



PRESS NOTICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS DAY

Columbia, South Carolina – In recognition of President Obama’s proclamation of January 2012 as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, United States Attorney Bill Nettles provides the following statement:

On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation stating: “I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within said designated States, and parts of States, are, and henceforward shall be free; and that the Executive government of the United States . . . will recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons.” The Emancipation Proclamation, January 1, 1863.

As the United States has worked to eradicate slavery, a new form of servitude has arisen - human trafficking. Human trafficking is the modern-day variation of the slavery that our country forbid so many years ago and is one of the most offensive crimes committed in