

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Saved In America (SIA) work in cooperation with LVMPD to locate 13 Missing Children

Las Vegas, (April 28, 2021) – Saved In America (SIA) is a nonprofit organization founded in San Diego, with a mission to Locate Your Child. At no charge to families, SIA volunteers to assist parents and law enforcement to locate missing, runaway, and exploited children – the groups most vulnerable to sexual trafficking. For victims of sexual exploitation, SIA assists in procuring legal representation, safe housing, and rehabilitative therapy. SIA also aids high-risk juvenile shelters to protect children from further exploitation by pimps and predators. SIA is comprised of more than 100 reserves and volunteers who are former law enforcement officers, Navy SEALs, and Special Operators that are licensed and insured private investigators. Since December 2014, SIA has assisted in the investigation and recovery of more than 250 children nationwide. 60% of all recovered children were found before being trafficked.

Since 2019, SIA has completed **three** Operations with LVMPD to recover **five** children in Nevada. The most recent case involved a 14-year-old child who was missing since October 2019 and recovered in a high gang activity environment in June 2020. The child is safe with her mother and awaiting placement in a rehabilitation center.

"Your program is a God send. For us to be successful we must have more resources – we need you – and the police department will embrace you with open arms as a collaborative partnership. Thank you for your support and thank you for bringing your hearts into this matter and for assisting us," stated Sheriff Joseph Lombardo.

Since January 2021, there have been **13** missing children in the Las Vegas region ranging from 13-17 years old. SIA has begun its social networking investigation and is working diligently with the workable intelligence and lead detectives on each case. Next step will include surveillance and actionable intelligence from April 29-May 1, in coordination with LVMPD, to help recover these children. Upon recovery, SIA will assist parents to locate an emergency transitional safe home or long-term rehabilitation center for the child.

"Every missing child should be considered a priority in this country. Our law enforcement needs the resources to make it a priority. If we can recover the child in the first **48** hours, it reduces the probability of the child being trafficked," stated SIA Chairman Emeritus Joseph Travers.

According to the Nevada Human Trafficking Statistics, Las Vegas is tied **9**th in the Nation for Human Trafficking with an estimated **5,687** victims of child sex trafficking in Nevada. Law enforcement has made it a priority to end this heinous crime and has partnered with SIA to fill in the gaps to assist with investigation, intelligence, and information. If you or someone you know is a victim of sex trafficking, please call the Human Trafficking Hotline at: (888) 373-3788 or text befree (233733). You can also call the Saved In America TIP Hotline at: (760) 348-8808 or email info@savedinamerica.org. #ChildSavedNotSold

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About Saved In America

Founded in 2009 by Joseph A. Travers, Saved In America (SIA) is headquartered in San Diego, California with national alliances and reach. At no charge to families, SIA volunteers (former Police Officers, Navy SEALs and Military Special Operators turned Licensed & Insured Private Investigators) to assist parents and law enforcement in locating missing, runaway, and exploited children – the groups most vulnerable to sexual trafficking. For victims of sexual exploitation, SIA assists in procuring legal representation, safe housing, and rehabilitative therapy. SIA also aids high risk juvenile shelters to protect children from further exploitation by pimps and predators. SIA is a member of the United States Human Trafficking Information Exchange Group, Washington D.C. Since December 2014, SIA has assisted parents and law enforcement in the recovery of more than 250 children. For more information, please visit <u>https://www.savedinamerica.org/</u> or join the community on <u>Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube</u> and <u>Instagram</u>. #ChildSavedNotSold