



**ARIZONA HUMAN TRAFFICKING COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES**

**October 25, 2017**

**9:00 AM**

**1700 West Washington Street,  
Governor's 2nd Floor Conference Room  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007**

Notice having been duly given, a meeting of the Arizona Human Trafficking Council (Council) convened on **October 25, 2017**, at 9:00 AM in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, 1700 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007. Attendance of Council members was as follows:

**Members Present**

Cindy McCain (Co-Chairperson) (via Phone)	Debbie Johnson
Gil Orrantia (Co-Chairperson)	Zora Manjencich
Allie Bones	Gary McCarthy
Nathaniel Brown (via Phone)	Sheila Polk
Vinny Chulani (via Phone)	Dominique Roe-Sepowitz
Doug Coleman	Brian Steele
Robert Conrad	Jim Waring
Jon Eliason	

**Members Absent**

Heather Carter  
Cara Christ  
Tanya Cordor  
Michael Cowan  
Carolyn Jones  
Joseph Kelroy  
Greg McKay  
Frank Milstead

**Staff and Guests Present**

Kathryn Blades (representing Greg McKay)  
Maria Fuentes  
John Raeder

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Gil Orrantia called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

## **2. WELCOMING REMARKS**

Mr. Gil Orrantia introduced Ms. Maria Fuentes, Director, Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family. Ms. Fuentes provided brief remarks on her background.

## **3. INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. Orrantia welcomed those in attendance and asked members to briefly introduce themselves.

## **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (ACTION)**

The September 6, 2017, meeting minutes were reviewed. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

## **5. TRAFFICKING TASKFORCE UPDATES**

### **City of Phoenix Taskforce**

Ms. Tamyra Spendley, City of Phoenix, and Ms. Cindy Stotler, City of Phoenix, presented on the City of Phoenix Taskforce. Ms. Stotler stated that the City of Phoenix will be having a grand opening for the Phoenix Starfish Place on November 3rd. Starfish Place is permanent housing for victims of sex trafficking. In addition to housing, Starfish Place will provide child care, resources, case management, and therapy.

### **Southern Arizona Anti-Trafficking United Response Network**

Ms. Margarita Hallisey, CODAC, Ms. Sheila Kembel, Pima County Juvenile Court, and Ms. Kris Sullivan, Cochise County Juvenile Court, presented on the Southern Arizona Anti-Trafficking United Response Network (SAATURN). They stated that SAATURN was working on case reviews to identify gaps in services. SAATURN has completed over 50 community outreach events and screening of "I am Jane Doe" with a panel discussion. SAATURN is also working to increase community collaboration and outreach and has started a soap project and community forums. Ms. Kembel recommended that the Arizona Human Trafficking Council offer additional train-the-trainer opportunities and consider additional representation from southern Arizona.

### **Pinal County Rescue and Restore Coalition**

Ms. Melissa Taylor, Pinal County Attorney's Office, and Ms. Stephanie Stewart, Pinal County Attorney's Office, presented on the Pinal County Rescue and Restore Coalition. They explained that they are working to expand awareness in Pinal County through presentations for schools, community groups, and hotels in the area.

### **Flagstaff Initiative Against Trafficking**

Ms. Kate Wyatt, Northland Family Help Center, presented on the Flagstaff Initiative Against Trafficking (FIAT). She stated that FIAT has held two meetings and is working to develop a coordinated community response protocol for identifying and responding to victims of trafficking. Ms. Wyatt also explained that FIAT is working to get additional people trained to recognize trafficking. She announced that the FIAT Anti-Sex Trafficking Summit will be November 15th and 16th in Flagstaff.

### **Yavapai County Trafficking Taskforce**

Lt. Tom Boelts, Yavapai County Sheriff's Office, presented on Yavapai County Trafficking Taskforce. He stated that the Taskforce recently conducted a sting operation, and in one 24-hour period they received over 140 calls. As a result of the operations, they were able to arrest nine people.

## **6. ARIZONA TRAFFICKING INCIDENCE SURVEY**

Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, Arizona State University Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research, presented the *Incidence of Identified Sex Trafficking Victims in Arizona: 2015-2016*. The goal of the study is to create a community driven incidence number of sex trafficking victims upon which the Arizona anti-sex trafficking community can build response services. Dr. Roe-Sepowitz explained that the number of identified sex trafficked minors in Arizona for 2015 and 2016 was 560. The number of identified sex trafficked adults in Arizona for 2015 and 2016 was 1,777. To spread these numbers over time, a child sex trafficking victim is identified in Arizona

nearly every single day, and two adult victims of sex trafficking are identified each day in Arizona. The incidence number was developed by active participation from 36 Arizona-based organizations. Dr. Roe-Sepowitz noted several limitations to consider when interpreting the incidence number and encouraged ongoing discussions regarding statewide data collection improvements.

## **7. ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE**

Captain Jennifer Pinnow, Arizona Department of Public Safety, presented on the Interdiction for the Protection of Children (IPC) training program. The IPC is a two-day class for law enforcement, probation, prosecutors, child welfare, and child advocates. Captain Pinnow stated that since 2014, over 900 attendees have attended the trainings, and there has been 51 children rescued as a result.

Captain Pinnow also presented on the Arizona Human Trafficking Intelligence Network (HTIN), which consists of law enforcement professionals who investigate human trafficking. The HTIN provides a forum for investigators to share information and collaborate to enhance investigations. In 2016, 155 participants from 65 law enforcement agencies participated in quarterly HTIN meetings.

Captain Pinnow reported on Arizona's Missing and Exploited Children Clearinghouse Database. She stated that from July – August, 1,466 new missing juvenile reports were received. Out of those, 335 children remain missing. Missing children are extremely vulnerable to trafficking and exploitation, and the Database provides an additional resource to Arizona law enforcement.

## **8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Policy Committee**

Mr. Brian Steele stated that the Committee was examining possible legislation for the 2018 session, including additional monetary penalties for traffickers and buyers and changes that would explicitly allow schools to provide trafficking prevention curriculum in schools. Mr. Steele noted that the Committee was still exploring these ideas and will not make any official recommendations at this time.

Mr. Steele also updated the Council on the progress to implement recommendations from the trafficking services stakeholder meetings held in the spring.

### **Outreach and Awareness Committee**

Captain Gary McCarthy updated the Council on upcoming outreach opportunities with the Arizona Diamondbacks, Greyhound Lines, and Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS).

### **Training Committee**

Dr. Roe-Sepowitz updated the Council on the upcoming Human Trafficking Drop-In Center event. The Drop-In Center is a bi-annual, one-day event designed to provide wraparound services to individuals currently or historically involved in prostitution/sex trafficking. Over 20 different agencies participate in the Drop-In Center and provide resources to victims, including basic necessities, connections to housing, advocacy, and therapeutic and social services. She announced that the next Drop-In Center will be on Saturday, December 2nd from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM at the Helen Drake Senior Center.

### **Victim Services Committee**

Mrs. Polk stated that the Victim Service Committee, in partnership with the Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys' Advisory Council, will host a day-long training focused on addressing sex trafficking on January 26th. The training is designed to assist prosecutors, law enforcement, and advocates respond to sex trafficking victims, and hold offenders accountable for this heinous crime.

Mrs. Cindy McCain reported that she recently provided testimony to the US Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on trafficking of Native Americans. Mrs. McCain noted the importance of this issue and congratulated the Navajo Nation and Delegate Nathaniel Brown on their efforts and work.

Mrs. McCain also updated the Council on the Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act, and stated how important this legislation was to stopping trafficking online through sites like Backpage.com.

**9. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Mr. John Fraleigh, University of Arizona College of Nursing, informed the Council that he was working to train emergency room nurses and to raise awareness of human trafficking in the medical community.

Ms. Jenna Jones, Short Creek Dream Center, updated the Council on a new Dream Center that is opening in Colorado City.

**10. ADJOURN**

There being no further business before the Council, Mr. Orrantia adjourned the meeting at 10:36 AM.