



CITY of BELVEDERE

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July 13, 2016

The Honorable Judge Kelly V. Simmons
Marin County Superior Court
PO Box 4988
San Rafael CA 94913-4988

Dear Judge Simmons:

Enclosed please find the City of Belvedere's response to the June 23, 2016, Marin County Grand Jury's report titled "Marin's Hidden Human Sex Trafficking Challenge: It's Happening In Our Backyard." This item was reviewed and considered by the Belvedere City Council at their July 11, 2016, regular meeting.

Please extend the City's appreciation to the 2016 Grand Jurors for the important work they do on behalf of all of the citizens of Marin County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Neilan". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

Mary Neilan
City Manager

Encl.

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

RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT FORM
City of Belvedere

Report Title: Marin's Hidden Human Sex Trafficking Challenge: It's Happening in Our Backyard

Report Date: June 16, 2016

Public Release: June 23, 2016

Response By: Claire McAuliffe, Mayor of City of Belvedere,
& Patricia Seyler, Belvedere Chief of Police

FINDINGS

- We agree with the findings numbered: F1, F3, F5, F6, F9, F10, F13.
- We disagree with wholly or partially the findings numbered: F2, F4, F7, F8, F11, F12.

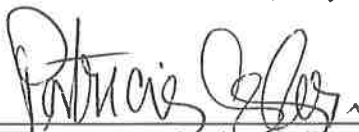
RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered R1-4 have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.
- Recommendation numbered R5-7 *will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.*

Date: 7/11/2016

Signed: 
Claire McAuliffe, Mayor

Date: 7/11/2016

Signed: 
Patricia Seyler, Police Chief

Number of pages attached: 3

EXPLANATION REGARDING FINDINGS

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

- The number of trafficking victims in Marin is not known, and thus this statement may or may not be accurate.

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

- Marin County law enforcement officers that have been involved in human trafficking operations have seen that the victims are involved in criminal activity. They separate the victim from the pimp, making the pimp the criminal.

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

- The POST mandated training is a significant step in the right direction to educate officers.

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.

- Marin law enforcement agencies are working together in the Marin County Human Trafficking Coalition to educate officers about this problem.

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.

- The City of Belvedere is unable to address the level of education by school districts in this area.

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

- Outreach is in its beginning stages and progress is being made to educate officers.

EXPLANTION REGARDING RECOMMENDATION

Recommendations that have not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future.

Recommendation R1:

All law enforcement officers should be consistently trained in the "Marin County Uniform Law Enforcement Protocol for Human Trafficking".

Response:

The training of officers will occur within the next 6 months. The Marin County Human Trafficking Coalition is working to address outreach, training, legislation, and education.

Recommendation R2:

All Marin law enforcement agency heads should ensure their officers receive the California mandated two hour human trafficking training.

Response:

The training of officers will occur within the next 6 months. The Marin County Human Trafficking Coalition is working to address outreach, training, legislation, and education.

Recommendation R3:

The Board of Supervisors should convene a local group of human trafficking experts (including CFS, law enforcement subject experts, FBI, victim advocates, DA's, and perhaps a victim) to create a multidisciplinary training presentation. This training should include the unique roles of all County personnel, resources, and processes in addressing human trafficking. Additional resources will be needed to support this training as none are devoted to this task now. This training should include information on the trafficking of females and males, as well as LGBTQ.

Response:

The training of officers will occur within the next 6 months. The Marin County Human Trafficking Coalition is working to address outreach, training, legislation, and education.

Recommendation R4:

Once this multi-disciplinary training package is completed, Marin County law enforcement agencies should ensure that all Marin law enforcement officers be trained.

Response:

The training of officers will occur within the next 6 months. The Marin County Human Trafficking Coalition is working to address outreach, training, legislation, and education.

Recommendations that will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.

Recommendation 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.

Response:

It is important that fire department personnel have an understanding of human trafficking. The City of Belvedere believes that it should be up to the individual fire boards to determine how to implement this recommendation.

Recommendation R6:

The Board of Supervisors should fund the creation of a database that systematically tracks adult and minor victims, using consistent classification and shared definitions to properly identify the victim and the crime, as well as document its prevalence. Data should be gathered from any organization dealing with trafficking victims, including law enforcement agencies, government agencies (e.g. Marin County Health & Human Services), civic organizations, and victim advocate organizations.

Response:

Law enforcement agencies can and do share information when necessary to investigate and solve crime. A centralized database is not necessary to combat human trafficking.

Recommendation R7:

Marin County Office of Education should work with the Marin County School/Law Enforcement Partnership to develop educational programs to ensure that students, parents, and teachers are trained in recognizing the signs of human trafficking and where they can find help.

Response:

Education materials are in place to educate students, parents, and teachers. The City of Belvedere believes that the individual school boards should decide how to implement this recommendation

