

Bringing Counterintelligence to the Forefront of Human Trafficking  
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## FIRST ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

*We are pleased to bring you the first edition of Shadows of Strength's annual newsletter. As an organization dedicated to combatting human trafficking, we want to update you on our recent activities and share our plans for the future.*

### What We Have Been Up To:

First, we are proud to introduce our all-female board team at Shadows of Strength, consisting of individuals with extensive backgrounds in national security, military intelligence and operations, and business:

Founder and CEO: **Brandi Mitchell**

Chief Operating Officer: **Chelsea Hall**

Director of Counterintelligence & Threat  
Analysis: **Laissha Correa**

Director of Investigations and Operations: **Sarah  
McManus**

Director of Emergency Protection & Crisis  
Management: **Stephanie Prentice**

Together, our Board and Team Members

bring a diverse range of skills and knowledge to Shadows of Strength. We are committed to using our collective expertise to make a meaningful impact in combatting human trafficking and supporting survivors.

Within Shadows of Strength's first year, we have helped locate three high risk human trafficking victims. We have also listened to Victims, Survivors, and Family Members of whose loved ones are missing or are victims of Human Trafficking to gather intelligence on trafficking networks.

Our Team was also donated an amazing office space from one of SoS's Partners. Having a dedicated office space to conduct meetings can significantly support our efforts in combating human trafficking. It can provide a central location for team members to collaborate, plan actions, and strategize effectively. Utilizing the space for meetings ensures that important discussions take place in a professional environment conducive to brainstorming and decision-making. This type of infrastructure is crucial for organization, coordination, and ultimately making a greater impact in our fight against human trafficking.

Shadows of Strength donated to and found the time to support other non-profits. These non-profits include The Secret Place Home, Future Stars Sports Clinic, HER Foundation, Women Who Do Wonders, and Set Free Refuge.

Journey:

Our journey has been filled with both challenges and triumphs as we embarked on our mission to combat human trafficking.

One of the key insights we gained early on was the gap that existed between local and federal law enforcement agencies and survivors of human trafficking. This gap hindered effective communication and coordination, making it more difficult to provide the necessary support and assistance.

In response, we developed an investigative victim-centered approach, ensuring that survivors were at the forefront of our efforts.

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<p>To enhance our capabilities, we leveraged cutting-edge technology and intelligence gathering techniques, such as OSNIT (Open Source Network Intelligence), HUMIT (Human Intelligence), GeoSpatial Analysis, and Operations.</p> <p>These tools allowed us to collect valuable information and intelligence, enabling us to locate Human Trafficking Victims, and identify and</p>	<p>But our work didn't stop at investigation and intelligence gathering. We also recognized the importance of empowering survivors and helping them rebuild their lives.</p> <p>To this end, we started a partnership with Alpha Female Tactical to provide free concealed carry weapon (CCW) classes to survivors.</p>
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target key players in the trafficking networks.	By teaching them self-defense and equipping them with the tools to protect themselves, we aimed to empower these individuals to regain control over their lives and feel safe again.
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### Partnerships:

Furthermore, our efforts were not undertaken in isolation. We formed other partnerships with like-minded organizations such as Uncommon Valor, The Secret Place Home, Tappan Consulting, A&R Tinting, and B3 Milsim. By joining forces with these organizations, we were able to enhance our collective impact and work towards our shared goal of eradicating human trafficking.

### Donors & Volunteers:

Thank you to all our generous donors who supported us in our efforts to combat human trafficking over the past year. We would like to recognize the following donors who provided monetary donations, raffle items, and other support:

*Melvin Family (monthly donation)	*Cruisin' Tikis Destin *Fatboys *Props Brewery
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*American Legion Navarre and Niceville</li> <li>*Emerald Coast Harley Davidson</li> <li>*Emerald Grande at Harborwalk</li> <li>*The Outpost</li> <li>*Café Nola Defuniak</li> <li>*Black Rifle Coffee Company</li> <li>*St. Michael's Brewery</li> <li>*The Vine Bar</li> <li>*Rollins Distillery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Nicks Seafood Restaurant</li> <li>*KC Sandbar</li> <li>*The Shack</li> <li>*Twisted Grape Wine Bar and Café</li> <li>*Johnny Huston Grille &amp; Bar</li> <li>*The Ratchet Hatchet</li> <li>*Golf Tee</li> <li>* Ali's Bistro</li> </ul>
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Your contributions have made a significant impact in our fight against human trafficking. We are grateful for your support and commitment to this important cause. Thank you once again to all of our generous donors.

We want to express our sincere gratitude to all the volunteers who have stood by us and supported our events. Without your dedication and assistance, Shadows of Strength would not be able to successfully organize and host these important gatherings. Your contribution and commitment to our cause are greatly appreciated, and we cannot thank you enough for your selfless service. You are a vital part of our team, and we are truly grateful for your continued support.

### **Future:**

In the past year, we have seen an increase in awareness and understanding of human trafficking among the general public.

More people are becoming educated on the issue and are eager to join the fight against it. This gives us hope that we can make a real difference in ending this heinous crime.

One of the highlights for the next year will be hosting The Human Trafficking Training Center in Pensacola. This is free training to law enforcement and other agencies and non-profits that combat human trafficking. By equipping these organizations with the knowledge and tools they need, we are arming them to effectively address human trafficking in their communities.

Looking ahead, we are also excited to announce that we will be expanding our efforts by establishing Steel Arc Security, LLC. This additional arm of our organization will provide even more resources and support in combating human trafficking. We believe that this expansion will allow us to have an even greater impact in the fight against this crime.

### **How to Support SoS:**

We greatly appreciate your generosity in considering making a donation to support our team's efforts in combating human trafficking. Your monetary contributions and any other form of support, such as: laptops, ipads, phones, printer, monitors, etc. are vital to our mission. To make a donation, please visit our website at <https://shadowsofstrength.org> or check our social media accounts for more information. You can also email us at [info@shadowsofstrength.org](mailto:info@shadowsofstrength.org) if you have any questions or

would like further assistance. Thank you again for your consideration and support!

***As we move into the new year, we remain committed to our mission of eradicating human trafficking. With the continued support of our community and partners, we are confident that we can make meaningful progress in the fight against this injustice. We are grateful for all that has been accomplished in the past year and look forward to the work that lies ahead. Together, we can shine a light on the shadows of strength and make a lasting difference in the lives of those affected by human trafficking. Thank you for your support, and we look forward to our continued journey together.***

**If you or someone you know is affected by human trafficking, please reach out to our team for assistance. Your safety and well-being are our top priorities.**

**From:** Brandi Mitchell <BrandiMitchell@shadowsofstrength.org>

**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 at 8:43 AM

**To:** bmittchell@steelarcsecurity.com <bmittchell@steelarcsecurity.com>

**Subject:** <no subject>



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