

# TAT COALITION BUILDS CLOSING LOOPHOLES TO TRAFFICKERS



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

**Sedalia, MO**  
**April 23, 2019**



## Mission

A coalition strives to bring together critical stakeholders to accomplish a single mission. TAT's Coalition Builds (CB) 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.

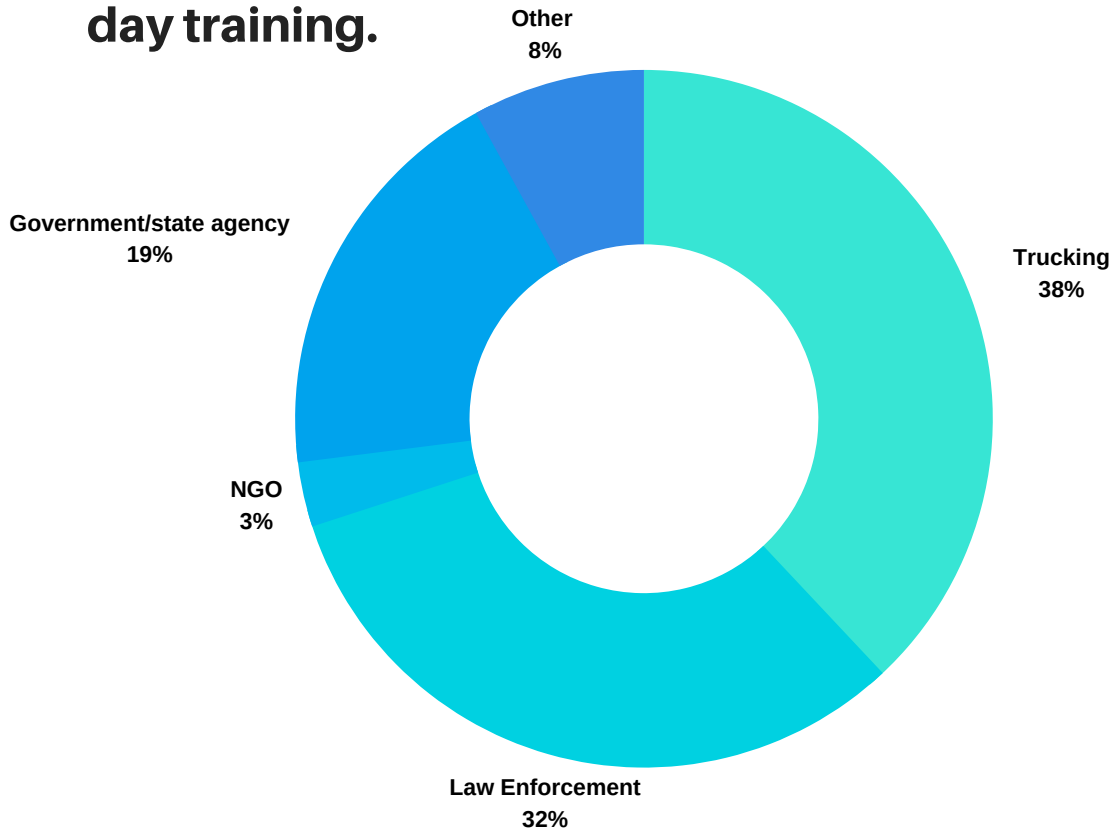






## Goal #1

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



There were 79 participants at the meeting, and the following results are based off the survey gathered, which 57% of participants completed.

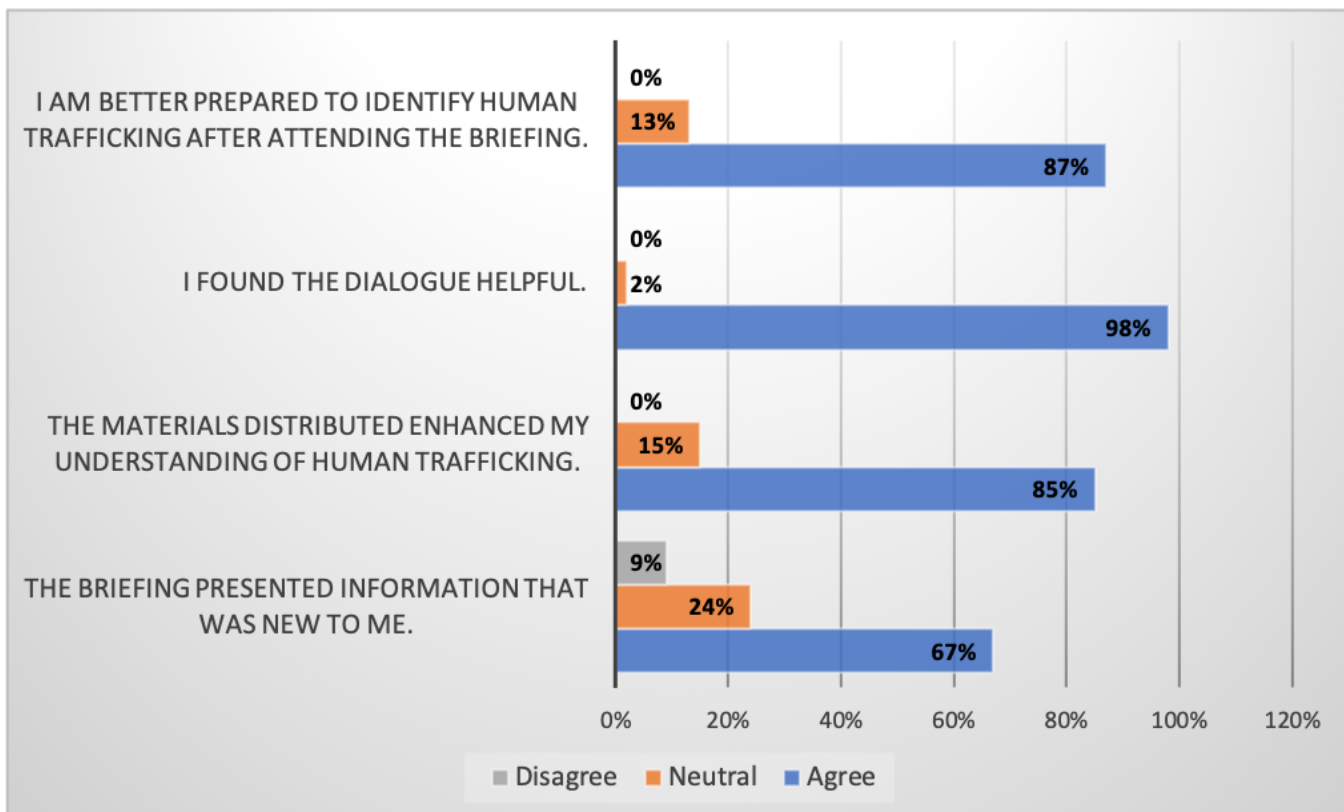






## Goal #2

**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.**



**96%** 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 busing companies to train drivers as a result of the build.**

- Midland Oil Company has uploaded TAT's training video to their online training portal and requested wallet cards to pass out to drivers.
- Hiland Dairy Foods plans to train and register all drivers with TAT materials.
- Zipp Express is looking to partner with TAT and add TAT training with all drivers and employees.

### **Goal #4**

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

- Deluxe Truck Stop requested TAT materials to make available to employees and customers at their truck stop and service centers.
- Many law enforcement that participated in the CB are now visiting truck stops, trucking companies, bus terminals and busing companies in their jurisdictions with TAT and BOTL materials as is illustrated later in the report.
- The Criminal Investigations Unit of the Missouri State Patrol has visited 22 truck stops across the state with TAT materials and plans to visit the remaining 20 truck stops. This will cover truck stops across the entire state of Missouri. Since visiting the truck stops with TAT materials, they have already received two tips regarding suspected human trafficking. TAT is following up to see if those tips have led to any open investigations and/or arrests.



## 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:

*"Beth was awesome. I truly felt pain and hurt for her, which emphasized her story."*

*"She has a good perspective, and I appreciate her bravery."*

*"Very informative and real life. It brought the dangers of vulnerability and insecurity to life."*

*"Very informative and moving without being exploitative. I appreciated her honesty and integrity."*

*"Keep telling your story, it is life changing."*

*"I think that having heard directly from a survivor, I will be able to speak more convincingly when addressing trafficking. Ms. Jacobs presentation was both powerful and accessible. Thank you for the opportunity to listen and learn."*

*"Thank you for sharing, Beth. It was excellent! In 38 years of law enforcement, this was the first time I have heard a survivor."*

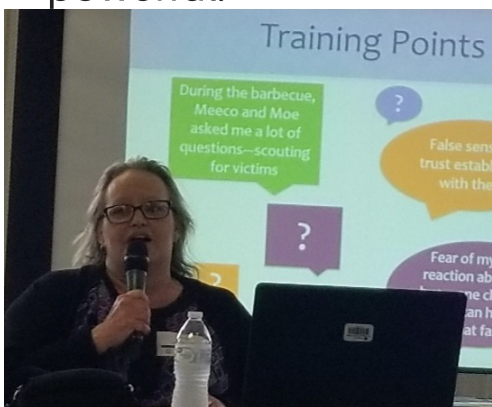
*"I appreciate the candor and details. It really helped my mindset shift. Did she reunite with her father or mother?"*

*"It made me very emotional."*

96%

100%

**96%** of respondents agreed that hearing the survivor speak was powerful.







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

*"This is my third coalition event, and I learn something new and informative every time!"*

*"The real-world stories of survivors, law enforcement cases and the videos are very impactful."*

*"The training was very good! The case examples are best for law enforcement, because that is how we gain intel on trends."*

*"The law enforcement panel was a great addition and very informative."*

*"Extremely beneficial overall."*

*"A good mix of presenters. The topic was approached from several angles which helped solidify the information and especially increase awareness."*

*"I think every officer at my agency should attend this training."*

*"Thank you for bringing this to Sedalia! I am going to attempt to meet with our local truck stop leaders, because I did not see them here."*

*"Excellent info and a well balanced approach."*

# 100%

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



## Long-term impact in Missouri

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

- The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) will begin adding TAT and BOTL training when doing safety compliance meetings with trucking and/or busing companies.
- MoDOT has been sharing BOTL materials at bus-inspection events in areas such as Branson, Kansas City and St. Louis. They make TAT materials available in the lobby/waiting area at MoDOT Motor Carrier Services and they share TAT materials with partners at Missouri's Welcome Centers. They also include references and links to TAT on our webpage.
- Missouri State Police will be sending TAT materials out to all CDL testing sites.
- Pettis County Sheriff's Office took TAT materials and plans to distribute them to the truck stop in their jurisdiction.
- The Criminal Investigations Unit of the Missouri State Patrol will be visiting eight to nine truck stops and three bus terminals with TAT and BOTL materials.
- Sedalia Police Department has made TAT's law enforcement training video available to other officers and has put out TAT materials in the office. They are also visiting a truck company in Sedalia that has both truck and bus service in order to make them aware of TAT's training.
- A detective from Joplin Police Department, who also served as a panelist at the Coalition Build, plans to share TAT's law enforcement training video with all 112 sworn officers in his agency as well as the Southwest MO Cyber Crime Task Force, which covers 22 counties in southwest Missouri. He plans to visit the numerous truck stops in those areas, meet with management and offer the materials to them.





## Aid in the adoption of the Iowa MVE model:

- The Missouri State Police will now visit truck stops and bus terminals across the state with TAT and BOTL materials.
- The Missouri Trucking Association is working with TAT to propose anti-trafficking training to CDL curriculum in the next legislative session.
- The Missouri Department of Revenue will begin distributing TAT and BOTL wallet cards with every CDL issuance and renewal.
- As a result of the coalition build, Missouri will become in full compliance with the Iowa MVE model.

## Final summary

The Missouri Coalition Build was extremely successful in increasing TAT's influence and impact in Missouri, particularly through full implementation of the Iowa MVE model. As a result of the Missouri Coalition Build (CB), key leaders from Missouri State Police were motivated to implement full compliance within their purview. The Missouri Trucking Association is now looking into proposing legislation that would add TAT training to CDL schools and is also assisting TAT with the Iowa MVE model by making introductions to key agencies for further adoption. With the training at the CB, coupled with the successful strategies now being implemented by law enforcement and state agencies, TAT hopes to see a much more coordinated approach to combating human trafficking at the local and state level in Missouri.

