

LFIR # 2270

1. Project Title Leon County Sheriff's Office Human Trafficking Investigative Unit

2. Senate Sponsor Corey Simon

3. Date of Request 12/08/2023

4. Project/Program Description

The Tallahassee MSA designated by the Office of Management and Budget and used by the U.S. Census Bureau for statistical purposes consists of Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, and Wakulla Counties. Leon County is more densely populated and urbanized than its three Tallahassee MSA neighbors and is home to Florida's Capitol, multiple institutions of higher learning, historic sites, parks, museums, hotels, restaurants, as well as many massage parlors, and the US 27 and I-10 corridors. LCSO proposes expanding its locally-funded services by implementing a dedicated law enforcement unit committed to combating human trafficking within the Tallahassee MSA using an existing collaborative agreement between the four sheriffs. The LCSO Human Trafficking Unit (HTU) would incorporate investigative collaborations across law enforcement and corrections disciplines to ensure that proper resources are allocated to make a meaningful impact on the regional problem.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

Department of Law Enforcement

State Agency contacted? No

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	605,194
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	605,194

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage	
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	605,194	100%	
Matching Funds			
Federal	0	0%	
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%	
Local	0	0%	
Other	0	0%	
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	605,194	100%	

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

Fiscal Year	Amo	ount	Specific	Vetoed	
(уууу-уу)	Recurring	Nonrecurring	Appropriation #		

9. Is future funding likely to be requested?

Yes

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a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

None



10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?

No

If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

Construction

11. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

	🔵 Plan	ning	🔵 De	sign		Constr	uctio
b.	Is the p	project	"shovel	ready"	(i.e	permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12. List the owners of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.

N/A

13. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	3 FTE -Human Trafficking Detectives a@ \$94,740 per FTE *includes FICA, Medicare, over-time pay, life insurance, FRS, health insurance, Workers Compensation, and liability insurance 1 FTE -Human Trafficking Digital Forensic Analyst @ \$76,749 per FTE *includes FICA, Medicare, over-time pay, life insurance, FRS, health insurance, Workers Compensation, and liability insurance	360,969
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other	 3 FTE H.T. Detectives: Computer @ \$2,500/FTE; Cell Phone @ \$400/FTE; Software \$1,500/FTE; Training/Travel/Certifications @ \$1,000/FTE; Uniforms, Equipment, Weapons, Radios @ \$19,425 per FTE; Fully equipped, unmarked law enforcement vehicle @ \$55,000/FTE. 1 FTE H.T. Digital Forensic Analyst: Computer @ \$1,000; cell phone @ \$400; software @ \$700; equipmeny @ \$1,650; Training/Travel/Certs @ \$1,000 	244,225



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Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:				
Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)				

14. Program Performance

a. What specific purpose or goal will be achieved by the funds requested?

LCSO proposes implementing a dedicated law enforcement unit committed to combating human trafficking within the Tallahassee MSA using an existing collaborative agreement between the four sheriffs. The LCSO Human Trafficking Unit (HTU) would incorporate investigative collaborations across law enforcement and corrections disciplines to ensure that proper resources are allocated to make a meaningful impact on the regional problem. Human trafficking is a complex criminal enterprise. Investigating and dismantling one such criminal organization could produce numerous arrests and recover many victims. Due to a lack of dedicated detectives, human trafficking cases are not currently being effectively investigated, and it is difficult to estimate with any degree of accuracy how many victims might be recovered. The entire population of the Tallahassee MSA would be served by the HTU. Special emphasis would be placed on the US 27 and I-10 corridors for targeted human trafficking enforcement.

b. What activities and services will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?

Allotted funds would be used to expand current human trafficking investigative services being provided by a locallyfunded single detective position with an additional three full-time detective positions. Leon County would be the first County to use specific data to identify trafficking taking place from within a detention facility. Using solutions provided by Securus Technologies and tying in access to Thorne/Spotlight, Leon County Detention Facility (LCDF) calls will be fed into internet sex ad aggregation tools to identify intersection of numbers used for sex ads and numbers called from LCDF. These leads will be worked by the new HTU.

c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?

Direct services to citizens would include, but not be limited to, criminal investigative services, missing persons recovery, increase in victim identification, and victim services/programs referrals through existing LCSO referral processes which utilize a community wellness portal to promote diversion from reoccurring crises. Direct services may extend to the identification/referral of local diversion programs for victimized youth in contact with the juvenile and family court systems who are at risk for human trafficking due to past or current crime victimization. Existing and new technology will be used to enhance LCSO's direct services capabilities.

d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?

Human Trafficking victims of all ages. The entire population of the Tallahassee MSA would be served by this unit. Human Trafficking, including sex trafficking and labor trafficking, are complex criminal organizations. Investigating and dismantling one organization could produce numerous arrests and recover many victims. Due to a lack of dedicated detectives, these cases are not currently being effectively investigated, it is difficult to estimate how many victims would be recovered. Statistics maintained by reputable sources give an indication of the problem's scope.

e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will

be measured?

Citizens would have enhanced access to law enforcement resources to help break the cycle of victimization leading to reductions in recidivism and re-victimization. The HTU would lead inter-agency collaborations resulting in enhanced program impacts providing direct services, education, awareness, and referral services for victims, aiming to reduce the number of human trafficking incidents. LCSO would be better able to focus on obtaining human trafficking convictions and have the tools to ensure that human traffickers would not be able to continue to function from within the LCDF.

f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for the contract?

Return of appropriations. Would be outlined in agency contract.



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15. Requester Contact Information

	a. First Name	Ron		Last Name	Cave	
	b. Organization	Leon County Sheriff's Office				
	c. E-mail Address	caver@leoncountyfl.gov				
	d. Phone Number	(850)606-3300 Ext.				
16.	6. Recipient Contact Information					
	a. Organization	Leon County Sheriff's Office				
	b. Municipality and	d County Leon				
	c. Organization Ty	be				
	□For Profit Entity					
	□Non Profit 501(c	c)(3)				
	□Non Profit 501(c	c)(4)				
	☑Local Entity					
	□University or Co	llege				
	□Other (please sp	oecify)				
	d. First Name	Walt		Last Name	McNeil	
	e. E-mail Address	mcneilw@	leoncountyfl.gov	V		
	f. Phone Number (850)606-3300					
17.	17. Lobbyist Contact Information					
	a. Name	Sean A. Pittman Pittman Law Group PL				
	b. Firm Name					
	c. E-mail Address	s sean@pittman-law.com				
	d. Phone Number	(850)216-1002				