



OPERATION
LIGHT SHINE

2025

ANNUAL REPORT

Rescue More Victims. Arrest More Offenders. Empower the Fight



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we close out 2025, I am filled with deep gratitude, not only for what was accomplished, but for the people who made it possible. This year was defined by trust, partnership, and unwavering commitment. Our team, our law enforcement partners, and every supporter who stood with Operation Light Shine carried this mission forward in ways that continue to humble and inspire me.

Because of you, children were identified and protected. Offenders were held accountable. Investigators were equipped with the tools, training, and technology they needed to pursue justice more effectively. Behind every statistic is a real person, a child safeguarded, a family spared further harm, and a community made safer. None of this happens without people who believe this work matters enough to invest in it.

What encourages me most is not just our growth in numbers, but our growth in strength, credibility, and collaboration. We are building something durable. Something that stands in the gap when resources are limited and the need is urgent.

As we look toward 2026, we do so with clarity and resolve. The demand for this work is growing, and so is our responsibility to meet it. We remain committed to equipping law enforcement, empowering communities, and shining a light of hope in places where darkness has thrived for too long.

Thank you for trusting us with this mission. Your support does more than fund programs, it changes lives. Together, we are just getting started.

Bryan Weight

Bryan Weight, Executive Director



HOW WE DO IT



Operation Light Shine created the Inter-agency Child Exploitation and Persons Trafficking Task Force (INTERCEPT) to provide the resources, staffing, and support required to identify and rescue child victims, apprehend their offenders, and reduce the risk through public education and awareness. Our goal is to establish state-of-the-art facilities that bring together law enforcement, NGOs, prosecutors, victim services, and medical professionals in a multi-disciplinary approach to fight the exploitation and trafficking of children.

The INTERCEPT task forces start at the grassroots level but will grow into world-class, first-of-their-kind workspaces, providing all the resources required to conduct investigations, plan and run operations, identify and rescue victims, educate parents and youth, process and analyze seized data, and serve the community.



YOUR IMPACT:

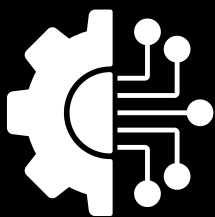
Funding Law Enforcement

\$3,283,467



Salary Reimbursements

\$2,332,217



Technology

\$659,580



Trainings

\$28,500



Task Force Facility

\$263,170



Because of You

Because of you, lives are being changed. Victims are being rescued, offenders are being held accountable, and law enforcement officers are better equipped to fight human trafficking and child exploitation. At Operation Light Shine, every success we've had is a direct result of the generosity and belief of supporters like you. Your support allows us to stand in the gap, empowering those on the front lines to save lives and protect the most vulnerable.

The impact of your support isn't just words, it's in the numbers. Every stat you see in this report represents real progress, real lives changed, and real hope restored. These results wouldn't be possible without you. But this fight isn't over, and as we grow, so does our ability to create more impact.

We need your continued support to help us reach further, equip more law enforcement partners, and protect more victims. Together, we are creating real change. Let's keep going, there are still lives counting on us.

Your generosity doesn't just support a mission, it changes the trajectory of lives.



2025 STATS



Arrests

245



Indictments

177



ID/Rescues

196



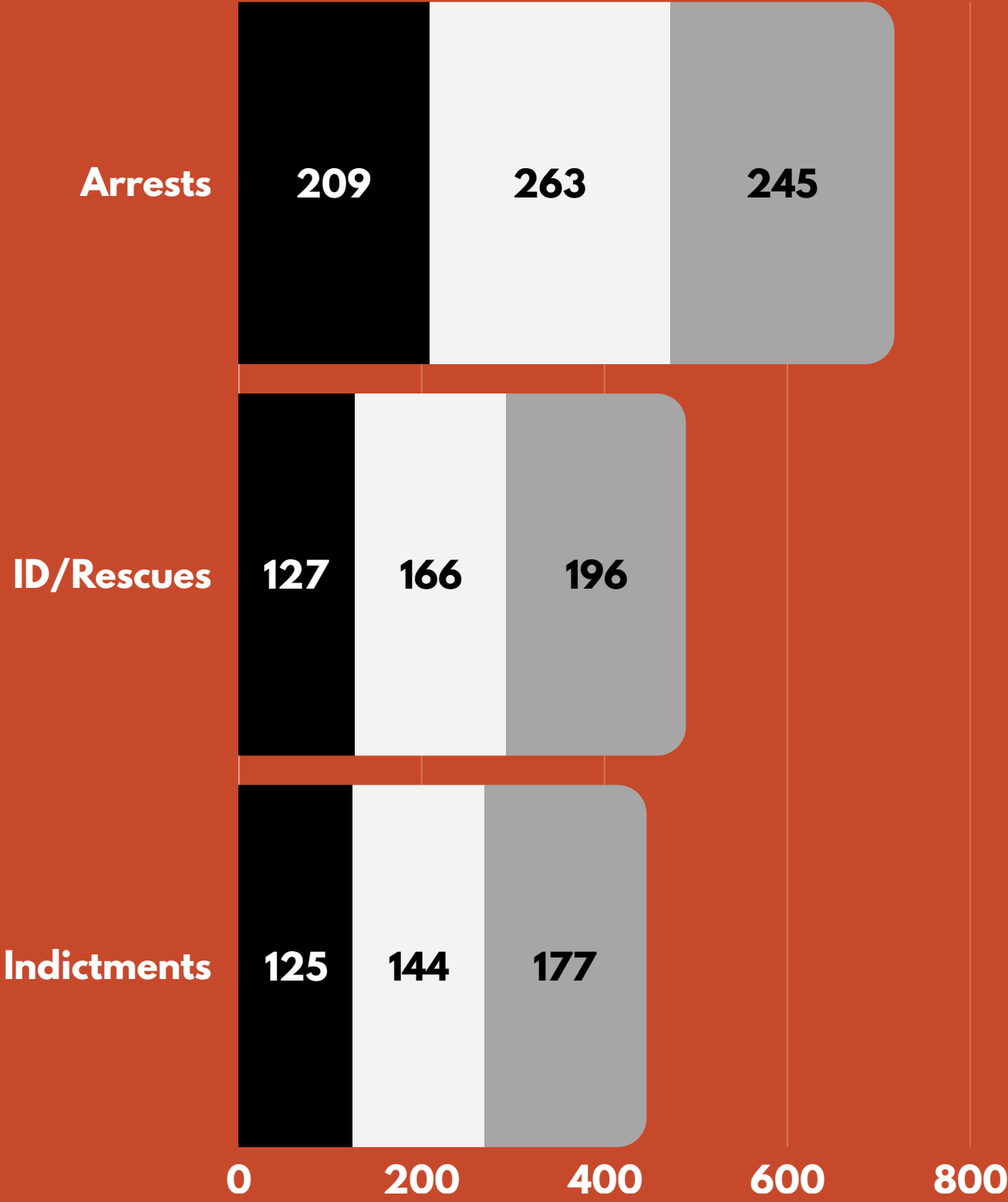
**Vid/Pics
Examined**

402M +

Data reflects outcomes from 2 ITF locations

More Lives Protected: 2023 to 2025 Growth

● 2023 ● 2024 ● 2025



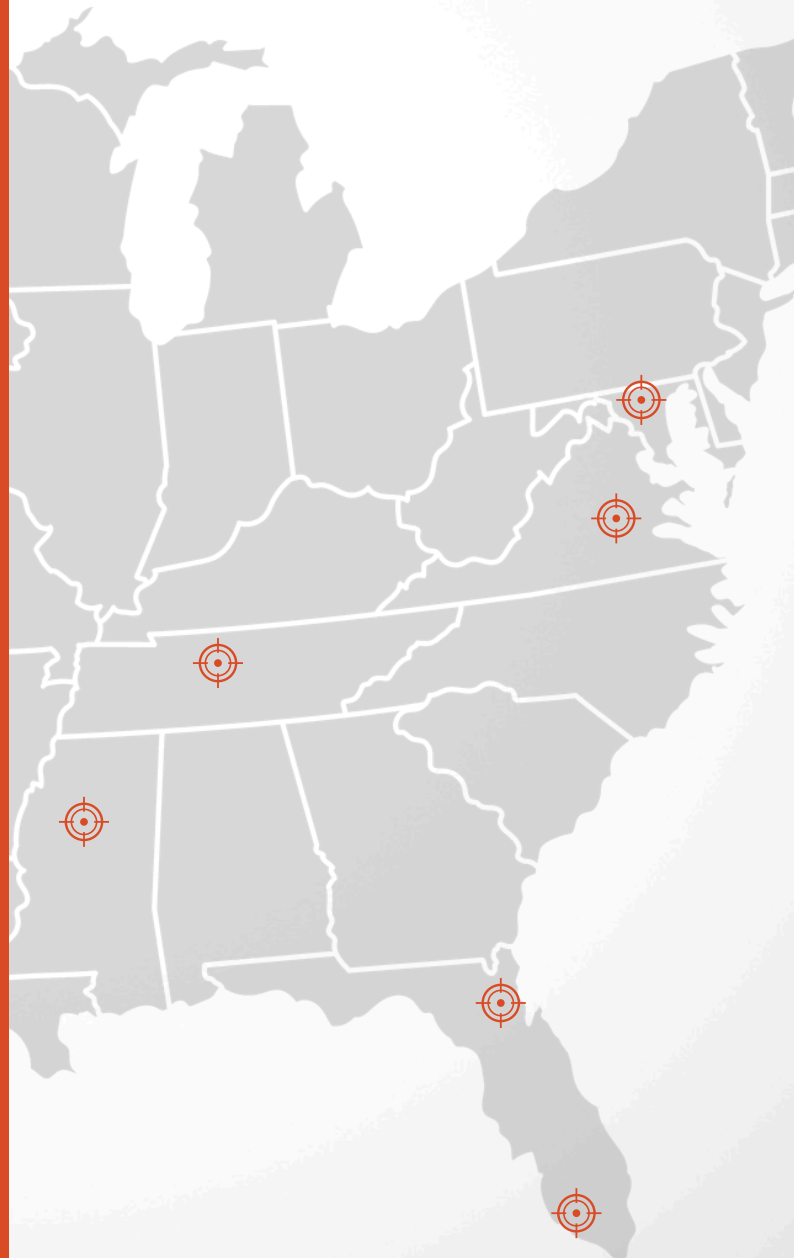
CURRENT LOCATIONS



- 🎯 MIDDLE TENNESSEE, Nashville
- 🎯 NORTH FLORIDA, Jacksonville
- 🎯 SOUTH FLORIDA, Fort Myers
- 🎯 NORTH MARYLAND, Frederick
- 🎯 CENTRAL VIRGINIA, Richmond
- 🎯 MIDWEST ALABAMA, Tuscaloosa

The INTERCEPT Task Forces are essential in the fight against child exploitation and human trafficking, making impactful progress every day. They save lives, ensure accountability, and never waver in their pursuit of justice. With numerous investigations underway, their relentless dedication to shielding the vulnerable from exploitation knows no bounds.

By supporting Operation Light Shine, you directly equip INTERCEPT Task Forces with the cutting edge technology, critical resources, and operational support needed to dismantle trafficking networks and protect the innocent. Together, OLS and INTERCEPT stand as a united front, working tirelessly to build a safer world where every individual can thrive without fear. Join us in this mission because your support drives the fight for justice and freedom.



SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT



“Together, my wife and I feel incredibly grateful for the blessings in our lives, especially our growing family, and we see our family charity as a way to turn that gratitude into action for others. Through our giving, we aim to honor the values we were raised with—hard work, generosity, and showing up for people in real, practical ways—by supporting Operation Light Shine's mission, fostering partnerships that lead to increased child rescues and offender accountability. Ashley and Robb Peterson, through the Peterson Family Trust, provide steadfast support to Operation Light Shine, an organization dedicated to combating child exploitation and human trafficking by funding INTERCEPT Task Forces that equip law enforcement with advanced tools, technology, and resources. Their philanthropy reflects a deep commitment to protecting vulnerable children, rescuing victims, and empowering communities through education and multidisciplinary efforts.

For us, giving isn't just about charity, it's about standing alongside those who bring light to places of darkness.” **Robb & Ashley Peterson**

At Operation Light Shine, our supporters truly are the heartbeat of this mission. You are far more than a financial contributor, you are a trusted partner in the fight against exploitation and trafficking. Your belief in this work directly equips law enforcement, accelerates the identification and protection of the vulnerable, and strengthens the communities we serve.

Because of you, light breaks through in places that once felt overwhelmed by darkness. We are deeply honored to walk this journey with you and grateful to have you as part of the OLS family. Thank you for your steadfast commitment and the lasting impact you help make every day. Together, lives are being changed.



SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT

CHILDHOOD

WORLD CHILDHOOD FOUNDATION

FOUNDED BY H.M. QUEEN SILVIA OF SWEDEN

"World Childhood Foundation USA is proud to support Operation LightShine. Their use of A.I. and advanced data analytics to uncover perpetrator networks, rescue children more quickly, and stop future harm exemplifies our mission to pursue the most innovative solutions to end child sexual abuse and exploitation."

Mary L. Pulido, PhD, Executive Director, World Childhood Foundation USA

World Childhood Foundation USA's generous support and partnership have been instrumental to Operation Light Shine's mission. Through their investment in critical technology, they have helped equip INTERCEPT Task Forces with the tools needed to identify victims faster, strengthen investigations, and advance the fight against child exploitation and human trafficking. We are deeply grateful for their commitment and for the lasting impact this partnership continues to make.



TECHNOLOGY EMPOWERING INTERCEPT TASK FORCES

Operation Light Shine equips INTERCEPT Task Forces with cutting-edge technology to empower their fight against child exploitation and human trafficking. The tools we provide are carefully selected to enhance efficiency, improve investigative outcomes, and enable faster identification and rescue of victims. In addition to these operational benefits, the technology also plays a vital role in safeguarding the mental well-being of investigators by reducing their exposure to traumatic material.

Key technologies include:

- **Magnet Automate:** Currently deployed at our Northeast and Southwest Florida Task Forces, Magnet Automate streamlines digital forensics workflows by automating repetitive tasks, such as processing evidence and running analysis software. Over the course of a year, this tool saves thousands of hours in lost time, allowing investigators to focus on case-critical work. By minimizing direct exposure to graphic content, Magnet Automate also supports the mental health of investigators.
- **Paradigm by Pathfinder Labs:** Paradigm utilizes advanced artificial intelligence tools to aggregate and analyze vast amounts of investigative data, uncovering connections and patterns that are often difficult for humans to detect. Our task forces have praised Paradigm's ability to manage and analyze previously complex data, enabling investigators to focus on actionable insights while reducing the stress of manually processing overwhelming datasets.
- **BitMindz Forensic Workstations:** BitMindz builds state-of-the-art systems tailored to the unique needs of both digital forensic examiners and investigators within our task forces. These high-performance workstations enable the efficient processing of large datasets and advanced investigative tasks, ensuring investigators have the tools needed to reduce their workload and mitigate the emotional toll of their work. The team at BitMindz is deeply committed to supporting our mission and the well-being of our task forces.
- **Magnet Griffeye Analyze DI Pro:** A powerful multimedia analysis tool that helps investigators manage, review, and analyze image and video evidence to identify key leads in cases involving child exploitation. The software's intuitive features streamline workflows, helping to limit exposure to traumatic content.



MIDWEST ALABAMA INTERCEPT TASK FORCE: A Pivotal Launch

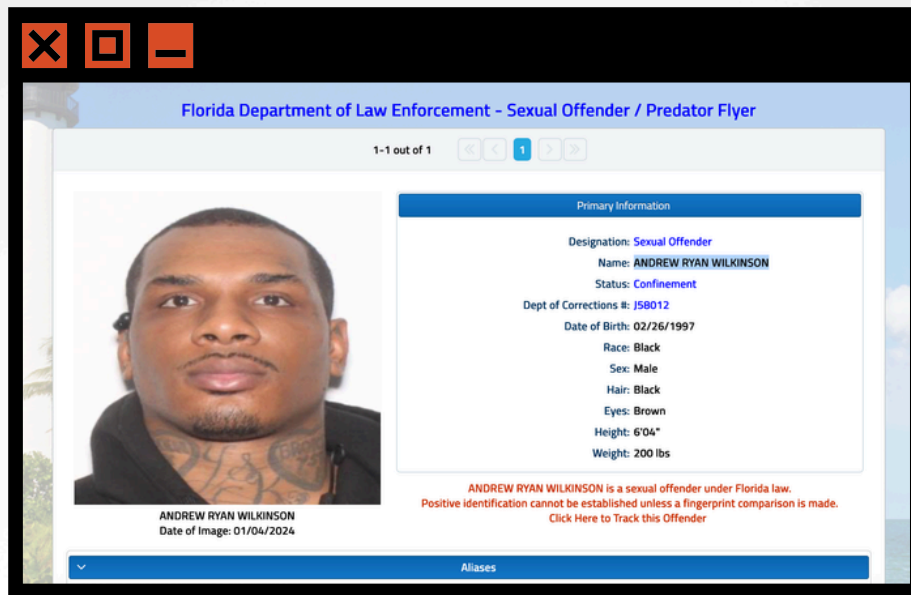
At the end of 2025, Operation Light Shine was proud to expand our INTERCEPT Task Force model into Midwest Alabama with the launch of our Tuscaloosa location. This marks an exciting milestone for our organization as we expand into our fifth state and deepen our commitment to protecting the vulnerable through strong local partnerships.

The Tuscaloosa INTERCEPT Task Force was launched in close collaboration with the Tuscaloosa County Sheriff's Office, Tuscaloosa Police Department, University of Alabama Police Department, Northport Police Department, and the Tuscaloosa County Probate Office. Together, these agencies represent a unified, multidisciplinary approach to combating human trafficking and exploitation in the region.

This new location reflects what is possible when law enforcement agencies come together with shared purpose and the right support. Through this partnership, investigators are better equipped with resources, technology, and coordination to pursue offenders, identify victims, and strengthen prevention efforts across the community.

The launch of the Tuscaloosa INTERCEPT Task Force is more than an expansion, it's a statement of commitment to Alabama's communities and a powerful step forward in building safer futures. We are honored to stand alongside these agencies and excited for the impact this collaboration will continue to make.

CASE SPOTLIGHT



The State of Florida v. Andrew Wilkinson is yet another example of the invaluable resources and expertise the INTERCEPT Task Force provides, with the support of Operation Light Shine, to protect the most vulnerable in our society.

Andrew Ryan Wilkinson, a registered sexual offender in Florida, attempted to use technology to mask his identity and continue exploiting children, even after previously being arrested for crimes involving the exploitation of children and other violent offenses. Wilkinson was investigated for the possession and distribution of child sexual abuse material, among other crimes, and was subsequently arrested for these offenses, along with sex offender registration violations.

The INTERCEPT team was able to deploy senior expert investigators, advanced forensic software, digital forensic examiners, and a mobile forensic lab to the scene. This collaboration ensured a thorough and successful investigation.

The INTERCEPT Task Force is critically important because it brings together local, state, and federal partners to identify, investigate, and help stop the online exploitation of children before victims suffer further harm. By combining specialized training, advanced technology, and shared intelligence, INTERCEPT

Task Forces close jurisdictional gaps that offenders rely on to hide behind anonymity and online platforms. This coordinated approach allows investigators to respond faster, proactively identify offenders, rescue victims, and hold perpetrators accountable, while also providing consistent, victim-centered investigations. Ultimately, the INTERCEPT Task Force strengthens public safety by ensuring child exploitation cases are handled with the speed, expertise, and collaboration they have needed for decades.



Ryan Ellis
Detective, Clay County Sheriff's Office
INTERCEPT Task Force

LOOK INTO 2026

In 2026, we refuse to slow down because the fight against human trafficking and child exploitation demands that we push harder, go further, and do more.

Our mission is clear: rescue more victims, empower more law enforcement, and prevent exploitation and trafficking before it happens. This year, we are committed to expanding our reach by opening at least three new INTERCEPT Task Force locations, giving more agencies the resources they need to dismantle trafficking networks and bring justice to those most vulnerable.

PROPOSED NEW I.T.F. LOCATIONS

MISSISSIPPI

Jackson



FLORIDA

Tampa Bay



NEW YORK

Brooklyn



But our work doesn't stop there. Being present in the community and educating the public is just as critical as intervention. That's why we're expanding our education efforts to equip communities, schools, parents, and families with practical knowledge, helping them recognize risks, take action, and protect children before harm ever occurs.

This is a year of bold action, and we need you with us. Your continued support fuels these life-saving initiatives, expands our reach, and helps ensure that no child is left unprotected. Together, we will shine the light even brighter in 2026.



JOIN US

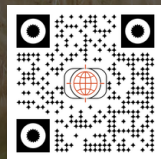
We envision a world where every person is safe from exploitation and trafficking, where children can grow up free from fear, and where law enforcement has the tools and support they need, regardless of financial limitations.

**Safety should never depend on funding.
It should be a right.**

At Operation Light Shine, our commitment to this mission has only deepened in 2025. Through your partnership, law enforcement is better equipped, communities are more prepared, and more children are protected from harm. Your support is not just appreciated, it is essential.

Thank you for standing with us throughout this year. Every resource provided, every relationship strengthened, and every step forward reflects the impact of your engagement in this work. As we step into 2026, we do so with momentum, clarity, and a deep conviction that this work must grow. The need is accelerating, and so is our commitment to meet it. The demand for INTERCEPT support now exceeds our current funding capacity, which means the year ahead will define how many additional communities we can equip, empower, and protect. The opportunity before us is significant, and so is the responsibility.

OPERATION LIGHT SHINE



THANK YOU

www.operationlightshine.org