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HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE NEWS

Houston man, so-called 'King of Bissonet,' gets 40 years in federal prison for sex trafficking

During his trial, several victims detailed how Lewis recruited them on promises of good money and a good life. Lewis confiscated their IDs, restricted them to hotel rooms and forced the women to depend on him for basic necessities. [Click here](#) to read more.

Pembroke Pines woman sex trafficked multiple victims, gave them heroin and fentanyl: Attorney General

A Pembroke Pines woman was arrested on sex trafficking charges after authorities said she forced multiple women into sex work, giving them heroin and fentanyl to "subdue" them. [Click here](#) to read more.

Baltimore woman facing over 100 charges stemming from sex trafficking ring

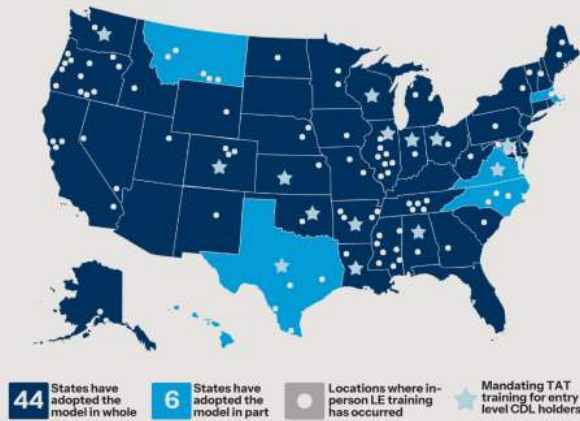
Pikesville, Md. — A statewide sex trafficking ring investigation busted a Baltimore woman accused of running it, and she now faces more than 100 charges. Investigators said she forced multiple vulnerable women into prostitution at multiple hotels across the state. [Click here](#) to read more.

Louisiana Legislature passes bill mandating TAT training for entry level CDL holders

With the leading and influence of Renee Amar, president of the Louisiana Motor Transport Association (LMTA), Louisiana became the 14th state to pass a law mandating TAT training for entry level CDL holders.

Kylla Lanier, TAT's deputy director and senior director of External Affairs, said, "This was the smoothest bill passage I have ever been a part of, and that's because Renee talked to every CDL school and got their buy-in; she spoke to

IOWA MVE MODEL IMPLEMENTATION



legislators on the House and Senate committees ahead of time. It was so easy, because she had done so much work; she even got the right legislator, Representative Schlegel, to sponsor the bill, and the bill passed unanimously.”

Freedom Drivers Project (FDP) and FDP Director Brandy Belton experience the wild side of fighting human trafficking

Freedom Drivers Project Director Brandy Belton went “Over the Edge” of the 26-story Chase Tower in Columbus, Ohio in a high-flying event to fight child sex trafficking.

The Freedom Drivers Project (FDP) and Belton, sponsored by Fyda Freightliner, were a featured attraction at the *Over the Edge to Fight Child Sex Trafficking* fundraising event in Columbus, Ohio on June 14.

To take part in “Over the Edge,” an annual event resourcing Gracehaven, an affiliate of Youth for Christ, participants must each raise a



FDP Director Brandy Belton received a memento from her “Over the Edge” rappelling experience at the Gracehaven event.

minimum of \$1,250 for the opportunity to rappel 26 stories down The Chase Tower in downtown Columbus. Local news covered the event, which attracted over 100 rappellers. Not only did Fyda Freightliner sponsor the FDP’s appearance, but they sponsored Belton in her first-ever rappelling experience.

Other TAT partners took part in the event:

- American Trucking Associations (ATA) Team Captain and TAT Board Member Antoine Sadler assisted with the FDP during the entire event, interacting with 88 people who toured the exhibit.
- UPS employees, Marcus Wilson and Michael Curran, also volunteered at the FDP, along with Tim McPhillips, from the Demand Reduction Team at C3 Church.
- Four UPS employees were among those who rappelled “Over the Edge.”

Kate Sullivan, Central Ohio Youth for Christ events manager, said, “Thank you so much for participating in ‘Over the Edge’ this year by rappelling and bringing the TAT truck! We raised over \$250,000, and all of that will go towards Gracehaven, so they can keep serving child victims of sex trafficking and supporting survivors.”

TAT staff focus on the future at bi-annual 'Boot Camp'



Because TAT is a fully remote organization, staff gather in-person annually for three days of strategic planning, brainstorming and team building in June and then again, by Zoom, in December. This year, Boot Camp was held in Denver in mid-June, and it included a professional development class on photography.

“As our team grows in number, Boot Camp provides us the space and time to get on the same page with all programs and move the mission forward in the most strategic way possible,” said TAT Executive Director Esther Goetsch. “This year, we’re incredibly grateful to the [Rose Community Foundation](#) in Denver for providing us their state-of-the-art conference room, free-of-charge for this critical planning.”



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 9 – Bridgestone Sustainability Workshop on Social Responsibility, virtual

July 10 – XPO Table Talk, virtual

July 10 – The Amadeus Women’s Network panel on Human Trafficking Prevention, virtual

July 14-15 – Werner Outreach Event, Omaha, NE

July 15 – Human Trafficking Prevention Network meeting, Vancouver, British Columbia

July 17-18 – Human Trafficking Interdiction/Special Victims Methodology, Cleveland, OH

July 19 – Richland County Human Trafficking Task Force Meeting, virtual

July 22 – American Bus Association Summer Bus Industry Safety Council Meeting, Orlando, FL

July 24 – Missouri Law Enforcement Traffic Safety Advisory Council 2024 Conference, Columbia, MO

July 24 – ConocoPhillips Dickinson Safety Meeting, Dickinson, ND

July 25 – McCarthy Tire, Wilkes Barre, PA

July 29 – National Home Delivery Association (NHDA) Board Meeting and Annual Forum, Austin, TX

July 30 – Connecting the Dots: Addressing Demand, Performance Food Group, virtual

July 30 – School Transportation Association of Massachusetts Annual Conference, North Falmouth, MA

July 30 – World Day Against Trafficking presentation, Ontario Provincial Police, Ontario, Canada

July 31 – Coalition Build, Philadelphia, PA



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