

Automobile Theft Authority

A.R.S. § 41-3451

Interim Executive Director: Brian Salata

JLBC Analyst: Martin Lorenzo III

	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Estimate	FY 2006 Approved	FY 2007 Approved
OPERATING BUDGET				
<i>Full Time Equivalent Positions</i>	5.0	5.0	6.0	6.0
Personal Services	254,100	273,000	298,600	293,600
Employee Related Expenditures	69,700	84,000	102,900	91,800
Professional and Outside Services	26,500	31,000	10,400	10,400
Travel - In State	2,800	2,500	2,500	2,500
Travel - Out of State	12,400	12,500	12,500	12,500
Other Operating Expenditures	146,800	140,100	181,800	181,800
Equipment	7,200	5,000	5,000	5,000
OPERATING SUBTOTAL	519,500	548,100	613,700	597,600
SPECIAL LINE ITEMS				
Auto Theft Authority Grants	3,497,200	4,002,000	4,343,600	4,200,500
Reimbursable Programs	0	0	25,000 ^{1/}	50,000 ^{1/}
AGENCY TOTAL	4,016,700	4,550,100	4,982,300^{2/}	4,848,100^{2/}

FUND SOURCES

<i>Other Appropriated Funds</i>				
Auto Theft Authority Fund	4,016,700	4,550,100	4,982,300	4,848,100
SUBTOTAL - Other Appropriated Funds	4,016,700	4,550,100	4,982,300	4,848,100
SUBTOTAL - Appropriated Funds	4,016,700	4,550,100	4,982,300	4,848,100
Federal Funds	49,500	0	0	0
TOTAL - ALL SOURCES	4,066,200	4,550,100	4,982,300	4,848,100

AGENCY DESCRIPTION — The Automobile Theft Authority (ATA) is responsible for analyzing the methods of combating the problem of vehicle theft and promoting successful methods of reducing the number of vehicle thefts in Arizona. The ATA is primarily funded from motor vehicle insurance premium fees.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2006 Approved
• Felony auto theft arrests by Auto Theft Task Force	333	312	330
• % of stolen vehicles recovered	4.8	NA	5.2
• Number of vehicles stolen statewide (calendar year)	NA	NA	55,000
• Customer satisfaction rating (Scale 1-3, 1 highest)	1.0	1.0	1.0

Comments: The agency did not submit information for any measure labeled as “NA.” The agency reports a decrease of 21 felony auto theft arrests by Auto Theft Task Force due to budget constraints, resulting in a reduced number of task force officers in the field. The agency continues to achieve the highest customer satisfaction rating.

Operating Budget

The budget provides \$613,700 from the Auto Theft Authority Fund for the operating budget in FY 2006 and \$597,600 in FY 2007.

The approved amount includes an increase of \$13,700 from the Auto Theft Authority Fund in FY 2006 and a decrease of \$(2,400) in FY 2007 for statewide adjustments. (Please see the Statewide Adjustments section at the end of this Appropriations Report for details.)

^{1/} The Automobile Theft Authority shall submit a report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee for review before expending any monies for the Reimbursable Programs Special Line Item. The agency shall also show sufficient funds collected to cover the expenses indicated in the report. (General Appropriation Act footnote)

^{2/} General Appropriation Act funds are appropriated as an Operating Lump Sum with Special Line Items by Agency.

New FTE Position

The approved amount includes an increase of 1 FTE Position using monies currently allocated for temporary help. This appropriation transfers \$20,600 from Professional and Outside Services to Personal Services and \$10,900 from Other Operating Expenditures to Employee Related Expenditures. The additional FTE Position will provide clerical support for ATA due to increased workload from growth in its programs; primarily the Watch Your Car Program (WYC) where the number of enrollments increased from 25,000 to 65,000 from FY 2003 to FY 2004.

Public Awareness

The approved amount includes an increase of \$51,900 from the ATA Fund in FY 2006 and FY 2007 for public awareness. This appropriation replaces an expired Federal Grant provided by the U.S. Department of Justice. Monies from the expired grant would continue to fund a cooperative program with the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD). The MVD includes a WYC/Auto Theft Prevention program flyer in every vehicle registration renewal packet sent out to vehicle owners. Based on a survey, in FY 2004, 29,000 vehicles were enrolled in the program as a result of the mailing partnership.

Special Line Items

Auto Theft Authority Grants

The budget provides \$4,343,600 from the ATA Fund for the ATA Grants in FY 2006 and \$4,200,500 in FY 2007.

The approved amount includes an increase of \$143,100 from the ATA Fund in FY 2006 for statewide adjustments. (Please see the Statewide Adjustments section at the end of this Appropriations Report for details.)

Sworn Officer Salary Adjustment

The approved amount includes an increase of \$50,000 from the ATA Fund in FY 2006 and FY 2007 for salary increases associated with the DPS sworn officers assigned to the Auto Theft Task Force. These monies are in addition to the 1.7% statewide salary increase and provide an additional average salary increase of 3.8% per sworn officer.

Task Force Vehicle Replacement

The approved amount includes an increase of \$148,500 from the ATA Fund in FY 2006 and FY 2007 for Task Force Vehicle Replacement. These monies will replace 5 vehicles owned by ATA in both FY 2006 and FY 2007 at a cost of \$29,700 per vehicle. The vehicles to be replaced are utilized by DPS officers on the Auto Theft Task Force and follow the standards set forth by the DPS vehicle replacement schedule requiring a vehicle to attain 100,000 miles prior to replacement. Currently, ATA has 57 vehicles in its fleet of which 8 vehicles are in excess of 100,000 miles, 10 with 90,000 to 99,999 miles, 7 with

80,000 to 89,999 miles and the remaining 32 below 80,000 miles.

Monies in this line item fund grants awarded to state, county, and local law enforcement agencies. FY 2005 grant distributions totaled \$3,931,789 of which \$2,900,000 funded the Auto Theft Task Force, \$222,488 funded law enforcement activities, \$174,300 funded public awareness events, \$17,519 funded training programs and \$617,482 funded prosecution programs. These categories of grants are designed to increase the effectiveness of auto theft investigation, prosecution and deterrence. Grant recipients included state, county and local agencies in FY 2005 and totaled \$2,913,635, \$689,909 and \$328,245, respectively. The Department of Public Safety is the sole recipient of the state's share of the grants and primarily funds the Auto Theft Task Force (\$2,900,000). This Special Line Item receives funding from a semi-annual insurance assessment fee per vehicle.

Reimbursable Programs

The budget provides \$25,000 from the ATA Fund for a new Special Line Item, Reimbursable Programs, in FY 2006 and \$50,000 in FY 2007.

Collections

The approved amount includes an increase of \$25,000 from the ATA Fund in FY 2006 and an increase of \$50,000 in FY 2007 for expected gifts, donations, grants and fee collections.

Monies in this line item will fund sponsored training seminars such as the ATA Auto Theft Summit as well as cover the cost of sending various personnel to professional training seminars and contribute to ATA sponsored bait car system projects throughout the state. This Special Line Item will be funded from gifts, donations, grants and fee collections given to the agency from the private sector which include insurance companies, car dealerships, car rental companies, as well as other agencies like the National Insurance Crime Bureau. A General Appropriation Act footnote requires the agency to report on collections and expenditures.