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Human trafficking in the news

“Everyday Heroes” Kenworth T680 Next Gen sold to Freestyle Transport, net proceeds of \$260,000 going to TAT

The “Everyday Heroes” Kenworth T680 Next Generation was auctioned recently at Ritchie Bros. in Perris, California. The winning bid submitted by Serg Kodryanu, CEO of Freestyle Transport, resulted in \$260,000 in support for Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT). The 501(c)3 non-profit is dedicated to stopping human trafficking by educating, mobilizing, and empowering the nation’s truck drivers and rest stop employees.

The facts of, the myths about and the solutions for child trafficking

The prosecution rested its case last week in the trial of Ghislaine Maxwell, the New York socialite and alleged accomplice of billionaire financier Jeffrey Epstein. She's facing six charges for her alleged role in Epstein's trafficking of underage girls. Advocates for survivors of child sex trafficking say the Maxwell case is unique. They argue it's more common for law enforcement to target trafficking survivors than their abusers.

SunLine Transit partners with valley nonprofits to combat human trafficking

It’s so impressive when valley resources come together for the good. Such is the case with several local agencies. SunLine Transit has recently partnered with numerous valley nonprofits, including The Barbara Sinatra Children's Center (BSCC) to launch a human trafficking awareness campaign. It’s a crucial new initiative.

[Click here to read these articles on our website](#)

Everyday Heroes Truck auction provides TAT largest donation ever

The winning bid of \$260,000 for the Everyday Heroes Truck by Serg Kodryanu, CEO of Freestyle Transport, at the Ritchie Bros. December online auction, coupled with an additional \$68,000 in donations from industry suppliers and trucking companies, has netted TAT its largest donation ever.

"Truckers Against Trafficking is an incredible organization that is utilizing our industry to help victims of human trafficking. After I learned the numbers of how many victims have been affected by human traffickers, I immediately felt it in my heart to make it our company's mission to support such a great and noble cause as TAT and its mission to stop this terrible crime," said Kodryanu. "With drivers and other members of our industry spread throughout North America, we have a great opportunity to identify and report suspicious activity and help potential human trafficking victims. Our new Everyday Heroes truck will help us spread awareness of human trafficking to other drivers and communities across the country."



(L to R): Don Blake and BJ and the Bear star Greg Evian take a glamour shot with the Everyday Heroes truck.



Freestyle Transport is a Vancouver, Washington-based company specializing in delivering refrigerated and dry van freight throughout the lower 48 states. According to Edward Little, who is TAT trained and Freestyle Transport's president, the company is in the process of getting all its executives, staff, drivers and volunteers TAT trained and looks forward to increasing awareness about the crime of human trafficking through its new Everyday Heroes Kenworth T680 Next Gen.

"I've been a long-time supporter of Truckers Against Trafficking and its mission to educate members of our industry to identify potential cases of human trafficking,"

said Little. "As a former driver, I saw firsthand the opportunities our industry has to help human trafficking victims. We're thrilled to have purchased the Everyday Heroes truck and help support such a great organization."

Kendis Paris, TAT executive director, recalling the auctions of previous Everyday Heroes trucks, said the \$328,000 TAT received between the Everyday Heroes truck sale and additional donations far surpassed the 2019 and 2017 Everyday Heroes donations. "We are so grateful to have Serg Kodryanu and Freestyle Transport submit the winning bid. We appreciate Serg's generous purchase and support, which will help us fund our programs. The Everyday Heroes Kenworth T680 Next Gen will serve as a great addition to his fleet."

"The Everyday Heroes Kenworth T680 Next Gen auction was a fantastic success, thanks to Freestyle Transport and our incredible sponsors, who generously donated parts and money to build this special truck," said Don Blake, new truck sales manager at Inland Kenworth – Phoenix, TAT board member, and driving force behind this year's auction. "Our goal was to build off the success from the previous two Everyday Heroes Kenworth trucks sold at auction by generating a larger donation to TAT than ever before. We were able to do just that, thanks to heightened interest in the new Kenworth T680 Next Gen and Greg Evigan's (BJ and the Bear star) involvement in promoting TAT and this auction."

To make the Everyday Heroes Kenworth T680 Next Gen truck possible, Kenworth Truck Company, Inland Kenworth, and other leading companies and organizations in the trucking industry provided significant support. Other sponsors include: Alcoa, Arizona Trucking Association, Chevron, Davco, East Penn Batteries, Eaton Corporation, FlowBelow, GraMag, Horton, Independent Carrier Safety Association, Jost Fifth Wheel, Knight-Swift Transportation, Meritor, PACCAR Financial, PACCAR

Parts, Pana-Pacific, PrePass, Ritchie Bros., Southwest Truck Driver Training, Tectran, The Vomela Transportation Group, Trimble, Utility Trailer Sales Company of Arizona, and WABCO.



More targeted resources move Mexico's anti-trafficking work forward

Editor's note: In December 2020, members of the US Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), the Secretary of Communications and Transportation (SCT -- Mexico's DOT), Consejo Ciudadano (Mexican NGO that runs the National Human Trafficking Hotline), El Pozo de Vida (Mexican anti-trafficking NGO), and Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) began meeting to formulate a plan to create and distribute anti-trafficking curriculum for members of the trucking and bus industries in Mexico.

The team identified the need to enhance the current training materials (a 12-minute video and tri-fold wallet card) of Guardianes del Asfalto, the Consejo program specifically addressing commercial drivers, by adding industry-specific indicators of trafficking. So, in the second quarter of 2021, Mexican team members interviewed Mexican professional drivers to assess their knowledge of human trafficking, if they had seen any of it, and if so, where and how.

The survey yielded a list of industry-specific trafficking indicators, which were added to training resources in addition to more commercial vehicle imagery and a more tailored message.

Initial distribution of the tri-fold cards and DVDs will be through the SCT's commercial vehicle inspectors, as well as the many national trucking associations in Mexico like CANACAR and CANAPAT. The six national associations boast a membership of 80 percent of the Mexican trucking industry. In March, the SCT will have 30,000 wallet cards distributed throughout the nation to SCT offices, as well as to the 400 trucking inspectors for distribution to truck drivers and possibly some trucking companies, as part of their participation with the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance's first annual Human Trafficking Awareness Initiative. That initiative has events planned in January and February in the United States and Canada, respectively. This wallet card distribution will be Mexico's "event."

On the private side, El Pozo de Vida and Consejo Ciudadano will each have one employee dedicate five hours a week to direct outreach to the Mexican trucking industry (total 10 hours weekly).

Señales de sospecha

- Niños, niños y adolescentes ofreciendo servicios sexuales. ¡Eso siempre es Trata de Personas! no existe la prostitución infantil
- Niños, niños y adolescentes que trabajan en condiciones inseguras e insalubres, en jornadas muy extensas o en altas horas de la noche.
- Personas menores de 18 años de edad que viajan solas o con alguien que no parece ser un familiar cercano.
- Personas que vigilan, cuidan y/o trasladan a otras.
- Personas extranjeras o de otras regiones ofreciendo servicios sexuales
- Signos visibles de maltrato y desnutrición
- Personas que se muestran muy nerviosas o temerosas

Si observas alguna situación sospechosa, marca. No tienes que estar completamente seguro de que es un caso de Trata. Si existe alguna situación que te haga sospechar, **LLAMA o ESCRIBE** y uno de nuestros especialistas te apoyará.

LÍNEA Y WHATSAPP NACIONAL CONTRA LA TRATA DE PERSONAS

800 5533 000

IF YOU ARE IN THE USA, MAKE THE CALL. SAVE LIVES. 1-888-3737-888

COMUNICACIONES

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lineanacionalvstrata@consejociudadanomx.org

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Tú que conoces el camino, ¡PROTÉGELES!

¿Qué es la Trata de Personas?

Es el delito en el cual una persona sin distinción de sexo y/o edad puede ser captada, trasladada o alojada a través de cualquier medio con fines de explotación, la cual puede ser sexual, laboral, mendicidad, entre otras.

¿Dónde puede suceder la Trata de Personas?

Puede suceder en cualquier lugar, incluso:

- En casetas
- Cachimbas
- Gasolineras
- Paradas de autobuses
- Sitios de descanso

¿Qué hacer en caso de sospecha?

Sin ponerte en riesgo de ninguna forma, toma nota de los siguientes puntos:

- Características de la víctima (sexo, edad aproximada, vestimenta, forma de actuar)
- Ubicación (lo más exacta posible)
- Descripción detallada de la situación que te parezca sospechosa
- De existir autos, apunta el color, placas, marca

Add National Human Trafficking Awareness Month activities to your calendar

If you haven't added an anti-trafficking educational or awareness event to your January calendar, there's still time. National Human Trafficking Awareness Month (NHTAM) is a specific time set aside by presidential proclamation for everyone to educate themselves about human trafficking and how to spot the signs of trafficking. It's also a time to spread that education to workplaces, churches, schools, government leaders and elsewhere. And January is that month each year.

Check out the calendar at the end of this newsletter to see some of the activities in which TAT staff are engaged. One that's of particular note is the webinar hosted by the American Trucking Associations and TAT on Jan. 11 at 2 p.m. EST. The webinar will discuss how professional drivers can work to combat the serious issue of human trafficking, featuring firsthand perspectives from a survivor and a professional driver. It will serve as a helpful training opportunity for anyone in the trucking industry. The webinar is complimentary and open to the public. Register by [clicking here](#).

Webinar content will consist of Elisabeth Barna, executive vice president of Industry Affairs and senior advisor to the President and CEO for the ATA, moderating a panel consisting of Kendis Paris, TAT executive director; Liz Williamson, TAT training specialist and a survivor-leader; and Antoine Sadler, TAT Board member and professional driver for Walmart Transportation.

AMERICAN TRUCKING ASSOCIATIONS

WEBINAR

(((PROGRAM)))

Trafficking victims can and do come from all racial and ethnic groups. In an analysis of posts on Backpage.com (now shutdown), 50 percent of individuals sold online for sex in Nebraska were Black women, though Black people are only 5 percent of the state's population. The more we know about what human trafficking really looks like, the better we'll be able to recognize a victim and make the call. Race does play a role.

Source: Women's Fund of Omaha

The more we know about what human trafficking really looks like, the better we'll be able to recognize a victim and make the call.



<https://www.omahawomensfund.org/nebraskas-commercial-sex-market/>

January 2022 Calendar of Events

Jan. 6 – ContainerPort Group Employee Training webinar, Laura Cyrus, TAT Corporate Engagement director, presenting

Jan. 7 – National Bus Traffic Association annual meeting, Grapevine, TX, Annie Sovcik, BOTL director, presenting

Jan. 11 – New Mexico Empower Freedom Coalition Build with FDP, Carlsbad, NM, Ashley Smith, TAT Energy Operations director, Esther Goetsch, Strategic Partnerships director, and Kelley Alsobrook, survivor-leader, presenting and Susan Dold, TAT systems administrator, attending

Jan. 11 – American Bus Association/Bus Safety Council annual meeting, Grapevine, TX, Annie Sovcik, BOTL director, presenting

Jan. 11 – ATA/TAT National Human Trafficking Awareness Month (NHTAM) webinar, Kendis Paris, TAT executive director, Liz Williamson, TAT training specialist and survivor leader, and Antoine Sadler, TAT Board member and professional driver, presenting

Jan. 11 – Oregon Trucking Association webinar, Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director, presenting

Jan. 12 – TopHAT Logistical Solutions Knowledge Booster webinar, Laura Cyrus, TAT Corporate Engagement director, presenting

Jan. 13 – Oklahoma Trucking Association Conference, virtual, Louie Greek, Coalition Build specialist, presenting

Jan. 13 – Marathon Oil Lunch & Learn, Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director, and Ashley Smith, TAT Energy Operations director, presenting

Jan. 14 – Gang Intelligence and Supervision Conference, Galveston, TX, Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director, and Kelley Alsobrook, survivor-leader, presenting

Jan. 14 – Transfix Lunch & Learn NHTAM webinar, Laura Cyrus, TAT Corporate Engagement director, presenting

Jan. 19 – American Public Transportation Association/Busing on the Lookout Human Trafficking Awareness Webinar, Annie Sovcik, BOTL director, presenting

Jan. 19 – Mode Transportation Lunch & Learn webinar, Laura Cyrus, TAT Corporate Engagement director, presenting

Jan. 19 – FDP at Ryder Headquarters, Miami, FL, Brandy Belton, FDP director, and Susan Dold, TAT systems administrator, attending

Jan. 19 – Phillips 66 NHTAM presentation, Houston, TX, Ashley Smith, TAT Energy Operations director

Jan. 19 – Bridgestone DEI live event, Kendis Paris, TAT executive director, and Liz Williamson, TAT training specialist and survivor-leader, presenting

Jan. 20-21 – California Trucking Association conference, Las Vegas, NV, Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director, presenting

Jan. 25 – Las Vegas Human Trafficking Briefing (virtual), Annie Sovcik, BOTL director, presenting and FDP virtual tour



Jan. 25-27 – Kansas Safe and Supportive Schools virtual conference, Lexi Higgins, BOTL program specialist, presenting
 Jan. 25 – Soroptimist International of Trenton and Downriver Area, Wyandotte, MI, Laura Cyrus, TAT Corporate Engagement director, presenting
 Jan. 26 – HIDTA law enforcement training, Chicago, IL, Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director, and Kelley Alsobrook, survivor-leader, presenting
 Jan. 26 – Holcim webinar, Laura Cyrus, TAT Corporate Engagement director, and Lexi Higgins, BOTL program specialist, presenting
 Jan. 26 – Human Trafficking Rescue Alliance Houston virtual meeting, Louie Greek, Coalition Build specialist, presenting
 Jan. 26 – Allied Universal Security: Shedding Light on Human Trafficking Webinar, Annie Sovcik, BOTL director, presenting
 Jan. 28 – Wisconsin Motor Carriers Association Road Team Training, Laura Cyrus, TAT Corporate Engagement director, presenting

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