

# TAT COALITION BUILDS CLOSING LOOPHOLES TO TRAFFICKERS



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

**Montgomery, AL**  
**February 12, 2019**



## 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 truck and bus industries to work together to close loopholes to traffickers, who exploit victims and legitimate businesses for criminal gain. The primary goal of a TAT coalition build is to establish an effective and sustainable working relationship between the trucking and busing industries and law enforcement statewide, 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 trucking 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, 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.

## Long-term goals:

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 TAT and BOTL training at the CDL entry-level.

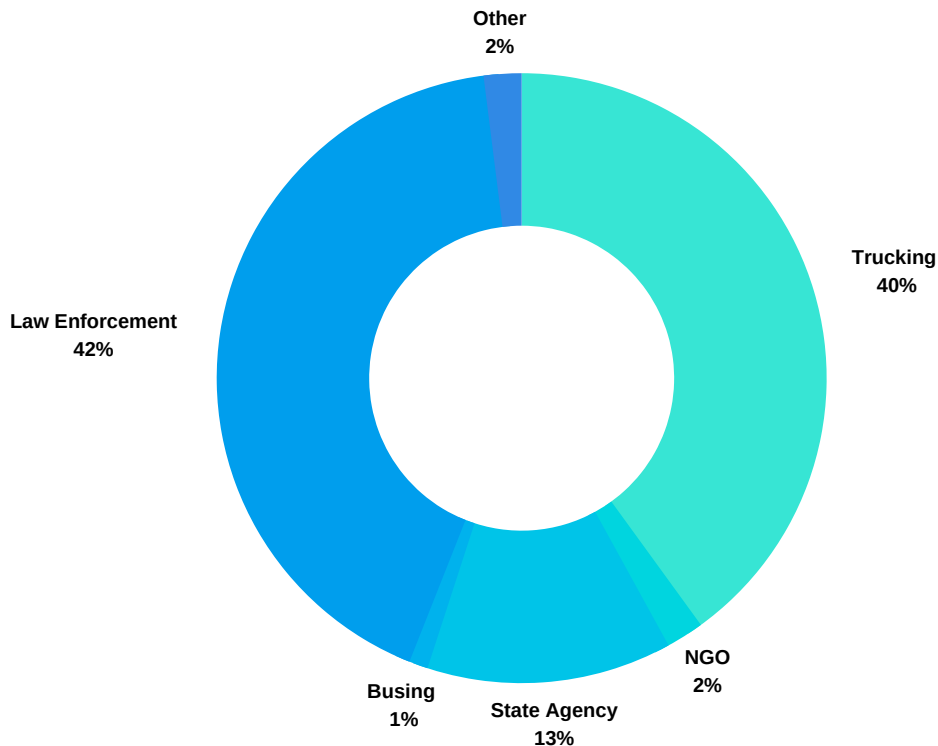






## Goal #1

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



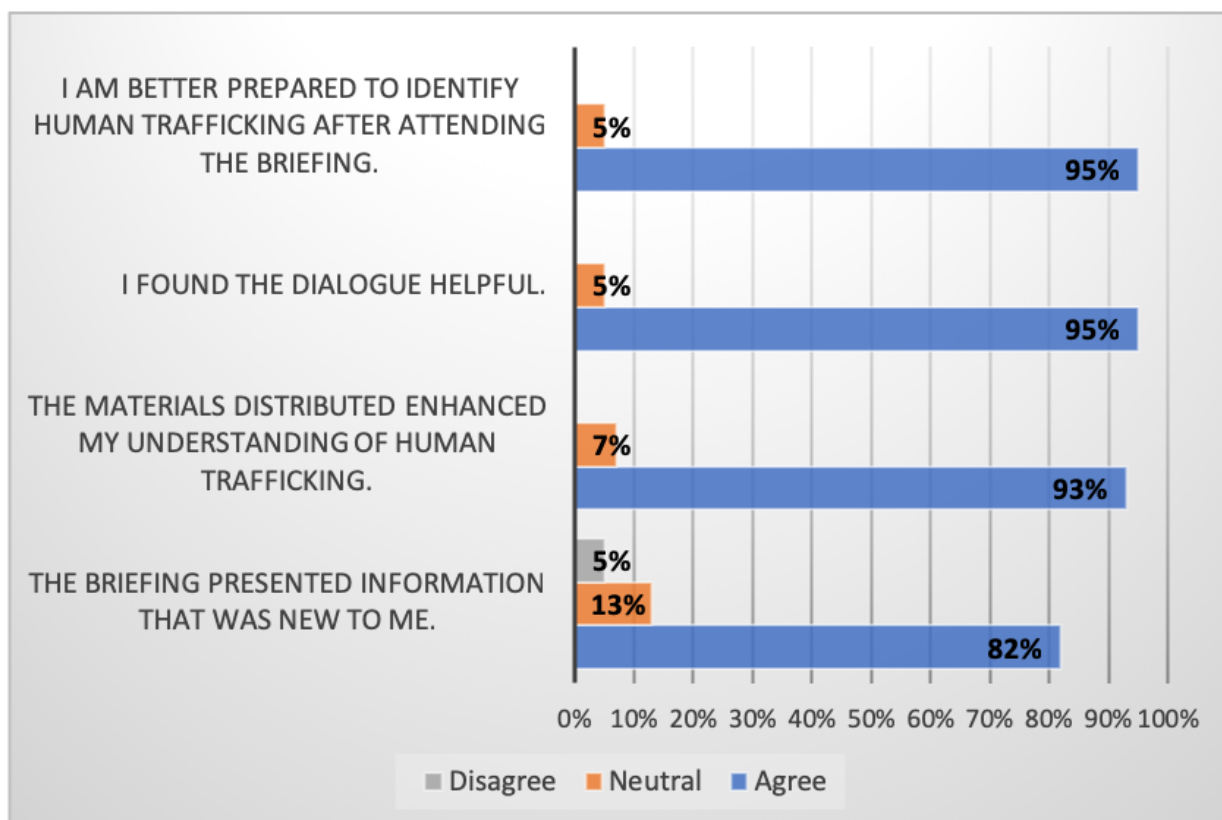
There were 86 participants at the meeting, and the following results are based off the survey gathered, which **70%** of participants completed.





## 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 busing industries to work together to combat it.**



**98%** of respondents said they know what next steps to take in order to combat human trafficking.

**98%** of respondents said presenters were knowledgeable and approachable.

**98%** of respondents said the briefing was a good use of their time.



### **Goal #3**

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

- Star Leasing has sent TAT information to corporate headquarters to inquire about getting service technicians and mechanics trained at all 10 locations across the country.
- Church Transportation and Logistics is adding TAT training as part of required training via Vertical Alliance.
- Billy Barnes Enterprises, Inc. was already using TAT's training but has now added 189 drivers to the total number TAT Trained. They are also going to begin sending out quarterly training touches to drivers and have ordered more window decals and wallet cards.
- LB3, LLC. has now trained all drivers and become registered as a TAT Trained company.
- TCW's Birmingham terminal has requested training materials and will be doing in-person training with employees.
- Trading Post Moving and Storage has trained all drivers and registered as a TAT trained company. They are also highlighting TAT materials at their booth for the Enterprise Business Expo.
- Watkins Trucking Company has added TAT training to orientation since 2015 and has now updated it's TAT Trained numbers with TAT.

### **Goal #4**

#### **Motivate truck stops and busing terminals to train employees and become points of distribution for TAT and BOTL materials.**

- Montgomery Travel Centers, a franchise of Travel Centers of America, attended the coalition build. After the meeting, the owner trained all 49 employees with TAT's training video and discussed the red flag indicators to be looking for. He also requested TAT posters and materials and has proudly displayed them around the store. He has made introductions for TAT with DAS, the largest supplier to independent truck stops in America, asking them to consider partnering with TAT.
- Following the coalition build, a general manager who attended the meeting trained her staff with the video, called the National Hotline to report a potential trafficking situation and is talking to her staff about being vigilant to report this crime.



## Goal #5 & 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.**

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

*“Although I work with human trafficking investigations daily, this training showed me the importance of the trucking industry in combating this crime and enhanced my knowledge through a survivor’s perspective.”*

*“Very impactful and sad to learn of her experiences with law enforcement. I’m happy to see that she escaped and is continuing to progress with her life.”*

*“I’m so glad that her presentation is part of the law enforcement training video. It will be a powerful presentation for young ladies on our campus.”*

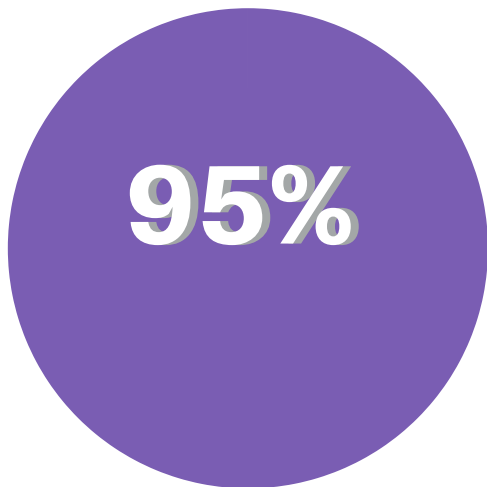
*“I applaud her courage and the transparency.”*

*“Her presentation was needed and appreciated. My hope is that through seeing and hearing her story, we will better understand victims.”*

*“Always good to hear from a survivor. The insight they have will help us in law enforcement.”*

*“Amazing life story, and it opened my eyes about how this can happen.”*

*“Excellent presentation which helped me and other audience members have a better understanding of how victims of trafficking are manipulated and forced against their will.”*



100%

**95%** of respondents agreed that hearing the survivor speak was powerful.







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



*"Hearing actual cases make a huge impact. It makes it personal."*

*"Thank you for your time and sharing your knowledge."*

*"Good representation, bringing all groups together today to fight this crime."*



*"Excellent presentations on how the trucking industry can provide valuable information."*

*"The law enforcement panel was very good. Great to hear what they are doing to stop trafficking."*

*"Great training session overall!"*



*"I think awareness is key; many of these problems appear to go unnoticed or overlooked, especially due to the fearfulness of the victim to ask for help."*

*"I enjoyed the presentation very much."*

*"Great presentation and very informative. Thank you."*

*"The presenters had a wealth of knowledge!"*

# 98%

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





## Long-term impact in Alabama

***Utilize TAT and BOTL materials in ongoing, in-state trainings for both law enforcement agencies and industry members.***

- The Alabama Fusion Center will be using TAT's law enforcement training video as part of the training for law enforcement officers.
- Camden Police Department requested TAT materials to distribute at truck stops in the area.
- The Alabama Department of Education (DOE) is including a clip from the BOTL training video for all Alabama school bus drivers, as well as distributing BOTL wallet cards to instructors for further distribution. Since the coalition build, they have also asked the BOTL program director to draft a training document to be distributed to all transportation supervisors across the state.
- The Office of the Alabama Attorney General has sent out TAT's law enforcement training video to all sheriffs, police chiefs and troopers in the state of Alabama.
- The Office of the Alabama Attorney General has invited TAT come speak at their annual law enforcement summit, including over 800 officers from across the state.

***Aid in the adoption of the Iowa MVE model statewide.***

- Since the coalition build in February, the state of Alabama has adopted and implemented the entire Iowa MVE model.





## Final summary in Alabama

The coalition build has been the most impactful strategy TAT has implemented in the state of Alabama to achieve statewide participation in the fight against human trafficking. Through the connections made at the meeting, TAT is being invited to participate in extensive in-person law enforcement training opportunities across the state, as well as TAT's law enforcement training video being disseminated from the Office of the Attorney General to all chiefs of police, sheriffs and state troopers. Ongoing training is being done within the truck stop, busing and trucking industries, reaching those on the front lines of this crime. By working with key contacts at the the Office of the Attorney General and the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA), Alabama has now adopted the entire Iowa MVE model, making them one of the first of 10 states to accomplish this goal. Attorney General Marshall was so pleased with the turnout from law enforcement and industry leaders, that he has invited TAT to come back to do another coalition build in Alabama in order to reach more of the state with TAT's mission and resources.

