



# MARIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

1600 Los Gamos Drive, Suite 200, San Rafael, CA 94903

ROBERT T. DOYLE  
Sheriff - Coroner  
MICHAEL J. RIDGWAY  
Undersheriff

August 8, 2016

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

Reference: Response by Sheriff-Coroner Robert T. Doyle to the 2015-2016  
Civil Grand Jury Report Entitled, "Marin's Hidden Sex Trafficking  
Challenge: It's Happening In Our Backyard"

Dear Mr. Mann,

As required by Penal Code Section 933.05, I offer the following response to  
the 2015-2016 Civil Grand Jury Report Entitled, "Marin's Hidden  
Sex Trafficking Challenge: It's Happening In Our Backyard"

This letter will serve as my response in my official capacity as the Sheriff –  
Coroner of Marin County.

**FINDINGS:**

**Finding 1: Human sex trafficking is mostly unrecognized, under-reported,  
and rarely subject to intervention in Marin.**

- I disagree partially with the finding numbered: F1

It is true that human sex trafficking is mostly unrecognized, under-reported,  
but law enforcement in Marin County has recognized that trend and has  
allocated resources to reduce sex trafficking in Marin and throughout the Bay  
Area.

**Finding 2: A significant number of human sex trafficking victims are from  
Marin not just transients imported from other areas.**

- I disagree partially with the finding numbered: F2

AREA CODE 415

24-HOUR NUMBER  
479-2311

FAX  
473-4126

ADMINISTRATION  
473-7250

CIVIL  
473-7282

COMMUNICATION  
SERVICES  
473-7243

CORONER  
473-6043

COURTS  
473-7393

EMERGENCY  
SERVICES  
473-6584

INVESTIGATIONS  
473-7265

JAIL  
473-6655

MAJOR CRIMES  
TASK FORCE  
884-4878

PATROL  
473-7233

RECORDS  
473-7284

WARRANTS  
473-7297

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It's our experience that we encounter more individuals from other parts of the Bay Area that come here to engage in this activity than we find are residents of Marin County. However, sex trafficking victims that are from Marin may be taken to other parts of the Bay Area to be forced into this activity. When the victims are forced out of the comforts of their own surroundings, it's difficult to escape from that situation. Additionally, victims often work outside their counties of origin to avoid detection by law enforcement who personally know them by sight. Furthermore, victims work out of their home counties to avoid being noticed by friends and family while on the street or hotels.

**Finding 3: Reports from two Marin County victim advocate organizations show that approximately 30% of the victims they aid are under the age of 18.**

- I disagree partially with the finding numbered: F3

During the human trafficking operations that have been conducted in Marin County, our experience is that approximately 10-15% of the victims are under the age of 18.

**Finding 4: Some Marin County law enforcement officers still believe some human trafficking victims are criminals.**

- I disagree with the finding numbered F4:

The deputies of the Sheriff's Office today have been trained and see this topic with more clarity than deputies of yesterday. Additionally, this crime and victimization is highly publicized and spoken of frequently in the law enforcement community.

**Finding 5: State law mandates that officers receive two hours of training on human trafficking and some Marin agencies may not be complying with this law.**

- I disagree partially with finding numbered F5:

I can only offer that the Marin County Sheriff's Office has received training on the Marin County Uniform Law Enforcement Protocol for Human Trafficking and I do not track the training efforts of the other agencies in Marin.

**Finding 6: Training of Marin County law enforcement on the Marin County Uniform Law Enforcement Protocol for Human Trafficking has been inconsistent across agencies.**

- I disagree partially with finding numbered: F6

I can only offer that the Marin County Sheriff's Office has received training on the Marin County Uniform Law Enforcement Protocol for Human Trafficking and I do not track the training efforts of the other agencies in Marin.

**Finding 7: 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.**

- I agree with the finding numbered: F7

The Marin County Sheriff's Office has developed several members that are experts in the area of Human Trafficking. These members receive additional training at conferences and then bring back that knowledge and share with the other members.

**Finding 8: Marin law enforcement agencies rarely use multidisciplinary training, incorporating collaboration between Children Family Services (CFS), the District Attorney, law enforcement experts, and possibly victims.**

- I agree with the finding numbered: F8

Though there is a collaborative effort when it comes to working cases, there is no current collaborative training that includes law enforcement agencies, Children Family Services, the District Attorney and other community based organizations.

**Finding 9: Training for firefighters and EMS professionals in recognizing human trafficking victims and reporting the crime is inconsistent in Marin.**

- I agree partially with the finding numbered: F9

I don't know of any training that firefighters and/or EMS professionals receive in recognizing human trafficking victims and how to report this crime. However, just this week, a Sheriff's Office Sergeant was asked by the Marin County Fire Department to provide training on Human Trafficking, so there appears to be a recognition about the need for training by at least that department, and others are likely to follow.

**Finding 10: 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 his data.**

- I disagree partially with finding numbered: F10.

The local law enforcement agencies that participate in the enforcement of human trafficking have a clear understanding of this topic. We meet on a regular basis, share information and conduct joint enforcement operations throughout the Bay Area. The meetings include federal, state and other law enforcement agencies from around the Bay Area.

**Finding 11: The Marin County school districts do not provide education on a systematic basis for students, parents and teachers in recognizing signs of human trafficking.**

- I disagree partially with finding numbered: F11

I don't have any knowledge on whether or not the school districts provide education for students, parents or teachers in recognizing signs of human trafficking

**Finding 12: Human trafficking outreach has been fragmented and is currently insufficient in reaching critical audiences.**

- I disagree partially with finding numbered: F12

While community outreach can always be made more effective, there is a core group of community based organizations that have had public outreach and information sharing amongst the stakeholders. The Marin Co. Coalition to End Human Trafficking currently has a Public Awareness Committee and a Victim Service Committee who are responsible for raising awareness.

**Finding 13: The Marin County Coalition to End Human Trafficking Coalition needs dedicated resources to make it more effective.**

- I disagree with finding numbered: F13

The problems associated with Human Trafficking can be effectively addressed without the need for dedicated resources to make those enforcement efforts more effective.

**Recommendations:**

**Recommendation 1: All law enforcement officers should be consistently trained in the Marin County Uniform Law Enforcement Protocol for Human Trafficking.**

- Recommendation 1 will be incorporated into our training requirements by the end of training cycle 2016-17.

**Recommendation 2: All Marin law enforcement agency heads should ensure their officers receive the California mandated two hour human trafficking training.**

- Recommendation 2 has been implemented by the Sheriff's Office, and in fact, it was implemented prior to the issuance of this report.

**Recommendation 3: 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.**

- Recommendation 3 was recently discussed at The Marin County Coalition to Human Trafficking meeting and the recommendation requires further study. Chief Seyler of the Belvedere Police Department said that this topic will be discussed with the other Chiefs of Police to see if there was any interest in developing a multi-disciplinary training.

**Recommendation 4: Once this multi-disciplinary training package is completed, Marin County law enforcement agencies should ensure that all Marin law enforcement officers be trained.**

- Recommendation 4 will be implemented by the Sheriff's Office if and when the training is developed.

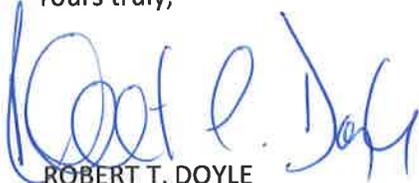
**Recommendation 6: The Board of Supervisors should fund the creation of a database that systematically tracks adult and minor victims, using consistent classification and shared definitions to properly identify the victim and the crime, as well as document its prevalence. Data should be gathered from 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.**

- Recommendation 6 will not be implemented as stated. There are restrictions on sharing crime and medical data outside the discipline that is entrusted with it.

**Recommendation 7: 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.**

- Recommendation will be implemented. The Marin County Office of Education and Marin County School/Law Enforcement Partnership is currently developing an educational program and it should be implemented within school year 16/17.

Yours truly,



ROBERT T. DOYLE  
SHERIFF-CORONER