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AG Schimdt announces new partnership to combat sex trafficking

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TOPEKA (KSNT) — A Kansas official and trucking organizations are coming together to help stop sex trafficking in Kansas.

On Thursday afternoon, Attorney General Derek Schmidt announced a new partnership with Truckers Against Trafficking and The Kansas Motor Carriers Association.

The partnership brings law enforcement and the trucking industry together, educating truckers and truck stop employees about how to keep an eye out on Kansas highways for suspicious activity that could be related to sex trafficking.

“Truck drivers are trained to be vigilant and, along with truck stop employees, often find themselves intersecting with victims of human trafficking,” said Esther Goetsch coalition build specialist for Truckers Against Trafficking.

“Through this new partnership, we will continue to train local law enforcement and educate the trucking industry about the signs of human trafficking and how to report it,” Schmidt said. “By combining forces with the trucking industry, we hope to raise awareness of sex trafficking that occurs along our Kansas roads and highways.

A part of the new partnership, the Freedom Drivers Project, a 48 foot mobile exhibit designed to educate people on human trafficking will be at different events in Kansas in the future.

Truckers Against Trafficking says 14,000 to 17,000 victims are trafficked into the United States each year.

Schmidt says that the public can report suspicious activity to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center via their hotline at “888-3737-888.” You can learn about possible signs of human trafficking [on the Kansas Attorney General’s website \(http://ag.ks.gov/public-safety/human-trafficking/signs-of-human-trafficking\)](http://ag.ks.gov/public-safety/human-trafficking/signs-of-human-trafficking).

Truckers against trafficking was created in 2009.

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