

Appendix 1:

**Alaska Statutes on the Crimes of
Human Trafficking, Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking**

(copied from the Alaska legislature's website: www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/statutes.asp)

Sec. 11.41.360. Human trafficking in the first degree.

(a) A person commits the crime of human trafficking in the first degree if the person compels or induces another person to come to this state to engage in sexual conduct, adult entertainment, or labor in the state by force or threat of force against any person, or by deception.

(b) In this section,

(1) "adult entertainment" means the conduct described in AS 23.10.350(f)(1) - (3);

(2) "deception" has the meaning given in AS 11.46.180;

(3) "sexual conduct" has the meaning given in AS 11.66.150.

(c) Human trafficking in the first degree is a class A felony.

Sec. 11.41.365. Human trafficking in the second degree.

(a) A person commits the crime of human trafficking in the second degree if the person obtains a benefit from the commission of human trafficking under AS 11.41.360, with reckless disregard that the benefit is a result of the trafficking.

(b) Human trafficking in the second degree is a class B felony.

Sec. 11.66.100. Prostitution.

(a) A person commits the crime of prostitution if the person

(1) engages in or agrees or offers to engage in sexual conduct in return for a fee; or

(2) offers a fee in return for sexual conduct.

(b) Prostitution is a class B misdemeanor.

Sec. 11.66.110. Promoting prostitution in the first degree.

(a) A person commits the crime of promoting prostitution in the first degree if the person

(1) induces or causes a person to engage in prostitution through the use of force;

(2) as other than a patron of a prostitute, induces or causes a person under 18 years of age to engage in prostitution; or

(3) induces or causes a person in that person's legal custody to engage in prostitution.

(b) In a prosecution under (a)(2) of this section, it is not a defense that the defendant reasonably believed that the person induced or caused to engage in prostitution was 18 years of age or older.

(c) Except as provided in (d) of this section, promoting prostitution in the first degree is a class A felony.

(d) A person convicted under (a)(2) of this section is guilty of an unclassified felony.

Sec. 11.66.120. Promoting prostitution in the second degree.

(a) A person commits the crime of promoting prostitution in the second degree if the person

(1) manages, supervises, controls, or owns, either alone or in association with others, a prostitution enterprise other than a place of prostitution;

(2) procures or solicits a patron for a prostitute; or

(3) offers, sells, advertises, promotes, or facilitates travel that includes commercial sexual conduct as enticement for the travel; in this paragraph, "commercial sexual conduct" means sexual conduct for which anything of value is given or received by any person.

(b) Promoting prostitution in the second degree is a class B felony.

Sec. 11.66.130. Promoting prostitution in the third degree.

(a) A person commits the crime of promoting prostitution in the third degree if, with intent to promote prostitution, the person

(1) manages, supervises, controls, or owns, either alone or in association with others, a place of prostitution;

(2) as other than a patron of a prostitute, induces or causes a person 18 years of age or older to engage in prostitution;

(3) as other than a prostitute receiving compensation for personally rendered prostitution services, receives or agrees to receive money or other property pursuant to an agreement or understanding that the money or other property is derived from prostitution; or

(4) engages in conduct that institutes, aids, or facilitates a prostitution enterprise.

(b) Promoting prostitution in the third degree is a class C felony.

Sec. 11.66.135. Promoting prostitution in the fourth degree.

(a) A person commits the crime of promoting prostitution in the fourth degree if the person engages in conduct that institutes, aids, or facilitates prostitution under circumstances not proscribed under AS 11.66.130(a)(4).

(b) Promoting prostitution in the fourth degree is a class A misdemeanor.

Appendix 2:

**City of Anchorage Ordinances on the Crimes of
Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking**

(copied from the City of Anchorage's website: library.municode.com)

8.65.010 - Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Assignment means the making of an appointment or engagement for prostitution or an act in furtherance of such appointment or engagement.

Prostitution means the giving or receiving of the body for sexual conduct for hire.

Sexual conduct means sexual intercourse, anal intercourse, masturbation or oral-genital contact.

(CAC 8.14.010; AO No. 98-59(S), § 1, 5-19-98)

Cross reference— Definitions and rules of construction generally, § 1.05.020.

8.65.020 - Practicing.

- A. It is unlawful for any person to knowingly engage in prostitution or assignation.
- B. It is unlawful for any person to perform or request another person to perform a sexual act, including genital exhibition, exhibition of the female breasts, the touching of another of the male or female genitalia or anus, or the touching by another of the female breast in order to demonstrate a person is not a law enforcement officer.
- C. Violation of this section shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment.

(CAC 8.14.020; AO No. 98-59(S), § 1, 5-19-98; AO No. 2003-73, § 3, 4-22-03; AO No. 2009-61, § 1, 7-7-09)

8.65.030 - Soliciting.

- A. It is unlawful for any person to knowingly solicit, induce, entice, invite, or procure another for the purpose of prostitution or assignation.
- B. Violation of this section shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment.
- C. A motor vehicle that is operated, driven or in the actual physical control of an individual during the commission of an alleged violation of this section is declared a public nuisance and may be impounded and may be forfeited to the municipality in accordance with Section 9.28.026.

(CAC 8.14.303; AO No. 98-59(S), § 1, 5-19-98; AO No. 2003-73, § 3, 4-22-03; AO No. 2003-155, § 1, 6-1-04; AO No. 2004-61, § 1, 3-2-04)

8.65.040 - Offering to secure another.

- A. It is unlawful for any person to knowingly offer, or offer to secure, another for the purpose of prostitution.

- B. Violation of this section shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment.

(CAC 8.14.040; AO No. 98-59(S), § 1, 5-19-98; AO No. 2003-73, § 3, 4-22-03)

8.65.050 - Transporting for unlawful purposes.

- A. It is unlawful for any person to direct, take or transport, offer or agree to take or transport, or assist in transporting another to a house, place, building, other structure, vehicle or mobile home, or to another person, with knowledge that the purpose of such directing, taking or transporting is prostitution or assignation.
- B. Violation of this section shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment.

(CAC 8.14.050; AO No. 98-59(S), § 1, 5-19-98; AO No. 2003-73, § 3, 4-22-03)

8.65.060 - Maintaining place of prostitution.

- A. It is unlawful for any person to knowingly maintain or operate a place, building, structure or part thereof, vehicle, mobile home, or other conveyance for the purpose of prostitution or assignation.
- B. Violation of this section shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment.

(CAC 8.14.060; AO No. 98-59(S), § 1, 5-19-98; AO No. 2003-73, § 3, 4-22-03)

8.65.070 - Owning or leasing place for purpose of prostitution.

- A. It is unlawful for any person to knowingly allow or permit a place, building, structure or part thereof, vehicle, mobile home, or other conveyance owned by him to be used for the purpose of prostitution or assignation, or to let, lease, rent or contract to let, lease or rent such property to another with knowledge that the lessee or tenant is to use such property for the purpose of prostitution or assignation.
- B. Violation of this section shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment.

(CAC 8.14.070; AO No. 98-59(S), § 1, 5-19-98; AO No. 2003-73, § 3, 4-22-03)

8.65.080 - Accepting money from prostitute.

- A. It is unlawful for any person to knowingly accept, receive, levy or appropriate money or other thing of value without consideration from the proceeds or earnings of a person engaged in prostitution.
- B. Violation of this section shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment.

(CAC 8.14.080; AO No. 98-59(S), § 1, 5-19-98; AO No. 2003-73, § 3, 4-22-03)

8.65.090 - Remaining in place of prostitution.

- A. It is unlawful for any person to enter, attend, remain in or reside in a place, building, structure, vehicle, or mobile home with the intent, aim or purpose of engaging in, promoting,

facilitating, or encouraging the practice of prostitution or assignation and with knowledge that such place, building, structure, vehicle, or mobile home is being used for the purpose of prostitution or assignation.

- B. Violation of this section shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$2,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both such fine and imprisonment.

(AO No. 77-353; AO No. 89-52; AO No. 98-59(S), § 1, 5-19-98; AO No. 2003-73, § 3, 4-22-03)

8.65.100 - Coercing another to become a prostitute.

- A. It is unlawful for any person to knowingly induce, persuade or encourage by promise, threat, violence, or scheme or device another person to become or remain a prostitute or an inmate of a place maintained or operated for the purpose of prostitution.
- B. Violation of this section shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment.

(CAC 8.14.100; AO No. 98-59(S), § 1, 5-19-98; AO No. 2003-73, § 3, 4-22-03)

8.65.110 - Loitering for purpose of soliciting for prostitution.

- A. It is unlawful for any person to knowingly remain in a public place and repeatedly beckon to passersby, or repeatedly stop or repeatedly attempt to stop passersby, or repeatedly attempt to engage passersby in conversation, or repeatedly stop or attempt to stop motor vehicles, or repeatedly interfere with the free passage of other persons, for the purpose of soliciting for prostitution or for assignation.
- B. Violation of this section shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$2,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both such fine and imprisonment.

(CAC 8.14.110; AO No. 78-247; AO No. 98-59(S), § 1, 5-19-98; AO No. 2003-73, § 3, 4-22-03)

Appendix 3:
Minutes and Transcripts of Task Force Meetings

October 12, 2012 (Anchorage)

November 5, 201 (Anchorage)

December 13, 2012 (Bethel)

December 13, 2012 (Hooper Bay)

January 28, 2013 (Anchorage)

January 31, 2013 (Teleconference)

February 11, 2013 (Teleconference)

(PROPOSED) MEETING MINUTES

State of Alaska Task Force on the Crimes of Human Trafficking, Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking

Friday, October 12, 2012, 1:30 p.m.

Attorney General's Office
1031 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 200
Anchorage, Alaska

(Please note that a full transcript of the meeting is attached.)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Attorney General Michael Geraghty called the first meeting of the task force to order at 1:30 p.m. Attorney General Geraghty opened the meeting by describing the purpose of the task force and the way he intended to run the meeting.

2. ROLL CALL - TASK FORCE MEMBERS AND STAFF

Roll call of the task force members showed all members presents. Commissioner William Streur attended via teleconference; Attorney General Geraghty, Commissioner Joseph Masters, Gwen Adams and Michelle DeWitt attended in person.

Roll call of the staff for the task force showed that Assistant Attorney General Cori Badgley, Statewide Victim Witness Coordinator Cathy Satterfield and Deputy Attorney General Richard Svobodny were present.

3. CHANGES TO AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no changes or objections to the agenda.

4. OPEN MEETINGS ACT AND ALASKA EXECUTIVE BRANCH ETHICS ACT

Staff member, Cori Badgley, gave a brief explanation of the Open Meetings Act and the Alaska Executive Branch Ethics Act. She covered the general requirements of holding meetings open to the public, and under the Ethics Act, declaring any conflicts of interest. If the task force members had questions, they were directed to talk to Ms. Badgley, who would consult with the Department of Law's ethics attorney.

5. INTRODUCTION OF TASK FORCE AND ITS PURPOSE

Attorney General Geraghty asked each member to introduce him- or herself and explain their interest in sitting on the task force. Attorney General Geraghty gave the first introduction, followed by Commissioner Masters, Commissioner Streur, Michelle DeWitt and Gwen Adams, respectively.

6. PRESENTATION BY STAFF ON PRELIMINARY RESEARCH

Cori Badgley presented the draft preliminary research summary that was previously provided to the task force members. The summary included general background on the issue of human and sex trafficking and prior studies that have been done around the United States; highlights of Ms. Badgley's interviews with 17 service organizations around the state; and highlights from Cathy Satterfield's interviews with law enforcement around the state.

After Ms. Badgley concluded the summary presentation, she asked if there were any questions. Attorney General Geraghty asked Deputy Attorney General Svobodny about the difficulties of apprehending patrons of prostitutes. Deputy Attorney General Svobodny responded that sting operations have traditionally been used.

Attorney General Geraghty then asked Commissioner Masters for his experience with sting operations. Commissioner Masters responded that sting operations are almost solely done by the Anchorage Police Department within Alaska. Deputy Attorney General Svobodny also offered to see if staff could further break down the numbers on municipal prosecutions to distinguish between the patrons and the prostitutes and maybe even by age.

Gwen Adams asked what category the pimps are put into in terms of the law. Ms. Badgley responded that pimps are considered traffickers and their actions are considered "promoting prostitution," not a patron of a prostitute.

Ms. Adams also commented on the difficulty of determining the age of the prostituted women because they are not truthful when asked.

Deputy Attorney General Svobodny, at the request of Attorney General Geraghty, provided an overview of the legal changes to the state's sex trafficking law that recently went into effect.

7. DISCUSSION ON ADDITIONAL INFORMATION GATHERING NEEDED

Attorney General Geraghty asked the other task force members if there were any additional areas where the task force would like to see more research, while also being mindful of the short timeframe for the task force.

Commissioner Masters offered comments relating to the unwillingness of victims to report, making it an underground crime.

Gwen Adams asked whether a sampling within Anchorage or another area would be possible. It was offered that maybe informal interviews of those that work most closely in this area or victims that are willing to come forward might be a possibility. However, a larger survey has a lot of logistical challenges that would be difficult in the amount of time the task force has.

8. DISCUSSION ON ADDITIONAL PRESENTATIONS BY INDIVIDUALS, AGENCIES, OR ORGANIZATIONS

Ms. Badgley presented the recommendations of staff on who to invite to give specific presentations to the task force at their next meeting. The task force agreed that the following individuals or groups should be contacted to attend the meeting in Anchorage: Jolene Goeden with the FBI, the Anchorage Police Department, Dr. Mark Erickson with the Southcentral Foundation, Dr. Linda Chamberlain with the Division of Public Health, Lisa Moreno with Cook Inlet Tribal Council, and then someone to speak on labor trafficking (e.g., Immigration Justice Project, Stephanie Vetter or the FBI).

Ms. DeWitt also recommended that prominent tribal leaders be contacted. The Attorney General agreed that staff should work with Ms. DeWitt before the public hearings to extend invitations to tribal leaders in rural Alaska to testify at the public hearing.

9. DATES AND LOCATIONS FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The task force agreed to hold one public hearing in Anchorage and one public hearing in Bethel. The task force also agreed to look into the possibility of adding on a visit to a village outside of Bethel, if a community that has a connection to sex or labor trafficking could be identified. Attorney General Geraghty voiced concern about singling out one village over others, but agreed that it was something the task force should look into.

Attorney General Geraghty asked Ms. Badgley and Ms. Satterfield to coordinate dates for the next meeting based on everyone's schedules.

10. POTENTIAL INTERACTION WITH AFN CONVENTION

The task force requested staff to create an announcement and flier providing information on the dates of the public hearings once the dates were identified. The task force would then request the Alaskan Federation of Natives to distribute the information at next week's AFN conference.

Ms. DeWitt also recommended that information be distributed at the November BIA conference.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

12. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Commissioner Masters offered to look into resources from his department to get people to and from meetings, specifically non-state employees. Otherwise, there were no additional comments.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Attorney General Geraghty adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

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STATE OF ALASKA TASK FORCE ON THE CRIMES OF
HUMAN TRAFFICKING, PROMOTING PROSTITUTION AND
SEX TRAFFICKING

Taken October 12, 2012
Commencing at 1:30 p.m.

Volume I - Pages 1 - 57, inclusive

Taken at
Office of the Attorney General
1031 West 4th Avenue
5th Floor Conference Room
Anchorage, Alaska

Reported by:
Mary A. Vavrik, RMR

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1 A-P-P-E-A-R-A-N-C-E-S

2 Michael C. Geraghty
3 Attorney General
4 Chair of Task Force

5 Commissioner Bill Streur (attending telephonically)
6 Department of Health and Social Services

7 Commissioner Jim Masters
8 Department of Public Safety

9 Gwen Adams
10 Pastor of Women's Ministries
11 ChangePoint Church
12 Anchorage, Alaska

13 Michelle DeWitt
14 Executive Director
15 Tundra Women's Coalition
16 Bethel, Alaska

17 Rick Svobodny
18 Deputy Attorney General
19 Criminal Division

20 Cori Badgley
21 Assistant Attorney General

22 Cathy Satterfield
23 Office of the Attorney General
24 Victim Program Coordinator
25 Criminal Division

26 Katie TePas
27 Office of the Governor

28 Stephanie Freeman
29 The Salvation Army

30 Amy Saltzman
31 Office of Senator McGuire

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1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I'm going to call the

3 meeting to order. My name is Mike Geraghty. I'm the

4 Attorney General for the State of Alaska. This is the

5 State of Alaska Task Force on the Crimes of Human

6 Trafficking, Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking.

7 According to the legislation that established

8 this task force, the purpose of it is three-fold: No. 1,

9 to examine the prevalence of the crimes of human

10 trafficking, promoting prostitution and sex trafficking;

11 No. 2, to evaluate the services that are currently

12 available in this state for victims of trafficking; and

13 finally, No. 3, to establish recommendations on how to

14 improve the services available to victims.

15 I think we all agree that these crimes are a

16 blight in our nation and in our state. And there is a

17 current trend nationwide, I think, to shed light on these

18 crimes and what can be done to stop them and to look at

19 them in a new light. And that's part of what we are going

20 to be doing here as part of this task force.

21 By way of introduction, I'm not terribly formal

22 and I'm not going to try to invoke Roberts Rules of Order

23 and whatnot. I'd like to go forward on the basis of

24 consensus. So people should feel free to pipe in and

25 talk. And as long as we are not talking over each other

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1 A-P-P-E-A-R-A-N-C-E-S (Continued)

2 (Attending telephonically)

3 Keeley Olson
4 Standing Together Against Rape

5 Emily Wright
6 Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

7 Liz Clement
8 Staff for Representative Bob Herron

9 Lauree Morton
10 Executive Director
11 Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

12 Cindy Smith
13 Chief of Staff for Senator French

14

15 Taken by:

16 Mary A. Vavrik, RMR

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21 BE IT KNOWN that the aforementioned proceedings were taken

22 at the time and place duly noted on the title page, before

23 Mary A. Vavrik, Registered Merit Reporter and Notary

24 Public within and for the State of Alaska.

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1 and frustrating the court reporter, I'd like to do things

2 on a consensus basis.

3 At some point when we finish our work in the

4 public hearings and the research, we will be doing --

5 drafting -- preparing a final report and making formal

6 recommendations. I think at that point we will be asking

7 for motions and doing things a little more formalistic,

8 get on the record and approving our report and so on. So

9 certainly there is a time for it, and certainly at that

10 point we will go at it, I think, in a little more orderly

11 fashion. But for now, I hope we can do things on a

12 consensus basis without the formalities and motions and

13 seconds and so on. But again, if people take issue with

14 that, I'm certainly happy to revisit it.

15 Initially, why don't we start with a roll call.

16 I'm going to just ask for the people to signify their

17 presence, and then we will circle back in a couple minutes

18 and ask people to introduce themselves and what they do in

19 a little more detail. But initially I want to formally

20 take roll for the members of the task force.

21 Commissioner Joe Masters.

22 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Here.

23 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Commissioner Bill Streur.

24 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** Yes.

25 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Gwen Adams.

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1 **MS. ADAMS:** Yes.
 2 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And Michelle DeWitt.
 3 **MS. DEWITT:** Yes.
 4 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And at this time I'd also
 5 ask the -- if you haven't met some of the Department of
 6 Law staff that will be assisting us in what we do and
 7 assisting in the research and so on, Cathy Satterfield is
 8 from the Department of Law. Cathy.
 9 **MS. SATTERFIELD:** Hi.
 10 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And Cori Badgley is an
 11 Assistant Attorney General in Juneau with the Department
 12 of Law.
 13 **MS. BADGLEY:** Thank you.
 14 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And Richard Svobodny is a
 15 Deputy Attorney General for the Department of Law in
 16 charge of our criminal section. I'm sure of many of you
 17 have met them before. There will be a point in the
 18 meeting for public comments and so on, we will introduce
 19 others, but for right now, that gets the major
 20 introductions out of the way.
 21 Everybody has a copy of the agenda, I hope, or
 22 received one before now, but this would be a point where
 23 we talk about if there is any changes to the agenda.
 24 Otherwise, again, kind of by consensus basis, I'll approve
 25 it, but please, would anybody like to modify that or

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1 change it in any way? If not, then we will consider the
 2 agenda approved.
 3 We are subject to the Open Meetings Act and the
 4 Alaska Executive Branch Ethics Act, and I would ask Cori
 5 to give us a brief couple minutes on what that means to
 6 you as a practical matter. We as commissioners and
 7 employees of the State understand that, but I think for
 8 the lay members, Cori, could you please go over that
 9 briefly?
 10 **MS. BADGLEY:** Yes. So the Open Meetings
 11 Act is basically exactly what it says, and it just means
 12 that our meetings are open to the public subject to a
 13 certain few exceptions for confidential matters if those
 14 do arise. And we do have to give public notice of all of
 15 our meetings with a reasonable amount of time ahead of
 16 time and let the public know what we are doing. And so
 17 that's why today we do have members of the public here,
 18 and we appreciate that. So moving forward we will have
 19 the same sort of public notice format.
 20 For the Executive Branch Ethics Act, the most
 21 important thing, I think, for this task force to know is
 22 when it comes to making the final decision on
 23 recommendations and a report, if there is any conflicts of
 24 interest, those need to be disclosed. And a conflict of
 25 interest has to be more specific than helping

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1 organizations that help women who have been abused. It
 2 has to be, according to our ethics attorney, a little more
 3 specific than that. But if you feel like there might be a
 4 gray area there or you want to disclose, it's better to
 5 disclose up front. You can let me know ahead of time and
 6 we can work that out with our ethics attorney to see if a
 7 disclosure is required. But it's really just about not
 8 getting any personal benefit from what recommendations
 9 this task force makes.
 10 If there are any questions, I can answer them
 11 now. Otherwise, feel free to always come to me and we can
 12 always work with our ethics attorney on any issues that
 13 arise.
 14 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Any questions? Gwen
 15 or Michelle?
 16 **MS. ADAMS:** No.
 17 **MS. DEWITT:** No.
 18 **MR. GERAGHTY:** At this time I'd like to
 19 just -- the agenda calls for introduction of the task
 20 force and its purpose. I think what I'd like to do -- and
 21 again, people, please jump in and make your own comments.
 22 But what I'd like to do is just have us each briefly
 23 introduce ourselves and what we do and why this task force
 24 is important to us in terms of our official role and in
 25 terms of the lay people what it is that they view as the

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1 purpose and some of their background and their interest in
 2 this particular area, which is, I'm sure, to some extent
 3 why you have been selected by the governor to be on the
 4 committee.
 5 So with that background, let me just introduce
 6 myself as Mike Geraghty. I am the Attorney General. My
 7 department, of course, is involved with prosecuting the
 8 people who are involved in crimes like this that we will
 9 be studying. My office is also involved in drafting
 10 legislation that may come out of this task force in trying
 11 to see it through the legislative process, testifying in
 12 support of that legislation. Some of you folks may be
 13 testifying in support of it, as well.
 14 So, as I said, my eyes have been opened to this
 15 in the short time that I have been Attorney General, about
 16 eight months. It's something that I think the governor
 17 has focused a laser beam on in terms of since he's been
 18 governor, domestic violence and sexual assault. And this
 19 is just an offshoot of that, these crimes against
 20 humanity, if you will. So I'm learning about it just as
 21 you are. And many of you probably already know more about
 22 it than I do. So I'm here to be educated as well.
 23 But I'm in a position to follow up and to
 24 emphasize what this commission does when we are done at
 25 the end of the day. And I certainly take that role very

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1 seriously.
2 So with that, I'll turn to Commissioner Masters,
3 ask him to give a brief overview or statement or
4 introduction.
5 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Thank you, Attorney
6 General. Actually, you have covered probably what a lot
7 of us will say as far as general comments. The -- I'm
8 Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety.
9 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** Joe, can I interrupt
10 for a minute? I can't hear either one of you guys. I'm
11 catching about ten percent of what's happening, and I've
12 got the speaker turned all the way up. So --
13 **MR. GERAGHTY:** All right. Commissioner,
14 give us a second here to get organized.
15 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Is this better?
16 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** You are better.
17 **MR. GERAGHTY:** You missed a pretty
18 eloquent -- you want me to repeat myself, Bill, or --
19 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I'm Joe Masters.
20 Go ahead.
21 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** It would help a lot,
22 Mr. Attorney General. I caught virtually nothing of what
23 you just said.
24 **MR. GERAGHTY:** No, I'm joking. I'm not
25 going to repeat myself. But Commissioner Masters is going

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1 to paraphrase and pick up on all those comments.
2 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Thank you for
3 putting me on the spot there. Joe Masters. I'm
4 Commissioner for the Department of Public Safety, and I've
5 got a couple of different roles that I see as a member of
6 the task force. One of them, of course, is to bring the
7 perspective of what we have on current data out of our
8 criminal justice information systems. That's a piece of
9 it. Part of my job as well, though, is to take a look at
10 statewide public safety issues and determine whether or
11 not resources need to be put forth towards those issues
12 and then what type of resources and how we interact with
13 other agencies.
14 Particularly, obviously, or more importantly for
15 my specific role in that regard would be resources along
16 the lines of investigations, primarily for the
17 investigation of criminal acts regarding human
18 trafficking, prostitution, sex crimes. This dovetails
19 within my agency directly into one of our highest priority
20 areas, and that's combating the epidemic of sexual assault
21 and domestic violence, which is obviously one of the
22 governor's top priorities in this administration. That's
23 probably my primary role.
24 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Appreciate that.
25 Commissioners Streur, can I ask you to briefly introduce

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1 yourself and your interest in this area, what you hope to
2 accomplish?
3 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** Yes, sir, you can.
4 I'm Bill Streur, Commissioner of the Department of Health
5 and -- I'm sorry?
6 **MR. GERAGHTY:** We are hearing you, Bill.
7 You just cut out for a second. We hear you loud and
8 clear.
9 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** Okay. Thank you.
10 I'm Bill Streur, the Commissioner of the Department of
11 Health and Social Services, and I'm in this, involved with
12 this for entirely a selfish reason. A lot of the kids
13 that we are encountering in our system are directly
14 related or indirectly related to sex trafficking. And as
15 we get more and more kids involved, it's becoming more
16 evident that we can make a change with these kids and we
17 can help them. And so as I've already said, I'm in it for
18 a purely selfish reason of hoping to identify and reduce
19 the extent and level of sex trafficking occurring in the
20 state of Alaska. Simple and easy.
21 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Commissioner.
22 Michelle, can I turn to you and ask you to please
23 introduce yourself to those of us who don't know you and
24 what you do and why you are interested in this commission.
25 **MS. DEWITT:** Absolutely. I'm Michelle

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1 DeWitt. I'm the executive director of Tundra Women's
2 Coalition in Bethel. I have been living and working in
3 Bethel for just over 15 years. Our organization is a
4 victim service organization related to domestic violence,
5 sexual assault and stalking.
6 Over the last couple of years this topic of
7 human trafficking has sort of become on the radar for us,
8 as it has for all of you, a little bit more than it had in
9 the past. I've entered into some conversations with folks
10 that were serving who know people who have experienced
11 this when they have come to Anchorage, and we are
12 realizing that we need to design some special resources
13 for support, start asking the questions in a different
14 way.
15 So I guess I bring the perspective to the table
16 of living and working in rural Alaska, working with folks
17 who are vulnerable for having this kind of thing happen.
18 And I have a special interest in looking at how we can
19 design resources around this issue and start to look at
20 some of the prevention and media around this.
21 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you. I look forward
22 to working with you and your insights and experience.
23 That will be very valuable. Gwen, please.
24 **MS. ADAMS:** I'm Gwen Adams. I am a pastor
25 of women's ministries at ChangePoint, and I work with a

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1 couple organizations of women that are multi-church, so I
2 became aware of and maybe drug into this issue as more and
3 more women that we were meeting with or had in our
4 ministries were victims of this, and most of them -- all
5 but one, actually, at this time -- had something
6 terrifying in common that none of them would on any scale
7 turn in what was happening to them or make it public in
8 any way. So I guess that fueled a fire in me that,
9 whatever it is, from laws to just getting the word out
10 there, that our victims need to feel like there is help.
11 And I would like to see what help there is out
12 there be attached to the victims in a way that is
13 profitable. And we have had a difficult time, I think,
14 connecting all the resources that seem to be available to
15 the victims who need it. So I basically felt like this
16 was an issue that just landed in the middle of the table
17 and there was no way to ignore it, nor do we want to. So
18 I'm happy to be a part of this.
19 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Gwen. And
20 again, we bring lots of different dimensions to this and
21 backgrounds, and I think that's important to getting to
22 the root of it or the bottom, and I appreciate that in
23 these appointments.
24 At this point, continuing on, I want staff to
25 talk a little bit about the preliminary research that they

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1 have done. Even though this is our first organizational
2 meeting since the legislation was passed, we have been at
3 the Department of Law tasking Cathy and Cori primarily
4 with doing research and looking into this to see what's
5 out there so that when we do meet we can better identify
6 where there are gaps and where we should direct our
7 efforts. And we will get to that in a minute.
8 But I do want to acknowledge for the record that
9 the timing of this task force has dovetailed nicely with
10 an informal working group that was put together by the
11 Cook Inlet Tribal Council at the initiative of First Lady
12 Sandy Parnell who also sits on the working group, but they
13 had some -- an investigator person involved who have had
14 hearings and whatnot. And Michelle is nodding her head.
15 She may be more familiar with its work. But they have
16 done some excellent work, and I've read the stuff that
17 they have come out with.
18 They have come up with some recommendations on
19 their own, and I commend the First Lady and CITC for this
20 initiative. And we hope to build on that. And they have
21 made our job easier, if you will, because they have
22 already done a fair amount of work. So we don't want to
23 duplicate that, certainly, but we want to build on it and
24 try to find the gaps and focus our efforts on that. And
25 we will be doing public hearings as well, which we will

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1 get to.
2 But Cori, Cathy, either one of you, would you
3 please generally describe -- I think we have made the
4 materials available, have we not, to the members? But
5 kind of give us an overview, if you will, of what you have
6 been discovering in your research and kind of give us a
7 briefing on that.
8 **MS. BADGLEY:** Thank you, Attorney General.
9 So Cathy and I got together and the Attorney General asked
10 us to just start with some preliminary research to lay the
11 groundwork so that we could actually start and start
12 moving more quickly, knowing we had a short time frame.
13 So the draft preliminary research summary that I sent to
14 all of the members, the layout is it starts with the
15 background that kind of goes over some of the general
16 laws, as well as some national studies that have been
17 done. There is a real dearth of information on Alaska.
18 And trying to find information on numbers of how many
19 victims and how many vulnerable, who is at risk, is hard,
20 but at least we can see at the national level what's going
21 on.
22 And in the background section you will find that
23 it goes back to exactly what Michelle and Gwen were
24 saying. It's those that are most vulnerable. It's the
25 vulnerability that's the one common factor among victims

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1 of either human trafficking or sex trafficking. And it's
2 runaways, throwaways, as they call them, children who have
3 been subject to sexual abuse, trauma; those are all the
4 most likely victims that will be sought out by these
5 terrible predators. And so that's kind of what the
6 background sets up.
7 It also goes through not only the risk factors,
8 but primary needs of the victims according to the national
9 surveys, things like medical services, legal assistance;
10 safe and secure housing is a huge -- a huge one because
11 once they are back out on the streets, that's just another
12 opportunity to get pulled back in.
13 And another thing that I think was already
14 mentioned that's mentioned in all the literature is that
15 these are victims who don't necessarily feel they are
16 victims and they don't trust anyone, so they will not
17 report. So they are not -- you are not going to have a
18 self-reporting victim. They usually come to services
19 because they need food or clothing, because they need
20 shelter. They are not coming to tell you about their
21 problems because they don't necessarily view them as
22 problems or they are afraid to even disclose. So that's
23 kind of what the background sets up.
24 There is also a section on examples of different
25 programs that have been instituted that the task force

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1 might look at as we are coming up with recommendations.
2 And then Cathy and I kind of divided the
3 efforts. As was said earlier, the legislation
4 specifically has two paths of research: One is the
5 prevalence and the number of prosecutions, that sort of
6 thing, and the other is services that are currently
7 available so that we can determine what's not available.
8 I took on the services aspect. This is not a
9 scientific study. I would not put any statistical
10 analysis on it, but what I did is I called 17 different
11 organizations, generally ones that service domestic
12 violence or sexual assault victims, figuring that's the
13 closest, and just talked to them about what services they
14 offer and then if they know whether they have ever
15 actually assisted a victim of trafficking. Of those 17,
16 11 reported that they had. Most of the time it was very
17 infrequent. It was maybe once every two years. And at
18 least a couple of them it was because law enforcement
19 actually referred the victim so they already knew they
20 were a trafficking victim when they got them.
21 The other organizations, it came out over time
22 or in happenstance. It's not something that they found
23 out about during the initial intake. And that was a
24 general theme among the organizations I talked to is a lot
25 of them didn't even know how to screen for these types of

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1 individuals. They didn't have any training on dealing
2 with victims of trafficking, which made it very difficult
3 to identify them because they didn't even know what they
4 were looking for. So that was a big need that was
5 identified by these organizations was some form of
6 training.
7 And then the other kind of anecdotal information
8 I got from these organizations was just along the lines of
9 what the national survey said. It's the vulnerability,
10 the lack of trust, the lack of being willing to
11 self-report.
12 And then again, one of the big needs was secure
13 housing of some kind, especially for children. It was
14 found that there are a lot of obstacles to housing
15 children without their parents, having to get parental
16 consent, which makes it very hard. You can help them, but
17 then you have to -- you can help them during the day, but
18 you can't let them stay overnight, which is kind of an
19 interesting difficulty I didn't know about.
20 So then, moving to law enforcement, this was
21 Cathy Satterfield. She did the majority of this legwork.
22 And she reached out to different troopers and local police
23 to see what their experience was, did they suspect
24 trafficking, had they ever dealt with trafficking victims.
25 And again, the identification she came up with was that a

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1 lot of them didn't know what to look for. So you have law
2 enforcement and service organizations where you have
3 individuals who don't know how to identify a victim and,
4 therefore, you are not going to look very much further
5 into it.
6 And the other thing we did gather from law
7 enforcement is the number of cases prosecuted under
8 both -- on the State level as well as the Municipality of
9 Anchorage. We found that the Municipality of Anchorage,
10 APD, is really the number one organization besides the FBI
11 that has really dealt with this issue and probably has the
12 most -- the most knowledge.
13 If you turn to page 14, you will see an errata
14 on the kind of right-hand side. We got updated numbers
15 from the municipality that actually breaks it out. Before
16 we just had dispositions, which means that could be a
17 denial, that could be a dismissal, that could be a
18 conviction. We didn't -- we didn't know what numbers were
19 what. So they actually broke it out for us into the
20 number of cases dismissed or declined versus the number of
21 convictions.
22 And in all of these you are looking at, under
23 State law you have human trafficking, which is more of
24 labor trafficking type issues. Then you have the
25 promoting prostitution or sex trafficking. And then you

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1 have prostitution, which is either a patron of a
2 prostitute or the prostitute themselves, which I think are
3 two very different things. So when you are looking at
4 that, just keep that in mind.
5 And then we also went through -- because there
6 are some federal cases. I think we have had seven federal
7 cases.
8 **MS. SATTERFIELD:** From 2007 till when we
9 did this, there were -- I think it was just two that had
10 prosecuted.
11 **MS. BADGLEY:** From 2007 to today. And
12 there has been more cases that are being investigated. We
13 can't get the details on those, of course, but there are
14 more. So we did go through the two major cases that have
15 been tried since that time, and I believe between these
16 two cases -- do we know the number of victims?
17 **MS. SATTERFIELD:** I think it was reported
18 in the neighborhood of 50 overall.
19 **MS. BADGLEY:** Fifty victims just between
20 these two cases. SO that kind of gives you a scope of if
21 you find one trafficker how many victims you might find.
22 And I think that covers the majority --
23 **MS. SATTERFIELD:** Currently the FBI is
24 investigating -- at the time we got the information, there
25 were ten cases: Seven in sex trafficking, two of them had

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1 been prosecuted, and then the other remaining ones were in
2 labor. And I was at a conference on Saturday a Saturday
3 ago, and the FBI agent indicated that they had just gotten
4 another labor or were investigating another. And these
5 are just strictly being investigated by the FBI, that they
6 are utilizing law enforcement to maybe help and assist
7 with some information or locating victims, but the agent
8 did not feel that law enforcement, either State or local,
9 were aware of what type of cases -- what the FBI was doing
10 with that case. So these are strictly FBI cases right
11 now, federal cases.

12 **MS. BADGLEY:** And that's been the trend
13 thus far. But we did pass a new law last legislative
14 session that changed some of the penalties and changed
15 some of the -- kind of the way we classify the crimes.
16 And so we will see what that does on a State level.

17 I think that covers the basics of the report.
18 If there are any questions, I would be happy to answer
19 them.

20 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Gwen or Michelle?
21 **MS. ADAMS:** No. That's great.
22 **MS. DEWITT:** No questions.
23 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I had a couple of
24 questions. It says on page 14 the category of
25 prostitution includes individuals engaging as well as

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1 patrons of prostitutes. I wonder how many of those are
2 patrons as opposed to prostitutes. Rick, can you comment
3 on that, the difficulties of busting patrons of
4 prostitution, or how would you --

5 **MR. SVOBODNY:** The patrons of prostitutes
6 traditionally have been arrested in sting operations where
7 there is a person pretending to be a prostitute. And so
8 they are soliciting the act. It's very difficult for --
9 it's nearly impossible for law enforcement to catch both
10 the patron of the prostitute and the prostitute in a
11 situation where they can prosecute them together. There
12 are -- I mean, there are ways that maybe we can deal with
13 that in the future, thinking a little bit outside the box,
14 but police generally aren't walking into a situation or
15 have belief that there is going to be an act of
16 prostitution going on some place and can observe it or
17 make -- gather evidence about it. So it's a really --

18 **MR. GERAGHTY:** How about sting operations?
19 I thought those were pretty rare, too. Are they in your
20 experience, Rick, or do they routinely carry out sting
21 operations and get patrons?
22 **MR. SVOBODNY:** In this state they are very
23 rare. Commissioner Masters could probably --
24 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Commissioner Masters, I
25 think you -- do you know?

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1 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Well, pretty much
2 sting operations in this state almost solely are done
3 admittedly by APD. And I would venture to say that a lot
4 of the -- we would have to get more information from APD
5 regarding these cases that are here, but these cases,
6 probably a lot of them are --

7 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Prostitutes?
8 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** -- are sting
9 operations.

10 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. We wouldn't know
11 about those through APD. Maybe we could find out, though,
12 because I guess you never hear about them. You never see
13 publicity about -- maybe it's not newsworthy.

14 **MR. SVOBODNY:** I can respond in two parts
15 about that. I think we can take these numbers and break
16 them down a little bit and be able to identify -- identify
17 them more for you. For example, they appear -- the
18 municipality appears to have two levels of prostitution,
19 prostitution and solicitation. And likewise it appears
20 that there may be two levels of being patrons -- or
21 multiple levels of being a patron of a prostitute. But we
22 will go through the city ordinances and be able to break
23 those numbers down a little better, along with speaking
24 with the Municipal Attorney.

25 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Go ahead, Gwen.

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1 **MS. ADAMS:** I have a question: What
2 category are you putting the pimps or people who are
3 recruiting prostitutes? Are they human traffickers or are
4 they patrons of --

5 **MS. BADGLEY:** No, they are traffickers or
6 promoting prostitution. That's what we used in this.
7 Anyone who facilitates, solicits on behalf of, or trying
8 to get people to come to a specific prostitute, that's all
9 promoting prostitution or trafficking.

10 **MR. GERAGHTY:** The other question I had --
11 and I don't know whether it's possible or not, but in
12 terms of the prostitution, you know, I'd be curious how
13 that breaks down between the patron versus the prostitute,
14 if it's possible to find out more about the ages of the
15 prostitutes because, I mean, you can be the victim of
16 trafficking at any age, granted, but I think we are all
17 concerned more about the most vulnerable, which are the
18 youngest, the teenagers and so on who don't have a settled
19 life and/or a secure family and stuff like that.

20 So I don't know if that's possible, but I'd be
21 curious to know whether we could find out what the
22 breakdown is and bifurcate the under 20 prostitute arrests
23 versus over 20. Like I said, you can be a victim of
24 trafficking at any age; there's no question about that;
25 but I think we are really concerned -- I'm more concerned

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1 about the more vulnerable, which I think is the youngest
2 ones.

3 **MS. ADAMS:** I went down for some training
4 in Seattle and watched what they are doing
5 boots-on-the-ground efforts-wise in terms of this issue.
6 And one of the things they brought up is there isn't a
7 girl -- I know we've just changed the law here to 20 and
8 under, is that correct?

9 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Uh-huh.

10 **MS. ADAMS:** Down there it's 19 or 18. And
11 every girl on the street says she's 19, every one of them.
12 Whether they are 25 or 16, they are all 19. So it's going
13 to be difficult.

14 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Are people familiar with
15 the changes in the law? I mean, Cori alluded to them and
16 Rick is well positioned to describe that. I don't want to
17 put you on the spot, Rick. Maybe they are already
18 familiar with it, but it might be -- how has the law
19 changed more recently to kind of make our job easier to
20 give us a framework to operate here?

21 **MR. SVOBODNY:** The legislative changes
22 last session were, in a way, more to recognize that people
23 who are engaging in prostitution may be less criminally
24 responsible and more victims of offenses. So primarily
25 what happened last year was nomenclature changes. And

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1 I'll walk through that in just a minute. But our statutes
2 up until this last session were divided in regards to
3 prostitution into the act of prostitution and the patron
4 of the prostitute, and that was called prostitution.
5 And the other offenses were promoting prostitution, and
6 that -- there was a gradient of severity of the offenses.
7 And for example, when you just referred to it
8 changed from -- Washington from 18 and 19 and Alaska just
9 changing to 20, that was one of the changes that was made
10 last year from 18 to 20, but what that -- all that's
11 really doing is saying that's more serious of an offense.
12 That's an A-felony offense, an offense you can go to jail
13 for up to 20 years for, then promoting where the person
14 was over 20 years of age.

15 Always if we are dealing with -- and this gets
16 to the Attorney General. One of the problems of gathering
17 information about what actually occurred in a case, if we
18 are talking about somebody who is 15, that person is
19 getting charged with sexual abuse of a minor and we are
20 charging them with a substantially more serious crime than
21 prostitution. And it may well be that the -- or promoting
22 prostitution. And it may well be that the promoting
23 prostitution never even got sent to us as that crime.
24 And for tactical reasons we didn't want to add
25 it on. We didn't want to bring it into the equation at

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1 trial. We only wanted to have one issue at trial, was
2 there sex, was the person under 16; as opposed to if we
3 were doing promoting prostitution, it was, was there sex,
4 was it in exchange for some benefit. So there is more
5 elements. So it's easier, in many ways, to ignore, which
6 is maybe not the best word, but for tactical reasons not
7 to be looking at the promoting prostitution and simply
8 going with the more serious charge because it's easier to
9 prove than the promoting prostitution. And it's more
10 serious.

11 Let me kind of give you some definitions. In
12 Alaska, what happened is that group of cases that I have
13 just been talking about, prostitution and promoting
14 prostitution, and promoting prostitution went from using
15 force to coerce somebody into acts of prostitution to
16 running a place of prostitution to not being involved in
17 prostitution, but getting -- in any of that, but getting
18 the receipts of it. For example, a hotel -- a hotel that
19 knows that prostitution is going on, they could be
20 charged. So that's kind of a gradient of offenses. And
21 we changed those definitions from promoting prostitution
22 to sex trafficking.

23 We have another statute that's called human
24 trafficking. And that more closely aligns with labor type
25 of violations. So presently in Alaska we have

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1 prostitution. That's the patron of the prostitute and the
2 person that we traditionally think of as a prostitute; sex
3 trafficking in the first, second, third, and fourth
4 degree; and human trafficking in the first and second
5 degree.

6 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thanks, Rick. Any other
7 comments, questions? Well, we are -- why don't we turn
8 our attention, then, to areas where we think we need to do
9 more research and gather more information. And we're
10 mindful of the fact that we are going to have public
11 hearings. So I think that's going to be an important part
12 of this information gathering. And so we will come to
13 that. I don't mean to -- I just want to acknowledge that.
14 So but in terms of what you have heard and what
15 you have read and what you know from your own experiences,
16 are there other areas that Cori and Cathy and we as a
17 group should be looking at or exploring just for
18 information at this point that we can take into account
19 when we prepare a report? And it doesn't have to happen
20 today.

21 I mean, I'll put the thought out there. It's on
22 the agenda, but obviously we will be meeting again, and so
23 we need to -- this would be a good point to interject that
24 we have a report due to the legislature January 15th, so
25 we are on a fairly tight schedule.

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1 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I have just a
2 comment.
3 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Please, Commissioner.
4 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I think the data on
5 the number of prosecutions and the number of arrests and
6 charges for not only prostitution or sex trafficking or
7 the other human trafficking statutes, I think it
8 absolutely supports the assertion that you made,
9 Ms. Adams, regarding the victims of these crimes being
10 absolutely not willing to report and that they are
11 driven -- they are probably -- what I would think are
12 probably the most driven underground types of crimes that
13 we can possibly link up with anything in the state. So it
14 makes it very difficult to get any kind of an accurate
15 picture based on any kind of victim reporting.
16 So one of the keys is going to be -- I think
17 probably the biggest key if we want to get a good -- a
18 more accurate picture of the problem is going to be the
19 victim service organizations and providers that have
20 direct access and contact with those victims that they are
21 servicing that are willing to discuss what they are
22 experiencing because -- and I think the data that has
23 already been wonderfully obtained by your staff is -- I
24 think it absolutely does show that's an absolute fact.
25 **MS. ADAMS:** Would there be any value to

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1 getting a great sampling either from what's happening in
2 villages or -- I would say there is as much going on here
3 even in Anchorage of just doing cold calling or an
4 area-wide survey to actually ask anonymously people if
5 they have -- if they know somebody, if these things have
6 happened, if they have been approached in this way, just
7 to get a broader sampling of maybe what's really
8 happening?
9 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** You know, having
10 been involved with a couple of surveys like the Alaska
11 victimization survey -- actually, Katie down there
12 probably would be able to give more detail on this, but I
13 can tell you from a couple different perspectives, it's
14 easier to get information if the utilization of the
15 information isn't going to be based on a scientifically
16 valid study or survey. That's one issue.
17 But it's very difficult to do studies in Alaska
18 to begin with, victimization surveys in particular. And
19 Katie might be able to comment on that a little bit
20 because the ones we have been doing that have been
21 involving rural Alaska right now have been very difficult.
22 And as a matter of fact, even with the
23 victimization surveys, if you look at the qualifications
24 of that, yeah, this is the data, but remember this, the
25 qualification piece of it. And some of the warnings are

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1 in regards to the most vulnerable areas of the population,
2 women that don't speak English, women that are victimized
3 repeatedly, or women that are in shelters.
4 **MS. DEWITT:** Homeless, incarcerated.
5 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Exactly. These are
6 adult women that we have surveyed, are the ones that we
7 are getting the least valid data on. So I don't know,
8 Katie, if you wanted to comment on it.
9 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Go ahead. Katie TePas from
10 the governor's office.
11 **MS. TEPAS:** I think when we are looking at
12 surveys, like the commissioner said, there is a lot of
13 different complexities. The first thing we have to look
14 at is doing no harm. So with this particular population
15 being driven underground and not certain what resources
16 they have, I would have some concerns I think we really
17 have to look at. Another complexity that is -- to do a
18 survey that would be truly statistically reliable and
19 valid costs a significant amount of money to do. Not
20 saying we shouldn't do it for that.
21 I think we could have a conversation -- I'm not
22 making a pitch for it either way. We will redo our
23 statewide victimization survey in 2015. So there's a
24 question of whether or not we could add a question or two
25 to that survey to get some of the information. But when

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1 we're looking at victimization surveys, we're always
2 conscious about the length of them. So a lot of people
3 want stuff to be added, like the suggestion I just made,
4 could we do that. We always have to look at the length.
5 And the longer it is, there is the potential for doing
6 further trauma. So I think we have to kind of evaluate
7 that.
8 One thing that you might choose to think about
9 is taking a more informal route and seeing if there are
10 some people who would be -- who have experienced
11 prostitution in terms of have been involved in that and
12 doing some informal interviews and just really getting
13 sort of that history from them and asking kind of a key
14 set of questions. And we might be able to find some of
15 those people through not necessarily coming to talk to the
16 group formally, but through some informal interviews.
17 That's just off the top of my head. So those
18 are some things to really think about.
19 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Katie. And I
20 would just add that we have to be careful about letting
21 our ambitions outstrip our capabilities here and our
22 timeline. We can make recommendations, and it may be that
23 more -- a different survey or a more different structured
24 survey, something like that, it would be valuable and we
25 as a group endorse that. And I think that could be one of

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1 our recommendations coming out of the task force, Gwen,
2 because it may cost money, take time, and that's one
3 thing -- we have no money and very little time. So --
4 But that's not to say that the legislature
5 couldn't consider the governor's office -- arising out of
6 our recommendations. So it's a good thought. I don't
7 want to drop it, by any means, but just keep in mind that
8 we can make recommendations. We are not going to solve
9 everything, unfortunately, but I hope we can advance the
10 ball and take this another step and leave something for
11 others to build on and continue the battle.
12 Anything else, comments, questions?
13 The next one is we will be having a public
14 meeting, as I said, probably more than one. And so the
15 question is are there -- and we typically -- and I think
16 staff has some recommendations based upon, as it gets some
17 of the path-breaking work that the CITC did in their work
18 group, on people who we should ask and invite to come
19 present. And you folks -- Michelle has got the
20 perspective from the rural side of the state, and Gwen as
21 well.
22 But why don't we talk about just first -- and
23 then open up -- Cori, there are some individuals -- we
24 circulated that. But who would the staff recommend that
25 we invite to testify at the public hearing and that have

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1 already demonstrated some knowledge and background of what
2 we are studying?
3 **MS. BADGLEY:** I think first is Jolene
4 Goeden from the FBI. Michelle is shaking her head. She
5 was at the -- a part of the NGO working group. And Jolene
6 made an excellent presentation on her experience working
7 with victims in investigating these crimes. And she even
8 had portions of interviews with one of the victims who is
9 willing to speak out. I found that very valuable and I
10 think it would be valuable for this group.
11 Also someone from the Anchorage Police
12 Department. I know Kathy Lacey, Sergeant Lacey has been
13 very involved. There might be someone else that would be
14 good. But the Anchorage Police Department has again been
15 the investigatory arm within the State that has probably
16 done the most investigations in conjunction with the FBI.
17 Another idea was to invite a presenter on
18 adverse childhood trauma because that's such a core
19 commonality within these victims. Some suggestions that I
20 heard partly from the working group and working with Katie
21 TePas, Dr. Mark Erickson from the Southcentral Foundation,
22 Dee Foster or Josh Arvidson with ACMH.
23 We also have some people within the Division of
24 Behavioral Health and Public Health, Stacy Toner and
25 Dr. Linda Chamberlain, who would probably be good

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1 presenters on that topic.
2 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Let me interrupt, Cori, to
3 ask you if the members -- is anybody familiar with these
4 folks? And who would you recommend and how many should we
5 invite? I don't know if we should invite all four. But
6 what's the thought of the group? Because what I want to
7 do is we will go through this and, as I said, to kind of
8 reach a consensus on and ask staff to go back and invite
9 these people to show up at our public hearing to present.
10 So should we invite two of them? Is one of them enough,
11 we think, on the adverse childhood component of this?
12 Thoughts? Michelle? Gwen?
13 **MS. DEWITT:** Well, my initial thoughts --
14 I don't know everybody that you mentioned, but my
15 experience tells me, of the folks that I do know, that it
16 would be very helpful to hear from Dr. Chamberlain and
17 from -- I forget his name, but he was the individual from
18 Southcentral Foundation who was involved with the CITC
19 group that I was on.
20 **MS. BADGLEY:** That's Mark Erickson.
21 **MS. DEWITT:** I think that would be very
22 helpful. He had a lot of insightful information to share.
23 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Unless there is objections
24 or other comments or concerns, I'm comfortable with that,
25 based upon Michelle and Cori's knowledge and information

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1 about these individuals, that we invite Dr. Erickson and
2 Dr. Chamberlain unless -- so sorry I interrupted you,
3 Cori. Why don't you continue on with the other
4 recommendations or suggestions that staff had.
5 **MS. BADGLEY:** Next is something the
6 Attorney General has already discussed, but Lisa Moreno
7 was the person with CITC who was really tasked to do all
8 the research and analysis and come up with their
9 recommendations for the ad hoc NGO working group I think
10 is what they called it. And she has a PowerPoint
11 presentation that I also think would be a way for us to
12 get that information to the group. And they would -- have
13 requested that they are able to come and do that
14 presentation. So I wanted to put that forward to the
15 group.
16 And then we haven't -- we have focused on sex
17 trafficking, but as Cathy said, there are some labor
18 trafficking cases out there. And trying to find someone
19 who has some experience with that I think would be
20 helpful. The Immigration Justice Project was an idea put
21 forward. They offer a lot of the translation services and
22 also help with legal services for immigrants. So that was
23 one idea for the labor trafficking. I don't really know
24 who else would be a good call. We could talk to the FBI
25 and see who is investigating those cases.

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1 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Let me just interrupt,
2 Cori, to ask our lay members: You guys, from your work in
3 this area, you know anybody that might be good?
4 **MS. DEWITT:** I work closely with AIJP, but
5 for full disclosure we also receive pass-through funds
6 from them.
7 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I appreciate the
8 disclosure, but if you knew somebody there, Michelle, that
9 wouldn't disqualify them, in my view, from -- or discount
10 your recommendation. If it's something you want to go
11 talk to your contacts there and follow up with Cori if you
12 have somebody in mind or let them know, but either way --
13 **MS. DEWITT:** I'd recommend speaking with
14 Robin Bronen.
15 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I think CIRI's
16 recommendation of maybe talking to the FBI regarding their
17 law enforcement investigative side, the people that are
18 actually doing the investigations; they don't have to
19 necessarily give us a presentation on their
20 investigations, but they can talk about what they are
21 seeing as commonalities, common issues, methods by which
22 people are being brought into the country, how they are
23 being coerced and things like that. I think that could be
24 valuable.
25 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Maybe Ms. Goeden can cover

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1 that as well. It may not be her particular bailiwick, but
2 she would have access to the information. She might be
3 able to cover that possibly at the same time.
4 **MS. SATTERFIELD:** There might also be
5 Stephanie Vetter, who is with ICE. And when I spoke with
6 her, she talked about cases back in the '90s, early '90s,
7 labor trafficking cases down in Unalaska and places like
8 that. If she's not able to do it, I think she might be
9 able to recommend somebody who would have some expertise
10 on labor trafficking.
11 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Cathy. And the
12 final one, Covenant House?
13 **MS. BADGLEY:** Yeah. So Covenant House.
14 In my research in talking to a lot of people and talking
15 to people at the ad hoc working group, Covenant House is
16 the number one organization that deals with this on a
17 monthly basis. Their estimates are that they get at least
18 two victims per month walking through their doors. And
19 that's probably an underestimate because, again, they
20 won't report. That's the number that have actually
21 reported on a monthly basis. So I just think their
22 experience is invaluable. Another idea, I actually did a
23 walk-through yesterday at the Covenant House, and they did
24 offer that any member who would like to do a walk-through
25 and see what they do and how they do things and talk to

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1 their staff, they would be very open to that, as well.
2 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Well, again, we are
3 working here with consensus, so we don't need any kind of
4 formal motions, but I'm going to propose, subject to
5 dissent or objections, that we authorize Cathy and Cori to
6 follow up with invitations to Ms. Goeden from the FBI;
7 somebody from APD who can offer -- they seem to be most
8 involved in the law enforcement side of these trafficking
9 issues; possibly Sergeant Lacey you mentioned; Dr. Erikson
10 from Southcentral; Dr. Chamberlain from Public Health;
11 Lisa Moreno, certainly; her experience seems to be very
12 valuable; and then someone from either ICE or from the IJP
13 justice project or someone else that you may be
14 recommended to who can talk about the labor trafficking
15 aspect from an informed basis; and then finally somebody
16 from Covenant House who can give us some firsthand
17 information about the people they actually treat. And
18 they may know more just from talking and interviewing the
19 people that come there looking for services, even if they
20 don't check themselves in. I think that would be
21 valuable, as well. But any issues with that? Any
22 concerns?
23 **MS. ADAMS:** It might be helpful for me,
24 too, if we had a grid that we were working from because
25 there are so many topics under this one topic, and if we

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1 knew what our basic grid was and where those people fit in
2 the grid, maybe we would be more likely not to miss any
3 key spots. So that I know that a grid that we have been
4 working off of in our organization is prevention,
5 intervention, recovery, and new futures. And so maybe if
6 there is people that can speak to each of those or if we
7 come up with a different grid but, you know, I want to
8 make sure that we -- because each of those areas are
9 critical and have to have great services and we have to be
10 able to connect the victims to each of those four buckets.
11 I'll add one more: Reducing the demand, you know.
12 **MS. BADGLEY:** And I do think if you see
13 Lisa's presentation, they break it out into prevention,
14 -- it's the four Ps, but it's -- I think it's very
15 similar, and they actually have recommendations under each
16 of those. So what might be helpful is to see that
17 presentation and the information, and then from there
18 maybe select certain areas that we could look to see about
19 getting someone else to come speak on.
20 **MS. ADAMS:** Uh-huh.
21 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Good suggestion. Let's
22 start with that group, then. I'd ask Cathy and Cori,
23 let's line up a panel that includes those people, and
24 possibly more. Michelle, you have --
25 **MS. DEWITT:** I would make the

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1 recommendation that we identify one or two tribal leaders
2 from rural Alaska to testify, as well. And so I'm not
3 sure that I have a specific person in mind, although I
4 think it would be wise to invite Myron Naneng from the
5 Association of Village Council Presidents or one of his
6 designees to come and speak. We know that a certain
7 percentage -- I don't know the number, but maybe something
8 around 30 is what we are talking about, 30 percent of
9 folks who are experiencing sex trafficking are from rural
10 Alaska. So I think it's important that we include that
11 perspective in testimony to the group.
12 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you. And I don't
13 disagree with that. And I think we are planning on having
14 a hearing in rural Alaska. And so whether he testifies
15 here in Anchorage or possibly one of the other locations,
16 but I agree with that. And we can fill out the roster --
17 I don't mean to make it an exclusive list of everybody,
18 but I was kind of thinking ahead just to -- this initial
19 hearing I think will be in Anchorage, so I think we will
20 do the rural hearings afterwards. So -- but I agree with
21 that wholeheartedly.
22 Which segues into our next agenda topic, which
23 is the dates and times for public hearings and public
24 comment period. We are required by law to have at least
25 one public meeting. So that goes without saying. There

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1 has been suggestions as to -- I think just informally
2 before this group met, just talking with Commissioner
3 Masters and Commissioner Streur, we have also talked about
4 having a hearing in rural Alaska. I thought, out of
5 deference to Michelle, it would be good to have a meeting
6 in Bethel, and since that's a community she's very
7 familiar with and could possibly assist in getting
8 witnesses. She mentioned one. And it certainly is a hub.
9 It's a hub in rural Alaska.
10 So let's just for now don't get too complicated.
11 Is there any issue or objection to having the one public
12 hearing in Anchorage and at least one hearing in Bush
13 Alaska? And let's talk more about whether we should
14 expand beyond that. But I think as a -- we have to start
15 with that base, I think, and then let's talk about whether
16 we should do more in terms of public hearings. So any
17 objections to that, a public hearing here in Anchorage and
18 one in Bethel? So --
19 Let me mention, the -- we have telephone access,
20 obviously. We don't have a budget, and so I don't know if
21 the public members can travel or not. I hope they can.
22 Bethel, obviously, is Michelle's home, but we are State
23 employees so it's easy for us to go, but I just want to
24 throw that out there for everyone's edification. If they
25 can't travel, we'll obviously accommodate by telephone.

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1 Otherwise let's talk about, do we need other
2 hearings? Do we want to schedule other hearings? If so,
3 where? Do we want to go somewhere else? Somebody
4 suggested in terms of the labor or human trafficking angle
5 possibly Kodiak as a place. And you know, that's a
6 suggestion, too. Thoughts on that? Discussion?
7 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I think just in
8 general, you know, depending on how you lay out the public
9 meeting itself is going to be important because there is
10 so much information that could come out, and I think it
11 needs to be kind of directed a little bit. Certainly open
12 to the public for people to testify, but certainly
13 ensuring, like you are talking about, targeting specific
14 people and asking them if they would talk about the issue
15 as they know it so that information we can make sure we
16 get. Having too many with the short-term I think would be
17 difficult to try to get all that information in and then
18 comb through it and get it --
19 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I agree, Commissioner. And
20 I -- but I don't want to rule it out. I think we do have
21 to be careful about the time. I think the drafting
22 process and the deliberation process for the task force
23 and coming up with recommendations and talking those
24 through and agreeing to them and getting them written up,
25 it's going to be a daunting task. We have got staff. You

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1 and I probably won't have to be sitting down at a
2 typewriter and typing up stuff, but it's quite a bit of
3 effort, so I think we have to be careful about that.
4 I think the people in Anchorage we have
5 identified I think are going to give us a ton of
6 information, and I think it's important to hear from
7 individuals as well as other members of the public,
8 anybody who wants to come in and talk about it.
9 Absolutely.
10 But these people who we have identified, you
11 know, on the list seems to me are going to have the
12 benefit of a lot of experience working with this -- a lot
13 of information. And that's probably more important or
14 just as important as an individual's story; as
15 heartbreaking as it may be, we need to look at the big
16 picture. In order, I think, to see the big picture, we
17 have to look at this information that's coming in and make
18 recommendations on that. But I think the human angle and
19 whoever wants to show up and testify and comment,
20 obviously it's important to hear them.
21 But let me ask, are there people who feel
22 strongly that we should do something other than -- have
23 other meetings besides Anchorage and Bethel, public
24 meetings, prior to sitting down to draft and do a report?
25 **MS. DEWITT:** I guess I would add for

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1 consideration, Bethel gets a high number of guests, as you
2 might imagine, people who come to do things because it's a
3 hub community. And one thing that folks do is tag on a
4 village trip during the visit to Bethel. And so depending
5 on the presentation from the FBI who has some knowledge of
6 communities where there is more linkages to trafficking in
7 rural, something for this group to consider would be to
8 see if one of those village communities may be interested
9 in having us go out and split our day between Bethel and
10 one of those communities.
11 Access is an issue in rural Alaska. It's
12 difficult to participate via phone, as we all know. A lot
13 of teleconferencing in our state. And I guess if there is
14 one barrier we could address and try to provide a little
15 more access for folks who are in rural, that's something I
16 would propose for consideration. And it might be doable
17 in particular if we were able to identify State resources
18 to help us get to one of the village communities. Just a
19 thought.
20 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I appreciate that. I think
21 if there is a village that's been victimized more so than
22 others -- and maybe the FBI would have some insight on
23 that or APD, but certainly -- otherwise I wouldn't know,
24 frankly. I think that's the danger is going somewhere
25 without knowing that there is information there. And I --

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1 and access is important. As you say, even
2 teleconferencing is a burden. I wouldn't want to single
3 out a village, either, for favorable treatment. It's --
4 it's an issue that's on the table, and I think that's
5 fair. I agree, Michelle, let's not rule that out.
6 Let's throw in the topic, though, that I think
7 is also on the agenda, since we are talking about it,
8 which is the interaction with AFN on the agenda. We had
9 privately talked about possibly doing something, having
10 our public hearing in conjunction with AFN, but these
11 people have a pretty full agenda while they are here.
12 They don't come to town -- it's a big deal, and then we
13 just got too close and all wrapped up, and the
14 appointments hadn't been made. We scheduled an
15 organizational meeting and we didn't even know who was on
16 the commission, so the timing didn't work.
17 But nonetheless, now that we have had
18 organization meetings, there is time, it seems to me --
19 and I'll throw this out there -- is there something we can
20 or should do to -- can we get a flyer out at the AFN? Can
21 we -- would they make time for one of us to show up and
22 issue an invitation to ask people to testify either at the
23 hearing in Anchorage or telephonic or in Bethel or
24 telephonically at one of those locations? Or there is
25 other ways to get that information out there to AFN so

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1 that we -- I think we all agree we want to make sure we
2 pick up that angle.
3 Anyway, I'll open that for discussion while we
4 are on this topic of do we need to do more in the villages
5 or try to get out to a selected village or two.
6 **MS. ADAMS:** I will say this: I think the
7 majority of the victims at least that we are working with
8 are Native or Samoan or Pacific Island. The trafficking
9 incidences are primarily happening in Anchorage when they
10 are away from their villages. And so it may be helpful
11 for Native leaders to be involved in what's happening here
12 in Anchorage and realize -- I think we need to get the
13 word out to the villages of the potential dangers any time
14 any young child or girl leaves their village and lands in
15 Anchorage, and the statistics are -- I mean, not accurate
16 but very --
17 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Alarming.
18 **MS. ADAMS:** Within 72 hours they are
19 approached. So the crime is happening in our city here,
20 mainly in Anchorage, but it's happening to our Native
21 girls.
22 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Points taken. Well,
23 thoughts about doing something in conjunction with AFN, a
24 flyer, asking for -- we could prepare a written statement
25 or an announcement for one of the AFN leaders to read. I

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1 don't know who is president or head of AFN this year, but
2 I'm sure they would cooperate with us if we had something
3 for them to do to try to get a notice out. And so I mean,
4 I'll put that out there. I don't want to get too many
5 things out there. Go ahead, Commissioner.
6 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** One thing is we
7 have the benefit of a lot of work that's been done by CITC
8 already. And that work has had a lot of influence and
9 input from the Native community and Native leadership, as
10 well as AFN leadership. So I think we have already got a
11 connection in there through that work. I think it could
12 be very -- I don't know what kind of response we would
13 get, but I think it could be beneficial to have -- have a
14 prepared statement of some kind that talked about the
15 public hearings that we are going to have, where they are
16 going to be at, when they are going to be, and solicit
17 input from the Native leadership to participate in those
18 hearings because there is a couple of things: One, it
19 acknowledges CITC's work that we can talk about in that
20 kind of statement. It also publicly speaks about the
21 issue and the problem and that larger forum at AFN.
22 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Let's do this. I think
23 it's a good suggestion. Cori and/or Cathy, would you
24 folks draft a statement, the idea being that we would
25 approach AFN leadership about having this read at an

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1 appropriate time to the -- it's a three-day convention,
2 so I'll leave that to them, but we would like it to get as
3 much distribution as we can, and I think acknowledge the
4 work somehow that CITC has been doing and that this
5 commission is carrying, you know, a formal task force to
6 look into it even more to make recommendations to the
7 governor and to the legislature and that there will be a
8 public hearing in Anchorage on such and such a date and a
9 public hearing in Bethel on such and such a date, and we
10 would ask people who are interested in -- however you want
11 to characterize it, to please invite them to participate.
12 Make sense? Without objection, we will do that.
13 And just to digress for a second, let's please
14 give your e-mails and contact information, if she doesn't
15 already have it, to Cori and Cathy, and we can get it on
16 e-mail, and then you folks will have a chance to review
17 this and approve drafts and stuff like that and make --
18 obviously it facilitates communication. So please do
19 follow up, Cori, when we are done in getting everybody's
20 e-mail.
21 So then we have got two public hearings, it
22 sounds like. I didn't hear a ground swell of support, but
23 we can always decide that later. But for now, anyway,
24 two, Anchorage and Bethel. So we needs dates. Again, I
25 didn't bring my calendar. I don't know -- I can find out,

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1 though. What's the best way to do this, Commissioner? Do
2 you have any thoughts? Should we have the staff follow up
3 with the task force and find a date when everybody is --
4 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I would say throw
5 out a couple of alternative dates and people can check
6 their schedules and see if they will work or not, and we
7 can narrow them down.
8 **MS. BADGLEY:** Are there any time periods
9 that definitely don't work for people? We can start
10 there. Are there large time periods and maybe we can
11 go around and --
12 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I can tell you for
13 me it would be the week of Thanksgiving and the week
14 before Thanksgiving and the latter half of December.
15 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Another way of doing this
16 would be a Doodle to everybody if Cori has got --
17 **MS. BADGLEY:** Okay.
18 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Can you do that, Cori?
19 **MS. BADGLEY:** Yeah, I can do that.
20 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Is that comfortable to
21 everybody? We will do it that way, and we will find a
22 date. I mean, ideally we should have one not too late in
23 November, certainly before the dates that Commissioner
24 Masters identified, and then we will need to get to one in
25 Bethel. I wouldn't go much past early December because we

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1 have got a lot of work to do then to get a report done by
2 January 15th. Does that cause anybody grief?
3 **MS. ADAMS:** The last week in November is
4 also not good for me.
5 **MS. BADGLEY:** But the first week of
6 December, possibly?
7 **MS. ADAMS:** I'm back on the 5th, so --
8 **MR. GERAGHTY:** 5th of December?
9 **MS. ADAMS:** Uh-huh.
10 **MS. BADGLEY:** I'll look in those time
11 frames and get back to everyone and see what we can work
12 out.
13 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And then once -- please put
14 those dates in the notice, and then we should try to get
15 the notice -- we should try to get the schedule firmed up,
16 folks, here very soon because AFN starts Tuesday or
17 Wednesday.
18 **MS. BADGLEY:** Wednesday. I think
19 Wednesday night, and it's mostly Thursday and Friday in
20 terms of the general conference.
21 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I think the youth
22 conference is Monday and Tuesday. But in any event, let's
23 get the schedule firmed up so we can get the notice done
24 and get that over to AFN leadership and have them do the
25 announcement.

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1 **MS. DEWITT:** I would also add to that
2 timeline that another place to make an announcement would
3 be that BIA provider's conference, which is typically in
4 November or December. That's also a time when a number of
5 folks are in Anchorage for a major event.
6 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I'm not familiar with that
7 one, but -- I think once we have the notice prepared, it's
8 fungible and we can use it for other events to get the
9 word out there. I think it's more effective than the
10 newspapers. Obviously, that notice will happen, but I
11 think a more directed notice like that to the groups we
12 are interested in would be good. So -- anything else,
13 then, on scheduling or venues?
14 This is the time set for public comment. I -- I
15 know there are some people on the phone. There is a
16 couple of people here in the room. But at this point if
17 there is anybody on-line or in the room who would like to
18 offer some comment, I just ask that you keep it reasonably
19 brief. But if you want to go ahead and identify yourself
20 and your organization. Why don't we start with the people
21 on-line and then I'll turn to the two or three people that
22 are here. Anybody on-line wish to offer public comment at
23 this point?
24 Okay. Thank you.
25 I know we have a representative from Senator

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1 McGuire's office here. I don't know this young lady.
 2 **MS. FREEMAN:** I'm Stephanie Freeman from
 3 the Salvation Army.
 4 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Thank you,
 5 Stephanie. Public comment from either representative
 6 here?
 7 Okay. Okay. I just wanted to identify that.
 8 But any additional comments from the task force members?
 9 I'll say for myself, I enjoyed meeting everybody. I look
 10 forward to working with you all. And this is an important
 11 subject. We have a lot of work to do. We have some
 12 travel involved. But it's a very important subject and
 13 it's important to our state and to the administration. We
 14 want to do the right thing. And I'm thanking you in
 15 advance for your hard work and long hours that are going
 16 to go into this thing. But fortunately we have got some
 17 talent and staff who are, I hope, going to make all of our
 18 jobs easier. But notwithstanding, it's going to be -- we
 19 have got a lot of work in front of us, and I look forward
 20 to working with you.
 21 Commissioner Streur, anything?
 22 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** Excuse me. I muted
 23 you. I have been quietly listening. No, I have nothing
 24 else to add, sir.
 25 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Thank you,

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1 Commissioner, and I appreciate your time. Commissioner
 2 Masters?
 3 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Not any more
 4 comments, necessarily, but just an offer of support to the
 5 task force. And that is, you know, should we do a visit
 6 out to Bethel for the public hearings, I'll look into what
 7 kind of resources we may have available to potentially
 8 even bring a group out to Bethel. And maybe if we do end
 9 up doing something in one of the villages, maybe even
 10 getting support to get to one of those communities. So
 11 just keep in contact with me regarding what the finalized
 12 dates are and I'll look into what kind of resources I
 13 might be able to offer, particularly with the members of
 14 the task force that are not State employees and don't have
 15 a budget to work with.
 16 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you. I appreciate
 17 that, Commissioner. And I know Michelle mentioned
 18 Mr. Naneng, inviting -- an invitation to him. I think we,
 19 as commissioners, I don't think we have to seek a
 20 consensus on it necessarily; if people feel strongly about
 21 individuals who -- and you guys have done a lot of work in
 22 this area that have -- would have good testimony and
 23 insights we should share and be aware of, please extend
 24 the invitation.
 25 If it would be more appropriate to come from the

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1 task force itself, I have no issue with that either. We
 2 are inviting these other people on behalf of the task
 3 force, and there may be people like Mr. Naneng who should
 4 receive an invitation from the task force as well. But
 5 beyond that, if you think of other people, Michelle or
 6 Gwen, that you would like the task force to issue
 7 recommendations to, please let Cori or Cathy know, and we
 8 will follow up. And then the directed notes to AFN and so
 9 on, we will get the word out there. And CITC has done a
 10 lot of work, and we can build on that.
 11 Anything else today for this organizational
 12 meeting? If not, we will adjourn and carry on to the next
 13 step. Thank you.
 14 (Proceedings adjourned at 2:51 p.m.)
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1 **REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE**

2 I, MARY A. VAVRIK, RMR, Notary Public in and for

3 the State of Alaska do hereby certify:

4 That the foregoing proceedings were taken before

5 me at the time and place herein set forth; that the

6 proceedings were reported stenographically by me and later

7 transcribed under my direction by computer transcription;

8 that the foregoing is a true record of the proceedings

9 taken at that time; and that I am not a party to nor have

10 I any interest in the outcome of the action herein

11 contained.

12 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed

13 my hand and affixed my seal this ____ day of

14 _____ 2012.

15

16 _____

17 MARY A. VAVRIK,
 18 Registered Merit Reporter
 19 Notary Public for Alaska

20 My Commission Expires: November 5, 2016

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(PROPOSED) MEETING MINUTES

State of Alaska Task Force on the Crimes of Human Trafficking, Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking

Monday, November 5, 2012, 2:00 p.m.

Anchorage Legislative Information Office
716 W 4th Ave., Room 220
Anchorage, Alaska

(Please note that a full transcript of the meeting is attached.)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Attorney General Michael Geraghty called the meeting to order a little after 2:00 p.m. and began the meeting by quoting the United Nation's definition of human trafficking.

2. ROLL CALL - TASK FORCE MEMBERS AND STAFF

Roll call of the task force members showed all members present in person: Attorney General Michael Geraghty, Commissioner of the Department of Health and Social Services William Streur, Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety Joseph Masters, Gwen Adams and Michelle DeWitt.

Roll call of staff members showed the following staff present in person: Assistant Attorney General Cori Badgley, Deputy Attorney General Richard Svobodny and Statewide Victim Witness Coordinator Cathy Satterfield.

During the roll call, Attorney General Geraghty also recognized Senator Fred Dyson, who was in the audience.

3. CHANGES TO AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Attorney General Geraghty moved to approve the agenda and it was seconded by Commissioner Streur. With no objection, the agenda was approved.

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 12 MEETING

With no objection, the Proposed Meeting Minutes for the October 12 meeting were approved.

Before moving on to the presentations, Attorney General Geraghty recognized Senator McGuire and her staff, Ms. Saltzman, for assisting with the meeting location.

5. LAW ENFORCEMENT PANEL PRESENTATION – speakers: Jolene Goeden, Federal Bureau of Investigation; Audrey Renschen, United States Department of Justice; and Sgt. Kathy Lacey, Anchorage Police Department

Audrey Renschen introduced herself as an Assistant United States Attorney in Anchorage, who has experience in prosecuting sex trafficking cases. Sergeant Kathy Lacey introduced herself as the supervisor of the vice unit for the Anchorage Police Department, and she has spent the majority of her time working prostitution-related cases. Jolene Goeden introduced herself as an agent with the FBI, who has spent the majority of her time in Alaska working human trafficking and crimes against children related matters.

Ms. Renschen provided an overview of the crimes of human trafficking and sex trafficking as well as the common situations that are indicators of trafficking. She began by outlining the definition of human trafficking under federal law and the elements of the crimes. She discussed the questions that might be asked that will provide insight into whether trafficking may be occurring. She also emphasized the need for nongovernmental agencies and law enforcement to work together and the role that each plays.

Jolene Goeden and Kathy Lacey followed Ms. Renschen's presentation with a powerpoint focusing on sex trafficking in Alaska and the common cycle that victims of trafficking go through. The presentation also included audio recordings from a trafficking victim named Heather, who provided personal insight into the world of sex trafficking. In brief summary, Ms. Goeden and Ms. Lacey informed the task force that trafficking happens in both rural and urban areas, although the normal make-up of the trafficking often differs. For example, sex trafficking in Anchorage generally involves on-line advertising of girls, whereas in rural areas, it is less formal and often involves family members or friends. Ms. Lacey emphasized that there is a strong connection between chronic runaways and victims of trafficking, and that the Anchorage Police Department has found that the national trend showing that a homeless youth will be picked up within 48 hours of being on the streets holds true in Anchorage. Ms. Goeden also pointed out that Alaska Native girls have been targeted by certain traffickers, and Ms. Lacey mentioned that there is a disproportionate number of Alaska Native women or girls brought in on prostitution charges compared to the number of Alaska Native women in the general population. Ms. Goeden described the general grooming process that traffickers will use to bring the victims under their control, and alcohol and drug addictions also tend to accompany victims of trafficking, making it harder for them to get out. After being groomed, the cycle of violence will begin, where the victims are broken down and then built back up. The last part of the presentation described how

Heather got out of the sex trafficking world and what factors helped her along the way.

Attorney General Geraghty asked Ms. Lacey how the prostitution and john arrests usually occur. Ms. Lacey explained that these are done through undercover operations, in which the officers either act as a john or the prostitute. She believes the reverse detail operations on johns have been effective.

Attorney General Geraghty asked the panel for any recommendations on how to improve the federal statutes and get the cooperation of the victims. The ideas presented by the panel included ensuring that the prosecution does not have to prove the john or trafficker knew the victims age in order to consider the victim a minor for purposes of the law; figuring out ways to get enough lead time until the victims might be willing to come forward; providing assistance to the victims to build trust; providing IDs for the victims with the help of DMV; training for law enforcement and NGOs to identify victims; and as a prosecutor do not share other victims stories with the victim to ensure the credibility of the victim witness.

Gwen Adams asked the panel if there is anything that can be done to make the penalties for prostitution stiffer to protect the victims so that they are held longer without being bailed out so quickly or turned away so quickly. Ms. Lacey responded that creative solutions could be looked at, such as substance abuse treatment instead of jail. Ms. Goeden also pointed out that arrest can be a double-edged sword because it creates a criminal history for the victim.

Gwen Adams also asked if the panel has seen a connection between foster care and victims. Ms. Lacey responded yes.

Commissioner Masters asked about whether there are gaps in data. Both Ms. Lacey and Ms. Goeden responded yes and described why it is difficult to get reliable data. Both agreed that it is crucial to get the NGOs involved, since victims are more likely to disclose to the NGO than to law enforcement.

5b. TESTIMONY OF SENATOR DYSON (not on original agenda)

Attorney General Geraghty invited Senator Fred Dyson to give his testimony early as he had another commitment. Senator Dyson provided testimony on his experience with sex trafficking due to some of the foster kids he's raised. He also described the legislative efforts he has assisted with to help in the prosecution of these crimes.

Following Senator Dyson's remarks, Attorney General Geraghty announced that the task force would take a brief 10 minute break, which started at approximately 3:30 p.m.

6. PRESENTATION BY STAFF OF THE COVENANT HOUSE

Covenant House staff members Alison Kear, the Executive Director, and Diana Bline, Director of Program Services, provided testimony on their organizations experience with youth who have been or are being trafficked for sex. In brief summary, they have found that approximately five youth per month coming through Covenant House's doors have been involved in sex trafficking. They also have youth come to Covenant House to recruit others into trafficking. Ms. Bline and Ms. Kear described the efforts the Covenant House is taking to better identify and help youth who are in these circumstances. They also elaborated on their recommendations to help the problem.

Attorney General Geraghty asked questions regarding the ages that Covenant House serves, the training their staff has received and how long youth can stay in their facilities. Ms. Bline responded to his questions with more information on how the shelter works.

Commissioner Masters asked questions regarding what actions can be done at the village level in rural Alaska. Ms. Bline and Ms. Kear offered suggestions relating to training and educating the youth on what to expect when they come to Anchorage.

Gwen Adams requested further information on Covenant House's outreach activities. Ms. Bline and Lauren Rice, the Director of Public Affairs, elaborated on their outreach, ranging from working with the schools to street outreach.

Attorney General Geraghty commented on the use of the internet to engage in sex trafficking and recommended the task force look at how to possibly limit that activity.

7. PRESENTATION ON FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AD HOC NGO WORKING GROUP ON SEX TRAFFICKING, presented by Lisa Moreno of Cook Inlet Tribal Council

Lisa Moreno, on behalf of the Cook Inlet Tribal Council and the Ad Hoc NGO Working Group on Sex Trafficking, presented the working group's final report and recommendations. Ms. Moreno provided background on the working group, the research she conducted, and the list of action items that the working group believed would help combat sex trafficking. The final report was included in the materials for the meeting.

8. PRESENTATIONS ON ADVERSE CHILDHOOD TRAUMA – speakers: Dr. Linda Chamberlain, Department of Health and Social Services, and Dr. Mark Erickson, Southcentral Foundation

Dr. Mark Erickson provided the task force with information on the connection between child maltreatment and being at-risk for trafficking, along with substance abuse, domestic violence and other issues. Dr. Erickson described recent studies that have shed light on the impacts of childhood trauma and mental and physical health later in life. He also highlighted three early-life programs, which studies have shown can decrease the likelihood of a parent abusing a child. These programs were providing a longer bonding time for mother and child postpartum for at-risk mothers, the baby-friendly initiative for hospitals to increase the amount of time a mother breastfeeds, and the Nurse/Family Partnership.

Dr. Linda Chamberlain also remarked on the impacts of childhood trauma, specifically focusing on brain development. She suggested that those looking at fetal alcohol spectrum disorder should partner with those looking at childhood brain development and trauma because they are closely related in terms of the risk factors and the development cycle.

Following the presentations from Dr. Chamberlain and Dr. Erickson, Attorney General Geraghty announced that the task force would take a brief break, which started at approximately 5:30.

9. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Renee, a member of the public, testified about her experience with child abuse and the penalties that should be imposed on sex traffickers and other perpetrators of sex crimes.

Keely Olson with Standing Together Against Rape testified in support of the task force's efforts and emphasized the need to not only focus on children as victims, but also adults.

Ken Legacki, a member of the public, testified regarding enforcement of the wage and hour laws at dance clubs.

Ginger Baim with Safe and Fear Free Environment in Dillingham testified about the issues in small villages.

Dolly Caswell, a member of the public, testified regarding the research she has done along with programs she has witnessed aimed at combatting sex trafficking. Ms. Caswell mentioned both the Swedish model and the John's school as options for helping to address the problem.

Five students and their teacher, Christy Anderson, from Mt. Edgecumbe High School provided their thoughts and concerns as it relates to teens traveling and having representation on the issue.

10. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM TASK FORCE MEMBERS

The task force members had no additional comments.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Attorney General Geraghty adjourned the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

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**PUBLIC HEARING
STATE OF ALASKA TASK FORCE ON THE CRIMES OF
HUMAN TRAFFICKING, PROMOTING PROSTITUTION AND
SEX TRAFFICKING**

**Taken November 5, 2012
Commencing at 2:00 p.m.**

Volume I - Pages 1 - 162, inclusive

**Taken at
Anchorage Legislative Information Offices
716 West 4th Avenue, Room 220
Anchorage, Alaska**

**Reported by:
Mary A. Vavrik, RMR**

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1 A-P-P-E-A-R-A-N-C-E-S

2 Michael C. Geraghty
3 Attorney General
4 Chair of Task Force

5 Commissioner Bill Streur
6 Department of Health and Social Services

7 Commissioner Jim Masters
8 Department of Public Safety

9 Gwen Adams
10 Pastor of Women's Ministries
11 ChangePoint Church
12 Anchorage, Alaska

13 Michelle DeWitt
14 Executive Director
15 Tundra Women's Coalition
16 Bethel, Alaska

17 Rick Svobodny
18 Deputy Attorney General
19 Criminal Division

20 Cori Badgley
21 Assistant Attorney General

22 Cathy Satterfield
23 Office of the Attorney General
24 Victim Program Coordinator
25 Criminal Division

26 Taken by:
27 Mary A. Vavrik, RMR

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29 BE IT KNOWN that the aforementioned proceedings were taken
30 at the time and place duly noted on the title page, before
31 Mary A. Vavrik, Registered Merit Reporter and Notary
32 Public within and for the State of Alaska.

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1 the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual
2 exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery, servitude
3 or the removal of organs" even, which the last one is a
4 new one to me, but in any event, it's a lot of legalese.
5 I think -- but I think it's important to keep that
6 definition in mind as we go -- as we listen to the
7 testimonies, we do our work as the task force and make our
8 recommendations for going forward.

9 But at this time I want to call the meeting to
10 order, as I said, and take a roll call of the task force
11 members and staff, starting with Rick Svobodny, the Deputy
12 Criminal Chief of the Department of Law.

13 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Here.

14 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Gwen Adams?

15 **MS. ADAMS:** Here.

16 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Commissioner Bill Streur?

17 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** Here.

18 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Commissioner Joe Masters.

19 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Here.

20 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Michelle DeWitt.

21 **MS. DEWITT:** Here.

22 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And Cori Badgley.

23 **MS. BADGLEY:** Here.

24 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And Cathy Satterfield is
25 our staff person who is assisting us. I want to

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1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Why don't we get started.

3 I don't have a gavel, so I'm not going to slap my hand on
4 this hard table, but it's a little bit after 2:00. Can we
5 go on the record, please. Thank you.

6 My name is Mike Geraghty. I'm chairman of the
7 State of Alaska Task Force on the Crimes of Human
8 Trafficking, Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking.
9 I want to thank everybody for being here this afternoon.
10 We will be getting started with testimony here today
11 shortly.

12 I'm learning about this subject as we go along,
13 as well, and I think it's -- before we start the
14 testimony, it might be useful just to draw our attention
15 to a definition, kind of frame the discussion and frame
16 the testimony we are going to hear this afternoon. But
17 the United Nations has defined that human trafficking is,
18 "the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or
19 receipt of persons by means of the threat or use of force
20 or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud or
21 deception, of the abuse of power, or of a position of
22 vulnerability or giving or receiving of payments or
23 benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control
24 over another person for the purpose of exploitation.
25 Exploitation includes, at a minimum, the exploitation or

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1 acknowledge her, as well. Cathy?

2 **MS. SATTERFIELD:** Here.

3 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I also want to acknowledge
4 that Senator Dyson is here, as well. He's had a
5 longstanding interest in this subject, and I welcome his
6 attendance and this afternoon's participation.

7 At this time are there any -- we have
8 distributed agendas to the task force. Does anybody have
9 changes or amendments to the agenda? Otherwise, I'd ask
10 that be approved.

11 **COMMISSIONER BILL STREUR:** Second.

12 **MR. GERAGHTY:** No objection. And Mr.
13 Streur's move will approve the agenda. Has anybody --
14 everybody had a chance to review the minutes from our
15 first organizational meeting on October 12th? And are
16 there any changes or amendments to those minutes? If not,
17 I'd ask that those be approved as well.

18 At this time, why don't we get started with the
19 testimony this afternoon. I know there is a number of
20 people here who have an abiding interest in the subject
21 who have been working in this area, and there has been
22 other groups, I think I acknowledged at our previous
23 meeting, who have been working in this area, as well, and
24 have done invaluable work.

25 Also, before I forget, I want to thank Senator

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1 McGuire and her staff, Ms. Saltzman, for arranging to get
 2 this office this afternoon for our hearing. Senator
 3 McGuire, of course, was the prime sponsor of this bill and
 4 is someone who is keenly interested in this subject, as
 5 well, but I want to thank her staff for arranging this for
 6 our benefit.

7 But at this point, we start with the law
 8 enforcement panel presentation. And I'd ask to call the
 9 names. And we have got the list of people. Just come up.
 10 And I'm sure you have testified before, but just introduce
 11 yourself briefly, who you are, who you work with and some
 12 of your background. And go ahead and provide your
 13 testimony. Some of it, I know, if is on PowerPoint, and I
 14 guess we will get to that when we get to it. But at this
 15 time I'd ask Jolene Goeden, if I'm pronouncing that
 16 correctly, to come up, Audrey Renschen and Sergeant
 17 Kathleen Lacey.

18 **MS. RENSCHEN:** Good afternoon. My name is
 19 Audrey Renschen. I'm an Assistant United States Attorney
 20 here in Anchorage. I have been with the U.S. Attorney's
 21 Office, be 13 years in March. Before that I've worked as
 22 a state prosecutor both for the State of Alaska for about
 23 seven and a half years and the State of Wisconsin for
 24 about seven and a half years.

25 I've had some experience in prosecuting sex

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1 trafficking cases here in Anchorage, and I've worked
 2 closely with Jolene Goeden and Kathy Lacey. I'll let them
 3 introduce themselves and then we can kind of move on with
 4 our presentation.

5 **SGT. LACEY:** I'm Sergeant Kathy Lacey.
 6 I'm the supervisor of the vice unit for the Anchorage
 7 Police Department. I have been with the department for 18
 8 years, majority of that time working prostitution-related
 9 cases. I work closely with Jolene Goeden and Audrey on a
 10 task force, Alaska Coalition Against Trafficking.

11 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Sergeant.

12 **MS. GOEDEN:** I'm Jolene Goeden. I'm with
 13 the FBI, and I have been here in Alaska with the FBI for
 14 almost nine years. And the majority of my time here in
 15 Alaska has been working human trafficking and
 16 crimes-against-children-related matters. Prior to that,
 17 my background is in psychology and I worked with sex
 18 offenders, treatment of sex offenders for about nine years
 19 prior to coming to Alaska with the FBI.

20 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you. Before I ask
 21 Ms. Renschen to start, let me take something out of order.
 22 I should have mentioned this earlier. I know there's
 23 people on-line, as well. And if I could ask the people
 24 on-line to identify themselves for the record, please.
 25 You don't have to testify, but just if you are on-line

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1 listening, please identify who you are.

2 **DR. CHAMBERLAIN:** Linda Chamberlain with
 3 State of Alaska, Alaska Family Violence Prevention
 4 Project.

5 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. If there is no one
 6 else, then, thank you, ladies. And Ms. Renschen, go ahead
 7 and start.

8 **MS. RENSCHEN:** Just to let you know, I'm
 9 going to give an overview of federal law and just an
 10 overview of some of the experiences that we have learned
 11 things about, both sex trafficking and forced labor
 12 trafficking. And Jolene and Kathy then will talk more
 13 concretely in specifics about the experiences that we have
 14 had in investigations and prosecutions.

15 Human trafficking can involve two different
 16 kinds of crimes: Forced labor crimes and sex trafficking
 17 crimes. And hopefully by the end you will have an idea of
 18 how you can recognize it. Forced labor is knowingly
 19 providing or obtaining another person's labor or services
 20 through one of three means: Either threats of serious
 21 harm or physical restraint; a scheme, plan, or pattern
 22 intended to instill fear of serious harm or physical
 23 restraint; or the abuse or threatened abuse of legal
 24 process. Sex trafficking involves both the use of force,
 25 fraud or coercion on adults or the trafficking of minors.

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1 And minors by federal definition are those who have not
 2 attained the age of 18 years.

3 And basically the elements involve knowingly
 4 recruiting, enticing, harboring, transporting, providing,
 5 obtaining or maintaining by any means a person knowing or
 6 in reckless disregard of the fact that, A, the person has
 7 not attained the age of 18 or, B, by means of force,
 8 threats of force, fraud, coercion or any combination of
 9 those means will be used to cause a person to engage in
 10 commercial sex acts. And commercial sex acts means a sex
 11 act where anything of value is given or received by any
 12 person. It doesn't have to involve the exchange of money.
 13 It can be the exchange of drugs for sex or any number of
 14 things.

15 What I've done is come up with kind of a
 16 simplified way of looking at both forced labor and sex
 17 trafficking. And the elements of human trafficking --
 18 first of all, there is a process, some action where a
 19 person recruits or harbors or moves or obtains a person.
 20 And there is a particular means that they use, either
 21 force or fraud or coercion. And it can be for the -- it
 22 is for the particular end of either involuntary servitude
 23 or debt bondage or slavery or sexual exploitation. And
 24 the means that is used can be either psychological or
 25 physical.

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1 Serious harm means physical harm, but also
2 nonphysical harm; as I mentioned, psychological,
3 financial, reputational. And the harm has to be
4 sufficiently serious to compel a reasonable person of the
5 same background and same circumstances to perform or
6 continue performing to avoid harm.
7 Some of the people that we see who are
8 trafficked are men and women and children seeking to
9 improve their situations. Their ages vary, as do their
10 levels of education. Sometimes they are voluntary
11 migrants. Sometimes they are local people. And there are
12 a number of reasons that people are used: Sometimes
13 domestic service, stripping, factory, processors,
14 agriculture, fishing, begging and peddling, restaurant
15 work, construction, criminal activity, hotel and motel.
16 These are all potential things that have been seen across
17 the country.
18 The traffickers can be organized crime. They
19 can be gang members. They can be neighbors or friends or
20 family members, people who are involved in agriculture or
21 fishing operations, owners of small- or medium-sized
22 businesses or pimps.
23 Trafficking is slavery, but it's not in the
24 sense that we think of when we think of the Civil War with
25 people being chained, necessarily, but it's a system of

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1 oppression where people don't have the freedom to move
2 about. It can involve isolation, verbal abuse,
3 psychological coercion, threatened or actual physical
4 violence, and sexual assault. It can be threats to other
5 people, family members, children, parents. It can be a
6 person who withholds documents, maybe passports if a
7 person is from another country or, if they are local
8 people, taking away their driver's license or their ID
9 cards. There can be threats of deportation. There can be
10 language and cultural barriers.
11 It's important to ask the right questions to
12 find out if there is fraud, if there is coercion. Were
13 false promises made? Did a person come into something
14 thinking that they were going to be doing something
15 legitimately and then had it turned around on them and
16 they wound up doing something completely differently than
17 what they thought they would be doing? How was their
18 travel handled, if they were smuggled or getting paid to
19 do their job.
20 If there are debts outstanding that may be
21 legitimate ones for travel or something, but debts that
22 are never paid off, that even though the person is working
23 and paying money, the debt never goes down even though the
24 person is paying a lot of money. Sometimes people enter
25 into contracts, as I said, thinking they will be doing one

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1 thing and another thing is what they actually do.
2 Often these situations occur in isolated living
3 areas. This is one house that was apparently just an
4 isolated place, but on Friday and Saturday nights there
5 would be men lining up outside to go in and have sex with
6 the victims who are working inside for their pimps. There
7 can be restrictions on movement. You can see in this
8 picture there is a corrugated fence that covers up the
9 barbed wire and the bars so that from the outside you
10 couldn't tell that this was anything other than an
11 apartment but, in fact, it was a place where people live.
12 Now, these physical kind of restrictions can be out there,
13 but things can also happen in a place that is in our
14 neighborhood.
15 The case that the three of us worked on with Don
16 Webster, he owns seven places around Anchorage, some in
17 Muldoon, some in Spenard, just typical kind of homes that
18 you wouldn't necessarily notice were different from their
19 neighbors, except for the activity in and out and the
20 secrecy of what was going on there. And you will hear
21 more about that as we go on to the next portion.
22 These questions about freedom of movement, about
23 isolation are really important. Can a person come and go
24 as she pleases or does she have to report every action?
25 If she goes to the store, does she have to bring back a

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1 receipt and exact change for what she's been sent to go --
2 to go get? Was her movement in public places supervised?
3 Did she have somebody trailing her or, if not physically
4 trailing her, calling her on the telephone and giving her
5 the impression, I can see you. I know you are not where
6 you are supposed to be.
7 If people are living and working in the same
8 environment, that's another clue where they -- they don't
9 have any outside interests or availability to get out.
10 They are just stuck in the place where they work and where
11 they have to live.
12 Whether or not the person has access to a phone,
13 whether or not the person is allowed to have outside
14 contact. Frequently a person might have a phone, but they
15 may be restricted about who they can call. And the
16 trafficker will check on their phone and find out who they
17 have been calling. And if they are calling somebody they
18 are not allowed to, like a family member or a friend, then
19 they run into problems and are either physically harmed or
20 threatened.
21 This is a woman who was a victim of forced labor
22 and who complained about not receiving wages, and she was
23 beaten and lost the use of her eye.
24 Asking questions about physical abuse is
25 important. If the person has never been physically

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1 abused, has she witnessed other people being abused and
2 did that scare her enough to get her to do what the person
3 told her she should do? Was she ever threatened if she
4 left? Did she witness threats against other people for
5 trying to leave? Were third parties threatened if she did
6 leave? And did she know about physical threats to other
7 people?
8 These themes are pretty common and they recur in
9 both forced labor and also in sex trafficking crimes. And
10 you will hear more specifics about that. And if it seems
11 like I'm being repetitive, I am because it's information
12 that you need to hear and you need to know so that you can
13 begin to recognize the particulars. And you will see that
14 these routines are very common and repetitive.
15 It's important and the law considers special
16 vulnerabilities that people have, whether the physical or
17 legal coercion or threats could plausibly have compelled
18 the victim to serve. And who the victim is matters.
19 This is a quote from a Supreme Court case that I
20 think is really descriptive. "You may find that a small
21 child who is told she is free to go home late at night in
22 the dark through a strange area may actually be subject to
23 physical coercion that results in her staying against her
24 will, even though an adult clearly would not feel
25 compelled to remain." So in that situation it involved

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1 forced labor of a child.
2 And it's important -- often we hear the question
3 asked, why didn't you just leave. And the reason is that
4 there are a lot of consequences to leaving when you are
5 being trafficked by someone. You're afraid of placing
6 your family or yourself in danger. You are afraid of harm
7 coming to your family, your children, your friends, and
8 you fear losing them. You have an economic dependence.
9 You don't have skills that you have been able to exercise
10 in the free market, but only those exercised that you do
11 based on what the trafficker tells you to do. You have
12 that emotional dependence; sort of, you know, the person
13 that you see all the time, even though that person may
14 beat you, occasionally the person is going to be nice to
15 you to keep the bond there and you begin to be confused
16 about whether the person is your friend or your enemy or
17 maybe both. So there is a dependence because that person
18 is the one person you see regularly.
19 There are cultural and religious restraints of
20 fear of law enforcement that we know is embedded in
21 victims, that people are told if you go out, the police
22 aren't going to believe anything you say. They are not
23 going to believe you. Don't even try. They are going to
24 arrest you and you are going to be the one getting in
25 trouble.

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1 Language barriers, guilt, the stigma, the
2 embarrassment of having to come forward and admit that you
3 have been duped and that you have fallen for a bill of
4 goods.
5 And you also have a belief that the abuse or the
6 situation will change. And then there is ambivalence
7 about what will happen if you do leave. At least here you
8 are able to get some food. You have a routine. But
9 what's going to happen if this person isn't looking out
10 for you, even though when they are looking out for you
11 it's always not in your interest. And a lack of
12 resources. We see that very often that the people that
13 are targeted are the most vulnerable, who don't
14 necessarily have good educations or good support, and they
15 are needy. They need something. And traffic is --
16 traffickers are really able to spot that.
17 One sidebar I'll give here. I remember one pimp
18 who used to go into a mall and he would see young kids in
19 the mall and he would walk up to them and say to a young
20 girl, you are so beautiful. And the girls that said thank
21 you and walked away he could care less about. The girls
22 who said, oh, no, I'm not, no, I'm not, not really, those
23 are the ones that the pimp would target because he could
24 sense their needs, their vulnerabilities, their lack of
25 confidence. And those are the people that are targeted.

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1 There is fear of the trafficker, the
2 ex-employer. There is loneliness, a lack of support
3 systems, problems with day-to-day living, coming to terms
4 with an inability to return home or lead a public life,
5 missing family and friends. There are drug or alcohol
6 addictions. That's something that we saw frequently. And
7 again, sometimes language and cultural barriers.
8 And this is where nongovernment people,
9 nongovernment organizations come in and help law
10 enforcement. We cannot prosecute these cases without the
11 victims, and we can only prosecute and get the cooperation
12 of the victims if they feel stabilized and safe. And
13 that's the only way we can ever do this. And both Kathy
14 and Jolene will talk to you about how they often did it
15 without the support of an organization. But on those days
16 when organizations were out there and willing to help and
17 as they gradually became more and more open and available
18 to help, it made for a much smoother road in helping the
19 victims, reaching out to them, and giving them the courage
20 to move on and to help with the investigation and the
21 prosecution.
22 And that's especially important because of how
23 traffickers mislead victims. If you sit down and talk to
24 someone who has been trafficked, they don't think of
25 themselves as victims, you know. They think of themselves

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1 in a situation, but the word victim doesn't ever come to
 2 mind. And sometimes it can take as much as a year or two
 3 for them to really sit down and realize what they have
 4 been through and what's happened to them.
 5 They don't understand the law. They don't
 6 understand their rights. They don't understand that there
 7 are services out there and people out there who can help
 8 them. And mostly that's because the traffickers tell them
 9 nobody cares about you. Nobody is going to help you. I'm
 10 the only one that can help you.
 11 That coordination is important. Local law
 12 enforcement, federal law enforcement and the nongovernment
 13 organizations. Without that combination, these cases
 14 really can't be prosecuted.
 15 And just a reminder how important it is to look
 16 beneath the surface. The next prostitute, stripper,
 17 illegal immigrant, runaway youth, domestic servant or
 18 migrant worker you encounter may be a victim of human
 19 trafficking.
 20 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Ms. Renschen.
 21 **MS. GOEDEN:** Okay. Kathy and I are going
 22 to talk more specifically about Alaska, and we thought
 23 that it would be helpful to not just hear from us, but to
 24 hear from a victim, to hear from someone who has lived
 25 this and who has suffered through this and who has also

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1 moved beyond it and is doing some incredible things in her
 2 life. So at some point after the first couple slides, we
 3 will introduce you to Heather, and she's a victim who we
 4 have some recordings of her talking about the different
 5 things that she's encountered and how she was recruited
 6 and what life was like for her.
 7 I won't spend any time on the definition. We
 8 have talked about that already. A little bit about our
 9 statistics. We are often asked, you know, how often does
 10 this happen. And it's really difficult to come up with
 11 numbers, I think, for a number of reasons. One thing that
 12 Audrey mentioned that is very important is these victims
 13 are not the victims that are going to self-report. And I
 14 think they may also be -- if they do self-report or it
 15 gets reported to law enforcement, it's oftentimes going to
 16 be under something else. It's going to be a domestic
 17 violence or might be a sexual abuse of a minor case or
 18 something like that. It's not typically going to come to
 19 the attention of law enforcement as a trafficking case --
 20 or an assault charge. That happens numerous times.
 21 We have had seven federal prosecutions in human
 22 trafficking cases. Not all of these have been prosecuted
 23 under the human trafficking statute. And those were
 24 decisions that were made by the attorneys as to what to
 25 actually charge, but we have had seven human trafficking

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1 cases. Within those cases we have had 105 human
 2 trafficking victims. Again, not all of these victims were
 3 included in charged counts in the indictments, but we have
 4 identified about 105 human trafficking victims.
 5 **SGT. LACEY:** Arrest stats, 1,028 from 2005
 6 to August 2012. Those are misdemeanor prostitution
 7 arrests. Some of them are the same victim being arrested
 8 more than once. And these arrests for prostitution are
 9 directly related to how much energy my unit puts into
 10 arrests. That figure could double if we spent twice the
 11 amount of time doing those kind of cases.
 12 **MS. GOEDEN:** And within the prostitution
 13 arrests we are often asked what's the difference between
 14 sex trafficking and prostitution. And I think there is a
 15 really fine line with that. And I think Lisa Moreno may
 16 be talking more about that later, but we do have
 17 situations in Anchorage where women are working as, quote,
 18 unquote, independents. They don't have a pimp. They
 19 don't have a trafficker that's forcing them, that's
 20 coercing them, that's behind that situation. So that
 21 would not fit under the definition of trafficking. But I
 22 think a number -- certainly within those 1,028 arrests, we
 23 definitely have trafficking victims within that.
 24 **SGT. LACEY:** We also can identify in those
 25 cases where we know they are being trafficked by someone,

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1 but making a prosecutable case is another story.
 2 These are the types of prostitution we see here
 3 in Anchorage. The typical street level prostitution is
 4 the -- the women that you see out very visible, flagging
 5 cars, hopping into cars as they stop. The second tier
 6 would be the massage parlors. We have got several of
 7 those all over town, and these are the ones that you see
 8 in the strip mall that are open till 2:00 and 3:00 in the
 9 morning, blacked-out windows. And the third is the
 10 in-call and the out-call escorts. Those are all
 11 Internet-facilitated prostitution. Those are a few
 12 samples of the places that they advertise. That is
 13 sweeping the state in the preferred way to sell women is
 14 over the Internet. The trafficker's overhead is as little
 15 as a cell phone or a hotel room. We're finding a lot of
 16 women coming up from the Lower 48 for the weekend, renting
 17 a hotel room, advertising while they are here, seeing as
 18 many clients as they can in a two- to three-day period.
 19 **MS. GOEDEN:** We are often asked if
 20 trafficking happens in smaller communities, and I think we
 21 can say that it does. We certainly have had federal cases
 22 that have not been focused here in Anchorage, but I think
 23 what you would see in a smaller community and in rural
 24 Alaska is different than what you would see here in
 25 Anchorage. The majority of our cases here in Anchorage

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1 have involved craigslist or the on-line advertisement, and
2 that is not what you would see in a small community.
3 There is no need to advertise on-line. What you are more
4 likely to see is going to be less formal, word of mouth.
5 The trafficker may be a family member or it may be, quote,
6 unquote, a boyfriend, and something other than money is
7 probably being exchanged, something like drugs or alcohol.
8 But it's a known within that community about where you can
9 go to get sex, who you can go to that can get you somebody
10 for sex.
11 So I'll introduce you to Heather. When we first
12 met Heather, Heather was a victim in the Don Webster case
13 that Audrey mentioned a short time ago. When I first met
14 Heather, it was in 2004 or 2005. Just from the surface,
15 what we saw as law enforcement -- and Kathy's unit was
16 very familiar with Heather. She had a long history with
17 APD. She had a number of prior arrests for what would be
18 considered nuisance things; prostitution, things like
19 that. She didn't have an extensive criminal history of
20 violence, assaults, or anything like that. She had a
21 severe addiction to crack cocaine at the time.
22 She was belligerent. Heather would call you
23 every name in the book when you would come across her as
24 law enforcement. She didn't trust law enforcement. She
25 had learned over the years not to trust law enforcement.

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1 Her interactions with law enforcement were to simply get
2 arrested and go to jail. And so from a law enforcement
3 standpoint, looking at Heather, that's what we saw.
4 After we got to know Heather a little bit -- and
5 it didn't take long, just by her personality. She's
6 funny. She's articulate. She was angry. She was angry
7 at Webster. She was angry at the system because she felt
8 like it had failed her. She had wanted on a number of
9 occasions to get into treatment and to get out. And she
10 felt stuck. She was hopeless and she was tired.
11 I remember one of the first stories that Heather
12 talked to me about was just being tired and wishing there
13 was a place that she could go just to get a good night's
14 sleep, where she didn't have to watch her back, she didn't
15 have to worry about the pimp coming in, she didn't have to
16 worry about a john. She could literally just go and put
17 her head down and get a good night's sleep. She was just
18 tired.
19 So what we have done is we will talk a little
20 bit more -- go through this and talk about how victims are
21 recruited and kind of the process that we see here in
22 Alaska. And then we have excerpts of Heather talking and
23 describing that situation for her. Start with Heather.
24 [Recording started:] My first memory of sexual
25 abuse was I was -- I don't even remember, but my first

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1 memory was when I was six. And pretty much all of my
2 mom's boyfriends and husbands have molested me in some
3 way, shape or form up until the age of 13. [Recording
4 stopped.]
5 **MS. GOEDEN:** Could you hear that? We
6 tested it before, and it wasn't --
7 **UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER:** No.
8 **MS. GOEDEN:** Couldn't hear it in the back?
9 Okay. I'll try it one more time this way.
10 [Recording started:] HEATHER: My first memory
11 of sexual abuse was when I was -- I don't even remember,
12 but my first memory was when I was six, and pretty much
13 all of my mom's boyfriends and husbands have molested me
14 in some way, shape or form up until the age of 13. I grew
15 up with an alcoholic and drug-addicted mother, an
16 alcoholic grandmother. Pretty much just bounced back and
17 forth from family member to family member. Let's see. I
18 started using drugs. I started experimenting with drugs
19 when I was 13. I had my -- [Recording stopped.]
20 **MS. GOEDEN:** Could we actually pull the
21 microphone from over there? That may be the best one.
22 So some of the things that Heather talked about
23 and that we see that are very common with victims is
24 chemical dependency and a history of some type of abuse.
25 Not always sexual abuse, but very often the victims that

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1 we work with have been sexually abused. Many of them have
2 been runaways. And they are typically very loyal. And a
3 lot of that goes back to the things that Audrey mentioned.
4 For many of these victims -- not all, but many of them
5 talk about how the life of the trafficker in some ways is
6 better than what they came from. Take out the beatings
7 and the abuse and the violence, but they know what to
8 expect from day to day. They have a roof over their head.
9 They have food. There are some things that are consistent
10 that they didn't have in their prior life.
11 **SGT. LACEY:** The runaway connection
12 between sex trafficking and runaways is very strong.
13 These statistics you're seeing here, one in seven children
14 will be a runaway before the age of 18, and one of three
15 teens on the street will be lowered into prostitution
16 within 48 hours of leaving home. These are from the
17 National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and we
18 found those to be true here in Anchorage when we look at
19 our runaway statistics. When we look at those names, we
20 have found that that is what is happening here.
21 **MS. GOEDEN:** And in terms of what we see
22 with the younger population and sex trafficking -- and I'm
23 sure you will hear more about this in a few minutes from
24 Covenant House -- but kind of typically what we see with
25 the victims in our cases is they may start out running

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1 away from home and couch surfing. They might be at one
2 friend's house tonight, another friend's house the next
3 night, and just going from couch to couch. Eventually
4 they run out of couches. And that's where it may turn
5 into survival sex, or quote, unquote, survival sex where
6 you're trading a place to sleep for sex, trading food for
7 sex. And the farther you get along that continuum, the
8 easier it is, the more vulnerable you become to a
9 trafficker because the more needs you have -- like Audrey
10 mentioned, the more things you need, that opens the door
11 for the trafficker to come in and provide them for you.
12 **SGT. LACEY:** And I think it's important to
13 note that when we are talking about runaways, we're
14 talking about chronic runways. We're not talking about a
15 child that runs away from home one time, but we're talking
16 about those kids that are repeated runaways to the point
17 now where the parents no longer call them in to the
18 Anchorage Police Department. They don't want the police
19 coming to their door anymore. So those kids are just
20 falling through the cracks. Nobody is trying to track
21 them down and figure out where they are because we don't
22 even know that they are runaways anymore. And that's when
23 they fall prey to the traffickers.
24 **MS. GOEDEN:** In terms of what we see here
25 in Alaska, it really is not limited to any socioeconomic

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1 class. We've had cases where -- we've had victims from
2 the Hillside in South Anchorage to victims from families
3 where the family was very impoverished. So it really runs
4 the gamut. Age of entry for juveniles we typically see to
5 be 15 to 17. And that holds true for Alaska Native
6 children.
7 Alaska Native girls -- we do have traffickers
8 who specifically have targeted Alaska Native girls. They
9 view them as more versatile because they can post them --
10 by post them, I mean on the Internet, on craigslist or
11 some of the on-line advertising places as different
12 ethnicities, Asian or Polynesian or a number of different
13 ethnicities. And so they feel they're more versatile and
14 that they can make more money off of them.
15 Typically with Alaska Native children, the
16 recruiting happens by other Alaska Natives. And that's
17 from rural Alaska. And the way that recruiting often
18 happens is you may have a girl that's already here in
19 Anchorage. She's met a trafficker. She doesn't know who
20 he is yet. Things are still great. He's the boyfriend
21 who is buying her things and taking her out shopping and
22 to the movies and everything is perfect. And she calls
23 back to the village and she will ask -- she will talk to
24 her cousin or her sister, whoever it might be, and say,
25 come to Anchorage. Things are really good here. You have

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1 got a place to stay. There aren't any rules. Whatever
2 the reason might be to get her here. And so it's done
3 innocently. It's not done knowing what the situation is
4 going to be like, and then it isn't too long before the
5 other shoe drops and that the force and the violence
6 happens.
7 **SGT. LACEY:** We are seeing a
8 disproportionate number of Alaska Native women involved in
9 prostitution. For the number of women that -- Alaska
10 Native women that are here in Anchorage, we are arresting
11 far too many of them as adults engaging in prostitution,
12 and that, Jolene mentioned, could have started as survival
13 sex. It could have been an abusive background. We don't
14 really know why, but we are seeing way too many of them in
15 our arrest stats.
16 **MS. GOEDEN:** Of that 1,028 that we
17 mentioned earlier, it's just -- I believe it's just over
18 40 percent of those are Alaska Native.
19 Where we see recruitment, it really --
20 **SGT. LACEY:** It could be anywhere.
21 **MS. GOEDEN:** Wherever young people hang
22 out. There is really no known like set place in terms of
23 where recruitment happens. Heather is going to talk about
24 where she was recruited.
25 [Recording started:] HEATHER: Jerry

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1 started pretending to kind of be like this guy interested
2 in me. I never knew he was a pimp. And then one night he
3 came and took me out on a date, and I told him yes, and we
4 went out on a -- he waited for me until after I got off
5 work. And I remember that was the night that I tried
6 crack cocaine for the first time. He gave me my first hit
7 of crack. And we were in Taco Bell parking lot, and he
8 pretty much got me addicted. And I'm sure that it was a
9 spiral downhill kind of thing. I pretty much lost
10 everything I had, my apartment, my car and everything.
11 And I got turned out to the street. [Recording stopped.]
12 **MS. GOEDEN:** At the time Heather was
13 working at a strip club. And Jerry -- Don Webster used to
14 go to the strip clubs often, and that's where he recruited
15 her. But it really can happen anywhere. We have had
16 girls recruited out of the domestic violence shelter with
17 a trafficker sending other girls in to check and see if
18 one of his girls were there. Out of Covenant House,
19 McLaughlin.
20 **SGT. LACEY:** Coffee houses, we have had
21 them recruited out of there.
22 **MS. GOEDEN:** We already talked about rural
23 recruitment and what we typically see there.
24 **SGT. LACEY:** We can't overemphasize the
25 love and attention. It seems really kind of basic to us

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1 that, you know, it's almost hard to believe seriously they
2 would be getting involved in this because they want love
3 and attention, but that's the bottom line. That's what
4 these girls are craving, and that's what the trafficker is
5 going to give them. The second one is a quote from a
6 pimp, and he realized -- very good manipulators, and he
7 realized very quickly -- and most of them do -- that if
8 you can mess with their mind, then you can do anything
9 with their body. They isolate them from family.
10 Oftentimes giving them nicknames makes it harder for law
11 enforcement to detect their real identity, and it also
12 separates them from the past life that they have. And he
13 becomes their everything. He becomes their family.
14 Showering them with gifts, especially for young
15 girls, the nails, the hair, the nice clothes, trips to the
16 mall, those are all very important. Photographing the
17 girls does two things. It -- he constantly reemphasizes
18 how beautiful they are and is giving them that validation
19 that they are beautiful and he's also taking pictures of
20 them that he can very quickly turn around and post on the
21 Internet. Alcohol and drugs is another common factor.
22 And just a quick synopsis of how the Internet
23 works is he can take a picture of a girl and design an ad
24 and post it often on these sites for free, and she may not
25 even know that she's being posted. And in that ad is a

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1 phone number. He's got a phone number. He will give her
2 a cell phone and he just starts booking dates for her.
3 It's that easy. They can refresh the ad, take a new
4 picture, change the language and it pops to the top of the
5 list when you are searching. It's that simple to post a
6 girl on the Internet. She may know, she may not know when
7 she first gets involved.
8 **MS. GOEDEN:** And then this is Heather
9 talking about how she was groomed.
10 [Recording started:] HEATHER: He
11 promised me that I wouldn't have to need or want for
12 anything, and so I agreed to go. It started out that he
13 helped me. I was working as an escort service and that I
14 could -- I would be making money and just giving him half,
15 you know, giving him a percentage and that I would get to
16 keep most of what I made, plus my tips. And it didn't
17 turn out like that at all. He took me out. He took me to
18 his house, and the next day he took me and got my nails
19 done and my hair done and got me all prettied and
20 shopped -- went shopping and everything.
21 And then when I started working, he -- my first
22 call, he took all my money and I was, like, well, I
23 thought I got a percentage, and he was, like, yeah, okay,
24 whatever. And you owe me for this and this and this, and
25 you don't think you get to live here and wear the nice

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1 clothes and be pampered free, do you?
2 So by then I was already strung out and felt
3 indebted to him, so I just started working for him. I was
4 pregnant at the time, didn't feel like I had anyplace to
5 go or anyone to turn to, so he took me in, and it was all
6 bad from there. I stayed with him -- [Recording stopped.]
7 **MS. GOEDEN:** This was one thing Heather
8 told us early on when we met her. She described what her
9 experience was like. She said he made me feel special.
10 He found me when I was broken. He built me back up, broke
11 me back down and built me back up again to where I thought
12 he was my everything.
13 The whole breaking-in phase happens next. And
14 basically this is when the other shoe drops. Things are
15 really great. You have this whole kind of boyfriend thing
16 going at first. And that whole grooming phase can take a
17 couple of days or it can take months. These guys are
18 really good at knowing how much time it's going to take
19 for each person.
20 So the breaking-in phase is when the physical
21 assaults start happening, the sexual assaults. Kathy
22 already talked about removing the identity and really
23 removing that person from their support structure. And it
24 turns into the, you know, you owe me just this one time.
25 And it's never just one time --

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1 [Recording started:] HEATHER: With
2 Jerry, it was -- at first it was like you were a queen.
3 You got pampered and you got loved and you got -- you got
4 treated like you were, like -- like the special one, and
5 then when the newness wears off, the beatings begin. And
6 he would beat you. And you weren't allowed to talk back
7 to him. You weren't allowed to make smart-mouth comments.
8 If you did, you got beat. If you came up short, even a
9 dollar short, you got beat.
10 And the beatings were severe. It wasn't like a
11 slap or just a knock-around. It was like your hair is
12 getting ripped out, your neck is getting, like, twisted,
13 you are getting punched in the ribs. For me I got
14 hog-tied and gagged and thrown into what he -- he called
15 the closet, but it was actually an underground little
16 tunnel. I actually lived down there for three days. He
17 fed me water and bread and he gave me little hits of crack
18 here and there to keep me, like, tortured just to jones
19 hard enough for it. And I had to pretty much use the
20 bathroom on myself while I was down there. That was a
21 whole 'nother -- going to the bathroom. It was -- it was
22 brutal. It was brutal.
23 I -- I watched him do horrible things to other
24 girls. We had to have sex with him. Even if you did not
25 want to, he would beat you to like a bloody pulp and he

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1 would throw you in the shower and clean you up and tell
2 you how much he loved you and tell you that, you know, he
3 loved us, but it was our fault. We made him do it. And
4 he would make us have sex with him and then he would put
5 us back to work. [Recording stopped.]
6 **MS. GOEDEN:** The closet that Heather
7 described in her particular situation was a crawlspace
8 beneath the house. I remember when I first met Heather,
9 the first time I talked with her and heard her story,
10 there were a number of things that she said that I
11 couldn't believe them; they sounded so outrageous. But
12 they were true. I mean, they were corroborated, not just
13 her story, but the stories of many of the other girls.
14 It was interesting talking with Heather and
15 doing the recording for this. It's been several years
16 now, and how her descriptions of what happened, they
17 haven't changed. I mean, it's still that vivid in her
18 memory and how she talks about what happened.
19 Audrey mentioned this in terms of why the
20 victims don't leave. It's for all of those reasons and
21 probably many, many more that we don't understand.
22 Embarrassment is a big one for many of these women and
23 girls. Having the world or having people know that they
24 were forced to engage in prostitution I think for many of
25 them is very, very difficult. And Heather talks about

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1 what role that played in her life.
2 [Recording started:] HEATHER: One day I
3 was standing on the street corner, and it was in the
4 middle of the day, and I was tired and I hadn't made very
5 much money. And I was dope sick. And I remember standing
6 on the street corner and these girls drove by me, drove
7 by, and I thought it was a date at first. And when I
8 started walking towards the car, they pointed and laughed
9 at me and sped off. And I remember thinking to myself,
10 oh, my God, I used to be those girls. How did I get from
11 that to this? Like it's -- it's -- I mean, it's just like
12 I don't -- it's like -- not like, you know, when you are
13 little and you grow up, you say you want to grow up to be
14 a prostitute and crackhead and things like that. It's
15 horrible. [Recording stopped.]
16 **MS. GOEDEN:** We also asked Heather to talk
17 about getting out, how she was able to get out of this and
18 what worked for her. And you are going to hear Heather
19 talk about the importance of some of us and the other APD
20 detective that worked the case. And I hesitated a little
21 bit to put these in because it really is not about us. In
22 Heather's mind, we played a really big role in that.
23 She's the one that did it. And with all of these victims,
24 they are the ones that are actually doing this and making
25 the really hard decisions and life-threatening decisions

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1 for some of them. So I give you that caveat as she talks.
2 But actually, before that, one other thing that
3 is important is opportunities and choices are important.
4 All of these victims need to have -- actually, almost most
5 -- all of them have been in a situation where they are not
6 making decisions for themselves. They are not allowed to
7 make decisions for themselves. They don't have choices.
8 So empowering them and giving them the opportunity to make
9 a choice about what they are going to do next in their
10 life is huge. Sometimes they don't know how to make that
11 decision. And it takes some time, but that's important.
12 What has worked is creative court dispositions.
13 We have worked with some great State ADAs who have done
14 some really creative things in terms of making treatment
15 an option. On an unrelated case, making treatment an
16 option as a disposition in a case rather than jail time.
17 And just thinking outside the box on things that might
18 actually work to help these victims instead of just being
19 in jail.
20 Needing help navigating the system and all of
21 the red tape -- we have a really complicated system. And
22 not just legal systems. Social service systems. So
23 needing help applying for State assistance, applying for
24 housing, a number of those types of things.
25 They need to also be held accountable. And you

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1 will hear Heather talk about that. It wasn't a free ride.
2 She was held accountable, to the point that when she had a
3 child, it was law enforcement, it was the people that she
4 trusted that actually called OCS and had that child
5 removed. So it's not a free ride. She's still held
6 accountable. And consistency, I think, is also very, very
7 important.
8 [Recording started:] HEATHER: Because
9 after a while, like -- well, for me it changed because,
10 you know, after a while I would always -- you know, when I
11 would get arrested, I'd be, like, you know, this isn't
12 really who I am. And I would tell them that. Or they
13 cared to treat me like -- like crap, and I'd be, like,
14 hey, you know, you don't even know me. And I'd tell them
15 that you don't know me. Like, who are you to judge me?
16 You don't even know me. I would tell them things like
17 that.
18 But also because, you know, it took one -- you
19 know, one person from APD, you know, and that was Lenny,
20 who actually started talking to me first and regardless of
21 how bad I treated him, he was always there to be, like,
22 hey, you are better than this, you know, or whatever. And
23 so then I guess his buddy started saying, you know, that
24 there was a change in the way I was talking to him and the
25 way I was talking to them, you know. And I don't know. I

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1 don't know. I think that people just -- I guess they hear
2 one story, and it makes them want to hear others.
3 What got me started with -- was finally when I
4 met you and Jerry's case started and I met you and Lenny
5 -- well, I already knew Lenny. But when Lenny introduced
6 me to you and I was given the opportunity to really do
7 some treatment is what got me started, like, you know -- I
8 relapsed twice after that and had to go back to treatment.
9 So I ended up doing treatment, like, three times, you
10 know, but that's like -- that's like the normal for, you
11 know, for treatment. Not everybody gets it the first
12 time. You know, sometimes it takes -- it takes people a
13 couple of times before it actually sticks.
14 But then I got pregnant with my son, and I
15 really wanted to be at home. I lost my other kid to -- to
16 the State, and my other son was killed. And so I didn't
17 have any more chances to be a mom. I really wanted to.
18 So I got clean and I stayed clean until he was about six
19 months old. And when he was six months old, I had a
20 relapse. I let my brother come live with me. [Recording
21 stopped.]
22 **MS. GOEDEN:** The relapse she's talking
23 about is when law enforcement had to come in, and we
24 contacted OCS and her son was taken away. She worked
25 really hard and she got her son back, and she's been able

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1 to be a great mom for the last three years with him.
2 A number of obstacles for identification, and I
3 think Audrey talked about a number of these. A number of
4 medical issues associated with trafficking. None of these
5 are probably a huge surprise. Traumatic brain injury is
6 very common with trafficking victims because of the
7 beatings, the number of beatings that they endure and the
8 types of beatings that they endure in terms of slamming
9 their heads against things. And also choking is really
10 common, for some reason, among pimps. I think a lot of it
11 has to do with just that feeling of power that they can
12 have. And we have heard a number of girls talk about a
13 pimp choking her to the point where she almost passes out,
14 letting go so she comes back, choking her, letting go,
15 just that ultimate control that he has.
16 Mental health issues, as well. Some of the
17 victims, of course, as in any situation, may have mental
18 health issues prior, but a number of the victims that we
19 have worked with definitely have trauma-related issues
20 that need to be addressed once they are out of this
21 situation.
22 When I asked Heather kind of in closing what she
23 wanted people to know, there were a couple of things that
24 she said.
25 [Recording started:] **HEATHER:** I want to

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1 say that law enforcement needs to understand that we are
2 human. We are somebody's daughters. We are somebody's
3 mother. We are somebody's sister. And that because we
4 are out there or because of the way we may act or talk to
5 them, it's not where we -- it's the addiction that's
6 talking, but 90 -- I'd say 99 percent of us that are out
7 there, we are good people, we are smart people, we're very
8 well-educated people. We just -- life happened for us
9 wrong.
10 And then I think that they shouldn't be so
11 closed-minded to us, that they should actually take the
12 time to say, hey, what's going on with you or why are you
13 out here, instead of, oh, you are just a piece of trash,
14 go to jail, you know. There is a story behind every
15 single one of us, and most of -- and 99.9 percent of them
16 has to do with child abuse, child molestation, some
17 kind -- something traumatic that has happened to us. It
18 just takes one person to make -- to change somebody's
19 life. And for me or you and Lenny, regardless of how many
20 times I fucked up, you guys were always there, that when I
21 was ready to pick myself up and do good for myself, you
22 guys were there. And you guys never broke your word to
23 me, that you -- you know, that you were genuine, you know.
24 And that means a lot to somebody -- it means a lot to us
25 on the street because we don't trust nobody.

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1 **MS. GOEDEN:** So like I said, Heather gives
2 a lot of other people credit for her hard work. She's the
3 one that did it. She's doing remarkably well today. She
4 has since moved out of state, which is -- was a great
5 thing for her to be able to do that and is doing really
6 well. And she's a mom, which is what she's always wanted
7 to do. But unfortunately, not everybody has been as
8 fortunate as Heather. And there are a number of victims
9 that I think in large part, due to the addiction, that's
10 one of their biggest struggles. They are out on the
11 street, and it's really been difficult to get them -- get
12 them back. So I think that's -- you have anything else
13 that you --
14 **SGT. LACEY:** No.
15 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you very much.
16 Excellent. I don't know if the other task force members
17 have questions. I do, but I'm going to let them go first.
18 But I'm happy to kick it off if nobody else does. I've
19 got a lot of stupid questions here, but I want to turn to
20 the panel first. Does anybody want to jump in right now?
21 If not, let me start.
22 First of all, I thank you. Very informative.
23 Excellent. Obviously you folks have a great deal of
24 knowledge about this. Sergeant Lacey, I'm curious. You
25 mentioned the statistics on the number of prostitution

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1 arrests in the last seven years. How are those typically
2 done? Is it by an undercover --
3 **SGT. LACEY:** Yes. That's exactly how it's
4 done. And one thing we kind of try to put out to anybody
5 that's working in prostitution is that they come forward
6 and tell us that they need help, they want out, we're not
7 going to arrest them. The only way we can make those
8 arrests is with an undercover officer. Occasionally we're
9 going to make an arrest if you catch someone in the act,
10 if you get two people in a car and catch them in the act.
11 But the vast majority is behind closed doors.
12 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And I mean, that's the
13 supply side. Of course, this exists because people are
14 willing to pay for sex. Is there any -- do you go after
15 the johns?
16 **SGT. LACEY:** Yes. We do what we call
17 reversal details where we put a female out on the street
18 and we arrest johns, and we have done that pretty
19 effectively. The first arrest we impound their car, which
20 tends to be a deterrent because then they have to explain
21 why they don't have a car to their wife or significant
22 other. The second time, the city code allows us to seize
23 that vehicle possibly for forfeiture, but the problem is
24 getting them the second time.
25 **MR. GERAGHTY:** When the prostitutes are --

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1 I'm going to call them victims because I think that's
2 really how -- part of the transition here we need to make
3 -- are arrested, I think you mentioned there was 100 and
4 odd victims of human trafficking of that 1,000. And I
5 believe you said you suspected there were more, but you
6 have proof issues in trying to actually show that. Am I
7 correct in that?
8 **MS. GOEDEN:** That's two different sets of
9 statistics. The 105 were victims that were identified in
10 federal trafficking cases that we've actually worked. Of
11 the 1,028, it's an unknown. It's hard -- we can't put a
12 number to how many of them we can solidly say were
13 victims.
14 **SGT. LACEY:** Yes. You are correct. And
15 the issue is we can -- you know, we may have intelligence
16 that yes, they're being run by somebody, but proving it
17 again is another story. You have to get that victim to
18 trust us enough to talk and to divulge that they are
19 working for someone.
20 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Understood. And that point
21 came across very clear in your testimony. Let me ask
22 Ms. Renschen, you have been doing this -- we are in the
23 prosecution business, and I don't -- as I sit here, I'm
24 not familiar enough with the -- the similarities between
25 state and federal law. I'm sure they are probably very

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1 similar, but as a prosecutor, are there -- could you
2 identify terms or conditions or things that you wish were
3 in federal law that would make it easier to prosecute
4 these crimes? Is there a particular obstacle or hurdle
5 that you see in the statute that makes it more difficult
6 to go after these -- these criminals and these victims?
7 **MS. RENSCHEN:** Well, interestingly, after
8 our prosecution of Don Webster, there were some changes
9 made to the statute. One of my co-counsel, Alexandra
10 Gelber, came out to help with the trial and motion
11 practice, and one of the things that she went back to
12 Washington, D.C. with was this issue of the age of the
13 children and what proof level was needed because the
14 defendants always say, well, I didn't know she wasn't 18,
15 you know. So right now the law has been changed.
16 At that time we had to show that the person knew
17 that the victim was under 18. That change has been made
18 so that knowledge isn't there. That's where that reckless
19 disregard language came in, too. If you don't take the
20 time to figure out if somebody is under 18, that's on you.
21 It's not a requirement that the government has to prove
22 that you knew it because it's pretty impossible to do that
23 because often the girls initially lie about their ages to
24 try to -- to get all of the -- the attention and the charm
25 drawn on them. So right now I think the law is in pretty

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1 good shape.
2 One of the most difficult problems that we have
3 is coordinating the prosecutions in a way that gives us
4 time to get the victims ready to talk. And what we have
5 successfully done is placeholder indictments where with
6 Don Webster, we charged him with having like a gram of
7 cocaine on his person, and we charged him with using his
8 house as a place of trafficking drugs. And there was
9 another charge. I came up with three drug charges and
10 managed to keep him in custody on those charges, even
11 though on a normal day I never would have -- you know, I
12 never would have had the evidence to keep somebody in.
13 But by keeping him in jail and actually because
14 the trial was set out, he got sent out of state to SeaTac,
15 and we were able to work with our victims here and get
16 them to step forward. And having support from
17 organizations that could provide social support -- I mean,
18 it was amazing. And I'll let Jolene give an example
19 because I remember sometimes the victims would need just
20 the smallest things, and being able to get help with it
21 was problematic. Talk about that, Jolene.
22 **MS. GOEDEN:** Well, one of the most common
23 things that happens in these cases is the trafficker will
24 take away their driver's license or their identification
25 cards, and that can often be difficult to get that person,

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1 get the victim a replacement. And it's surprising the
2 number of victims that will say I didn't leave or I didn't
3 think I could leave because he had my ID card, or he knew
4 where I lived because of my ID card. And this still has
5 not been completely resolved, but we worked out a
6 relationship with DMV to be able to get replacement cards
7 because we were trying to get replacement ID cards for
8 girls that did not have a birth certificate, did not have
9 a Social Security card. They didn't have any
10 identification. And so we were working on DMV letting us
11 vouch for them that we knew who they were. Something very
12 simple as getting a replacement ID card was oftentimes
13 very difficult.

14 **MR. GERAGHTY:** It seems to me that without
15 the cooperation of the victims, I mean, you are kind of
16 dead in the water. Is that a fair characterization of --

17 **SGT. LACEY:** Exactly.

18 **MR. GERAGHTY:** This young lady Heather was
19 probably an exception. What words of wisdom do you have
20 for the task -- how do we get the cooperation and the
21 trust of these victims so that they will help us make
22 these cases to break this cycle of bondage?

23 **MS. GOEDEN:** I think one thing is -- one
24 thing that needs to happen is training of law enforcement
25 statewide because I do believe in talking with victims

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1 that this is happening not just in Anchorage. And when
2 law enforcement doesn't know the right questions to ask or
3 doesn't understand the complexity of it and all of the
4 dynamics that go into it, it can be difficult to identify
5 the right type of resources. And so victims may not step
6 forward because they don't think they are going to be
7 understood.

8 And also recognizing the complexities of it so
9 when something is called in as a domestic violence
10 situation or sexual abuse of a minor or assault case or
11 whatever, they know what additional questions to ask to
12 see what might be beneath.

13 **SGT. LACEY:** And we have that in the
14 works. We are actually working with the Alaska State
15 Troopers to develop a statewide curriculum for law
16 enforcement. And I think that that training needs to go
17 across the board to NGOs, as well. Everybody needs to
18 recognize that this is not a quick solution. When we get
19 our hands on one of these girls, it may take two or three
20 times of us actually arresting them before they are ready
21 to come forward at that point and say I want out, I want
22 help. And so it needs to be across the board people
23 understanding the complexities of the type of help that
24 they are going to need to exit this lifestyle.

25 **MR. GERAGHTY:** May I ask if --

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1 **MS. RENSCHEN:** Can I add one thing to that
2 that's really important from a prosecution perspective?
3 And that is -- and it goes to training. The people who
4 act as investigators on these cases have to be very
5 careful not to share victims -- other victims' stories
6 with a victim. They need to know that they're not the
7 only one coming forward, that there are other people, but
8 the details of that have to be kept separately so that
9 their credibility isn't attacked while on the stand
10 because, as you have heard, they have potential
11 credibility issues already. So that strict line of
12 demarcation in keeping -- we never named any of the
13 victims in the indictments. We referred to them as Jane
14 Doe No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, and never tell any of the victims
15 who we have spoken to, but just that there are others
16 coming forward. And that was really crucial for our
17 prosecution.

18 **MR. GERAGHTY:** May I ask Ms. Goeden or
19 Sergeant Lacey, did you folks get training to help you do
20 your jobs, or was it mostly on the job, or what training
21 did you get personally that you found very helpful?

22 **SGT. LACEY:** Both. We started working
23 these cases because we had an interest in it, and I think
24 we started working them first and the training came later.
25 We were -- in particular APD got a human trafficking grant

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1 which allowed for me personally and for me to send my
2 detectives to training, the National Center For Missing
3 and Exploited Children, several different national
4 trainings that we went to. So I think we personally have
5 had some extensive training and we have tried to, in turn,
6 turn around and train law enforcement as much as we
7 possibly can.

8 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Anything to add?

9 **MS. GOEDEN:** No.

10 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Well, that's all the
11 questions I have. I don't want to dominate here. Any
12 other questions from the panel?

13 **MS. ADAMS:** I have a couple. We talked a
14 little bit about the difficulty -- when somebody gets
15 arrested the first time, it almost seems like it's going
16 to be difficult to get them to stay long enough to be able
17 to even have a chance to hear their story or even gain
18 trust or connect them with services. Is there anything
19 that can be done to make the penalties for prostitution
20 stiffer to protect the victims so that they are held
21 longer without being bailed out so quickly or turned away
22 so quickly?

23 **SGT. LACEY:** I think the creative
24 solutions, the solutions I think we could look at. Here
25 is how a typical arrest will go: We will arrest a woman.

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1 And if this is her first arrest, we will do what's called
2 a cite release. She's not going to go to jail at all.
3 She's going to be issued a citation and court date in 30
4 days to appear. If she has multiple priors, then she will
5 go to jail and probably bail out the next day. So I think
6 it would be fruitful to look at some solutions there.
7 Instead of having that first arrest, just going through
8 that process is possible. Substance abuse treatment in
9 lieu of that arrest or make that arrest go away.
10 Oftentimes we need these women to get clean
11 before they can see straight enough to talk to us and tell
12 us what's going on. The moment that we arrest them, it
13 could be 1:00 in the morning and they are high and they're
14 angry and they're combative, and we don't get anywhere on
15 that first arrest.
16 **MS. GOEDEN:** And I add to that also that
17 the arrest is a double-edged sword because that arrest is
18 on their criminal history. And we have certainly had
19 victims that were absolutely victims of trafficking who
20 had prostitution arrests that happened during the
21 investigation who were then unable to get jobs, who were
22 fired from jobs because of the arrest. So I think it's
23 definitely something that has to be explored further and
24 alternatives.
25 **MS. ADAMS:** One more question: Looking at

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1 some of the national data, it looks like about 84 percent,
2 or somewhere high, in that range, girls who are being
3 trafficked or involved in prostitution have had some
4 interaction with foster care. Do you see those numbers
5 translate the same up here? Are we missing that pool of
6 potential --
7 **SGT. LACEY:** Yes, we do see that a lot.
8 We found that when it comes time to placing a victim, what
9 are we going to do with them, especially juveniles. The
10 initial response is let's give them back to their foster
11 parents. Well, they ran from that home. This is their
12 fifth or sixth foster home. So yes, we do see that same
13 trend here.
14 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Other questions?
15 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Just one, Mike.
16 And I'm not sure probably which one could best answer
17 this, but maybe a combination of you. But there is a lot
18 of information on the trends nationally as well as in
19 Alaska. And certainly a lot of the Alaska trends, they
20 appear to be very serious, and certainly underreporting is
21 a huge contributor to not fully understanding how
22 pervasive the problem is in Alaska. And I was wondering
23 if you could comment a little bit on maybe how you arrived
24 at the trend data and then whether or not you feel that
25 you have -- that there is enough data out there to come to

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1 the conclusions you have or if there is gaps and how best
2 to fill some of those gaps.
3 **SGT. LACEY:** I'll start first. And yes,
4 there is definite gaps. What we are basing a lot of what
5 we say off of is the actual arrest statistics. And we do
6 that from the arrest statistics and also talking to the
7 women when we arrest them because we interview each one.
8 So we are seeing a small percentage. We are seeing the
9 ones that we get our hands on. There is a vast majority
10 of them out there, especially when it comes to underaged
11 girls working. They are specifically difficult for law
12 enforcement to detect because a trafficker will not send
13 an underage girl to an unknown client, meaning someone who
14 hasn't used their services before. And law enforcement
15 obviously can't use their services. So you have that in
16 there right off the bat, that they are not going to -- we
17 are not going to get those younger kids.
18 We extrapolate from our runaway statistics
19 knowing how vulnerable the runaways are to being
20 trafficked. So we need other ways to capture that
21 information that doesn't come from law enforcement because
22 they're not going to be truthful about what they are doing
23 to law enforcement because they fear us, they fear being
24 arrested. We have had some of these discussions with our
25 task force with the Covenant House on developing some

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1 questionnaires possibly to get a better handle on how many
2 people are involved in this.
3 On my way here I got a call from a patrol
4 officer saying that a mother had called in and her
5 15-year-old daughter is pregnant and working as a
6 prostitute. And that's all I have right now to go off of.
7 I have her name and I have the fact that she's working as
8 a prostitute. So it's a long process trying to identify
9 what is actually going on there. And that -- that one
10 girl will -- I'll spend hours and hours -- we will spend
11 hours and hours trying to make a case. So there is a
12 whole bunch of them out there that are not even coming to
13 our attention. Especially if they are runaways, they are
14 not going to be -- they are probably living with the
15 trafficker or he has them put up somewhere where he's
16 paying the bills. So we have got to get around us just
17 being the identifiers and get more of the community
18 involved in identifying the victims.
19 **MS. GOEDEN:** I think the only thing I
20 would have to add to that is I agree. I think that there
21 are huge gaps in our numbers because these are the cases
22 that we have made, not necessarily the number -- I don't
23 think it's at all indicative of the number of victims.
24 And we have had a lot of creative discussions on how to
25 better capture that.

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1 The other piece of that, I think, is also
2 thinking outside the box in terms of what a traditional
3 sex trafficking case is, especially when you are looking
4 at places outside of Anchorage where you are more likely
5 to see the sex in exchange for alcohol or drugs or
6 something like that because that -- when we go -- when we
7 have been out to rural Alaska and some of the smaller
8 communities on the Kenai and such where we have talked
9 about that with law enforcement, it's amazing how many
10 will say, I've had a case like that or I've had a case
11 like that. It's not the traditional Craigslist or
12 streetwalker kind of case.

13 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** So I guess just in
14 kind of a comment, then, whereas the victims are certainly
15 a crucial, key piece to successful prosecution, then, if
16 we want to be able to be more effective on the cases that
17 we are pulling together, then the NGOs are going to be
18 probably just as crucial --

19 **MS. GOEDEN:** Absolutely, yes.

20 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** -- not only in
21 gaining data, gathering data, but also in prosecuting.

22 **SGT. LACEY:** Yes.

23 **MS. GOEDEN:** Absolutely.

24 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Any other questions? If
25 not, I want to thank the panel and on behalf of the

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1 community, thank you for the work that you are doing.
2 Obviously you have been deeply immersed in this. And
3 listening to Heather, you had to connect with that lady.
4 And I can imagine the time that it took to do that and to
5 develop that trust. And so we owe you a debt of
6 gratitude, as well. Thank you.

7 I'm going to -- if you don't mind, I'm going to
8 take one detour here. I'd like -- Senator Dyson has
9 another commitment he has to make, and I'd like to get
10 his testimony, if it's okay, before we turn to the
11 Covenant House. I apologize if we are taking it a little
12 bit out of order, but the senator has got a schedule and
13 if I can accommodate him, I appreciate everybody else's
14 patience.

15 Senator, go ahead and identify yourself and
16 let's hear your testimony.

17 **SENATOR DYSON:** State Senator Fred Dyson,
18 Eagle River and parts north. And I want to tell you, the
19 team that was just here are marvelous. I've gotten to
20 know several of them over the years. It's always
21 disappointing to me how few men are back here, and I don't
22 understand it. The last statistics I got -- I think it
23 was from Jolene, maybe -- was that one-third of the
24 rape/molestation cases going on in our state are little
25 boys. And that's often off of people's radar. When I

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1 first went to Juneau, believe it or not, 16 years ago,
2 there was a prostitution ring there providing little boys
3 to cruise ship passengers, to men, and it was booked on
4 the Internet, and it was with the complicity and financial
5 investment of rewards going to the parents. Just really
6 spooky.

7 My wife and I have had 16, 18 foster kids. Two
8 or three of them are prostituted here in our city. One of
9 them we had briefly was one of this state's more famous
10 cases, and I think that little girl's porn films
11 distributed out of Venezuela are still out there. I don't
12 know. But heartsickening. One of our foster daughters
13 was prostituted here. And you know, I still am in contact
14 with her. And tough.

15 Another gal that was with us, not officially,
16 but her parents left her with us, and I never knew. I
17 thought I was pretty streetwise for a civilian, and I
18 missed it completely. And it's gone full cycle now. I've
19 had some time to meet with her daughter. And her mother
20 broke her into hooking when she was 13 in the truck stops
21 and so on. And just imagine a 13-year-old girl crawling
22 into the sleepers with her mother. And her mother told me
23 with pride how neat it was that these businessmen were
24 taking her on trips to San Francisco and Las Vegas and
25 stuff with her and all the neat stuff she got.

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1 Maybe one of you has seen, the police have got a
2 Cadillac Escalade, the bright white one. I got a law
3 passed here a few years ago, let's confiscate all, you
4 know, the equipment and so on and so forth. And the bill
5 that was just talked about, it was fun working that one
6 through. And that is, if you are going to use the defense
7 that told me she was of age, you have got to prove that
8 you checked her identity. License, check with her
9 parents. My colleagues said, oh, that's silly. None of
10 the perps are going to do it. Okay. And so that was my
11 perspective is if it keeps some of them from the activity,
12 that would be great.

13 The Department of State has a list of all the
14 nations that are on some level or another participating in
15 trafficking. And I would commend [sic] you to it. You
16 can go on their web page and find it. But they rank the
17 nations that are good about it, those that are doing
18 nothing or actively encouraging trafficking, and so on.
19 And I got something into our state law here that says any
20 company that does business in a nation that is on the
21 worst offender list, that company has to show the State
22 good-faith effort they are doing to keep their employees
23 out of it and to dampen that. So anybody looking for a
24 lease or a contract or supplying services.

25 The one that I would commend [sic] to you,

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1 Mr. Geraghty, is I think it was the first in the nation,
2 but it's called misprison of a child. It got started
3 because a guy took a little girl into a men's restroom in
4 Las Vegas and raped and killed her, and his buddy stood
5 outside kind of watching the door. Knew what was going
6 on. And my understanding is they couldn't nail him on an
7 accessory charge. So the misprison of a child -- it's an
8 old English law term -- says that if you, an adult, see a
9 child being raped, molested, assaulted, or kidnapped, you
10 have a positive duty to either intervene or blow the
11 whistle. And there is a positive defense against being
12 charged under that and that you are in fear of your life.
13 But that doesn't keep you from going to a pay phone or
14 picking up your cell phone and calling in.
15 When that passed out here in South Anchorage,
16 several guys gang-raped a couple of really young girls and
17 another dozen stood around and cheered. And I called up
18 the prosecutor and said, have you seen my bill, and they
19 said, yeah. If the governor had signed it, seven or eight
20 days later we could have nailed those guys.
21 Almost to every one of your predecessors I've
22 said, look at this and see if indeed this could be used.
23 And it's another tool to get those who know about it and
24 don't do it. And Joe, I'm sure you know, many rural
25 communities, everybody kind of knows what's going on, you

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1 know, and it just gets suppressed. And it certainly does
2 here, and that's unfortunate.
3 The other thing that came up here late in this
4 previous testimony was the underreporting. Now, one of
5 the things that I've worked on and Mr. Streur and I have
6 talked about a little bit is school nurses, public health
7 nurses, and the businesses that provide pregnancy testing
8 and contraception and so on, there is a conflict there for
9 those counselors. And I've had several public health
10 nurses and a couple of school nurses say, look, for this
11 kid, I may be the best adult contact they have got. If
12 they know that I'm going to rat out their boyfriend
13 because he's, you know, over age, they won't come to me.
14 So they are facing the conflict of losing the safe haven
15 that the girls will come and talk to an informed adult
16 and/or stopping the perpetrator.
17 Now, my understanding -- this is five years
18 old -- the national statistics, the guys that are abusing
19 the very young girls, the 13-, 14-year-olds, 15-year-olds
20 are generally more than five years older and will have in
21 their criminal history five to seven victims. So my view
22 is the sooner we can put those guys out of business, the
23 fewer future victims they have got.
24 And the mental health thing that was mentioned
25 up here, I would add people who are -- kids who are

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1 suffering from something of prenatal alcohol poisoning and
2 that FAS spectrum, and bad guys I've known have said
3 they're ideal victims. They don't link cause and effect
4 real well and they're often friendly and eager for
5 friendships and are easily manipulated. They also make
6 good drug and numbers runners, but prostitution, they are
7 particularly vulnerable.
8 That's all I've got. Thank you.
9 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Senator. Again,
10 I knew you have had a longstanding interest in this
11 subject, and I appreciate your time and your testimony.
12 Any questions from the panel? If not, thank you again,
13 Senator.
14 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Why don't we -- if you
15 don't mind, should we take a break or go ahead -- it's
16 3:30. We have been going for an hour and a half. Let's
17 take a brief break. And again, my apologies to the people
18 at Covenant House. You've been very patient. I'm sorry.
19 We will start with you right after the break. Thank you.
20 Let's go off record.
21 (A break was taken.)
22 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Why don't we go back on the
23 record. At this time I want to have the staff of the
24 Covenant House come forward and offer their testimony. We
25 previously heard from the earlier panel about how

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1 important NGOs are in trying to eradicate this plight in
2 our society, and I think Covenant House is an important
3 perspective to add. So I would ask the panel members to
4 introduce themselves and what they do with the Covenant
5 House. And let them proceed as you have it planned out
6 this afternoon.
7 **MS. KEAR:** So my name is Alison Kear. I'm
8 the Executive Director of Covenant House. I have been
9 with Covenant House for 15 years, but for the last eight
10 weeks as the executive director.
11 **MS. BLINE:** And my name is Diana Bline. I
12 am the Director of Program Services with Covenant House.
13 I have been there the last three years, but bring a
14 20-year history in social services.
15 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you. Go ahead.
16 **MS. KEAR:** So first I want to thank you
17 for bringing attention and advocacy and thoughtfulness to
18 the issue of human trafficking and thank you for Covenant
19 House -- allowing Covenant House to be a part of it in
20 such a meaningful way with this task force. We appreciate
21 the legislators, particularly Senators Lesil McGuire and
22 Bill Wielechowski, as well as the Administration's
23 commitment to this issue.
24 Covenant House Alaska is a faith-based
25 organization that is dedicated to the care of homeless and

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1 vulnerable youth. For the past 24 years we have operated
2 an open intake emergency shelter in downtown Anchorage
3 that is open to kids 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
4 Our mission is to help young people ages 13 to 20 escape
5 from dire and desperate situations on the streets and help
6 them find long-term stability and wellness. Our first
7 priority is to reunite youth with their families when
8 possible and safe. When this is not the case, we offer at
9 no cost emergency shelter, transitional living programs,
10 walk-in and outreach services. In addition, all youth
11 have access to health care, mentors, education, housing
12 and employment assistance, as well as guidance navigating
13 topics ranging from substance abuse to financial
14 responsibility. We served over 57 individual youth last
15 year -- 5,700 individual youth last year.
16 Covenant House believes human, in this case, sex
17 trafficking is a crime that preys on vulnerability. We
18 serve some of the most vulnerable kids in Alaska,
19 unaccompanied homeless youth. A third of our kids come
20 from the foster care system. Nearly half of our girls
21 report sexual abuse. Many of our kids suffer violent
22 neglect and abuse repeatedly before they find themselves
23 at our doorstep.
24 We are a shelter available for youth with
25 families who are experiencing economic hardship. But most

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1 of the kids we welcome in are completely without support
2 and healthy familial ties. No one is calling to check on
3 them. No one is looking for them. No one seems to care.
4 They come to us alone. Because our kids share this common
5 link of trauma and vulnerability, we believe 100 percent
6 of our kids could fall prey to traffickers. They come to
7 Covenant House in an attempt to meet basic human needs:
8 Food, shelter, clothing and human connection. If we don't
9 meet their needs, someone else will.
10 Covenant House is the only homeless shelter for
11 youth in Southcentral Alaska and, as such, we are sadly
12 well known to traffickers. We have worked closely with
13 APD and the FBI to increase training and awareness around
14 trafficking and know that our shelter is targeted by
15 predators to identify and recruit victims. Traffickers
16 have been so brazen to send in youth into our shelter to
17 recruit other kids into trafficking.
18 We have become increasingly aware of sex
19 trafficking in Alaska over the last several years. We
20 have taken active steps to prevent, mitigate and stop the
21 trafficking of our kids. In fact, Covenant House Alaska
22 received national attention in 2012 as a recipient of the
23 FBI Director's Community Leadership Award for our work
24 against trafficking.
25 Covenant House has welcomed strong partnerships

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1 with the Anchorage Police Department and the FBI. Both
2 agencies have come to Covenant House numerous times to
3 conduct trainings for our staff and our board. We share
4 information and we work strongly with them and the federal
5 prosecutor's office on protecting youth victimized in
6 trafficking. Because of our increased awareness and
7 education, Covenant House suspects or has identified that
8 at least five youth in any given month are engaged in our
9 services who are being trafficked. Although we were able
10 to meet housing, food, clothing, educational and health
11 care needs of these victims, we were not able to
12 adequately handle the complexity of trafficking or the
13 magnitude of trauma endured by our youth without a
14 professional clinician or counselor on staff.
15 For the first time ever, Covenant House went to
16 the Alaska Legislature, specifically Senator Lesil
17 McGuire, last year with our operating funds request for
18 increased staff training on human trafficking and hiring
19 an on-site clinician for our youth who are experiencing
20 physical and sexual abuse or victims of trafficking.
21 Subsequently we have sent staff to the GEMS training, the
22 leading national experts on human trafficking and are in
23 the midst of hiring a clinician. Senator McGuire's office
24 secured the funding for the requested two fiscal years.
25 Covenant House has also worked on HB359 and the

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1 legislation that established this task force.
2 We believe that the roots of trafficking lie in
3 childhood trauma. Very few, if any, youth fall into the
4 horrific life of trafficking if they are supported and
5 cared for within a home. The trafficking activities
6 experienced by our youth can be traced to our state's
7 epidemic rates of child abuse and neglect. Youth become
8 trapped in a trauma bond with their trafficker that
9 mirrors and recreates the relationships with abusive
10 adults that they had had when they were young.
11 A typical and, in this case, true story of
12 recruitment: A homeless young person met a man that
13 turned out to be a pimp through a mutual friend who, in
14 truth, was a recruiter. The pimp picked her and the
15 recruiter up and took them to an apartment where several
16 other females were there. He bathed the young woman and
17 raped her. She tried avoiding him by hanging out with the
18 other girls, but then he made her dress in lingerie to be
19 photographed. She was sold on the Internet and was forced
20 to have sex with three men. The next day he took her
21 shopping for clothes and to have her nails and hair done.
22 A few days later she was experiencing severe
23 pain. He dropped her off at the ER. After being treated
24 for an aggressive STD, she called the only number she
25 knew, a friend who picked her up and brought her back to

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1 Covenant House. She immediately reported to staff. This
2 event became part of an investigation that led to one of
3 the successful trafficking prosecutions in Alaska.
4 Another youth another day, hanging out at the
5 transit center. A nice car pulls up, chromed wheels,
6 fully loaded. An older man who intentionally charmed the
7 youth flattered her with overtures of a romantic
8 relationship. In this particular case, the youth was
9 treated to dinner and a movie that very night, then
10 supplied with drugs, photographed and was posted and sold
11 on the Internet. The very next day she was forced to
12 engage in multiple paid sexual acts in local hotel rooms.
13 This young woman, 17 years of age, when she
14 disclosed her story in one of our girls' groups led by a
15 pastoral minister at Covenant House, the young girl said,
16 you get dinner once, they are nice to you once, they are
17 never nice to you again.
18 These are two real life stories, but
19 unfortunately there are many, many others. Our mission is
20 to safeguard and protect all children on the street with
21 unconditional love and absolute respect. Our role is to
22 provide prevention and intervention against violence and
23 exploitation of our kids in Alaska. We recognize we are
24 not alone in this statewide effort.
25 And now I would like to welcome Diana Bline,

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1 Covenant House's Director of Program Services, who is
2 leading our program work in these areas.
3 **MS. BLINE:** Thank you for allowing me to
4 join you today. While the stories that Alison described
5 are typical, the endings are not typical. The vast
6 majority of our kids do not come back to a safe situation
7 and immediately report. Alison accurately noted that the
8 common link of victims of traffickers is vulnerability.
9 While we do not have hard data depicting the
10 issue of trafficking among our kids, we can share the
11 general demographics of our youth. Nearly 50 percent of
12 our kids are Alaska Native. This number has consistently
13 increased over the last several years. While traffickers
14 are equal opportunists and will prey on any young person
15 who is vulnerable, youth who are coming from small
16 villages are likely more vulnerable to traffickers than a
17 youth who grew up in Anchorage and is familiar with the
18 concept of dangerous strangers and places within the city.
19 To better serve our trafficked and abused youth,
20 Covenant House has adopted the trauma informed care for
21 homeless youth model. This model was developed by the
22 Runaway and Homeless Youth Training and Technical
23 Assistance Center, which is funded by the federal
24 Administration for Children and Families. This model
25 changes how we consider youth's histories or current

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1 situations. There have been vast scientific advances in
2 how early childhood trauma affect brain development and
3 subsequently impacts all areas of life. This has led us
4 to be more effective in working with youth, regardless of
5 the source of their trauma.
6 Many youth do not fully comprehend, even after
7 the fact, what occurred with the trafficker. They don't
8 know why the responsibility and shame lie with the
9 trafficker and not the young person. The shame around
10 sexual abuse in general and trafficking activities in
11 particular is just one of the reasons why it is difficult
12 for youth to disclose. Imagine being beat, horribly
13 abused, forced to do unthinkable things. Threats are made
14 against you and everything you might hold dear. This is
15 why it is difficult for victims to disclose what has
16 happened or what is happening to them.
17 Thus, gathering data is extremely challenging.
18 It is only after a young person can begin to develop trust
19 with us that they will begin to tell their full story.
20 With increased training has come increased knowledge. We
21 are becoming better at understanding why our youth respond
22 in the ways they do. We know that returning to a
23 trafficker or perpetrator is actually part of breaking the
24 trauma bond and may be necessary before a youth can truly
25 break free from victimization.

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1 We understand brain development is altered with
2 early trauma. This information has helped provide us
3 services that better reach and connect with vulnerable
4 kids. To this end, we strongly support the governor's
5 Choose Respect campaign and believe if the campaign is
6 successful in lowering the rates of domestic violence and
7 early childhood trauma, the rates of future victimization
8 will also be lowered. Covenant House believes this is the
9 very first step in ending trafficking. However, there is
10 much that can be done now.
11 **MS. KEAR:** So some of our
12 recommendations -- some of our recommendations and ideas
13 include to convene a gathering of providers across the
14 service delivery spectrum to determine actual services
15 available and identifying true gaps. And what we see as a
16 result of this is a matrix that can be used to let other
17 people know what resources are available and that we are
18 all kind of on the same page. This would include
19 representatives from sexual assault, domestic violence,
20 housing authorities, youth-serving organizations,
21 behavioral health providers, and the faith-based community
22 coming together to create change.
23 At this point we do believe that there are true
24 gaps and that they will be seen in affordable housing,
25 creative educational employment opportunities, and

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1 mentoring. Also impact the demand side of trafficking.
2 The basic premise of economics is supply and demand. We
3 must implement strategies to deter demand, such as a
4 public campaign targeting those that pay to prey on our
5 kids.
6 We have gathered tremendous insight and
7 awareness through the training of our staff by local law
8 enforcement and the FBI. This needs to be done statewide.
9 Two such examples of groups to train might be the Alaska
10 State Troopers and the Office of Children's Services.
11 Each of them could then return and be responsible for
12 educating their community. We also believe that public or
13 increased resources for law enforcement to go after those
14 purchasing sex from kids is needed.
15 And in addition, one of the things that we do on
16 an annual basis is a candlelight vigil to bring awareness.
17 And I was just talking with Jolene before the meeting
18 today, and I want to make sure that we have a lot of
19 people there because we are really going to come out with
20 our message this year that it's not okay to victimize our
21 kids and that we are aware, we are watching, and not on my
22 watch, so to speak. So that is happening on the 13th of
23 November, next Tuesday, in front of Covenant House.
24 So we would be glad to entertain any questions
25 that you might have or --

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1 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Alison and
2 Diana. I have a few questions, as usual, but I want to
3 open it up to the panel first and let them start. But I'm
4 happy to chime in and go first. Commissioner, are you
5 looking at me?
6 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** No. Go ahead.
7 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. You mentioned GEMS
8 training. Is that an acronym? What does that stand for?
9 **MS. BLINE:** GEMS, it's an organization out
10 the New York City, and it is Girls Educational and
11 Mentoring Services. It was started by a woman by the name
12 of Rachel Lloyd, who was a victim of trafficking herself
13 in Europe. And so she created this organization. It's
14 very dynamic. And we hear often about from survivor to
15 leader. She takes it another step. That's not -- I just
16 got it messed up, didn't I?
17 But anyway, from victim to survivor to leader.
18 And it's that leadership that we generally don't hear with
19 those two. So they have a train the trainer that two
20 staff went to and came back.
21 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I see. And these two
22 people, are they able to train more of your staff? Is
23 that the idea?
24 **MS. BLINE:** They are. We are hoping to
25 send a couple more staff. And we are in the midst of a

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1 trauma training throughout our whole organization, and
2 that is on the list when we are completed with the current
3 training initiative that we're implementing.
4 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And of course I've heard of
5 Covenant House for many years, since I've lived in
6 Anchorage. I know you also provide resources to others
7 besides kids. Is that correct? Or am I wrong about that?
8 **MS. BLINE:** Our primary age group is ages
9 13 to 20. We have some ability to offer some limited
10 services in the way of workforce development for the 20-
11 to 24-year-olds, along with some resources to assist with
12 housing.
13 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And then when kids show up
14 on your doorstep, I mean, how long can they typically
15 stay? I know you have got limited space and so on. But I
16 mean is there a fixed period of time that they can stay
17 that you would have to work with them, or can they stay
18 indefinitely? Can they not --
19 **MS. BLINE:** We have some limitations in
20 terms of the Office of Children's Services and if a youth
21 is a minor and in the shelter. We work closely with OCS
22 in order to allow a young person to stay there as long as
23 they need to. Otherwise, we want kids to stay with us as
24 long as we can because we know that the longer they are
25 engaged with us, the more better outcomes they are likely

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1 to have for their lives.
2 **MR. GERAGHTY:** That would have been my
3 observation. I just wondered, are you able, by and large,
4 to keep kids as long as you want or -- now, they can walk
5 away. They may go --
6 **MS. BLINE:** Yes, we can. It's the kids.
7 It's not a locked facility. It's voluntary. So they
8 leave prematurely, but they will often come back, too.
9 **MR. GERAGHTY:** But if they want to stay,
10 you have got the resources or the beds or wherever to keep
11 them if they want to stay, within reason?
12 **MS. BLINE:** For shelter services, yes.
13 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And you mentioned 50
14 percent of the youth are from rural Alaska.
15 **MS. BLINE:** Yes.
16 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And I'm just curious in
17 your thoughts. Why is that number so high? Why are they
18 coming to Anchorage? Is it falling into -- into harm's
19 way? Do they have family here and the family situation
20 doesn't work out? Or they come in here, they just get a
21 one-way ticket to come here and they don't have the
22 support? I'm curious in your observations about what's
23 happening with the rural youth.
24 **MS. KEAR:** I think we would clarify that.
25 I think what Diana said was that 50 percent of the youth

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1 that we serve are Alaska Native. They are not -- it's not
2 necessarily a direct correlation that all 50 percent are
3 from rural Alaska.

4 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Pardon me. But with that
5 clarification -- I appreciate that. But I mean, why is
6 that subgroup or why is that group falling into harm's
7 way? What's your observation or thoughts on that?

8 **MS. BLINE:** I don't know that we have a
9 single observation. I have seen instances of everything
10 that you mentioned. Part of it is the lack of economic
11 opportunity for young people in the villages. Some of
12 them are escaping from the village life and the traumas
13 that they endure there. Others are just coming because
14 Anchorage is the place to be. Others call a relative who
15 says, you know, come here.

16 **MR. GERAGHTY:** But following Alison's
17 point, then, I mean, 50 percent are Native. What
18 percentage are coming from rural Alaska as opposed to -- I
19 guess you are implying that it could be Anchorage
20 residents who fall into harm's way and then come to you
21 seeking help. Can you give me any sense for that
22 breakdown?

23 **MS. BLINE:** Not really. We are -- we are
24 working on this, but we are a little bit challenged in
25 terms of our data capabilities. And really tracking

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1 about -- what we do ask is where a young person spent the
2 night before. We -- we are also very limited in terms of
3 what the youth tell us. We're also seeing more increased
4 youth from Outside coming up, too. Anecdotally what I
5 can tell you is that the Internet plays heavily into that
6 where they meet somebody on-line, are coming for a
7 relationship or employment or -- so that seems to have an
8 impact across the board, as well.

9 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And now, Alison, you
10 mentioned the two specific examples. Can I ask, what
11 happens -- you obviously must have had some connection
12 with those kids to have learned their stories. I
13 wondered, did they come around? Are they cooperating with
14 some type of law enforcement effort? Or have they
15 disappeared on the streets again? Or can you give me a
16 follow-up on those two?

17 **MS. KEAR:** One clearly was involved in a
18 prosecution. And it's hard to say at this point where
19 they are both emotionally. But they have had --
20 some remain connected with Covenant House. And they have
21 aged out of our system. And that's actually one of the
22 things I was remiss about saying. Definitely a gap in the
23 system is when someone turns over the age of 20 or 21 when
24 we can serve, there really isn't that option of drop-off
25 and emergency kind of safe haven. And we recognize that.

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1 In these two particular cases, they both then remained
2 connected with us for a period of time and then now are no
3 longer receiving services from us.

4 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And can you give me a
5 sense -- I don't want to say it's recidivism because
6 that's the wrong term. But how many people do you see
7 once and try to make a connection and they are gone, you
8 never see them -- how many kids stay with you at least for
9 some period of time and may come back in a couple of
10 months? Can you give me some sense for that?

11 **MS. BLINE:** Our average length of stay at
12 the shelter last year was about 14 days. So that means
13 some youth stay a whole lot longer, some a whole lot less.
14 I'm not able to give you the sense about we see a kid once
15 and then we never see them again. That one is a lot more
16 difficult.

17 **MS. KEAR:** And I also think that we view
18 recidivism as success. There is a piece of it that when a
19 young person comes back, each time that they come back,
20 then they have one more trusted contact with an adult.
21 And so while we used to, you know, specifically, you know,
22 track recidivism, now it's more kind of a hallelujah, we
23 have recidivism. And that when someone leaves our
24 facility and voluntarily chooses to leave our facility,
25 then unless there is a major behavioral issue that puts us

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1 in an unsafe situation, they are welcome back anytime that
2 they come back. And that we start from that point again
3 with building that relationship with that young person to
4 say this is a safe place and that we will -- we will be
5 here and provide services and help you.

6 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And that's a great point.
7 And I'm wondering, do these -- some of these kids that do
8 come back, they may have -- during the interim they may
9 have had an experience like you have been talking about
10 with the survival sex or maybe even the commercial sex and
11 have decided that's not what they want to do, come back.
12 I mean, is that where there is coordination with the
13 police in terms of if they are willing to talk and you
14 have built up that level of trust, that we can try to see
15 if something can be done to prosecute the people
16 responsible?

17 **MS. KEAR:** As Senator Dyson mentioned, we
18 walk that fine line with being someplace that it's very
19 safe for a young person and that they don't feel like
20 necessarily our first call is to the police department,
21 but what we have realized is that very early on a call
22 with the police department and a call with the FBI allows
23 a lot more additional support and understanding for us as
24 a staff how to best deal with it and for that young
25 person. I mean, when we have that relationship, it really

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1 does further facilitate the relationship that the police
2 department and the FBI has with that young girl or boy.
3 So that's one thing that I'd say over the last
4 several years when we have been very intentional with a
5 lot of training from the FBI and the law enforcement to
6 our board and our staff, it was -- it was done with such a
7 way that now there is an acute awareness of -- we see
8 things that we probably saw before but we didn't recognize
9 as what was going on. And now it's like every eye is kind
10 of watching out for our young people in terms of
11 trafficking and other things that are happening.
12 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I appreciate that. And I
13 can imagine it is a fine line. And if you make the call
14 prematurely to law enforcement, even despite their best
15 efforts and the training they have, the person might bolt
16 and be afraid. So I can imagine the difficulties.
17 **MS. KEAR:** We have been able to really
18 successfully have a relationship with those two particular
19 organizations and such that we feel like we can call them
20 and talk through issues, and not an immediate reaction.
21 It's a let's discuss what is the best scenario for it.
22 One of the things that -- I think it was Jolene
23 mentioned was the challenges with prosecution of
24 prostitution. And one idea that we have kind of often
25 thought about is that when there is a successful

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1 trafficker or prosecution of that trafficker, the victim's
2 prostitution record is wiped clean. So if there is
3 someone that is actually, you know, prosecuted for
4 trafficking, the victim in that case, the -- with the
5 charge of prostitution, that her record may be clean
6 because we do also see the challenges that are being said
7 with employment and education after a barrier crime or a
8 crime is on that person's record. It's very difficult
9 even with the connections that we may have with corporate
10 friends to offer employment opportunities for kids with
11 records. So --
12 **MR. GERAGHTY:** There is something I was
13 going to ask you in follow-up. Well, let me ask, any
14 panel questions?
15 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Yeah, I do.
16 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Please, Commissioner.
17 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** We haven't really
18 delved into this a whole lot, and it seems like some of
19 the information is attributed to what you have learned in
20 your experience at Covenant House. And that is
21 experiences that were relayed regarding recruitment of
22 victims out of rural villages and how -- what you have
23 learned on how that occurs or examples of that.
24 **MS. BLINE:** So there are many areas where
25 we so don't know everything, and this is one of them. One

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1 of the things that I have heard is a girl calling a cousin
2 from a village and the cousin saying, oh, come to
3 Anchorage. We have a place for you to stay. We will have
4 food. We will take care of you. And the young person
5 comes into that home and it's the home of a pimp.
6 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Do you have an idea
7 of the prevalence of that type of recruiting or --
8 **MS. BLINE:** I don't. And it is so
9 difficult. The thing with young people really is that
10 they have to know that you are a trustworthy person before
11 they are even going to begin to tell you their real story.
12 And so it's the establishment of that trust that we work
13 so very, very hard on. And in terms of law enforcement,
14 we will not even call law enforcement until the young
15 person has said it's okay.
16 **MS. KEAR:** And I would say one of the
17 things as far as the operating funding to Covenant House
18 was specifically to help us try to gather data and to be
19 able to provide our community with the extent and examples
20 and just kind of a general sense more, you know, on a --
21 on a research kind of base versus kind of anecdotally how
22 we tell the stories of young people.
23 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Do you have an idea
24 of what you think could be effective on how we can deal
25 with this issue on the village side as opposed to the

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1 Anchorage side?
2 **MS. KEAR:** Well, one of the things that we
3 had kind of recommended or thought through was if the
4 troopers were educated or OCS, that we have actually
5 engaged 100 percent of our employees on some specific
6 trainings. We call it a service enhancement initiative
7 that we're doing at Covenant House right now. But what we
8 have done is we have trained the trainers. And there are
9 some things that could be done training the state troopers
10 or various other rural peace officers or members of OCS,
11 and they could go back and train and educate.
12 And we recently did an outreach kind of activity
13 in Dillingham, I think it was. And one of the things that
14 we had kind of thought was that when kids come in from
15 Dillingham, they understood what they were coming into in
16 Anchorage. And it really wasn't the case. When our
17 employee went out there and kind of led a workshop on
18 outreach and services available, they were shocked to find
19 that the young person could come to Anchorage and they
20 wouldn't know what to do.
21 So I do think there is a lot that can be done,
22 maybe even just us doing with resource cards or various
23 things like I know happen when AFN and some of the
24 different groups come in to Alaska to really give them
25 information about these are resources, this is what's

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1 available, and this is a safe place kind of thing for all
2 of the community providers.
3 **MS. BLINE:** And I think also presentations
4 at the schools. I know teachers are now required to go
5 through a suicide prevention training, so I would suggest
6 that we have the same thing for teachers in terms of human
7 trafficking, but also with school assemblies or whatever
8 that looks like in the village to tell the kids, to warn
9 them; not to scare them, but forewarned is forearmed. If
10 you don't know, then you are not going to have any idea
11 what you are going to be looking for.
12 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Okay.
13 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Any other questions? I had
14 two additional follow-up.
15 **MS. ADAMS:** I have a couple.
16 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Please, Gwen.
17 **MS. ADAMS:** How does a typical young
18 person find out about Covenant House? Just like there is
19 a tremendous number. 5,700 youth. How did they find out
20 about you? And second question, are you full to capacity
21 all the time? If your facility was, say, doubled in size,
22 would you still be able to fill that space?
23 **MS. KEAR:** So our number one referral
24 source is from other kids telling kids about the services
25 of Covenant House. Typically a young person might even

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1 bring someone in to us that has received services in the
2 past. We do a lot of outreach activities, as well as
3 working with the schools on some information basic to
4 Covenant House. And then we do annual events and really
5 try to increase awareness about the services of Covenant
6 House. So --
7 And then to answer your question about are we
8 always full, we believe in the philosophy that we will
9 never be full, meaning that we'll always have a space for
10 a young person, maybe a mat on the floor, and oftentimes
11 it is, but that we definitely will never be too full for a
12 young person. And we are actively now working on a -- you
13 might have noticed the new building on 8th and A, which is
14 our new home. And so with that, it -- basically we are
15 going to kind of co-facilitate two of our programs --
16 co-locate two of our programs so that it just enhances our
17 service delivery for young kids.
18 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Please identify yourself
19 for the record. Go ahead.
20 **MS. RICE:** For the record, my name is
21 Lauren Rice, and I'm the Director of Public Affairs for
22 Covenant House. And I just wanted to add to Alison's
23 comment. We are out on the street. We mentioned some
24 services when Alison was first speaking. But we operate
25 something called outreach. So we have a van and we are

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1 out on the street looking for kids 40 full hours a week.
2 And that outreach team works with APD and downtown
3 organizations and community partners to really identify
4 where kids are.
5 And just to add to how long our kids can stay
6 with us, we mentioned earlier in the presentation we have
7 transitional living programs, but really what that means
8 is we have emergency shelter and then we have two places
9 in the community where kids can stay with us for up to a
10 year and a half. So we really do have long-term
11 opportunities for kids who are ready to take advantage of
12 the services. One is a mothers and babies program, and
13 that's in a residential home. We have five women and five
14 babies in that home. And then one is a co-ed dorm style
15 transitional living program where there is 14 kids.
16 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you. Gwen, anything
17 else?
18 **MS. ADAMS:** No. That's good. Thank you.
19 **MR. GERAGHTY:** The previous panel remarked
20 that the Internet, in their view, is an increasingly
21 popular medium for tracking and proliferating this
22 trafficking. Do you agree with that, just in your
23 experience?
24 **MS. BLINE:** Uh-huh.
25 **MS. RICE:** Yeah. I think that one of the

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1 reasons why a lot of times there needs to be more
2 awareness brought to human trafficking is because it's
3 really an issue that's gone underground. It's far more
4 effective and far less risky for the trafficker to deal
5 with the Internet and over their phone than it is to send
6 a girl out on the street. There is almost no way to track
7 the girl. It's extremely easy to keep her isolated. It's
8 extremely easy to track her. And it's also, I would
9 imagine, easier for those who are engaging in the purchase
10 of underaged sex because they are anonymous. No one is
11 even there to spot them driving up to the girl.
12 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you. I think that's
13 an area for the task force to look at because I know the
14 National Association of Attorney Generals has approached
15 several of the organizations, backpage in particular,
16 which was listed earlier, and tried to engage them in
17 doing some -- some voluntary restrictions and things that
18 they could do to diminish, if not prevent, their site from
19 being used for fairly well-known activities of underaged
20 kids and the like. So I think that's something we need to
21 look at as a task force.
22 There is constitutional issues about freedom of
23 speech and so on, but I think it is being used as a medium
24 for these crimes to occur. And that's something I think
25 we should look at in terms of what are the limitations and

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1 what can we do and follow up on some of the initiatives
2 that NAAG has made, I know.
3 The last question I wanted to ask was about
4 public service announcements, if not -- from Covenant
5 House, we are talking about what it does. I'm sure you
6 guys do. I'm trying to recall what I see on TV, but maybe
7 public service announcements directed to -- a lot of these
8 victims watch TV, and if there is something that could be
9 done to reach out to them on something that they're
10 watching to let them know that there is -- it doesn't have
11 to be Covenant House but, you know, something with the
12 police, something to let them know that there is -- and
13 again, I'm rambling here, but I just wonder if there is
14 some way to reach out to these people. It's something
15 that would be done tastefully and perhaps to just touch
16 them and make a connection with them to let them know if
17 they don't like the life they are living, there is an
18 alternative. And maybe it starts with Covenant House or
19 maybe it's something else, some other resource that they
20 can call or another church or whatnot to get them, you
21 know, within the fold, so to speak, and to try to start
22 building trust that we're going to need to stop these
23 crimes. Any comments or --
24 **MS. KEAR:** Well, I know that actually
25 later, probably next, is Lisa who will be presenting. And

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1 Covenant House also worked on the First Lady's task force
2 NGO, and one of the recommendations out of that is an
3 increased public awareness campaign. I mean, the cost of
4 Covenant House or any one organization bearing the media
5 awareness campaign is difficult, but we do agree that
6 having that information out to the general public is a
7 great way to go.
8 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Well, thank you.
9 Commissioner Streur.
10 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** Both you and the
11 previous panel mentioned the need for training. You
12 mentioned OCS and the troopers. You have got two of us
13 sitting here. Are there ways that you can assist us or
14 help us identify where we can get the greatest impact, the
15 most appropriate touch points? I know about both GEMS and
16 trauma informed care. We are moving at least in that
17 direction. So suggestions for us? Help with us?
18 Willingness?
19 **MS. BLINE:** Well, in terms of willingness,
20 whether that is as trainers trained by GEMS to go out and
21 take that to other communities, we would be very happy to
22 do that. And with the trauma, as well, we chose to go
23 with, rather than the behavioral health model which is
24 more focused on this, it's focused to children who are
25 homeless or at risk. So it's a little bit different and

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1 not -- not as clinical.
2 **MS. KEAR:** Yeah. I was just going to say
3 that we have actually invested quite a bit, Covenant
4 House, on training our entire staff and specifically
5 training people to be trainers and helping us to really
6 engage all levels of our staff, but that's something that
7 we should, you know -- could definitely explore and see if
8 there is ways that we can help and participate as a
9 trainer on some of the things. We are specifically
10 working on culture of care, trauma-informed care and
11 motivational interviewing. And those are the three
12 service enhancements to Covenant House that we're bringing
13 to all levels.
14 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** Thank you.
15 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I just want to
16 mention, too. I think it was maybe Sergeant Lacey had
17 mentioned earlier that APD and AST were working jointly --
18 as a matter of fact, with ANJC as well, the Alaska Native
19 Justice Center -- on developing curriculum for law
20 enforcement in urban and rural Alaska. So part of that
21 process is already underway. Those discussions are being
22 held. But certainly more input on what would be valuable
23 within that curriculum, I think, would be good. Sometimes
24 we don't look beyond our own profession in what could be
25 beneficial to others.

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1 I just want to make another quick comment. And
2 I think most of us would agree, in the area of public
3 service announcements, one of the -- I don't want to say
4 -- caution isn't the right word, but if we start
5 broadcasting that we're open for business on providing
6 services, then we have to make sure that those services
7 are in place; otherwise, we will do more harm than good.
8 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Points well taken. Any
9 other questions from the panel? If not, I want to thank
10 you. As I mentioned to the last group, we as a community
11 owe you a debt of gratitude and to Covenant House for the
12 services that you provide. I mean, to hear the number
13 5,800 kids, that's remarkable. And I think about what
14 would happen if you were not there. It's frightening. So
15 thank you for what -- everything you do, and I hope we can
16 find ways to create some synergies and work with you
17 closer. So thank you very much.
18 **MS. KEAR:** We have copies for you of the
19 testimony and we have fact sheets that give you further
20 detailed information about the kids that we serve.
21 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you. I appreciate
22 it. At this time we are going to turn -- these people
23 have been waiting very patiently from the -- at this time
24 I want to turn to the, as was mentioned earlier, the ad
25 hoc NGO working group that has been working. I know the

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1 people -- please step forward. We were in an
 2 organizational meeting, but at that meeting, I
 3 acknowledged -- and I want to do it again for the record
 4 since there is more people here -- that there is a group
 5 that's gone before us that's really looked into this and
 6 done a great deal of work. I've seen your stuff, findings
 7 and conclusions that have been provided to us. And we
 8 really owe your group a debt of gratitude, as well, and I
 9 appreciate your being here to talk about some of your
 10 findings.
 11 Please introduce yourself, and I'll let you get
 12 started.
 13 **MS. MORENO:** First of all, Attorney
 14 General, Commissioners, members of the task force, thank
 15 you very much for holding this hearing and inviting me to
 16 present today.
 17 My name is Lisa Moreno, and I'm a strategic
 18 research and policy analyst with the Cook Inlet Tribal
 19 Council. I generally work for the general council at
 20 CITC, and on this issue I was working specifically for
 21 Gloria O'Neal.
 22 So I'm here today to present the final report
 23 and recommendations of the ad hoc nongovernmental working
 24 group on sex trafficking in Alaska. And the NGO working
 25 group is a loose collaboration of ten organizations that

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1 came together in the spring. The organizations include
 2 the Cook Inlet Tribal Council, the Alaska Native Justice
 3 Center, YWCA Alaska, Covenant House Alaska, Anchorage
 4 Community Mental Health Services, the Alaska Immigration
 5 Justice Project, Native American Rights Fund, First
 6 Alaskans Institute, Southcentral Foundation, and the
 7 Tundra Women's Coalition.
 8 Now, I call this a loose collaboration because
 9 there was a catalyst. And the catalyst was Alaska First
 10 Lady Sandy Parnell. And Ms. Parnell called Gloria in the
 11 spring and asked Gloria, President and CEO of CITC, to
 12 host a meeting on the issue of sex trafficking of Alaska
 13 Native youth and women. And so we held a meeting on May
 14 18th. Most of the folks on the previous list were at that
 15 initial meeting, in addition to the FBI Innocence Lost
 16 Task Force, the Anchorage Police Department Vice Unit, the
 17 Division of Juvenile Justice, and the Department of Public
 18 Safety.
 19 And the discussion at that meeting was sort of
 20 difficult. And it was difficult because -- for some of
 21 the reasons that have already been highlighted here today,
 22 that other than the information from APD and the FBI and
 23 then individual cases from some service providers, the
 24 reality is we don't have a lot of Alaskan-specific
 25 information. So one of the things that the discussion

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1 really highlighted was a need to dig into the literature
 2 and see what we could glean from what was going on
 3 domestically and internationally and also to look at what
 4 was going on in other states. And then the group decided,
 5 so part of what we were trying to figure out was sort of,
 6 well, what is this process of sex trafficking. What is
 7 this thing? It's a process. Something is happening to
 8 the people who become victims before they ever get into
 9 it, and then something happens to them when they are being
 10 trafficked, and then they have some needs and some things
 11 going on in their lives where they come out.
 12 We sort of looked at it as sort of the upstream,
 13 what happens to them before they get into it, what happens
 14 in stream, and then what happens downstream. So the idea
 15 was to go dig into the literature and the research and see
 16 what we could learn about that process and then come back
 17 in the fall at the end of the summer and talk about it
 18 some more.
 19 And so the group as a whole met on July 18th and
 20 in August on the 23rd and then we reconvened with the
 21 First Lady on the 10th of October.
 22 The FBI Innocence Lost Task Force, APD Vice
 23 Unit, and the Division of Juvenile Justice all served as
 24 advisors for us on this process.
 25 So the first thing we tried to do was sort of

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1 wrap our minds around this thing called sex trafficking
 2 and really got at what's known about the root causes and
 3 then what's known about the needs when people come out of
 4 it. And I would say that the one word that's already been
 5 spoken here today in terms of root causes is
 6 vulnerability. So top of the list of root causes and
 7 vulnerability is trauma. It's definitely prior trauma.
 8 So there is a researcher out of San Francisco
 9 who has done a ton of research on prostitution and
 10 trafficking, and she used the same methodology across nine
 11 different countries, including the U.S. and Canada. And
 12 data across those countries says that it's pretty much 62
 13 percent of all of the women that they interviewed were
 14 sexually abused as children by more than four
 15 perpetrators. In addition, there is extremely high rates
 16 of homelessness and high rates of physical abuse, as well.
 17 So that's before they ever get into trafficking. So that
 18 sort of gives you a picture.
 19 The same methodology was used in Minnesota
 20 looking specifically at what's going on with Native
 21 American women involved in prostitution and trafficking.
 22 And these were women who were currently or had been
 23 previously involved. Seventy-nine percent of those women
 24 had been sexually abused by four or more perpetrators, and
 25 I think 98 percent of them had been homeless, either

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1 currently were at the time of research or previously had
2 been homeless. So these statistics go on and on.
3 So really what we are talking about is trauma,
4 and the top of the list is sexual abuse, physical abuse
5 and neglect.
6 Other risk factors, of course, are the lack of
7 family support, so child welfare involvement, multiple
8 foster care placements, violence in the home, and
9 substance abuse.
10 Covenant House put it beautifully. Runaway
11 children and throw-away children are highly at risk. The
12 literature specifically identifies youth that are coming
13 out, coming to terms with their sexual identity, come out
14 to their parents, maybe are rejected. They are even more
15 at risk. And then there is a bit of a difference on the
16 international from foreign-born victims who are not
17 citizens or residents versus domestic victims who are
18 citizens or residents in terms of displacement perhaps
19 from natural disasters or unrest in their own countries
20 that create that vulnerability could be reasons why they
21 moved within their own country or why they had to come
22 here or to another more developed country. But also here
23 that might be an issue here in Alaska, moving from a
24 village to urban areas. Something to keep in mind and
25 continue to look at.

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1 But basically all of that boils down to a lack
2 of opportunity. So you know, no jobs, lack of education,
3 no training opportunities, perhaps school didn't work out
4 for you, now what are you going to do. And then
5 fundamentally, no place to go. If you don't have a roof
6 over your head, any of these other factors become
7 compounded, even more serious.
8 So what happens when they come out and what are
9 the needs? The research pretty much indicates that
10 anything that any of us need in our lives, these people
11 need. In fact, this is something that the FBI says over
12 and over again. If you need it, they need it. The
13 research also backs that up by saying intensive case
14 management and safe housing are really, really important
15 when folks come out. Also indicates that intensive case
16 management tends to be easier to fund for victims that
17 aren't domestic victims because there is federal sources
18 of funding that are aimed specifically at, targeted
19 specifically at victims who aren't citizens or residents.
20 So it's a little bit harder to pay for when you are a
21 domestic service provider serving U.S. citizens or
22 residents.
23 Housing, as we all know, here in Alaska and
24 Anchorage in particular is -- there just isn't a lot of
25 it. So when you have got someone coming out of this

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1 situation that needs a roof over their head right away and
2 they need it safely, someplace that has some sort of
3 security, that's even harder to find.
4 In addition, substance abuse is another hot
5 issue here in the state. We know there is shortages.
6 These folks have substance abuse issues. We don't know at
7 this point -- the FBI has clearly stated that when they
8 see these victims, it's more common that they need [sic]
9 substance abuse. I'm not sure that we necessarily know
10 whether their substance use led them to the vulnerability
11 that got them involved in trafficking or the substance use
12 happened after as a coping mechanism. The literature
13 domestically and internationally sort of looks at that
14 more of as coping, but we don't know what's happening
15 here.
16 These people also need education and life skills
17 training, job training, job placement, trauma counseling,
18 mental health services and medical, dental, toothbrushes,
19 clothing. They need everything. So part of what we tried
20 to do, then, as we began looking at what are the different
21 responses, is really put them on the spectrum of the
22 process of trafficking. Let's go back to the river
23 analogy. If the left side of the screen is upstream and
24 the right side of the screen is downstream, where can we
25 put some of these different types of interventions that

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1 can take place or where are they going to have the impact.
2 So before people get in trafficking, what can we do to
3 reduce the vulnerability and the number of people that
4 might be susceptible to it? Invest heavily in reducing
5 trauma exposure and breaking the cycle of trauma.
6 One other thing that's worked at that same macro
7 level would be reduce demand. Look at the Swedish model.
8 Look at what's going on in Cook County. Look at some of
9 the public education campaigns coming out of Florida on
10 this issue; Atlanta, New York. There are some great
11 things that are going on that could inform what could
12 happen up here.
13 And then the next thing is, before we move into
14 more specific interventions, we need to know more about
15 how this issue manifests here. A public education
16 campaign could be targeted to a specific region if we knew
17 that that region was the place most heavily hit or most at
18 risk. But right now we don't know. So it's really
19 important that we spend as -- you know, make an effort to
20 really begin to collect some information looking at
21 prevalence and also doing some research.
22 We know that the average age of recruitment is
23 around 15. We also know that it's getting younger and
24 younger and moving down towards 12. So I think someone --
25 I don't remember if it was Covenant House or the previous

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1 panel, the law enforcement panel that talked about
2 intervening with school-aged youth. There are programs
3 out there that can give us an idea of how to build
4 resilience for school-aged youth. We need to sound the
5 alarm, let folks know that this is an issue, whether it's
6 paid media or earned media. The press that's been
7 happening in the last couple of weeks is great. If there
8 is some way to plan to keep that drumbeat up, that would
9 help a lot.

10 Training. I love that this has been a topic so
11 far. If people don't know what they are looking for, it
12 won't be found. So everybody needs to be trained. I
13 flibly had been wanting to say, just train everybody
14 rather than key providers. If we have to start somewhere,
15 law enforcement, court personnel, prosecutors, defense
16 attorneys, judges, and then head into service providers.

17 The Native American Rights Fund put together a
18 fabulous memo on some specific statutory changes that
19 could help support all of these concepts. I think you all
20 have a copy of it. And unfortunately, they weren't able
21 to come tonight. But having a statutory structure that
22 supports the change you want to see will amplify any
23 effort and any funding spent.

24 Hotline. Was it you that mentioned a hotline?
25 And you said something brilliant about the hotline.

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1 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Me?
2 **MR. GERAGHTY:** It couldn't have been you.
3 **MS. MORENO:** You did. You mentioned that
4 publicizing a hotline without actually having the
5 coordinated response in communities isn't going to work.
6 And that's absolutely true. You need to publicize the
7 hotline to folks who are in the situation. They need to
8 know who to call. But doing it without having a
9 coordinator response, the type of which Covenant House
10 laid out in the last few minutes of their testimony, going
11 hand in hand is what we need to have. So these are folks
12 who don't trust systems. If we give them a hotline and we
13 don't give them a coordinator response, they are not going
14 to come back for a second bite of the apple.

15 Street outreach, and I would add to that
16 probably we need to figure out how to do electronic
17 outreach in addition to street outreach. Again, we are in
18 stream at this point. How do we get to those folks who
19 are involved in trafficking?

20 And then I would say the role that you are
21 serving right now as task force members has a potential to
22 be instrumental for anybody in this -- involved in
23 trafficking. And it needs to be continued. The -- we
24 would like to see the effort continued after January,
25 something semi-permanent, a year out, two years out and

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1 funded so it's not just collateral duties for staff who
2 are already overwhelmed because this isn't an issue that
3 one discipline can handle. This is not just a legal
4 issue. It's not just a law enforcement issue. And it's
5 not just a social services issue. This is something that
6 really, if we want to take it on, everybody has to be
7 working together to combat. So we need some entity to
8 begin to coordinate multidisciplinary response across
9 state agencies.

10 Language access. We definitely know that we
11 have and will continue to have folks that are trafficked
12 whose first language is not English. We need to make sure
13 that access to services and legal advice in their own
14 language is available to them. So building capacity
15 within the state for language access is important. And
16 then finally, figuring out some way to support the service
17 needs for those folks that make it out. It's going to be
18 expensive and it's long-term. So really whether it's
19 dedicating fines might be one tiny little piece of it, but
20 it's probably not going to be enough to fund the service
21 needs in the long-term. Somehow that piece needs to be
22 figured out.

23 So if you aren't overwhelmed yet, which is sort
24 of where all of this research left me, I began to look for
25 some sort of a framework that would put all of our

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1 thoughts together on this. And I borrowed a framework
2 that's used at the international level and also at the
3 domestic level, at the national level. So it's the four
4 Ps. So looking at prevention, protection, prosecution,
5 and partnership. And then I phased it out over basically
6 five years. So Phase I is six months to 18 months. Phase
7 II is eight months to three years. And Phase III is three
8 months to five years.

9 Now, the phasing is a little bit arbitrary.
10 Really this was a mechanism of trying to figure out what
11 can we do right now, given how much we don't know, and
12 then what are the things that have to wait until we know
13 more. And then I -- anyone who knows me, some of the
14 folks that have sat through meetings I planned know that I
15 tend to overplan for the amount of time that I actually
16 have. So that might actually show up in this
17 overambitious schedule for implementation of this as well.
18 But really it's an organization tool to begin to think
19 about it a little more concretely.

20 So Phase I on the prevention side, data
21 collection. Beginning to get a handle on prevalence
22 opportunities, our opportunities for measuring prevalence
23 and just taking a general assessment of what we know and
24 what we don't know. Mandatory posting of the hotline and
25 publicizing the hotline, combining that with coordinated

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1 emergency response, which is a protection item. And
2 finally earned media campaign on the prevention side
3 and/or protection. I've sort of divided protection
4 between intervention and restoration.
5 So training for key disciplines, ensuring law
6 enforcement capacity. What I meant by that is one of the
7 things that kept coming up over and over again in our
8 meetings was at this point if law enforcement, for the
9 most part, weren't out there looking for these victims,
10 they often weren't found. Some people find their way to
11 Covenant House. Some people find their way to the Alaska
12 Immigration Justice Project, but there is a whole lot of
13 people that are found because the vice unit and the FBI
14 are out looking for them. So if resources are limited or
15 they are facing cuts, those people probably aren't going
16 to be found. So that's just one thing on this issue that
17 decisionmakers and policymakers need to be aware of.
18 Again, language access in terms of protection
19 and intervention issue. It's really hard to get someone
20 to talk to you when you are speaking a language that they
21 don't. Very hard to gain trust that way. Ensuring access
22 to compensation, a protection/restoration issue. So the
23 crime victims, Violent Crime Victims Compensation Fund
24 here in Alaska, from what I can tell, there is no reason
25 that these victims wouldn't qualify, but there are some

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1 barriers. So there is a five-day requirement that within
2 five days of the crime you have to actually do your
3 paperwork. That, for these victims, is probably a huge
4 barrier to accessing that fund.
5 In addition, on the website for the fund, there
6 is a little sentence at the bottom that basically states
7 that no one's past history or -- let's see if I can pull
8 up the statement -- substance abuse and sexual history can
9 be a barrier for victims of domestic violence or sexual
10 assault. That should probably also include victims of sex
11 trafficking.
12 Training for prosecuting attorneys, judges,
13 defense attorneys and court personnel and amending the
14 statute at the state level to include fraud or coercion.
15 And then expanding the task force to continue and take on
16 a larger role.
17 Phase II, again, back at data collection. And
18 Commissioner Streur, I'm going to look at you. You guys
19 do some great work right now in terms of prevalence on
20 different risk factors. And it would be great to figure
21 out whether -- first of all, to make sure that ACES are
22 included in some of these, but also to begin to look at
23 ways in which variables on sex trafficking can be
24 included.
25 We know that the State has also done some

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1 fabulous work with a researcher from the University of
2 North Carolina creating SCAN, which is a tool for tracking
3 child maltreatment. Right now, from what I understand,
4 they are only focusing on maltreatment of children ages
5 zero to eight, but hope to expand that to older children
6 in the future. And as that expands, it would be really
7 important to include variables on sex trafficking there,
8 as well. And also in this phase this is a really
9 important point to begin to engage in research. Really
10 looking at besides the 30,000-foot view of prevalence,
11 really beginning to look at the details of how does this
12 crime manifest itself here in Alaska and, say, urban areas
13 versus rural areas and region by region.
14 Public education. Once that data comes back, to
15 really begin to target public education campaigns for
16 prevention. And there is a wealth of information from the
17 domestic violence arena here in the state, some folks who
18 really know a lot about public education campaigns. So to
19 be able to provide them with some information and some
20 funding sources to target messages on prevention of sex
21 trafficking.
22 Again, another prevention issue for Phase II
23 would be building resilience for school-aged children,
24 programs in probably middle school and late elementary
25 school. On the protection side, clarifying jurisdiction

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1 over minor victims. I mean, we are talking about minors
2 here who are outside the home and being abused by third
3 parties. So is this a JJ issue, a juvenile justice issue
4 or is this an OCS issue? Or is this the jurisdiction of
5 something -- some collaboration between the two that has
6 yet to be imagined? But right now I think it's a little
7 bit confusing. And it -- folks need some sort of
8 clarification.
9 Safe harbor bills are something that's being
10 implemented in other states where basically minors are
11 immune from prosecution under prostitution laws. And then
12 it's already been mentioned a couple of times here today
13 is vacating convictions for victims if those convictions
14 took place while they were trafficked.
15 And then finally, the last protection item for
16 Phase II is honestly, in my experience, in working with
17 ten different nonprofits on this issue over the course of
18 four months is folks -- most of the organizations are
19 interested in this work and a lot of organizations are
20 very limited in their capacity because they are -- most of
21 their staff are tied to grants, specific grants. So
22 without new funding streams, it's very difficult for them
23 to find the time amongst their existing staff or the extra
24 inch of capacity to take this on in the way that it needs
25 to be.

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1 Third phase, on the prevention end, again,
2 supermacro. We need to figure out how to effectively stop
3 this cycle of trauma. There are some great programs that
4 do exist that may be worth looking at for Alaska, which I
5 believe Dr. Erickson will probably be talking more about,
6 so I'm not going to go into them here. But this is
7 probably -- this is a big, tough issue to ponder, but we
8 need to ponder it if we care about sex trafficking victims
9 because -- he'll talk to you more about that. And I'll
10 stop.
11 Another macro issue, reducing demand. Doing
12 these two things would probably take care of a significant
13 portion of this problem here. Street outreach and
14 electronic outreach would be an important intervention on
15 the protection -- on the protection, and then providing
16 shelter for victims. I think it's a little bit difficult
17 at this point to say let's build a shelter for sex
18 trafficking victims. I'm not sure that we know exactly
19 how many people we are talking about. I think that
20 helping existing shelters fund extra services for these
21 victims is definitely something that could happen at this
22 point, but in terms of creating dedicated shelter space, I
23 think that's a more complicated issue without the data.
24 Creating a state civil right of action for
25 victims, this is going to be something where I really wish

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1 the Native American Rights Fund was here because I am not
2 an attorney. But from what I understand, the Trafficking
3 Victims Protection Act did actually create a civil right
4 of action, but there are a lot of barriers to actually
5 being able to access it. So something -- a civil right of
6 action that was accessible to victims here in the state
7 since we know that we have victims here in the state would
8 probably be -- would help these folks set up their --
9 begin their lives again.
10 And finally, at some point it's probably worth
11 beginning to talk about court diversion programs, whether
12 you want to target chronic runaways or you want to target
13 prostitution, but both of them at some point is probably
14 worth looking at. And there are some great examples
15 around the country.
16 I think that most of this I've hit on fairly
17 well. We can run through these a little bit quickly. I
18 really want to thank the APD Vice Unit and the FBI
19 Innocence Lost Task Force. I think in my experience
20 talking to all of the different groups that were involved
21 in this process over the summer, not only have the
22 personnel in those two units effectively created trust
23 with victims, they have also managed to create really
24 trusting and respectful relationships with NGOs in the
25 community as well. And most of the work that's gone on at

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1 this point, really they have been leading. And so this is
2 an opportunity and a point at which the rest of the
3 community -- so whether it's the state level agencies or
4 community providers that we all need to stand up with them
5 and do our share and join them in the effort. But they
6 have been doing a fantastic job and really led the way up
7 to this point.
8 Again, trauma, trauma, trauma, trauma. Trauma
9 is the most prevalent risk factor. There is a cultural
10 issue that we have to take on and that I think that sex
11 trafficking provokes a little bit is that there has been a
12 longstanding myth anywhere in our society, but it exists
13 here in Alaska in a big way as well. And that is that
14 prostitution is a victim's crime. And it absolutely
15 isn't. International data shows that there is a very
16 small percentage perhaps of women that choose prostitution
17 and they are in control of their narrative around that.
18 But the majority of folks in prostitution, male or female,
19 it isn't something that they actually choose. If they had
20 a choice between a different kind of job or had grown up
21 believing something else about themselves, that's probably
22 not where they would have ended up.
23 So the point is to try and begin to see
24 prostitution as a crime that does create victims and then
25 you can begin to see what's actually going on in our

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1 community. It's really the only way we will be able -- if
2 we can't make that shift, we will not see what is right
3 now in our community. Again, we need Alaska-specific
4 data. How is the crime specifically manifesting here.
5 It could be that we're early. It could be that
6 we are beginning to look at this issue before it's
7 rampant. But what we know by trauma rates here in Alaska
8 and the difficulties in law enforcement reaching out to
9 the regions of the state that we sort of have -- we have
10 an environment that's rife for something like this to take
11 over. We could be ahead of that, in which case let's get
12 busy and not have to face some of the things that are
13 happening in other states right now. But we don't know
14 that, so we have to -- we have to dig in and learn about
15 what is truly happening here.
16 Again, training for all providers. If we don't
17 know what are looking for, we won't see it. The hotline
18 alone won't work. We need to combine a hotline and
19 publicizing that with coordinated emergency response at
20 key local levels. Intensive case management and safe
21 housing are at the top of the list for the victims' needs,
22 and new initiatives will require new funding.
23 And so I actually would like to sing the praises
24 of the Department of Public Safety. Walt Monegan helped
25 bring DPS and the FBI and APD at the same table to talk

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1 about training of law enforcement. And in under an hour
2 they managed to plan exactly how they could implement
3 training statewide for all the law enforcement in the
4 state on this issue for \$15,000. I'm guessing that you
5 hadn't said that yet here.
6 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** That it's under
7 15,000?
8 **MS. MORENO:** No. That you did this.
9 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** We were talking
10 about that a little bit earlier.
11 **MS. MORENO:** So I missed it. Okay. Good.
12 For me it was sort of a miraculous thing. I kept
13 wondering where the catch was. It's exactly that type of
14 creativity and really it is just pulling people together
15 and asking questions. It doesn't have to be the right
16 questions. It's just asking questions. The other
17 thing -- there is a lot of interesting tidbits in addition
18 to that little piece of miracle that I stumbled across in
19 bringing folks together on this issue.
20 I found an expert here in Alaska that has
21 experience working overseas and working in Atlanta, an
22 epidemiologist named Laurie O'Neal, who I believe is still
23 in the audience. She is just a great resource and a
24 brilliant, creative thinker that should be kept in any
25 loop as things move forward. The Alaska Immigration

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1 Justice Project has been doing fabulous work on sex
2 trafficking issues for a long time, and they just received
3 two really important grants. And I believe they are also
4 represented here, so I'll let them talk about the great
5 work that they're doing. But they do stand to -- they are
6 in a position to help gather some important data on this
7 issue.
8 Covenant House, they have already told you what
9 great work they are doing. I think that in particular the
10 training that they brought back to the state is really
11 important because it increases the capacity for all youth
12 service workers and many social service workers in general
13 to begin to learn about this issue.
14 On that issue of training -- and you asked the
15 question of how you begin to get it out there in the child
16 welfare world, I think that -- so one of the things I kept
17 hearing as I was calling experts around the country was
18 don't just train in one discipline. Train across
19 disciplines. So, you know, put the three of you in a room
20 and let's figure out the next level of this. And I think
21 that is really important. And I think child welfare in
22 particular, one way to do it for child welfare would be to
23 include it in the child welfare academy. Another way
24 would be to get court personnel and child welfare
25 advocates as well as different social workers and law

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1 enforcement all together and say, okay, how do we want to
2 respond to this.
3 Then finally, the other person that I did come
4 across was Jared Parrish, the researcher at University of
5 North Carolina, and he actually was planning a study
6 already looking at chronic runaways here in the state and
7 agreed to include prostitution arrests, juvenile
8 prostitution arrests from the APD files in that study as
9 well. So that might also provide us a little bit of
10 information.
11 And I think I've probably taken more time than I
12 should have, so I'm going to stop.
13 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Well, thank you, Lisa,
14 again. Your group has done and you have done an enormous
15 amount of work in this area, and it's been of great
16 benefit to the task force. Are there questions from the
17 other task force members? Just for the record, I mean,
18 I'd be curious to know your background. You have learned
19 all this since May or --
20 **MS. MORENO:** Yes, yeah.
21 **MR. GERAGHTY:** It's like a Ph.D. candidate
22 here.
23 **MS. MORENO:** Yeah, doing -- I'm actually
24 working on a master's but, I -- I am not a specialist in
25 sex trafficking. I am a jack of all trades and a master

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1 of none. My specialty is in gathering large amounts of
2 overwhelming information and synthesizing it into usable
3 chunks for policymakers. So that's what I did with this.
4 And the -- as the group came together that day in May and
5 then came -- so between May and when the group met again
6 in July, I went and met individually with every one of the
7 groups so I could try to gather some sense of their
8 perspective on it. And then when the group came back
9 together in July, we began to talk about what the heck are
10 we and what the heck are we doing. And that's -- what
11 came out of that is really the purpose of this whole
12 effort was to try and provide a credible image, a concrete
13 image of what could be a systematic and comprehensive
14 approach to this issue in the state.
15 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Well, you certainly have.
16 You are to be commended for your effort. And I also want
17 to acknowledge the First Lady for being challenged, as you
18 did. And so anyway, are there other questions of the task
19 force?
20 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** I want to comment,
21 Lisa, this was tremendous. I heard about it, but catching
22 this level of detail and synthesizing it so well so that
23 people like us -- people like me can understand it is
24 tremendous. As you know, Jared continues to work with us
25 in our department refining our reporting system, YRBS and

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1 BRFSS. And the impact of that has already been realized
2 with us and we have brought him back a couple of times.
3 And between the two of you, we are going to see something,
4 I think. So thank you.
5 **MS. MORENO:** Thanks.
6 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Lisa. Now we're
7 going to turn to our last panel. And is Dr. Erickson
8 here? And I guess we have somebody on the phone, as well.
9 And all I'd ask, Doctor, we are running behind schedule,
10 through no fault of your own, and so I would ask that --
11 you've got an impressive number of slides here. If there
12 is a way you can truncate or streamline your remarks --
13 because I don't want to leave people on the line too
14 long -- I'd appreciate it. And again, I apologize for
15 the -- for that admonition, and I appreciate your
16 patience.
17 **DR. ERICKSON:** So again, my name is Mark
18 Erickson. I'm a psychiatrist and medical director of
19 behavioral services at Southcentral Foundation. I'm very
20 pleased to be here today. And what I want to do is sort
21 of very quickly take a more upstream look at trafficking.
22 As mentioned both by the staff at Covenant House
23 and by Lisa Moreno, the evidence is quite overwhelming
24 that abuse and neglect is a precondition for trafficking.
25 Trafficking is not something that adolescents simply go

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1 into. The effect of early abuse and neglect on the
2 nervous system and on the mind of an individual profoundly
3 impacts the risk of that individual going into
4 trafficking.
5 What we have learned in the last decade in
6 particular is that child abuse and neglect is a potent
7 risk factor for virtually every social problem that we
8 face in Alaska. It's an enormous risk factor for suicide,
9 for substance and alcohol abuse, for domestic violence,
10 and for trafficking. So this leads to a fairly obvious
11 perspective or conclusion that if you can prevent child
12 abuse and neglect over the long run, you should be able to
13 not only reduce rates of trafficking, but also suicide,
14 substance, alcohol use and so forth.
15 So what I want to do very quickly is to review
16 some of the literature on the -- let's see. I'll skip
17 through some of this. Very briefly, we knew next to
18 nothing about child abuse and its prevalence prior to
19 1980. We learned that in early prevalence studies it's
20 more far more common than imagined. In 1998 the first
21 really relevant study on the health impact of maltreatment
22 came out. 2004 molecular biology studies, particularly in
23 epigenetics, explains why child abuse and neglect is so
24 harmful.
25 And I think -- I think it's important for the

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1 task force to realize that we're probably on the cusp of
2 what will be one -- I believe it's going to be the
3 second-most important advance in public health in the
4 history of medicine, the first -- the most important being
5 the infectious disease revolution of 130 years ago. But
6 we are on the cusp of a revolution in public health that
7 will rest upon how well -- how effectively we prevent
8 child abuse and neglect. States and countries that are
9 more effective in doing so will have far more prosperous
10 and healthy populations across the board.
11 So just a few words about what is -- what is
12 really the gold standard study for understanding the
13 impact of early adversity on lifelong health. This is
14 the -- just kind of briefly go through some of the
15 findings of the adverse childhood experiences study. This
16 was a study that was a collaborative between CDC and
17 Kaiser Permanente in San Diego. It's a very large study
18 with over 17,000 participants. The average age of the
19 participant was 57 years. This is important because these
20 participants were old enough to have a significant medical
21 history. The medical histories were all available -- were
22 available for all participants. And this is important,
23 obviously, because look at a whole number of possible
24 outcomes.
25 Instead of just looking at one form of

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1 maltreatment, they looked at ten listed here. I won't go
2 through them because of time. But the key finding here is
3 that all ten of these adversities have measurable effects
4 on health across a life span. These are the rates of
5 maltreatment they found. And here it's worth noting that
6 this was a thoroughly middle class population in San
7 Diego, and yet they found almost a quarter -- a little
8 over a quarter of the population had experienced physical
9 abuse and had witnessed domestic violence in the home. I
10 won't go through the remainder of the data here.
11 So in the study, two-thirds of the study group
12 reported at least one adverse childhood experience. Of
13 the ones here reporting, no basis as a group, they were
14 healthier across all measures. From what we have learned
15 about trafficking, virtually 100 percent of trafficked
16 individuals probably have multiple childhood adversities.
17 Very quickly, a measure of the adversity was
18 called the A score, which is simply tallying the number of
19 classes of adversity an individual experienced. So this
20 is data on domestic violence. And an A score of zero is
21 set automatically at one. As you can see, as the A score
22 increases, the odds ratio of an individual as an adult
23 being involved in domestic violence increases
24 dramatically.
25 The upside is that if you can prevent childhood

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1 adversities, you can very quickly and dramatically
2 decrease domestic violence risk. This is the data on
3 suicide attempts during childhood and adolescents and,
4 again, you can see almost an exponential increase in risk
5 for attempted suicide based on the number of adversities.
6 Alcohol abuse, same pattern. Illicit drug use, again,
7 very dramatic jump in risk. This is data on tobacco use.
8 This is from a different study, but it ties in with
9 trafficking.

10 This is a prospective study of children with
11 documented history of neglect, and key findings as adults
12 were an increased risk for prostitution, violent behavior,
13 and arrest.

14 And this is data on cardiovascular disease.
15 Surprisingly enough, early adversity by itself
16 independently has a substantial impact on a risk for
17 cardiovascular disease. Multiple adverse childhood
18 experiences is essentially equivalent as a risk for heart
19 disease as a multipack smoker for decades.

20 So these are some of the health risks that are
21 substantially impacted by adverse childhood experiences.
22 So if we can prevent these adversities, not only do we
23 reduce trafficking, but we also reduce domestic violence,
24 anger problems, arrests, alcohol abuse, and so on.

25 And mental health, there is a dramatic impact on

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1 mental health. And somewhat more surprisingly, there is a
2 close tie into a variety of measures of physical health,
3 including heart disease and early death.

4 So these data have generated enormous interest
5 among biologists. What in the world is it about adverse
6 childhood experiences that causes such pervasive Y based
7 effect on health. And the data here is coming out -- it's
8 coming out so rapidly it's virtually impossible to follow.
9 I think one of the most important areas is the study of
10 epigenetics. I won't go into what epigenetics is, other
11 than to say very briefly it's how -- it's essentially how
12 experience modulates the expression of genes.

13 And some of the task force was at the recent
14 program on child abuse and neglect that was just a week
15 ago at the Hilton. One of the key speakers was one of the
16 principal investigators of the adverse childhood
17 experiences study. And I went up afterward and I asked if
18 he thought the adverse childhood experiences that they
19 were assessing, which are consciously remembered
20 adversities, were really proxies for things that happened
21 essentially from conception to about age two or three.
22 And he said he thought that was the case. And the reason
23 I asked this is the epigenetic research suggests major
24 changes in gene expression probably affect these vast
25 array of health outcomes occur essentially from fetal life

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1 on to the first two or three years of life and is what
2 predisposes to this whole array of problems later on.

3 So in any case, the data here is enormous and
4 it's essentially supporting the adverse childhood
5 experiences study and their findings. So here we have a
6 comment from a recent issue of the American Medical
7 Association: Scientific consensus is emerging that the
8 origins of adult disease are often found among
9 developmental and biological disruptions occurring early
10 in life.

11 So this translates into what do we do, how do we
12 more effectively prevent child abuse and neglect. And
13 about four years ago at Southcentral, we spent months
14 reviewing the literature on prevention, and we came to the
15 modestly optimistic conclusion there is probably a lot
16 more we can do about preventing child abuse and neglect
17 than either we are doing in Alaska or virtually anyone
18 else is doing in the country. And what we found is the
19 literature on prevention tends to exist in silos that are
20 sort of intellectually isolated and these silos aren't
21 communicating with each other.

22 And they suggest a variety of possibilities.
23 I'm just going to go through three here. But one concerns
24 the birth experience. There is some very interesting data
25 that suggests that the birth experience is a window of

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1 opportunity for prevention. And if you can take at-risk
2 mothers, mothers who don't have a safe place to go
3 postpartum and so forth, and provide them with support,
4 you can very substantially reduce the risk for
5 maltreatment.

6 In Costa Rica they did a very large study, over
7 78,000 mothers, and they simply improved the
8 maternal/infant postpartum experience and were able to
9 reduce abandonment by about 78 percent. Huge effect. In
10 Russia they did something similar. And they enlarged a
11 maternity hospital there, and they were able to reduce
12 abandonment by 46 percent just simply by improving
13 mother/infant support in the first week postpartum. Very
14 simple intervention.

15 In recent years we have learned breastfeeding
16 results in the release within the mother's system of
17 oxytocin, which is a bonding hormone; prolactin, which is
18 a hormone that's linked to maternal care; and with
19 dopamine, which is a pleasure neurotransmitter. So every
20 time a mother nurses, there is sort of an elixir of
21 bonding, if you will, that's released. This suggests an
22 obvious hypothesis: A longer duration of breastfeeding
23 might reduce the risk of maltreatment.

24 Just three years ago there was a first study
25 that bears on this hypothesis published by Strathern, et

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1 al., and they basically followed over 6,000 mother/infant
 2 pairs over 15 years. They found that mothers who
 3 breastfed more than four months were almost five times
 4 less likely to maltreat a child. A huge effect. And even
 5 after controlling for 18 potential compounding
 6 variables -- whether the mother wanted the child, whether
 7 there was substance abuse involved -- they still found an
 8 over almost two-and-a-half fold reduction in the risk for
 9 maltreating a child. This was verified maltreatment. So
 10 this was an enormous effect and it makes physiological
 11 sense.

12 So what we did was we asked ourselves what is
 13 known about preventing -- or what is known about
 14 increasing the duration of breastfeeding. And the gold
 15 standard is clearly what's known as a baby friendly
 16 hospital initiative. This is a World Health Organization
 17 UNICEF initiative. And a number of countries globally
 18 have essentially gone 100 percent baby friendly. And with
 19 this they see a dramatic increase in breastfeeding. Here
 20 is data on China. Breastfeeding more than doubled. Cuba,
 21 Nicaragua, Mongolia more than doubled the rates. Norway
 22 and Sweden are virtually 100 percent baby friendly. The
 23 United Kingdom recently just made the decision to go 100
 24 percent baby friendly.

25 The United States, less than two percent of our

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1 hospitals are baby friendly. This is astonishing. We
 2 know there are many, many benefits of breastfeeding. A
 3 baby-friendly hospital has a huge effect on the duration
 4 and initiation of breastfeeding, and yet within the U.S.
 5 just two percent of our hospitals are baby friendly.
 6 Kudos to Providence. They are one of the few hospitals, I
 7 think the only hospital in the state, that's baby
 8 friendly.

9 But this is something that the state could
 10 decide as a whole, I think, to move towards. And it may
 11 reduce child abuse and neglect and, in the long run,
 12 trafficking.

13 One other -- one other program that's shown good
 14 efficacy in reducing child abuse and neglect is what's
 15 known as the Nurse/Family Partnership. In this program,
 16 nurses start visiting homes of at-risk mothers before the
 17 birth of a child, during pregnancy, and for the first two
 18 years postpartum. A key finding of one of the major
 19 studies of this program was a 48 percent reduction -- and
 20 this is verified -- of abuse and neglect related to this
 21 program. And this was at 15 years follow-up that they
 22 found this reduction. So this is a very robust effect.

23 And something we have done just since June, we
 24 have formally affiliated with Nurse/Family Partnership and
 25 are working directly with David Olds at Southcentral

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1 Foundation to improve our home visitation program.
 2 So just to close, the costs of child abuse are
 3 enormous. This is some data -- I won't go through this,
 4 but an estimate of roughly 170 billion a year from a 2007
 5 study was spent. Conversely, the econometrics of early
 6 intervention suggests a very high return on investment.
 7 And key in the econometric research is James Heckman, who
 8 is a Nobel Laureate in economics at the University of
 9 Chicago. And Heckman's economic analysis suggests that
 10 for every \$8,000 invested in early childhood high quality
 11 programs, the return he predicts is as high as ten percent
 12 per year. And by the age of 65 this amounts to a \$789,000
 13 return on an initial \$8,000 investment, far exceeding any
 14 index fund.

15 This is a little hard to see, but basically his
 16 research suggests the return on investment is particularly
 17 high if you begin at conception. And then it drops off
 18 rather rapidly past, say, the second or third year of
 19 life. And so this -- his data clearly argue for early
 20 life -- high quality early life programs as being a way to
 21 not only improve health, but save money in the long run.

22 So just to conclude, current practices of
 23 medicine are fragmented by a symptom-based system of
 24 medical care. Prevention of our nation's leading health
 25 problems, including trafficking I would submit, is likely

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1 to benefit from understanding many of these problems tend
 2 to be co-morbid and have common origins and enduring
 3 consequences from abuse and experiences in early
 4 childhood.

5 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Doctor. Is --
 6 is Linda Chamberlain on the line?

7 **DR. CHAMBERLAIN:** Yes, I am.

8 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Would you go ahead
 9 and introduce yourself? Is it Dr. Chamberlain or Linda
 10 Chamberlain?

11 **DR. CHAMBERLAIN:** Dr. Chamberlain.

12 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I'm sorry.

13 **DR. CHAMBERLAIN:** I'm the director of the
 14 Alaska Family Violence Prevention Project. I'm with State
 15 of Alaska Public Health. Does this sound okay?

16 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Yes. It's slightly loud,
 17 but we can hear you. No question about that. So go
 18 ahead, Dr. Chamberlain.

19 **DR. CHAMBERLAIN:** I'll be brief because
 20 I'm really echoing, I think, what we have heard from
 21 everyone else. I have four key points. The younger the
 22 child, the more susceptible the brain is to adverse
 23 childhood experiences. It's all about the brain. And the
 24 way the brain works, it prioritizes survival first. We
 25 always need to appreciate when a child has to focus on

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1 survival, they can't learn, whether it's in the classroom,
2 it's about healthy relationships, it's about making good
3 choices. So it has a huge influence in terms of
4 intervention because what we are talking about are toxic
5 developmental stressors.
6 And when a child is born, a lot of the brain
7 connections aren't in yet. Adverse childhood experiences
8 really influence how the building blocks of the brain go
9 together such that a child who is having to deal with
10 those types of situations -- exposure to domestic
11 violence, substance abuse in the household and so forth --
12 is going to be hanging out more in the lower building
13 blocks of the brain, the survival brain. They don't have
14 all the hardware yet, particularly putting together -- the
15 prefrontal cortex is not mature, and so they process fear
16 differently in their brain such that they get stuck more
17 in replay, which makes them way more vulnerable to
18 posttraumatic stress disorder, which, when I look at data
19 around sex trafficking, it's very much a risk factor for
20 that. And we have a lot of kids with PTSD.
21 Toxic stress causes organizational changes in
22 the brain, brain chemistry imbalances, structural changes,
23 an impulsive reactive brain that looks a lot like
24 attention deficit, a lot of hyperarousal, hyperactivity,
25 and also poor social/emotional skills. So they have

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1 difficulty expressing themselves. They have difficulty
2 reading other people's emotions, which I think we can see
3 again relative to sex trafficking, what the implications
4 from that are. Trauma definitely interferes with the
5 ability to learn and how they learn, which needs to be way
6 more experientially based. If we're doing intervention
7 with these children, they learn way more by doing than
8 traditional learning models.
9 And I think something that's been very weak for
10 folks like me who work in domestic violence and kids
11 exposed to violence, as Senator Dyson mentioned, too, is
12 there's a huge intersection of trauma and fetal alcohol
13 exposure, and yet the fields haven't worked together very
14 much. And we are really pushing for that because the same
15 areas of the brain are affected. We know fetal alcohol
16 exposure is a big risk factor for sex trafficking again,
17 so some big implications there in thinking about what
18 interventions look like.
19 The brain runs the body and, just as described
20 by Dr. Erickson, leads to a lot of physical, mental,
21 behavioral problems, but especially the reality that
22 negative behaviors can really be survival strategies to
23 adapt to tough times during childhood. So what I see in
24 my world is kids start self-medicating very early, eight,
25 nine years old. And by the time they're 12 or 13, they

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1 already have significant addiction. Again, another risk
2 factor for sex trafficking.
3 So the good news around all of this is we know
4 more about what helps kids who have experienced early
5 trauma than ever before. The most consistent protective
6 factor is promoting secure attachment, the type of
7 interventions described by Dr. Erickson, home visitation.
8 And also a wide array of therapeutic
9 intervention for kids that are actually often brief. They
10 are designed for a multitude of studies -- domestic
11 violence shelters, school-based, homeless shelters, many
12 of which are eight to ten weeks in duration. They have
13 been rigorously evaluated, incorporate cross-cultural
14 strategies ranging from therapeutic play to art-based
15 interventions. They have a huge emphasis on social
16 support where -- looking at more and more trauma-informed
17 parenting skills which are incorporated into these
18 programs. They always have the social/emotional learning
19 component because it's a predictable deficit for these
20 children.
21 Some examples -- and I know in Anchorage and
22 probably wider is trauma-focused cognitive behavioral
23 therapy which has been adapted for Native American and
24 Alaska Native children. There are shorter versions
25 adapted for youth in domestic violence shelters, for

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1 example, and has shown dramatic reduction in children's
2 posttraumatic stress disorder symptoms and anxiety. But
3 it's not just about young children interventions. There
4 are interventions like seeking safety that have been
5 developed to work with teens that are highly effective.
6 We have a menu of things that work. And I think
7 we are also seeing a lot being done with ACES in Alaska
8 now and elsewhere. There is a pediatric assessment tool
9 that's being developed that will be released nationally in
10 May. We are looking at developing an ACES safety card
11 that can be used as part of routine screening. Things are
12 happening in terms of the suggestions we have heard like
13 training with teachers and school nurses. The Department
14 of Corrections is doing an incredibly innovative project
15 on ACES that has also incorporated fetal alcohol exposure
16 and adverse childhood experience into the assessment that
17 they are doing.
18 And I guess the last thing I'd like to mention,
19 too, is another very innovative model called ARC, which
20 stands for Attachment Self-Regulation and Competency, has
21 been implemented in a number of schools in Washington
22 State, and the largest international implementation so far
23 in Calgary, Canada with over 40 schools. Just another
24 example of school-based and really broader than community
25 implementation of a model to work with complexly

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1 traumatized youth has been shown to be highly effective.
2 Thank you.
3 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Dr. Chamberlain.
4 Any questions from the task force? I got two take-aways
5 from that. One is the treatment or diagnosis and
6 treatment of child abuse you said ranks up there with the
7 revolution of infectious diseases.
8 **DR. ERICKSON:** I think if we could jump
9 ahead 50 years and look back, we would see we are on the
10 cusp of the second most important advance in public
11 health, and organizations, states, countries that
12 recognize this now and are effective in improving the
13 resilience and also preventing child abuse and neglect
14 will create substantially healthier populations. They
15 will have a healthier workforce. There will be less
16 chronic disease, trafficking will diminish, et cetera, et
17 cetera, et cetera.
18 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And the last point, from
19 birth to ages two or three you said --
20 **DR. ERICKSON:** Yes.
21 **MR. GERAGHTY:** -- adverse childhood
22 experiences occur during time -- I'm trying to understand
23 what --
24 **DR. ERICKSON:** Yeah, I went through my
25 presentation very rapidly. There is incredibly

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1 fascinating data coming out now that suggests extreme
2 maternal stress very early on in the pregnancy causes
3 epigenetic changes in the developing fetus. It's as
4 though the fetus, if you will, is testing the weather,
5 metaphorically. And if it looks -- and Dr. Chamberlain
6 mentioned this. If it looks like the forecast is not
7 good, like life is going to be tough, there is literally a
8 shift in hundreds of genes and their expression that can
9 begin early in life.
10 **MR. GERAGHTY:** For instance, a bitter
11 divorce, for example, that's stressing out the mother or
12 the mother is being abused?
13 **DR. ERICKSON:** The mother -- yes, it could
14 be divorce. The mother is a victim of domestic violence,
15 she doesn't have a safe home. Any number of factors. But
16 to a certain extent, the placenta will actually protect
17 the fetus from stress, but beyond it won't. And -- the
18 signal from the stress hormones to the fetus actually
19 affects epigenetic gene expression. So you can see -- the
20 effects begin very, very early. And by the time you get
21 out to two or three years, a lot of the development has
22 occurred. And the thought is most of the harm is probably
23 done in that time stretch.
24 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Fascinating. Well, any
25 questions from the panel? Thank you, Dr. Erickson and

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1 Dr. Chamberlain. I appreciate your patience, and I
2 apologize for -- I appreciate you truncating your remarks.
3 And we have got your slides. And believe me, they will be
4 given serious consideration.
5 Why don't we take a short break now. We are
6 going to start into the public testimony. And for those
7 of you waiting, thank you for your patience and those on
8 the line. We'll take a very short break here. Let's say
9 ten minutes, and get started.
10 (A break was taken.)
11 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Let's get started. Back on
12 record. We are going to turn now to the public portion of
13 the hearing. And I appreciate again the patience of
14 everybody who has waited this out. A number of people
15 have signed up, and I'm just going to go through the list.
16 Some have indicated they are not going to be offering
17 testimony, which is fine. There is -- there will be an
18 opportunity for people to submit written comments or
19 written testimony. And so I'll go through the list of the
20 people who are here. And then there are some people
21 on-line, and I'll turn to them next. Jeff Mittman. Is
22 Jeff here? I know Jeff was here earlier. He indicates no
23 testimony today, so again, he can offer testimony in
24 writing and it will be considered by the task force in due
25 time.

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1 Senator Dyson has signed up. He's already
2 testified. Ellen Lockyer has signed up, but maybe just as
3 an observer. I don't know. But if Ellen is here, she's
4 welcome to come up. Lisa Moreno has already testified
5 eloquently. Suzanne LoPierco. Have I pronounced that
6 correctly? Again, no testimony today, she indicates, so
7 we will be happy to listen to it in writing in due course.
8 Renee. There is no last name. Renee. Yes, ma'am.
9 And Renee, let me just ask you, if you would, to
10 identify yourself and who you are with or affiliated with.
11 And the court reporter is taking down your comments, so if
12 you can speak slowly and not get too rushed, that would
13 help her out. And go ahead.
14 **RENEE:** Okay. I'm Renee. I am a food
15 server at Bean's Cafe and at Karluk's. But I heard about
16 this. I picked up the flyer at AFN. I made some little
17 notes on my phone. I came here tonight. I couldn't skip
18 it. I -- I am another survivor, not specifically from
19 these issues we are talking about tonight, but at-home
20 abuses from zero to 11. I, thank God, never got into
21 drugs or anything bad, but I had health concerns until
22 graduation. And I had no real friends all the way through
23 school.
24 I'm sorry. How much -- how much time per
25 person, may I ask? I don't want to hog up the spot.

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1 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Well, I mean, you can take
2 three or four minutes, if you would like. I don't want to
3 cut you off, either, but don't feel -- don't feel rushed.
4 **RENEE:** Okay. I don't really talk about
5 this that much. If I may fast-forward to now, I -- I go
6 to church on Sundays. I exercise. I am in Special
7 Olympics weight lifting since 2002, and I have my own
8 weight set at home. And I am a food server at Bean's and
9 Karluk's.
10 I also have some Alaska-specific information.
11 The Alaska SOR web, Alaska S-O-R web, there are 3,005
12 entries. Over 1,000 of those people live in Anchorage.
13 Over two -- I mean, I'm sorry. Over -- I should say close
14 to 250, the last time I checked, which was around the end
15 of summer, live right here in 99501. Some of them are in
16 our churches, our hospitals and our schools. One works at
17 Alaska's -- I mean. I'm sorry -- Anchorage Senior
18 Activity Center. Some of them cook and serve our food.
19 Some of them handle our clothes, wash and fix our cars,
20 take care of our houses. They sneak through job
21 interviews. They use the library computers.
22 I don't know how to do this myself, but I got
23 some papers from STAR. I would just need somebody to help
24 me with the reading and writing part. I am a
25 TBI survivor, not from anything like this, but from a car

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1 accident in 1996. I have the smarts, but I'm like a
2 really old computer.
3 When someone is arrested for a sex offense, they
4 are -- some of them are only required to register for a
5 short time. I don't think there is anything wrong with
6 people parking in Lover's Lane as long as they are out --
7 are not right by people's houses. They should not be on
8 the public safety list. They are not a bad guy. But a
9 real bad guy, for example, these sex traffickers and
10 people who -- anyone who mistreats people in that way,
11 they should be required to register for life. I believe
12 they should be required to register for life and, in some
13 cases, life sentenced with no bail. And if not a life
14 sentence, at least a longer sentence, no bail, no
15 shortcuts.
16 Can we at least not rent to them and not hire
17 them anywhere except to pick up trash or clean and fix the
18 porta-potties? Thank you.
19 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Renee. Any
20 questions for Renee? Thank you for your courage in coming
21 forward. And if you want to work some more and get
22 somebody to help you with those papers and submit some
23 other stuff, there is a website on the Department of Law,
24 and it has information there. So feel free, if some other
25 thoughts occur to you, to go ahead and submit it. Okay?

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1 **RENEE:** Okay.
2 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Is it Kailey Olson? Did I
3 pronounce that correctly?
4 **MS. OLSON:** Actually, it's Keeley Olson.
5 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you. I'm sorry.
6 **MS. OLSON:** And I am with Standing
7 Together Against Rape, so I just heard the person before
8 me testify, and I'd be happy to go over some of the
9 paperwork with her and assist her with getting some things
10 filled out if there is anything I can help you with.
11 I wanted to thank the task force for convening
12 on such a serious and urgent topic. I believe that we
13 have epidemic proportions of all kind of social ills that
14 are occurring throughout Alaska. And this is going to be,
15 you know, a huge step towards informing the general public
16 about the issues we tend to see in the social service
17 field quite often. It's something we generally have to
18 read between the lines on.
19 And so to echo some of the testimony you heard
20 today, people aren't terribly forthcoming about their
21 experience, and I'd like to just say that there are a
22 number of people who are very young. They have been
23 maltreated for most of their young lives, and they are
24 unaware of the fact they are being prostituted. So I
25 think, you know, just -- it's not just an issue of having

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1 them come forward to talk about their -- their experience
2 with sex trafficking, but also to realize they don't
3 realize that it's occurring.
4 So the -- you know, the pimp that is their
5 boyfriend suddenly starts bringing other people into the
6 bedroom during sex acts and expects her to complete those,
7 and she's confused and doesn't know why, but thinks this
8 could be a relationship. I'm not really sure. And has no
9 idea that money is exchanging hands. So really to
10 decriminalize and victimize solicitation for prostitution,
11 I think that's incredibly important.
12 Some of the trainings I've gone to as far as
13 national trainings, I see Cook County in Chicago has an
14 excellent -- excellent system in place. I would note that
15 one of my staff who just went to a training in Chicago,
16 the national sexual assault training, was photographing
17 and texting me advertising that they had at the airport,
18 which I thought was interesting, that says anyone who is
19 offering you a ride shouldn't be giving you one, and
20 different types of things that were paid for by the
21 airport stating solicitation was illegal, but also
22 definitely getting a message across to those people who
23 are coming in from outside of the area to make them aware
24 it was such a huge problem. And maybe that's something
25 that can be looked at as far as a joint corporate-funded

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1 sort of media campaign to get the word out that we could
2 look to some of our transportation hubs.
3 I know I have firsthand knowledge of people who
4 have been solicited at the transit station here in town.
5 Certainly they mentioned some of the shelters. I don't
6 think that that can ever be fully helped. I think
7 awareness is key, so making sure that our service
8 providers are aware of that.
9 I know the recent changes in the laws really
10 affect how we look at minors and young people, but I would
11 say that my working with adult victims of human
12 trafficking, they are just as destitute, just as maligned
13 and really looking at, with a history of prostitution on
14 their record, unable to find any kind of job or even going
15 to a realm of education that is going to help them break
16 out of that. So we are looking at a situation where they
17 are aging out.
18 And you know, I say that, and yet I'm in a
19 situation where I've helped maybe three people in the last
20 week who are breaking out of that cycle and really doing
21 it of their own free will. They are in their 30s. They
22 are parents. Some of them are grandparents. And they are
23 really making exceptional efforts to access substance
24 abuse treatment on their own and access shelter on their
25 own, and we are just there supporting them and helping

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1 point them in the right direction, maybe paying for a food
2 handler's card over here or maybe helping to pay for a GED
3 over here, linking some resources.
4 But I just don't want to forget the adults who
5 have been faced with this criminalization for decades and
6 really recognizing how difficult it is for them to break
7 out of it. It's one thing to reach out to the children.
8 I think that's incredibly important. But we don't want to
9 forget whole generations of people who have come before
10 and paid the sacrifices for them.
11 Thank you very much for all your hard work and
12 attention to this detail.
13 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Any questions for Keeley?
14 And thank you. The safe harbor thing you're talking about
15 is something we will definitely be looking at as a task
16 force. Thank you.
17 Robin Bronen. Is Robin here?
18 **UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER:** Let me go
19 check on her.
20 **MR. GERAGHTY:** While we are doing that, we
21 will skip over her to Ken Legacki. Ken is here.
22 **MR. LEGACKI:** Good evening. My name is
23 Ken Legacki. I'm an attorney here in town. One of the
24 things that bothers me is I think the State helps enable
25 trafficking. And here is how they do that. I'm an

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1 attorney that enforces the Wage and Hour law in Alaska. I
2 have sued Crazy Horse, I have sued Fantasies, and I have
3 sued Showboat. And in each and every one of these cases,
4 I've spoken to Department of Labor investigators and said,
5 can't you folks do anything about this and they say, no,
6 our hands are tied. We have instructions from upstairs or
7 down in Juneau to not enforce the Wage and Hour law
8 against the dance clubs.
9 This is what happens to these women. To work at
10 a dance club -- and I have testimony. I did this trial.
11 We just got a decision in federal court. It's going to
12 appeal to the Ninth Circuit. And there is memos about how
13 these people are cheating these dancers out of honest
14 wages, of how they are training them on these different
15 scenarios where they actually sometimes have to put in a
16 full night of work, they walk out with nothing in their
17 pocket.
18 For the honor of dancing at these dance clubs,
19 they have to pay for every hour they are there. At Crazy
20 Horse it was \$10 per hour. At Fantasies it was 15 bucks
21 an hour. At Showboat it was 50 bucks a night. So they
22 would pay and they would work. And then maybe they would
23 get some money in tips. Maybe they would get something in
24 dancing or whatever. Then they had the VIPs and they had
25 these other special things they had to perform. But then

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1 they had to share all that money with the house.
2 For example, if they had a VIP dance, they would
3 have to pay a fee to the house to use a room for the
4 dance, and then when they would leave, they would have to
5 pay the bouncer so much per night. They would have to pay
6 the DJ so much per night. They have to pay the house mom
7 who also owns the club so much a night. Twenty bucks a
8 night. This is the testimony. So Ms. Jeannette Johnson
9 and her sister would collect 20 bucks a night at the end
10 of the night. And maybe at this particular place they
11 would get back a little bit in a check that looks like
12 they are paying minimum wage.
13 After they pay the house 80 bucks, a young woman
14 would work eight hours, and then she would have to give
15 \$80. They would make a note in the ledger and say, okay,
16 we are going to give them back \$7 an hour -- at Fantasies
17 it was 6.15 per hour, although the minimum wage is \$7 --
18 at that time \$7.15 per hour. And at Crazy Horse they
19 would give them back \$7.15 an hour. So they would
20 actually lose money. And sometimes on slow nights, they
21 would make no money in tips, but they still had to pay out
22 that money.
23 And another scheme Crazy Horse had -- and this
24 is all on the record -- was they had charities like NBA or
25 Jerry's kids or something like that. Well, the women had

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1 to give at least ten to 20 bucks a night which they are
2 supposed to collect from the customers to this charity,
3 and then Jeannette Johnson would take the tax writeoff.
4 And then what my beef is, why is not the
5 Department of Labor enforcing the labor laws that are
6 already on the books? Why are they not going into these
7 places and say, are you keeping track of the number of
8 hours people are working? Are you paying Social Security?
9 Are you taking it out from the paychecks so it goes to
10 these women so in the future there is a record they will
11 have some Social Security benefits? How about
12 unemployment insurance? The State is getting ripped off
13 of that. They are not collecting these things. IRS
14 taxes. Even though they are tips that they allegedly get
15 they are supposed to pay taxes on, it's all hush money.
16 If -- just that little thing alone can make sure
17 that some of these women, if they -- you know, they are
18 there. It's going to happen. But at least if they get
19 the minimum wage when they work, maybe they wouldn't have
20 to do some of the other things they are required to do to
21 make ends meet.
22 And I see Mike here is the Attorney General.
23 Attorney General's Office may want to look at that and say
24 how come we're not enforcing these laws. How come we're
25 not going to these clubs saying let me see your records?

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1 Are you keeping track of these people's hours? For
2 example, at Crazy Horse, the bartenders had to clock in.
3 The waitresses had to clock in. The bouncers had to clock
4 in. But not the dancers. And there was no -- she just
5 said, well, that's the way the girls are. It's because
6 they easily exploit these young woman who are dancing and
7 take money from them because, as Jeannette Johnson said --
8 and she said this in an affidavit that was filed in
9 federal court. These women are exploitable. The reason
10 why they don't want to join in these lawsuits is because
11 they don't want their past brought up. They don't want to
12 be publicly exposed in these lawsuits.
13 So if they can't do it themselves because of
14 their past, at least the State ought to be doing it for
15 them. Thank you.
16 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Any -- Ken, don't -- any
17 questions of Ken? I don't have an answer to your
18 question. But it's -- it's an angle we hadn't thought of,
19 but strip clubs we know. I mean, it was noticed in the --
20 remarked on earlier by the law enforcement panel that
21 that's a place, a breeding ground, if you will. So I
22 think it's -- I don't know if it's an independent
23 contractor issue, Ken, versus employees. Probably -- I
24 hadn't thought about it, but it's a fair point and --
25 **MR. LEGACKI:** The issue is why am I having

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1 to enforce the law? I mean, this is the State's job.
2 I've done it, I've made some money on it. There's no
3 doubt about it. But the problem is it's only -- I can
4 only do so many cases. I mean, the State has the
5 authority under the Wage and Hour law to go into every one
6 of these strip clubs and say, let me look at your books.
7 I don't have that authority. I can go through the
8 discovery process. I file a lawsuit and I go through that
9 dance and they hire lawyers, Crazy Horse and Fantasies
10 hire lawyers from Michigan that fly around the country and
11 do these cases. There are ways to do it. And the
12 Department of Labor knows this. There is no such thing as
13 an independent contractor.
14 There's a lot of cases out there now that are
15 trying to stop it. And if there is any escapes or
16 loopholes for these kind of cases, the department can very
17 easily pass legislation or create rules to stop that. For
18 example, the tips. The argument now in the Ninth Circuit
19 is, well, since the girls were not forced with the threat
20 of losing their jobs to give tips to these other people,
21 then it was a voluntary tip out. Well, these girls
22 testified they were called names, they were browbeated and
23 they were threatened in the sense they were intimidated by
24 the bouncers and so forth, but they were never threatened
25 with the loss of their job. Apparently that's a standard.

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1 You can very easily change the rule on that and say, well,
2 if there is any kind of intimidation factor, or else to
3 say you don't have to tip anymore.
4 But what I think is kind of interesting is the
5 Department of Labor says -- and the investigators know
6 it's a violation, but they are getting orders from up high
7 saying do not enforce the law. Do not be proactive. Do
8 not be aggressive. And that's something -- I understand
9 Governor Parnell asked for this commission. Maybe you
10 ought to tell the Commissioner of Labor and let's
11 emphasize the law in this particular area. Let's start
12 being aggressive. Let's start being proactive.
13 **MR. GERAGHTY:** In fairness, those are
14 allegations and not facts. And I don't -- I mean, the
15 inference that those kind of directives have been received
16 I think is just that, an inference. And I -- I get your
17 point and I --
18 **MR. LEGACKI:** It's not an attack against
19 you, Mike. But I've already done three or four lawsuits.
20 And Alaska was -- back in the '80s, Alaska was on the
21 forefront with Judge Green's case up in Fairbanks in
22 saying that dancers are not independent contractors. And
23 Alaska is one of the first states to push that issue. And
24 we all know it's out there. Like I say, it's -- my
25 lawsuits are not hidden. They are there. They know they

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1 are out there. But I can get a list of 200-some women
2 having worked there, but I can only contact one or two.
3 The other ones don't want to get involved. The State can
4 do that. They can go get those records very easily and
5 say where is their times sheets. Where are the
6 deductions?
7 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I don't take it personally,
8 Ken. I've known you for a long time, and I appreciate the
9 point that you are making, and it merits some follow-up.
10 And I will do that.
11 **MR. LEGACKI:** It's a very simple matter
12 that can be done. If you start going and checking these
13 records and seeing even if they are paying their taxes
14 even, and it benefits everyone. But -- because they don't
15 like that, obviously. The dance clubs -- if you start
16 enforcing this law, the dance clubs are going to say, wait
17 a minute here. We may not be making the profit we used to
18 because we can't exploit these women anymore. We have to
19 follow the rule of law as far as paying decent wages. If
20 they are just going to pay the minimum wage, we are going
21 to be in trouble.
22 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I agree with that. I
23 appreciate the comments and I -- it's -- it's an angle we
24 hadn't thought of, or at least I haven't thought of. And
25 we will follow up.

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1 **MR. LEGACKI:** Thank you.
2 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Was -- Robin? Okay. Is it
3 Ginger Baim? Am I pronouncing that correctly?
4 **MS. BAIM:** Yes, sir.
5 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Come on up, Ma'am.
6 **MS. BAIM:** Good evening. My name is
7 Ginger Baim, and I am the Executive Director of Safe and
8 Fear Free Environment, which is the domestic violence,
9 sexual assault, victim advocacy organization located in
10 Dillingham, and we serve the Bristol Bay region. I have
11 been in that position for 22 years. And I have had a lot
12 of issues that's come up. This one has been troubling on
13 many fronts.
14 I think one of the issues you are facing here is
15 when most Alaskans hear the term sex trafficking, we have
16 a certain image that comes into our head that has little
17 to do with the reality of what sex trafficking is all
18 about. We have an image of the 1950s black-and-white
19 movies about the slave trade or we have the more modern
20 image of the exploitation of Asian women in Asian
21 countries where sex trade is happening, we are told
22 through the media, on a rapid basis. We just don't think
23 that that applies to us. And for those of us who live in
24 rural Alaska, we really don't think it applies to us.
25 And one of the things that I've experienced in

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1 the last couple of years, this issue came to a head for me
2 this summer because of something that happened in our
3 community. I have raised many children that were born and
4 raised in Dillingham, and they came of age in that
5 Internet age. My kids were also raised in my program
6 pretty much since I have been there for so long. So very
7 graphic and open discussions about sexuality, trafficking,
8 domestic violence, assault. That's something that
9 happened on a regular basis in our household. And so my
10 kids, of course, would go on the Internet and they would
11 come talk to me -- they are all adults now -- and they
12 would talk to me about the things they would come across
13 and how they would be approached. My kids were fairly
14 immune from that because they knew what it was that they
15 were looking at, you know. They had some education about
16 it.
17 I work with kids that are in a very large,
18 high-risk group of children that have been exposed to a
19 lot of ongoing trauma with parents that have been exposed
20 to a lot of ongoing trauma. Our kids increasingly live in
21 a world that's mostly dominated by their Internet and
22 their connections. It's not at all uncommon in our region
23 to have two teens leaning back to back with each other and
24 texting each other. They don't talk; they just text. But
25 most of us in rural Alaska thought they were insulated

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1 from the kind of sex trafficking we are talking about
2 today. And one of the reasons is because that's something
3 that happens in Anchorage and that happens in the urban
4 areas. It doesn't happen out in our area.
5 A couple of things that happened that have
6 changed my mind about that is changing the people's mind
7 in Dillingham. One is I was alerted to a conversation
8 that I overheard from Michelle DeWitt, who is a peer that
9 works in the domestic violence programs in Bethel, and was
10 talking about finding out a number of young people who
11 were recruited in sex trafficking that came out of the
12 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta area. And I started to wonder, gee,
13 I wonder how many of those people came out of Bristol Bay
14 because we are very likely situated.
15 And the first reaction is -- we had discussions
16 among parents and other people -- is well, like I said,
17 that happens in Anchorage and we are fairly isolated. But
18 then there is a reminder of two things: First of all, all
19 of our kids come into Anchorage two or three times a year
20 on a regular basis for health care, for AFN, for sports
21 events; so they are regularly here.
22 But this summer what happened is I had kind of a
23 woman who is viewed as a bit of a busybody in our
24 community, God bless her, and she called me and she said,
25 I've got a problem. Because if any of you have ever been

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1 around Dillingham in the fishing season, you know that
2 our -- in a three-week period, our population doubles and
3 nearly triples. And it's a 24-hour day, so there are
4 intensive things, lots of new people in town, lots of
5 things going on, and not enough people paying attention.
6 And she called me because she said, listen,
7 there is a couple of guys that have rented a room at the
8 hotel, and they are seeing -- there is a whole bunch of
9 young people that are going up on a regular basis meeting
10 with them. And she heard about it through her contacts.
11 And they have already contacted -- they contacted these
12 young people previously through the Internet, but they
13 came in there and they slipped in under kind of undercover
14 over the hullabaloo that happens around our fishing
15 season. And they were up there interviewing them. And at
16 least one of the kids she had talked to, they had been
17 talking to them about modeling contracts, about coming
18 into Anchorage and the people were going to pay their way
19 stateside to come and be involved with some kind of a
20 modeling proposal. And she was seeking information about
21 what to do about it.
22 Now, we had a lot of things going on. We didn't
23 know how to respond to it. What we did do in this area is
24 we talked to the people that owned the hotel, and they
25 went up and said to the people, you cannot have people

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1 coming up into your room anymore. We reported them to the
2 police. The police don't have any -- they have nothing to
3 go on there. But we were available to stop that activity.
4 But we became aware of the fact that that could be and
5 probably has been happening on a regular basis in our
6 community, and we just happened to have -- we just
7 happened to hear about it this time. And we believe it is
8 something that happens regularly.
9 Our kids are very vulnerable. There is a
10 high-risk population. There is a lot of exploitation that
11 goes on. They are very trusting. And as parents, we're
12 pretty much with blinders on because we don't think it
13 applies to us. And it does apply to us and we are
14 vulnerable to it. The other thing -- and I think you have
15 talked about this before. I have not been present for
16 that. And that is that we have situations in some of our
17 small isolated villages where we have -- like I said, when
18 most people think of sex trafficking, it would be in terms
19 of moving a person out of an area and into another area
20 and exploiting them. We have situations in our small
21 villages where young people are passed from person to
22 person from a young age and being used as a sexual
23 companion.
24 And it's not possible in some of these small
25 villages that everyone in the village cannot -- they have

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1 to be aware of what's going on. But if you understand the
2 isolation that exists and the fear structure that exists
3 in these small communities, I'm not speaking to that to
4 try to blame anybody or hold anyone accountable. Well, I
5 do want to hold people accountable. It's not to try to
6 denigrate people that live in small villages. It is a big
7 issue for us and it's really difficult. It's a very
8 difficult issue to confront anybody who so much has raised
9 an eyebrow in the village and has really no alternative
10 except to leave the village and are often unable to prove
11 it for the same thing you just heard from the gentleman
12 that just spoke here. I know you can't tell by looking,
13 but I used to be one of those dancers in my youth. And
14 you don't want to get involved in a lawsuit. You don't
15 want to complain about the treatment you are in. You are
16 pretty desperate when you take those jobs. So you don't
17 have any alternatives. You don't see any way out, and you
18 are not able to take the help if it's offered. And so
19 that's what you are working with here, and that's what we
20 have in our small villages, as well.
21 Thank you for letting me testify.
22 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Ginger. Any
23 questions for Ginger? We look forward -- next hearing
24 will be in Bethel, and we'll hear more about this, I hope,
25 from testimony up there.

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1 Last one I have signed up here in Anchorage is
2 Dolly Caswell. Is it Dolly or Polly?
3 **MS. CASWELL:** I'm Dolly Caswell. I will
4 try to speak slowly. And I'm an individual. I'm a
5 Christian. And I have with my own nickels sought a lot of
6 training in this area. I've gone to trafficking schools
7 in San Francisco with the Not For Sale programs. I have
8 been to Thailand. I have been to Costa Rica. I'm going
9 there again shortly. And I have been to the Red Light
10 District in Amsterdam to a trafficking school there. And
11 a major thing I would want this task force to understand
12 is I agree with everything that has been said here about
13 the fact that this all -- the greatest vulnerability is
14 when the children are young. This is -- this is where
15 that child has no sense of their own self-worth, no
16 ability to say no. Yeah. We all know that.
17 The second thing is in the travels I have -- and
18 the places I have been to, when it becomes normalized in a
19 society, when it becomes part of what people accept in a
20 society, it just gets bigger and uglier and they put
21 rhinestones and red lights behind it. I don't think we
22 want to become Las Vegas. And we sure as heck don't want
23 to become Amsterdam. And if we don't stop it, it can go
24 that way. It can really go that way.
25 It's -- I don't know why we don't do more to the

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1 perpetrators, to the men. They do it in Sweden. And
2 their system is pretty successful. I was in Sweden
3 several years ago, as well, and they don't -- they don't
4 penalize the females or the women or the young men that
5 are caught, but the johns are heavily penalized. I get
6 Google alerts about trafficking all around the world, and
7 there are some places where men are facing sentences of 40
8 years in prison. Now, that's a pretty stiff penalty. But
9 the other side of it is that the public has to pay for
10 supporting them for 40 years. That's -- that's a heavy
11 penalty on us. There is probably other things we could do
12 to deter them. I'm not sure I should say so here, but
13 there should be deterrents to stop it if they cannot
14 control themselves.

15 In Costa Rica there is a horrendous, blatant out
16 in the street, out in your face, little kids, small
17 children, little girls, ten, 12, 13 years old being sold,
18 picked up in taxicabs and so forth. I've spoken to the
19 government in Nicaragua about it, and they all --
20 interesting what their answer was is we need the United
21 States to send us money to fight this problem. I said,
22 well, I'm sorry. I don't represent the United States. I
23 think I'm trying to represent God here.

24 And -- but if we don't do something, it will get
25 bigger and it will get uglier, and we cannot allow

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1 ourselves to become accustomed to it because for too long
2 we have looked the other way. Yeah.

3 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Well, thank you. I mean,
4 I'm with you. I think we are all with you. And I hope,
5 you know, we are going to do what we can to stop it. And
6 it's not going to happen just with this task force, but
7 with the help of people like you, we are going to give it
8 our best shot. So any questions for Dolly in follow-up?

9 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** You know, I think
10 we have heard a couple of times mention of the Sweden
11 demand reduction model, and it might be something we want
12 take a closer look at.

13 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I agree. I made a note of
14 that and meant to ask whoever mentioned it earlier --
15 might have been Alison or somebody else, but I forgot to
16 ask it. But that's something I think we should look at
17 and find out more about it.

18 **MS. CASWELL:** The other thing that I
19 learned, in San Francisco they have an awfully good
20 program. They are doing a johns school there. Have you
21 heard of that?

22 **MR. GERAGHTY:** No.

23 **MS. CASWELL:** A johns school basically is
24 where they will take -- they pick up the men, and if it's
25 their first time of being arrested for this, they give

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1 them an option. They still have to pay the fine, but
2 their option is it can either go on your record, you pay
3 your fine, you go your merry way; or you pay your fine, if
4 you will sit through the johns school, which is an
5 intensive, grueling eight hours -- if you will sit through
6 this, it won't go on your record if this is your first
7 time.

8 I have sat through the presentations of a johns
9 school. And they hear from lawyers. They hear from
10 health care providers. They hear from neighbors. They
11 hear from people who had been prostituted and abused
12 themselves. They hear from the police. They hear from as
13 many aspects of the community as they possibly can pushed
14 into that eight hours. These men are sitting there and
15 hearing how their actions are affecting all of these other
16 people. And it's a really successful program. I can't
17 remember exactly, but the recidivism rate, if I remember
18 correctly, is something like 80 or 83 percent did not do
19 it again. Or at least they are successful in not getting
20 caught again. But it's pretty dramatic because they begin
21 to be faced with the fact, that was somebody's daughter.
22 That was somebody's child. This is what the -- their --
23 they don't even have an understanding sometimes of the
24 STDs they could catch.

25 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Interesting.

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1 **MS. CASWELL:** And so it is -- it's a
2 dramatically effective program in the San Francisco area.

3 **MR. GERAGHTY:** We can have our staff look
4 into that and find out more about it, along with the
5 Swedish system. But interesting. Well, thank you, Dolly.

6 **MS. CASWELL:** Thanks very much.

7 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Is anybody else present who
8 is not signed up that wanted to testify? If not, I want
9 to turn to the people on-line. And the first I have
10 listed is Christy Anderson. Christy, are you on the
11 phone?

12 **MS. ANDERSON:** Yes.

13 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Go ahead and
14 introduce yourself and your affiliation and if you can --
15 go ahead.

16 **MS. ANDERSON:** Hello. I'm Christy
17 Anderson, and I am here calling from Mt. Edgecumbe High
18 School. And I have five young ladies with me who would
19 like to share their thoughts and ideas on the subject.

20 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. And are you just --
21 is that the extent of your remarks, Christy?

22 **MS. ANDERSON:** I, too, certainly reflect
23 and believe in what everyone has said, and I'm certainly
24 interested in creating a safe and healthy Alaska. And I'm
25 glad Governor Sean Parnell has taken on this

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1 responsibility and has started this task force for us to
2 voice our concerns and to hopefully solve some serious
3 social problems in Alaska.
4 **MR. GERAGHTY:** All right. Well, thank
5 you. I appreciate that. And why don't we let your
6 students testify. And then the first one I have listed is
7 Amanda. Amanda, do you want to introduce yourself and,
8 again, speak slowly, if you would. And go ahead.
9 **MS. HONEAINGKO:** Hi. My name is Amanda
10 Honeaingko. I'm a freshman at Mt. Edgecumbe High School.
11 And I think that since trafficking happens everywhere to
12 everyone, we should have teen representation on this --
13 thank you.
14 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Thank you, Amanda.
15 And next I have is Jaelyn.
16 **MS. CLEAVLAND:** Hi. My name is Jaelyn
17 Cleavland. I'm a Mt. Edgecumbe student, and what I was
18 thinking is a bunch of us travel home and back through the
19 years on our own and, you know, we are teenagers, so we
20 get bored at the airport and wander around in the Seattle
21 area. It's kind of scary. Anything could happen to us.
22 And I just wanted to put that out there that most of the
23 teens can be put on the spot [inaudible]. Thank you.
24 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Jaelyn. And
25 Kaitlyn, are you there?

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1 **MS. KONAHO:** I'm here.
2 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Go ahead.
3 **MS. KONAHO:** My name is Kaitlyn Konahok.
4 I'm a freshman at Mt. Edgecumbe High School. And I think
5 this is a serious problem and we should take action by
6 showing Alaskans what is happening in their home cities
7 and villages. We could show them in the news a video or
8 commercial since these are under -- it makes me scared to
9 go shopping in Anchorage and other cities and to travel
10 home when a lot of students from Mt. Edgecumbe travel
11 without adult supervision and have no one to be with them
12 when they are traveling. Thank you.
13 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Kaitlyn. And
14 then I have -- is it Yajaira?
15 **MS. RODRIGUEZ:** Yajaira [pronunciation].
16 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Yajaira?
17 **MS. RODRIGUEZ:** Yeah.
18 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Say your last name,
19 Yajaira, and then go ahead and testify.
20 **MS. RODRIGUEZ:** Rodriguez. And I'm from
21 Anchorage. And my comment was if this is an ongoing
22 problem, then why did it take so long for you guys to take
23 action? And in high risk areas like the mall, there
24 should be more law enforcement because I would be there
25 all day and only see one to two officers. And if this is

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1 really a problem, why isn't there more people watching?
2 Thank you.
3 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Ms. Anderson, any other
4 students you have there?
5 **MS. ANDERSON:** Yes, we do have one more,
6 and she will come on up and introduce herself.
7 **MS. CLARK:** Hello. My name is Samantha
8 Clark. I'm a freshman at Mt. Edgecumbe High School. I'm
9 here participating on this phone call not only
10 representing Mt. Edgecumbe, but also my hometown of Clarks
11 Point in the Bristol Bay region. I would just like to say
12 thank you to all who want to make a change in our state.
13 Every voice counts. Thank you.
14 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Well, thank you, Samantha.
15 And you know, there is -- there is five girls. I hope
16 there is one thing I take away from this hearing is five
17 girls, I hope, have heard some of this and recognize the
18 dangers and know what's going on and will never fall prey
19 to this. And if nothing else comes out of this, that will
20 be some solace to me. Ms. Anderson, thank you for your
21 testimony, for organizing these young ladies who were very
22 articulate in presenting their views, and I appreciate the
23 civic-mindedness of the effort and of these young
24 students. And I wish them the best in school and thank
25 them for their patience and for your patience in waiting

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1 so long.
2 Is there any other testimony by anyone on-line?
3 If not, the task force will meet next in Bethel on
4 December 13 at 3:30 p.m. at the City of Bethel Council
5 chambers. More information can be accessed at the
6 Department of Law's website, which is www.law.alaska.gov.
7 As I've said several times, we are accepting written
8 comments. There is information on the website as to who
9 to get those comments to. Cori Badgley, our staffer, is
10 right here -- many of you have met or know -- would be
11 happy to accept those.
12 Is there any other comments from commission
13 members, closing comments or observations before we
14 adjourn? If not, we stand adjourned. And thank you
15 everybody that testified today and for sitting through
16 this with us. Thank you. Adjourned.
17 (Proceedings adjourned at 6:32 p.m.)
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(PROPOSED) MEETING MINUTES

State of Alaska Task Force on the Crimes of Human Trafficking, Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking

Thursday, December 13, 2012, 11:30 a.m.

Tribal Council-Brown Building
Hooper Bay, Alaska

(Please note that this is only a summary of what was said and is not a direct transcription of the hearing. An audio recording of the hearing can be found at law.alaska.gov/press/public_notice/101712-TaskForce.html or contact Cori Badgley Mills at cori.badgley@alaska.gov to request a copy.)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The tribal council President, David Bunyan, began by introducing the task force.

Attorney General Michael Geraghty, chair of the task force, brought the meeting to order.

2. ROLL CALL - TASK FORCE MEMBERS AND STAFF

Roll call of the task force members showed all members, Attorney General Michael Geraghty, Commissioner William Streur, Commissioner Joseph Masters, Gwen Adams and Michelle DeWitt, present in person.

Before moving into the public testimony, Attorney General Geraghty described the purpose of the task force and provided a definition of human trafficking. Attorney General Geraghty described the purpose of the task force as three-fold: to examine the prevalence of human trafficking, to evaluate the services currently available to victims of trafficking within the state, and to establish recommendations on how to improve the services available to victims. Attorney General Geraghty stated that from the state's perspective, human trafficking is inducing people to engage in sex or forced labor by coercion, threats of violence, violence and other illegal means. Attorney General Geraghty then invited Myron Naneng, President of the Sea Lion Corporation, to provide an explanation of what human trafficking is in Yupik.

Mr. Naneng followed his comments in Yupik with an English translation. He said that they had learned from the Anchorage Police Department and FBI that young women and even men can find themselves getting into these trafficking

situations when they go to Anchorage from the villages. The children may be homeless or they may be runaways. They may fear saying anything.

Attorney General Geraghty followed Mr. Naneng's comments with some specific examples of issues that have arisen and prior testimony from service organizations, such as the Covenant House. Runaways and homeless youth and adults can often be the most vulnerable. He also re-emphasized the purpose of the meeting which is to gather testimony and information to understand the extent of the problem. Attorney General Geraghty ended his remarks by inviting other members of the task force to provide their comments.

Michelle DeWitt introduced herself as the Executive Director of Tundra Women's Coalition and informed those attending that the meeting was being recorded. She also emphasized that it is important to get input from urban Alaska, a hub community such as Bethel and rural Alaska, which is why the task force wanted to come to Hooper Bay.

Commissioner Masters introduced himself as the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, which houses the State Troopers and funds the VPSO program. He stated that this is a sensitive and sometimes uncomfortable topic but it is also very important. Sex trafficking is occurring in Alaska, but we also know that it is one of the most underreported crimes. For that reason, he said that it is important to gather information from communities to help gauge the problem as well as to gather ideas on how to help stop it.

Gwen Adams introduced herself as a pastor at ChangePoint Church in Anchorage in charge of women's ministry. She stated that she became aware of situations where Alaskan Native women were coming to Anchorage and their housing fell apart and traffickers would quickly identify them. She feels a pressing need to address this issue, which is why she is on the task force. She said that she wants to come along side communities like Hooper Bay and help fight this issue.

Commissioner Streur introduced himself as the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Social Services. He said that addressing issues like sex trafficking, substance abuse, sexual assault, etc. has to start in the villages and he was encouraged by the turn out at this meeting.

3. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Attorney General Geraghty began the public testimony and invited anyone who wanted to comment to stand up or come forward.

Leonard, a member of the public, stated that he believes sex trafficking is also going on in the villages. There are drugs and alcohol from other cities being brought into the villages, and those running the drugs and alcohol will snatch up people from the village and get them involved in bad situations.

Attorney General Geraghty asked Leonard if the people selling drugs and alcohol are profiting from getting these young people involved in sex or if these young people are more taken advantage of, but no money or profit occurs. Mr. Naneng translated the question into Yupik.

Leonard responded that they will go to the area or home where alcohol is and that is where and when it happens. The sex will be offered in trade for alcohol.

Mr. Naneng also stated that Leonard's response seems to be that the women are taken advantage of.

Ms. Adams asked whether the women report this crimes? What stops them from reporting?

Leonard responded he doesn't think its being reported.

Ms. DeWitt commented that the issue of trading sex for drugs, alcohol or other things is something that has been mentioned in the presentations the task force has heard.

Attorney General Geraghty stated that they have found that victims do not want to come forward. They have a roof over their heads and probably have food and may be afraid. But without the cooperation of the victims, it is very hard to combat this issue. He stated that this is why we are trying to figure out how to get these women come forward.

Elias, a member of the public, commented that a lot of money goes to drugs and alcohol in other communities, coming from a dry community. He stated that it probably needs to come from the government since the government legalizes alcohol.

Attorney General Geraghty agreed with Elias' comment that alcohol is a major contributing factor and stated that it is a difficult issue to address.

Elias stated that maybe people turn to trading sex for drugs when they run out of money and need to feed their addiction.

Mr. Naneng provided comments in Yupik on the lack of reporting and the need for the victim to report.

Gabriel, a member of the public, stated that he has heard of women selling their bodies themselves.

Attorney General Geraghty commented that we may not be able to eradicate prostitution, but the task force is focused more on those that are using others for a profit.

Commissioner Masters asked the audience if anyone has heard that the following is occurring: a girl believes a guy is her boyfriend and the boyfriend tells her to have sex with other people, and the boyfriend may be getting paid for that but she may not know it.

Attorney General Geraghty followed Commissioner Masters question by asking whether anyone knows of someone who has gone to Fairbanks or Anchorage who fell on hard times and has been prostituted.

James, the VPSO, stated that he has heard of someone.

David, the President of the Tribal Council, described two situations – one a long time ago and one recently – where women have gotten entangled in prostitution.

Helen, a member of the public, stated that she has heard of someone her age getting involved in prostitution.

Ms. DeWitt commented that one of the things the task force is trying to do is get a sense for how big this issue is, and the information is helpful.

Mary, a member of the public, stated that she also knew of a person who went to Anchorage and got involved in prostitution.

Emma, with the local school district, stated that she knew of someone who had gone to Anchorage and had been given a place to stay. [The remainder of her testimony on the audio recording was unintelligible.]

Earl, a member of the public, stated that he heard of women from several communities in the Delta going to Anchorage, including Bethel.

David, President of the Tribal Council, stated that the number of young in Hooper Bay outnumber the old. He asked if there was any information that they could share to help their young people.

Attorney General Geraghty responded that he doesn't know if there is currently information, but he said he would look into it. He explained the task force will be making recommendations to the legislature, and one of the main pillars of those recommendations will be outreach and education to young people.

Ms. Adams commented that it has been shown that most victims of trafficking have experienced some kind of abuse prior to being trafficked. It will be important to get to these victims before it gets to that place. She asked the

audience if they had any ideas as to why these crimes are not reported and what needs to change.

James, a VPSO officer, explained that in their culture things like sexual assault and domestic violence are very difficult to speak about. He emphasized that we [the community] needs to help and support those who are too weak to report themselves. He also commented that young girls can be enticed by family members or friends to come to Anchorage, and it is important for us to take a positive step forward. He emphasized that if people have information, they can always talk off the record with him or the task force members.

Ms. DeWitt stated that this issue is so new and people are just becoming aware, that there are not yet that many resources developed for our state. Hearing the audiences comments, it seems that resources and materials to share is something that is important and should be included in the recommendations.

Mr. Naneng commented that the FBI and the Anchorage Police Department has already put a lot of information together on this topic, and it was reported two years ago relating to the information on Bill Allen. Mr. Naneng stated that he is concerned that regardless of how much power the person has, that the person doesn't get away with it. The task force should find a way to make the statutes stronger so someone like Bill Allen cannot get off the hook.

Attorney General Geraghty agreed with Mr. Naneng's statement, but also stated that the prosecution only works if the victims cooperate.

An unidentified audience member asked what if the child is only 10 years old?

Attorney General Geraghty responded that that is a very important issue and it is less likely for a child to come forward. However, if you see something happening to a child, the child is not needed to testify. With adults, it can be difficult because the women are threatened.

Commissioner Masters stated that the task force is also looking for ideas – ideas that would help the reporting, or improve services, etc. He also said that in a Minnesota study, a high percentage of women that were prostituted were homeless. If there are ideas on how to combat this and other factors, the task force may be able to turn those into recommendations.

Earl, a member of the public, recommended that the penalties be made stiffer, so that they think twice about it. He said that they are doing it to make money, and we need to make them think twice about it.

Commissioner Masters stated that there was recent legislation that, especially in relation to minors, made the penalties higher. He asked whether there are thoughts on the people that buy the service?

Earl responded that those penalties should be higher too. He also stated that sex trafficking is new and it will take awhile to educate the school kids; maybe get the word out to schools, hospitals and others.

Commissioner Masters asked the law enforcement officers in the room whether they have an understanding of what sex trafficking is and what red flags or indicators are out there? What do you think about the level training?

One of the law enforcement officers responded that more training is necessary. The only information he has on it has been from the news and other things he has read. He stated that he personally does not know what signs to look for.

James, the VPSO officer, stated that in relation to solutions, we need to look to what other locations have already done and maybe tailor it to the state. We do not need to reinvent the wheel.

Attorney General Geraghty agreed with James' comments, and discussed the resources that the task force has been sifting through. He also mentioned that there are not a lot of places with rural communities like those in Alaska, and that is one of the reasons the task force came out here.

James, the VPSO officer, stated that the community members could look out for situations where someone is buying the young person lots of gifts to woo them, and then they tell them they have to pay them back. This would be a red flag to look out for.

Lana, with Covenant Church, stated that she would like to recommend that material and information be given to young parents. She also commented that domestic violence and sexual assault go right along with sex trafficking.

Attorney General Geraghty echoed Lana's comments and said that the correlation between kids who are abused and becoming victims of trafficking is very strong.

Lana stated that the church has been aware of this and has been trying to get out information on some of the most important places to be careful in Anchorage. She has really encouraged that young girls be closely watched in the city. She also requested that she get information that they can disseminate.

Millard, who works with the Indian Child Welfare Act, stated that grandmothers should also get information, and grandmothers should speak with their daughters and grandchildren about the dangers.

Commissioner Masters asked the speaker how can we help you do that?

Millard said that she works with families and having written information to provide to them would be helpful. She commented that she will get information from the internet.

Nastasia, who works with Millard, assists in doing home visits. [The remainder of her testimony on the audio recording was unintelligible.]

Mr. Naneng stated that AVCP just began a suicide prevention project, and if they can partner with information on human trafficking, that could go a long way to getting information out. He also stated that more often than not, the solutions are within the community. Working with some of the youth programs and suicide prevention programs can be a way to get information out to the villages.

Ms. Adams said part of the reason she joined the task force is to figure out how the faith-based community could come together to help address this problem. She asked whether it would be useful to have churches partnering between bigger cities and rural Alaska so that there is a contact in the city that can be provided. She also stated that she recently heard from law enforcement on how pimps are engaging young women at the mall by offering them modeling contracts.

Lana responded that if she can get information that would be helpful, and she can locate that information in the church's teen center.

Jonathan, a member of the public, stated that not only is this happening in the cities, but it is also happening within the villages and within families.

Commissioner Masters asked Mr. Naneng whether it would be helpful to have training for service providers, in addition to law enforcement.

Mr. Naneng responded that he thought that would be very useful. He also stated that AVCP has a person devoted to the Indian Child Welfare Act in Anchorage.

Commissioner Masters asked Mr. Naneng if AVCP has started putting together any sort of curriculum on trafficking.

Mr. Naneng responded not yet. But their ICWA program as well as their Tribal Youth Services program will be dealing with this issue, along with suicide prevention. He stated that they are open to adding this as an item that AVCP staff need to be aware of. This is information that should be provided to AVCP along with the VPSOs. The VPOs should also receive training on this.

Commissioner Masters agreed with Mr. Naneng's comments. He stated that they are trying to integrate more of the training with VPSOs and VPOs.

Emma, a member of the public, recommended that school staff also be included in training on this.

4. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Attorney General Geraghty thanked the audience for showing up to the hearing and providing comments. He stated that the task force will take the comments into account.

Ms. DeWitt encouraged everyone to write down comments on the form to make sure their comments are heard.

Commissioner Masters stated that he also would encourage anyone with comments to come talk to him or others, and always feel free to share your thoughts and concerns with any law enforcement officers. He also stated that the governor's budget proposal included a new trooper post in Hooper Bay.

Ms. Adams expressed her thanks and stated that if we all can come together on this, we can make a difference.

Commissioner Streur echoed the Attorney General's thanks and stated that we need to help these victims and we need to give them the support they need.

Mr. Naneng offered closing comments in Yupik.

Mr. Naneng was then presented with an award for the Sea Lion Corporation on behalf of the VPSOs.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Attorney General Geraghty adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:00 pm.

(PROPOSED) MEETING MINUTES

State of Alaska Task Force on the Crimes of Human Trafficking, Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking

Thursday, December 13, 2012, 3:30 p.m.

City of Bethel Council Chambers, City Hall
300 State Highway
Bethel, Alaska

(Please note that a full transcript of the meeting is attached.)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Attorney General Michael Geraghty called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL - TASK FORCE MEMBERS AND STAFF

Roll call of the task force members showed all members present in person: Attorney General Michael Geraghty, Commissioner of the Department of Health and Social Services William Streur, Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety Joseph Masters, Gwen Adams and Michelle DeWitt.

Each member of the task force provided a brief introduction of themselves and their reasons for participating in the task force.

Staff member, Cori Badgley Mills, Assistant Attorney General, was also present.

Attorney General Geraghty had everyone on the teleconference introduce themselves for the record. Staff members Cathy Satterfield, Statewide Victim Witness Coordinator, and Rick Svobodny, Deputy Attorney General, were available by teleconference.

3. CHANGES TO AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no objections to approval of the agenda.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOV. 5TH MEETING

There were no objections to approval of the minutes for the November 5th meeting, and the minutes were approved.

After approval of the minutes, Attorney General Geraghty quoted the United Nations' definition of human trafficking to provide context for what the task force is addressing. Commissioner Masters also discussed the underreporting of sex trafficking and human trafficking and the importance of the testimony and comments that are being gathered. Attorney General Geraghty encouraged those who did not want to speak publicly to speak with the task force members one on one or send him or the other task force members a letter or email.

5. DISCUSSION ON FUTURE MEETINGS AND FINAL REPORT

The task force agreed to hold two more meetings and requested staff to have the first meeting scheduled after the holidays. Attorney General Geraghty mentioned contacting the legislature to request an extension on the report, considering holiday schedules.

6. DISCUSSION ON ANY ADDITIONAL RESEARCH

The task force did not identify any specific additional research for staff; however, Commissioner Masters, along with other task force members, expressed a concern in the lack of material and testimony on labor trafficking. They agreed to wait to see if additional information was necessary after the presentation by the Alaska Immigration justice Project.

7. PRESENTATION FROM ALASKA IMMIGRATION JUSTICE PROJECT, ROBIN BRONEN

Robin Bronen with the Alaska Immigration Justice Project (AIJP) provided a powerpoint presentation that covered AIJP's work with human trafficking victims and projects that AIJP is currently involved with to address human trafficking in Alaska. Ms. Bronen mentioned that her organization deals with 5 to 10 victims of human trafficking per year. She also emphasized the importance of communication and coordination between NGOs and law enforcement.

Commissioner Streur asked about the needs assessment that Ms. Bronen mentioned in her presentation.

Ms. Bronen responded by describing their efforts in putting together the needs assessment, which will focus on contacting crime victims about the services they are able to access.

Commissioner Streur asked if there is a large enough pool of victims to gather the information for the needs assessment.

Ms. Bronen responded yes. She also discussed that the needs assessment is focused on all crime victims, not just human trafficking.

Commissioner Masters asked for Ms. Bronen's opinion on how to get victims to report.

Ms. Bronen's response focused on the building of trust and the need for training of NGOs to recognize the red flags. Ms. Bronen also made recommendations relating to allowing a civil attorney or other person access to the juveniles at McLaughlin to help build the trusting relationship.

Attorney General Geraghty requested clarification on Ms. Bronen's comments as to the defense attorney and not letting the trafficker get to the victim first.

Ms. Bronen clarified that the defense attorney would still be included, but the recommendation relates to having someone else who is looking out for the bigger picture.

Attorney General Geraghty asked whether AIJP has reached out to the public defender's office.

Ms. Bronen responded no; the relationships have mostly been with prosecutors, since they are the ones who prosecute the traffickers.

Attorney General Geraghty asked whether the former joint human trafficking task force Ms. Bronen mentioned had ever issued a report.

Ms. Bronen responded no.

Attorney General Geraghty inquired further into the Crazy Horse case.

Ms. Bronen provided additional information on the victims and whether their families knew what was occurring.

Attorney General Geraghty asked about the continued fear of deportation in spite of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act.

Ms. Bronen commented on how law enforcement can often increase the fear of deportation.

Ms. Adams asked about Ms. Bronen's opinion on the current gaps in services.

Ms. Bronen's response focused on the lack of a holistic approach, such as a case manager, for domestic victims and missing services.

Ms. Adams asked about stiffening penalties for prostitution in order to ensure the victims are separated from their traffickers for longer before being released.

Ms. Bronen responded that she did not believe this was a good idea. She discussed the need to build trust and providing more flexibility in the system.

Ms. DeWitt commented on taking advantage of the time law enforcement is in contact with a victim as well as the large amount of human resources needed to help these victims. She also asked Ms. Bronen about examples of civil remedies.

Ms. Bronen referenced family law representation, protective orders and consumer fraud in response.

Ms. DeWitt asked if Ms. Bronen had any suggestions for additional information.

Ms. Bronen responded with the following potential sources of information: Department of Homeland Security in relation to the J1 visa process, Senator Begich's office, and the head of a shelter in Kodiak.

Commissioner Streur asked if AIJP would have the capacity to come to McLaughlin Youth Center, if they opened their doors to them.

Ms. Bronen responded yes.

Attorney General Geraghty inquired into the difficulty in gaining trust.

Ms. Bronen discussed how difficult it is to break the controlling relationship and pointed out some differences between international and domestic victims.

Commissioner Masters inquired into the inconsistency between the number of human trafficking victims AIJP sees per year and the number of cases prosecuted.

Ms. Bronen discussed the work of the federal government and their choice, at times, not to prosecute. Ms. Bronen also commented on the relationship AIJP has with the FBI and the strength of the federal laws.

8. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Attorney General Geraghty opened the public testimony portion of the meeting.

Annie Mae Lee commented on how surprising it is because you usually think that it happens in other places.

Maya Morris echoed Ms. Lee's comments.

Commissioner Masters asked Ms. Lee and Ms. Morris if they had heard of anything like sex trafficking occurring.

Ms. Lee responded that she has heard about sexual abuse but not sex trafficking.

Dr. Doug Boyer introduced himself as an educational administrator in rural Alaska for the last five years, and he also has law enforcement experience in the state of Washington. He is currently the principal at the Bethel Alternative Boarding School. He described in general terms situations with students where sex trafficking was occurring. However, some were prosecuted as sexual abuse of a minor and not sex trafficking. Dr. Boyer commented that in rural Alaska it seems to be done by families, aunts, uncles and friends, although he did mention a prostitution ring in one of the cases.

Commissioner Masters commended Dr. Boyer for testifying on this subject and commented on the lack of information, in part due to filing charges as sexual abuse of a minor instead of sex trafficking.

Attorney General Geraghty asked about the student population at Dr. Boyer's school.

Dr. Boyer responded that they are at-risk kids, many of whom dropped out of high school previously. Dr. Boyer also provided the number of current students and a brief description of the program.

Attorney General Geraghty asked if Dr. Boyer had come across kids who had gotten out of a sex trafficking type situation or selling sex for drugs or money.

Dr. Boyer responded that he has comes across at least two and then discussed the prevalence of these types of activities, to the point where he believes approximately 80 percent of his female students have had some form of sexual abuse/sexual assault.

Attorney General Geraghty inquired into the usefulness of curriculum-type material on the topic of human trafficking.

Dr. Boyer discussed the lack of any curriculum on this topic. Dr. Boyer suggested that a database would be helpful to track individuals who come up in these crimes over and over again. He also observed that these kids are taught that the troopers, Office of Children's Services, etc. are bad.

Attorney General Geraghty stated that Myron Naneng wanted to speak but had to leave for family reasons, but he did provide written comments that will go into the record.

Monica Charles Leinberger introduced herself as a board member for the Tundra Women's Coalition and the fetal alcohol syndrome disorder and behavior specialist for the Lower Kuskokwim School District. She discussed the interrelated-nature of alcohol abuse, domestic violence, sexual abuse and sex

trafficking. She recommended better coordination between entities to develop better tracking tools and curriculum to be taught at a younger age than sex education. She also commented on the lack of experience by law enforcement officers with people experiencing trauma as well as the cultural background of the person.

Commissioner Masters discussed the lack of training, the recent victimization survey, and the trend of more victims seeking services.

Ms. DeWitt clarified that the local hospital does have more than one SART nurse.

Attorney General Geraghty agreed with Ms. Leinberger regarding the connection of alcohol to many of these crimes and discussed the difficulty in dealing with that issue.

9. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Commissioner Masters expressed his appreciation for both the public hearing in Hooper Bay as well as this meeting in Bethel.

Commissioner Streur echoed Commissioner Master's sentiments. He also stated that human trafficking is connected to many of the other social issues that we have, and it takes a village to come together to be successful.

The task force took a short break in order to work out some technical difficulties with the teleconference.

The task force re-convened after the break, and Attorney General Geraghty invited a person participating via teleconference to give her testimony.

Susan Makaily introduced herself as a member of the regional school board for the Lower Yukon School District and a member of the board for the Tundra Women's Coalition. She expressed her appreciation for the work of the task force and her desire to stop the problem before it gets worse.

Commissioner Masters asked Ms. Makaily if she had heard of any instances of sex trafficking in her community.

Ms. Makaily responded no.

Attorney General Geraghty received clarification on what school district Ms. Makaily is a part of and then moved back to closing comments by task force members.

Ms. DeWitt thanked everyone for their testimony and time and attention to this issue.

Ms. Adams echoed Ms. DeWitt's remarks.

Attorney General Geraghty provided closing comments regarding the difficulty of addressing this issue and the need to combat this issue on several different fronts.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Attorney General Geraghty adjourned the meeting at 6:08 p.m.

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PUBLIC HEARING
STATE OF ALASKA TASK FORCE ON THE CRIMES OF
HUMAN TRAFFICKING, PROMOTING PROSTITUTION AND
SEX TRAFFICKING

Taken December 13, 2012
Commencing at 3:40 p.m.

Volume I - Pages 1 - 81, inclusive

Taken at
City of Bethel Council Chambers, City Hall
300 State Highway
Bethel, Alaska

Reported by:
Mary A. Vavrik, RMR

1 A-P-P-E-A-R-A-N-C-E-S

2 Michael C. Geraghty
3 Attorney General
4 Chair of Task Force

5 Commissioner Bill Streur
6 Department of Health and Social Services

7 Commissioner Jim Masters
8 Department of Public Safety

9 Gwen Adams
10 Pastor of Women's Ministries
11 ChangePoint Church
12 Anchorage, Alaska

13 Michelle DeWitt
14 Executive Director
15 Tundra Women's Coalition
16 Bethel, Alaska

17 Rick Svobodny (appearing telephonically)
18 Deputy Attorney General
19 Criminal Division

20 Cori Badgley Mills
21 Assistant Attorney General

22 Cathy Satterfield (appearing telephonically)
23 Office of the Attorney General
24 Victim Program Coordinator
25 Criminal Division

26 Kajena Baty
27 Bethel Acting City Clerk

28 Taken by:
29
30 Mary A. Vavrik, RMR

31
32 BE IT KNOWN that the aforementioned proceedings were taken
33 at the time and place duly noted on the title page, before
34 Mary A. Vavrik, Registered Merit Reporter and Notary
35 Public within and for the State of Alaska.

1 get involved in this issue of prevention of human
2 trafficking.

3 MR. GERAGHTY: Thank you, Gwen. And
4 Commissioner Streur.

5 COMMISSIONER STREUR: I'm Commissioner
6 Bill Streur, Commissioner of the Department of Health and
7 Social Services and a member of the task force because
8 it's very much connected to everything that we do in the
9 department; whether it be children's services, whether it
10 be adult services, whether it's substance abuse, it
11 crosses the entire spectrum of what we do and very much a
12 part of it.

13 MR. GERAGHTY: Thank you. Commissioner
14 Masters.

15 COMMISSIONER MASTERS: Yes. Joe Masters.
16 I'm Commissioner for the Department of Public Safety for
17 the past four years. Actually, 30 years in law
18 enforcement all together. I started my career as a VPSO
19 in the village of Unalakleet and worked in rural Alaska
20 and then worked for the municipal department and was a
21 state trooper for 20 years. But my seat on the task force
22 is actually designated within the legislative mandate for
23 the -- for the task force, but it's certainly an issue
24 that's one of our department's top priorities because it
25 relates to sexual assault and domestic violence and that

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 MR. GERAGHTY: Okay. We are on record.
3 I'm going to call the meeting to order. This is the State
4 of Alaska Task Force on the Crimes of Human Trafficking,
5 Promoting Prostitution, and Sex Trafficking. We are in
6 Bethel, Alaska this afternoon. My name's Mike Geraghty.
7 I'm the Attorney General with the State of Alaska. This
8 is our second public hearing. We were in Hooper Bay
9 earlier today and had a great meeting there, talked to
10 many people.

11 At this time I'd like to do a brief roll call,
12 and in that context, as I call people's names and
13 introduce the task force members, maybe they can take a
14 minute to introduce themselves and their background and
15 what they are doing on the task force, starting with
16 Michelle DeWitt.

17 MS. DEWITT: My name is Michelle DeWitt,
18 and I'm the director at TWC. And I was appointed to the
19 task force by the governor. And I appreciate everyone who
20 is coming and appreciate any public testimony, just
21 reminding folks to sign up if you would like to testify.

22 MR. GERAGHTY: Thank you. And Gwen Adams.
23 MS. ADAMS: Gwen Adams from Anchorage.
24 I'm with Women's Ministries at ChangePoint and launched a
25 new nonprofit called Priceless, which helps the community

1 epidemic in the state.

2 MR. GERAGHTY: Thank you. And to his left
3 is Cori Badgley Mills for the Department of Law who has
4 been our main staffer and expediter, so to speak, for the
5 commission. We appreciate her efforts. We mentioned
6 earlier -- Michelle mentioned earlier, people here who do
7 want to testify, if you don't mind signing up, that would
8 be great. We have plenty of time. We are interested in
9 everything people have to say.

10 We are also -- a number of people are hooked up
11 telephonically. And I'd like to at this point, if we
12 could, identify the people who are on the line. That
13 doesn't mean you have to testify or you want to testify,
14 though you certainly will be given an opportunity if you
15 do, but we would just like to identify people who are on
16 line for the record. So why don't you just start taking
17 turns and going and identify yourself, please, on the
18 telephone.

19 MR. SVOBODNY: This is Rick Svobodny. I'm
20 the Deputy Attorney General for the Department of Law.

21 MS. LEAN: Reba Lean with Channel 2 News
22 in Anchorage.

23 MS. ERICKSON: This is Aggatha Erickson
24 with Senator Begich's office in Anchorage.

25 MS. SATTERFIELD: Cathy Satterfield with

1 the Department of Law in Anchorage.
2 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Anyone else?
3 **MS. BLUMER:** This is Dianne Blumer with
4 Department of Labor.
5 **MR. NOTAR:** Hi. This is Mike Notar,
6 Special Assistant to the Commissioner at the Department of
7 Labor.
8 **MS. NASS:** This is Donna Nass, Anchorage
9 Department of Labor.
10 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you. Anyone else?
11 Okay. Will the -- are there any changes to the agenda and
12 can we approve the agenda that's been distributed?
13 Hearing no objection, we will adopt that agenda, then, for
14 today. The November 5 minutes from our meeting in
15 Anchorage have been distributed. I hope everyone has had
16 a chance to review those. Are there any changes or
17 amendments to the minutes? Hearing no objection, then, we
18 will adopt those minutes from the November 5 meeting.
19 Let me just give a bit of background. People, I
20 think, wonder -- hear human trafficking, sex trafficking
21 and so on and may wonder what those offenses are. It's
22 really a form of modern-day slavery is what we have come
23 to find out and what the research is showing. The United
24 Nations has come up with a definition of it, which I cited
25 at the Anchorage meeting. I think I'd like to repeat it

1 again because I think it covers all the bases. But the UN
2 defines human trafficking as, "The recruitment,
3 transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons
4 by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of
5 coercion, of abduction, of fraud, or deception, of the
6 abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or giving
7 or receipt of payments or benefits to achieve the consent
8 of a person having control over another person for the
9 purpose of exploitation. Exploitation includes, at a
10 minimum, the exploitation or the prostitution of others or
11 other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or
12 services, slavery, servitude, or the removal of organs,"
13 which thank God we haven't come across any evidence of
14 that here in Alaska, but that is occurring
15 internationally.
16 So this is an endemic problem. And we're here
17 to find out as much as we can about it. This task force
18 is charged with coming up with a report and submitting it
19 to the legislature by January 15th of 2013. We will be
20 talking about that, I think, later. But in any event, we
21 do want to hear all the testimony, and we are going to get
22 to that shortly.
23 But before we do, let's continue -- let me stop.
24 Is there any other task force members' introductory
25 comments or anything before we get started? Commissioner?

1 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I think kind of on
2 the same lines as we did in Hooper Bay earlier, and that
3 was just a reiteration of the importance of the
4 information that we are gathering and understanding,
5 certainly on our part, that sex trafficking and human
6 trafficking in Alaska is -- particularly sex trafficking
7 is very underreported. As a matter of fact, reporting to
8 law enforcement is nonexistent in the state. And the
9 limited number of cases that have come forward have not
10 come directly to law enforcement. They have come through
11 other services, primarily service agencies.
12 And understanding the scope of the problem in
13 Alaska is important to us. Having the perspectives from
14 those that are here testifying today is extremely
15 important to our work. And I know that some people
16 certainly are here with the intent of testifying. Others
17 are here with the intent of listening, but we hope they
18 may step forward and testify also. And I just wanted to
19 make sure that we encouraged everybody in the room to do
20 so.
21 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you. I second that.
22 And in connection with that, this is a sensitive subject.
23 I mean, these are -- this is a small community still in
24 many respects. Certainly Hooper Bay is. And we noticed
25 that there is -- well, people who are uncomfortable

1 testifying publicly or just don't want to -- would prefer
2 not to, any one of us on the commission, starting with
3 Michelle and Gwen, myself, Commissioner Masters,
4 Commissioner Streur are available to talk about it
5 personally or on a one-on-one level in a private setting.
6 I've got my business card. I'll give people my e-mail.
7 I'm sure the others here would be willing to give you an
8 e-mail contact as well if you would like to send us
9 something to consider. But if you are uncomfortable with
10 putting it out in the public realm or discussing it in
11 public, we will be sure to understand that.
12 So we will make every means available to
13 consider and to listen to what you have to say, whether
14 it's not today, then privately in the form of a letter or
15 e-mail or anything like that. So I would encourage people
16 to come forward, and we will do what we can to facilitate
17 that.
18 The other -- next on the agenda before we get to
19 some of the testimony is the discussion of any additional
20 research. Why don't we bring that up in the context of
21 the next item, which is discussion on future meetings and
22 final report. I mentioned earlier that there are -- the
23 report is due January 15th. We did get a late start by
24 the time our public members were appointed, so -- we have
25 had a chance to kind of discuss this informally, and I

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1 think we are in agreement that we are going to probably
2 send a letter to the Senate President and/or the Speaker
3 of the House and let them know that there will probably be
4 a modest delay in submitting the report. Certainly we
5 will submit it this upcoming session, no question about
6 that. I definitely want to do that.
7 So I think -- what's the sense of how many
8 additional meetings we should have going forward before we
9 finalize the report? I'm thinking at least two, but
10 I'm -- let me -- what do you folks think?
11 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I think two would
12 be fine and given the time frame that we are working
13 under. I think if it went more, it probably would even
14 lengthen out that report more.
15 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Agreed. I'm going to
16 ask -- Gwen or Michelle, any thoughts on that in terms of
17 how many additional meetings, or you want to hold your
18 judgment?
19 **MS. ADAMS:** Two sounds good to me.
20 **MR. GERAGHTY:** We can certainly change
21 it.
22 **MS. DEWITT:** I think two is reasonable. I
23 think it's also possible I'd have to participate in at
24 least one via telephone conference.
25 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Certainly. Be more than

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1 happy to accommodate you. Let me ask, if that's agreeable
2 to everybody, ask Cori to please circulate some scheduling
3 e-mails, Cori, and let's try to find the first date after
4 the holidays, I think. And then Commissioner Masters, I
5 think, will be out of state until sometime the first week
6 in January. He can give you that information. Let's try
7 to get a meeting in early January, and then we can maybe
8 talk about scheduling the second one possibly at the same
9 time, as well.
10 Now, on the subject of additional research, Cori
11 has done a remarkable job, I think, in pulling together
12 lots of disparate information. We are not inventing the
13 subject, fortunately, but there has been others who have
14 forged ahead of us and have done great things and really
15 looked at some in-depth research, and they testified at
16 the Anchorage hearing. So we are kind of following the
17 footsteps of others who have been pathfinders, I think, on
18 the subject.
19 So I'm -- I'm just speaking for myself. I think
20 we have marshaled quite a bit of information. I want to
21 make sure we are able to sift through and not get
22 ourselves buried and lose the forest for the trees. From
23 my perspective, I think we have accumulated quite a bit.
24 I've got a big binder back in the office. I didn't bring
25 it with me, but I think there is a wealth of stuff out

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1 there, and I think we have got most of it. That's not to
2 say if somebody doesn't come across something -- I know
3 Gwen has a lot of contacts in this area and a real
4 interest in -- and you have kind of on your own found out
5 about some other stuff. But bring it forward. But in
6 terms of any formal research, I think we have pretty much
7 accumulated everything. Anybody want to add to that
8 comment?
9 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I just have one
10 question on a piece. I don't know if we have a copy of
11 the study that was out of Minnesota. It was called the
12 Garden of Truth. And I haven't had a chance to review it.
13 I've seen some of the information that has come out of it
14 in a condensed form. I haven't seen the study itself. I
15 don't know if any of the other members --
16 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I have not seen that. Are
17 you familiar with that, Cori?
18 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** Yes. This is Cori
19 Badgley Mills. And I have -- I have that report. I
20 believe it was in the original background materials, but
21 there was a lot of materials there. But I will single it
22 out and send it around.
23 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Good. Anything
24 else, then? If not -- and Gwen, please, we talked about
25 that triangle --

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1 **MS. ADAMS:** Yeah, I will send that grid to
2 everybody, too.
3 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I think I do have
4 one concern regarding the information that we have, and
5 I'm actually hoping maybe that Robin, when she testifies,
6 might be able to touch on it a little bit more. We have
7 talked a lot on the sex trafficking side and not so much
8 on the labor trafficking side. And I think we are a
9 little bit light on information there, at least certainly
10 within the discussion and testimony.
11 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Well, I agree with
12 that. Maybe let's listen to Ms. Bronen's testimony, and
13 that can be something that we can look at, as well, at the
14 task force level. But, then, if there is nothing else on
15 that, then Cori will get busy on scheduling, and we will
16 still get a few things on research, but I think we've got
17 it pretty well pulled together.
18 So at this time, then, I'm going to ask -- we
19 will start our public testimony. And I want to start with
20 Robin Bronen from the Alaska Immigration Justice Project.
21 And Robin, you were going to testify in Anchorage and then
22 something happened with that?
23 **DR. BRONEN:** I just wasn't able to stay as
24 late as your meeting went, so I had other work here. And
25 I actually have a PowerPoint presentation that's all set

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1 up, and I have materials, too.
2 So I really appreciate the opportunity to
3 provide this testimony to all of you on this really
4 important topic. I have been working with human
5 trafficking victims in Alaska since 2000 and have been
6 very well aware, based on my work experience, of the
7 tremendous gap in services that are basically not
8 available in our state that make it really hard for us to
9 adequately address what's happening in the remote
10 communities where potentially labor and sex trafficking
11 are happening.
12 I have been doing domestic violence and sexual
13 assault work in Alaska since 1988 and have specifically
14 been working with the Alaska -- with the immigrant and
15 refugee communities here in Alaska since 1996. And we
16 have several projects here in Bethel with the Alaska
17 Native community. So I really appreciate the opportunity.
18 And what I'm going to do first is give you an
19 overview of the agency of where I work so that you
20 understand how we have come in contact with human
21 trafficking victims in Alaska. I'm also -- I read the
22 testimony in Anchorage. And it feels important for you
23 all to understand the federal legislation that was really
24 the guiding light to addressing human trafficking in the
25 United States. And then I'm going to talk about what we

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1 have worked with here in Alaska. And I'll try to answer
2 the question about labor trafficking, but it's really hard
3 because of that lack of resources.
4 And in the cases that we have done, it's been a
5 mixture, actually, of sex and labor trafficking. It's not
6 been just one or the other.
7 So the Alaska Immigration Justice Project was
8 founded in 2005. We are the only agency in Alaska that's
9 dedicated to protecting the human rights of Alaskans. And
10 we have -- we are a statewide agency, meaning we provide
11 services throughout the state, and we have offices,
12 though, only in Juneau and Anchorage.
13 And there are two major components of the work
14 that we do. We have a legal services program and then we
15 have a language interpreter center. I'm going to start by
16 talking about the language interpreter center because that
17 is actually the work that -- one of the pieces of the work
18 that we are doing here in Bethel.
19 So we started the language interpreter center in
20 2007 to meet the needs of limited English proficient
21 Alaskans living in our state, and we have been training
22 bilingual Alaskans since 2008 to be professional trained
23 interpreters. And we just did an amazing training here in
24 September with the cooperation of Tundra Women's Coalition
25 and the Association of Village Council Presidents. We are

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1 then taking those interpreters that we have trained -- we
2 have 265 different entities in our state who are calling
3 us trying to access the interpreters that we have trained.
4 So our goal is to get limited English proficient
5 Alaskans access to the resources and services that they
6 need, which is a critical component for human trafficking
7 victims who are sometimes, at least in the immigrant
8 community, those most disenfranchised from the services
9 because they can't -- they can't read English. They won't
10 understand what services might be available to help them
11 get out of their situation.
12 The immigration legal services program is
13 statewide, also, and we work with about 850 clients a
14 year. Unfortunately, we work with an enormous number of
15 crime victims, so those are domestic violence, sexual
16 assault, and human trafficking victims who have sometimes
17 been brought into our community by U.S. citizens, and
18 those U.S. citizens have failed to comply with the
19 immigration documents that are required to be completed by
20 the Department of Homeland Security, which means that
21 folks are really, really vulnerable. If you don't have an
22 immigration document, you are not able to work in the
23 United States, you are not able to get a driver's license;
24 and, as you might imagine, the fear of deportation is
25 overwhelming.

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1 So based on my experience with working with
2 domestic violence and sexual assault victims now for 25
3 years, and specifically with immigrants who are victims of
4 these crimes, immigration status is by far the most
5 powerful tool an abuser can use to prevent somebody from
6 seeking safety and protection. And that immigration
7 status, when you take it in a human trafficking context,
8 in the work that I've done with human trafficking victims,
9 I can't overemphasize the intensity of power and control
10 that a human trafficker has over their victim. It's
11 exponentially more intense than in a domestic violence or
12 sexual assault context.
13 And so the focus of the 2000 Act was to
14 specifically remove those immigration laws that are a
15 barrier for victims to come forward. And the significant
16 part of the -- the Trafficking Victim Protection Act 2000
17 is this piece that I've bolded, which is the legislation
18 was designed to free victims so that they would cooperate
19 with law enforcement and prosecutors in criminal cases
20 brought against their abusers and the abusers of their
21 children without fearing that the abuser will retaliate by
22 withdrawing or threatening withdrawal of access to an
23 immigration benefit.
24 And so what this legislation did was it
25 basically requires victims -- and this includes human

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1 trafficking victims -- to cooperate with law enforcement
2 in order for them to get an immigration document, the
3 immigration document so that they can live and work in the
4 United States. And when I first learned about this law,
5 I -- I didn't think that we would here in Alaska be
6 actually the first place where the -- the prosecution
7 happened after the legislation was passed. We were the
8 first place in the United States where the TVPA of 2000
9 was actually tested on The Crazy Horse case, which I'll
10 talk about in a little bit.

11 So fear of deportation is enormous. And it's
12 because many people think that if you are here without
13 immigration documents that you are a criminal, that it is
14 a crime to be in the United States without documents, but
15 that is not true. It is not a crime to be in the United
16 States without documents. But because there is this
17 arrest component when people come in contact with the
18 Department of Homeland Security, it has the appearance of
19 being an arrest. And then when local law enforcement come
20 in contact with folks who are without immigration
21 documents, they -- immigrants have a tremendous fear that
22 they will be deported.

23 And so a lot of the work that we have done with
24 law enforcement is to take that fear away. We work really
25 closely with the FBI and the Anchorage Police Department

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1 because, one, we want perpetrators off the street, and the
2 only way those perpetrators are going to get off the
3 street is if we let our clients know that by contacting
4 the police they won't be deported and it will actually
5 enhance their safety and protection.

6 I mentioned limited English proficiency as being
7 a huge issue in our community. And then geographic
8 isolation. I mean, in regard to the labor trafficking
9 piece, what I can tell you is I have been doing
10 immigration work now since 1996 and I've traveled pretty
11 much to most of the communities in Alaska where there are
12 large immigrant populations, and -- and I have been
13 concerned for a really long time about what is happening
14 in places like Unalaska, Kodiak and Ketchikan because the
15 large immigrant community that are there who are working,
16 this lack of limited English proficiency -- and there
17 aren't the resources in those communities to really
18 address if somebody or lots of people are being
19 victimized. What resources are available in that
20 community? And there was actually a letter to the editor
21 that was written in the Anchorage Daily News -- and I want
22 to say this was probably in 2003 -- and there was a fish
23 processing plant outside of Dillingham, not in Dillingham.
24 I think it was maybe in Eyak. And the fish processing
25 plant was being investigated for violations of the

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1 Environmental Protection Act because they were discharging
2 waste inappropriately. There was a letter to the editor
3 that was published like a week after the headline story
4 about what this fish processing plant was doing to our
5 environment by somebody who said why isn't anybody
6 concerned about the fact that people are enslaved here and
7 that they are living in subhuman conditions, they are not
8 being paid for their work, and they can't leave. Because
9 they are flown in by the fish processing plants, they have
10 to complete their work at the fish processing plant in
11 order for them to get the funding to actually get that
12 return flight outside of the community.

13 So in my office we work with five to ten human
14 trafficking cases per year. And I mentioned the Crazy
15 Horse case, and I want to go into the details of it
16 because I think it elucidates just how difficult this
17 issue is and the amount of work that we need to do in
18 order for victims to feel safe and come forward to let us
19 know what's happening.

20 So the Crazy Horse case -- I don't know if folks
21 are familiar with it. It involved seven -- five of them
22 were adult women, two of them were under the age of 18.
23 They were from Russia. They legally entered the United
24 States. And so that's one of the pieces with the human
25 trafficking cases that we've worked on is traffickers are

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1 really sophisticated. And I'm sure you heard from Jolene
2 Goeden at the FBI and Kathy Lacey from the Anchorage
3 Police Department. They are really, really sophisticated
4 in understanding the systems that they are trying to
5 avoid. So most folks come in with legal immigration
6 documents, meaning they have a valid tourist visa that was
7 obtained fraudulently.

8 So the seven women who came in on the Crazy
9 Horse case, they actually had tourist visas to do
10 folkloric dancing in Alaska. The person who trafficked
11 them was a trusted member of their community in the former
12 Soviet Union. So he was a dance instructor. He had
13 convinced the parents of the juveniles to give him power
14 of attorney over them so that he could bring these
15 juveniles into the United States. And less than -- they
16 arrived in Anchorage and were immediately taken to the
17 other trafficker's home who lived in Eagle River, and then
18 the next day they were forced to dance at the Crazy Horse.
19 And they never, of course, did the folkloric dancing that
20 they thought they were going to do.

21 Thirty days -- fortunately, after about 30 days
22 after they arrived in Alaska, the Immigration and
23 Naturalization Service -- this was in 2000, so it was
24 before the Department of Homeland Security. The
25 Immigration and Naturalization Service decided that they

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1 were going to do a raid of the Crazy Horse because the
2 Crazy Horse was advertising that they had foreign dancers.
3 And the Immigration and Naturalization Service thought --
4 wondered if these women had the appropriate immigration
5 documents to work in the United States, which they didn't.
6 They had tourist visas. On a tourist visa you are not
7 allowed to work in the United States.
8 So the immigration -- there were four of the
9 women at the Crazy Horse. The two juveniles were at the
10 trafficker's home, along with the sister of one of the
11 juveniles. And the Immigration and Naturalization Service
12 arrested the four women and put them on a plane that night
13 to the detention facility in Seattle. And by
14 coincidence -- we work really closely with the Immigration
15 and Naturalization Service. By coincidence, the lead
16 attorney, who was living here in Alaska at the time,
17 called me the next morning and told me what had happened.
18 And I started asking her questions, and we put it together
19 that this was probably a trafficking case. And we
20 contacted a colleague of mine in Seattle who was able to
21 get to the detention facility literally minutes before the
22 traffickers had been able to get -- they had hired a
23 lawyer also who was trying to access the detention
24 facility to get access to these women.
25 The women were brought back to Anchorage and the

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1 prosecution started. The juveniles were -- again,
2 coincidentally I happened to be on a radio program with
3 the head of the Immigration and Naturalization Service for
4 Alaska, and we were talking about the case. And he found
5 out that the trafficker was about to leave the country
6 with the juveniles the next morning. And so the
7 traffickers were arrested that morning with the juveniles.
8 And because of the close cooperation like I -- I can't
9 overemphasize -- and I read the testimony from the
10 Anchorage hearing. This cooperation between law
11 enforcement and NGOs is critical. And so when the young
12 women were brought into the Immigration and Naturalization
13 Service after the traffickers had been arrested, they
14 immediately called me and said you've got to come here and
15 talk to them. And so I did.
16 And they initially wouldn't tell me anything
17 until the Immigration and Naturalization Service told me
18 what they had been doing at the Crazy Horse. And it's
19 when I told this young woman of 16 -- I had an interpreter
20 with me, right, because she didn't speak English -- what I
21 knew she had been doing, she burst into tears, and that's
22 when we figured out that there was this massive
23 trafficking scheme that they were a part of.
24 And since that time I have been on a mission to
25 try to increase the services in our state because we don't

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1 have the capacity to respond. We were completely
2 overwhelmed to deal with these seven women. We didn't
3 have -- they weren't eligible for any benefits because
4 they didn't have immigration documents and there were no
5 programs in our state at the time for them to get access
6 to benefits. And so the FBI and the U.S. Attorney's
7 Office had to basically break the bank in order to get
8 them safe housing. They couldn't stay at AWAIC because
9 they were in danger. AWAIC wasn't considered a safe
10 enough facility. They were housed in a hotel with 24-hour
11 guards at their door for a really long time until we could
12 get them safety.
13 And so we have increased some of the resources
14 in our state to deal with situations like that, but it's
15 really far from adequate when you are talking about lots
16 of people potentially being trafficked in remote parts of
17 our community.
18 As a result of that -- and I didn't see in the
19 testimony that Jolene or Kathy talked about this joint
20 human trafficking task force, but we were part of this
21 joint trafficking task force. So the federal government
22 felt like it was really important, right, law enforcement
23 working with NGOs. It's not a common partnership. And
24 you really need to work hard to figure out where the
25 commonality is, how you deal with confidentiality

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1 protocols. And so the Salvation Army was successful in
2 getting a federal grant and brought all of us together.
3 And we worked really hard for three years. It wasn't
4 perfect. There were a lot of things that were left
5 undone, specifically confidentiality. Right?
6 I mean, I get -- in that first case, the Crazy
7 Horse case, you know, the U.S. Attorney's Office let us in
8 in their investigation. And it was this trust, right,
9 when -- you know, when a criminal investigation is
10 happening, you have to trust to allow an NGO into that
11 process so that the NGO can provide the victims with the
12 services that they need. And we did a lot of work. And
13 so now when trafficking victims come to our office -- so
14 the way that human trafficking victims come to our
15 attention now is we do intensive screening.
16 So there was just a case that we referred to the
17 FBI of a horrific situation happening outside of
18 Anchorage. And it was this combination of sex and labor
19 trafficking. Right? It was an individual young woman who
20 had come here on a legal visa, a student visa, and then
21 met this man who then took horrific advantage of her and
22 basically enslaved her for three years. And she was --
23 wow, what it took for her to escape was really, really
24 hard. It totally traumatized my staff member who first
25 talked with her because of what she had experienced.

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1 And Jolene was phenomenal, of course. I
2 called her, and they were on it, met with her and have
3 started a prosecution. And we were just awarded the FBI
4 director's community service award because of all the work
5 that we are doing with the FBI.
6 So the things that the Alaska Immigration
7 Justice Project has done to try to address this gap in
8 services is in May 2007 we organized a multidisciplinary
9 training because what was clear was that you can't -- this
10 training isn't just with the NGO community. It's not just
11 with law enforcement. You have to bring people together
12 from small communities and share the information with
13 multidisciplinary teams that hopefully then go back into
14 their community and build their capacity.
15 Unfortunately -- we did this great training. We
16 brought in multidisciplinary teams from those communities
17 that I mentioned -- Kodiak, Unalaska, Ketchikan, Anchorage
18 and Juneau -- but we didn't have the capacity to follow
19 up. And we brought the FBI and the Anchorage Police
20 Department down to Juneau to train the law enforcement
21 there, but without ongoing resources to continue to
22 provide that training, it makes it really hard for
23 communities to have the capacity to respond to what's
24 happening in their community.
25 So what we are currently doing now, we have a

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1 rural domestic violence grant. We have funded a position
2 at Tundra Women's Coalition to do outreach on trafficking.
3 And then we were just awarded a grant from the Office for
4 Victims of Crimes. It's for wrap-around civil legal
5 services for crime victims. And we are one of only six
6 demonstration projects in the United States. OVC expects
7 us to develop model protocols and policies. And human
8 trafficking is one of the issues that they want us to
9 focus on, and so obviously we will.
10 So there are two pieces that are, I think,
11 important to the work that you are doing. One is this
12 needs assessment. So we are now working with UAA and we
13 are developing a needs assessment to figure out what the
14 civil legal needs are of crime victims. We have a lot of
15 funding, but need more to do work in. So the needs
16 assessment is going to be focused in Anchorage and Bethel.
17 To do a really thorough needs assessment for the Bethel
18 area, we need more resources so that we can really work
19 with folks in the villages because of the expense of
20 actually travel and doing focus groups.
21 And we just had our first couple of meetings
22 with the researchers that we are working with at UAA and
23 hope to be rolling out the needs assessment in the
24 beginning part of next year. It's a three-year grant.
25 This 15 months -- first 15 months of it is for us to do

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1 this needs assessment to come up with a protocol so that
2 we can deliver holistic legal services. And then we have
3 a statewide steering committee. So Rick Svobodny -- I
4 know he's on the line -- he's on our steering committee.
5 We also have -- the municipal prosecutor from Anchorage
6 is also on our steering committee.
7 So the hope is that we will develop this
8 protocol and referral mechanism so that there is more
9 coordinated services amongst the folks who are working
10 with crime victims in our state. And obviously human
11 trafficking victims would be part of that.
12 Thank you.
13 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Robin. It's
14 very comprehensive, very impressive. Any questions from
15 the panel? Yes, Commissioner.
16 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** Robin, you talked
17 about a needs assessment. What does that look like?
18 **DR. BRONEN:** Well, we are trying to figure
19 that out right now. So what we are going to do is we will
20 be contacting people who are actually crime victims and
21 asking them questions about the services that they have
22 been able to access and what they haven't been able to
23 access that would have helped them be -- get whole again
24 after their crime. But we haven't figured it out yet. We
25 are still in the planning phases. And if you want to be

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1 involved -- I'm serious. I -- this is -- you know, we
2 have been told this is a really important project for the,
3 you know, President and Vice President.
4 This is a tremendous opportunity for our state.
5 We are being showcased. And so we welcome the involvement
6 of any or all of you to help us get really good
7 information with this needs assessment so that we can move
8 forward and then provide more holistic comprehensive
9 services to crime victims.
10 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** This is going to
11 sound really like a naive question, but is there a large
12 enough pool of victims that you can go to to gather that
13 information for the kick-start, if you will, for the needs
14 assessment?
15 **DR. BRONEN:** Absolutely. Well -- and we
16 are not -- this isn't just focused on human trafficking
17 victims. It's all crime victims. And so the -- you know,
18 it could be a really great way of finding out about the
19 human trafficking happening in our state because, you
20 know, I mean, I think, as you are well aware, people
21 normally don't self-identify as being victims of human
22 trafficking. Right? And that's across the board, whether
23 you are talking about people trafficked domestically or
24 internationally. So this would be a way. That's why
25 we're working really closely with the university to figure

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1 out what those questions will look like.
2 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** Thank you.
3 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Other questions from the
4 panel?
5 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Robin, just kind of
6 your thoughts on -- the way you describe, for example,
7 your involvement in the Crazy Horse case, there were
8 certain things, I think, that contributed to that case
9 coming together. You probably have some ideas and things
10 that probably would have been counterproductive to that
11 being successful. Just curious on what some of your
12 thoughts are on what are the component pieces, what has to
13 be in place for us to be able to get reporting -- I'm not
14 even thinking necessarily law enforcement being the
15 initial receiving end of that information, but what has to
16 be in place to be able to get the information to start
17 these kind of cases?
18 **DR. BRONEN:** Well, thank you for the
19 question. So you know, the way I've thought about it is
20 really different if the NGO is the first responder as
21 opposed to law enforcement. So when -- so I've been part
22 of the First Lady's Task Force and so have been having
23 conversations with Lisa Moreno. So one of the pieces that
24 came up -- and I don't know if this is possible, but -- so
25 this is the type of collaboration that I'm thinking about.

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1 So what I know is that when women and -- well, actually,
2 juveniles are arrested for prostitution, they are sent to
3 McLaughlin. And what Kathy Lacey and Jolene have talked
4 about is because they are arrested for a crime, the public
5 defender immediately gets involved and doesn't want,
6 right, any more contact with the police department.
7 Well, if you had a lawyer go in as like civil
8 lawyers, like my office, go in after somebody had been
9 arrested for prostitution to start building -- you have
10 got to be able to build a trust relationship. Right?
11 That's what Jolene and Kathy have talked about. You know,
12 and even in that difficult of a situation in detention,
13 that would potentially be one way of getting access to
14 folks who are red flags for law enforcement, but there is
15 not enough time for them to do the extensive work that
16 needs to happen in order to build that trust; but
17 potentially an NGO could develop that trust with that
18 person who is in the detention facility.
19 For the NGOs, I think it's more training. You
20 know, I'm sure folks are seeing across the board,
21 particularly domestically, that there should be red flags
22 when a person comes into an NGO's office in regard to
23 potentially trafficking is involved. And I would think
24 training. In my office, that's what we do. Right? We
25 are doing intensive screening of folks who present

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1 themselves as being domestic violence or sexual assault
2 victims because that's what they present. And then we put
3 the pieces together and then we realize this isn't just
4 domestic violence, sexual assault. This is human
5 trafficking. And call Jolene for them to do the
6 follow-up.
7 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** So it's access --
8 I'm sorry. So what I'm hearing is one of them is to be
9 able to get access before their perpetrators stop them
10 from being able to talk to you. That's one key piece of
11 it. Communication is another piece, and training, if I
12 heard you right, three --
13 **DR. BRONEN:** Yeah. And I would just say,
14 you know, in the cases that we have worked with, the
15 international cases, again, I can't overemphasize the
16 sophistication of traffickers and what it will take in
17 order for us to figure out if trafficking is happening,
18 labor or sex trafficking is happening in communities that
19 are outside of our urban centers.
20 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Just in follow-up, I
21 thought I heard you say, Robin, that one of the keys is
22 getting to them before, as the commissioner said, you
23 know, the exploiters. I heard you say also before they
24 get a defense attorney because oftentimes a defense
25 attorney is not going to want them to talk about or to get

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1 up -- did I understand you correctly?
2 **DR. BRONEN:** Yeah. Well, it's not before
3 they get a defense attorney, but to have -- you know, it's
4 getting every part of the system on board, that there is a
5 bigger picture that we need to focus on. And so, you
6 know, in my mind what I was thinking is if you had a civil
7 legal service attorney so -- who is looking out for that
8 victim's best interest, right, it wouldn't be that there
9 wouldn't be a public defender involved, but you would have
10 somebody else who was looking at this bigger picture of
11 what was going on to figure out if there is -- you know,
12 they are actually a crime victim, not -- yeah, not
13 somebody who should be prosecuted for prostitution.
14 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I agree. Have you folks
15 reached out to the public defenders before? Has there
16 been any effort to enlist them in the cause or to see what
17 role that they could play?
18 **DR. BRONEN:** No. You know, we have done
19 work with the municipal prosecutor's office in Anchorage
20 because they are part of the key to identifying. And, you
21 know, part of the issue is because we don't have really
22 good statistics, people don't recognize that this is a
23 serious issue that we should all be focused on and that we
24 need to do the training so that we can identify it and
25 create system shifts so that we are responding to the

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1 needs of these folks.
2 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I have some follow-up
3 questions. And we can open it up again, but you mentioned
4 the joint human trafficking task force. Did they issue a
5 report at the end of the day?
6 **DR. BRONEN:** No. And it was -- you know,
7 the Salvation Army lost the funding, which is why it no
8 longer exists.
9 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. In the Crazy Horse
10 case, was there any evidence that these -- the families of
11 these girls -- especially the girls who were underage,
12 that their families had knowingly put them into this
13 predicament?
14 **DR. BRONEN:** Yeah. Absolutely not. Their
15 families were horrified. And that's actually -- you know,
16 it's a subcomponent of all this that really somebody needs
17 to figure out because it -- you know, we were talking
18 about juveniles who had their -- and they had parents who
19 wanted to be -- you know, wanted to protect their kids,
20 and it took us weeks to get their parents here. And then
21 nobody could figure out who -- because the trafficker was
22 the person who had the power of attorney -- who would have
23 the power of attorney over these juveniles. And it was
24 just really, really difficult.
25 And we eventually brought the parents here. And

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1 I can tell you that all seven of these young women are
2 doing fabulously well. They've graduated from college.
3 They own businesses in Alaska.
4 **MR. GERAGHTY:** They stayed?
5 **DR. BRONEN:** They stayed. Yeah. They are
6 doing awesome. We still keep in touch with them, even
7 though it was over ten years ago. They are doing really,
8 really well.
9 **MR. GERAGHTY:** The -- the TVPA has been
10 around since 2000?
11 **DR. BRONEN:** Uh-huh.
12 **MR. GERAGHTY:** But I gather the message
13 just hasn't got out there, and there still is this fear
14 with immigrants, especially if they are uneducated and so
15 on, that to go to the authorities is to risk deportation.
16 It just hasn't --
17 **DR. BRONEN:** Well, part of it is law
18 enforcement. You know, honestly, law enforcement
19 sometimes does -- you know, even if a person has been
20 a crime victim will call the Department of Homeland
21 Security and place that person at risk of being deported.
22 So we have done trainings with law enforcement. There is
23 a lot more training that needs to be done so that we are
24 focused on the criminal behavior, not the fact that
25 somebody doesn't have immigration documents.

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1 **MR. GERAGHTY:** So is it still -- you say
2 it's not a crime to be without your -- your proper
3 documents. You can still be deported.
4 **DR. BRONEN:** Right, but that is a civil
5 process.
6 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. So -- and what they
7 are afraid of, I assume, is the deportation, not so much
8 the criminal side of it.
9 **DR. BRONEN:** Correct. And so they can be
10 deported, but we have been 100 percent successful in
11 getting, like, hundreds of people in our state the
12 documents that they need, but they just don't know that
13 that's available to them unless they -- unless we get --
14 if law enforcement comes in contact with them because they
15 have been a crime victim and law enforcement refers them
16 to us or, you know, they come into our office and we go
17 through an extensive intake process and learn about the
18 criminal victimization that they have experienced.
19 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you. Anything else?
20 **MS. ADAMS:** I have a couple questions.
21 You have talked about the tremendous gaps in services. I
22 know you haven't completed the needs assessment with UAA,
23 but from your perspective right now, what are those gaps
24 in services, the main ones? And are the gaps in services
25 more related to accessing services or actually missing

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1 services?
2 **DR. BRONEN:** Well, I would say missing
3 services. And you know, so one of the -- so with the TVPA
4 of 2000, they set up this comprehensive network of
5 services for folks who were international victims because
6 they aren't eligible for, like, public assistance
7 benefits, I mean, the things that U.S. citizens are
8 eligible for. And so for domestic victims, like there
9 isn't this holistic service approach to human trafficking
10 of folks within the United States.
11 So in the international context, you get what
12 folks call a case manager who is coordinating all of these
13 services, keeping in contact with the victim, building
14 that trust, and making sure that the victim is getting
15 access to the services that they need while there is this
16 criminal prosecution going on. And Jolene and Kathy are
17 doing that for the domestic victims. Right? I mean, they
18 are spending hours and hours and hours building trust,
19 figuring out safety issues, trying to get them substance
20 abuse treatment, trying to figure out housing. So there
21 is no -- that doesn't exist for folks who are domestically
22 trafficked.
23 **MS. ADAMS:** Second question. You
24 mentioned something that I also heard Kathleen talk about,
25 and that's that it's very difficult to get time with

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1 victims as they come in. If the prostitute is arrested,
2 the first offense, it's not even jail time, so they are
3 right back in the hands of their abusers. Do you favor
4 stiffening the penalties for prostitution in order to be
5 able to have a gap of time while they are away from
6 their -- their perpetrators so they can be assessed or --
7 **DR. BRONEN:** I don't think that that would
8 be a good route to go on because part of what needs to
9 happen is the building of trust so that they share what is
10 actually happening to them as opposed to everybody getting
11 stuck at the superficial level that they are engaging in
12 prostitution. And so that's why I like trying to be more
13 innovative than having stiffer criminal penalties, but
14 figuring out different ways that the system can be more
15 flexible so that you have the opportunity to build that
16 trust.
17 **MS. ADAMS:** I guess in the sophistication
18 of what the pimps are doing, they -- the minute a girl is
19 arrested, they have got their hands back on her in
20 minutes.
21 **DR. BRONEN:** Absolutely.
22 **MS. ADAMS:** So how do you even have enough
23 time to -- to break in there and build trust?
24 **DR. BRONEN:** Well, I think it's this piece
25 that if they are at a juvenile -- if they are at

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1 McLaughlin, you figure out -- is it McLaughlin staff? In
2 the task force -- with the First Lady's Task Force, I
3 wasn't really clear why McLaughlin staff couldn't start
4 doing an intake to figure out if something else was going
5 on than just prostitution. And I'm really unfamiliar with
6 the criminal justice system. I've only done civil legal
7 work. And so I don't know, like, the system well enough
8 to really think outside of the box. So within the
9 confines of the law, but being creative so that we are
10 getting to the bigger issue of what's happening in our
11 community.
12 **MS. ADAMS:** Thank you.
13 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Yes, Michelle.
14 **MS. DEWITT:** I think I have four things.
15 The first is, kind of what I took from your conversations
16 is trying to take advantage of that window of time that
17 you have with someone when they are arrested for
18 prostitution. And an example that came to mind while you
19 were talking is when people report domestic violence and
20 they have that time with an officer who reads them the
21 book about their resources and those kind of things. So
22 that came to mind while you were speaking, so I appreciate
23 that.
24 Second, the other thing that you mentioned was
25 the amount of time it took to build -- to build trust and

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1 resources for a survivor of trafficking. And while you
2 were speaking, my agency has had a long partnership with
3 AIJP and have worked on some immigrant issues related to
4 violence and abuse. And it made me recall the significant
5 amount of human resources we have invested in the
6 immigrant victims of domestic violence cases we have
7 provided some assistance in, I mean, to the tune of
8 sometimes basically the equivalent of two FTEs and how
9 difficult it is to provide that human resource capacity
10 for someone who is in such an intense need in that period
11 of time. So I think that's something that you stressed
12 that the FBI also stressed and APD. I think we probably
13 can't hear that enough, so that was really useful.
14 Third, on your -- on the needs assessment, you
15 talk about wrap-around civil legal services for crime
16 victims. And I was curious if you could provide some
17 examples of the types of civil legal services because I
18 think when we think of crime victims, we think of that
19 criminal system. So if you could give some examples of
20 civil remedies for crime victims.
21 **DR. BRONEN:** So it would be -- you know,
22 in the domestic violence/sexual assault context, it would
23 be potentially family law representation or protective
24 order representation, potentially consumer fraud. So the
25 Office for Victims of Crime is also really focused on

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1 identity fraud crimes. And so, you know, we haven't yet
2 figured out the detail of what we will actually be
3 providing, but we are looking at all crime victims and
4 figuring out where the gaps of civil legal services are.
5 **MS. DEWITT:** And then my fourth and final
6 thing is, do you have any suggestions for -- for this
7 group on how we may consider getting more information
8 about labor trafficking? You mentioned how challenging
9 that is, but if you have any suggestions for us of things
10 we ought to be doing specific to labor trafficking.
11 **DR. BRONEN:** That's a really good
12 question, and I -- you know, I honestly -- I don't. I
13 mean, the -- well, actually -- well, what I was just
14 thinking of is there is this immigration process called a
15 J1 process, but that actually just changed, I think,
16 because of the -- that it has been so abused.
17 But what I can tell you is that in -- so the J1
18 visa is available for students who mostly come from
19 Eastern Europe. And they have been bringing hundreds of
20 J1 students into Alaska to work at fish processing plants
21 all over our state, and those students have not been
22 treated well. And so I don't think it was just in Alaska
23 that the J1 process has changed.
24 So you may ask the Department of Homeland
25 Security because they would know about the J1 process.

1 And I'm not sure if the Department of Homeland Security
2 here in Alaska would know about the extent of where J1
3 visa holders are being sent in our state. And then
4 Senator Begich, I know he was trying to figure out what
5 else -- what other visa mechanism fish processing plants
6 could use to bring folks into our state to work at fish
7 processing plants, so he may have more concrete
8 information about where folks were being sent in our state
9 and whether or not they are still going to be able to come
10 in that way. And then talk to actually Monte Hawver, who
11 is a -- he runs the homeless shelter in Kodiak. He's been
12 vocal the times I have been to Kodiak about his concern
13 about what's happening with the J1 visa holders that come
14 in the summertime to work at fish processing plants in
15 Kodiak.

16 **MS. DEWITT:** Thank you.

17 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you. Commissioner
18 Streur.

19 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** One more follow-up.
20 You really piqued my interest when you spoke about DJJ and
21 the issues because I have had two legislators of late
22 raising a question of why are we putting children arrested
23 for prostitution in the juvenile justice system,
24 McLaughlin. And you know, I don't have an answer, other
25 than they committed a crime. And if we are blocking your

1 enslaved her. And he was her sole source of support. She
2 didn't speak English. She didn't know anyone. She was
3 living in a really, really remote community. And he had
4 complete control over everything that she did.
5 Everything.

6 And it was only because a friend notified us
7 that we were able to actually talk with her. And she
8 asked me -- like she would ask me permission to go to the
9 bathroom, you know. I mean, the level of control is
10 extreme. And so it just -- that's why -- and if you --
11 you know, with the folks that we work with, there haven't
12 been substance abuse issues, but if you add that layer of
13 substance abuse issues, it just -- that's why Jolene and
14 Kathy work as hard as they do because it takes lot to
15 break that relationship.

16 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Well, thank you. Anything
17 else?

18 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I just have one
19 last. On one of the previous slides you put a number --
20 you put a number up regarding the number of cases that
21 your agency was dealing with that were trafficking related
22 cases. I think it was five to ten --

23 **DR. BRONEN:** A year.

24 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** -- per year. And
25 looking back at some of the statistics that we have, there

1 access to these kids, you know, we need to figure out a
2 way to do it. Do you have the capacity, if I get that
3 door opened up with my co-workers to get you in there?

4 **DR. BRONEN:** We would with the OVC grant.

5 So, you know, it would be good to have additional
6 resources, but we would. And that would be awesome.

7 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** Thank you.

8 **DR. BRONEN:** That would be awesome. Thank
9 you.

10 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Just a last question out of
11 curiosity. I mean, we -- you know, you see victims of
12 domestic violence go back into the environment where they
13 were assaulted. And I just wonder in terms of these
14 victims of trafficking and whatnot, I imagine that many of
15 them don't listen and many of them refuse the offers of
16 help and, you know, for whatever reason they distrust the
17 authority, distrust the NGOs, even, who try to approach
18 them. Do you find that, that they just resist your
19 efforts to breach that layer of the distrust?

20 **DR. BRONEN:** Yeah, but I mean, again, it's
21 the context, and specifically with immigrant victims,
22 right. So I can think of this second case that we dealt
23 with actually now a number of years ago where this young
24 woman had been brought into the United States into Alaska
25 by a very prominent member of our community and basically

1 is not five to ten trafficking cases being reported. So
2 there is a -- so obviously there is a disconnect of what's
3 actually being reported to law enforcement and what your
4 agency is dealing with.

5 **DR. BRONEN:** Well, you know, so one of
6 the -- I mean, one of the things that's been surprising as
7 a civil legal attorney is, you know, the crimes happen,
8 but whether or not there are prosecutions is a whole other
9 story. So we have brought cases, you know. And it's not
10 been with the State. It's been with the U.S. Attorney's
11 Office. And there are problems with going forward with
12 the prosecution. So our clients are able to get the
13 immigration documents that they need, but the U.S.
14 Attorney's Office makes the decision they are not going to
15 do a prosecution. And that's so -- you know, and we
16 haven't worked with the State on criminal prosecutions.
17 So if you are just looking at the State, that's why it
18 wouldn't reflect in the State -- State statistics.

19 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Is that because of the
20 immigration angle?

21 **DR. BRONEN:** No. In regard to the U.S.
22 Attorney's Office?

23 **MR. GERAGHTY:** In terms of the
24 prosecutions not coming to the State.

25 **DR. BRONEN:** No. It's -- you know, we

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1 just have a really great relationship with the FBI, and so
2 when a person comes into our office and presents themself
3 as a human trafficking victim, the laws are -- for
4 prosecution are much better in the federal system. So we
5 contact the FBI who then contacts the U.S. Attorney.
6 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Well, we have made
7 improvements in our laws we have passed, and we are going
8 to continue to do that. And if there is specific --
9 specifics, Robin, where we have deficiencies compared to
10 the Feds and what we can prosecute, please do bring that
11 to our attention. Won't do that today. That might be
12 something that can be done in an e-mail or something like
13 that, but that's something that we want to come out of
14 this commission is a report on how we can strengthen our
15 laws. And if the Feds have a better model, I'd want to
16 certainly look at that. We can't control immigration,
17 obviously; that's a federal function, but we do want to go
18 after this. We don't want to sit on the sidelines.
19 **DR. BRONEN:** That's great. I will let you
20 know.
21 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Anyway, thank you so much.
22 Any other questions? Thank you so much for coming. Very
23 interesting, and I commend you for what you are doing.
24 You are a credit to the state and your group. Thank you
25 very much.

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1 Well, let's turn now to some other public
2 testimony. Some people have signed up. I don't know if
3 they are all here. I'm going to call up their names, and
4 then we will pick up the people on line. But the first
5 person I have signed up is Annie Mae Lee. Is Annie Mae
6 here? She said -- there's a note here, coming after
7 school. Anyway. Annie Mae is not here. If she does come
8 in --
9 **MS. DEWITT:** She's right here.
10 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Oh, I'm sorry, Annie Mae.
11 Come on, hon. Don't be shy. Come sit right up here by
12 this mike. Does somebody want to come with you? Come on,
13 girls.
14 **MS. LEE:** I'm really not -- I told I was
15 going to speak, but I'm not really sure I'm supposed to
16 like -- about an opinion about what you guys are talking
17 about.
18 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Well, if you -- you know
19 what we are here to talk about, and if you have -- you
20 don't have to have formal comments. You don't have to
21 talk for a long time like Robin or have a PowerPoint or
22 anything like that, so if you want -- I don't want to
23 force you, either. But would you like to say something
24 about what we are studying here, what we are looking at?
25 **MS. LEE:** Well, it's bad. It's just that

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1 it's surprising because you usually think of it as
2 something that happens away from here, like not -- like
3 you see alcohol abuse and all this other stuff, but you
4 never really think that it's happening, like, here because
5 when you think about it, it's just like, I don't know,
6 surprising, I guess, and that it's dangerous for, like,
7 everyone. Well, not exactly everyone, but --
8 **MR. GERAGHTY:** You are right. And I'm
9 just like you; I thought, is that happening here? And I'm
10 an attorney. I have been an attorney all my life. But I
11 had the same reaction. Is that happening here? You read
12 about stuff like that and you think it's some other
13 community. So I'm with you on that. I feel the same way.
14 That's why we are learning about it and trying to find out
15 as much as we can so we can -- because it is happening
16 here. And that's the thing. It is happening here, and we
17 have heard that from Robin and we have heard that from
18 other witnesses. So -- but I'm just like you. I was
19 surprised. My eyes are still being opened.
20 Anything else, hon? Please feel free. How
21 about your friend? Or is she just keeping you company?
22 **MS. MORRIS:** Hi.
23 **MR. GERAGHTY:** What's your name?
24 **MS. MORRIS:** Maya Morris.
25 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Maya Morris. Do you want

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1 to say something for our benefit?
2 **MS. MORRIS:** It's more -- like what she
3 said, it's really surprising, that something should be
4 done about it before it gets too out of hand.
5 **MS. LEE:** Not that it isn't bad already.
6 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Can I ask a
7 question?
8 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Please.
9 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Can I ask you, you
10 have heard about it, you know what the topic is, and you
11 know it's bad and things like that. Do you -- do you
12 think it happened -- without -- I'm not asking for any
13 details or anything like that, if you have any personal
14 knowledge of it, but do you -- do you see it happening or
15 have you heard that it's been happening to anybody that is
16 in the community, or is it just something that you have
17 heard is happening?
18 **MS. LEE:** I didn't really hear much about
19 it happening in this community. Like -- like sexual
20 abuse, you hear of it, but I've never actually heard much
21 about sex trafficking here. Like I've heard it happening
22 in other places like especially like New York, and it's
23 just -- you live somewhere all your life and you don't
24 really know what's really happening, and you realize that
25 and it's weird. You don't expect it. And I never really

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1 heard of it, so --
2 **MS. ADAMS:** I think you gals came in after
3 he gave the UN definition of human trafficking, but it
4 involves anyone being held against their wishes or being
5 used in a sexual way for the profit of somebody else.
6 Have you heard of those kind of things happening in your
7 community, once you have heard the definition broadened a
8 little bit?
9 **MS. LEE:** Not anyone in general, but when
10 you -- you hear about people being held against their
11 will, yeah. But -- yeah.
12 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Well, girls, thank you. I
13 agree. But anything else you want to say, please --
14 and/or if something comes to you -- we don't have a very
15 long list, so I think we can come back to you. If you
16 hear something or somebody says something that triggers
17 something you want to say, please let us know. Okay? But
18 otherwise, thank you for coming forward.
19 Karen Groce. Is Karen here? If I'm pronouncing
20 that correctly. Next -- if Karen shows up, she can --
21 Dr. Doug Boyer. Dr. Boyer, come forward and have a seat.
22 Please introduce yourself and your affiliation.
23 **DR. BOYER:** Okay. My name's -- I mean,
24 I'm -- it's -- it's Doug Boyer, Dr. Doug Boyer. I've
25 worked in rural Alaska in educational administration for

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1 the past five years. And I've also had previous
2 experience in law enforcement in Washington State. So
3 this topic that I hear about -- and I'm very interested
4 because one thing I think that goes unnoticed is how it
5 actually affects rural children in rural Alaska. And
6 what -- how I -- how I deal with it on an administrative
7 side, how it affects schools, how it affects families, but
8 also the manipulation factor that is in there to protect
9 those. And with the small rural communities also of how
10 uncles, aunts, close family members are the ones who are
11 actually doing this. So now you have a whole 'nother
12 level of protection that is, you know, taking place which,
13 since moving to Alaska, I have been very, very impressed
14 with the various law enforcements, Alaska, you know, State
15 Troopers.
16 And then I just -- I'm going to give two places,
17 so I don't really want to say the other two places where I
18 have been where these have happened, but also the city
19 police departments, also, that have responded. But you
20 know, just due to the fact of protecting families, it goes
21 unheard. It just kind of drops off the face.
22 You know, with your definition that you gave
23 from the UN that I wrote down here, looking at it, what I
24 see at a school level, at an educational level, is the
25 receiving payments for the exploitation of sexual favors

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1 to other adults with children. And since I have worked in
2 Alaska for five years in administration, three out of
3 those five years I have been involved in a case that I
4 have reported to OCS, troopers, and city police
5 departments. And so that's 60 percent of my time that I
6 have been here that I have ran across this. But I have
7 been able to take it to that next level because I have had
8 the police academy training to identify these various
9 factors and to try to exploit this.
10 One situation I had was in a school district I
11 worked up north in in rural Alaska. The first year was
12 where two females who were minors were being part of a
13 prostitution ring within the city, but also at the same
14 time, the two people who were also doing this and selling
15 the girls for money and also other things, such as alcohol
16 and marijuana and other drugs, were also taking these
17 girls who were, quote, unquote, their friends out to
18 various villages and also having the same thing happen
19 there.
20 Also in the same community I had a -- I had
21 another case that was exploited where seven juveniles who
22 ranged from the age of 12 to 15 that were all males also
23 were being exploited by -- for sexual favors and, in turn,
24 they were giving -- given drugs, alcohol and various
25 things like that for their acts. But then also it was the

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1 bringing in of people from other outside villages, I guess
2 I could say, that -- that caused a problem.
3 And what I saw was -- what we see is with those
4 two cases alone that I have been associated with in a
5 different community is a lot of the kids we see, they come
6 from very low socioeconomic statuses. The parents aren't
7 very part of their lives. You know, I would call home,
8 you can't get ahold of the parents. You don't know where
9 the parents are. You try to track them down.
10 You know, the students also suffer from -- you
11 know, this causes a dropout problem that we have seen in
12 school, low achieving, low attendance, high discipline.
13 And also from these cases has been three cases of
14 attempted suicide from these students. And you know, and
15 then once you get into that factor these acts have also
16 affected, you are going to take it from now to a whole
17 community as a whole. And like I said, the police
18 departments that did do this, that investigated these --
19 the people who were part of it, you know, they were found
20 guilty. They prosecuted it. But it wasn't prosecuted to
21 the degree of like what we are talking about today. It
22 was just the SAM, but not to the degree of what it
23 actually is.
24 Also, you know, being in this area, I work at
25 Bethel Alternative Boarding School. And we are in the

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1 process of actually changing our name to Kuskokwim
2 Learning Academy with the State. But being here, I work
3 with all at-risk students. And every single day with my
4 at-risk students I deal with these issues.
5 And what I have seen down here versus the other
6 hub city I worked in is here it's getting -- it's -- it's
7 tying closer to aunt, uncle, the smaller village
8 communities, and the closing it up because I don't want
9 to, you know -- I don't want to, you know, bring a
10 negative aspect to my family, or my family's manipulating
11 me not to talk, or those -- or those other factors right
12 there. And we see that. And that's something that, you
13 know, is of a very big concern. And where I know -- where
14 I've heard, I've reported where kids are being traded for
15 alcohol or be traded for other things like that. And
16 that's just a really big concern that I have. But at the
17 same time, as we do report these things, it can't go
18 anywhere because of the protections or the manipulation
19 that has already been put up by the families.
20 The one other thing, too, in this community that
21 I think is very big on this and also in rural Alaska, as
22 you all know, too, is the high risk of sexually
23 transmitted diseases that go along with this. And you
24 know, when I'm 12 years old and I end up contracting
25 HIV or gonorrhea or herpes, you know, because of these

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1 different acts, you know, that is -- that's something that
2 just devastates this child's life for the rest of their
3 life.
4 So this is something I just wanted to bring up
5 to you all and the council. And I'm actually glad that
6 you came out here because it is something that -- I don't
7 know how many school administrators have spoke on this
8 topic, but all students go to school for a reason. They
9 want to do good, but there are things that are in their --
10 I call it their package before they even come to school
11 that, you know, that caused these factors. And once you
12 are able to dig down in deep, there are serious things
13 such as this that, you know, come into play. So --
14 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Doctor.
15 Questions from the panel? Commissioner?
16 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I'm not going to
17 necessarily ask a question, but I am going to commend you
18 because we -- you did not prepare this prior to coming in
19 here today. This was over the last couple of minutes
20 sitting there before you came up. So I've got to commend
21 you for the -- you had a fantastic presentation and a
22 litany of information based upon the amount of time you
23 had to do that. I had a very short conversation with Doug
24 before we started. Basically it was just an introduction.
25 Hello.

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1 And he brought two of his students with him, and
2 they are acting in a story for their school project on
3 this topic. So I think that's commendable, as well. I do
4 think you did point out one of the problems on data, our
5 ability to capture data on crimes that occur in Alaska
6 because of how they are classified and prosecuted. And
7 one of those -- what you mentioned is that these cases --
8 a couple of these cases were reported, and they were
9 reported as SAMs, sexual abuse of a minor case, but that's
10 how they're recorded in our State database in our system.
11 So that doesn't allow us the capability to go back and
12 data line these cases to show that they were actually sex
13 trafficking cases. I think a change in the law is going
14 to help with that. Also have some internal things on the
15 data and the records management side in order to be able
16 to pool them. But I think -- I mean, you have identified
17 one contributing factor on why we can't get good data out
18 of Alaska. Thanks.
19 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you. Anyone else? I
20 was just going to ask to find out more about your -- your
21 school. Are these -- describe for me, then, the type of
22 students that you get at -- it's going to be the Kuskokwim
23 Learning Center, but it's Bethel Alternative Boarding
24 School. Under either name, how would you describe your
25 student population? Where do they come from?

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1 **DR. BOYER:** My student population comes
2 from -- a vast majority of the students come from the
3 Delta, the Kuskokwim-Yukon Delta. We have had students as
4 far north as Barrow. We do have open enrollment
5 statewide. The type of students that we have that come to
6 our school are students that are dropouts, that are
7 at-risk students, that have dropped out formally of their
8 school. And a lot of the students that I have at my
9 school, they are -- their ages range from -- I believe I
10 have a 15 year-old to a 22 year-old that are coming back.
11 And we have -- I would say probably in the state
12 of Alaska, we probably have the strictest rules for a
13 school, as in these students who attend these schools have
14 to pass drug tests to come in. They are randomly drug
15 tested. They also cannot consume alcohol. It's an
16 automatic dismissal if a drug test comes up positive, and
17 also alcohol.
18 And so it's kind of kids who have been in
19 this -- you know, kind of hit rock bottom that have come
20 back and have decided to make a change. Very low
21 socioeconomic families, very low to probably no family
22 support for some of the students. So you know, that's --
23 that's kind of what we represent as our student
24 population.
25 **MR. GERAGHTY:** How many students do you

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1 have, Doctor?
2 **DR. BOYER:** Right now in October during
3 our count time -- no -- when we get a lot of our
4 funding -- our high this year has been 78 students, and
5 that last year was building from 26 students. So we are
6 building the school up. We have 78. We are building for
7 100 next year.
8 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And they are a high-risk
9 population for the kind of things we have been hearing
10 about, studying about. Have you come across kids who have
11 escaped that cycle who were maybe part of -- as you say,
12 hit rock bottom to the point where they were trading sex
13 for money or somebody coerced them into doing that or
14 something? Have you come across any thus far?
15 **DR. BOYER:** I would say that I've came
16 across -- that I know of, have come across two. But that
17 definition and also the -- and that's actually why I
18 brought my two students because they are going to give a
19 presentation for the personal life skills class. They're
20 going to give a presentation to all the student body is --
21 if the definition was out there and it was more, you know,
22 put out there to the communities of what this is, I could
23 probably say, from what I've heard through stories -- now,
24 this ain't -- this is not hard-core data that I can
25 prove.

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1 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Understood.
2 **DR. BOYER:** Is that -- you know, I was
3 just having a conversation with one of my students here
4 that, you know, where they are from is you are -- there
5 are people who are running the drugs are saying, you know,
6 if you want this, you need to come have sex with me and
7 then there is sex with this person and that person. And
8 you know, this is a village of 80 people, really small.
9 So I would say probably a vast majority of my female
10 students -- I could probably say 80 percent have probably
11 had some form of the sexual abuse/sexual assault related
12 to a form of your definition.
13 **MR. GERAGHTY:** This came up in Hooper Bay.
14 If you had curriculum-type materials that you could teach
15 to highlight the kids the dangers of this, because
16 sometimes it's very subtle. People, they go to town, they
17 start cruising Dimond Center Mall, the bus stop, and
18 somebody offers them to go to a movie or offers them gifts
19 or comes up and says, you are cute, I'd like you to -- you
20 would be successful in my modeling agency. There is all
21 kinds of lures that they put out there. I'm just
22 wondering if you had curriculum-type material that might
23 be developed, whether that would be useful in your school
24 to try to teach -- give training in some awareness.
25 **DR. BOYER:** I can tell you right now there

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1 is no curriculum. And we have more -- I'm going to say
2 when you are looking -- like we can kind of go beyond the
3 rules of what's said out there for the traditional high
4 school in our school district because of at-risk kids and
5 what they face and what they have been faced with in their
6 life. And I can tell you that we don't have any
7 curriculum that kind of steps over that bounds. And also
8 I can tell you working in the school district at another
9 school that that curriculum is not there, nor is even the
10 topic.
11 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And I don't doubt that.
12 That's one of the things we are trying to look at because
13 the sooner we start the process of educating and creating
14 awareness, the more successful we can be in trying to stop
15 this. But other questions for Doug? Thank you very much.
16 I appreciate it. Thank you.
17 **DR. BOYER:** Can I make one more comment
18 real quick?
19 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Absolutely. Please.
20 **DR. BOYER:** Sorry about that.
21 **MR. GERAGHTY:** No.
22 **DR. BOYER:** The one interesting thing is
23 of what I see in working in, you know, rural Alaska is you
24 kind of have the same players that, you know, kind of are
25 doing kind of the same thing, those type of things. You

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1 know, really the players in kind of the criminal
2 enterprise, they are kind of lured around the same people.
3 And the lady who gave the great PowerPoint presentation
4 is -- I really agree with her that if there was a way to
5 keep like a database on those type of things to red flag
6 those people or to do something before, you know, so when
7 these names keep on coming up, coming up, it can build a
8 more in-depth investigation. But also at the same time is
9 also that was brought up with Commissioner --
10 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Streur?
11 **DR. BOYER:** -- Streur, with the DJJ. You
12 know, part of it is I see this, I see with my kids, it's
13 like, boom, the family is right there on something very
14 important. We work very well with TWC, and it's just like
15 the family is just right there, you know, just right
16 there. And if there was a way to create something and,
17 you know -- and -- and as effective as I see the troopers
18 are in our community is, you know, these kids are taught
19 that the troopers are bad. They are here to break up our
20 family. OCS is here to break up our family. And you all
21 know this. And if there is some way to make that -- make
22 a time frame in there when there could be a very good
23 intervention rather than like at my school, boom, we are
24 in town on the next flight and we're picking the kid up
25 and we are taking them out to who knows where, you know,

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1 so --

2 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Doug.

3 **DR. BOYER:** Yeah. All right.

4 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Myron Naneng was going to

5 speak with us from Hooper Bay. He had to leave for his

6 son's basketball game. He did have a statement. I want

7 to make it part of the record. It's two pages. So should

8 we just mark it, give it to the court reporter to attach

9 it to the transcript? If you don't mind, we will do that

10 and just mark it as Exhibit A. It's Mr. Naneng's

11 testimony and statement. Maybe we can get copies made --

12 circulate that, Cori.

13 That's all I have on the first list. The second

14 list was just handed to me. Moira. Is Moira here from

15 TWC, Moira Charles --

16 **MS. LEINBERGER:** Monica.

17 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Sorry. Please introduce

18 yourself for the record and your affiliation. And

19 welcome.

20 **MS. LEINBERGER:** Thank you. Wakka. My

21 name is Monica Charles Leinberger. I am a board member

22 for the Tundra Women's Coalition, but I'm also a mother, a

23 daughter, a sister, a teacher, a community member, and a

24 voter. I was born and raised here in Bethel, Alaska. I'm

25 the FASD and behavior specialist for the Lower Kuskokwim

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1 School District. But I'm also a board member for the

2 Tundra Women's Coalition, and I am a voter.

3 And I will speak up on issues that I think

4 concern our region that will affect every system of our

5 area, not just for Bethel, but for the surrounding hub

6 villages because we have so many people and the

7 populations go back and forth, not just with families who

8 are receiving shelter at the TWC for emergent services,

9 but also with our school district. We have kids flux in

10 and out, like Doug Boyer said, at all levels: elementary,

11 middle school, high school. And not only between villages

12 that are within LKSD, but also between the surrounding

13 districts that are not part of LKSD: LYSD, YSD, those

14 other districts because Bethel is a hub.

15 But my concern is when people -- when we talk

16 about human trafficking, most people who are aware of it

17 or have heard of it think about it in a foreign aspect,

18 that we think it doesn't happen here, it's not going to

19 happen here. But when we look closer at the greater

20 problems our society faces every single day -- not just

21 during holidays, not just during PFD time -- but when we

22 look at sexual abuse, when we look at domestic violence,

23 when we look at child abuse, when we look at elder abuse

24 across the state, not just in our big cities, you know,

25 there is not very much data to correlate everything. But

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1 a lot of the times in our area here, we see alcohol as a

2 factor across the board.

3 And in our villages -- Bethel is a hub. You are

4 all here. You are not from here, but you see we are a

5 town. We have stores. We have access to a lot of the

6 things that bigger cities have. When you are in a

7 village, you don't have that luxury. Maybe there is one

8 or two stores that have -- and maybe the school is there

9 for community events, but there is not a lot of places to

10 go. So when these crimes occur in a smaller village,

11 everybody else knows their businesses about what's going

12 on, whether it's sexual abuse or physical abuse at any age

13 level, not just for children, but also for adults and for

14 young adults and for elders.

15 So one of the things when we talk about human

16 trafficking, I think most people think of it as a foreign

17 occurrence, but really it does happen, I think, anywhere

18 and everywhere. One of the problems that we see is that

19 there is not a really great continuum of services. And by

20 that I mean the different service agencies coordinating

21 with one another to keep data, to track data, or to

22 provide education and awareness about different forms of

23 abuse where I think the problem is occurring, and also

24 providing education and awareness about the different

25 kinds of abuse that people might suffer.

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1 If we had more information or if we had -- I

2 don't want to say a mandate, but if we could provide

3 better prevention services to our school-aged children at

4 a younger age rather than just bringing it in under the

5 sex education instruction portion of it, because not all

6 kids are going to be sexually abused. Once you are 16,

7 well, now we can sexually abuse you. Sexual abuse happens

8 at any -- at many different ages.

9 So when we talk about human trafficking, one of

10 the concerns we have is that the Tundra Women's Coalition,

11 the broad range of services we provide and the emergency

12 shelter that we provide for the people of the YK Delta,

13 one of the things is that our numbers are not going down

14 with our new building. And with the education and

15 prevention stuff that we provide throughout the Delta,

16 awareness, the decrease of domestic violence and sexual

17 abuse is not decreasing. It's continuing. And our

18 shelter nights have increased. And we don't only see a

19 rise during PFD times or during the winter months when

20 it's cold and dark and people have less activities to do.

21 We are seeing a steady increase all year. And what we are

22 seeing is that some families are coming in and they're

23 staying for longer periods of time.

24 Well, what we are also seeing or realizing is

25 that this population is so vulnerable and at risk for

1 human trafficking or sex trafficking because they don't
 2 have anything to back them up. So they have to trade
 3 things like sex for drugs or alcohol or shelter, for basic
 4 human necessities to live and survive, not only for
 5 themselves but to protect their children or to protect any
 6 elders living with them or people in their care.
 7 So I think, you know, when we talk about the
 8 different kinds of abuse associated with this kind of
 9 human trafficking, we also need to look at all the other
 10 factors that are included. And in this region alcohol is
 11 such a huge factor. It is -- it is everywhere. The
 12 problems of alcohol, it ranges in every system. It
 13 overwhelms every system: OCS, our local hospital, our
 14 schools, the workforce. It's not just one area. And if
 15 we could look seriously at alcohol abuse and all the
 16 problems it brings in, human trafficking is going to be
 17 part of that.
 18 Unfortunately, alcoholism or alcohol problems go
 19 across all economic systems. It's not just our lower
 20 income families or individuals that experience this. I
 21 know within my own family -- and I come from an upper
 22 middle class family -- there is alcoholism in my family.
 23 I know it is in every economic level. And it affects
 24 every facet of every day, not just the holidays, not just
 25 PFDs. So if we could provide better prevention services

1 I have three young children, and it scares me every single
 2 day. No matter where we go, the safety of my children and
 3 my students always comes first. And it is something that
 4 people need to be speaking up about and not be afraid to
 5 talk about it because it happens in every village and in
 6 every town. And we probably all -- all of us, whether we
 7 know it or not, we probably know somebody who has been in
 8 that situation or who is vulnerable. And it's just not
 9 okay and it needs to be addressed.
 10 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Well, thank you, Monica.
 11 Very passionate and heartfelt. I appreciate that.
 12 Questions from the task force?
 13 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Not necessarily a
 14 question, but I do want to comment on a couple of things.
 15 And I appreciate your comments and I don't disagree with
 16 you that law enforcement needs to be better trained. I
 17 think we have started down a path doing some of that. I
 18 know we have certainly been working with TWC. And as a
 19 matter of fact, TWC sponsored some of our law enforcement
 20 officers to go out for suitable training, particularly in
 21 the area of child forensic interviewing. And we've been
 22 working hard to bring child forensic interviewing into the
 23 State program.
 24 **MS. LEINBERGER:** Get it off the road
 25 system. Get it here in Bethel.

1 around sex crimes, which also would include alcohol abuse,
 2 physical abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault, I think
 3 we will start to see a pattern of how things are related.
 4 One of the reasons that I think we don't have
 5 very good data for this region is that our Native
 6 hospital, YKHC, doesn't have the support they need to have
 7 a SART nurse or to have a SART-trained person there to do
 8 the intake when somebody is brought to the ER because of a
 9 sex crime. The other problem that I see and have
 10 experienced because I've traveled to a number of villages
 11 with my job is that in the villages, the VPSOs or the
 12 tribal police officers or the state troopers are not
 13 adequately trained in how to conduct an investigation or
 14 an interview with a person who may have experienced
 15 trauma. And not only are they inexperienced in how to
 16 deal with the person who is experiencing this trauma, but
 17 we also have to look at it at a cultural aspect because
 18 most of our law enforcement people are not Yup'ik Eskimos.
 19 And they're not going to be from Toksook Bay. They're not
 20 going to be from Bethel. They're not going to be from
 21 Napaskiak. They're not going to be from this area. So
 22 that's one area that also needs to be addressed, the
 23 proper training on how to interview a person, but also
 24 from a cultural standpoint.
 25 So those are the concerns that I have. And I --

1 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I don't disagree
 2 with you there, as well. Also one of the things we are
 3 trying to get a handle on is the true victimization. And
 4 as you know, we were doing a victimization survey. We
 5 have done it on the statewide level. We've done it more
 6 on a micro-level here for a regional survey to help with
 7 some of those numbers. And we are trying to use that as a
 8 better baseline to understand victimization and also use
 9 that as what we are going to measure back against to see
 10 whether or not some of the programs and changes in
 11 policies and laws and focus on domestic violence and
 12 sexual assault, whether those things are actually working
 13 or not.
 14 The reason I bring that up is because one of the
 15 short-term goals was actually to increase the rate of
 16 reporting and increase the rate of people seeking
 17 services. And I don't know -- and I'm not going to sit
 18 here and say that because of all the effort over the last
 19 several years that that is the reason we are still seeing
 20 an increase in seeking services and level of services and
 21 number of reported crimes. I think that is a short-term
 22 goal that we wanted to see that. I think we are going to
 23 be getting to the point soon, though, where we have to
 24 start seeing the decrease to understand whether or not we
 25 are seeing less victimization and crime. And then that

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1 has to be validated with a subsequent victimization survey
2 to see if we are actually seeing a reduction in the
3 victimization over the past-year numbers, things like
4 that.
5 But I certainly appreciate what you have to say
6 and I -- and I'm not going to sit up here and
7 [indecipherable], but I did want to bring those couple of
8 points out.
9 **MS. LEINBERGER:** Thank you very much.
10 Thank you for coming to Bethel. And I hope that you come
11 back. I think that your first visit here will help start
12 conversations across the board in our villages and within
13 our community here so that there will be more people to
14 come and testify that this problem is real, that it's not
15 just being identified, that it's been here for a long
16 time.
17 Thank you.
18 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Monica, not so quick.
19 Other task force -- Michelle?
20 **MS. DEWITT:** Just maybe one quick point of
21 clarification, and that's the hospital does have a SART
22 nurse and an active SART -- more than one.
23 **MS. LEINBERGER:** We do have more than one?
24 **MS. DEWITT:** Yes.
25 **MS. LEINBERGER:** I heard they only had

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1 one. I'm sorry.
2 **MS. DEWITT:** Maybe in the longer term
3 history it's come and gone, but that's actually a stable
4 thing.
5 **MS. LEINBERGER:** I apologize. I thought
6 they only had one.
7 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Well, and I just -- I
8 couldn't agree more with your comment about alcohol and
9 how insidious it is and connected with all these things we
10 see. And somebody brought this up in Hooper Bay this
11 morning. Our country went through a period of prohibition
12 back many years ago, and it wasn't successful and it was
13 repealed, and it's just -- there is -- I'm afraid if we
14 tried anything like that -- that would never happen, but
15 there is a black market that people find a way. Where
16 there is a demand, the supply will -- I just don't know
17 how to deal with that. But you are absolutely correct
18 that that is so intimately involved in all these offenses
19 and these things that you are talking about, these crimes.
20 And it's just --
21 But I do appreciate your coming today and
22 testifying. And it was very heartfelt. You can tell it
23 means something.
24 **MS. LEINBERGER:** Great. Thank you. I
25 expect you to come back.

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1 **MR. GERAGHTY:** We will keep that promise.
2 I don't have any other -- is there anybody here that's
3 here in the council chambers that's not signed up that
4 would like to testify at this point? You don't have to
5 sign up. Anybody, raise your hand and come forward.
6 Anybody else here like to come forward? We have a number
7 of people on line. And I'm not sure if all of them want
8 to testify, but I want to turn now to the on-line
9 listeners. And if somebody would like to testify, please
10 step up to the plate, so to speak, and announce your name,
11 your affiliation. And we will make sure we get to
12 everybody that does want to do that. But let's start with
13 the on-line people. Would somebody like to testify at
14 this point?
15 I don't know if anybody is waiting to fill the
16 void or if they want to be the first one. But again, I --
17 and I don't know if we still have the same number of
18 on-line participants. And I heard some people join, I
19 thought, during Robin's testimony. But again, anybody on
20 line that would like to say something at this point? If
21 not, then I think that concludes our public testimony for
22 this afternoon. At this point. I'll open it up for some
23 concluding remarks or observations by the task force
24 members. I'll start with Commissioner Masters.
25 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Thank you. I found

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1 today's meeting here in Bethel as well as the Hooper Bay
2 meeting extremely valuable. I think we had certainly
3 different perceptions and different perspectives of the
4 issue and problem, but I certainly think that the
5 testimony confirms what we suspected, and that is
6 trafficking is occurring in Alaska and it's occurring in
7 rural Alaska. And I think Dr. Boyer's testimony actually
8 gave us concrete examples of how it's occurring. And so I
9 very much appreciated the testimony here in both
10 locations.
11 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Commissioner Streur?
12 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** Thank you. Joe
13 copied my notes, but I did -- I really appreciated today,
14 and all the comments. Robin, thanks for your
15 presentation. I had no idea. And so tremendous resource,
16 tremendous opportunity for us. Doug, thanks for that
17 heartfelt presentation. One of the big things that came
18 out today that I have been raising my hand about is the
19 interconnectedness of the other social issues that we have
20 and human trafficking, that you can't separate it from
21 domestic violence. You can't separate it from sexual
22 assault. You can't separate it from alcohol and other
23 drugs. They all go together. But it takes a village. It
24 takes it down to village level and getting the support and
25 the backing for us to be able to be successful in this.

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1 Unless people are talking to each other, unless people are
2 talking about it, it's not anything we should keep secret.
3 It's tough to talk about, as the chairman presented at the
4 outset. But we have to begin to talk about it. We have
5 to engage villages.
6 And you know, I agree. We have to come back and
7 make these things -- continue to speak about these things.
8 So thank you all for showing and thanks -- I'd love to see
9 that article when you get it done for the presentation to
10 the class. So we will hunt you down for it. So thank you
11 very much.
12 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Commissioner.
13 Michelle just passed me a note that somebody was trying to
14 testify by phone and couldn't get through. We couldn't
15 hear them. But let's circle back now. Is there somebody
16 on line who would like to testify now and are they able
17 to?
18 **MS. BATY:** Are they muted?
19 **MR. GERAGHTY:** If you can hear me, are you
20 muted on your end? Do we know who it is, Michelle?
21 **MS. DEWITT:** Yeah, it's Susie Makaily from
22 Pilot Station. She called me and then she texted and said
23 she can hear us and she's saying her name, but we are not
24 hearing her.
25 **MR. GERAGHTY:** No, we are not. I don't

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1 know what to do.
2 **MS. BATY:** The line is still open and the
3 volume is up. I'm not sure why.
4 **COMMISSIONER STREUR:** Maybe hang up and
5 call back.
6 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Yeah. Susie, we don't have
7 a technical fix on our end. If you want to -- let's do
8 this. We are going to -- let's take five -- we have been
9 going for a while. We are going to go off record here for
10 a few minutes and take five. So Susie, if you still -- we
11 do want to hear from you. If you don't mind, hang up and
12 call back in and the court reporter people will be here
13 and try to get you. Let's just take a few minutes break
14 here, and hopefully we can get you. So let's go off
15 record.
16 (A break was taken.)
17 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Let's go back on
18 record. Now, we managed to hook up with the witness who
19 was hoping to testify. And she's on line. And I would
20 ask her to introduce herself. We can hear you fine. But
21 go ahead and introduce yourself and your affiliation. And
22 we welcome you to the task force. Go ahead, ma'am.
23 Susie?
24 **MS. BATY:** Susie, go ahead.
25 **MS. MAKAILY:** Hello?

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1 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Susie, can you hear me?
2 **MS. MAKAILY:** I can hear you now. Yeah.
3 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Well, I know why you didn't
4 hear me before. I was just saying I'm glad you were
5 patient enough to wait for us. Go ahead and state your
6 name and your affiliation. And we welcome your testimony.
7 Go ahead.
8 **MS. MAKAILY:** Okay. My name is Susie
9 Makaily. I'm from Pilot Station. And I serve on our
10 regional -- regional school board, which is Lower Yukon
11 School District. And I also serve on the Tundra Women's
12 Coalition board. And I would like to thank you for having
13 this -- this, whatever, human trafficking thing. I think
14 it is important for our area to educate the communities
15 and provide services on this issue. It's very important.
16 I mean, it would be -- I would be thankful with many
17 others if we got support from the State because before we
18 hear any more stories of -- before we hear any more
19 stories of sex trafficking, why do we think -- like Monica
20 said, it was a foreign thing. Before it's too -- too -- I
21 don't know how to say it. But before it gets too much in
22 our -- in our state of Alaska, like I heard in a couple of
23 cities, our villages already. And it's -- it's -- it's
24 going to be very heartbreaking. We have to deal with so
25 much things for our students, for our kids. It's

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1 heartbreaking. I have been through a lot with my own
2 family. And with the sex trafficking, I don't think it
3 would help us any.
4 I would like to thank you for -- in advance for
5 your support. I don't know what else to say. Thank you
6 very much for listening to me and putting me back on.
7 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Well, not at all, Susie.
8 Thank you for being so patient and waiting and staying
9 with us until we could get you hooked up. And we
10 appreciate your support and what you are doing, as well,
11 on the school board and as a board member of TWC. Please
12 stand on the line, and I'll ask the other task force
13 members if they have any questions or comments.
14 **MS. MAKAILY:** Okay. Thank you.
15 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Starting on my left.
16 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Susie, this is Joe
17 Masters. And I've asked this question probably a lot
18 today and that is, understanding what the topic is and
19 understanding what the issue is around us in Alaska, I
20 have been asking a lot of people if they see or believe
21 it's happening in their communities. So I would ask you
22 the same question. Do you think this is happening in your
23 community of Pilot Station?
24 **MS. MAKAILY:** I would hope not, and I
25 would wish not to hear, but as it is getting more

1 concerning with our other villages, some of the things
 2 that I have been hearing up, I don't want it to happen.
 3 I'm sad enough to hear the stories that were told.
 4 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Thank you.
 5 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Michelle or Gwen? Let me
 6 ask, Susie -- this is Mike Geraghty, the chairman. You --
 7 I think you said you are on the Yukon Kuskokwim School
 8 Board.
 9 **MS. MAKAILY:** Lower Yukon School District.
 10 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Lower Yukon?
 11 **MS. MAKAILY:** Yes.
 12 **MR. GERAGHTY:** LKSD?
 13 **MR. MAKAILY:** LYSD.
 14 **MS. DEWITT:** LYSD. Lower Yukon School
 15 District.
 16 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And how many village
 17 schools are within your school district?
 18 **MS. MAKAILY:** We had 11 sites, but we had
 19 to close one last spring. We do have Hooper Bay in our
 20 district.
 21 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. I see. Well, that
 22 was just for my edification. And I appreciate that. I
 23 don't have anything else. Again, I want to thank you,
 24 Susie, for being so patient and waiting. And we
 25 appreciate what you are doing, as well. So you are

1 welcome to stay on the line or to hang up. It's up to
 2 you. But we -- when we were -- broke, we got the message
 3 to people of allowing the task force members to give
 4 concluding remarks or observations after a long day we
 5 have had taking testimony. We are going to stay here
 6 until 6:00 because we -- if people come in, we want to be
 7 available here, and we said we were going to take
 8 testimony till 6:00. So we have a few minutes.
 9 And Michelle, anything you want to observe or
 10 comment on here as we finish up our day?
 11 **MS. DEWITT:** I'm having problems with my
 12 mike, but no, I just want to thank everyone for their time
 13 and their testimony and their attention to this issue. It
 14 was very helpful.
 15 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you. Gwen?
 16 **MS. ADAMS:** Yes. Again, same thing.
 17 Great insight, and I think we have got a lot to think
 18 about and process.
 19 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I agree. And I want to
 20 echo all the other comments that have been made. You
 21 know, this is not something that's going to be -- the
 22 State certainly has a significant role. Law enforcement
 23 has a significant role in trying to eradicate this scourge
 24 on our society. NGOs have a significant role to play.
 25 Our schools have a significant role to play. Churches,

1 our families. You know, this is something that is going
 2 to have to be attacked on many different fronts. And so
 3 it's -- and cooperation is the key, as has been repeated
 4 by several witnesses, not only today, but in Anchorage.
 5 And so -- and we do have our work cut out for us as a task
 6 force.
 7 And so I want to thank the task force members
 8 for their patience. We have had a long, grueling day,
 9 some would say. But it was well worth it, and it's nice
 10 to get out in the community and hear what people here on
 11 the ground have to say.
 12 So we got a lot of information and a lot of
 13 information to sift through and a lot of things to
 14 consider. And Cori will be scheduling additional meetings
 15 in the future. And we will -- we are going to now get to
 16 the task of making specific recommendations and coming up
 17 with a plan that we can present to the legislature. So
 18 again, thank you, everybody that showed up today. We will
 19 go off record. It's a quarter to 6:00. But we will just
 20 stay here kind of at ease and let's see if anybody else
 21 shows up and make sure we have an opportunity to hear
 22 anybody that shows up. So let's go off record with that.
 23 (Off the record.)
 24 (Proceedings adjourned at 6:08 p.m.)
 25

1 **REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE**
 2 I, MARY A. VAVRIK, RMR, Notary Public in and for
 3 the State of Alaska do hereby certify:
 4 That the foregoing proceedings were taken before
 5 me at the time and place herein set forth; that the
 6 proceedings were reported stenographically by me and later
 7 transcribed under my direction by computer transcription;
 8 that the foregoing is a true record of the proceedings
 9 taken at that time; and that I am not a party to nor have
 10 I any interest in the outcome of the action herein
 11 contained.
 12 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed
 13 my hand and affixed my seal this ____ day of
 14 _____ 2012.
 15
 16 **MARY A. VAVRIK,**
 17 **Registered Merit Reporter**
 18 **Notary Public for Alaska**
 19 My Commission Expires: November 5, 2016
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PROPOSED MINUTES

State of Alaska Task Force on the Crimes of Human Trafficking, Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking

Monday, January 28, 2013, 1:00 p.m.

Attorney General's Office
1031 W. 4th Avenue, 5th Floor Conference Room
Anchorage, Alaska

(Please note that a full transcript of the meeting is attached.)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Attorney General Michael Geraghty called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL – TASK FORCE MEMBERS AND STAFF

Roll call of the task force members showed all members or a member's designee present. Attorney General Geraghty, Commissioner Joseph Masters of the Department of Public Safety, Michelle DeWitt of Tundra Women's Coalition, and Gwen Adams of ChangePoint Church were all present in person. Deputy Commissioner Ree Sailors, sitting in for Commissioner William Streur of the Department of Health and Social Services, was present via teleconference.

Roll call of task force staff showed that Rick Svobodny, Cori Badgley Mills, Marika Athens and Cathy Satterfield were present in person.

There were also several members of the public present in person as well as via teleconference.

3. CHANGES TO AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no changes made to the agenda.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT (limited to two minutes per person)

Alex Ortiz from Representative Don Young's office expressed a desire to get the task force's input on what the representative could do at the federal level.

5. DISCUSSION OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND FINAL DECISIONS

The task force discussed a consensus approach to recommendations, in which any recommendations that the task force could not come to a consensus on may be mentioned in the report but not included as official recommendations. The task force also discussed limiting the number of recommendations and taking into account how quickly the recommendation could be implemented.

The first recommendation discussed was a long-term working group that would help coordinate efforts for assistance to victims across the spectrum of law enforcement, prosecution and service organizations. The task force agreed that this should be included as a recommendation. The task force also agreed that the more specific recommendations on coordination of efforts and assessment of demand-reduction measures should be included as items the long-term working group should address.

The second recommendation discussed was the posting of a national and/or state hotline. The task force agreed that this should be included as a recommendation, with a caveat that a coordinated emergency response plan must first be in place before the hotline is posted.

The third recommendation discussed was a public media campaign – radio, tv and posters. Attorney General Geraghty stated that he believes this recommendation should be a priority. Michelle DeWitt cautioned that although this is important, we must make sure that the resources and services are available to take in additional victims who see the public service announcements. The task force agreed that this recommendation should be included.

The fourth recommendation discussed was the addition of questions on human trafficking into population and in-take surveys. The task force agreed that this recommendation should be included.

The fifth recommendation discussed was educating youth on human trafficking by engagement with the schools. The task force discussed focusing on the production of two videos – one targeting rural youth

and one targeting urban youth in Alaska – that could be distributed to schools and other youth organizations. The task force agreed that this recommendation should be included.

The sixth recommendation discussed related to infant-parent programs discussed during Dr. Mark Erickson’s testimony. Deputy Commissioner Sailors outlined the current efforts at the Department of Health and Social Services and the commitment to continuing these efforts. Task force members expressed support for these programs and affirmed their importance. However, the task force decided that this should not be included in the task force report because it was too attenuated to the issue of human trafficking.

The seventh recommendation was the establishment of a “John’s School.” The task force felt that they did not have enough information to make a firm recommendation, but the John’s School concept should be evaluated by the long-term working group along with other demand-reduction measures.

Before going to the next recommendation, Attorney General Geraghty provided Senator McGuire, who had limited time in between legislative committee meetings, to make some comments. Senator McGuire expressed her appreciation for the efforts of the task force and looked forward to reading the final report.

The eighth recommendation was training for law enforcement, prosecution, and court personnel. As the task force discussed this issue, it decided that the recommendation on training of key service providers should also be included here. The task force decided that court personnel should be left out of the recommendation and that the Division of Juvenile Justice should be included. Therefore, the task force agreed to put forward a recommendation on the training of law enforcement, Division of Juvenile Justice, prosecutors and key service providers.

The ninth recommendation relates broadly to investigatory tools targeting the use of on-line enticement and solicitation. Attorney General Geraghty sought to focus on the administrative subpoena power his office is given by statute. Ms. Athens, who is the Department of Law expert in this area, agreed to provide information on the federal statute as a potential expansion of the state statute. The task force did not make a decision on this recommendation.

The tenth recommendation discussed related to not allowing a defendant to assert as a defense that the “minor” posted on-line was actually an undercover police officer. Deputy Attorney General Svobodny explained that the law does not need to be changed in Alaska. The task force decided this recommendation as unnecessary.

The eleventh recommendation discussed was diversion programs from minor prostitutes or chronic runaways. Deputy Attorney General Svobodny testified that Alaska used to have a robust pre-trial diversion program that was stopped after courts found that the confessions required before the suspects could enter into the diversion programs amounted to coerced confessions. Deputy Attorney General Svobodny mentioned that a statute change was not required; the Department of Law could reinstitute the policy of its own accord. Ms. Adams mentioned that it should not just apply to minors but also adult prostitutes. The task force agreed that a recommendation for pre-trial diversion programs for individuals charged with prostitution should be included. The task force also wanted it noted in the report that the Division of Juvenile Justice already has pre-trial diversion programs that could help potential victims.

The twelfth recommendation discussed was a coordinated emergency response. Task force members mentioned how important an interdisciplinary approach is to dealing with victims. The task force agreed that this should be an aspect of the training recommendation, so it did not have to be singled out.

At this time, the task force also included the training of service providers in the training recommendation. (See discussion in the training recommendation above.)

The thirteenth recommendation discussed was the development of protocols for language access for victims. Deputy Attorney General Svobodny and Ms. Satterfield discussed the ongoing efforts by the Department of Law in creating a language access plan and the potential for other departments to use it as a template. Ms. DeWitt pointed out that often the most important aspect is identifying that language access is the problem. The task force agreed that a recommendation supporting the ongoing language access efforts and emphasizing the stage at which the problem is identified should be included.

The fourteenth recommendation was ensuring trafficking victims can receive compensation under the Violent Crimes Compensation Board. Deputy Attorney General Svobodny testified that this is included in the Governor's crime bill that is currently before the legislature. The task force agreed to show support for the crime bill, instead of outlining a separate recommendation.

The fifteenth recommendation related to a safe harbor for minor prostitutes and an ability to get a prostitution conviction vacated once it is identified that the prostituted individual was actually a trafficking victim. The task force's discussion focused mostly on a recommendation to allow expungement of prostitution convictions. Commissioner Masters and Deputy Commissioner Sailors expressed apprehension at making this recommendation because of lack of understanding of the consequences and how it would work. They did agree that it should be evaluated further to research the possibilities. Attorney General Geraghty, Ms. DeWitt and Ms. Adams all felt strongly that this recommendation was important.

The task force discussed the need for another meeting to finish the discussion of recommendations. The task force directed staff to schedule a meeting via teleconference for that purpose.

The sixteenth recommendation discussed was funding for organizations assisting trafficking victims and ensuring long-term and short-term shelter for victims. The task force agreed that this recommendation encouraging the continued funding and establishment of shelter for victims should be included.

6. DATES FOR NEXT MEETING

The task force instructed staff to coordinate the next meeting date, and it will be held via teleconference.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Attorney General Geraghty adjourned the meeting at 4:16 p.m.

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PUBLIC HEARING
STATE OF ALASKA TASK FORCE ON THE CRIMES OF
HUMAN TRAFFICKING, PROMOTING PROSTITUTION AND
SEX TRAFFICKING

Taken January 28, 2013
Commencing at 1:00 p.m.

Volume I - Pages 1 - 137, inclusive

Taken at
The Attorney General's Office
1031 West Fourth Avenue
Fifth Floor Conference Room
Anchorage, Alaska

Reported by: Valerie Martinez, RPR

1 A-P-P-E-A-R-A-N-C-E-S

2 Michael C. Geraghty
3 Attorney General
4 Chair of Task Force

4 Ree Sailors (appearing telephonically)
5 Deputy Commissioner
6 Department of Health and Social Services

6 Commissioner Jim Masters
7 Department of Public Safety

7 Gwen Adams
8 Pastor of Women's Ministries
9 ChangePoint Church
9 Anchorage, Alaska

10 Michelle DeWitt
11 Executive Director
12 Tundra Women's Coalition
13 Bethel, Alaska

12 Rick Svobodny
13 Deputy Attorney General
14 Criminal Division

14 Cori Badgley Mills
15 Assistant Attorney General

16 Cathy Satterfield
17 Office of the Attorney General
18 Victim Program Coordinator
19 Criminal Division

18 Taken by:
19 Valerie Martinez, RPR

20

21 BE IT KNOWN that the aforementioned proceedings were
22 taken at the time and place duly noted on the title
23 page, before Valerie Martinez, Registered Professional
24 Reporter and Notary Public within and for the State of
25 Alaska.

1 Marika, could you identify yourself, please?

2 MS. HARRIS: Hi. Heather Harris, executive
3 director with Alaska Youth Advocates.

4 ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY: Thank you.

5 MS. FANKHAUSER: Nila Fankhauser from The
6 Salvation Army.

7 ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY: Thank you.

8 MS. LEMING: Kim Leming with The Salvation
9 Army.

10 ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY: And?

11 MS. UNFREID: Laura Unfreid from Palmer.

12 ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY: Okay.

13 MR. UNFREID: Daniel Unfreid.

14 ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY: Okay. Thank you.

15 MS. BADGLEY MILLS: We've got one more in the
16 back.

17 ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY: I'm sorry.

18 MS. DEWITT: It's Katie --

19 ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY: Oh, Katie.

20 COMMISSIONER MASTERS: She's hiding over
21 there.

22 MS. BADGLEY MILLS: Hiding in the corner.

23 ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY: Katie TePas from
24 the governor's office.

25 And then online, do we have -- I know we have

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY: This is the State
3 of Alaska Task Force on the Crimes of Human Trafficking,
4 Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking. This is the
5 meeting set for January 28th, 2013. I think our fourth
6 meeting, depending on how you count them, but -- and
7 we're going to have one more. But before I -- why don't
8 we do the roll call and then we'll get into some other
9 issues.

10 But, Commissioner Masters?

11 COMMISSIONER MASTERS: Here.

12 ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY: Michelle?

13 MS. DEWITT: Here.

14 ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY: And I'm here.
15 Gwen?

16 MS. ADAMS: Here.

17 ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY: And Ree Sailors
18 for Commissioner Streur?

19 MS. SAILORS: Here.

20 ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY: Okay. Thank you.
21 And then also present in the room -- let's
22 just quickly identify Rick Svobodny, Cori Mills, and
23 Cathy Satterfield, and Marika Athens from the Department
24 of Law.

25 And then starting with the lady next to you,

1 some people online. Besides Ms. Sailors, would the
2 people online just identify themselves and their
3 affiliation, please?

4 MS. MEYERS: Yes. This is Alice Meyers with
5 Mary Magdalene Home.

6 MR. ORTIZ: This is Alex Ortiz with
7 Congressman Don Young's office.

8 ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY: Okay. Any others?

9 MS. LANDAU: Miriam Landau from Planned
10 Parenthood.

11 ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY: Okay. Thank you.
12 Any others? All right.

13 Everybody has received an agenda, I think, at
14 least the people on the task force have, and others it's
15 been available. But do we have any changes or
16 amendments to the agenda? If not, I'll ask unanimous
17 consent that the agenda be approved for today.

18 We have -- I think we'll move -- because we're
19 going to be getting into our recommendations today, I
20 think we're going to deal with public comments right now
21 in the agenda.

22 I know Senator McGuire had asked to speak.
23 She's been a very active proponent in this area and very
24 involved. She has other commitments in Juneau at the
25 moment, but she -- we gave her the number to dial in.

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1 And if she has time, she's going to dial in. And if and
2 when she does, we'll kind of go out of order and allow
3 her to make any comments that she may have.
4 But in the meantime, for any people who are
5 present or any people online, if they'd like to step
6 forward and sit down and identify themselves, we'll go
7 ahead and take additional public comments at this time.
8 So I'd invite anybody who'd like to, or online, as I
9 said. Any takers?
10 Anybody online wish to offer anything in
11 public comment at this point? All right.
12 **MR. ORTIZ:** This is Alex from Congressman
13 Young's office.
14 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Yes, Alex?
15 **MR. ORTIZ:** I was just -- thanks. I was just
16 interested in getting input from you guys. The
17 Congressman has been talking to me about the possibility
18 of doing some legislative work on our end, and I wanted
19 to get input from the task force and hear from you guys.
20 We have -- I've been looking at some different
21 possibilities, and we have -- the Victims of Trafficking
22 and Violence Prevention Act is up for reauthorization
23 this year, so there's definitely some opportunities to
24 get some protections for Alaska Native women and
25 American Indian women in that or possibly in a

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1 stand-alone bill, so it would be great to hear what
2 everybody thinks about ways that we can work on those
3 things.
4 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, I'm sure
5 there are ways we can work on it. To be frank with you,
6 we haven't been looking at the state/federal interplay
7 or the state/federal aspect as much as we have just been
8 looking at this solely from the State perspective, which
9 I think was the assignment of the legislature, as it
10 were, in creating this task force. That's not to say
11 that we couldn't look at it or that there might not be
12 things of interest, Alex.
13 Somebody else has just come online. Would you
14 identify yourself, please?
15 **MR. SEYBOLD:** Yes. This is Andrew Seybold
16 from Senator Huggins' office.
17 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Andrew.
18 In any event, I was just responding to a
19 question from a representative in Congressman Young's
20 office about trying to coordinate with some potential
21 federal legislation or some federal legislation that may
22 be up for reauthorization this year.
23 I certainly have -- I mean, it's a commendable
24 idea. I don't know that -- if we should do it in the
25 context of this meeting or maybe do it more at the staff

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1 level and address it in our final meeting, because we
2 will have one more final meeting here.
3 But do other commissioners have thoughts about
4 that? Those are my thoughts. But, I mean, does anybody
5 else have any -- want to offer comments or input?
6 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** This is Joe Masters.
7 Yeah, I think that, you know, as we go through
8 the recommendations -- potential recommendations and
9 discuss those, that might be an opportunity for
10 Congressman Young's office to see whether they see any
11 potential fit as well. So not just offering up
12 recommendations to them, but they would likely or
13 potentially see a fit.
14 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I agree with that,
15 Commissioner.
16 And, as I said, Mr. Ortiz, if you -- we can
17 put you in touch with the staff members here at the
18 Department of Law who are working with us and the
19 commission. And if there are some additional things
20 that you would like to discuss that don't come up in the
21 context of our discussion about the recommendations that
22 we have before us, I'd invite you to coordinate with
23 Ms. Mills or Ms. Satterfield or Mr. Svobodny and bring
24 those ideas up, and they'll certainly be given
25 consideration.

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1 But, otherwise, I think in the context of the
2 discussion we're going to have, I think we might touch
3 on areas that you may be looking at and may give you
4 some input on what you're asking.
5 **MR. ORTIZ:** Yeah. That would be great to
6 connect at the staff level and get some input from you
7 guys.
8 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** What's your
9 contact information, Alex?
10 **MR. ORTIZ:** My e-mail address is
11 alex.ortiz@mail.house.gov. And you can also just call
12 me down at the office down here, which is 202-225-5765.
13 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Mr. Chairman, Colonel Mallard
14 and myself are meeting with Representative Young next
15 Tuesday at 5:30, and we'll gladly speak about this issue
16 with him.
17 **MR. ORTIZ:** That would be great.
18 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay, Rick. Thank
19 you, Rick. I'd appreciate that.
20 Okay. Well, then if there's nothing else
21 from -- I don't know if the representative from Senator
22 Huggins wanted to offer public comments. You came in
23 late.
24 **MR. SEYBOLD:** No thanks. I'm just listening
25 in and gathering information for my senator.

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1 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Very good.
2 That's fine. I just wanted to give you an opportunity.
3 Otherwise, what we're here to do is go through
4 the recommendations -- the list of recommendations --
5 preliminary recommendations that have been put together
6 by staff and try to make some decisions.
7 Everybody has got that handout, I'm sure, that
8 lists all the recommendations. Some of them overlap,
9 obviously, and some have more merit than others, but we
10 wanted to put everything out there and go through them.
11 I think to be successful and meaningful, I'm
12 wondering whether we should try to limit the number. I
13 mean, there's a number of things on the recommendations.
14 I mean, they all at one level or another make sense and
15 have some merit, but it might be best to limit our
16 recommendations to the legislature to perhaps eight to
17 ten to focus what we're doing and to try to focus our
18 message to the legislature.
19 I think we could -- if people feel strongly
20 about it, if we don't have consensus on all the
21 recommendations, you know, we could include a section in
22 the report that just says there were many other ideas
23 put forth and, you know, for a variety of reasons not
24 all of them are included, but here are some of the
25 others that we considered and decided not to include, so

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1 that they're out there and they would be part of the
2 report in that sense.
3 But in terms of the hard recommendations that
4 we all make, I think it might be useful to limit it to a
5 number, like I said, in the eight to ten region to kind
6 of -- otherwise, we might get too diffuse and too
7 scattered with what we're trying to recommend. Again,
8 that's just my thought.
9 And we can go through it. I mean, the list
10 will be what it is. And so if people feel strongly
11 about it -- I mean, that's the deciding factor, I think.
12 But I'll just throw that out there for consideration.
13 Any comment, input, on that?
14 And the other --
15 **MS. SAILORS:** I think --
16 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Go ahead. I'm
17 sorry.
18 **MS. SAILORS:** This is Ree. I was just
19 thinking that it may be that you would want to limit the
20 list also for those things that are, for instance,
21 immediately doable versus those things that would be
22 longer set. And so you could probably say, this is
23 first round of -- among all of these, these seem to be
24 the ones we can talk action on almost immediately.
25 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, that

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1 consideration as well. I mean, as we go through these,
2 we should talk about the timeline certainly for them
3 to -- for the recommendations to reap success, if they
4 are implemented, that could be a several-year
5 proposition. Others may require, you know, funding over
6 multiple years.
7 **MS. SAILORS:** Yeah.
8 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** So, I mean, I
9 agree with that, Ree, and that's something else you
10 should keep in mind.
11 The other thing is, the governor has submitted
12 a crime bill for -- just submitted a crime bill in this
13 session. Rick Svobodny here is very familiar with it.
14 And as we get through some of the recommendations, I
15 would ask Rick to weigh in if it's something that is
16 touched upon or might be addressed in the governor's
17 crime bill, because in that sense we could call that
18 out. But, you know, that could be a recommendation
19 that's on its way to implementation. We may not have to
20 include it as a discrete recommendation. But if we do,
21 we might want to reference that it is in the crime bill.
22 So that's something else that I think we should keep in
23 mind.
24 Any other comments? Gwen? Michelle? Should
25 we just launch into it?

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1 **MS. ADAMS:** Agreed. Yep.
2 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Now, do you have
3 the list? Does everybody have the list that has been
4 put together by staff?
5 The first one, for those online who don't have
6 copies of it, is a long-term task force. This task
7 force would be going out of business here as soon as we
8 submit our report, and so this is an issue that has --
9 you know, despite our best efforts will likely continue
10 for a number of years. And so rather than lose
11 momentum, there's a question about whether we should
12 recommend the formation of a longer-termed task force or
13 working group -- there's many names you could attach to
14 it.
15 I don't know that it would require, you know,
16 the creation of additional bureaucracy or anything like
17 that. I think we're basically talking about existing
18 organizations who are already out there. Michelle's
19 organization, for example, you know, the faith-based
20 organizations that have interest in it. The DVSA
21 Council, for example.
22 But to recommend that there be kind of a
23 working group, if you will. That might be a better term
24 than "task force." That we recommend that that be kind
25 of put together so that they can continue to monitor

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1 this, work on it, and be evolving recommendations or
2 evolving circumstances that may need to be dealt with.
3 Thoughts on that recommendation?
4 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Well, I initially --
5 you know, for example, law enforcement already has a
6 task force somewhat that's being headed by the FBI, but
7 that's pretty law enforcement specific. Those would
8 continue regardless of whether there is an overriding
9 task force that would deal with some of the other
10 issues.
11 I know that -- you know, certainly DPS also
12 has a number of positions in our budget request this
13 year and the governor's request that deal directly with
14 this issue as well. And I already foresee our -- the
15 State -- "our agency" meaning DPS -- interfacing with
16 APD, local law enforcement agencies, and the FBI with
17 that task force.
18 So I see that piece of it already continuing
19 forward, but I don't know necessarily that there's
20 another organized group of people that would be either
21 coordinating law enforcement's efforts with other
22 efforts. I think there's a couple of organizations that
23 are probably suited to bring some -- some of that
24 coordinating effort to bear, but I don't know that
25 necessarily -- if there's anything broad enough that

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1 exists today.
2 **MS. ADAMS:** Well, I think that was one of the
3 things that was revealed through all of the -- even the
4 public hearings, is how many resources and agencies have
5 a hand in this across the state and very little
6 coordinated effort to coordinate all of that.
7 And so if there was a task force or a work
8 group that was put in place that knew all of what was
9 happening and was able to go through the recommendations
10 on things that may be either tracked by such a group or
11 recommendations made by such a group, but if we had a
12 group that was the necktie. And even further than that,
13 that there was a leader of that group -- and maybe that
14 is a funded position -- that there's just the insurance
15 that we're going to work together and we know what's
16 happening over here, that there's just a coordinated
17 effort to pull it all off.
18 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I agree.
19 Michelle, anything to add or do you agree with
20 it?
21 **MS. DEWITT:** I agree with that.
22 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, and I think
23 the enforcement side, what we're really focusing on is
24 the victim's side of it and the services available for
25 victims and how do we get -- and we all agree that

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1 getting the victims and establishing trust with victims
2 so that they can report these things and then the law
3 enforcement side can take care of it is a priority.
4 So, I mean, there's groups like the Council on
5 DVSA. There's groups like the Women's -- the Tundra
6 Women's Coalition. Maybe we can identify some of those
7 for examples, Cori, in our recommendation. But if those
8 groups could get together and then pick a leader --
9 **MS. ADAMS:** A representative.
10 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** -- a
11 representative to speak and be their collective voice.
12 I mean, it would be an existing group, so -- but is it a
13 working group of all -- as many of these organizations
14 who want to participate as well. I mean, Covenant
15 House. I mean, there's a number of them, and there's a
16 lot of overlap between the services they provide.
17 And then let that group pick, you know, a
18 leader, if you will, or a voice that could speak on
19 behalf of this working group to make additional
20 recommendations to the legislature or to seek funding or
21 ask the legislation to fund this or that and so on.
22 **MS. ADAMS:** Or kind of a clearinghouse where
23 even people from law enforcement can go, "Well, we've
24 got six raids that are coming up, so we know we're going
25 to have a number of victims that come out of that. We

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1 want -- you know, are there victims' advocates for each
2 of these? These are the resources we foresee that we
3 need. Can you tell us if those are available right
4 now?" I mean, we don't -- there's no place to
5 coordinate all of that right now.
6 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** No, I agree.
7 **MS. ADAMS:** And our law enforcement can't
8 track that down.
9 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** That's right. I
10 mean, that clearinghouse aspect of it is important so
11 that you can speak to one group that you know they're
12 going to have a listserv or something else so that that
13 information is going to go out to all the groups who --
14 **MS. ADAMS:** Provide for us medical services
15 for six women. We're going to need shelter for four.
16 We're going to need -- I mean, where there's a place to
17 come with that. And we coordinate all of those
18 organizations and say between all of these
19 organizations, we have six beds, we have this. We just
20 don't have that coordinating effort.
21 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I agree, Gwen.
22 In looking at the list of recommendations, it
23 seems to me like that's the first two partnership
24 categories. I mean, we've touched on, I think, just in
25 this short discussion issues that deal with both of

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1 those. And so, Cori and Cathy and the staff here, let's
2 try to make that one recommendation that builds on what
3 we were just talking about, the coordination, the
4 information-sharing aspect and how that group would be
5 critical in that.
6 Commissioner Masters, anything else on that?
7 **MS. SAILORS:** This is Ree again. I'm just
8 having a random thought here, but I also thought
9 coordination is more equally said than done and I was
10 thinking perhaps we have some resources here out of our
11 emergency preparedness staff in terms of they do the art
12 of coordinating many, many entities and there may be
13 some technical assistance that we could lend to that
14 kind of thing.
15 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, I agree with
16 that, Ree, and hopefully, you know, DHSS might want to
17 have a delegate, you know, serve on this group for that
18 very purpose, and I certainly don't mean to rule that
19 out by any means. There are -- again, it's the
20 shared-resources aspect of it as well --
21 **MS. SAILORS:** Right.
22 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** -- besides
23 information sharing and kind of coordinating efforts and
24 someone speaking with one voice.
25 Did I interrupt you, Commissioner?

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1 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** No. You know, my
2 thought was whether or not there's an existing
3 organization that could take on a task like this or not.
4 And I think for efficiency's sake, it would be best to
5 have an existing organization do that. I think it would
6 be very difficult to find extra -- get extra resources
7 to the scale that you'd need if you had to find a
8 coordinator and a staff and a location and all of those
9 types of things, particularly not knowing what --
10 particularly, I should say, not -- necessarily not
11 knowing what may be coming in the future as far as
12 potential cases, but looking back at the history on the
13 few cases that we've been able to identify and move
14 forward with. And we know that there's many more than
15 those, but what we don't know is how to break into
16 those.
17 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I mean, the only
18 group that I'm semi-familiar with is the Council on
19 DVSA, and I don't know enough about them. Are they
20 really -- is that a statewide organization or do they
21 have -- are there representatives of groups like TWC or
22 faith-based groups? Are they represented on the council
23 or is the council just its own group, a very important
24 group granted, but I don't know enough about it to know
25 if they -- and maybe there's another one, Commissioner.

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1 That's the only one I'm aware of that might possibly fit
2 the description.
3 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Well, both Rick and I
4 sit on -- as board -- as council members on the DVSA
5 Council.
6 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, that's okay.
7 I would still accept them as a group. I'm not going to
8 hold that against them.
9 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** But I guess to answer
10 part of your question anyway, certainly I think it fits
11 within the mission of the council to be involved heavily
12 in the issue. Whether they have the resources to do it
13 or whether they have the current capabilities to do
14 that, the focuses primarily now are certainly in the
15 area of prevention, advocacy, victim services, and
16 things like that.
17 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, I don't
18 disagree with any of that. I think -- I mean, it's a
19 little difficult because they're not represented here.
20 And I don't know if they've attended -- if they've been
21 at any of the meetings. I mean, their representative --
22 you guys are here, so, I mean, obviously they have --
23 Michelle, are you in that council?
24 **MS. DEWITT:** I'm a funded agency through the
25 council, so TWC is a funded agency through the council.

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1 You know, they have State seats and then they have
2 public appointees on that particular board. And they
3 make a number of funding decisions for victim service
4 organizations around the state as well as, you know,
5 policy and coordinating these kinds of things. And then
6 there's staff doing the prevention work and grant
7 monitoring and, you know, conferences and training. So
8 that's kind of how they're placed in public safety.
9 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** How do you feel
10 about them fulfilling the role the Commissioner is
11 talking about?
12 **MS. DEWITT:** I think the question would be the
13 human resources aspect. One thing I think that's really
14 emerged through this task force are the relationships
15 between domestic violence, sexual assault, trauma, and
16 trafficking. So I think those links are really strong
17 and I think that in a lot of ways these issues go hand
18 in hand together. I'm not sure about their human
19 resource capacity.
20 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** In the sense of
21 needing more people to do what we're potentially talking
22 about having them do?
23 **MS. DEWITT:** Yeah.
24 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** And they're not
25 here to speak for themselves. I'm sure they would be --

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1 what we're talking about, if it's done well, I mean, it
2 would be a commitment of human resources and probably
3 money resources and so I'm not sure we can speak for
4 them. We've got two board members here, but I'm sure
5 they're not going to speak for them either.
6 Rick, do you have any thoughts about trying to
7 make them possibly a -- taking on this role that we've
8 described?
9 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Well, I think Commissioner
10 Masters accurately described what the counsel is most
11 involved with now, and that's prevention and victim
12 safety, which I think really ties in with what -- kind
13 of the direction of this task force has been. I can't
14 speak for them either, but it -- I don't know. Staff,
15 Commissioner, 20 is there?
16 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** It's not even that
17 many.
18 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Between 10 and 20. And those
19 people are all, you know, working full time, I mean --
20 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Sure.
21 **MR. SVOBODNY:** -- providing a lot of finances
22 to the shelters across the state. But, you know, it
23 would seem to me if -- it would be a -- it fits in with
24 what they do now. I don't think they would need a
25 change in statute. I think it might be better that

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1 there's an additional statutory mandate to deal with
2 this issue to express how concerned people are.
3 And I would -- one thing they're good at is
4 oftentimes finding money, grant money. They don't --
5 they're more careful so we aren't competing with the
6 shelters but additional moneys where somebody might be
7 able to be hired to coordinate all the efforts
8 throughout this -- with the nonprofit organizations
9 throughout the state.
10 So that's a long-winded story of saying I
11 think that actually it's a good place to house a
12 permanent function dealing with trafficking.
13 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** But it seems to me -- I
14 mean, right now we're looking at, you know, should there
15 be a task force of some kind or a group that meets on a
16 regular basis to try to do this coordination effort.
17 It's probably less important for today's discussion
18 whether it's in CDVSA or not.
19 I think if the answer is ultimately, yes, we
20 should have this, then I think there could be a lot of
21 discussion on where best to house it.
22 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay.
23 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** You know, certainly I
24 know that if we're going to make any headway into the
25 issue, the most important -- absolutely most important

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1 entities out there are going to be the service providers
2 and the health industry, because that's where the
3 identification of potential victims is going to happen.
4 **MS. ADAMS:** I would like to see members of a
5 task force like that rather than representatives from
6 each agency that we -- that there are members on there
7 that focus specifically on partnership, prevention --
8 the rest of our P words -- protection, and prosecution.
9 And then under each of those subheads, you
10 know, if somebody is working representing the area of
11 prevention, then they would work with all of the
12 nonprofits and organizations that specifically would
13 also be -- so they're representing a group of people
14 rather than having a person representative from -- you
15 know, I think that would be the best way to really
16 coordinate all of the groups out there who -- you know,
17 some may not even be able to send a representative, but
18 I wouldn't want them to not be represented just because
19 they didn't have someone on the task force. So it's
20 people that looked at each of those categories on that.
21 And I'm not as concerned with where it's
22 housed either. But like when we get down to the third
23 recommendation here, assessment of measures being taken
24 in other states to reduce -- who's making that
25 assessment? Assessment by who? You know, so a lot of

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1 this stuff would be linked back to this task force.
2 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** *Let's do something*
3 else. Why don't we do this: Why don't the staff drop
4 this recommendation. The point is, we need some vehicle
5 for continuing the work of this task force and the
6 recognition that this progress isn't -- the problem is
7 not going to go away with the issuance of our report and
8 it needs, you know, ongoing monitoring and development
9 and, you know, there's different ways of doing it. It
10 could be an existing group. It's an expanded scope and
11 expanded funding. Or it can be a new working group that
12 consists of members that -- like from the council as
13 well as other groups.
14 But, you know, some vehicle has to be put
15 together. And we can't -- as the Commissioner said, we
16 can't make that decision today; probably shouldn't. But
17 the critical thing is to have an ongoing effort, and
18 that can take several forms and it would have funding
19 ramifications, depending on which one it is, but this
20 work needs to continue. I mean, that's some options and
21 alternatives out there.
22 But, otherwise, maybe not go into too much
23 detail besides explaining why it's important that it
24 continue and the different facets that we've talked
25 about need to be covered.

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1 Just for the record, I don't want to embarrass
2 anybody, but two people have come in since we identified
3 people for the record. Can I just ask --
4 **MS. MORENO:** Lisa Moreno, CITC.
5 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Oh, Lisa. Hi. I
6 didn't recognize you. Good to see you.
7 And?
8 **MS. JOHNSON:** Devin Johnson, Royal Family Kids
9 Camp.
10 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Thank you.
11 Lisa, we've just started our discussion on
12 recommendations, so you haven't missed much.
13 Anyway, any additional input on that direction
14 to the staff then?
15 Okay. And then back to our list. We have two
16 items listed for -- well, on page one there are two
17 items listed for prevention. One is the assessment of
18 measures being taken in other states. To some extent
19 that falls back on the comment from Congressman Young's
20 office about coordination with the feds on this. But it
21 would also, I suppose, be looking at other states like
22 Alaska maybe that have more rural populations --
23 Montana, Idaho, North Dakota, stuff like that -- with
24 indigenous populations. And then also this national
25 hotline number, which is to -- you know, again, have

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1 some place for these victims to go.
2 Thoughts about that?
3 **MS. ADAMS:** Again, it's the coordinating
4 effort that bothers me. So we get a national hotline
5 number out there and it goes to, you know, somebody from
6 the Lower 48 that answers the call. Who are they
7 calling back here?
8 **MS. DEWITT:** Uh-huh.
9 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, actually, my
10 thought on that -- Gwen, I agree with that, but my -- I
11 just wrote a note. Why can't we have a state hotline?
12 **MS. ADAMS:** Well, I think we should.
13 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I mean, I think we
14 should have a state hotline, nothing on the times of
15 something in the Midwest or back East. I don't know why
16 we can't have a state hotline. Because it would be much
17 easier to train that person --
18 **MS. ADAMS:** Well, if the calls have to come
19 back here anyway to coordinate with the services --
20 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Yeah.
21 **MS. ADAMS:** -- it seems like it makes a lot of
22 sense.
23 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** So I would just
24 add an embellishment. I think it should be a state
25 hotline, which again goes back to the issue of who's

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1 going to manage and who's going to pay for it. But I
2 think in terms of responsiveness and efficiency, we
3 should have some number -- and it could be simply the
4 police. I mean, we don't have to make a new -- we could
5 have a -- I don't know if they have dedicated lines or
6 anything.
7 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** You know, I would say
8 that probably if you had it as a police number, it would
9 probably be less effective because of the nature of the
10 crime.
11 **MS. SAILORS:** I was thinking about our 211
12 system.
13 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I was kind of
14 thinking --
15 **MS. SAILORS:** They're up and running. They do
16 a good job with a whole variety of things in terms of
17 information and referrals. I mean, they can take in
18 crisis calls statewide.
19 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** And I'm not
20 familiar with the 211 system. Maybe you could explain
21 that, Ree.
22 **MS. SAILORS:** Well, it's -- we help fund it,
23 as do others, and it is a statewide -- like a 911
24 number, but it's a 211. And depending on what kind of
25 problem or issue you have, they have essentially the

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1 catalog of resources that are available for everything
2 from food and shelter to counseling, you name it.
3 And many of the agencies -- and, for us, we've
4 incorporated it into all of our grants that all of our
5 grantees have to list with them. And so they do a
6 pretty marvelous job of taking calls of any number of
7 kinds of things and serving statewide. They've got some
8 pretty interesting statistics, and they're up and
9 running and have been for a couple of years now. And
10 they could be, you know, a number that could be posted
11 and they could also really give us a leg up on kind of
12 an index of various kinds of services.
13 Now, they may or may not include all the
14 services that we currently have that are uncoordinated
15 right now for these kinds of cases, but that would be
16 part of what we could do to interface with them. But, I
17 mean, they do a really good job. And we've expanded our
18 use of them and we do give them money to help them run.
19 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Any experiences,
20 Gwen or Michelle, with this 211 system to your groups?
21 **MS. SAILORS:** I'll say one more thing, too.
22 It is part of a national movement, so other states are
23 also -- already have or are building 211 systems. So
24 it's like a national number.
25 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I think one of the keys

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1 is going to be, though, if 211 is the location it goes,
2 they've got to be trained.
3 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Right.
4 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** And they've got to know
5 what the resources are --
6 **MS. SAILORS:** Absolutely.
7 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** -- available in the
8 state. The other piece, I think, before we would
9 recommend that over a national hotline number is what
10 does a national hotline bring and can that be replicated
11 at the state level.
12 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, good
13 question. I don't know anything about the -- and,
14 again, this is for Congressman Young's representative.
15 The National Trafficking Resource Center, which is
16 funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human
17 Services, provides a national hotline. So I don't know
18 if anybody has any experience with that, but maybe we
19 should have both. But I really feel strongly about a
20 national -- yes, ma'am? I'm sorry.
21 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** I apologize. I don't
22 know if we're allowed to make comment at all.
23 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, I think you
24 can raise your hand and I'll probably recognize you.
25 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** I think 211 is a great

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1 resource and it gives -- it's got great up-to-date
2 information. It's not 24 hours and it's not specific
3 around the issue around trafficking and sexual assault
4 and those types of things. I think we do have several
5 different 24-hour crisis lines within the state that are
6 specific to domestic violence and sexual assault that
7 can potentially assist in this for the emergency side of
8 things but then using 211 for resources, so I don't
9 know.
10 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** All right. Well,
11 that's a good comment, too.
12 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** That's --
13 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Yes, Lisa?
14 **MS. MORENO:** I would just add to that. A
15 really important component to whatever is done on sex
16 trafficking should include a really strong capacity for
17 data collection. I don't know if 211 does that.
18 **MS. SAILORS:** Yep.
19 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Yes, Ree? I'm
20 sorry.
21 **MS. SAILORS:** No, I just was having a hard
22 time hearing.
23 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Well, the
24 question was whether do you want 211 -- first of all, it
25 was pointed out that it's not a 24-hour line --

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1 **MS. SAILORS:** Right.
2 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** -- and that
3 another question was raised whether they collect data,
4 because data collection could be an important part of
5 what we do to keep track of these crimes and people
6 victimized by it. And I don't know whether the data is
7 collected or whether there's confidentiality issues
8 about it either that might --
9 **MS. DEWITT:** Or language capacity. Language
10 access issues.
11 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Anyway, does 211
12 collect data?
13 **MS. SAILORS:** Yes. They have data in terms
14 of, you know, the types of calls, the categories, where
15 they're coming from, the volume of those calls, you
16 know, so they keep -- they don't have an individual
17 person's data in terms of personal information or
18 private information, but they do have aggregate
19 statistics that they keep and probably could be
20 modified.
21 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. And then
22 the prior comment was that there's other emergency
23 crisis hotlines. And I don't know whether those people
24 have -- we've run into the same issue of not having the
25 training or background to know, you know, who needs to

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1 be contacted or what they do or do they send them to the
2 police, do they send them to a prosecutor, or do they
3 send them to someone else. I suspect all of these
4 options have some shortcomings that would have to be
5 addressed somehow.
6 **MS. ADAMS:** Could we rewrite the
7 recommendation to make an assessment and implement a
8 hotline number in the State of Alaska, whether -- you
9 know, whatever group takes a look at all of those and
10 how they put it together is still up in the air, but it
11 almost seems like there needs to be another step.
12 Because I know there's also the STAR hotline and they're
13 really -- they get on the phone and they're really
14 counseling someone through as a rape victim.
15 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Which could lead
16 to information that would lead to a trafficking
17 operation.
18 **MS. ADAMS:** Right.
19 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** So you're right.
20 I agree with you.
21 **MS. ADAMS:** And most sex trafficking victims
22 do not look at themselves as being a sex trafficking
23 victim.
24 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Right.
25 **MS. ADAMS:** So I still think maybe that --

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1 maybe a recommendation around this that's a little
2 broader in terms of looking into and establishing the
3 best way to get a statewide hotline number, whether we
4 use the national one or something local or expand on
5 something that's in place or start something new. I
6 don't know.
7 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, let's --
8 Michelle, go ahead.
9 **MS. DEWITT:** If I could add to that. I think
10 one of the things, too, that needs to be looked into is
11 what happens when someone calls the national hotline
12 number.
13 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Yeah.
14 **MS. DEWITT:** Because I know with some national
15 hotlines they pretty much just reflect back to the
16 closest resource to the caller. And I get a lot of data
17 about national hotlines and calls that are forwarded
18 right back to our phones. So to know whether or not
19 that's a service that will work in our state and to find
20 out what happens when people call those lines, because I
21 don't know.
22 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Good point.
23 Let's do this -- if I can kind of condense
24 what I've heard -- let's have staff, first of all, find
25 out what information is provided through -- if you call

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1 this national hotline; i.e., is the call referred to a
2 state agency or state police or somebody else or is
3 something else done with it? But let's find out what
4 they do specifically if they were to get a call from
5 Alaska and is it referred back here or something like
6 that.
7 **MS. ADAMS:** Would this be one of the things
8 where you would maybe even say, to establish a task
9 force or a work group who will -- and then list out some
10 of these items underneath, and this be one of the things
11 that would be the job of that group to accomplish?
12 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, perhaps.
13 Let me just finish. Perhaps, Gwen. Let me just finish
14 up. I'm trying to go through these item by item in the
15 recommendations.
16 But to find out what the national hotline
17 provides in terms of information responsiveness and
18 then -- I mean, the thrust of this recommendation, I
19 think, is that there is a number that victims can call
20 to get security, get some responsiveness, whether it's a
21 national hotline, which we need to find out more about,
22 or whether it's a state hotline that's newly created or
23 whether it's an existing hotline that already exists
24 that may need to receive some additional training or
25 input in order to be responsive to human and sex

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1 traffickers, that's fine. You know, is it a hotline
2 that collects data? That would be an important aspect
3 of what it does.
4 So I think there's several things there that
5 we should -- you know, a number victims can call when
6 they get lonely and they decide they want to change
7 their lives, to get them started down the right path.
8 Yes?
9 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** This is Cori Mills, staff
10 for the task force. I might be able to clarify a little
11 bit about the federal national hotline number. My
12 understanding from reading the information is they send
13 you straight back to the state resources.
14 Basically, the state provides the Polaris
15 Project with the information for your state of where
16 they should call if a victim calls from your state. So
17 it's really proactive on our part to get them that
18 information. Right now I think if a victim calls from
19 Alaska, they don't have any information.
20 **MS. MORENO:** They actually have a list --
21 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** Do they?
22 **MS. MORENO:** -- on their website of who they
23 refer to in the state. And I -- this was months ago
24 that I looked at it, but I think it was APD, FBI, and
25 then Alaska Immigration Justice Project and then there

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1 was one that didn't quite make sense. So there needs to
2 be somebody that definitely coordinates with them to
3 keep that.
4 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** Yeah. And I think they've
5 just gotten that information from various things. But
6 it's clear on the website that it's not very helpful.
7 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** And the ones that
8 they do refer, those groups wouldn't be -- I mean, it's
9 a responsible recommendation. But I think if they
10 have -- were told to call the police or the FBI next,
11 they might stop right then and there.
12 **MS. MORENO:** They wouldn't call them. The
13 hotline actually connects them to the number, so the
14 person just stays on the line.
15 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** But, still, I
16 mean, I think the point is -- we've heard many times how
17 there's got to be some sensitivity to how these victims
18 are approached. I mean, not that there's not sensitive
19 people, you know, within these organizations, but I just
20 think we -- somebody else maybe in the council or the
21 Covenant House or somebody else might be a little more
22 receptive to them and then they might feel more
23 comfortable with them.
24 But either way, I think we're talking about
25 the same issue, which is we need to find out more about

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1 the national hotline and expand perhaps the list or
2 change the list of people that -- I don't know, but I
3 think we're on the same line here. We're just talking
4 about nuances of what the recommendation is going to be.
5 Lisa?
6 **MS. MORENO:** Well, I was just going to say, I
7 think -- I mean, it may be worth it as a group -- you
8 could, right now as part of the record, just call the
9 hotline and see what they do and you would have a sense
10 of whether you think it would work for the state or not.
11 And I don't know the answer to that. I haven't tried
12 it.
13 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, I appreciate
14 that. I don't really want to get an operator on the
15 phone and have them defend what they do.
16 **MS. MORENO:** I don't think they would. I
17 think they're pretty professional.
18 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** We actually can't just
19 technically do that because of the way we have the
20 teleconference set up, unless someone uses their phone.
21 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I'd be happy to do
22 that when we break or at the end of the day, I mean, at
23 the end of our meeting. I'd be happy to go up to my
24 office and do it or do it here. I mean, I don't want to
25 close the idea. I just don't want to break the momentum

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1 necessarily right now.
2 Anyway, do we have -- staff can then have some
3 sense of where we need to go on this particular one. I
4 think there's a number of ideas, but what we've got is
5 not enough and we need to do more and try to make it
6 more Alaska specific, whether that's through a local
7 line or training some -- taking advantage of some
8 existing hotlines and maybe expanding what they do, what
9 they know, and finding out more about this national
10 line.
11 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** So the bottom line then
12 is it appears to make sense that if somebody is a victim
13 of sex trafficking in the state or labor trafficking,
14 that there be a number that's published or somehow known
15 out there that they can be referred to to call and that
16 they get some help.
17 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Exactly. Exactly.
18 In looking at this, I think I might put the
19 one here -- the first prevention category, assessment of
20 measures being taken in other states to reduce demand
21 and its effectiveness, that might be better taken --
22 tackled, combined, with the first two, which is the
23 whole notion of a new working group or assigning
24 somebody an existing group, is kind of the role of
25 coordinating the service in this area. I mean, I think

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1 that would be -- go with what their -- the scope of the
2 responsibilities they would take.
3 **MS. ADAMS:** Agreed.
4 **MS. SAILORS:** I like that.
5 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. The next
6 one I've got is public education/media. To me, this is
7 the most important one. I'll just put it out there. I
8 think putting together public service announcements, if
9 nothing else, to promote -- get this phone number out
10 there, this hotline number. Commissioner Masters was
11 talking about that. But I think putting together some
12 really effective -- a really effective media campaign
13 that would consist of public service announcements and
14 other little -- you know, I'm not an advertising guy,
15 but something that is well done can carry a very
16 powerful message.
17 And victims, they spend a lot of time watching
18 TV anyway holed up somewhere or isolated in a room or an
19 apartment, a house. And everybody has got access to TV.
20 And if they can send a message that triggers a
21 thought or some -- not remorse, but triggers a thought
22 about where am I going with my life, what am I doing,
23 and doing it in a way that's tasteful but impactful. I
24 think it's very important.
25 This is something that would require an

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1 appropriation. No question about it. But I personally
2 think it's one of the strongest things we can do, one of
3 the strongest recommendations we can make.
4 I mean, I look now -- I mean, I don't watch a
5 ton of TV, but I don't see much out there on this whole
6 topic of sex trafficking or messages to young women who
7 might be trapped in this cycle, fear and coercion. Any
8 messages at all about --
9 **MS. ADAMS:** Well, not only to them, but also
10 to the general public so they can keep their eyes and
11 ears open. People still don't even think it's an issue
12 here.
13 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** There is certainly
14 on domestic violence, I think, you know, the Choose
15 Respect, and there's others that touch on this in a way.
16 But I think if we're going to do something, this is the
17 most -- it should be specific to this and it should be
18 powerful. That's -- so I'll throw that out there. I
19 mean, I think we definitely need to make a
20 recommendation about this. I think it's something that
21 will require an appropriation. And, again, I don't know
22 anything about how much this stuff costs or how much
23 airtime costs.
24 **MS. ADAMS:** Who oversees such a campaign?
25 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well --

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1 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I can give a little bit
2 of background on that.
3 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Please do,
4 Commissioner. Interrupt me when you have something
5 constructive to say. Please do. You don't have to
6 listen to me.
7 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** So there's a number of
8 campaigns that are currently ongoing, public education
9 for domestic violence, as you stated. So some of those
10 have been funded through federal funds directly to
11 ANDVSA member organizations and some others, tribal
12 organizations as well that have put together some of
13 these campaigns. And those are the ones we're seeing
14 out there. Some of them have been funded directly
15 through grants that are done by CDVSA as well.
16 So I think organizations that would likely
17 take on something like this are already experienced at
18 doing it, so I think that's a good positive thing.
19 The other one is, though, you're correct,
20 they're expensive. You know, we see -- our
21 organization, DPS, has experience in this in our highway
22 safety campaigns, so, you know, the federal money is
23 coming in specifically for DUI, seat belt, those type of
24 things. We're expending, you know, in the neighborhood
25 of about \$1 million a year for those. So that gives you

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1 kind of an idea of what it costs to do those.
2 There is probably -- I'll look at Katie here.
3 She might help me with this one. About \$450,000, that's
4 coming through CDVSA. So the limited ads that you're
5 seeing that are funded through CDVSA, that's about
6 \$450,000 a year.
7 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, I think -- I
8 appreciate that. I mean, I don't know why DPS, I mean,
9 given -- or DHSS, for example. I mean, to me, it's just
10 a statewide concern. It's not that much different than
11 drunk driving or all these other causes that the State
12 supports. And I would hope -- so at one level or
13 another or through DVSA grants or other organizations
14 that give grants, but, I mean, I don't see why the
15 State -- and I'd be willing to recommend that the State
16 consider funding for the budgets of DHS or DPS to
17 prepare its own campaigns, as it were, which I think
18 yours have been very effective, Joe, on Click It or
19 Ticket, drunk driving, you name it.
20 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Although, I can tell
21 you, my own experience and my own opinion is the ones
22 that we grant out are the most effective. The
23 organizations out there, particularly in the area of
24 domestic violence and sexual assault and the Choose
25 Respect, those messages that are out there, the best

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1 ones have not been done directly by DPS. They've been
2 done by these other organizations, although albeit
3 partially funded.
4 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, and some of
5 the Native organizations have done some really good
6 ones, too, with the elders and the kids, so I don't
7 disagree with that. I mean, however it's done, are we
8 in agreement that we should put a strong recommendation
9 that there's got to be a strong public program, if you
10 will, media campaign, to bring attention to this
11 problem, to encourage victims to come forward, to let
12 them know that there is a refuge, to let them know that
13 there is another lifestyle for them out there and they
14 can escape.
15 So however it's funded, however it's done, let
16 them know about the hotlines. I mean, there's -- but
17 it's got to be -- it's going to cost money and it's got
18 to be on multiple fronts. But I think that that public
19 service/public education part of it should be strong --
20 not a centerpiece, but a strong part of our
21 recommendation.
22 Any dissents from that view or other comments
23 from people present or other --
24 **MS. SAILORS:** Nope.
25 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Go ahead,

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1 Michelle.
2 **MS. SAILORS:** Sounds good to me.
3 **MS. DEWITT:** I just have one comment. I'm
4 very positive about that. But as you go forward with
5 the public education/media campaign, you also have to
6 have the services built in for people who see that and
7 want to respond to it. And I think a bit more work
8 needs to be done in our state on making sure we have the
9 capacity to appropriately help the people who come
10 forward and ask for it.
11 So I just want to put that out there, that our
12 group, our ongoing working group, may have some things
13 to do in conjunction with such a campaign.
14 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well taken. Well
15 taken. You're absolutely right. We can't let our
16 expectation exceed our grasp here or the grasp of the
17 organization without actually doing this work. And
18 so -- absolutely. I agree with that.
19 Ree, were you going to say something?
20 **MS. SAILORS:** No. It sounds good to me. I
21 was just agreeing with you, actually.
22 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. The next
23 one I've got is prevention, the surveys. This should be
24 to -- there are existing surveys that are used by
25 different organizations and groups that are involved in

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1 problems like this, not necessarily sex and human
2 trafficking, but Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance
3 System or the Youth Risk Behavior Surveys, a
4 recommendation about, you know, expanding those or maybe
5 adding questions or trying to customize those to this
6 problem of human sex trafficking.
7 I'll be honest with you, this one didn't
8 resonate with me. It's just my gut reaction. This one
9 didn't resonate with me. It's more -- I don't know how
10 effective can you do it. Can you spot something in a
11 kid's test answer or survey answer that would tell you
12 that this child or young lady or young man is more or
13 less likely to get involved in this? And then if it
14 did, you know, what do you do with that information? I
15 guess that's just my personal thought. This one didn't
16 resonate with me, but I don't know much about it.
17 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Actually, it does
18 resonate with me a little bit, and I'll conversely tell
19 you why.
20 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Please do. Please
21 do. Educate me.
22 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Because, you know, part
23 of the issue is ensuring that people that are in a
24 position to intercede, know and understand what -- the
25 potential victim that may be sitting right there in

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1 front of them.
2 And having some additional questions on some
3 surveys, not just on these global surveys where you're
4 just trying to get data to see whether you have a
5 problem or not, but also in surveys where you're
6 actually providing services and they're sitting in front
7 of you and you're assessing what services to give,
8 having these types of questions, one, helps whoever is
9 giving the survey identify whether they have a potential
10 victim, I think; and, two, it also helps whoever is
11 being surveyed sometimes by the questions you're asking.
12 They may then discover that they are a victim of sex
13 trafficking based on the type of questions that are
14 asked.
15 For example, on some of the labor questions,
16 those labor questions may be in the area of -- and I'm
17 not saying they should be on this one. But one of them
18 is, does your employer -- how does your employer pay
19 you, does your employer take your ID card, those type of
20 things, which are indicative of labor trafficking.
21 So it helps in that regard, I think, in
22 identifying, number one, that you have the potential
23 victim sitting in front of you and, two, giving that
24 potential victim that is sitting in front of you some
25 information that they may have realized that they're

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1 being trafficked.
2 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, there's a
3 reference here that a similar assessment was done in
4 Minnesota to get a better idea of trafficking of Native
5 American women called the Garden of Truth. Has anybody
6 looked at that, that survey? Is anybody familiar with
7 it?
8 **MS. SAILORS:** I -- you know, I would interject
9 that through our public health system we do have -- we
10 do participate in -- actually, it's the national survey,
11 two kinds. I think it's acronym is BRFS, and don't ask
12 me to tell you what that stands for. But it is about
13 behaviors, and there's one that's particularly aimed at
14 youth.
15 And while the national survey has a set of
16 questions, it could well be possible that we could add
17 some state-specific questions to it as well, which could
18 go around this. That would get you at a population
19 level, not at the individual -- you know, what I heard
20 talking about an individual, I see that as an interview
21 or intake instrument, you know, or assessment kind of
22 thing, but this is sort of in the population as a whole
23 what's going on with the kids.
24 And we pick up drug use and smoking and sex
25 practices and all that kind of thing come into this

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1 questionnaire. Some of the adults who take it are, you
2 know, surprised at some of the questions in how intimate
3 they are. So that's a possible there of something we
4 might do.
5 And then the other thing is, later on, if we
6 get to it, we're already exploring incorporating this
7 into our juvenile justice intake interviews and got some
8 good information from -- I believe it's State of
9 Maryland who has created an instrument that seems to be
10 good at getting to whether or not the kids coming in
11 that way have been trafficked or are prostituting,
12 et cetera, kind of thing.
13 So just add those in. I mean, I think there's
14 two different things to this, it sounds like. One is at
15 a population level what you're looking at is what's the
16 incidence and where is it happening in the state, which
17 we kind of know but if you wanted to watch it and trend
18 it over time, you might try piggy-backing on a survey
19 that goes out into the field periodically and adding the
20 question into that kind of survey.
21 And then the other thing is, I think, intake
22 instruments are different from that and that's where you
23 get to that individual.
24 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** And I guess that's what
25 I was thinking on the intake side.

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1 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, are these
2 intake surveys --
3 **MS. MORENO:** No.
4 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** -- the ones that
5 are mentioned?
6 **MS. MORENO:** No. Those are population
7 surveys, so those are the ones that the representative
8 from DHSS was talking about.
9 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay.
10 **MS. MORENO:** But I think that what -- in the
11 conversation, three different levels of research has
12 come up, the sort of population epidemiological surveys,
13 which these two are, the one -- the BRFSS and the youth
14 one. They kind of tell us, we have a problem, we don't
15 have a problem, but doesn't tell us much more than that.
16 And then the intake surveys, which you were
17 talking about, Commissioner Masters, putting questions
18 in, say, the Alaska Screening Tool. That actually would
19 be really helpful. I didn't even think of that. So
20 both of those would help and then give you information
21 at two different levels. So as a clinician or an intake
22 person sitting in front of a client, it would give you
23 some idea of what you're dealing with.
24 And then the third level when you were talking
25 about the reports coming out of Minnesota, those were

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1 actually research where they went in and they looked at
2 smaller samples of women who self-identified as having
3 been involved and then they were able to look at the
4 how, the where, exactly what are the dynamics of it in
5 our state.
6 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, the -- now I
7 feel like -- in light of that, we should include a
8 recommendation. My only follow-up is that in the
9 population surveys, I don't know if these are copyright
10 surveys that you can change.
11 **MS. MORENO:** No. You can.
12 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** You can change
13 them and add questions?
14 **MS. MORENO:** In fact, there's a group right
15 now that's been working on -- I think a lot of -- I may
16 be speaking out of turn. There's an expert on the
17 phone, I'm sure. But it seems like some of the more
18 state-level questions are funded by a collaboration of
19 different organizations, and they have been working on
20 trying to figure out whether and if questions on adverse
21 childhood experiences should be included in these
22 surveys, so that kind of dialogue about whether there
23 should be state-level questions is currently going on.
24 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** In the BRFSS --
25 **MS. MORENO:** Right.

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1 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** -- youth behavior
2 surveys?
3 **MS. MORENO:** But the beauty of those --
4 **MS. SAILORS:** Can I ask who's talking?
5 **MS. MORENO:** I'm sorry. This is Lisa Morena
6 from CITC.
7 **MS. SAILORS:** Thank you.
8 **MS. MORENO:** I think that the research itself
9 is pretty expensive. I don't know that the survey
10 changes are that expensive just in terms of
11 appropriations and things.
12 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, let's
13 include a recommendation, unless there's an objection,
14 that we should explore -- and, again, this is something
15 that actually could fall back on this continuation group
16 as well. But, I mean, I don't -- I don't want to pass
17 the buck in the sense of we recommend you form this new
18 group to do all this work. I mean, I think we should
19 make some recommendations, but I think it could be said
20 in passing that this is something that should be
21 followed up by someone.
22 But we should try to see changes in these
23 existing population surveys to make them more
24 Alaska-specific for the reasons that have been
25 mentioned. And then we should seek changes to our

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1 regular intake screening that we have up here to try to
2 make sure we're covering all the bases, including
3 trafficking and -- I don't know whether they currently
4 touch on abuse in the home or stuff like that, but --
5 they do. I'm seeing nodded heads. So try to make
6 them -- see if we're -- evaluate the screening tools to
7 see whether they're picking up trafficking specific
8 information and signs and signals that we as a group or
9 the State as a group would be interested in.
10 **MS. ADAMS:** And it may be necessary in the
11 fact that the definition for being trafficked has
12 changed and so all of those things need to reflect that.
13 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Uh-huh. Uh-huh.
14 Then the other two are -- well, the next two
15 I've got are education, under prevention, school
16 program. And we heard some of this in our -- we went to
17 Bethel and Hooper Bay. But giving curriculum for
18 school-aged youth and -- in the rural areas, I think.
19 But, again, it would be in the state as well, I think,
20 in urban areas. Something to educate them about the
21 tribulations and the pitfalls and the dangers of this
22 trafficking. And then there's specific one here for
23 rural areas.
24 And, you know, my thought on that -- and I'll
25 just throw it out there for discussion purposes -- was

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1 to create a high-quality video presentation specific to
2 trafficking that could be reproduced and provided
3 throughout the state, maybe have one that does focus on
4 rural youth and, you know, depicts a scenario of coming
5 into town and ending up on the streets and hanging out
6 at the bus depot and just -- but doing something maybe
7 with a rural emphasis and then doing one with an urban
8 emphasis.
9 But you get a big bang for your buck if you
10 can do a video or a CD or however length -- whatever
11 length it takes, and then being able to reproduce it and
12 provide that to school districts around the state and so
13 on.
14 It might be expensive to make and to produce
15 initially, but again -- and that's something you can use
16 year after year for a number of years and get a
17 tremendous amount of return on those.
18 I certainly agree with the notion of this
19 getting into schools with this message. But in terms of
20 the most effective way to do it, it seems to me -- I'll
21 just throw out there -- would be through the high-end
22 video presentation, professionally done, tailored to
23 that audience.
24 Thoughts?
25 **MS. ADAMS:** I believe that there are some

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1 well-done, even, videos -- they may not be tailored to
2 Alaska, but maybe that even have a follow-up message
3 attached to them for our state, but I think there's
4 actually some really well-done, documented resources out
5 there that are for that purpose that other states have
6 already done.
7 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I don't disagree with
8 that. They've got high-quality stuff in other states,
9 but I do think it should be Alaska specific,
10 particularly if we're talking about giving it to rural
11 kids. It's got to be real to them, which means it's got
12 to be a real scenario that they can relate to.
13 **MS. ADAMS:** I agree.
14 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Yeah. I agree
15 with you, Commissioner. And I don't have a problem with
16 seeing what other states are doing. Again, I mean, it
17 would be -- we're looking at maybe something they'd play
18 in school. So, I mean, I'm sure there's videos and, you
19 know, other presentations done on this subject, but what
20 we're looking for is an educational tool to play in
21 school with kids in middle school or, you know, high
22 school.
23 Now, maybe there are specific -- you could
24 well be right, in which case I think we should take a
25 look at those. But they might be very suitable for

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1 Alaska, urban kids as well. But I tend to agree with
2 the commissioner, that we want to -- you've got to
3 connect with them. And I think to connect with our
4 rural youth, we're better off having something that's
5 directed to rural youth, which would imply, you know,
6 having something done and produced and made up here.
7 Any other thoughts on that? If not, then
8 let's formulate a recommendation along those lines that
9 point out besides the possibility of making -- go ahead,
10 Ree. I'm sorry.
11 **MS. SAILORS:** I'm sorry. I had my mute button
12 on. I was just talking a mile a minute.
13 I just sort of see this as a subset of that
14 high-profile media campaign, that in a typical media
15 campaign you would pick certain targets, viewers or
16 audiences, and tailor your message and you wouldn't have
17 just a single one-size-fits-all kind of thing. And so
18 targeting to rural youth and even to schools through
19 like the educational channels they use, et cetera, I
20 think is all part of designing a full media campaign.
21 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, it certainly
22 could be. I agree with that. I mean, the other -- the
23 high-profile campaign we were talking about was more on,
24 I think, television and just hope kids see it when
25 they're watching TV, but the only difference is -- it's

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1 certainly a subset. But, I mean, what we're talking
2 about now is developing really almost curriculum that
3 could be --
4 **MS. SAILORS:** Yeah.
5 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** -- and should be
6 played in the schools while they're at school so they
7 have to see it. And so -- but it's related or a subset,
8 if you like, but I think it merits separate mention and
9 is a separate recommendation myself that we call that
10 out. And whether that'd be seeing what other states
11 have done in using some of that to see if it's suitable
12 for our -- first of all, is it for school-aged children?
13 Is it curriculum-type stuff to be played in high schools
14 and middle schools? And if so, whether it's suitable
15 for us. And if not, then I think -- you know, this is
16 for school-aged kids. And there could be some adult
17 type -- you know, not necessarily targeted to kids, but
18 there could be some programs that would nonetheless be
19 quite useful, as Gwen points out, that other states have
20 done that could supplement this or be a part of it as
21 well.
22 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** And the other thing, I
23 think, everything doesn't have to be a stand-alone. You
24 know, there may be a good dovetail with this and what's
25 already going on in the school district with our

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1 curriculum and some other things that -- there's a
2 Department of Education coordinator, curriculum
3 coordinator, that sits on the Council of Domestic
4 Violence and Sexual Assault. And, you know, this may --
5 you know, I don't know enough of exactly all of the
6 things that she's looking at, but this could fit.
7 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, it would be
8 worth checking out. Like you said, the DVSA thing is
9 related, but we really want to get -- this is a subset,
10 if you will, of that, I think, or -- and I think we
11 should focus on that, but it's worth looking into,
12 Commissioner, and seeing. We don't need to reinvent the
13 wheel, but we certainly think there should be some
14 educational component in middle schools, high schools.
15 And whether it's existing written material that a
16 teacher could use in a health class or something or
17 whether -- if not, you know, we'd recommend
18 consideration of some high-quality videos that could be
19 reproduced and provided to all schools and played year
20 after year. I mean, it's got to be a constant --
21 there's got to be a constant emphasis and reemphasis
22 every year as these kids go through school.
23 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** You know, I can't help
24 but strongly think that education, the issue on the
25 pitfalls on anything that would help a young person make

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1 good, healthy decisions isn't a perfective factor.
2 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I agree with that,
3 too.
4 Now, the next one is this childhood program.
5 Now, I recall Dr. Erickson's testimony here in
6 Anchorage. Again, I'll be honest --
7 **MS. SAILORS:** Well, I might be able to help
8 out a little here. I mean, we actually do fund infant
9 learning programs across the state where there is
10 screening of children between the ages of zero and
11 three. And if they are developmentally not up to snuff
12 or having development issues, there's a whole plethora
13 of services that are orchestrated for them. And among
14 them are parent training and bonding. And the services
15 go into the home, not just the kids being taken out
16 elsewhere. So they actually come into the home and do
17 some training with the parents.
18 So there is some funding out there. I believe
19 we have about \$10 million in that. It is being expanded
20 through the governor's budget. He's recommended another
21 million and a half this year. And so while it's not a
22 direct hit on this in terms of the absolute -- we don't
23 call it -- it's not, per se, breast-feeding, although
24 our public health nurses, they made 75,000 visits last
25 year around the state and they promoted breast-feeding

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1 and those types of practices, too.
2 So there are a number of these kinds of
3 programs going on. That's not to say we can't do more,
4 but in the course of looking at this recommendation, I
5 did remind myself of the infant learning programs, the
6 screening and services that go with that, and then our
7 whole public health nurses are out there in the villages
8 and all over the state practically.
9 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, these are --
10 you know, I don't question the integrity or the
11 usefulness of these programs. It's not that. This is
12 just me being insensitive or --
13 **MS. SAILORS:** Oh, no. I'm not even -- not
14 taking it that way at all. I mean, I think this is one
15 of those -- you know, doesn't fit automatically
16 sometimes when you're thinking about these things, but
17 it really goes upstream to prevention.
18 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, like I
19 said -- I was going to finish my thought, which is that
20 I think they're very good programs. But at least to me,
21 the connection to human and sex trafficking was
22 attenuated in terms of making a recommendation from this
23 group.
24 That's not to say that between ages zero and
25 three that you can't test and find kids who might be at

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1 risk or families who might be at risk and that those
2 kids at some point down the road might fall into this
3 trafficking. I'm not suggesting that, but it just
4 struck me as attenuated. And I'm not speaking against
5 the programs, which are very good. But just in terms of
6 us fashioning a recommendation based on it, I personally
7 thought it was too attenuating.
8 **MS. SAILORS:** No. I understand what you're
9 saying. And also there's a new federal requirement.
10 Every kid who has a substantiated find of abuse or
11 neglect has to be referred to these programs. So your
12 at-risk population is moving there anyway. And so I
13 understand and I tend to agree with you in terms of
14 articulating this one.
15 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** That was just me.
16 I mean, I don't -- any other thoughts? Gwen? Michelle?
17 **MS. ADAMS:** I don't think it should be one of
18 our recommendations. Since we need to cut this down
19 anyway, it seems like a good place to . . .
20 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Commissioner?
21 Contrary again?
22 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** No. This is almost so
23 far out of my swim lane that --
24 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** It certainly is
25 mine too.

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1 You know, as staff goes through, there might
2 be a place. I think this is one of many. You know,
3 we've talked about education in the prior thought and we
4 were going to recommend -- but really there's all
5 various aspects of it, and I think this might deserve
6 mention that, you know, these are all important. But in
7 terms of singling this out for recommendation, I think
8 there's some resistance to doing that.
9 But I think it certainly merits mentioning
10 that these problem youth -- you know, that there's
11 evidence out there, scientific data, that this starts
12 very young and -- but there's already programs that
13 cover that and that -- but, in any event, I just don't
14 know that we should single it out, but there's certain
15 merits to mention that this is all part of the
16 educational deal.
17 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** This is Cori Mills again,
18 staff for the task force. The report will have all of
19 the testimony, all of the transcripts attached, so all
20 of the information from our previous hearings will be in
21 the report. All of the suggested recommendations will
22 be outlined. It just won't be, you know, targeted as
23 one of the recommendations that the task force ends up
24 making.
25 But just so you know, all of the testimony

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1 that we received will all be in there for the
2 legislature and others to read, so . . .
3 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** And Dr. Erickson
4 did testify here in Anchorage and had some graphs and a
5 PowerPoint, as I recall, that illustrated some -- well,
6 if there's nothing else in that one.
7 The next one we've got is the John's School.
8 And the John's School is, as the name applies, a school
9 for johns, the patrons. That's going after the demand
10 side of this business, which I think is very important
11 in targeting people who buy and purchase these services.
12 Are you more familiar, Cori, with what goes on
13 or, Cathy? Is anybody else? Rick? What do you know
14 about these John's Schools? I mean, is there
15 something -- just for my edification. Or Commission
16 Masters? What do they tell you there or teach you?
17 **MR. SVOBODNY:** They teach you about sexually
18 transmitted diseases, the lifestyle that prostitutes
19 have. Primarily -- the idea has come from San
20 Francisco, I think, or at least San Francisco's area
21 that's gotten the most publicity about the schools that
22 they've run. And I think they're like four weeks --
23 like 12 weeks, once a week, something like that, for an
24 hour. Typically prostitutes come in and speak to the
25 people.

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1 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** And there are very -- this
2 is Cori again. There are very different models. So San
3 Francisco was the first, and they were the one that most
4 people modeled after. They actually do just a day.
5 It's eight hours of very intense training. There's -- I
6 can't remember the program that is exactly what Rick was
7 saying. It's like 12 weeks, one hour a week, and
8 there's other ones that are actually done almost on-site
9 when they're arresting. It's kind of a quick program
10 that they give. I think they teach the officers what to
11 do. I think that might be in Texas. I can't remember.
12 But there are a number of models that you can
13 look at, depending on your resources and how you want to
14 do it. San Francisco pays for the program through the
15 fines that the johns have to pay, and it's actually
16 voluntary. So they'll pay the fine and do that instead
17 of having something on their record, kind of like you
18 have with, I think, DUIs in California. It's the same
19 way. You know, you can do a program and erase it from
20 your record.
21 Others are mandatory. You have to do the
22 John's School regardless and your fine goes to pay for
23 the John's School. So that kind of gives some examples,
24 but there are a lot of different models out there at
25 this point.

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1 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Well,
2 thoughts on that from the task force?
3 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Well, initially I kind
4 of thought it might be lumped back into the assessment
5 of measures being taken in other states to reduce demand
6 and its effectiveness to determine whether or not John's
7 Schools are effective and whether or not the cost of
8 them -- because somebody has got to -- it's not just the
9 fines that are going in to pay for that.
10 If you have a relative -- in states or in
11 cities that have high volume, they may be able to fund
12 these type of things. In areas like Alaska that doesn't
13 have that high of volume, it's going to have to be
14 subsidized in some other way. Then it's going to come
15 back to how effective are they really at reducing
16 recidivism amongst the johns.
17 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well -- go ahead,
18 Michelle.
19 **MS. DEWITT:** I think that accountability for
20 the individuals paying for participating in this is
21 really key, and I feel like personally I just don't know
22 quite enough about these to know whether it's a solid
23 recommendation or not. I think it's a really
24 interesting possibility. I think it warrants further --
25 some further evaluation.

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1 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, my
2 suggestion was going to be that we group this under the
3 recommendation of, you know, fighting demand or going
4 after the demand/supply -- the demand, period. I think
5 that the John's School is one aspect of it.
6 I'm like you, Michelle, I don't know enough
7 about it, but it sounds intriguing. I'm curious, in
8 California, if they're doing these programs to raise
9 money because they're broke or whether they're doing it
10 because it's got real efficacy. We should probably find
11 out.
12 But there's other ways of attacking demand.
13 Sting operations. I mean, taking a tough no plea
14 bargain, you know, position perhaps with respective
15 johns who are caught. I mean, I think there's a number
16 of facets, but I think a recommendation based on going
17 after the demand is -- you know, should be a single --
18 we should be going after the people who -- you know, as
19 I said, if there weren't these guys out there buying
20 these services, then pumps and other procurers and so on
21 wouldn't be flocking to it as a way to make money.
22 So I think there's things that we should
23 consider, and the John's School is one of them. But we
24 should point out that we should try to find out more
25 information about it. That might be something for our

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1 first group to fall back on. But it definitely -- and I
2 just mentioned -- Rick, any terms of the criminal side
3 of it? There's not a significant number of john
4 arrests, I don't think, arrests for johns.
5 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Actually, I think that's right.
6 Katie had the numbers -- and I can't remember if it was
7 the last five years that they dropped off to zero, or
8 whether it was just last year the bookings were zero.
9 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** We've got one
10 going on now.
11 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Yes. We have one going on now.
12 This is just -- it is a -- the John's School
13 is a diversion from --
14 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Right.
15 **MR. SVOBODNY:** -- their criminal conviction.
16 In a lot of urban areas, at least up until the last
17 couple years, the typical penalty has been a 25-dollar,
18 100-dollar fine. Other methods have been used in other
19 communities, too, like pictures in the newspaper,
20 letters to mothers, and forfeiture of vehicles. There
21 are all kinds of nontraditional fine or jail time
22 sentences. One could look at it as a more lenient way
23 to deal with patrons of prostitutes rather than jail
24 time.
25 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, I agree.

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1 But, I mean, the point is that there would be a fine.
2 If there was a John's School, there would be a fine.
3 And maybe it goes hand in hand with these other things
4 you've you mentioned.
5 It certainly shouldn't be the focus point of
6 this particular recommendation, but it's one of many
7 things that we could be doing to educate them. And then
8 who knows, if they're educated why they shouldn't go
9 there. Are there risks that are posed for them if they
10 do? Maybe that discourages demand.
11 But I think this dovetails with -- we'll come
12 back to the recommendation about whether we could be
13 doing more online, you know, posting. I mentioned
14 stings. You know, if we posted photographs of other,
15 you know, women who volunteered to be in an ad like that
16 or somebody from Outside or -- I mean, I don't know how
17 we would do it, but to solicit online people who
18 would -- with a suggestive message on Backpage or
19 something like that and subpoena the names of the people
20 who contact the number. Or make internet contact with
21 the person who is -- as I said, it would be a sting -- a
22 fictitious person.
23 But I'm not sure legally if we can go do that
24 yet. That might be a recommendation we have to seek
25 from the legislature. But, again, going after the

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1 people who buy and procure these services somehow in
2 some way -- and I think John's School is just one aspect
3 of it.
4 As you point out, it might be more lenient,
5 but it depends on how it's structured and how it's done.
6 We need to find out more from one of those programs in
7 California, what it does to recidivism, have they
8 noticed a reduction in their arrests, and so on.
9 Anything further on that one?
10 **MR. SVOBODNY:** And just to caution you about
11 reduction of -- recidivism in this regard, because I
12 think with the intervention of the internet, the number
13 of arrests have probably gone down nationwide. So if
14 San Francisco says, "Gee, our arrests have gone down.
15 We're running these John's Schools." Maybe because it's
16 all -- and I can't remember the correct term -- in-call
17 or out-call through the internet.
18 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, that's a
19 good point, Rick. I mean, I think you can't attach too
20 much importance to those statistics for the reason
21 you've just said, which, to me, points going to the
22 internet aspect of it.
23 We've been going an hour and a half. Does it
24 make sense to take five minutes here? Let's take a
25 short break and we'll go off record.

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1 Has Senator McGuire joined us?
2 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** No. I just got another
3 text.
4 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Let's go
5 off record.
6 (Off the record.)
7 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** The Task Force on
8 Human and Sex Trafficking and Promoting Prostitution is
9 back on record. We've completed our break.
10 Senator Lesil McGuire has joined us from
11 Juneau. She has been very active in this area and a
12 strong proponent of what we're doing. And she wasn't
13 able to make it here for our public comment period, but
14 I'm going to reopen the public comment period at this
15 point and ask Senator McGuire to go ahead.
16 **SENATOR MCGUIRE:** Thank you. Well, I just
17 wanted to call in from Juneau and say thank you so much
18 to the task force for your work. I appreciate all of
19 the members, you know, Michael, as the attorney general,
20 and Commission Streur, Commissioner Masters, Pastor Gwen
21 Adams, and Michelle DeWitt. And then of course the
22 staff, Cori and Cathy and Rick. They've been in
23 constant contact with my staff, Amy Saltzman. And I
24 just want to say thank you to all of you for your hard
25 work on behalf of Alaskans that will benefit from all of

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1 the hard work you've put in.
2 The task force, as you know, was a brainchild
3 out of our office when we started going through and
4 looking at possible changes to the criminal code and
5 recognized that this issue had just grown into something
6 that was so much larger than we had anticipated. And
7 what we thought we would do, that there were some
8 changes that we could make. And certainly the governor
9 has made changes and we've all partnered on changes in
10 the judiciary committee that we knew we could make, but
11 that this task force would be the perfect place to
12 really delve into the issue deeper to see where Alaska
13 is with respect to sex trafficking, promoting
14 prostitution in general with human trafficking.
15 And my hope is that the suggestions that you
16 make that come to us in the form of a report will be
17 instrumental in not only the legislation but in funding.
18 You know, we have our subcommittees that have just been
19 put together here in the Senate and they have just been
20 put together in House in each of the departments. As
21 you know, Commission Streur and Commissioner Masters,
22 it's so important to understand where you're putting
23 your money into programs and resources and how they can
24 potentially impact what's happening in this area.
25 And so it might be that there is legislation

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1 that you think that's needed. It might be that there
2 are programs and resources that you think that we need
3 to put in place to help these victims. But that's what
4 we wanted to do, was to have this task force go to work.
5 And I'm just grateful to see the diversity.
6 It's wonderful to see Pastor Adams there and, again,
7 Michelle DeWitt, having you from the Tundra Women's
8 Coalition, that you get an opportunity to put your
9 voices in and what you see on the ground. I just want
10 to say that that's how I got very involved in this
11 particular issue years ago, was my work with Covenant
12 House. And to thank them as well and that faith-based
13 community. They were seeing young women coming into
14 that organization that had been -- actually, started out
15 in stripping at some of the clubs where you can strip as
16 a minor.
17 And then as I started working on that
18 particular -- some of you will remember I put in a bill
19 on that that was fairly controversial, but then I got
20 more and more involved in that community and the path
21 led to this issue of human trafficking. And it was just
22 unbelievable to discover how sophisticated some of these
23 networks were and, you know, how they would get some of
24 these young people brought into these -- into these
25 units and just terrifying for them. They didn't feel

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1 they had a place to go, didn't have resources. In many
2 cases, of course, they became addicted to drugs and
3 alcohol and then, of course, you know, the hooks are in.
4 Obviously, as you all know from looking at this issue,
5 then there's just the degradation of your soul and your
6 spirit and your self-worth that comes. And then your
7 peer group is changed forever and so the people that you
8 begin spending your time with and so forth are all a
9 part of that particular group. And it's very difficult
10 to break away.
11 So any recommendations that you have for us
12 here in the Senate, we will greatly appreciate. And I
13 just can't say enough for your work. I know it's
14 difficult as well to -- you know, to look at these
15 issues. I do tell the story a lot about Amy coming to
16 work with me. She took Lauren Rice's place on these
17 issues in my office. And she started to look at them.
18 I mean, there were many days that the two of us shed
19 tears. And she just said that, you know, as an Alaskan
20 woman she couldn't believe these that things were
21 happening in the underbelly of our great state.
22 So I know you've had to talk about some
23 difficult issues and probably hear about some really
24 horrible things that make it difficult to go home at
25 night and things like that, so I thank you for that.

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1 We're hearing the governor's bill on Wednesday
2 in judiciary, which is another attempt at tackling some
3 of these things, so I want you to know that as well. If
4 any of you would like to tune into that on Wednesday, we
5 have our judiciary committee from 1:30 to 3:00.
6 And that's all I have to say. Thank you very
7 much.
8 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Thank you,
9 Senator.
10 I invite Commissioner Masters, or any other
11 task force members, wish to offer comments in response
12 or anything?
13 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Just briefly, Senator.
14 I know we sat down and discussed the issue a couple of
15 times, and I'm very appreciative of your efforts.
16 And just to be a little bit -- hopefully I'm
17 not burning you here, but the senator just had a
18 birthday a few days ago. And for a -- and I'll tell the
19 people around the table what I gave you for just a small
20 token gift, and that was a badge pin from our
21 department. But the ironic part of it was that the
22 senator has been involved in this issue for a decade,
23 trying to figure out ways to deal with it. And the
24 badge pin was a service pin that we give our troopers, a
25 ten-year service pin.

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1 Buy, anyway, thank you, Senator, for your
2 efforts and I will certainly continue to look for ways
3 that we can tackle this.
4 **SENATOR MCGUIRE:** Thank you.
5 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** And I would just
6 join those remarks. The senator has been very
7 instrumental in this area, and it's her drive and -- her
8 interest in it has been a driving force, and so we do
9 appreciate it.
10 And I'll see you -- I'll be appearing
11 Wednesday, as I think Commissioner Masters will as well,
12 at that hearing and look forward to seeing you then.
13 But we are working through recommendations,
14 Senator. I appreciate you calling in. You're welcome
15 to stay on the line. We've been going for almost two
16 hours now, dicing through these recommendations and
17 making decisions and we're going to continue on. We've
18 still got a couple pages left to go.
19 But thank you for calling in. And as I've
20 said, please -- you're welcome to stay online if you'd
21 like, but I know you've got many things going on in
22 Juneau.
23 **MS. ADAMS:** Well, I'd like --
24 **SENATOR MCGUIRE:** I do. I have to get back
25 into judiciary, but thank you so much.

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1 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Go ahead, Gwen.
2 **MS. ADAMS:** This is Gwen. I just want to tell
3 you thank you, too, and thank you for keeping a human
4 face on the issue.
5 **SENATOR MCGUIRE:** Thank you, Gwen.
6 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Well,
7 again, thank you, Senator.
8 We'll go ahead and resume then with our
9 recommendations. And the first -- picking it up again,
10 we're getting into some training issues now. And
11 there's two -- there are two training aspects, and let's
12 kind of take these up. They're a little bit out of
13 order.
14 One is for the prosecutors, judges, and the
15 court system with human trafficking. And then the other
16 training -- and this is not exclusive, but I just did --
17 kind of what I call the more public training would be
18 training of law enforcement, as well as service
19 organizations suggested by law enforcement that have
20 exposure or deal with issues like this. So some of
21 those organizations may be present here. Covenant House
22 is an obvious one that comes to mind.
23 But there's two aspects of training here, and
24 one is dealing with the court system, judges, and public
25 defenders, criminal prosecutors. And the second

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1 component of it is dealing with law enforcement
2 personnel and service organizations.
3 So let's take them up. First of all -- and I
4 have a question about this. I have a question about
5 this. I mean, I don't do -- if we're talking about
6 mandatory training in the way of CLEs, I mean, I
7 don't -- I guess, how do people feel about providing
8 mandatory training for public defenders, who are people
9 assigned to represent individuals who might be arrested
10 or including the women who are victims and are in the
11 trade as victims; OPA is the Office of Public Advocacy;
12 and then judges and so on.
13 I mean, I don't -- I just have a question
14 about whether we want to make that part of our
15 recommendation or not. Certainly I have no problem with
16 these people seeking training on their own, but are we
17 going to make this a mandatory component of their job,
18 as it were.
19 Rick and then Joe. I mean, you guys obviously
20 have very experienced perspectives on this. But
21 comments?
22 **MR. SVOBODNY:** First, I read the first one a
23 little bit differently; that is, that the prosecutors,
24 the court -- the judges and the court staff are to
25 receive their training from the DAs, the public

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1 defender, and OPA. And if that's the right way --
2 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Pardon me, Rick.
3 **MR. SVOBODNY:** -- I don't see that working.
4 First, the court system is very reluctant --
5 and they may even have a separation of powers claim --
6 about any type of mandatory training that's imposed on
7 them. So we have, for example, volunteered to come and
8 teach them classes on immunity, and they just won't do
9 that because the public defender is not teaching the
10 same class to them.
11 I don't have any problems in instituting
12 training for our prosecutors. And, actually, I'd like
13 to see that type of training, if there is -- if we're
14 going to have it, in conjunction with law enforcement,
15 because I think that -- the cross-training between the
16 two -- that two parts of the justice system is very
17 helpful.
18 I don't want to -- I don't know if you're
19 going to talk about it, Commissioner Masters. This
20 regional training, I know that there's a thought in
21 that, regional training, that public safety and the
22 Department of Law are going to do together to include
23 trafficking. I don't think they've got down to a
24 curriculum yet. It's going to be more focused on sexual
25 assault, domestic violence. John Skidmore told me that

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1 they were talking about a curriculum that dealt with
2 trafficking also.
3 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Well, I can tell you
4 there's two different questions: One, is should we do
5 training; and, two, whether it should be mandatory.
6 So I'll tackle the first one first, and that
7 is, you know, we're in the process now of identifying
8 ways that we could provide curriculum or provide
9 training through distance delivery and also through our
10 academy training at the municipal and the VPSO and VPO
11 training levels.
12 I don't think that necessarily the training
13 has to be mutually exclusive to just law enforcement and
14 prosecutors separately and things like that. I think
15 most of the type of training that we're talking about
16 is -- because a lot of it is going to be in the area of
17 awareness and ideas of how you may be able to maybe
18 break into -- how to break loose some of these types of
19 investigates and things like that.
20 But the biggest piece is going to be awareness
21 on our part, on -- meaning law enforcement -- on the
22 part of other service providers and organizations, and
23 also awareness with prosecutors, with defense attorneys,
24 and so forth.
25 So I don't think it's necessarily mutually

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1 exclusive, but I think it is certainly something, I
2 think, that can be done in the short term of developing
3 a curriculum. And I think we could develop a curriculum
4 very easily and relatively quickly with input from
5 stakeholder organizations that could provide the type of
6 training that would be valuable to most stakeholders.
7 Whether it should be mandatory -- there's a
8 lot of training that we do. For example, our academy
9 now has over 1,000 hours of training. Very little of
10 that is mandatory training. So I don't know that it
11 necessarily has to be in that realm, but I think
12 certainly it's doable and within our -- and I think even
13 within our current capacity to be able to do it.
14 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, I think
15 training for the court system and the public defenders'
16 office and OPA is kind of a little bit outside of what
17 we're here to do. If they want to do it, then they can
18 do it, but I don't know that that can be part of our
19 agenda terms in making recommendations.
20 The prosecutors and law enforcement is another
21 matter. I don't know if mandatory, but, I think, you
22 and I are in a position, Commissioner, to mandate that
23 training happen. I mean, not necessarily as a
24 regulation or as a statute, but as part of making our
25 respective departments stronger and more effective, we

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1 can certainly require training.
2 I mean, prosecutors do meet -- we have
3 prosecutor conferences. There's other training that
4 Rick mentioned. So I think training is good for -- but
5 I think outside of law enforcement and prosecutors, I'm
6 not sure we can expand the field too much.
7 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Could I make one suggestion
8 about expanding the field, and that's people at DJJ. I
9 mean, they're the ones with who are likely to see the
10 behavior of young kids as -- where they may be there
11 for -- maybe come to DJJ for substance abuse. They're
12 the ones that are going to be dealing with kids on a
13 day-to-day basis and can maybe identify other issues for
14 us.
15 So I agree that, you know, public safety and
16 prosecution are generally where you think about it, but
17 I think we ought to think about DJJ.
18 And one other point. You know, if we're
19 failing with the judges, that's the prosecutor's fault.
20 That's what goes on at sentencing. You know, we're
21 supposed to be educating the judges about that. So
22 maybe that's where we need education, to remind us that
23 our job is to be educating the judges at sentencing.
24 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I agree with that.
25 And, Rick, for the benefit of those here, explain very

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1 briefly about the Division of Juvenile Justice, where
2 are they and what do they do.
3 **MR. SVOBODNY:** They're in Health and Social
4 Services. They're basically, I would say, juvenile
5 probational officers, but they're far more than that. I
6 mean, if you think about a probation officer, that they
7 do a whole lot more dealing with people under 18 who --
8 who come to their attention. And they deal with those
9 people informally or they deal with them more formally
10 in court or even more formally, whether asked to be
11 found delinquent children.
12 **MS. SAILORS:** Thank you, Rick. I appreciate
13 you making those comments about DJJ. And, you know, we
14 are actually extending this year. We're trying to
15 extend statewide training through all aspects of that
16 division on trauma-informed care and also using -- in
17 our intake process, we do have questions to try and
18 ferret that out in terms of if there has been activity
19 that way. And it often comes after these kids have been
20 either in our treatment programs or in our prevention
21 programs when trust is established, so, you know,
22 no-brainer there.
23 The other thing is, you know, we arranged for
24 the First Lady to visit one of our facilities and talk
25 with four girls who were in treatment who were victims

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1 of trafficking. And their talk with her, I think, was
2 very eye-opening and unblinking on their part. So we do
3 identify them and we do deal with them.
4 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Well, thank
5 you. So I think our recommendation right here is
6 consensus -- and, Michelle, or, Gwen, weigh in. But I
7 think our recommendation -- we will have a
8 recommendation on trainings that are going to be focused
9 on law enforcement, prosecutors, and DJJ. And not to
10 suggest that they're not -- unaware of it, but to raise
11 awareness among prosecutors, law enforcement, the
12 nuances of it, some of the things that we've been
13 hearing in public testimony, so that they can better
14 able to do their functions. I think that's -- I hear a
15 consensus.
16 **MS. SAILORS:** Also, the governor has an
17 increment in his budget to extend that trauma-informed
18 care throughout that system, too. So there's some
19 financing going on.
20 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. And then
21 I've got -- the next one I'm looking is on, again, the
22 prosecution side of it, legislation. I mentioned this
23 earlier, but to enhance our powers to police this stuff
24 on the internet. And I'm looking at the use of the
25 internet to lure, entice, recruit, or sell commercial

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1 sex acts with a minor should be against the law. If it
2 isn't, then we should make sure we've got expanded or
3 maximum law enforcement tools available, like subpoenas,
4 to get internet information in order to do that, keeping
5 in mind that there are first amendment issues about that
6 and that have to be considered.
7 But otherwise, Rick, do you want to expand on
8 that or talk about that?
9 **MR. SVOBODNY:** I see you brought our expert,
10 Marika.
11 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, we do have
12 our -- Marika, do you want to talk about that briefly?
13 Marika, for those of you who don't know, she's
14 in charge of prosecuting internet crimes in the
15 Department of Law, which primarily at the moment child
16 pornography.
17 But, Marika, do you want to address that,
18 please, with --
19 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Can I just --
20 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Go ahead.
21 **MR. SVOBODNY:** She just obtained a verdict in
22 Kenai on a child pornography case, so she's --
23 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** She's on the front
24 lines.
25 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Yep.

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1 **MS. ATHENS:** So far -- I think it was last
2 year that we started using the administrative subpoena
3 for child sexual exploitation cases, so possession and
4 distribution of child pornography and online enticement
5 of children. And it's been working well. We actually
6 haven't had any challenges to it so far, not overall
7 constitutional challenges or on individual cases.
8 You know, you, Mr. Geraghty, see all the
9 requests for the administrative subpoenas. You know,
10 right now it is already a crime to solicit a child under
11 the age of 16 on the internet for a sexual act. It
12 doesn't need to be commercial or not. It's just to
13 engage them in seven different specific things.
14 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** What about if
15 they're older than 16, though, Marika, which many of
16 these young women may be. They come into town -- and
17 it's not so much child pornography so much as it --
18 child exploitation as it is, you know, someone who is
19 still a victim and is being, you know, coerced or kind
20 of cajoled and then coerced into working in sex
21 trafficking? Do we have the power to subpoena -- like
22 we were talking about backpage.com and so on.
23 **MS. ATHENS:** Not that way, I don't think so.
24 We do currently for the -- because the statutes are
25 enumerated under the administrative subpoena and only

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1 applies to the three points I listed. It's not any
2 broader, so I don't think we could use it for that at
3 this time. And also right now we're only using it to
4 get information from the internet service providers, so
5 from GCI or ACS, whoever you have your internet with.
6 We're not using it to go to the specific websites.
7 I think the federal one does that, so I could
8 get some language for the task force for what the
9 federal administrative subpoena statute has. That would
10 make it broader to apply to specific websites and not
11 just to the --
12 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** The provider.
13 Well, I'd like to see it get expanded, personally,
14 because I think, as we mentioned earlier, the internet,
15 that's why the arrests may have gone down for
16 prostitutions because so many just do it on the internet
17 and don't have to go drive in your car, troll the
18 streets, or anything like that. You can go to a
19 backpage.com, or Craigslist is another one, and find
20 highly ads or photographs and solicit that way.
21 So, let's just say, if we could plant --
22 Marika and I have talked about that. There's ways of
23 using that to try to entice people to maybe, through the
24 web page, contact a person. And maybe that's a tool
25 that we need in our arsenal of weapons to go after the

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1 demand side. That would be something I'd mention on the
2 demand side.
3 **MS. ATHENS:** And I can e-mail Cori some
4 specific language.
5 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Thanks,
6 Marika.
7 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Can I ask one question?
8 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Yes, Commissioner.
9 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Rick, is the
10 administrative subpoena, if somebody was enticing
11 somebody they believed to be a minor, does that trigger
12 in?
13 **MS. ADAMS:** Yes. Because our online
14 enticement statute has both those prongs.
15 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Commissioner Masters, though,
16 the subpoena is only for subscriber information, so it's
17 not like -- it's not like a phone tap of somebody's
18 e-mails back and forth.
19 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Yeah. And I understand
20 that. I just wanted to -- if we had problems
21 identifying who was actually doing the soliciting, that
22 would allow us to be able to track down that person.
23 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Which brings us to
24 the next one -- and, again, Rick, please educate us --
25 but legislation to -- establish by legislation that

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1 using a law enforcement decoy posing as an minor to
2 investigate buying or selling commercial sex acts is not
3 a defense to soliciting, purchasing, or selling sex with
4 minor.
5 What's that about?
6 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Well, I mean, it's what it
7 says. It's stating that it's not a crime to use these
8 stings. Although, frankly, my concern if we put that
9 into statute, anybody can find kind of any loose part of
10 that language is going to have a defense. I don't know
11 why we -- I don't know why we need it. We don't have a
12 law that says the police can't buy drugs undercover or
13 we don't have a law that says when we do an electronic
14 recording of a suspect and we use a false pretense, that
15 that should be a defense. We do have case law that says
16 that police do not have to be -- they can use deception
17 in dealing with people who are --
18 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** So let me ask you
19 specifically. If you had an 18- or 19-year-old young
20 lady who was young-appearing and you posted her in an ad
21 in backpage.com and she advertised her age as 15, for
22 example, with some kind of enticing message or lure to
23 johns who are patrolling the internet or are on that
24 website and they responded and then we caught the person
25 and prosecuted them, that's not a legal defense that we

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1 misrepresented the age of the decoy?
2 **MR. SVOBODNY:** That's right. I don't know if
3 you ever saw that TV program, To Catch a Predator.
4 That's what they did every episode. Not necessarily
5 putting things in ads, but the same thing.
6 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** That TV program
7 was terribly effective. I mean, that was -- did anybody
8 ever watch that, To Catch a Predator? The guy -- it was
9 usually a guy or, I guess, a woman would get in these
10 chat rooms and portray themselves as underage or
11 something like that and they would engage in a, you
12 know, titillating conversation with somebody else who
13 comes into the chat room. And then over the course of
14 maybe several chats, invite the person over to the house
15 and say, "MY parents are going to be gone. I'd really
16 like to get close to you," or whatever. And these guys
17 would show up in droves. Unbelievable.
18 **MR. SVOBODNY:** And Marika can give you maybe
19 some numbers on that, but that's what the task force
20 does now here in Anchorage.
21 **MS. ATHENS:** Yeah. We have both -- the
22 troopers and APD have undercover officers who do that.
23 The troopers, I don't believe currently have a photo
24 they use, but APD has a photo they use from one of the
25 female police officers from when she was, I think,

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1 approximately 14 or 15. So they use that to send out to
2 people.
3 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** So we're doing To
4 Catch a Predator type of stings now?
5 **MS. ATHENS:** I currently have approximately
6 five active cases and probably about five more that have
7 changed their plea. And it was about a year or two ago
8 that it changed, the law changed, so now they also have
9 to register as sex offenders.
10 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. That's good
11 to know.
12 So I don't know that we need a specific
13 legislation. It doesn't sound like, Cori. I think
14 we're okay on that.
15 The next one is this diversion program. And
16 this may need legislation, but would allow the State to
17 work with NGOs to identify diversion programs for minor
18 prostitutes, chronic runaways, and truancies as an
19 alternative to jail, including safe shelters. So these
20 would be pretty involved. I mean, not only are we
21 taking the person out of the criminal justice system, we
22 need to -- I guess to be effective, we have to offer
23 them an alternative place to go until they got back on
24 their feet.
25 Thoughts about this?

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1 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Alaska used to have probably
2 the most robust pretrial diversion program in the
3 country. I mean, we had in effect pretrial diversion
4 officers in every DA's office. And we stopped doing --
5 and it wasn't for prostitution. It was for most
6 C Felony offenses and down, misdemeanors.
7 We stopped doing that because when you were --
8 went into these pretrial diversion programs, the idea is
9 that you were going to follow certain conditions, like
10 community work service or going to a treatment program.
11 And the sanction was that if you didn't do that, then we
12 could go forward with the prosecution. But we didn't
13 want to be prosecuting people months or a year later,
14 that we felt that our case was going to be substantially
15 weaker. So what we made people do is to sign a
16 statement saying they did the crime.
17 And several courts in Alaska said that that
18 was a coerced confession and so it was no good, and so
19 we stopped doing pretrial diversion in this state
20 because of court rulings. There's nothing to stop us
21 from going back to pretrial diversion except we know
22 where the courts are kind of going to rule on people
23 saying they did the crime. And we just have to
24 recognize that those are going to be substantially more
25 difficult to prosecute a year later after somebody chose

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1 not to go through the diversion program.
2 We don't need a law to do that. Most states
3 have -- many states have the equivalent of pretrial
4 diversion, but that's something that we can do as an
5 alternative to going forward with the criminal charge.
6 It was an experiment that failed here in this state, but
7 it seems to work in most other states.
8 So that's kind of -- you don't need a change
9 in the law to do that. We can just do it.
10 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, I think it's
11 worthwhile doing because I think it's -- you know,
12 prostitution is -- again, we're thinking of that more as
13 a victimless crime and they are victims themselves, and
14 that's really part of this whole process. Now, we may
15 find that some are in it just for the money and nobody
16 is coercing them, nobody is victimizing, they work by
17 themselves out of their house, their apartment. I mean,
18 we can find situations where people are just going to be
19 incorrigible -- I suppose incorrigible prostitutes.
20 And so while it would be nice to have them
21 admit each offense, I would think it's not crucial. I'm
22 not sure we have to have them admit the offense to get a
23 diversion program. And, you know, whether they're not
24 felonies or Class C Felonies, there's not victims and
25 stuff like that. But those details, we don't need to

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1 decide today, I guess. I mean, the issue is do we want
2 to go back to a pretrial diversion program to offer
3 these women a place to go an alternative.
4 **MS. ADAMS:** When I spent time --
5 **MS. SAILORS:** This is Ree. I mean, don't we
6 do some of that in our juvenile justice system at our
7 front end --
8 **MR. SVOBODNY:** You do, yes.
9 **MS. SAILORS:** -- at the point when they're
10 initially arrested and we look at the charges and decide
11 what happens next?
12 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Well, you have a little -- it's
13 a little bit different system because you have -- let me
14 see if I can remember the names. You have adjustments,
15 which seem like are pretrial diversions. You can handle
16 matters -- you have informally, adjustment, you know,
17 filing petitions. So, yes, the answer --
18 **MS. SAILORS:** And we can make them participate
19 in community services and other kinds of programs?
20 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Right. It becomes more
21 difficult, though, if they -- what do you do --
22 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** They're over 18.
23 **MR. SVOBODNY:** -- if they don't go forward
24 with that? That's where it becomes problematic.
25 **MS. SAILORS:** And my understanding was we kind

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1 of hold those charges in abeyance --
2 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Yes.
3 **MS. SAILORS:** -- and hold conditions on that.
4 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Right. But,
5 again, when they're over 18, they don't even get in that
6 program, so we've got to, I think -- but it's good to
7 point out that there is one for juveniles and it's being
8 done there. But the question is, do we do it after post
9 juvenile?
10 And, Gwen, you had something to say.
11 **MS. ADAMS:** Yeah. I think I wouldn't want the
12 word "minor" in here because quite often, you know, even
13 as a minor somebody gets victimized and pulled into this
14 lifestyle, but -- you know, two women that I've worked
15 closely with, one had been held for 12 years and one 13.
16 By the time they came out, they couldn't even read. I
17 mean, you know, 12 years of life stolen from them. And
18 I would want to see her getting just as much help as a
19 minor.
20 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I agree.
21 **MS. ADAMS:** So I think we need to look at
22 victims as victims regardless of their age. And when I
23 was talking to Kathleen Lacy, she was really in favor of
24 having something offered even on the spot, either you go
25 to jail or you'll go and see a physician and speak with

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1 somebody. And if you're drug-addicted, get into a drug
2 addiction program and we would drop the charge -- we
3 would not put on your permanent record prostitution.
4 But for her -- her heart behind it, which I
5 agree with, is to create some kind of space where we can
6 have somebody come alongside and create a space of
7 safety where a victim might be able to -- with a little
8 bit of time and some safety created around them, be able
9 to admit what's going on so that we could go after the
10 pimps. So that was kind of her heart behind it.
11 **MR. SVOBODNY:** The problem with that is that
12 you need that person generally to go after the pimp, as
13 you put it. And there's no -- how do you force them to
14 do that? And one of the ways that you force them to do
15 that is you have them -- and maybe a pretrial diversion
16 program that requires them to testify, they don't
17 testify, then what do you do? Do you just say okay?
18 Because I will tell you, it's going to take
19 two seconds for the pimp to be putting pressure back on
20 these people about not testifying against them. I mean,
21 the case that we have that's ongoing, as the madam was
22 leaving the courtroom, she was yelling at the two girls,
23 "Don't testify. Don't testify."
24 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Yes, Michelle?
25 **MS. DEWITT:** I have just a secondary comment

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1 about this. And even though, you know, we may not want
2 to separate minors from adults, the reality is, when it
3 comes to getting safe shelter or other services, there
4 are two categories.
5 For example, an organization like mine, we
6 cannot provide services to minors -- we're not allowed
7 to -- that are unescorted or without caregiver or
8 guardian permission. And there are certain programs,
9 like Covenant House, that operate under a different set
10 of guidelines or codes that allow them to do that. But
11 we have to keep that in mind about that distinction
12 between minors and non-minors.
13 And so when I see "safe shelter" and "minors"
14 and such, these are fantastic recommendation and I'm 100
15 percent behind them and they are significant.
16 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I agree with that.
17 **MS. SAILORS:** And I would just reinforce that
18 in terms of shelter being an incredibly important
19 ingredient in trying to intervene. And one of the
20 questions that was asked of us was whether or not we
21 knew how many shelter beds we have in the state. And
22 the best I can tell through our licensure data, we have
23 about 158 beds statewide. Some of those are coed, some
24 of them are more or less comfortable taking kids versus
25 adults, and very few of them -- I think right now only

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1 one per se -- is totally devoted to young girls. We had
2 two and one recently closed, and so in essence we only
3 have about five beds in the state that are exclusively
4 for females and then the rest are either for males or
5 they are coed.
6 **MR. SVOBODNY:** And that's the advantage that
7 DJJ has over -- when they're dealing with juveniles.
8 They can do these placements and they can do them under
9 the force of law, even though they ultimately divert or
10 defer those people where, when you're talking about
11 adults, the only way that we can really force-house them
12 is with a criminal charge. And we don't want to -- you
13 know, we aren't trying to provide these shelters, but
14 DJJ does have a way of providing it for juveniles that
15 don't exist for the adult women.
16 **MS. SAILORS:** And OCS also uses these
17 resources, too. Like when we have a minor who is
18 pregnant as a result of incest or something like that,
19 we often look for a shelter mechanism, particularly
20 while we're trying to find a foster home placement,
21 things like that.
22 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Let me try to pull
23 together various threads, because I'm not sure we're
24 going to be able -- there's challenges to how we do it.
25 But it seems -- what I'm hearing is we should make a

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1 recommendation that we should consider going back to a
2 pretrial diversion program for these prostitution crimes
3 and pointing out that if they are a minor, that DJJ
4 already has such a diversion program set up in substance
5 and -- you know, places to put these kids.
6 With respect to adults, that's one of the
7 things that's going to have to be explored, and it's
8 going to be part of the screening, it seems to me. It
9 goes back really to the training issue, you know, that
10 somebody makes contact with these individuals early,
11 maybe when they're arrested, to see is this person
12 incorrigible, do we think they might be a victim, is
13 there's more going on here than we see, and it would be
14 worth trying to find a place to put this person and to
15 start building a trust relationship and so on.
16 So I don't think we're going to solve the
17 whole pretrial diversion thing today or in the context
18 of these recommendations, but it sounds like there's a
19 consensus that we should go back to it. The one that
20 was in place before for Class C felonies worked until
21 the court system threw some sand in the works.
22 But, like I said, I don't see quite the same
23 issues when the prostitution -- except we've got to get
24 their cooperation somehow. And if they don't, there's
25 going to be a prosecution, I guess.

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1 **MS. SAILORS:** Just a question of
2 clarification. So are you talking about going back to
3 these for those over 18? Am I hearing that --
4 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Yes.
5 **MS. SAILORS:** Okay.
6 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** That's what I'm
7 suggesting we do as a recommendation.
8 Commissioner, anything further?
9 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Yeah. I was just kind
10 of waiting for everybody else to talk.
11 Number one, I think we're -- "classifying" is
12 not the right word, but identifying prostitutes as being
13 victims of sex trafficking, whether they're adults or
14 whether they're children, based on the circumstances
15 that they're either placed into, forced into, or enticed
16 into. And if that's the case, then I believe there
17 should be some kind of a diversion-type program that
18 provides an opportunity to extract these individuals out
19 of that situation, whether they're incorrigible or not
20 incorrigible, but to extract them out of that situation.
21 Also, I think identifying that even the
22 criminal justice process in itself is a mechanism by
23 which pimps can control.
24 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Oh, yeah. No
25 question.

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1 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** -- these individuals as
2 well. So I think there should be -- you know, short
3 of -- you know, I don't think that it would be -- I
4 don't think it would be advisable or productive to, you
5 know, to decriminalize prostitution. I don't think
6 that's the answer. But certainly offer up that there is
7 a way and encourage individuals to utilize it. And I do
8 agree for minors or adults.
9 **MS. ADAMS:** That diversion program, you know,
10 needs to include some education for these women. You
11 know, are you -- you know, ask them the right questions:
12 Are you here -- have you exchanged sex for food? Are
13 you being asked to pay back a debt and your
14 documentation is being held until you do?
15 Sometimes, at least from Kathleen's
16 perspective, it's a matter of educating them that they
17 indeed are a trafficking victim, and so we've got to
18 create some space and ability to do that without just,
19 you know, assuming they're prostituting themselves.
20 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, let's -- go
21 ahead.
22 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** And there's one other
23 area I still have a little bit of concern with -- and
24 actually Michelle brought it up a couple of minutes
25 ago -- and that was on unaccompanied minors. In urban

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1 areas, it's not such an issue because there may be a
2 place and a way to deal with an unaccompanied minor that
3 is seeking a service.
4 In rural areas, it's not as easy. And whether
5 or not -- and I don't know if -- this is something that
6 probably should be discussed maybe with HSS or OCS, as
7 to whether or not an unaccompanied minor can be held in
8 an emergency circumstance within one of the shelters in
9 rural areas of the state where a pre-facility is not
10 available. Does that make sense?
11 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** That makes sense.
12 **MS. DEWITT:** Absolutely. Yeah.
13 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, moving on
14 then. I guess we'll take a look at the form -- the
15 recommendation, but I think Cori and the rest of the
16 staff have some notion from the comments here what we're
17 looking at.
18 The other one is, "In key locations" -- and I
19 assume that means hubs or urban centers -- "improve
20 community ability to provide coordinated emergency
21 response."
22 Do you want to expand on that, Cori or Cathy
23 or whoever is . . .
24 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** So I -- to be honest, I
25 think this probably folds back into what's already been

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1 talked about with the hotline with the task force, but
2 an ability for someone to either call a number or if
3 something happens, you know, if law enforcement picks up
4 this situation that's going on, that they know who to
5 call to get everyone involved. So I actually think this
6 goes back to what's kind of already been discussed.
7 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Does anybody see
8 anything, any nuance or anything, that this topic raised
9 that we want to address in a recommendation?
10 **MS. DEWITT:** For me, this brings up something
11 that Gwen just mentioned that -- in her conversation
12 with -- is it Sergeant Lacey?
13 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Yes.
14 **MS. DEWITT:** And that is as having some sort
15 of multidisciplinary response when somebody is
16 identified by law enforcement as a prostitute. And I
17 think there may be some opportunity there to really hash
18 that out a little bit more. And I think this next item
19 has captured that, you know, that once an individual has
20 been identified as participating in prostitution -- as a
21 prostitute, that there is a window of time where folks
22 can gather and try to offer some avenues to those folks
23 in a structured way, similar to how we might do with
24 sexual assault with a SART team type response.
25 And I think that's something that could be

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1 unpacked a little bit more and might get to where we're
2 trying to get with a couple of these conversations.
3 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Oh, I agree. And
4 the next one being that training law enforcement and key
5 service providers in this whole notion of these people,
6 when they're first arrested, how they don't believe
7 they're victims, don't consider themselves victims,
8 they're antagonistic to law enforcement, and they don't
9 appreciate their circumstances. And if law enforcement
10 treats them as traditional criminals, then we're never
11 going to make much progress in combating this problem.
12 So it goes back to Gwen's comment about giving
13 them some space, making them feel like there is some
14 space, trying to impress upon them the whole victimhood
15 aspect of what they're doing and the dangers of it and
16 how if they haven't been beat up yet -- maybe they
17 have -- but if they haven't been yet, they probably
18 will, and just that whole notion.
19 It seems to me like that does fall back on the
20 whole -- we touched on it, which is the training for law
21 enforcement, prosecutors, and to some extent DJJ. But,
22 you know, they've already got a lot of this in place.
23 But making sure we cover that angle of it, you know, are
24 these people victims or criminals. And they need to sit
25 down and have a heart to heart with them.

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1 And there's not that many arrests where they
2 can't be giving them some one-on-one attention. I mean,
3 I forget what the arrests are, but they weren't -- when
4 I looked at them, they weren't overwhelming in terms of
5 numbers, so I think that's something that goes back to
6 the training aspect of what we're going to emphasize,
7 that that's just one aspect of the training, not only
8 raising awareness amongst law enforcement and
9 prosecutors, but training them how to approach these
10 people to solicit their cooperation and how to approach
11 them to find out what's really going on, don't treat
12 them as traditional criminals.
13 And that's tied up with all the other things
14 we've been talking about. Is that fair, Michelle, that
15 we try to tie that back into the whole training thing --
16 **MS. DEWITT:** Absolutely.
17 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** -- mention it as a
18 separate component of it?
19 **MS. DEWITT:** And I would stress as well
20 that -- how important it is to have other service
21 providers included in some of those training aspects.
22 And, you know, just since participating in the task
23 force I've had, you know, several people come to me and
24 tell me about somebody who is engaged in trafficking or
25 that they've experienced trafficking. And my level of

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1 training has been increased significantly over the
2 months, but prior to that there have been very little
3 out there.
4 And so making sure that some of those service
5 providers are included with the justice system is really
6 key because people in health care, people in advocacy
7 work, people working for tribes, are going to come into
8 contact with these vulnerable folks.
9 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** That's a very good
10 point. Sergeant Lacey is obviously very simpatico. The
11 FBI agent is very simpatico. They've been there.
12 They've got the sensibilities, I think, and the
13 training. What we're looking at is -- and maybe the
14 police officer or the prosecutor makes a call to
15 somebody at Covenant House or to TWC if it's an arrest
16 in Bethel or another service organization to ask them to
17 somebody over if the victim has -- they might be an
18 adult, but maybe they've got young kids and they're
19 concerned, you know, where are my kids going to go.
20 You know, so I think that's absolutely right,
21 Michelle. We need to bring that aspect into it and list
22 those groups that are out there to try to help in this,
23 because people may feel more comfortable talking to that
24 group as they would to a police officer or prosecutor.
25 So where are we on the --

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1 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** You're on the language
2 access, bottom of the --
3 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Pardon me. Pardon
4 me. Okay.
5 Well, Rick, would you talk about this, one of
6 the recommendations, develop protocols for language
7 access for State agencies? I mean, we've got a big
8 interpreter thing going on now at the Department of Law;
9 don't we?
10 **MR. SVOBODNY:** That's right. We have a
11 program going on to convert -- well, first, if you go to
12 our web page, you can go to it in seven different
13 languages and soon to be an eighth. All our victim
14 information is in those seven different languages and
15 soon to be --
16 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Including Yupik?
17 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Yupik is the one we're --
18 Yupik, we have. Another one that we don't. There's an
19 Alaska Native language that we don't have that's coming.
20 It's in the process of being translated now.
21 We don't have actually that much of a need in
22 the normal cases that we do to have interpreters
23 available, but we do have a language line that I think
24 has over 150 different languages. I suspect if we were
25 dealing with a case that -- well, in kind of the

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1 reported case that you heard about where people came
2 from Siberia and those people mostly spoke Russian,
3 which happens to be one of the languages that we do
4 have, and it was translated into -- but if we have
5 similar-type human trafficking with international
6 implications, then we will have a system in place to
7 deal with at least 150 different languages.
8 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** So it seems like
9 to me -- and this is just my reaction. I'm not sure we
10 need to cover this as a separate -- the Department of
11 Law, at least on the prosecution side -- and I can't
12 speak for some of the service organizations where it
13 could be an issue, but -- and it seems to me it has this
14 certain common sense component. The first thing you're
15 going to do is try to communicate with the victim. I
16 mean, that runs throughout all the training things we've
17 talked about.
18 So if they speak another language, we have
19 access to interpreters and they're already taking some
20 steps to make those services available for victims or
21 anybody else who -- but you tell me. I mean, if you
22 think we need to make a recommendation about it, we
23 certainly can.
24 **MR. SVOBODNY:** As you go to your office in
25 Juneau tomorrow, as you enter, there's a big sign that

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1 says we can interpret into these seven different
2 languages for you right on the front door.
3 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** What do other
4 people think about it?
5 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Well, you know, I hate
6 to say this, but I -- and I'll have to check when I get
7 back. If we came across somebody today at DPS, how do
8 we access different languages in order to provide
9 service, whatever that service might be, whether it's a
10 service we're talking about here or whether it's finding
11 a consulate to get them to -- I'm going to have to --
12 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** You can find --
13 you've got people that do Yupik and other -- the
14 indigenous languages. Don't you?
15 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Yes. To some extent.
16 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I mean, Russian
17 and, you know, Filipino or something, that might pose
18 some challenges.
19 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Commissioner Masters, you do
20 also have same language -- and it may be a different
21 language interpreter line, and often used in Kodiak for
22 Tagalog.
23 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Cathy?
24 **MS. SATTERFIELD:** Yeah. I just want to add, I
25 am currently working on our language access plan for the

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1 Department of Law. And the plan -- there's several
2 components to it. Like Rick was talking, our web site
3 has a lot of these brochures, these victim service
4 brochures, translated into five languages.
5 But in addition to that, our language access
6 plan puts together our training plan that we're going to
7 be implementing annually. Rick was talking earlier
8 about maybe doing the sex-trafficking training during
9 these regional conferences that we're going to do.
10 Well, we're also going to be doing training on language
11 access, so there's quite a bit in this plan. And once
12 we get it done -- and John Skidmore and I are in the
13 final drafting stages of it -- then we're going to be
14 submitting it to the federal government.
15 It's going to be on our web site, and it's
16 something that we know we're going to be sharing with
17 law enforcement and other organizations in the State of
18 Alaska that have not developed their plan yet, so it's
19 pretty comprehensive.
20 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Cathy.
21 Well, I'm hearing -- I think we've got that
22 covered, but maybe I'm -- go ahead, Michelle.
23 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I don't know if we
24 necessarily have it covered, but I'm also thinking --
25 and you're probably going to go right where I'm maybe

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1 going, but I'm trying to think of how this practically
2 is used in rural-like areas in Alaska where, you know,
3 we have a victim of a sex crime and our investigator is
4 trying to communicate with a victim that doesn't speak
5 English fluently and whether or not access over a
6 telephone line is viable with the complexities of the
7 issues we're dealing with.

8 You know, I know that we try within our own
9 organization to employ the help of people that have that
10 language as a first or second language. I know that we
11 utilize shelter volunteers as well and professionals as
12 well. It's not as simple necessarily as accessing a --
13 I'm sorry. Go ahead.

14 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Go ahead,
15 Michelle.

16 **MS. DEWITT:** I think Commissioner Masters kind
17 of went where I would bring this conversation, which is
18 where I think that we might -- I think there's a danger
19 that we might want to believe we're doing a better job
20 than the reality of on the ground in an emergency
21 interacting with the person.

22 Because, I think, as things go through the
23 systems, plans can be executed, interpreters can be
24 identified and set up. But in that right-now situation,
25 I don't see that happening the way that it should. Or

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1 more frequently, if it's identified that somebody needs
2 an interpreter -- and I believe that most of the times
3 it's not identified correctly that somebody needs an
4 interpreter -- a friend or family member is pulled in
5 who maybe isn't the best person to interpret in that
6 situation for a sensitive issue like a sexual assault or
7 human trafficking or domestic violence. I think that we
8 still have a ways to go on this issue.

9 I think people do the best they can, and I
10 think we can do better. And I think it's important that
11 we note this in our recommendations. And I can tell you
12 many, many stories, but I won't take our time -- I won't
13 take our time today doing that. But even on a recent,
14 very high-profile case in our community, several
15 different law enforcement agencies that interacted with
16 a family member on a very sensitive and critical case,
17 and nobody had offered an interpreter until we set up an
18 appointment with the language interpreter center.

19 The different officials working with the
20 family members didn't know what their resources were.
21 And even when it came time to -- for that person to
22 apply for violent crime compensation, they didn't have
23 available the form in the language that person needed,
24 and so we needed to have that translated. I really
25 think this needs to stay on the table.

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1 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. That's
2 fine. I'll accept that. We'll do a recommendation
3 that -- I mean, certainly these victims can be many
4 nationalities and cultures. And I think we should, you
5 know, develop protocols to make sure we do what we can
6 to provide language access in an emergency basis and
7 otherwise.

8 **MS. SAILORS:** And I think our protective
9 services workers, one of the ways we try and tackle the
10 challenge of language is when we go out, particularly on
11 an emergency call, we try to partner with the Native
12 ICWA workers and so forth and jointly work with the
13 families.

14 I know at some point in time family members
15 are not the best and so we have sort of a -- we try and
16 create a relationship there that allows us to bring this
17 person in and have them translate for us, too.

18 So I don't think it's just a matter of
19 translation services over phone lines. I don't think
20 we'll ever get complete availability of people on site
21 at the moment, but I think there are other kind of human
22 resource ways to deal with this life partnering and
23 creating a more formalized partnering around these kinds
24 of issues.

25 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. That's

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1 fair.

2 The next one I have is to clarify that sex
3 trafficking is a crime eligible for the Violent Crimes
4 Compensation Board and are provided the same assurances
5 as DV and SA victims.

6 Rick, please?

7 **MR. SVOBODNY:** That is in the governor's crime
8 bill.

9 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. So we don't
10 need to make a specific recommendation about that?

11 **MR. SVOBODNY:** That's right.

12 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Good.
13 Thank you.

14 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Well, assuming the bill passes.

15 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** So do we want to
16 mention it and point out it is in the governor's crime
17 bill?

18 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** If the task force would
19 like, I could put down that, you know, we support
20 these --

21 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Yeah, I suppose
22 so.

23 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** We support the bill as a
24 whole.

25 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, do we all

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1 agree that's a lot of our goal, to -- okay. Then let's
2 mention it in the report. It's part of the bill and we
3 support the governor's crime bill in that respect.
4 The next two are somewhat related. Establish
5 a safe harbor against prostitution charges for minors,
6 which I was -- and then the second is vacate
7 prostitution convictions for victims of trafficking.
8 Are either of those two addressed, Rick, in
9 the governor's crime bill?
10 **MR. SVOBODNY:** No. And they go to -- back to
11 the issue of pretrial diversion also.
12 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I was just going
13 to say, I mean, as I heard Ree describe the DJJ program,
14 almost the entire juvenile system is on some level a
15 diversion from the criminal --
16 **MS. SAILORS:** Yeah.
17 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** -- system. So
18 don't we offer juvenile -- minors right now, don't they
19 have kind of a safe harbor, as it were, or am I
20 misunderstanding the term?
21 **MS. SAILORS:** Well --
22 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Go ahead.
23 **MS. SAILORS:** Go ahead, Rick.
24 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Well, I think that this phrase
25 "safe harbor," people use it in -- as I've looked at

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1 different states, it means something in different
2 states. It means decriminalizing prostitution. It
3 means expungement. It means pretrial diversion. It
4 means classes. So each state has kind of a different
5 interpretation as to what it means.
6 My interpretation of what people were trying
7 to get to here was to eliminate the criminals offense.
8 If you do that, you don't have to worry about pretrial
9 diversion because there's no crime to charge --
10 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay.
11 **MR. SVOBODNY:** -- them with. But I suspect
12 that people mean -- I don't know what people mean by it
13 in this context.
14 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I thank you.
15 Let me ask you, how do people feel about
16 changing it -- would we have to change the law so that
17 it's not a crime? I mean, I guess now under DJJ, you
18 can -- you may not get prosecuted for it during --
19 charged with prostitution, but you're going to have to
20 go into some type of thing. Are we talking about having
21 to change the law so that it's simply you can't get
22 arrested for prostitution if you're under 18?
23 **MR. SVOBODNY:** We should hear from Health and
24 Social Services. The problem with that is --
25 **MS. SAILORS:** DJJ has jurisdictional issues.

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1 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Yeah. What do you do with the
2 child? I mean, if it's not a crime for somebody under
3 18, DJJ says, "We have no authority over this child. We
4 can't provide any service because we don't have
5 jurisdiction."
6 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** All right. That's
7 fair.
8 So do we need to make any recommendation about
9 this, about minors getting caught in -- it sounds like
10 it's being addressed in kind of a diversion program
11 right now that they in effect have a safe harbor. Maybe
12 not one where it's not a crime, but do they have a safe
13 harbor where they don't have to be worried about
14 prosecution and the benefits of the potential treatment
15 they can get exceed the whole criminal, you know,
16 potential of it?
17 **MR. SVOBODNY:** I would like to hear what Ree
18 has to say about it, but Tony Newman, who -- he's a
19 director. Is that right? The head of DJJ says that in
20 fact they do institutionalize. They have people at
21 McLaughlin, but in the last several years they've
22 never -- they haven't got to the point of having them
23 found as a delinquent minor, which would be kind of the
24 equivalent of an adult being found guilty.
25 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Ree?

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1 **MS. SAILORS:** And the other thing -- well, my
2 only worry, too, is that if we are talking about making
3 a -- you know, making this a crime and also subject to a
4 sex offender listing and stuff like that for a juvenile,
5 if you divert them and they do their time, so to speak,
6 in their treatment programs and they are successful,
7 then the question becomes -- and, you know, it's related
8 to expungement -- what happens to that information and
9 does it follow that kid all the way through life.
10 And so I think that's the other piece, is the
11 what is the impact of having been arraigned on those
12 kinds of things, but at the same time successfully going
13 through your rehabilitation.
14 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I thought juvenile
15 records were sealed.
16 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Pardon me?
17 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I thought juvenile
18 records were sealed.
19 **MS. ADAMS:** What about non-juvenile records?
20 I mean, this was an issue that came up for me again and
21 again just interviewing victims of sex trafficking, was
22 the impossibility of finding jobs because a prostitution
23 charge stays on their record. So is there ever a case
24 where you can have your record expunged so you can find
25 a job and move on?

1 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Well, there isn't -- there are
2 two questions there. One is juveniles, and the juvenile
3 records are confidential. There's a difference between
4 confidential and sealed. The confidential record, the
5 parties -- the juvenile, their lawyers, the courts --
6 can have access. A sealed record is one that the court
7 has to enter an order before anybody can look at it. So
8 there's not a public record of -- for a juvenile.
9 For an adult, to answer your question, there
10 is no expungement in this state. And, you know, if you
11 really want to do that, you're going to go back now to,
12 you know, the recommendation that you just made to say
13 that these people can be eligible for violent crimes
14 compensation. There's going to be no record.
15 There are all kinds of things that -- if, for
16 example, the governor's bill created a tort that says
17 that these people can sue the pimp. Well, there's no
18 record. They have been destroyed.
19 **MS. ADAMS:** Well, for example, a woman that I
20 spent a good deal of time with was a sex-trafficking
21 victim in a classical sense. Their parents opened a
22 brothel and forced her to work in it as a minor. She
23 was arrested nine times as a prostitute. She eventually
24 got out, got some help through the Catholic church, I
25 believe, and graduated from UAA and could not get a job

1 how to handle this situation.
2 So I can't say I know the answers. I know
3 we've been working on it for several months and will
4 continue working on it. And there may well be --
5 there's a possibility that there would be legislation
6 this year.
7 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, let's -- let
8 me just -- do you have to leave? You're catching a
9 plane, Michelle.
10 **MS. DEWITT:** I have a little bit -- I have a
11 little bit more time.
12 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. So we've
13 still got a ways to go. We were going to meet again,
14 but the hope was to meet to finalize the report, not to
15 necessarily continue to review the recommendations,
16 which we can do if we have to.
17 I wouldn't say I made a commitment, but I told
18 the speaker of the House and the Senate president that
19 we'd be filing -- he'd get our report by February 15,
20 which is a month after the legislation called for it.
21 So I don't know what the consensus of the
22 group is. We can go through here quickly and try to yea
23 or nay up or down and then work on them or we can try to
24 schedule another meeting to finish the recommendations.
25 I'll probably be in Juneau, if that's the case, which is

1 anywhere. Clean from drugs, everything else. Could not
2 land employment and had to start her own business.
3 But when she was talking to me, she said, "If
4 there's any way to go back and be able to have that
5 expunged from my record and noted that I was a victim of
6 a crime. I wasn't" -- but at that time there was no
7 acknowledgment of sex trafficking. So for people that
8 who -- you know, years ago even, is there any way to
9 have a clean record?
10 **MS. SAILORS:** We're struggling with this right
11 now because of the background check unit that we have
12 and how extensive their reach is in terms of previous
13 records, et cetera, kind of thing and also whether or
14 not there is any redemption or -- right now some of
15 these employment-related background checks, there is no
16 classification like what you see in sort of the criminal
17 side of barring conditions, and so everything is forever
18 and there is no getting off except for if you initially
19 want to go before a committee.
20 But we are struggling with that and there is a
21 whole entire work group that's working on those kinds of
22 things. So I can tell you that it has happened that a
23 juvenile's arrest record has been pulled in to a
24 background check and that it does interfere with
25 employment. And we're trying to find ways to figure out

1 okay, but I just -- what's the sense of the group?
2 What's the wishes of the group?
3 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Well, just my initial
4 reaction probably is that -- I'd hate to go through
5 these going yea or nay. I think it does a disservice to
6 the other recommendations to not have the same scrutiny
7 that we just had the first half of -- you know, by
8 virtue of it being on the --
9 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Can't argue with
10 that. Can't argue with that.
11 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I'm going to be in
12 Juneau -- you know, I don't think -- I think we could do
13 this over the phone as well, telephonic. I don't think
14 it has to be in person.
15 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, we stopped
16 here. Let's do this then. Let's -- can we go another
17 15 minutes, do you think, Michelle?
18 **MS. DEWITT:** Yeah.
19 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Let's go another
20 15 minutes. Then we're going to stop and I'd ask staff
21 to find the time in the next week to get -- to finish
22 going through the recommendations, recognizing -- just
23 find times and we'll do it by phone if we have to.
24 And if people are going to be in town -- but
25 we'll do it by phone. I think we can do it by phone if

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1 we have to.
2 So on this safe harboring against prostitution
3 charges, I'm hearing several things. One is that if
4 you're a minor, that the fact that you were arrested for
5 a minor and charged as a minor at some point can come up
6 and has come up in some kind of background search, and
7 so that defeats a little bit of the purpose of what
8 we're trying to do here, recognizing that minors at that
9 underdeveloped age don't always make good choices and we
10 don't want to saddle them with something they're going
11 to be carrying around for the rest of their lives.
12 So it sounds like -- well, I don't -- are we
13 going to make a recommended change in the law to
14 allow minor -- I mean, those records are confidential,
15 so I don't -- that's the other complication with it.
16 **MS. SAILORS:** You know, I think this is not a
17 cut and dry kind of area and you, yourself, mentioned a
18 few minutes ago about an incorrigible who might go on
19 versus someone who gets victimized and doesn't continue
20 to behave -- that has that set of behaviors.
21 And I think part of me thinks that if we
22 create a system in terms of our registries that are
23 there so that there is a set of criteria or a way to get
24 off, for not just this reason but potentially maybe some
25 other reasons, that that might solve part of this

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1 problem.
2 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Why don't we do
3 this. Why don't we, in terms of the minors -- staff can
4 think about this. I'll give it some thought, talk to
5 Rick, maybe we'll come up with some ideas and then when
6 we meet again have something concrete to suggest.
7 With respect to adults, which is the flip side
8 of the coin, those records are public. They are adults.
9 They should know better, but that doesn't mean that
10 they're not a victim of trafficking. Recommendation to
11 vacate -- and I guess there would have to be a change in
12 the law -- to allow victims to come in and vacate
13 criminal convictions.
14 I believe Rick said right now there is no way
15 to do that at present. I mean, your criminal
16 convictions as an adult follow you around for the rest
17 of your life.
18 **MR. SVOBODNY:** In this state.
19 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Yeah.
20 **MR. SVOBODNY:** The state of Oregon has an
21 expungement statute and says in that statute that when
22 somebody asks you, have you been convicted, you can say
23 no. On the other hand, I just looked at the judicial
24 application for the State of Alaska. And it says, "Have
25 you ever been convicted, had your record expunged, been

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1 in a courtroom?" And I know that the police, in their
2 job applications, have similar language. And, you know,
3 I suspect that if you were to lie on the judicial
4 application or the application to be an Alaska State
5 Trooper, you might not -- even though we had a law like
6 Oregon's that said you could lie, it might not --
7 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Most -- and that's
8 a fair point. Most forms don't ask for expungement. I
9 mean, the fact is, if you can get your record expunged,
10 there must be a pretty good reason for it. I don't
11 think we can be all things to all people here, but what
12 we should deal with -- if we want to vacate convictions
13 for adults for prostitution upon application. If they
14 are asked, have you ever had your -- I mean, they have
15 to answer honestly. But, again, we can't rewrite
16 history.
17 And as I said, if you can get it expunged,
18 there must be a pretty darn good reason for it. I don't
19 know a lot of employers who would hold that against you.
20 So I don't want to deal with expungement and get into
21 all that, but how do people feel about vacating --
22 allowing change in the law so that victims of
23 prostitution, if they can show that they were a victim
24 of trafficking, can expunge prostitution convictions on
25 their record with the point that Gwen was making?

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1 **MS. DEWITT:** I would like to see it.
2 **MS. ADAMS:** I would, too. And I would put it
3 as a high priority.
4 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay.
5 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I think it's a complex.
6 This is not an easy thing. Is there any set of crimes
7 that if somebody commits that they can expunge those?
8 **MR. SVOBODNY:** In Alaska?
9 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Yeah. Besides the
10 juvenile records.
11 **MR. SVOBODNY:** No. And, frankly, I'd be
12 concerned about us opening that door.
13 **MS. ADAMS:** But we're saying in essence that
14 we have for years looked at prostitution as
15 prostitution. We are now looking at it as also
16 trafficking. So if there's a case where you can make it
17 that you didn't commit a crime, you were a victim of a
18 crime, that record should be expunged.
19 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Well, the difficulty
20 here is you did commit a crime. You're a victim of a
21 crime, but you were compelled to commit a crime. That's
22 the difficulty.
23 **MS. ADAMS:** Yes. I agree.
24 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** So it's much more
25 complex than that. And I don't know if this is -- I

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1 think this -- without this being analyzed further,
2 without this, you know, being thought out a lot more, I
3 would say no. But I would say yes to this being in the
4 area of -- you know, we're already going to -- if we do
5 this -- if we continue the task force, I think this is a
6 perfect working group, just on this issue alone.
7 **MS. SAILORS:** Yeah.
8 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay.
9 **MS. SAILORS:** I kind of coin it as how to
10 handle redemption.
11 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, I think
12 we've been kind of going on a consensus basis. We
13 probably should continue. But I tend to agree with
14 Michelle and Gwen, that there's a burden on the
15 applicant to show that they were a victim of
16 trafficking, that's a burden on them. But if they can
17 meet that burden, I don't have problems with them
18 expunging it.
19 Having said that, you have a perfectly
20 reasonable point of view, Ree has expressed some
21 reservations, so I don't think we should go forward with
22 the recommendation, but we should point it out and call
23 it out as something that merits some review and
24 attention and further action.
25 **MS. SAILORS:** Yeah. I would agree. I think

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1 this has a lot of tentacles and it does need more
2 thought.
3 And, first of all, I want to apologize for
4 using the word "redemption" and its implications.
5 But I do think this is really complicated and
6 it really reaches a lot of different places that aren't
7 necessarily on the surface when you first think about
8 it, so --
9 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** *Ree, excuse me. I*
10 want to keep going. We've got to break here pretty
11 quick and I want to try to get through as much as we
12 can. I appreciate what you're saying there.
13 The next one is develop a funding mechanism
14 for victim's services or modify the existing funding
15 mechanisms in the areas of DV.
16 Cori, do you want to expand on that?
17 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** No. I mean -- and I don't
18 know the existing structure, but I think we've got a
19 number of comments from people just about making sure
20 that this is an area that when it comes to funding and
21 grants, that organizations can specifically get funding
22 to deal with the trauma that occurs because of
23 trafficking and not lump it in with domestic violence
24 and sexual assault. Just make that a possibility.
25 I don't know what's possible now or if there

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1 should be, you know, specific language or if a new
2 funding source -- I think there are different ways to do
3 it, but that was where the concern came in.
4 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, certainly
5 there's a number of NGOs who are deeply involved in this
6 and are already providing services and, I think, would
7 come off as nonthreatening and more likely to solicit
8 cooperation and assistance from victims when they come
9 forward.
10 And I think they -- some of them or all of
11 them do receive maybe some form of grant funding or
12 funding from the State. I mean, I think we should
13 acknowledge that and acknowledge the services they
14 already provide and that, you know, if we're to make an
15 impact in this area they need to continue providing
16 those services or more and, you know, it's a worthy
17 source of funding for the State to contribute to.
18 Do we all agree with that?
19 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I do agree with that,
20 although it needs to be kind of defined somewhat. There
21 is a couple different mechanisms, I think, that funded
22 programs can approach the State for additional funding
23 appropriations. I would be very leery taking any
24 funding structure through like, for example, the CDVSA
25 grant programs and say we're going to take this pot of

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1 funding and we're going to reallocate it out because
2 that pot of funding right now doesn't meet the needs
3 that are out there. So I would be very leery on that
4 piece.
5 But trying to quantify what this is into a
6 funding request as a proposal for a funding
7 appropriation, I think, would be appropriate. And it
8 would have to be laid out in a proposal format of what's
9 the cost and where -- let's say, TWC, for example, if
10 they want to provide this service and they have a need
11 to provide the service, that they can quantify what that
12 additional expense is to provide it.
13 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I'm assuming
14 applicants need to come forward and show the need for
15 the funding and what they propose to do for it. I
16 certainly don't want to advocate changing that, but I'm
17 just saying making a recommendation that acknowledges
18 that their organization is already involved in this and
19 that we can't lick this problem enough without the
20 continued assistance and -- they're accountable for the
21 funds they get, but I think we just have to send a
22 recommendation to the legislature that these types of
23 issues are probably notwithstanding -- they should
24 continue to be accountable and are worthy of
25 consideration. The State should consider additional

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1 grants as they, hopefully, expand the services that they
2 provide. Something along those lines.
3 Cori, do you have a sense for that?
4 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** Uh-huh.
5 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Put some language
6 together for people to look at.
7 And then the last one we'll do before we let
8 Michelle catch her flight -- this is kind of the same.
9 In fact, all three of these. Assist organizations in
10 establishing -- provide safe, long-term shelter for
11 victims. These are all basically NGO-driven services
12 right now, and they're probably going to continue to be
13 NGO driven. They probably need to be expanded. They
14 probably -- the State probably needs to provide more
15 funding for it, but that should go through the normal
16 grant application processes, accountability, and so on
17 and so forth that exists right now.
18 Can we deal with all three of those the same
19 way, you think?
20 **MS. ADAMS:** Would you wrap the fourth one in
21 there as well?
22 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** That's a good
23 call, Gwen. Yeah. The fourth one at the bottom of the
24 page. Provide safe, both short- and long-term shelter
25 for homeless youth. Now, that's something that -- if

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1 they're youth, if they're minors, that's something that
2 probably falls upon the State more and HSS, I'm
3 thinking.
4 Ree, is that right?
5 **MS. SAILORS:** Yeah.
6 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** But let's -- I
7 think all four of these we can cover.
8 Go ahead, Cori.
9 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** On the last one, I did
10 want to point out -- and it's something that Michelle
11 brought up earlier. This deals with kind of what we're
12 talking about now, but also the issue of there are a lot
13 of shelters and service organizations that cannot
14 house -- cannot shelter unescorted youth.
15 And I got a lot of comments from people that,
16 you know, they can help them during the day, but then
17 they can't stay there at night. That was just an issue
18 that I think is separate than just the general shelter
19 or the State taking care of them, because the State is
20 not always going to be there to take in these youth.
21 So I just want to put that out there that that
22 was mentioned multiple times, and I think it's a little
23 bit separate than the discussion you're having now.
24 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Michelle?
25 **MS. DEWITT:** I would agree. And this may be

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1 something at our next teleconference we get into a
2 little bit more because there may be an opportunity to
3 look at the different statutes that set out who can
4 provide services to what age group to see if we can
5 provides flexibility for any organizations that would
6 want to expand a little bit in that area or not -- I
7 don't know -- but it might be worth some examination.
8 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Looking at what --
9 the State requirements if you're going to -- what
10 steps or hoops do you have to jump through to house
11 minors without escorts.
12 **MS. DEWITT:** Exactly.
13 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Well, that
14 would be something -- I'm unaware of that. I don't know
15 what the requirements are, but maybe that is something
16 we need to look at.
17 At this point, I count like seven.
18 **MS. ADAMS:** Yep.
19 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** About seven of
20 these left. But as Commissioner Masters said, they're
21 all important. I don't think we should blow through
22 them. I think we should stop for today, let Michelle
23 catch her flight. Staff will be in touch. And all I'd
24 ask is if people would try to cooperate in finding the
25 earliest practical time for us to resume this discussion

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1 and get through the remaining items. In the meantime,
2 staff will be coordinating with Cathy and Marika, I
3 think, to some extent and will be working on the draft.
4 They've already got a draft of the report, the
5 background and so on and so forth put together.
6 Have we distributed that?
7 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** I have not distributed
8 that, but I can.
9 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I don't think
10 there's any reason not to distribute the draft of kind
11 of the preliminary stuff, background and so on and so
12 forth, now. The recommendations, we recognize you're
13 going to have to wait until we're done with the whole
14 thing, but, I mean, there's stuff that Cori can get
15 started on now.
16 And let's try to get together again at the
17 earliest opportunity to finish reviewing the
18 recommendations. And then if -- we'll set a date for
19 the final meeting. In between the next meeting and the
20 final meeting, they'll be hopefully finalizing the
21 report. And then when we last meet, the idea would be
22 to go through and just handwrite-in or interlineate or
23 on the computer any last-minute changes, nuances,
24 recommendations.
25 So there's a lot to read. There will be a lot

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1 to read. I just ask people to focus and find time in
 2 their busy schedules to devote to this, these last
 3 critical steps, so we can get it down and to the
 4 legislature.
 5 But any closing comments beyond that?
 6 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Just one thing. Do you
 7 mind if I do a one-minute overview of a real quick phone
 8 call to the National Center at Lisa's --
 9 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Oh, you already
 10 did it?
 11 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Yes.
 12 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Good.
 13 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** This is my
 14 understanding, is that when somebody calls a national
 15 hotline immediately what they do is determine whether
 16 it's an emergency or nonemergency. If it's an emergency
 17 where the person is trying to get extraction out of a
 18 situation, then they're encouraged to either call 911 or
 19 the center will call 911, whoever that agency is
 20 for, to get them out of that situation.
 21 If it's nonemergency, then they start going
 22 through a list -- they try to determine what sort of
 23 services the individual wants or needs. And then they
 24 go to their list that they have with the organizations
 25 that have given them their information. Some of

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1 those -- only some of those organizations are on the
 2 public part of the website that you described, but they
 3 also have other organizations that are not on the public
 4 side that are then brought into the conversation of how
 5 to get that person services.
 6 They also have the experts -- they have a
 7 regional -- "expert" is not the right word, but
 8 coordinator or person that's responsible for handling
 9 each area. And that individual, if the State requests,
 10 will help to identify more organizations that could be
 11 key organizations to bring into that group of potential
 12 resources that are identified or brought to bear, I
 13 guess.
 14 The other part was that the call-takers
 15 themselves are trained. They have 60 hours of
 16 training -- that's mandatory -- in the area of sex
 17 trafficking and the issues of sex trafficking,
 18 investigations, and things like that. So they get
 19 considerable training in that area as well.
 20 And a lot of them -- most of the call-takers
 21 that they have on staff come from other organizations
 22 where they were emergency call-takers in other
 23 organization, such as shelters and such like that, so
 24 they have quite a bit of experience in that area.
 25 So I just want to make sure -- that's kind of

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1 the one-minute overview of the national hotline.
 2 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Thank you,
 3 Commissioner. I mean, I think we talked and resolved to
 4 mention that as well as, you know, possibly setting up
 5 the State one, but I don't think -- hasn't talked me out
 6 of the need for a state one, but it helps to know more
 7 about the national one. And probably, you know, if we
 8 do public service announcements and the like, we can
 9 possibly put up both numbers even. But in any event,
 10 thank you for that independent research.
 11 Anything else then for today? If not, we'll
 12 adjourn.
 13 We're going to set up the next meeting
 14 telephonically, and we'll finish this up then. Thank
 15 you.
 16 And let me say to the people online, thank you
 17 for your attention.
 18 And for those here present, thank you for all
 19 you do, because I know you're involved in this on the
 20 front lines and I appreciate everything you do.
 21 So with that, we'll sign off.
 22 (Proceedings adjourned at 4:16 p.m.)
 23
 24
 25

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1 **REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE**
 2 **I, VALERIE MARTINEZ, RPR, and Notary Public in**
 3 **and for the State of Alaska do hereby certify:**
 4 **That the foregoing proceedings were taken before**
 5 **me at the time and place herein set forth; that the**
 6 **proceedings were reported stenographically by me and**
 7 **later transcribed under my direction by computer**
 8 **transcription; that the foregoing is a true record of**
 9 **the proceedings taken at that time; and that I am not a**
 10 **party to nor have I any interest in the outcome of the**
 11 **action herein contained.**
 12 **IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed**
 13 **my hand and affixed my seal this 7th day of February,**
 14 **2013.**
 15
 16
 17 **VALERIE MARTINEZ,**
 18 **Registered Professional Reporter**
 19 **Notary Public for Alaska**
 20
 21 **My Commission Expires: June 22, 2014**
 22
 23
 24
 25

MINUTES

State of Alaska Task Force on the Crimes of Human Trafficking, Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking

Thursday, January 31, 2013, 8:00 a.m.

Teleconference: 1-800-315-6338, password 3600#

(Please note that the full transcript is attached and has been adopted
as the minutes for this meeting.)

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PUBLIC HEARING
STATE OF ALASKA TASK FORCE ON THE CRIMES OF
HUMAN TRAFFICKING, PROMOTING PROSTITUTION AND
SEX TRAFFICKING

Taken January 31, 2013
Commencing at 8:00 a.m.

Volume I - Pages 1 - 65, inclusive

Reported by: Valerie Martinez, RPR

Page 2

1 A-P-P-E-A-R-A-N-C-E-S

2 Michael C. Geraghty (appearing telephonically)
3 Attorney General
4 Chair of Task Force

4 Ree Sailors (appearing telephonically)
5 Deputy Commissioner
6 Department of Health and Social Services

6 Commissioner Joe Masters (appearing telephonically)
7 Department of Public Safety

8 Gwen Adams (appearing telephonically)
9 Pastor of Women's Ministries
10 ChangePoint Church
11 Anchorage, Alaska

11 Michelle DeWitt (appearing telephonically)
12 Executive Director
13 Tundra Women's Coalition
14 Bethel, Alaska

12 Rick Svobodny (appearing telephonically)
13 Deputy Attorney General
14 Criminal Division

14 Cori Badgley Mills (appearing telephonically)
15 Assistant Attorney General

16 Cathy Satterfield (appearing telephonically)
17 Office of the Attorney General
18 Victim Program Coordinator
19 Criminal Division

18 Taken by:

19 Valerie Martinez, RPR (appearing telephonically)

20

21

22 BE IT KNOWN that the aforementioned proceedings were
23 taken at the time duly noted on the title page, before
24 Valerie Martinez, Registered Professional Reporter and
25 Notary Public within and for the State of Alaska.

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1 previously identified themselves: Rick Svobodny, Cathy
2 Satterfield, and Marika Athens from the Department of
3 Law. And Lisa Morena is online as well.

4 Should we hold for just -- pause here for a
5 minute to let Michelle join us?

6 **MS. SAILORS:** That's fine with me.

7 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Yeah. Why don't
8 we. I hate to -- sorry.

9 **MS. ADAMS:** I thought she was on the line.

10 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** It was my fault.

11 But let's just pause, Madame Reporter, here for a minute
12 and Cori is going to try to call. And I should mention,
13 Cori Mills is also here for the Department of Law. So
14 let's go off record for a second.

15 (Off the record.)

16 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** We already took a
17 roll call, and I apologize. It didn't dawn on me that
18 you were here. But everybody else is present. We've
19 identified everybody. The usual suspects from the
20 Department of Law are here in terms of staff and then
21 Lisa Moreno is also on the line. And Gwen, Commissioner
22 Masters, and Ree Sailors from DHS are also on the line.

23 So in any event, let's go back on the record
24 and resume the meeting.

25 Has somebody joined us?

Page 3

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** At this time I'll
3 call the meeting of the task force on human and sex
4 trafficking to order. It's January 31st, 2013,
5 8:00 a.m. This is a continuation of our meeting from
6 Monday in which we're trying to continue finalizing our
7 recommendations.

8 Let me do -- take roll call. This is Mike
9 Geraghty. I'm here, the attorney general, as chairman.

10 Commissioner Masters?

11 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Present.

12 Gwen Davis? Gwen Adams. I'm sorry, Gwen.

13 Gwen?

14 **MS. ADAMS:** Present.

15 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. You're a
16 little difficult to hear, at least for me.

17 **MS. ADAMS:** Is that better?

18 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** That's better.

19 Thank you.

20 And then did Michelle join us? Michelle
21 DeWitt?

22 And Ree Sailors from DHSS?

23 **MS. SAILORS:** Present.

24 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Thanks.

25 And then other staff and the people who are --

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1 **MS. ORELL:** This is Laurie Orell.

2 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** And your
3 affiliation, Laurie?

4 **MS. ORELL:** I'm with the McDowell Group.

5 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Thank you.

6 **MS. MORENO:** Hello. Excuse me. I'm Maria
7 Moreno, not Lisa Moreno. I'm a victim advocate at Fort
8 Wainwright.

9 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I apologize.

10 There is a Lisa Moreno who has been listening in and has
11 been involved in this.

12 **MS. MORENO:** Oh, okay.

13 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I apologize,
14 ma'am. And I was told that Lisa might be attending, so
15 I was completely faked out there. I'm sorry. Thank you
16 for joining us.

17 With those corrections, and unless there's
18 anybody else on line who has not identified themselves,
19 let's get going. The agenda has been distributed.

20 Unless there's any changes to it, without objection,
21 we'll approve the agenda as it's been presented.

22 Next it's staff presentation on research.

23 Cori, do you want to explain a little bit of
24 what you've came up with, some of the questions that
25 came up at the last meeting and what you've done to look

Page 6

1 into that?

2 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** Yes. So we did spend a

3 little time looking further into two items mainly, the

4 administrative subpoenas that we discussed expanding

5 that in scope in order to be able to get at the

6 trafficking issue, in particular. Right now I believe

7 it's limited. And Marika Athens will talk about that in

8 a minute.

9 And then the other item that I looked further

10 into was the unaccompanied minors and shelter, in

11 particular for unaccompanied minors. And really what I

12 discovered as I looked further into that -- and I

13 believe the deputy commissioner, Ree Sailors, can also

14 assist on this topic -- but it's much more complicated

15 than just a lack of a licensing scheme. It has to do

16 with opening themselves up to liability. And if you

17 change one statute, that affects other statutes.

18 And so I think this is something -- as staff,

19 I think I'd recommend it as something that needs to be

20 looked into and worked out, maybe something else to kind

21 of put under the working group as something that's been

22 identified as an important problem, but it's not as easy

23 as just changing a few words or adding it into a

24 statute. So I wanted to give the task force that

25 information.

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1 I also -- before I hand it over to Marika to

2 talk about administrative subpoenas, I wanted to let you

3 know that some of the items today that we're going to go

4 over that are on this list don't -- I found by my own

5 research don't really need to be addressed.

6 Particularly, there's two under protections that are

7 legislation for child welfare where you're changing the

8 definition of "caregiver" as well as including the

9 offense of sex trafficking as a reason for terminating

10 parental rights.

11 In talking to our -- to OCS, Office of

12 Children's Services, those are just not necessary. You

13 can -- the termination of parental rights will already

14 occur under our current law, even if sex trafficking

15 isn't specifically spelled out or human trafficking. So

16 those are two items that probably don't need to be

17 addressed by the task force.

18 Marika, would you just explain briefly about

19 the administrative subpoenas and expanding that and what

20 it should mean to the statutes?

21 **MS. ATHENS:** Yes. This is Marika Athens. I

22 think -- I did a little research. As long as we don't

23 expand the scope of administrative subpoena -- that is,

24 what you can obtain by it -- I don't think there's a

25 constitutional problem with saying it also applies to

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1 the sex and human trafficking statute. So you would

2 just need to add in under the enumerated statutes that

3 the administrative subpoena applies to the relevant

4 statutes we're talking about here. I think as long as

5 you don't broaden what you can obtain by that subpoena,

6 there's not a constitutional problem.

7 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. How does

8 the administrative subpoena statute -- I mean, the one

9 that we deal that goes after child pornographers and

10 stuff like that, does that just incorporate the child

11 pornography criminal statutes or --

12 **MS. ATHENS:** No. Right now it's statute, just

13 so it's clear for the record, AS 44.23.080. And it just

14 spells out that it only applies for specific statutes,

15 and those statutes are ones that apply to child

16 pornography and online enticement.

17 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. So if we --

18 now we've got a human trafficking and sex trafficking

19 statute, so we would just amend the Title 44 statute to

20 include -- if we wanted to make this change, we would

21 just cover it that way?

22 **MS. ATHENS:** Exactly.

23 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Before

24 we -- any comments or discussion on that? We're not

25 making a recommendation. I just want to -- is there any

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1 comments or discussion on the research on what Cori and

2 Marika have disclosed?

3 **MS. SAILORS:** I just want to say thank you,

4 Cori, for pointing out those two things that are related

5 to DHSS's world. And we agree.

6 **THE REPORTER:** And who just said that? I'm

7 sorry.

8 **MS. SAILORS:** This is Ree Sailors.

9 **THE REPORTER:** Thank you.

10 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** And this is Mike

11 Geraghty again. I was going to comment, we adjourned --

12 the meeting last time, there was a discussion about the

13 ability of the victims to have their records cleared

14 and, you know, a reference to safe harbor provisions and

15 the like.

16 Katie TePas circulated some information from

17 an outfit called Polaris, and there are a number of

18 states who have enacted statutes that allow for safe

19 harbor provisions and also allow a victim's record -- a

20 victim of trafficking to have their record cleared.

21 Anyway, I've asked Cori to find those statutes and to

22 just look at Washington.

23 Washington has been kind of a leader in this

24 area because its attorney general last year was

25 president to the National Association of Attorney

1 Generals and his topic -- presidents always have topics
2 or initiatives that they tackle -- was human and sex
3 trafficking. So Rob McKenna was very involved. I think
4 Washington has been out in front on this.

5 So I've asked Cori to find those statutes and
6 take a look at them. I know Gwen and Michelle felt
7 strongly that we should try to find something to do with
8 that. And I think -- I've still got an open mind about
9 it. I don't want to characterize Commissioner Masters

10 one way or the other because we really didn't have
11 anything in front of us to look at, but I think we
12 should look at it. And I'm sure we don't have it here
13 today. We just got Katie's e-mail yesterday, as I
14 recall, yesterday morning.

15 In any event, I do think that's something
16 worth looking at. At least two of the task force
17 members feel strongly about it, and I think it merits a
18 look see. Any comments on that?

19 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** This is Cori. And Cathy
20 Satterfield did find those Washington statutes. I just
21 haven't had a chance to look at them, but I can
22 distribute them to the tasks force after the meeting.

23 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Let's do
24 that. Let's get them distributed to the task force and
25 take a look at them. And then what I may do here just

1 to -- because -- I mean, Cathy and Gwen and Michelle
2 have expressed support for the principle. What I may do
3 is just let's take a look at them and then I may just
4 confer with Commission Masters and DHSS and see if we
5 can find some consensus and maybe we'll include those
6 provisions -- if we can find a consensus, we'll include
7 those provisions, at least for discussion purposes, in
8 the recommendations that you're preparing, Cori.

9 You know, we won't make any final decisions
10 about it, but I don't know that we can -- we don't have
11 enough time probably to have another meeting to go over
12 it again, so I may exercise some executive authority and
13 try to handle it that way. But I do want to take a look
14 at it.

15 Is that all right with you, Commissioner?

16 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Yeah. Attorney
17 general, this is Joe. I don't want to characterize my
18 comments as being that I'm against this occurring. I
19 think that if there are statutes, they've got to be very
20 carefully crafted. And, you know, I certainly agree a
21 notion that a victim of sex trafficking is truly a
22 victim and should not be further victimized by not
23 having the capability of having, you know, this cleared
24 from their record or have some mechanism by which to
25 seek that.

1 I think it's a complex issue. I think it's
2 probably suited for a lot more discussion, and now we're
3 moving forward with something like that. But I just
4 want to make sure that that's clear.

5 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, absolutely.
6 I didn't mean to imply that you were against it. I
7 think you were guarded about it. We didn't have any
8 language in front of it. And I was probably guarded,
9 too. I didn't mean to characterize it one way or the
10 other and we'll give it an honest look see.

11 And, actually, Washington is not alone. A
12 number of states -- not the majority of states, but it
13 looked like 10 or 12 states have enacted safe harbor
14 provisions and about this same number have enacted
15 statutes that allow victims to clear their records.

16 Anyway, we'll take a look at it and either
17 report back or put something in the final
18 recommendations for discussion purposes.

19 I was just looking at my notes from where we
20 left off on the list of recommendations, Cori. Is it
21 under protection?

22 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** Correct. I believe the
23 last three on page -- it's the fourth page and there's
24 three that deal with shelter and direct intervention
25 that we were grouping together, as I recall, at the end

1 of the last meeting.

2 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Does
3 everybody have those in front of them then? The pages
4 aren't numbered, but there's "protection, direct
5 intervention; protection, shelter; protection, shelter"
6 there. They're listed as long term in terms of time
7 line, but to assist organizations in establishing
8 intensive street and/or electronic outreach programs;
9 provide safe, longer term shelter for victims of
10 trafficking; provide safe, both short- and long-term,
11 shelter for homeless youth.

12 Now, on that last one, doesn't that bring up
13 the issue of unaccompanied minors?

14 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** It does. And we did
15 discuss that. It's also -- I believe there's a
16 recommendation towards the end that is evaluate creative
17 solutions for the housing of homeless youth.

18 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay.

19 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** So we kind of have two on
20 that topic.

21 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** That's one I think
22 you said, Cori, we recommend we put as one of the goals
23 of the working group or the continuation of this task
24 force in terms of longer-term solutions, that they look
25 at that, because it's a little more complex subject and

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1 may require variations in several statutes and
2 modifications of statutes.
3 In terms of the other first two about existing
4 organizations, I mean, I think obviously, you know,
5 there's organizations out there that are providing that
6 now but they deserve more support and probably financial
7 aid or grants or something, but I suspect we all agree
8 that that's something we need to do or recommend.
9 Any thoughts on that from the other members?
10 Please identify yourselves.
11 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** This is Joe, and I
12 agree with your comments. I -- you know, I think the
13 piece that's fundamentally important is that there be a
14 mechanism that provides immediate shelter, emergency
15 shelter as well, and I don't think the existing programs
16 in the state that are currently out there are situated
17 to do that very effectively.
18 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** What organizations
19 are there that do that now? Does anybody know? Does
20 Covenant House? Is that -- there must be shelters --
21 there's women's shelters probably. I mean, I don't
22 know. I'm asking the question. Are there other
23 organizations out there, Michelle, that you --
24 **MS. SAILORS:** This is Ree Sailors. For what
25 it's worth, I took a look at some of our licensing

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1 information, too -- and I think I mentioned this the
2 other day. From a licensing standpoint, we see there
3 are about 16 statewide that have licenses for shelter
4 capacity, you know, and some of them are larger and
5 smaller. Covenant House is an example of one of them.
6 One of the ones recently closed, Bruce Memorial Home,
7 had been available for those types of things.
8 But we do have that, and I think I counted up
9 about -- they have capacity for like 150, 158 people
10 statewide, and how well they're situated and where
11 they're located and whether or not -- particularly
12 whether or not some of the rural locations -- but
13 they're not big facilities obviously and -- you know, so
14 there is some capacity there.
15 But some of them are coed. Some of them
16 aren't. Some of them are only male. Some are only
17 female. What we really do lack are shelters that are
18 dedicated solely to females in terms of shelters for
19 kids. And there doesn't seem to be a lot of those
20 available, and that really seemed to be pertinent as
21 well.
22 So, you know, the need for shelter capacity is
23 there for a variety of reasons. And we pick kids up
24 through our juvenile justice system and we also
25 sometimes have older kids in our foster care system who

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1 roam about and sometimes need to get placed in foster
2 care -- a temporary shelter -- excuse me. And then also
3 we have instances where we need temporary shelter for
4 folks who are also in an abusive situation. We'd be
5 glad to share that information with Cori.
6 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** This is Mike
7 again. I mean, I -- so we can identify what's out there
8 and we can identify that there's shortcomings, at least
9 in women's shelters. I mean, what do we do to encourage
10 their growth or their proliferation, if anything? I
11 don't want to just make a comment on what the status is.
12 I'd like to make a recommendation. It's easy to say
13 there should be more, but is that all we can say is
14 there should be more? In other words, are there
15 organizations lacking for funding and would start a
16 shelter but for the fact that they can't get a grant or
17 something?
18 **MS. ADAMS:** This is Gwen Adams. I would agree
19 that this is a need. From a processing standpoint, when
20 I have had the need to find shelter for a minor female,
21 on a couple-night basis or a little bit longer term, I
22 was unable to locate anything, so I ended up putting her
23 in a home with some people.
24 One thing that I did hear from one of the
25 trainings I was at was that in Washington they were

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1 looking into a shelter program that runs a little bit
2 more like a state justice care system but only for
3 non-minor -- either people who are at high risk or
4 victims of sex trafficking where they would actually
5 occupy somebody's bedroom in their home and would have
6 to be -- you know, go through a screening process just
7 like you would in foster care. So that was one option
8 that they were looking to do.
9 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Thank you.
10 **MS. DEWITT:** And this is Michelle. If I can
11 just make one comment, and it's about what Ree said
12 about facilities that are available for youths. I just
13 want to make sure everyone knows that the shelters
14 serving adults, like a shelter like TWC, are not unable
15 to take the unescorted minors, as we discussed
16 previously. And that would be -- you know, we do
17 voluntary services. And I'm curious how many of the
18 shelters serving youth could take youth who are not
19 referred by DJJ or OCS. In other words, youths who
20 self-identify or youths a community member brought to
21 their door.
22 **MS. SAILORS:** I can look into that for you,
23 but my impression is that the shelters can -- if they're
24 licensed, can take people in from any source. It's not
25 exclusive to DHSS and our human services and juvenile

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1 justice. And you're also correct in that -- and I
2 agree -- there are adult shelters that cannot commingle
3 youth in that. But I can take a look and see if we can
4 find out that question.
5 **MS. DEWITT:** Okay. That would be really
6 helpful because I have this perception that we have, you
7 know, three or four sort of walk-in youth shelters in
8 the state and that the rest you would have to be
9 referred by OCS or DJJ. And that may be a mistaken
10 assumption that I need to have clarified.
11 **MS. SAILORS:** And that may be a financial
12 policy of the shelter itself in the sense that we do pay
13 shelters for the care that they provide to our clients.
14 **MS. DEWITT:** Okay. Yeah, I'm sorry. I didn't
15 mean to take us off track there, but I want that
16 clarification about the resources.
17 One of the things I thought we might be able
18 to discuss as a recommendation is to look at places that
19 do have some sort of residential component who are
20 unable to serve minors. If there was a way to find a
21 structure -- and we need to make some process changes,
22 if not regulation or statute changes -- that would allow
23 if a youth came to a door, like at a place like TWC
24 where we have some existing resources and
25 infrastructure, if we can partner with OCS and their

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1 placing that youth in this facility. That's something
2 that's come up with a few times. We've had emergent
3 situations where the State didn't necessarily want to
4 assume custody, but we could not provide resources to an
5 unescorted minor. And I suspect we're not alone in
6 that.
7 And as we look at this capacity, I'm wondering
8 if there's a way to work on those processes to take
9 better advantage of existing infrastructure.
10 **MS. SAILORS:** Well, I think that ties back
11 into the unescorted minor questions, too, in terms of
12 legal authority and also tied to capacity. So I think
13 it's good that we're putting that up for further, you
14 know, intensive looking at.
15 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Other comments?
16 This is Mike again. If not, I think what we should do
17 here is just point out that there is a need, obviously,
18 for this service and it's a very important service that
19 should probably -- for our population we don't have
20 enough. And it does loop back to the issue of youth --
21 unaccompanied youth, which Michelle mentioned.
22 And, you know, I think we also talked about
23 that probably, Michelle, it's going to be something that
24 we're just going to identify and talk about the need to
25 change it, but that that's going to be a longer-term

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1 project. Hopefully not too long term, but I just think
2 it's beyond the limited scope of what we can probably
3 accomplish.
4 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Attorney General, this
5 is Joe. Can I comment?
6 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Please do.
7 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Okay. Sorry about
8 that.
9 You know, I think as we talked about some of
10 these, you know, certainly I think we're talking
11 ourselves more and more and more to have a very strong
12 recommendation that we have a continuing working group.
13 There's no question about that.
14 I mean, in this case I know that this issue is
15 complex certainly, but I think, you know, we could
16 probably generally say that it needs to be part of the
17 working group, but I think we may be able to
18 specifically make a recommendation immediately on the
19 exigent circumstances or the emergency situations where
20 we have the shelters and OCS work collaboratively like
21 Ree had talked about. Or, actually, I think it was
22 Michelle that just mentioned a potential of some kind of
23 a working agreement or certainly in the cases of
24 emergencies where they can work together with OCS on
25 getting emergency services provided. I think that could

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1 be a more immediate recommendation.
2 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Well, I
3 don't disagree. I mean, is the situation that they're
4 not cooperating now?
5 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I don't know that. I
6 wouldn't say that they're not cooperating. I would say
7 that there's probably not mechanisms in place that would
8 easily allow for them.
9 **MS. DEWITT:** This is Michelle. I would agree
10 with Commissioner Masters. It's difficult for OCS to
11 help us out with an unescorted minor if it's a situation
12 where they're not assuming custody. So we -- I mean, I
13 don't want to get us into the weeds. I think the intent
14 is there, but I think some of the structures would need
15 to be addressed in able to -- in order for us to be able
16 to have those kinds of relationships.
17 **MS. SAILORS:** I think also -- it goes back to
18 also capacity. And I know frequently even the kids that
19 we can take into custody, finding this kind of placement
20 is very difficult sometimes in terms of -- and we end up
21 getting them into, you know, nonrelative homes and
22 places like that as a temporary placement, too. But
23 certainly we can explore how we can continue and, you
24 know, deepen the kind of work together we've been doing.
25 I think one of the constraints on OCS, which,

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1 you know, is -- you know, I think we can deal with a
2 child on an exploitation basis, but then there -- I
3 think we have to look at the statutes for sort of the
4 immediate danger situation in terms of how that ties
5 into our authorities, too. And I don't expect us to
6 solve that or delve into it now, but, again, I think the
7 whole unaccompanied minor topic will take us into all
8 these places.
9 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I mean, I'm just
10 here puzzling over how to address this because what I
11 hear Michelle saying is if they're in custody, OCS's
12 custody, that's one thing. But if they're not in
13 custody -- and I'm kind of a little reluctant to weigh
14 in here without somebody from OCS -- you know, of course
15 Ree is here, but somebody from OCS explaining what --
16 you know, what the limitations are now.
17 But it seems to me we are back to the issue of
18 unaccompanied minors and making changes to the statute
19 possibly that would allow OCS to intervene somehow in a
20 situation where there's maybe a threat or a potential
21 danger, but it's not to the point where the minor is in
22 custody. And we'd be talking about teenagers here.
23 So I just -- but I want to do what the task
24 force -- get a sense of what the task force wants to do
25 on this particular issue. But we'll put something

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1 together. I'm --
2 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Attorney General, this
3 is Joe. I think my immediate thought is that we should
4 have some sort of recommendation, at least on starting
5 to tackle the issue of the emergency situations and
6 whether or not at least OCS and the shelters can explore
7 whether it's possible on those situations.
8 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay.
9 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Because it sounds to me
10 like Michelle said that at least some of the shelters
11 would be willing to take them in on that immediate basis
12 if there was a mechanism to do it.
13 **MS. DEWITT:** Correct.
14 **MS. BOURDUKOFSKY:** Hello?
15 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Go ahead.
16 **MS. BOURDUKOFSKY:** This is Tara Bourdukofsky.
17 I'm with the Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association,
18 human services director here. I've been listening in
19 today and I wanted to make a comment. Is that okay?
20 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Certainly.
21 **MS. BOURDUKOFSKY:** Well, within the Human
22 Services Department, I oversee our Indian Child Welfare
23 Act program and work with OCS closely on those cases
24 that we have. And we also participate and have been
25 participating for many years with the tribal state

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1 caucus group.
2 And I understand that -- we understand very
3 clearly the lack of foster homes. And one of the things
4 that the tribal caucus group has been working on really
5 diligently and have forwarded to your desk, I believe,
6 Attorney General, is the tribally licensed foster home
7 standards. We really believe that this would help us
8 increase our recruiting efforts for foster homes.
9 While it's a long-term solution, it's one that
10 should really be given some serious consideration
11 because we have Alaska Native families who are
12 interested in becoming licensed foster parents and these
13 tribally licensed foster home standards would allow us
14 consortiums or tribes to move in that direction, whether
15 it's in the villages or even here in the Anchorage area.
16 And I think working collaboratively with the
17 State, that's one way we could certainly increase the
18 number of potential licensed foster homes. So I just
19 wanted to throw that out there and make that suggestion.
20 Thank you.
21 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Tara.
22 I mean, are you talking about the federal IV-E program
23 to get tribally licensed foster homes?
24 **MS. BOURDUKOFSKY:** Yes. Uh-huh.
25 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I wish

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1 Commissioner Streur were on the phone, but I've endorsed
2 that and I believe, you know, we've started working --
3 and I'm not sure with which tribal group it is, but --
4 **MS. SAILORS:** Yeah. I can help a little on
5 that. We do -- we are pursuing an initial pilot for the
6 Title IV-E passthrough program, and we did put out a
7 request for interested parties and then also looked at a
8 set of criteria.
9 And so we are now working on that pilot with
10 the Tanana Tribe and, you know, we -- they -- we've
11 actually been making quite a bit of progress in terms of
12 getting standards in place and looking at what all has
13 to be done in order to actually accomplish this. And
14 there's been a lot of work that's been going on, and
15 we're pleased with the progress of that.
16 So I think due to the attorney general's
17 support and Commissioner Streur, we've been able to move
18 that forward and it is underway in terms of beginning to
19 show how that can be done and what needs to be in place
20 in order for it to happen.
21 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Karen, did you
22 want to say anything else further?
23 **MS. BOURDUKOFSKY:** Yeah. I'm not sure -- are
24 we talking about the same thing here? You know, I'm
25 sorry, I don't have my staff here with me to clarify

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1 further, but my understanding is -- I'm not sure if
2 it's -- the tribal license foster home standards are
3 related to IV-E. My understanding from my staff as of
4 the other day were they were still in the Alaska
5 Department of Law for review by the attorney general.
6 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, I can --
7 I'll try to find out, Tara. I mean, I am -- I know -- I
8 believe the tribal adoption program is related to the
9 federal IV-E program, which would allow the State to
10 pass through federal moneys directly to the tribal
11 organizations who are sponsoring this thing and so that
12 they can give this money to tribal foster parents.
13 **MS. BOURDUKOFSKY:** Right.
14 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** And there are --
15 you know, like any other foster home, they've got to
16 have standards and there's got to be investigations to
17 determine people are -- you know, that it's a good home
18 and so on and so forth.
19 I mean, I applaud what you're doing in this
20 area and I -- and as I said DHSS is actually
21 implementing that program. And I'd have to defer to
22 Ree, but if it is true, I'm very supportive of it. I
23 know Commissioner Streur is as well. And, you know, we
24 hope to get this pilot program off the ground and on its
25 way.

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1 So I will look into that. I apologize. I'm
2 not aware of anything pending from your organization,
3 but I'll look into it. And I'll stand corrected if I'm
4 wrong, but just as I sit here, I'm not aware of it.
5 But in terms of what we're doing, certainly
6 having more foster -- true foster parents in the Native
7 population is very important. There's a shortage of
8 them all over, so I applaud what you're doing and I hope
9 we can get this thing going. And I think this would --
10 you know, to some extent it addresses what we're talking
11 about, finding a place for these youth.
12 In any event, can we move on or did you want
13 to -- again, please, go ahead and comment. I don't want
14 to cut you off.
15 **MS. BOURDUKOFSKY:** Sure. Thank you. I think
16 that it's not specific to APIA only. It's the tribal
17 state caucus group that's forwarding the tribally
18 licensed foster home standards.
19 And another note -- and I appreciate you
20 looking into that. On another note, one of the
21 things -- I had an opportunity to sit and listen to -- I
22 think it was one of the FBI agents who did a
23 presentation at the annual providers conference last --
24 not this past December, but previous. And it was very,
25 very interesting. I think it got a lot of attention of

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1 people.
2 However, when I asked specifically one-on-one
3 afterwards, you know, not having any clue how many of
4 the children in our area have -- and young adults in our
5 area have been impacted, she wasn't able to give
6 specific information on, you know, tribal designations
7 on human trafficking.
8 And I'm just -- I think that's credibly
9 important, and I would just like to advocate that if you
10 are able to some way, while you're gathering information
11 on a young person within this horrific situation, if
12 you're able to gather specific tribal information so --
13 you know, it makes a difference for us in terms of when
14 we're strategizing and trying to figure out what
15 services we need to provide if we have some data that we
16 can pull from.
17 So while the information was very important,
18 it wasn't -- you know, she wasn't able to give specific
19 information to the Aleutian Pribilof Island region. And
20 I just wanted to make a comment on how important that
21 is.
22 You know, if you are able to do that, we would
23 ask that we're not lumped in with Western Alaska, which
24 tends to happen for our region because it's so small and
25 really remote, or along with the Kodiak area. So the

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1 only way I can see doing something like that would be to
2 ask for specific tribal affiliation so we, as a
3 nonprofit association who are charged with providing
4 social services up to and including on human
5 trafficking, when we look to write for grants and/or
6 funding to help address these issues, that those
7 specific kind of data -- they're difficult to find and
8 even more so for our region because we're often lumped
9 in with Western or Kodiak area. Thank you.
10 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, I appreciate
11 that, Tara. It may be a level of detail that I'm not
12 sure we can effectively reach here with our report to
13 the legislature, but I certainly agree that as much
14 identifying information as possible should be obtained.
15 And I'm sure while this is a problem in Alaska, I don't
16 think it's a rampant problem. So when the incidents
17 occur, I don't see a reason why all the identifying
18 information and affiliations, including tribal
19 affiliations, can't be determined.
20 And, you know, as we go through this -- we've
21 gone through a number of recommendations, so it may be
22 something -- a recommendation like this fits somewhere.
23 I think it's a fair point and as we go through and draft
24 the recommendations, Cori, let's look to see if there's
25 some place that we can point out that as much

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1 information as we can gather, including tribal
2 affiliation -- if it's an issue if they're Native kids
3 or victims -- we should try to encourage that for the
4 other organizations that serve these victims.
5 Anything else, Tara? Or anybody else online
6 before we go ahead?
7 **MS. SAILORS:** This is Ree. I'd only make a
8 brief comment about the -- I think Tara's comments point
9 to a larger problem, which is we don't know the scope of
10 the problem in this state and it's difficult to find
11 data, as she says, about even runaways or trafficking
12 victims. And so we don't have a registry of any sort
13 of -- where we might be able to do this. We don't have
14 a population statistics capability at this point in
15 time. So, you know, as we try and size up solutions,
16 it's difficult for us to understand without some data
17 like that.
18 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I agree with that
19 as well.
20 Tara, could you do me a favor and spell your
21 last name, please, for the court reporter's benefit?
22 **MS. BOURDUKOFSKY:** Sure. It's B- like boy,
23 -O-U-R-, D like David, -U-K-O-, F like Frank, S like
24 Sam, -K-Y.
25 **THE REPORTER:** Thank you.

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1 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** That's what I
2 thought. Thank you, Tara. Please stay on line. And I
3 welcome any other comments. Please jump in. It's a
4 little bit difficult -- we're on the phone -- but we'll
5 try and get through this.
6 So I think we finished up with these
7 protections, shelters, long term, short term, emergency,
8 the youth angle, unaccompanied youth, and we're going to
9 have to spend some time, I think, fleshing that out.
10 The next one I have is a little more discrete,
11 which is to create -- this would be a legislative
12 solution, create a state civil cause of action for
13 victims of labor or sex trafficking, which means
14 essentially creating a statute that would give victims
15 of human sex trafficking the right to sue the
16 perpetrators, people who caused them -- who created this
17 situation for them in civil court and to recover
18 damages.
19 I think it's a worthy goal myself. I don't
20 know -- I wouldn't hold out great hopes that they would
21 actually get a recovery, but you never know. And I
22 don't know that -- whether they recover or not, I don't
23 think it's a bad idea to at least give them a right if
24 they want to and they can find an attorney who's
25 interested in trying to recover compensation to -- for

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1 whatever has been taken from them in their life for
2 having been victimized in this fashion.
3 Thoughts on that?
4 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Attorney General, this
5 is Joe. I certainly agree that a victim should be a
6 able to get civil cause accomplished. I'm wondering,
7 though, the crime bill -- the governor's crime bill,
8 SB22, did that have the provisions that we're talking
9 about here in it or is there something more broad?
10 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Rick, are you on
11 the phone?
12 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Yes. This is Rick Svobodny.
13 Commissioner Masters, it does, in my view, include this.
14 There is a legal question. What the governor's crime
15 bill does is say there is no civil statute of
16 limitations for bringing a cause of action for being a
17 victim of human or sex trafficking. That doesn't spell
18 out there is a cause of action. And it was done that
19 way intentionally because it -- similar to language used
20 for victims of sexual assault and child sexual abuse.
21 Certainly people have been able to bring
22 causes of action saying that infers there's this right.
23 As far as I know, the question of it being a tort, we
24 don't have a list of torts in our statutes. So we
25 believe that it says there is a right to a cause of

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1 action, but there is no list of torts in our statute.
2 We use the common law. This is not really a common law
3 issue. But the long and the short of it is I think that
4 it does create a right -- well, a right to a cause of
5 action by saying there's no statute of limitations on
6 it.
7 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** And this is Cori. And I
8 did check with our tort attorneys as well here at the
9 Department of Law and they also agreed that, you know,
10 you can bring a cause of action for false imprisonment
11 or for physical abuse, for sexual abuse. I mean, all of
12 those are already existing.
13 And what the crime bill, I believe, does is
14 extend that statute of limitations so that a victim who,
15 you know, often won't report right away can bring a
16 cause of action at a later date than maybe some other
17 torts. But my understanding is what Rick's is, and our
18 tort attorneys agree.
19 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** And the reason for my
20 question was just to see whether or not that
21 accomplishes -- it sounds like it does, but I don't
22 think the fact that it's in the crime bill should mean
23 that we don't put this as a recommendation. I think it
24 should go in both places.
25 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, let me -- I

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1 think if it's -- you know, I don't know that we should
2 create laws where we don't need them. So what I'm
3 hearing Cori say and Rick say -- and I tend to agree now
4 that they mention that, that under the law now they can
5 sue. And the critical thing would be that, as Cori
6 said, they might be barred by the statute of limitations
7 because years can pass before a victim feels old enough
8 or brave enough and secure enough to bring a case.
9 Let me look at that. I mean, I think it's --
10 I don't disagree with you, Commissioner, but I hate to
11 pass laws that are redundant and unnecessary in the
12 grand scheme of things.
13 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** And I certainly agree
14 with you on that. I guess what I'm suggesting is if the
15 crime bill language accomplishes what is being talked
16 about here, then maybe we should say that's what we
17 recommend.
18 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** All right. Well,
19 that's fair. Let's put something in there that victims
20 should have a cause of action, that the law provides
21 some avenues for redress now and the crime bill, if
22 passed, would extend the statute of limitations and the
23 task force is all in favor of that.
24 Any other comments?
25 All right. The next one is the definition of

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1 "caregiver."
2 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** This is one -- this is
3 Cori -- that I mentioned earlier that I don't think you
4 need to cover because this is already covered under our
5 current statute. This was a recommendation -- a
6 suggested recommendation that came in to make sure our
7 statutes do this. But after looking into it, we do not
8 need to change anything. It's already covered.
9 **MS. SAILORS:** This is Ree. I just say we
10 agree.
11 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. The next
12 one is the law enforcement thing, so I imagine this will
13 be a law and a DPS issue, but victim-friendly procedures
14 during trial, including a court-appointed attorney,
15 serving as the child's legal counsel or as a guardian ad
16 litem. Just stopping right there, we have guardian ad
17 litem procedures now if they are a child and a minor.
18 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** We do. I think the
19 recommendation -- and I believe this came from Robin
20 Bronen when we were in Bethel -- at our Bethel
21 hearing -- it's more having a coordinator that
22 is looking out for the child's overall interests and not
23 just the interests -- you know, and defending them at
24 that trial or looking at the prostitution charges,
25 looking -- someone who can build more of a trust

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1 relationship with the child.
2 And I don't think -- Robin Bronen believes it
3 should be legal counsel. I don't think it has to be
4 legal counsel. I think it can be a victim/witness
5 coordinator. An example, in Texas -- and I believe it's
6 Texas, a county in Texas -- they assign a specific
7 coordinator or officer who is at every scene where it's
8 a potential victim of trafficking, and so that person is
9 then seen every time that victim may be arrested or
10 caught in law enforcement. And so they start building
11 this relationship with the child, and that has helped
12 with that trust buildup to finally say, yes, I'm a
13 victim and to help with the law enforcement
14 investigation.
15 It's very similar to what Jolene Goeden was
16 talking about as well, but she just happened to build
17 the relationship, but making sure that there's some
18 mechanism so that that trust can be built up. That's
19 what this is trying to get at. And I think it can be
20 done in a multitude of ways.
21 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Comments?
22 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** This is Joe. You know,
23 one -- and I'm thinking of this along the lines of a
24 scenario. So let's say the police arrest an individual
25 for prostitution. Based on a lot of the discussion

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1 we've been having through this committee, we understand
2 that pretty much every prostitute is potentially a
3 victim of trafficking. So if that's the case, if I'm
4 reading this correctly, that would automatically trigger
5 a court-appointed attorney or a counsel?
6 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** Yeah. You could either
7 have it be counsel -- that's what Robin Bronen
8 suggested. But the other examples I've given are
9 actually just a coordinator or the victim witness
10 coordinator who is called in to -- on all of those
11 situations. So I don't think it has to be a lawyer,
12 but, yes, that's kind of the idea.
13 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Okay. Would there be
14 a -- if it was an attorney that was representing the
15 individual, would that be -- or the person that's
16 arrested, would that create a conflict?
17 I mean, it appears to me what we're talking
18 about is trying to accomplish the best interest of a
19 victim, a victim of sex trafficking, trying to get them
20 appropriate counsel and support as they go through this
21 process if they are a victim. I guess I'm not -- I
22 don't think I'm very well putting my thought out here.
23 But there may be a conflict with somebody that's trying
24 to defend against a criminal charge in the same -- with
25 the same individual.

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1 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I think that's a
2 good point, Commissioner. I think, you know, they could
3 be -- would be appointed counsel if they meet the
4 qualifications. And a public defender may have a
5 completely different perspective on it. But I'd like to
6 think that a defender, you know, if approached by the
7 prosecutor and who -- would solicit his cooperation in a
8 deal that would let his client go free and try to get --
9 you know, in exchange for helping the State, go after
10 the perpetrators and then the real -- real defendants --
11 the real criminals that have -- you know, a public
12 defender would go along with that.

13 But it's a difficult one, I think, because
14 there is a -- I mean, there is a potential conflict
15 there. I don't know -- Rick, do you have any thoughts
16 on that?

17 **MR. SVOBODNY:** I think there is a conflict. I
18 mean, I'll give you an example in Commissioner Masters'
19 situation. What if the person -- the prostitute is in,
20 let's say, McLaughlin for their own protection and her
21 lawyer's obligation is to do not what's in her best
22 interest but what's in her legal interest and what she's
23 saying she wants to have happen. So the question by the
24 lawyer is, "What do you want me to do?"
25 "Get me out. Get me out to a third-party

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1 custodian."
2 "Okay. Why?"
3 "So I can get back with my pimp."
4 That's not in her best interest necessarily.
5 So that -- but that's what the lawyer's obligations are,
6 is to represent their client and figure out what they
7 want, not necessarily what's in their best interest. So
8 I do think there's potentially a conflict.

9 **MS. ADAMS:** This is Gwen Adams. I thought
10 that one of the things that the officers were asking for
11 was that there be victim advocates assigned not only to
12 minor prostitutes but to adult ones as well to build,
13 you know, that trusting relationship to bring them to a
14 point of being able to confess what's really happening
15 because that's the only avenue they have to go after the
16 pimps, is the testimony of the witness of their victims.
17 So that was -- I thought that was more the angle that
18 they were looking for.

19 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** And this is Joe. And
20 if that's the case, I like that approach much better.
21 That would be in the area of having an advocate on
22 behalf of the -- and not necessarily a legal counsel,
23 but an advocate.

24 **MS. ADAMS:** Yes.
25 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I think you'll run

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1 into the same issues, Commissioner and Gwen, which is
2 that if you start with an arrest, the person gets an
3 attorney if they meet the qualifications. And at that
4 time, you know, an advocate employed by the State, no
5 matter how well intentioned they are, I mean, I think
6 you run back against the same issues, the same potential
7 conflict, whether they're a minor or an adult, quite
8 frankly.

9 So I'm not blowing off this recommendation.
10 I'm just struggling with how do we deal with it. This
11 is Joe again. You know, I don't necessarily know that
12 the advocate would have to be a State employee. I guess
13 I would ask maybe Michelle. There's advocates that are
14 within the shelter programs that do outstanding jobs.
15 And whether or not with proper training -- that we've
16 been talking about in previous recommendations, whether
17 with proper training and guidance that they could act in
18 that capacity.

19 **MS. ADAMS:** This is Gwen again. I agree with
20 that in the sense that I know when I was talking to
21 Sergeant Lacey she was even asking if we'd be able to,
22 from a crisis organization that I'm a part of, provide
23 volunteer advocates and that they would train them
24 themselves. So I think that was more the angle that
25 they were talking about, which I agreed with.

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1 **MS. SAILORS:** This is Ree. I apologize. I
2 had to step away for a minute or two. But, you know, it
3 seems like also there's a junction here because if we're
4 talking minors, you know, at the point of arrest DJJ
5 steps in to assess the situation and whether or not --
6 you know, whether to go forward, et cetera, kind of
7 thing. And so it may be a point at which contact with a
8 core of volunteers, if you wish, could be made.

9 So I just think, you know, we do -- when kids
10 are picked up, we look at them and figure out what's
11 best and whether to go forward with the charges, et
12 cetera, kind of thing, and so that may well be a
13 critical point in any given case like this.

14 **MS. DEWITT:** And this is Michelle. I think
15 that victim advocacy is really important, whether that's
16 from existing, you know, funded advocacy-type programs
17 or through a volunteer group of some kind or through
18 finding one central agency that's able to take on more
19 related to advocacy related to human trafficking.
20 Whichever mechanism it ends up with, I think it's
21 really, really important.

22 I'm not sure if that's exactly what Robin was
23 speaking about, about the legal piece, but I do believe
24 that those supportive services are important. It's
25 important for the individual, and it's important for the

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1 systems who are trying to have participation from those
2 trafficking victims in a criminal case. So on many
3 different levels, I think that it's wise that we make a
4 recommendation around -- around doing some kind of
5 better job with this piece.
6 I will say, though, that with minors, if
7 there's not a guardian or a parent giving permission --
8 and we can assume that in some of these cases there
9 won't be -- for the child to receive services, you can
10 bump in with some of the same issues around services to
11 minors that you can bump into with shelter residencies.
12 And so that's, you know, where Ree mentioned, you know,
13 some of those cases will be DJJ or OCS or whatever. So
14 it will be very critical to have those partnerships and
15 permission to provide those supports.
16 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Well, let's
17 draft a recommendation about victim advocates. I
18 personally wouldn't go with any guardian ad litem. I
19 mean, I think that's already part of the system and I
20 think that's -- you know, we're talking about something
21 other than that. I mean, an advocate to garner trust
22 and cooperation with the victim and hopefully, you know,
23 lead us to -- ultimately what we're trying to do here is
24 get prosecutions. I mean, I think that's what we have
25 to acknowledge and recognize.

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1 And I do foresee some conflicts, but I'm not
2 going to -- I think the point is well taken. We should
3 have victim advocates. And we'll never know unless we
4 have an aggressive program of giving these people victim
5 advocates, not guardian ad litem but people in -- and
6 probably from the private sector. Probably from the
7 NGOs. They'll have to be funded, and they'd have to be
8 trained and manpower and so on. So I think we should
9 make a recommendation along those lines for the reasons
10 people have stated.
11 Anything else on that?
12 Okay. The next one includes the offense sex
13 trafficking. I mean, I guess this is already -- we
14 already have the ability to do that, so we don't need to
15 call that out. That's already the case.
16 And then the last page. And this kind of goes
17 back to our first one, which is about the ongoing effort
18 that we think is necessary here: "Gathering of
19 providers across the service delivery spectrum to
20 determine actual services available and identifying true
21 gaps. This can be built off of the information gathered
22 by the task force."
23 So, I mean, I think that does circle back to
24 what we talked about initially, which is there has to be
25 a permanency, an institutionalization, if you will, of a

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1 body that can keep carrying the flag when it comes to
2 this human sex trafficking. And we've already
3 identified a number of things that they should have as
4 their goals, but ultimately it's going to be up to that
5 group to continue the cause.
6 Comments, any questions, suggestions about
7 that?
8 The next one, I think, again, we've touched on
9 as well, which is creative solutions for the housing of
10 homeless youth and minor victims as well as creative
11 educational employment opportunities.
12 I mean, I guess, unless the homeless youth is
13 in custody right now, there is no solution for housing
14 of homeless youth, unaccompanied minors, that are not in
15 custody. Now, the Covenant House testified back in
16 Anchorage. I mean, they said they had served like 8,000
17 kids or something.
18 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** They do -- 5,200, I think,
19 is what they did last year.
20 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** A very impressive
21 number. But those are kids who spend the night?
22 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** They do. So there is a
23 statute -- it's called like the runaway shelters -- that
24 allows licensing of a facility to house homeless youths.
25 They do have to notify the parents that the kids are

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1 there. There are many procedures. There are many
2 age -- you know, you can't have two kids in the same
3 age, you can't have two kids of the same gender. So
4 there's a lot of regulations that go along with that.
5 But Covenant House does house. I mean, that's
6 their primary goal. But they don't have safe shelter.
7 Anyone can come in. You know, they keep adults away,
8 but anyone can come in. And what they've had happen is
9 girls will come in and the pimps send them in and get
10 the girls out of there or, you know, other children.
11 So that's been the issue they've had, but they
12 do -- there is a way to house unaccompanied minors. You
13 do have to notify the parents. But it's the other
14 shelters, if they're not licensed in that way or
15 licensed in another way, it creates conflict.
16 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Any thoughts or
17 comments, suggestions, about how we should express this
18 on the recommendations? I mean, I . . .
19 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** I believe, going back, the
20 recommendation that I have down is to create a mechanism
21 to house unaccompanied minors in emergency
22 circumstances, possibly through creating relationships
23 with OCS and shelters working together in order to allow
24 them to provide services. So that's what I have as the
25 recommendation we have right now.

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1 And then under the working group, I would put
2 that additional unaccompanied minor shelter options
3 should be encouraged and looked into.
4 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Again, comments or
5 suggestions to expand on that or any nuances? I think
6 we all agree it's something that needs to be addressed
7 and expanded.
8 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Attorney General, this
9 is Joe. You know, this discussion falls in the same --
10 I mean, it all ties into the same discussion we had
11 regarding the unaccompanied minors and the need for
12 housing or locations for trafficked victims to be able
13 to escape and things. And I think it goes right back to
14 that same larger discussion that the working group is
15 going to have to have.
16 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Agreed. Anything
17 else, task force members?
18 If not, then the last one here, at least on
19 the sheet, is -- I suspect this ties back into a number
20 of things we were talking about as well, but intake
21 procedures to identify potential trafficking victims;
22 provide access to counselors/NGOs. I mean, that goes
23 back to the victim advocates that we just talked about.
24 Rick just stepped out so I'm not sure about
25 the intake procedures. I guess that would -- I don't

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1 think goes back to training for prosecutors to be
2 spotting or looking for that or for law enforcement.
3 Commissioner, any thoughts on that?
4 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Well, I think this is
5 an important piece here. I think DJJ is going to have a
6 real big piece in here, particularly with underage
7 victims and then -- but I think this goes beyond just
8 the law enforcement programs. I think it's also in some
9 of the health services as well where they're dealing
10 with the most -- the vulnerable and likely victims,
11 creating procedures on their intakes that will assist in
12 identifying that they are potentially victims. And then
13 once that occurs, then trying to get them into another
14 process by which that could be dealt with.
15 But I don't know that -- you know, listening
16 to some of the discussion that Ree had a few minutes ago
17 on what they're doing on some of their intake, I don't
18 think this necessarily would be real difficult, unless
19 I'm viewing this wrong.
20 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** No. I don't know
21 that it's real difficult either.
22 Rick, we were just talking about the very last
23 recommendation, which is create intake procedure to
24 identify potential trafficking victims. I mean, that
25 could happen at DJJ. It could happen -- if they're

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1 adults, it could arguably happen when the police -- when
2 they're arrested or when the case is referred to law for
3 prosecution. But do you have any thoughts on ways to
4 improve the intake -- to possibly identify or spot
5 somebody who might be a victim that would lead to
6 investigations?
7 **MR. SVOBODNY:** This is Rick Svobodny. To me
8 this is really a -- I mean, from the prosecution point
9 of view, a training issue and I assume for a public
10 safety training issue; that is, when they're arresting
11 some -- well, they're arresting somebody or they're
12 interviewing somebody that they have in the back of
13 their mind questions that they should be asking to be
14 able to identify whether they're a victim of trafficking
15 or not.
16 So, I mean, that's my only thought on this, is
17 that we need, as we become -- now that we're all more
18 aware of these issues, to make sure that we train our
19 people on ways of identifying people -- the victims in
20 these cases.
21 **MS. DEWITT:** This is Michelle. And I guess I
22 would add to this subject. I think as part of our
23 recommendation, we should -- we might consider
24 requesting some of the major State-funding agencies that
25 fund programs that are going to come into contact with

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1 trafficking victims outside of the scope of DJJ and law
2 enforcement to incorporate screening questions in their
3 intake processes.
4 So, for example, if you go to Division of
5 Behavioral Health, you know, DHSS, DBH, also on Domestic
6 Violence and Sexual Assault, you know, these different
7 departments, they have pretty large funding streams, OCS
8 with their grant CAC grants, things like that. Just to
9 add a couple of questions on our intake procedure about
10 trafficking, that will help significantly with some data
11 collection, at least amongst those funded agencies. And
12 those funded agencies could provide some model questions
13 for their grantees to help with that.
14 I think that could be significantly helpful if
15 all of these organizations who are coming into contact
16 with people undoubtedly who have experienced trafficking
17 and we're just not asking the right questions to
18 identify that, we'd be able to get that information and
19 really get a better idea about how many Alaskans have
20 experienced this. So that's something I would add to
21 the discussion.
22 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** All right. Any
23 other comments?
24 What I hear is, I think, two components. One
25 is the recommendation to non-law enforcement agencies,

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1 the DBH council and the network and so on, to look at
2 their questionnaires and to implement changes to that to
3 try to elicit information on this to find out if the
4 people who are seeking their services are victims so
5 that that data can start being compiled.
6 The second part of it is -- I mean, I agree
7 with Rick. Part of what we're doing here is changing
8 the mindset that these people are not criminals, they're
9 victims, and so I think everybody has got to start
10 thinking about this differently, and I think that's a
11 training thing. When they see somebody busted for
12 prostitution, they should not just think this is a
13 prostitute and go through the motions. They should
14 start thinking about busted prostitution, I need to find
15 out what's going on. And if there's something else, you
16 know, a network or a trafficking scheme or whatever
17 going on behind the scenes here.
18 So that is a training thing, I think, for
19 police and for prosecutors. And then, you know, we do
20 that -- do trainings, so it's just a question of making
21 sure our training covers this issue as well. And I
22 think we can make a recommendation along those lines.
23 **MS. SAILORS:** This is Ree. Also, I think the
24 adoption of trauma informed care throughout DHSS's
25 programs. So I mentioned earlier that, you know, DJJ

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1 obviously has a screening tool that we're about to adopt
2 in terms of screening for a lot of things, including
3 victims of sex exploitation. And also OCS is -- has the
4 trauma informed care training. And we've spent
5 literally millions of dollars training the behavioral
6 health providers in the state on these issues, too.
7 But, you know, it may be useful as we go
8 forward to see if there are some specific tools that is
9 evolving. We're looking at a couple. But just -- you
10 know, it may not sound like it's specifically to
11 trafficking, but the course of intake in trauma informed
12 care includes, you know, hunting for those traumas, one
13 of which would be the victim of trafficking.
14 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Thank you,
15 Ree.
16 Any other comments? Or are there any other
17 recommendations that we should be considering? The list
18 is not -- I mean, it's for discussion purposes and not
19 meant to be exhaustive. But are there other
20 recommendations people can think of that are areas
21 that -- issues that we've neglected to address?
22 **MS. ADAMS:** This is Gwen. I don't see enough
23 here in terms of -- under the area of prosecution. I
24 mean, obviously this is a big financial business, the
25 whole business of sex trafficking, and I would like to

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1 see some recommendations that maybe go after the money:
2 Stiffening fines for johns; if people rent property to
3 massage parlors that are found to be brothels, they can
4 lose their property. I mean, to maybe have some
5 recommendations that go after shutting down the business
6 side of sex trafficking.
7 **MS. SAILORS:** I think that's a good idea. I
8 know -- I have previous experience in the state of
9 Florida where we had drug trafficking and the seizure of
10 access had some interesting effects and also gave the
11 state a wonderful inventory of resources as well. But I
12 think seizing assets is a really good way to go after
13 this, too.
14 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Rick, do you want
15 to talk about forfeiture and see what -- what are the --
16 what's the present state of law?
17 **MR. SVOBODNY:** For the people who are involved
18 in sex trafficking, the proceeds of sex trafficking are
19 subject to forfeiture now. In the crime bill, there is
20 a new provision that allows for forfeiture of property
21 of johns.
22 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** So as I recall
23 from the discussion yesterday at the hearing, I mean, it
24 would include the guy's car and potentially his home.
25 Am I right about that, Rick?

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1 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Well, generally cars are
2 forfeited when they're used in the commission of the
3 crime. The hypothetical was if the prostitute is
4 brought to the home and they engage in sex, whether the
5 home could be forfeited. And that's a little bit up in
6 the air. We -- that hasn't been done as far as I know
7 in this state, but I think certainly arguably homes are
8 also subject.
9 **MS. ADAMS:** Is there any provision in the --
10 this is Gwen. Is there any provision in the law now if
11 a property owner rents, say, a unit in a strip mall and
12 it's used as a brothel, that they can lose their
13 commercial property?
14 **MR. SVOBODNY:** Assuming that it's used in the
15 course of the prostitution ring or something like that,
16 the answer is yes. If you're saying they have a small
17 air carrier and there's no relationship to another
18 business that they have the prostitution, the problem is
19 convincing the court that somehow those moneys have
20 been -- things like that.
21 I mean, the Anchorage -- I'll give you
22 another. The Anchorage Police Department has said it's
23 been very difficult for them to forfeit money for
24 massage parlors because there's a legitimate part of the
25 massage business and an illegitimate part. And to

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1 identify which money came from where has been difficult.
2 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, it sounds
3 like there's some forfeiture remedies on the books
4 already. I mean, the question is, do we want to make
5 additional recommendations?
6 I mean, the john's car can be seized. I think
7 you mentioned that, Gwen, in terms of the proceeds
8 illegally gotten gained from the activities can be
9 seized. You know, real property can be seized arguably
10 if it's used as a brothel or bordello, whatever the case
11 may be that it's used. Also subject are -- you know,
12 there are some practical issues and due process issues,
13 as Rick points out.
14 But do people feel we need to make
15 recommendations above and beyond what we have right now?
16 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** This is Joe, Attorney
17 General. You know, while we're talking about -- this is
18 kind of on the same lines and I just want to remind
19 folks that in the governor's budget I've got three
20 investigators for sex trafficking -- our sex trafficking
21 unit.
22 And that group -- you know, as we bring this
23 online, we could look at -- we will be looking at some
24 of the demand reduction strategies. That's kind of what
25 we're talking about in some areas, things like auto

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1 seizures and the John's Schools and the letters and
2 license suspensions and, you know, reverse stings, those
3 web stings, those type of things, you know, I don't know
4 how much -- you know, if we've moving forward with this,
5 I don't know how much this group wants to be involved in
6 looking at some of these demand reduction strategies and
7 see if there's -- which ones are out there.
8 We talked about it the other day a little bit
9 when we talked about the John's School. I don't think
10 we got into real detail, but that's certainly an area
11 that we can continue to have for discussion about
12 exploring what doesn't work, what's controversial.
13 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, I mean, I
14 certainly agree with the attacking the demand side of
15 it. No question about that. And I think we have a
16 number of recommendations that kind of address that.
17 But I think it's significant that you're going to have
18 three investigators devoted to this, Commissioner.
19 I guess I've been inclined to kind of take a
20 wait-and-see attitude to see how it does develop. And
21 then more recommendations -- more legislation may be
22 necessary. But it sounds like the forfeiture side of it
23 is -- we have some remedies on the books right now that
24 could be, and hopefully will be, more aggressively
25 pursued.

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1 Like I said, I'm listening to the group,
2 whatever the task force wants to do.
3 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** This is Joe again. And
4 just to further comment, Rick, I think, pretty much
5 outlined this, and that is it's not necessarily that
6 laws don't exist already to help with this. It's the
7 fact that we're -- we have to be able to make these
8 cases in order for them to be implemented.
9 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Yep. I mean,
10 that's right. I mean, it's a question of changing the
11 mindset and the whole -- you know, bringing -- I agree
12 with that 100 percent.
13 **MS. ADAMS:** I'm satisfied with that.
14 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. Thank you,
15 Gwen.
16 Any other recommendations then in that -- from
17 task force members or members of the public that are
18 online and have thoughts for our consideration?
19 I can't think of any myself. I appreciate the
20 work Cori and Cathy and Marika have done to outline
21 these things for our discussion. And I do agree, as I
22 said at the outset, I don't think we should -- you know,
23 we don't want to get too far afield and get too numerous
24 with them. And I don't know how many we have now.
25 We've kind of combined a bunch, and so we'll wait and

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1 see how it is when it's typed up and drafted. I'm not
2 suggesting that we have too many now by any means. I'm
3 just saying I want to be mindful of that.
4 But if there's no other comments or
5 suggestions, I think the next step is to -- for the
6 staff to prepare the recommendations.
7 Cori had circulated a draft report. I know I
8 haven't read mine yet, but I intend to. And I'd ask
9 everybody else, please, to do it as well and make note
10 of -- how should we do additions or suggests, Cori?
11 Just add it to the document?
12 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** Yes. What I would prefer
13 is if people could do track changes in the document or
14 just send me comments, you know, in an e-mail on
15 specific parts of it, but that would be my preference
16 for getting any revisions. And you can just send them
17 to me, and I will integrate everything and send it back
18 out.
19 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. And then
20 the recommendation part of it will have -- it will take
21 a little time to refine these and draft them up. And
22 then we'll need to do the same thing with that. I don't
23 know if people want to wait until -- wait until they get
24 the report with the recommendations or are the
25 recommendations going to be something we just plug in so

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1 that when you do get the recommendations you'll
2 circulate it and we can make revisions and edit to that
3 the same way?
4 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** Correct. I have a blank
5 part right now where I'm going to put in the
6 recommendations. Basically, I'm going to write an
7 executive summary with the recommendations and then have
8 a section at the end. So it can be reviewed. The
9 substance of the rest of the report can be reviewed now.
10 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Right, right.
11 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** And it might be better
12 because the recommendations -- it's pretty long already.
13 The foundation was the preliminary research report. So
14 I would get started now and the recommendations can be
15 reviewed.
16 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay. I agree
17 with that. I'd ask task force members to please find
18 the time to get through the report, which is 40 pages.
19 I counted them. And then Cori will be doing -- working
20 on the recommendation separately. And so when that's
21 circulating, then people need to tackle that. And then
22 we should have one last meeting.
23 And have we finalized a date for that yet?
24 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** Well, I did send out
25 dates. And I know Gwen is not available after the 12th.

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1 Is that correct, Gwen?
2 **MS. ADAMS:** After the 10th.
3 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** After the 10th. So the
4 date that works best was February 8th. That's next
5 Friday.
6 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Okay.
7 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** So I think I can probably
8 get the recommendation -- because I already have kind of
9 an outline. It just depends on how much time people
10 need to review that, because I think I can get it done
11 by next Tuesday.
12 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, that's fine.
13 I mean, we've got to work with people's schedules here.
14 It is a lot of stuff to do before next Friday,
15 particularly for Cori. But I don't know -- are you
16 going to be -- Gwen, did you want to be done before --
17 you don't need to tell me where you're going, but if
18 you're not going to be by a phone or in a situation
19 where you want to be working on this after you leave on
20 the 10th, the 8th would be the last possible date to
21 push this off to.
22 **MS. ADAMS:** If you schedule the meeting -- I'm
23 going on a working trip. I would be able to take -- I
24 could be on conference call.
25 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, then how

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1 about the 11th or 12th, Cori? Give people another
2 weekend.
3 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** So what I have so far is
4 that -- it's really hard. Michelle looks like she also
5 has a conflict. What about the 12th at 1:00 p.m.?
6 Does that work for you, Commissioner Masters?
7 Do you know?
8 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I'm looking at my
9 calendar right now. Right now it looks like good.
10 Generally we have finance subcommittees on Tuesdays and
11 Thursdays for both the House and Senate, but it looks
12 like we're not going to have them on that day. Right
13 now that's what it looks like.
14 **MS. SAILORS:** And this is Ree. Because
15 Commissioner Streur has asked me to keep on this for
16 continuity, that won't work for me that day. I'm
17 traveling.
18 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** 1:00 doesn't work?
19 **MS. SAILORS:** It just doesn't work at all.
20 I'm booked solid and in an airplane also.
21 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** What about the
22 11th?
23 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** If the 11th works for Ree.
24 Right now I have -- Commissioner Streur responded and
25 he's not available the 11th. But, Ree, are you

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1 available the 11th?
2 **MS. SAILORS:** Yes. I could do it on the 11th.
3 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** Okay. Could we do -- I
4 have either 9:00 a.m. -- actually, Michelle can't do
5 9:00. She can only do 3:30 p.m. on February 11th.
6 **MS. SAILORS:** That's good for me.
7 **MS. ADAMS:** We'll make it work.
8 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** We'll plan on that.
9 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Commissioner, is
10 that all right?
11 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I'm looking at my
12 calendar right now. I've got one thing. I'm looking to
13 see whether or not I can get out of it. Yeah, that
14 looks good for me.
15 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** All right. Well,
16 I suggest we push it off till the 11th and give people
17 one more weekend to review everything, because it is a
18 lot of stuff to review.
19 **MS. BADGLEY MILLS:** It is.
20 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** We'll reconvene --
21 and Cori will send out a notice -- at 3:30 on
22 February 11th.
23 That is the earliest you can do it on the
24 11th, Michelle?
25 **MS. DEWITT:** You know, I was looking at that.

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1 And I have to apologize. I listened to what Cori said.
 2 I think the reason -- I think the reason I said I
 3 couldn't do 9:00 a.m. for a teleconference -- I think I
 4 could do a teleconference at 9:00 a.m. on the 11th, if
 5 that works better for folks. I can also do 3:00. But I
 6 think I could actually make it.
 7 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, what
 8 about -- Commissioner and Ree, is 9:00 better? Worse?
 9 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Well, for me, depending
 10 on how long the meeting is. I've got a 10:00 meeting
 11 that I won't be able to move. If we're talking -- if
 12 it's going to be a long meeting, there could be a
 13 conflict there.
 14 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Well, let's --
 15 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** If we went earlier,
 16 that would be find. I don't know how people feel about
 17 8:00.
 18 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Michelle, did you
 19 say you could do it earlier than 3:30?
 20 **MS. DEWITT:** Yeah. My day, actually, opened
 21 up on the 11th somewhat.
 22 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** What about you,
 23 Commissioner? Can you do it a little bit earlier than
 24 3:30?
 25 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Yes.

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1 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** What about 2:00?
 2 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** That would work great
 3 for me.
 4 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** Ree?
 5 **MS. SAILORS:** Yeah. That works for me. I can
 6 make it work.
 7 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** And Gwen?
 8 **MS. ADAMS:** Yes. I'll be in Kansas City, so
 9 is that three hours different?
 10 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** I believe it is.
 11 **MS. DEWITT:** Yeah. That would be 5:00 Kansas
 12 City time.
 13 **MS. ADAMS:** That's perfect. That's right
 14 during my dinner break. That'll work.
 15 **ATTORNEY GENERAL GERAGHTY:** So 2:00 p.m. on
 16 Monday, February 11th. And that -- yeah.
 17 Okay. Well, I appreciate everybody's
 18 flexibility and attention. And so I think we'll adjourn
 19 for this morning and get -- I'd ask people to please
 20 review the draft report and get your thoughts on that to
 21 Cori. And then when the recommendations are out, please
 22 give that some attention so that when we get stuff
 23 back -- the thought would be on the 11th would kind of
 24 be our final meeting to bless the report. There may be
 25 a few modifications or revisions after that, but I don't

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1 know that we'll meet again to adopt those unless it's
 2 something substantive.
 3 So that's my plan. If there's nothing else,
 4 I'd like to thank everybody for your time and Madame
 5 Court Reporter. And we'll sign off. Thank you.
 6 (Proceedings adjourned at 9:37 a.m.)
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1 **REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE**
 2 **I, VALERIE MARTINEZ, RPR, and Notary Public in**
 3 **and for the State of Alaska do hereby certify:**
 4 **That the proceedings were taken before me at the**
 5 **time herein set forth; that the proceedings were**
 6 **reported stenographically by me and later transcribed**
 7 **under my direction by computer transcription; that the**
 8 **foregoing is a true record of the proceedings taken at**
 9 **that time; and that I am not a party to nor have I any**
 10 **interest in the outcome of the action herein contained.**
 11 **IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed**
 12 **my hand and affixed my seal this 13th day of February,**
 13 **2013.**
 14
 15
 16 **VALERIE MARTINEZ,**
 17 **Registered Professional Reporter**
 18 **Notary Public for Alaska**
 19
 20 **My Commission Expires: June 22, 2014**
 21
 22
 23
 24
 25

MINUTES

State of Alaska Task Force on the Crimes of Human Trafficking, Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking

Monday, February 11, 2013, 2:00 p.m.

Teleconference: 1-800-315-6338, password 3600#

(Please note that the full transcript is attached and has been adopted
as the minutes for this meeting.)

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TELEPHONIC CONFERENCE
STATE OF ALASKA TASK FORCE ON THE CRIMES OF
HUMAN TRAFFICKING, PROMOTING PROSTITUTION AND
SEX TRAFFICKING

Taken February 11, 2013
Commencing at 2:00 p.m.

Volume I - Pages 1 - 23, inclusive

Reported by:
Mary A. Vavrik, RMR

Page 2

1 A-P-P-E-A-R-A-N-C-E-S
2 Michael C. Geraghty
3 Attorney General
4 Chair of Task Force
5
6 Deputy Commissioner Ree Sailors
7 Department of Health and Social Services
8
9 Commissioner Joe Masters
10 Department of Public Safety
11
12 Rick Svobodny
13 Deputy Attorney General
14 Criminal Division
15
16 Gwen Adams
17 Pastor of Women's Ministries
18 ChangePoint Church
19 Anchorage, Alaska
20
21 Michelle DeWitt
22 Executive Director
23 Tundra Women's Coalition
24 Bethel, Alaska
25
26 Cori Badgley-Mills
27 Assistant Attorney General
28
29 Marika Athens
30 Assistant Attorney General
31
32 Katie Tepas
33 Assistant Attorney General
34 Office of the Governor
35
36 Dr. Robin Bronen
37 Alaska Immigration Justice Project
38
39 Heather Harris
40 Executive Director
41 Alaska Youth Advocates
42
43 Melinda Doyer
44
45 Taken by:
46
47 Mary A. Vavrik, RMR
48

Page 3

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2
3 BE IT KNOWN that the aforementioned proceedings were taken
4 at the time and place duly noted on the title page, before
5 Mary A. Vavrik, Registered Merit Reporter and Notary
6 Public within and for the State of Alaska.
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Page 4

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
2 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Let's get going. This is a
3 meeting for the Task Force on the Crimes of Human
4 Trafficking, Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking.
5 It's February 11th. This is what may be our last meeting
6 to try to finalize the report. Let's quickly go through
7 the roll call. This is Mike Geraghty. I'm here.
8 Commissioner Masters?
9 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Here.
10 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Somebody from Commissioner
11 Streur's office? Ree? Is anybody from Commissioner
12 Streur's office on-line?
13 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SAILORS:** Yes. Hi.
14 This is me. I had my mute button on. Sorry.
15 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Gwen Adams?
16 **MS. ADAMS:** Here.
17 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And Michelle?
18 **MS. DEWITT:** Here.
19 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Cori -- anybody else
20 on-line?
21 **MS. HARRIS:** Yes. This is Heather Harris,
22 Executive Director of Alaska Youth Advocates.
23 **MS. ATHENS:** Marika Athens.
24 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Hi, Marika.
25 **MS. ATHENS:** Hi.

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1 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Anybody else? Cori Badgley
2 is on the phone, staff. Is Rick on the phone?
3 **MS. BADGLEY-MILLS:** I do not believe so.
4 I just saw him, and he was in another meeting. So I think
5 he's going to join us as soon as he can.
6 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Cori has distributed
7 the agenda. Any changes to the agenda? If not, and
8 without objection, the agenda is approved. Cori has also
9 distributed the minutes from the last meeting. The last
10 two meetings, Cori?
11 **MS. BADGLEY-MILLS:** The minutes are only
12 from the January 28th meeting. That was the one in
13 Anchorage where we spent about three hours talking about
14 recommendations. I do not have the transcript yet from
15 the meeting on the 31st. So those minutes are not
16 included, only the 28th.
17 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Did somebody just
18 join us?
19 **MS. DOYER:** This is Melinda Doyer.
20 **MR. GERAGHTY:** That's fine. Thank you,
21 Melinda. Cori, just as a technical issue, we are going to
22 finalize our report without the minutes from our last
23 meeting, which are not done yet. I don't have a big issue
24 with that but, I mean, I guess, do we need to do something
25 technically to -- and aren't the minutes just the

1 transcript?
2 **MS. BADGLEY-MILLS:** Yes. We will have the
3 transcripts. I have been doing the minutes more just so
4 people can follow along and know what happened as a
5 general outline. So we will have transcripts from the
6 last two meetings. And I plan on including those with our
7 report, or at least supplementing them once we get them so
8 that we can get the report in on time. I do not believe
9 we need formal minutes for these last two meetings since
10 we have the full transcripts.

11 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Any objections to
12 that? If not, then that's how we will proceed.

13 The big issue on the agenda, then, is to talk
14 about the most recent draft of the report, which Cori
15 distributed. And at this point I just want to commend
16 Cori for all the hard work she's put into this. It's
17 quite an effort to keep track of everything, all the
18 research that's been done, drafting the report and the
19 changes and everything else. She's done a yeoman's job,
20 and I personally am very grateful, Cori, for everything
21 you have done and getting it to what I hope and think is
22 very close to a final.

23 With that, then, have people had a chance to
24 look at this? I know it's -- and I've got to confess, I
25 didn't get a chance to look at it today. I have been in

1 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Deputy Commissioner
2 Sailors?

3 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SAILORS:** Yeah. I had
4 the chance -- I actually read the whole thing, and I just
5 want to commend Cori for a good job. I don't have any
6 other corrections or changes. I mentioned a few minor
7 ones, and she's already taken care of those.

8 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Now, there was an e-mail --
9 Cori, your last e-mail summarized some changes, or were
10 there suggestions in there, as well?

11 **MS. BADGLEY-MILLS:** Yes, this morning
12 Ree just sent me some minor changes, as well as actually
13 Heather Harris, who is on the line. I've had a
14 conversation with her, and she pointed out some items that
15 I thought were good recommendations. They don't change
16 any of the substance of the report. In Ree's case it was
17 just referring to the department as a whole instead of the
18 Division of Juvenile Justice since there are many
19 divisions within the Department of Health and Social
20 Services that might be impacted by this and should be
21 included.

22 And the other two changes are, one, to just
23 encourage throughout the report, instead of using
24 prostitute, using persons arrested for prostitution or a
25 prostituted individual just to bring it in line with our

1 meetings. But I intend to look at it. Has anybody else
2 had a chance to look at it? And if so, I'll open up the
3 discussion for further comments or issues, anything; the
4 organization of the report or just anything. I'll go
5 ahead and open it up.

6 **MS. ADAMS:** I read it and I agree. Great
7 job, Cori. I do not have any amendments or corrections.

8 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Michelle, anything you
9 wanted to add or to -- any corrections or modifications,
10 anything at all?

11 **MS. DEWITT:** I don't think so. I don't
12 think so.

13 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Well, you paused. Do you
14 have any reservations or second thoughts?

15 **MS. DEWITT:** No, no, I don't. I was just
16 looking at one thing. I'm comfortable.

17 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Commissioner Masters?

18 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** Thank you, Attorney
19 General. I, like you, haven't got through the whole
20 thing. I've gotten through probably the first 18 pages.
21 And I also went through the redlined versions. We have
22 looked at those that people have submitted earlier and
23 then also just the most recent changes Cori put in the
24 most recent redline draft a couple hours ago. I haven't
25 had any problems with any of those.

1 thought that these are victims and not criminals. And
2 then the last change was there was some testimony that
3 Cathy Satterfield got from law enforcement about a Korean
4 group that may be going around with restaurants and taxis,
5 and there may be concerns there, but there was no
6 evidence. I just got rid of the reference to Koreans just
7 to try and make it a little more -- we don't want to be
8 pointing anyone out, and that was the only area where we
9 did. So I just made it more generic, referring to groups
10 that may have individuals traveling from community to
11 community and concerns with that.

12 So those are the only three changes that I made
13 throughout the report on this current version. Everything
14 else was the changes that were made last week.

15 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. So you did go back
16 and make -- took out prostitutes and modified that?

17 **MS. BADGLEY-MILLS:** Correct. And I do
18 have a redline version. The one that Commissioner Masters
19 was referring to that he looked at this morning is the
20 current version that has those redline changes. So if the
21 task force is okay with those changes, I will integrate
22 them into the final version by just accepting those
23 redlines.

24 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. All right. Very
25 good. Well, it is my intent to review it this afternoon,

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1 but not -- more for typos, editing type things, nothing
2 for really substance. I have been satisfied with the
3 substantive part of it, but I do want to -- Cori, I will
4 get that back to you this afternoon. I'm going to finish
5 up the -- finish that up.
6 Has anybody joined us? I heard a couple.
7 **MS. TEPAS:** Attorney General Katie Tepas.
8 I came on a little late. I'm just listening in.
9 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Anybody else?
10 **DR. ROBIN BRONEN:** Robin Bronen from the
11 Alaska Immigration Justice Project.
12 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Hi, Robin. Thank you.
13 Cori, have we distributed the draft to anybody else?
14 **MS. BADGLEY-MILLS:** The draft report that
15 was done last Friday, the one that integrated your
16 changes, Attorney General, along with a couple of others I
17 made myself, that report has been posted on our website as
18 a draft proposed final report. Then I will definitely
19 have the final-final posted at the end of the day. But
20 that draft proposed final report is available to members
21 of the public.
22 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. And I know Heather
23 had some, I thought, constructive comments. And I don't
24 know whether Melinda or Katie or Robin had a chance to
25 look at it. And I'm not suggesting that you should have

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1 or anything like that, but I do want to open it up if
2 there were other comments or suggestions from people who
3 may have looked at the draft report on-line that was
4 posted Friday. We certainly welcome any additional input.
5 **DR. BRONEN:** This is Robin. I haven't had
6 a chance yet to look at the report, but I will do that
7 immediately.
8 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Well, again, I'm not
9 implying that you should, Robin, but I know you are very
10 interested in this area. And we were very interested in
11 your testimony, so -- what's our time line here, Cori?
12 Kind of outline for us what the next steps are, then, in
13 terms of getting this to the legislature.
14 **MS. BADGLEY-MILLS:** Well, as you know, we
15 had told the Senate President and the Speaker of the House
16 that we would have a final report to submit by February
17 15th, which is this Friday. So if there are any
18 additional changes to the report, I would like to receive
19 those, you know, by tomorrow at noon, if possible. Then I
20 can send it out one last time to committee members to get
21 everyone's affirmation on the report.
22 I will need everyone's responses promptly
23 because this will be a fairly large document at the end of
24 the day. One, the report itself is 32 pages, but the
25 legislation requires that I include all minutes, all

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1 transcripts, and all comments. So in order to have us get
2 those into production, you know, I'll need to have a final
3 done probably by the end of the day Wednesday or Thursday
4 by noon at the latest to get those binders or final
5 production done. And so I'd really like to submit it
6 Friday afternoon, if possible; at the latest Monday
7 morning if we have to do that.
8 And then just note -- and I think this is next
9 on the agenda, but the Senate Judiciary Committee has
10 already asked us to come and speak on the report. And
11 that is already scheduled for next Wednesday, February
12 20th. The hearing is from 1:30 to 3:00. And so that's
13 another consideration that we want to have the final
14 report out there. I can try and reschedule that, but I
15 think they have had it on the calendar for a little while
16 and would like to keep that date. And all the task force
17 members, of course, are invited to come and give
18 testimony, but that is something that should be sorted out
19 in terms of who will testify and who is going to go over
20 the report.
21 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Before we get to the
22 Judiciary Committee, I'm just thinking here. You know,
23 Cori, I'd be willing to -- unless you get comments either
24 from me or somebody else or Robin or somebody that are
25 really substantive, I'm not sure if we need to necessarily

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1 -- I'll defer to the task force members if they would like
2 to receive another copy, but because of the time
3 constraints and everything like that, unless -- if there
4 is not many changes, it might be easier just to summarize
5 them in an e-mail as opposed to incorporating them as a
6 redline and a draft and then circulating the whole draft
7 again like you did with Heather's comments.
8 **MS. BADGLEY-MILLS:** That would work for
9 me. And if the task force, you know, agrees with the
10 substance of the report and just agrees that we can make
11 changes to grammar and wording, that shouldn't be a
12 problem.
13 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Or as I said, if somebody
14 has got something that might be termed a substantive
15 comment, you can just cover that in a short paragraph
16 e-mail to say this is what we propose to change it to or
17 this is a suggestion made. And again, people wouldn't
18 have to read the whole thing or go through it to try to
19 find a redline. Now, if there is a bunch of them, then
20 maybe -- obviously I'll defer to you, but then we probably
21 do need to circulate another draft. I'm just trying to
22 figure out ways to hasten this along without compromising
23 it.
24 So do any members of the task force take issue
25 with that or would like to see any drafts that are

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1 generated as a result of additional comments that we may
2 get here in the next -- it will be less than a day now if
3 we get it done.
4 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I think that, yeah,
5 I agree. If there is any big changes that are more
6 substantive in nature, we should share it with the other
7 committee members. I do agree with you, though, on the
8 version control; otherwise, Cori is going to have a
9 nightmare trying to make sure she stays on top of it. But
10 for version control, I think one person making those
11 changes is the best.
12 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SAILORS:** I agree
13 totally.
14 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Michelle or Gwen, anything?
15 **MS. DEWITT:** I agree.
16 **MS. ADAMS:** I agree.
17 **MR. GERAGHTY:** So Cori, we are going to
18 leave it to your discretion as to what you want to
19 circulate again to the group. But depending on if it's
20 just an editorial or an extra typo or wordsmithing or
21 something, I think the sense of the group is we don't need
22 to review that again, but something substantive should be
23 circulated to everybody in some type of format so that
24 everybody is aware of it.
25 **MS. BADGLEY-MILLS:** That sounds good.

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1 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Anything else, then,
2 about the final report? How many copies are we going to
3 get bound up, Cori? I guess, are all the commission
4 members going to get one, task force members?
5 **MS. BADGLEY-MILLS:** Yes. I plan on doing
6 one for all of the task force members, and I will do one
7 copy for the Senate Secretary and the Clerk for the House,
8 so that will be two copies, and then for the Senate
9 Judiciary, a copy of just the report part, not all the
10 appendices. Those will all be available on-line, so I
11 don't think we need to waste all that paper. If there is
12 any other legislator that's particularly interested -- for
13 example, I will make a copy for Senator McGuire due to all
14 her work, and I'm sure she will want a full copy. But
15 otherwise, I'm not going to make copies for every
16 legislator. And it will be available to anyone on-line.
17 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Any comments or
18 discussion about that, then? If not, let's turn to the --
19 has anybody joined us?
20 **MR. SVOBODNY:** This is Rick Svobodny, yes.
21 **MR. GERAGHTY:** All right. Then the Senate
22 hearing on the 20th, I will be in Juneau that date, as it
23 turns out. Commissioner Masters?
24 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I'm checking my
25 schedule. It looks like I'm going to be here. I think I

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1 will be here, as well.
2 **MR. GERAGHTY:** I'd very much want to
3 invite the other task force members to participate in
4 that. I mean, I testify and I know Commissioner Masters
5 does, as well, quite a bit, and we would be tickled to
6 have the other members join us, if they could, live and
7 carry the heavy ore, as it were. Not because I want you
8 to, but because I think you guys have been great members
9 and very productive and have had a lot of insights, and I
10 think it would be great if you can make it. So -- but
11 worst case, there is always telephonic or you can come to
12 the -- Gwen can go to the Legislative Information Office.
13 With that, then, Gwen, what are your plans?
14 **MS. ADAMS:** I am not planning on coming.
15 I would love to, but I can't swing it right now.
16 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Is it an expense
17 issue?
18 **MS. ADAMS:** It is.
19 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Well, let me check
20 into that, then, because -- let me check into that. I
21 don't want to make any commitments because I don't know
22 what I can do, so I don't want to say anything
23 impolitic.
24 **MS. ADAMS:** I'll for sure be joining you
25 on the telephone, if not.

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1 **MR. GERAGHTY:** But as I understand it, if
2 you could get a ticket, Gwen, you could come down for the
3 day?
4 **MS. ADAMS:** Yes, I would.
5 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Michelle?
6 **MS. DEWITT:** I am in Juneau the next week,
7 so coming down the 20th is probably not the most
8 convenient. Of course, for me that becomes a two-day --
9 two- to three-day thing.
10 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Yeah, I understand.
11 **MS. DEWITT:** I'd be happy to go to the LIO
12 and be available that way. And I could come in person. I
13 think I could make that happen. I can't financially make
14 it happen to Juneau, though.
15 **MR. GERAGHTY:** You could come in person to
16 Anchorage or what?
17 **MS. DEWITT:** No. I was saying -- I mean,
18 I could -- I'm checking my schedule now. It's within the
19 realm that I could come down there, but it is a pretty
20 significant investment for me to come down there of not
21 just time, but also funds, so --
22 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Well, I have the
23 same reaction I just made to Gwen. I mean, let me -- let
24 me look into that. And I'm not making any commitments at
25 all, but if you folks are available and interested and

1 want to do it, if there is some way we can swing it -- and
2 again, I don't know that we can, but if there was some way
3 we could swing it, I would do it for both of you, and I
4 wouldn't single out one or both. And you both contributed
5 mightily or both bring great perspectives, so if I can --
6 if there is some -- some machination available that we can
7 do it, I'll let you guys know as quickly as I can for your
8 planning purposes, but let me look into it.
9 **MS. ADAMS:** Thank you.
10 **MR. GERAGHTY:** And then Deputy
11 Commissioner Sailors, what's your druthers?
12 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SAILORS:** Well, I need
13 to check with Bill and his schedule. He's been like a
14 one-armed paper hanger with all the legislative hearings
15 and everything, but he is spending a lot of time in Juneau
16 these days. So I will check and see what his schedule may
17 say.
18 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. All right. We will
19 put a question mark -- well, let me see. If Bill is tied
20 up, then, were you going to cover it, or were you just
21 going to let the other four of us? Or what was the plan
22 there? Or you have to discuss that with him, as well?
23 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SAILORS:** Yeah, I
24 will.
25 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. All right. Well --

1 cover, photo? What do you have planned for that, Cori?
2 **MS. BADGLEY-MILLS:** Yes. I planned on
3 having it bound, you know, in kind of the black binder
4 style and having a -- the clear front cover, and then
5 probably having some sort of picture on the cover. I've
6 already been working on that with someone who does
7 graphics.
8 **MR. GERAGHTY:** All right. Good. Okay.
9 Any additional thoughts or comments or discussion from the
10 task force members?
11 **COMMISSIONER MASTERS:** I don't have any.
12 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SAILORS:** I don't have
13 any.
14 **MS. ADAMS:** I don't have any.
15 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Okay. Now, let me open it
16 up to the public members, people that have taken the time
17 to join us today and monitor it. Are there any comments?
18 First of all, I want to thank Heather for her input and
19 taking the time to review it. She made some good
20 comments. But Robin, Katie, Melinda, any thoughts or
21 comments you wanted to make to the task force or offer on
22 the report?
23 **MS. TEPAS:** I would simply like to thank
24 you for all of your time in this effort. And I know that
25 a great deal was accomplished, and we also know that there

1 and then for those who can testify, I have done it before,
2 but it just -- I guess, Cori, let's put a little bit of
3 thought into how we are going to do that once we figure
4 out who is going to be there and try to -- because we
5 don't want to repeat ourselves. And maybe there is some
6 way to divvy it up in such a way that everybody can give
7 an opening statement and maybe then talk about something
8 that's specifically within the report and we can kind of
9 divvy those up, again, so that people aren't repeating
10 themselves and we can -- you know, anyway, that's -- would
11 that be possible, Cori?
12 **MS. BADGLEY-MILLS:** Yes. That shouldn't
13 be a problem. One approach I thought of is to -- you
14 know, we can take the recommendations and divide them up.
15 And those all have a little background on them, and we can
16 do it that way. So I'll give it some thought and we can
17 put forth something and send something out to all the
18 other committee members.
19 **MR. GERAGHTY:** That's a good thought.
20 That's a good idea you just had right there. Let's not
21 get too far ahead of ourselves. First thing we have to do
22 is get this report -- everybody has got to look at it that
23 wants to look at it and make comments to Cori ASAP, no
24 later than noon tomorrow, so she can get to the task of
25 getting it -- and are you going to put a nice glossy

1 is some more work that needs to be done in the future. So
2 thank you.
3 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Thank you, Katie. Again,
4 Robin, Melinda, Heather, anything else you would like to
5 add?
6 **DR. BRONEN:** And I just appreciate the
7 opportunity to review the report. I have noticed a couple
8 of things that need to be changed, and so I will send that
9 information ASAP to Cori. So thank you for your work on
10 this and for allowing me the opportunity to share the
11 information that I have.
12 **MR. GERAGHTY:** Well, thank you, Robin.
13 And again, we do welcome your input and for taking the
14 time. And please do pass it on to Cori. And she can get
15 back to us if it's something that we need to take look at.
16 But time is of the essence for everybody on the line. So
17 I don't want to jam Cori up any more than we already have.
18 And again, my thanks to her and to Marika, Cathy
19 Satterfield, who is not here, but for all the time and
20 effort they have put into this. And I'm very grateful for
21 the other members of the task force because it has been
22 time-consuming and taken a lot of work. And everybody has
23 really chipped in.
24 With that, then, if there is nothing else, I
25 would suggest we adjourn. But anything else before doing

Appendix 4:
Written Comments Received by the Task Force

State of Alaska Task Force on the Crimes of Human Trafficking,
Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

(Please note that you are not required to provide any identifying information.)

Name: Geraldine Beans

Date: 12-13-2012

City or Town: St. Marys AK

Organization/Tribe/Affiliation: ICWA Director

Comments:

Yupit of Andreafski

I feel my #1 concern would be "Prevention"
from these crimes from happening, the key being
information out to the villages via all organizations
& resources in villages ie, schools, tribal councils,
health clinics, that perpetrators do exist & do
take advantage of vulnerable people. Information on
how to identify these people, how to respond,
resources for a safe place to go, - possibly regional
workshops for key individuals in the regions, that
could go back to their villages, towns and get a
public awareness campaign going to educate
our people on the dangers of being taken advantage
of. Enaction of LAWS to severly punish these
perpetrators, Awareness + Safety.

Return by Mail: Alaska Department of Law
c/o Cori Badgley
P.O. Box 110300
Juneau, AK 99811

Email: cori.badgley@alaska.gov

Fax: (907) 465-2120

Tuntutuliak Traditional Council

P.O. Box 8086

Tuntutuliak, AK 99680

PHONE: 907-256-2128 FAX: 907-256-2080

To: Cori Badgely From: Pat Davila Date: 11/26/12

Fax No.: 465-2120 Time: 10:55 am

Number of Pages Including Cover Sheet: 2

Original will be mailed: () YES (X) NO

Message: _____

re: support letter on sex and human
trafficking

State of Alaska Task Force on the Crimes of Human Trafficking,
Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

(Please note that you are not required to provide any identifying information.)

Name: Tuntutuliak Tribal Council Date: 11/26/12

City or Town: Tuntutuliak, Alaska 99680

Organization/Tribe/Affiliation: Tuntutuliak Traditional Council

Comments:

Even though Alaskan villages are in
remote places, they are not immune
from sex and human trafficking. Our young,
especially females, are our only future
and if they are caught in the realm of
sex and human trafficking, this village will
suffer and will not be the same. The tribe
wants these perpetrators to be prosecuted
to the full extent of the law.

When a young person is caught in the
sex and human trafficking, it not only affects
and hurts the family, it also affects the
whole village as we try to take care of our
community, so we can be whole.

Please try to do something about this
serious matter. Thank-you.

Return by Mail: Alaska Department of Law
c/o Cori Badgley
P.O. Box 110300
Juneau, AK 99811

Email: cori.badgley@alaska.gov

Fax: (907) 465-2120



COVENANT HOUSE ALASKA

CRISIS CENTER • COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER • TRANSITIONAL LIVING

My name is Alison Kear, I am the Executive Director of Covenant House Alaska.

Thank you for bringing attention, advocacy and thoughtfulness to the issue of human trafficking. And, thank you for allowing Covenant House Alaska to participate in such a meaningful way with the Task Force. We appreciate the Legislature's, particularly Senators Lesil McGuire & Bill Weilechowski's as well as the Administration's commitment to this issue.

Covenant House Alaska is a faith-based non-profit organization dedicated to the care of homeless and vulnerable youth. For the past 24 years, we have operated an open-intake emergency shelter in downtown Anchorage that is open to kids 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Our mission is to help young people ages 13-20 escape from dire and desperate situations on the streets and help them find long-term stability and wellness. Our first priority is to reunite youth with their families when possible and safe. When that is not the case, we offer, at no cost, emergency shelter, transitional living programs (one specifically for teenage moms and their babies, as well as a 14 bed co-ed). In addition all youth have access through us to healthcare, mentors, educational, housing and employment assistance, street outreach, and guidance navigating topics ranging from substance abuse to financial responsibility.—we served over 5,700 individual youth last year.

Covenant House believes human, in this case, sex trafficking is a crime that preys on vulnerability. We serve some of the most vulnerable kids in Alaska—unaccompanied homeless youth. A third of our kids come from the foster care system, nearly half of our girls report sexual abuse. Many of our kids suffer violence, neglect and sexual abuse repeatedly before they find themselves at our doors.

We are a shelter available for youth with families who are experiencing economic hardship, but most of the kids we welcome in are completely without supportive and healthy familial ties. No one is calling to check on them; no one is looking for them; they come to us alone. Because our kids share this common link of trauma and vulnerability, we believe 100% of our kids could fall prey to traffickers. They come to Covenant House in an attempt to meet basic needs: food, shelter and human connection. If we don't meet their needs, someone else will.

CHA is the only homeless shelter for youth in South-central Alaska, and as such, we are sadly well-known to traffickers. We've worked closely with APD and the FBI to increase our training

and awareness around trafficking and know that our shelter is targeted by perpetrators to identify and recruit victims. Traffickers have been so brazen as to send in youth into our shelter to recruit other kids into trafficking.

We have become increasingly aware of sex trafficking in Alaska over the last several years. We've taken active steps to prevent, mitigate and stop the trafficking of our kids. In Fact – Covenant House Alaska received national attention in 2012 as a recipient of the FBI Director's Community Leadership Award for our work against Trafficking. CHA has welcomed strong partnerships with the Anchorage Police Department and the FBI. Both agencies have come into CHA to conduct trainings for our staff and board. We share information and work strongly with them and the federal prosecutor's office on protecting youth victimized in trafficking.

Because of the increased awareness and education, CHA suspects or has identified that there are at least 5 youth in any given month engaged in our services who are being trafficked. Although we were able to meet housing, food, clothing, educational and healthcare needs of victims, we were not able to adequately handle the complexity of trafficking or the magnitude of trauma endured by our youth without a professional clinician or counselor on staff. For the first time ever, Covenant House went to the Alaska Legislature, specifically Senator Lesil McGuire, last year with our operating funds request for increased staff training on human trafficking and hiring an on-site clinician for our youth who are experiencing physical or sexual abuse and/or victims of trafficking. Subsequently, we have sent staff to the GEMS training – the leading national experts on human trafficking- and are in the midst of hiring a clinician. Senator McGuire's office secured the funding for the requested *two fiscal years*. CHA also worked on HB 359 and the legislation that established this task force.

We believe the roots of trafficking lie in childhood trauma. Very few, if any, youth fall into the horrific life of trafficking if they are supported and cared for within their home. The trafficking activities experienced by our youth can be traced to our state's epidemic rates of child abuse and neglect. Youth become trapped in a "trauma bond" with their trafficker that mirrors and recreates the relationships with abusive adults that they had when they were young.

A typical, and in this case *true story* of recruitment.

A homeless and vulnerable youth met a man that turned out to be a pimp through a "mutual friend", who in truth was a recruiter. The pimp picked her and the recruiter up and took them to an apartment where there were several other females. He bathed the young woman and then raped her. She tried avoiding him by hanging out with the other girls but was then made to dress in lingerie and be photographed. She was sold on the internet and was forced to have sex with three men. The next day he took her shopping for clothes and to have her nails and hair done. A few days later she was experiencing severe pain and he dropped her off at the ER.

After being treated for an aggressive STD, she called the only number she knew....a friend who picked her up and brought her back to Covenant House. She immediately reported to staff. This event became part of an investigation that led to one of the successful trafficking prosecutions in Alaska.

Another youth was hanging out at the Transit Center, a nice car pulled up (chrome wheels, fully loaded) and an "older" man intentionally charmed the youth, flattered her with overtures of a romantic relationship. In this particular case, the youth was treated to dinner and a movie that day and later that very night she was supplied drugs, photographed and was posted and sold on the internet. The very next day she was forced to engage in multiple, paid sexual acts in local hotel rooms. This young woman was 17 years old. When she disclosed her story during one of our Girls' Group with our Pastoral Minister, the young woman said, "You get dinner once. They are nice to you once. They're never nice to you again."

These are two real life stories, but unfortunately there are many, many, many others. Our mission is to safeguard and protect all children on the streets with unconditional love and absolute respect. Our role is to provide prevention and intervention against violence and exploitation of our kids in Alaska. We recognize we are not alone in this statewide effort and now I would like to welcome Diana Bline, Covenant House's Director of Program Services who is leading our work in these areas.

DIANA BLINE:

Thank you for allowing me to join you today.

While the stories that Alison described was typical, the endings were not. The vast majority of our kids do not come back to a safe situation and immediately report.

Alison accurately noted that the common link of victims of traffickers is vulnerability. While we do not have hard data depicting the issue of trafficking among our kids, we can share the general demographics of our youth. Nearly 50% of our kids are Alaska Native; this number has consistently increased over the last several years. While traffickers are equal opportunists and will prey on any young person who is vulnerable, youth who are coming from small villages, are likely more vulnerable to traffickers than a youth who grew up in Anchorage and is familiar with the concept of dangerous strangers and places within the city.

To better serve our trafficked and abused youth, Covenant House has adopted the "trauma informed care for homeless youth". This model was developed by the Runaway and Homeless Youth Training and Technical Assistance Center which is funded by the federal Administration of Children and Families. This model changes how we consider youth's histories or current situations. There have been vast scientific advances in how early childhood trauma affect brain

development and subsequently impacts all areas of life. This has led us to be more effective in working with youth regardless of the source of their trauma. Many youth do not fully comprehend, even after the fact, what occurred with a trafficker. They don't know why the responsibility and shame lie with the trafficker and not the young person. The shame around sexual abuse in general, and trafficking activities in particular, is just one of the reasons why it is difficult for youth to disclose. Imagine being beat, horribly abused, forced to do unthinkable things. Threats are made against you and everything you might hold dear. This is why it is difficult for victims to disclose what has happened or what is happening to them. Thus, gathering data is extremely challenging. It is only after a young person can begin to develop trust with us that they will begin to tell their full story.

With increased training has come increased knowledge. We are becoming better at understanding *why* our youth respond the ways they do. We know that returning to a trafficker or a perpetrator is actually a part of breaking the "trauma bond" and may be necessary before a youth can truly break free from victimization. We understand that brain development is altered with early trauma. This information has helped us provide services that better reach and connect with vulnerable kids.

To this end, we strongly support the Governor's Choose Respect Campaign and believe if the campaign is successful in lowering the rates of domestic violence and *early* childhood trauma, the rates of future victimization will also be lowered. Covenant House believes this is the very first step in ending trafficking. However, there is much that can be done now.

Alison to provide recommendations for moving forward:

Our recommendation and ideas include:

1. To convene a gathering of providers across the service delivery spectrum to determine actual services available, therefore identifying true gaps—creating a matrix to educate community on resources available. This would include representatives from sexual assault, domestic violence, housing authorities, youth serving organizations, Behavioral Health Providers and the Faith Based community coming together to create change. At this point we believe true gaps will be seen in safe and affordable housing, creative educational and employment opportunities and mentoring.
2. We need to impact the demand side of trafficking—the basic premise of economics is supply and demand. We must implement strategies to decrease demand. Such as a public campaign targeting those that pay as they prey on our kids.
3. We have gained tremendous insight and awareness through the training of our staff by local law enforcement and the FBI—This needs to be done statewide —two such examples

of groups Alaska State Troopers and the Office of Children Services---each then could then return and be responsible for educating their community.

4. We annually bring awareness to the plight of homeless and runaway youth-our Candlelight Vigil is next Tuesday at 6pm. We encourage you to come alone –bring somebody and get involved.

We welcome questions if there are any.

For additional information: Alison Kear, Executive Director

DL: 907-339-4203, akear@covenanthouseak.org

AVCP

Association of Village Council Presidents
Administration
Pouch 219, Bethel, AK 99559



Raymond Watson, Chairperson
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Phone: (907) 543-7300
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Myron P. Naneng Sr., AVCP President

Testimony

State of Alaska Task Force on the Crimes of Human Trafficking, Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking Hearing in Hooper Bay and Bethel December 13, 2012

Akiachak
Akiak
Alakanuk
Andreafsky
Aniak
Atmautluak
Bethel
Bill Moore's Sl.
Chefornak
Chevak
Chuathbaluk
Chuloonawick
Crooked Creek
Eek
Emmonak
Georgetown
Goodnews Bay
Hamilton
Hooper Bay
Lower Kalskag
Upper Kalskag
Kasigluk
Kipnuk
Kongiganak
Kotlik
Kwethluk
Kwigillingok
Lime Village
Marshall
Mekoryuk
Mtn. Village
Napaimiut
Napakiak
Napaskiak
Newtok
Nightmute
Nunakauyak
Nunam Iqua
Nunapitchuk
Ohogamiut
Oscarville
Paimiut
Pilot Station
Pitka's Point
Platinum
Quinhagak
Red Devil
Russian Mission
Scammon Bay
Sleetmute
St. Mary's
Stony River
Tuluksak
Tuntutuliak
Tununak
Umkumiut

Good Afternoon,

My name is Myron P. Naneng Sr. I am the President of the Association of Village Council Presidents based in Bethel, Alaska. AVCP services the 56 Tribes located on the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta in Western Alaska. We service an area the size of Oregon with under 30,000 people.

For the past two years at the AVCP annual convention, the Anchorage Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) have given reports to the Tribes of the region on what is happening in Human Trafficking in Alaska and specifically to young women from our region and throughout the State traveling into various areas. It is also reported that Human Trafficking is occurring in villages.

The reaction from the region has been shock, dis-belief and find it un-acceptable. The idea that this is happening to our people is very hurtful to all of us. The information shared with the Tribes from the Anchorage Police and the FBI was to bring attention to the problem. Thank you to people who are sharing the information and bringing it to everyone's attention.

Our Villages feel that we need to do something about this. When the Task Force makes it's report the Governor and the State Legislature in January, 2013 we hope it's recommendations do not go to deaf ears. Something needs to be done. The issues addressed by the Task Force are very serious and are happening to the youngest members of our communities-our youth.

At AVCP, we believe that our young people are our future. We recently organized a new department-Youth Services Department. Our thinking was that instead of addressing things such as suicide prevention-in a "negative" or "reactive" fashion, we would be "positive" and "proactive" and create services addressing the youth of the region. We would like to take that same strategy with Human Trafficking. We call on the State of Alaska to help the communities in the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta and partner with AVCP to help solve this problem.

The people organizing Human Trafficking of our young people are in the business of destroying young people's lives for their own gain. We want to take that back and prevent it from happening in the first place. This is not an easy task and we will need everyone's help.
End.

Frank W.

State of Alaska Task Force on the Crimes of Human Trafficking,
Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

(Please note that you are not required to provide any identifying information.)

Name: Myron P. Namoy Sr

Date: 12/13/12

City or Town: Betted

Organization/Tribe/Affiliation: ASCP

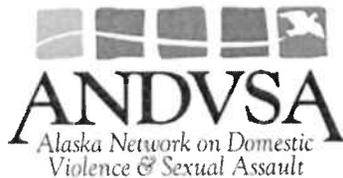
Comments: Village corporation, municipalities,
tribes, religious, health centers,
Info to schools - requested.
institution i.e. UAA, UAF, etc.
currently if child abuse is
suspected it is reported to
authorities

-approach of we can come out
to help you does not necessarily
work. Establish programs that
or information
village can feel they are a part of

Taku/Michelle
Robin mentioned focus group in
This Region.

Return by Mail: Alaska Department of Law
c/o Cori Badgley
P.O. Box 110300
Juneau, AK 99811

Email: cori.badgley@alaska.gov
Fax: (907) 465-2120



Date: December 20, 2012

To: Alaska Task Force on Human Trafficking, Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking

From: Peggy Brown, ANDVSA

Re: Public Comment

The following are four recommendations ANDVSA respectfully submits to the Alaska Task Force on Human Trafficking, Promoting Prostitution and Sex Trafficking.

1. Establish contractual relationships with other state agencies and victim service providers/nongovernmental agencies to coordinate efforts to assist victims of trafficking.

Once victims of trafficking are identified, a variety of resources will be needed to assist the victims on an emergency basis. If the state contracts with an agency and that agency becomes the main point of contact, it could compile information and resources that would allow law enforcement, legal services and social service providers to quickly access the appropriate resources. Additionally, it could oversee training, public awareness, education and outreach efforts.

Ideally, the agencies would be able to connect victims with more local, culturally-based organizations to begin to establish a sense of trust and safety for the victim. We recommend a shared responsibility approach whereby the Department of Public Safety would provide resources, materials, and technical assistance while supporting organizations and disseminating materials.

2. Establish interagency protocols and collaboration between federal, state, and local law enforcement, state and governmental agencies, tribal entities, child welfare agencies, and victim advocacy organizations.

Effective provision of services to victims requires coordination between federal, state and local law enforcement, state and local governmental agencies, tribal entities, child welfare agencies, and victim service provider organizations. No protocols exist to guide these entities in collaborating to develop a comprehensive approach to assist trafficking victims. Initially, interagency collaboration should focus on developing: a model screening tool for identifying victims; a uniform curriculum to address rights and services for victims; an action plan once victims are identified; a list of emergency services; and, providing adequate mental health services.

A victim's point of entry for services may occur in a number of ways, including domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, non-profit victim service programs, urgent care medical facilities, culturally-based community organizations or groups, faith based organizations, schools, community recreational centers, child welfare agencies, the juvenile justice system and notably, law enforcement, state and local governmental agencies, and tribal entities. These agencies should establish protocols to ensure collaboration and coordination of services and enforcement which are consistent with the legal rights of the victim, independent of the victim's point of entry.

For example, domestic violence and sexual assault programs may encounter victims of trafficking through 24-hour hotline crisis calls or walk-ins. These programs can assist with shelter, immediate basic needs, such as food and clothing, safety planning, and referrals for medical, legal and interpreter services. We know that there is a need for (1) staff training on screening trafficking victims, (2) additional interpreters and legal services, and (3) victim compensation for trafficking victims.

3. Increase public awareness and training of law enforcement, social service providers, and non-governmental organizations

Public awareness and outreach are an important part of an over-all strategy to identify and assist victims of trafficking. The first phase of a public awareness and outreach campaign should entail training for all professionals who may have direct contact with victims of trafficking. Training on identifying victims should be provided to all professionals and para-professionals that may have contact with victims of trafficking to strengthen prevention, detection and prosecution of trafficking in Alaska. The second phase of a public awareness and outreach campaign should entail developing a state-wide campaign to raise awareness in the general public.

Identifying Victims

Efforts must be made to screen vulnerable groups of people in order to identify victims of trafficking. Few victims are willing to identify themselves upon initial contact with law enforcement authorities or social service providers. They are fearful of real or imagined reprisals and are still undergoing trauma from their trafficking experience. Our own member programs may not always know if a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault is also a victim of trafficking. And yet we know that many of the people we see have multiple risk factors for trafficking victims – poverty, unemployment, sexual abuse, health problems, etc. And given the data compiled since 2010 in the University of Alaska victimization surveys, we know our state must have a high correlation to trafficking victimization.

Target Audience

The target audience is broad: law enforcement; domestic violence and sexual assault programs; state and local governmental agencies, tribal entities, health care professionals, primarily in urgent care facilities; social service providers; schools; non-profit victim assistance agencies; community-based organizations; the faith community; community recreational facilities; and immigration attorneys.

It is essential that trainers *partner* with local cultural community providers that may have access to victims; particularly with domestic violence and sexual assault providers, who are in hub communities and many of whom also provide extensive community outreach, education and training. These providers have the personal and cultural knowledge to facilitate trainers in building trust in the communities.

Increase Public Awareness And Outreach

As we allocate more resources to this problem, we expect the number of victims of trafficking to increase. Likewise, as we do more public awareness and outreach, more victims may seek services. Therefore, public awareness will lead to an increase in the number of identified trafficking victims and will help those victims receive the benefits and services needed to live safely in Alaska. The first phase of a public awareness campaign should target the audience listed in the previous section because these individuals are more likely to encounter victims on a daily basis. These individuals will be trained to recognize and assist victims of trafficking. A multidisciplinary coordinated community response (CCR) is one of the best ways for communities to respond to help victims of trafficking. Developing or utilizing current community response teams to human trafficking will require the collaboration of many persons, agencies and organizations. State agencies and community-based organizations that may come in contact with trafficked victims should provide the following services, resources and/or referrals:

- Produce and obtain materials in the primary language of identified victims.
- Produce a brochure that provides information about resources available for victims.
- Produce pocket cards with contact numbers to victim assistance agencies.
- Include information about trafficking, its victims and perpetrators in organization newsletters, on websites and through other communication vehicles.
- Provide orientation and training sessions, or collaborate with other organizations, including nonprofits, to host informational forums.
- Request and disseminate, both internally and in appropriate public places, posters, brochures and other materials that are already produced as well as those which are culturally appropriate.

The second phase of a public awareness campaign should entail developing a statewide campaign to raise awareness in the general public. Outreach to victims will be challenging as human trafficking, promoting prostitution and sex trafficking are “underground” crimes and victims are not always given access to public places and media. A large-scale public awareness campaign will provide residents with knowledge and tools to recognize trafficking.

4. Provide funding to service providers who assist victims.

Law enforcement and domestic violence and sexual assault victim service agencies are the most likely to detect trafficking because it is often part of a recurring community members’ actions or a larger criminal enterprise. Child welfare agencies are the most likely to detect child trafficking victims when investigating abuse and neglect complaints or interacting with the juvenile justice system.

Adequate funding will be essential to properly assist victims of trafficking with basic needs, medical, legal, and translation services. Domestic violence and sexual assault service providers,

non-governmental organizations, and faith based organizations will be an integral part of providing these services.

Service providers often assist victims from existing limited funds. Although certain legal services are provided, there is a need for legal representation for all victims on a variety of legal issues; including, criminal defense, employment, immigration, and tax implication for undocumented labor. Individualized plans will have to be developed, on a case by case basis, to provide basic necessities, such as food, shelter, and financial assistance. Other essential services are medical, employment, education and training, housing, and translation services. Service providers, non-governmental organizations, tribal entities and faith based organizations will be an integral part of providing these services. While there is some federal funding available for victims of human trafficking, additional funds are needed to adequately assist these victims.

While enactment of the state legislation last year was a critical first step down the path to eradicating trafficking, providing state funding for services will demonstrate the states continued commitment to ameliorating this attack on the human spirit. As recognized by the state legislation, trafficking is not just a crime to be addressed at the federal level.

Badgley, Cori M (LAW)

From: Susan Knisely <igeometricgroup@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 11, 2012 3:55 PM
To: Badgley, Cori M (LAW)
Cc: Susan Knisely
Subject: Human Trafficking

Ms. Mills,

I'm a nurse human trafficking victim and unfortunately I won't be able to attend the hearing in Bethel due to my ongoing situation. Evidenced outlined here:

www.votclub.com

My situation is three fold. I'm not enrolled in any federal programs, I have been treated like garbage by most of America along with my son Adrian, my family and other victim witnesses like us. Obtaining legal help is impossible and I we also have ***Obstruction of Justice*** by our highest level of government, the DOJ. I have taken my case as high as the **International Criminal Court in The Hague, The Netherlands.**

Also,

A police Lieutenant in Arizona told me I need the media, as letters from the United States Secret Service were mailed to me when I was staying at a domestic violence shelter in his district. Not one media reporter will do a story on any one piece of this case, not even one story to help the missing children.

Would you please share our situation at your hearings? www.votclub.com
www.baitlifeoutsidethefederalwitnessprotectionprogram.net & www.saveadrianproject.com

Thank you for your time,

--

Susan Christine Knisely B.S.N., R.N.
Expert Victim Of Terrorism
suz@votclub.com
Victims of Terrorism
The Most Hated Group On Planet Earth
www.votclub.com
igeometricgroup@gmail.com

Badgley, Cori M (LAW)

From: Susan Knisely <igeometricgroup@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 12, 2012 5:31 AM
To: Badgley, Cori M (LAW)
Subject: ICE/Human Trafficking
Attachments: Homeland Security ICE response to Sen Reid March 11 2010.pdf; ICC letter Aug 1 2011.pdf

Ms. Mills,

I wanted you to have a letter from ICE and the ICC about my situation in pdf form to show people at the hearings, (can be copied). My human trafficking situation is massive. These guys are more dangerous than who the US Marshal Service has on their 15 Most Wanted list. I would call it luck that I'm still alive. It's a concept I call "Bait! Life Outside the Federal Witness Protection Program." A couple years ago, the Phoenix Arizona Police Department had a CSI van parked outside a hotel I had locked myself in for safety as a hint! Not kidding.

Susan Knisely

On Tue, Dec 11, 2012 at 4:13 PM, Badgley, Cori M (LAW) <cori.badgley@alaska.gov> wrote:

Ms. Knisely,

Thank you for your email. I will provide your comments to the task force members.

Cori Badgley Mills

Assistant Attorney General

Legislation and Regulations Section

Department of Law

P.O. Box 110300

Juneau, Alaska 99811

cori.badgley@alaska.gov

[\(907\) 465-2132](tel:(907)465-2132)

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Cc: Susan Knisely
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Would you please share our situation at your hearings? www.votclub.com
www.baitlifeoutsidethefederalwitnessprotectionprogram.net & www.saveadrianproject.com

Thank you for your time,

--
[Susan Christine Knisely B.S.N., R.N.](mailto:Susan.Christine.Knisely.B.S.N.,R.N.)

Expert Victim Of Terrorism

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--

Susan Christine Knisely B.S.N., R.N.

Editing Director

Critical Care & Emergency Room nurse

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igeometricgroup@gmail.com



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

MAR 11 2010

The Honorable Harry Reid
United States Senator
333 Las Vegas Boulevard South
Suite 8016
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Dear Senator Reid:

Thank you for your February 9, 2010, letter to Chani Wiggins, Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). You wrote on behalf of Susan Knisely, concerning her problems with the Victims of Crime and Federal Witness Protection programs.

After reviewing your correspondence, we determined that Ms. Knisely's request is within the purview of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). Therefore, we are forwarding your letter to the following person for appropriate handling:

Ronald Weich
Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20530

Thank you again for contacting ICE. Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elliot Williams".

Elliot Williams
Director

cc: Susan Knisely



**U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement**

500 12th Street, SW, 11th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20536

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300

Susan Christine Knisely
7582 Las Vegas Boulevard, S. #236
Las Vegas, Nevada 89123

8912381009 0011



US OFFICIAL MAIL
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For Private Use

USPS PERMITS BY
\$00.880
03/12/2010
Mailed From 20743
US POSTAGE

Haster



Our reference: OTP-CR-211/11

The Hague, 1 August 2011

Dear Sir, Madam

The Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court acknowledges receipt of your documents/letter.

This communication has been duly entered in the Communications Register of the Office. We will give consideration to this communication, as appropriate, in accordance with the provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

As soon as a decision is reached, we will inform you, in writing, and provide you with reasons for this decision.

Yours sincerely,

M.P. Dillon
Head of Information & Evidence Unit
Office of The Prosecutor

Susan Christine Knisely
igeometricgroup@gmail.com



Notre référence : OTP-CR-211/11

La Haye, le 1er août 2011

Madame, Monsieur,

Le Bureau du Procureur de la Cour pénale internationale accuse réception de vos documents / de votre lettre.

Les informations y figurant ont été inscrites comme il se doit au registre des communications du Bureau et recevront toute l'attention voulue, conformément aux dispositions du Statut de Rome de la Cour pénale internationale.

Nous ne manquerons pas de vous communiquer par écrit la décision qui aura été prise à ce sujet, ainsi que les motivations qui la justifient.

Veillez agréer, Madame, Monsieur, l'assurance de notre considération distinguée.

M.P. Dillon
Chef de l'Unité des informations et des éléments de preuve
Bureau du Procureur

Susan Christine Knisely
igeometricgroup@gmail.com