

TLP CLEAR – DISSEMINATION UNLIMITED



IN OBSCURA LLC
THREAT INTELLIGENCE – SECURITY COUNTERMEASURES- INVESTIGATIONS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA
<https://inobscura.org/>

Judges 6:12 ESV And the angel of the Lord appeared to him and said to him, “The Lord is with you, O mighty man of valor.”

IN OBSCURA NEWS FOR 25 OCT 2025

KNOW THE TARGET – WATCH THE TARGET – LOOK DEEPER -EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

CAVEAT: THIS INTELLIGENCE PRODUCT RELIES ON OPEN-SOURCE MEDIA OR GOVERNMENT RELEASED UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS ARE INCLUDED FOR CLIENTS FOR INFORMATION AND ACTIONS DEEMED APPROPRIATE

NOTE: SOCIAL NETWORK POST IMAGERY FOLLOWS TEXT BELOW

HOPE, COURAGE, FORWARD

Calvin Robinson expresses hope for revival after satanic church vandalism: 'God turns all things to good'

By [Jon Brown](#), Christian Post Reporter Monday, October 20, 2025

<https://www.christianpost.com/news/calvin-robinson-expresses-hope-for-revival-after-church-vandalism.html> REV ROBINSION'S TWITTER (X)

<https://x.com/calvinrobinson/status/1977784443847753814>

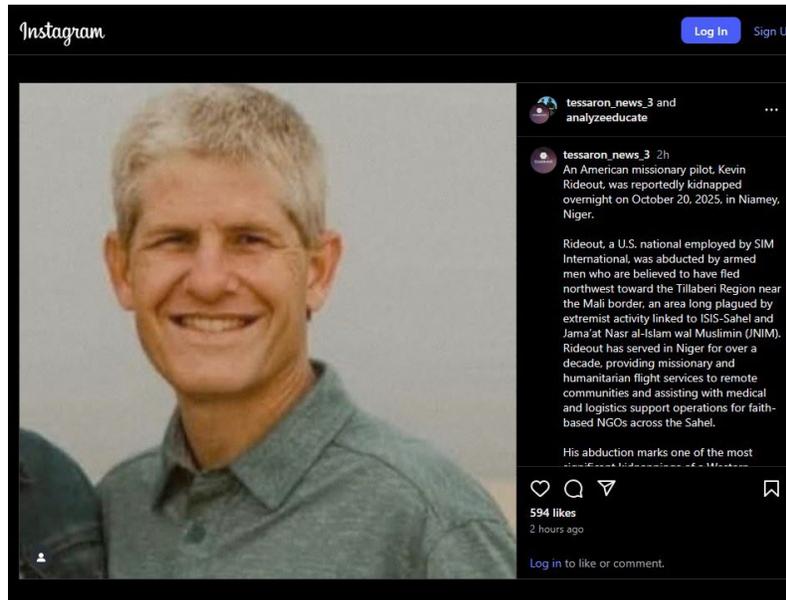


RESTRICTED - PROPRIETARY INFORMATION. The information contained herein is for use by IN OBSCURA Clients and designated local, state, and federal, law enforcement and security agencies. Outside dissemination is prohibited. This document is the proprietary and intellectual property of IN OBCURA, LLC. RESTRICTED FROM DISCLOSURE//NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE OR NEWS MEDIA

TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY

TLP CLEAR – DISSEMINATION UNLIMITED

FOREIGN MISSIONS



ASA African Security Analysis

HOME UPDATES ASA SITUATION REPORTS™ OUR SERVICES ABOUT ASA

REQUEST INTEREST

← BACK TO ALL UPDATES

WHEN	LOCATION	TOPIC
23 okt. 2025 23:25	Niger	Counter-Terrorism, Civil Security, Islamic State, Kidnappings

Niger | Kidnapping of American Pilot in Niamey: Renewed Threats Against Foreign Nationals

African Security Analysis (ASA) – Sahel Monitoring Desk



<https://www.africansecurityanalysis.org/updates/niger-or-kidnapping-of-american-pilot-in-niamey-renewed-threats-against-foreign-nationals>

Niger | Kidnapping of American Pilot in Niamey: Renewed Threats Against Foreign Nationals

African Security Analysis (ASA) – Sahel Monitoring Desk

RESTRICTED - PROPRIETARY INFORMATION. The information contained herein is for use by IN OBSCURA Clients and designated local, state, and federal, law enforcement and security agencies. Outside dissemination is prohibited. This document is the proprietary and intellectual property of IN OBCURA, LLC. RESTRICTED FROM DISCLOSURE//NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE OR NEWS MEDIA

TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY

TLP CLEAR – DISSEMINATION UNLIMITED

23 Oct 25

Summary

On October 22, 2025, an American humanitarian pilot, Kevin Rideout (48), was kidnapped in Niamey, Niger’s capital, only a few hundred meters from the presidential palace. Rideout, who worked with the Christian humanitarian organization Serving In Mission (SIM International), was abducted by three armed men from his residence in Château 1, near the Bravia Hotel, an area considered one of Niamey’s most secure neighbourhoods.

This incident marks the first kidnapping of a foreign national in central Niamey since 2011 and comes amid a rising wave of abductions targeting foreign workers across the Sahel.

The United Kingdom Updates Its Travel Advisory

Following the event, the United Kingdom updated its travel advisory for Niger, echoing a similar warning from the United States.

British authorities now caution that UK citizens face a serious risk of kidnapping throughout Niger — including in the capital, Niamey.

The official risk map remains unchanged, with Niamey still classified as “orange” (■), signalling a “heightened threat environment” but not a total withdrawal recommendation.

Details of the Incident

According to verified sources, three armed individuals broke into Kevin Rideout’s residence around dawn and forced him into a vehicle before fleeing west of the capital toward Kala Berri, an area recognized as a stronghold of the **Islamic State in the Greater Sahara (ISGS)**.

The U.S. State Department confirmed that its embassy in Niamey is working closely with Nigerien security forces to obtain the safe release of the American national. As of now, no group has claimed responsibility for the abduction.

Escalating Pattern of Abductions

The kidnapping of Kevin Rideout is part of a broader pattern of abductions targeting expatriates and humanitarian workers across Niger.

The following incidents have been recorded in 2025 alone:

- January 11: Austrian national *Eva Gretzmacher* abducted in Agadez — still missing.

RESTRICTED - PROPRIETARY INFORMATION. The information contained herein is for use by IN OBSCURA Clients and designated local, state, and federal, law enforcement and security agencies. Outside dissemination is prohibited. This document is the proprietary and intellectual property of IN OBSCURA, LLC. RESTRICTED FROM DISCLOSURE//NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE OR NEWS MEDIA

TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY

TLP CLEAR – DISSEMINATION UNLIMITED

- January 18: Four Moroccan drivers kidnapped near Téra — released in August 2025 after eight months.
- February 2: Two Chinese nationals abducted in Agadem.
- April 13: Swiss humanitarian *Claudia Abbt* kidnapped in Agadez — believed held by ISGS.
- April 25: Five Indian technicians abducted near Tillabéri.
- July 17: One Indian national kidnapped in the Dosso region.

The concentration of kidnappings along the Tillabéri–Agadez corridor suggests that ISGS and its affiliated cells continue to exploit weak security presence and porous desert routes to target both locals and foreigners.

Broader Context and Parallel Developments

On the same day, October 22, 2025, Nigerien authorities announced the release of Commander Amadou Torda, former Prefect of Bilma, along with two gendarmes and two National Guard soldiers.

They had been abducted on June 21, 2024, near Dirkou (Agadez region) by the **Front Patriotique pour la Justice (FPJ)** and were eventually freed in Al Qatrun, Libya, after more than a year of captivity.

While this release reflects ongoing negotiations with armed factions, the simultaneous abduction of an American in Niamey underscores the fragile security landscape and the limited reach of state control even in the capital.

Terror Group Involvement and Motives

Current intelligence assessments indicate that most foreign hostages in Niger are held by Islamic State (ISGS), which has institutionalized kidnapping-for-ransom as a primary source of revenue.

Only a small number of captives — including two Russian nationals — are believed to be detained by JNIM (al-Qaeda’s Sahel branch).

ISGS operations increasingly target Western nationals, engineers, NGO workers, and contractors, using high-profile kidnappings to gain leverage, funding, and visibility.

RESTRICTED - PROPRIETARY INFORMATION. The information contained herein is for use by IN OBSCURA Clients and designated local, state, and federal, law enforcement and security agencies. Outside dissemination is prohibited. This document is the proprietary and intellectual property of IN OBCURA, LLC. RESTRICTED FROM DISCLOSURE//NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE OR NEWS MEDIA

TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY

TLP CLEAR – DISSEMINATION UNLIMITED

Security and Diplomatic Response

The U.S. Embassy in Niamey has adopted strict security measures in response, including:

- Mandatory use of armoured vehicles for all embassy movements.
- A night curfew for staff and dependents.
- A ban on non-essential outings, including to open markets, restaurants, and public spaces.

The Nigerien authorities have reinforced patrols in Niamey, and along the western axis toward Kala Berri and Tillabéri, but face significant logistical and intelligence challenges due to overstretched resources and persistent militant mobility.

Analysis

The abduction of Kevin Rideout highlights the expanding operational reach of jihadist networks into what were previously considered “secure” urban zones.

It demonstrates a shift in militant strategy — from targeting isolated rural workers to symbolic high-value abductions in strategic or diplomatic centres.

The incident also coincides with ongoing political and military realignment in Niger following the 2023 coup, during which international coordination on counter-terrorism and intelligence sharing has weakened considerably.

For humanitarian and diplomatic actors, this underscores the need for urgent re-evaluation of security postures, movement controls, and psychological preparedness protocols for staff working in the Sahel.

African Security Analysis (ASA) Advisory and Recommendations

ASA assesses that:

- The risk of foreign kidnappings in Niger remains severe (Level 5), including in Niamey and other previously “safe” areas.
- ISGS maintains active cells west of the capital, capable of rapid cross-border movement into Mali and Burkina Faso.
- Local criminal networks may collaborate with jihadist factions for financial gain, further complicating prevention efforts.

RESTRICTED - PROPRIETARY INFORMATION. The information contained herein is for use by IN OBSCURA Clients and designated local, state, and federal, law enforcement and security agencies. Outside dissemination is prohibited. This document is the proprietary and intellectual property of IN OBSCURA, LLC. RESTRICTED FROM DISCLOSURE//NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE OR NEWS MEDIA

TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY

TLP CLEAR – DISSEMINATION UNLIMITED

Recommended actions:

1. Implement 24/7 tracking and geo-fencing systems for all humanitarian and expatriate personnel.
2. Conduct joint threat briefings with host-nation intelligence and embassy security officers.
3. Introduce risk awareness training and kidnap survival protocols for all foreign staff.
4. Ensure redundant communication channels and crisis response procedures in Niamey-based organizations.
5. Establish community-based intelligence liaisons to detect unusual activity around expatriate zones.

Conclusion

The kidnapping of American pilot Kevin Rideout in Niamey is a stark reminder that the security deterioration in Niger has reached its capital.

While Western embassies tighten movement protocols, and armed groups expand their operations, the protection of foreign nationals, humanitarian workers, and Nigerien civilians alike demands proactive intelligence coordination and community engagement.

ASA continues to monitor developments closely and stands ready to support prevention, preparedness, and response strategies for all regional partners.

ASA Support to Organizations and Governments

African Security Analysis (ASA) offers operational and strategic support to governments, NGOs, and companies operating in the Sahel region.

Through its regional Early Warning & Risk Prevention System (EWRPS), ASA assists partners in:

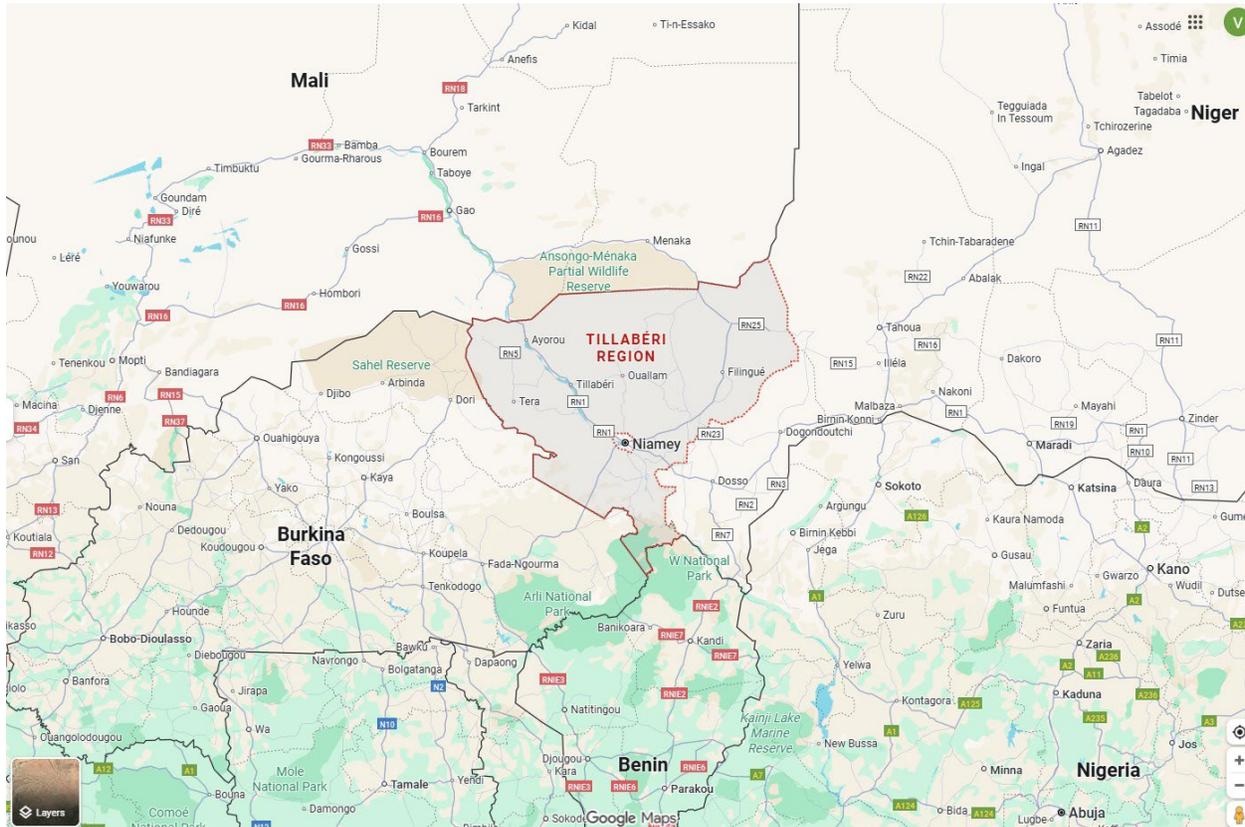
- Identifying high-risk zones and travel routes.
- Training staff in abduction prevention and crisis response.
- Coordinating rapid incident reporting and analysis with local security actors.
- Developing customized risk mitigation frameworks for humanitarian and diplomatic missions.

RESTRICTED - PROPRIETARY INFORMATION. The information contained herein is for use by IN OBSCURA Clients and designated local, state, and federal, law enforcement and security agencies. Outside dissemination is prohibited. This document is the proprietary and intellectual property of IN OBCURA, LLC. RESTRICTED FROM DISCLOSURE//NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE OR NEWS MEDIA

TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY

TLP CLEAR – DISSEMINATION UNLIMITED

ASA remains available to assist in preventing kidnappings, strengthening field security intelligence, and ensuring safer humanitarian operations across Niger and the wider Sahel.



GENERAL CRIMES

Police search for suspects in violent robbery outside of Minneapolis church
The search is on for a group of suspects police say attacked two people in a church parking lot Sunday morning just as Mass was letting out.

Author: KARE-TV 11.com

Published: 10:06 PM CDT October 20, 2025

Updated: 10:06 PM CDT October 20, 2025

<https://www.kare11.com/video/news/local/police-search-for-suspects-in-violent-robbery-outside-of-minneapolis-church/89-56509f43-1f70-423d-b3f9-fd6de0bce670>

RESTRICTED - PROPRIETARY INFORMATION. The information contained herein is for use by IN OBSCURA Clients and designated local, state, and federal, law enforcement and security agencies. Outside dissemination is prohibited. This document is the proprietary and intellectual property of IN OBCURA, LLC. RESTRICTED FROM DISCLOSURE//NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE OR NEWS MEDIA

TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY

TLP CLEAR – DISSEMINATION UNLIMITED

Couple's argument leads to crash into Church of Latter-day Saints building in West Valley

by Derick Fox, KUTV, Mon, October 20, 2025 at 6:50 AM

Updated Mon, October 20, 2025 at 12:43 PM

<https://kutv.com/news/local/couples-argument-leads-to-crash-into-church-of-latter-day-saints-building-in-west-valley>

Juvenile accused of calling in fake bomb threat in Bastrop arrested

A juvenile suspect was arrested for allegedly making a fake bomb threat to a Bastrop church.

Johann Castro, KVUE-TV, Austin, TX Published: 5:09 PM CDT October 23, 2025

Updated: 11:00 AM CDT October 24, 2025

<https://www.kvue.com/article/news/crime/juvenile-arrested-after-calling-fake-bomb-threat-bastrop/269-8eccaf76-252a-4fd9-9fde-953f353baa6e>

Two teens arrested following gunfire in Winnsboro

The Voice, October 23, 2025 By Staff (South Carolina)

<https://www.blythewoodonline.com/2025/10/two-teens-arrested-following-gunfire-in-winnsboro/>

ARSON

Flint's St. Mark Church seeks justice after arson attack

Ta'Niyah Jordan Oct 23, 2025 Updated Oct 23, 2025

https://www.abc12.com/news/crime/flints-st-mark-church-seeks-justice-after-arson-attack/article_7d21517a-c542-4585-8114-a97d48154ff7.html

"...It was no structural-type of damage. It's one of those real sound buildings but devastation totally," said Pastor Kevin Thompson of St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church. Pastor Thompson and 6th Ward Councilwoman Tonya Burns described the extensive damage caused by the fire. "An individual purposely brought three gasoline cans, used a metal object and fire bombed the church," said Burns."

Leeton mayor, community heartbroken after historic church fire ruled arson

KMBC-9 TV, Matt Evans, Updated: 7:12 PM CDT Oct 21, 2025 Editorial Standards ⓘ

<https://www.kmbc.com/article/leeton-mayor-community-react-arson-church-fire/69113263>

RESTRICTED - PROPRIETARY INFORMATION. The information contained herein is for use by IN OBSCURA Clients and designated local, state, and federal, law enforcement and security agencies. Outside dissemination is prohibited. This document is the proprietary and intellectual property of IN OBCURA, LLC. RESTRICTED FROM DISCLOSURE//NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE OR NEWS MEDIA

TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY

TLP CLEAR – DISSEMINATION UNLIMITED

Woman faces arson charge after church garage damaged in Concord

By Dave Pierce Union Leader Staff Oct 22, 2025 Updated 6 hrs ago

https://www.unionleader.com/news/crime/woman-faces-arson-charge-after-church-garage-damaged-in-concord/article_596065be-5bf2-4422-b6c1-42fdc34d331a.html

‘Hurt and anger’: Historic Methodist church damaged in suspected arson

By [Betsy Webster](#)

Published: Oct. 21, 2025 at 11:15 PM EDT|Updated: 13 hours ago

<https://www.kctv5.com/2025/10/22/second-church-fire-hits-small-missouri-town/>

Man broke into Burluson church and tried to burn it down, police say

Lillie Davidson, Star Telegram, October 21, 2025 9:06 PM

<https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/crime/article312595644.html#storylink=cpy>

Mayoral candidate Cory Bowman says that a bullet hole was found in window of his family's church, Kurt Knue, WLWT TV 5, Updated: 6:34 AM EDT Oct 20, 2025

<https://www.wlwt.com/article/cory-bowman-says-that-a-bullet-was-fired-into-his-church/69085905>

Cebu archdiocese closes Liloan parish after violent crime

Manila Standard

October 25, 2025, 10:15 PM

<https://manilastandard.net/news/crime-courts/314660002/cebu-archdiocese-closes-liloan-parish-after-violent-crime.html>

‘...An unidentified woman was found dead inside the church. She reportedly sustained head injuries, suggesting she was beaten. “After a preliminary review of the incident and the available evidence, including CCTV footage confirming that the assault took place inside the church itself, it is judged that the sacred place has indeed been desecrated through an act of grave violence, which has caused profound scandal and pain among the faithful of Liloan and beyond,” Uy said in the statement.

RESTRICTED - PROPRIETARY INFORMATION. The information contained herein is for use by IN OBSCURA Clients and designated local, state, and federal, law enforcement and security agencies. Outside dissemination is prohibited. This document is the proprietary and intellectual property of IN OBCURA, LLC. RESTRICTED FROM DISCLOSURE//NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE OR NEWS MEDIA

TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY

TLP CLEAR – DISSEMINATION UNLIMITED

SOCIAL MEDIA IMAGERY



RESTRICTED - PROPRIETARY INFORMATION. The information contained herein is for use by IN OBSCURA Clients and designated local, state, and federal, law enforcement and security agencies. Outside dissemination is prohibited. This document is the proprietary and intellectual property of IN OBSCURA, LLC. RESTRICTED FROM DISCLOSURE//NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE OR NEWS MEDIA

TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY

TLP CLEAR – DISSEMINATION UNLIMITED

← Post

 **Mario Nawfal**  
@MarioNawfal Subscribe  

  **BAY AREA IMMIGRATION PROTEST ENDS IN GUNFIRE AS U-HAUL DRIVES AT POLICE**

Police opened fire on a U-Haul truck that reversed toward officers outside the U.S. Coast Guard base in Alameda, California – the site of day-long protests against Trump’s planned immigration enforcement surge in the Bay Area.

Eyewitnesses say the driver had been loitering all day before suddenly accelerating toward police, prompting gunfire. Protesters reportedly screamed for him to stop moments before shots rang out.

The driver fled on foot after parking the truck nearby. His identity and condition remain unknown. Oakland PD is investigating and expected to give an update soon.

Source: [@AZ_Intel_](#), KPIX, KTVU



0:30 [View on KTVU](#)

RESTRICTED - PROPRIETARY INFORMATION. The information contained herein is for use by IN OBSCURA Clients and designated local, state, and federal, law enforcement and security agencies. Outside dissemination is prohibited. This document is the proprietary and intellectual property of IN OBSCURA, LLC. RESTRICTED FROM DISCLOSURE//NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE OR NEWS MEDIA

TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY

TLP CLEAR – DISSEMINATION UNLIMITED

=====DISSEMINATION=====

IN OBSCURA HAS ADOPTED THE OSINT CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM OF DHS

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY CLASSIFICATION: TLP CLEAR, TLP Clear: when information carries minimal or no foreseeable risk of misuse, in accordance with applicable rules and procedures for public release. HOWEVER IN OBSCURA RELEASE PROHIBITION MARKINGS APPLY

<https://www.cisa.gov/news-events/news/traffic-light-protocol-tlp-definitions-and-usagg>

=====

REQUEST WRITTEN PERMISSION, EMAIL, PRIOR TO DISSEMINATING ANY IN OBSCURA PRODUCTS OR INFORMATION.

TRAFFIC LIGHT PROTOCOL REQUIREMENTS FOR DISSEMINATION

Traffic Light Protocol (TLP) Definitions

Color	When should it be used?	How may it be shared?
 For the eyes and ears of individual recipients only, no further disclosure.	Sources may use TLP:RED when information cannot be effectively acted upon without significant risk for the privacy, reputation, or operations of the organizations involved.	Recipients may therefore not share TLP:RED information with anyone else. In the context of a meeting, for example, TLP:RED information is limited to those present at the meeting.
 Limited disclosure, recipients can only spread this on a need-to-know basis within their organization and its clients. Note that TLP:AMBER+STRICT restricts sharing to the organization only.	Sources may use TLP:AMBER when information requires support to be effectively acted upon, yet carries risk to privacy, reputation, or operations if shared outside of the organizations involved.	Recipients may share TLP:AMBER information with members of their own organization and its clients, but only on a need-to-know basis to protect their organization and its clients and prevent further harm. Note: if the source wants to restrict sharing to the organization only, they must specify TLP:AMBER+STRICT.
 Limited disclosure, recipients can spread this within their community.	Sources may use TLP:GREEN when information is useful to increase awareness within their wider community.	Recipients may share TLP:GREEN information with peers and partner organizations within their community, but not via publicly accessible channels. TLP:GREEN information may not be shared outside of the community. Note: when "community" is not defined, assume the cybersecurity/defense community.
 Recipients can spread this to the world, there is no limit on disclosure.	Sources may use TLP:CLEAR when information carries minimal or no foreseeable risk of misuse, in accordance with applicable rules and procedures for public release.	Subject to standard copyright rules, TLP:CLEAR information may be shared without restriction.

///END OF REPORT///

RESTRICTED - PROPRIETARY INFORMATION. The information contained herein is for use by IN OBSCURA Clients and designated local, state, and federal, law enforcement and security agencies. Outside dissemination is prohibited. This document is the proprietary and intellectual property of IN OBCURA, LLC. RESTRICTED FROM DISCLOSURE//NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE OR NEWS MEDIA

TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY