



# Human Trafficking Work Group Participants

## California Attorney General's Human Trafficking Work Group Participants

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(408)

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U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of  
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Co-Founder and Director  
Courage to Be You, Inc., Courage House

**Det. Michelle Winters**  
Hayward Police Department

**Fred Wolens**  
Facebook Public Policy

**Deputy Aron Wolfe**  
Riverside County Anti-Human Trafficking  
Task Force  
Riverside County Sheriff's Department

**Lt. Lee Yoder**  
San Diego Sheriff's Department  
Director  
Regional Threat Assessment Center –



## California's Nine Regional Task Forces and Lead NGOs

### 1. East Bay Human Trafficking Task Force

Oakland Police Department  
(510) 238-3253  
Alameda County District Attorney's  
Office H.E.A.T. Unit  
(Human Exploitation and Trafficking  
Unit)  
(510) 272-6222

Bay Area Women Against Rape,  
Oakland  
(510) 430-1298  
<http://bawar.org/>

### 2. Fresno Coalition Against Human Trafficking

Fresno Police Department  
(559) 621-5951

Central Valley Against Human  
Trafficking  
c/o Fresno County Economic  
Opportunities Commission  
(559) 263-1000  
<http://fresnoeoc.org/>

Marjaree Mason Center, Fresno  
(559) 237-4706  
<http://mmcenter.org>

### 3. Los Angeles Metro Area Task Force on Human Trafficking

Los Angeles Police Department  
(213) 486-6840

Coalition to Abolish Slavery and  
Trafficking (CAST), Los Angeles  
(213) 365-1906  
<http://castla.org>

### 4. North Bay Human Trafficking Task Force

San Francisco Police Department  
(415) 553-9373

Asian Anti-Trafficking Collaborative,  
San Francisco  
(415) 567-6255  
<http://apilegaloutreach.org/trafficking.html>

SAGE Project (Standing Against  
Global Exploitation), San Francisco  
(415) 905-5050  
<http://sagesf.org>

**5. Orange County Human Trafficking Task Force**

Westminster Police Department  
(714) 898-3315

Community Services Programs  
(949) 250-0488

<http://cspinc.org/Human%20Trafficking>

**6. Riverside County Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force**

Riverside County Sheriff's Department  
(951) 239-2139

Operation SafeHouse, Riverside  
(951) 351-4418

<http://operationsafehouse.org>

**7. Sacramento Innocence Lost Task Force**

Sacramento County Sheriff's Department & Federal Bureau of Investigation  
(916) 874-3916

Courage To Be You/Courage House, Rocklin  
(916) 652-4248

<http://couragetobeyou.org>

**Sacramento Rescue & Restore Coalition**

A program of the Sacramento Employment and Training Agency  
(916) 263-3800

<http://sacramentorescueandrestore.net>

**8. San Diego North County Anti-Trafficking Task Force**

San Diego Sheriff's Department, Vista Substation

(619) 336-0770

North County Lifeline, Vista

(760) 726-4900

<http://nclifeline.org>

Bilateral Safety Corridor Coalition, San Diego/National City

(619) 336-0770

<http://bsccoalition.org>

**9. San Jose/South Bay Human Trafficking Task Force**

San Jose Police Department  
(408) 277-4322

**Community Solutions**

Morgan Hill

(408) 779-2113

<http://communitysolutions.org>





# Letter to Backpage.com



National Association  
of Attorneys General

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*Washington Attorney General*

PRESIDENT-ELECT  
Doug Gansler  
*Maryland Attorney General*

VICE PRESIDENT  
J.B. Van Hollen  
*Wisconsin Attorney General*

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Roy Cooper  
*North Carolina Attorney General*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
James McPherson

August 31, 2011

Mr. Samuel Fifer  
Counsel for Backpage.Com, LLC  
SNR Denton US  
233 South Wacker Drive  
Suite 7800  
Chicago, IL 60606-6306

**Re: Backpage.com's ongoing failure to effectively limit  
prostitution and sexual trafficking activity on its website**

Mr. Fifer:

This letter is in response to Backpage.com's assurances, both public and in private, concerning the company's facilitation of the sexual exploitation of children, and prostitution. As our state's chief law enforcement officers, we are increasingly concerned about human trafficking, especially the trafficking of minors. Backpage.com is a hub for such activity.

While Backpage.com professes to have undertaken efforts to limit advertisements for prostitution on its website, particularly those soliciting sex with children, such efforts have proven ineffective. In May, for example, a Dorchester, Massachusetts man was charged for forcing a 15-year-old girl into a motel to have sex with various men for \$100 to \$150 an hour. To find customers, the man posted a photo of the girl on Backpage.com. He was later found with \$19,000 in cash. In another example, prosecutors in Washington state are handling a case in which teen girls say they were coerced, threatened and extorted by two adults who marketed them on Backpage.com.

We have tracked more than 50 instances, in 22 states over three years, of charges filed against those trafficking or attempting to traffic minors on Backpage.com. These are only the stories that made it into the news; many more instances likely exist. These cases often involve runaways ensnared by adults seeking to make money by sexually exploiting them. In some cases, minors are pictured in advertisements. In others, adults are pictured but minors are substituted at the "point of sale" in a grossly illegal transaction.

Nearly naked persons in provocative positions are pictured in nearly every adult services advertisement on Backpage.com and the site requires advertisements for escorts, and other similar "services," to include hourly rates. It does not require forensic training to understand that these advertisements are for prostitution. This hub for illegal services has proven particularly enticing for those seeking to sexually exploit minors.

2000 M Street, NW  
Eighth Floor  
Washington, DC 20036  
Phone: (202) 326-6000  
<http://www.naag.org/>

In a meeting with the Washington State Attorney General's Office, Backpage.com vice president Carl Ferrer acknowledged that the company identifies more than 400 "adult services" posts every month that may involve minors. This figure indicates the extent to which the trafficking of minors occurs on the site – the actual number of minors exploited through Backpage.com may be far greater. The company's figures, along with real world experience, demonstrate the extreme difficulty of excising a particularly egregious crime – the sexual exploitation of minors – on a site seemingly dedicated to the promotion of prostitution.

On a regional basis, there has been no change in postings for prostitution services on Backpage.com. For example, between July 28 and August 1, the Missouri Attorney General's Office on behalf of the Attorneys General Working Group conducted a review of adult content on Backpage.com. This review revealed numerous daily postings for "escort" services in the Adult>Escorts section. On Sunday, July 31, in the St. Louis-area alone, there were one hundred and three (103) new postings for such services. Other regional examples include:

- On August 1, the Washington State Attorney General's Office found one hundred and forty two (142) advertisements that are obviously for prostitutes in the Seattle area; and
- On August 2, even the Connecticut State Attorney General's Office found advertisements for prostitutes in the Connecticut area on the Springfield, Massachusetts and Rhode Island pages, circumventing Backpage.com's omission of a Connecticut adult section.

Missouri investigators further confirmed that Backpage.com's review procedures are ineffective in policing illegal activity. On July 28 and July 29, investigators flagged twenty five (25) new postings advertising prostitution in the St. Louis, Kansas City, Springfield, Columbia, and Jefferson City areas. By August 1, at least four days later, only five of these postings, or less than a quarter, had been removed.

The prominence of illegal content on Backpage.com conflicts with the company's representations about its content policies. Backpage.com claims that it "is committed to preventing those who are intent on misusing the site for illegal purposes."<sup>1</sup> To that end, Backpage.com represents that it has "implemented strict content policies to prevent illegal activity," and that the company has "inappropriate ad content removed."<sup>2</sup> Backpage.com also requires those who post "adult services" advertisements to click a link indicating they agree not to "post any solicitation directly or in 'coded' fashion for any illegal service exchanging sexual favors for money or other valuable consideration."<sup>3</sup> However, a cursory look at a relevant section demonstrates that this guideline is not enforced.<sup>4</sup>

In fact, in a meeting with the Washington State Attorney General's Office, Village Voice Media Board Member Don Moon readily admitted that prostitution advertisements regularly appear on Backpage.com. This shows that the stated representations about the site are in direct

<sup>1</sup> Backpage.com, *Safety and Security Enhancements*, <http://blog.backpage.com/> (last visited August 05, 2011).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> See Backpage.com, *Posting Rules*,

<http://posting.seattle.backpage.com/grouper/classifieds/PostAdPP.html#posting-seattle.backpage.com/?section=681&category=4443&u=seattle&serverName=posting-seattle.backpage.com&specRegion=Seattle> (last visited August 05, 2011).

<sup>4</sup> See Backpage.com, *Seattle Escorts*, <http://seattle.backpage.com/FemaleEscorts/> (last visited August 05, 2011).

conflict with the reality of Backpage's business model: making money from a service illegal in every state, but for a few counties in Nevada.

Based on an independent assessment by the AIM Group, Backpage.com's estimated annual revenue from its adult services section is approximately \$22.7 million. This figure, along with information you provided to the Working Group, indicates that Backpage.com devotes only a fraction of the revenue generated from its adult section advertisements to manual content review. We believe Backpage.com sets a minimal bar for content review in an effort to temper public condemnation, while ensuring that the revenue spigot provided by prostitution advertising remains intact. Though you have stated "all new ads are moderated by a staff member,"<sup>5</sup> there appear to be no changes in the volume of prostitution advertisements resulting from this "moderation."

As a practical matter, it is likely very difficult to accurately detect underage human trafficking on Backpage.com's adult services section, when to an outside observer, the website's sole purpose seems to be to advertise prostitution. That is why Craigslist's decision to shut down its adult services section was applauded as a clear way for it to eradicate advertising on its website that trafficked children for prostitution. It is also why we have called on Backpage.com to take similar action.

Furthermore, in lieu of a subpoena, the Working Group asks that Backpage.com provide additional information so that we may better understand the company's policies and practices. As noted earlier, Backpage.com represents that it has "strict content policies to prevent illegal activity."<sup>6</sup> We ask that Backpage.com substantiate this claim by:

1. Describing in detail Backpage.com's understanding of what precisely constitutes "illegal activity," including whether Backpage.com contends that advertisements for prostitution services do not constitute advertisements for "illegal activity,"
2. Providing a copy of such policies, including but not limited to the specific criteria used to determine whether an advertisement may involve illegal activity;
3. Providing the list of the prohibited terms for which Backpage.com is screening;
4. Describing in detail the individualized or hand review process undertaken by Backpage.com, including the number of personnel currently assigned to conduct such review;
5. Stating the number of advertisements in its adult section, including all subsections, submitted since September 1, 2010;
6. Stating the number of advertisements, in its adult section, including all subsections, submitted since September 1, 2010, which were subjected to individualized or hand review prior to publication; and
7. Stating the number of advertisements in its adult section, including all subsections, submitted since September 1, 2010, rejected *prior to* publication because they involved or were suspected to involve illegal activity.

<sup>5</sup> Letter from Samuel Fifer, Attorney, SNR Denton, to Attorneys General Working Group (Jan. 27, 2011).

<sup>6</sup> Backpage.com, *supra* note 1.

Backpage.com's further represents that it has "inappropriate ad content removed."<sup>7</sup> We ask that Backpage.com substantiate this claim by:

8. Describing the criteria used to determine whether a published advertisement should be removed due to actual or suspected illegal activity;
9. Providing a copy of such policies that detail the criteria used to determine whether a published advertisement should be removed due to actual or suspected illegal activity;
10. Describing in detail the criteria Backpage.com uses, including but not limited to the number of user reports required, before a published advertisement is subjected to further review;
11. Providing a copy of such policies that detail the criteria Backpage.com uses, including but not limited to the number of user reports required, before a published advertisement is subjected to further review;
12. Stating the number of published advertisements posted since September 1, 2010 in its adult section, including all subsections, that Backpage.com has subjected to post publication review;
13. Stating the number of published advertisements posted since September 1, 2010 in its adult section, including all subsections, that Backpage.com removed following post publication review;
14. Stating the number of published advertisements posted since September 1, 2010 in its adult section, including all subsections, that Backpage.com did not remove following post publication review;
15. Stating the number of published advertisements posted since September 1, 2010 that were not subjected to further review by Backpage.com despite the receipt of user reports.

Lastly, Backpage.com also represents that it is "partnering with law enforcement and safety advocates/experts."<sup>8</sup> We request that Backpage.com support this assertion by:

16. Identifying the specific "law enforcement [agencies] and safety advocates/experts" with whom Backpage.com has partnered and describing the actions taken by Backpage.com in connection with such partnerships;
17. Stating the number of advertisements submitted since September 1, 2010 that Backpage.com has reported pre-publication to local, state or federal law enforcement agencies, or to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's Cyber Tipline, because of actual or suspected illegal activity;
18. Stating the number of user reports of suspected exploitation of minors and/or human trafficking Backpage.com requires before subjecting a published advertisement to further review;
19. Stating the number of published advertisements posted since September 1, 2010 that Backpage.com removed in response to such user reports;
20. Stating the number of published advertisements posted since September 1, 2010 that Backpage.com reported to local, state or federal law enforcement agencies, or to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's Cyber Tipline, as a result of such reports; and

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<sup>7</sup> Backpage.com, *supra* note 1.

<sup>8</sup> Backpage.com, *supra* note 1.

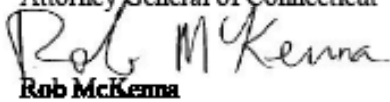
21. Stating the number of published advertisements posted since September 1, 2010 that Backpage.com did not remove following a review prompted by user reports.

The National Association of Attorneys General requests Backpage.com's response on or before September 14, 2011.

Respectfully,



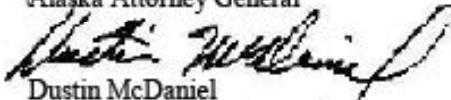
George Jepsen  
Attorney General of Connecticut



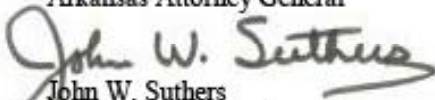
Rob McKenna  
Attorney General of Washington



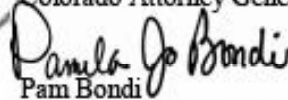
John J. Burns  
Alaska Attorney General



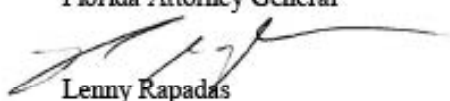
Dustin McDaniel  
Arkansas Attorney General



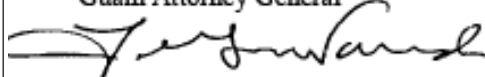
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Pam Bondi  
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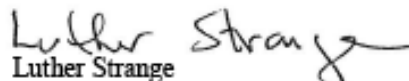
Lenny Rapadas  
Guam Attorney General



Lawrence Wasden  
Idaho Attorney General



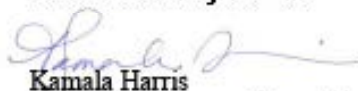
Chris Koster  
Attorney General of Missouri



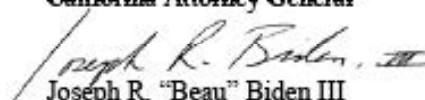
Luther Strange  
Alabama Attorney General



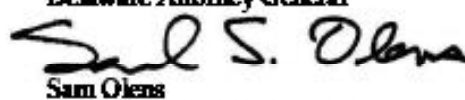
Tom Horne  
Arizona Attorney General



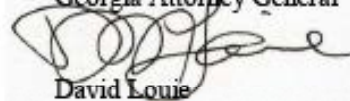
Kamala Harris  
California Attorney General



Joseph R. "Beau" Biden III  
Delaware Attorney General



Sam Olens  
Georgia Attorney General



David Louie  
Hawaii Attorney General

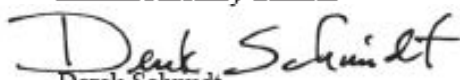


Lisa Madigan  
Illinois Attorney General





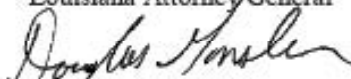
Greg Zoeller  
Indiana Attorney General



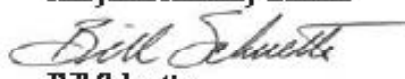
Derek Schmidt  
Kansas Attorney General



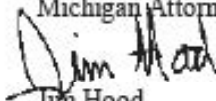
James "Buddy" Caldwell  
Louisiana Attorney General



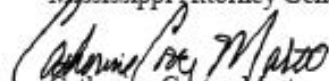
Douglas F. Gansler  
Maryland Attorney General



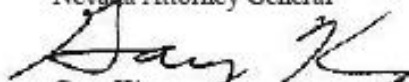
Bill Schuette  
Michigan Attorney General



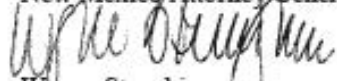
Jim Hood  
Mississippi Attorney General



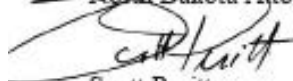
Catherine Cortez Masto  
Nevada Attorney General



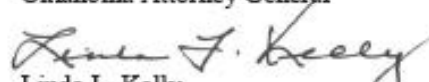
Gary King  
New Mexico Attorney General



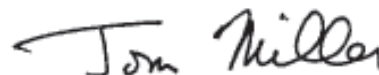
Wayne Stenehjem  
North Dakota Attorney General




Scott Pruitt  
Oklahoma Attorney General



Linda L. Kelly  
Pennsylvania Attorney General



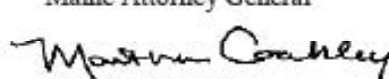
Tom Miller  
Iowa Attorney General



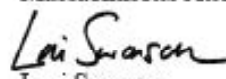
Jack Conway  
Kentucky Attorney General



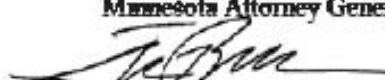
William J. Schneider  
Maine Attorney General



Martha Coakley  
Massachusetts Attorney General



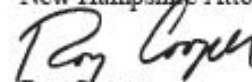
Lori Swanson  
Minnesota Attorney General



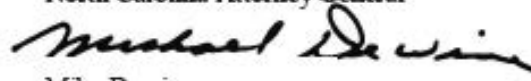
Steve Bullock  
Montana Attorney General



Michael Delaney  
New Hampshire Attorney General



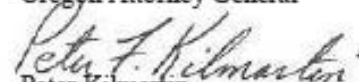
Roy Cooper  
North Carolina Attorney General



Mike Dewine  
Ohio Attorney General



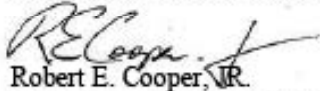
John Kroger  
Oregon Attorney General



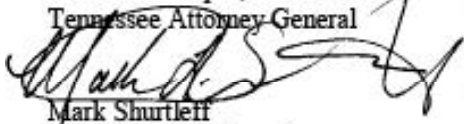
Peter Kilmartin  
Rhode Island Attorney General



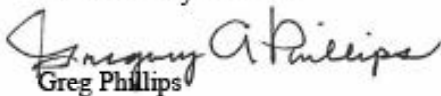
**Alan Wilson**  
**South Carolina Attorney General**



**Robert E. Cooper, Jr.**  
**Tennessee Attorney General**



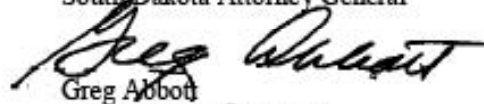
**Mark Shurtleff**  
**Utah Attorney General**



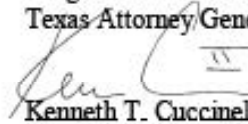
**Greg Phillips**  
**Wyoming Attorney General**



**Marty J. Jackley**  
**South Dakota Attorney General**



**Greg Abbott**  
**Texas Attorney General**



**Kenneth T. Cuccinelli, II**  
**Virginia Attorney General**







## NGOs Working with Victims of Human Trafficking in California

### **Asian Anti-Trafficking Collaborative, San Francisco**

*(Partnership of Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach, Asian Women's Shelter Donaldina Cameron House and Narika)*

Works with the North Bay Human Trafficking Task Force. Provides legal representation, social services, and access to emergency shelters for victims of human trafficking.

<http://endtrafficking.wordpress.com>

(415) 567-6255

### **Asian Pacific American Legal Center, Los Angeles**

Provides legal representation, help in securing permanent housing/work, and aid in acquiring permanent residency for immigrants who were trafficked here for domestic work and sexual servitude.

<http://apalc.org>

(213) 977-7500

### **Asian Women's Shelter, San Francisco**

Provides a shelter program, case management, and access to health and legal services for female victims of trafficking.

<http://sfaws.org/home.aspx>

(415) 751-7110 • Hotline: (877) 751-0880, available 24 hours a day

### **Bilateral Safety Corridor Coalition, San Diego/National City**

Works with the San Diego North County Anti-Trafficking Task Force. Provides crisis intervention, help in reintegrating into daily life, as well as services such as shelter, legal aide, medical services, and counseling for victims of human trafficking.

<http://bsccoalition.org/team.html>

(619) 336-0770 • Hotline: (619) 666-2757, available 24 hours a day

**Bay Area Women Against Rape, Oakland**

Works with the East Bay Human Trafficking Task Force. Provides counseling, advocacy, and referrals to victims of human trafficking.

<http://bawar.org>

(510) 430-1298 • Hotline: (510) 845-7273, available 24 hours a day

**Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST), Los Angeles**

Works with the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area Task Force on Human Trafficking. Provides social, legal and shelter services in one location, including physical and psychological health care, help in filing for T-Visas, and job training for victims of human trafficking.

<http://castla.org>

(213) 365-1906 • Hotline: (888)-539-2373, available 24 hours a day

**Community Service Programs, Santa Ana**

Works with the Orange County Human Trafficking Task Force and provides victim assistance and services to all victims of crime.

<http://cspinc.org>

(949) 250 -0488, ext. 246

**Community Solutions, Morgan Hill**

Works with the San Jose/South Bay Human Trafficking Task Force. Provides a 24-hour crisis line, counseling, legal advocacy, court accompaniment, and confidential shelter for male, female and minor victims of human trafficking.

<http://communitysolutions.org/>

(408) 779-2113 • Hotline: 1-877-363-7238, available 24 hours a day

**Courage to Be You, Rocklin**

Works with the Sacramento Innocence Lost Task Force and others. Provides in-house shelter and support for female minors aged 11-17 who are victims of commercial sex exploitation.

<http://couragetobeyou.org>

(916) 335-9043

**Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission, Fresno**

The Commission recently received a grant to help human trafficking victims and coordinates with the Fresno Coalition Against Human Trafficking.

<http://fresnoeoc.org/>

(559) 263-1000

**Marjaree Mason Center, Fresno**

Works with the Fresno Coalition Against Human Trafficking. Provides in-house shelter, educational assistance, crisis support, and counseling for female and minor victims of human trafficking.

<http://mmcenter.org>

(559) 237-4706 • Hotline: (800) 640-0333, available 24 hours a day

**My Sister's House, Sacramento**

Provides in-house shelter, counseling, basic provisions and help finding gainful employment. Although it is oriented towards serving the needs of Asian and Pacific Islander women, My Sister's House will not turn anyone away.

<http://my-sisters-house.org>

(916) 930-0626 • Hotline: (916) 428-3271, available 24 hours a day

**Opening Doors, Sacramento**

Provides assistance in finding safe shelter, health care, legal assistance, educational opportunities, business loans and employment for victims of human trafficking.

<http://openingdoorsinc.com>

(916) 492-2591

**Operation SafeHouse, Riverside and Thousand Palms**

Works with Riverside County Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force. Provides shelter, education, therapy, and employment assistance for male and female victims under the age of 21.

<http://operationsafehouse.org>

(951) 351-4418 • Hotline: (800) 561-6944, available 24 hours a day

**Sacramento Employment and Training Agency (SETA), Sacramento**

The agency recently received a grant from the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services to administer the Sacramento Rescue & Restore Coalition, which will help coordinate services to better identify and protect human trafficking victims, raise awareness about the issue in the Sacramento area, and create a network among NGOs and local government entities.

<http://sacramentorescueandrestore.net/>

(916) 263-1555 • Hotline: (866) 920-2592, available 24 hours a day

**SAGE Project (Standing Against Global Exploitation), San Francisco**

Works with North Bay Human Trafficking Task Force. Provides advocacy, healthcare, victim-centered therapy, and education to anyone who is in the sex industries or has left the sex industries.

<http://sagesf.org/>

(415) 905-5050

**WEAVE, Sacramento**

Works in conjunction with the Sacramento Rescue and Restore Coalition and the Sacramento Innocence Lost Task Force. Provides in-house emergency shelter, 24-hour support and transportation to obtain medical care, food, and clothing.

<http://weaveinc.org>

(866) 920-2952 • Hotline: (916) 920-2952, available 24 hours a day



## Chaptered Human Trafficking Legislation – 2007 to 2012

### 2007

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution 28 (Ma, of 2007).** Creates a National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness on January 11th of each year.

### 2008

**Assembly Bill 499 (Swanson, of 2008).** Authorizes the Alameda County District Attorney to create a pilot project to develop a model addressing the needs and effective treatment of commercially sexually exploited minors who have been arrested or detained by local law enforcement. (Pilot was extended by Assembly Bill 799 (Swanson, of 2011).)

**Assembly Bill 1278 (Lieber, of 2008).** Prohibits any provision of a contract that siphon future wages in exchange for the costs of transporting an individual to the U.S.

**Assembly Bill 2810 (Brownley, of 2008).** Requires law enforcement agencies to use due diligence to identify victims of human trafficking and allows any person who claims to have been forced to commit prostitution because they are a victim of human trafficking to have their name and address kept confidential.

### 2009

**Assembly Bill 17 (Swanson, of 2009).** Increases the maximum amount of additional authorized fines to \$20,000 for any person convicted of procurement of a child under 16 years of age.

### 2010

**Assembly Bill 1844 (Fletcher, of 2010).** Provides that any person who commits human trafficking involving a commercial sex act where the victim of human trafficking was under 18 years of age shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100,000 to be deposited in the Victim-Witness Assistance Fund to be available for appropriation to fund services for victims of human trafficking.

**Senate Bill 677 (Yee, of 2010).** Authorizes real property used to facilitate acts of human trafficking to be declared and treated as a nuisance, allowing the property to be seized.

**Senate Bill 657 (Steinberg, of 2010).** Requires retail sellers and manufacturers that conduct business in California and make over \$100 million in gross receipts to disclose their efforts to eradicate slavery and human trafficking from their direct supply chains for tangible goods offered for sale.

**Senate Concurrent Resolution 76 (Corbett, of 2010).** Encourages the Legislature, businesses and organizations to bring visibility and support to efforts to recognize and combat human trafficking and slavery.

## 2011

**Assembly Bill 12 (Swanson, of 2011).** Requires that a person who is convicted of seeking the sexual services of a prostitute under 18 years of age pay an additional fine not to exceed \$25,000.

**Assembly Bill 90 (Swanson, of 2011).** Expands the definition of criminal profiteering to include any crime in which the perpetrator causes a person under 18 years of age to engage in a commercial sex act.

**Assembly Bill 764 (Swanson, of 2011).** Allows an individual taxpayer to contribute a portion of their tax return to the Child Victims of Human Trafficking Fund.

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution 6 (Donnelly, of 2011).** Recognizes the month of January as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, and also recognizes February 1, 2011, as California's Free From Slavery Day.

**Senate Bill 557 (Kehoe, of 2011).** Authorizes the cities of San Diego and Anaheim, and the counties of Alameda and Sonoma, until January 1, 2014, to establish family justice centers (FJs) to assist victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse, human trafficking, and other victims of abuse and crime.

**Senate Bill 861 (Corbett, of 2011).** Prohibits a scrutinized company from entering into a contract with a state agency for goods or service

## 2012

**Assembly Bill 1899 (Mitchell, of 2012).** Gives students, who are noncitizen victims of trafficking, the same exemption from nonresident tuition and eligibility to apply for and participate in state and institutional financial aid programs at the California State University (CSU) and the California Community Colleges (CCC) as that extended to students granted refugee status, and requests the University of California (UC) to adopt similar policies.

**Assembly Bill 1956 (Portantino, of 2012).** Expands the California Voluntary Tattoo Removal Program to serve individuals, between 14 and 24, who were tattooed for identification in human trafficking or prostitution.

**Assembly Bill 2040 (Swanson, of 2012).** Allows a person, who was adjudicated as a ward of the court or convicted of an act of prostitution, to have his or her record sealed or expunged without having to show that he or she has not been subsequently convicted of an offense involving moral turpitude or has been rehabilitated.

**Assembly Bill 2212 (Block, of 2012).** Provides that every building or place used for the purpose of human trafficking, or upon which acts of human trafficking are held or occur, is declared a nuisance which shall be enjoined, abated, and prevented, and for which damages may be recovered, whether it is a public or private nuisance.

**Assembly Bill 2466 (Blumenfield, of 2012).** Allows a court to order the preservation of the assets and property by persons charged with human trafficking.

**Senate Bill 1091 (Pavley, of 2012).** Adds human trafficking to the list of crimes for which a prosecuting witness may have up to two support persons while testifying.

**Senate Bill 1133 (Leno, of 2012).** Expands the scope of property subject to forfeiture and provides a formula to redirect those resources to community groups that aid victims of human trafficking.

**Senate Bill 1193 (Steinberg, of 2012).** Requires businesses, transit hubs, and other locations that are the most likely sites of sex and labor trafficking to post a notice that publicizes human trafficking resources.







## How to Recognize the Signs of Human Trafficking

A crucial component of identifying victims and connecting them to resources is educating law enforcement, prosecutors, medical personnel, NGOs, and members of the public on what constitutes a victim. The Attorney General's website has information on how to identify victims, including links to fact sheets for law enforcement, the general public, health care providers, and others: <https://oag.ca.gov/human-trafficking/identify>

Polaris Project has a checklist of potential indicators of human trafficking at <http://polarisproject.org/humantrafficking/recognizing-the-signs>

If you see any of these red flags, contact the National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline at **1-888-3737-888**.

- ❖ Is the individual free to leave or come and go as he/she wishes?
- ❖ Is the individual under 18 and providing commercial sex acts?
- ❖ Is the individual in the commercial sex industry and does he/she have a pimp/manager?
- ❖ Is the individual unpaid, paid very little, or paid only through tips?
- ❖ Does the individual work excessively long and/or unusual hours?
- ❖ Is the individual not allowed breaks or suffers under unusual restrictions at work?
- ❖ Does the individual owe a large debt and is unable to pay it off?
- ❖ Was the individual recruited through false promises concerning the nature and conditions of his/her work?
- ❖ Do high security measures exist in the work and/or living locations (e.g. opaque windows, boarded up windows, bars on windows, barbed wire, security cameras, etc.)?
- ❖ Is the individual fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, or nervous/paranoid?
- ❖ Does the individual exhibit unusually fearful or anxious behaviour after bringing up law enforcement?
- ❖ Does the individual avoid eye contact? (though this may be cultural)
- ❖ Does the individual lack health care?
- ❖ Does the individual appear malnourished?

- ❖ Does the individual shows signs of physical and/or sexual abuse, physical restraint, confinement, or torture?
- ❖ Does the individual have few or no personal possessions?
- ❖ Is the individual not in control of his/her own money, have no financial records, or bank account?
- ❖ Is the individual not in control of his/her own identification documents (ID or passport)?
- ❖ Is the individual not allowed or able to speak for themselves (a third party may insist on being present and/or translating)?
- ❖ Does the individual have claims of just visiting and the inability to clarify where he/she is staying/address?
- ❖ Does the individual lack of knowledge of whereabouts and/or do not know what city he/she is in?
- ❖ Does the individual experience a loss of sense of time?
- ❖ Does the individual have numerous inconsistencies in his/her story?

#### **QR code**

Use your smart phone to scan this QR code to go to the Attorney General's Human Trafficking web page.

