Broward Sheriff's Office 2601 West Broward Boulevard Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312 954-831-8900 www.sheriff.org



May 2, 2018

Norman Foster, Director Office of Management and Budget Broward County Governmental Center 115 South Andrews Avenue, Room 404 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Re: LETF Request for Appropriation

Dear Mr. Foster:

Attached please find the electronic submission of the following request for appropriation from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund:

Subject: Appropriation Request

User: Other - Community Program - Christmas in July, Inc.

Amount: \$10,000.00

Thank you for your prompt review and processing.

Sincerely,

Colonel Tom Harrington
Department of Administration

TH:ag

cc: Sheriff Scott Israel

General Counsel, Ron Gunzburger, Office of the General Counsel Director, Heather Mitchell, Bureau of Finance

Comptroller, Catherine A. Moore, Bureau of Finance

Staff Accountant, Erika Galvan, Bureau of Finance

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April 20, 2018

Board of County Commissioners Broward County Governmental Center 115 South Andrews Avenue. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Attn: Honorable Beam Furr, Mayor

Re: Request for Appropriation – Law Enforcement Trust Fund (LETF) Christmas in July, Inc.

Dear Mayor Furr and Board Members:

Request is hereby made for the following described appropriation from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund (LETF).

| I. | AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$ 10,000.00 |
|------|--|
| II. | LETF ACCOUNT XState/LocalFederal/JusticeFederal/Treasury |
| 111. | AMOUNT & TYPE: \$ 10,000.00 State/Local |
| IV. | USER:BSO XOther |
| V. | STATUTORY PURPOSE: |
| | XCrime preventionDrug abuse education/prevention |
| | Other law enforcement purpose |
| | Safe neighborhoodSchool resource officer |

VI. SUMMARY DESCRIPTION:

The Broward Sheriff's Office supports this LETF request for Christmas in July, Inc. Christmas in July is about meeting the needs of homeless children by providing personalized book bags with clothing, blankets, personal hygiene items, and back-to-school supplies to school age students within Broward County. In conjunction with the Broward County Board of County Commissioners, the School Board of Broward County, BSO and other Police Departments, a one day event is held in which the children will receive an a child identification card, fingerprinting, and K-9 demonstrations. These children are able to see the Police in a very positive light, which will help them feel safe around law enforcement, instill a feeling of well-being, build confidence and self-esteem, and help to prevent future criminal activity.

| II. EXHIBITS ATTACHED: | X | Budget | Correspondence |
|------------------------|---|--------|----------------|
|------------------------|---|--------|----------------|

- 1. Budget
- LETF Funding Request

VIII. CERTIFICATION:

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

- a. These funds will not be used to meet normal operating expenses of the Broward Sheriff's Office; and
- b. This request complies with the provisions of Section 932.7055, Florida Statutes.

Reviewed and Approved as to Form and Legal Sufficiency:

Ronald M. Gunzburger

General Counsel

Scott J. Israel

Sheriff of Broward County

5.1.18



BROWARD SHERIFF'S OFFICE 2018 LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND (LETF) REQUEST FOR FUNDING

Sheriff Scott Israel

The Broward Sheriff's Office has a long-standing commitment to the reduction of crime and the implementation of crime and drug prevention initiatives throughout the county. Use of LETF Funds requires approval from the Board of County Commissioners, in accordance with F.S. 932.7055, upon request by the Sheriff. The Statute requires that a portion of the revenues be donated or expended for the support or operation of drug treatment, drug abuse education, drug prevention, crime prevention, safe neighborhood or school resource officer programs in accordance with F.S. 932.7055.

All applications must be scanned and emailed in PDF Format to Letf@sheriff.org with the agency name on the subject line by 11:59pm Monday, November 6, 2017

Applicant Agency Information

| Applicant Agency Legal Nam | e (as listed in sui | nbiz): Christmas in July, Inc. |
|------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Program Title: | Christma | s in July |
| Main Administrative Address | s: 6208 White Oa | ak Lane |
| City & State, Zip Code: Tama | rac, Florida, 333 | 19 |
| Telephone Number: 954-600 | -6918 | |
| Website: www.christmasinju | ılyinc.com | |
| CEO/Executive Director: Dr. | Celia Earle, Exec | utive Director |
| Office Phone Number: 954-2 | 00-7615 | E-mail Address: christmasinjulyinc@hotmail.com |

| Name/ Title of Program Contact: | Dr. Celia Earle, Executive Director | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Cell Phone: 954-600-6918 | Email: christmasinjulyinc@hotmail.com | |
| Primary Program Activity Location | 6208 White Oak Lane | |
| City, State, Zip Code | Tamarac, Florida 33319 | |
| Program Performance Period | (Date) October 1 | To September 30 |

Organization's Background: Provide a concise description of the Applicant Agency, including its history, years of operation, general mission statement, and primary services provided.

Description of Agency:

• The concept of Christmas in July came about in 2001 when then Kiwanis Division 23 Lt. Governor, Dr. Celia Earle, performed research on the plight of homeless children in Broward County, Florida; discovering that within Broward County's school system, there were thousands of homeless students. This number did not include the homeless children under the age of five. During her research, it was made clear that their number one need was underwear, followed by shoes, and then clothing. Dr. Earle brought aboard those Kiwanis clubs in the Division to make a difference in the lives of these unfortunate children, from newborns to age 19; as well as the Broward County Board of County Commissioners who embraced the concept and set up collection facilities at its court houses.

Her movement became Christmas in July, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit agency operated and managed 100% by volunteers that offers resources to strengthen the lives of homeless children throughout Broward County, Florida, who reside in homeless facilities, cars, and under the bridges due to no fault of their own, but due to unfortunate circumstances. Showing them that others authentically care about their plight. Overall, Christmas in July's 16-year commitment has resulted in impacting over 21,000 homeless children lives to date. 2018 will be the 17th year. This project requires seven months of planning starting in January. Bi-weekly

Christmas in July is a personalized project that focuses on providing for the necessities for these homeless children. The committee works closely with the homeless shelters and other facilities that provide services for homeless families to receive the name, age, gender, underwear size, shoe size and clothing size of every homeless child. Babies and toddlers are provided with diapers/pullups, baby wipes, blankets, baby bottles, bibs, sippy cups, two sets of clothing, socks, shoes, toothbrushes, toothpaste, baby powder, lotion, body wash. They are also provided with reading books for their parents to read to them. Only if there is extra money are they provided with a toy. This is all packaged in a book bag that their parents can use as a baby bag. For the children ages five and up, they are provided

with a pack of underwear, bras for the young ladies, shoes, socks, jeans, shirts/blouses, school supplies, reading books, body wipes, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotion, and soap. Again, these children only receive a toy if money is available. This project is about meeting the needs of these children, not their wants.

It should be stated that since 2004, the Broward County Board of County Commissioners has provided Christmas in July with one of their days at the BB&T Center and the School Board of Broward County has provided the transportation for these homeless families to and from the BB&T Center. These are in-kind priceless services and it lets these children and their families know that the County cares about them and their plight.

The event day is a day of food, fun, and gift giving. These children are overjoyed when they open their bags and find new items that it contains all new items and they fit them. This lifts their spirits and many of them have stated that this is the happiest day of their lives.

These children also receive child identification and fingerprinting services on the event day by Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO) and other Police Departments, in addition to witnessing a K-9 demonstration by the City of Sunrise P.D. These children are able to see the police in a very positive light, which will help them to feel safe around law enforcement and help to prevent future criminal activity.

- Years of Operation: 17
- Mission: To provide a ray of hope to the homeless children and their parents; to show that "someone cares"; and also provide a day of fun and frolic.
- Primary Services Offered: Seven months of planning and coordination, purchase of items, storage, collection, sorting, packing and distribution of a personalized package with new necessities to each program participant according to age and gender. As stated above, each package includes underwear (diapers, pullups, bras), shoes, socks, clothing, body wipes, maxi pads, school supplies and reading books. Food and entertainment are also provided. The entertainment includes science and arts and crafts stations, bounce houses, music, basketball, slapstick hockey, video games, costumed characters, and a K-9 demonstration, as well as opportunities for pro-social recreational activities.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

above)?

1. Program Summary (3-5 sentences): Provide an overview of proposed program services.

Christmas in July, Inc., a 501 (c) (3) non-profit agency, is operated and managed 100% by volunteers. This project is about meeting the needs of these homeless children and provides personalized book bags with underwear, clothing, shoes, personal hygiene items, and back-to-school supplies to school-aged homeless students. Those under the age of five receive diapers/pullups, wipes, clothing, blankets, bibs, toiletries, etc. Program activities include planning and coordination, purchasing, storage, collection, sorting, packing and distribution of program supplies to homeless children within Broward County. BSO and other Police departments provide child identification, fingerprinting, and K-9 demonstrations. These provision of necessities, as well as the provision of services provided, instills a feeling of well-being, builds confidence and self-esteem and helps to prevent future criminal activity with these At-Risk homeless children. The term At-Risk is often used to describe students or groups of students who are considered to have a higher probability of failing academically or dropping out of school; for the County's homeless children, this is their reality.

LETF CATEGORY/STATUTORY REQUIREMENT (Place an "X" to the left of **one** program area for which you Intend to Apply):

| X | 1. Crime Prevention |
|---------------|---|
| | 2. Safe Neighborhood |
| | 3. Drug Abuse Education and Prevention |
| HERIFF'S PRIO | RITY AREA (Place an "X" to the left of one program area for which you Intend to Apply): |
| | 1. Diverting Youth from Criminal Justice System |

x 3. Programs that assist the Homeless/Mentally III 2. How do you feel your proposed project addresses the LETF Criteria and/or the Sheriff's Priority Area (listed

2. Reducing Gun Violence/Violent Crime

LETF – Crime Prevention: Christmas in July provides necessities, not wants, including underwear, clothing, shoes, socks, personal hygiene items, and back-to-school supplies to homeless children. Our organization works along with several homeless shelters and facilities that assist the homeless including, but not limited to Broward Outreach Centers (North and South), Salvation Army, Covenant House, Susan B. Anthony, Women in Distress, Broward Partnership for the Homeless Initiative (BPHI), H.E.A.R.T., Volunteers of America and others, to particularly help these

homeless children stay in school and not lead to a life of crime on the streets when they are removed from school due

to a lack of basic necessities. When there is a lack, it is the human instinct to seek to fill that lack by any means necessary including stealing. Therefore, with provision of necessities, this will directly reduce crime. Some of these school-aged homeless children have been suspended or expelled because they will act out because of embarrassment of not wearing underwear. These homeless children are considered At-Risk, Food Insecure, and more. With the assistance that Christmas in July provides, it can help to prevent these children from entering the Juvenile Justice System.

Sheriff's Priority Area - Programs that assist the Homeless/Mentally III and Diverting Youth from Criminal Justice system: Christmas in July actually covers both of these areas, so it is hard to select only one area for the reasons mentioned above. It serves Broward County's homeless children from Broward County Schools, and their siblings, ages 0 to 19 years. Christmas in July serves between 1,500 to 2,000 homeless children in Broward County on an annual basis. As stated previously, by assisting these homeless children. The children reside in homeless shelters, in cars, under bridges, or in other locations with no fixed addresses, and are recommended by the County's Family Providers, School Board of Broward County, social workers and similar individuals.

The Christmas in July program provides necessities, exclusive of shelter, is carried out with volunteers from other agencies including Broward Sheriff's Office, including the Sheriff himself, and other Police departments. We have been informed via the County's Family Provider meeting that we attend on a monthly basis starting in January, that there are over **4,000** homeless children within the school system and that does not count those under the age of five. This is the highest number that we have seen since our inception, so we are hoping that we will be successful with obtaining this 2018 LETF. The need is great and every single penny goes towards meeting the needs of these children.

STATEMENT OF NEED

Why is this program needed (What community problem does it address)? What data suggests that this program should be implemented with this population or in this geographical location? (USE RECENT, RELEVANT DATA

The funding is needed to support homeless children. By providing basic underwear, clothing, and shoes, prevents youth involvement in crime and violence. During the research stage, prior to the creation of Christmas in July, it was stated that some homeless students would act out in school if they were asked to change out for physical activities because they did not have on underwear and did not want to be embarrassed in front of their peers. This acting out sometimes resulted in suspensions and even expulsions, which is unfortunate. Having adequate new underwear and clothing that is not frayed, worn out and actually fits them, helps gain self-confidence and creates a positive and safe environment that reduces risky behavior that could result in suspensions or expulsions or criminal activity. The provision of new shoes for these children is also very important as many of these children wear shoes with holes in them and also wear shoes that are too small or too large for them. The provision of body wipes is critical as it allows them to feel somewhat clean as in many instances, they do not have the facilities to take a shower. All of these combined, lift the children's morale by fostering a sense of positive self-esteem and willingness to connect with peers. For the past 16 years, Christmas in July has been making a positive difference in the lives of these children and will continue to do so. Even when the event day is over, the respective homeless shelters/facilities continue to reach out to us throughout the year to provide diapers, underwear, clothing, school supplies, etc. We try our best to meet these continued requests.

Supported by the School Board of Broward County (SBBC), annually, approximately 1,500 to 2,000 homeless children and their parents are transported to the BB&T Center from across Broward County. Christmas in July attends the County's Family Provider meetings starting in January of each year through June in order to obtain the real-time numbers of homeless children within the County, so that we know how we should proceed. In 2016, there were approximately 2,300 homeless students in the Broward County School System and in 2017, there were 2,600 homeless students. As of February 2018, we have been informed in the Family Provider meeting that that there are approximately 4,000 homeless children within Broward County's school system. This is a tall order to fill because Christmas in July reaches out into the community for the monetary and in-kind resources to provide for these homeless children and it is getting more and more difficult to obtain these resources on an annual basis.

In addition to the most recent number of homeless children here in Broward County, here are some National Facts that apply to Broward County also:

- Homeless children are sick four times more often than other children.
- Homeless children go hungry at twice the rate of other children.
- Homeless children are four times more likely to show delayed development.
- Homeless children are twice as likely to have learning disabilities as non-homeless children.
- At least 20% of homeless children are unable to attend school

(Facts are gathered from National Center on Family Homelessness, Coalition for the Homeless, National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth, and Project Home)

The Coalition for Juvenile Justice, wrote an Issue Brief on Youth Homelessness and Juvenile Justice, June 2016 and stated that nearly 44% of runaway and homeless youth had stayed in a jail, prison, or juvenile detention center, nearly 78% had at least one interaction with the police, and nearly 62% had been arrested at some point in their lives. It

went on to state that in some cases this involvement may be due to lack of shelter or other necessities, such as when a young person is arrested for truancy after missing school due to the lack of stable housing, or theft for stealing food or money to buy food due to hunger. Additionally, it mentioned that other "survival crimes" could be committed, which include trespassing to be in a safer place, or engaging in physical altercations to protect themselves while on the streets.

Risk and protective factors help to explain why a problem exists. These factors suggest why certain individuals or groups are more or less likely to become victims of crime or to become involved in crime. **Protective factors** are conditions or attributes in individuals, families, communities or the larger society that help people deal more effectively with stressful events and mitigate or eliminate **risk** in families and communities. A risk factor can be defined as "a characteristic at the biological, psychological, family, community, or cultural level that precedes and is associated with a higher likelihood of problem outcomes (*youth.gov*). The help that Christmas in July provides can be considered a protective factor.

If these At-Risk homeless children are not in school on a regular basis with basic necessities for success, there is a high probability that they will fall into a life of crime and enter the Juvenile Justice System. There is also the probability that they will become the victims of crime.

4. Describe the program in detail and how it will be implemented: (Describe Who, What, Where, and When)
All programs must address a specific population and the narrative should indicate the number of clients served, services provided etc.

Who: Christmas in July is a program aimed at serving the population of underserved homeless students under 19 years, and their younger siblings, in Broward County. Annually, our program serves anywhere from 1,500 to 2,000 children.

As in previous years, the 2018 goal is to take a comprehensive approach to providing approximately 2,000 At-Risk homeless children with their necessities including underwear, shoes, clothing, school supplies, and toiletries for the year, increasing their self-confidence and preventing involvement in crime and violence as they would not have to seek other avenues to meet their needs. It helps to create a positive environment that reduces risky behavior.

What: Christmas in July was founded in 2001, the first event was held in 2002, and thus is well established. Over, the past 16 years, Christmas in July has provided for the needs of over 21,000 homeless children within Broward County. This is co-sponsored by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners and Kiwanis Divisions 23 and 24. The Christmas in July committee, which consists of 40 to 50 volunteers, meets on a bi-weekly basis from January through July. The Organization has designated volunteers ("Coordinators") who attend regularly-scheduled Family Provider meetings with various shelters and other non-profit organizations that are part of the continuum of care. At those meetings, we obtain the current count of the homeless children residing at the shelters and being served by other facilities. The numbers fluctuate weekly and sometimes daily as limited time is allowed at these respective facilities. Therefore, to ensure that the children actually receive their personalized backpack with supplies, we make efforts to obtain shelter reassignments.

Volunteers solicit and collect monetary or in-kind donations individually, or as a group. Funds collected are promptly deposited and 100% of the donations got towards providing for these children. The community is instrumental to collecting school supplies for the children. During the year, collection boxes are placed in several strategic Broward County library locations, government offices, and banks. Individuals deliver the donated items to the sorting and packing facility, which has to be donated to us. We purchase and pack according to the specific child's age and size. That way, the child is assured well-fitted items.

On the event day, children and their families enjoy a festive Christmas-themed party complete with meals. The entertainment provides an outlet for the program participants to enjoy themselves, reduce their stress levels for at least for one day, and interact/socialize with others freely. Entertainment includes demonstrations by K-9 unit, science and arts and crafts stations, interactive musical activities, face painting, bounce houses, and others.

Where: Our target population is within Broward County. The program is executed at the BB&T Center, which is a treat in itself for these homeless children. The Broward County Board of County Commissioners generously provides one of their days at the BB&T Center for Christmas in July to make this an extra special day for these homeless children and their families. On the event day, there are over 250 pre-registered volunteers. This does not include the volunteers from other not-for-profit agencies and law enforcement agencies.

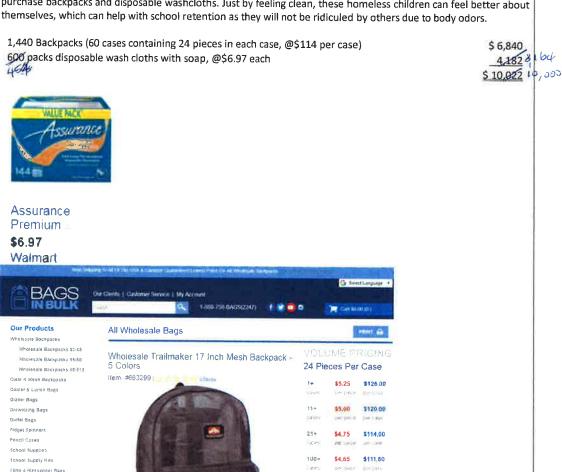
When: Christmas in July occurs on a weekend in July. This is where we provide food, fun, and personalized gift giving to of the previously stated items to approximately 1,500 to 2,000 homeless children. This date is **never** made public in order to protect the privacy of our population served; also for their safety. In addition to the event in July, throughout the school year (August to May/June), as social workers or persons within the school district reach out to us, we distribute necessities to approximately 200 homeless students. We also provide diapers/pullups, wipes and other items to homeless babies/toddlers in facilities when contacted throughout the year.

PROJECT BUDGET Project budget should ONLY include costs related to your funding request. Other match funds should not be included below.

| LETE Line (tem Budget | Calculation 4 | Totalu |
|----------------------------|--|------------|
| Program Expenses | | - American |
| Supplies (1,440 backpacks) | 60 cases with 24 pieces at \$114 per case | \$6,840 |
| Supplies (body wipes) | 454 packs disposable wash cloths with soap, at \$6.97 each | |
| | | |
| | Total LETF REQUEST: | \$ 10,000 |

BUDGET NARRATIVE (Required for ALL applications (Provide a narrative explanation of what the budget will include and its relevance to the project in #4. Please explain any anomalies in the budget above.)

Christmas in July, Inc. is 100% operated and managed by volunteers. Serving approximately 1,500 to 2,000 homeless children annually, we need help with purchasing backpacks and school supplies. Each child also receives a complete outfit. This includes underwear (including bras for the young ladies), socks, shoes, shirts/blouses, and jeans. The students need disposable washcloths, also referred to as body wipes throughout this application, since depending on the living situation, access to water and soap before school may be limited. Volunteers will distribute the supplies (clothing and school supplies) that are placed in the backpack and presented directly to the students. Costs provided are current as of the date of the application. Christmas in July is seeking assistance from LETF to purchase backpacks and disposable washcloths. Just by feeling clean, these homeless children can feel better about themselves, which can help with school retention as they will not be ridiculed by others due to body odors.



200+

Case Quantity 1

\$4.60

\$110.40

Tota Bags

Classouts

SIGNATURE/CERTIFICATION

CERTIFICATION AND ASSURANCES (Please initial next to each, in blue ink. By initialing and signing this application for funding the applicant agrees to comply with the following terms and conditions if awarded LETF Funding.

PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

Initial APPLICANT shall commence services as soon as practical and reasonable under the circumstances. All program activities must be completed within one (1) year of disbursement, unless said date is extended by BSO. Any request for extension of time must be submitted no later than 30 days before the end of the performance period of the award.

REPORTS AND DELIVERABLES

Initial APPLICANT will keep clear and accurate records throughout the Program period so that the progress of the services rendered may be readily evaluated by BSO at mutually agreed upon times.

Initial APPLICANT will provide BSO with a quarterly program report which shall include the current Program status by APPLICANT in completing/servicing the Program and the expenditure of funds in addition to such other pertinent information as requested by BSO on the report form to BSO no later than fifteen (15) days of the end of each quarter.

Initial A final report of activities and expenditures documented by receipts or other financial proof of expenditure of the Program shall be submitted by APPLICANT on the report form to BSO no later than forty-five (45) days of the end of the performance period. All cost and expense in generating and delivery of such documentation shall be burdened by APPLICANT and the documents shall be delivered in a format acceptable to BSO. Failure to comply with the reporting requirements shall result in APPLICANT having to return LETF.

RETURN OF FUNDS

Initial If APPLICANT fails to perform; or is determined later to not be qualified to receive LETF; or if there was an untruthful statement made by APPLICANT within its Request for Funding Application (Application); or fails to provide the necessary reporting documents to BSO, then all LETF disbursed to the APPLICANT shall be returned to BSO within ten (10) business days of BSO's written demand for the same and APPLICANT may be ineligible for any future LETF disbursements.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

All services should be provided exclusively in Broward County to Broward County residents.

Initial APPLICANT will not qualify for subsequent year funding from BSO and will not be able to receive subsequent year funding until a complete report, approved by BSO has been obtained for prior year activities that were funded by LETF award. Notwithstanding the forgoing, BSO shall not be obligated to award any subsequent funding unless and until the APPLICANT reapplies for the same and is approved for disbursements, at the discretion of BSO.

Initial Failure to spend grant funds in accordance with the approved project budget will result in return of funds to BSO.

Initial Failure of the APPLICANT to submit a complete report with backup documentation to BSO, at no cost to BSO, will result in immediate return of funds to BSO.

Initial Failure of the APPLICANT to comply with sub-recipient monitoring will result in immediate return of funds.

False statements or claims made in connection with this LETF Funding Application may result in fines, imprisonment, and/or any other remedy available by law. I certify that the assurances provided are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant Agency Name: Christmas in July, Inc.

OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO SIGN AND BIND APPLICANT AGENCY TO APPLICATION:

| DFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO SIGN AND BIND APPLICANT AGENCY TO APPLICATION: |
|--|
| Signature: |
| Dr. Celia Earle, Executive Director |
| (Printed Name & Title) |
| Date: November 1, 2017 |
| STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF <u>BROWARD</u> Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this <u>1st</u> day of <u>November 2017</u> , by Celia Earle . |
| (NOTARY SEAL) (CAROLE STEWART-HERON) |
| Personally Known V OR Produced Identification |