

# TAT COALITION BUILDS CLOSING LOOPHOLES TO TRAFFICKERS



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

**Hanover, MD**  
**August 1, 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.

While hosted in Maryland, this Coalition Build included stakeholders from Maryland, Delaware and DC as well as many national partners, including the American Trucking Association, the United Motorcoach Association, the American Bus Association and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.



## 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.

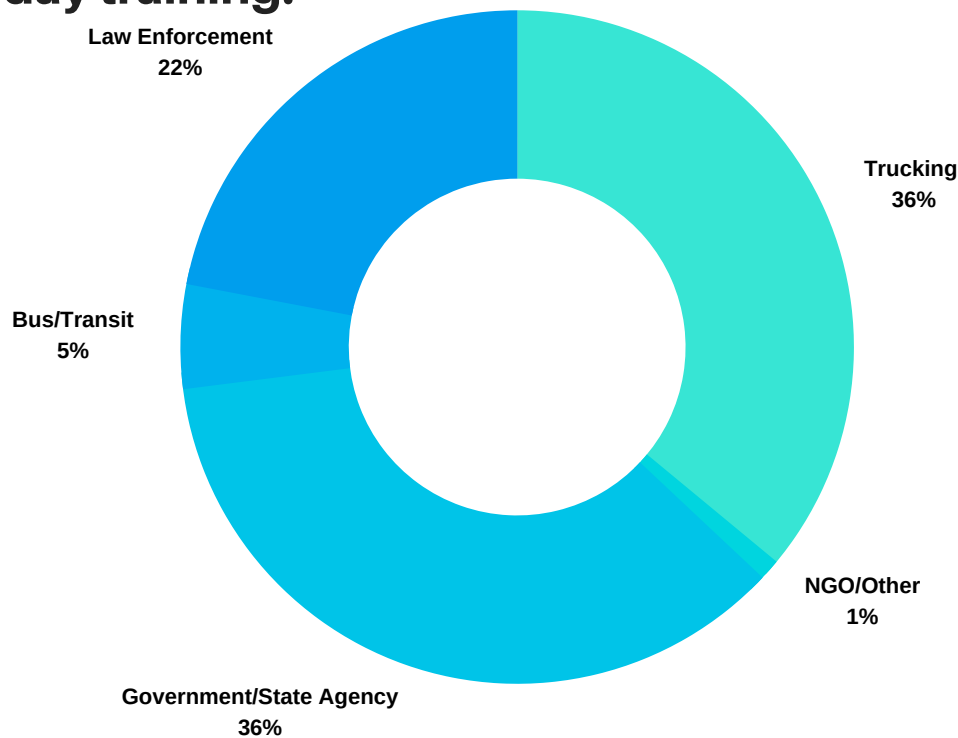






## Goal #1

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



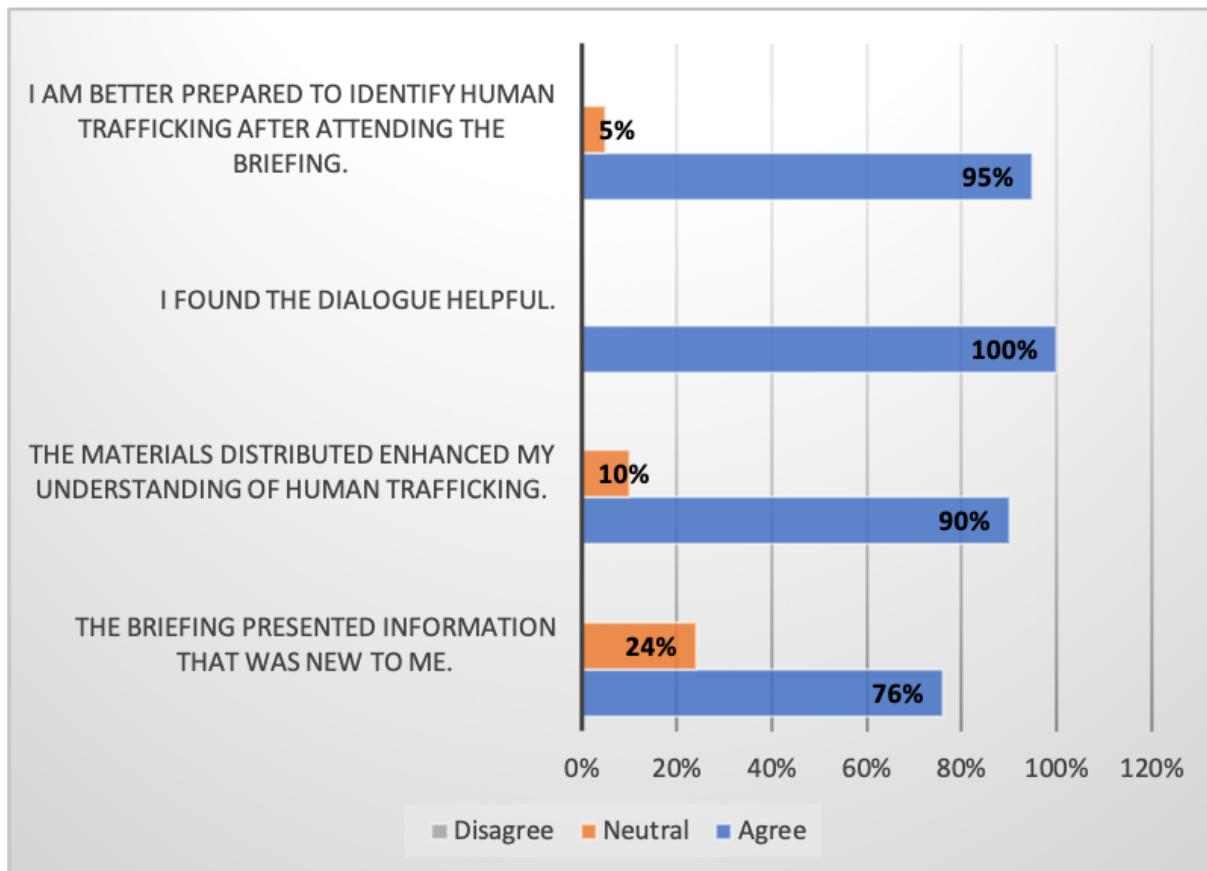
There were 95 participants at the meeting, and the following results are based off the survey gathered, which 46% of participants completed.





## 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.**



**88%** 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 bus companies as well as transit agencies to train drivers as a result of the build.**

- The United Motorcoach Association is now including BOTL wallet cards in its new member kits.
- The Maryland Motorcoach Association will be including BOTL on the agenda for its 2020 annual meeting.
- DART First State, the only public transportation system that operates throughout the state of Delaware, and the Delaware Transit Corporation, will incorporate BOTL into the standard training for all new transit drivers statewide and will begin using the BOTL materials in their mandatory safety meetings for current drivers. By taking these two steps, over time, they will eventually reach approximately 400 transit drivers in the state.

### Goal #4

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

- A station manager at AC&T Travel Centers who attended the CB plans to train her employees with TAT materials as well as pass along TAT's law enforcement video to her local law enforcement officers.
- The Director of Operations for MYS Energy Inc. took TAT materials at the meeting and said he plans on using them to train truck stop employees.







## 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 a TAT field trainer:**

*"This was the most insightful portion of the day.*

*It was incredible to hear how missing a bus changed her life so dramatically and quickly.*

*Her story makes me want to start a dialogue with my kids."*

*"Powerful and important to hear real life stories; those make it that much more impactful."*

*"Having Beth speak at the presentation was extremely interesting and really helped to illustrate the problem."*

*"Great experience seeing her process and mentality."*

*"First, thank you for telling and sharing your story. Thank you for being detailed in your presentation and explaining the process of your story."*

*"I like her honesty in describing her experience."*

*"Her presentation was very powerful. I appreciate the information she shared and the way she presented - calm, determined, honest and thorough. Thank you, Ms. Jacobs."*

*"I realized the complexity of the situation! She truly was a victim and a blessing to learn from her."*

*"It was excellent. Very powerful!"*

*"I commend her courage and consider her story valuable and will use it to encourage law enforcement to take action against this crime."*



100%

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



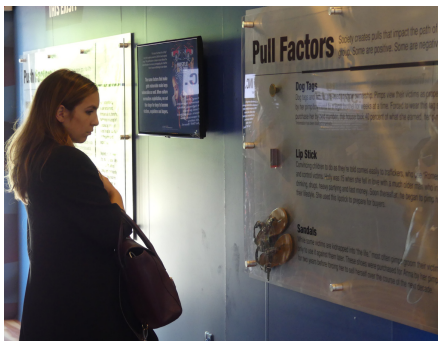


## Here are just a few things that attendees had to say about the training:



*"This was the best training I have attended. I am a CDL Program Manager/Trainer and will use this in all my CDL classes."*

*"The survivor's presentation was very informative. I was very interested in what the survivor had to say."*



*"Thank you very much ... well done."*

*"The briefing was good with law enforcement. Administrator Martinez did a great job!"*

*"Thank you for all the information."*



*"Great to have the MD Attorney General open the session! Every presenter seemed prepared; very professional overview."*

*"All presentations were interesting and worthwhile!"*

# 100%

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





## Long-term impact in Delaware, DC and Maryland

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

- TAT has been invited to speak at the Maryland Human Trafficking Investigators Seminar in Ocean City, MD, which includes human trafficking investigators from the Mid-Atlantic states.
- The Maryland Motor Truck Association sent out an email to all Education Council Members (CDL schools) immediately following the Coalition Build, reminding them of the new law and encouraging them to contact TAT for materials in order to be in compliance by Oct. 1.
- The President and CEO of the Maryland Motor Truck Association and the Assistant Attorney General will be joining TAT on the Dave Nemo Show in September to discuss the importance of the CB and its impact in Maryland.
- TAT connected the Maryland Public Service Commission with Uber to collaborate on ride-share human trafficking training available to drivers.
- The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration has invited TAT to the CDL Coordinators and IT Managers National Workshop next year in order to train all 51 CDL coordinators across the country.
- The Pennsylvania AG's office heard about the Mid-Atlantic CB from the MD AG's office and contacted TAT requesting to do one or two CBs in Pennsylvania in 2020.
- The DC AG's office was at the CB and requested to do one in DC in 2020.
- The Maryland Public Service Commission's Transportation Division will be sharing information on BOTL with intrastate motor coach companies, having their enforcement division sharing information when they go out to do inspections, and posting information on BOTL on their website. It will also help reach individual drivers in the state by making BOTL materials available in their lobby where people go to get their licenses.
- The Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) will be establishing a task force at the department level to include transit, communications, human resources, department of motor vehicles, legislative affairs, etc. for coordination, communication and sustainability purposes. They also plan to get the TAT State Agencies Webinar incorporated into its educational portal, which has other mandatory training modules and will reach all DelDOT employees.



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

- The Delaware Department of Motor Vehicles will now be adding TAT and BOTL wallet cards with all CDL issuance and renewals.
- The Delaware Department of Transportation will have investigators add TAT information while doing safety compliance meetings with trucking companies.
- By the end of the year, Delaware plans to be in full compliance of the Iowa MVE model.
- The Maryland Department of Education will continue sharing information about the BOTL training with school districts throughout the state and will be making introductions between BOTL and other stakeholders in school safety for additional training distribution opportunities.

***"I leave today feeling both **sad** at the realities of how prevalent this crime is, but also **hopeful** because I know exactly what my agency can do to combat it."***

***- Thomas Keane, Director, Office of Safety Programs,  
Federal Motor Carriers Safety Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation***

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MAKING THIS EVENT POSSIBLE!**

