



Ohio Attorney General's Human Trafficking Commission
Quarterly Meeting

September 14, 2026, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Mount Carmel Healthy Living Center and via Teams

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Aaron Dennis, Aaron Murnan, Alyssa Newell, Andrea Franklin, Anna Becks, Anne M. Mann, Ashley Stevens, Barry Davidson, Becca Peckinpaugh, Brian Bollinger, Catherine Harper Lee, Celeste Prince, Chelsea Gaffey, Danielle Davis, Danielle Semon, Debra Seltzer, Devin Perry, Eric Matheny, Gwen Jackson, Haleigh Young, Hannah Swift, Harold D'Souza, Holly Reagan, James D. Mackey, Jason Shawver, Jeanette Pellot-Ayala, Jenna L. Conrad, Jennifer L. Coffindaffer, Jennifer Lynn Moreland, Jenny Beth Penson, Jill Jansen, Jodi Stanton, Katie Blankemeyer, Katie Howell, Katie Robiadek, Kelli Cary, Kelsey Hurst, Khalila Riga, Kirsti Mouncey, Kristin Hess, Kristina Nicholson, Lauren Kilburn, Lily Holderbaum, Linda Powers, Marie Patricia Fitzpatrick, Mary Kate Waggoner, Melanie Deis, Melisa M. Minier, Michele Reali, Michelle Grenig, Michelle Hannan, Natalie Terry-Haag, Rebecca Prather, Rebekah Richards, Sally Duffy, Samantha Isaly, Sarah B. Shaffer, Sasha Mattox, Silvia Peyton, Somy Thottathil, Stacey M. Conrad, Sue Coll, Sydney Schiraldi, Tara Meyer, Tiffany Tripp, Veronica Scherbauer, Yuan-Hung Chen

I. Welcome and introductions

- a. In-person attendees introduced themselves aloud.
- b. Online attendees introduced themselves via Teams chat.
- c. Mary Kate formally introduced Jenny Beth as the newest addition to the HTI team.

II. AGO/HTI updates – Mary Kate Waggoner

- a. The 2026 Human Trafficking Summit had great survey feedback. The committee commented “amazing job” and that the workshops were emotionally driven and impactful.
- b. The HTI is working to make updates to its portion of the AG’s website for 2027. The 2025 human trafficking statistics have been posted to the website. HTI is working with BCI to brainstorm ways to bolster agency participation in reporting. There has been an increase in reporting on the Ohio hotline’s online form. Aaron Dennis commented that, with the hotline tip statics, some tips may not yield enough information for law enforcement to investigate which can be a cause for the high number of tips with a low arrest rate.
- c.

III. Subcommittee updates

- a. Healthcare – Lily Holderbaum
 - i. The subcommittee continues to update policies and procedures to strengthen healthcare system commitments to serving victims across all settings, not only emergency departments. This has been ongoing since the beginning of 2026.
 - ii. The subcommittee reviewed a survey to be circulated to healthcare providers on what, if any, human trafficking screening software they use. Ideally, the subcommittee would facilitate a data sharing system to analyze healthcare human trafficking screening data.
 - iii. Lily expressed the desire to develop training in schools. It was raised that Ohio Health has a training for school nurses on human trafficking. The question was asked, if there is no SRO assigned to a school, is there a way for the students to interact with law enforcement. A conversation ensued about non-permanent school staff and mandatory reporter status.
- b. Law Enforcement - Aaron Dennis
 - i. Aaron has been traveling the state to visit law enforcement. This led to the notion he should restructure the subcommittee and update the members list as many members have left their agencies or changed positions. Mary

Kate sent his email to the group should any commission members be interested in joining.

- c. Victim Services – Michelle Hannan & Chelsea Gaffey
 - i. The subcommittee continues to support the self-assessment process for organizations seeking inclusion in the Human Trafficking Directory.
- d. Public Awareness – Mary Kate Waggoner (on behalf of Lara Wilken)
 - i. The Parent Resource Guide to support conversations with children about trafficking and online safety is in the final stages.
 - ii. Coordinating with the AGO Communications team on a video to be released in January.
 - iii. The subcommittee is working on updates to protocols for 2027.
- e. Legal and Legislative – Mary Kate Waggoner (on behalf of Samantha Salamon)
 - i. Samantha was not available for the meeting. Mary Kate updated on her behalf. The subcommittee had been working on updating the PSI and discussing the asset seizure fund and ways to increase cash flow into the fund.
 - ii. Katie Blankemeyer had no updates on AG legislation
- f. Research, Data and Gap Analysis – Kirsti Mouncey
 - i. The subcommittee is exploring updates to the statewide policy and examining other statewide policies and screening tools used throughout the state.
 - ii. For 2027, the subcommittee would like to review protocols and work more closely with the Victim Services subcommittee.
- g. Demand Reduction – Mary Kate Waggoner
 - i. This subcommittee is not currently meeting.

IV. Ambassador Advisory Council – Mary Kate Waggoner

- a. A virtual ambassador meeting will take place on October 6 where 2027 goals will be discussed.

V. Commission member updates

- a. Upcoming trainings/events

- i. The Governor's Human Trafficking Task Force in conjunction with the Attorney General's Human Trafficking Initiative are hosting an all-day training on September 29 titled "Strengthening Human Trafficking Investigations and Prosecutions Through a Victim-Centered Approach."
- ii. The Collaborative is hosting an online training on September 17 from 11:30am-1pm titled "Digital Training for Real Life".
- iii. The "State of HT" luncheon will take place from 11:30am-1pm on September 24.
- iv. Statehouse Advocacy Day will be January 27. The Collaborative is forming a statewide legislative advocacy group for human trafficking that will be leading the event.
- v. Haleigh is emailing the group about a Human Trafficking Summit happening on September 15.
- vi. The Southwest Ohio Human Trafficking Summit will take place on January 7 in Dayton. John-Michael Lander will be presenting.
- vii. The Florida Attorney General's Office is hosting a pre-recorded Human Trafficking Summit available September 29 through March.
- b. New initiatives/resources
 - i. The PCSA toolkit has been released. This is a tool for children's services workers. There is training offered for the toolkit.
 - ii. Gracehaven is currently hiring several positions.
 - iii. October 8 the Harriet Tubman fundraiser will take place.