

National Briefing South: Louisiana: Human Trafficking

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Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales announced an expansion of efforts to fight **human trafficking**. Speaking at a conference in New Orleans, Mr. Gonzales said the government would increase financing for prosecuting commercial slave traders by \$8 million and build up a **trafficking** task force on the issue to 42 members from 32. Some of the money will be used to "put a stop to the exploitation and abuse of laborers" brought into the New Orleans area by traffickers to work in rebuilding after Hurricane Katrina last year.

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