## **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Chief Kipp Shimpeno

FROM:

John J. Hearn, Assistant City Attorney

RE:

Use of Law Enforcement Trust Funds for A Child is Missing Program

DATE:

October 26, 2021

You have asked whether Law Enforcement Trust Funds could be used to donate \$5,000.00 to the "A Child is Missing" Program. A Child is Missing, Inc. is a nationwide non-profit organization that helps law enforcement agencies locate missing children, elderly persons, students, and the disabled. This system has been used to find children and the elderly that have become victims of abduction and other crimes. Florida forfeiture law requires agencies to expend at least twenty five percent (25%) of its proceeds from forfeiture to support the operation of organizations involved in crime prevention and safe neighborhood programs. As a result, this program would appear to be consistent with Florida forfeiture law as it addresses both crime prevention and safe neighborhoods, consistent with the requirements of state law. Therefore, upon certification by the Chief that he has found these funds to be consistent with Chapter 932 of the Florida Statutes, and upon approval by the City Commission, the requested funds may be donated to A Child is Missing, Inc.

As always, if you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

JJH:dlw

cc: Samuel S. Goren, City Attorney