

Tim Ballard

Senior Advisor, The SPEAR Fund

Tim Ballard spent over a decade working as a Special Agent for the Department of Homeland Security, where he was assigned to the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force as an undercover operative—helping dismantle child trafficking rings in the US and multiple foreign countries.

He began his job working to rescue children from sexual slavery and exploitation when the U.S. Government was just starting to form the first anti-human trafficking units.

As an undercover operative, he would assume the fictitious role of a pedophile or child trafficker to infiltrate trafficking rings, gaining the incriminating evidence needed to initiate arrests and other legal actions against the perpetrators. In this role Tim successfully helped dismantle dozens of these organizations over ten years.

Despite a decade of rescuing children at Homeland Security, Tim felt more could be done in this fight by private organizations. He realized that a private, non-profit organization, working hand-in-hand with governments and law enforcement, could take anti-trafficking efforts to a whole new level—saving many more children.

Tim retired from his government job in 2013 and started Operation Underground Railroad to continue his work.

He is now a Senior Advisor in Rescue Operations for The SPEAR Fund, an innovative organization that funds and collaborates with a coalition of experts, organizations, and concerned citizens from around the globe, working in unison to end human trafficking in our time.