

**Automobile Theft Authority**

**A.R.S. § 41-3451**

Executive Director: Enrique Cantu

JLBC Analyst: Jay Chilton

	<b>FY 2006 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2007 Estimate</b>	<b>FY 2008 Approved</b>	<b>FY 2009 Approved</b>
<b>OPERATING BUDGET</b>				
<i>Full Time Equivalent Positions</i>	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
Personal Services	265,300	327,600	338,200	327,600
Employee Related Expenditures	80,800	111,200	123,500	114,600
Professional and Outside Services	24,800	10,400	10,400	10,400
Travel - In State	2,700	2,500	2,500	2,500
Travel - Out of State	9,200	12,500	12,500	12,500
Other Operating Expenditures	202,100	177,700	182,200	174,300
Equipment	17,300	5,000	5,000	5,000
<b>OPERATING SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>602,200</b>	<b>646,900</b>	<b>674,300</b>	<b>646,900</b>
<b>SPECIAL LINE ITEMS</b>				
Automobile Theft Authority Grants	4,371,400	4,554,700	4,826,900	5,116,000
Reimbursable Programs	0	50,000	50,000 <sup>1/</sup>	50,000 <sup>1/</sup>
<b>AGENCY TOTAL</b>	<b>4,973,600</b>	<b>5,251,600</b>	<b>5,551,200<sup>2/3/</sup></b>	<b>5,812,900<sup>2/3/</sup></b>

**FUND SOURCES**

<i>Other Appropriated Funds</i>				
Automobile Theft Authority Fund	4,973,600	5,251,600	5,551,200	5,812,900
SUBTOTAL - Other Appropriated Funds	4,973,600	5,251,600	5,551,200	5,812,900
<b>SUBTOTAL - Appropriated Funds</b>	<b>4,973,600</b>	<b>5,251,600</b>	<b>5,551,200</b>	<b>5,812,900</b>
<b>TOTAL - ALL SOURCES</b>	4,973,600	5,251,600	5,551,200	5,812,900

**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.

<b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>	<b>FY 2004 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2005 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2006 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2008 Approved</b>
• Felony auto theft arrests by Auto Theft Task Force	312	349	303	330
• % of stolen vehicles recovered (calendar year) Comments: This performance measure includes all recovered vehicles that were stolen in the state of Arizona, regardless of the agency that recovered the vehicles.	66.9	67.0	65.6	67.0
• Number of vehicles stolen statewide (calendar year)	57,000	55,300	54,900	55,000
• Customer satisfaction rating (Scale 1-3, 1 highest)	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0

<sup>1/</sup> 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)

<sup>2/</sup> All Automobile Theft Authority Fund receipts received by the Automobile Theft Authority in excess of \$5,551,200 in FY 2008 and \$5,812,900 in FY 2009 are appropriated to the Automobile Theft Authority. Before the expenditure of any Automobile Theft Authority Fund monies in excess of \$5,551,200 in FY 2008 and \$5,812,900 in FY 2009, the Automobile Theft Authority Shall submit the intended use of the monies for review by the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. (General Appropriation Act footnote, as adjusted for statewide allocations)

<sup>3/</sup> General Appropriation Act funds are appropriated as a Lump Sum with Special Line Items by Agency.

## **Operating Budget**

The budget provides \$674,300 and 6 FTE Positions from the Automobile Theft Authority (ATA) Fund for the operating budget in FY 2008 and \$646,900 and 6 FTE Positions in FY 2009. These amounts fund the following adjustment:

### **Statewide Adjustments**

The budget provides an increase of \$27,400 from the ATA Fund in FY 2008 and no change in FY 2009 for statewide adjustments. *(Please see the Statewide Adjustments section at the end of this Appropriations Report for details. The annualization of these adjustments for FY 2009 will be addressed in the 2008 budget process.)*

## **Special Line Items**

### **Automobile Theft Authority Grants**

The budget provides \$4,826,900 from the ATA Fund for ATA Grants in FY 2008 and \$5,116,000 in FY 2009. These amounts fund the following adjustments:

### **Statewide Adjustments**

The budget provides an increase of \$76,100 from the ATA Fund in FY 2008 and a decrease of \$(42,300) in FY 2009 for statewide adjustments.

### **Increase Grant Funding**

The budget provides an increase of \$196,100 from the ATA Fund in FY 2008 and an increase of \$603,600 in FY 2009 due to increased insurance premium revenues. The agency may allocate the additional monies for one or more of the following issues, which were included with the ATA budget request submittal:

- Increase Salaries – \$106,100 in FY 2008 and \$218,600 in FY 2009. This will increase the salaries of the Department of Public Safety (DPS) officers on the task force to be level with all DPS officers and will provide salary increases for positions in county attorneys' offices that are funded by ATA grants.
- Fund Task Force Overtime and Vacancies – \$195,000 in FY 2009. The Task Force currently has unfunded positions and is often unable to fund officer overtime. This item will enable the task force to fill vacancies and to fund overtime in certain circumstances, such as continued surveillance to find thieves when stolen vehicles are recovered.
- Increase Vertical Prosecution Grants – \$150,000 in FY 2009. This item will enable the ATA to expand staffing at the Maricopa County and Pima County Attorney's Offices.
- International Association of Automobile Theft Investigators (IAATI) Conference – one-time increase of \$70,000 in FY 2008. This will enable the ATA to assist criminal justice personnel in attending the

annual conference of the IAATI, which will be held in Phoenix in August 2007.

- Mobile License Plate Reader (LPR) Grants – \$20,000 in FY 2008 and \$40,000 in FY 2009. This would fund the purchase of 1 LPR in FY 2008 and 2 LPRs in FY 2009.

Monies in this line item fund grants awarded to state, county, and local law enforcement agencies. FY 2007 grant distributions totaled \$4,554,700 and were distributed as follows:

- \$3,348,500 for the Auto Theft Task Force
- \$169,200 for law enforcement activities
- \$202,600 for public awareness events
- \$5,000 for training programs
- \$810,300 for prosecution programs
- \$19,100 for emergency grants

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 2007 and totaled \$3,355,000, \$920,700, and \$260,300, respectively. As of May 2007, \$18,700 in ATA grants are still pending. DPS is the sole recipient of the state's share of the grants and primarily funds the Auto Theft Task Force (\$3,348,500). This Special Line Item receives funding from a semi-annual insurance assessment fee per vehicle.

### **Reimbursable Programs**

The budget provides \$50,000 from the ATA Fund for Reimbursable Programs in FY 2008 and FY 2009. This amount is unchanged from FY 2007.

Monies in this line item fund sponsor training seminars such as the ATA Auto Theft Summit, 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 is funded from gifts, donations, grants, and fee collections given to the agency from the private sector, which includes 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.