

# Overview

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANT APPLICATION**

The South Carolina Department of Public Safety, Office of Highway Safety and Justice Programs (OHSJP) administers the federally-funded State and Community Highway Safety Program (commonly referred to as Section 402), and coordinates highway safety activities throughout the state. Each year, South Carolina receives approximately three million dollars in Section 402 funding. SC uses these and other federal monies to fund sustainable grant proposals aimed at reducing collisions and traffic-related fatalities and injuries. Applicant's proposals must demonstrate a measurable impact on highway and traffic safety; be cost effective; and contain a method of evaluation that substantiates both performance and impact. Highway Safety grant funds are awarded to qualified applicants to create new or expand existing highway safety programs, with the intention that such initiatives continue when grant funding is discontinued. State agencies; non-profit 501(c) 3 organizations, political subdivisions (city and state), and state, local and federally-recognized Indian tribal governments are eligible to apply. The usual grant funding cycle is from October 1 - September 30. The submission deadline is in February of each year.

Version:

Application Deadline: 2024-03-25

Application #: T23010

Grant #:

Award Date:

State Start Date: 2024-10-01

State End Date: 2025-09-30

# Project Details

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**Project Title:** Dexter County PTS Enforcement Project

**Project Location:** Dexter County SO

**Project Summary**  
**(max. 300**  
**characters):** This project will allow the Dexter County SO to effectively focus on traffic enforcement, which will ultimately reduce the number of traffic fatalities, collisions, and severe injuries.

**Program Area:** Police Traffic Services: Enforcement

**Type of Application:** New

**Year of Funds:** 1

**Plan to apply for**  
**additional years of**  
**funding after first**  
**year?:** Yes

## Agency Details

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**Agency Name:** SCDPS, Office of Highway Safety & Justice Programs

**Address:** 100 Some St.

**City:** Somewhereville

**State:** SC

**9 Digit Zip:** 12345

**(Area) Phone #:** (555) 867-5309

**(Area) Fax #:** (555) 867-5308

**County:**

**Other  
county/counties this  
project will serve:**

**Organization Type:** County

**Other (specify):**

**U.S. Congressional  
District:**

# Budget

CATEGORIES			GRANTOR	TOTAL
<b>PERSONNEL - SALARIES:</b>				
Position Title	Annual Salary/Rate	% of Time On Project		
Police Traffic Regular Project Activity Hours	52000	100	\$52,000	\$52,000
Police Traffic Overtime Project Activity Hours	19500	100	\$19,500	\$19,500
<b>TOTAL SALARIES:</b>			\$71,500	\$71,500
<b>PERSONNEL - FRINGE BENEFITS, EMPLOYER PORTION:</b>				
<b>(Itemize - i.e FICA, Work, Comp, Retirement, etc.)</b>				
Description	Rate	X Base		
Social Security & Medicare (FICA)	0.0765	71500	\$5,470	\$5,470
Retirement	0.2124	71500	\$15,187	\$15,187
Workers Compensation Insurance			\$0	\$0
Unemployment Insurance			\$0	\$0
Health Insurance	350	52	\$18,200	\$18,200
Dental	14	52	\$728	\$728
Pre-Retirement Death Benefit			\$0	\$0
Accident Death Benefit (Police Officers)			\$0	\$0
Other (List applicable other fringes in budget narrative)			\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL FRINGE BENEFITS:</b>			\$39,585	\$39,585
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL:</b>			\$111,085	\$111,085
<b>CONTRACTUAL SERVICES:</b>				
<b>(Describe services to be performed)</b>				
Description	Cost	Quantity		
			\$0	\$0

**TOTAL CONTRACTUAL SERVICES: \$0 \$0**

**IN-STATE TRAVEL:**

**(Itemize-include mileage, airline cost, lodging, parking, per diem)**

Description	Cost	Quantity		
Mileage at up to current IRS mileage rate	10000	1	\$10,000	\$10,000
Lodging - up to the GSA rate	750	1	\$750	\$750
Per Diem within State Guidelines	250	1	\$250	\$250

**OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL:**

**(Itemize-include mileage, airline cost, lodging, parking, per diem)**

Description	Cost	Quantity		
			\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL TRAVEL:</b>			<b>\$11,000</b>	<b>\$11,000</b>

**EQUIPMENT (items >= \$1000):**

**(Itemize - DO NOT use brand names. DO NOT include leased or rented items)**

Item	Cost	Quantity		
Other Handheld Radar	2500	1	\$2,500	\$2,500
Lidar and accessories	1500	1	\$1,500	\$1,500
<b>TOTAL EQUIPMENT:</b>			<b>\$4,000</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>

**OTHER (items < \$1000):**

Description	Cost	Quantity		
Thermal paper	500	1	\$500	\$500
<b>TOTAL OTHER:</b>			<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$500</b>

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$126,585 \$126,585**

# Budget Narrative

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**BUDGET DESCRIPTION:** List items under each Budget Category Heading. Explain exactly how each item listed in your budget (both grantor and match) will be utilized. It is important that the necessity of these items, as they relate to the operation of the program, be established. Please provide descriptions only. No dollar amounts should be provided.

**PERSONNEL:**

Police Traffic Regular and Overtime Project Activity Hours and allowable fringe benefits, to be adjusted proportionally to grant project activity hours worked. Regular project activity hours (2 officers x \$25/hr x 20 hours/week x 52 = \$52,000). Overtime project activity hours (2 officers x \$37.50/hr x 5 hours/week x 52 = \$19,500)

Approved Trainings:

Datamaster DMT

SFST

ARIDE

Speed Measurement Device Operator

Traffic Collision Investigation-At Scene-Phase I

Traffic Collision Investigation-Technical-Phase II

Traffic Collision Investigation-Reconstruction-Phase III

**TRAVEL:**

In-state mileage reimbursement at up to the current IRS mileage rate for travel associated with project activities, including the aforementioned approved trainings. Lodging up to the GSA rate and per diem within state guidelines

**EQUIPMENT\*:**

Handheld Radar: The handheld radar will be utilized as a tool to assist in apprehending speeding drivers during straight time and overtime enforcement hours.

Lidar: The lidar will be utilized as a tool to assist in apprehending speeding drivers during straight time and overtime enforcement hours.

**OTHER\*:**

Thermal paper: to be utilized to issue citations during overtime police traffic enforcement hours.

\*All Equipment and Other category items must be used 100% in support of grant goals and objectives

# Program Narrative

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**PROBLEM STATEMENT:** First, define the problem exactly as it exists in your particular community. Describe the nature and magnitude of the problem using valid, updated statistical data; cite the source and date of your information. Sufficient data should be provided to prove the problem is significant and should be addressed. Include a discussion and analysis of trends in traffic-related incidents, their scope and characteristics. Data should be presented covering the past three (3) years. Second, include a discussion on your existing efforts and level of activities (current resources and programs) in dealing with the problem and why new or additional intervention/activity is needed.

Dexter County is located in the coastal region of South Carolina and ranks in the top five counties in the state for traffic-related fatalities according to the 2025 Highway Safety Funding Guidelines document. Dexter County is growing at a tremendous pace, and with this growth, the area is experiencing increases in road travel and registered vehicles on the roadways. Unfortunately, there has also been a corresponding rise in traffic collisions and violations of traffic laws. The majority of collisions within Dexter County are related to speed violations.

In addition to the permanent residents, Dexter County attracts tourists and seasonal residents. There are numerous entertainment and sporting events occurring in the county throughout the year, which increase the traffic volume. The county annually hosts a Barbeque Festival which attracts tens of thousands of attendants over a four day period during the month of July. The county also holds motorcycle rallies in the months of May and October, which bring hundreds of thousands of bikers into the county.

The traffic problem in Dexter has increased in the last few years as evidenced by the following statistics:

2023 - 3,322 total collisions - 38 fatalities - 1,387 persons injured.

2022 - 3,114 total collisions - 24 fatalities - 1,314 persons injured.

2021 - 2,962 total collisions - 17 fatalities - 1,209 persons injured.

As seen from the above chart, Dexter County has experienced a 12.2% increase in total traffic collisions from 2021 to 2023, an alarming 124% increase in traffic fatalities from 2021 to 2023, and a 14.7% increase in traffic-related injuries from 2021 to 2023. In 2023, there were 166 DUI-related traffic collisions in Dexter County, an increase of 10.7% over the 150 DUI-related traffic collisions in 2022. In 2023, Dexter County experienced 13 DUI-related traffic fatalities, an increase of 44% over the 9 DUI-related traffic fatalities in 2021.

From the perspective of state law enforcement, the number of citations for traffic violations has been on the rise in Dexter County. In 2021, the South Carolina Highway Patrol made 316 DUI arrests, issued 10,425 speeding citations, and issued 725 safety belt citations in Dexter County. In 2022, 389 DUI arrests were made, 11,441 speeding citations were given and 814 safety belt citations were issued. In 2023, those numbers increased to 420 DUI arrests, 12,794 speeding citations, and 1,233 safety belt citations.

The Dexter County Sheriff's Office currently has 173 sworn officers; however, the Sheriff's Office does not currently have a Traffic Unit and rarely is involved with traffic enforcement. While the Sheriff's Office recognizes the traffic problem facing the county, the calls for service keep all of the available officers busy and time dedicated to traffic enforcement alone is minimal. Thus, the Dexter County Sheriff's Office would use grant funding to implement the proven countermeasure of high visibility enforcement to combat its traffic issues. Funding of traffic enforcement activity hours will enable the Dexter County Sheriff's Office to assign officers to conduct dedicated traffic enforcement activity on a consistent basis in the county's high collision corridors.

**PROGRAM GOAL(S):** Describe the broad, long-term goals of the program and indicate the change(s) or outcome(s) anticipated.

- 1) To increase motorists' compliance with traffic laws in (City/Town/County).
- 2) To decrease fatal traffic collisions in (City/Town/County).
- 3) To decrease the total number of traffic collisions in (City/Town/County).
- 4) To decrease the total number of alcohol-related traffic collisions in (City/Town/County).
- 5) To decrease the total number of alcohol-related traffic fatalities in (City/Town/County).

**IMPACT INDICATOR(S):** State how accomplishments of the program goal(s) listed above will be measured.

- 1) Proactive enforcement activity data and crash statistics relating to the subgrantee's jurisdiction and other areas where the subgrantee has conducted enforcement activities (e.g. within the Judicial Circuit following LEN meetings) will be analyzed to determine whether a decrease in high-risk traffic behavior has been observed during the grant period.
- 2) Statistics shall be obtained from the SCDPS to verify that fatal traffic collisions in the (City/Town/County) are decreasing by the end of the grant period.
- 3) Statistics shall be obtained from the SCDPS to verify that the total number of traffic collisions in the (City/Town/County) is decreasing by the end of the grant period.
- 4) Statistics shall be obtained from the SCDPS to verify that the total number of alcohol-related traffic collisions in the (City/Town/County) is decreasing by the end of the grant period.
- 5) Statistics shall be obtained from the SCDPS to verify that the total number of alcohol-related traffic fatalities in the (City/Town/County) is decreasing by the end of the grant period.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE(S):** Objectives are quantifiable statements of the activities/tasks that will be implemented to fulfill project goals. They must be stated in measurable terms for the specific time periods.

- 1) Officers assigned to perform project activity hours will plan and conduct proactive traffic enforcement efforts (checkpoints, saturation/directed patrols) during the grant period.
- 2) To have an appropriate, corresponding increase in contacts/citations for violations such as failure to yield right-of-way, following too closely, disregarding sign/signal, improper turn, and improper lane change by the end of the grant period, due to enhanced traffic enforcement efforts over the course of the grant period.
- 3) To have an appropriate, corresponding increase in citations for priority violations (speeding, impaired driving, safety belt, and child restraint) by the end of the grant period due to enhanced enforcement efforts over the course of the grant period.
- 4) The officer(s) assigned to the grant and/or the agency by whom he/she is employed will participate actively in the local Law Enforcement Network.
- 5) To plan and conduct specialized enforcement activities during the four major mobilization periods: Christmas/New Year's Sober or Slammer! (SOS), Buckle Up, South Carolina (BUSC), Operation Southern Slow Down, and Labor Day SOS!



**PERFORMANCE INDICATOR(S):** State exactly how each objective will be measured. Performance indicators must be matched to each program objective listed above.

1) The officers assigned to perform project activity hours shall complete high visibility enforcement report forms which shall be maintained in the grant file. High visibility enforcement report forms will include statistics on the number of patrols conducted (date, location, time of day and # of officers involved), # of stops made by each officer with warnings and citations issued identified by the offense. Citation summary reports from Report Beam, SCUTTIES, LawTrax or other agency RMS will be submitted as supporting documentation for the High Visibility Enforcement report form.

2) The officers assigned to perform project activity hours shall maintain statistics on contacts/citations for violations such as failure to yield right-of-way, following too closely, disregarding sign/signal, improper turn, and improper lane change over the course of the grant period.

3) The officers assigned to perform project activity hours shall maintain statistics on citations for priority violations (speeding, impaired driving, safety belt, and child restraint) issued over the course of the grant period.

4) The officers assigned to perform enforcement grant project activity hours shall attend monthly Law Enforcement Network meetings and participate in LEN-sponsored events. LEN participation documentation will be maintained in the grant file and submitted to the OHSJP for review.

5) Specialized enforcement activities in support of national and statewide highway safety initiatives, to include Christmas/New Year's Sober or Slammer! (SOS), Buckle Up, South Carolina (BUSC), Operation Southern Slow Down, and Labor Day SOS! shall be planned and conducted. Results of each special enforcement effort shall be documented and statistics shall be maintained on file.

**PROJECT NARRATIVE:** Provide a comprehensive step-by-step description of the project, indicating the tasks and activities to be employed to address the outlined in the Problem Statement. Detail what will be accomplished, how activities will be implemented, and who will perform the tasks. Each specific objective should be addressed, including an explanation of how it will be achieved.

The following Implementation Plan provides a description of the project, the tasks to be undertaken, and how each task will be accomplished. This Implementation Plan identifies tasks that will be utilized to complete the project objectives.

#### Traffic Enforcement Activities

The officers assigned to the grant will conduct proactive traffic enforcement activities in areas in which collisions and/or specific types of violations are occurring. This will be accomplished through: evaluation and identification of high collision areas, patrolling roadways with heavy traffic flow, and making public contacts and issuing citations for traffic violations. Enforcement activities will be documented throughout the grant period.

#### Special Enforcement Activities

The officers assigned to perform enforcement grant project activity hours will actively participate in special traffic enforcement efforts, to include serving as active members of the LEN, participating in the countywide implementation of traffic safety checkpoints and saturation efforts, working with other LEN members in joint enforcement efforts, and concentrating enforcement activities where collisions and/or specific types of violations are occurring. Special Enforcement activity will be conducted during the entire grant period.

Officers assigned to the project will conduct specialized enforcement activity in support of the Target Zero Challenge of the SC Department of Public Safety based on the schedule outlined by the Office of Highway Safety and Justice Programs. This will include additional enforcement activity during two

DUI mobilization crackdowns, Sober or Slammer!, during the Christmas/New Year's holidays of 2024-2025 and during the days leading up to and including the Labor Day holiday of 2025. The officer(s) will also fully participate in enforcement activities associated with the state's occupant protection enforcement crackdown, Buckle Up, South Carolina, leading up to and including Memorial Day 2025, and Operation Southern Slow Down during the summer of 2025. Additional enforcement activities may also be observed throughout the campaign period. These additional activities may include joint enforcement efforts at the conclusion of LEN meetings or other proactive enforcement efforts scheduled as a result of citizens' complaints, jurisdiction-specific events/activities (festivals, sporting events, etc.) or in-response to increases in collisions/fatalities throughout the grant period.

The schedules of the officers assigned to perform project activity will vary in an attempt to address all of the traffic safety problems being experienced in the (City/Town/County). The goal will be to have the officers assigned to perform project activity hours work nights, including weekend nights, to concentrate efforts on impaired driving enforcement at least one week out of each month.

#### Reporting Activity

Monthly Enforcement Data Report and High Visibility Enforcement Report Forms will be submitted each month for the officers assigned to perform project activity hours. Additionally, the officers will maintain daily logs of contacts made during the course of patrolling to be submitted to the OHSJP along with the Monthly Enforcement Data Report Forms. The Project Director will submit Quarterly Progress reports, a Final Narrative Report for the project, and Requests for Payment according to schedule. The (City/Town/County) will report monthly to the SCDPS data required by law which is collected from non-arrest and non-citation traffic stops, to include gender, race and age of individuals stopped.

**PROJECT EVALUATION:** The purpose of evaluating a project is to assess how well it has been implemented in your jurisdiction and to assess the extent to which the activities funded have achieved the project's goals. In this section, describe the plan or process for assessing the impact on the highway safety problem(s) in your jurisdiction. The completed evaluation report should be included in the Final Narrative Report submitted for the project.

The project will be evaluated by determining the degree to which the goals and objectives of the grant were met. Statistical information will be compared to the year prior, and the objectives will be evaluated to determine if they were met and to what degree. The Project Director will evaluate the project periodically throughout the grant period to determine any shortfalls or obstacles. Strategies will be updated to ensure the goals and objectives will be met.

**PROJECT CONTINUATION:** Explain how the project activity will be continued after federal funding assistance is no longer available.

Increased traffic enforcement operations as a result of this project, are essential to reduce the occurrence of traffic collisions, injuries, and fatalities in our jurisdiction. The Chief/Sheriff will work with city/county authorities to promote the grant activity and thus garner continuation support for the project.

**MEDIA PLAN:** Discuss your plans for announcing the award of this grant to your community through media outlets available to you. Also, please discuss how you plan to keep the public informed of grant activities throughout the entire project period.

Upon notification of the grant award, the agency will send out a press release announcing the DPS Highway Safety Award and the benefits it will bring to the city. Media outlets will be notified and kept abreast of grant activity throughout the grant period.

# Program Narrative - Counts

**TOTAL PROJECT AREA POPULATION:** Provide the most current population figures for the area served by this project. The population of the project area may be larger than the population of the recipient unit of government (e.g. the project is a multi-jurisdictional effort) or smaller (e.g. the project targets a specific segment of the jurisdiction). Cite the source of the information presented.

**Total Population for  
county(ies) or City/Town:** 195380

**Cite source of  
information:** 2019 U. S. Census Bureau

**AGENCY INFORMATION: (For Law Enforcement Agencies ONLY)** Provide agency staff information, as well as the current level of enforcement activity for the entire department for the three previous calendar years.

**# of sworn officers  
in agency:** 173

**# of non-sworn staff  
in agency:** 20

**Total # of  
personnel in agency:** 193

## NUMBER BY CALENDAR YEAR

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	CY: 2021	CY: 2022	CY: 2023
<b>DUI Arrests</b>	185	215	200
<b>Speeding (All Cases)</b>	719	1000	1017
<b>Safety Belt Violations</b>	71	120	109
<b>Child Restraint Violations</b>	30	63	65
<b>All Other Traffic Violations</b>	802	1019	999
<b>Traffic Crashes Investigated</b>	312	400	256
<b>Check Points Conducted</b>	12	45	50

# Implementation Schedule

## IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

The Implementation Schedule is intended to give our office a proposed list of activities planned, when they are to be implemented, and the person responsible. Exact dates are not necessary in the "Implementation Proposed Time Frame" section. The "Implementation Actual Time Frame" section will be used to reflect the actual activities, dates, etc. when submitting your Progress Report after the grant is approved.

Implementation Tasks	Person Responsible	Implementation Proposed (Proposed Quarters)				Implementation Actual Time Frame (Actual Dates)				Date
		1 Qtr	2 Qtr	3 Qtr	4 Qtr	1 Qtr	2 Qtr	3 Qtr	4 Qtr	
Assign officers to grant	Chief	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Plan and Conduct Proactive Traffic Enforcement Efforts	Project Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Attend LEN meetings	Officers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Participate in LEN-sponsored enforcement activities following network meetings	Officers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Conduct enforcement activity for Christmas/New Year's SOS!	Project Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Conduct enforcement activity for Buckle Up, South Carolina	Project Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Conduct enforcement activity for Operation Southern Slow Down	Officers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Conduct enforcement activity for Labor Day SOS!	Officers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Submit required reports	Project Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	