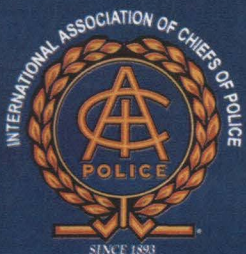
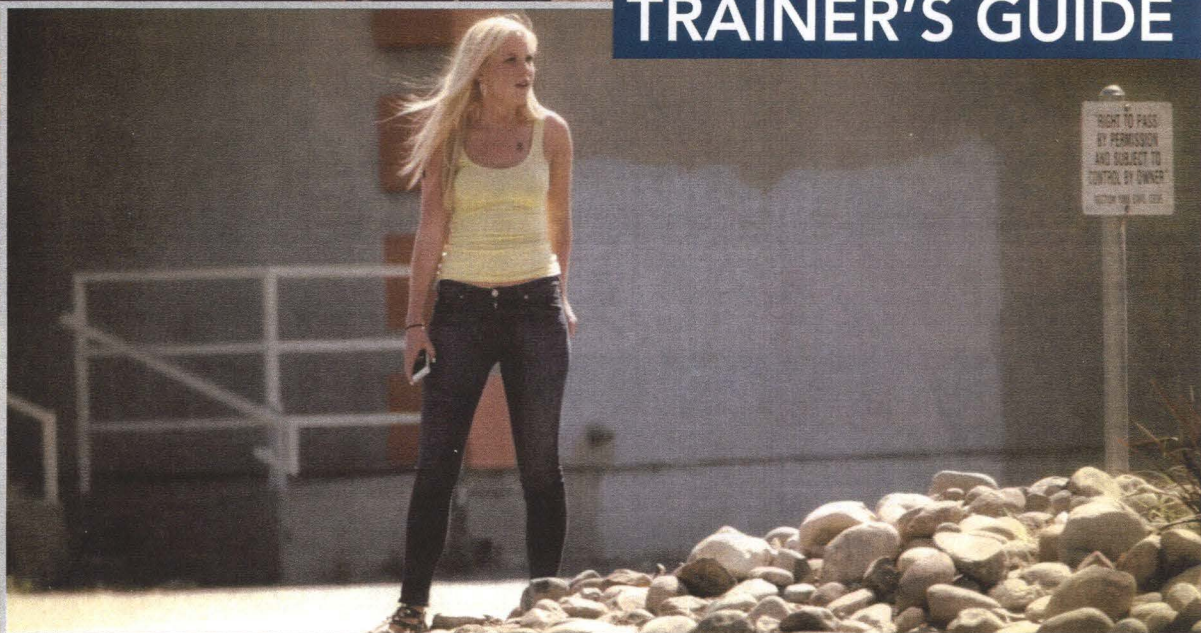
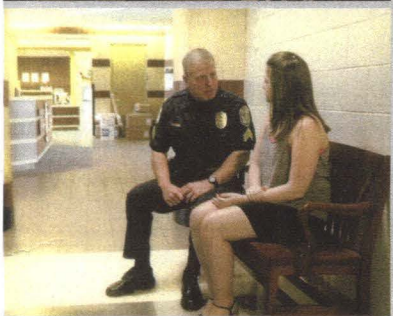
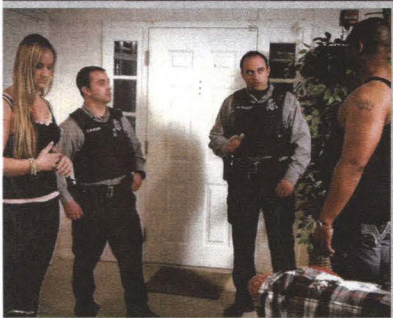


# CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING: A Training Series for Frontline Officers



## TRAINER'S GUIDE

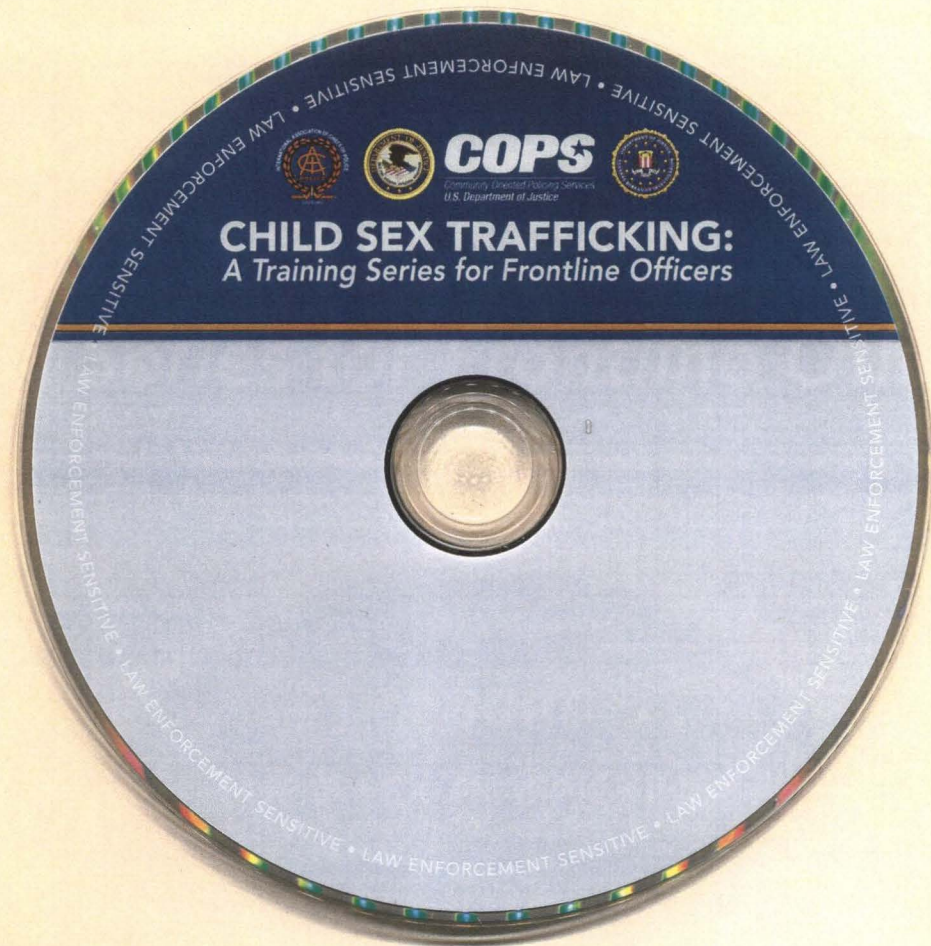


# COPS

Community Oriented Policing Services  
U.S. Department of Justice



# CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING: A Training Series for Frontline Officers



**RECOGNIZE**  
*the indicators*

**RETHINK**  
*the situation*

**RESPOND**  
*appropriately and  
refer for investigation*



**COPS**  
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# CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING: A Training Series for Frontline Officers

## RECOGNIZE • RETHINK • RESPOND

*Recognize the indicators | Rethink the situation | Respond appropriately and refer for investigation*

### INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

The purpose of this training series is to educate frontline officers on how to recognize and respond to victims of child sex trafficking.

This is a series of training videos which depict sworn law enforcement officers demonstrating alternative responses to different types of scenarios involving child sex trafficking. Accompanying the videos is this toolkit that includes instructions for supervisors on how to prepare for and deliver training to frontline officers.

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Introduction and Purpose	1
Pre Training Instructions for Supervisors	2
Discussion Guide	3
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Acknowledgments	19
Poster	<b>Back Folder Pocket</b>

# CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

## PRE-TRAINING INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUPERVISORS

1. Identify the local point of contact (POC) that your frontline officers can contact 24/7 when they encounter a possible child victim of sex trafficking. This would be a specialist in child sex trafficking. This could be your agency's designated investigator or unit; a regional or state task force officer; and/or the FBI Crimes Against Children Coordinator/Child Exploitation Task Force out of the local FBI office or even your regional or state Fusion Center.
2. Consider contacting your local district and/or state attorney to notify of your intent to conduct this training and garner their input and support.
3. Determine your local policy on child sexual exploitation victims, many states now designate these victims as child abuse victims.
4. With your local POC and/or child sex trafficking investigator/specialist, determine what other resources are in your area including victim assistance and advocacy organizations.
5. Fill out the Tip Card (on page 11) with local point of contact for officers.
6. Copy or produce enough Tip Cards for each frontline officer.
7. Copy or produce additional documents (i.e. indicators, glossary of terms, etc.).
8. Fill out the point of contact field on the pull-out poster (found inside the back folder pocket) and hang in the training location or other place where officers will see it.
9. Determine how to conduct the full training series with all six video scenarios, either at once or over a period of time.
10. Review the Discussion Guide (on page 3) and select questions and key points to go over after showing the video(s).

This training series features the following videos. Make sure to play the introduction video before playing a scenario. If you are viewing multiple scenarios in a row, the introduction video can be skipped after playing it once.

Introduction (2:54 minutes)

Traffic Stop (12:05 minutes)

Hotel (11:49 minutes)

Street Patrol (10:25 minutes)

Hospital (11:46 minutes)

School (10:32 minutes)

DV Call (12:10 minutes)

# CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

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## DISCUSSION GUIDE

This discussion guide is designed to reinforce key information contained in the roll call training videos and assist officers in applying this knowledge to their role as first responders in their community.

The following key points and questions are intended to encourage discussion after viewing each video.

### SCENARIO ONE: *Domestic Violence*

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. What physical indicators were in the video that are signs of sex trafficking?**
  - *Sexual paraphernalia such as condoms, lubrication, baby oil, and wipes.*
  - *Large amounts of cash and prepaid credit cards.*
  - *Numerous electronic devices such as phones, laptops, tablets.*
  - *Adult victim displays prominent tattoo with the same name as a tattoo on the adult male ("King Cuba").*
- 2. What behaviors did the adult victim and trafficker display that are signs of sex trafficking?**
  - *Adult victim looked to trafficker before responding.*
  - *Trafficker answered for the adult victim.*
  - *Trafficker displayed controlling influence over both the child and adult victims.*
- 3. What did you notice about the adult victim's behavior when interacting with the officer when the trafficker was present?**
  - *She was hesitant and seemingly looked to the trafficker for permission before responding to the officer.*
  - *She held her head down and looked away.*
- 4. What did you notice about the adult victim's behavior when interacting with the officer once she was separated from the trafficker?**
  - *Adult victim was attentive and responsive to the officer.*
  - *She was cooperative and provided more detailed responses.*

# CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

**5. While the officer was questioning the adult victim outside, what did you notice about the officer's language and demeanor?**

- *The officer was calm, respectful, and reassured her that she was not in any trouble.*
- *He relayed to the victim that he recognized she was in a bad situation and expressed his desire to help.*
- *He did not use judgmental words like "prostitute."*

**6. What does the adult victim say that indicates sex trafficking?**

- *That her boyfriend "turned her out" when she was 17 after meeting him at a bus station after she had run away from home. "Turn Out" refers to when a trafficker first introduces the victim to sex trafficking.*

**7. When you've identified a victim of possible sex trafficking, what would you do? (ex. Who would you call? What resources might you bring in?)**

### KEY POINTS:

- Often sex trafficking involves other types of crimes such as domestic violence, sexual assault, drug activity, and/or illegal weapon possession.
- Both child and adult victims likely will not disclose their exploitation in sex trafficking. They have often been coached in how to respond to police questions.
- Separating the victim from both the sight and hearing of the trafficker increases the likelihood of cooperation.
- Female victims of sex trafficking often refer to the trafficker as a "boyfriend" and will express feelings of love and affection for them.
- Traffickers often fill a void in a child victim's life such as providing basic necessities like food, clothing, and housing as well as attention and affection to ensure the victim's loyalty.
- A runaway juvenile is at particularly high risk to be recruited and exploited by traffickers.

## SCENARIO TWO: Traffic Stop

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

**1. What indicators were signs of child sex trafficking?**

- *The child, adult female, and adult male all had a similar tattoo of a spider in obvious places on their bodies.*
- *A runaway/missing juvenile who had provided a false age to the officer.*
- *Sexual paraphernalia such as condoms and lubrication.*
- *Pre-paid credit cards and hotel receipts.*

# CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

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## DISCUSSION GUIDE

### 2. Why is it important that the officers separate everyone?

- *It is important to separate everyone from each other to increase the likelihood of cooperation from victims.*

### 3. What are examples of “grooming” behaviors that were used in this scenario?

- *Learned distrust of law enforcement*
- *Isolation from family and friends*
- *Trafficker maintained control of adult victim’s mobile phone*
- *Brainwashed to fear outside help and distrust of others*

### 4. Do you think the trooper should have instructed his fellow officers in front of the child?

- *No, the trooper told the other officer to call CPS and referred to the victim as a “recovered child” right in front of the child. It would be better to do this away from the child victim.*

### 5. When you’ve identified a victim of possible sex trafficking, what would you do? (ex. Who would you call? What resources might you bring in?)

#### KEY POINTS:

- Physical indicators of sex trafficking include sexual paraphernalia such as condoms, lubrication, baby oil, and wipes; evidence of travel such as hotel keys, receipts, and multiple hotel laundry bags; and sometimes provocative or inappropriate clothing.
- A runaway juvenile is at particularly high risk to be recruited by traffickers.
- Victims often express affection for, and dependence on, their traffickers.
- Traffickers often “brand” their victims as their property with tattoos, scars, and burns.
- Traffickers transport victims to new locations to work, typically traveling by car or other means of transportation.

## SCENARIO THREE: School

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

#### 1. What indicators of sex trafficking did the officer find after looking in the girl’s purse?

- *Sexual paraphernalia including multiple condoms and lubrication*
- *A stun gun (possible defensive weapon)*
- *Multiple phones*
- *Prescription Medication (not in their name)*

# CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

**2. What red flags did you notice after the officer talked to everyone that this situation could be sex trafficking?**

- *The sudden change in the child's behavior – new older boyfriend, new friends, poor grades, and disciplinary issues at school (distancing self from normal activity i.e. basketball).*
- *The older boyfriend who pays for her new look – hair, nails, clothes, and is getting her a tattoo and wanting to take her to New Orleans and Atlanta.*
- *The older adult female friend or boyfriend picking the child up at school.*

**3. The officer makes the important effort to gather information about the child before speaking to her. He speaks with a counselor, coach, and the child's friend. While he speaks with the child's friend in the school library, why might this not have been the best option?**

- *The library is a public place and it would be better to discuss sensitive matters where it could not be overheard by others which could lead to the child or trafficker being alerted. The friend may have been more forthcoming with sensitive details about the child's exploitation if they had been in a private place.*

**4. At the end, the officer sits down and speaks with the child victim, what does the officer do well?**

- *Good: The officer expresses his concern for the child and his willingness to help her.*
- *Good: The officer asks the child victim if she is willing to speak with him and his colleagues.*
- *Good: The officer sits with the child – he does not stand over her.*

**5. When you've identified a victim of possible sex trafficking, what would you do? (ex. Who would you call? What resources might you bring in?)**

### KEY POINTS:

- *Victims of sex trafficking are not just those who run away and live on the street; child victims can also live at home with family and attend school. Traffickers have been known to recruit new victims at schools.*
- *Often sex trafficking involves other types of crimes, in this case illegal drug and weapon possession.*
- *Victims may carry weapons to protect themselves such as knives, mace, or stun guns.*
- *Even if the victim does not disclose the exploitation, there are often enough other indicators for officers to call in an investigator with specialized knowledge of child sex trafficking.*



# CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

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## DISCUSSION GUIDE

### SCENARIO FOUR: *Street Patrol*

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. What difference in perspectives did you notice between the two officers?**
  - *One officer viewed the child as a victim in need of help and the other viewed the child as a willing participant.*
- 2. How did the victim respond to the officers' question before and after the trafficker drove away?**
  - *When the trafficker was watching the child victim from across the street, she was resistant to the officers' questions and became agitated at the attention.*
  - *After the trafficker drove away, the child victim became more open and responsive to the officers' questions.*
- 3. What are common misconceptions about victims of sex trafficking and the crime itself?**
  - *Victims are willing participants and choosing this lifestyle.*
  - *Victims keep the money they make.*
  - *Victims have cell phones. If they wanted help they could just call the police.*
  - *Victims are only female.*
- 4. Why might a victim of sex trafficking not call for help even when they have a cell phone?**
  - *Victims of sex trafficking often do not see themselves as victims.*
  - *Victims often form a bond with their trafficker – similar to hostages with Stockholm syndrome.*
  - *Victims often are terrified of what the trafficker would do.*
  - *Victims often are threatened by their trafficker that if they tell anyone they will hurt them or their family.*
- 5. What indicators could be a sign of child sex trafficking?**
  - *Young females being dropped off and picked up in an area known for sex trafficking.*
  - *Young females walking the street in an area known for sex trafficking, looking at cars that come by, and leaning into windows to speak to drivers.*
  - *Young females branded with tattoos such as "Daddy" and "\$."*
  - *Young female on the street being watched from afar by an adult in a vehicle.*
  - *Young female indicating "He puts me out here to make money."*

# CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

6. When you've identified a victim of possible sex trafficking, what would you do? (e.g. Who would you call? What resources might you bring in?)

### KEY POINTS:

- Traffickers often watch their victims from afar to make sure they are working.
- Female victims of sex trafficking often refer to the trafficker as a "boyfriend" and will express feelings of love and affection for them.
- It is unlikely that a victim of sex trafficking would disclose the abuse so quickly to police officers. Even if the victim does not disclose the exploitation, there are often enough other indicators for officers to call in an investigator with specialized knowledge of child sex trafficking.

## SCENARIO FIVE: *Hospital*

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What indicators of sex trafficking are present?

- Physical injuries consistent with sex trafficking: blistering of the feet (from walking the street), use of non-typical items to stop menstruation (in order for them to "work"), bruising, and evidence of violence.
- A missing juvenile who ran away from a foster home.
- Comments from the child victim including "I didn't do what I was told." "I deserved it." "I don't give it away for free." "He holds my money for me."

2. What street terms and phrases did you notice the child use when speaking to the officer?

- "Wifey" is how others under the same trafficker refer to each other.
- "Square" refers to someone who is not in "the life" and doesn't understand "the game." "The game/the life" are used to describe the sub-culture of prostitution.

3. The child victim is very open with the officers, why might Jamie not consider herself a victim of sex trafficking?

- Victims of sex trafficking often form very strong bonds with their trafficker, much like victims of domestic violence or hostages with Stockholm syndrome.

4. What role does the older adult female play in the child's victimization?

- The child refers to her as her "wifey" and that she takes care of her when her "boyfriend is not around."
- This adult female would be considered the "bottom" or "bottom bitch," a trafficker's most trusted prostitute.

# CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

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## DISCUSSION GUIDE

5. When you've identified a victim of possible sex trafficking, what would you do? (ex. Who would you call? What resources might you bring in?)

### KEY POINTS:

- Often sex trafficking involves other types of crimes such as domestic violence, sexual assault, drug activity, and/or illegal weapon possession.
- A runaway juvenile is at particularly high risk to be recruited by traffickers.
- A trafficker will typically have a lead female who helps run the sex trafficking operation – she is referred to as the “bottom” or “bottom bitch” and has a role in recruiting, controlling, and exploiting victims on behalf of the trafficker.
- Victims of sex trafficking often do not think of themselves as victims.
- Even if the child victim does not disclose the exploitation, there are often enough other indicators for officers to call in an investigator with specialized knowledge of child sex trafficking.

### SCENARIO SIX: *Hotel*

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What indicators of sex trafficking were present before the officers even entered the room?
  - Hotel reported a lot of traffic coming in and out of the room, refusal of maid service, loitering in the lobby, extra towels, and payment by pre-paid credit card.
2. What did you notice about the young girls' behavior when the mother entered the room?
  - Both the child victims became fearful and submissive to the adult female.
  - Both the child victims looked to the adult female before responding to the officer.
3. What did you see in the hotel room that could be indicators of sex trafficking?
  - Sexual paraphernalia such as condoms, lubrication, baby oil, and wipes.
  - Numerous electronic devices including a laptop displaying a website advertising escort services.
  - Pre-paid credit cards, a note that appears to be a ledger listing male names, phone numbers, dollar amounts, and times.
  - Adult female with a tattoo of a \$ sign and another of “CREAM”—which stands for Cash Rules Everything Around Me.

# CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

### 4. What wording does the child victim use that indicates sex trafficking?

- *"She makes us meet men in there."*
- *"We wait in the lobby until one of us is finished with our dates."*

### 5. What actions did the officer take after the child disclosed her exploitation that were very good and which action could have been done better?

- *Good: The officer called for backup to manage both the child victims and trafficker.*
- *Good: The officer made sure to arrest the female offender away from the child victims.*
- *Not so good: It would have been best not to have returned the child victim to the hotel room where the female offender was still present.*

### 6. Even if one of the children had not disclosed the exploitation, could the officer have still called in an investigator with specialized knowledge of child sex trafficking?

- *Yes, a victim of sex trafficking typically does NOT immediately disclose the exploitation, especially to a police officer. However, there are often enough other indicators for officers to call in an investigator with specialized knowledge of child sex trafficking.*

### 7. When you've identified a victim of possible sex trafficking, what would you do? (ex. Who would you call? What resources might you bring in?)

#### KEY POINTS:

- Traffickers can be both men and women and may be family members of the victim.
- Hotels of all types, from low-end motels to high-end hotels, are often used in sex trafficking operations.
- Traffickers may recruit friends of the child victim into sex trafficking.
- Separating the victim from both the sight and hearing of the offender increases the likelihood of cooperation. Remember to keep the victims and trafficker separated, even after disclosure.
- Victims of sex trafficking should be referred for medical evaluation.

For resources and more information regarding how to recognize and respond to child sex trafficking, please visit IACP's Child Sex Trafficking website at [www.theiacp.org/childtrafficking](http://www.theiacp.org/childtrafficking) or the FBI's website at [www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov) and search for Innocence Lost National Initiative.

This project is supported by Cooperative Agreement Number 2012-CK-WX-K033 awarded by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions contained herein are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice. References to specific agencies, companies, products, or services should not be considered an endorsement by the author(s) or the U.S. Department of Justice. Rather, the references are illustrations to supplement discussion of the issues.

# CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING TIP CARD

**CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING:** *The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining a child under 18 years of age for the purpose of a commercial sex act, per federal law.*

## INDICATORS OF CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

These are some select indicators to help front line officers in determining if they have come upon a possible child sex trafficking victim. No single indicator confirms the existence of child sex trafficking but several indicators increase the likelihood that this crime is occurring.

### PHYSICAL INDICATORS:

- No identification (or ID is being held by another person)
- Multiple minors with unrelated adult male(s) or female(s)
- Reported missing and/or chronically runs away from home
- Sexual paraphernalia such as condoms, lubrication, baby wipes, baby oil
- Evidence of travel (living out of suitcases, at motels, in the car)
- Minors with a name or symbol tattooed, burned, or branded, onto their bodies—particularly when coupled with reluctance to explain the tattoo or when they match others
- Lacks knowledge of travel plans, destination, and current location
- Large amounts of cash or pre-paid credit cards (though rarely present on victim)
- Hotel keys, hotel bags, and hotel receipts
- Presence of an overly controlling or abusive “boyfriend” or older female
- Multiple cell phones, computers, and/or electronic devices
- Minors at hotels, street tracks, truck stops, or strip clubs
- Minors with slips of paper/notebooks containing: phone numbers, dollar amounts, male names, hotel names, addresses (e.g. Joe - \$250 - 1234 Main St.)
- Minors who are not in control of their own money, or who don't have any money with them
- Minors that have items that don't fit the current situation (a runaway with new clothes and hair and nails done)

### BEHAVIORAL INDICATORS:

- Lies about their age and identity
- Lack of eye contact with law enforcement
- Let's others speak for them
- Looks to others before answering questions (may use eye contact and hand signals to communicate with them)
- Appears to be under the control of older male or female
- Seems coached in talking to law enforcement
- Resists offers of help to get out of the situation, does not ask for help (does not consider self a victim)
- Frightened, annoyed, resistant, or belligerent to police
- Uses prostitution-related terms, such as “Daddy,” “The Life,” “The Game,” “Escorting,” “Wifey,” “In-call/Out-call,” or “The Track”
- Displays over-sexualized behavior
- Preoccupied with “getting money” such as displaying photos of cash

**REMEMBER: TRAFFICKED CHILDREN ARE NOT LIKELY TO DISCLOSE THEIR EXPLOITATION**

**LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE INFORMATION:** This information is for law enforcement purposes only and should not be disseminated outside of law enforcement. Disclosure of this material outside of the law enforcement field may reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or jeopardize the life or physical safety of any individual, including the lives and safety of law enforcement personnel.

**IPS**

Integrated Policing Services  
Department of Justice



# TRAFFICKING: Frontline Officers

## MEET

*ing, transportation, provision, or obtaining a commercial sex act, per federal law.*

*forces that were developed under the FBI's 100 children from sex trafficking. These task force members secured 100 convictions of pimps and others who trafficked*

*ational Center for Missing & Exploited Children*

*cial group. Traffickers are not only men, but can*

*have runaway or are homeless, abused, or are naïve children, or children from affluent households known as grooming. The trafficker finds the child through attention and affection, belonging and emotional lure to set in, the trafficker becomes a threat of violence and violence itself to ensure the child does not see themselves as victims.*

*them into exchanging sex for money. The trafficker uses control to control their victims. These tactics include dependency, isolation, manipulation among*

*controlling others primarily through emotional manipulation. Though this is mostly an emotional form of control, physical force is almost always present.*

*entirely through violence.*

*te/vc\_majorthfts/cac/innocencelost.*

*trieved from [www.missingkids.com/CSTT](http://www.missingkids.com/CSTT).*

*September 25, 2014, from [www.fbi.gov/stats-services/](http://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/)*

*children. Washington, D.C.: Shared Hope International, 2009.*

SENSITIVE • LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE • LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE

Resources for Frontline Officers

13

# CHILD SEX DISCUSS

# CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING WHO TO CALL

FILL IN WITH YOUR LOCAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT FOR CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING:

4. **What wording does the child victim use th**
  - "She makes us meet men in there."
  - "We wait in the lobby until one of us is f
5. **What actions did the officer take after the good and which action could have been d**
  - Good: The officer called for backup to r
  - Good: The officer made sure to arrest th
  - Not so good: It would have been best n where the female offender was still prese
6. **Even if one of the children had not disclos called in an investigator with specialized k**
  - Yes, a victim of sex trafficking typically d especially to a police officer. However, th call in an investigator with specialized kn
7. **When you've identified a victim of possibl would you call? What resources might you**

### KEY POINTS:

- Traffickers can be both men and women
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- Separating the victim from both the sight of cooperation. Remember to keep the
- Victims of sex trafficking should be refer

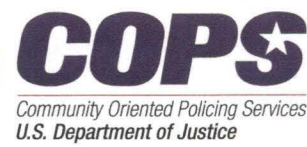
For resources and more information regarding h sex trafficking, please visit IACP's Child Sex Traff or the FBI's website at [www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov) and search f

This project is supported by Cooperative Agreee the Office of Community Oriented Policing Serv contained herein are those of the author(s) and policies of the U.S. Department of Justice. Refer services should not be considered an endorseme Rather, the references are illustrations to suppl

NAME	AGENCY	CONTACT INFO
Examples:		
Detective John Smith	Your Police Department	XXX
Crimes Against Children Coordinator/Child Exploitation Task Force	Local FBI Field Office	XXX
Local Task Force Coordinator	State Fusion Center	XXX
Coordinator/Advocate	City/State or County Investigative Agency	XXX
	Victim Services	XXX

NATIONAL POINT OF CONTACT	
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children	1-800-843-5678

**REMEMBER: YOU DO NOT NEED A CHILD VICTIM TO DISCLOSE TO REFER A SITUATION FOR INVESTIGATION.**



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# CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING: A Training Series for Frontline Officers

## FACT SHEET

**CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING:** *The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining a child under 18 years of age for the purpose of a commercial sex act, per federal law.*

### Statistics:

- Between 2003 and 2014 law enforcement task forces that were developed under the FBI's Innocence Lost National Initiative rescued 3,400 children from sex trafficking. These task force investigations have also led to more than 1,500 convictions of pimps and others who trafficked these minors.<sup>1</sup>
- 1 in 7 endangered runaways reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children in 2013 were likely sex trafficking victims.<sup>2</sup>
- Traffickers represent every social, ethnic and racial group. Traffickers are not only men, but can be women as well.<sup>3</sup>

**Victims** of child sex trafficking can be children who have runaway or are homeless, abused, or neglected, children with unmet needs, unsuspecting, or naïve children, or children from affluent homes. They are enticed by traffickers through a process known as grooming. The trafficker finds a way to meet the victim's needs through some form of attention and affection, belonging and recognition. As the victim allows the trafficker's emotional lure to set in, the trafficker becomes increasingly more controlling. The trafficker will also use threats of violence and violence itself to control their victims. It is typical for these young victims to not see themselves as victims.

**Traffickers** prey on vulnerable victims and entice them into exchanging sex for money. Traffickers use a number of techniques known as pimp control to control their victims. These techniques can include violence, coercion and threats, dependency, isolation, manipulation among others<sup>4</sup>.

- Finesse Pimp** *One who prides him/herself on controlling others primarily through psychological manipulation. Although this is mostly an emotional form of manipulation, the threat of violence is almost always present.*
- Gorilla Pimp** *One who controls others almost entirely through violence.*

<sup>1</sup>(n.d.). Retrieved September 25, 2014, from [www.fbi.gov/about-us/investigate/vc\\_majorthefts/cac/innocencelost](http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/investigate/vc_majorthefts/cac/innocencelost).

<sup>2</sup>National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. (2013). Did you know. Retrieved from [www.missingkids.com/CSTT](http://www.missingkids.com/CSTT).

<sup>3</sup>FBI. (2011). FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin Human Sex Trafficking. Retrieved September 25, 2014, from [www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/law-enforcement-bulletin/march\\_2011/human\\_sex\\_trafficking](http://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/law-enforcement-bulletin/march_2011/human_sex_trafficking).

<sup>4</sup>National Report on Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking: America's Prostituted Children. Washington, D.C.: Shared Hope International, 2009, page 37.

# RECOGNIZE • RETHINK • RESPOND

*Recognize the indicators | Rethink the situation | Respond appropriately and refer for investigation*

Some examples of where traffickers recruit and/or exploit their victims are:

- Hotels/Motels
- Homes
- Schools
- Malls/Shopping Centers
- House Parties
- Internet, Social Media
- Truck Stops
- Street/Track
- Events (e.g. Super Bowl, Final Four)



**COPS**

*Community Oriented Policing Services  
U.S. Department of Justice*



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*This project is supported by Cooperative Agreement Number 2012-CK-WX-K033 awarded by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions contained herein are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice. References to specific agencies, companies, products, or services should not be considered an endorsement by the author(s) or the U.S. Department of Justice. Rather, the references are illustrations of supplement discussion of the issues.*



# CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

## INDICATORS OF CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

The following indicators represent many physical and behavioral signs of child sex trafficking. These indicators are meant to help frontline officers in determining if they have come upon a possible child sex trafficking victim. Child sex trafficking victims can be extremely challenging to identify given the hidden nature of the crime and the low likelihood that the victim will report victimization. While no single indicator confirms the existence of child sex trafficking, several indicators increase the likelihood that this crime is occurring. Below are the indicators to look for:

### PHYSICAL INDICATORS:

- No identification (or ID is being held by another person)
- Multiple minors with unrelated adult male(s) or female(s)
- Reported missing and/or chronically runs away from home
- Sexual paraphernalia such as condoms, lubrication, baby wipes, baby oil
- Evidence of travel (living out of suitcases, at motels, in the car)
- Few or no personal possessions, and/or evidence of homelessness
- Missed school on a regular basis and/or has unexplained absences
- Makes references to frequent travel to other states, cities, and/or towns
- Minors with a name or symbol tattooed, burned, or branded, onto their bodies—particularly when coupled with reluctance to explain the tattoo or when they match others
- Lacks knowledge of travel plans, destination, and current location including lack of control over travel schedule and documents
- Bruising, injuries, and scars (but not always) and attempts to conceal them
- Clothing that is inappropriate and/or provocative; especially those appearing to be in unexplained expensive clothing, shoes, or other accessories (however, victims of sex trafficking are not always dressed provocatively) and inappropriate for weather such as heels, lingerie, no coat in winter
- Large amounts of cash or pre-paid credit cards (though rarely present on victim)
- Hotel keys, hotel bags, and hotel receipts
- Presence of an overly controlling or abusive “boyfriend” or older female
- Knives or some kind of weapon (for protection)
- Gang involvement or presence of gang members or gang symbols
- Appears to be harmed or hungry, thirsty and/or deprived of sleep, medical care, or other life necessities
- Signs of scars, trauma, injury, infections, fatigue, or other evidence of poor hygiene
- Expensive gifts, clothing, or other costly items with no valid explanation of their source. Demonstrates a sudden change in attire, behavior, relationships, or material possessions (e.g. has expensive items)
- Is uncharacteristically promiscuous and/or makes references to sexual situations or terminology that are beyond age-specific norms
- Multiple cell phones, computers, and/or electronic devices
- Minors at hotels, street tracks, truck stops, or strip clubs
- Minors with slips of paper/notebooks containing: phone numbers, dollar amounts, male names, hotel names, addresses  
(e.g. Joe – \$250 – 1234 Main St.)
- Minors who are not in control of their own money, or who don’t have any money with them
- Purse that contains only condoms, lubricant, baby wipes, baby oil, lingerie, etc. (referred to as a “Go Bag”)
- Has an explicitly sexual online profile
- Minors that have items that don’t fit the current situation (i.e. a runaway with new clothes and hair and nails done)

## BEHAVIORAL INDICATORS:

- Lies about their age and identity
- Claims of “just visiting” and not able to provide specific addresses for where they have been or where they are going
- Lack of eye contact with law enforcement
- Lets others speak for them
- Looks to others before answering questions (may use eye contact and hand signals to communicate with them)
- Appears to be under the control of older male or female
- Seems coached in talking to law enforcement
- Resists offers of help to get out of the situation, does not ask for help (does not consider self a victim)
- Frightened, annoyed, resistant, or belligerent to police
- Attitude—Resistant, not forthcoming, defensive, rude, evasive, aggressive
- Demeanor—fear, anxiety, depression, submissive, tense, nervous, paranoid, hyper-vigilant
- Pays particularly close attention to their phones, and/or receiving repeated calls or texts from someone entered into the phone as “boyfriend” or “daddy”
- Is inconsistent in stories
- Uses prostitution-related terms, such as “Daddy,” “The Life,” “The Game,” “Escorting,” “Wifey,” “In-call/Out-call,” or “The Track.”
- Shows a sudden change in attention to personal hygiene
- Withdrawal or lack of interest in previous activities, depression, anxiety, or fear
- Withdrawal from family and former friends
- Shows loyalty and positive feelings towards suspected trafficker (does not act like a typical victim)
- Displays over-sexualized behavior
- Preoccupied with “getting money” such as displaying photos of cash

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### SOURCES:

*Sex Trafficking of Juveniles: An Investigative Guide for Law Enforcement.* Federal Bureau of Investigation. (2014). For Law Enforcement only. Baltimore Police Department. (2014). BOLO Sheet for Officers. For Law Enforcement only.

*Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: A Fact Sheet.* National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. (2010).

*Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking: The Criminal Operations of the American Pimp, A condenses Guide for Service Providers and Law Enforcement.* Washington, D.C. Polaris Project. (2009) page 5 and 6.

*The National Report on Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking. America's Prostituted Children.* Washington, D.C. Shared Hope International. L. A. Smith, S. H. Vardaman, and M. A. Snow. (2009) page 49.

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# GLOSSARY OF PROSTITUTION TERMS

## (also used in Child Sex Trafficking)

### **AUTOMATIC**

This term means the prostitute's "automatic" routine when their pimp is out of town, incarcerated, or not in direct contact with his prostitutes. The person must be trusted by the pimp to put them on "automatic." This person usually sends all of the money to the pimp on a regular basis.

### **BITCH/HO**

These terms are used by both prostitutes and pimps. The pimp calls all of the working girls by these names while prostitutes may refer to themselves or others using these terms.

### **BOTTOM GIRL/BOTTOM BITCH/BOTTOM**

A prostitute chosen who is considered to be the most trusted by the pimp. The bottom may be responsible for recruiting others, transporting to and from areas they work, and other tasks that put distance between the pimp and illegal activities engaged in by his girls.

### **BRANDING**

A tattoo or carving on a prostitute that indicates ownership by a pimp.

### **BREAK YOURSELF/BREAK A BITCH**

A command to a prostitute to give all of their money to a pimp.

### **BUSTER**

An unsuccessful or "wanna be" pimp.

### **CHOOSE UP**

This is the process by which a pimp takes "ownership" of a prostitute. When the prostitute starts working for the pimp she is said to have chosen him. The prostitute has to give their new pimp all of the money they made. This can be done by force, by threats, or voluntarily.

### **CHOOSING FEE**

An amount of money given to a pimp by a prostitute before she can "choose" him.

### **CIRCUIT**

A series of cities among which prostituted people are moved.

### **DADDY**

The name the girls call their pimp.

### **DUCK**

A black female prostitute.

### **EXIT FEE**

A price set by the pimp that must be paid by a prostitute when they want to leave the pimp.

### **FULL SERVICE/EVERYTHING/HALF AND HALF**

Terms most commonly used to denote that a prostitute will perform both oral sex and sexual intercourse for a fee.

### **FINESSE/ROMEO PIMP**

A pimp who controls their prostitutes primarily through psychological manipulation. The threat of violence is almost always present.

### **GORILLA PIMP**

A pimp who controls their prostitutes almost entirely through violence.

### **IN CALL**

When setting up a "date," this is when the buyer comes to meet the prostitute.

### **IN POCKET**

Not paying any other pimp than the one controlled by the prostitute. Not speaking to any other pimp.

### **JOHN/DATE/TRICK**

A person who buys sex from a prostitute.

### **KIDDIE STROLL**

An area featuring younger victims.

### **KNOCK/KNOCK A BITCH**

The act of a pimp trying to lure a prostitute away from another pimp.

### **LOT LIZARD**

A prostitute who works at truck stops.

### **MADAM**

A female pimp. Madams are uncommon in street prostitution settings.

# GLOSSARY OF PROSTITUTION TERMS

## (also used in Child Sex Trafficking)

### OUT CALL

When setting up a "date," it is agreed that the prostitute will go to meet the buyer.

### OUT OF POCKET

The condition of a prostitute who has broken a rule set by her pimp.

### PIMP

A person who is associated with, usually exerts control over, and lives off the earnings of one or more prostitutes.

### RECKLESS EYEBALLING

When a prostitute looks around instead of keeping their eyes on the ground. This could lead to "choosing up" by mistake.

### SERVE/SERVE UP/SERVED

Classic rules of the game—When a prostitute chooses another pimp the new pimp gives notice to the former pimp of the new arrangement. In the past the new pimp may have paid the former pimp in order to keep the prostitute. This exchange is less prominent these days but still exists.

### SQUARE/L7

Someone who is not in "the life" or can be used as a term for law enforcement and those that don't understand "the game."

### STABLE/FAMILY/TEAM/FOLKS

A group of prostitutes under one pimp's control.

### SWAN

A white female prostitute.

### THE GAME/THE LIFE

The subculture of prostitution, complete with rules, a hierarchy of authority, and language.

### TRACK/BLADE/STROLL/HO STROLL

Any street or area where prostitutes commonly engage in soliciting for prostitution.

### TRICK/DATE

The act of sex for money or a person who buys sex from a prostitute.

### TURNOUT

To be forced into prostitution (verb) or a person newly involved in prostitution (noun).

### UNKNOCKABLE

When a prostitute shows loyalty to a pimp. They cannot be approached or recruited by another pimp.

### WIFE/WIFEY-IN-LAW/WIFEY

Title of prostitutes used to refer to other prostitutes that are with the same pimp.

### SAMPLE ACRONYMS

May be found on written ledgers or on electronic devices

**Age-play**—Scenes in which at least one participant pretends to be significantly younger than he or she actually is.

**ASP**—Adult Service Provider.

**Bag**—Condom.

**BFE**—Boyfriend Experience.

**BDSM**—Bondage, Discipline, Sadism and Masochism.

**CREAM**—Cash Rules Everything Around Me.

**Ellie**—Law Enforcement.

**Five-O**—A police officer.

**FS**—Full Service.

**BBBJ, CBJ, RCG, ATM, COF, CIM, MP, MSOG, OTC, SFH, Greek**

**GFE**—Girlfriend Experience.

**NOONER**—A lunch-time or afternoon session.

**PSE**—Porn Star Experience.

**P4P**—Pay for Play.

**SFH**—Sex For Hire.

**\$**—The dollar sign (or collection of dollar signs) is sometimes used to imply the price range of the services offered/provided.

**420 or 420 FRIENDLY**—An ASP that will smoke marijuana with you or accept marijuana as payment for services.

These are examples of acronyms used to refer to different sexual acts being requested or offered.

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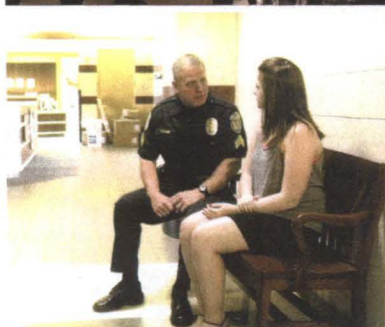
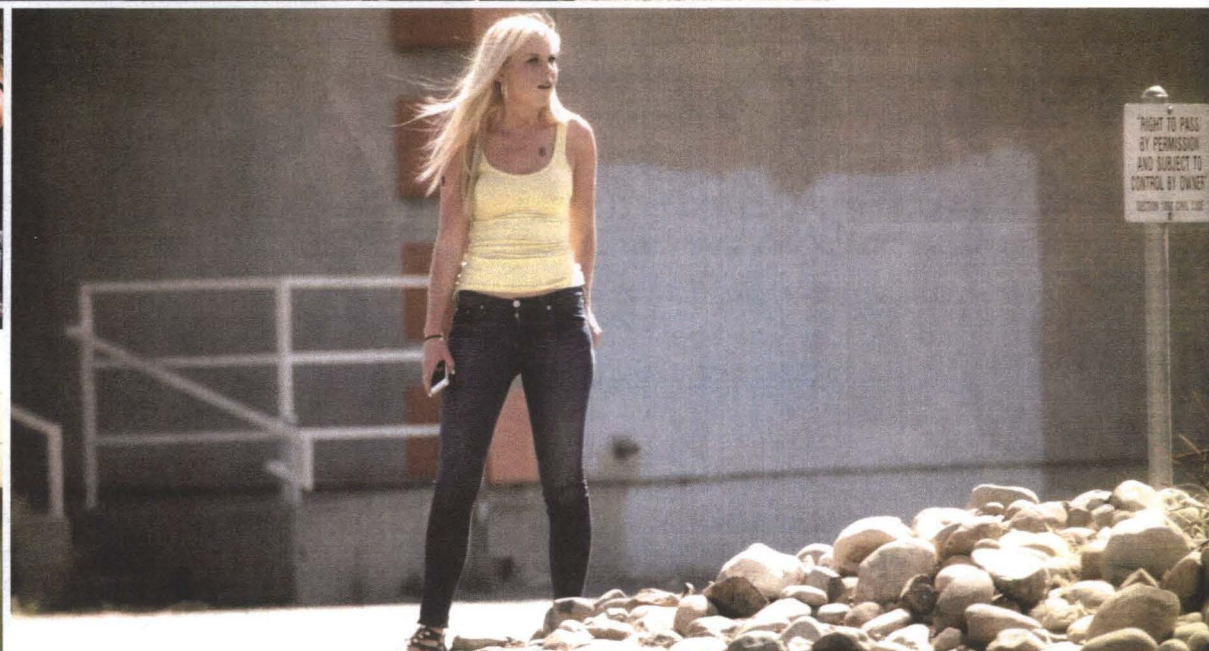
- *Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department (Cleveland, OH)*
- *Fairfax County Police Department (Fairfax, VA)*
- *FBI Academy (Quantico, VA)*
- *FBI Cleveland Field Office -Toledo Resident Agency (Toledo, OH)*
- *FBI Detroit Field Office (Detroit, MI)*
- *FBI San Antonio Field Office (San Antonio, TX)*
- *FBI Sacramento Field Office (Sacramento, CA)*
- *FBI Washington Field Office (Washington, DC)*
- *Hoover High School (Hoover, AL)*
- *Hoover Police Department (Hoover, AL)*
- *Mercy Public Safety Department (Toledo, OH)*
- *Mercy Saint Vincent Medical Center (Toledo, OH)*
- *Michigan State Police (Lansing, MI)*
- *National Association of School Resource Officers (Hoover, AL)*
- *National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (Alexandria, VA)*
- *Oregon Police Department (Oregon, OH)*
- *Sacramento Police Department (Sacramento, CA)*
- *Texas Department of Public Safety (Austin, TX)*
- *Toledo Police Department (Toledo, OH)*

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**RECOGNIZE** *the indicators*

**RETHINK** *the situation*

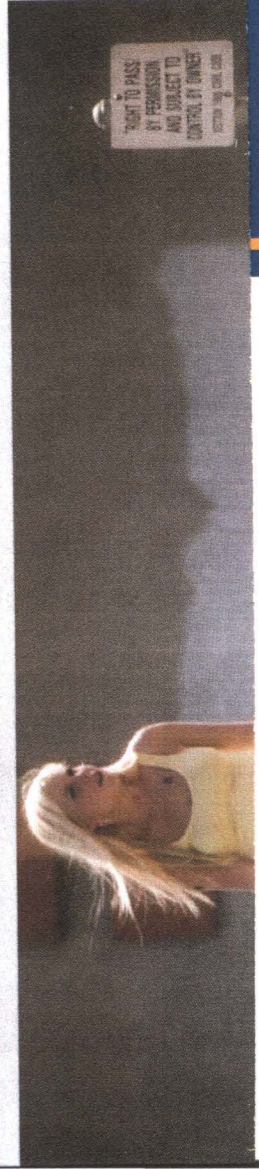
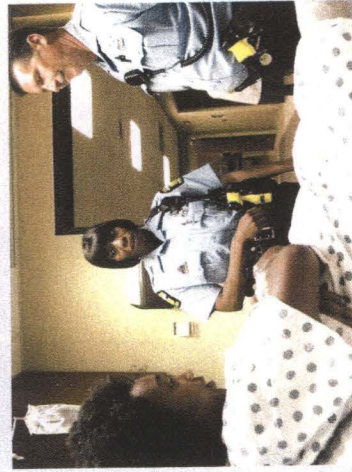
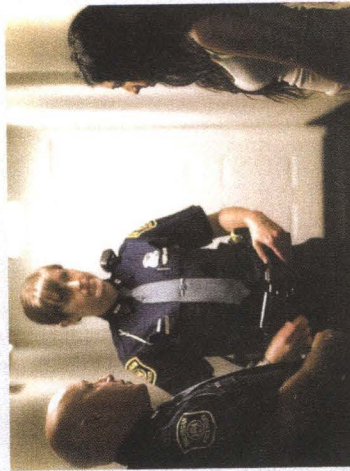
**RESPOND** *appropriately and refer for investigation*



# EXTRA TRAFFICKING: Challenges for Frontline Officers

## •RETHINK•RESPOND

Respond appropriately and refer for investigation



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

IACP's Child Sex Trafficking website:  
[www.theiacp.org/childtrafficking](http://www.theiacp.org/childtrafficking)

FBI's Violent Crimes Against Children website:  
[http://www.fbi.gov/aboutus/investigate/vc\\_majorthefts/cac/innocencelost](http://www.fbi.gov/aboutus/investigate/vc_majorthefts/cac/innocencelost)

