



## Child Sex Trafficking Case Resources for Law Enforcement

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children®, known as NCMEC, currently has six full-time analysts within the Child Sex Trafficking Team known as CSTT, two Missing Child Case Management teams and a Child Sex Trafficking Specialist **dedicated** to supporting law enforcement working to identify and recover children victimized through sex trafficking. This comprehensive approach provides analysis, technical assistance, victim support services and case management to **support** law enforcement in their efforts to recover victims and build strong cases against individuals involved in trafficking children.

### Hours of operation:

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, Eastern time:

- 24/7 on-call availability for urgent and after hours requests.
- Technical assistance available after hours for large special law enforcement operations when coordinated in advance.

**Contact information:** [CSTTreporting@ncmec.org](mailto:CSTTreporting@ncmec.org) or  
1-800-THE-LOST® (1-800-843-5678)

### Analytical tools and data sources:

**Accurint™** by LexisNexis

**CLEAR** by Thompson Reuters

**iTact** by Neustar®

**JusticeXchange™** by Appriss®

**LexisNexis™ Law Enforcement Solutions**

**TLOxp™** by TLO

**NCIC/NCIC III/NCIC Offline/Nlets**

**License Plate Reader Data**

**Social networking sites**

**Email searches**

**NCMEC's missing children database**

**CyberTipline® reports**

**Sex Offender Registries**

**Timeline Maker™ Professional**

### Child sex trafficking case resources:

**Missing children** - Law enforcement calling 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678) to report a missing child, who is younger than 18 and a possible victim of sex trafficking, will have access to multiple dedicated child sex trafficking resources. Immediately upon receiving the report a Case Management Team will coordinate the creation and dissemination of posters to help generate tips and leads, while the CSTT analyst will conduct comprehensive searches for all information provided about the potential victim, companions or potential offender. As the missing child or endangered runaway case continues to develop, NCMEC's case manager will follow up with law enforcement, the legal guardian and/or social services while working with NCMEC's more than 300 corporate photo partners to disseminate a poster for that child to targeted geographic areas. All new information developed through communication with the child's parents or guardians or leads called in associated with the posters will be provided to the investigating law enforcement agency. Continuous analytical support is available to law enforcement throughout their investigation regarding any potential traffickers who may be exploiting the child as well as once the child is recovered.

**Request information** - Law enforcement can email or call CSTT to request analytical support about any information relevant to a child sex trafficking case regardless of whether it involves a currently missing child. Common requests for information, known as RFIs, include search requests for potential suspect names or aliases identified by law enforcement, unique tattoos, link analysis about child sex trafficking victims/potential victims, telephone numbers/addresses, online postings. Biographical reports about potential suspects identified by law enforcement and victims involved in child sex trafficking are also available. These reports include timeline and mapping resources based on an individual's NCIC offline history, showing potential travel patterns and historical law enforcement interest in an individual.

**Link analysis** - NCMEC is the national clearinghouse for both missing and sexually exploited children, which gives CSTT the unique ability to connect potential victims and offenders in multiple states or locations by leveraging the information available in missing child cases and CyberTipline reports. Since traffickers can be transient, this link analysis resource can be helpful in connecting information about both potential victims and offenders to other ongoing cases, as well as other missing children. Searches can also be conducted as a means of deconfliction. Details about these searches are below:

**CyberTipline** - This online reporting mechanism was created as a way for the public and electronic service providers to report incidents of child sexual exploitation. CSTT analysts process more than 900 reports a month pertaining to possible child sex trafficking and provide the reports to law enforcement for potential investigation. CSTT analysts are able to search prior reports to identify matches based on telephone numbers, suspect names, screen names and email addresses.

**Missing children database** - CSTT analysts are able to search prior cases for additional possible victims and/or suspects. Missing child photos can also be compared to images of child victims posted online in an effort to link these cases. This is another important reason to report missing and sexually exploited children to NCMEC as it can help law enforcement recover and provide insight about past and current missing children cases.

**Victim service support** - The Child Sex Trafficking Specialist can provide assistance with victim services planning both before and after recovery. Child sex trafficking recoveries can be complex due to potential factors such as a child's abuse history, trauma bonds with an abuser and involvement with multiple systems such as social and juvenile services. The Child Sex Trafficking Specialist can assist with system advocacy, such as within the child welfare and juvenile justice systems, in situations when the trafficked child does not have a family to return to following recovery.

**Family advocacy** - NCMEC's Family Advocacy Division, known as FAD, provides specialized support to the family members of children who are missing or sexually exploited. Staffed by master-level trained mental health and child welfare professionals, FAD proactively helps families, law enforcement, social service agencies and mental health agencies by providing a support network for child victims and their families both while the child is missing as well as after the child is recovered.

**Family support** - Team HOPE, which stands for Help Offering Parents Empowerment, is a program of NCMEC offering peer support for families with missing or sexually exploited children. Team HOPE matches families with experienced and trained volunteers who have also experienced a missing or sexually exploited child incident in their own family.

**For more information about NCMEC, visit [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com).**