



March 15, 2022

Alameda County Sheriff's Office,  
Oakland Police Department,  
Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office,  
San Jose Police Department, and  
San Francisco Police Department

Dear County and City Law Enforcement Partners,

UASI recently received approval from Cal OES to proceed with a National Priority Project (NPP) grant. The purpose of the grant is to develop an information collection and dissemination tool for automated Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) threat detection including an alert and warning system for the Bay Area's three urban counties and three core cities; as well as, Northern California Regional Intelligence Center (NCRIC). The project will require members of your agency, dispatch/RMS manager(s), public health, emergency medical services, fire to work with UASI, NCRIC and FirstWatch on this real time analysis and situational awareness tool.

The tool is the FirstWatch application ( <https://firstwatch.net/> ). FirstWatch is already used by many EMS and fire agencies throughout the Bay Area and nationally. A similar law enforcement project is already underway in the Washington DC metropolitan area. This project would enhance the overall system and intelligence available to law enforcement. Under the grant, your agency along with your local public health, EMS and fire would be able to identify alerts related CBRNE (e.g., fentanyl overdoses or incidents). I suspect your management would find it useful in other areas too. The real power of FirstWatch is its ability to search not only conformed fields but narratives. I used fentanyl as an example because of my Fire/EMS background, but also because agencies committed significant staff time to reviewing their RMS for overdose related incidents. FirstWatch would create such a report and/or narrow the number of reports significantly to be reviewed by staff.

We are starting the project in March with an introductory meeting with FirstWatch and each of the five law enforcement agencies (ACSO, OPD, SCSO, SJPD and SFPD). It's critical that your information technology staff that handles your computer aided dispatch data is prepared to work with you on the project and participates in the initial meetings so they can provide FirstWatch with access to the data. It's my understanding that each of your jurisdictions may utilize

FirstWatch for EMS and/or Fire. EMS and Fire IT staff may prove useful in alleviating concerns among your IT staff as well.

While CCSF is the host for the regional grant, we recognize that each agency has its unique requirements for data security, use and sharing. While we're working with you to create the reports that your agency desires, we'll also need to develop data sharing agreements that address your individual agency requirements.

The project is funded for the initial year and two additional years. The grant performance period requires deployment before 12/31/22. It's not approved yet, but we are already working on another NPP to add the other nine Bay Area UASI counties.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [david.a.rocha@sfgov.org](mailto:david.a.rocha@sfgov.org) or (415) 850-4794 cellular.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
*David Rocha*  
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David A. Rocha  
*Regional Project Manager*