**Human Trafficking in the News**

**Human trafficking survivors graduate from CATCH program**
The focus of an innovative Franklin County Court program is to break the cycle of addiction, abuse and street slavery. It aims to free women from the bonds of human trafficking and lead them to healthy, productive lives. Click here to read more.

**Sting operation brings human trafficking charges to Mishawaka man**
A Mishawaka man is accused of child solicitation and human trafficking after he allegedly offered to pay undercover police officers for sex with underage girls. Twenty-eight-year-old Patrick B. Zimmer allegedly contacted undercover officers Aug. 18 in response to online advertisements for sex with a 13-year-old girl and a 14-year-old girl, according to documents filed in St. Joseph Superior Court. Click here to read more.

**Country's first sex trafficking safehouse for males nears completion**
Despite opposition from some living around it, the country's first ever sex trafficking safehouse for male victims in nearing completion in Greene County. Restore One's Anchor House is expected to be complete in November, and start rehabilitating male sex trafficking victims in the Spring. Click here to read more.

**Ohio becomes first state in union to implement mandatory TAT training for CDL**
Capt. Mike Crispen of Licensing and Commercial Standards of the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) wants to maximize
what he believes is a key component in the fight against human trafficking.

"Law enforcement officers all over the United States are working diligently to combat human trafficking," he said. "It's a mobile crime, and it requires a mobile response. The transportation community is the sole resource for mobile communication. The TAT message, with the help of the trucking and transportation industry, provides law enforcement with the single greatest weapon to eliminate the overwhelming control these criminals have over their victims. In Ohio, the transportation community is providing an educational program to its drivers and customers and placing the TAT message on their vehicles and windows. So, the message is being 'driven' all over the state."

Click here to continue reading.

TAT honors drivers during Driver Appreciation Week

Truckers Against Trafficking used its Facebook page to honor drivers during Driver Appreciation Week, Sept. 13-19. There were daily driver-exclusive contests and giveaways, as well as pro-trucker graphics and posts. The giveaways included TAT t-shirts, hats and a Blue Tiger Bluetooth headset donated by Elite Headset.

"Working within the industry has deepened our appreciation for the job that truck drivers do each and every day," stated Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director. "The sacrifices they and their families make to keep America moving are inspirational, and knowing that so many of them are committed to the fight against human trafficking as well is powerful! We appreciate the professional truck driver each and every day, but getting the opportunity to participate in a national thank you was just fun. We hope the drivers of America had a wonderful week and felt the gratitude from all of us!"

Speedco to promote TAT on regular video loop and by distributing wallet cards

Speedco, a Bridgestone company and national network of stores specializing in quick lubes and tires services for the trucking industry, will begin highlighting Truckers Against Trafficking on four slides of their regular video loop at all Speedco location monitors in the United States.
They will also make TAT wallet cards available at all their registers, so customers can pick up a wallet card through them throughout the United States. Gary Clark, director of corporate accounts for Bridgestone Commercial Solutions and a TAT board member, was instrumental in bringing about these Speedco actions.

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### Johns Manville secures presentation time for TAT at Berkshire Hathaway

Johns Manville, a global manufacturer and shipper of commercial and home building products, as well as a subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway, has taken a number of steps to begin working with TAT in the fight against human trafficking. They invited the Freedom Drivers Project to their research facility for a training day in August, then became a silver-level TAT sponsor and a TAT shipping partner.

As a shipping partner, they have changed the language on their supply chain and shipping agreements with their suppliers to both raise the question of and create the expectation of TAT training to be implemented with each of their carriers. Johns Manville employees David Fisher, director of global logistics, and Mike Benedict, vice president of global supply chain, went a step further and secured Kendis Paris, TAT executive director, 15 minutes of presentation time in front of the transportation and logistics leaders of other Berkshire Hathaway companies at a recent meeting. Fisher, Benedict and Paris challenged everyone in the room to take immediate action and become TAT shipping partners.

[Click here](#) to read more.

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### Google Conference focuses on fighting child sex trafficking

Kendis Paris, TAT executive director, was back in Cincinnati a few days after the Berkshire Hathaway conference to participate in a Google regional conference to combat child sex trafficking. The conference, held at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center (NURFC), featured key leaders in the abolitionist movement, including Dr. Clarence Newsome, NURFC president, and Cindy McCain, a strong advocate in the fight against human trafficking through her work with the McCain Institute for Leadership and the work on this issue she has accomplished in Arizona. Paris was part of a panel describing the public-private partnerships TAT has forged within the trucking industry, as well as with law enforcement.

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### State trucking associations and trucking conferences help spread

[Click here](#) to read more.
TAT message

In September, TAT staff also spoke at the North Carolina Safety and Human Resources/Tech and Maintenance Annual Conference, at the annual conferences for both the Tennessee and Washington State Trucking Associations and at the Arkansas Trucking Seminar. In Tennessee, Tennessee Trucking Association President Dave Huneryager encouraged Road Team Captains to begin including TAT materials in their presentations around the state. Texas Assistant Attorney General and special prosecutor for human trafficking Kirsta Melton spoke to the Texas Trucking Association’s Safety Management Council on human trafficking and included information on TAT training as immediate action steps members could take with their companies to fight human trafficking. TAT also had a presence at the WIT Accelerate Conference in Dallas and the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals Conference in San Diego, California.

Upcoming Events

Oct. 3 - Arizona Trucking Association Conference, Phoenix, AZ, Kendis Paris, TAT executive director, presenting

Oct. 4 - Justice Run, Denver, CO, FDP and TAT staff attending

Oct. 5 - Wisconsin Correction Association Conference, Lake Geneva, WI, Lyn Thompson, TAT communications specialist, presenting

Oct. 9 - University of Northern Colorado with iEmpathize, Greeley, CO, FDP and Helen Van Dam, FDP director, attending

Oct. 14-17 - Mississippi State Fair, Jackson, MS, FDP and Helen Van Dam, FDP director, and Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director, attending

Oct. 21 - Texas Trucking Association Luncheon, Houston, TX, Kirsta Melton, Texas Assistant Attorney General and special prosecutor for human trafficking, presenting

Oct. 24 - South Carolina Trucking Association conference, Myrtle Beach, SC, Lyn Thompson, TAT communications specialist, presenting

Oct. 24 - FDP press conference with Senator Heitkamp’s office, the American
Trucking Association, and the North Dakota Motor Carriers Association in Bismarck, ND, Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director, presenting


**Oct. 27** - Iowa Four-State Coalition Build, Sioux City, IA, FDP and Kendis Paris, TAT executive director, presenting

**Oct. 29-30** - National Association of Small Trucking Companies Conference, Memphis, TN, Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director, presenting

**Oct. 29-30** - Oklahoma Safety Management Council Meeting, Oklahoma City, OK, Lyn Thompson, TAT communications specialist, presenting

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