

CHILD ID COMMITTEE PROGRAM 2023-2024

My Brothers:

The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Florida began the Florida Masonic Child ID Program in 1997. Since then, we have provided thousands of free child identification kits to families throughout our state. These kits were intended to compile vital information for parents to provide law enforcement should it be needed for a missing or lost child investigation.

In the year ahead our Child ID Program must change. Twenty-five (25) years ago the hottest technology were things like Flip Phones, Palm Pilots, and DVD players. It was once a valuable service when we provided a parent with a VHS tape recording of their child. Technology is moving ahead much faster than we can hope to keep up; the utility of CD discs and thumb drives has even diminished.

Your Grand Lodge believes that keeping child safety an important priority is necessary. We are investigating the best strategies to provide parents and caregivers valuable safety information. It is hoped that we can forge effective partnerships this year to promote that ambition. The information and products we promote must be ultimately useful to law enforcement or they have little value to the community at large.

A drastic change in our Child ID Program is necessary and underway. The program relied on the hard work of many volunteers and that will not change. We are in a dramatic transition phase, changing the way our efforts are organized. Thank you to so many that have worked so hard in the past; we thank those whose efforts will move us forward and on behalf of everyone involved with Child ID this year thank you to M.:W.: Glen B. Bishop, Grand Master, for the opportunity to serve our Fraternity.

Sincerely and Fraternaly Yours,

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