



The Office of
**HUMAN TRAFFICKING
PREVENTION**

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF PROGRAMS AND PLANNING

Prevention • Protection • Promoting Healing & Justice

Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Commission & Advisory Board

Meeting

Thursday, December 8, 2022

1:30pm

Louisiana State Capitol, 4th Floor Press Room

I. Call the Meeting to Order

Chief Tommy Clark
HTPC Chair

II. Roll Call

- a. Ashley Bourgeois called roll for the Commission and Advisory Board.
- b. The following members of the Commission were present:
 - i. Chair- Chief Tommy Clark
 - ii. Co- Chair- DA Kristine Russell (Proxy: Chief Tommy Clark)
 - iii. Curtis Nelson
 - iv. Bob Wertz
 - v. Captain Belinda Murphy
 - vi. Secretary Terri Porche Ricks (Proxy: Christy Tate)
 - vii. Monica Taylor
 - viii. Richard Pittman
 - ix. Senator Beth Mizell
 - x. Amanda Perry
 - xi. Representative Valarie Hodges (Proxy: Lawrence Callendar)
- c. The following members of the Advisory Board were present:
 - i. Co-Chair- Michelle Johnson (Proxy: Dr. Michelle Nelson)
 - ii. Angela Wiggins-Harris
 - iii. Jenny Dexter
 - iv. Hon. Kathleen Stewart Richey

III. Opening Remarks

Chief Tommy Clark

- a. Dr. Dana Hunter – Governor's Office of Human Trafficking Prevention
 - i. Dr. Dana Hunter reviewed the ways Louisiana has been recognized for its work in the anti-human trafficking field.
 - ii. Dr. Hunter highlighted the leaders in the room and remarked how Louisiana is seen as a nationwide model for its anti-trafficking work.



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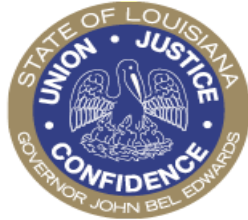
- iii. Polaris ranked Louisiana as 4th in the nation in addressing criminal record relief for victims of Human Trafficking.
- iv. Dr. Hunter discussed her trip to Arizona where a team and she met with experts on Labor Trafficking and what it looks like in different business industries in our state, including the illicit massage industries. Louisiana has a large amount of illicit massage businesses; and thus, migrant victims of forced labor and labor trafficking within the state. Then, Dr. Hunter put on the radar of attendees a Labor Trafficking Seminar that will be held in April-May 2023.
- v. As we wrap up the year of 2022, Dr. Hunter reminded service providers in the room to submit their data to the Office of Human Trafficking Prevention so that the Annual Data Report can be published in the beginning of 2023.
- vi. January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month, and we have a list of activities and events happening. Dr. Hunter invited attendees to share their own HT Prevention Awareness activities with us.
- vii. January 11, 2023, will be National Human Trafficking Prevention Awareness Day. We are promoting “Wear Blue Day” for this special day to highlight awareness of human trafficking around the state. Dr. Hunter invited attendees to wear blue and send in their photos wearing blue on that day so that we can share on the Stop Trafficking Louisiana social media channels.
- viii. Act 662 –
 - Dr. Hunter discussed how the Office of Human Trafficking Prevention is partnering with the Dept. of Children and Family Services along with many other service providers to revamp care coordination surrounding child and youth trafficking.
- ix. Rotary Club –
 - We have a partnership with Senator Beth Mizell and the Rotary Club. They are an international organization with chapters all over Louisiana. The Rotary Club has offered to fund Human Trafficking awareness materials and trainings for both the general public and Louisiana’s students. We are prepared for peers to reach peers; to train our students to train their peers.
- x. Dr. Hunter introduced Dr. Kimberly Hogan, a professor and researcher from the University of Southern Mississippi –
 - Dr. Hogan is honored to be here and is from Arizona State University’s Human Trafficking Center. Dr. Hogan established a Center on Human Trafficking at USM. The Center is to help the Deep South to build an evidence-based research and treatment in Mississippi for victims of Human Trafficking.

IV. **Old Business:** October 2022 Minutes

Chief Tommy Clark

a. Vote

- i. Bob Wertz put forth a motion to adopt the minutes. Richard Pittman seconded the motion to adopt the minutes. All in favor, approved.



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- V. **New Business:** Subcommittee Recommendation Chief Tommy Clark
- a. Presentation by Sex Trafficking of Adult Subcommittee on investigative unit recommendation Dr. Michelle Nelson
- i. Dr. Michelle Nelson presented on the Sex Trafficking of Adult Subcommittee on investigative unit recommendation. The recommendation proposes to allocate additional funding for the Louisiana State Police to create and/or expand regional investigative units for human trafficking, including new positions specializing in human trafficking, to improve victim identification and human trafficking investigations and prosecutions.
- ii. Discussion
- Honorable Kathleen Stewart-Richey asked if Captain Murphy has the data on the prosecution of trafficking convictions.
 - a. Capt. Murphy noted that Senator Mizell and the new Commission are working on that now.
 - b. Hon. Stewart-Richey asked why they do not have data on this from previous years.
 - c. There was further discussion amongst members on the data kept and reported on law enforcement's prosecution and sentencing of trafficking convictions.
 - Richard Pittman asked a few questions:
 - a. Regarding the essential functions of the Human Trafficking investigative units: Will local law enforcement be obligated to report to that unit and bring them in? If so, what guidelines will there be for that?
 - i. Christy Tate said that any mandated reporter would be required to report to DCFS through Act 662, and then it is in that same law that DCFS has to pass on all reports to Louisiana State Police – if the victim is a child only.
 - b. Regarding reporting requirements, is this a new law or is this current law?
 - i. Chief Clark answered that it is current law.
 - c. Regarding the reports, how will these interact with the Public Records laws?
 - i. Mary Kate Andrepont responded that the recommendation does to speak to that.
 - Senator Mizell asked if the Office of Human Trafficking Prevention (OHTP) currently receives information from Louisiana State Police regarding updates on Human Trafficking investigations.
 - a. Capt. Murphy answered that the OHTP has to be legislatively authorized to receive certain types of reports.
- iii. Vote
- Monica Taylor made a motion to accept the recommendation by the subcommittee. Amanda Perry seconded the notion.
 - Roll call vote: 11 yes, 0 no. Recommendation was approved.



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- VI. **Subcommittee Annual Report Presentations** Chief Tommy Clark
- a. Labor Trafficking Mary Kate Andrepont
 - i. Andrepont presented on the Labor Trafficking Subcommittee Annual Report.
 - b. Sex Trafficking of Adults Dr. Michelle Nelson
 - i. Dr. Nelson presented on the Sex Trafficking of Adults Subcommittee Annual Report.
 - c. Sex Trafficking of Minors Courtney Lewis
 - i. Courtney Lewis presented on the Sex Trafficking of Minors Subcommittee Annual Report.
- VII. **2022 Human Trafficking Prevention Commission Annual Report Draft** Chief Tommy Clark
- a. Discussion
 - i. Please send any grammatical and technical (non-content related) edits to Mary Kate Andrepont at marykate.andrepond@la.gov.
 - b. Vote
 - i. Taylor makes a motion to accept the 2022 Annual Report. Wertz seconds the motion to accept the 2022 Annual Report.
 - ii. Roll Call vote: 11 yes, 0 no. 2022 Human Trafficking Prevention Commission Annual Report is accepted.
- VIII. **2023 Human Trafficking Prevention Commission Meeting** Chief Tommy Clark
- a. January 2023 – Next Meeting Date
 - i. Andrepont noted that the Commission and Advisory Board are planning an in-person meeting in January, but the date has not been finalized. Once a date is set, she will email all members with the details.
 - b. 2-3 minute presentations by each member on their agency's anti-trafficking work. If you would like to present, please submit slide to Mary Kate Andrepont marykate.andrepond@la.gov by January 9, 2023. A template version of the slide will be provided to members.
 - c. Discussion and vote for chairs, co-chairs, subcommittees, meeting schedule.
- IX. **Public Comment** Chief Tommy Clark
- a. No comments.
- X. **Other Business** Chief Tommy Clark
- a. Chief Clark and Dr. Hunter reminded all about January National Human Trafficking Prevention Awareness Month. They invited members and attendees to participate in the Wear Blue Day on January 11, 2023. They also invited members and attendees to include the Office of Human Trafficking Prevention in any activities, events, trainings, or speaking engagements that are set to occur during the month of January.
 - b. Dr. Hunter invited members and attendees to reach out to OHTP if they are interested in resources or trainings from the OHTP or other partners.
 - c. Dr. Hunter recognized newly appointed Deputy Secretary of the Office of Juvenile Justice, Curtis Nelson.



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- i. Deputy Secretary Nelson introduced himself and shared with members his history of working in anti-trafficking work.

XI. Adjournment

Chief Tommy Clark

- a. Amanda Perry made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chief Clark seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 2:54 PM.