



**Combating
human trafficking...
when this crime arrives
at your doorstep**

TRUCK STOPS AND TRAVEL CENTERS

What is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking – or modern-day slavery – is a global problem in which people are illegally bought and sold for forced labor or commercial sex. Traffickers use violence, manipulation and false promises of work opportunities or romance to lure, control and exploit their victims, generating billions of dollars per year in illicit profit.

Why Truck Stops and Travel Centers?

Traffickers exploit locations in the sale of their victims, often bringing their crime to the doorstep of legitimate businesses. Because this crime depends on the anonymity and easy control of its victims, traffickers regularly transport and sell them at places that are convenient and easy to access. This makes truck stops and travel centers a target. Beyond that, when traffickers transport their victims, they are traveling on the same roads and stopping at the same truck stops, travel centers and gas stations as everyone else, creating multiple opportunities for victim recovery.

Get Involved

Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) guides truck stops and travel centers on steps they can take to equip their employees to combat human trafficking when it does arrive at their location. Through TAT's partnership with truck stops and travel centers, frontline heroes have stepped up and helped victims of human trafficking.

Making an Impact

Two TAT-trained truck stop employees acted upon suspicions of sex trafficking occurring on the truck stop lot and contacted local police. When police arrived, they recognized one of the suspected victims from online sex ads they'd been investigating for months and arrested two men and one woman on human trafficking charges. The trio were exploiting multiple women, posting ads, scheduling appointments for prostitution, making them work without sleep, assaulting them, forcing them to perform sex acts under threat, and taking their money. As a result of the truck stop employees' call, police were able to locate and recover 20 survivors.

ACTION STEPS FOR GENERAL MANAGERS



Train all your employees.

Use TAT's Human Trafficking Awareness Safety Briefing for Truck Stops and Travel Centers and/or TAT's free training videos to educate your employees on what human trafficking looks like and how to report it.



Know the red flags.

Signs that someone may be a victim of human trafficking include:

- lack knowledge of their whereabouts,
- are not in control of their own identification documents,
- have their communication restricted or controlled, or
- are exchanging sex for anything of value.



Pay attention and make the call.

If you suspect human trafficking, whether an adult or minor, call 911. To help an adult victim access services or to share incidents that have been reported to law enforcement, call the appropriate national human trafficking hotline (US: 1-888-3737-888 | Canada: 1-833-900-1010 | Mexico: 01800-5533-000).



Establish an internal reporting policy.

Ensure your employees know the steps the company expects them to take if they suspect human trafficking is occurring or if they believe they may have come into contact with a potential victim.



Distribute TAT materials at your locations.

TAT has victim-centered posters that can be hung in bathrooms or other strategic locations and industry-focused materials that can be displayed in driver's lounges.



Partner with law enforcement.

TAT can help connect you with the right agency to build that relationship.



Attend a Coalition Build.

TAT Coalition Builds are half-day events that bring together key industry leaders from the trucking, truck stop/travel center, bus and energy industries with local, state and federal law enforcement.



Talk to your neighbors.

If you have business neighbors – a hotel/motel or a restaurant or massage parlor or any similar operation – talk to them about human trafficking and share TAT's materials with them.



Share your impact.

Each year, TAT presents an award to honor a member of the trucking, truck stop/travel center, bus or energy industry whose direct actions helped to recover a victim of human trafficking, hold a perpetrator accountable, or prevent human trafficking and/or sexual exploitation from taking place.



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