



ARIZONA HUMAN TRAFFICKING COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 22, 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 March 22, 2017 at 9:05 am in the 2nd Floor Conference Room, 1700 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007. Attendance of Council members was as follows:

Members Present

Cindy McCain (Co-Chairperson)	Joseph Kelroy
Gil Orrantia (Co-Chairperson)	Zora Manjencich
Allie Bones (via phone)	Gary McCarthy
Nathanial Brown (via Phone)	Greg McKay
Heather Carter	Frank Milstead
Vinny Chulani	Sheila Polk
Doug Coleman	Dominique Roe-Sepowitz
Tanya Cordor	Brian Steele
Jon Eliason	Jim Waring
Debbie Johnson	

Members Absent

Cara Christ
Robert Conrad
Carolyn Jones

Staff Present

Debbie Moak
John Raeder

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Gil Orrantia called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Mrs. Cindy McCain welcomed those in attendance and asked Council members to briefly introduce themselves.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (ACTION)

The January 17, 2017 meeting minutes were reviewed. Mrs. Debbie Johnson motioned to approve the minutes as drafted. The motion was seconded Mr. Jon Eliason. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. TRUCKERS AGAINST TRAFFICKING

Ms. Lyn Thompson, Truckers Against Trafficking, showed a video clip on the organization. Founded in 2009, Truckers Against Trafficking educates, equips, empowers and mobilizes the trucking industry to prevent human trafficking. She also stated that professional drivers are in a great position to be extra eyes and ears on the road since there are more truck drivers than law enforcement. Ms. Thompson also explained that Truckers Against Trafficking trains thousands of industry members about sex trafficking and how the trucking industry can combat it. Truckers Against Trafficking training has resulted in a significant increase of reports of trafficking from truck drivers, which has resulted in victim recoveries and the arrest of criminals.

Mr. Don Blake, Inland Kenworth and Mr. George Cravens, Utility Trailer Sales of Arizona, stated that they will auction a semi-truck at the Richie Brothers auction on June 20 in an effort to raise funds to educate more truckers on sex trafficking through Truckers Against Trafficking. The project has received significant support from Kenworth Truck Company, Ritchie Bros and other leading industry suppliers. Mr. Blake stated that the "Everyday Heroes" truck would be on site immediately following the meeting.

Col. Frank Milstead commended the organization for promoting proactive collaboration with law enforcement.

Mr. Brian Steele asked how the Council could collaborate on future projects.

Ms. Thompson recommended that Arizona require entry-level truckers to pass the human trafficking awareness test in order to receive a commercial trucking license.

5. UBER TRAFFICKING AWARENESS PROGRAM

Ms. Tracey Breeden, UBER, stated that in partnership with the McCain Institute and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, Uber developed training to help drivers identify indicators of human trafficking. Ms. Breeden showed a video clip featuring UBER driver Keith Avila. Mr. Avila recognized indicators of trafficking during a trip and alerted law enforcement to the trafficking situation. Ms. Breeden stressed that human trafficking is under reported and that traffickers use public transportation when exploiting victims. She expressed UBER's continued commitment to driver training to identify and combat trafficking.

6. CITY OF PHOENIX BUYER DIVERSION PROGRAM "JOHN SCHOOL"

Ms. Tami Hartman, Catholic Charities, presented on the Phoenix Prostitution Solicitation Diversion program. She explained that the Prostitution Solicitation Diversion program is an alternative response system for the City of Phoenix Prosecutor's Office in lieu of incarceration for persons soliciting acts of prostitution. The program is designed to break the insidious cycle of involvement in the dangerous and risky behavior of soliciting prostituted people. The Prostitution Solicitation Program is a one day, face-to-face, educational class designed to shift participants' attitudes and beliefs about both the demand and the supply sides of prostitution. The educational class also addresses sexual addiction, porn and sexually transmitted diseases and includes a presentation from a survivor of sex trafficking.

Mr. Brian Steele asked how the program works with offenders whom cannot afford the fee.

Ms. Hartman responded that there are payment plan options.

7. LAS VEGAS TRAFFICKING STORY

Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, Arizona State University, presented on the *2014 Las Vegas Sex Trafficking Case Study*. The study was a collaborative initiative between the Arizona State University Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention and Research and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. Dr. Roe-Sepowitz explained that the study represents a one-year snapshot of sex trafficking cases investigated by the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department's Vice and Sex Trafficking Investigations Unit. The purpose of the study is to explore the efforts of law enforcement in identifying and investigating incidents of sex trafficking in Las Vegas in order to identify trends and patterns that might inform future research or practice. The study identified 247 victims of sex trafficking, 159 (76.9%) cases were analyzed for the study, representing 190 victims. Dr. Roe-Sepowitz stated that the study demonstrates the variability and complexity of the case development required for an arrest for a sex trafficking case.

Dr. Roe-Sepowitz reported on the following findings on traffickers. The study identified 118 sex traffickers, 89 with detailed reports:

- 52.8% of the sex traffickers were "romeo" traffickers;
- 46.1% of the sex traffickers were "guerrilla" traffickers;
- A relationship was identified in 70 (59.3%) cases;
- 27 (30.3%) sex traffickers had recently come from another state, often traveling with the victims;
- One out of every six (15.7%) sex traffickers was identified as a member of a gang;
- Social media was used to connect to the victims in 26 (29%) of the known cases;
- 56% of the cases involved physical violence by the sex trafficker to force the victim to participate in prostitution; and
- 95 (80.5%) of the 118 traffickers had histories of arrests.

Dr. Roe-Sepowitz also reported on the following study findings on victims that were identified:

- 39 (20.5%) sex trafficking victims reported being taken across state lines for the purpose of being prostituted by the sex trafficker;
- 123 juvenile victims were identified in 99 of the sex trafficking cases;
- 16 years old was the average age of the minor sex trafficking victims;
- 56 (45.5%) of the minor victims had a missing person's report filed for them;
- 23.8 years old was the average age of the adult sex trafficking victims; and
- 37% of adult victims cooperated with law enforcement compared to 16.3% of minor victims.

Mr. Joseph Kelroy asked if the victim testimonies were video recorded.

Dr. Roe-Sepowitz stated that they were not due to concerns from the defense bar.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Outreach and Awareness Committee

Mr. Orrantia announced that Ms. Johnson has stepped down as chair of the Outreach and Awareness Committee and Captain Gary McCarthy had been selected as the new chair for the Committee.

Mr. John Raeder, Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family, presented on efforts to raise awareness during the NCAA Final Four. Mr. Raeder explained that the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family presented at two trainings for NCAA volunteers for approximately 2,000 people. Mr. Raeder stated that the volunteers were supplied with indicator cards. Mr. Raeder also played the Council's new awareness public service announcement (PSA). The PSA will be played on television during the NCAA Final Four.

Captain McCarthy discussed new partnership with Arizona Christian University and Grand Canyon University. He also noted that the Committee is working with the Navajo Nation to provide training.

Policy Committee

Mr. Steele reported that the Committee was evaluating current licensing and billing rules/policy for organizations providing services to sex trafficking victims in order to streamline process, improve training and awareness, and remove barriers for providers. This will allow existing programs to grow and to better serve clients as well as for new providers to begin to serve trafficking victims. Mr. Steele explained that the Committee was convening a series of stakeholder meetings to discuss the issues that have been identified and examine possible solutions. The Committee has convened two stakeholder meetings and themes have emerged regarding ameliorating license and billing practices.

Training Committee

Dr. Roe-Sepowitz reported that volunteers were working with hotels to inform staff about signs of human trafficking and missing children. During the outreach, three of missing children were identified.

Dr. Roe-Sepowitz stated that in partnership with the City of Phoenix, Starfish Place will be opening to provide service to trafficking victims. Starfish Place will utilize an empty complex originally designated for Section 8 Housing.

Dr. Roe-Sepowitz announced that the next Drop-in-Center will be on April 29.

Victim Services Committee

Ms. Sheila Polk stated that the Committee is exploring the use of video testimony in the court room and creating a best practice guide for prosecutors.

9. ARIZONA'S HUMAN TRAFFICKING EFFORTS

Mrs. Debbie Moak, Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family, introduced Governor Ducey and presented him with a copy of the *Arizona Human Trafficking Council's Annual Accomplishment Report*.

Governor Doug Ducey provided comments to the Council. He stated, "It is my privilege to recognize the ongoing work of the Arizona Human Trafficking Council. The role that you play in the prevention of human trafficking and especially your tireless efforts in providing critical services to trafficking victims ensures Arizona remains a safe place to work and raise a family. Large events like the upcoming NCAA Final Four are exciting times to celebrate sportsmanship, competition and triumph, but they also provide an opportunity for us to communicate to Arizona's citizens, to our visitors, and to anyone who dare prey on innocent victims this unequivocal message: that human trafficking will not be tolerated here."

Mrs. McCain and Mr. Orrantia thanked the Governor for his continued leadership.

10. ADJOURN

Mrs. McCain adjourned the meeting at 10:55 AM.