



## Truckers Against Trafficking Newsletter

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### TAT Annual Report out soon

Happy New Year! TAT's Annual Report for 2013 will soon be available by e-mail and on the Home Page of our [website](#).

### Quote of the Month

From driver **Ralph B:**

"Hey, just wanted to let y'all know that I heard y'all on the satellite radio. I think it was on Fox News. It was about human trafficking and that they had found many cases in Florida. They also mentioned that they were partnering with us, the truck drivers. I felt really proud when I heard that! I hope y'all keep doing a good job as always and we will always keep out eyes and ears open."

From **Desmond Tutu:**

"Do your little bit of good where you are. It's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."

From **Jesse:**

"Hey Guys, my name is Jesse and I'm 18 and work in a tire shop. These are tips (\$140) that I have gotten, and I wanted to say thanks for all you do, and God bless you, and I really mean that. If there's anything else I can do, give me

### Human trafficking in the news

We live in a complex world, where businesses and individuals deal with multiple important issues hour by hour. To help everyone stay keenly aware of the growing prevalence of human trafficking in this country and to keep human trafficking on the radar screen of all employees, TAT is initiating this new and recurring section of our newsletter. In every edition, we'll share some of the most recent human trafficking headlines and articles. By doing so, we hope we'll give you information you can share with all employees and colleagues in the trucking industry, so everyone will stay vigilant to recognizing and reporting human trafficking when they see it.

#### Third man arrested in sex trafficking case

These three men trafficked two 13-year-old girls at a strip club. Muniz, 30, faces three counts each of second-degree rape, second-degree unlawful sexual penetration and first-degree sexual abuse, plus four counts of second-degree sodomy.

<http://www.koin.com/news/washington-county/3rd-man-arrested-in-sex-trafficking-case>

#### Twenty cases of child sex trafficking investigated in Kentucky in four-month period

"These are children traumatized by one of the worst crimes you can imagine," Hunt told The Herald-Leader, "and they deserve to be treated as victims rather than criminals."

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2013/12/23/report-20-cases-child-human-trafficking-investigated-in-kentucky-in-four-month/>

a ring." (The shop where Jesse works also hands out TAT wallet cards to truckers who come in and has TAT posters on the walls.)

From driver **Laela V:**

"I was very upset yesterday when across my news feed I saw another trucker page had posted a picture of what they called a lot lizard. It was a woman sitting on a curb. I'm amazed that they were allowing degrading comments. She could have been in need of someone saving her. I'm sad to think they are not educated on human trafficking."

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## Wilmington man faces human trafficking charges

Randolph Johnson Spain, 24, is accused of human trafficking charges that stretch up and down the East Coast. He is known to earn the trust of young women, takes them out of the state, and forces them into prostitution.

<http://www.wect.com/story/24274851/wilmington-man-facing-human-trafficking-charges>

## Two Fresno men charged in sex trafficking case

They even branded the 15 year old with their nicknames to show ownership. This is just one of the things done to trafficking victims to break down their own identity.

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-fresno-men-charged-sex-trafficking-20131212,0,6506391.story#axzz2nNikQWrK>

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## Trucker makes video, encourages company to engage in fight against human trafficking

Tim Coon, a trucker for DSW Enterprises who found Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) on Facebook last year, has created a YouTube video, calling on his fellow drivers to become a trucker against trafficking. In the [video](#), he talks about the numbers of underage kids at-risk for sex trafficking in America and underscores the abusive backgrounds and enslaved plight of so many of them who are seen working truck stop/travel plaza/rest area lots. He asks drivers not to ignore them but, when they see these kids, to make the call to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) so that rescues can be made.

In addition to his personal appeal to truckers, Coon asked his company if they'd train all their drivers with TAT materials, and they agreed.

"This is the power of the individual trucker who takes the next step in being a TAT," said Kylla Leeburg, TAT social media coordinator. "It's people like Tim who lead the way in helping the trucking industry fulfill its role in ending modern-day slavery."

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## Truckers Against Trafficking Board elects two new members

Mike Poirier, director of the Aggregates and Construction Group for Bridgestone Commercial Sales, and Julie Larkin, finance manager for a Colorado non-profit organization that advocates for affordable primary healthcare in Colorado communities, have been elected to the TAT Board of Directors. Each will serve a two-year term, with Julie's role being that of board treasurer.

With more than 30 years of tire industry experience - 24 of those with Bridgestone, Poirier manages the field sales group responsible for their largest Off the Road (OTR) national account customers.

Larkin, with a BS in accounting from Metropolitan State College in Denver, has 10 years of non-profit accounting experience.

"Between his industry experience, extensive connections, and passion to make a difference, Mike is a great addition to the TAT board," said Kendis Paris, TAT executive director. "Julie's experience with non-profits, fantastic work ethic and desire to affect lasting change will not only bring additional expertise and valuable input on finances and budget, but she will do much to strengthen the diversity of our board. We're happy to welcome two more TAT champions."

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## What is TAT?

Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) is a non-profit organization that exists to educate, equip, empower and mobilize the trucking industry to combat human trafficking as part of their regular jobs. Domestic sex trafficking occurs along our nation's highways and at its truck stops, where traffickers can sell their victims to a transient population they believe are less likely to attempt rescue. In response, TAT is asking the 3 million domestic truckers, as well as other members of the trucking industry, to become aware of this issue, and, when they suspect a human trafficking case, to call the national hotline and report it. Visit our website at [www.truckersagainstrafficking.org](http://www.truckersagainstrafficking.org) to learn more.

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