



FACT SHEET ON RECENT JUSTICE DEPARTMENT EFFORTS TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Investigating and Prosecuting Traffickers as well as Dismantling Human Trafficking Networks

- DOJ continued to return significant prosecution results. In FY 2016, DOJ initiated a total of 241 human trafficking prosecutions, charging 531 defendants. During FY 2016, DOJ convicted 439 defendants in human trafficking prosecutions.
- DOJ continued its highly successful Anti-Trafficking Coordination Team (ACTeam) Initiative—an intensive partnership between DOJ, DHS and DOL that focuses on the development of high-impact human trafficking investigations and prosecutions. The cities that were selected to participate in Phase One showed a 119 percent increase in cases filed and a 114 percent increase in defendants charged. At the end of 2015, six additional ACTeams were designated. These Phase Two ACTeams are already collaborating and undergoing intensive training with national human trafficking subject matter experts.
- The FBI Human Trafficking Program, managed by the Civil Rights Unit (CRU), leads 11 DOJ-funded human trafficking task forces and partners with local, state and federal agencies throughout the country in over 100 human trafficking task forces and working groups. From March 2015 to June 2016, the FBI Human Trafficking Program initiated 390 human trafficking investigations resulting in the arrests of 475 subjects.
- In the first three quarters of FY 2016, 15 active Bureau of Justice Assistance-funded human trafficking task forces, which are comprised primarily of state and local law enforcement officers, initiated 655 human trafficking investigations. These investigations involved 737 possible victims, 163 of which were confirmed as minors. The investigations, which covered both labor and sex trafficking, resulted in the arrest of 228 individuals. During this nine-month period, 122 individuals were charged with human trafficking offenses, and as of June 2016, 61 traffickers were found or pled guilty.

Enhancing Victim Identification as well as Relief and Services for All Victims of Trafficking

- In 2015, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) grantees providing victim services to human trafficking victims reported 4,517 open client cases, including 2,582 new clients—a 37 percent increase in open client cases and a 50 percent increase in new clients compared with clients served by grantees in 2014.
- In FY 2016, DOJ announced that \$15.8 million was awarded to 22 law enforcement agencies and victim service providers to operate multidisciplinary task forces, enabling them to conduct criminal investigations, prosecutions and prevention efforts to combat human trafficking as well as to provide comprehensive services to trafficking victims.
- The FBI's Office of Victim Assistance provides management and oversight to 153 Victim Specialists who provide direct assistance to federal victims of crime to include human trafficking victims. In addition to their work with victims during the investigation, Victim Specialists provide hundreds of presentations a year educating thousands of participants on trafficking.
- From March 2015-August 2016 OVC provided anti-trafficking training and technical assistance through OVC's Training and Technical Assistance Center to 7,386 victim service providers and allied professionals to help them build community capacity to identify and respond to human trafficking.

Funding Domestic and International Anti-Trafficking Programs Focusing on Victim Identification, Prevention and Outreach

- In FY 2016, OVC made grant awards totaling more than \$20 million to 34 victim service organizations. Providers received grants to provide comprehensive services to any human trafficking victim identified within a target geographic region as well as to offer specialized services for victims of human trafficking, including culturally, linguistically and developmentally-appropriate services for underserved victims. Two states also received a total of \$4.75 million for improving outcomes for child and youth trafficking victims, while three organizations were awarded a total of \$1.2 million to increase services for urban American Indian and Alaska Native victims of sex trafficking.
- In FY 2016, the Office of Justice Programs funded \$2.9 million in training and technical assistance on human trafficking, and more than \$2.6 million was awarded to six nonprofit and faith-based organizations to provide mentoring and other direct services to youth victimized by or at risk of domestic sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.

Funding Research Projects that Address Knowledge Gaps about Human Trafficking

- In FY 2016, DOJ awarded more than \$1.7 million supports four research and evaluation projects designed to address gaps in knowledge about human trafficking. Funds will be used to evaluate investigation and prosecution strategies, identify effective approaches for serving human trafficking victims, measure the prevalence of trafficking among homeless and runaway youth and assess human trafficking in Indian Country.