
VANTAGE POINT

JANUARY-MARCH, 2021
TRUCKERS AGAINST TRAFFICKING



Dear TAT friends,

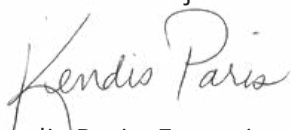
In this initial issue, as well as subsequent issues, of Vantage Point, we want to give you an eagle's-eye view of a few of the things we've accomplished each quarter, as well as introduce you to some of the people we work with in our endeavors. Whether they create, coordinate, connect, communicate, consider, confirm or construct, their contributions are crucial to TAT's success, and we want to call attention to and celebrate them.

This quarter, we've focused mainly on Busing on the Lookout and a number of their activities. But every other TAT program has also been busy. While we're still mostly confined to virtual presentations and events, our Freedom Drivers Project has been toured virtually by almost 200 people; we've completed the last three Justice Seekers offerings for law enforcement, held an Addressing Demand Facebook Watch Party, and presented or trained at more than 30 additional associations, companies or organizations, including truck stops and state trucking association safety meetings to service clubs, insurance companies, anti-trafficking task forces and Canadian entities.

We've completed six more Driving Freedom Podcast episodes with audience downloads that have more than doubled in this quarter, worked with the Native Women's Association of Canada on a transportation training module, helped craft a driver survey in Mexico and onboarded a number of new Shipping Partners, just to name a few.

And, even with COVID still hovering over the country, your faithful support of TAT has kept us confidently moving forward, educating, equipping, empowering and mobilizing the trucking, bus and energy industries into a mobile army of transportation professionals, working with law enforcement to successfully fight human trafficking.

Thank you! From my vantage point, with your steadfast support, we can continue to make a difference in the lives of victims as they are recovered and the safety of our communities as traffickers face justice.



Kendis Paris, Executive Director



Kendis Paris is pictured above with the 2019 Everyday Heroes Truck. Stay tuned for information on our next Everyday Heroes Truck and how to bid on it later this year!

ANTI-TRAFFICKING TRAILBLAZERS:



Highlighting Innovative Approaches to Combating HT Statewide

Expecting the pioneering efforts of unique statewide programs in combating human trafficking to motivate others to replicate, Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) invited a select group of state leaders to its premier virtual Trailblazers event.

The audience of 116 included representatives from the offices of attorneys general, state police, law enforcement leaders and representatives from state human trafficking task forces. They learned from panelists: Alison Phillips from the Missouri Attorney General's Office on shutting down illicit massage businesses (IMBs) in Missouri; Lieutenant Monty Lovelace from the Nebraska State Police on forging extensive public-private partnerships to activate stakeholders in anti-trafficking initiatives in Nebraska; and Jay Levenstein from Florida Motor Vehicle Highway Safety on the creation of a Highway Heroes Program to reach every CDL holder in the state of Florida with the anti-trafficking message.



**ALISON
PHILLIPS**

**Director, Anti-Human
Trafficking Taskforce**
Missouri Attorney
General's Office



**MONTY
LOVELACE**

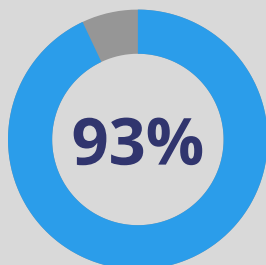
**Lieutenant,
Technical Crimes**
Nebraska
State Patrol



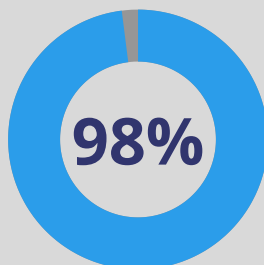
**JAY S.
LEVENSTEIN**

**Bureau Chief, Commercial
Vehicle and Driver Services**
Florida Dept. of Highway
Safety and Motor Vehicles

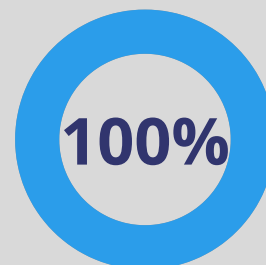
Survey results following the event revealed:



were interested in
implementing one or
more of these programs
in their state.



learned
something
new.



would like to
attend another
event like this in
the future.

SHINING THE SPOTLIGHT

ALISON PHILLIPS

Trailblazer panelist Phillips shared that the goal of Missouri's Hope Initiative is to make the state inhospitable for criminal networks to operate IMBs and pointed to the decrease in these businesses in the state as a mark of success.

Using a three-phased approach, the initiative provides evidence to commercial real estate landlords of illicit activity and encourages them to evict these specific tenants. After six months and 83 letters sent to landlords, 37 IMBs -- or 45 percent of all identified IMBs -- are confirmed closed, and four civil lawsuits have been filed. In the second phase, closure of IMBs is encouraged by using state public nuisance statutes, and criminal activity is mapped in a shared law enforcement database at the state, local and federal levels across the state and even across state lines. This allows the Office to identify networks and track when businesses close and then try to reorganize and reopen in a new location, leading to the denial of almost 100 applications for business and massage therapist licenses by Missouri's regulatory board. The third phase focuses on investigations and the building of criminal cases, which is currently being done on more than a dozen businesses in the state.

The Hope Initiative has served as a model for nine states hoping to replicate it.



“We took apart the business model, and in the same way that traffickers look at where their potential victims are and how to go at them, we looked at the **vulnerabilities of this business model** and put together specific pieces that address each of those vulnerabilities.”

Alison Phillips

Director, Anti-Human Trafficking Taskforce,
Missouri Attorney General's Office

SHINING THE SPOTLIGHT

KIM YEAGER

Working closely with Kim Yeager of the Nevada Trucking Association (NTA), Busing on the Lookout (BOTL) cohosted a virtual bus/casino Coalition Build with the Nevada Attorney General's Office, the Nevada Resort Association and the Nevada Trucking Association focused on how buses, transit and casinos can work with law enforcement to help end human trafficking in Nevada.

The event attracted 188 registrants from a well-balanced mix of stakeholders located throughout the state. It included a basic human trafficking training from the Nevada Attorney General's Office, a survivor presentation, an overview of action steps on using BOTL's training materials and a law enforcement panel. The law enforcement panel shared trafficking case studies that included specific overlaps with Nevada-based casinos, bus companies and public transit. See impact report attached.

Yeager, whose contacts are extensive, began working with TAT in 2012. Over the years, she has put TAT materials in the hands of NTA's 500 members, as well as employees of her state's truck stops, law enforcement and industry partners. She was instrumental in bringing TAT's law enforcement training to Nevada, and with the addition of BOTL and the victim-centered media campaign in 2017, her efforts have helped ensure that more than 6600 individuals have either been trained by or introduced to TAT and BOTL trainings.



“*I find TAT's support **vital** in our mission to **combat human and sex trafficking** in Nevada and throughout the US.*”

Kim Yeager
Director of Marketing and Member Relations,
Nevada Trucking Association



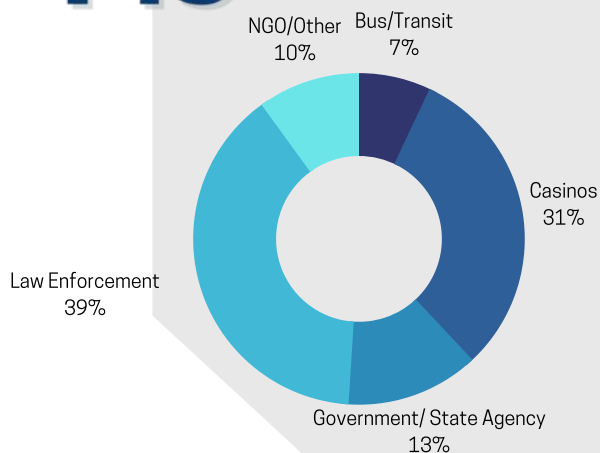
NV COALITION BUILD

TAT/BOTL Virtual Bus & Casino Briefing Nevada



Truckers Against Trafficking/Busing on the Lookout, the Nevada Attorney General's Office, the Nevada Trucking Association, and the Nevada Resort Association hosted an online briefing on how the casino, transit and bus industries can partner with law enforcement to help end human trafficking in Nevada. The briefing included an overview of human trafficking, survivor testimony, guidance on using BOTL's training materials and a discussion by a panel of law enforcement officers from the Reno Human Exploitation and Trafficking (HEAT) Unit. The goals of this event were to i) provide niche-specific anti-trafficking training for target industries; ii) outline concrete actions these industries can take to combat human trafficking; and iii) link industry stakeholders directly to the law enforcement investigating human trafficking cases.

149 ATTENDEES



**64 ATTENDEES VIEWED
TAT'S FREEDOM DRIVER'S
PROJECT VIRTUAL TOUR.**

ATTENDEE FEEDBACK

"Thank you for the training; it is certainly the most informative one I've been to on human trafficking."

"I have attended a number of these, and [this one] was one of the very best in terms of providing actionable information and training."

"Excellent format in presenting the material. Having presenters personally affected by trafficking and those who investigate trafficking added extra credibility to an enlightening 90 minutes."

"We have used BOTL materials at our agency, and the response was very positive."

"Thank you for an outstanding and useful course!"

OUTCOMES

- Directors of security at five casinos are creating proposals on adopting anti-trafficking programming, including BOTL materials or recommendations, while two other casino chains are augmenting their anti-trafficking programs.
- Directors of security at six truck stop/casinos will be attending TAT's virtual training for truck stops/travel plazas, and two have committed to distributing TAT's trucking materials, along with BOTL's casino materials, to their staff.
- Las Vegas Metro Police Department will be sharing TAT's Law Enforcement (LE) training video with 3,000 officers during their next in-service.
- Marksman Security in Las Vegas, which has been showing the BOTL training video via the RTC-Southern Nevada anti-trafficking initiative, plans to conduct refresher training with its transit security guards and hand out BOTL wallet cards.
- The Reno-Tahoe Airport Police requested additional training from the Reno HEAT Unit and will be sharing BOTL with the bus and shuttle companies providing airport ground transportation.
- The Nevada-based staff of two major transit contractors will be sharing information on BOTL with their corporate leadership.
- Carson City Communications Center plans to train their dispatching staff at their next in-service.
- The Pershing County Undersheriff encouraged members of his staff who did not attend the briefing to watch TAT's LE training video.

SURVEY RESULTS

94% better equipped to recognize and report human trafficking

98% plan to share the information they learned with their company/agency/organization

ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS & OPPORTUNITIES

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION TRAINING VIDEO:

Designed specifically for school bus drivers, this new 22-minute video is already being used by the Iowa Department of Education in its new driver training. The Georgia and Idaho Departments of Education are making plans to share it statewide.



Over 260 transit leaders registered for a national webinar hosted by BOTL and the American Public Transportation Association on transit's role in combating human trafficking. The event featured testimonials from survivor-leaders and updates from the Federal Transit Administration on its Human Trafficking Awareness and Public Safety Initiative.

TRANSIT:

CASINOS:

BOTL partnered with the American Gaming Association (AGA) to host the webinar "Know the Signs: Preventing Trafficking at Casinos" for AGA's casino members. It featured presentations from Florida Attorney General Ashley Moody, the U.S. Department of Treasury, the General Counsel at Delaware North Companies, and Liz Williamson, TAT training specialist/survivor-leader.



TAT CANADA COMMITTEE:

Dedicated to accelerating TAT's growth across Canada, the TCC officially launched with its first meeting on March 23.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:



Download the updated BOTL App!

Now available at the Apple Store and on Google Play.



BOTL volunteers

When you share BOTL materials with the appropriate school contacts in your area, you help BOTL expand its reach and grow the mobile army of transportation professionals across the continent empowered to combat human trafficking. For a School Transportation Outreach Kit, [click here](#).

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH 2021

AT-A-GLANCE

24

different
virtual
events



TAT-Hosted
Events



Events for Law
Enforcement &
Task Forces



AMERICAN
PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION
ASSOCIATION



Providing Energy.
Improving Lives.



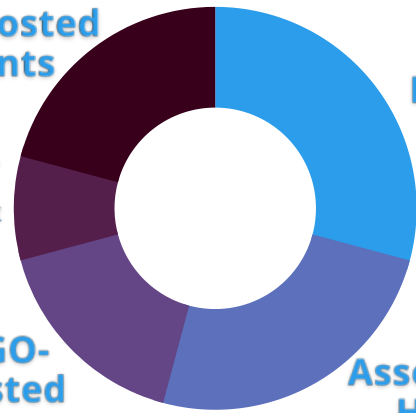
GREAT WEST CASUALTY COMPANY

The Difference is Service®

NGO-
Hosted
Events

Association-
Hosted
Events

Partner-
Hosted
Events



“

*“With the heightened awareness January provides around the issue of human trafficking, TAT maximized its **private and public partnerships** by working together to reach even more individuals with counter-trafficking initiatives.” -Kendis Paris*

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FOCUSING ON THE FIGHT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

FROM THE HOTLINE:

Every quarter, the National Human Trafficking Hotline sends TAT a recap of some of the tips they received from truck drivers. Although the hotline does not always receive feedback from law enforcement on the outcomes of these cases, these drivers' calls are proof that truckers continue to be observant reporters of potential human trafficking cases across the nation and are doing their part to drive freedom.



An anonymous truck driver called after observing a minor female potential victim entering multiple trucks at a truck stop. The minor was also seen getting into a vehicle with an adult male each time she left a truck. The hotline immediately called law enforcement, since the minor was still present; the hotline then sent a report to our law enforcement contacts.

A driver reported hearing a potential trafficker put a minor potential victim on the radio to advertise commercial sex to other drivers. The hotline reported to our law enforcement contacts, who responded to the scene and spoke with numerous stakeholders. But, they were unable to determine any further leads.



A truck driver reported seeing multiple minor females together at a truck stop, appearing to enter trucks. The hotline reported to our law enforcement contacts and to CPS.

A truck driver reported that an unknown adult male with a minor potential victim attempted to solicit commercial sex from him. He reported to law enforcement and called the hotline to report; the hotline then looped in our law enforcement contacts, who indicated they would follow up with the local police department to deconflict.



We are *thankful* for these *everyday heroes* and their calls into the hotline!

TAT SPONSORS

While TAT is extremely thankful to all of our supporters, we want to give special recognition to our Freedom Driver, Diamond, Platinum and Gold sponsors.

FREEDOM DRIVER



DIAMOND



Rental | Leasing | Logistics



PLATINUM



C.H. ROBINSON



PROVIDING ENERGY.
IMPROVING LIVES.



GOLD

