



Stimulus Funds to Purchase ShotSpotter Gunshot Location System (GLS): Port Security Grant Programs

Program Description and Funding Level

The Port Security Grant Program provides funding to port areas for the protection of critical port infrastructure from terrorism. Program funds are primarily intended to assist ports in enhancing maritime domain awareness, enhancing risk management capabilities to prevent, detect, respond to and recover from attacks involving improvised explosive devices (IEDs), weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) and other non-conventional weapons, as well as training and exercises and Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) implementation. Port owners and operators are eligible for this program. For FY 2009, there is \$550 million (including stimulus funding) for this program.

Eligible Use of Funds

Funds may be used for the following types of projects:

- Deployment of access control/standardized credentialing systems
- Deployment of detection and surveillance equipment
- Development/enhancement of information sharing systems for classified information
- Creation/enhancement of maritime community watch programs
- Enhancements of command and control facilities
- Interoperable communications

ShotSpotter has been certified by DHS and placed on the Authorized Equipment List (AEL). That list is a roster of pre-approved items and products that DHS pre-determines is eligible for acquisition. Because of this, Port Security Grant recipients will not have to justify a request for a ShotSpotter gunshot detection system. They also qualify under the detection and surveillance equipment category.

How Funds Are Allocated and Distributed

DHS pre-selects from the nation's most active commercial ports. Among those ports, the agency segments the list into Tier 1 and Tier 2 ports. Tier 1 ports receive approximately 50% of the program's funding (and are usually a grouping of no more than 5 ports). The remaining money is split among the other ports. Each area is assessed for its risk of terrorist attack, amount of critical infrastructure, and top-secret intelligence regarding threat of attack and provided funds in proportion to that.

Match

Ports must make a 25% non-federal match to their annual award.

How to Access These Funds for Your Community

1. Contact your commercial port to determine if they have received an award in the past (the pre-determined list has changed little in the past 3 years).
2. Determine who is the point of contact for security measures
3. Determine what the priorities are for the equipment category (you might be competing with CBRNE equipment, radios, triage tents, response vehicles, etc).
4. Get in the funding cycle.