

TAT COALITION BUILDS CLOSING LOOPHOLES TO TRAFFICKERS



www.TruckersAgainstTrafficking.org

Truckers Against Trafficking Coalition Build Report: Kenedy, TX November 29, 2017

A coalition strives to bring together critical stakeholders to accomplish a single mission. TAT's coalition builds do just that, by gathering law enforcement and members of the trucking industry to work together to close loopholes to traffickers, who exploit victims and legitimate businesses for criminal gain. The primary goal of a TAT coalition build is to establish an effective and sustainable working relationship between the trucking industry and law enforcement statewide, in order to combat the crime of human trafficking. This is done through our short-term and long-term goals. Much of the short-term impact is seen immediately following the meeting, evidenced through the results of the survey and shown below under "same-day impact." The long-term impact is the result of follow up done two months after the meeting. TAT firmly believes that these meetings have far-reaching impact, not only in building strong coalitions between trucking and law enforcement agencies across the United States, but in ultimately saving lives.

Short-term goals:

1. Gather leaders from various law enforcement departments, including representatives from the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Transportation, as well as county sheriff's offices, in the same room with representatives/executives of local trucking companies and truck stop owners and managers.
2. Offer an initial training on human trafficking to all participants at the meeting, as well as offer concrete pathways and strategies for law enforcement and members of the trucking industry to work together to combat it.
3. Introduce truck stop owners and general managers to their local law enforcement officers in order to establish a local contact protocol through the contact list.
4. Motivate more trucking companies to train drivers as a result of the build.
5. Motivate truck stops to train employees and become points of distribution for TAT materials.
6. Provide victim-centered law enforcement training on human trafficking by local law enforcement leaders and a survivor-leader sharing her story.
7. Promote a change in verbiage and mentality in both industries from "prostitute" to victim.

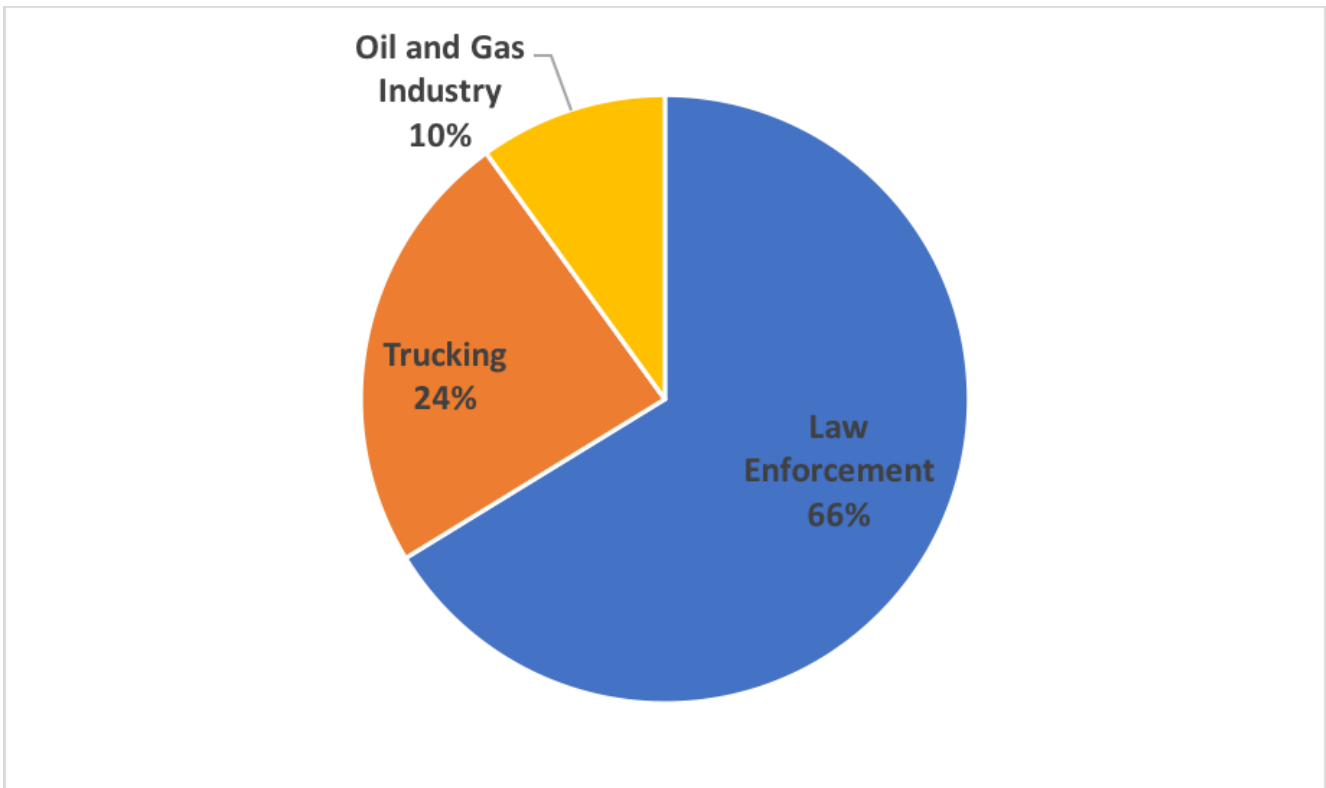
Long-term goals:

1. Utilize TAT materials in ongoing, in-state trainings for both law enforcement agencies and industry members.
2. Chart increase in calls/reports into the hotline.
3. Equip local or statewide anti-trafficking task forces with industry stakeholders.
4. Assist in undercover investigations conducted between law enforcement agencies and industry stakeholders.
5. Aid in the adoption of the Iowa MVE model statewide.
6. Mandate TAT training at the CDL entry-level.

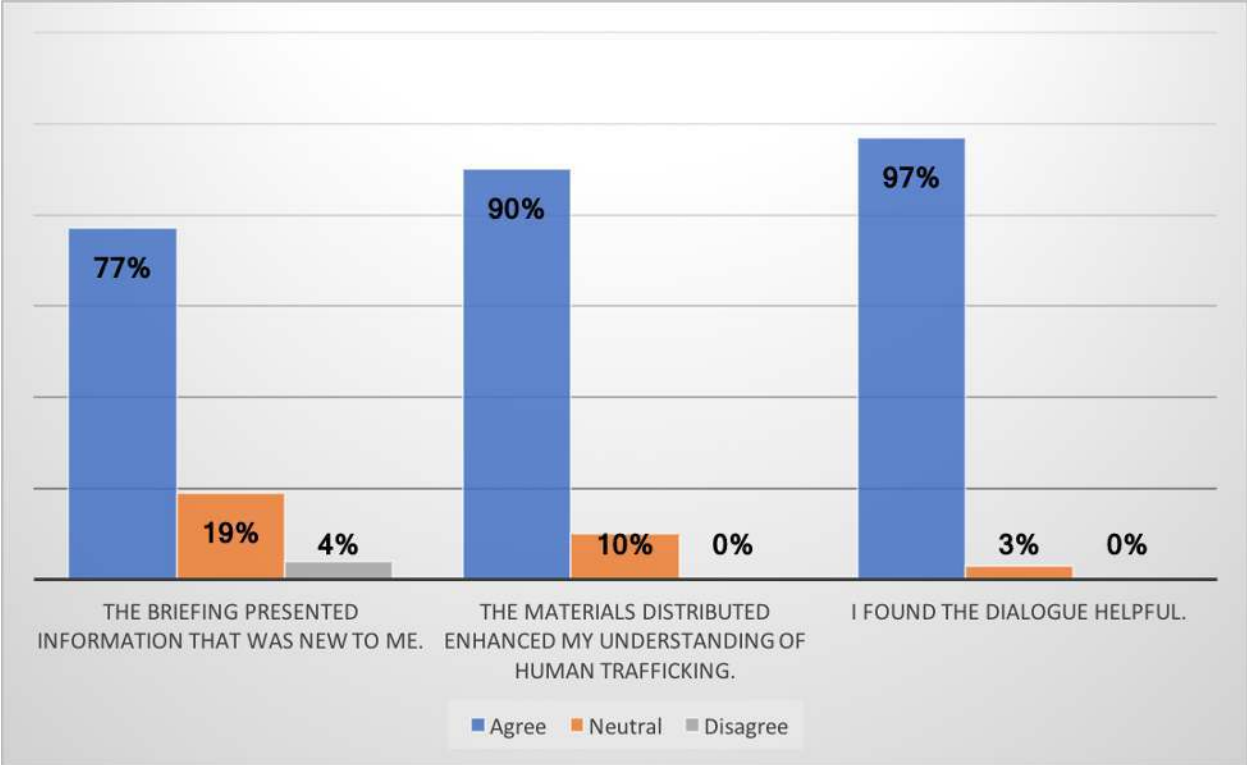
Same-day impact:

Goal #1. Gather leaders from various law enforcement departments, including representatives from the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Transportation, as well as county sheriff's offices, in the same room with representatives/executives of local trucking companies and truck stop owners and managers.

TAT co-hosted this coalition build with ConocoPhillips, the Texas Attorney General's Office and the Texas Trucking Association. ConocoPhillips invited companies in the oil/gas industry in order to gain new entry points for TAT to the trucking industry. There were fifty-three representatives from law enforcement, including nine police departments, three sheriff's offices, Texas Department of Public Safety, Westoff Volunteer Fire Department, a district attorney's office and the Texas Department of Transportation. Thirteen truck stops were represented, as well as one CDL school, two trucking companies and four oil and gas companies. The following results are based off the survey gathered the day of the meeting, which 86% of participants completed.



Goal #2. Offer an initial training on human trafficking to all participants at the meeting, as well as offer concrete pathways and strategies for law enforcement and members of the trucking industry to work together to combat it.



96% of respondents said they know what next steps to take in order to combat human trafficking.

100% of respondents said presenters were knowledgeable and approachable.

99% of respondents said the briefing was a good use of their time.

99% of respondents said they would recommend attending a briefing like this to others in their field.

90% of respondents said they are better prepared to identify human trafficking after attending this briefing.

Here is what attendees had to say about the meeting:

“Great use of time considering all the information that was provided. This is one of the best courses I have attended in my law enforcement career.”

“As a woman, as well as a truck driver and truck driver instructor, this trafficking hits me with such force that I cannot contain the emotions. Thank you!”

“The presentation was extremely important and definitely necessary in this day and age.”

“It was enlightening to see the different sides of trafficking and the effort different groups are putting in to help victims and stop the violence.”

“I would love to see more presentations in south Texas.”

“Thank you for everything you do to educate and bring awareness about human trafficking. You are changing lives and making a difference.”

“The presenters are obviously very passionate about what they are doing and making it a personal mission to end trafficking.”

“All presenters did an awesome job of presenting.”

Goal #3 Motivate more trucking companies to train drivers as a result of the build.

- Suarez Bros. is now training their drivers with the TAT training video.
- Trimac Transportation is already TAT-trained, but an employee who was at the coalition build is planning on leading a volunteer group to visit truck stops with TAT materials.

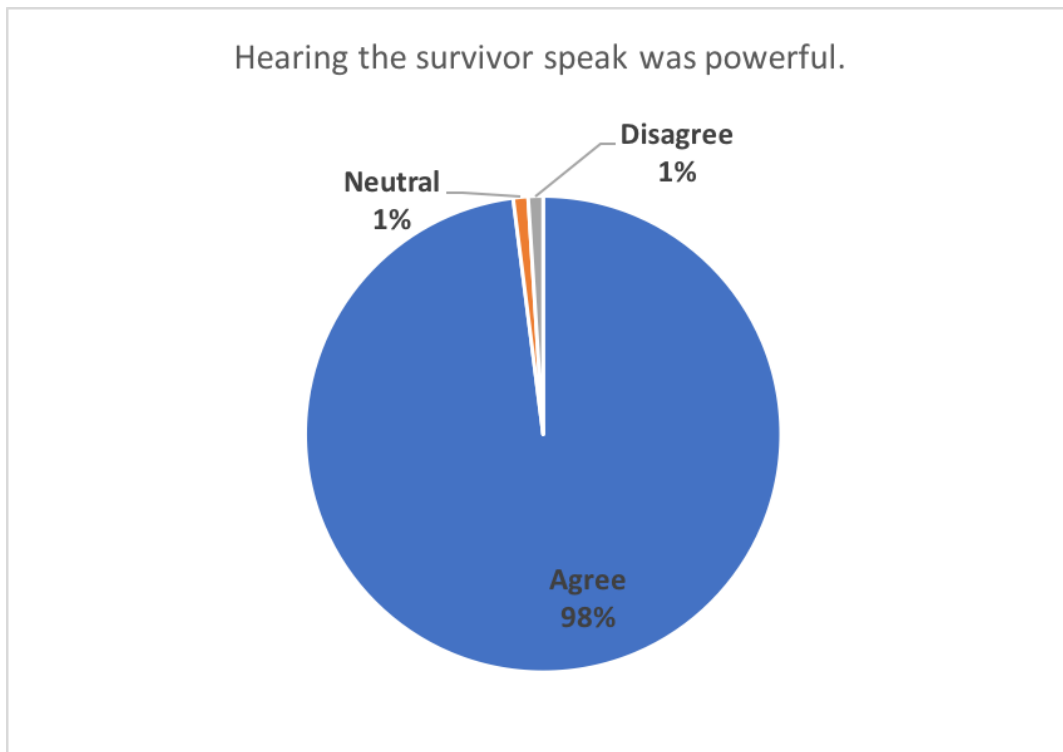
Goal #4: Motivate truck stops to train employees and become points of distribution for TAT materials.

- Travel Centers of America learned about Convenient Stores Against Trafficking (CSAT) at the meeting and has begun working with CSAT and has passed their materials on to their C Store group.
- A district manager with Travel Centers of America is working with Border Patrol on Operation Big Rig. They are planning to set up booths in a “blitz” effort at border area locations across the Southwest.

- A Love’s Travel Center store has the TAT training video playing constantly on one of their TVs in the drivers’ lounge and has requested more TAT materials for the store.

Goals #5 & #6: Provide victim-centered law enforcement training on human trafficking by local law enforcement leaders and a survivor-leader sharing her story. Promote a change in verbiage and mentality in both industries from “prostitute” to victim.

While a cultural shift in how prostituted people are viewed is not easily quantified, it is a critical piece of these meetings. From the HT 101 training to the presentation from a survivor's perspective to the law enforcement training, all aspects of the day are geared towards promoting a victim-centered approach and the belief that every person has a part to play in ensuring that more lives are saved.



Here is what respondents had to say about the presentation by TAT Field Trainer Tajuan McCarty:

"I've heard many stories of survivors. This one was by far the best. Thank you, Tajuan!"

"Her story needs to be shared with law enforcement. Far too many misconceptions still exist. Many of us are aware, but many still hold on to old cliches."

"She was extremely intellectual and gave us real useable information."

"Very impactful presentation. I truly appreciate your willingness to share your story to help put an end to this horrific crime! You are in my prayers and may God bless you and sustain you."

"It was real, informative and, most importantly, very genuine. She brought out some aspects as a victim and survivor that we all need to be aware of."

"She did a fantastic job ... a great way to send the message home. The slice of life is very effective. Tajuan has a very important connection to trucking."

"This is the second TAT event I have attended. The survivors' presentations are always powerful."

Long-term impact and assessment:

The following results are based on follow up conducted two months after the meeting. The report will be periodically updated.

Goal #1. Utilize TAT materials in ongoing, in-state trainings for both law enforcement agencies and industry members.

- Ingleside Police Department has requested TAT materials to distribute at their office and in their community.
- A Sergeant with Kingsville DPS is now actively building relationships with the management and employees at a Love's Travel Center in order to increase intel on human trafficking.
- A Lieutenant with the Austin Police Department had this to say about the TAT coalition build:

"Although there are no truck stops in Austin, the law enforcement training information you shared was disseminated to our Highway Enforcement Unit, specifically our Commercial Motor Vehicle Enforcement Unit. Additionally, I've mentioned your organization and the amazing outreach it does during several speaking engagements to community stake holders. I recently mentioned how impressed I was with your organization's efforts to the leaders of the Phoenix Court, a court diversion program for

persons arrested and charged with prostitution. I believe TAT is an excellent program that's very well managed and definitely a huge resource nationally."

- An EHS coordinator with Noble Energy attended the coalition build and has been working on the following action steps within Noble:
 - Sent out TAT wallet card information company-wide through their "Did you know?" program. That email generated a response from a number of other individuals within the company interested in human trafficking. They have formalized a committee on human trafficking and are considering levels of partnership with TAT.
 - EHS coordinator plans to do a human trafficking training with field personnel in West and South Texas, utilizing TAT materials and BOOM video.
 - EHS coordinator is trying to make a connection for TAT with the logistics manager at Noble.
 - Noble has approached TAT about the possibility of co-hosting a coalition build in Pecos, Texas.
- Schlumberger has passed a recommendation of support for TAT to head of HSE and Global Stewardship Team.
- Wood Group is looking at ways to incorporate TAT's training within their company.

Goal #5: Aid in the adoption of the Iowa MVE model statewide.

- The Texas Department of Public Safety is now stocking the weigh stations in Riviera and Falfurrias with TAT materials. The sergeant-in-charge of both sites has shown the TAT law enforcement training video to his troopers and talked to them about some of the indicators to be looking to spot trafficking. The troopers hand out TAT wallet cards and window decals to truckers who come through, and he estimates it is about 5-10 truckers per week.
- Sergeant Villareal with Texas Department of Public Safety has ordered TAT materials for all four weigh stations in region 3. Shortly after the coalition build he held a meeting with all his troopers, showing them the TAT law enforcement video and handing out TAT wallet cards. After the meeting, a trooper reported having a young female with a truck driver come through the weigh station. The trooper separated the woman, questioning her individually and asking if she was in trouble or being forced to do anything. While she denied being in trouble, when he identified her, she had an active warrant and was arrested. TAT is following up with the officers to see if further investigation was made.

Assessment:

The coalition build in Kenedy has been the launching point for TAT's oil and gas program, forging strategic relationships within the industry. All the companies that were at the meeting are now in various stages of partnering with TAT to bring more awareness and training to their companies and communities. Other oil and gas companies who weren't at the meeting, but heard about it through various committees and associations, are also now working with TAT to identify ways to partner. As a result of the meeting, the Texas Department of Public Safety has expanded their partnership with TAT by stocking six different weigh stations in south Texas with TAT materials and training those troopers to identify human trafficking. Other oil and gas companies that were at the meeting are now considering ways to partner with TAT and connect with law enforcement at their drilling sites. TAT will continue to build on the groundwork laid by the Kennedy coalition build by helping oil and gas companies utilize their influence in the trucking industry and carry this message throughout all levels of oil and gas production.

Thank you ConocoPhillips!

