



Oklahoma Human Trafficking Statistics

OKLAHOMA HUMAN TRAFFICKING FACTS AND RESOURCES

- ❖ Oklahoma still lacks adequate protections for domestic minor victims, adequate law enforcement training, a human trafficking task force, and protections for domestic minor victims.
- ❖ In 2003, the United States Dept. of Justice stated that New York, Texas, California and Oklahoma were home to the largest concentrations of trafficking survivors receiving federal assistance.
- ❖ In 2014: Oklahoma reported 42 human trafficking cases and 146 calls were made to the NHTRC Hotline

HUMAN TRAFFICKING NEWS FROM OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma on the map for human sex trafficking market (OUDaily, October 28, 2015) - Women and children are being bought and sold as prostitutes across the nation. Though it's a national issue, human sex trafficking is closer to home than you might think, according to president and co-founder of No Boundaries International, Lori Basey. No Boundaries International is a nonprofit, faith-based organization that considers ending human trafficking one of its most important missions, and Basey said Oklahoma is on the commercial sex market map.

http://www.oudaily.com/news/oklahoma-on-the-map-for-human-sex-trafficking-market/article_4d743e98-7b96-11e5-ac99-d3e11c5212a1.html

Woman is jailed on human trafficking complaint (NewsOK, July 28, 2015) A woman accused of forcing another woman into prostitution for two days in Oklahoma City and Edmond was arrested after the alleged victim escaped. Goldie Richey, 31, was booked into the Oklahoma County jail Monday on complaints of robbery and human trafficking. The victim went to Richey's house to smoke and agreed to go to a party with her. Once a hotel room was rented, Richey told the woman she was going to become a prostitute. The woman said she refused and Richey threatened the woman's 17 month old.

<http://newsok.com/woman-is-jailed-on-human-trafficking-complaint/article/5436761>

Social Media Stir In Edmond Over Traveling Saleswoman & Sex Trafficking (News 9, June 27, 2013). News 9 checked with the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and several other agencies about the allegations. So far, these traveling saleswomen have turned out to be just that. There is no evidence that they are part of a human trafficking ring. Human trafficking groups, however, do use similar tactics to target children for human trafficking so law enforcement officers said parents should keep reporting anything suspicious in their neighborhoods.

<http://www.news9.com/story/22707067/door-to-door-saleswoman-tied-to-human-trafficking-parents-say>

State Grade **B**

*Shared Hope Report Cards grade each state on 6 key principles which set a national standard of protection against domestic minor sex trafficking. Graded from A-F: 'A' being most protected, 'F' being least protected.

Flash Points **11 out of 15**

*Trafficking is a complex issue influenced by several underlying factors, such as transportation, entertainment, or tourism. Each state is assessed based on the 15 major factors that contribute to trafficking. These determine the influences present in each state that increase residents' risk of being trafficked. 11 of the 15 flash points are found in Oklahoma.

Tier **1 of 4 (Green)**

*Polaris Project rates all 50 states on a 4 tier scale based on 10 categories of laws which are critical to a basic legal framework that combats human trafficking, punishes traffickers and supports survivors. Tier 1 meets the most categories while tier 4 meets the least. Tier 1 indicates the state has made significant laws to combat human trafficking and should continue to improve and implement its laws. Oklahoma meets 8 of the 10 categories of laws necessary to combat human trafficking.

www.warinternational.org - info@warinternational.org - 616-855-0796

Trafficking Tip Line: 1.877.END.SLAVERY

National Trafficking Hotline 1.888.3737.888

U.S. Dept. of Justice Trafficking and Workers' Exploitation Hotline 1.888.428.7581

Last updated: February, 2016

HUMAN TRAFFICKING NEWS FROM OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma, Human Trafficking and Facebook: How *Not* to Raise Funds for Bail (*Huffington Post*, March 19, 2013)
According to police, Misty VanHorn of Sallisaw, Okla. tried (unsuccessfully) to sell her kids on Facebook. Apparently, VanHorn was willing to sell her two children for \$4,000 as a package deal, or for \$1,000 apiece (I'll let you do the math). The kicker? She was apparently trying to collect funds to pay her boyfriend's bail. Ironically enough, she is now being held on bond herself. Call me crazy, but I don't see many folks running to the courthouse in an attempt to post bail... for either of them. All jokes aside, this case will hopefully open many eyes. We've always known that Oklahoma is a hotbed for human trafficking, but the general consensus usually seems to lay blame on the fact that both Interstate 44 and Interstate 35 cut right through the heart of the state.
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/adam-banner/woman-tries-to-sell-kids-facebook_b_2869360.html

Human trafficking, child prostitution bills 1058, 1067 pass Oklahoma Senate, head to Governor Fallin (KJRH 2, April 11, 2013)

Under the legislation, those charged or convicted of a "prostitution-related offense" in Oklahoma may have their record expunged by the court if it so chooses. The court may do so on its own accord or "upon petition by the defendant and for good cause shown," the bill states. "What happens to these victims is not their fault," said Sen. Nathan Dahm, R-Tulsa. "They need to be able to have their record expunged in order to move on with their lives."
<http://www.kjrh.com/dpp/news/state/human-trafficking-child-prostitution-bills-1058-1067-pass-oklahoma-senate-head-to-governor-fallin#ixzz2QDVcCR00>

Oklahoma's first-ever federal human trafficking sentences announced in Tulsa (ICE News Release, March 12, 2013)

Oklahoma's first-ever federal human trafficking sentences, including six people sentenced over two days, were announced Tuesday following their guilty pleas to sex trafficking by force, fraud and coercion, and coercion and enticement to travel in interstate commerce to engage in prostitution. These sentences, which were handed down Monday and Tuesday, were announced by U.S. Attorney Danny C. Williams Sr., Northern District of Oklahoma. The case, dubbed "Operation Poker Chip," was investigated starting in January 2012. The operation derives its name from poker chips that were given to the customers who paid a "caretaker" to have sex with a sex trafficking victim. The customer then turned in the poker chip to the victim. The sex traffickers or "caretakers" collected the poker chips at the end of the day to keep track of how many clients they had.
<http://www.ice.gov/news/releases/1303/130312tulsa.htm>

Tulsan accused of sex trafficking via Facebook (*Tulsa World*, March 8, 2013)

A Tulsan who was already charged with sex trafficking a 15-year-old girl is now also accused of using Facebook in an attempt to entice a 16-year-old girl to engage in prostitution, according to an indictment filed Thursday. Tarran A. Brinson, 23, allegedly used the popular social media site Nov. 21 "for the purpose of recruiting and enticing her to engage in commercial sex acts," according to the new charges handed out by a Tulsa federal grand jury. Assistant U.S. Attorney Trent Shores said Thursday that the newly added attempted sex trafficking of a child and enticement charges each carry at least 10 years in prison upon conviction.
http://www.tulsaworld.com/article.aspx/Tulsan_accused_of_sex_trafficking_via_Facebook/20130308_11_a8_atuls_a315511

Human sex trafficking is growing in Oklahoma, legislators told (NewsOK, September 27, 2012)

Jeannetta McCrery told members of the House of Representatives Public Safety Committee she was a good student growing up in Sand Springs until she was sexually molested when she was 10 by a family member. She was told not to tell anyone, and her attitude and grades suffered. She said she started hanging out with older friends and, when she was 11, she went with some of them to a party at an apartment in Tulsa. She said she was drugged and awoke naked on a dirty mattress inside a room she didn't recognize. The windows were boarded up and the door was locked from the outside. For at least three weeks, she said, men went to the room every day and she had no idea how many times she was raped. A short time later, she was taken across the country, along with other girls, and spent most of the next several years in sexual slavery.
<http://newsok.com/human-sex-trafficking-is-growing-in-oklahoma-legislators-told/article/3713729>