



STATUS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN WISCONSIN

“The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services indicates that there are many victims of human trafficking in Wisconsin. ... By its very nature, human trafficking is a hidden crime. It is our belief that as awareness of this issue grows, so too will the number of victims identified and in need of services.” (Hidden in Plain Sight: A Baseline Survey of Human Trafficking in Wisconsin, Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance, 2008)

HUMAN TRAFFICKING EXISTS IN MADISON AND DANE COUNTY. IT OCCURS PRETTY MUCH EVERY DAY. IT MAY PRESENT ITSELF AS:

- A person laboring in the hospitality, tourism, agricultural or service industries with little or no compensation and retained in these positions through force, fraud and/or coercion.
- A person pan handling on the street who keeps little or none of the money collected and is retained in this position through force, fraud and/or coercion.
- A person under age 18 engaged in prostitution or pornography.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS UNDER-RECOGNIZED IN MADISON, IN DANE COUNTY AND IN WISCONSIN.

- 2007 Wisconsin Act 116 spells out the crime of human trafficking but does not mandate data collection, training for law enforcement and legal personnel nor support for victims. It also provides no funding to address this crime. To date, human trafficking is not part of standard training for police officers and police departments lack standard operation procedures regarding human trafficking. As long as this is the case, human trafficking will continue to be under-recognized.
- Young people under age 18 are routinely arrested, prosecuted, penalized and criminalized for prostitution while state and federal laws clearly define them as victims, not criminals.
- Furthermore, seventeen year-old youths arrested for prostitution are routinely waived into adult court where they do not qualify for adult services (since they are not age 18) and are denied youth support resources they would have received through the juvenile justice system.
- Few justice system and social service providers are aware of labor trafficking. Most don't know what questions to ask or what signs to look for.

VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING GO UNIDENTIFIED FOR MANY REASONS, SOME OF WHICH ARE:

- Lack of understanding of the crime by law enforcement, legal and human service providers. In the 2008 WI Office of Justice Assistance report “Hidden in Plain Sight”, justice system agencies increased their recognition of human trafficking victims by 350% when respondents were presented with descriptive definitions of human trafficking and asked to estimate the number of cases that exhibited warning signs of human trafficking. Only 7% of the reporting justice agencies had received any training regarding human trafficking at the time of the data collection.

- Lack of funding for training law enforcement, legal and human service providers regarding the crime of human trafficking.
- Lack of funding for the significant support needed by victims (and mandated by law) if/when victims are identified.
- Lack of will to shine the light on the existence of the shameful crime of human trafficking.

Background on Human Trafficking in Wisconsin

To date, Milwaukee presents the most Wisconsin cases of human trafficking that have been prosecuted. It is a larger city so the number of potential cases can be expected to be greater than in other parts of the state. Equally important, though, is the facts that Milwaukee has the benefit of a federally funded human trafficking task force and is the location for the federally funded Rescue and Restore coalition focused on identifying victims and building public awareness. Madison and Dane County receive no funding for identifying trafficking victims, for providing support for trafficking victims nor for building public awareness of the human trafficking issue.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING CONVICTIONS IN WISCONSIN

- On May 26, 2006 in Milwaukee, Jefferson Calimlim, Sr. and Elnora Calimlim were convicted by a Milwaukee federal jury for using threats of serious harm and physical restraint against a Filipina to obtain her services, in violation of federal law. They were sentenced to 6 years in prison.
- On July 2, 2010 in Milwaukee, Todd Carter was sentenced to 25 years in federal prison for commercial child sex trafficking.
- On July 12, 2010 in Milwaukee, Nicholas Harrison (son of Todd Carter) was sentenced to 6 years in federal prison for sex trafficking a child, a reduced sentence due to his willingness to testify against his father had that case gone to trial.
- In January 2011 in Milwaukee, Jermaine L. Rogers was convicted of human trafficking of an adult with sentencing to be determined in March 2011.

PENDING CASES OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN WISCONSIN

- In Milwaukee, Amani Booker and Holly Arnold appeared in court 6/10/10 on charges of picking up a 14-year-old Milwaukee girl off the street and having her perform sex acts with men at a hotel near the airport. Each face a minimum of 15 years and up to life in prison if convicted.
- In Milwaukee, Derrick Avery, aka "Pimp Snooky," was charged with running a ruthless prostitution ring across the country for more than a decade, pimping girls as young as 14 and beating and torturing them when they didn't make him enough money. He faces life in prison.
- In Madison, Verona resident Paul M. Ketring was charged on 7/28/10 in connection with trafficking of a child. He will be tried under state law in Dane County.

“HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT” REPORT ISSUED IN 2008* BY THE STATE OF WISCONSIN OFFICE OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE FOUND:

- Over 200 cases of victims forced into sex acts or labor services were reported in a survey of nearly 400 sexual assault and domestic violence service providers and justice system agencies. Results show that while the occurrence of human trafficking is much higher than expected, awareness of the crime remains low.

- One of the most significant findings of the survey was that awareness and understanding of the term 'human trafficking' is limited, most notably in the justice system community. The estimated number of cases encountered by justice system agencies increased nearly 350% when respondents were asked to estimate the number of cases that exhibited warning signs of human trafficking.
- The report cited a lack of training of justice system agencies; only 7% of justice system agencies had received training while 40% of service providers reported having participated in a conference or training session on human trafficking at the time of the summer 2007 data collection.

*copy available at: ftp://doafp04.doa.state.wi.us/doadocs/Human_Trafficking_Report_Final.pdf

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AS DEFINED BY 2007 WISCONSIN ACT 116 (MARCH 3, 2008)

- 1) Knowingly RECRUITING or ENTICING or HARBORING or TRANSPORTING or PROVIDING or OBTAINING an individual without consent of the individual or attempting to do so
- 2) by
 - a) causing or threatening to cause bodily harm to any individual or
 - b) causing or threatening to cause financial harm to any individual or
 - c) restraining or threatening to restrain any individual or
 - d) extortion or e) fraud or deception or
 - e) debt bondage or g) controlling any individual's access to an addictive controlled substance or
 - f) using any scheme or pattern to cause an individual to believe that any individual would suffer bodily harm, financial harm, restraint, or other harm
- 3) for the purpose of
 - a) commercial sex acts or
 - b) labor or services.
 - c) Human Trafficking is also defined similarly (but not identically) by Federal Law.

CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING AS SPECIFICALLY DEFINED BY WISCONSIN LAW

- 1) Knowingly RECRUITING or ENTICING or HARBORING or TRANSPORTING or PROVIDING or OBTAINING a child or attempting to do so
- 2) for the purpose of
 - a) commercial sex acts or
 - b) sexually explicit performance.
- 3) No force, fraud or coercion is required in child sex trafficking.

FEDERAL TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION ACT

The Federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act ("TVPA") has been in effect since 2000. It is similar, although not identical, to the Wisconsin law. A summary of the federal law is available at http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/about/TVPA_2000.pdf .