

Issue 1 – March 2011

## Directors Dashboard

Greetings!

The Colorado Automobile Theft Prevention Authority (CATPA) welcomes you to its very first edition of the CATPA Catalyst Newsletter.

The CATPA grant program established a strong foundation with law enforcement and the insurance industry in 2003 and has been making tremendous strides each year to reduce auto theft in Colorado. Beginning in 2008 the program was awarded \$4 million per year, and we are extremely proud to announce a 40% reduction in auto theft in addition to a monetary savings of \$52 million to the citizens of Colorado. I thank and commend all of those task force members, teams and partner agencies for their collaborative efforts towards these outstanding results!

I want to express my personal appreciation for the commitment of the Colorado Auto Theft Prevention Authority (CATPA) Board. During each board meeting every member has asked questions, commented on ideas, and have been completely engaged in our mission of reducing auto thefts in Colorado. The board has reviewed every applications' grant and budget lines, and are accountable for the impact of decisions made that affect the citizens of the state of Colorado.

I see the same commitment from our grantees, as well. Each grantee and partner have taken steps to ensure auto theft reductions by working stakeouts

with bait vehicles throughout the night, strategizing with crime analysts on tactical plans, preparing casework, writing press releases, and making arrests. Every person involved in this program is responsible for achieving a 40% decrease in auto thefts in Colorado.

And lastly, I would like to thank the Colorado Auto Theft Investigators (CATI) for their work in this worthy endeavor. These members of law enforcement and the insurance industry support our program by exchanging information, hosting training opportunities, and representing investigators during press releases, all in an effort to reduce auto theft in Colorado.

It is the dedication of the CATPA board members, grantees, CATI members, and other partners who make this program a success.

*It is an honor to be part of such an outstanding group of individuals that are dedicated to the mission and goals of CATPA. Thank you.*

Lori Collins Malcolm, CATPA Director



## Education Engine

On February 15, 2011 CATPA had the tremendous opportunity to be a part of a news conference that was held at the State Capitol announcing the launch of a newly created public awareness campaign. The Coloradans Against Auto Theft (CAAT) "Lockdown" initiative was formed to educate the public of auto theft in Colorado and steps to prevent them from becoming a victim of this crime. Governor Hickenlooper proclaimed the week of February 13-19, 2011 as Auto Theft Prevention Week in Colorado. Many representatives of auto theft task forces, law enforcement, insurance partners, CATPA board members and stakeholders, and nonprofit corporations attended this news conference to show their support and were recognized for their efforts to reduce auto theft.

The media coverage included the announcement of the newly created "Lockdown" brand website, [www.lockdownyourcar.org](http://www.lockdownyourcar.org), the statewide distribution of auto theft prevention postcards/posters and demonstrations of automated license plate readers. CAAT is funded by a CATPA grant and is in partnership with other CATPA stakeholders.



We believe this campaign to be another useful tool in the fight against auto theft in Colorado, and look forward to further reductions in auto theft in Colorado.

**LOCKDOWN**  
COLORADANS AGAINST AUTO THEFT

## Boards Bumper

Upcoming Board Meeting Dates:

April 13, 2011

May 11, 2011

June 8, 2011

July 13, 2011

The Colorado Auto Theft Prevention Authority (CATPA) is a stunning success and is great for Colorado! Speaking from the perspective of someone who has been engaged in auto theft investigations for over 35 years the dramatic decline in motor vehicle thefts in Colorado since, and in significant part because of, CATPA programs is huge. The multi-agency task forces, the strategic focus on repeat and professional criminals and the public education efforts funded by CATPA have demonstrated in only a few years of operation that our funded programs not only work but have resulted in cutting this crime in half. No other program has had such significant and sustained success on the object of its mission! Not only have auto thefts been greatly cut but the collateral crimes of Identity Theft, drug trafficking and other street crimes are have been appreciably reduced due to their dependence on criminals needing stolen cars to facilitate these crimes. The citizens of Colorado are getting a real bargain in so much as the funding does not come from tax dollars but rather from the direct financial support of the insurance companies who are assessed one-dollar per insured vehicle per year. This funding has resulted in the value of recoveries of stolen vehicles many time is excess of the amount spent and in the prosecution of major criminals and criminal organizations. Major criminal enterprises still exist and citizens are still falling victim to this very expensive and personally threatening crime. The work of the CATPA is well begun and will be continued as long as the resolve to keep this highly successful and efficiently managed authority in place.

Jerry Cole, CATPA Board Member

# Grant Gauge

Spring Grant Cycle Dates:

Friday, February 11, 2011	Release the CATPA Grant Application for the Spring 2011 Cycle
March 8, 2011 @ 2:00 pm	Close Grant Application Acceptance
Wednesday, March 09, 2011	CATPA Board Meeting - distribute the Applications
Monday, March 21, 2011	1:30pm Conference call to draft the Grantee Questions
Thursday, March 24, 2011	Send Questions to Grantees
Thursday, April 07, 2011	Grantee Presentations
Wednesday, April 13, 2011	9:30am-2pm CATPA Board Meeting - Final decisions on Grants
Monday, April 18, 2011	Final Awards to Grantees

As I approach my one-year anniversary with the CATPA program, CATPA Board Members, CATPA Staff, and CATPA Grantees prepare for the Spring 2011 Grant Cycle. While there is much work that comes in preparing and participating in a Grant Cycle, it is always good to see the Grantees and I look forward to seeing what innovative ideas have been developed for this cycle!

As I have traveled around the State to meet with CATPA Grantees and their partners, it is evident the dedication that all partners and the CATPA Board have towards combating auto theft in Colorado. The partnerships that have been developed and continue to develop throughout the State are important to achieve the CATPA goal. Thank you for the invitations to attend your meetings and allowing me to participate in many ride-a-longs!

Each CATPA Grant Cycle, the CATPA Board approves and distributes approximately \$2 million in grants to support this mission. As our State is dealing with a large financial deficit, it is our responsibility to ensure these funds are spent accordingly.

With any distribution of funds, there is always paperwork – whether it is a report that demonstrates that goals

are being achieved or simply to seek reimbursement for project expenses; paperwork is a necessary evil! It not only provides documentation of the work that is being performed, but also provides detailed information on how the money is being spent.

So for the inaugural article, I've compiled three most commonly asked questions (and answers) regarding a Grantee's budget and submission of invoices.

1. Why is a shipping document or order form not acceptable to use as a receipt of purchase? ANSWER: The shipping document or order form is not proof that the product was received or paid for; it is only proof that an order was placed. The State of Colorado does not allow for pre-payment of goods or services except in distinct circumstances or when a waiver is requested and approved by the Colorado State Controller.

2. Why do you require that there is a detailed list of items purchased with a receipt? Sometimes a Company doesn't supply that detail with the receipt, what do I do then? ANSWER: There must be some documentation as to what items were purchased and CATPA Staff ensure that these items reconcile with the Budget documentation that was approved by the CATPA Board. If that information is not provided on the receipt, the Grantee can compile a list of what was purchased and submit with the receipt. This ensures that there is documentation regarding the purchase in the event there is an audit. It is the Grantee's responsibility to ensure that CATPA funds are being utilized as approved by the CATPA Board.

3. What if I identify that I have some funds that I would like to spend on something different than requested? ANSWER: The CATPA Board has granted approval for Budget changes to Lori and Diana up to 10% or \$10,000, whichever is less for line item changes. If the request is more than that, it does require CATPA Board approval. Contact Diana as soon as possible to ensure that your Budget Revision is placed on the next CATPA Board meeting agenda. Just ensure that no funds are spent on the newly identified item(s) until after CATPA Staff or CATPA Board approval.

If you questions regarding your CATPA Grant do not hesitate to contact me at (303) 239-4572 or [diana.prattwilson@cdps.state.co.us](mailto:diana.prattwilson@cdps.state.co.us).

## Partners Plug

On January 13, 2011 the Metropolitan Auto Theft Task Force (MATT) made a bust in Denver that ended a series of burglaries, thefts and criminal trespasses in the Denver Metro Area. In August 2009, Jefferson County Deputy Art Peterson was hit by two people in a pickup truck and drug more than 30 feet. That accident led to an investigation that recently led to arrest of 4 four people and 103 counts of indictment. Congratulations MATT!

\*Send your Partners Plug to Brittni Wilts at [brittni.wilts@cdps.state.co.us](mailto:brittni.wilts@cdps.state.co.us) to be published in the next edition of the CATPA Catalyst Newsletter!



## Training Tailgate

Upcoming Training seminars or related events in the Western Regional IAATI Chapter:

- The 2011 Colorado Auto Theft Investigators (CATI) Training – Hosted by CATI Training to be held the Third week in September More details to follow shortly
- The 2011 Auto Theft Investigations School – Hosted by the Western States Auto Theft Investigators April 25th – 29th 2011 DuPont, Washington 98327
- 40th Annual Training Seminar – Hosted By the Western States Auto Theft Investigators Association Central Chapter September 25th-28th, 2011 Fresno, California

- Auto Theft Training Seminar – Hosted by the Arizona Auto Theft Investigators Association October 4th-6th, 2011 Laughlin, Nevada

More information about these trainings and seminars can be found at <http://www.wrciaati.org/default.asp> or <http://www.coloradoautotheft.org/>

The Colorado Auto Theft Investigators (CATI) hosts specialized auto theft trainings in Colorado each year. The Spring CATI classes are currently full, however please contact Detective Bill Johnson at (303) 987-4905 if your agency, team, or Task Force have future training needs.

## Statistics Steering

Top 5 Colorado Auto Theft Hot Spots

1. Denver
2. Aurora
3. Colorado Springs
4. Lakewood
5. Adams County

(Information provided by the Colorado Auto Theft Investigators)

