



Southern Marin

EMERGENCY MEDICAL PARAMEDIC SYSTEM

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August 4, 2016

Marin Civil Grand Jury
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 275
San Rafael, CA 94903

Subject: Grand Jury Report:

2015/2016 Marin's Hidden Human Sex Trafficking Challenge: *It's Happening in Our Backyard*

Dear Marin Civil Grand Jury Foreperson,

I have been directed by Southern Marin Emergency Medical-Paramedic System (SMEMPS) to respond to the Marin Civil Grand Jury Report titled, **2015/2016 Marin's Hidden Human Sex Trafficking Challenge: *It's Happening in Our Backyard***, dated June 16, 2016. Attached, please find our response.

Southern Marin Emergency Medical-Paramedic System conducted this response in accordance with Penal Code section 933 (c) and was subjected to the notice, agenda, and open meeting requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act.

Should you have any question or require additional information, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard S. Pearce'.

Richard S. Pearce
Liaison Chief

Report Title: 2015/2016 Marin's Hidden Human Sex Trafficking Challenge: *It's Happening in Our Backyard*

Report Date: June 16, 2016

Public Release Date: June 23, 2016

Response by: **Southern Marin Emergency Medical-Paramedic System**

FINDINGS

I (we) agree with the findings numbered: F3,9,10,12

I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: F1,2,4,5,6,7,8,11,13

(Attach a statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons therefor.)

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations numbered R 5 have been implemented.

(Attach a summary describing the implemented actions.)

Recommendations numbered R require further analysis.

(Attach an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.)

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

(Attach an explanation.)

FINDINGS

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

SMEMPS is unable to agree or disagree with this finding. SMEMPS is not aware of the reporting or intervention rates for human sex trafficking.

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

SMEMPS is unable to agree or disagree with this finding. SMEMPS is unaware of the place of residency of human sex trafficking victims and/or whether said number is "significant."

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

SMEMPS agrees with this finding.

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

SMEMPS is unable to agree or disagree with this finding. SMEMPS does not know what Marin County law enforcement officers believe.

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.

SMEMPS partially agrees and is partially unable to agree or disagree with this finding. SMEMPS agrees that state law mandates that law enforcement officers receive two hours of training on human trafficking. SMEMPS is unaware of whether some Marin agencies may not be complying with this law.

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

SMEMPS is unable to agree or disagree with this finding. SMEMPS is unaware of the consistency levels of training throughout agencies.

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

SMEMPS is unable to agree or disagree with this finding. SMEMPS does not know what law enforcement officers and others who are closest to human trafficking believe.

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

SMEMPS is unable to agree or disagree with this finding. SMEMPS does not know what methods Marin law enforcement agencies utilize for training.

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

SMEMPS agrees with this finding.

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.

SMEMPS agrees with this finding.

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.

SMEMPS is unable to agree or disagree with this finding. SMEMPS does not know what Marin County School Districts provide for education of students, parent and teachers on this subject.

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

SMEMPS agrees with this finding.

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

SMEMPS is unable to agree or disagree with this finding. SMEMPS does not know what the Marin County Coalition to End Trafficking needs in the way of resources.

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.

The recommendation has not been fully implemented, but will be completed by December 15, 2016. S MEMPS will address the necessary training in a three-step approach.

“Coffee Break Training” sessions utilizing the Department of Homeland Security’s Blue Campaign human trafficking awareness training materials has been distributed to each of the S MEMPS agencies. The Coffee Break Training will occur on each shift and ensure that all first responders receive the training. (Attachment A).

All S MEMPS first responders will receive direct classroom training in September 2016.

The annual training calendar will be adjusted to include this training on an annual basis.

Date: 8/4/16 Signed: 
Richard S. Pearce, Liaison Chief