March 11, 2023
The Honorable Greg Casar
U.S. House of Representatives
1339 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Dear Representative Casar:
I write this letter in support of Investigation Excellence Project (IEP) housed at the School of Criminal Justice and Criminology at Texas State University in San Marcos. The IEP is seeking funding through Byrne Community Project Funding.

The Investigation Excellence Project is being established at Texas State University to confront two significant concerns relating to criminal investigations: declining clearance rates in investigative cases and wrongful convictions. Both concerns have the potential to adversely impact the lives and safety of members of our communities here in Central Texas and elsewhere, especially in higher-crime neighborhoods.

The Investigation Excellence Project seeks to address both concerns by reinforcing and expanding knowledge relating to best practices in criminal investigations, including proper investigative thinking and leveraging community partnerships, and then delivering training relating to those best practices to current and future criminal investigations professionals and others involved in achieving successful investigative outcomes (e.g. patrol officers, victim advocates, prosecutors, etc.).

Texas State University is well-positioned for establishing the Investigation Excellence Project. Several current faculty members there have extensive history in researching investigative practices and outcomes. Further, Texas State is home to the ALERRT Center, which is internationally known and has established ties with law enforcement agencies in the region and beyond.

Please consider the Investigation Excellence Project for Byrne funding. Improving criminal investigative outcomes can ultimately help restore trust between the police and the community in areas where it has been lost and result in a more just society.

Sincerely,
Matthew E. Carmichael, Chief of Police
Matthew E. Carmichael, Chief of Police
Matthew E. Carmichael, Chief of Police

Constituent Support Letters
for Texas State University Submission for Investigation Excellence Project

FY24 Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, Byrne

Matthew Carmichael, Chief of Police, Texas State University Police Department
Gary Cutler, Sheriff, Hays County Sheriff’s Office
Jonathan Kringen, Chief Data Officer, Austin Police Department
Tanner Neidhardt, Judge, 483rd District Court, Hays County, Texas
Stan Standridge, Chief of Police, San Marcos Police Department
Ken A. Walker, Chief of Police, City of West University Place
March 11, 2023

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Sincerely,

MATTHEW CARMICHAEL
Matthew E. Carmichael, Chief of Police
March 11, 2023

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U.S. House of Representatives
1339 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Casar,

I write this letter in support of the Investigation Excellence Project (IEP) housed at the School of Criminal Justice and Criminology at Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas. The IEP is seeking funding through Byrne Community Project Funding.

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The Investigation Excellence Project seeks to address both concerns by reinforcing and expanding knowledge relating to best practices in criminal investigations. This would include proper investigative thinking and leveraging community partnerships, and then delivering training to current and future criminal investigations professionals and others involved in achieving successful investigative outcomes (e.g. patrol officers, victim advocates, prosecutors, etc.).

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Sincerely,

Gary Cutler
Sheriff
March 11, 2023

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Sincerely,

Jonathan Kringen  
Chief Data Officer  
Austin Police Department
March 12, 2023

Jeffrey B. Bumgarner
Director, School of Criminal Justice and Criminology
Texas State University
601 University Drive
San Marcos, TX 78666-4684

Dear Dr. Bumgarner,

Investigations by law enforcement underscore almost every aspect of our criminal courts. Each case we see depends on the activities of investigators early in the process. That is why the work of Texas State University, particularly the Investigation Excellence Project, to train investigators and improve investigative techniques is so important for strengthening our justice system.

I support efforts to bolster the Investigation Excellence Project. Through improved investigations, we will continue to work towards a more fair and impartial justice system.

Sincerely,

Tanner Neidhardt
March 13, 2023

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U.S. House of Representatives
1339 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

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The Investigation Excellence Project is being established at Texas State University to confront two significant concerns relating to criminal investigations: declining clearance rates in investigative cases and wrongful convictions. Both concerns have the potential to adversely impact the lives and safety of members of our communities here in San Marcos and the Interstate-35 corridor, especially in higher-crime neighborhoods.

The Investigation Excellence Project seeks to address both concerns by reinforcing and expanding knowledge relating to best practices in criminal investigations, including proper investigative thinking and leveraging community partnerships, and then delivering training relating to those best practices to current and future criminal investigations professionals and others involved in achieving successful investigative outcomes (e.g. patrol officers, victim advocates, prosecutors, etc.).

Texas State University is well-positioned for establishing the Investigation Excellence Project. Several current faculty members there have extensive history in researching investigative practices and outcomes. Further, Texas State is home to the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training Center, which is internationally known and has established ties with law enforcement agencies in the region and beyond.

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Sincerely,

Stan Standridge
March 13, 2023

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