

# Identifying and Responding to Human Trafficking in Ohio

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# Overview

- ▶ Intersection between healthcare and human trafficking
- ▶ Understanding the crime of human trafficking
  - ▶ Legal definitions
  - ▶ Nature and scope of the crime
- ▶ Human trafficking in Ohio
  - ▶ Who are traffickers?
  - ▶ Vulnerabilities of potential victims
- ▶ Identifying and reporting human trafficking

# Healthcare and Human Trafficking

- ▶ In one study, 87.8% of trafficking survivors reported accessing healthcare services during their trafficking situation. Of this, 68.3% were seen at an emergency department. (Lederer & Wetzel, 2014)

*“During the time I was on the street, I went to hospitals, urgent care clinics, women’s health clinics, and private doctors. No one ever asked me anything anytime I ever went to a clinic.”*

*- Lauren, survivor*

# When do Victims Seek Medical Services?

- ▶ In an emergency
- ▶ After an assault
- ▶ After a workplace injury
- ▶ For gynecological services
- ▶ For prenatal care
- ▶ For routine checkups
- ▶ For mental health services
- ▶ For addiction treatment
- ▶ For pre-existing conditions

- *National Human Trafficking Hotline*



# Understanding the Crime



# Human Trafficking Defined

***Human trafficking is a crime in which people profit from the control and exploitation of others.***

- Often referred to as compelled service of others for profit
- In the United States, must include elements of force, fraud, or coercion



# How Trafficking Occurs

## ACTION

Recruiting  
Harboring  
Transporting  
Providing  
Obtaining  
Patronizing,  
soliciting, and  
advertising\*

\*Sex trafficking  
only

## MEANS\*\*

Force

Fraud

Coercion

\*\*Minors induced into  
commercial sex are  
human trafficking victims-  
regardless if force, fraud  
or coercion is present.

## PURPOSE

Commercial  
sexual  
exploitation

Or

Forced  
Labor

# Sex Trafficking of Minors

## ACTION

Recruiting  
Harboring  
Transporting  
Providing  
Obtaining  
Patronizing,  
soliciting, and  
advertising\*

\*Sex trafficking  
only

## MEANS\*\*

Force

Fraud

Coercion

\*Minors induced into  
commercial sex are  
human trafficking victims-  
regardless if force, fraud  
or coercion is present.

## PURPOSE

Commercial  
sexual  
exploitation



# Means: Examples & Definitions

*Force: Physical assault, sexual assault, confinement*

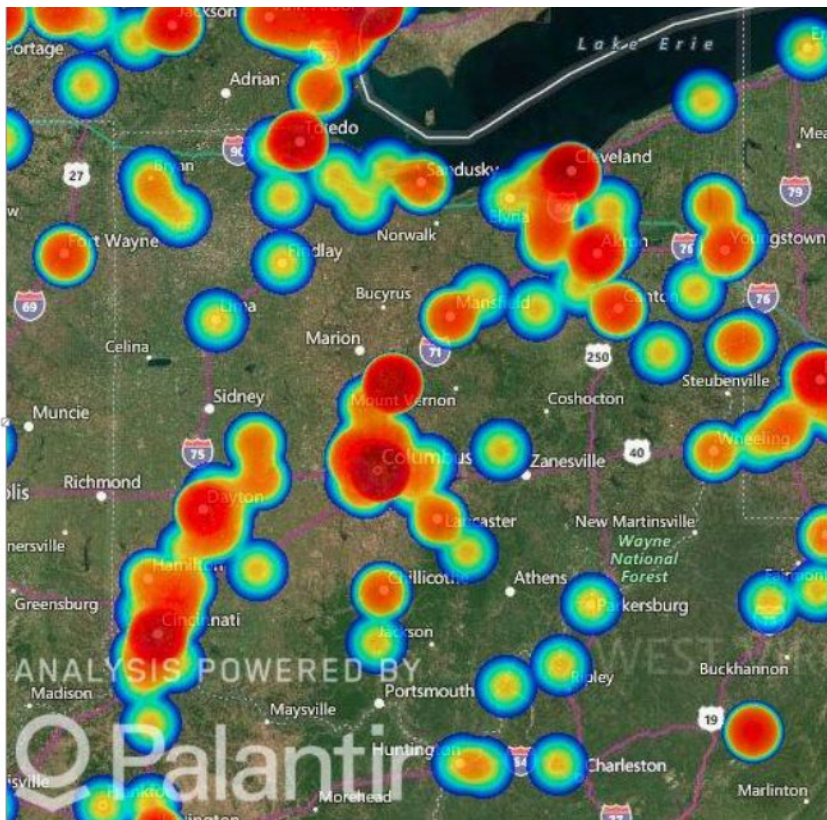
*Fraud: An act of deception with criminal intent*

*Coercion: Threats of serious harm against any person; the abuse or threatened abuse of the legal process*

# Nature & Scope of Human Trafficking



# 2020: Reports to the National Human Trafficking Hotline



1. California (1,334)
2. Texas (987)
3. Florida (738)
4. New York (414)
5. Georgia (338)
6. Ohio (310)

## 2020 National Human Trafficking Hotline Data for Ohio

- 241 sex trafficking
  - Residence-based commercial sex
  - Pornography
- 24 labor trafficking
  - Domestic work
  - Traveling sales crews

# Typology of Human Trafficking: 25 Commonly Reported Venues

- ▶ Escort services
- ▶ Illicit massage, health and beauty
- ▶ Outdoor solicitation
- ▶ Residential
- ▶ Domestic work
- ▶ Bars, strip clubs and cantinas
- ▶ Pornography
- ▶ Traveling sales crews
- ▶ Restaurants and food service
- ▶ Peddling and begging
- ▶ Forestry and logging
- ▶ Health care
- ▶ Agriculture
- ▶ Personal sexual servitude
- ▶ Health and beauty services
- ▶ Construction
- ▶ Hotels and hospitality
- ▶ Landscaping
- ▶ Arts and entertainment
- ▶ Commercial cleaning services
- ▶ Factories and manufacturing
- ▶ Remote interactive sexual acts
- ▶ Carnivals
- ▶ Recreational facilities

# Human Trafficking in Ohio

The background features abstract geometric shapes in shades of orange and yellow, primarily concentrated on the right side of the slide. The shapes are layered and semi-transparent, creating a modern, layered effect. A thin white line also runs diagonally across the right side of the page.

# Who are the Traffickers?

*Pimps*

*Parents/guardians*

*Caregivers*

*Businesses*

*Domestic employers*

*Seasonal farm employers*

*Men AND women*

*Gangs*

***Traffickers are anyone using force, fraud or coercion to exploit another person for profit***

**The Columbus Dispatch**

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## Dayton roofing company owner pleads to federal charges

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Associated Press • Wednesday January 8, 2014 10:09 AM

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DAYTON — The owner of a southwest Ohio roofing company has pleaded guilty to charges of employing immigrants who are in the country illegally, filing false tax documents and insurance fraud.

Gregory Oldiges, 55, could be sentenced from two years to nearly five years in prison after pleading to the federal charges yesterday in Dayton, authorities said.

Court documents accused Williams Brothers Roofing and Siding of paying human traffickers to bring migrant workers from Texas and paying them less than their regular roofing crews, [according to the Dayton Daily News](#).

Oldiges' attorney, Greg Lockhart, called the situation "unfortunate" and said many roofing companies use immigrants who are in the country illegally as laborers.

"There was a level of greed here," U.S. Attorney Vival Patel said.

**THE BOTTOM LINE**

Start looking: \$16 billion worth of savings bonds no longer earning interest

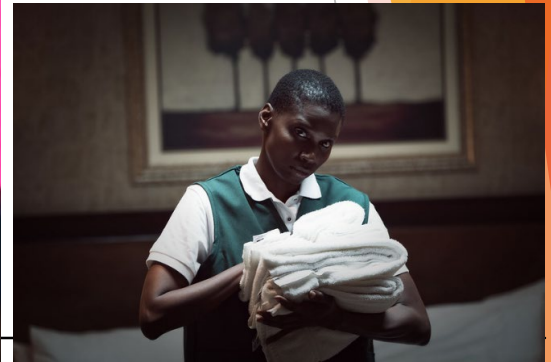
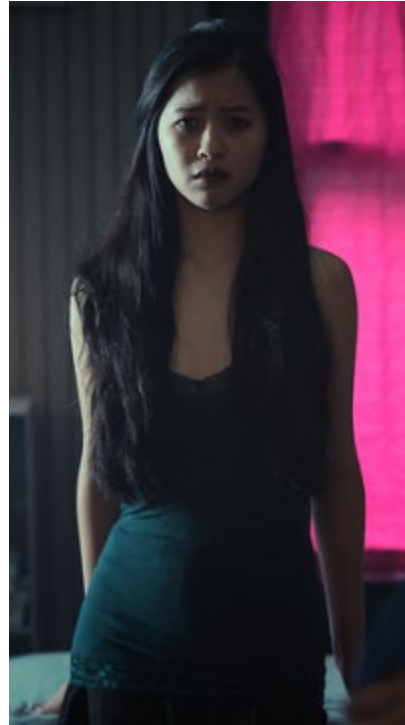
**OTHER BUSINESS FEATURES**

Halted construction



# Vulnerabilities to Victimization

- ▶ Runaway/homeless youth
- ▶ Have a history of domestic violence
- ▶ Are facing poverty or economic need
- ▶ Have a history of sexual abuse
- ▶ Have a substance use disorder
- ▶ Foreign nationals (documented and undocumented)



*There is no demographic profile for a victim of human trafficking*

- Polaris



# Labor Trafficking in Ohio

## Four charged with human-trafficking organization that brought Guatemalan minors to work on Ohio egg farms



Four people have been indicted and charged with participating in a human-trafficking organization that brought Guatemalan minors to the United States to work on egg farms in Ohio. (File photo)



By Eric Heisig, Northeast Ohio Media Group  
Follow on Twitter

on July 02, 2015 at 1:32 PM, updated July 02, 2015 at 8:01 PM



CLEVELAND, Ohio — A grand jury in Cleveland charged three Ohio residents and a Texas man with participating in a human-trafficking organization that smuggled children from Guatemala and forced them to work on egg farms.

Aroldo Castillo-Serrano, 33, of Pecos, Texas; Conrado Salgado Soto, 52, of Raymond; Ana Angelica Pedro Juan, 21, of Columbus and Juan Pablo Duran Jr., 23, of Marysville, are each charged with playing a role in the operation.

The trafficking conspiracy began in 2011 when the defendants and others brought the workers as young as 14 to the United States under the false premise that they would attend school, according to a news release from the U.S. Attorney's Office.



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### Spotlight: Court Cases



“Castillo-Serrano recruited the victims, smuggled them into the U.S., *oversaw money transfers* and issued threats to ensure compliance.”

“...and arranged for their wages to be transferred to co-conspirators in Guatemala and elsewhere.”

*-U.S. Attorney's Office*





# Sex Trafficking in Ohio

*“We think it happens to young girls and runaways. But with these youngest kids, it’s their actual families who are trafficking them.”*

*- Director, Child Advocacy Center*

Police & Fire

## Ohio Woman Sentenced to 51 Years to Life for Trafficking Child

Hamilton County Common Pleas Judge Leslie Ghiz sentenced April Corcoran, 32, of Pleasant Plain, to 51 years to life in prison.

By Rick Uldricks (Patch Staff) - July 19, 2016 7:25 pm ET | P |

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## Feds: Ohio sex trafficker gave drugs to parents for access to their children

**Marc Kovac** Columbus Dispatch

Published 11:32 a.m. ET Jun. 25, 2020

## Niles woman gets ten years for trafficking child

The task force investigation revealed that Jackson took a minor to the Austintown home of 77-year-old Charles Krusac, where lewd pictures were taken of the juvenile and a sexual assault took place.

Friday, September 25th 2020, 11:55 AM EDT by Mike Gauntner

Updated: Friday, September 25th 2020, 11:59 AM EDT



# Sex Trafficking in Ohio

## *United States of America v. Jeremy A. Mack*

After a few weeks of prostituting herself for Mack, MB began staying at his house full time, only leaving for prostitution sessions. MB testified that she was afraid of defendant and that she felt she “couldn’t [leave]” because of the drug debt she owed him. In her words, “the only way to pay that [debt] was to go on these [prostitution] appointments and bring the money back to him.” Mack controlled not only her heroin supply—which she needed to avoid the painful symptoms of heroin withdrawal—but her access to food, toiletries, and clothing as well.

The fact that several of the victims had pre-existing drug addictions does not make Mack’s actions any less coercive. Mack used those addictions to his advantage by supplying “free” drugs to the victims, which not only resulted in a high (and fictitious) drug debt, but also exacerbated their addictions. At that point, defendant carefully controlled MB, SW, and CB’s access to drugs to cause them to engage in acts of prostitution, which they did to avoid the painful withdrawal symptoms induced by defendant’s intermittent and unpredictable supply of free drugs. This evidence was sufficient to enable a reasonable jury to find that defendant’s supplying and withholding of drugs from SW, MB, and CB was part of a “plan[] or pattern intended to cause [them] to believe that failure to perform [prostitution acts] would result in




# Sex Trafficking in Ohio

**Department of Justice**

U.S. Attorney's Office

Northern District of Ohio

SHARE 

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, August 30, 2019

## **Toledo man sentenced to 35 years for sex trafficking of a minor**

A Toledo man was sentenced to 35 years in prison for sex trafficking involving a minor.

Lawrence Jones, 32, previously pleaded guilty to one count of sex trafficking of a minor and one count of sexual exploitation of a minor.

Jones met a minor via social media who had run away from home. Jones transported the girl to a home on Coventry Avenue in Toledo, where he took nude photographs of her and posted them online, offering commercial sex acts in the Toledo area in January, according to court documents.

The minor performed approximately 25 commercial sex acts, with all the money going to Jones. The minor told Jones several times that she was not yet 18 years old, according to court documents.

“This defendant preyed on a vulnerable child for his own financial gain,” U.S. Attorney Justin Herdman said. “We will continue to work to prosecute people who treat children like property.”



# Signs & Indicators



# Signs and Indicators of Labor Trafficking

PHYSICAL	BEHAVIORAL
Musculoskeletal and ergonomic injuries	Anxiety/Panic attacks
Malnutrition/Dehydration	Unexplained/Conflicting stories
Lack of routine screening and preventative care	Overly vigilant or paranoid behavior
Poor dental hygiene	Inability/Aversion to make decisions independent of employer
Injuries or illness from exposure to harmful chemicals/unsafe water	Affect dysregulation/Irritability



# Signs and Indicators of Sex Trafficking

PHYSICAL	BEHAVIORAL
Multiple or recurrent STIs	Depressed mood/Flat affect
Abnormally high number of sexual partners	Anxiety/Hyper-vigilance/Panic attacks
Trauma to vagina and/or rectum	Affect dysregulation/Irritability
Signs of physical trauma	Frequent emergency care visits
Somatization symptoms (recurring headaches, abdominal pain, etc.)	Signs of drug or alcohol abuse



# Questions to Ask Potential Victims

- ▶ Tell me about your living situation
- ▶ Are you safe?
- ▶ Are you able to come and go as you please?
- ▶ Have you ever been lied to about the type of work you would be doing?
- ▶ Have you ever been forced to do something you did not want to do?
- ▶ Does anyone hold your personal identification, license, or passport?

# If you suspect human trafficking...

- ▶ If there is someone in immediate danger, call 911
- ▶ Follow mandatory reporting protocols for reporting child abuse
- ▶ The National Human Trafficking Hotline
  - ▶ 24/7 hotline: **1-888-373-7888**
  - ▶ Text BEFREE (233733)
  - ▶ [Humantraffickinghotline.org](https://www.humantraffickinghotline.org)



# Ohio's Anti-Human Trafficking Coalitions

- Community-level coordination of anti-trafficking efforts
- Opportunity for law enforcement to link with victim service community to identify and obtain assistance in getting services to human trafficking victims
- Map on [www.humantrafficking.ohio.gov](http://www.humantrafficking.ohio.gov)



# Questions?

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Learn more at

**[www.humantrafficking.ohio.gov](http://www.humantrafficking.ohio.gov)**

