

Ventura County  
Human Trafficking Protocol  
For  
Law Enforcement



October 2020

This protocol provides recommended best practices for the investigation of human trafficking cases.

As always, officer safety and department policies should be a priority for peace officers.

Prepared by the Ventura County Human Trafficking Task Force

## Table of Contents

Protocol Policy Statement	3
Leadership Committee	5
Dispatcher’s Role	6
First Responder Duties	8
Follow-Up Investigation	13
Common Charges for Successful Prosecution of Human Trafficking	15
CA Laws Governing Responses; Commercially Sexually Exploited Children, Wards of the Court, and Abducted Children	20
Important Slang & Definitions	23
Commonly Contacted Resources	27
Patrol Officers 2-Sided Field Cards	28

## Protocol Policy Statement

The primary objective of the Human Trafficking Protocol is to establish guidelines and best practices for the law enforcement investigation of human trafficking crimes in Ventura County and the reporting of crimes that have occurred in other jurisdictions. Meeting the objectives of this protocol will ensure victims receive proper care and treatment while traffickers are prosecuted to the fullest extent of local, state, or federal law. This protocol is designed to encourage a uniform reporting of criminal human trafficking cases. It entails a victim-centered and trauma-informed approach for investigating human trafficking cases by supplementing each law enforcement agency's policies, procedures, and investigative standards.

A trauma-informed approach begins with understanding the physical, social, and emotional impact of trauma the individual, as well as on the professionals who help them. This includes victim-centered practices. This approach incorporates three elements:

1. Realizing the prevalence of trauma.
2. Recognizing how trauma affects all individuals involved.
3. Responding by putting this knowledge into practice.

Using trauma-informed investigative techniques have the following benefits:

1. Victims receive the care they need.
2. Trauma-informed investigations lead to more effective interviews of victims and witnesses.
3. It maximizes the victim's cooperation with law enforcement.
4. The documentation of a trauma-informed story aide in the successful prosecution of the trafficker.

California law defines human trafficking generally as depriving or violating the personal liberty of another with the intent to obtain forced labor or services {Penal Code 236.1(a)}. The human trafficking of adults and minors for the purpose of Commercial Sexual Exploitation leads to more severe punishments {Penal Code 236.1, subdivisions (b), and (c)}. The California State Legislature established the definition in this Penal Code section to be equivalent to the United States Code Title 22, section 7102(9), which defines a severe form of human trafficking.

The three definitions of human trafficking are as follows:

1. Labor Trafficking: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud or coercion for subjection to involuntary servitude, debt bondage, or slavery.
2. Sex Trafficking: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for a commercial sex act(s) that is induced by force, fraud, or coercion. When minors are the victims, it is not necessary to prove force, fraud, or coercion to be considered as sex trafficking.
3. Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC): The commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) is sexual abuse of a minor for economic gain of the trafficker. It involves physical abuse, pornography, prostitution, or the smuggling of children for unlawful purposes.

This protocol advocates for robust and multidisciplinary training of law enforcement personnel to include the *dispatcher, patrol officer, investigator, and prosecutor*. The goal is to equip them with the

tools and common vocabulary used to communicate effectively and clearly with each other to identify, reduce, and ultimately eradicate the crimes of human trafficking. Secondly, the consistent training of law enforcement personnel and child welfare social workers is suggested to strengthen effective partnerships and clarify investigative responsibilities.

## Leadership Committee

In 2019, law enforcement, prosecutors, probation, Ventura County Human Services Agency, various community-based organizations, and the Ventura County Agricultural Commission formed the Ventura County Human Trafficking Task Force. This collaborative group was established to identify vulnerable areas and populations where human trafficking is occurring or has a high potential to occur with an emphasis on providing victims services, prosecuting traffickers, creating robust community awareness with a public education program. The task force hereby establishes standardized protocol for all law enforcement agencies.

A governing Leadership Committee was established to determine the priority and direction of the task force, based on community needs in Ventura County. The Leadership Committee consists of law enforcement, local and state elected officials, community-based organizations, and victim advocacy groups. The Leadership Committee consists of the following members and organizations:

- William Ayub, Sheriff, Ventura County Sheriff's Office
- Gregory Totten, District Attorney, Ventura County District Attorney's Office
- Jacqui Irwin, Assembly Member District-44, California State Assembly
- Darin Schindler, Chief of Police, Ventura Police Department
- Scott Whitney, Chief of Police, Oxnard Police Department
- David Livingstone, Chief of Police, Simi Valley Police Department
- Ismael Cordero, Chief of Police, Santa Paula Police Department
- Andrew Salinas, Chief of Police, Port Hueneme Police Department
- James D. Frost, Captain, California Highway Patrol – Ventura Area Office
- Melissa Livingston, Director, Ventura County Human Services Agency
- Mark Varela, Director, Ventura County Probation Agency
- Ed Williams, Commissioner, Ventura County Agricultural Commissioner's Office
- Tyler McCurdy, Supervisory Resident Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation – Ventura
- Paul Chang, Anti-Human Trafficking Coordinator, United States Department of Labor
- Kim Meyer, Assistant United States Attorney, United States Attorney's Office
- Shannon Sergey, C.E.O. and President, Forever Found
- April DePretis, Founding Member, Ventura County Coalition Against Human Trafficking
- Erik Sternad, Executive Director, Interface Children, and Family Services
- Arcenio Lopez, Executive Director, Mixteco/ Indigena Community Organizing Project
- Brad Myles, C.E.O., Polaris Project

## Dispatcher's Role

1. During the initial call, dispatchers should make every effort to comfort the victim and make them feel safe and supported. Dispatchers are encouraged to reassure the victim that calling law enforcement was the correct thing to do. Victims of human trafficking often reach out to law enforcement only when they are in dire need of medical or emotional assistance.
2. When speaking to a victim of human trafficking, the dispatcher(s) should not discuss the victim's desire to "press charges," "drop charges," or "prosecute." Any comment or statement which seeks to place the responsibility for enforcement actions with the victim is inappropriate. Dispatchers should not dissuade or give legal advice to a victim on how to handle their situation. Dispatchers should send law enforcement officers to the scene to investigate and remain supportive when speaking with the caller.
3. The safety of human trafficking victims shall be the primary concern. Dispatchers should advise the victim to leave any unsafe location if it can be done safely and wait for law enforcement officers to arrive.
4. Dispatchers should attempt to get all pertinent information such as victim's name, date of birth, where they are originally from, and any family contact information. Many victims are assigned aliases by traffickers. Dispatchers should attempt to obtain all names used, social media titles, or any identifying information.
5. Dispatchers should attempt to get information such as hotel room numbers or potential additional victims' locations.
6. Dispatchers should obtain information about the suspect(s) such as name, age, physical description, tattoos, or any identifying information. Dispatchers should inquire about the presence of weapons or whether the trafficker has been known to carry weapons in the past. Dispatchers should also inquire about the use of drugs or alcohol by any of the involved parties. If possible, trafficker information, associated vehicle and phone numbers could be vital information for responding units.
7. When possible, dispatchers should encourage the victim to stay on the phone until law enforcement officers arrive.
8. If speaking to a reporting party, who is not identified as a victim, dispatchers should attempt to obtain all pertinent details as described above.

Human trafficking may be present in a variety of calls for service, including but not limited to: assault, battery, child abuse, criminal threats, dissuading a witness, domestic violence, false imprisonment, gang activity, kidnapping, missing persons, narcotics, pandering, pimping, prostitution, robbery, sexual assault, and self-initiated during traffic stops or probation searches. Dispatchers should consider that human trafficking may be occurring, even if not immediately apparent.

**Dispatchers should attempt to distinguish, if possible, the form of trafficking alleged. For example, only labor trafficking might be alleged, or both labor and sex trafficking might be suspected or named. Dispatchers should correctly identify the type of incident in call logs, according to the kind of human trafficking alleged or suspected by the call-taker.**

The dispatcher should give a human trafficking incident call the same priority as any other life-threatening call as warranted. Human traffickers move victims quickly and frequently to avoid detection, so law enforcement should respond as quickly as possible.

### Jurisdiction

The dispatcher who receives a suspected human trafficking call should dispatch officers to every reported incident that is occurring within their jurisdiction. If the incident is occurring outside the jurisdiction, the dispatcher should obtain as much information as possible prior to transferring the call to the appropriate jurisdiction.

The dispatcher should remain on the call until the correct jurisdiction answers the call and receives the information.

### Reports of Human Trafficking

If the victim reports a crime in Ventura County and the crime occurred outside of the County, the responding agency shall still respond to the victim's location and ensure their safety and provide medical or emotional support if needed. The officers should obtain preliminary information such as type of crime, location of incident and additional victim locations. Human trafficking victims are often not oriented to places or locations and do not know jurisdictional boundaries.

Watch Commanders shall notify the law enforcement agency where the crime occurred. Both agencies should coordinate the appropriate notification and response. If the agency where the human trafficking occurred is unable to travel to the victim's location, the responding agency should author a courtesy report and forward it to the appropriate jurisdiction where the crime occurred.

### Victim Services

If the victim is in Ventura County at the time of the report, local victim services should still be offered regardless of where the crime occurred.



## First Responder Duties

Per California Penal Code 236.2, a peace officer shall use due diligence to identify all victims of human trafficking, regardless of citizenship, whenever he or she comes into contact with a person who is or has been:

1. Deprived of his or her personal liberty;
2. A minor who has engaged in a commercial sex act;
3. A person suspected of violating subdivision (a) or (b) of Section 647;
4. Or a victim of a crime of domestic violence or sexual assault.

To assess whether human trafficking is or has occurred, a peace officer should consider whether any of the following indicators of human trafficking are present:

1. Signs of trauma, fatigue, injury, malnutrition, abuse, intimidation, isolation, or other evidence of poor care;
2. The person is withdrawn, afraid to talk, or his or her communication is censored by another person;
3. The person does not have freedom of movement (e.g., the person lives and works in the same place or are dropped off every day with other workers by the same person);
4. The person owes a debt to an employer;
5. The person does not have control of their identifying information (e.g., passport, work permits, government documents, driver's license);
6. The person does not speak English or is not oriented about where they are;
7. The person is not in control of their money and may only receive small portions of cash as payment, or the person's workplace does not have a time clock, ledger, posted schedule, or fair labor signs in plain view;
8. The person avoids eye contact with law enforcement or will not speak for themselves and appears to be very submissive to their employer or trafficker;
9. The person is in possession of a combination of items related to sex trafficking, including large sums of cash, gift cards, multiple cell phones, suspicious tattoos (brandings, tattoos of crowns) hotel key cards, pre-paid cards, luggage, condoms;
10. The person is with a suspiciously older person who portrays himself or herself as the victim's "boyfriend" or "girlfriend."

Due to control tactics used by traffickers, victims often undergo physical or mental trauma, which may result in them being unwilling to trust law enforcement. In some instances, victims who are commercially sexually exploited may not even see themselves as victims of crime. Patrol officers are encouraged not to appear rushed, intently listen, and to attend to the victim's immediate needs. Trying to remove the victim from the scene where they have been victimized can assist in the rapport building stages. If possible, officers should separate the victim from his/her cell phone and remove their sim card or put the phone into airplane mode while speaking to them. This will prevent any third party from listening in, interrupting the conversation, or any attempt to wipe the phone of its data. Officers should record conversation and make note of non-spoken gestures or behaviors while the victim is in the officer's care. These observations and recordings may provide very compelling evidence during a subsequent prosecution of their traffickers or facilitators.

### Arrival at Scene:

Peace officers who respond to suspected human trafficking calls should employ similar officer safety

and investigative protocols as they would when responding to a call involving domestic violence. Peace officers should:

1. Follow officer safety tactics.
2. Human traffickers may be armed and part of sophisticated organizations.
3. Additional suspects may be involved and may be present at the scene or at nearby locations.
4. Victims may be armed for self-protection.
5. Ensure department issued body-worn camera and/or audio recorder is activated.
6. Determine if suspect(s) are still at the scene.
7. If reasonable suspicion of criminal activity exists detain suspects.
8. Determine the location and condition of the victim(s).
9. Provide Emergency Medical Services, if injuries claimed or observed.
10. Separate all parties involved including victims.

Questions to Consider directed towards potential victims:

1. Do you feel safe to speak with me now?
2. Would you like translation services?
3. Would you rather speak to me at another location?
4. Are you free to leave without a companion?
5. What types of labor are you participating in?
6. Are you required to have sex as part of your job?
7. Have you been raped or forced to participate in sexual acts against your will?
8. Is someone holding on to your passport, driver's license, children, animal, or other personal property to prevent you from leaving?
9. Have you been threatened or abused by your employer?
10. How do you advertise your services?
11. Does someone else do it for you?
12. Does anyone else write your advertisements?
13. Does someone use your pictures to advertise?
14. How do you get paid for your services?
15. What percentage of the money do you keep?
16. Do you have children in common with trafficker?

The existence of the elements of a crime shall solely determine whether an arrest or further investigation is appropriate. The following factors *shall not* influence an officer's decision to arrest or further investigate a human trafficking case except as they relate to the elements of the crime:

1. The victim's desire not to prosecute or have the suspect arrested.
2. The victim's immigration status.
3. The fact that the victim seems complicit in their exploitation.
4. The fact that the victim may have also committed a crime.
5. The victim's emotional state or state of sobriety.
6. The potential victim's financial consequences of the trafficker's arrest.
7. Verbal assurances that exploitative behavior will cease.
8. The victim's criminal history.
9. The victim's antagonistic or hostile attitude towards law enforcement.
10. The victim's relationship with the suspect.

### Evidence and Crime Scene Preservation:

1. Photograph the scene or living conditions, the victim's condition, physical marks, the proximity/behavior of potential trafficker/buyer, the presence of other possible victims.
2. Photograph and book into evidence any indicia of trafficking including, but not limited to, contraceptive devices such as condoms, sponges, enemas or douches, lubricants, wipes, sex toys, lingerie, cash, gift cards, window or other coverings designed to shield the occupants of a room from detection, and any surveillance items such as cameras.
3. Document the presence, if any, of used contraceptive devices.
4. A body worn camera (BWC) or recording device should be activated at all times while interacting with the victim. Notation of BWC in report.
5. A sex trafficking case, including a Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children case should be treated as a sexual assault/child abuse investigation. Refer to sex crimes protocol.
6. Collect evidence that signals labor trafficking, including forced labor or labor fraud that is in plain view.
7. Seek documentation for all payments and travel, if possible (including pay stubs, visas, plane tickets, bank transfers).
8. Assist the victim's acquisition of any personal property, especially identification documents, that may be in the suspect's possession, by seeking the suspect's consent, and documenting who is in possession and location of the property held.
9. Seek documentation for any innocent explanations provided by the suspect.
10. If consent is not given by suspect for searching, consider securing the scene, and consult with detectives for consideration of a search warrant.
11. Canvas the surrounding neighbors' businesses, and hospitality staff, for video evidence/witness statements.
12. Document cash or gift cards and their location, whether with the victim, suspect, or in the location.

### Victim Services:

1. Advise the victim of his/her rights and services that may be available, even if the victim refuses these services. Have handout or business card available for future contact.
2. Advise the victim that medical, mental health treatment or support is available.
3. Follow Domestic Violence or Sexual Assault Protocol if applicable.
4. Contact your Human Trafficking Detective(s) to brief the incident and request a victim advocate from Interface Children & Family Services' Human Trafficking Task Force Victim Services if the victim accepts or requests for one. The Detective will contact the on-call human trafficking victim advocate. The advocate should be able to respond to law enforcement 24 hours, seven days a week, arriving at the scene within ninety minutes after receiving the call to provide immediate support and possible crisis case management.
5. If possible, contact the assigned to Human Trafficking District Attorney as soon as practicable and brief them on the facts of the case.
6. Law enforcement officers should be cognizant that victims of human trafficking may be in need of basic necessities such as food, clothing, and hygiene items and do their best to provide them. Contact your Human Trafficking detective to assist if hygiene items are needed.
7. Transport or arrange for transportation to victim service center.

8. Marsy's Law, The California Constitution article I, 28, section (b) provides victims with the following rights; To be treated with fairness and respect for his or her privacy and dignity, and to be free from intimidation, harassment, and abuse, throughout the criminal or juvenile justice process.

#### Criminal Charges:

1. If the victim is found to be in violation of 647(b), (Prostitution), or P.C. 653.22 (Loitering to Commit Prostitution) and refuses victim services, officers should consider citing the victim for the above-mentioned violations. The citation will allow investigators and victim advocates a second chance at the court date to contact the victim and to provide them services.
2. If the victim is in violation of other statutes not related to prostitution, the victim shall be offered services and should be arrested for those criminal violations. An example of this would be if the victim was in possession of a firearm or commits a violent felony.

#### Dealing with Minors:

1. If the victim is a minor, each department should follow its own policy for dealing with juveniles. Law enforcement should identify the real name and birthdate of the minor and check to see if the minor is a missing person or a runaway. When a juvenile victim is found to be a missing person, the law enforcement officer shall notify the assigned investigator and shall document the location of the missing person in the appropriate report. The officer shall notify other involved agencies and refer the case to Child and Family Services. Child and Family Services will arrange for care of the minor.
2. During human trafficking investigations, it is common to locate juvenile victims who are being trafficked. After a juvenile victim is located, the officer should contact their agency's human trafficking detective(s) as soon as practical. Juvenile victims need to be rescued from their situation and provided resources. Law enforcement cannot allow these victims to be returned to their traffickers or to an unsafe living situation. Immediately call Child and Family Services and send a written follow-up report (DOJ SS8572 Suspected Child Abuse Report) to C.F.S. within 36 hours, if the circumstances meet the definition of child abuse and neglect as defined in Penal Code sections 11165.1 through 11165.5.
3. It is the responsibility of Child and Family Services to decide where the child is placed. Law enforcement officers should Refer to their agency's policy and Welfare and Institution Codes 300 and 600 for additional guidance. One section that may provide guidance is as follows:
  - Per Welfare and Institution Code 305; Any peace officer may, without a warrant, take into temporary custody a minor: (a) When the officer has reasonable cause for believing that the minor is a person described in Section 300, and, in addition, that the minor has an immediate need for medical care, or the minor is in immediate danger of physical or sexual abuse, or the physical environment or the fact that the child is left unattended poses an immediate threat to the child's health or safety. In cases in which the child is left unattended, the peace officer shall first attempt to contact the child's parent or guardian to determine if the parent or guardian is able to assume custody of the child. If the parent or guardian cannot be contacted, the peace officer shall notify a social worker in the county welfare department to assume custody of the child.

Supervisor's Responsibility:

1. Ensure the Human Trafficking Protocol is followed, and proper notifications are made.
2. Notify Human Trafficking detectives and provide them with the information gathered from the initial investigation. Detective(s) will provide guidance to ensure proper evidence is collected and will coordinate the movement of the victim(s) to proper services through victim services providers.
3. The Supervisor of each agency should apply best practice when releasing the names of the victims to the public. Except as authorized by law, members of agencies shall not publicly disclose the name and address of any victim of a sex crime who has exercised his/her right to confidentiality (Penal Code 293). All victims shall be advised of their rights pursuant to Marsy's Law (Penal Code 379.026). Per Welfare and Institute Code 827.9(a), any suspect or victim juvenile involved in human trafficking shall not have their personal information released to the public.

## Follow Up Investigation

Investigators should make every effort to ensure victim safety at the point of identification. Providing victims access to an advocate will make the victim more comfortable and help to identify injuries, exposure to sexually transmitted diseases, and provide comfort for the victim's emotional and mental health. Investigators should obtain all social media profiles, internet addresses, common locations, addresses, and phone numbers. This includes the contact information of family, friends, distant relatives, service providers, etc. The investigator should collaborate often with the victim advocate and other service providers to maintain consistency and rapport with the victim.

Investigators should interview each witness separately in a comfortable, safe environment. Interviews should be conducted away from and out of sight of suspects and parents/guardians. Follow the P.O.S.T. (Peace Officer Standards and Training) F.E.T.I. (Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview) trauma-informed and victim-centered interviewing guidelines. Ask questions in a non-leading, non-suggestive, and non-judgmental manner.

Investigators should appropriately involve Human Trafficking Task Force members and if possible;

1. Review patrol reports ensuring accuracy and completeness.
2. Wear plain clothes (if possible), present identification, and make clear statements that affirm that you are there to help and that the victim is not in trouble.
3. Take time to explain who you are and role in the process, answer questions they may have, and address their fears.
4. Begin by asking the victim about their chief concerns, which may vary as widely as retaliation by the trafficker, threats of deportation, meeting basic needs, access to personal property, contact with immediate family, the safety of family in another country, the ability to pay an outstanding debt.
5. Be sensitive when asking the victim about documentation or legal status, as this may frighten or confuse the victim and interfere with building trust.
6. Allow interviewees to describe what happened to their counterparts before focusing on the victim's suffering. It is often easier for them to talk about what happened to other people initially.
7. Minimize the re-traumatization of the victim during the interview by only asking questions necessary and limit the number of people conducting the interview.
8. Do not ask questions like, "Are you a slave?" or "Are you a trafficking victim?" or "Or are you a prostitute?"
9. Be sensitive to cultural differences.
10. Conduct interviews individually and in private, remembering the victim may need an advocate present for support.
11. Connect the victim to a victim advocate who can connect them to support services, emphasizing assistance is available regardless of the investigation and prosecution (this may be a reconnection depending on if victim advocate was assigned in the initial contact with law enforcement)
12. Understand that many victims do not consider themselves as victims and may claim to have wanted to engage in certain conduct to protect their traffickers.
13. Be patient and give the victim time to stabilize and begin their recovery process.

In accordance with the legal requirements for law enforcement to provide documentation, California

Penal Code §236.5 states that:

1. Within 15 business days of the first encounter with a victim of human trafficking, as defined by Section 236.1, law enforcement agencies shall provide brief letters that satisfy the following Law Enforcement Agency (L.E.A.) endorsement regulations as found in paragraph (1) of subdivision (f) of Section 214.11 of Title 8 of the Code of Federal Regulations <https://www.uscis.gov/i-914>.
2. The L.E.A. endorsement must be filled out completely in accordance with the instructions contained on the form and must attach the results of any name or database inquiry performed. In order to provide persuasive evidence, the L.E.A. endorsement must contain a description of the victimization upon which the application is based, including the dates the trafficking in persons and victimization occurred, and be signed by a supervising official responsible for the investigation or prosecution of trafficking in persons. The L.E.A. endorsement must address whether the victim had been recruited, harbored, transported, provided, or obtained specifically for either labor or services or for a commercial sex act.
3. Where state law enforcement agencies find the grant of an L.E.A. endorsement to be inappropriate for a victim of trafficking in persons, the agency shall within 15 days provide the victim with a letter explaining the grounds of the denial of the L.E.A. The victim may submit additional evidence to the law enforcement agency, which must reconsider the denial of the L.E.A. within one week of the receipt of additional evidence (Note: The form should go to the victim's advocate or attorney so it can be included with I-914 T visa application).
4. The purpose of the endorsement is to assist victims in applying to immigration authorities for a T visa, which allows them to live and work legally in the U.S. and access certain government benefits, such as health care. The completion of this form by law enforcement does not constitute the issuance of the T-visa. That will occur through the Department of Immigration.

Present the case to the prosecutor, and if applicable:

1. Assist in coordinating the pre-file interview with the victims.
2. Provide information and feedback to assist the prosecutor in the victim credibility evaluation.
3. Complete supplemental investigative requests

## Common Charges for Successful Prosecution of Human Trafficking

For successful prosecution of Traffickers and purchasers, the following charges can be found in the California State Penal Code, Labor Code, Insurance Code, Unemployment Insurance Code, and the United States Code of Law as it relates to incidences where sex and/or labor trafficking is occurring. Citations from the California Welfare Institution Code are also provided to ensure that law enforcement is aware of the statute for law enforcement to take a child into non-criminal custody for his/her safety. Review actual code sections for the full and exact language.

**Before arresting or citing for any of the below codes, outside of the State Penal Codes, please consult with the appropriate Department or Agency.**

### STATE PENAL CODES:

**136.1(a) (2)- Dissuading a Witness-** Makes criminal any knowing and malicious attempts to prevent or dissuade any witness or victim from attending or giving testimony at any trial, proceeding, or inquiry authorized by law

**136.1(b) (1)- Dissuading a Victim-** Makes criminal attempts to prevent or dissuade another person who has been the victim of a crime or witness to a crime.

**186.2(a) - Criminal Profiteering Activity** – Any act committed or attempted or any threat made for financial gain or advantage involving human trafficking, as defined in section 236.1.

**186.3(a)- Criminal Profiteering Asset Forfeiture-** Any property interest acquired through a pattern of criminal profiteering activity and all proceeds of a pattern of criminal profiteering activity, which shall include all things of value that may have been received in exchange for the proceeds immediately derived from the pattern of criminal profiteering activity are subject to forfeiture upon proof of the provisions of section 186.5(d).

**207(a)- Kidnapping-** Every person who forcibly, or by any other means of instilling fear, steals or takes, or holds, detains, or arrests any person in this state, and carries the person into another country, state, or county.

**208(a)- Kidnapping for Ransom-** Kidnapping with the intent to obtain a ransom, reward, or to commit extortion or to exact from another person any money or valuable thing.

**236.1(a) Human Trafficking-** Any person who deprives or violates the personal liberty of another with the intent to effect or maintain a felony violation of 266, 266h, 266i, 267, 311.4 or 518, or to obtain forced labor or services. For purposes of this section, unlawful deprivation or violation of the personal liberty of another includes substantial and sustained restriction of another's liberty accomplished through fraud, deceit, coercion, violence, duress, menace, or threat of unlawful injury to the victim or to another person, under circumstances where the person receiving the threat reasonably believes that it is likely that the person making the threat could carry it out. Duress includes knowingly destroying, concealing, removing, confiscating, or possessing any actual or purported passport or immigration document of the victim.



**236.1(c)- Human Trafficking of a Juvenile-** Any person who causes, induces, or persuades, or attempts to cause, induce, or persuade, a person who is a minor at the time of the commission of the offense to engage in a commercial sex act, with the intent to effect or maintain a violation of Section 266, 266h, 266i, 266j, 267, 311.1, 311.2, 311.3, 311.4, 311.5, 311.6, or 518.

**236.2- Peace Officer's duty to identify victims of human trafficking-** Law enforcement agencies shall use due diligence to identify all victims of human trafficking, regardless of the citizenship of the person. When a peace officer comes into contact with a person who has been deprived of his or her personal liberty, a person suspected of violating subdivision (a) or (b) of Section 647, or a victim of a crime of domestic violence or rape, the peace officer shall consider whether the indicators of human trafficking are present.

**236.5- Law Enforcement Agency (L.E.A.) endorsement-** Within 15 business days of the first encounter with a victim of human trafficking, as defined by section 236.1, law enforcement agencies shall provide brief letters that satisfy the following Law Enforcement Agency Endorsement (L.E.A.) Regulations, as found in paragraph (1) of subdivision (f) of Chapter 8 of The Code of Federal Regulations. For all associated forms reference this endorsement, please visit <https://www.uscis.gov/i-914>.

**261- Rape-** An act of sexual intercourse accomplished with a person not the spouse of the perpetrator under force, violence, duress, menace or fear; where a person is incapable of giving legal consent; where a person is prevented from resisting because of intoxication; where a person is unconscious; were induced by artifice, pretense or concealment; under threat of retaliation; or under threat of incarceration, arrest or deportation.

**262- Spousal rape-** An act of sexual intercourse with the spouse of the perpetrator under force, violence, duress, menace or fear; where a person is prevented from resisting because of intoxication; where a person is unconscious; under threat of retaliation; or under threat of incarceration, arrest or deportation.

**266 Rape, Abduction, Carnal Abuse of Children-** Every person who inveigles (lures) or entices any unmarried female, of previously chaste character, under the age of 18 years, into any house of ill fame, or of assignation, or elsewhere, for the purpose of prostitution, or to have an illicit carnal connection with any man.

**266h- Pimping-** Any person who, knowing another person is a prostitute lives or derives support or maintenance in whole or in part from the earnings or proceeds of the person's prostitution, or from money loaned or advanced to or charged against that person by any keeper or manager or inmate of a house or other place where prostitution is practiced or allowed, or solicits or receives compensation for soliciting for the person.

**266i- Pandering-** Any person who procures another person for the purposes of prostitution.

**267- Abduction for Prostitution-** Every person who takes away any other person under the age of 18 years from the mother, father, guardian, or without their consent, for the purpose of prostitution.

**273(a)- Child Endangerment-** Abuse or endangering the health of a child.

**273.5- Corporal Injury to Spouse or Cohabitant-** corporal injury of a spouse, former spouse, cohabitant, former cohabitant, or parent of suspect's child resulting in a traumatic condition.

**273.7- Disclosure of the location of trafficking or domestic violence shelter-** Any person who maliciously publishes, disseminates, or otherwise discloses the location of any trafficking shelter or domestic violence shelter or any place designated as a trafficking shelter or domestic violence shelter, without the authorization of that trafficking shelter or domestic violence shelter

**288.1- Lewd or Lascivious Acts with a Child-** A person who willfully and lewdly commits any lewd or lascivious act, including any of the acts constituting other crimes provided for in Part 1, upon or with the body, or any part or member thereof, of a child who is under the age of 14 years, with the intent of arousing, appealing to, or gratifying the lust, passions, or sexual desires of that person or the child

**293- Privacy Act of Human Trafficking Victims-** Law enforcement must provide notice to a trafficking victim that the victim's name will become a matter of public record unless the victim requests otherwise. No law enforcement agency shall disclose the address of a person who alleges to be the victim of a sex offense or who was forced to commit an act of prostitution because he/she is the victim of human trafficking.

**311.4-Child Pornography-**Using minor to assist in the distribution of obscene matter-posing or modeling involving sexual conduct.

**422- Criminal threats-** Willfully threatening to commit a crime, which will result in death or great bodily injury to another person.

**518- Extortion-** Obtaining money or property from another, with his consent, induced by wrongful use of force or fear, including fear of report of immigration status, or under color of official right.

**647(b)- Prostitution-** An individual who solicits, or who agrees to engage in, or who engages in any act of prostitution with the intent to receive compensation, money, or anything of value from another person. An individual agrees to engage in the act of prostitution when, with the specific intent to so engage, the individual manifests an acceptance of an offer or solicitation by another person to so engaging, regardless of whether the offer or solicitation was made by a person who also possessed the specific intent to engage in the act of prostitution.

**PENALTIES FOR COMMITTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING, ACCORDING TO THE CALIFORNIA TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION ACT (PENAL CODE §236.1):**

1. Any person who deprives or violates the personal liberty of another with the intent to obtain forced labor or services is guilty of human trafficking and shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for 5, 8, or 12 years and a fine of not more than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).
2. Any person who deprives or violates the personal liberty of another with the intent to effect or maintain a violation of Section 266, 266h, 266i, 266j, 267, 311.1, 311.2, 311.3, 311.4, 311.5, 311.6, or 518 is guilty of human trafficking and shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for 8, 14, or 20 years and a fine of not more than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).
3. Any person who causes, induces, or persuades, or attempts to cause, induce, or persuade, a person who is a minor at the time of the commission of the offense to engage in a commercial sex act, with the intent to effect or maintain a violation of Section 266, 266h, 266i, 266j, 267, 311.1, 311.2, 311.3, 311.4, 311.5, 311.6, or 518 is guilty of human trafficking.

## STATE LABOR CODE

**3700.5-** All employers are required to obtain a workers' compensation insurance policy covering their employees.

## STATE INSURANCE CODE

**1871.4(a)-** False or fraudulent statements made in favor of or to prevent a workers' compensation insurance claim.

## STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CODES

**2117.5-** Willfully failing to report payroll taxes or fraud on payroll tax reports

**2118.5-** Willfully failing to collect and turn over the payroll tax

## UNITED STATES CODES

**18 U.S.C. Subsection 1581-** Peonage; obstructing enforcement.

**18 U.S.C. Subsection 1584-** Involuntary Servitude; Whoever knowingly and willfully holds to involuntary servitude or sells into any condition of involuntary servitude, any other person for any term, or brings within the United States any person so held, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years or both.

**18 U.S.C. Subsection 1589-** Forced Labor; Whoever knowingly provides or obtains the labor or services of a person- (1) by threats of serious harm to, or physical restraint against, that person or another person; (2) by means of any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause the person to believe that, if the person did not perform such labor or services, that person or another person would suffer serious harm or physical restraint; or (3) by means of the abuse or threatened abuse of law or the legal process, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.

**18 U.S.C. Subsection 1590-** Trafficking with respect to peonage, slavery, involuntary servitude, forced labor; Whoever knowingly recruits, transports, provides, or obtains by any means, any person for labor or services in violation of this chapter shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.

**18 U.S.C. Subsection 1591-** Sex trafficking of a minor or by fraud, force, or coercion; Whoever knowingly (1) in or affection interstate or foreign commerce, or within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States, recruits, entices, harbors, transports, provides, or obtains by any means a person; or (2) benefits, financially or by receiving anything of value, from participation in a venture which has engaged in an act described in violation of paragraph (1), know that force, fraud, or coercion will be used to cause the person to engage in a commercial sex act, or that the person has not attained the age of 18 years and will be caused to engage in a commercial sex act.

**18 U.S.C. Subsection 1592-** Holding or confiscating passport immigration documents; (a) Whoever knowingly destroys, conceals, removes, confiscates, or possesses any actual or purported passport or other immigration document, or any other actual or purported government identification document, of another person (1) in the course of a violation of section 1581, 1583, 1584, 1589, 1590, 1591, or 1594(a); (2) with intent to violate section 1581, 1583, 1584, 1589, 1590, or 1591; or (3) to prevent or restrict or to attempt to prevent or restrict, without lawful authority, the person's liberty to move or travel, in order to maintain the labor or services of that person, when the person is or has been a victim

of a severe form of trafficking in persons, as defined in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both.

**18 U.S.C. 1593-** Mandatory restitution; (a) Notwithstanding section 3663 or 3663A, and in addition to any other civil or criminal penalties authorized by law, the court shall order restitution for any offense under this chapter.

## CALIFORNIA LAWS Governing Responses to Commercially Sexually Exploited Children, Wards of the Court, and Abducted Children

From 2014 to the present, the expectations and responsibilities for protecting Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) by government agencies (i.e., county welfare and probation departments and local law enforcement) do not criminalize these children and have more accountability in safeguarding children in care from exploitation.

The California Legislature enacted SB 855 into law in 2014, which explicitly identified CSEC as victims of child abuse, as reflected by the addition of subsection (b)(2) to Welfare and Institutions Code section 300, and established a state-funded CSEC program to which counties could opt-in. As part of the opt-in program, counties receive additional funding for the provision of training, prevention activities, and intervention services to CSEC or youth at risk of becoming CSEC. Participating counties must form a multidisciplinary team (MDT) to coordinate case management, case planning, and services for CSEC and must create an interagency protocol for the provision of services aimed at preventing and/or intervening in situations involving dependent youth who have been identified as CSEC or are at risk of becoming CSEC.

SB 794 also became law in 2015, which requires all child welfare and probation departments to take action to protect youth who are receiving child welfare services and are CSEC or at risk of becoming CSEC victims. Welfare & Institution Code Section 16501.35 mandates counties to implement policies and procedures requiring social workers and probation officers to:

1. Identify the youth;
2. Document youth in Child Welfare Services/Case Management System and in other records;
3. Determine appropriate services for these youth; and
4. Receive training in identification, documentation, and determination of appropriate services for these youth.

In addition, child welfare and probation departments must immediately or within 24 hours, report to law enforcement any dependent child who is identified as a CSEC victim. (Penal Code 11166, subdivision (j) (2).)

SB 794 also requires county probation and child welfare departments to develop and implement policies and procedures to expeditiously locate any dependent child missing from care. These policies and procedures must include a mandatory report to law enforcement and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children any time a child who is receiving child welfare services and known or suspected to be a CSEC victim is missing. The report must be made immediately or within 24 hours of learning the child is missing. Law enforcement must enter the information into the National Crime Information Center (Penal Code 11166, subdivision (j) (3)).

One of the most recent pieces of legislation that were approved into law in September 2016 is Senate Bill 1322, which became effective January 1, 2017, amending Penal Code Sections 647 and 653.22. A summary of the changes to the law impacted by Senate Bill 1322 are discussed below:

1. Decriminalization of Prostitution-Related Offenses for Any Youth under 18 Years of Age:
  - a. Senate Bill 1322 amends the Penal Code to decriminalize prostitution and loitering with the intent to commit prostitution for any child under the age of 18 (Penal Code, 647, subdivision (b) (2) & 653.22, subdivision (b) (2)).

2. Juvenile Court Jurisdiction Over of a Child Alleged to Have Engaged in Conduct Described by Penal Code 647(b) or 653.22:
  - a. The amended Penal Code provisions allow for a child who is engaging in the conduct described by Penal Code sections 647(b) or 653.22 to be “adjudged a dependent child of the court” (pursuant to Welfare & Institutions Code 300, subdivision (b) (2)) if the child’s parents or guardian failed to or are unable to protect the child.
3. Temporary Custody of a Child Alleged to Have Engaged in Conduct Prescribed by Penal Code Sections 647(b) or 653.22:
  - a. An officer may take a child engaged in conduct described by Penal Code sections 647(b) or 653.22 into temporary custody without a warrant if the officer “has reasonable cause” to believe that (a) the youth’s circumstances subject him or her to being adjudged a dependent of the court under Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 300, and (b) the child: 1. Immediately needs medical care, 2. Faces imminent danger of physical or sexual abuse, or 3. The youth’s health or safety is threatened by his or her physical environment or unattended status. If the child is unattended when contacted by law enforcement, the officer must attempt to contact the youth’s parent or guardian. If the parent or guardian cannot be reached, the county welfare department is to assume custody.<sup>1</sup> (See Welfare and Institutions Code 300 and 305, subdivision (a).)

Temporary custody of a minor by law enforcement is also guided by California Welfare Institutions Code 305, which specifically states that<sup>2</sup>,

“Any peace officer may, without a warrant, take into temporary custody a minor, under the following circumstances:

1. When the officer has reasonable cause for believing that the minor is a person described in Section 300 as a dependent ward of the state, and, in addition, that the minor has an immediate need for medical care, or the minor is in immediate danger of physical or sexual abuse, or the physical environment or the fact that the child is left unattended poses an immediate threat to the child’s health or safety. In cases in which the child is left unattended, the peace officer shall first attempt to contact the child’s parent or guardian to determine if the parent or guardian is able to assume custody of the child. If the parent or guardian cannot be contacted, the peace officer shall notify a social worker in the county welfare department to assume custody of the child.
2. Who is in a hospital and release of the minor to a parent poses an immediate danger to the child’s health or safety.
3. Who is a dependent child of the juvenile court or concerning whom an order has been made under Section 319 when the officer has reasonable cause for believing that the minor has violated an order of the juvenile court or has left any placement ordered by the juvenile court.

---

<sup>1</sup> Even if the youth's parent or guardian is reached, the officer must still fulfill his or her mandatory reporter obligation (under the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act) by contacting the child welfare hotline. (Penal Code 11166)

<sup>2</sup> An officer may also take a CSEC into temporary custody pursuant to previously existing law if the officer has reasonable cause to believe that the child violated court order such as leaving a court-ordered placement. Consistent with the intent of the law, as amended by SB 1322, temporary custody under this provision should be utilized as a tool to protect CSEC and not as a punitive measure.

4. Who is found in any street or public place suffering from any sickness or injury which requires care, medical treatment, hospitalization, or other remedial care.”

Additionally, an officer may take a child into temporary custody without a warrant for the following reasons, pursuant to Under Welfare and Institutions Code 600 et seq.:

1. The officer has reasonable cause to believe the minor is a person described in Section 601 or 602 of the Welfare and Institutions Code. This includes minors who are habitually truant, disobedient, or violate curfew and those who have committed a crime;
2. The minor is a ward of the court and has violated an order of the juvenile court or left any placement ordered by the court; or
3. The minor is found in any street or public place suffering from any sickness or injury that requires treatment.

Finally, an officer may also take a child into protective custody if:

1. It reasonably appears to the officer that a person (e.g., a trafficker) is likely to conceal the child, flee the jurisdiction with the child, or, by flight or concealment, evade the authority of the court;
2. There is no lawful custodian available to take custody of the child;
3. There are conflicting custody orders or conflicting claims to custody, and the parties cannot agree which party should take custody of the child; or
4. The child is an abducted child.

In exercising his or her discretion regarding whether to take a minor into temporary or protective custody, the officer should consider the minor's age, the need for immediate medical care, prior or current child welfare involvement, and risk of exposure to further abuse or exploitation. A victim in custody can be searched by law enforcement, and evidence of sexual exploitation or other abuse can be collected (e.g., a cell phone a trafficker may use to communicate with the CSEC).

## Important Slang and Definitions

When investigating human trafficking crimes, law enforcement personnel should be aware of, and familiar with, some specific legal and slang terms specific to the financially motivated sex trade. They may include the following:

**10-Day House/Trap House:** An apartment, house, or other location where sex trafficking occurs temporarily, and victims are housed temporarily. Traffickers/exploiters regularly rotate victims through these temporary locations to keep them disoriented, disconnected, and beyond law enforcement's detection.

**Bitch/Ho:** An individual being exploited by the trafficker/exploiter.

**Mammason/Bottom/Bottom Bitch/Bottom Girl:** The highest-ranking victim in the group. They answer directly to the pimp; recruits, trains, supervises, and disciplines other individuals/victims; initially, they may be the only person who has contact with the pimp.

**Broke/Breaking:** The process of violently raping, beating, threatening or coercing a victim being exploited by a trafficker/exploiter.

**Channels:** The various local, national, and international routes traffickers/exploiters use to move their victims from place to place.

**Choosin'/Choose up:** When a victim picks their trafficker/exploiter, do not assume this is a voluntary choice—this can occur if a victim simply looks another trafficker/exploiter in the eyes.

**Circuit:** The trafficker's/exploiter's geographical travel routes to market their victims.

**Coercion:** Includes any scheme, plan or pattern intended to cause a person to believe that failure to perform an act would result in serious harm to or physical restraint against any person; the abuse or threatened abuse of the legal process; debt bondage; or providing and facilitating the possession of any controlled substance to a person with the intent to impair the person's judgment.

**Commercial Sex Act:** Any sexual conduct on account of which anything of value is given or received by any person. (Penal Code 236.1(2).)

**Confidential/Privileged Communication:** Information transmitted between the victim and the Human Trafficking Caseworker in the course of their relationship and in confidence by a means which, so far as the victim is aware, discloses the information to no third persons other than those who are present to further the interests of the victim in the consultation or those to whom disclosures are reasonably necessary to effectuate what the victim needs to be accomplished. (Evidence Code, 1038(c).)

**Confidential Emergency Shelter/Trafficking Shelter/Safe House:** A confidential location that provides emergency housing on a 24-hour basis for victims of human trafficking, including any person who is a victim under Penal Code 236.1. Penal Code 273.7(2) makes it a misdemeanor to reveal the location of a trafficking or domestic violence shelter.



**Criminal Profiteering Activity:** Any act committed or attempted, or any threat made for financial gain or advantage, which act, or threat may be charged as a crime under several Penal Code sections including human trafficking as defined in Penal Code section 236.1.

**Daddy/Boyfriend/Pimp:** The trafficker/exploiter.

**Debt Bondage:** The status or condition of a debtor arising from a pledge by the debtor of his or her personal services or of those of a person under his or her control as security for a debt, if the value of those services as reasonably assessed is not applied toward the liquidation of the debt the length and nature of those services are not respectively limited and defined.

**Deprivation or Violation of Personal Liberty:** Substantial and sustained restriction of another's liberty accomplished through fraud, deceit, coercion, violence, duress, menace, or threat of unlawful injury to the victim or to another person, under circumstances where the person receiving or apprehending the threat reasonably believes that it is likely that the person making the threat would carry it out. (Penal Code 236.1(d)(1).)

**Duress:** Knowingly destroying, concealing, removing, confiscating, or possessing any actual or purported passport or immigration document of the victim. (Penal Code 236.1(d)(2).)

**Family/Stable:** The group of individuals working for the pimp/trafficker/exploiter.

**Federal Definition of Severe Forms of Trafficking in Persons:** Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age (force not needed); or the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery. The California statute now closely mirrors the Federal law.

**Forced Labor or Services:** Labor or services that are performed or provided by a person and are obtained or maintained through force, fraud, or coercion, or equivalent conduct that would reasonably overbear the will of the person. (Penal Code 236.1(e).)

**Gorilla Pimp:** A trafficker/exploiter who uses force, violence, and threats to exploit a victim. This trafficker/exploiter often rapes, beats, and emotionally traumatizes victims.

**Human Trafficking:** When any person violates the personal liberty of another with the intent to effect or maintain a felony violation of Penal Code sections 266, 266h, 266i, 267, 311.4 or 518, or to obtain forced labor or services. (Penal Code 236.1(a).)

**Human Trafficking Caseworker:** A person who is employed by any organization providing the programs specified in section 18294 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, whether financially compensated or not, to render assistance to victims of human trafficking, who has received specialized training in the counseling of human trafficking victims and who also meets any of one of the following requirements: has a master's degree in counseling or a related field; or has one year of counseling experience, at least six months of which is in the counseling of human trafficking victims; has at least 40 hours of training as specified in Evidence Code 1038.2 and is supervised by an individual who qualifies as a counselor as listed above or is a psychotherapist. (Evidence Code 1010.)

**Human Trafficking Caseworker Privilege** is when a trafficking victim and his or her caseworker have confidential communication. Confidential communication cannot be disclosed if the privilege is asserted. The privilege can be exercised by the victim, by a person the victim has authorized to claim the privilege, or by the caseworker, if the victim is still alive. A court, after a hearing, could compel disclosure if the probative value of the information outweighs the effect of disclosure of the information on the victim, the counseling relationship, and the counseling services. (Evidence Code 1038.1.)

**In House:** Someone who works from inside a house.

**Involuntary Servitude:** A condition of servitude induced by means of any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause a person to believe that, if the person did not enter into or continue in such condition, that person or another person would suffer serious harm or physical restraint; or the abuse or threatened abuse of legal process. Accordingly, involuntary servitude includes “a condition of servitude in which the victim is forced to work for the defendant by the use or threat of physical restraint or physical injury, or by the use or threat of coercion through law or the legal process. This definition encompasses those cases in which the defendant holds the victim in servitude by placing the victim in fear of such physical restraint or injury or legal coercion.” (United States v. Kozminski, 487 U.S. 931, 952 (1988)).

**The Life of The Game/The Life/The Game/The Sweet Life:** Commercial sexual exploitation or the sex industry.

**Out of Pocket:** Disrespectful behavior by a victim towards Their trafficker/exploiter.

**Peonage:** A status or condition of involuntary servitude based upon real or alleged indebtedness.

**Pimp Circle:** A group of traffickers/exploiters surrounding a victim for purposes of intimidation.

**Romeo Pimp:** A trafficker/exploiter who uses romance and expensive gifts to gain a victim's confidence and trust, then isolates them and exploits their financial, social, and emotional dependence on the trafficker. This trafficker/exploiter often makes elaborate promises of a better life, more money, and continued luxuries.

**Serving Papers:** The new trafficker/exploiter notifying the old trafficker/exploiter that they no longer “own” a certain victim.

**Squad:** Police Officers.

**Square:** Someone who has never been in “the life.”

**Squaring Up:** Getting out of “the game.”

**Stay in Pocket:** Playing by the rules of “the game.”

**Stroll/Track/Blade:** The street or area is known for its high prostitution activity and are often assigned to victims for solicitation.

**Trick/Date:** The customer, purchaser, or John.

**Turnout:** Someone who recruits someone into “the life.”

**Renegade:** A person that does not have a trafficker/exploiter/pimp.

**Serious Harm:** Includes any harm, whether physical or nonphysical, including psychological, financial, or reputational harm, that is sufficiently serious, under all the surrounding circumstances, to compel a reasonable person of the same background and in the same circumstances to perform or to continue performing labor, services, or commercial sex acts to avoid incurring that harm.

**Wife-in-Law/Wifey:** Another victim who is being exploited by the same trafficker/exploiter.

**Quota:** Amount of money the victim is expected to make for the trafficker/exploiter/pimp.

## Commonly Contacted Resources

- Ventura County Human Trafficking Task Force members, contact Ventura County Sheriff's Dispatch line at 805-654-9511. Task Force Member's contact information will be on file with dispatch.
- Human Trafficking Task Force Members from Ventura County law enforcement agencies, please call the appropriate agencies watch commander.
- Oxnard Police Department Dispatch: 805-385-7600
- Port Hueneme Department Dispatch: 805-986-6530
- Santa Paula Police Department Dispatch: 805-525-4474
- Simi Valley Police Department Dispatch: 805-583-6950
- Ventura Police Department Dispatch: 805-339-4400
- California Highway Patrol Dispatch: 805-662-2640
- Interface Children & Family Services (800) 636-6738  
24/7 Family Violence and Human Trafficking Response Hotline call 2-1-1, click [211ventura.org](http://211ventura.org), or text your zip code to 898211
- Forever Found- (Juvenile Victim Services) 24/7 REACH Response Hotline- Call or Text (805) 261-1212 or Youth Referral at <http://foreverfound.org/youth-referrals>
- National Human Trafficking Hotline 888-373-7888
- Polaris Project: <https://polarisproject.org/>
- Ventura County Agriculture Commissioner's Office: 805-933-2926
- US Department of Labor Human Trafficking Office: 714-418-8620
- Human Services Agency 24 hours child abuse hotline: 805-654-3200
- Ventura County Behavioral Health: 866-998-2243

## Patrol Officers 2-Sided Field Cards

### PATROL OFFICER TIP CARD:

#### Responding to CSEC/Sex Trafficking

- Separate involved parties to interview
  - Do you feel safe to speak now & if free to leave (w/out a companion)?
  - Do you have concerns if you were to leave or we were to speak now?
  - 
  - Provide qualified interpreter
  - Get social media information – screen names, etc. (victims/traffickers)
  - Collect phone numbers; Google Search
- Provide contact information for services
- Complete child abuse reporting form
- Notify C.P.S., Victim Advocate
- Ascertain WIC 300/305 status
  - Contact parents/legal guardians: history
  - Record: parents, guardians, victims
- Contact Child Advocacy Center, as needed
- Photograph tattoos, scene, electronics
- Collect electronics
- Contact Special Victims, Human Trafficking Unit and forward all reports

---

### PATROL OFFICER TIP CARD:

#### Labor Trafficking

- Separate involved parties to interview
  - Do you feel safe to speak now & if free to leave (w/out a companion)? Do you have concerns if you were to leave or we were to speak now?
  - Provide qualified interpreter
- Look for signs of power & control
- Look for signs of abuse, intimidation & isolation
- Document work conditions, shift schedules, number of employees, signs of living conditions
- Determine who has control of identification papers, or lack thereof
- Photograph the scene
- Forward reports to Human Trafficking Unit and White Collared Fraud Unit

### VICTIM SAFETY PLANNING

If initial contact occurs before meeting in person, allow the victim to choose time & location. If on the spot, ask if this time and location are safe? Check body language. Get qualified trauma-informed interpreters if needed.

### SIGNS OF CSEC/SEX TRAFFICKING

- Cash, drugs
- Multiple cell phones
- Tattoos & language including G.F., Pimp, Mack, Daddy, Wifey, Sister, Uncle
- Rental Car
- Motel/Hotel Key Card
- Pre-paid phone cards
- Luggage
- Condoms/types of clothes
- Older Boyfriend, Uncle, Aunt,
  - Body language towards the victim
- Victim's body language: agitated, scared
- Victim's location in the vehicle

---

### VICTIM SAFETY PLANNING

If initial contact occurs before meeting in person, allow the victim to choose time & location. If on the spot, ask if this time and location are safe? Check body language. Get qualified trauma-informed interpreters if needed.

### SIGNS OF LABOR TRAFFICKING

- Lack of eye contact/submissive
- Malnourished
- Lack of vehicle
- Does not speak English
- Living on-site
- Look for van/bus
- No time clock or ledgers at site
- No posted work schedules
- No Fair Labor signs posted
- Cameras in uncommon place

