

## Oregon Human Trafficking Statistics

### OREGON HUMAN TRAFFICKING FACTS AND RESOURCES

- Oregon has a lack of laws addressing child sex trafficking and protecting trafficked minors.
- \* Traffickers are not required to register as sex offenders
- Oregon is falling short in the areas of law enforcement training and victim protections and assistance.
- ❖ In 2015: Oregon reported 56 cases of human trafficking and 252 calls were made to the NHTRC Hotline

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING NEWS FROM OREGON

FBI arrests six, saves four kids locally as part of child sex trafficking investigation (FOX 12 Oregon, October 13, 2015) - PORTLAND, OR (KPTV) - The FBI Child Exploitation Task Force, working with multiple local and state agencies in Oregon, have arrested six suspects and rescued four children as part of a national child sex trafficking sting operation. http://www.kptv.com/story/30253814/fbi-arrests-eight-saves-four-kids-locally-as-part-of-child-sex-trafficking-investigation

<u>Bedridden Oregon man accused of sexually abusing caregivers</u> (KGW.com, July 15, 2015)

Police arrested a bedridden Oregon man accused of sexually abusing caregivers hired through Craigslist. Newport police officer, Brad Purdom, said that 67-year-old Mel Blose offered workers food, a phone and a room at his home in the unincorporated community of South Beach. They were allegedly threatened with eviction if they declined sexual contact. Purdom says Blose's assistant, 46-year-old Ronald Flinter, helped hire the caregivers and spied on them. Blose has been charged with sex abuse, unlawful sexual penetration, human trafficking, harassment and subjecting another to involuntary servitude. <a href="http://www.kgw.com/story/news/crime/2015/07/15/newport-sex-charges/30206621/">http://www.kgw.com/story/news/crime/2015/07/15/newport-sex-charges/30206621/</a>

Oregon House passes tough child sex trafficking bill; senator wants it to be tougher (Oregon Live, June 14, 2013)

The measure the House passed -- amended Senate Bill 673 -- would boost mandatory sentences for those convicted of paying for sex with a child and prevents anyone charged with the crime from using ignorance of the child's age as a defense in court. The bill is just the latest in a series of legislation passed since 2011 aimed at cracking down sex trafficking in Oregon and boosting sentences for pimps and johns. "I feel like we've come a long way in the last couple years and I'm very proud of the work we've done," said Rep. Carolyn Tomei, D-Milwaukie.

<u>http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/06/oregon\_house\_passes\_t</u>
<u>ough\_chil.html</u>

#### 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 10 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. 10 of the 15 flash points are found in Oregon.

# 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 2 indicates the state has made nominal laws to combat human trafficking and should take more steps to improve and implement its laws. Oregon meets 7 of the 10 categories of laws necessary to combat human trafficking.

### **HUMAN TRAFFICKING NEWS FROM OREGON**

Portland police lure johns online in underage sex trafficking sting (KGW, May 23, 2013)

"It's easier to hide being underage in these websites. Young girls coming up through the middle schools, that's where the target is," he said. In the undercover bust, a police officer posed as 18-year-old "Amber," while another took the calls. If a girl were to put her real age, say 14, on these websites, it's going to be immediately banned. So the pimps sell the girls using code words like young, sweet, innocent. It took just four minutes for the first john to call about the fake ad. Another rang police before they even have a chance to set up the hotel sting. An hour after the fake post was up, the first john arrived at the hotel room littered with undercover cameras. http://www.kgw.com/news/local/Part-2-Police-go-undercover-to-break-up-Portlands-underage-sex-traffic-

East Portland-area Rotarians to use soap bars, posters to combat human trafficking (Oregon Live, May 20, 2013) Ten thousand small soap bars, labeled with a National Anti-Human Trafficking Hotline number, will be given to hotels and motels in the Portland metropolitan area to combat the problem. Members of East Portland Rotary clubs will be distributing the soap bars Monday through Saturday, and plan to ask area businesses, bus and train stations and truck stops to display anti-trafficking posters. "Rotarians want to raise awareness, educate the public on human trafficking and raise funds to continue their response to this problem," according to a news release. http://www.oregonlive.com/pacific-northwest-news/index.ssf/2013/05/east\_portland\_area\_rotarians.html

Police: Child sex trafficking is Portland's dirty secret (KGW, May 20, 2013)

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"The sex industry in Portland is huge. On almost every corner is a porn shop, strip club, lingerie parlor. It definitely breeds itself," said Officer Jeff Ruppel. Police said it's become so bad, they call it a tourist attraction. "We have a lot of johns pick up a rental car and drive straight to the avenue and find a girl," added Ruppel. The avenue he's talking about is Portland's Northeast 82nd. For the first time, the Portland Police Bureau's undercover prostitution division took KGW along to the front lines of their back-alley war. "I know there are girls that are 14 that are walking 82nd," said Ruppel. That's the average age in Portland a girl, barely out of puberty, will be forced to have sex with a grown man for the first time, he said.

http://www.kgw.com/news/Police-Sex-trafficking-is-Portlands-dirty-secret-208242401.html

Northeast Portland man arraigned on federal sex trafficking of 16-year-old girl (Oregon Live, April 17, 2013) On January 21, the girl and Gaston met in a parking lot where she told him she was still in high school, prosecutors allege. The indictment says that Gaston asked the girl several questions about sex, and told her he wanted to have sex with her. After having sex with the girl, he drove her to an apartment in Northeast Portland where he told her to take off her clothes, the indictment says. He told the girl the photographs would be used in a online prostitution advertisement. Gaston, according to court documents, posted the photographs and the advertisement online; that same day, the girl was picked up at a hotel by a customer and was paid \$150 for having sex. Gaston told the girl she had to give him the money, which she was reluctant to do; but eventually she did, the government alleges. http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2013/04/northeast\_portland\_man\_arraign.html

### Portland man sentenced in sex trafficking case (FOX 12, April 3, 2013)

A U.S. District Judge sentenced Dwayne Jamal Hubbard of Portland to 14 years in prison Tuesday after he pleaded guilty to sex trafficking of a minor. According to prosecutors, Hubbard met a 17-year-old girl online and immediately started encouraging her to engage in commercial sex acts by posting ads on a website. Prosecutors say the victim was then sent out by Hubbard to engage in sexual activities with strangers in exchange for money. Hubbard has been sentenced to 168 months in prison followed by a five-year term of supervised release. http://www.kptv.com/story/21529449/portland-man-sentenced-in-sex-trafficking-case

Child sex trafficking bills clear Washington state Senate (Oregon Live, March 4, 2013)

The Washington state Senate has unanimously passed a pair of bills meant to crack down on child sex trafficking. The first measure passed Monday would impose a \$5,000 fine on top of existing penalties for those using online ads to facilitate the commercial sexual abuse of a child. That money would go toward state efforts to prevent and stop prostitution. The second bill would expand the definition of "communication with a minor for immoral purposes" to include buying and selling sex acts and engaging in sex trafficking.

http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/03/child\_sex\_trafficking\_bills\_cl.html