

# NORTHERN VIRGINIA HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE

## Newsletter

### 2016 In Review

#### Task Force Coordinator's Welcome

It has been my privilege to participate in the Northern Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force since 2012. During that time, I have witnessed first-hand how local and federal law enforcement throughout northern Virginia joined together to amplify our effectiveness in recovering victims, investigating cases, and securing successful prosecutions. Moreover, each year more service providers have received increased training on best protocols for serving human trafficking survivors. Our efforts are bringing awareness and training to the community at large, creating needed partners to help identify potential victims and contributing to anti-trafficking work.

The Task Force is greatly needed, for the depravity of human trafficking is sadly growing in northern Virginia. We remain steadfast in confronting this growth with a potent mix of expertise, experience and dedication among our excellent co-chairs and members. We continue to grow stronger collectively, too, as we learn from and support each other. These values are critical because they drive the measurable impact of our success, and that is why I am committed to cultivate this collegiality among esteemed professionals.

With that in mind, I was recently honored to step into the role of Coordinator of the Northern Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force. My focus is to serve our collaboration, building on the solid foundation comprised of members who held fast through many recent changes. My first priority is to facilitate sharing timely information and to establish a reliable framework for communications. These few tools and processes will expedite your work and all our work, permitting us to integrate expertise, experience and wisdom into every initiative we launch.

In this and all our endeavors, please consider my door open to you at all times. I look forward to discussing your ideas, concerns, questions or requests. Together we can move forward in a spirit of hope despite the dark world of human enslavement and abuse.

[Kay Duffield](#)

Coordinator - Northern Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force ([NVHTTF](#))

Executive Director - Northern Virginia Human Trafficking Initiative ([NOVAHTI](#))

Email: [Kay@NoVAHTI.com](mailto:Kay@NoVAHTI.com)

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## Newsletter Timeline

This is the inaugural issue of the Northern Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force newsletter.

The primary goal of the newsletter is to provide basic information that will be useful to you for each Task Force meeting in 2017. Events and other timely issues will be spotlighted in the newsletter--and posted on the website as well. For more on the newsletter see in the Communications Subcommittee announcement below.

A simple process is in place to ensure the newsletter provides meaningful advance reading before each general meeting, as follows:

During 2017, our newsletter will be issued one week prior to each meeting, that is, six times. You are encouraged to submit articles or other news to [Teresa](#) at any time, but reports for the meeting are due to Kay from each subcommittee three weeks before each general meeting. Please mark your calendars!

<b>2017</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>Sept</b>	<b>Nov</b>
Submit Reports	Jan 6	Mar 9	May 4	July 5	Sept 7	Oct 26
Responses Due	Jan 13	Mar 16	May 11	July 13	Sept 14	Nov 2
Newsletter Date	Jan 20	Mar 23	May 18	July 20	Sept 21	Nov 9
Meeting Date	Jan 26	Mar 30	May 25	July 28	Sept 28	Nov 16

**Next Action Step:** All Subcommittee Reports for the January 26th meeting are due to Kay on or before January 6, 2017.

Questions? Contact Teresa at [herself@teresagreen.org](mailto:herself@teresagreen.org). Know a colleague who should be on the mailing list for this newsletter? Send them to sign up on the website at NVHTTF.com.

## **Outreach & Awareness: Subcommittee Report**

Co-Chairs: Dede Wallace, Erin Johnson, Michele Leith

The [Outreach & Awareness Committee](#) is happy to announce our current work continuously improving the tools available for training and our outreach to promote awareness in communities.

Presentation materials are being updated. Currently we are focused on updating the introductory power point, "101," which sets the groundwork for all our subsequent work with new groups. Additionally, we are developing a new power point presentation for Task Force members to use when speaking to community members, law enforcement and other stakeholders in the work of the Task Force. Power points will also feature new case studies, updated metrics and new cases prosecuted. Beyond these two training tools, we are looking at new and more advanced training programs. Stay tuned for more info in 2017.

January 2017 will be a busy month for raising community awareness about human trafficking on many levels. First, as co-sponsors with the Office of Virginia's Attorney General, we are planning a "Train the Trainers" session from 9am to 12 noon on January 19, 2017, at [Youth for Tomorrow](#) in Bristow, Virginia. When details have been finalized, you will receive a notice with everything you need to know either to attend and/or to encourage others to attend. *Please note: This training session is **required** for anyone who wishes to remain active in the speakers bureau or for anyone who would like to join the speakers bureau.* Contact [Dede](#) to sign up.

Also in January we are planning a community health fair as a Human Trafficking awareness event. We welcome the other committees and their members to participate and invite you to contact any of the co-chairs of this committee if you would like to do so. Watch for more information will arrive in your inbox as this event takes shape.

Looking beyond January 2017, we are also in the exploratory stages of developing a LGBTQI training on Human Trafficking.

The next Outreach & Awareness Subcommittee meeting will be at 12 noon on January 26, 2017, just before the general Task Force meeting at Sully District Station 4900 Stonecroft Blvd Chantilly, VA 20151.

To contact Dede Wallace: [Deanna.Wallace@ice.dhs.gov](mailto:Deanna.Wallace@ice.dhs.gov)

To contact Erin Johnson: [ejohnson@stveronicas.net](mailto:ejohnson@stveronicas.net)

To contact Michele Leith: [mleith@oag.state.va.us](mailto:mleith@oag.state.va.us)

## **Law Enforcement: Subcommittee Update**

Chair: Maureen Cain

The Northern Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force extends a warm welcome to AUSA Maureen Cain, who was recently hired to prosecute human trafficking cases in the Eastern District of Virginia. Over the past two months, Maureen has been meeting with numerous local and federal agencies to introduce herself and to learn about the types of investigative leads and cases each agency has been working, the challenges they are confronting, and what tools would be helpful for the agencies in continuing to investigate and charge human trafficking cases. In the upcoming weeks and months, Maureen will continue her outreach to local law enforcement agencies in Northern Virginia. We look forward to her first report in our next newsletter!

The next Law Enforcement Subcommittee meeting will be at 12 noon on January 26, 2017, just before the general Task Force meeting at Sully District Station 4900 Stonecroft Blvd Chantilly, VA 20151.

To contact Maureen Cain: [Maureen.Cain@usdoj.gov](mailto:Maureen.Cain@usdoj.gov)

## **Victims Services: Subcommittee Report**

Co-Chairs: Shannon Traore, Bridget Perkins

The goal of the [Victim's Services Subcommittee](#) is to include a victim and family's mental health and support needs in every aspect of a human trafficking case. The VS subcommittee believes that every victim and survivor of human trafficking deserves a wraparound system of coordinated care.

Within the subcommittee, we have working groups dedicated to addressing housing, immigration and juvenile/family reunification needs. We work to develop relationships with community partners that can tackle these topics and much more.

Addressing all of a survivor's needs and being that one support in a person's life, can make all the difference for healing and recovery. As you read the newsletter and hear more about what others are doing, you may realize your agency offers a service that would be valuable to victims. Or, you may have

other ideas for how Victims Services can find basic resources such as housing, food or clothing. Whatever your idea may be, please reach out to Shannon or Bridget, if only to explore possibilities.

The next Victims Services Subcommittee meeting will be held on January 26th, 2017, at a time to be announced at Sully District Station 4900 Stonecroft Blvd Chantilly, VA 20151.

To contact Shannon Traore: [straore@ncmec.org](mailto:straore@ncmec.org)

To contact Bridget Perkins: [Bridget@NoVAHTI.com](mailto:Bridget@NoVAHTI.com)

## **Communications Subcommittee: A New Resource**

To facilitate communication among Task Force members, Kay has created the Communications Subcommittee, which has been first tasked with launching a website and a newsletter both for exchanging information and promoting transparency.

As of this month, the [Northern Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force website](#) has been launched. Over the coming months, the website will increase its offerings and links to resources, including a full-year calendar of events, archives of reports and many resources Task Force members and the public will find useful. The website will also include all content from the newsletter--and more. Be sure to bookmark the website, as it should be your go-to for everything Task Force.

Please be sure to contact Michelle with important events, dates and other information you would like posted on the website as a resource for Task Force colleagues and community partners.

The newsletter will focus on what you need to know walking into general meetings. Each new issue of the Northern Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force newsletter will arrive in your inbox the Friday before each bi-monthly Task Force meeting. It will feature reports to be presented at the meeting to facilitate discussion and feedback. It will also highlight a variety of time-sensitive issues; e.g., deadlines, upcoming events. Quick summaries of coming or recent events and programs will also be included, along with highlighted deadlines. The newsletter will cast a spotlight on selected topics from the website, including prosecutions, members and member organizations and other pertinent resources. Once in the newsletter, all features will appear, also, in the website for future use and sharing with colleagues. In future issues we will profile individual members and a variety of related topics. So, if you have any ideas or requests, please send them to [Teresa](#).

The Communications Subcommittee has two chairpersons. Focusing on website development, Michelle Mueller is the Liaison for the Fairfax County Commission For Women Management Analyst II Office for Women & Domestic & Sexual Violence Services. Focusing on newsletter, Teresa Green is from the Arlington Diocese survivor ministry and is a self-employed consultant in internal and external digital

communications and publishing. If you are not sure to whom to address a suggestion, idea or request, please just email both Michelle and Teresa; we'll figure it out for you!

To contact Michelle Mueller: [Michelle.Mueller@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Michelle.Mueller@fairfaxcounty.gov)

To contact Teresa Green: [Herself@teresagreen.org](mailto:Herself@teresagreen.org)

## **NVHTTF Calendar of Events, Meetings & Training**

Our schedule includes finalized programs and those at all levels of planning to ensure you have the opportunity to reach out to developers and organizers with questions, suggestions and requests.

### **January 6, 2017, 5 pm**

Subcommittee reports for January 26th meeting due to Kay from Chairpersons

### **January 19, 2017, 5 pm**

Last day to notify Dede you'll be attending "Train the Trainers."

### **January 19, 9 am to 12 noon**

Outreach & Awareness

"Train the Trainers" (Bristow, VA)

### **January 26, 12 noon**

Law Enforcement Subcommittee Meeting (Sully District Station)

### **January 26, 12 noon**

Outreach & Awareness Subcommittee Meeting (Sully District Station)

### **January 26, TBA**

Full Task Force Meeting (Sully District Station)

### **January 26, TBA (follows general meeting)**

Victim Services Subcommittee Meeting (following Task Force (Sully District Station)

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The full Task Force calendar may be found on the website. We are still collecting pertinent dates, so do take a moment to send [Michelle](mailto:Michelle) a list of pertinent 2017 dates you'd like posted.

## **Member Profile: Maureen Cain**

Maureen Cain, an Assistant U.S. Attorney assigned to work human trafficking cases, joined us this fall as Chair of the Task Force's Law Enforcement Committee.

Recently, Maureen spoke with NVHTTF news about her vision for high-impact cooperation among "local, state and Federal law enforcement. Some police officers are working the fast-paced beat and they come across victims routinely responding to runaway calls, "domestic disturbances" and calls connected to motels. It's important for them to be able to see the signs of possible trafficking and relay that information to specialized agents at the local, state and Federal level who can then dig deeper into the sensitive, time-intensive investigation."

Maureen's appreciation of how all work within the Task Force is critical for shared success came up again when she described the role played by victim services in "stabilizing victims with support, where they work their magic through housing, therapy, mentorship, transportation and job options. Above all, it's important to help victims feel safe and see a way out of the life so they do not feel drawn back into being trafficked or other exploitation. It's when they are stabilized and feeling safe that victims are able to cooperate with law enforcement. That's when they can make a break with the past and ensure other potential victims are protected from future harm."

Maureen has no illusions about the goals of the Task Force, commenting "human trafficking is everywhere. That's why training and awareness is critical to build partnerships between law enforcement and communities," Maureen said. "Only with a multi-faceted response can we work to contain and stop human trafficking. I'm happy to be working with the Task Force as it continues to hone a formidable collaborative effort to do just that."

Maureen brings extensive experience to bear in our shared work. Prior to joining the U.S. Attorney's Office, Maureen worked for the Department of Justice's Child Exploitation & Obscenity Section (CEOS) for almost six years and prosecuted sex trafficking, sex tourism, kidnapping, and a wide variety of child pornography offenses. She previously worked as a litigation associate at Reed Smith LLP in Philadelphia, and she served as a law clerk for the Honorable Robert E. Cowan on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals and the Honorable Thomas I. Vanaskie in the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT: UPDATE**

### **2016 Review**

In 2016, the Northern Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force has seen success in its enforcement efforts continue. The following three cases in human trafficking and related crimes have been decided in the Eastern District of Virginia – Alexandria Division – and merit review here as we look back on 2016. The

full press release for each case may be found on the U.S. Department of Justice website. Links may be found on the NVHTTF website.

### **Guilty Plea: Christina Ann Traylor**

On July 26, 2016, Christina Ann Traylor, 27, of San Bernardino, California, pleaded guilty to charges of sex trafficking a minor.

According to the statement of facts filed with the plea agreement, Traylor, together with her boyfriend, recruited the minor victim for the purposes of having her engage in commercial sex work. Traylor caused the minor to perform commercial sex acts in Harrisonburg and Craigsville. Together with her boyfriend, Traylor drove the minor to New Orleans, Louisiana, where she demanded that the minor continue to perform commercial sex acts. After the minor refused to prostitute, Traylor assaulted her and drove her across the country to San Bernardino, California, where Traylor forced the minor to prostitute on the street. The minor was recovered by law enforcement and returned to Virginia. Teresa watching Press Releases for sentencing is set for Dec 2 – so check for outcome

### **Conviction: Eric Noe Araujo Flores**

On February 19, Eric Noe Araujo Flores, aka Eric Araujo Orellano, 34, a citizen of El Salvador who lives in Ashburn, was convicted by a federal jury on charges of sex trafficking of a child, foreign travel with intent to engage in illicit sexual conduct, and harboring an alien for an immoral purpose, and coercion and enticement.

Araujo Flores was indicted on Nov. 19, 2015. According to court records and evidence at trial, Araujo Flores contacted his former nanny in El Salvador in an effort to find a teenage Salvadoran girl. The nanny put Araujo Flores in touch with her 14-year-old niece, who informed Araujo Flores that a gang had threatened to harm her and her family and that she needed help. Araujo Flores obtained photographs of the girl and then promised to help the girl if she would have sex with him. Beginning in July 2013, Araujo Flores made three trips from Dulles International Airport to El Salvador to have sex with the victim. Araujo Flores paid cash for some of the sex acts. He also provided the victim and her family with jewelry, food, and clothing, paid to have them move residences, and paid her family's rent.

Seeking immediate access to the victim, Araujo Flores arranged and paid to have the victim and her mother smuggled into the United States through Texas in June 2014. He then harbored them at a house he owned in Sterling. Araujo Flores allowed them to live there rent-free in exchange for sex with the victim, who was then 15-years-old. Araujo Flores provided the victim with a counterfeit permanent resident card which included a false birthdate indicating she was over the age of 18. He also continued to provide food and jewelry to the victim.

## **Sentencing: Jerome Robert Barnhart**

On July 1, 2016, Jerome Robert Barnhart, 36, of Washington, D.C., was sentenced to 264 months in prison for kidnapping, followed by five years of supervised release.

Barnhart pleaded guilty on Dec. 7, 2015. According to court documents, Barnhart met the victim in Maryland and, after striking up a romance with her and supplying her with marijuana, Barnhart persuaded the victim to be prostituted and to turn over her earnings to him. Barnhart prostituted the victim in Washington, D.C., New York, Maryland, and Virginia. Barnhart imposed a monetary quota on the victim, and when the victim was unable to meet the quota, he became enraged. He periodically beat the victim and threatened her with bodily harm. On one such occasion, Barnhart used the lid of a can to slice the victim's finger.

In August 2015, after the victim again failed to meet her quota, Barnhart beat the victim at a hotel in Maryland, and then drove the victim to Virginia. During the ride, Barnhart continued to beat the victim with a tire iron. Barnhart threatened the victim and told her that he was going to dump her body where nobody would find it. While Barnhart was beating the victim with the tire iron, his car swerved on the George Washington Memorial Parkway. The U.S. Park Police initiated a traffic stop and found Barnhart and the bruised victim in the car. Because the victim was bruised and crying, the police separated her from Barnhart and she began to recount her ordeal. A grand jury later indicted Barnhart for kidnapping, sex trafficking by force, fraud, coercion, and assault with a dangerous weapon, among other charges.

## **Northern Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force**

### **Who We Are**

Members of the Northern Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force (NVHTTF) facilitate coordinated anti-trafficking effort through targeted outreach, training and technical assistance, proactive investigations, intelligence-sharing, and partnerships. As part of this mission, we identify victims and provide victim-centered, trauma informed comprehensive services. We also enhance, encourage, and expand prosecutions.

### **Our History**

Founded in 2004, the Northern Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force is a collaboration of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies and nongovernmental organizations dedicated to (1) investigating and prosecuting those engaged in sex trafficking, forced labor, and closely related crimes; and (2) identifying, rescuing, and providing services to victims of human trafficking.

## **Our Goals**

The goals of the Northern Virginia Human Trafficking Task Force include:

- Facilitating a more coordinated anti-trafficking effort in Northern Virginia through protocol development, extensive community outreach, proactive investigations, law enforcement training, intelligence sharing, and more formalized partnerships between law enforcement organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).
- Identifying victims of both sex and labor trafficking
- Providing comprehensive services to trafficking victims, and
- Increasing prosecutions of traffickers and those responsible for facilitating this crime.

*Thank You for Your Support!*