

# National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking



January 2017

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## INTRODUCTION BY ATTORNEY GENERAL LORETTA E. LYNCH

Human trafficking is a devastating crime that threatens society's most vulnerable members, exploiting them for sex, labor, and servitude of all kinds. It destroys families, shatters lives, and undermines our most fundamental beliefs about the dignity of all people. As a prosecutor in Brooklyn, I saw firsthand the consequences of this despicable crime, as well as the extraordinary strength of survivors as they worked to reclaim their lives and renew their hope.

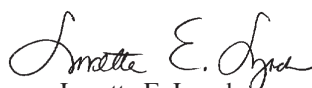
At the Department of Justice, we are deeply committed to combating the scourge of human trafficking and supporting survivors with every tool at our disposal. And as Attorney General, I have prioritized these efforts to protect the defenseless. We believe in a victim-centered, trauma-informed approach to prosecuting these crimes, because nothing is more important than helping victims regain the sense of control that their assailants have tried to steal from them.

The complex and pernicious nature of human trafficking requires a multifaceted and aggressive response. Trafficking and exploitation can take multiple forms and occur in various contexts. Collaboration at all levels is critical. At the federal level, for example, we have been gratified by the success of our ACTeam Initiative – a joint effort among the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Labor, and the Department of Justice. In the first two years of the program, in the six ACTeam pilot districts, we more than doubled the number of human trafficking cases filed and defendants charged over the previous two years. We have since expanded the ACTeam Initiative into six new cities, where the initial results are similarly encouraging. We also work to encourage collaboration at the state and local level. For example, the Department's Office for Victims of Crime and Bureau of Justice Assistance cooperatively administer the Enhanced Collaborative Model grant program for human trafficking task forces; this program requires a law enforcement agency and a victim service provider to apply jointly for funding and to jointly operate a multidisciplinary anti-trafficking task force.

Under the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, Congress asked the Justice Department to develop a National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking, which we are pleased to present here. As part of the development of this strategy, each U.S. Attorney's Office produced a district-specific strategy, highlights of which are included in this report. This report also includes a section on our vital work to combat human trafficking in Indian Country, where the threat of trafficking is compounded by risk factors such as high rates of poverty. And it summarizes the work that different components of the Department are already doing to tackle human trafficking, as well as the ways in which components work together to amplify their success. We are committed to constant improvement, and the strategy highlights various ways we intend to enhance our programming and prosecution efforts through greater coordination and collaboration with other federal agencies and outside organizations.

Human trafficking is nothing less than modern-day slavery. It has no place in this nation. The realities of this horrible crime demand our relentless opposition, and the strength and courage of survivors requires our unyielding support and aid. While we have made important progress, there is so much work still to be done. I am confident that with the help of this critical document, we can build on the successes of the past, and that together, we can build a brighter future.



  
Loretta E. Lynch  
Attorney General



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# I. INTRODUCTION

Human traffickers prey on some of the most vulnerable members of society. Human trafficking, as defined in federal law, includes sex trafficking, in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the victim is under 18 years of age; and labor trafficking, i.e., the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud, or coercion. Human trafficking of either type does not require movement, either within the United States or across a U.S. border.

Bringing human traffickers to justice and assisting trafficking survivors are therefore top priorities of the U.S. Department of Justice (the Department or DOJ). Responding to a crime as complex and as devastating as human trafficking is neither simple nor straightforward. The Department's anti-trafficking efforts involve numerous components engaged in a full spectrum of activities: investigations, prosecutions, services for victims, enforcement initiatives to strengthen anti-trafficking partnerships, innovative prevention efforts, capacity-building programs to advance survivor-centered anti-trafficking strategies, and grant funding to state, local, and tribal authorities and to non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Between Fiscal Years (FYs) 2009 and 2016, the Department increased the number of trafficking cases filed, in comparison to the previous eight years, by 79 percent, the number of defendants charged by 71 percent, and the number of defendants convicted by 68 percent, in addition to increased prosecution results in cases involving child sex trafficking.

The Attorney General has developed and will implement and maintain this National Strategy for Combating Human Trafficking (National Strategy) in order to enhance the Department's work to combat the atrocity of human trafficking. The National Strategy sets forth plans to enhance coordination within the Department, and to develop specific strategies within each federal district to stop human trafficking. See Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015, Public Law 114-22, Sec. 606.

The National Strategy includes the following:

- An assessment, based on the FBI's experience, of the threat presented by human trafficking in order to guide federal, state, local, and tribal anti-trafficking efforts.
- A description of the work of the Department's components that are most extensively involved in anti-trafficking work, including the Department's efforts to incorporate survivors' experiences into our practice:<sup>1</sup>
  - o the Civil Rights Division's Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit (HTPU);
  - o the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS);
  - o the U.S. Attorneys' Offices (USAOs);
  - o the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI);
  - o and various grant-making components within the Office of Justice Programs (OJP).
- An outline to enhance case coordination within the Department, including specific integration, coordination, and collaboration, as appropriate, on human trafficking investigations between and among DOJ enforcement components.

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<sup>1</sup>This strategy does not treat the topic of services for human trafficking victims in detail. Further information on victim services is available in the interagency Federal Strategic Action Plan on Services for Victims of Human Trafficking in the United States 2013-2017, available at <http://www.ovc.gov/pubs/FederalHumanTraffickingStrategicPlan.pdf>.

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- A description of the district-specific strategies developed by each United States Attorney’s Office.
  - A discussion of human trafficking and anti-trafficking efforts in Indian Country.
  - Information about annual spending dedicated to preventing and combating human trafficking.
  - A description of the Department’s plans to encourage cooperation, coordination, and mutual support between the private and non-profit sector and federal agencies to combat human trafficking.

## II. HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE UNITED STATES



Human trafficking occurs throughout the United States. In 2015, the National Human Trafficking Resource Center, a non-governmental organization that operates a hotline to receive reports or provide information about human trafficking, received multiple reports concerning human trafficking in each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia.<sup>2</sup> The FBI has investigated trafficking cases out of each of its 56 field offices across the United States. The following analysis of the human trafficking threat is based on experience gained through these FBI investigations. It describes the typical trafficking situations, perpetrators, and victims that FBI agents encounter.

This is not intended to be a comprehensive assessment of human trafficking, given the diverse nature of the crime and the number of federal agencies involved in combating it.<sup>3</sup> Furthermore, there is no reliable estimate of the number of trafficking victims in the United States. As described below, traffickers frequently engage in intimidation, manipulation, and retaliation to deter vulnerable victims from contacting or cooperating with law enforcement. Many victims, therefore, do not self-report, leaving law enforcement to depend upon investigation and tips from the public to discover trafficking. Statistics regarding the number of individuals victimized by human trafficking thus remain difficult to calculate. Nonetheless, many of the general characteristics of human trafficking in the United States can be described based on FBI experience.

***Challenges to Victim Identification.*** In many instances, both minor and adult victims of human trafficking are isolated and have been coached by their trafficker to fear law enforcement, or to lie about their circumstances. Victims of trafficking may be scared of law enforcement because of their participation in unlawful activity, such as prostitution, or, in the case of foreign victims, their undocumented status or experiences with corrupt or violent authorities in their home country. Traffickers exploit these fears by threatening the victim with arrest, detention, or deportation if encountered by authorities. In some cases, the victim is attempting to escape other problems in his or her life that the trafficker exploits to ensure the victim’s compliance, such as an abusive family, drug addiction, or extreme poverty.

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<sup>2</sup> National Human Trafficking Resource Center, “United States Report 1/1/2015–12/31/2015” (February 2016), available at <http://www.traffickingresourcecenter.org/resources/2015-nhtrc-annual-report>.

<sup>3</sup> For a description of the full scope of U.S. governmental anti-trafficking work, including the law enforcement efforts of the Department of Homeland Security and other agencies, please see the Attorney General’s Annual Report to Congress and Assessment of U.S. Government Activities to Combat Trafficking in Persons (“Annual Report”), available at <https://www.justice.gov/ag/selected-publications>.

Sex Trafficking	Labor Trafficking
Because commercial sex is already illegal in most locations, it is more likely that law enforcement will encounter potential victims. However, victim identification may be hampered because minors may say they are over the age of 18, and adults may conceal the use of force, fraud, and coercion.	Labor trafficking often occurs in the context of an otherwise lawful industry, decreasing the number of encounters between law enforcement and individuals engaged in that industry, which makes victim detection and identification more difficult.
Victims exploited for commercial sex must be advertised to or brought into contact with customers, further increasing opportunities for law enforcement or civilians to encounter the victims and interdict the crime.	Labor trafficking victims, including victims of domestic servitude, can be exploited in isolated homes, fields, or factories, with few opportunities to come into contact with customers or other outsiders.

**Methods of Control.** Foreign victims who are facing extreme poverty and limited economic opportunity in their home countries are often targeted by traffickers who lure them to the United States with false promises of marriage, education, legitimate jobs, and steady income to send home to support their families. The traffickers then manipulate the victims’ lack of documented legal status, fear of law enforcement, limited ability to communicate in English, isolation from friends and family – including, in some cases, control over their children back in their home countries – and lack of means to get themselves back home, to further compel and coerce the victims to comply with the traffickers’ demands.

The most common types of coercion encountered in forced labor situations include forced drug use, violence, threats, isolation, intimidation, debt bondage, and passport confiscation.

Sex traffickers generally control their victims through force, fraud, or coercion, although these means need not be proven in cases involving minors. Whether preying upon minors or adults, traffickers usually identify and exploit specific vulnerabilities of their victims, which can include preexisting psychological trauma, drug dependency, disabilities, homelessness, dislocation, and isolation.

Pimps also often seek to exploit children because they are perceived as easy to control and more profitable.<sup>4</sup> Such victims are commonly recruited from broken homes or may be runaways with whom a pimp came into contact. Victims are frequently lured by pimps with offers of food, clothes, attention, friendship, love, and a seemingly safe place to sleep. Once a pimp gains this control over a child, he or she will often use acts of violence, intimidation, or psychological manipulation to trap the child in a life of sex trafficking.

Pimps often target children at bus stops and train stations, schools, strip clubs, casinos, group homes, truck stops, and through social networking and escort websites.

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<sup>4</sup> A detailed assessment of the threat of child sexual exploitation, including sex trafficking, is included in the National Strategy for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction, available at <https://www.justice.gov/psc/national-strategy-child-exploitation-prevention-and-interdiction>.

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***Sex Trafficking Settings.*** Sex trafficking can occur in many different contexts, including:

- street prostitution controlled by violent or coercive “pimps,”
- prostitution facilitated through online advertising,
- “escort services” offering delivery or “outcalls” to hotels or residences, and
- compelled or coerced prostitution in residences, massage parlors, cantinas, nightclubs, karaoke bars, or other entertainment venues.

Pimps commonly advertise the services of sex trafficking victims in the adult services or escort services sections on certain online classified advertising websites. The advertisements generally do not explicitly discuss commercial sexual activity and use a false name and age for the victim. Often the trafficker will advertise in multiple areas in order to increase his or her profit and to avoid law enforcement detection. In the FBI’s experience, pimps who sell minors for sex are also often involved in other violent criminal activities. Most defendants in the FBI’s human trafficking cases have prior criminal records, and they are prone to recidivism. And there has been an increase in child sex trafficking cases involving pimps who are also gang members or affiliated with a gang.

A significant number of foreign-victim sex trafficking cases involve trafficking enterprises that operate across the U.S.-Mexico border. Multiple prosecutions in Atlanta, New York, New Jersey, Miami, and San Diego have exposed the extent of these transnational sex trafficking networks, which exploited dozens of victims before being dismantled by law enforcement.

While both U.S. and foreign citizens and female, male, and transgender individuals have been sex trafficking victims, in the FBI’s experience, most victims in the last decade have been U.S. citizen women and children. As noted in footnote 3, additional information about the U.S. Government’s work involving foreign trafficking victims can be found in the Attorney General’s Annual Report.

A recent case prosecuted by DOJ demonstrates some of these typical features. The defendant recruited vulnerable young women and girls from the Charlotte, North Carolina area and advertised them for prostitution on the Internet. He lured them into his scheme by promising that they would be part of a “family,” as they had none. Once the women and girls were a part of his enterprise, the defendant demanded all of their proceeds and used brutal violence to control the victims, including handcuffing and beating one, punching another until she vomited, and burning a third on the leg with a cigarette. As one witness explained at trial, the defendant never hit the victims in the face because it would damage his “merchandise.”

The defendant kidnapped one of the victims and viciously beat her after she left and reported him to the police. He continued his efforts to intimidate and control the victims even after his arrest by, among other things, convincing the kidnapping victim to try to retract her allegation.

A federal jury convicted the defendant of sex trafficking, kidnapping, production of child pornography, witness tampering, and promoting a prostitution business enterprise. In May 2016, he was sentenced to life in prison and was also ordered to pay more than \$13,000 in restitution to the two identified sex trafficking victims, whom he trafficked for periods of two months and three months, respectively.

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***Labor Trafficking Settings.*** Labor trafficking is providing or obtaining labor by one or more of the following prohibited means:

- force,
- threats of force,
- threats of serious harm, or
- a scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause a victim to fear serious harm.

FBI investigations suggest that labor trafficking is likely to be found in low-skilled or temporary-worker labor situations including agriculture, traveling sales crews, and restaurants and food service. Approximately one-fifth to one-third of the FBI's labor trafficking investigations are domestic servitude situations, i.e., the compelled service of an individual in a home for cooking, cleaning, elder care, child care purposes, or other domestic labor. In addition, compelled labor in a sexually oriented legal business, such as a strip club, without engaging in commercial sex acts, is a form of labor trafficking.

The FBI's labor trafficking investigations most often encounter foreign-born victims, although U.S. citizens are also vulnerable. In the FBI's cases, most trafficking victims from outside the United States come from Mexico, China, and the Philippines.

The United States recently concluded its successful prosecution of two defendants for labor trafficking offenses related to their exploitation of undocumented Guatemalan men and boys.

The defendants would lure minors and adults to the United States under false pretenses and then compel them to work on egg farms in Ohio. They and their associates recruited workers from Guatemala, some as young as 14- and 15-years old, by falsely promising them good jobs and a chance to attend school in the United States.

The defendants then smuggled and transported the workers to a trailer park in Marion, Ohio, where they ordered them to live in dilapidated trailers and to work at physically demanding jobs at Trillium Farms for up to 12 hours a day for minimal amounts of money. The work included cleaning chicken coops, loading and unloading crates of chickens, de-beaking chickens, and vaccinating chickens.

The defendants pleaded guilty in 2015 to conspiracy to commit forced labor, forced labor, witness tampering, and alien harboring. In June 2016, the defendants were sentenced respectively to ten and more than 15 years in prison for their roles in the scheme. They were also ordered to pay more than \$67,000 in restitution to the identified victims, eight minors and two adults.



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### III. REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING



The Department is fully committed to the fight against human trafficking, calling on numerous components to contribute to the fight against human trafficking. The Department's efforts include the investigation and prosecution of these crimes, the provision of services to victims, and providing support for state, local, and tribal authorities, as well as outside stakeholders. This section of the National Strategy describes the work of these components and also addresses how these components incorporate survivors' perspectives into their work.

#### A. Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit (HTPU)

DOJ has prosecuted human trafficking cases in various forms for more than two decades. With the enactment of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), DOJ obtained new statutory authorities that enabled more prosecutions, imposed more stringent penalties on traffickers, and improved provision of services to victims.

In 2007, DOJ formed HTPU within the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division to consolidate anti-trafficking expertise within a specialized prosecution unit and to focus on the development of novel, complex, multi-jurisdictional, and international human trafficking cases. HTPU personnel include specialized federal prosecutors, a senior policy counsel, a national program manager, an investigator, and a victim-witness specialist. HTPU partners with U.S. Attorney's Offices and law enforcement agencies nationwide to develop human trafficking investigations and prosecutions of national significance involving forced labor, sex trafficking of adults by force, fraud, and coercion, and transnational sex trafficking enterprises.

**Enforcement Initiatives.** HTPU also leads national enforcement initiatives to enhance the impact of interagency counter-trafficking efforts. For example, HTPU leads the highly successful Anti-Trafficking Coordination Team (ACTeam) Initiative. Launched in 2011 by the Attorney General, Secretary of Homeland Security, and Secretary of Labor, the ACTeam Initiative is a collaboration among:

- the Department's HTPU, the FBI, USAOs, and the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys (EOUSA);
- Immigration and Customs Enforcement/Homeland Security Investigations (ICE/HSI) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS); and
- the Wage and Hour Division and Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Labor (DOL).

The ACTeam Initiative convenes interagency teams of federal agents and prosecutors in select jurisdictions to implement joint, proactive anti-trafficking strategies in coordination with national human trafficking subject matter experts, and is coupled with intensive interactive training. Phase I of the ACTeam Initiative involved the launch of six ACTeams across the country. Phase I produced significant increases in human trafficking prosecutions. From FYs 2010-2011 to FYs 2012-2013, the six ACTeam districts produced:

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- a 114 percent increase in cases filed,
  - a 119 percent increase in defendants charged,
  - and an 86 percent increase in defendants convicted.

Moreover, while the Phase I ACTeam districts represented less than 7 percent of districts nationwide, they accounted for 58 percent of the national increase in cases filed, 64 percent of the increase in defendants charged, and 56 percent of the national increase in defendants convicted in cases involving forced labor, and domestic and international sex trafficking of adults during the Phase I period.

Based on the success of Phase I, HTPU coordinated the Cabinet-level interagency launch of Phase II in 2015, culminating in the designation of six additional Phase II ACTeam sites selected through a competitive, nationwide interagency selection process. In connection with the ACTeam Initiative, HTPU and its ACTeam partner agencies developed and delivered an intensive, interactive, week-long Advanced Human Trafficking Training Program held at DHS's Federal Law Enforcement Training Center.

***Bilateral Work.*** In addition, HTPU coordinates the U.S.-Mexico Bilateral Human Trafficking Enforcement Initiative, in collaboration with DHS, USAOs, and Mexican law enforcement counterparts. Since 2009, U.S. and Mexican law enforcement have collaborated to exchange leads, intelligence, and anti-trafficking expertise to develop high-impact investigations and prosecutions aimed at dismantling human trafficking networks operating across the U.S.-Mexico border, bringing traffickers to justice, reuniting trafficking victims with their children, and restoring the rights and dignity of trafficking victims and survivors.

These efforts have resulted in successful prosecutions in both Mexico and the United States, including U.S. federal prosecutions of more than 50 defendants in multiple cases in New York, Georgia, Florida, and Texas, numerous Mexican federal and state prosecutions of associated sex traffickers, rescue of more than 130 victims, and reunification of at least 18 trafficking victims with their children recovered from the trafficking networks' control.

***Collaboration.*** Finally, HTPU collaborates with law enforcement, governmental, and non-governmental partners nationwide to provide outreach, training, and guidance on identifying human trafficking indicators and survivor-centered, trauma-informed strategies for advancing human trafficking investigations and prosecutions.

## **B. Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS)**

The Criminal Division's CEOS leads the Department's campaign against the sexual exploitation of children, including child sex trafficking, by identifying trends in online technology, initiating proactive national and international investigations, and employing first-of-their-kind investigative and prosecutorial tactics and techniques; by shaping domestic and international policy; and by providing guidance and training to other prosecutors and law enforcement agents. CEOS consists of 32 personnel, including 20 attorneys, a seven-person High Technology Investigative Unit (HTIU), an investigative analyst, a child victim witness program administrator, paralegals, and administrative staff.

CEOS partners with all USAOs and federal law enforcement agencies, as well as foreign law enforcement, to operate nationally and transnationally, and with key NGOs, foreign governments (through bilateral and multilateral efforts, and through international police organizations such as INTERPOL and EUROPOL) and foreign entities such as the Group of Seven (G7) and WePROTECT Global Alliance to End Child Sexual Exploitation Online.

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**Emerging threats.** CEOS responds to evolving trends with respect to the prostitution of children, including the increased involvement of gangs and the advertisement of children online. For example, CEOS joined the USAO for the Central District of California to obtain convictions against eight pimps and recruiters affiliated with a street gang. The defendants would recruit underage girls, and then bring them to the Los Angeles area, where they were housed by several of the defendants. When the victims did not perform as required, they were physically and verbally harmed in addition to the sexual exploitation they endured.

CEOS has also focused on prosecuting offenders who facilitate the online sex trafficking of minors. CEOS joined the USAO for the Northern District of California to secure convictions against two defendants in connection with their operation of myredbook.com (“myRedBook”), a website that facilitated prostitution. MyRedBook purported to provide “Escort, Massage, and Strip Club Reviews,” but in fact hosted advertisements for prostitution – as well as ads for minor sex trafficking victims – complete with explicit photos, lewd physical descriptions, menus of sexual services, hourly and nightly rates, and customer reviews of the sex workers’ services. Eric Omuro, myRedBook’s owner and primary operator, was sentenced to 13 months in prison and ordered to forfeit \$1.28 million dollars.

As part of its work to stop this kind of technology-facilitated sex trafficking, CEOS has been coordinating with the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency to deploy their “Memex” program to create a searchable historical database of online ads related to the commercial sexual exploitation of children. This database will be a valuable source of intelligence to facilitate the investigation of these offenses.

**Child Sex Tourism.** CEOS also prosecutes U.S. citizens or residents who engage in “child sex tourism,” a euphemism for when individuals go abroad and sexually abuse foreign children. Offenders often travel to impoverished countries like Cambodia, Honduras, or the Philippines, where they seek to take advantage of inadequate laws, weak law enforcement responses, and corruption. Perpetrators include humanitarian workers, U.S. governmental employees working abroad, and convicted sex offenders who have relocated to foreign countries to escape sex offender registration requirements. Though they may think they are evading U.S. law enforcement, countless offenders have been identified and successfully prosecuted by CEOS in cooperation with domestic and foreign law enforcement partners.

**Restitution.** Obtaining restitution is a critical element of CEOS’s prosecutorial efforts. Receiving restitution from a defendant can provide victims the resources they need in order to begin rebuilding their lives. For example, one individual convicted of “child sex tourism” was ordered to pay more than \$20,000 in restitution to three dozen Haitian victims. Another was ordered to pay a total of \$45,000 to each of three victims following his conviction for sexually exploiting those children in Thailand. A third was ordered to pay a total of \$25,000 to seven children he had abused in the Philippines.

**Training and Outreach.** Part of CEOS’s mission is to provide extensive guidance and training to Assistant U.S. Attorneys (AUSAs) and agents around the country and the world who are working child sexual exploitation cases. For example, CEOS and HTIU offer extensive, nationwide in-person training through their participation in national conferences. CEOS helped design and host a course held in November 2015 at the National Advocacy Center (NAC) entitled “Investigating and Prosecuting the Prostitution of Children,” which was attended by approximately 60 AUSAs. CEOS also helped develop and sponsor the

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Project Safe Childhood Advanced Online Child Exploitation Seminars, which took place in August 2015 and June 2014 at the NAC, and were each attended by approximately 80 AUSAs. In April 2016, CEOS trial attorneys and digital investigative analysts addressed nearly 1,500 federal, state, and local agents, prosecutors, and victim specialists at DOJ's annual National Law Enforcement Training on Child Exploitation in Atlanta, Georgia.

CEOS also travels abroad to provide training for investigators, prosecutors, judges, and NGOs. CEOS consults with numerous foreign delegations in the United States to discuss efforts to enhance worldwide efforts against child sexual exploitation crimes, including commercial sexual exploitation of children. These delegations have included prosecutors, judges, law enforcement, and NGOs. The meetings are usually organized by DOJ's Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development Assistance and Training as part of the Department of State-sponsored International Visitor Leadership Program.

CEOS also distributes a newsletter and case digest summarizing the federal cases addressing significant child exploitation topics, and maintains an intranet site, accessible by all USAOs and Main Justice components, with links to a variety of resources.

### **C. U.S. Attorneys' Offices (USAOs)**

The 94 USAOs across the country prosecute a variety of human trafficking cases, working closely with various state, local, and tribal law enforcement authorities, as well as NGO partners. With support from EOUSA and HTPU, each U.S. Attorney guides the law enforcement community in his or her district to work as a cooperative team to combat human trafficking.

**Prosecutors.** As described in more detail below, each USAO, in consultation with state, local, and tribal governmental agencies, has developed a district-specific strategic plan to coordinate the identification of victims and the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking crimes. In addition, each office has designated an experienced AUSA in the office to lead the prosecution of human trafficking cases in the district and to work with the growing number of AUSAs in the office who work on human trafficking cases. These prosecutors communicate with each other and with HTPU attorneys through the Human Trafficking ListServ, sharing legal expertise for these unique cases and strategies for combating human trafficking.

**Victim Assistance Personnel.** Each USAO also has victim assistance personnel responsible for providing services to crime victims and ensuring their rights are accorded as cases progress through the criminal justice system. Victim assistance personnel are trained to assist trafficking victims and ensure they have access to services that address the unique and challenging needs they face. Victim assistance personnel work closely with their federal, state, tribal, local, and non-governmental counterparts to ensure crime victims receive the most comprehensive services available to meet their needs.

**Task Forces.** Each USAO leads or participates in a task force aimed at combating human trafficking. The task forces include those that are operational and focused on criminal investigation and prosecution and those that address related issues such as regional coordination and information-sharing and trafficking victims' unique needs. Many of the task forces address more than one issue – for example, both investigation and training – and a significant number of task forces involve more than one district.



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Task force membership generally includes federal law enforcement partners, state and local law enforcement, and various community groups, including those providing victim services. In addition, some task forces also include tribal law enforcement, community and faith-based organizations, legal aid, and child and family services agencies. In the majority of districts, the USAO leads a task force.

Furthermore, as noted above, 12 USAOs have participated in the ACTeams, the only federal enforcement initiative targeted specifically at these aspects of the multi-faceted human trafficking threat. ACTeams receive intensive advanced training, enhanced operational support, and strategic guidance from human trafficking experts in HTPU, the FBI, ICE/HSI, EOUSA, and DOL headquarters. Twenty-seven USAOs are also active participants in anti-trafficking task forces funded by the DOJ's Bureau of Justice Assistance and the Office for Victims of Crime (see below for more details).

***Outreach.*** Because human trafficking is, by its nature, a hidden activity, public awareness can increase investigative referrals and may also induce a victim to contact law enforcement. Therefore, USAOs have effectively used community education and outreach in anti-trafficking strategies.

- Many USAOs, often in conjunction with task forces, hold events with populations vulnerable to human trafficking to increase awareness and to provide training about signs of human trafficking.
- Others have posted advertisements or other public notices referring citizens to trafficking hotlines and have trained allied professionals such as medical staff, crisis intervention personnel, and state fair housing boards to recognize indicators of possible human trafficking.
- Many USAOs have also provided significant training to federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement on trafficking topics, from signs and investigation of human trafficking to meeting victims' needs.

***Project Safe Childhood.*** In addition to their comprehensive human trafficking initiatives, USAOs also prosecute child sex trafficking cases as part of Project Safe Childhood (PSC). With support from EOUSA and CEOS, each U.S. Attorney guides the law enforcement community in his or her district to work as a cooperative team to combat the sexual exploitation of children. Each USAO has a PSC Coordinator, an experienced AUSA who provides a single point of contact for law enforcement agencies investigating any federal child sexual exploitation crime. (The PSC Coordinator may or may not also be the human trafficking coordinator). The National PSC Coordinator at EOUSA supports the work of AUSAs who prosecute child exploitation offenses.

PSC prosecutors communicate extensively with CEOS and each other through the PSC ListServ and through trainings at the NAC, capitalizing on the collective expertise of the PSC network of individuals committed to fighting child exploitation.

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## D. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

The FBI addresses human trafficking through its Civil Rights and Violent Crimes Against Children Programs.

**The Civil Rights Unit (CRU).** CRU investigates all violations of labor trafficking, and international and domestic sex trafficking of adults through force, fraud, or coercion. After initiating a Human Trafficking Task Force (HTTF) platform in 2015, CRU now coordinates 11 FBI-led HTTFs and participates in more than 100 task forces and working groups across the nation. The FBI also partners with DOJ, DHS, and DOL through the ongoing ACTeam Initiative described above. These partnerships facilitate collaborative efforts between the FBI and state, local, tribal, and federal partners in an ongoing affirmative effort to recover victims of trafficking and ensure successful prosecution of those who victimize vulnerable victims.

**The Violent Crimes Against Children Section (VCACS).** VCACS has made domestic sex trafficking of minors a priority under the Innocence Lost National Initiative, started in 2003 in conjunction with CEOS and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. VCACS's work to fight child sex trafficking encompasses:

- Seventy-four Child Exploitation Task Forces investigating online sexual exploitation of children and child sex trafficking;
- Operation Cross Country (OCC), a nationwide law enforcement initiative to recover minors who are commercially sexually exploited. OCC expanded internationally in 2016, and included Canadian, Cambodian, Thai, and Filipino law enforcement;
- The Innocent Images National Initiative, a proactive, intelligence-driven, multi-agency, international operation to combat the proliferation and production of child pornography worldwide;
- The Child Sex Tourism Initiative targeting U.S. citizens traveling abroad to engage in sexual activity with children; and
- The Child Abduction Rapid Deployment Team, consisting of approximately 80 members, to provide a national law enforcement resource for missing children investigations.



**Intelligence.** The FBI's work is supported by the Violent Crimes Against Children Intelligence Unit and the Public Corruption and Civil Rights Intelligence Unit, both of which engage in intelligence collection, analysis, and dissemination; identify human trafficking threats, trends, and vulnerabilities; write national-in-scope intelligence products; identify intelligence gaps and collection requirements; and provide actionable intelligence to law enforcement, policy makers, NGOs, private industry, and the public to aid in the identification, recovery, and prevention of sex trafficking and labor trafficking victims.

In addition, the FBI's Office for Victim Assistance ensures that human trafficking victims are provided services that are designed to help them cope and effectively participate in the criminal justice system. Due to the traumatizing nature of human trafficking offenses, this relationship is instrumental to the success of human trafficking investigations, and ensuring the needs of victims remains a priority throughout the judicial process.

**Results.** In 2016, the joint investigative efforts of FBI's human trafficking programs resulted in the initiation of over 1,800 human trafficking investigations and the arrests of nearly 2,600 individuals for sex and labor trafficking offenses by federal, state, and local law enforcement task force officers. Under the FBI VCACS's Innocence Lost National Initiative, approximately 6,000 juvenile victims have been recovered from child sex trafficking throughout the duration of the program.

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## **E. Office of Justice Programs (OJP)**

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) supports law enforcement, courts, corrections, victim services, technology, and prevention initiatives that strengthen the nation's criminal justice system by providing leadership, services, and funding to America's communities. BJA has made awards to law enforcement agencies leading more than 50 human trafficking task forces across the United States in partnership with OJP's Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), which provides leadership, training, and funding on behalf of crime victims.

Since effectively combating trafficking requires a multidisciplinary approach, the human trafficking task forces include members of federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, immigration and customs enforcement officers, and victim services providers. These task forces are required to investigate all forms of human trafficking, with an emphasis on the identification, recovery, and restoration of victims, as well as the prosecution of the perpetrators of trafficking for forced labor and sexual exploitation. Proactive investigation techniques often include scans and reviews of Internet social media sites, where perpetrators often recruit young victims.

Between FYs 2010 and 2015, the task forces conducted nearly 5,544 investigations that resulted in federal, state, and local trafficking charges against 1,558 individuals. Among the 2,071 confirmed victims who were identified and recovered during this five year period were 1,052 minor victims.

In FY 2010, BJA and OVC initiated the Enhanced Collaborative Model to Combat Human Trafficking (ECM) for six task forces. Within each task force location, one award supports the lead law enforcement agency and another award supports the lead victim services provider. Further modifications to the program in 2015, including provision of grant funds to anti-trafficking task forces that are in the early stages of operation, resulted in awarding \$22.7 million to 16 task forces in FY 2015 and \$15.8 million to 11 task forces in FY 2016.

Notable recent successes of these task forces include:

- In January 2016, based on an investigation conducted through the New Mexico Human Trafficking Task Force, an individual was indicted in Yellowstone County (Montana) District Court for the sex trafficking of a 17-year-old girl from Albuquerque. The girl told investigators that she had been drugged, transported to Billings, Montana, and coerced into having sex for money with 40 men in a three-week period. The girl's mother was also charged, because she had received money from the girl's prostitution.
- In April 2016, the Cook County (Illinois) State's Attorney's Office, based on an investigation by the Cook County Human Trafficking Task Force, was able to file charges of labor trafficking in what had initially appeared to be a healthcare fraud case. The defendants coerced a Filipino woman into surrendering her passport and signing a contract that provided a wage that did not meet minimum salary standards for the long hours she worked.

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## F. The Department's Collaboration with Survivors

The Department's components regularly engage with human trafficking survivors to incorporate survivors' experiences into their work. The Department welcomes the recent recommendations issued by the U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking (USAC), which outline further opportunities for engagement with survivors.<sup>5</sup>

For example, the FBI's Office for Victim Assistance and VCACS annually invite adult survivors of child sexual exploitation to share their perspectives at the Crimes Against Children Conference to educate FBI supervisors and executive managers about victim-centered investigative approaches. Additionally, VCACS integrates adult survivors of domestic minor sex trafficking during a weeklong FBI training for agents, task force officers, victim specialists, and intelligence analysts called "Protecting Victims of Sexual Exploitation."

The FBI's CRU integrates survivor experiences, including discussions of survivors' time with their traffickers, into its training programs to illustrate trafficking models and methods. The FBI also reviews survivor experiences, both positive and negative, with law enforcement authorities to develop best practices for taking a victim-centered approach to these investigations.

EOUSA has incorporated the input of survivors in its training for USAO victim assistance personnel, including in the development of some recent trainings, and has invited survivors to speak at the trainings to educate participants about the needs of victims. In addition, USAOs regularly incorporate survivors into awareness and outreach activities, such as National Crime Victims' Rights Week programs.

OVC has held two survivor forums in recent years to obtain survivors' input about how federal agencies can most effectively address the crime of human trafficking.

OVC's Training and Technical Assistance Center incorporates the perspectives of survivors in advanced training programs for law enforcement on survivor-centered, trauma-informed investigation and prosecution strategies. For example, OVC developed and released a video series in January 2016 entitled *Faces of Human Trafficking* to raise awareness about all forms of human trafficking and the important role that everyone can play in helping to identify and serve victims. The series features the voices of survivors, service providers, and allied professionals, and can serve as a training tool for law enforcement.

Ongoing meetings between DOJ, other governmental partners, USAC, and NGO survivor-advocates provide continuous opportunities to draw on survivors' experiences and insights in formulating policy recommendations, outreach campaigns, case identification strategies, and training programs.

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<sup>5</sup> United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking, Annual Report 2016, available at <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/263434.pdf>.



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## IV. CASE COORDINATION WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

In the 16 years since Congress passed the TVPA, the Department has forged strong partnerships among USAOs, the Civil Rights Division's HTPU, the Criminal Division's CEOS, and the FBI to combat human trafficking. In support of these partnerships, the Department has provided regular regional and national trainings and operational and technical assistance to prosecutors and agents to address the unique challenges and issues associated with human trafficking prosecutions.



**Coordination Among Prosecutorial Offices.** HTPU and CEOS have increasingly partnered with the Criminal Division's Money Laundering and Asset Recovery Section (Money Laundering Section) and Organized Crime and Gang Section to address the financial crime and organized crime aspects of human trafficking cases, and with the Criminal Division's Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section (HRSP) on extraterritorial investigations involving human trafficking and related forms of exploitation.

Most recently, the Money Laundering Section has hired an experienced prosecutor with significant expertise in financial crimes, money laundering, and asset forfeiture to spearhead the investigation of financial aspects of human trafficking – in partnership with HTPU and USAOs – and to provide extensive trainings, technical assistance, and guidance on money laundering and forfeiture issues arising in human trafficking cases around the country. These partnerships have significantly enhanced the Department's efforts to combat human trafficking and provide restitution to its victims.

**Going Forward.** Building upon this momentum, the Department will continue to leverage its multi-disciplinary expertise and enhance integration, coordination, and collaboration among USAOs, HTPU, CEOS, the FBI, and other Department components with specialized expertise, recognizing that human trafficking cases often involve a variety of interrelated criminal violations addressing, for example, organized crime, financial crime, fraud, cybercrime, immigration offenses, and child exploitation. Specifically, as part of this National Strategy, the Department will enhance the following programs and coordination mechanisms in the next several years:

1. Cross-training programs between and among FBI's CRU, VCACS, and Gangs and Criminal Enterprise Investigations components; and EOUSA, USAOs, HTPU, CEOS, HRSP, and, where appropriate, other relevant Department components.
2. Regular coordination and consultation between and among EOUSA, USAOs, HTPU, CEOS, relevant FBI Headquarters units, and, where appropriate, other relevant Department components, including quarterly calls initiated by HTPU and CEOS and arranged around specific topics and geographic regions and designed to facilitate cross-referrals and exchanges of expertise on multi-disciplinary human trafficking investigations and cases.
3. Enhanced dissemination of expertise and technical guidance by Department components with specialized expertise from other enforcement areas (e.g., financial crime, organized crime, cybercrime, and human rights violations) that are relevant to human trafficking investigations and cases including through national and regional trainings, webinars, toolkits, intranet platforms, web-based portals, and distribution of guidance and technical assistance memoranda.

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4. Enhancement of notification and cross-referral protocols by raising awareness of the United States Attorneys' Manual's notification requirements for human trafficking cases, streamlining the Manual's notification procedures to simplify implementation, and encouraging continued information-sharing and cross-referrals between USAOs, HTPU, CEOS, and other relevant Department components.
  5. Collaboration and support for federal prosecutors by disseminating the Department's specialized expertise to the field through increased operational assistance, advanced national and regional training opportunities, and development of a shared intranet portal to provide easy access to sample motions, indictments, and other forms; legal and legislative updates; and other useful resources.

## **V. ANTI-TRAFFICKING STRATEGIES OF UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS' OFFICES**

In accordance with the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, all USAOs have developed district-specific strategies to coordinate the identification of victims and the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking crimes. The USAO strategies include methods to: incorporate NGOs or human trafficking survivors into task forces, trainings, and outreach events as appropriate; develop district-specific resource materials about victim identification; conduct community outreach; and ensure that USAOs have appropriate victim assistance protocols in place to assist victims of human trafficking.

Plans include specific details for collaboration, such as multi-disciplinary team participation in tribal jurisdictions, meeting with NGOs and survivor-led groups, inviting NGOs to participate on task forces, and taking leadership roles in victim identification coalitions. The district-specific plans also incorporate proactive case development strategies, many of which include not only working with law enforcement to conduct sting operations, but also establishing partnerships with community groups to raise awareness and encourage reporting suspected human trafficking to law enforcement.

Examples of coordinated victim-identification aspects of district-specific plans include the following:

After being assigned to handle a matter, AUSAs should consult the office's victim assistance personnel to discuss the needs of victims and facilitate victim contact and compliance with the Justice for All Act and the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act. Victim assistance personnel will assist with all victim needs and will work with agency partners and NGOs to address the needs identified in each particular case.

The Office will continue, particularly through the Anti-Trafficking Coordination Team (ACTeam) and additional training and outreach to the NGO and law enforcement communities, to ensure that those most likely to encounter trafficking victims are well-versed in victim identification strategies. USAO victim assistance personnel and federal and state law enforcement partners will actively participate in the monthly, county-based, human trafficking working groups.

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All USAOs also participate in at least one task force and will continue to make every effort to participate in all other human trafficking task forces focused on investigating and prosecuting human trafficking crimes operating within the district.

The following excerpts from district-specific plans emphasize collaboration with non-DOJ entities:

The USAO plans to make a concerted effort to identify additional NGOs in the district and to involve the NGOs in the tactical and strategic planning to identify possible human trafficking cases. These NGOs will be incorporated into task forces, training, and outreach events in the district in the future. Additionally, the USAO will encourage survivors of human trafficking crimes to share their perspectives as victims of human trafficking crimes in training and outreach material in the district.

Trafficking Intervention Advisory Committee – This is a small group of experienced state and federal prosecutors, service providers, and other professionals, whose mission is to advise and support a statewide coordinated response to end child sex trafficking. The committee works on statewide efforts to combat child sex trafficking, and to support the development and successful operation of task forces throughout the state.

In addition, each USAO has designated at least one AUSA who will be dedicated to the prosecution of human trafficking cases or responsible for implementing the National Strategy and district-specific strategy throughout the district.

The following excerpts from district-specific plans describe how USAOs will utilize these prosecutors:

The USAO has designated two experienced AUSAs as human trafficking coordinators. Given the unique victimology and challenges facing different types of human trafficking victims – as well as the varied array of NGOs in our district that serve victims of human trafficking – the USAO has assigned one AUSA to work primarily to combat sex trafficking of both minors and adults, and one to work primarily on human trafficking of foreign-born victims.

To further the goals of this strategic plan, the office also will seek to increase the number of AUSAs who are equipped to handle trafficking matters. The AUSAs who have handled the majority of human trafficking matters in this district are seasoned federal prosecutors with substantial experience handling complex cases and dealing with difficult and sensitive victim-related issues. These skills are essential to meeting the needs of victims and successfully prosecuting difficult and complex trafficking cases. To further the goal of increasing the number of AUSAs who can handle trafficking cases, these two most-experienced [human trafficking] prosecutors have agreed to develop and implement a training program for those in the office who are interested in learning more about prosecuting human trafficking cases.

The Department is committed to ensuring that the U.S. Attorneys' Offices will implement their plans in order to keep moving forward in the fight against human trafficking.

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## VI. COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN INDIAN COUNTRY

American Indian and Alaskan Native (AI/AN) communities are exceptionally susceptible to exploitation by human traffickers. Risk factors for human trafficking in AI/AN communities include high rates of poverty, exposure to violence and abuse, unstable living conditions, and homelessness. In some AI/AN communities, additional risk factors include a lack of sufficient law enforcement resources over large land areas and the unlawful trespass of drug traffickers and human smugglers on tribal lands.

Areas with significant human trafficking activity that impact tribal communities include Montana, Alaska, and the Bakken oil fields of North Dakota.

DOJ's work to fight trafficking in Indian Country has focused on strategic planning and training.

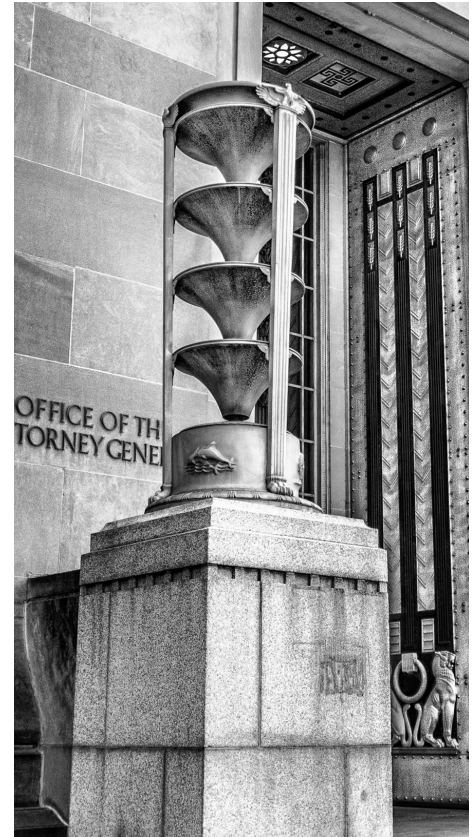
**Training.** EOUSA launched the National Indian Country Training Initiative (NICTI) in 2010 to ensure that federal prosecutors, as well as state and tribal criminal justice personnel, receive the training and support necessary to address the particular challenges relevant to Indian Country prosecutions.

In February 2015, the NICTI and the FBI held the first-ever Human Trafficking in Indian Country Seminar at the NAC for federal and tribal criminal justice professionals working in Indian Country. The seminar, which focused primarily on sex trafficking, enhanced participants' understanding of legal definitions, elements of federal offenses, and current issues and challenges of human trafficking enforcement. The training also included in-depth discussions of effective strategies for identifying, investigating, and prosecuting human trafficking cases, including prosecutors' roles in planning successful enforcement operations; strategies for developing victim testimony; pretrial litigation strategies; effective trial presentation in human trafficking prosecutions; and sentencing issues.

The NICTI has also sponsored lectures on human trafficking in Indian Country at several national conferences, including sessions hosted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the USAOs in the Districts of Kansas, Nebraska, and Northern Iowa, and the American Indian Justice Conference hosted by BJA.

In 2015, Native American citizens and tribal leaders from throughout New Mexico, including urban Indian communities and non-profit organizations, came together with tribal law enforcement, tribal court representatives, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the New Mexico Attorney General's Office, a representative from the U.S. Attorney's office, and social and health service providers to create what is believed to be the first tribal task force focused on human trafficking of American Indians in New Mexico.

The task force has focused on community outreach and building relationships in order to create the foundational trust that is vital to combating human trafficking. Training law enforcement and community members to identify the tell-tale signs of human trafficking victimization will also be a part of the task force's focus. Furthermore, bringing together diverse member of native communities will facilitate the information-sharing that is vital to addressing human trafficking.



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DOJ is coordinating its work to prevent trafficking in Indian Country with its simultaneous work to implement the district-specific AI/AN Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner-Sexual Assault Response Team guidelines, as both are intended to fight violence against women. As part of this work, in June 2016, the Attorney General directed all USAOs in Indian Country to convene a meeting with federal partners – the FBI, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Indian Health Service – and tribal partners to develop written sexual violence guidelines that detail specific responsibilities of each entity. Implementation of these guidelines coupled with the employment of the human trafficking strategic plans will greatly increase collaboration and responsiveness by tribal and federal agencies to the emerging issue of human trafficking in tribal communities.

OVC and DOJ's Office on Violence Against Women created a series of five training videos focused on crimes of violence committed against Alaska Native women, released in October 2016. Various federal partners, including the NICTI, provided feedback for this series, which includes a video that highlights the issue of sex trafficking victimization among Alaska Natives. Through a series of case studies, viewers are educated about the risks posed to young Alaska Natives who travel from their home villages to urban areas, like Anchorage, where they may fall prey to sex traffickers. The target audience for the training videos includes tribal, state, and federal leadership and criminal justice and social service professionals who deal with cases of domestic violence, sexual assault, and sex trafficking involving Alaska Natives.

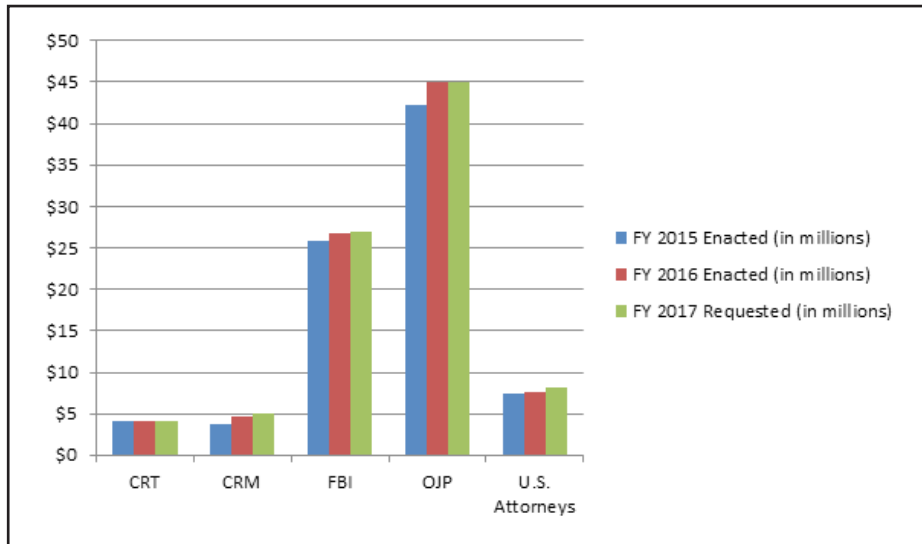
**Grants.** Grant money is also available to support programs and services that are culturally, linguistically, and developmentally appropriate for underserved AI/AN communities. For example, in 2015, OVC awarded \$750,000 to Wiconi Wawokiya, a nonprofit domestic violence and sexual assault services program located on the Crow Creek Reservation in central South Dakota through its Comprehensive Services for Victims of All Forms of Human Trafficking Program. Together with a network of partner organizations and agencies, Wiconi Wawokiya is using the award from OVC to increase its capacity to provide holistic, trauma-informed, and culturally appropriate direct services to AI/AN victims of human trafficking on the Crow Creek and Lower Brule Reservations and in the border town of Chamberlain, South Dakota. Since 2013, Wiconi Wawokiya has served more than 30 adult victims of sex trafficking and their children.

In FY 2016, OVC supported the continued expansion of services available to provide services to AI/AN victims of trafficking through its Project Beacon: Increasing Services for Urban American Indian and Alaska Native Victims of Sex Trafficking Program (Project Beacon). The primary aim of Project Beacon is to increase the capacity of nonprofit urban Indian organizations to develop comprehensive, trauma-informed, and culturally appropriate services for urban AI/AN victims of sex trafficking. OVC made three awards totaling \$1.2 million under Project Beacon in September 2016.

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## VII. DEPARTMENT ANNUAL SPENDING FOR ANTI-TRAFFICKING EFFORTS

The Department's FY 2017 budget request includes \$89.3 million to support the Department's efforts to combat human trafficking. The request includes funds for the Department's HTPU, CEOS, USAOs, and the FBI. The request also includes \$45 million for OJP's Victims of Trafficking Program. The bulk of this funding is used for competitive awards to organizations providing direct services to human trafficking victims, as well as law enforcement agencies participating in the ECM program. A comparison of the last three years' spending appears in the chart below.



## VIII. ENCOURAGEMENT OF COOPERATION, COORDINATION, AND MUTUAL SUPPORT BETWEEN THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES

The Department intends to encourage increased cooperation, coordination, and mutual support between the private sector and the federal government in the following ways:

1. The Department will work through its Office for Access to Justice and the Legal Aid Interagency Roundtable to enhance efforts to engage civil legal aid providers, NGOs, and the private bar to (a) identify victims of human trafficking; (b) assist law enforcement efforts to stabilize trafficking victims by advocating on their behalf for access to available public benefits, crime victim resources, immigration protections, and legal representation; and (c) conduct outreach and education to raise community awareness about human trafficking.

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2. Using successful DOL/DOJ complaint referral protocols as a model, DOJ will work with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Department of Health and Human Services, and other federal agencies to develop and expand similar complaint referral processes.
  3. The Department and its federal partners will enhance collaboration with relevant professional associations, including the National Medical Association, the American Medical Association, the American School Counselor Association, the Emergency Nurses Association, the National Association of Social Workers, and the American Psychological Association, to develop guidance and provide training on the identification, referral, and reporting of human trafficking indicators.
  4. DOJ will encourage the National Governors Association and the National District Attorneys Association to incorporate human trafficking training into their national conferences, including information and listening sessions conducted by federal law enforcement agencies.
  5. Each USAO will provide EOUSA with a yearly status report on implementation of its district-specific plans to coordinate the identification of victims and the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking crimes, specifically highlighting efforts to engage state, local, and tribal governmental agencies in these efforts.
  6. The Department will work with governmental partners to engage trade associations and professional licensing entities in raising awareness of trafficking indicators within key business and professional sectors, including transportation, hospitality, agriculture, manufacturing, and service industries.

## **IX. CONCLUSION**

The Department of Justice is vigorously pursuing a comprehensive strategy to fight human trafficking that incorporates all of its components—investigators, prosecutors, victim services personnel, and grant-funders. This strategy relies on close coordination among the components as well as among federal, state, local, and tribal authorities. Furthermore, the Department is engaging the private and non-governmental sectors to enhance public awareness in order to bring the entire American public into the fight against human trafficking.

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**The following acronyms are used in the National Strategy:**

ACTeam	Anti-Trafficking Coordination Team
AI/AN	American Indian and Alaskan Native
AUSAs	Assistant U.S. Attorneys
BJA	Office of Justice Program’s Bureau of Justice Assistance
CEOS	Criminal Division’s Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section
CRU	Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Civil Rights Unit
DHS	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
DOJ	U.S. Department of Justice
DOL	U.S. Department of Labor
ECM	Enhanced Collaborative Model to Combat Human Trafficking
EOUSA	Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation
FY	Fiscal Year
HRSP	Criminal Division’s Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section
HTIU	Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section’s High Technology Investigative Unit
HTPU	Civil Rights Division’s Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit
HTTF	Human Trafficking Task Force
ICE/HSI	U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations
NAC	National Advocacy Center
NICTI	EOUSA’s National Indian County Training Initiative
NGOs	Non-governmental organizations
OCC	Operation Cross Country
OJP	Office of Justice Programs
OVC	Office of Justice Program’s Office for Victims of Crime
PSC	Project Safe Childhood
TVPA	Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000
USAC	U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking
USAOs	U.S. Attorneys’ Offices
VCACS	FBI’s Violent Crimes Against Children Section



