

SEATTLE ICE (UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT) ROLE IN HUMAN TRAFFICKING/FORCED LABOR CASES

A. Methods to notify the Seattle ICE Office about possible trafficking cases.

1. Call SSA David Lindwall at (206) 553-5634. He is the primary agent assigned to conduct intake on human trafficking cases

B. How are cases handled once a complaint is received?

If the victim is either an illegal alien or a legal alien, then ICE has primary investigate authority and a case will be started. If the victim is a U.S. citizen or alien terrorist, the FBI has investigative authority and ICE will contact them about the complaint.

It is the policy of ICE for the "victim to come first" in trafficking cases. A rescue will immediately be attempted if there is a belief that the victim or victims are being subjected to physical force. A long term case involving surveillances or a Title III will not occur if individuals are in harms way or being sexually exploited. This policy is 180 degrees different from other law enforcement agencies. Once the victims are safe, a historical conspiracy case will be initiated.

C. Does ICE work with minor victims? Yes

D. Does ICE house victims of trafficking?

Although ICE does not house or incarcerate victims of trafficking, ICE attempts to work with local NGOs to find suitable and safe living conditions for the victims of trafficking.

E. What is the role of ICE in the Certification Process?

ICE agents can immediately file requests for Continuing Presence. The turn around time to get an EAD card is between 10 and 14 days now for a victim of trafficking.

ICE agents can also file a "Supplemental B-Declaration of Law Enforcement Officer for Victim of Trafficking in Person" (form I-914) when the victim applies for a T-visa.

SSA David Lindwall
Human Trafficking Unit
Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE)
1000 2nd Avenue, #2300
Seattle, WA 98104
(206) 553-5634 [Desk]
(206) 553-2238 [Fax]
David.Lindwall@dhs.gov