

# TAT COALITION BUILDS CLOSING LOOPHOLES TO TRAFFICKERS



[www.TruckersAgainstTrafficking.org](http://www.TruckersAgainstTrafficking.org)

**Pecos, TX**  
**November 14, 2018**



## Mission

A coalition strives to bring together critical stakeholders to accomplish a single mission. TAT's coalition builds do just that, by gathering law enforcement and members of the trucking, truck stop and oil and gas industries to work together to close loopholes to traffickers, who exploit victims and legitimate businesses for criminal gain. The primary goal of this coalition build was to establish an effective and sustainable working relationship between the trucking and oil and gas industries and law enforcement in West Texas, in order to combat the crime of human trafficking. This is done through our short-term and long-term goals. Much of the short-term impact is seen immediately following the meeting, evidenced through the results of the survey and shown below under "same-day impact." The long-term impact is the result of follow up done two months after the meeting. TAT firmly believes that these meetings have far-reaching impact, not only in building strong coalitions between industry members and law enforcement agencies across the United States, but in ultimately saving lives.



## Short-term goals:

1. Gather leaders from various law enforcement departments, including representatives from the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Transportation, as well as county sheriff's offices, in the same room with representatives/executives of local trucking companies, oil and gas companies and truck stop 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 oil and gas industries to work together to combat it.
3. Motivate more trucking and oil and gas companies to train drivers and employees as a result of the build.
4. Motivate truck stops to train employees and become points of distribution for TAT materials.
5. Provide victim-centered law enforcement training on human trafficking by local law enforcement leaders and a survivor-leader sharing her story.
6. Promote a change in verbiage and mentality in both industries from "prostitute" to victim.

## Long-term goals:

1. Utilize TAT 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.

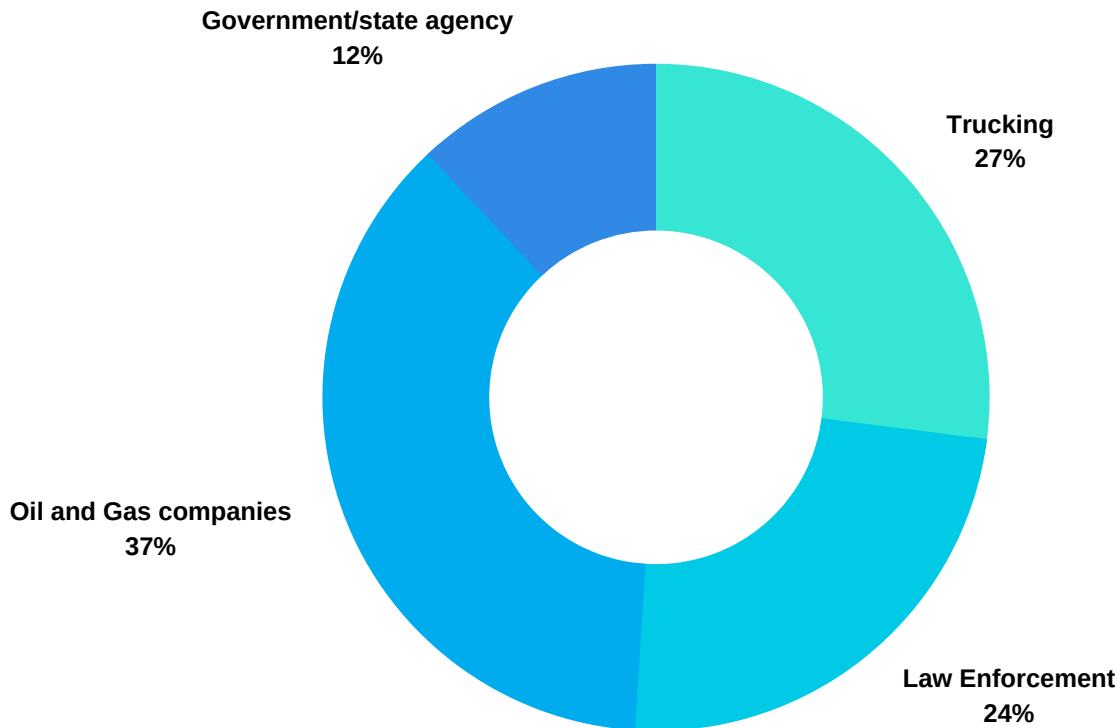






## Goal #1

**Gather leaders from trucking, oil and gas, and truck stop industries with law enforcement agencies for a half-day training.**



There were 70 participants at the meeting, and the following results are based on the survey gathered, which 63% of participants completed.

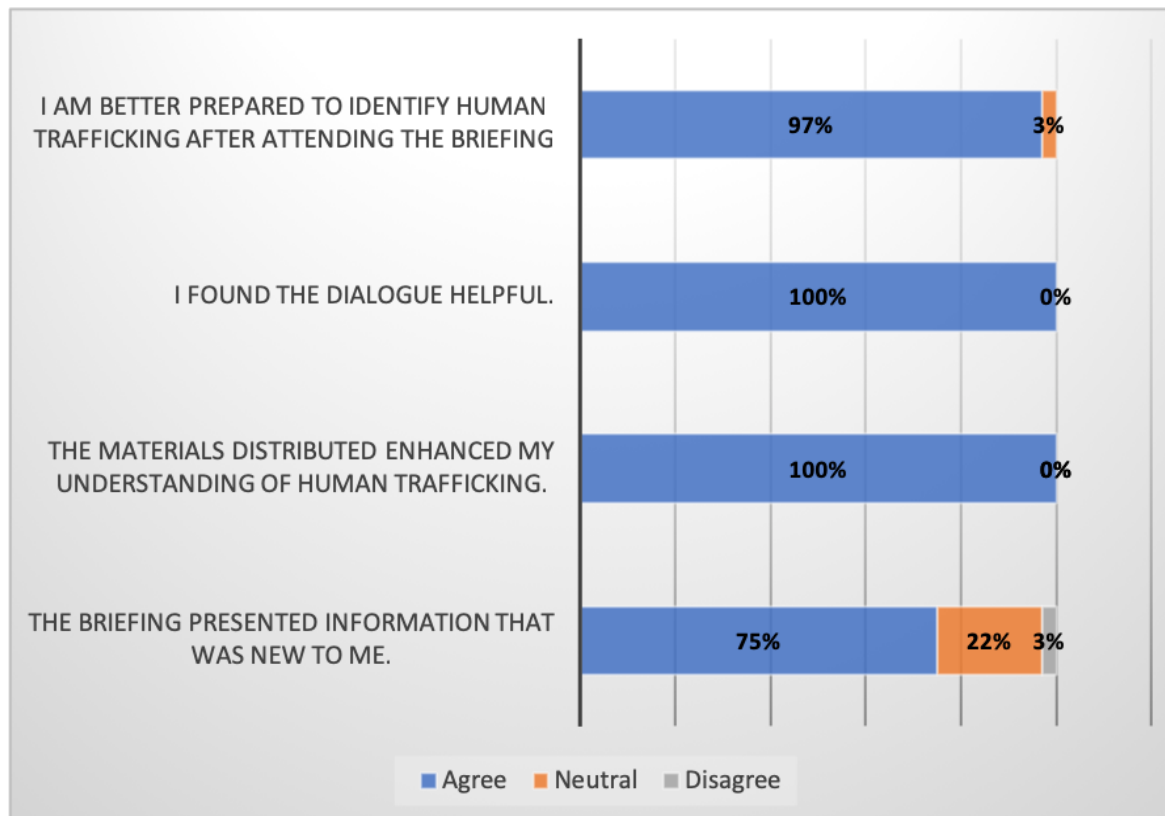






## Goal #2

**Offer human trafficking training to all participants, as well as offer concrete pathways and strategies for law enforcement and members of the trucking and oil and gas industries to work together to combat it.**



**94%** of respondents said they know what next steps to take in order to combat human trafficking.

**100%** of respondents said presenters were knowledgeable and approachable.

**100%** of respondents said the briefing was a good use of their time.



### **Goal #3**

#### **Motivate more trucking and oil and gas companies to train drivers as a result of the build.**

- TransWood Logistics will be training all 700 drivers with TAT materials, adopting anti-trafficking-in-persons policies with a demand reduction focus and is considering becoming a TAT corporate sponsor. In addition, TransWood highlighted their partnership with TAT through their biennial conference, featuring a TAT-wrapped TransWood trailer.
- Hern Trucking LLC. trained and registered all drivers and employees following the coalition build.
- The Texas Railroad Commission has presented TAT's safety moment and passed TAT materials on to leadership, including the Director for Midland Field Ops. They are weighing options on how they can promote TAT within their Midland field operations.
- Atlas Oil requested TAT's safety moment presentation as well as oil and gas training materials. They are interested in participating in future coalition builds, promoting TAT via social media and becoming a corporate sponsor.
- EnLink requested TAT's safety moment, has presented approved TAT information to their trucking department and are planning on having TAT come train in 2020.
- In addition to cohosting the coalition build, Noble Energy is distributing TAT's training materials and oil and gas wallet card and posters to contractors and service companies in West Texas.
- Stallion Oilfield Services have distributed TAT materials to 50% of their staff and are becoming a TAT corporate sponsor.
- Baker Hughes has scheduled a meeting to discuss next steps in partnering with TAT.
- Apache Corporation sponsored and cohosted the coalition build. Since the meeting, they have also presented on TAT at their supplier meeting.



### Goal #6:

**Provide victim-centered law enforcement training on human trafficking by local law enforcement leaders and a survivor-leader sharing her story. Promote a change in verbiage and mentality in both industries from "prostitute" to victim.**

**100%** of respondents agreed that hearing the survivor speak was powerful.

Here is what respondents said about the presentation by the TAT field trainer:

*"Her story was very specific and sobering."*

*"I would really to thank her for sharing her story with us."*

*"Her story was very informative and eye-opening."*

*"Very powerful presentation. Putting a name with a face and her story will stay with me."*

*"Heartbreaking"*

*"Regarding the speaker, powerful presentation and great insight."*



**100%**

**of respondents said they would recommend attending a briefing like this to others in their field.**





## Here are just a few things that attendees had to say about the training:

*"I am looking forward to doing what we can to prevent trafficking in our business and to helping support victims."*

*"All did a fantastic job."*

*"Thank you for all of the great information and resources."*

*"The passion from each presenter made this more impactful!"*

*"Very, very useful information especially for my daughters."*

*"Keep up the great work getting the message out!"*

## Long-term impact in West Texas

### ***Utilize TAT materials in ongoing, in-state trainings for law enforcement.***

- TAT will be doing an in-depth law enforcement training with the Texas Department of Public Safety.
- The Pecos Police Department has used TAT's law enforcement training video with investigators and patrol officers.
- The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission is using TAT's law enforcement training video as part of officer training, as well as collaborating with Pecos Police Department on undercover operations in the Pecos area.





## ***Formation of Bringing Freedom Task Force (BFTF): An initiative of the Energy Industry to combat human trafficking.***

The BFTF is being formed as a direct result of the Pecos coalition build with Felix Energy spearheading the charge. It seeks to bring together energy companies to use their influence, connections, expertise and resources in order to unite their industry behind this work and ensure freedom is brought to those who need it most. The task force is a long-term strategy for deeper engagement around human trafficking in the energy sector. While it is still in the formative phase, the goals and purposes of the BFTF are as follows:

- To develop policies and protocols for energy companies and their contractors by developing an industry-specific training DVD, along with a host of supporting materials that will educate and equip the industry to discover and disrupt human trafficking networks. It will also assist the industry in developing a strong anti-trafficking in persons policy with a demand reduction focus that makes purchasing commercial sex on company time or with company work product unacceptable. The BFTF will oversee the mass distribution and implementation of training materials and policies, as well as provide the project funding.
- In conjunction with the BFTF, TAT will host a series of coalition builds in major drilling regions to ascertain loopholes that traffickers are exploiting within their communities, and how the energy industry can assist law enforcement in the investigation of this crime. As hotspots are revealed, this may include assisting in undercover stings via shared resources, manpower and data.
- Through the partnership development with local and state law enforcement and government agencies in the communities they live and operate in, the BFTF will be able to assess what the needs are in relation to victim recovery and provide safe and secure environments for the restoration process to begin. For example, the industry may discover that it could fill a much needed gap in temporary services (hygiene products, hotel rooms, transportation to a shelter, etc.) that will enable a survivor of human trafficking to initially exit their situation. They may also be able to provide significant funds to long-term restoration shelters, and provide employment opportunities in order to reduce the recidivism rate.

