



Truckers Against Trafficking Newsletter

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ACT Expo

Remember to visit TAT at the ACT Expo May 4-7 at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center in Dallas. ACT Expo has pledged a portion of the event's total registration revenue in donation to TAT, as well as provided exhibit space for TAT's educational mobile trailer, the Freedom Drivers Project (FDP), in the expo hall. Check out the ACT Expo website, www.actexpo.com.

New Training DVD

The new TAT training DVD -- both the 13 and 26-minute versions -- will be on the website and available for ordering on May 4. Please check it out as soon as possible and get your orders in by calling 612-888-4828 or e-mailing tat.truckers@gmail.com.

Notable Quotes

"At a defensive driving class for Walmart in Hope Mills, North Carolina, I received training and watched a video on domestic sex trafficking. It was an eye-opening experience. I've seen hundreds of girls in truck stops and rest areas over the last 24 years. I used to look down on these people because I thought these girls wanted to be there for money, and they had no

Human trafficking in the news

Con-Way Truckload joins the fight against human trafficking

Con-way Truckload, a full truckload carrier and subsidiary of Con-way Inc. is partnering with Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT), a nonprofit established to educate, equip, empower and mobilize members of the trucking and travel plaza industries to combat human trafficking. Click here to [read more](#).



Locking up traumatized girls is no way to help them

Danielle Hicks-Best's shocking story, "An 11-Year-Old Reported Being Raped Twice, Wound Up With a Conviction" reported in the Washington Post on March 13, puts a compelling face to our mistrust and misunderstanding of girls and our harmful over use of the juvenile justice system. [Click here](#) to read more.

Seven charged in child trafficking and prostitution of homeless teenage girl

Seven people have been charged for their roles in sex trafficking of a 17-year-old homeless girl in July 2014 with two of them still on the loose, the First Judicial District Attorney's Office said Tuesday. Click here to [read more](#).

TAT presented Congressional Award

With Brad Bentley and Debbie Sparks from the Truckload Carriers Association, Elisabeth Barna from the American Trucking Associations, Tiffany Wlazlowski Neuman from the National Association of Truck Stop Operators Foundation and a representative from the Owner Operator Independent Drivers Association in

morals or self-respect. This video touched my heart, and I would like to help in some way. I posted your website to my Facebook. I have dozens of trucker friends. I was wondering if there was a link you could send me for cards or information I could order to hand out to other truck drivers to make them aware." Tom B.

"Love it.....definitely needs to be taught in schools, Due to TAT, I now educate my kids; they educate their friends that want to piss off their parents by running away. I must say I'm very proud of them; they have stopped about 20 kids since 7th grade, now in 9th ...Thanks TAT for educating myself!"

Jenny R. about an article posted on our Facebook page concerning the importance of educators in our schools



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attendance, Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) received the Suzanne McDaniel Memorial Award for Public Awareness as part of the annual Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus Awards on April 22 at the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, D.C.



Bill Brady, an over-the-road truck driver for Lodestar, who also often drives the Freedom Drivers Project for TAT, accepted the award on behalf of TAT.

Debbie Sparks, vice president of the Truckload Carriers Association, commented, "It was a great day for trucking, thanks to TAT."

[Click here](#) to read more.



From left: Brad Bentley and Debbie Sparks from the TCA, driver Bill Brady, Elisabeth Barna from the ATA and Tiffany Wlazlowski Neuman from the NATSO Foundation

Kevin Kimmel presented Harriet Tubman Award

Con-way Truckload driver Kevin Kimmel from Tavares, Florida received the 2015 Harriet Tubman from Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) for his actions which saved a woman from torture and modern-day slavery.

The award, which carries with it a \$2500 check, is named in honor of famed abolitionist Harriet Tubman, whose courageous personal actions resulted in the transportation of 300 slaves to freedom

through the Underground Railroad and whose overall role in the freedom movement was instrumental in the freeing of thousands more. Born into slavery in 1820, Miss Tubman was the first African American woman buried with full military honors and the first to have the inaugural Liberty ship named after her - the SS Harriet Tubman - by the US Maritime Commission.

"Because of Harriet Tubman's connection to transportation through the Underground Railroad and her heroic work to free thousands of slaves, TAT believes she epitomizes the symbol of freedom a trucking anti-trafficking award represents," said Kendis Paris, TAT executive director. "And we're proud to say that Con-Way Truckload partners with TAT in the training of their employees with TAT materials. To date, they've trained over 1500 of their employees. Driver Kevin Kimmel's actions in reporting the suspicious activity he saw while resting at a truck stop is exactly the type of action we want to recognize with the Harriet Tubman award. This award was created to honor a member of the trucking industry each year whose direct actions help save or improve the lives of those enslaved or prevent human trafficking from taking place."

[Click here](#) to read more.



Conway driver Kevin Kimmel poses after the awards ceremony with the Harriet Tubman Award from TAT and the Highway Angel Award from the TCA.

FDP open for tours at the CMCA Top Tech Championships

The Freedom Drivers Project was present and available for touring at the Third Annual TopTech Skills Competition of the Maintenance Council of the Colorado Motor Carriers Association. This competition is designed to test the skills of local technicians in multiple categories

having to do with heavy duty maintenance. The competition was held April 25 at the Lincoln College of Technology Denver Campus.



The FDP was at Lincoln College of Technology in Denver for the CMCA Top Tech Competition.

Alabama Trucking Association sets goal to become premier Southeast state trucking association



Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director, represented TAT at the Alabama Trucking Association's (ATA) annual conference in Destin, Florida on April 23-24.

Bridgestone employees paved the way for the invitation for TAT to present at the conference, and, in addition to thanking them, Lanier said, "The ATA were exceptional hosts. They paid all our expenses to the event and received our message with a standing ovation and multiple commitments to train their drivers. They are basically throwing down the gauntlet to other Southeast state trucking associations, stating they want to be known as the premier state trucking association in the Southeast. They have set a goal to get more Alabama trucking companies TAT trained and registered than any other Southeast state."



The ATA will also be joining TAT as a silver level sponsor of the

Freedom Drivers Project.



The Alabama Trucking Association (ATA) hosted Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director, as a speaker at their annual conference in April. From left, Frank Filgo, ATA president, Kylla Lanier and Greg Brown, vice chairman of the ATA board.



Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director, trained attendees at the ATA conference on the TAT wallet card and how to train their employees.

Upcoming Events

May 1 - NM Truck Driving Championships in Albuquerque with the FDP, Helen Van Dam, FDP director, and Bill Brady, driver



May 4-7 - FDP at the ACT Expo in Dallas with Kendis Paris, TAT executive director, Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director, Helen Van Dam, FDP director, and Bill Brady, driver

May 14 - Virginia Trucking Association Safety Management Conference in Richmond with Lyn Thompson, TAT communications specialist, speaking

May 27-28 - Arizona law enforcement's HIDTA conference in Chandler with Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director, speaking

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.truckersagainsttrafficking.org to learn more.

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