

# **\* NEWS RELEASE \***

## **HUMAN TRAFFICKING ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM DAY OF ACTION**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that on July 12, 2018, the District Attorney's Office Human Trafficking Enforcement Program will perform a Day of Action. On this day, the office in collaboration with local community-based organizations, will perform a human trafficking notice compliance check at specified businesses and establishments in Monterey County.

Human Trafficking is modern-day slavery. It involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act. Human Trafficking is an estimated \$32 billion-a-year global industry and after drug trafficking, is the world's second most profitable criminal enterprise.

California is a populous state with a significant immigrant population, as well as the world's ninth largest economy. It is also one of the nation's top four destination states for trafficking humans. Human trafficking is often "hidden in plain sight." Victims of human trafficking often do not know where to turn for assistance and can be too intimidated to ask for help.

With this mind, in 2013 the California Legislature Enacted Senate Bill 1193. The law mandates that specified businesses and other establishments post a notice informing the public and victims of human trafficking of a national telephone hotline to assist in reporting unlawful activity. A compliant poster in both English and Spanish is required to be visible in a conspicuous place near the public entrance of the establishment or in another conspicuous location in clear view of the public and employees where similar notices are customarily posted.

Civil Code § 52.6 mandates that the following businesses and establishments post the notice:

1. On-sale general public premises licensees under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act, as defined in the code
2. Adult or sexually oriented businesses, as defined in subdivision (a) of Section 318.5 of the Penal Code
3. Primary airports
4. Intercity passenger rail or light rail stations
5. Bus stations
6. Truck stops. For purposes of this section, "truck stop" means a privately owned and operated facility that provides food, fuel, shower or other sanitary facilities, and lawful overnight truck parking.
7. Emergency rooms within general acute care hospitals.
8. Urgent care centers.
9. Farm labor contractors, as defined in the code.
10. Privately operated job recruitment centers.
11. Roadside rest areas.
12. Businesses or establishments that offer massage or bodywork services for compensation where the massage or bodywork service is provided by a non-certified massage or bodywork service person.

It had come to the attention of the District Attorney's Office that the relevant businesses and establishments in Monterey County are rarely in compliance with this law. To assist these businesses and establishments, the District Attorney's Office provided them with compliant human trafficking notices. On the "July 12 Day of Action" compliance checks will occur and noncompliant businesses and establishments will later be provided with a notice of noncompliance and potential for civil penalties.

Noncompliant businesses and establishments will be given 30 days from the date of the notice to correct the violation. Businesses or establishments who still fail to comply are liable for a civil penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500) for a first offense and one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each subsequent offense.

Community members interested in volunteering for the Day of Action should direct inquiries to Deputy District Attorney Christopher Judge at [judgec@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:judgec@co.monterey.ca.us) or (831) 647-7705.