

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-2488

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GOODYEAR, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA, RATIFYING THE CONDITIONAL APPROVAL AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR FY 2026 ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY ANTI HUMAN TRAFFICKING GRANT.

WHEREAS, on August 18, 2025, the Mayor granted conditional approval to submit an application for grant funding with the Arizona Department of Public Safety to request funding for overtime and equipment to support anti trafficking activity, contingent upon approval by the Goodyear City Council.

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City to apply for Department of Public Safety grant funds for anti-human trafficking task force personnel and equipment; and

WHEREAS, there is no match required from the city and pursuit of this grant is to the benefit of the citizens of the City of Goodyear

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GOODYEAR, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Manager, or designee, is hereby authorized to submit an application to the Arizona Department of Public Safety for an amount not to exceed \$210,000.

SECTION 2. If the grant application is awarded, the City will enter into a Grant Agreement/ with the County to implement the projects or programs that have been approved by the County.

SECTION 3. The City Manager, or designee, is hereby authorized to execute all documents relating to these applications and any grant offer resulting from such applications.

SECTION 4. If grant funds are awarded to the City of Goodyear, the City Council hereby approves necessary budget transfers in the amount of the awarded funds.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Goodyear, Maricopa County, Arizona, by a _____ vote, this 8th day of September, 2025.

Joe Pizzillo, Mayor

Date: _____

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Jasmine Pernicano, City Clerk

Roric Massey, City Attorney



August 26, 2025

Arizona Department of Public Safety
222 W Encanto Blvd.
Phoenix, AZ 85009

Re: Goodyear Police Department Anti-Human Trafficking Grant Application

The Goodyear Police Department is formally submitting a request for Anti-Trafficking Grant Funds to be used for the 2026 fiscal year. We are requesting the amount of \$210,000.00 in support of our ongoing and expanded efforts to prevent, identify, and respond to incidents of human trafficking in the city of Goodyear.

The City of Goodyear is experiencing rapid growth and with it the amount of human trafficking cases are increasing. In 2024, the Detectives worked 95 cases and are trending to meet or exceed that in 2025. The Department is increasing enforcement efforts, including hosting and participating in operations in the City of Goodyear and valley metropolitan area.

If the Goodyear Police Department receives the requested funding, the department will increase its ability to respond, impact, and disrupt human trafficking regionally in four specific categories: Targeting Human/Sex Traffickers, Recovering Victims of Human Trafficking, Training, Increased Technology and Intelligence Sources.

The City of Goodyear thanks the Arizona Department of Public Safety for its consideration in submission of funding for the Anti-Human Trafficking funding opportunity.

Sincerely,

GOODYEAR POLICE DEPARTMENT

Brian Issitt

Chief of Police

11 North 145th Avenue
Goodyear, AZ 85338
P. 623-932-1220

Arizona Department of Public Safety

Anti-Human Trafficking Grant Fund

Project Title:

**Goodyear Police Department, Human Exploitation and Trafficking Focused
Enforcement**

Anti-Human Trafficking and Subsequent Prosecution

Executive Summary:

City of Goodyear Police Department (GYPD) Criminal Investigation Bureau would like to utilize funds from the Anti-Human Trafficking Grant Fund, per Arizona Revised Statutes 26-106, to assist the Goodyear Police Department in increasing the enforcement efforts of Detectives in crimes directly relating to human trafficking in the City of Goodyear and valley metropolitan area. The Goodyear Police Department does not currently have a unit dedicated to such investigations and therefore focus is spread among multiple offenses.

Should the Goodyear Police Department receive the requested funding, the bureau's ability to respond, impact, and disrupt human trafficking regionally would be enhanced in four specific categories: Targeting Human/Sex Traffickers, Recovering Victims of Human Trafficking, Training, Increased Technology and Intelligence Sources.

Project Title:

Goodyear Police Department, Human Exploitation and Trafficking Focused Enforcement Fund

Participating Agency:

City of Goodyear Police Department (GYPD)

Project Abstract / Scope of Work:

City of Goodyear Police Department (GYPD) will utilize funds from the 2024 AZ SB 1724 Anti-Human Trafficking Grant to assist the bureau in reducing human trafficking in the City of Goodyear and Phoenix Valley Metropolitan area by enhancing training, targeting human/sex traffickers, attempting to recover victims of human trafficking, and utilizing new investigative technology and equipment.

Current Capabilities:

The Goodyear Police Department does not currently have a unit that specifically targets criminal activity/ educational issues related to Human Trafficking, however two detectives are assigned to assist the West Valley Sex Trafficking Task Force. This funding would supplement these detectives and assist with the training and equipment needed and provide additional enforcement/ investigative opportunities.

The intended Detectives that would be responsible for the activities contained in this request have over 19 years of sworn law enforcement experience each and have been involved in the enforcement of Human Trafficking efforts for approximately three years.

Currently, the Goodyear Police Special Victim's Unit is tasked with any human/ sex-trafficking investigations on top of their regular case load which included child and adult sex crimes. This negates the ability for these detectives to engage in proactive investigative activities during their normally assigned shifts.

Training for human/ sex-trafficking topics would be expanded to other Detectives in the bureau. The funding would assist with additional training that cannot be supported with the fiscal year 2025 departmental budget.

Thus far, the mentioned detectives have been proactive in seeking training and involving themselves in valley-wide operations with neighboring agencies which has led to their being requested to assist in multiple operations to include both in the Valley Metropolitan area as well as assisting to train agencies outside of Arizona.

Justifications:

The Goodyear Police Department's Human Trafficking focused detectives, have a full-time case load separate from any human trafficking related enforcement. This requires the detectives to use overtime funding to support all proactive investigative operations. Funding overtime will enable the detectives to broaden its impact without hiring additional personnel.

Key Points:

1. Purpose of personnel Funding:

- Personnel funding is crucial for the Detective's and its support staff to fulfill essential duties, including:
 - Responding to complaints and tips
 - Conducting surveillance and investigations
 - Carrying out enforcement operations
- Flexible scheduling allows for unconventional hours, ensuring dedicated efforts to assist victims in escaping trafficking situations.

2. Training and Professional Development:

- Investigating human trafficking is complex; travel to various jurisdictions is often necessary to:
 - Gain insights into trafficking trends and effective investigative techniques.
 - Collaboration with neighboring, regional and national enforcement partners.
 - Ensure that Arizona's anti-trafficking measures meet national standards.
- Ongoing training for detectives keeps them informed about the latest trends and best practices in victim-centered investigations.

3. Increasing Human Trafficking Statistics:

- The National Human Trafficking Hotline reported for 2024, 155,819 signals identifying 7,693 victims, 550 specifically identified as being in Arizona.
- Arizona ranked 12th in the U.S. for the number of human trafficking cases with projections indicating further growth in trafficking issues.
- The city of Goodyear and its neighboring municipalities face heightened trafficking risks due to Arizona's rapid growth and its border status. Since the most recent census, Goodyear's population alone has grown by 23.79%.

4. Vulnerabilities in Arizona:

- Various risk factors in Arizona contribute to heightened susceptibility to human trafficking, such as:
 - Recent migration or relocation
 - Substance abuse
 - Homelessness, including a significant number of runaway youths
 - Mental health challenges
 - Involvement in the child welfare system

5. Concerns About Homelessness:

- The state has experienced a substantial homeless population, with over 27,000 individuals counted in 2023 (PIT study- HUD), including 70% that are unsheltered and around 2,900 under the age of 18.
- The combination of homelessness, public health concerns related to substance abuse and mental health, alongside Arizona's proximity to an international border (approximately 389 miles), make it a prime target for traffickers seeking vulnerable individuals.

Additional:

- Addressing the complexities of human trafficking investigations requires law enforcement personnel to travel between jurisdictions to learn about trafficking trends and methodologies for victim assistance. This travel also ensures that Arizona's anti-trafficking efforts meet the highest standards.
- Provide the GYPD Detective's with software that mitigates investigators' exposure to graphic content typically encountered during these cases. Notably, electronic devices of arrested sex buyers often contain CSAM, highlighting the overlap between these crimes. Currently GYPD relies on external partners to employ software to efficiently process vast amounts of data related to child sexual abuse material (CSAM) and juvenile trafficking investigations.
- Updated forensic equipment will assist in sex trafficking investigations by enabling the extraction of data from victims' cell phones and digital devices without impeding the victim's ability to communicate. This victim-centered approach allows individuals to maintain access to their devices while facilitating crucial data collection for ongoing investigations.
- The Detective's intend to facilitate outreach presentations at schools and community groups to raise awareness and educate the public about sex trafficking. Community engagement handouts will be used during these presentations to promote awareness and educate residents about sex trafficking and the efforts of the Detective's, including information about the Arizona Human Trafficking Tipline.
- Binoculars are among the necessary equipment in use; they enable monitoring of live operations, enhancing the safety of detectives and officers while aiding in evidence gathering.

Conclusion:

Securing the requested funding is vital for the Detective's, as it enhances law enforcement's capacity to combat human trafficking in Goodyear and surrounding areas. This funding will assist in the protection and support of some of the community's most vulnerable members.

Goals, Objectives and Performance Metrics:

Goals

The Goodyear Detective's are committed to combating human trafficking and making a positive impact on the community. To enhance its efforts, the Detective's are seeking support from the Anti-Human Trafficking Grant Fund. The following goals outline how the requested funds will be utilized:

- Increase the number of hours dedicated to investigating and prosecuting traffickers involved in both adult and child sex trafficking.
- Improve the Detective's capacity to locate and recover juvenile victims of sex trafficking by implementing advanced training and innovative investigative techniques.
- Provide funding for out-of-state training for investigators to gain new insights and techniques relevant to their work.
- Equip detectives with the latest technology and tools necessary to enhance their investigative efforts and preserve evidence.
- Obtain accurate statistics on the demand for commercial sex in the Goodyear Area by targeting buyers in areas known for prostitution.

Objectives

The funds sought will contribute to the Detective's objectives in addressing human trafficking, focusing on the following four areas:

1. Targeting human/sex traffickers
2. Recovering victims of human trafficking
3. Training initiatives
4. Advancing technology and intelligence sources

Performance Metrics

The Goodyear Police Department is committed to continuously assessing the effectiveness of the Anti-Human Trafficking Grant Funds. To monitor and evaluate the impact of the requested funding, a quarterly spreadsheet will be maintained to document the following metrics:

- Number of new human trafficking-related cases opened
- Number of arrests made for juvenile/adult sex traffickers
- Number of arrests of individuals soliciting sex
- Number of juvenile victims of sex trafficking recovered
- Total hours dedicated to human trafficking investigations
- Total training hours funded by the grant

Purchases, training and travel expenses will be tracked through the City's procurement and financial systems.

Priorities and Initiatives:

Strategies

The Detective's plan to continue its enforcement and investigative activities in 2025/2026, focusing on the targeting of sex buyers and the recovery of victims. A key area for improvement will be the identification and arrest of human traffickers, who are often the driving force behind the demand for commercial sex. These individuals can be easily overlooked due to the complexities of trafficking investigations. Recognizing that traffickers/ buyers are at the root of the human trafficking issue, the unit's primary goal is to focus on these perpetrators to reduce their capacity for future recruitment and victimization.

In 2024, 1,121 posted sex buyer ads were located for the Goodyear area. To date in 2025, there have been 1,500 ads posted for the Goodyear area, in half the time. To combat this growing issue, Detective's S. Angel and J. Johnston worked with the West Valley Sex Trafficking Task Force, conducting 7 operations in the Goodyear and surrounding areas, resulting in 90 arrests with additional outreach/ non-enforcement contacts.

Moving forward, the Detective's aims to build upon these past efforts by increasing both its contacts with suspected human traffickers and the number of confirmed arrests. This will be achieved through targeted operations that focus on surveillance and the development of probable cause against suspected traffickers. With the adoption of new investigation

techniques learned from training funded by the receipt of this grant, we expect to see a measurable rise in the number of arrests and successful prosecutions of human traffickers.

To support these efforts, funding for personnel overtime will be allocated to organize, coordinate, and execute both overt and covert operations, as well as surveillance operations aimed at recovering victims from human traffickers. This funding will also facilitate the necessary training, equipment, and supplies essential for achieving the Detectives' objectives.

Expected Results:

The Detective's, along with its supporting law enforcement personnel, aims to expand its presence in the Goodyear and metropolitan area through enhanced enforcement and investigation activities related to human trafficking during this grant cycle. This increase in activities is expected to lead to measurable improvements in several key areas:

- Contacts and arrests of human/sex traffickers
- Contacts and arrests of suspected human/sex traffickers
- Prosecutions of human/sex traffickers
- Contacts and rescues of victims of human/sex trafficking
- Contacts and arrests of commercial sex buyers

The effectiveness of these efforts will be easily measurable by comparing data from 2025 to that of 2026. Additionally, the anticipated benefits from training sessions attended by unit personnel, along with the acquisition of investigative software and necessary equipment, will provide the Detective's with valuable resources to enhance its fight against human trafficking in the Goodyear area. Together, these critical components, along with increased man-hours dedicated to enforcement, will support the overall objectives of this grant cycle.

Budget Summary:

Personnel	\$120,000
Fringe Benefits	
Training Registration	\$5,000
Travel	\$15,000
Equipment	\$65,000
Supplies	\$5,000
Procurement Contracts	
Instruction	
Total Budget	\$210,000

Budget Narrative:

Personnel / Fringe:

The Detective's intends to leverage the 2024 AZ SB 1724 Anti-Human Trafficking Grant to support the efforts of detectives, analysts, and victim advocates within the Goodyear Police Department during investigations specifically aimed at human traffickers. The primary objective of the Detective's is to tackle human trafficking in the Goodyear metropolitan area by addressing its root cause—human traffickers. These investigations will focus on identifying, targeting, and successfully prosecuting traffickers to prevent them from recruiting and victimizing more individuals.

As part of our efforts to target human traffickers, the Detective's will also work to identify, locate, and recover victims of human trafficking. Upon their rescue, detectives will ensure that victims receive holistic, victim-centered, and trauma-informed services through the connected victim-centered resources such as the dream center and other local resources, along with support from the embedded victim advocate.

Training:

The Detective's will allocate funds from the grant to provide detectives and support staff with opportunities for nationally accredited training on current human trafficking trends, prevention strategies, new investigative techniques, and prosecutorial processes. This grant allows the Detective's and support staff to attend key conferences, including the 2026 Anti-Trafficking Conference in San Diego, CA, the 2026 Crimes Against Children Conference in Dallas, TX, and the 2026 International Association of Human Trafficking Investigators in Florida.

Travel: The Detective's will utilize funds for lodging and travel costs associated with the out-of-state training conferences.

Equipment:

Tablets (2) Lenovo Yoga Tab plus \$549.99 ea. Plus cases. (\$1200 est total)

- **Description:** Equipped with keyboards, pencils, and protective cases.
- **Purpose:** Enables investigators to access digital resources in the field for notetaking, social media engagement, and utilizing contemporary digital investigative techniques.

Laptops (2) Acer Swift 14 AI \$1,199.99 ea plus cases (\$2800 est total)

- **Description:** Latest model laptops.
- **Purpose:** Provides investigators with advanced technology for online investigations and facilitates the merging of field notes with digital documentation. Being able to be mobile and have access to document and research is a requirement.

Android Phones (2) Galaxy/ Windows brand, price is dependent on carrier, \$800-1200 ea. (\$2000 est total)

- **Description:** Latest Android devices and associated service provider.

- **Purpose:** Required for accessing many social media platforms and applications, ensuring investigators use the most current technology available.

Tables, Chairs, and Equipment price varies (\$1500 est total)

- **Description:** Basic furniture and supplies.
- **Purpose:** Enhances safety, security, and education for volunteers, victims, and the community. Provides necessary materials for law enforcement and social service providers, reducing reliance on individual agencies to provide their own equipment.

Props and Bags price varies (\$2000 est total)

- **Description:** Props for staging operations and bags for transportation.
- **Purpose:** Essential for staging hotel rooms, apartments, or homes during operations. Items include clothing, sensual items, luggage, lighting, and other equipment, as the current Detective's lacks suitable luggage for transporting these items.

Outreach Merchandise pricing varies (\$2500 est cost)

- **Description:** Community engagement items for presentations.
- **Purpose:** Used during outreach presentations at schools and community groups to raise awareness about sex trafficking and educate the public about the Detective's work. Items designed for juveniles and promoting the Arizona Human Trafficking tipline.

Uber Gift Card (\$1000 est total)

- **Description:** Prepaid Uber transportation cards.
- **Purpose:** Facilitates transportation for victims of human sex trafficking, allowing GYPD investigators to assist both victims and offenders through transportation options. Without this we would otherwise not be able to facilitate contact with victims/ other involved parties.

Binoculars with Phone Scope Technology (2 set)

Vortex Viper HD 8x42, \$720.00 list price (est \$1440 total)

- **Description:** Optical binoculars compatible with smartphone cameras.
- **Purpose:** Used by undercover detectives to observe suspects from a distance without detection. The phone scope allows for capturing photos and videos for evidentiary purposes.

Digital Camera (2)

Sony Cyber-Shot RX10 IV \$2,100-2,600 ea (\$4400 est total)

- **Description:** Latest model digital camera with extended zoom capability.
- **Purpose:** Used by undercover detectives to observe suspects from a distance without detection, allowing for digital documentation of suspected human trafficking activities.

Traffic Jam Subscription cost unknown

- **Description:** Digital research and investigative tool
- **Purpose:** Used by undercover detectives to collect data and identify trends, connections and produce leads to assist in investigation, apprehension and prosecution of suspects as well as identification and recovery of victims.

Crime-lite Auto imaging device (approximate cost \$45,000)

- **Description:** Compact full spectrum imaging tool
- **Purpose:** to facilitate the detection and capture of physical evidence related to sex-related crimes, to include the transfer or bodily fluid not otherwise visible to the investigative evidence collector.