

TALKING POINTS

L.A. REGIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE “OPERATION RECLAIM AND REBUILD, 2020” NEWS CONFERENCE

10:00 A.M., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2020
HALL OF JUSTICE

NOTE:

- ONE REP FROM EACH AGENCY TO FILE IN BEHIND CAPTAIN HANNEMANN AT LECTERN
- CAPTAIN HANNEMANN BEGINS PRESS CONFERENCE
- CAPTAIN HANNEMANN INTRODUCES THE SHERIFF
- SHERIFF SPEAKS IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH
- SHERIFF INTRODUCES CEO KAY BUCK, WHO SPEAKS
- SHERIFF FIELDS QUESTIONS FROM MEDIA
- GROUP PHOTO AND ONE-ON-ONE INTERVIEWS

OPERATION RECLAIM AND REBUILD

(CAPTAIN HANNEMANN READS NAMES OF PRESENT HEADS OF AGENCIES
THEN INTRODUCES THE SHERIFF)

SHERIFF VILLANUEVA:

- EACH JANUARY,
 - THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT,
 - THE LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND
 - THE LOS ANGELES REGIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE...

- ...COORDINATE WITH:
 - HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCES,
 - LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, AND
 - VICTIM SERVICE PROVIDERS STATEWIDE.

- OUR FOCUS IS TO RECLAIM OR RESCUE HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS AND CONNECT THEM WITH VICTIM SERVICE PROVIDERS.

- OUR GOAL IS TO HELP THEM TO REBUILD THEIR LIVES.

- LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES FROM ACROSS THE STATE JOINED US TO SEND A MESSAGE TO
 - PIMPS,
 - EXPLOITERS, AND
 - BUYERS...

- ...THAT IT IS **UNACCEPTABLE** TO BUY ANOTHER HUMAN BEING FOR SEXUAL PURPOSES.

- WORKING ALONGSIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT,
 - SOCIAL WORKERS,
 - VICTIM ADVOCATES, AND
 - VICTIM SERVICE PROVIDERS...

- ...ACTIVELY WORKED TO
 - REACH TRAFFICKING VICTIMS,
 - RESCUE THEM FROM THEIR CAPTORS, AND
 - PUT THEM ON A PATH TO A BRIGHTER FUTURE.

- OUR 2020 OPERATION YIELDED SIGNIFICANT RESULTS:

- **76** ADULTS WERE RESCUED,
 - **11** CHILDREN WERE RESCUED,
 - **27** SUSPECTED TRAFFICKERS AND EXPLOITERS WERE ARRESTED, AND
 - **266** “JOHNS” WERE ARRESTED.
- IN TOTAL, **518** CRIMINAL ARRESTS WERE MADE DURING THE WEEK-LONG OPERATION.

STORIES:

- FROM THROUGHOUT THE STATE, AGENCIES SHARED DRAMATIC STORIES OF...
- ...VICTIM RESCUES AND EXPLOITER ARRESTS.
- I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE ONE OF THE ENCOUNTERS, TO HIGHLIGHT...
- ...THE INCREDIBLE WORK ACCOMPLISHED BY THE DEDICATED MEN AND WOMEN WHO FIGHT TRAFFICKING EVERY DAY:

CASE 1:

- THE SANTA CLARA HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE CONDUCTED A RESCUE OPERATION AT A HOTEL IN SUNNYVALE...
- ...DURING WHICH, DETECTIVES COMMUNICATED WITH A COMMERCIAL SEX WORKER AND ARRANGED A MEETING WITH HER.
- WHEN A MALE ADULT ARRIVED AND DROPPED OFF THE WOMAN FOR THE ARRANGED “DATE,” BOTH WERE DETAINED.
- THE WOMAN EXPLAINED THAT SHE WAS IN FEAR OF THE SUSPECT AND WANTED TO RETURN TO HER HOME IN OREGON.

- DETECTIVES LEARNED THERE WERE TWO OTHER WOMEN UNDER THE MALE'S CONTROL.
- THEY RECOVERED THE OTHER WOMEN AND LEARNED ALL THREE HAD BEEN TRAFFICKED IN AREAS FROM...
- ...RENO, NEVADA, TO THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY-AREA OF CALIFORNIA.
- DETECTIVES ALSO LEARNED ALL THREE WOMEN WERE ADDICTED TO HEROIN.
- IT APPEARED THE MALE TARGETED THEM BECAUSE OF THEIR ADDICTION...
- ...AND HE KEPT A LARGE AMOUNT OF "NARCAN" ON HAND, IN CASE OF AN OVERDOSE.
- THE MAN, WHO HAD JUST BEEN DISCHARGED OFF OF PAROLE FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING...
- ...WAS ARRESTED ON FELONY HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND PIMPING CHARGES.
- THE THREE WOMEN, WHO WERE ALL ADULTS, WERE CONNECTED WITH ADVOCATES.
- TWO OF THE THREE ACCEPTED SERVICES.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH:

- OPERATION RECLAIM AND REBUILD WAS SPECIFICALLY TIMED FOR JANUARY, WHICH IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH.
- THE MESSAGE?

- TO THE TRAFFICKERS: DON'T DO BUSINESS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY OR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.
- WE WILL FIND YOU AND PROSECUTE YOU TO THE FULLEST EXTENT OF THE LAW.
- TO THE JOHNS: PURCHASING COMMERCIAL SEX IS ILLEGAL ADDS TO THE EXPLOITATION OF THOSE INVOLVED.
- TO THE VICTIMS: **YOU** ARE THE FOCUS OF THIS ENDEAVOR.
- WE ARE **HERE** FOR YOU.
- THIS OPERATION IS TO HELP YOU **RECLAIM** YOUR FREEDOM FROM THE BINDS OF SEX TRAFFICKING...
- ...AND TO PROVIDE THE SUPPORT AND TOOLS TO **REBUILD** YOUR LIVES.

INTRODUCTION TO KAY BUCK:

- WE CLEARLY RECOGNIZE THAT, WITHOUT THE EXPERTISE AND COMMITMENT OF OUR DEDICATED PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDERS...
- ...THE VICTIMS IN THESE CASES WOULD FACE INSURMOUNTABLE CHALLENGES IN RECLAIMING AND REBUILDING THEIR LIVES.
- I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE KAY BUCK, CEO AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COALITION TO ABOLISH SLAVERY AND TRAFFICKING, ALSO KNOWN AS C.A.S.T.

(WHEN KAY BUCK FINISHES, SHERIFF FIELDS MEDIA QUESTIONS)