SUBMISSION FORM

All submission forms must include the following information. Separate submission forms must be turned in for each eligible program. **Deadline: July 1, 2025.** Please include this submission form as the first page of your electronic entry. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your entry within 3 days of submission, please contact <u>Gage Harter</u>.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

County:	
CONTACT INFORMATION	
Name:	
Title:	
Telephone:	Website:
Email:	
SIGNATURE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATO	OR OR DEPUTY/ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
Name:	
Title:	
Signature:	

Embracing Technology: Chesterfield County's Analytic and Strategic Operations Center (ASOC): A Beacon of Innovation in Public Safety

Chesterfield County Police Department and Information Systems Technology

Submitter: Major Mark Haynes, Police Department - Technology & Project Management Leader

Technology Partner: Rick Meili, IST Project Manager

Abstract:

In the realm of public safety, the timely delivery of actionable intelligence can be the difference between life and death. Chesterfield County's Analytic and Strategic Operations Center (ASOC) represents a pioneering effort to streamline and enhance the flow of critical information to first responders. By integrating various county departments and leveraging advanced technology, the ASOC ensures that the right information reaches the right person at the right time, significantly improving response times and outcomes in emergency situations.

Problem/Program Need:

Public safety agencies often grapple with the challenge of managing vast amounts of data across disparate systems. This fragmentation can lead to delays in response times, missed opportunities for crime prevention, and suboptimal outcomes in emergency situations. The ASOC was conceived to address these issues by centralizing data, bringing together law enforcement databases, video feeds, and sensor technologies into a single, accessible platform. This integration enhances response capabilities by providing first responders with real-time, actionable intelligence, thereby improving their effectiveness and safety. Additionally, the ASOC fosters a collaborative framework, encouraging cooperation between police, fire, emergency management and school district to ensure a holistic approach to public safety.

Description of the Program

The ASOC is a state-of-the-art facility designed to integrate systems by orchestrating multiple law enforcement databases, video surveillance, and sensor data, ensuring seamless access for first responders. This integration is made possible using Internet of Things (IoT) sensors, edge computing, and AI-enabled data analytics, which collectively ensure seamless access to critical information for first responders. IoT sensors, deployed throughout the county, collect real-time data from a variety of sources, including traffic cameras and environmental sensors, providing a comprehensive view of the city's safety landscape.

Edge computing plays a pivotal role in the ASOC's operations by processing data closer to its source, reducing latency and bandwidth requirements. This capability is crucial for time-sensitive applications like traffic management and real-time surveillance, allowing for faster decision-making and response times.

The ASOC's real-time intelligence capabilities are further enhanced by AI, which processes and analyzes data from multiple sources to provide actionable insights. This technology enables the center to move from reactive to responsive operations, allowing law enforcement to anticipate and potentially prevent criminal activity with greater accuracy. The resources facilitated via the ASOC allow officers to receive critical, real-time intelligence as they arrive at the scene, enabling better and safer responses.

Moreover, all operations within the ASOC are conducted within the established legal and constitutional framework to protect civil liberties. This ensures that while the center leverages advanced technology for public safety, it does so with a strong commitment to privacy and ethical considerations.

Cost of Program

The ASOC was established with an initial investment of \$4,000,000 covering the costs of infrastructure, which involved building and equipping the center with advanced technology, software and licensing, which included expenses for integrating and maintaining various databases and systems, and training, ensuring all personnel are proficient in using the ASOC's capabilities.

Funded through a combination of federal grants, including the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and local funding sources, the ASOC is a testament to the county's commitment to leveraging technology to enhance community protection services for the benefit of its community.

Results/Success

The ASOC's impact on public safety in Chesterfield County has been profound. Since its inception, it has played a crucial role in solving 11 homicides, seizing 62 illegal firearms, recovering 319 stolen vehicles, and, in three separate cases, recovering three abducted juveniles in under an hour. These successes underscore the effectiveness of integrating smart city technologies into law enforcement operations, demonstrating how technology can serve as a force multiplier, enabling departments to do "more with less" while ensuring the protection of the vulnerable and preservation of life in the community.

Worthiness of Award

In conclusion, Chesterfield County's ASOC, through its innovative use of smart city technology, has not only enhanced the efficiency and effectiveness of its police department but has also set a national example for how technology can be harnessed to improve public safety while respecting civil liberties.