



International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards & Training

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Press Release

Human Trafficking: New Curriculum to Improve Law Enforcement's Capacity to End the Violent Crime of Trafficking

The International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training (IADLEST) released a national curriculum designed to improve Law Enforcement training in the area of Human Trafficking. Human trafficking is an international issue that takes a terrible toll on victims and survivors, and places unprecedented demands on law enforcement.

In 2020, 10,583 situations of human trafficking were reported to the U.S. National Human Trafficking Hotline involving 16,658 individual victims. This number includes sex trafficking (7,648), labor trafficking (1,052), and unspecified types of trafficking cases (1,519). However, this does not represent the complete prevalence of trafficking, as that number is very difficult to obtain, in large measure because victims fear reporting the crime. These numbers were obtained by Polaris via [the National Human Trafficking Hotline](#) and reflect only reported cases.

This curriculum developed by IADLEST and funded by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services of the U.S. Department of Justice will be made available to the 50 P.O.S.T.s and 700 training academies in the U.S. and all tribal law enforcement. This training was developed after two years of research by IADLEST to understand the current state of law enforcement training as it relates to trafficking. This training fills a gap in creating a uniform standard for training.

Even as states and local communities adopt legislation and regulations related to prevention, enforcement, and intervention, trafficking enforcement requires general awareness among sworn officers in law enforcement, the development of specialized investigation units, greater collaboration with prosecution and focus on training for recruits and enhanced training for veterans. Human Trafficking is not a static issue or crime, it is very dynamic including the nuances of human, labor, child, sex, and money trafficking.

The curriculum provides enhanced training for the training academies, promotes collaboration and coordination with community and advocacy organizations seeking to rid their communities of this violence mostly experienced by women and children.

The curriculum is part of the National Certification Program (NCP) of IADLEST. NCP establishes law enforcement training standards and "best practices" relating to improved professionalism and skill sets for our nations' first responders. NCP courses are recognized nationally and designed to count towards officers' mandatory in-service training requirements.

IADLEST Executive Director Mike Becar said, "It is time that we challenge training academies to incorporate human trafficking interventions into their basic training curriculum in order to give them the tools and resources officers need for the identification and effective enforcement of human trafficking."

The release of this curriculum will provide law enforcement with updated tools to better understand the criminal element in trafficking and encourage collaboration with advocacy groups seeking to support those victimized by this violent crime.

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IADLEST

IADLEST's mission is to support the innovative development of professional standards in public safety through research, development, collaboration and sharing of information, to assist states and international partners with establishing effective and defensible standards for the employment and training of public safety personnel.

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