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## Human Trafficking Commission Meeting Agenda

150 E. Gay St., 18<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
October 10, 2012  
2pm – 4pm

### In Attendance:

Melinda Sykes, AGO  
Veronica Paulson, AGO  
Natalie Collins, CPD Radio  
Brent Currence, AGO-BCI  
Robert Booker, OIU/ODPS  
Theresa Flores, SOAP/DOMA  
Jeff Barrows, Gracehaven  
Lauren Nutter, NASW  
Noah Blunde, Hanna News  
Amanda Pierce, DOMA  
Debra Seltze, Ohio Department of Health  
Amy Roberts, ONCAC  
Matt Hicent, OCIC  
Rachel Huston, AGO  
Barbara Boone, Ohio Department of Education  
Julie Clark, DOMA  
Kae Denino, DOMA  
Steve Schiesholt, BCI  
Brance Johnson, BCI  
Judy Edwards, Attorney at Law  
Nancy Neyla, ODUN  
Angela Kepperling, Abolition Ohio  
Terry Heck, Abolition Ohio  
Alice Adkins, Hope Outreach Center  
Rocky Nelson, OCIC/AG  
Marta Mudri, Ohio House of Representatives  
Brittinie Jemo, OHR  
Rema Ina, IJM  
Brittany Thompson, OPOTA  
Crystal Ward Allen, PCSAO  
Lili Reitz, Ohio State Dental Board  
Kimm Hrdlicka-Tigges  
Jai Chabria, Governor's Office  
Maggie Toal, Governor's Office

## Via Tele/Video Conference:

Michelle Gilcrest, AGO  
Anne Victory, Collaborative Initiative to End Human Trafficking  
Katie Hanna, OAESV  
Othelia Wilson  
Erin Cordle, Catholic Diocese of Columbus  
David MacDonald,  
Senator Jim Hughes, Ohio Senate  
Representative Teresa Fedor, Ohio House of Representatives

Melinda Sykes – Thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and introduced Steve Raubenolt, Deputy Superintendent BCI.

Steve Raubenolt – Instructed the group to look at their copy of HB 262, Sec. 109.66, which requires the AG’s office to work with BCI to publish statistical data on human trafficking in the state of Ohio. It also requires that all entities in Ohio who investigate human trafficking cases submit data collected to BCI from every investigation.

- There are several sub-sections in 109.66 that need clarification and further definition.
  - o Sub section 4: This requires that agencies collect and report “trafficking routes and patterns.” Steve expressed concern over how this information would be collected and exactly what they would ask for. He gave two options: 1. We can identify very specific fields that we want to collect or 2. We can provide a text box for people to fill out themselves.
  - o Sub section 6: This requires that agencies collect and report “social and economic factors” which contributed to victims entering a trafficking situation. Again, we have two options: 1. We could put together a list of factors we find to be the most pertinent or 2. We could provide a narrative box.
- The group agreed that it would be easier to provide dialogue boxes but the information would be less specific.
- Steve asked the group to define the term “routes” in subsection 4. He pointed out that there are still a lot of questions to ask and ideas to be defined before they can move forward. He also reminded the group that this information will be used to produce a single report for the AG’s office, not individual reports.

Melinda Sykes – She thanked Steve and then asked the subcommittees to report out on any recent work they’ve been doing.

Crystal Ward Allen – She updated everyone on the status of the webinars.

- They completed the first two already (one for educators with 80+ participants and one for families and community members with 200+ registered).
- The last webinar is scheduled for October 18<sup>th</sup> for students. Crystal asked the group to help advertise the webinar to get more students registered.
- She also reported that the webinars so far have received very positive reviews. The Department of Education is working with Tony Talbott and Rachel Adkins on setting up a Frequently Asked Questions section on the website.

Theresa Flores – She updated the group on the Demand Reduction Subcommittee’s projects.

- The group is conducting research on how other states are combatting the demand side of sex trafficking.
  - o Boston is targeting buyers (she will send out the article discussing this).
  - o The AG’s office in Minneapolis has produced a training DVD for hotels in the city. They are passing them out along with information booklets and posters to teach workers how to identify sex trafficking.
- She also talked about the SOAP campaign’s success at the RNC and DNC.
  - o RNC: 380 volunteers, 207 hotels, with 93% of the hotels accepting the soap and other materials.
  - o DNC: 8,000 bars of soap were distributed and every hotel they approached took the soap.
- She also mentioned that because of the new casino in Columbus, they have distributed 8,000 bars to hotels and businesses in the city.
  - o One 14 year old has already been identified because of the posters.

Debra Seltze – Added that Maggie Billings is still waiting on receiving all of the surveys from the Johns schools but she wants to have them back and a report written up before the next meeting.

Erin Meyer – She reported out for the Victims Services Subcommittee.

- They are working on updating medical protocols for law enforcement and medical professionals who work with victims.
- The peer review tool is under development as well. IT will be used as a “best practices” pamphlet for organizations who serve victims of trafficking.
- The Ohio Department of Health training is currently underway as well.

Marta Mudri – She reported on the progress made by the Legal and Legislative Subcommittee.

- They are having their next meeting September 25.
- They want to possibly add more to HB 262.
  - o Recommendations: Remove age defense, remove language of importuning charge, providing for a termination of parental rights, and extending statute of limitations to 20 years starting at age 18.
- Also working on extending training.
  - o They spoke to the judicial college and they have agreed to extend training online to judges.
  - o Rep. Fedor will also be attending an FBI training session in early December.
- Announced that Human Trafficking Awareness day will be January 11, 2013. The main focus will be on training for social workers and defense attorneys.
- She also asked what is being done across the state to train dispatchers.

Melinda Sykes – Asked the group about the type of human trafficking training offered to casinos.

- The group said that the Ohio Crime Prevention Association has been encouraged to provide training.

Jai Chabria – Gave an update on progress made by the Governor’s Human Trafficking Task Force.

- A check list of their timeline was provided and showed the group they are right on schedule with their goals.
- He also announced that the Governor's office is getting close to naming a state coordinator for trafficking. He will keep us updated.

Melinda Sykes – After everyone presented, she asked for ideas for topics for the next meetings.

- Rachel Huston asked how much we really know about demand and demand reduction.
  - o The group suggested that we have focus more on demand in a future meeting. They also recommended that we invite a speaker, like Lynn Robinson to meet with the commission and address the issue.
- Melinda Sykes suggested that we speak more with law enforcement about their difficulties in dealing with victims and see how social services can help.
- Erin Meyer suggested that we provide more information and have a greater discussion on labor trafficking, specifically in Ohio.
- Brent Currence mentioned to the group that BCI is developing a list of officers to contact on missing kids and/or trafficking. Perhaps the commission could work on adding social services organizations to that list as well.