

# 2023 CATPA ANNUAL REPORT



## Senate Bill 2008-60 CATPA Grant Program

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 2008-60 to provide CATPA with permanent funding of \$1 per insured vehicle, each year until the sunset review in fiscal Year 2018. In 2023, CATPA received approximately \$5.5 million into the CATPA Cash Fund to support grant programs consistent with §42-5-112 C.R.S., §10-4-617 C.R.S. and 8 CCR 1507-50.

The [2017 CATPA Sunset Review](#) recommendation (Page 4,) 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.”* 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 2021 to 2023

The auto theft comparison for 2021 through 2023 demonstrated decreases in reported motor vehicle theft statewide, with 2023 reductions in all of Colorado, and all Colorado regions.

| Colorado Reported Vehicle Thefts |              |              |             |              |             |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| Theft by Area                    | CY2021       | CY2022       | Change in % | CY2023       | Change in % |
| Denver Metro                     | 27469        | 30578        | 10%         | 23253        | -32%        |
| Eastern Colorado                 | 302          | 282          | -7%         | 277          | -2%         |
| Northern Colorado                | 3057         | 3891         | 21%         | 2901         | -34%        |
| South West Colorado              | 446          | 435          | -3%         | 419          | -4%         |
| Southern Colorado                | 4907         | 5569         | 12%         | 5312         | -5%         |
| Western Colorado                 | 826          | 573          | -44%        | 536          | -7%         |
| <b>Statewide</b>                 | <b>37007</b> | <b>41328</b> | <b>10%</b>  | <b>32698</b> | <b>-26%</b> |

Figure 1. Data from the Auto Theft Intelligence Coordination Center

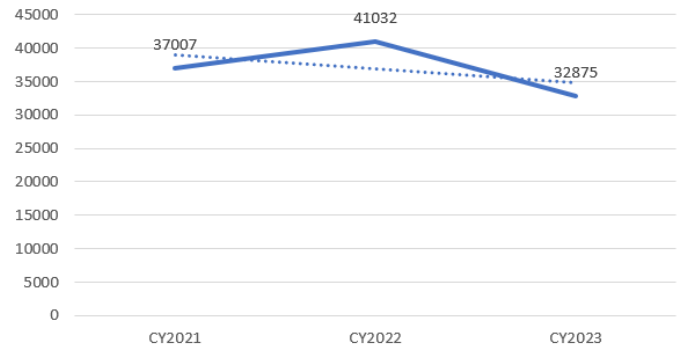


## CATPA

### Colorado Auto Theft Prevention Authority

Department of Public Safety

## Stolen Vehicles by Calendar Year



## CATPA FUNDED PROGRAMS AND 2023 SUCCESSES

In the 2023 funding cycle, the CATPA Board awarded funding to six (6) grant projects for a total amount of \$5,732,238.00. These grant projects engaged over 67 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 FY2023 by the CATPA Board.

### Colorado Attorney General's Office (AG's)

#### Awarded \$198,971.00

The Attorney General's Auto Theft Initiative (AG Initiative) is a 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).

## CATPA FUNDED PROGRAMS AND 2023 SUCCESSES

Prevention  Education & Training  Victim Support  Enforcement  Prosecution 

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## CATPA Colorado Auto Theft Prevention Authority

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### Auto Theft Intelligence Coordination Center (ATICC)

**Awarded \$985,420.80**

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. ATICC utilizes a statewide reporting system which provides timely and reliable information on reported stolen motor vehicles in Colorado.

#### *ATICC's Program's Highlights*

- Produced 1,882 analytical products; including tactical, intelligence, prosecution, strategic and research and
- Performed 98 training sessions across the state

### Beat Auto Theft Through Law Enforcement (BATTLE)

**Awarded \$1,760,498.70**

BATTLE is a statewide law enforcement multi-agency task force enabling 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 Program's Highlights*

- Performed 175 task force operations,
- Investigated 646 auto theft cases,
- Recovered 411 stolen vehicles,
- Arrested 423 auto theft and related crime offenders, and
- Conducted 33 training sessions.

### Colorado Auto Theft Investigators (CATI)

**Awarded \$331,338.50**

CATI is a statewide training initiative to support law enforcement education and training.

#### *CATI Program's Highlights*

- Performed 25 law enforcement trainings, resulting in the
- Training of 393 personnel.

### CATPA Metropolitan Auto Theft Task Force (C-MATT)

**Awarded \$1,956,009.00**

C-MATT is a full-time multi-agency enforcement task force initiative aimed to investigate vehicle crimes demonstrating a pattern or trend of vehicle thefts and/or offenders in the Denver-metro area. This Denver-metro area investigative team increases communication and collaboration among auto theft investigators and takes a centralized approach in identifying, apprehending and prosecuting 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.

#### *C-MATT Program's Highlights*

- Performed 115 task force operations,
- Investigated 739 auto theft cases,
- 746 stolen vehicles recovered,
- Arrested 235 auto theft and related crime offenders, and
- Conducted 52 training sessions.

### CATPA Public Outreach Program

**Awarded \$500,000**

The CATPA Public Outreach Program was initiated in 2022 to provide a statewide education and prevention effort regarding motor vehicle theft. The Program aimed to achieve and surpass previous efforts of public education and outreach programs funded by CATPA. The central theme of the public outreach prevention effort was centered on increasing auto theft prevention and awareness efforts in regards to "puffers", catalytic converter thefts, work jointly with existing CATPA programs for centralized messaging, as well as provide viable and realistic messages on the impact of vehicle theft for all Coloradans.

#### *CATPA Public Outreach Program Highlights*

- Engaged in 67 outreach events
- Managed the Lockdownyourcar.org website resulting in over 103,713 website visits,
- Completed over 5,900,000 impressions in high risk terrain areas of motor vehicle theft,
- Reached over 188,000 persons using local and county partnerships in community events, and

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## Senate Bill 2023-257 CATPA Grant Program

During the 2023 Colorado Regular Legislative Session, Senate Bill 2023-257 passed and was signed into law by Governor Polis on June 2, 2023. Senate Bill 2023-257 amended §42-5-112, CRS, and provided CATPA with an additional \$5 million from the general fund to be used for the purposes of: 1) Implementing a statewide program to increase awareness of automobile theft; 2) Implementing programs to support victims of automobile theft; 3) Additional overtime for law enforcement agencies; 4) Implementing a dedicated automobile theft prosecution program; 5) Enhancing and upgrading the automobile theft tracking and reporting system; or 6) Any other direct or indirect costs associated with the implementation of the automobile theft prevention grant program. CATPA provided solicitation and announcement of these additional funds on June 16, 2023, where applications were due on July 13, 2023. As a result, eight (8) multiagency programs were funded to initiate programs on October 1, 2023 and conclude on June 30, 2024.

## Governor's Wildly Important Goal

Leading up to the 2023 legislation, in September 2022, the Governor's Office and the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Public Safety worked with CATPA on establishing a key priority for crime prevention related to motor vehicle theft. A Wildly Important Goal (WIG) was set "In an effort to make Colorado a Top 10 Safest State, the Crime Reduction Working Group will decrease the rate of motor vehicle theft by 10%, from 788.7 per 100,000 annually in FY21-22 to 709.8 per 100,000 by June 30, 2023."<sup>1</sup>

## CATPA FUNDED PROGRAMS AND 2023 SUCCESSES

In the 2023 funding cycle, the CATPA Board received twelve (12) applications for funding and awarded funding to eight (8) grant projects for a total amount of \$4,995,000. This was a limited time general fund single fiscal year program. 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



## CATPA Colorado Auto Theft Prevention Authority

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program and their successes that were funded in FY2022 by the CATPA Board.

### City of Arvada Police Department

#### ***Awarded \$20,000***

The City of Arvada Police Department was awarded funds in support of their mission by providing free police reports to victims of auto theft and purchased and installed equipment for the outfitting of vehicles for long-term criminal investigation surveillance.

#### ***Arvada PD Program Highlights***

- Assisted 47 auto theft victims
- Recorded 1,046 hours of deployment for the surveillance system

### Beat Auto Theft Through Law Enforcement (BATTLE)

#### ***Awarded \$3,127,216***

BATTLE is a statewide law enforcement multi-agency task force enabling 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. Funding was utilized for overtime pay, victim assistance, and to support the expansion of intelligence sharing through the Colorado Information Sharing Consortium (CISC).

#### ***BATTLE Program's Highlights***

- Expanded access to the Accurate Virtual Crime Center (AVCC) for law enforcement agencies,
- Assisted 86 victims of auto theft

### CATPA Metropolitan Auto Theft Task Force (C-MATT)

#### ***Awarded \$69,365***

C-MATT is a full-time multi-agency enforcement task force initiative aimed to investigate vehicle crimes demonstrating a pattern or trend of vehicle thefts and/or offenders in the Denver-metro area. This Denver-metro area investigative team increases communication and collaboration among auto theft investigators and takes a centralized approach in identifying, apprehending and prosecuting 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

<sup>1</sup> <https://dashboard.colorado.gov/key-priorities/crime-prevention>



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organized crime. Funds from SB2023-257 were utilized for supplies and operating expenses and overtime pay.

### *CMATT Program's Highlights*

- Supported Denver PD's "Stealing Cars Steals Your Future" youth education program
- Purchased and distributed 2,004 auto theft hardening devices
- Conducted 56 auto-theft operations

### Colorado District Attorney Council (CDAC)

**Awarded \$240,601**

The Colorado District Attorney's Council conducted a comprehensive strategic analysis to determine the feasibility of creating a vertical prosecution across Colorado's regional district attorney's office to successfully prosecute offenders involved in auto theft.

### *CDAC's Program's Highlights*

- Met with other Colorado Law agencies,
- Studied different state's models on vertical prosecution,
- Completed the analysis and drafted recommendations

### Brighton Office of Victim Assistance (BOVA)

**Awarded \$381,594**

The Brighton Office of Victim Assistance supports a multi-jurisdictional region including Brighton, Commerce City, Lochbuie, and Fort Lupton in providing financial assistance to victims of auto theft.

### *BOVA Program Highlights*

- Assisted 524 victims of auto theft, including providing vehicle hardening devices and reimbursement to victims for repairs related to auto theft.

### Lakewood Police Department

**Awarded \$190,851**

The City of Lakewood Police Department was awarded funds in support of their mission by conducting auto theft prevention and law enforcement overtime pay. They provided Lakewood citizens with GPS tracking devices for their vehicles.

### *Lakewood PD Program Highlights*

- Provided 1509 GPS tracking devices and vehicle hardening devices

### Denver Police Department

### **Awarded \$470,373**

The Denver Police Department was awarded funds in support of their mission to enhance the public's awareness of auto theft and conduct enforcement operations in strategic areas.

### *Denver PD Program Highlights*

- Conducted 113 auto-theft operations
- Public Awareness Campaign utilizing 863 billboards on city buses and a radio campaign,
- Recovered 29 vehicles

### CATPA Public Outreach Program

**Awarded \$500,000**

The CATPA Public Outreach Program was initiated in 2022 to provide a statewide education and prevention effort regarding motor vehicle theft. The Program aimed to achieve and surpass previous efforts of public education and outreach programs funded by CATPA. The central theme of the public outreach prevention effort was centered on increasing auto theft prevention and awareness efforts in regards to "puffers", catalytic converter thefts, work jointly with existing CATPA programs for centralized messaging, as well as provide viable and realistic messages on the impact of vehicle theft for all Coloradans. Funds from SB2023-257 were utilized for distribution of vehicle hardening devices for the prevention of auto theft, and implementation of a media campaign to increase auto theft prevention awareness.

### *CATPA Public Outreach Program Highlights*

- 56 steering wheel locks were distributed,
- \$1.7 Million digital media impressions per month,
- Completed an independent strategic assessment

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**CATPA**  
**Colorado Auto Theft**  
**Prevention Authority**

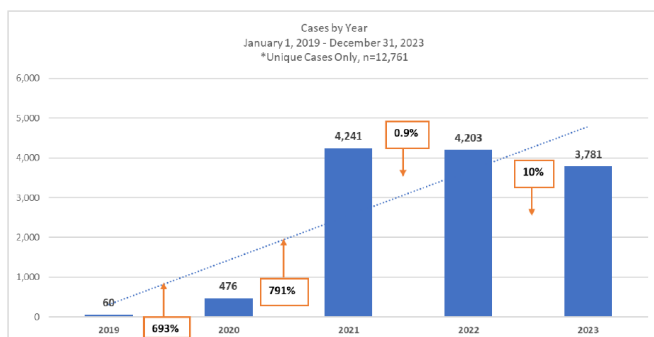
Department of Public Safety

## House Bill 2022-1217 Catalytic Converter Grant Program

On June 4, 2022, Governor Polis signed HB 2022-1217, establishing a grant program to address statewide catalytic converter theft and appropriating \$300,000 into a newly established Catalytic Converter Identification and Theft Prevention Cash Fund. The fund is intended to award grants for public awareness campaigns regarding catalytic converter theft, catalytic converter theft prevention parts, assistance to victims of catalytic converter theft and catalytic converter identification and tracking efforts. Grant projects also support compliance requirements of the salvage, junk and secondhand property industry transacting catalytic converters under Senate Bill 2022-009. As a business unit of the Colorado State Patrol, the CATPA Office was assigned to administer this grant program. As required by statute, rules were established and published on November 30, 2022 under 8 CCR 1507-59.

## Comparison of catalytic converter theft from 2020 to 2023

Utilizing law enforcement reporting data from 88 agencies in Colorado, the Colorado Information Sharing Consortium was used to identify the reported number of catalytic converter thefts in 2019 through 2023.



\*Note: The large increase in the first two years could be due to the rising trend of these thefts, but also may depend on historical data shared within AVCC. It is possible historical data is being loaded into the contributed database at the time of this analysis; therefore, these counts may increase with time as more data is ingested, which may offer a more comprehensive comparison over time.

\*Note: Due to data discrepancies from individual agencies/officers, and a small sample size of agencies represented, it is very likely this number is much lower than the actual count of catalytic converter thefts throughout Colorado.

## Grant Project in 2023

A total of two (2) applicants submitted a request for funding under the CCITP Grant Program and both were recommended for awards. The funded programs were Colorado State Patrol, Beat Auto Theft Through Law Enforcement (BATTLE) (\$244,442), and Boulder County Sheriff's Office (\$9,496).

## THE CATPA BOARD

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

1. Tonia Rumer, Board Chair, Insurance Representative
2. Jess Redman, Board Vice Chair, CDAC Representative
3. Sheriff Lloyd Smith, Law Enforcement Representative
4. Martin Trujillo, Insurance Representative
5. Alysha Ketcham, Insurance Representative
6. Chief Jeffrey Martinez, Law Enforcement Representative
7. David Cardella, Public Consumer Representative
8. Michael Phibbs, Department of Revenue Designee
9. LTC Joshua Downing, Department of Public Safety Designee
10. Dale Jackson, Insurance Representative
11. Mark Harrington, 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."*

For further information, please visit the CATPA website at <https://www.lockdownyourcar.org>.