



CATPA

Colorado Auto Theft Prevention Authority

Department of Public Safety

Colorado Automobile Theft Prevention Authority (CATPA)

CATPA is a state authority under the Department of Public Safety, established by Colorado Statute in 2003 to help reduce auto theft. In 2008, the legislature passed Senate Bill-60 to provide CATPA with permanent funding of \$1 per insured vehicle, each year until the sunset review in fiscal Year 2018.

The 2017 sunset review recommendation concluded, “The CATPA program provides valuable funding to address auto theft prevention programs in Colorado, and it has yielded many successes. In order to continue to proactively address auto theft, the General Assembly voted to continue the CATPA program and the Board. Doing so will ensure that longitudinal funding is available to CATPA program grantees for auto theft prevention initiatives throughout the state of Colorado for the foreseeable future.” (Colo. Dept. of Regulator Agencies, Colo. Office of Police, Research & Regulatory Reform, 2017 Sunset Review: The Colo. Auto Theft Prevention Authority and the Colo. Auto Theft Prevention Authority Board, page 4) These funds are used for law enforcement agencies, specialized vehicle theft task forces, public awareness campaigns, specialized training, and vertical prosecution. The statute gives priority to multi-agency applicants that target auto theft in all regions of the state. Less than 8% of collected revenues are used for administrative support, including a four-member staff.

Comparison of auto theft from 2020 to 2021

The auto theft comparison for 2019 vs. 2020, and 2020 vs. 2021 by theft area show increases in 2020 vs. 2019 with the exception of Southern Colorado with a 5% decrease.

2021 vs. 2020 show increases in Denver Metro, Northern Colorado, Southern Colorado, and Western Colorado with the exceptions of Eastern Colorado with a 3% decrease and South West Colorado with a 12% decrease. It should be noted that Southern Colorado increased by 25% in 2020 vs. 2021.

THEFT BY AREA	THEFTS CY 2019	THEFTS CY 2020	% CHANGE	THEFTS CY 2020	THEFTS CY 2021	% CHANGE
Denver Metro	12,884	19,738	53%	19,738	27,443	39%
Eastern Colorado	212	307	45%	307	299	-3%
Northern Colorado	1,867	2,496	34%	2,496	3,028	21%
South West Colorado	367	493	34%	493	436	-12%
Southern Colorado	4,100	3,904	-5%	3,904	4,878	25%
Western Colorado	439	726	65%	726	823	13%

Figure 1. Graph located in the Auto Theft Intelligence Coordination Center 2021 Annual Report

In the 2021 funding cycle, the CATPA Board awarded funding to seven (7) grant projects for a total amount of \$5,699,850.00. These grant projects engaged over 40 partner organizations and agencies across Colorado in the realms of prevention, education, enforcement, investigation, prosecution and training. The following is a summary of each program and their successes that were funded in FY2021 by the CATPA Board.

Colorado Attorney General’s Office (AG’s) - \$163,713

The Attorney General’s Auto Theft Initiative (AG Initiative) is well positioned program that works in conjunction with the CATPA taskforces and other law enforcement personnel, to: (1) identify significant auto theft criminal activity; (2) direct, organize and participate in targeted investigations involving multiple agencies; (3) and ultimately file appropriate charges or obtain indictments in cooperation with other state prosecutors, so that defendants who commit these crimes are prosecuted efficiently and aggressively. The AG Initiative emphasizes prosecuting individuals or groups of individuals working in a coordinated fashion such that the patterns of their conduct rise to the level of violation of the Colorado Organized Crime Control Act (COCCA).

AG’s Program’s Highlights

- Prosecuted 24 complex criminal cases
- the AG Initiative consulted on and completed intakes for multiple other investigations such as the CATPA funded task forces.

Auto Theft Intelligence Coordination Center (ATICC) - \$1,423,823

ATICC is a Colorado State Patrol initiative providing timely and reliable information and analysis of statewide auto theft reports completed in the Colorado Crime Information Center. The ATICC provides valuable data to federal, tribal, national and state law enforcement agencies. Throughout 2021, ATICC provided intelligence, analysis and reporting to agencies all over Colorado.

ATICC’s Program’s Highlights

- Total products produced; including tactical, intelligence, prosecution, strategic and research – 1152
- Training provided to analysts across the state – 39
- Trends – Total thefts within the six top categories of stolen vehicles, i.e., motorcycles, passenger cars, pickup trucks, SUVs, trailers, and vans, are up when compared with FY2020

CATPA FUNDED PROGRAMS AND 2019 SUCCESSES

Prevention  Education  Training  Enforcement  Prosecution



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Edgewater Police Department, The Alliance - \$108,244.24

The Alliance is a collaboration of seven police departments consisting of the following police departments: Morrison, Edgewater, Lakeside, Mountain View, Red Rocks Community College, Colorado School of Mines, and Arapahoe Community College. This seven-agency alliance applied the use of Automatic License Plate Readers (ALPR) to combat auto theft by the apprehension of stolen vehicles, surveillance, and crime analysis. Information collected will be shared within these agencies and with others on an ongoing basis. These strategies will help the seven agencies better understand auto theft and crime and identify innovative tactics in decreasing auto theft.

The Alliance's Highlights

- The project was delayed due to the applicant's internal processes and was not able to start until the end of the third quarter. However, the project was able to obtain and install the ALPRs to the participating agencies. Due to the delay, this project was extended from 1 year to a 2-year grant.

Beat Auto Theft Through Law Enforcement (BATTLE) - \$1,456,236

BATTLE is a statewide law enforcement multi-agency task force providing agencies to work beyond their department limitations to combat auto theft. BATTLE aims to identify and arrest auto theft suspects, and recover stolen vehicles, by pooling resources utilizing advanced technology and sharing intelligence. BATTLE strives to increase communication among Colorado law enforcement agencies to identify chronic repeat offenders of vehicle crimes and collaborates with other CATPA grantees.

BATTLE Program's Highlights

- Total number of task force operations – 141
- Total number of task force investigations – 351
- Total number of arrests – 91
- Total number of stolen vehicles identified – 273
- Total number of stolen vehicles recovered - 274
- Total number of deployed bait car operations – 60
- Total number of deployed bait car arrests – 1
- Total number of trainings performed – 10
- Total number of training attendees - 61

Colorado Auto Theft Investigators (CATI) - \$330,000

CATI was awarded a statewide training initiative to support law enforcement education pertaining to auto theft by providing basic, advance and specialized training.

CATI Program's Highlights

- CATI go hosted the 69th International Vehicle Crimes Training Seminar in August of 2021 which was attended by over 400 in-person attendees and 80 plus in the virtual platform.
- Total trainings performed through the grant year – 12
- Total people instructed through the grant year - 188
- Total meetings performed - 57

CATPA Metropolitan Auto Theft Task Force (C-MATT) - \$2,217,228

C-MATT is a full-time multi-agency enforcement task force initiative. This Denver-metro area investigative team increases communication and collaboration among auto theft investigators and takes a centralized approach in identifying, apprehending and prosecution of vehicle crime offenders, who normally commit crimes across multi-jurisdictional boundaries. C-MATT is instrumental in arresting multiple offenders including those involved and adjudicated in organized crime.

CMATT Program's Highlights

- Total number of task force operations – 93
- Total number of task force investigations – 3075
- Total number of investigations cleared - 1775
- Total number of arrests – 409
- Total number of stolen vehicles identified – 2546
- Total number of stolen vehicles recovered - 393
- Total number of deployed bait car operations – 18
- Total number of trainings performed – 237
- Total number of training attendees - 847

THE CATPA BOARD

The legislation established authority for the CATPA Board of Directors. The Board is comprised of 11 members that include:

- Cory Amend, Department of Revenue Designee
- Lovre Brajkovic, Insurance Representative
- LTC Barry Bratt, Department of Public Safety Designee
- Toren Evers-Mushovic, Consumer Representative
- Jason Juarez, Insurance Representative
- Chief Clinton Nichols, Law Enforcement Representative
- Sheriff Steve Nowlin, Law Enforcement Representative

Prevention



Education



Training



Enforcement



Prosecution



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- Robert Pace, Insurance Representative
- Jess Redman, District Attorney Representative
- Amy Taylor, Insurance Representative
- Deborah Vela, Insurance Representative

CATPA Mission

"To assist in deterring and reducing vehicle theft and insurance fraud through a statewide cooperative effort of generating funds to support law enforcement, prosecution and public awareness through a partnership and state government."

CATPA Office

The CATPA Office may be contacted for any assistance regarding the CATPA programs or information related to auto theft in Colorado.

Please visit the CATPA website :

<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/csp/catpa-office>

Saving Lives Combatting Vehicle Crimes

Prevention



Education



Training



Enforcement



Prosecution