

Anti-Trafficking Coordination Team (ACTeam) Initiative Fact Sheet



Background:

- On February 1, 2011, the Attorney General, Secretary of Homeland Security, and Secretary of Labor launched the Anti-Trafficking Coordination Team (ACTeam) Initiative to streamline rapidly expanding interagency human trafficking enforcement efforts.
- Following a competitive, nationwide, interagency selection process, the Departments of Justice, Homeland Security, and Labor convened six Phase I Pilot ACTeams in Atlanta, El Paso, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Memphis, and Miami, bringing together federal agents and federal prosecutors to implement joint, proactive anti-trafficking strategies in coordination with the interagency Federal Enforcement Working Group of DOJ and federal agency human trafficking subject matter experts.
- The ACTeam Initiative focuses on investigating and prosecuting forced labor, international sex trafficking, and sex trafficking of adults by force, fraud, or coercion, while Project Safe Childhood and the Innocence Lost National Initiative focus on domestic child sex trafficking and child sexual exploitation.

Phase I:

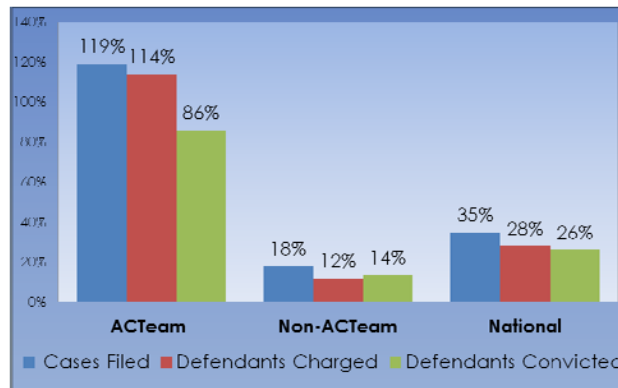
- ACTeams participated in an intensive, interactive Advanced Human Trafficking Training Program at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, developed and delivered by interagency ACTeam partners to disseminate cutting-edge anti-trafficking expertise.
- During the ACTeam Phase I period of FYs 2012-2013, federal human trafficking prosecutions involving forced labor, international sex trafficking, and sex trafficking of adults rose by 35% nationwide, reflecting strong partnerships among United States Attorneys' Offices, the Civil Rights Division's Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit, federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, and non-governmental victim assistance organizations, as well as task forces led by United States Attorneys' Offices in accordance with House Report 112-284. These increases are in addition to continued increases in child sex trafficking prosecutions in connection with Project Safe Childhood and the Innocence Lost National Initiative.
- In Phase I ACTeam Districts, prosecutions involving forced labor, international, and adult sex trafficking rose even more markedly than they did nationwide, due to the force-multiplier effect of interagency commitment to implementing coordinated, joint anti-trafficking strategies, and the advanced training, expertise, and operational support that the interagency Federal Enforcement Working Group provided to the Phase I

ACTeams. Comparing federal forced labor, international sex trafficking, and adult sex trafficking prosecutions during the ACTeam Phase I period of FYs 2012-2013 to the pre-Phase I period of FYs 2010-2011:

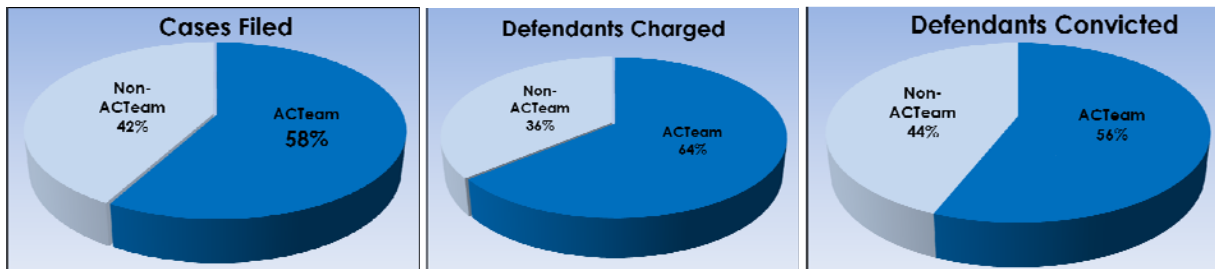
- **Cases filed** increased by:
 - 119% in ACTeam Districts,
 - 18% in non-ACTeam Districts; and
 - 35% nationwide.

- **Defendants charged** increased by:
 - 114% in ACTeam Districts,
 - 12% in non-ACTeam Districts; and
 - 28% nationwide.

- **Defendants convicted** increased by:
 - 86% in ACTeam Districts,
 - 14% in non-ACTeam Districts; and
 - 26% nationwide.



- ACTeam Districts contributed significantly to the record numbers of forced labor, international sex trafficking and adult sex trafficking cases nationally during Phase I, FYs 2012-2013. ACTeam Districts constituted less than 7% of districts, but accounted for 58% of the national increase in cases filed, 64% of the increase in defendants charged, and 56% of the increase in defendants convicted in such cases during Phase I compared to the pre-Phase I period of FYs 2010-2011, all in addition to continued advances in child sex trafficking prosecutions.



Phase II:

- Based on the demonstrated success of Phase I, the interagency Federal Enforcement Working Group and the Attorney General's Advisory Committee of United States Attorneys voted unanimously to recommend launching Phase II of the ACTeam Initiative in 2015.
- Phase II innovations include expanded victim-witness coordinator engagement; enhanced interagency threat assessments, targeting, and operational support; increased advanced training, and streamlined coordination protocols.
- Interagency announcements of the Phase II launch are expected in **June 2015**, followed by distribution of Phase II Implementation Packages, with **July 2015** deadlines for nominations in the competitive interagency selection process. Phase II ACTeam sites are expected to be announced in **August 2015**.

Conclusion:

- Through the outstanding commitment and collaborative effort of interagency partners in the Departments of Justice, Homeland Security, and Labor, the Phase I Pilot ACTeams significantly advanced nationwide efforts to bring human traffickers to justice and restore the rights of human trafficking victims.
- The interagency ACTeam partners look forward to continuing to working with United States Attorneys' Offices and federal law enforcement agencies nationwide to launch Phase II of the ACTeam Initiative and take our fight against human trafficking to the next level.