



CITY OF CLEARWATER

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

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HUMAN TRAFFICKING SUMMIT RAISES AWARENESS DURING HUMAN TRAFFICKING MONTH

WHO: Clearwater/Tampa Bay Area Task Force on Human Trafficking

WHAT: 1st Annual Human Trafficking Summit

WHEN: Thursday, January 13, 2011
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

WHERE: Banquet Masters
8100 Park Blvd. N.
Pinellas Park, Fla.

SUMMARY: President Obama has proclaimed January as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. This is in support of efforts to educate Americans about the forms of modern day slavery.

Human trafficking is the exploitation by force, fraud or coercion of vulnerable people, often immigrants, for forced labor, domestic servitude, or commercial sex operations. In the past five years, law enforcement and social service providers have identified multiple cases of human trafficking in the Tampa Bay Area. The mission of the Clearwater/Tampa Bay Area Task Force on Human Trafficking (CATFHT) is to raise awareness, save victims and investigate and prosecute human trafficking crimes.

On January 13, CATFHT is holding its first annual Human Trafficking Summit to discuss the state's strategic plan and challenges. Florida is one of the top destination states for women and children trafficked into the United States.



"EQUAL EMPLOYMENT AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER"



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Attending agencies include representation from the FBI, ICE, FDLE, DCF, Department of Health, Pinellas and Pasco Sheriff's Office, St. Petersburg College, University of South Florida, World Relief, Salvation Army, the Catholic Diocese of St. Petersburg, Family Resources and other numerous taskforce members.

The media is invited to attend. ***NOTE*** The best opportunity for video and interviews will be during the lunch keynote speech by US Attorney Robert O'Neil or the first afternoon session where the state strategic plan is discussed.

The summit agenda is as follows:

MORNING AGENDA:

9:00 am - The morning session will begin with our quarterly meeting. Taskforce members will provide reports related to law enforcement operations, victim service provider up-date, training opportunities from the RCPI and the community campaign.

10:15 am - Alesia Adams, Territorial Services Coordinator against Human and Sexual Trafficking for the Salvation Army from Atlanta will discuss the challenges facing the region related to domestic minor sex trafficking.

LUNCH KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

U.S. Attorney Robert O'Neil

AFTERNOON AGENDA:

1:15 pm - Professor Terry Coonan from Florida State University will provide an overview of the strategic plan for the State of Florida. This report will provide state legislators critical information and assessment of human trafficking and the actions required for a better response.

2:45 pm - Tom Gillan from the Catholic Diocese of Orlando will discuss compassion fatigue and how it affects victim service providers. This segment will empower you to care for yourself, so you can care for others.



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