

# TAT Coalition Builds

The goal of a TAT coalition build is to establish an effective and sustainable working relationship between key leaders in the trucking and busing industries and law enforcement statewide, in order to combat the crime of human trafficking.

While TAT plays a substantial role in spearheading the initial coalition, and will always make its resources available, it is the Office of the Attorney General (or statewide task force) and the State Trucking Association (along with a handful of other agencies, potentially including the State Bus Association and/or State Pupil Transportation Association) who assume the lead moving forward, insofar as they are local agencies capable of galvanizing the necessary stakeholders on both sides. These efforts are intended to result in the coordination and implementation of effective strategies and actions, in partnership with one another that will close loopholes to traffickers who so easily exploit both victims and legitimate businesses for criminal gain.

The ***first phase*** in establishing this coalition is to co-host a coalition build meeting with Truckers Against Trafficking, the Office of the Attorney General, the State Trucking Association, and, where applicable, the State Bus Association and/or State Pupil Transportation Association. The initial goals of this meeting are to:

1. Gather leaders from various law enforcement departments, including representatives from Department of Public Safety and Department of Transportation as well as county sheriff's offices, in the same room with representatives/executives of local trucking companies, busing companies and truck stop or bus terminal owners and managers.
2. Offer an initial training on human trafficking to all participants at the meeting as well as offer concrete pathways and strategies for law enforcement and members of the trucking and busing industries to work together to combat it.
3. Introduce truck stop and bus terminal owners and general managers to their local law enforcement officers in order to establish a local contact protocol through the contact list.
4. Motivate more trucking and busing companies to train drivers as a result of the build.
5. Motivate truck stops and busing terminals to train employees and become points of distribution for TAT and BOTL materials.
6. Provide victim-centered law enforcement training on human trafficking by local law enforcement leaders and a survivor-leader sharing her story.

7. Promote a change in verbiage and mentality in both industries from “prostitute” to victim.
8. Work with the Office of the Attorney General to invite one vetted local victim service provider who can serve as a resource during the discussion as well as provide a list of local resources to have available at registration.

The ***second phase*** is to implement sustainable strategies for combatting human trafficking through collaborative efforts. The long-term impact is the result of follow up done one month, three months and six months after the meeting. The long-term goals of the coalitions are to:

1. Utilize TAT and BOTL materials in ongoing, in-state trainings for both law enforcement agencies and industry members.
2. Chart increase in calls/reports into the hotline.
3. Equip local or statewide anti-trafficking task forces with industry stakeholders.
4. Assist in undercover investigations conducted between law enforcement agencies and industry stakeholders.
5. Aid in the adoption of the Iowa MVE model statewide.
6. Mandate the TAT and BOTL trainings at the CDL entry-level.