

BOLINAS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 126 ■ 100 MESA ROAD ■ BOLINAS, CALIFORNIA 94924
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July 26, 2016

John Mann, Foreperson
Marin County Grand Jury
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 275
San Rafael, CA 94903

RE: Marin County Civil Grand Jury Report: Marin's Hidden Human Sex Trafficking Challenge

Mr. Mann,

This is the official response of the Bolinas Fire Protection District to the Marin County Civil Grand Jury report entitled, "Marin's Hidden Sex Trafficking Challenge: It's Happening In Our Backyard." The Fire District Board of Directors approved the response at their regularly scheduled meeting held on July 25, 2016.

The Fire District found the format for the requested response to Findings 1-13 challenging as the majority of the findings were directed either towards schools or law enforcement rather than the Fire Service. More pertinent, the fire district is being asked to either agree or disagree to findings for which the data or analysis is not provided or referenced and, therefore, the board was unable to complete the form as requested. We are however enthusiastically supporting R5 and will be implementing that recommendation as noted below.

FINDINGS:

F1 – Human Sex Trafficking is mostly unrecognized, under reported, and rarely subject to intervention in Marin.

Unable to agree or disagree

F2 – A significant number of human sex trafficking victims are from Marin, not just transients imported from other areas.

Unable to agree or disagree

F3 – Reports from two Marin County victim advocate organizations show that approximately 30% of the victims they aid are under the age of 18.

Unable to agree or disagree

F4 – Some Marin County law enforcement officers still believe some human trafficking victims are criminals.

Unable to agree or disagree

F5 – State law mandates that officers receive two hours of training on human trafficking and some Marin agencies may not be complying with this law.

Unable to agree or disagree

F6 – Training of Marin County law enforcement on the *Marin County Uniform Law Enforcement Protocol for Human Trafficking* has been inconsistent across agencies.

Unable to agree or disagree

F7 – Law enforcement officers and others who are closet to human trafficking believe that California mandated two-hour POST training video on human trafficking is not sufficient.

Unable to agree or disagree

F8 – Marin law enforcement agencies rarely use multidisciplinary training, incorporating collaboration between Children Family Services (CFS), the District Attorney, law enforcement experts, and possibly victims.

Unable to agree or disagree

F9 – Training for firefighters and EMS professionals in recognizing human trafficking victims and reporting the crime is inconsistent in Marin.

Agree

F10 – It is difficult to determine the extent of human trafficking in Marin because of inconsistent classification and definitions of the crime, as well as the lack of a central clearinghouse for this data.

Unable to agree or disagree

F11 – The Marin County school districts do not provide education on a systematic basis for students, parents and teachers in recognizing signs of human trafficking.

Unable to agree or disagree

F12 – Human trafficking outreach has been fragmented and is currently insufficient in reaching critical audiences.

Unable to agree or disagree

F13 – The Marin County Coalition to End Trafficking needs dedicated resources to make it more effective.

Unable to agree or disagree

RECOMMENDATIONS

R5 – Marin County fire departments should ensure that all EMS personnel are trained in recognizing human trafficking and how to report it, and incorporate this in their annual training.

Recommendation numbered 5 has not yet been implemented but the district will do so by the end of this calendar year. The Bolinas Fire Protection District will research available trainings and materials in Marin and will ensure that all First Responder personnel receive the training and materials on an annual basis.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anita Tyrrell-Brown", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Anita Tyrrell-Brown
Fire Chief

Cc: Bolinas Fire Protection District Board of Directors