

2009 Innovations Awards Program APPLICATION

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ID # (assigned by CSG): 09-W-03AZ

Please provide the following information, adding space as necessary:

State: Arizona

Assign Program Category: Public Safety

1. **Program Name:** Illegal Immigration Prevention and Apprehension Co-op Team (IIMPACT)
2. **Administering Agency:** Arizona Department of Public Safety
3. **Contact Person:** Lieutenant Robert Smart
4. **Address:** 2102 West Encanto Boulevard Phoenix, Arizona 85005
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8. **Web site Address:** www.azdps.gov
9. **Please provide a two-sentence description of the program.**

IIMPACT is a multi-agency task force comprising detectives from the AZDPS, Phoenix Police Department, and I.C.E. formed to “deter, disrupt and dismantle violent criminal organizations engaged in human smuggling in the greater Phoenix and Maricopa County areas.”

10. **How long has this program been operational (month and year)?**

Began July 2007

11. **Why was the program created? What problem[s] or issue[s] was it designed to address?**

IIMPACT was created to combat the illegal immigration problem Arizona is facing and focus on investigating the violent criminal organizations and crimes associated with illegal immigration and human smuggling.

12. Describe the specific activities and operations of the program in chronological order.

IIMPACT deters, disrupts and dismantles violent criminal organizations engaged in human smuggling in the greater Phoenix and Maricopa County areas by investigating cases involving kidnapping, extortion, assault, sexual assault, and other violent crimes.

13. Why is the program a new and creative approach or method?

IIMPACT's diverse and unique collaboration of State, City and Federal investigators within one task force has brought a new and innovative approach to immigration enforcement never before seen in Arizona. IIMPACT's specific mission of focusing only on the violent criminal organizations is also unique and innovative and considered a nation wide model. For the very first time, State and City officers received Federal 287(g) deputized authority to combat illegal immigration. DPS currently has 28 certified employees statewide. IIMPACT has 11 active investigators.

14. What were the program's start-up costs?

The initial start-up cost was \$2,709,413. Expenses included renting and revitalizing office space, and other operating equipment to equip and house 50 employees, purchase fully equipped police vehicles and other related investigative police equipment, and salaries for Department and other agency employees.

15. What are the program's annual operational costs?

\$2,182,594.

16. How is the program funded?

The program is funded through State funding to the Arizona Department of Public Safety Gang Enforcement Bureau.

17. Did this program require the passage of legislation, executive order or regulations?

No.

18. What equipment, technology and software are used to operate and administer this program?

Buildings, infrastructure to the buildings (office furniture and other equipment), computers and related software, police vehicles, investigative equipment, detention vehicles and salary costs to Department and other agency employees.

19. To the best of your knowledge, did this program originate in your state? If YES, please indicate the innovator's name, present address, telephone number and e-mail address.

Yes, the innovative concept came from various members of the Arizona Department of Public Safety under direction of the Governor.

20. Are you aware of similar programs in other states?

We are not aware of similar programs in other states.

21. Has the program been fully implemented?

Yes.

22. Briefly evaluate (pro and con) the program's effectiveness in addressing the defined problem[s] or issue[s]. Provide tangible examples.

The program has met the mission by deterring, disrupting and dismantling human smuggling organizations. In CY 2008, IIMPACT received 132 calls for service involving violence, arrested 162 felony suspects with 232 state felony charges, opened 43 human smuggling investigations, contacted 631 undocumented aliens, served 56 search warrants, and seized 46 weapons and \$130,000.00 in currency. Convicted suspects have received prison sentences ranging from three years to 52 years. The average sentence is 7-10 years in prison. Arizona communities are tangibly safer with violent offenders in prison.

23. How has the program grown and/or changed since its inception?

The program has matured in its investigative techniques by adding a financial investigations squad and intelligence personnel from I.C.E. and DPS to help facilitate intelligence led policing abilities and added financial investigative skills to dismantle and disrupt violent human smuggling organizations. IIMPACT detectives are more effective in the detection and prevention of violent crimes.

24. What limitations or obstacles might other states expect to encounter if they attempt to adopt this program?

Other states do not have the same illegal immigration problems unique to the greater Phoenix Metropolitan area. It would be difficult to comment on this based on the differences.

2009 Innovations Awards Program Program Categories and Subcategories

Use these as guidelines to determine the appropriate *Program Category* for your state's submission and list that program category on page one of this application. Choose only one.

Infrastructure and Economic Development

- Business/Commerce
- Economic Development
- Transportation

Government Operations

- Administration
- Elections
- Public Information
- Revenue

Health & Human Services

- Aging
- Children & Families
- Health Services
- Housing
- Human Services

Human Resources/Education

- Education
- Labor
- Management
- Personnel
- Training and Development
- Workforce Development

Natural Resources

- Agriculture
- Energy
- Environment
- Environmental Protection
- Natural Resources
- Parks & Recreation
- Water Resources

Public Safety/Corrections

- Corrections
- Courts
- Criminal Justice
- Drugs
- Emergency Management
- Public Safety

Save in .doc or rtf. Return completed application electronically to innovations@csg.org or mail to:

CSG Innovations Awards 2009
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This application is also available at www.csg.org, in the Programs section.

Deadline: March 2, 2009