

The Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force

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I. MISSION, GOALS & GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force mission is to utilize local mechanisms and expertise to identify and rescue victims of trafficking. Through established protocols and partnerships, once victims are identified and detained, law enforcement can facilitate meaningful referrals for assistance and ensure the effective prosecution of offenders.

The Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force was established to provide an array of services and resources in a multi-disciplinary setting.

The primary goal is to provide a safe and supportive response to begin the process of rescuing and restoring victims of Human Trafficking while holding offenders accountable.

The multidisciplinary Steering Committee, Committee Chairs, and members and community partners will ensure that:

- The Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force is a multi-disciplinary team.
- Everyone will work together on behalf of the victims of Human Trafficking by bringing their knowledge, expertise and skills to create the best protocol and investigative response for the entire community served.
- Everyone respects the work and involvement of each discipline's area of expertise and responsibility.
- Everyone's work will promote the best decision making on behalf of the victims of Human Trafficking by collaborating from many perspectives while recognizing and respecting each agency's ultimate responsibility.

The Steering Committee

The Steering Committee is comprised of partner agency representatives who serve as the decision making body for the Task Force. They are responsible for providing direction, guidance and overall strategic direction for the general membership.

II. NON –DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force maintains a policy of nondiscrimination. All victims, whose cases fit the criteria listed below, shall be granted services provided by the multidisciplinary team, without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, citizenship, age, or physical or mental disability.

III. SOUTHERN NEVADA HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCES

The Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force commits to conform to the standards of investigating and prosecuting violations with diligence, integrity, and a high level of professionalism while maintaining respect for victims' rights and dignity.

IV. SOUTHERN NEVADA HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE PARTNER AGENCIES & ORGANIZATIONS ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The Task Force partners are involved in the investigation, legal aspects and delivery of services to the victims of Human Trafficking.

Law Enforcement Partners

- Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD)
- Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- North Las Vegas Police Department

Law enforcement's role in the Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force is to conduct criminal investigations into allegations of Human Trafficking to determine if a crime has occurred. The law enforcement partners also provide a coordinated team response whose members bring a diversity of knowledge, background and training to the investigations. The common mission identifies a collective effort to protect the victims of Human Trafficking.

Law Enforcement Agencies Pledge:

- Provide law enforcement officer(s) with specialized training in the field of Human Trafficking and the crimes which constitute Human Trafficking.
- Provide and share information about case status to team members to the extent permitted by law and agency policies.
- Attend Human Trafficking case review meetings.
- Provide information to the Program Director to determine the role of the Non-Governmental Partners (NGO Partners.)
- Provide feedback and suggestions regarding procedures and operations of the Task Force.
- Participate in organizational activities sponsored by the Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force.
- Participate in team trainings, relevant professional education and community educational efforts.

Legal/Court Partners

- U.S. Attorney's office
- Clark County District Attorney's Office
- Clark County District Attorney's Office, Juvenile Division

The Legal/Court partners represent the County of Clark and the State of Nevada in criminal cases of Human Trafficking. The determination as to whether to proceed on a federal or state level is at the discretion of the prosecutors. The legal partners also provide a coordinated team approach to assessing the cases based on their diverse base of knowledge and experience. The common mission identifies a collective effort to protect the victims of Human Trafficking by holding offenders accountable.

Legal/Court Partners Pledge:

- Provide an on-call attorney to respond to calls 7 days per week, 24 hours per day, for case consultations.
- Provide an attorney to attend monthly Steering Committee meetings and Quarterly General Meetings.
- Provide at least one attorney to prosecute cases involving Human Trafficking and related crimes that are approved by the legal/court partner.
- Provide information to NGO partners on a case by case basis to insure continued services throughout the federal and/or state justice system.
- Provide an attorney to participate in organizational activities sponsored by the Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force.
- Participate in team trainings, relevant professional education and community educational efforts.
- Provide feedback and suggestions regarding procedures and operations of the Task Force.

Non-Governmental Partners

- Salvation Army (International, Pre-certified Victims)
- Westcare (Domestic Victims)
- Shade Tree Shelter for Women Children

The NGO Partners provide services to the victims of Human Trafficking and related crimes regardless of immigration status. The Salvation Army currently receives funding to provide wrap around services to international victims. Assistance to domestic victims will be provided by a network of service providers who will work within the structure of the Task Force *Guiding Principals* to provide wrap around services for the victims.

Upon identification of an international pre-certified victim, the Director of the Task Force will contact the case manager from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) grant partner to alert them as to the status of the case. The responding law enforcement agency will determine when to introduce the NGO providers to the victims.

Non-Governmental Organization for International Victims Pledge;

- Participate as an active member of the Task Force Steering Committee Provide a dedicated case manager to respond to calls 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.
- Provide comprehensive services to victims of severe forms of Human Trafficking.
- Coordinate assistance with other social service providers.
- Attend Human Trafficking Case Review meetings
- Serve as a member of the Training Team.

The Non-Governmental Partners represent a cross section of advocacy and support services for the victims of Human Trafficking. Agencies will work together to provide a comprehensive and coordinated response for housing and related needs during the initial investigation and throughout the criminal justice process.

Non-Governmental Organization Pledge:

- Provide a representative to attend monthly Steering Committee meetings and Quarterly General Meetings.
- Provide a representative to participate in organizational activities sponsored by the Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force.
- Participate in team trainings, relevant professional education and community educational efforts.
- Provide feedback and suggestions regarding procedures and operations of the Task Force.

V. TYPES OF CASES ADDRESSED

Those cases that come to the Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force for services begin as a referral/tip or a law enforcement initiated investigation, which will be investigated and tracked according to the federal and state laws pursuant to Human Trafficking statutes;

Nevada State Laws

N.R.S. 200.463 Involuntary Servitude

N.R.S. 200.464 Recruit, entice, harbor or benefit from involuntary servitude

N.R.S. 200.465 Ownership, purchase or sale of person

Federal Laws

18USC ss 1581- 1595

SERVICES and PROCEDURES

VI. INITIAL RESPONSE

1. Once the investigation is initiated either through a tip or a law enforcement initiated response, the Lieutenant of the LVMPD Special Victims Section and the Director of the Task Force will be contacted through LVMPD Dispatch. (702-828-3111)
2. The police Lieutenant will work with the initial responders to determine what additional law enforcement resources are needed and will arrange for their call-out and assigned position.
3. The Director of the Task Force will remain apprized of the status of the investigation and will identify the NGO resources that may be needed and will work in tandem with law enforcement to determine the NGO resource/s needed.
4. A representative of the initial response team will contact the Director of the Task Force when the NGO response is needed. The resources will be determined based on the nature of the crime (domestic or international victims and juvenile or adult victims.)

RELEASE of INFORMATION I CONFIDENTIALITY

External Communication and Information Sharing

The release of public information is governed by policies of the Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force partners ' department and/or agency subject to N.R.S. 432B when it involves child victims of sexual abuse. In all instances, the release of information to the public should be coordinated with the departments or agencies represented on the Steering Committee of the Task Force, and information received from some other outside agencies represented on the Task Force shall be presumed confidential.

Any public communication by any task force partner or their employees about pending matters or investigations that may result in a federal case, or about pending federal cases or final dispositions, must be approved by the United States Attorney s Office media relations point of contact.

These communication guidelines are intended to coordinate the communication process between agencies involved with any Human Trafficking case as it relates to the release of information. All agencies must adhere to the confidentiality policy as outlined in the protocol. Each department or agency should coordinate the release of information to ensure consistency and accuracy of the information as required by individual policies and procedures, and law.

The Task Force Director will inform Steering Committee members of any media releases from an outside source as soon as the information becomes available. Information obtained from a partnering agency remains the property of that agency and will not be released without prior approval.

LAW ENFORCEMENT and LEGAL PARTNERS SERVES AS THE LEAD AGENCIES

Since information released by any other agency could inadvertently compromise components of the department's investigation, the lead law enforcement agency will also take the lead in responding to media requests for any information. The dissemination of any criminal justice information or case related material will comply with state and federal laws regarding the release of such information. Law enforcement may restrict information that would otherwise be public, when necessary, to avoid compromise of an ongoing investigation, particularly as it pertains to child victims (N.R.S. 432B). To the extent feasible, the dissemination of information will be coordinated with all other involved parties to insure continuity.

SOUTHERN NEVADA HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE CASE REVIEWS

The standards for members of the Task Force require that team discussion and information sharing regarding the investigation, case status, and services needed by the victims be held on a regular basis. All members of the Steering Committee should participate in the case review and partners from the general membership may be included, depending on their role in each case.

The purpose of the team case review is to improve communications and coordination of agencies that respond to cases of domestic and international Human Trafficking. In addition monthly updates of ongoing cases will be provided during the regularly scheduled Steering Committee meetings.

TYPES OF CASE REVIEW

The Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force reviews will be held for the specific purpose of reviewing and coordinating cases referred to the Task Force from the time of referral through investigation, assessment, prosecution and advocacy phases of this process.

A. HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE REVIEW TEAM

1. ROLE

The Review Team operates as a true multi-disciplinary team for the specific purpose

of reviewing select cases referred to the Task Force. The purpose of the team review is to improve the systems that are used when responding to Human Trafficking.

1. TYPES OF CASES

All cases determined to be Human Trafficking according to state and federal statutes.

2. TEAM MEMBERS

Steering Committee members will participate in the review of cases. Additional members from the General Membership may be included on a case by case basis.

3. PROCEDURES

- Meeting Time -- To be determined as needed and may be initiated by any member of the Steering Committee. That individual will notify the Director and a time within 96 hours will be set to meet as a team.
- Meeting Location -- LVMPD Investigative Services Division, 4750 W. Oakey boulevard, Las Vegas, Nevada 891 02
- Meeting Facilitator -- LVMPD Lieutenant, Special Victims Section and Task Force Director.
 - The Task Force Director will contact any General Task Force Members who will be included in cases to be reviewed.
 - The Director will document the status of each case and recommendations for continued services as appropriate.

5. INFORMATION TO BE PRESENTED

- Statement of purpose/concerns/problems/desired outcomes
- Demographics of the case
- Disposition/status of the case/results of the investigation
- Status of NGO services
- Psychological Status
- Medical Status
- Immigration Issues (international cases)
- Law enforcement status
- Legal status (state or federal)
- Guardianship issues (cases involving juvenile victims)

B. EMERGENCY/SPECIAL CASE REVIEW --

1. REQUESTING PARTY

Any Agency Partner involved in a case investigated or served through the SNHTTF may call a special or emergency Steering Committee meeting for

purposes of case review, at any point in the case process. The meeting is directed at making all team members aware of a change in events or development of circumstances that may effect the thoroughness of the investigation and/or the physical, mental or emotional wellbeing of the victim/s. The purpose of the emergency meeting is to facilitate discussion toward addressing concerns about an investigation, prosecution or victim issues. Other partner, as required to address the concerns in the case, will attend these reviews. These special case reviews will be called on an as needed basis.

2. MEETING PROCEDURE

- Contact SNHTTF Program Director
- Provide verbal justification for emergency review
- Specify who needs to attend
- Schedule and review case within 72 hours from the time of the request to time of review

3. INFORMATION TO BE PRESENTED

In addition to information presented in a regularly scheduled Steering Committee meeting, the person calling the emergency meeting should be prepared to present information regarding why an emergency meeting was required along with any exigent circumstances present in the case.

XIV. CASE TRACKING

Cases involving alleged victims of Human Trafficking are tracked when they are investigated and/or receive services through the Task Force partners. Any investigation exceeding one hour will be tracked, even when it is determined that it is determined that the case does not meet state or federal statutes.

The lead investigating agency will have the responsibility for insuring the input of data into the federal reporting system.

XV. CONFLICT RESOLUTION POLICY

Any conflicts among agencies or divergences from the protocols and procedures that occur by agencies regarding cases addressed by the Task Force shall be taken to the Steering Committee for mediation. The Steering Committee will make the final determination as to the status of the grievance or conflict.

PARTNER AGENCY AGREEMENT

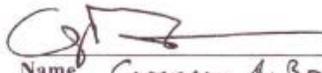
We the undersigned hereby attest that we have read, reviewed, and had the opportunity to participate in the most recent revision of this document: "Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force Protocol" of the Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force in Clark County, Nevada.

We, by signing, do agree on behalf of the agency we represent to support and comply with the Task Force Working Protocols as outlined herein.

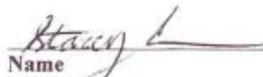
It is understood that each agency/partner will work within its department mandates and policies. Nothing contained herein supersedes the statutes, rules and regulations governing each partner agency. To the extent that any provision of this agreement is inconsistent with any such statute, rule or regulation, the statute, rule or regulation shall prevail.

We, the undersigned, do hereby acknowledge that the multi-disciplinary team approach, through the institution of the Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force, will serve to enhance the individual efforts of each agency.

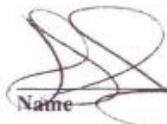
In addition, we understand that possible revisions of this document and regular reviews will occur at a minimum of every three months.


Name Gregory A. Brower Partner Agency U.S. Attorney


Name Steven M. Martinez, SAC Partner Agency FBI - LAS VEGAS DIVISION


Name Blancy L. Partner Agency The Salvation Army


Name DAVE NOAHR Partner Agency NLVPD


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