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# VANTAGE POINT

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APRIL - JUNE, 2021  
TRUCKERS AGAINST TRAFFICKING





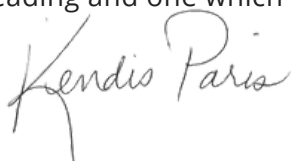
Dear TAT friends,

In this issue, we're examining partnerships from our vantage point. From the beginning, partnerships have been essential for TAT to achieve both our mission and goals. And we've worked hard to create them -- with industry, law enforcement, state and federal agencies, survivors, other anti-trafficking groups who align with our vision and strategy, funders and individuals.

We couldn't succeed at what we do without every one of these partnerships. They've stirred our creative juices, refined our ideas and perspectives, both expanded and focused our viewpoints, opened doors for us, guaranteed others would take a look at us with the idea of joining us in the fight against human trafficking, shared our story, supported us and taken a myriad of other actions, all of which have resulted in more people committed to the fight against human trafficking, with more lives saved and more perpetrators arrested.

For this second quarter of 2021, we're highlighting our new TAT Advisory Committee, a partnership we've dreamt of creating for years. These highly gifted people bring a wealth of experience, skills, expertise and networks to our work and leadership. They undoubtedly will enable us to have a greater impact and reach more people in the achievement of our mission and goals. We're also highlighting the results of an amazing collaborative effort in Missouri with roots in our Sedalia, Missouri Coalition Build. It included multiple representatives of law enforcement, industry, NGOs, agencies and organizations, and their actions recovered multiple survivors and brought to justice a group of perpetrators.

Additionally, we've zeroed in on a series of our Driving Freedom podcasts, which focus on a variety of factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking, and introduced our newest Board of Directors members. Remember to also check out the other second quarter highlights and opportunities we've included, as well as ways to engage. We hope you find this issue good reading and one which provides you much to ponder and, hopefully, actions to take.



Kendis Paris, Executive Director



*Kendis Paris is pictured above with the 2019 Everyday Heroes Truck. Stay tuned for information on our next Everyday Heroes Truck and how to bid on it later this year!*

# SHINING THE SPOTLIGHT

## CREATION OF TAT ADVISORY COMMITTEE EXPANDS EXPERTISE AND NETWORK OF EXISTING LEADERSHIP

Recognizing that targeted partnerships enhance an organization's ability to achieve goals in the most effective manner for sustainable and long-term impact, Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) has created the TAT Advisory Committee (TAC), comprised of thought leaders and resource activators with a variety of backgrounds. These individuals will broaden TAT's expertise in subjects such as marketing, creating strategic and long-lasting partnerships, diversity, equity and inclusion, global expansion opportunities, capacity building, impact reporting, advocacy and data-informed decision making.

These initial TAC members include:



**Courtney Sahara Baldwin, survivor-leader and advocate.** Determined to bring social change to issues, including human trafficking, Baldwin began her work in 2013 as a public speaker and advocate for her community, while living in a shelter. In January 2014, she received the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Youth Leadership Award for her work. Baldwin continued to work with various government agencies and non-profits, including the Department of Health and Human Services. Her responsibilities included emergency response to victims of human trafficking, drafting protocol response, county-wide trainings, including for schools and first responders, and bridging relationships between social workers and survivors. In 2016, she stepped down from her position to pursue academics. Her work through her college honor's program lead her to a national platform, and she was invited to present her research on African-American studies. She won first place at the National Collegiate Honor's Council Essay/Poster Contest and was honored among both undergrad and grad students. Baldwin continues to use her skills in various capacities to share the hopes of restoration and social change.



**Kristin M. Beck, senior vice president, Integrated Supply Chain & Logistics, at LafargeHolcim US.** A member of the US Cement Executive Committee, who reports directly to the CEO, Beck sits on the Waterways Council Board and National Waterways Foundation Board and is an active member in multiple industry associations. An accomplished visionary strategic leader, Beck successfully implemented an organization-wide transformation strategy, resulting in best-in-class financial and safety performance, operational excellence and cutting edge digitally innovative solutions. Beck previously served at Dow Chemical Company as director, North American Supply Chain & Logistics. She is a certified Six-Sigma Green Belt and holds certifications as QS/ ISO Quality Manager and Internal and External Auditor from the European Quality Association, as well as Apollo Root Cause Analysis from Effective Problem Solving, LLC.



**Doug Estrada, a 19-year career associate with Walmart Stores Inc., specifically in the Walmart Supply Chain.** With the Walmart Private Fleet, he oversees 15 different transportation distribution centers, with over 1700 drivers that support Walmart Stores and Clubs located in the Great Lakes and upper Midwest sections of the U.S. Estrada has over 30 years in supply chain experience, including general carrier management, as well as cross border operations along the Texas/Mexico border. Heavily involved in community relations, Estrada is also on the Board of Directors of the Washington DC Metro Police Foundation, with a focus on the improvement of inner-city youth in Washington DC.





**Eric Higgs, president and CEO of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Middle Tennessee (BGCMT).** He joined the Boys & Girls Clubs movement in the height of the pandemic in June 2020, accepting what he describes as a “calling” to do the work. As CEO, Higgs leads the organizational vision to double the youth served to 10,000 by 2026 and ensure 100 percent of members are ready for their great future by focusing on the 5 Ready’s – Ready to Read, Ready for Class, Ready to Graduate, Ready for a Career, and Ready to serve the Community. Prior to BGCMT, Higgs spent 26 years in corporate America, most recently with Bridgestone, where he served as vice president of Commercial Marketing, president of the Commercial Truck Division and SVP of Enterprise Marketing Operations. He also worked at Kimberly Clark, where he led the North America Kleenex business. He began his corporate career at Procter & Gamble, spending 18 years, first as a chemical engineer and then, after completing his MBA, moving to Marketing.



**Jana Pfeiffer (Dine'), a citizen from the Navajo Nation in Cahone Mesa, Utah.** Pfeiffer is currently the task force coordinator for the New Mexico Human Trafficking Task Force, housed in the New Mexico Office of the Attorney General -- Human Trafficking Unit. She is passionate about discussing issues of violence in tribal communities and strives for advocacy and protection of Native women against human trafficking.



**Kellylynn McLaughlin, the Women In Trucking Association's first Driver Ambassador.** In this role, she travels the country educating those she meets about the importance of the transportation industry, sharing some of the challenges drivers face within the industry. McLaughlin is a professional OTR driver and training engineer for Schneider. She has a strong social media presence, where she shares her experiences on the road, the joys and advantages of being a professional truck driver and gives tips to help other drivers. She is passionate about the trucking industry and is a tireless advocate for professional drivers. In addition to training new drivers to prepare them for the challenges they will face, she is also actively involved in sharing the “driver” perspective with decision makers in the industry. McLaughlin serves on the FMCSA MCSAC Commercial Driver Panel and was a finalist for the 2019 WIT Influential Woman in Trucking Award. She currently serves as a member of both the Central & North Texas Freight Advisory Committee and the North American Strategy for Competitiveness (NASCO).



**Anthony M. Maez, a certified/commissioned 33-year law enforcement veteran and the special agent in charge with the Office of the New Mexico Attorney General.** Maez serves as the commander of the New Mexico Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force and Human Trafficking Task Force. He is a national trainer/lecturer on violent crime investigations, human trafficking and mental wellness for law enforcement.





**Candice Shaw, PhD, executive director of the Ottawa Rape Crisis Centre (ORCC).** Shaw leads ORCC's work to be responsive to its diverse community needs and remain survivor-led and trauma-informed. The pursuit of gender justice and unpacking what it means to be truly intersectional have been the driving force behind both her academic and professional career and will continue to inform the work she undertakes in this role. While completing her PhD degree, Shaw worked with an Indigenous community in Mexico, who experienced land dispossession, and who used gendered adaptation strategies as a means to mitigate the challenges adjusting to a new life in Mexico's north. Until recently, she served as director of Violence Prevention & the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People (MMIWG2S+) at the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC). As part of this work, she sat at the federal tables to advocate for Indigenous women and 2S people for the MMIWG2S+ National Action Plan, as well as the Gender-Based Violence National Action Plan.



**Harneet Sihota, the director of Human Resources for Kam-Way Transportation, Inc.** Sihota has served in various capacities within the organization, but dedicated her expertise to building the Human Resources department for the past 10 years. Beginning as a department of one, she has successfully grown Human Resources into a structured team, which serves the organization by balancing big picture thinking with strategic planning, strong business acumen and achieving the organization's objectives. She has been an active board member of the Mt. Baker Chapter of the Society of Human Resources Management, serving the local HR community since 2012.



**Arian Taylor, professional OTR truck driver.** Born and raised in Lexington, Kentucky, Taylor served four years with the United States Marine Corps in the first Gulf War upon graduation from high school. After returning home, he worked in restaurants before finding his calling to become an OTR truck driver. He has traveled across the continental U.S. and Canada for 20 years delivering product. After joining the team at Ballard, Inc. seven years ago, Taylor became TAT trained. In 2018, that training gave him the tools he needed when faced with the need to help a young girl far from home and in danger of being trafficked. He was able to work with the National Human Trafficking Hotline to safely return this young girl home. In doing so, Taylor was awarded the TAT Harriet Tubman Award in May 2018 and received a Citation of Appreciation from the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Kentucky in September of that year. Since then, he shares his story to help educate others on the tragic reality of human trafficking and the role we can all play in preventing and stopping it.

# SHINING THE SPOTLIGHT COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS YIELD SIGNIFICANT RESULTS IN MISSOURI

Sgt. Daniel Nash of the Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) reported that during COVID, with the closure of casinos and some hotels and other hotels ramping up security and only letting in registered guests, truck stops became an even more significant funnel point for human trafficking activities.

As a result of TAT's Sedalia, Missouri Coalition Build in 2019, the MSHP and the Missouri Attorney General's Office Human Trafficking Task Force built a solid partnership with truck stops in the state, as did some of the local police departments who attended the event. Subsequently, departments like the Oak Grove Police Department began working more closely with their local truck stops and providing extra patrol.

On one such occasion at the Petro truck stop, Oak Grove Police made contact with a female that they recognized may be a trafficking victim. The police department called the MSHP for assistance. While the victim didn't cooperate, officers did identify the possible trafficker. A few weeks later, after Oak Grove had a similar incident at another truck stop, they asked the MSHP and the Missouri Attorney General's Office Human Trafficking Task Force to conduct a proactive operation. Both truck stops were completely supportive and offered their assistance. Beside MSHP, this operation included: AGO, FBI, IRS, HSI, U.S. Marshal's, Johnson Co. SO, Jackson Co. SO, KCPD, St. Joseph PD, Independence PD, Oak Grove PD, MIAC, Kansas Highway Patrol, RISE Coalition and Central MO HT Coalition. **Ten victims, two of which had potentially life-threatening medical conditions, were contacted, and all accepted services. Three children under five years old were taken into custody. Three arrests were made that night and one later.** This created a deterrence effect as seen by online chatter.

Upon completion of the successful Oak Grove operation, St. Joseph PD contacted the MSHP and the Missouri Attorney General's Office Human Trafficking Task Force and advised they were having increased issues with truck stops in their city. They asked for assistance with a similar operation in St. Joseph. That operation involved the MSHP and AGO, FBI, U.S. Marshal, Johnson Co. SO, Buchanan Co. SO, KCPD, St. Joseph PD, MIAC, Probation and Parole, Department of Corrections, RISE Coalition, Relentless Pursuit and YWCA St. Joseph. **Eight victims were contacted, and all accepted services. Two children under three years old were secured and provided services. Three arrests were made that night and one additional arrest is pending.** This created a deterrence effect due to media coverage. The Attorney General was present and very supportive of the operations.

# 18

victims received  
services



# 5

children under 5  
taken into custody



# 7

arrests made



# 16

agencies worked  
together

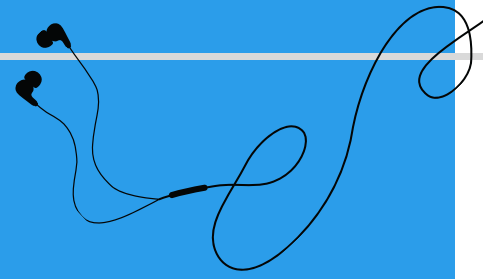


*Sgt. Nash said, "To me, the takeaway from this is that in Missouri, we are all part of a team. The truck stops, law enforcement, agencies of all sizes, TAT and the human trafficking task force. When we all work together, we can make a difference in locating and rescuing victims and identifying and arresting traffickers. TAT did and does continue to play an important role in this team, and we appreciate your work and effort to partner with us. While we all agree that training is the foundation of all of this, we also believe you have to get out there and do the work, get the boots on the ground, get down and dirty, collect statistics or put-up posters. So that's why we work so hard on these types of operations; because without them, law enforcement is far less effective."*





# DRIVING FREEDOM PODCAST



## SERIES ON VULNERABILITIES EXPLORES THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Vulnerabilities are life circumstances or factors that both lead to and/or keep populations stuck in trafficking. To educate on what some of these are and how to prevent further exploitation of those vulnerable populations, the Driving Freedom podcast has just completed a series on vulnerabilities. These include:



### VULNERABILITIES TO TRAFFICKING: RACISM

*Dr. Nissi Hamilton, CEO of A Survivor's Voice of Victory, shares with us about racism and the systems it has created, which lead to vulnerabilities with African Americans, Latinx, Indigenous and Asian women and girls that make them targets of traffickers. She shares about the power dynamics at play between a buyer and a victim of sex trafficking, her experience as a black woman survivor of human trafficking and what companies and individuals can do to combat racism and human trafficking.*

### HOW TO RECOGNIZE GROOMING WITH THE NJ COALITION AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

*Danny Papa with the New Jersey Coalition Against Human Trafficking discusses how you can recognize and stop grooming from leading to trafficking. Learn the role a school bus driver can play and how you, as a truck driver, community member, or local advocate, can best equip your local schools to recognize and stop trafficking as well.*

### VULNERABILITIES TO TRAFFICKING: HOMELESSNESS WITH THE NATIONAL NETWORK FOR YOUTH

*Unlike adults without consistent housing, youth are often pushed into homelessness directly, because of an already traumatic situation — whether that is violence in the home or rejection by their family. Fresh off one traumatic situation, they are then targets of traffickers seeking to exploit the vulnerabilities that seem to grow exponentially overnight. Darla Bardine, the executive director of the National Network for Youth, shares the barriers youth experiencing homelessness have to finding secure housing and to leaving sex trafficking.*

### VULNERABILITIES TO TRAFFICKING: LGBTQ2IA+

*Forty percent of homeless youth identify as LGBTQ+, and 46 percent of them ran away due to family rejection. LGBTQ+ youth are 7.4 times more likely to experience acts of sexual violence than their non-LGBTQ+ peers. And providers for youth report that many LGBTQ+ youth prefer to engage in sexual acts in exchange for a place to stay rather than risk experiencing the abuse and potential violence they sometimes face in youth shelters and foster care. Wade Arvizu, an anti-trafficking subject matter expert, author and speaker about the realities faced by people in the queer community, talks about these issues and how we can each take action.*

### VULNERABILITIES TO TRAFFICKING: FOSTER CARE

*Anti-sex trafficking programs and organizations across the U.S. report that survivors on their caseload are overrepresented by youth or young adults from the foster-care system. Josie Feemster, a survivor advocate who's worked with survivors who've been in the foster-care system, instructs how trafficking and foster care overlap and what we in the trucking and transportation industries can do about it.*

### VULNERABILITIES TO TRAFFICKING: IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

*Kristyn Peck, the CEO of Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area, shares her insights into the intersection between human trafficking and migration. From the exploitation of domestic workers, to a teenager lured by the promise of romance, to construction workers trapped in debt bondage, this episode discusses the stories of survivors and examples of how traffickers use their migrant victims' vulnerabilities as methods of both recruitment and control.*

## OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Subscribe to Driving Freedom podcasts.** Tell your friends. Post on social media.
- **Get Involved** – Visit our [website page](#) for actions you can take, whether you're a company, professional driver, OEM, state trucking association, shipper, truck stop/travel plaza employee or member of the general public.



# NEW BOARD MEMBERS

*TAT's Board of Directors has elected and welcomed three new members: Chief Tommie J. Reese Sr., state law enforcement coordinator, Alabama Attorney General's Office; Lou Riviuccio, Corporate Transportation president, UPS; and Antoine Sadler, transportation professional, Walmart Transportation.*



Chief Tommie J. Reese Sr., the state law enforcement coordinator for the Alabama Attorney General's Office, began his law enforcement career with the Alabama Department of Public Safety in 1985. Two years later, he joined the Demopolis Police Department as a patrolman. From 1991-2009, he served in the Marengo County Sheriff's Office as a deputy sheriff, chief deputy sheriff and assistant sheriff. He was appointed chief of police for the City of Demopolis in early 2009. In December 2017, he was appointed as the public safety director, expanding his oversight to include both the Demopolis police and fire departments. He assumed his current position in December 2018.

Chief Reese is a graduate of the distinguished FBI National Academy Session 210th Quantico, VA., and SLEDS. He has been recognized as a Certified Chief of Police by the Alabama Association of Chiefs of Police and as a Certified Law Enforcement Executive by the Alabama Peace Officers' Standards and Training Commission. He served two elected terms as the president of the Alabama Association of Chiefs of Police and has served as the president of the Alabama Peace Officers Association. He was recently appointed to the Board of Directors for the International Association of Chiefs of Police and has been serving as the Board Chairman for the Marengo County E-911 Communications System since 2011.



Lou Riviuccio, Corporate Transportation president, is responsible for overseeing UPS Transportation Operations for the U.S., comprised of 125,000 employees. Prior to his current role, which he assumed this year, Riviuccio served as president of UPS Europe, where he was based in Brussels, led more than 49,000 employees and was responsible for all UPS business and operations in nearly 60 countries and territories across Europe, including small-package delivery, freight forwarding, and logistics and distribution. Europe is UPS's largest non-U.S. region, accounting for approximately half of the company's international revenue. Under his leadership, the Europe Region delivered record margins and profit.

A native of New York, Riviuccio joined UPS in 1984 as a part-time employee in package operations. He then went on to hold a series of operations and management positions in North America before becoming president of UPS Europe in 2018. These included vice president of operations for UPS Canada, president of the Northern Plains District, president of the Ohio Valley District and president of the UPS East Region. As president of the UPS East Region, he provided strategic direction for approximately 175,000 employees in 26 states.



Antoine Sadler has been a transportation professional for almost 30 years. For the past 17 years, he has driven for Walmart Transportation, where he is also a member of the elite Walmart Road Team. As part of his Walmart duties, he is a driver trainer, driver mentor, a member of the safety team and is TAT certified. Additionally, Sadler is a member of the North Carolina Road Team and the North Carolina Trucking Association. Civic-minded, Sadler works with organizations including Samaritan's Feet, schools in Cleveland County and Gaston County, City of Kings Mountain and Truckers Against Trafficking. He has been featured in several videos, including a human trafficking documentary in Texas called Be the One.



# ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

## SHIPPING PARTNERS PROGRAM (SPP)

TAT's SPP encourages shippers and manufacturers to engage their carriers to become TAT Trained and join the fight against human trafficking. The SPP relationships built in the first half of 2021 have resulted in 528 carriers working to become TAT trained. Working with TAT helps our shipping partners achieve the United Nation's sustainable development goals of gender equality; decent work and economic growth; and peace, justice and strong institutions.



## BUSING ON THE LOOKOUT (BOTL)

**31,423+  
TRAINED**

In the first five months of 2021, BOTL registered an additional 31,423 members of the bus industry as trained for a total of 149,064.

## INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM

Allied Universal, the largest private security company in the world, will be providing TAT's training for law enforcement to more than 300,000 security professionals in the United States and Canada, as well as BOTL training to its employees working in transit security and the Empower Freedom training to those working in the energy industry.



## CANADA

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation is now implementing two components of the Canadian Commercial Vehicle Enforcement (CVE) model, including training CVE officers with TAT's law enforcement training DVD and stocking truck inspection stations and ports of entry with TAT materials.

## COALITION BUILDS

As a direct result of the Mississippi Attorney General's participation in the Biloxi Coalition Build in 2020, the Mississippi Attorney General's office is launching a two-phased statewide anti-trafficking training initiative this quarter. The first phase will reach all CDL holders with TAT and BOTL training materials. The second phase will do targeted outreach with school transportation providers, casinos and transit. It may also include a transit-focused public awareness campaign.



Law enforcement officers listen as TAT Training Specialist and Survivor-Advocate Annika Huff presents in Kansas.

## KANSAS HIGHWAY PATROL

On the road again providing law enforcement trainings, TAT Deputy Director Kylla Lanier and Training Specialist and Survivor-Leader Annika Huff co-taught two four-hour trainings in Salina, Kansas in June to 35 officers from the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP), one officer from the Finney County Sheriff's Office and another from the Miami County Sheriff's Office. Kansas has already achieved full implementation of TAT's Iowa MVE model, but as a result of the trainings, the relationship between TAT and KHP is stronger, with troopers committing to visit truck stops and bus terminals in their area with TAT materials. One officer commented, "Thank you very much for your time and passion in the issues of human/sex trafficking. Like I said during one of our breaks, your team held the attention of an all-male audience of law enforcement officers, which can be hard to do some times. Well done. The information presented kept me engaged the entire time. Next thing I knew you were telling us to fill out your survey and turn them in."



# TAT SPONSORS

While TAT is extremely thankful to all of our supporters, we want to give special recognition to our North Star, Freedom Driver, Diamond, Platinum and Gold sponsors.

## NORTH STAR



## FREEDOM DRIVER



## DIAMOND



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## PLATINUM



## GOLD

