

COUNTY OF FRESNO

Lisa A. Smittcamp District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 2, 2018

JANUARY IS NATIONAL SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH

The Fresno County District Attorney's Office is asking the residents of Fresno County to take a stand against Slavery and Human Trafficking in January.

January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, also known as **National Human Trafficking Awareness Month**. The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA) defines human trafficking as, "[t]he recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for:

- Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is inducted by force, fraud, and coercion, or in which the person inducted to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age; or,
- Labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, and coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery."

Human trafficking is a widespread form of modern-day slavery, and is a crime that involves the exploitation of a person for the purpose of compelled labor or a commercial sex act through the use of force, fraud, or coercion. Human traffickers target all populations around the world and in our own neighborhoods. Some groups, such as runaway and homeless youth, native individuals, domestic violence victims, and the LGBTQ population are particularly vulnerable to human trafficking.

We encourage you to join us throughout the month of January and come together as a community to raise awareness of human trafficking and combine our efforts to prevent it at the following events:

Proclamation by the City of Clovis January 8, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Clovis City Hall, 1033 5th St., Clovis



Proclamation by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors January 9, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. Hall of Records, 2281 Tulare St., Fresno



Pledge to Stop Trafficking January 11, 2018

Various locations in Fresno For more info email <u>info@justiceco.org</u>



Fresno Resource Fair at the Healthy Neighborhood Market January 25, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. Catholic Charities Healthy Neighborhood Market 149 N. Fulton St., Fresno



Proclamation by the City of Fresno January 25, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. Fresno City Hall, 2600 Fresno St., Fresno



Human Trafficking 101 Course January 30, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Crosspoint Church, 2518 N. Cedar Ave., Fresno



The Media may email <u>FCDAMedia@co.fresno.ca.us</u> or contact Administrative Assistant Leslie Gillespie at (559) 600-4442 with questions.

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