2010	ECONOMIC CAR
				THEFT
				(WARRANT STATUS)
AVILA, TIMOTHY	S14CRF0042	P: JENSEN	03/03/2014	ECONOMIC CAR
				THEFT
BADGETT-LINDSEY, K.	13-07-004024	P: JENSEN	07/22/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
				THEFT
BALDWIN, MARSHALL	14-01-000099	P: JENSEN	01/03/2014	ECONOMIC CAR
	1	I: FRANZEN	1	THEFT
BARNES, BRIAN	S14CRF0060	P: JENSEN	04/03/2014	ECONOMIC CAR
•				THEFT
BENNETT, JOHN	P13CRF0279	P: JENSEN	04/30/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
,		I: FRANZEN		THEFT
BONDERER, JASON	11-13-006442	P: JENSEN	11/15/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
	REJECTED			THEFT
BONDI, KEVIN	13-07-003990	P: JENSEN	07/07/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
				THEFT
BREIDENBACH, TYSON	13-03-001692	P: JENSEN	03/29/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
	REJECTED			THEFT
BURGESS, BEAUMONT	P14CRF0147	P: JENSEN	02/10/2014	ECONOMIC CAR
		I: FRANZEN		THEFT
CARCIONE, AUGUSTINO	2012-533	I: FRANZEN	11/01/2012	INSURED FRAUD

CARRELL, CRYSTAL	P13CRF0699	P: JENSEN	12/30/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
OLANDON ANDVIANDE	2012 105	I: FRANZEN		THEFT
CLAYTON, ANDY/ANNE	2012-405	I: FRANZEN	8/1/2012	INSURED FRAUD
COLE, SHANYA	P12CRF0335	P. JENSEN	02/14/2012	ECONOMIC CAR
		I: FRANZEN		THEFT
				(WARRANT STATUS)
COLLINGS, CASSIDEE	2013-467	I: FRANZEN	11/19/2013	INSURED FRAUD
CORDERO, MICAH	P13CRF0211	P: JENSEN	02/14/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
		I: FRANZEN		THEFT
CRAFTS, TIFFANY	13-09-005327	P: JENSEN	09/18/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
	REJECTED			THEFT
CRAVIOTTO, RYAN	P14CRF0068	P: JENSEN	01/27/2014	ECONOMIC CAR
,				THEFT
CROWLEY, WAYNE	P08CRF0326	P: JENSEN	07/11/2008	ECONOMIC CAR
,		I: FRANZEN		THEFT
				(WARRANT STATUS)
CURTIS, MARYANN	14-03-001835	P: FRANZEN	03/24/2014	ECONOMIC CAR
	REJECTED		03/21/2011	THEFT
DALOIAN, PATSY	P13CRF0396	P: JENSEN	04/30/2012	INSURED FRAUD
DALOIAN, I ATS I	2012-226	I: FRANZEN	04/30/2012	INSCILLIST I ICIO
D'ANGELO,	P12CRF0302	P: JENSEN	05/23/2012	INSURED FRAUD
CHRISTOPHER	1 12CK1 0302	I: FRANZEN	03/23/2012	INSCRED TRACTS
DAVIS, MATTHEW	13-09-005327	P: JENSEN	09/18/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
DAVIS, MATTHEW	REJECTED	r. JENSEN	09/10/2013	THEFT
DECKER, MATTHEW	P13CRF0155	P: JENSEN		ECONOMIC CAR
DECKER, MATTHEW	PISCREUISS	r. JENSEN		THEFT
DEMODE BRANDON	13-07-003688	P: JENSEN	07/08/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
DEMBROGE, BRANDON		P. JENSEN	07/08/2013	THEFT
DETITION DILLON	REJECTED	D. IENICENI	01/02/2014	ECONOMIC CAR
DEUTSCH, DILLON	P14CRF0067	P: JENSEN	01/02/2014	
	G140PF0014	D IENIGENI	01/21/2014	THEFT
DIXON, ANTHONY	S14CRF0014	P: JENSEN	01/21/2014	ECONOMIC CAR
			0.640.540.0	THEFT
DOWNING, GORDON	P13CRF0459	P: JENSEN	06/05/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
	2013-309	I: FRANZEN		THEFT
DREHER, KELSIE	S12CRF0249	P: JENSEN	12/25/2012	ECONOMIC CAR
				THEFT
EPPERSON, ERIN	2014-075	I: FRANZEN	04/09/2014	INSURED FRAUD
ENGLUND, TREVOR	P13CRM0952	P: JENSEN	08/05/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
				THEFT
ETZLER, JUSTIN	P11CRF0661	P: JENSEN	08/17/2011	ECONOMIC CAR
				THEFT
_				(WARRANT STATUS)
FIGUEROA, RACHELLE	14-02-000868	P: JENSEN	02/05/2014	ECONOMIC CAR
				THEFT
FLEWELLYN, MICHAEL	13-03-001692	P: JENSEN	03/29/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
	REJECTED			THEFT

FOLEY, JAMES	P14CRF0262	P: JENSEN	03/10/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
FOSTER, WINDY	P13CRF0319	P: JENSEN	06/11/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
GARDNER, TINA	2013-343	I: FRANZEN	09/09/2013	INSURED FRAUD
GRANT, STEVEN	2013-374	I: FRANZEN	10/02/2013	INSURED FRAUD
GREENSTEIN, RYAN	P13CRF0689	P: JENSEN	12/20/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
GUEST, DANIELA	2013-374	I: FRANZEN	10/02/2013	INSURED FRAUD
GUSTAFSON, ERIK	P13CRF0457	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	05/24/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
GUSTAFSON, ERIK	P13CRF0487	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	08/26/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
HALL, ADAM LEE	P14CRF0136	P: JENSEN	01/29/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
HALL, ADAM LEE	P14CRF0178	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	03/14/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
HALL, DEBORAH	14-04-002107	P: JENSEN	04/03/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
HARRIS, KENNETH	P13CRF0441	P: JENSEN	08/12/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
HASELTINE, JESSICA	P14CRF0078	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	01/30/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
HEINBAUGH, DANIEL	2012-511	1: FRANZEN	10/09/2012	INSURED FRAUD
HENDEE, JOEL	2014-073	I: FRANZEN	04/03/2014	INSURED FRAD
HOEL, HEATHER	14-04-002754	P: JENSEN	04/30/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
HOSKINS, TIMOTHY	P13CRF0155	P: JENSEN	03/22/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
JIMENEZ, LOUIS	P13CRF0089	P: JENSEN	01/03/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
JOHNSON, JOSHUA	P13CRF0117	P: JENSEN	01/25/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
JOHNSON, MAGNISHA	P10CRF0205	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	12/29/2009	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT (WARRANT STATUS)
KELSEY, JOHN	P13CRF0467	P: JENSEN	04/30/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
KIDWELL, ELIJAH	S14CRF0060	P: JENSEN	04/03/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
KINSLEY, DANIEL	P13CRF0421	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	08/02/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
KRAGEL, JESSE	P14CRF0178	P: JENSEN 1: FRANZEN	03/14/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
KURTZ, MAX	P12CRF0422	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	04/30/2012	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT

LAUSTRUP, JUSTIN	P14CRF0181	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	03/07/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
LEE, SHANNON	14-04-002143	P: JENSEN	04/10/2014	ECONOMIC CAR
LUI, MARC	P12CRF0630	P: JENSEN	11/29/2012	THEFT ECONOMIC CAR
LONGSTREET, LUKE	13-10-005790	P: JENSEN	10/24/2013	THEFT
LOVEDAY, VANDA	14-04-002143	P: JENSEN	04/04/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
MACDONALD, JOSEPH	P13CRF0518	P: JENSEN	07/18/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
MALONE, JACOB	P13CRF0247	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	02/11/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
MAXWELL, JOHN	P13CRF0542	P: JENSEN	09/05/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
MCCOY, SAUL	13-12-006903	P: JENSEN	12/09/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
MCELROEN, SEAN	P14CRF0079	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	07/02/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
MEYER, MICHELLE	2012-420	I: FRANZEN	08/01/2012	INSURED FRAUD
MITCHELLSIMMONS, CHRISTOPHER	14-01-000700	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	01/29/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
MOLES, HENRY	P13CRF0699	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	12/30/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
MORGAN, DANIELLE	P12CRF0602	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	09/28/2012	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
MOORE, JERAMY	13-09-005466	P: JENSEN 1: FRANZEN	09/25/2013	INSURED FRAUD
MURPHY, SEAN	S14CRF0060	P: JENSEN	04/03/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
NASH, MICHAEL	P13CRF0408	P: JENSEN	07/23/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
NATTRASS, MARIN	P14CRF0056	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	01/23/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
O'DONNELL, MEGAN	P13CRF0151	P: JENSEN	03/21/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
PAXIAO, JEREMY	P13CRM1055	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	03/29/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
PEASE, TIMOTHY	2012-534	I: FRANZEN	11/01/2012	INSURED FRAUD
PELTON, MICHAEL	14-01-000731	P: JENSEN	01/30/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
PETERNELL, JOSHUA	S13CRM0619	P: JENSEN	10/07/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
POWERS, JOHN	14-02-000778	P: JENSEN	02/03/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
PLUMMER, CODY	14-02-001280	P: JENSEN	02/26/2014	ECONOMIC CAR

				THEFT
REYNOLDS, BRIAN	P13CRF0629	P: JENSEN	12/16/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
REMY, BRANDON	P13CRF0307	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	05/30/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
REMY, BRANDON	P13CRF0558	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	08/21/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
REMY, BRANDON	14-03-001793	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	03/20/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
RIVERS, DEVON	P13CRF0517	P: JENSEN	07/03/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
ROBERTS, BRYAN	P14CRF0161	P: JENSEN	02/20/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
RODRIAN, ASHLYN	P14CRF0226	P: JENSEN	02/24/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
RUTT, NICHELUS	14-01-000689	P: JENSEN	01/29/2014	ECONOMI C CAR THEFT
SAWYER, DENNIS	P12CRF0352	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	06/05/2012	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
SEXTON, ALAN	P14CRF0147	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	02/10/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
SILVA, DANIEL	2013-226	I: FRANZEN	05/14/2013	INSURED FRAUD
SMITH-TUNNELL, JULIE	S13CRF0221	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN		ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
STONE, BRITTNEY	2012-139	I: FRANZEN	03/22/2012	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
STANLEY, ALICEA	2012-409	I: FRANZEN	08/02/2012	INSURED FRAUD
SZIJARTO, JASON	2013-179	I: FRANZEN	02/07/2013	INSURED FRAUD
TENNIS, NICOLE	P13CRF0457	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	09/25/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
TIDWELL, MICHAEL	P13CRF0279	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	04/30/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
TIDWELL, MICHAEL	P13CRF0558	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	08/21/2013	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
TIPP, DAVID	P12CRF0443	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	08/14/2012	INSURED FRAUD
TOFANELLI, TIFFANY	S14CRF0023	P: JENSEN	02/04/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
TONOVAN, ARTHUR	2013-182	I: FRANZEN	02/07/2013	INSURED FRAUD
URECH, LYLE	P14CRF0028	P: JENSEN	01/13/2014	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT
VARELA, MARIA	2012-203	I: FRANZEN	04/30/2012	INSURED FRAUD
VAVRINYUK, PAVLO	2013-375	I: FRANZEN	10/02/2013	INSURED FRAUD
WARD, GARY	P12CRF0422	P: JENSEN I: FRANZEN	04/30/2012	ECONOMIC CAR THEFT

WEISS, SHAUNNA	P13CRF0421	P: JENSEN	08/02/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
		I: FRANZEN		THEFT
WHITE, KAREN	P13CRF0307	P: JENSEN	05/30/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
		I: FRANZEN		THEFT
WHITE, KAREN	P13CRF0407	P: JENSEN	06/30/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
		I: FRANZEN		THEFT
WILLIAMS, DAVID	P13CRF0549	P: JENSEN	10/09/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
		I: FRANZEN		THEFT
WISE, MICHAEL	P14CRF0089	P: JENSEN	02/05/2014	ECONOMIC CAR
				THEFT
WOODFORD, WILLIAM	P13CRF0549	P: JENSEN	10/09/2013	ECONOMIC CAR
		I: FRANZEN		THEFT

Rows can be inserted as needed.