



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1924

1. **Project Title** University of Central Florida - Center for the Study of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery
2. **Senate Sponsor** Keith Truenow
3. **Date of Request** 11/17/2025

4. **Project/Program Description**

This project will create an advanced, scalable and effective AI-based monitoring tool for law enforcement to combat the demand for human trafficking activity by monitoring and analyzing buyers' on-line search behaviors. Additionally, the Center will establish a Joint Law Enforcement Training Program to provide ongoing training opportunities for law enforcement in newly developed technology and detection tools.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds** Board of Governors
- State Agency contacted?** Yes

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2026-2027**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	1,250,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	1,250,000

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	1,250,000	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 2026-2027	1,250,000	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** Yes
- If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2025-26	0	500,000	147	No

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** Yes
- a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.** 500,000
- b. **Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.**
- No other available funding source.

Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects



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10. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

☐ Planning ☐ Design ☐ Construction ☐ N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

11. 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.

12. 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		
Salary and Benefits	Center for Human Trafficking & Modern Slavery operations in support of the Buyer Beware project.	250,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Development and testing of Firewall, AI Hunter BOTs, Shield App; Law enforcement testing and evaluations; deployment platform; implementation.	1,000,000
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)		1,250,000

13. Program Performance

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

This project will create an advanced, scalable and effective AI-based monitoring tool for law enforcement to combat the demand for human trafficking activity by monitoring and analyzing buyers' on-line search behaviors. Additionally, the Center will establish a Joint Law Enforcement Training Program to provide ongoing training opportunities for law enforcement in newly developed technology and detection tools.

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



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The outcome objectives for this initiative include (1) developing a monitoring tool, (2) providing actionable intelligence to law enforcement and NGOs, (3) raising awareness and educating among potential buyers to mitigate and stop before it happens, and (4) ensuring the tool can be adapted for use across different disciplines and on-line platforms.

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

Same as (a) above: (1) developing a monitoring tool, (2) providing actionable intelligence to law enforcement and NGOs, (3) raising awareness and educating among potential buyers to mitigate and stop before it happens, and (4) ensuring the tool can be adapted for use across different disciplines and on-line platforms.

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

At-risk youth, crime victims, vulnerable women and children, and tools and training for state and local law enforcement.

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

Combating human trafficking activities; developing and implementing an advanced AI-driven solution for Law enforcement; providing actionable intelligence to help identify and prosecute buyers and support victims; educating potential buyers to mitigate and stop the purchase before it happens and promoting safe on-line behaviors. Measurements: reduction in victims and arrests; increased protection for women and girls (78% of victims).

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 in the contract?

Cessation or return of state funding.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster?

a. If Yes, what phase best describes the project?

- ☐ Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)
- ☐ Response (addressing the immediate and short-term effects of a natural disaster)
- ☐ Recovery (assisting communities return to normal operations, including rebuilding damaged infrastructure)

b. Name of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):

15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?

- ☐ Yes, Applied
- ☐ Yes, Received
- ☐ No
- ☐ No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:

b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:

16. Has the entity applied for or received state assistance for this project (other than this request)?



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- ☐ Yes, Applied
- ☐ Yes, Received
- ☐ No
- ☐ No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, specify the program and state agency (ex. Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan, Department of Commerce):

17. Requester Contact Information

- a. First Name Last Name
- b. Organization
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number Ext.

18. Recipient Contact Information

- a. Organization
- b. Municipality and County

c. Organization Type

- ☐ For Profit Entity
- ☐ Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- ☐ Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- ☐ Local Entity
- ☒ University or College
- ☐ Other (please specify)

- d. First Name Last Name
- e. E-mail Address
- f. Phone Number Ext.

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. Name
- b. Firm Name
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number



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The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.