

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2014 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 1

Resolution No. 8 -2014

Introduced by: Courtney Watson

Co Sponsored by: Calvin Ball, Mary Kay Sigaty, and Jennifer Terrasa

A RESOLUTION, creating a task force to study the issues associated with human trafficking in Howard County, to educate the public about human trafficking, to identify and serve victims of human trafficking, and to increase prosecution of traffickers.

Introduced and read first time January 6, 2014.

By order Sheila M. Tolliver
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator

Read for a second time at a public hearing on January 22, 2014.

By order Sheila M. Tolliver
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted , Adopted with amendments , Failed , Withdrawn , by the County Council on

January 3, 2014.

Certified By Sheila M. Tolliver
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN ALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 **WHEREAS**, trafficking is the use of force, threat of force, fraud or coercion to
2 recruit, harbor, transport, provide or obtain any person for labor or commercial sex or to
3 cause a person under 18 to engage in a commercial sex act; and

4 **WHEREAS**, every year, millions of men, women and children are trafficked in
5 countries around the world, including the United States, and it is estimated that human
6 trafficking is a \$32 billion per year industry, second only to drug trafficking as the most
7 profitable form of transnational crime; and

8 **WHEREAS**, human trafficking is a hidden crime, as victims rarely come forward
9 to seek help because of language barriers, fear of the traffickers, and/or fear of law
10 enforcement; and

11 **WHEREAS**, due to the County's location along the I-95 and I-70 corridors,
12 Howard County serves as a central geographic zone for human trafficking; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the Howard County Police Department states that since 2010 the
14 number of human trafficking cases has grown, requiring additional resources to address
15 human trafficking; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the State of Maryland has passed and considered a number of bills
17 that seek to offer additional protections to potential victims while increasing penalties for
18 perpetrators; and

19 **WHEREAS**, it is necessary to establish a collaborative body of organizations in
20 Howard County to formally adopt a consistent and sustained effort to combat this modern
21 day slavery; to apply for all available grant funding from the Department of Justice, and
22 to work to establish a victims services network to free and aide victims of both sex
23 trafficking and domestic worker trafficking; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Section 902 of the Howard County Charter authorizes the creation
25 of temporary advisory boards of citizens to study policies and issues.

26
27 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard
28 County, Maryland, this 3rd day of February 2014 that there is a task force
29 established to:

- 1 1. facilitate more coordinated anti-trafficking efforts in the County through protocol
2 development, extensive community outreach, proactive investigations, law
3 enforcement-training efforts, intelligence sharing, forming partnerships between
4 law enforcement and non-governmental organizations, and the creation of a
5 specialized law enforcement core group;
- 6 2. increase identification rates of human trafficking victims in the County, including
7 domestic and transnational victims of both sex and labor trafficking;
- 8 3. aide in the establishment of a provider network to provide comprehensive services
9 to victims of trafficking; and
- 10 4. increase the prosecution of traffickers, criminally and, where appropriate, civilly.

11

12 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the task force shall consist of the
13 following members:

- 14 ~~1. A member of the County Council, selected by the majority, who shall serve as~~
15 ~~Vice Chair;~~
- 16 ~~2.~~ 1. The Administrator of the Office of Human Rights or the Administrator's
17 representative, who shall serve as Chair;
- 18 ~~3.~~ 2. The State's Attorney or the State's Attorney's representative;
- 19 ~~4.~~ 3. The Chief of Police or the Chief's representative;
- 20 ~~5.~~ 4. A representative from the Howard County Commission for Women;
- 21 ~~6.~~ 5. The Director of Social Services or the Director's representative;
- 22 ~~7.~~ 6. The Health Officer or the Health Officer's representative;
- 23 ~~8.~~ 7. The Sheriff or the Sheriff's representative;
- 24 ~~9.~~ 8. The Administrative Judge of the Howard County Circuit Court or the
25 Administrative Judge's representative;
- 26 ~~10.~~ 9. A representative from the Governor's Task Force on Human Trafficking;
- 27 ~~11.~~ 10. A representative from the Howard County Public Schools;
- 28 ~~12.~~ 11. Two representatives A representative from non-profit organizations; and
- 29 ~~13.~~ 12. Two representatives A representative from the faith based community;
- 30 13. A representative from HoCo AGAST (Howard County Advocacy Group
31 Against Slavery and Trafficking);

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14. A representative from the Howard County General Hospital;

15. The Director of the Department of Citizen Services or the Director's
designee; and

16. Director of Howard County Department of Technology and
Communications Services or the Director's designee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall present its findings and
recommendations to the County Council on or before October 1, 2014.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council Administrator shall assign
appropriate staff to assist the Human Trafficking Task Force in its work.

Amendment 1 to Council Resolution No. 8-2014

BY: Courtney Watson

Legislative Day No. 2
Date: Feb. 3, 2014

Amendment No. 1

(This amendment broadens the reference to training and alters the membership of the task force.)

1 On page 2:

- 2 • beginning in line 2 down through line 3, strike “law enforcement”.
- 3 • strike lines 14 and 15 in their entirety and renumber accordingly.
- 4 • in lines 28 and 29, in each instance, strike “Two representatives” and substitute “A
- 5 representative”.
- 6 • in line 28, strike “and”.
- 7 • in line 29, strike the period and substitute a semicolon.
- 8 • After line 29, insert:
- 9 “13. A representative from HoCo AGAST (Howard County Advocacy Group Against
- 10 Slavery and Trafficking);
- 11 14. A representative from the Howard County General Hospital;
- 12 15. The Director of the Department of Citizen Services or the Director’s designee; and
- 13 16. Director of Howard County Department of Technology and Communications
- 14 Services or the Director’s designee.”

ADOPTED 2/3/2014
FAILED _____
SIGNATURE: Shirley Justice

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Habicht, Kelli

From: Tolliver, Sheila
Sent: Thursday, March 20, 2014 9:25 AM
To: Habicht, Kelli
Subject: FW: Human Trafficking Task Force

Please file w/ CR 8-2014

From: Andrea Ingram [<mailto:andrea@grassrootscrisis.org>]
Sent: Thursday, March 20, 2014 9:21 AM
To: Toth, Mary
Cc: Beach, Meredith; Gray, Vernon; Tolliver, Sheila
Subject: Re: Human Trafficking Task Force

-Thank you, Mary.

I will sit on the task force. I was on medical leave (surgery) when your initial email invitation came through and it got lost in the shuffle while I was out, I am sorry to say. I will be at the April 9 meeting. I am delighted to serve. - andrea

----- Original Message -----

From: Toth, Mary
To: Andrea Ingram (andrea@grassrootscrisis.org)
Cc: Beach, Meredith ; Gray, Vernon ; Tolliver, Sheila
Sent: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 12:17 PM
Subject: Human Trafficking Task Force

Andrea,

The Howard County Human Trafficking Task Force was called into being by legislation passed by the Howard County Council (Council 8-2014.) Its purpose is to prepare recommendations, based on input from experts and perspectives at the local, state and national levels, to assist the Council in developing protocol to move against this crime, assist its victims, prevent its occurrence and prosecute the traffickers.

You are invited to sit on the Task Force because of Grassroot's long history of dealing with displaced individuals and families—sometimes in crisis. Please let Meredith Beach, senior analyst, know if you are a representative will be present at the meetings. Her email is mbeach@howardcountymd.gov; phone: 410-313-3102.

The Task force meets once a month. The time period for the Task Force to complete its work is March through October. The Council has asked for a report by October 2.

I am attaching with this email the names of the other Task force members, the work time line and tasks and the enabling legislation. This legislation has been changed somewhat, but I will send you the edited version.

The next meeting is April 9 at 10 AM at the C Vernon Gray Room, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043.

Many thanks.

Mary Toth

Howard County Human Trafficking Task Force
Howard County Office of Human Rights

6751 Columbia Gateway Dr., P.O. Box 239
Columbia MD 21046
410-313-6467 work
410-313-6468 fax
mtoth@howardcountymd.gov

Habicht, Kelli

From: Tolliver, Sheila
Sent: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 1:20 PM
To: Habicht, Kelli
Subject: FW: Human Trafficking Task Force
Attachments: Enabling Legislation Human Trafficking Task Force.pdf; Task Force Members 2014.docx; Month to Month tasks.docx

Please file with CR 8-2014.

From: Toth, Mary
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Howard County Human Trafficking Task Force
Howard County Office of Human Rights
6751 Columbia Gateway Dr., P.O. Box 239
Columbia MD 21046
410-313-6467 work
410-313-6468 fax
mtoth@howardcountymd.gov

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2014 Legislative Session

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Introduced by: Courtney Watson

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Introduced and read first time _____, 2014.

By order _____
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator

Read for a second time at a public hearing on _____, 2014.

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This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted ____, Adopted with amendments ____, Failed ____, Withdrawn ____, by the County Council on _____, 2014.

Certified By _____
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HOWARD COUNTY

Task Force on Human Trafficking

Meeting and Work Schedule
March 5, 2014 to October 1, 2014

March 5, 2014	Inaugural Meetings Overview of Federal, State and local laws and cases Discussion of resolution
April 2014	Human Trafficking 101 Sexual Trafficking Labor Trafficking
May 2014	Identification of victims: domestic and international Victim Services Community outreach
June 2014	Partnerships with law enforcement and other nonprofit organizations Investigations and intelligence
July 2014	Training for law enforcement and other partners Prosecution
August 2014	Protocol development
September 2014	Discussion and Recommendations of Report
October 2014	Review of Final Draft Report and recommendations to County Council

Habicht, Kelli

From: Sigaty, Mary Kay
Sent: Thursday, March 06, 2014 2:43 PM
To: Tolliver, Sheila
Subject: FW: CR 8-2014

--

Mary Kay
Sigaty
Howard
County Council Member
District 4
3430 Court
House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043
410-313-2001

On 1/22/14 2:43 PM, "Jackie Eng" <jackeline.eng@verizon.net> wrote:

>Dear Council members,

>

>The Association of Community Services supports Council Resolution
>8-2014 that would create a temporary advisory board to develop
>responses to the rise in human trafficking, particularly as it affects
>Howard County's under age 18 women and men. Working to protect the
>safety and well-being of our community's youth is of major concern to
>many County nonprofits; we are therefore appreciative of the proposed inclusion of two nonprofits
>on the advisory board. ACS looks forward to passage of this resolution,
>will monitor task force deliberations and recommendations and will be
>prepared to assist in community education and/or other future efforts
>aimed at eliminating human trafficking from our region.

>

>Thank you for consideration of this ACS perspective.

>

>Jackie Eng,
>Chair ACS Public Policy Committee

>

Habicht, Kelli

From: Tolliver, Sheila
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 1:26 PM
To: Habicht, Kelli
Subject: FW: child prostitution

Please file w/ CB 8-2014

-----Original Message-----

From: Watson, Courtney
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 12:38 PM
To: Sylvia Ramsey
Cc: Beach, Meredith; Gray, Vernon; Tolliver, Sheila; Robbins, Lonnie; Lee, David K.; nweikel@marylandcoalition.com; cochransara1@juno.com
Subject: RE: child prostitution

Dear Ms. Ramsey,

Thank you for sharing the article and your comments regarding adding the Child Welfare System to the list of issues to be studied by the Task Force. I am forwarding your email to Dr. Vernon Gray, Director of the Office of Human Rights who will be chairing the Task Force and to Meredith Beach on the Council staff who is working with him.

I appreciate you taking the time to send me this important information.

Sincerely,
Courtney

Courtney Watson
Council Member
District One Representative
Howard County Council
410-313-3110
cwatson@howardcountymd.gov

From: Sylvia Ramsey [smramsey1@verizon.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 6:07 PM
To: Watson, Courtney; Ball, Calvin B
Cc: Robbins, Lonnie; Lee, David K.; Sara Cochran; Nicholas Weikel
Subject: child prostitution

Dear Councilwoman Watson,
I am a member of HoCo AGAST and I was unable to testify recently about the creation of a Task Force on Human Trafficking. I applaud your efforts and thank you so much for your interest in raising public awareness and other areas of concern. Please read the article below and consider adding the Child Welfare System to the list of issues to be reviewed by the Task Force.

Thank you very much.
Sylvia Ramsey
Columbia, MD

By Malika Saada Saar, Published: February 17

Malika Saada Saar is special counsel on human rights at the Raben Group and director of the Human Rights Project for Girls.

Would you call Tami a child prostitute?

A pimp kidnapped Tami on her way home from school in Los Angeles. He held her captive for six months, raping, beating and starving her. At night, he sold Tami for sex with other men. Tami tried to escape by telling every john who purchased her that she was only a kid. For months, Tami pleaded with her buyers: "I'm only 15. Can you please take me to a police station?" But none did. When she finally encountered police officers, they did not rescue her; they arrested her.

How about Sandra?

Sandra ran away from an abusive foster care home in Florida at 12. She was found at a bus stop by a pimp who promised to love and care for her forever. He sold her to at least seven men a night. Finally she, too, was arrested, for child prostitution.

Unfortunately, girls in these situations are not typically seen as child victims of serial rape and abuse. Instead, they are left to fend for themselves or treated as child offenders, funneled into the juvenile justice system for child prostitution or related charges.

About 293,000 U.S. children are at risk of being exploited and trafficked for sex <http://abcnews.go.com/US/teens-young-13-rescued-super-bowl-sex-trafficking/story?id=22361909>, according to a 2011 FBI report http://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/law-enforcement-bulletin/march_2011/human_sex_trafficking on trafficking. Most are girls ages 12 to 14. They often are abducted or lured by pimps/traffickers, beaten into submission and sometimes even branded with the pimp's name.

Across the United States, there are child sex markets not terribly dissimilar to those in Cambodia, Thailand and India. Girls are sold in this country with the same disregard for human dignity, and they are often tortured in the same ways when they try to escape <http://www.womensfundingnetwork.org/resource/past-articles/enlaved-in-america-sex-trafficking-in-the-united-states>.

Like trafficked girls everywhere, they are hidden in plain view <http://www.vanityfair.com/politics/features/2011/05/sex-trafficking-201105>. In Washington, they are right in front of us — on "dates" at Motel 6 or bars in Adams Morgan. They are purchased through Web sites <http://www.polarisproject.org/human-trafficking/sex-trafficking-in-the-us/internet-based> such as Backpage.com, where their under-age status is signaled with terms like "fresh" or "new to town," or even the girl's weight. Often they are dressed up to look older.

Many of the girls are children who were in foster care. One survivor explained to me how the foster-care system is a convenient supply chain for traffickers. "In most of my 14 different placements in foster-care homes," she said, "I was raped and attached to a check. I understood very early that I could be raped, cared for and connected to money. It was therefore easy to go from that to a pimp, and at least the pimp told me that he loved me."

Child welfare systems do not properly identify or help children who are being trafficked for sex. Even when there is recognition of abuse, child welfare agencies often regard it as outside of their purview because the perpetrator is not a parent or caregiver. Child welfare agencies then shift the responsibility to law enforcement, which has failed to establish consistent protocols that treat trafficked children as victims of child abuse. These children are not routinely interviewed by sexual violence experts, as is done in other instances of child rape. Nor do prosecutors provide them the legal protections afforded to other sexually assaulted minors.

Because they often are seen as prostitutes, these victims are routed into the juvenile justice system. In many cases, the girls are handcuffed and detained, sometimes for days or longer. A 13-year-old girl recently was arrested in North Hollywood for juvenile prostitution, put in handcuffs and carried off to detention. In California, like many other states, juvenile prostitution carries a sentence of up to two years. Whether girls are arrested for prostitution or just loitering, they are often the ones placed behind bars.

I have heard many judges express frustration that there is no safe place to send these girls. They cannot necessarily be returned to foster care or their families because their home life is often perilous and they might run away again. Nor can they be released onto the streets, where the pimps are waiting. For trafficked girls, there is rarely the option of safe, therapeutic centers. As Rep. Ted Poe (R-Tex.) has pointed out<<http://poe.house.gov/speeches/child-sex-trafficking1/>>, this country has more animal shelters than shelters for exploited children. Judges often detain these girls, believing that jail is the safest of many bad options.

But should an abused child be incarcerated for the abuses perpetrated against her? The people who rape these girls, the politely termed “johns,” are rarely arrested for statutory rape, child endangerment or sexual assault of a minor.

Perhaps it is too difficult to accept what happens on U.S. soil, to our own daughters. Regardless, we must call this trafficking what it is: serial, systematized rape. And we must care for these girls, too often invisible to society, as victims and survivors of child sexual abuse.

Because there is no such thing as a child prostitute.

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2014 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 1

Resolution No. 8 -2014

Introduced by: Courtney Watson

Co Sponsored by: Calvin Ball, Mary Kay Sigaty, and Jennifer Terrasa

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Introduced and read first time _____, 2014.

By order _____
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Read for a second time at a public hearing on _____, 2014.

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This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted ____, Adopted with amendments ____, Failed ____, Withdrawn ____, by the County Council on _____, 2014.

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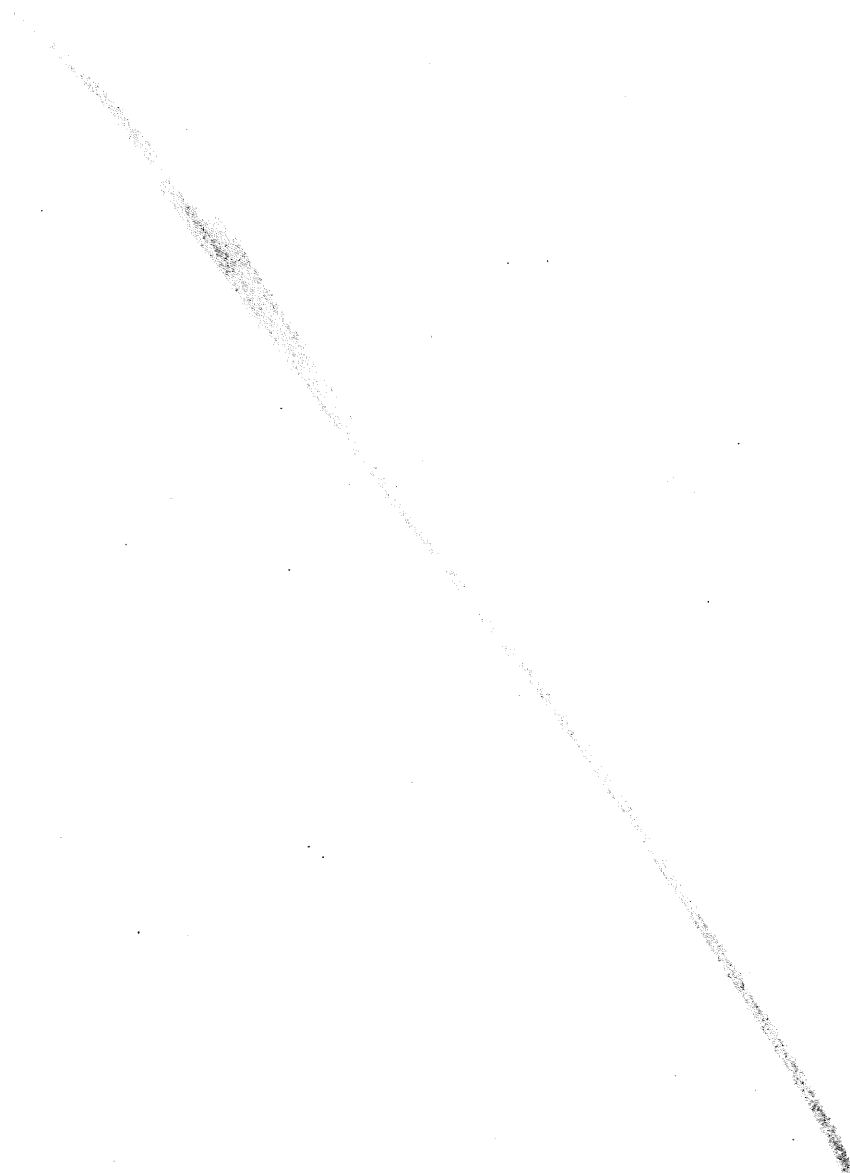
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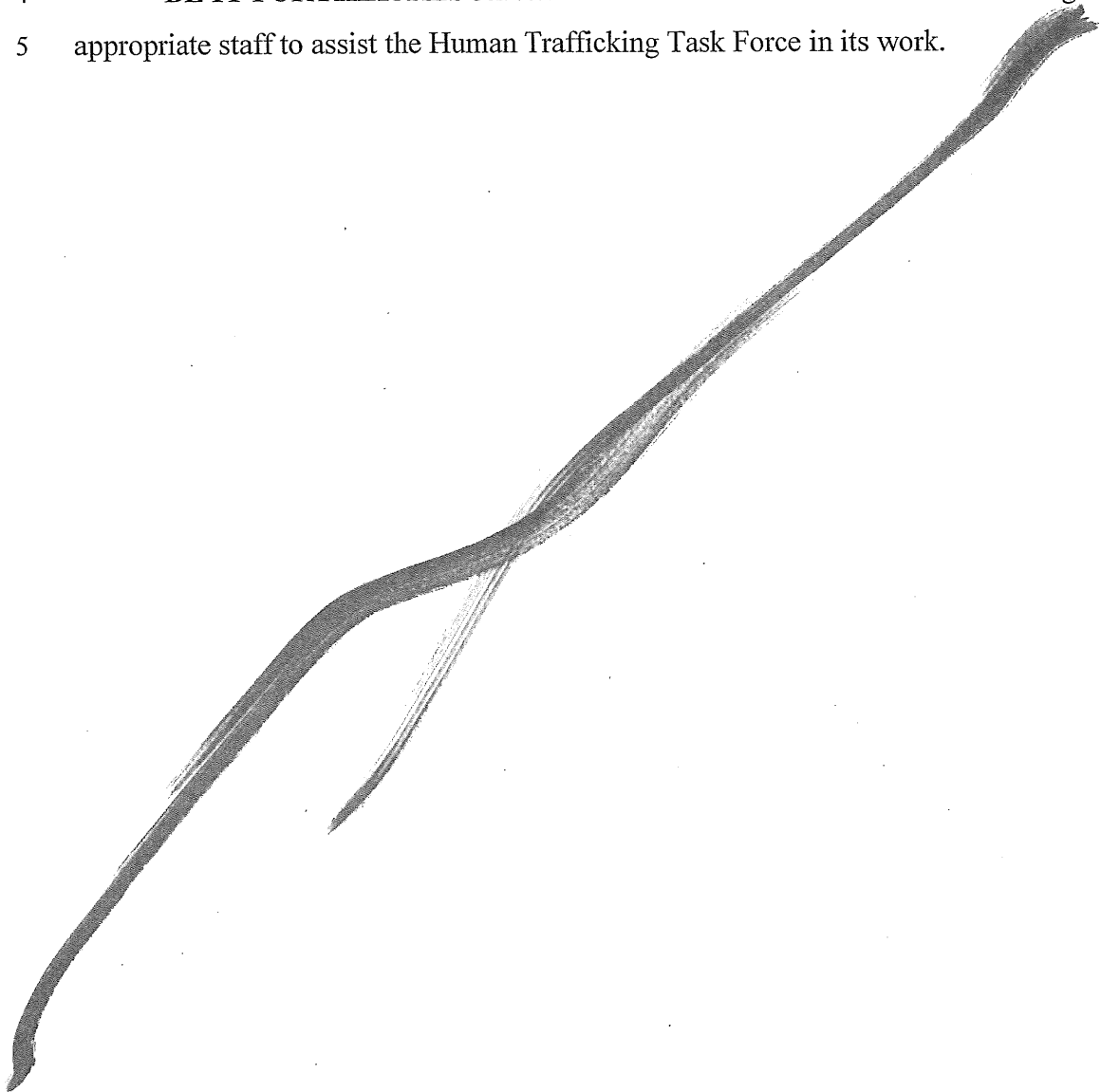
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Habicht, Kelli

From: Tolliver, Sheila
Sent: Monday, February 03, 2014 6:58 PM
To: Habicht, Kelli
Subject: FW: Council Resolution 8-2014
Attachments: 14-1-31 Written Testimony to Ho Co Council.doc

From: ddatkins@verizon.net [mailto:ddatkins@verizon.net]
Sent: Monday, February 03, 2014 6:32 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Council Resolution 8-2014

To: All Howard County Council Members (and future members of the proposed Howard County Human Trafficking Task Force)

Attached is information in support of Council Resolution 8-2014.

Please contact me at the above email address or 410-381-0559 with any questions or if any further information is needed.

Thank you for all that you and we can do together in combating Human Trafficking in Howard County.

Sincerely,
Deadra C. Atkins, LCSW-C
A founding member of Howard County AGAST (Advocacy Group Against Slavery and Trafficking)

TO: Howard County Council Members
via councilmail@howardcountymd.gov
and future members of the proposed
Howard County Human Trafficking Task Force

FROM: Deadra C. Atkins, LCSW-C
6936 Knighthood Lane, Columbia 21045 (Owen Brown – District 3)
ddatkins@verizon.net – 410.381.0559

DATE: January 31, 2014

RE: Council Resolution 8-2014 for Creating a
Howard County Human Trafficking Task Force

Thank you for having given me the opportunity to testify in support of Council Resolution 8-2014 on January 22, 2014 for creating a Human Trafficking Task Force in our county.

Following is further information I would like to share with all of the Howard County Council Members and future members of the Task Force to supplement the testimony I gave. My experience as both a teacher and then a clinical social worker (which has included being a Child Protective Services worker and then a mental health therapist with children, adolescents and families) combined with my current involvement as one of the founders of Howard County AGAST (Advocacy Group Against Slavery and Trafficking) leads me to these thoughts.

As background, human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery and includes forced labor as well as sexual exploitation, but does not necessarily involve the transporting of a person from place to place.

I had mentioned during my testimony that there are two (2) laws that were passed by our State Legislature that are directly related to keeping the children and adolescents of our county safe from human trafficking. However, both of these laws are not very well known yet and are not being fully implemented at this time.

#1 – The first law concerns the Education about Human Trafficking for Educators & School Personnel that took effect July 2011.

Our county teachers, counselors, psychologists, and all other education personnel need further training and information as to:

- What human trafficking is (and what it is not)
- What the signs are to look for that may indicate that a student is a victim of human trafficking
- What to do (and not do) if they see any of the signs and therefore suspect that a student may be involved in human trafficking

- How to best interact and coordinate what they see and hear with other education personnel, including Student Services personnel
- How to report situations of suspected human trafficking to our local Child Protective Services (CPS) of the Department of Social Services (DSS)
- How to best coordinate ongoing information with CPS during the investigation so that the student is not placed at further risk and so that confidentiality is maintained
- How to best interact and coordinate with CPS and other professionals for supplying the student's ongoing educational needs while she/he is in safe housing and receiving appropriate trauma treatment and other services as needed if the CPS investigation indicates that human trafficking was occurring

It is also very important for students to be informed about possible human trafficking as a preventative measure to keep our youth from becoming victims of it.

#2 – The second state law I spoke about, and which Howard County AGAST helped to get passed, is entitled "Child Abuse - Human Trafficking". It passed unanimously in both chambers of our state legislature and took effect October 1, 2012; however, it also is not very well known and is not being fully implemented at this time.

This law altered the definition of Sexual Abuse to now include:

- Allowing or encouraging a child/minor to engage in:
 - Obscene or pornographic activities
 - Prostitution and/or
 - Human Trafficking
- By any person (which can now include a trafficker or pimp)

Prior to this law, the definition of sexual abuse was:

1. The sexual molestation or sexual exploitation of a child/minor
2. By a parent, caretaker, or a household or family member.

So, when I was a CPS worker and until 10/1/12, if a report of suspected sexual abuse did not meet both of the two (2) criteria above, especially criteria #2 of needing to be carried out by a family member or caretaker, it was NOT considered to be possible sexual abuse and therefore we/CPS were not responsible for investigating it or taking responsibility for the child/minor. Instead, we would advise the reporting person to contact the police so that they could investigate the situation and decide whether it met the criteria for sexual assault and therefore if further action and/or charges were warranted.

Now that the definition of sexual abuse has been altered, a child/minor who is a victim of sex trafficking and/or any of the other activities listed above is now legally considered to be a Sexually Abused Child.

This results in two (2) very important ramifications for all of us:

1. ALL education, medical, social services, mental health, law enforcement, and all other professionals are now MANDATED to report to CPS suspected situations of:

- Obscene or Pornographic Activities
- Prostitution and/or
- Human Trafficking

This is in addition to the ongoing mandate for all of these professionals to report suspected child neglect, physical abuse and/or sexual abuse to CPS – which they have been very good about doing for many years.

2. Then, CPS is mandated:

- To promptly investigate the situation as possible sexual abuse and take responsibility for the child/minor
- Per SSA policy #13-3 dated 10/1/2012, “immediate” response is required to ensure the safety of the child/minor
- Because the child/minor is considered to be a VICTIM of sexual abuse, CPS is to take the child/minor’s case to court and request that she/he be declared a CINA (Child In Need of Assistance)
- As a CINA, the child/minor:
 - Will be taken into custody and may need to receive shelter care via CPS
 - May NOT be charged with an offense or committed to a juvenile correctional facility or one used to confine delinquent children
 - Will receive services and treatment via CPS, which should include treatment for the trauma she/he has experienced

What occurred in the past, and still does on occasion by those not familiar with this new law, is that the minor would be charged with prostitution and/or some other charge(s), be declared a CINS (Child in Need of Supervision) by the court, be committed to a juvenile correctional facility, and therefore have charges and a record, but NOT get the appropriate services and trauma treatment she/he needed.

Now, the following groups need to be familiar with this new law and are mandated to report a suspected situation to CPS:

- Teachers and other Education Employees
- Social Workers and Mental Health Personnel
- Doctors, Nurses and Other Medical Personnel
- Police and Other Law Enforcement Personnel
- and All Other Professionals

however, many don’t know it yet.

There have also been reports of CPS workers in several areas saying such reports do not come under their purview. I’m told that the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention is working on addressing this problem, but we also need to be sure that it does not happen in Howard County.

Because there are many possible people that need to be involved in the process of identifying victims of human trafficking, because there are various steps that need to occur to get them the help they need, and because many of these same groups and others need to be involved in providing appropriate services to the victims, there are many things that may not happen as they should.

It is therefore very important that the proposed task force include representatives from the Public Schools, Dept. of Social Services, Health Dept., Law Enforcement and the Courts as well as all the other groups named in the Resolution. I would also like to suggest that a representative from Howard County AGAST be on the proposed task force.

Ongoing coordination will definitely be needed between all the groups on the task force to identify and rescue the children, adolescents and adults in Howard County from human trafficking and to make sure they receive the services and trauma treatment they desperately need.

Thank you in advance for your every consideration of the above information and for supporting the proposed task force. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any further information.

Habicht, Kelli

From: Tolliver, Sheila
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2014 3:07 PM
To: Habicht, Kelli
Subject: FW: Police arrest man on human trafficking charges
Attachments: PoliceNewsRelease20140130SimmonsHumanTrafficking.pdf

Please file with CR 8-2014

From: Phelan, Mary
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2014 3:00 PM
To: Phelan, Mary
Subject: Police arrest man on human trafficking charges

Please see the attached news release from the Howard County Police Department.

Mary T. Phelan
Public Information Officer
Office of Public Affairs
Howard County Police Department
410-313-2236
<https://twitter.com/HCPDNews>
www.hcpd.org
www.facebook.com/HowardCountyPoliceDepartment



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For release: Jan. 30, 2014

Contact: Sherry Llewellyn
sllewellyn@howardcountymd.gov

Police arrest man on human trafficking charges

Howard County police have charged a man with human trafficking following an investigation into prostitution and drug activity at an Elkridge motel.

Philip Simmons, 37, of no fixed address, was charged with three counts of human trafficking, and operating a prostitution business.

The investigation began several months ago when police received information that Simmons was forcing women to perform sex acts in several states within the region. Police also learned that Simmons posted ads on the website Backpage.com to solicit prostitution customers. In addition, detectives were provided a detailed description of Simmons and a gold vehicle he was using.

Based on multiple tips, detectives set up a meeting that led police to the Terrace Motel in the 6200 block of Washington Boulevard, Elkridge. Over the course of the investigation, vice detectives observed a man fitting Simmons' description and two women exiting and entering three hotel rooms several times. They also observed all three subjects get into a gold 1998 Lincoln town car.

On January 28, tactical units made entry into the three motel rooms and took Simmons into custody without incident.

Simmons is being held in the Howard County Detention Center on \$25,000 bond.

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Habicht, Kelli

From: Tolliver, Sheila
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2014 10:09 AM
To: Habicht, Kelli
Subject: FW: Testimony last eve; Howard CC sponsors Human Trafficking Awareness Presentation

Please file with related resolution.

From: Watson, Courtney
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2014 9:55 AM
To: Tolliver, Sheila
Subject: FW: Testimony last eve; Howard CC sponsors Human Trafficking Awareness Presentation

For the file. Not sure if you were copied on this.
Terry

From: Sara Cochran [<mailto:cochransara1@juno.com>]
Sent: Thursday, January 23, 2014 1:11 PM
To: Sara Cochran
Subject: Testimony last eve; Howard CC sponsors Human Trafficking Awareness Presentation

A

Hello!

Last evening's testimony in favor of a Ho Co Human Trafficking Task Force was very informative, offering many reasons why Ho Co needs this Task Force and multiple human trafficking concerns it might begin to study and address. Ten (10) people testified, at least 10 others were present to show their support, and about five (5) unable to attend have submitted written testimony. If you'd like to send me a copy of your oral or written testimony, I will include it in AGAST's records. Click on this link to view last night's Council Legislative Public Hearing. The testimony for a HC Human Trafficking Task Force begins at about 44 minutes: http://howardcounty.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?clip_id=1923.

Howard Community College is sponsoring "In Our Backyard", a Human Trafficking Awareness Presentation next Tuesday, January 28, 12:30 to 2 PM, in Duncan Hall's Kittleman Room 100. The presenter will be Nita Belles, author and anti-human trafficking crusader who is presently Regional Director and Board Member of the Oregonians Against Trafficking Humans (OATH). She will be in our East Coast area as part of a lead team that arrives for the Super Bowl pre-celebration events and, working with law enforcement, helps identify and rescue sex trafficked victims. Copies of Nita's book "In Our Backyard: A Christian Perspective on Human Trafficking in the United States" will be available for purchase and signing. For questions, please contact Schnell Reed Garrett, Assistant Director of Student Life, HCC, sgarrett@howardcc.edu, 443-518-4109.

I hope to see you there!

Sara

<http://www.facebook.com/HoCoAGAST>

Howard County Advocacy Group Against Slavery & Trafficking



Howard County
Internal Memorandum

SUBJECT: *Amendment to Council Resolution No. 8-2014*
This amendment broadens the reference to training and alters the membership of the task force.
OOL Tracking No. L14-007

TO: Courtney Watson
Howard County Council

THROUGH: Margaret Ann Nolan *MAN*
County Solicitor

FROM: Jim Vannoy *ms for jr*
Assistant County Solicitor

DATE: January 28, 2014

I have reviewed the attached amendment, and it is legally sufficient. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

JV: ms
cc: Sheila Tolliver
Jeff Meyers

Amendment __ to Council Resolution No. 8-2014

BY: Courtney Watson

Legislative Day No. ____

Date: _____

Amendment No. ____

(This amendment broadens the reference to training and alters the membership of the task force.)

1 On page 2:

- 2 • beginning in line 2 down through line 3, strike “law enforcement”.
- 3 • strike lines 14 and 15 in their entirety and renumber accordingly.
- 4 • in lines 28 and 29, in each instance, strike “Two representatives” and substitute “A
- 5 representative”.
- 6 • in line 28, strike “and”.
- 7 • in line 29, strike the period and substitute a semicolon.
- 8 • After line 29, insert:
9 “13. A representative from HoCo AGAST (Howard County Advocacy Group Against
10 Slavery and Trafficking);
11 14. A representative from the Howard County General Hospital; and
12 15. The Director of the Department of Citizen Services or the Director’s designee.”

Written Testimony of Tahira Mussarat Hussain, Member of Maryland Human Trafficking Task Force

January 22 , 2014

Re: Council Resolution 8- 2014

Howard County Council

George Howard Building

3430 Court House Drive

Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

Thank you Honorable Council members and members of the committee for considering a testimony on the importance of fighting against human trafficking in Howard County Maryland.

As we all know Howard County Councilmember Courtney Watson introduced legislation today to create a task force to study the issues associated with human trafficking in Howard County. This includes educating the public, identifying and serving victims, and increasing prosecution of human traffickers.

I support this resolution to protect our community and provide services to victims of human trafficking in our county.

The 13th Amendment made slavery unconstitutional in 1865. But modern day slavery exists today, both in the U.S. and globally. An estimated 30 million people worldwide are in bondage for sex or labor. Between 100,000 and 300,000 minors are sold for sex in our country every single year. These girls and boys, who are as young as 13 years old, are sold over and over again which makes sex trafficking one of the most profitable and fastest growing crimes in the United States.

I am so proud of the Howard county police department for recent arrests related to human trafficking in our county.

I am really proud of AGAST (**Advocacy Group Against Slavery and Trafficking**) for doing a wonderful job creating awareness and advocating this serious issue. Myself and other AGAST members testified for human trafficking bills in Annapolis for the past two years. I have lived in this county for 20 years as a mother and a PTA mom. I want our neighborhood to be safe for our kids.

Honorable Council members of the committee, on

behalf of these children and the thousands more whose stories we will never hear, I urge you to take decisive action to protect our children, our street, our shopping centers

Thank you for the opportunity to share with you my thoughts on this important issue. I am a mother of three daughters and I can understand the pain of the victim and their families.

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

1-22-14

Resolution No. 8 – 2014

Introduced by Courtney Watson

Co-Sponsored by Calvin Ball, Mary Kay Sigaty, and Jennifer Terrasa

A RESOLUTION, creating a task force to study the issues associated with human trafficking in Howard County, to educate the public about human trafficking, to identify and serve victims of human trafficking, and to increase prosecution of traffickers.

Good evening, members of the County Council, and thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today. I appreciate your time and attention.

My name is Shannon Fritz, and I have lived in Howard County for over 23 years. I am here today to express my concern about Human Trafficking in Howard County and ask for your support of Resolution No. 8.

Human Trafficking is about power, control, and manipulation of others for economic gain. It is de-humanizing. The person who is trafficked is deprived of human dignity and basic human rights, treated only as an object to be sold for profit. The victim is deprived of the fundamental rights of our constitution that we all hold so dear: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Recently, I visited a tourist site in Luray, Virginia, where I explored the caverns and an adjoining historic village. In an exhibit of day to day life in the civil war era, behind glass, was a piece of paper, now parched, on which a local farmer had listed his assets. The list contained the names of his slaves, and next to each name was the dollar value of that person, his property.

Like slavery of the civil war era, human trafficking today is a business, and it is very profitable. There is high demand in this area, and the traffickers seek to profit from the demand. All they need from us is to look the other way, to say nothing, to do nothing. Our ignorance and inaction is exactly the environment they need for their business to thrive.

Human trafficking is difficult to see. We live in a culture where we believe it's respectful to mind our own business and look the other way. We don't see what is going on in our hotels, in our massage parlors, in our neighbor's house next door.

Resolution No. 8 says, "We will not remain silent. We will not look the other way. We will look closely at what is happening. We will look beyond the outward appearance of cooperation and compliance. People will not be sold, abused, and denied basic human rights in our county."

Human trafficking victims are trained to behave in ways that belie the truth to protect the trafficker. They act out of fear, out of psychological conditioning, and out of trauma bonding.

We, the citizens, must be educated so we will see the signs and act on the signs.
Resolution 8 establishes a Human Trafficking Task Force in Howard County

1. to study the issues associated with Human Trafficking
2. to educate the public
3. to identify and serve victims
4. to increase prosecution of human traffickers

It will take an educated populace in cooperation with law enforcement to obstruct this expanding criminal enterprise.

Howard County has a national reputation for being an ideal to place to live, work, and raise a family. Let's make sure that human traffickers get the message: Howard County is NOT friendly to your business that deprives people of human dignity and basic human rights.

Please pass Resolution 8 and set Howard County on the road to eliminating this abhorrent crime. Let us not remain silent. Let our voices deliver a strong message: Not in my neighborhood. Not in my county. Not in my state.

Thank you for your support.

CR 8-2014
made copies

Council Resolution No. 8-2014 - Introduced By, Courtney Watson, Co Sponsored By, Calvin Ball, Mary Kay Sigaty, and Jennifer Terrasa - A RESOLUTION, creating a task force to study the issues associated with human trafficking in Howard County, to educate the public about human trafficking, to identify and serve victims of human trafficking, and to increase prosecution of traffickers.

I would like to thank the sponsor, Councilwoman Watson, the co-sponsors(councilpersons Ball, Sigaty and Terrasa) - and Council as a whole for offering this resolution creating a mechanism for Howard County to assess and address the problem of human trafficking both within our community and, indirectly, beyond our community.

As wonderful as it is that Howard County has been objectively evaluated on any of a number of assessment tools as a great place to live, our reality is that our residents are not immune to the injustices, crime and exploitation that we see in other localities. If we want to be a county that provides an outstanding quality of life for our citizens, we have to continue to do the work to assure that social justice and economic justice are among our greatest values and are afforded to all. We cannot close our eyes to what is playing in the shadows and hope that by not acknowledging its presence will cause it to cease to exist. I thank you for your leadership in facing these realities, since that is the first step to addressing and eliminating the problems. Coupled with the initiatives taken last year addressing of bullying, and particularly of cyberbullying, of homelessness, and other issues which negatively impact our residents, you continue to keep our county one of the best places to live and raise a family.

I would like to speak to one of the many areas of human trafficking that I want be sure the Task Force would be charged w/ addressing - that is the vulnerability of potential victims, and children in particular, to be targeted and groomed through the Internet. As our school system moves forward with greater integration of technology and as the applications and integration of our new intercounty broadband evolve, I hope that the agencies responsible for their implementation will be asked to consider and put into place protections against such misuse and mechanisms for detecting when it is being used for such purposes. . I would encourage you to include a representative from the school system (perhaps someone who has a part in cyberbullying oversight and from the county's Department of Technology and Communication Services (headed by former Councilman Chris Merdon).

Generally, I believe that asking all county agencies to proactively consider human trafficking implications of new technologies and programs will help keep us out of a reactive mode.

I also hope you will consider including representative of the hospitality industry, small business, the Office of Children's Services, and broadly from the new immigrant community, particularly from those earning low wages.

Thank you.
Terri L. Hill, M.D.

Keeping children and youth healthy and safe is a top priority the Ho Co Public Schools. HCPSS has taken steps to prevent cyberbullying, an online danger .. Because our kids are spending more and more time "hanging out" on the Internet on social media sites and apps, the Internet is now the #1 place traffickers are trolling to find their victims. U.S. Atty for Maryland Rod Rosenstein has said: "If you let your child use a computer, smartphone, iPod or any type of Internet-connected device without adult supervision, your child is in danger." Because the HCPSS is allowing increased use of Internet-connected devices during the school day for both personal and academic use, this might be the "teachable moment" for the schools to educate our young people about Internet Safety.

We do not know how much Education about H.T., which would include safe use of Internet-connected devices, is taking place in the schools. The Nat'l Center for Missing and Exploited Children says that at least 100,000 U.S. children are exploited in prostitution every year in our country and 300,000 are at risk, where the average age of entry into prostitution is 12-14. Children aren't choosing this path. Unsuspecting, they are tricked, black-mailed, and manipulated into this low-risk, high profit industry. We feel an urgency that middle and high school personnel, parents, and students be educated about the risks to being trafficked, the signs of victimization, how to get help.

The Maryland State Police have an exemplary Computer Crimes Against Children Task Force, a point of contact used by The Nat'l Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Last July, this Task Force played a crucial role in a national sting, led by Immigrations and Customs officials, call "I-Guardian", that worked to identify & rescue child victims being sexually exploited by online predators. 5 Marylanders and 9 from D.C. were arrested. Since 2000 this Md State Police Task Force has made 526 arrests. According to Col Marcus Brown, most of these arrests were male suspects who are trying to set up meetings online with young girls to have sex with them. Age is the #1 vulnerability factor to being victimized by a trafficker. They recruit young people wherever they hang out: at the malls, on school grounds, at parties, and online. Because children and youth are spending more and more time on their Internet-connected devices, so are the traffickers "We are taking the same technology that has the potential to be harmful to kids, through cyberbullying, and using it to help," County Executive Ken Ulman said.

In addition to being delivered to groups participating in the program, the bullying reports also will be reviewed by the Howard County Office of Children's Services, which will oversee the initiative.

Habicht, Kelli

From: Tolliver, Sheila
Sent: Thursday, January 23, 2014 8:00 AM
To: Ball, Calvin B; Fox, Greg; Greg Fox (Greg.Fox@Constellation.com); Sigaty, Mary Kay; Terrasa, Jen; Watson, Courtney
Cc: Habicht, Kelli
Subject: FW: tonights meeting re: human trafficking task force

FYI (Kelli, please add to legis. file CR 8-2014)

From: Watson, Courtney
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 10:32 PM
To: Tolliver, Sheila
Subject: Fwd: tonights meeting re: human trafficking task force

Pls share w council

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "tara@rosslawyer.com" <tara@rosslawyer.com>
Date: January 22, 2014 at 4:16:27 PM EST
To: "Watson, Courtney" <cwatson@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: tonights meeting re: human trafficking task force

Dear Councilwoman Watson,

My name is Tara Ross. I grew up here and am currently a nurse and local attorney in Ellicott City. I had hoped to attend the meeting last night to speak in favor of the proposed task force, but with the weather related change in schedule and due to my schedule tonight I am not able to attend tonight's meeting. (if that changes I will be there).

First, let me say thank you for sponsoring this legislation- it is a great need in our community that many do not even know exists.

I am currently a Fellow in the Maryland State Bar Association's Leadership Academy, and our service project for this year's Academy relates to Labor Trafficking in Maryland. We are hosting a workshop to teach attorneys about U and T visas, and then to work with the under served populations who may be affected by labor trafficking issues to apply for U and T visas, as well as to educate them on the basic labor rights that they should be afforded.

It is sad and frustrating that in Howard County there are so many individuals who have had their basic rights of freedom- the reason our country is so great, have been stolen from them because of the greed of others. The Korean, Hispanic and Greek populations in Howard County are three of the top ethnic persons that are being enslaved right under our noses. I'm sure (and hope!) that the citizens of Howard County would be appalled to know that many of the services they are supporting are available because of modern day slavery of those who have come to seek the 'American Dream'. I doubt that their 'dream' included having their legal documents stolen from them upon arrival to our country and/or county, and that they are forced to work horrid hours with the threat of violence to them and their families, deportation, or even worse tortures if they do not do what they are told and if they attempt to seek help. Many of these hard working people do not even know that it's not ok for their boss to hit them, or that they work ungodly hours without breaks or that they receive pay less than that of the countries they left.

So, along with a brief summary of the above comments, if I could speak tonight I would say that I am so proud to be part of a community that is willing to start this task force so that the benefits of our community are available to all of its citizens and not only

those greedy few who succeed on the backs of the enslaved. It's 2014 in a beautiful community full of resources and good people. We need to work together to protect those who are having their freedoms stolen from them and remove those whose greed puts a sour taste in the mouths of the citizens and taints our community.

Thank you again for all you are doing to help both labor and sex trafficked victims and to rid the community of the traffickers. Please contact me if there is anything I can do to assist in this fight for freedom.

Best Regards,

Tara Ross

Tara L. Ross RN, Esq.
Ross & Ross, LLC
8335 Court Avenue
Ellicott City, MD 21043
410-465-9515

Confidentiality Statement:

This email message, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply email and destroy all copies of the original message.

Habicht, Kelli

From: Tolliver, Sheila
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 5:13 PM
To: Habicht, Kelli
Subject: FW: Ross-testimony.FW: tonights meeting re: human trafficking task force

Please print for legislative file, human trafficking.

Sheila

From: Watson, Courtney
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 5:05 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Ross-testimony.FW: tonights meeting re: human trafficking task force

FYI.
Terry

From: tara@rosslawyer.com [mailto:tara@rosslawyer.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 4:16 PM
To: Watson, Courtney
Subject: tonights meeting re: human trafficking task force

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Thank you again for all you are doing to help both labor and sex trafficked victims and to rid the community of the traffickers. Please contact me if there is anything I can do to assist in this fight for freedom.

Best Regards,

Tara Ross

Tara L. Ross RN, Esq.
Ross & Ross, LLC
8335 Court Avenue
Ellicott City, MD 21043
410-465-9515

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This email message, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply email and destroy all copies of the original message.

Habicht, Kelli

From: Tolliver, Sheila
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 2:04 PM
To: Habicht, Kelli
Subject: FW: Testimony for January 22
Attachments: Howard County Council testimony - MPB 1-22-2014.doc

Please copy both e-mail and attachment and place in legislative file.

Sheila

From: Martin Brooks [<mailto:martin@bethanyum.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 2:10 PM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: Tolliver, Sheila
Subject: Testimony for January 22

Attached an included in the body of the text of this e-mail below is my testimony for the Howard County Council Public Hearing of January 22, 2014.

The Reverend Martin P. Brooks
Associate Pastor
The Ellicott City Parish of The United Methodist Church
Bethany United Methodist Church
2875 Bethany Lane
Ellicott City, MD 21042
W: 410-465-2919, ext. 12
C: 410-739-1488
FAX: 410-465-9437
martin@bethanyum.org
www.bethanyum.org

The Reverend Martin P. Brooks
martin@bethanyum.org
410-715-7380

Testimony for the January 22, 2014, Howard County Council Public Hearing
Re: The creation of a Howard County Council Human Trafficking Task Force

Good evening! I'm Martin P. Brooks, pastor of Bethany and Emory United Methodist Churches, both located in Ellicott City. I am a leader in the faith community of Howard County as I have been responsible for convening a forum of over 35 faith leaders and 10 human services agencies every six months since 2010 to discuss ways to address and provide aid to the disenfranchised throughout Howard County.

As an ordained Elder in The United Methodist Church, I convey to you the official position of our denomination that states that The United Methodist Church officially opposes human trafficking in all of its forms, including labor slavery and sex slavery. Tonight, I wish also to convey the importance and power of a defining moment.

We all have defining moments in our lives. For our esteemed elected officials, your defining moment may have been when you were first elected or perhaps it was the passage of a piece of legislation you championed. For me, a defining moment in my life, a time in which I felt I had been placed in a pivotal role for

someone, was in 1996 when I assisted a young teenager to escape from an abusive parent and to help provide for her a life outside of sex slavery.

I ask you to make tonight a defining moment for Howard County. Let us tonight declare unequivocally that, through the creation of the Howard County Task Force on Human Trafficking, traffickers will not find our county to be a welcome place to prey on the weak and to promote modern-day slavery. Through the creation of this Task Force, let us also compassionately say to trafficked victims that Howard County is a community where they will find hope and freedom from abuse. Lets us tell the victims in our midst that Howard County is truly a place where their defining moments of rescue, recovery, restoration, and redemption can be manifested.

Thank you.

The Reverend Martin P. Brooks
martin@bethanyum.org
410-715-7380

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Re: The creation of a Howard County Council Human Trafficking Task Force

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Thank you.

I WANT TO THANK COUNCILWOMAN COURTNEY WATSON FOR BRINGING THE RESOLUTION FORWARD TO CREATE A HOWARD COUNTY HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE AND FOR THE SUPPORT AND INTEREST OF THE COUNCIL MEMBERS AS A WHOLE FOR THIS RESOLUTION. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT THIS TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSAL FOR INCLUSION IN THE RECORD.

LIKE ANY SOCIAL ISSUE, HUMAN TRAFFICKING HAS MANY COMPONENTS, AND NO ONE SYSTEM CAN ADDRESS ALL THE ISSUES. CONSEQUENTLY, A SYSTEMATIC APPROACH THAT BRINGS LEADERS, PROFESSIONALS, AND SURVIVORS TOGETHER TO ADDRESS THE VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THIS CRIME AND THE NEEDS OF THE VICTIMS IT CREATES IS MUCH NEEDED. A COUNTY-LEVEL TASK FORCE HAS A REAL OPPORTUNITY TO HELP CREATE SUCH A SYSTEMATIC APPROACH AND UNDERSTANDING.

ALTHOUGH THERE ARE MANY CONTRIBUTING FACTORS TO THE CRIME OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING, FOR AWARENESS' SAKE, I'D LIKE TO INCLUDE THE CONNECTION BETWEEN TRAFFICKING AND FOSTER CARE IN THE CONVERSATION. ALTHOUGH IN GENERAL, DATA GATHERING IN TERMS OF THE CRIME OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS JUST BEGINNING TO BE GATHERED, STATISTICS THAT WE DO HAVE INDICATE THAT 60-67% OF RUNAWAYS WHO ARE TRAFFICKED HAVE SPENT TIME IN THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE UNDOUBTEDLY FOSTER SITUATIONS THAT WORK

WELL AND PROVIDE SAFE AND HEALTHY INTERIM CARE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN NEED, THERE ARE MANY YOUNG PEOPLE WHO DO NOT FIND THEMSELVES IN SUCH A POSITIVE PLACE AND CONSEQUENTLY THEY BECOME ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE TO BEING TRAFFICKED FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS.

- OFTEN WHEN YOUNG PEOPLE ARE REMOVED FROM THEIR BIOLOGICAL FAMILIES AND PLACED IN FOSTER CARE, THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT HAS HAPPENED OR HOW THE PROCESS WORKS. THEY FEEL POWERLESS AND VULNERABLE.
- ALSO WHEN CONFLICT OCCURS IN A FOSTER FAMILY, THE YOUNG PERSON IS OFTEN SIMPLY MOVED TO ANOTHER FAMILY. THIS MEANS THAT THE YOUNG PERSON IS NEVER GIVEN THE SKILLS TO BECOME AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN HIS/HER OWN LIFE: TO ARTICULATE PROBLEMS OR LEARN TO RESOLVE THEM. INSTEAD WHAT THE YOUNG PERSON LEARNS IS WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO BE MOVED FROM PLACE TO PLACE WITHOUT HAVING ANY VOICE IN THE DECISION.
- A YOUNG PERSON IN FOSTER CARE CAN FEEL ISOLATED FROM THEIR BIOLOGICAL FAMILY AND FROM PREVIOUS FRIENDS AND THEY CAN BECOME UNCERTAIN ABOUT WHO ARE THE TRUSTWORTHY, STABLE PEOPLE IN THEIR LIVES.
- MANY TIMES WHEN ONE OF THESE YOUNG PEOPLE DISAPPEAR, THE ASSUMPTION IS THAT THEY HAVE RUN AWAY AND SOMETIMES THIS ISN'T EVEN REPORTED.

SO THE PROBLEMS IN THE SYSTEM CAN CREATE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO DON'T FEEL THEY HAVE A VOICE; AREN'T GIVEN THE SKILLS OR OPPORTUNITIES TO SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES; CAN BE MOVED FROM PLACE TO PLACE -- SOMETIMES NOT EVEN KNOWING WHERE THEY ARE; AND ARE SEPARATED FROM ALL THE PEOPLE THEY HAVE KNOWN. THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT CONTINUES TO HAPPEN TO THEM WHEN THEY ARE TRAFFICKED, AND SO THIS KIND OF LIFE BEGINS TO FEEL LIKE THE NORM.

THIS TESTIMONY IS IN NO WAY SUGGESTING THAT THE CREATION OF A HOWARD COUNTY HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE SHOULD ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS OF THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM. HOWEVER, WITH THIS INFORMATION IN HAND, HAVING A VOICE OF SOMEONE CONNECTED TO THAT SYSTEM AS PART OF SUCH A TASK FORCE OFFERS ADDITIONAL DEPTH AND KNOWLEDGE THAT WOULD BE SO VALUABLE. THANK YOU AGAIN FOR CONSIDERING THE CREATION OF A HOWARD COUNTY HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE THAT COULD HELP CREATE THE HEALTHY, SAFE PLACE WE ALL WANT HOWARD COUNTY TO BE FOR EVERY CHILD AND ADULT.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Rev. Cathie Leimenstoll
11243 Chase Street, #1
Fulton, MD 20759
615-308-4894 (cell)

Habicht, Kelli

From: Tolliver, Sheila
Sent: Friday, December 20, 2013 1:49 PM
To: Habicht, Kelli
Subject: FW: Council Resolution 8- 2014
Attachments: CR8-2014 Human Trafficking.pdf

Please file this e-mail with CR8-2014

From: Chaconas, Terry
Sent: Friday, December 20, 2013 1:46 PM
To: Tolliver, Sheila
Cc: Chaconas, Terry
Subject: FW: Council Resolution 8- 2014

For file.

From: Chaconas, Terry
Sent: Friday, December 20, 2013 1:42 PM
To: TAHIRA MUSSARAT HUSSAIN
Cc: Chaconas, Terry
Subject: Council Resolution 8- 2014

Dear Ms. Hussain,

Attached is a link to County Council Resolution 8-2014 which was prefiled as legislation yesterday regarding creating a task force on human trafficking. Council member Watson introduced the bill and it was co-sponsored by Council members Ball, Sigaty and Terrasa. Ms. Watson asked me to share it with you and asked that you please share with others in your organization.

Please note that there will be a public hearing on this bill on Tuesday, January 21st at 7:30 p.m. Your support of the bill via testimony at the public hearing would be welcome.

Please call me if you have any questions or need more information.

Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,
Terry

Teresa M. Chaconas
Special Assistant to Council Member Courtney Watson
Howard County Council
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043
o: 410.313.3110 | f: 410.313.3297 | tchaconas@howardcountymd.gov

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2014 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 1

Resolution No. 8 -2014

Introduced by: Courtney Watson

Co Sponsored by: Calvin Ball, Mary Kay Sigaty, and Jennifer Terrasa

A RESOLUTION, creating a task force to study the issues associated with human trafficking in Howard County, to educate the public about human trafficking, to identify and serve victims of human trafficking, and to increase prosecution of traffickers.

Introduced and read first time _____, 2014.

By order _____
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator

Read for a second time at a public hearing on _____, 2014.

By order _____
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted __, Adopted with amendments __, Failed __, Withdrawn __, by the County Council on _____, 2014.

Certified By _____
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN ALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 **WHEREAS**, trafficking is the use of force, threat of force, fraud or coercion to
2 recruit, harbor, transport, provide or obtain any person for labor or commercial sex or to
3 cause a person under 18 to engage in a commercial sex act; and

4 **WHEREAS**, every year, millions of men, women and children are trafficked in
5 countries around the world, including the United States, and it is estimated that human
6 trafficking is a \$32 billion per year industry, second only to drug trafficking as the most
7 profitable form of transnational crime; and

8 **WHEREAS**, human trafficking is a hidden crime, as victims rarely come forward
9 to seek help because of language barriers, fear of the traffickers, and/or fear of law
10 enforcement; and

11 **WHEREAS**, due to the County's location along the I-95 and I-70 corridors,
12 Howard County serves as a central geographic zone for human trafficking; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the Howard County Police Department states that since 2010 the
14 number of human trafficking cases has grown, requiring additional resources to address
15 human trafficking; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the State of Maryland has passed and considered a number of bills
17 that seek to offer additional protections to potential victims while increasing penalties for
18 perpetrators; and

19 **WHEREAS**, it is necessary to establish a collaborative body of organizations in
20 Howard County to formally adopt a consistent and sustained effort to combat this modern
21 day slavery; to apply for all available grant funding from the Department of Justice, and
22 to work to establish a victims services network to free and aide victims of both sex
23 trafficking and domestic worker trafficking; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Section 902 of the Howard County Charter authorizes the creation
25 of temporary advisory boards of citizens to study policies and issues.

26

27 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard
28 County, Maryland, this ____ day of _____ 2014 that there is a task force
29 established to:

- 1 1. facilitate more coordinated anti-trafficking efforts in the County through protocol
2 development, extensive community outreach, proactive investigations, law
3 enforcement training efforts, intelligence sharing, forming partnerships between
4 law enforcement and non-governmental organizations, and the creation of a
5 specialized law enforcement core group;
- 6 2. increase identification rates of human trafficking victims in the County, including
7 domestic and transnational victims of both sex and labor trafficking;
- 8 3. aide in the establishment of a provider network to provide comprehensive services
9 to victims of trafficking; and
- 10 4. increase the prosecution of traffickers, criminally and, where appropriate, civilly.

11

12 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the task force shall consist of the
13 following members:

- 14 1. A member of the County Council, selected by the majority, who shall serve as
15 Vice-Chair;
- 16 2. The Administrator of the Office of Human Rights or the Administrator's
17 representative, who shall serve as Chair;
- 18 3. The State's Attorney or the State's Attorney's representative;
- 19 4. The Chief of Police or the Chief's representative;
- 20 5. A representative from the Howard County Commission for Women;
- 21 6. The Director of Social Services or the Director's representative;
- 22 7. The Health Officer or the Health Officer's representative;
- 23 8. The Sheriff or the Sheriff's representative;
- 24 9. The Administrative Judge of the Howard County Circuit Court or the
25 Administrative Judge's representative;
- 26 10. A representative from the Governor's Task Force on Human Trafficking;
- 27 11. A representative from the Howard County Public Schools;
- 28 12. Two representatives from non-profit organizations; and
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30

1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the task force shall present its findings and
2 recommendations to the County Council on or before October 1, 2014.

3

4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Council Administrator shall assign
5 appropriate staff to assist the Human Trafficking Task Force in its work.

Habicht, Kelli

From: Tolliver, Sheila
Sent: Friday, December 20, 2013 1:49 PM
To: Habicht, Kelli
Subject: FW: Council Resolution 8-2014; human trafficking
Attachments: CR8-2014 Human Trafficking.pdf

Please file this e-mail with CR 8-2014

From: Chaconas, Terry
Sent: Friday, December 20, 2013 1:46 PM
To: cochransara1@juno.com
Cc: Tolliver, Sheila; Chaconas, Terry
Subject: Council Resolution 8-2014; human trafficking

Dear Ms. Cochran,

Attached is a link to County Council Resolution 8-2014 which was prefiled as legislation yesterday regarding creating a task force on human trafficking. Council member Watson introduced the bill and it was co-sponsored by Council members Ball, Sigaty and Terrasa. Ms. Watson asked me to share it with you and asked that you please share with others in your organization.

The resolution will be introduced on Monday, January 6, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. and there will be a public hearing on the resolution on Tuesday, January 21st at 7:30 p.m. Your support of the resolution via testimony at the public hearing would be welcome. Council public hearings are held in the Banneker Room of the George Howard Building, 3430 Courthouse Drive, Ellicott City.

Please call me if you have any questions or need more information.

Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,
Terry

Teresa M. Chaconas
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County Council of Howard County, Maryland

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Legislative Day No. 1

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By order _____
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator

Read for a second time at a public hearing on _____, 2014.

By order _____
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted___, Adopted with amendments___, Failed___, Withdrawn___, by the County Council on _____, 2014.

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5 countries around the world, including the United States, and it is estimated that human
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Howard County
Internal Memorandum

SUBJECT: Resolution – Human Trafficking
OOL Tracking No. L13-187

TO: Courtney Watson
Howard County Council

THROUGH: Margaret Ann Nolan *MAN*
County Solicitor

FROM: Jim Vannoy *JV*
Assistant County Solicitor

DATE: December 19, 2013

I have reviewed the attached resolution to establish a temporary task force on human trafficking, and it is legally sufficient. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

JV:
cc: Stephen M. LeGendre
Jeff Meyers

Vannoy, James

From: Meyers, Jeff
Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2013 8:06 AM
To: Vannoy, James
Cc: Watson, Courtney; Chaconas, Terry; Tolliver, Sheila
Subject: human-trafficking-task-force-Resolution.docx
Attachments: human-trafficking-task-force-Resolution.docx

Attached for legal sufficiency for today's prefile.

Thanks

Jeff

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2014 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. __

Resolution No. __-2014

Introduced by:

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Introduced and read first time _____, 2014.

By order _____
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Read for a second time at a public hearing on _____, 2014.

By order _____
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator

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