

# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

## PARTIES

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter “MOU”) is entered into by and between the following prosecuting authorities:

- The State Attorney in and for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit (hereinafter “SAO11”), and
- Attorney General’s Office of Statewide Prosecution (hereinafter “OSP”).

SAO11 is participating in this MOU on its own behalf and in its capacity as the lead agency of the Human Trafficking Task Force (hereinafter “HTTF”), which includes member law enforcement agencies in need of resources to prevent, deter, investigate, and prosecute human trafficking. The language below sets forth the legal justification and administrative infrastructure for OSP’s participation in and support of the HTTF, including the provision of financial resources, and details how investigations and prosecutions arising out of this agreement shall be distributed between and among the prosecuting authorities above.

## JUSTIFICATION

WHEREAS, the Legislature has found that “human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery” and “victims of human trafficking are young children, teenagers, and adults.” Section 787.06(1)(a), Florida Statutes (2025).

WHEREAS, the Legislature has found that many human trafficking victims “are trafficked into this state.” Section 787.06(1)(a), Florida Statutes (2025).

WHEREAS, “[i]t is the intent of the Legislature that the perpetrators of human trafficking be penalized for their illegal conduct.” Section 787.06(1)(d), Florida Statutes (2025).

WHEREAS, human trafficking constitutes a serious and ongoing public safety threat in the State of Florida and throughout the United States.

WHEREAS, human traffickers often operate in organized networks or coordinated enterprises designed to generate substantial profit through the commercial exploitation of individuals, including minors.

WHEREAS, large scale sporting, entertainment, and political public events create increased risk and opportunity for human traffickers to commercially exploit individuals due to heightened demand, transient populations, and resource strain, necessitating coordinated prevention, intelligence sharing, victim-centered response, and prosecutorial collaboration among the members of the HTTF, SAO11, and OSP to deter, prevent, investigate, and prosecute human trafficking crimes.

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County has been chosen to host a series of sporting, entertainment, and political events in 2026, including:

- The World Baseball Classic March 5 to March 17
- The Miami Open March 16 to March 29
- Ultra Music Festival March 27 to March 29
- The PGA Tour April 29 to May 3
- The F1 Miami Grand Prix May 1 to May 3
- The FIFA World Cup June 15 to July 18
- The NASCAR Cup Series Championship November 6 to November 8
- The G20 Summit December 14 to December 15

WHEREAS, the FIFA World Cup 2026 Miami Host Committee has asked SAO11 to lead human trafficking awareness, education, and enforcement campaigns/operations.

WHEREAS, SAO11 is the lead agency of the HTTF and is responsible for the coordination and implementation of proactive law enforcement strategies aimed at deterrence, prevention, investigation, and prosecution of human trafficking and related offenses.

WHEREAS, the HTTF and SAO11 require substantial investigative, prosecutorial, and support resources to effectively address and manage the anticipated increase in human trafficking offenses associated with large-scale events.

WHEREAS, SAO11 has requested that the Attorney General of the State of Florida provide the HTTF with assistance to deter, prevent, investigate, and prosecute this anticipated increase in human trafficking crimes.

WHEREAS, it is part of OSP's mandate to "cooperate with and assist state attorneys and state and local law enforcement officials in their efforts against organized crime." Section 16.56(1)(d), Florida Statutes (2025).

NOW, THEREFORE, OSP has agreed to provide prosecutorial support and resources to SAO11 and the HTTF with the goal of deterring, preventing, investigating, and prosecuting the anticipated increase in human trafficking cases and related

organized crimes in and around the Eleventh Judicial Circuit due to these large sporting, entertainment, and political events planned for 2026. The parties to this agreement shall be governed as described below.

## **ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES**

### The State Attorney in and for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit:

- Shall accept OSP as a member of the HTTF and shall utilize prosecutors and victim advocates provided by OSP to further the HTTF's mission relating to the prevention, deterrence, investigation, and prosecution of human trafficking and related organized crimes.
- Agrees to specially designate any qualified Assistant Statewide Prosecutors to serve in the capacity of Assistant State Attorneys as may be necessary to fulfill the mission of the HTTF.
- Shall spend funds provided by OSP under this MOU for expenses incurred by the HTTF for activities arising after the effective date of the MOU until its termination that are reasonably related to the deterrence, prevention, investigation, and prosecution of human trafficking and related organized crimes, including without limitation: (a) human trafficking awareness campaigns; (b) costs of investigations; (c) operational costs; (d) travel and hotel costs; and (e) equipment costs needed for such investigations and prosecutions.
- Until the termination of this MOU, every sixty days, SAO11 shall provide to OSP detailed reports of the amounts expended by SAO11 and any member of the HTTF with a description of how the expenses are reasonably related to the deterrence, prevention, investigation, and prosecution of human trafficking and related organized crimes.
- Upon termination of this MOU, SAO11 shall return any unobligated funds that were provided by OSP.

### The Florida Attorney General's Office of Statewide Prosecution:

- Shall participate as a member of the HTTF. Such participation shall continue beyond the termination of this MOU and shall include providing Assistant Statewide Prosecutors and victim advocate services to assist with HTTF investigations and prosecutions; however, the Attorney General may discontinue OSP's participation in the HTTF at his discretion.

- Agrees to specially designate any qualified Assistant State Attorneys in and for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit as Assistant Statewide Prosecutors as may be necessary to fulfill the mission of the HTTF.
- Shall pay the total sum of \$1.5 million to SAO11 in one installment of \$600,000 for fiscal year 2025-26 and a second installment of \$900,000 for fiscal year 2026-27 for activities of the HTTF that are reasonably related to the deterrence, prevention, investigation, and prosecution of human trafficking and related organized crimes arising after the effective date of this MOU until its termination. OSP's obligation to pay is contingent on the availability of sufficient funds.
- Shall review the reports provided by SAO11 of the expenditures made by SAO11 and the HTTF pursuant to this MOU and may: (a) require additional documentation of such expenditures, if necessary, and (b) seek reimbursement of any cost that is not reasonably related to the deterrence, prevention, investigation, and prosecution of human trafficking and related organized crimes arising from the effective date of this MOU to its termination or is otherwise not allowed by law. Such determination shall be at the sole discretion of the Statewide Prosecutor.

## **OTHER TERMS**

### Effective Date:

- This MOU shall become effective upon its execution by the Attorney General, SAO11, and the Statewide Prosecutor. The funds provided by OSP may not be used for any expenses incurred by SAO11 or any HTTF member prior to the effective date of this MOU.

### Amendment:

- This MOU may be amended at any time by agreement of OSP and SAO11.

### Termination:

- This MOU shall terminate on December 31, 2026.

- Either SAO11 or OSP may elect to terminate this MOU at any time prior to its termination and for any reason by providing fifteen (15) days written notice to the other party.

ON BEHALF OF:

**JAMES UTHMEIER**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

 DATE: 2/20/26

**KATHERINE FERNANDEZ-RUNDLE**  
STATE ATTORNEY IN AND FOR THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

 DATE: 2/20/26

**BRADLEY R. MCVAY**  
STATEWIDE PROSECUTOR

 DATE: 2/20/26