



Nevada Coalition to Prevent the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

**Established by Executive Order
2016-14**

Scope of the Problem: Worldwide Estimates

Profits and Poverty: The Economics of Forced Labour International Labour Organization, 2014

- 21-30 million people enslaved in some form
- Annual global profits: \$150 Billion
- 2/3s of the profit is from commercial sex -\$100 Billion
- 22% exploited via commercial sex
- 68% exploited via forced labor
- \$8 Billion saved via domestic servitude

Scope of the Problem



- FBI: Las Vegas is “High Intensity Child Prostitution Area”
- National Human Trafficking Hotline: NV is 11th in nation in 2016 in # of HT cases
 - 89% = sex trafficking
 - 31% = minors; mostly females
- # of minor sex trafficking victims in 2016
 - LVMPD: 140 identified
 - Clark County Girls’ Court: 110 new to calendar



Scope of the Problem- Clark County

UNLV Center for Crime & Justice Policy, Dr. Alexis Kennedy*

- 689 juvenile detention hearings in 2016 involving 187 females
- Average age was 15.9 (9 were 13; 25 were 14; 23 were 15; 52 were 16 and 74 were 17)
- 110 were newly charged, 77 continuing minors
 - Of 77 minors, 43 were follow-ups w/o new charges related to exploitation
 - Of 77 minors, 34 were detained with new charges or violations in 2016

*Data from CC CSEC Specialty Juvenile Diversion Court



Trafficking Victims Protection Act

(TVPA)

- Federal response to human trafficking.
- Signed into law in 2000 and reauthorized in 2003, 2005, 2008 and 2013.
- Enhanced laws - expanded protections for victims of trafficking and created various programs.
- Created new definition of human trafficking.

Human Trafficking Defined by TVPA

Defines “severe forms of trafficking” as:

“(A) ***sex trafficking*** in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age; or

(B) the *recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining* of a person for ***labor or services***, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.”



CSEC Defined



- **CSEC** is a nationally accepted term for Commercially Sexually Exploited Children.
- Per TVPA, **all children under the age of 18** who are induced to engaged in commercial sex are victims of sex trafficking.
- Children cannot consent to trafficking, so there is no need to demonstrate “**force, fraud, or coercion**” as is necessary for labor trafficking.”



PL-113-83: The Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act of 2014

- Requires CW agencies to address sex trafficking of any child in the placement, care or supervision of an *agency receiving Title IV-E* funding.
- Requires policies and procedures to *identify, document, screen* and determine appropriate *services* for children under the CW agency's care and supervision who are victims of, or at risk of, sex trafficking.
- Reporting identified trafficking victims and missing or abducted children to law enforcement.
- Consulting with others that have experience.



Executive Order

- Governor Sandoval Established Coalition through Executive Order 2016-14.
- To mobilize all available resources to stop all human trafficking, aid its victims, and bring the perpetrators of this crime to justice.
- To foster collaboration and coordination among agencies to improve the capacity to identify, and provide safety and services for CSEC.
- To support implementation of PL 113-183.

Executive Order (Cont.)



- Requirement for a Statewide Strategic Plan and recommendations for how to address sex trafficking.
- Annual report by Oct 1 of every year to:
 - Governor
 - Chief Justice
 - Attorney General
- Annual Report – can be found at <http://dcfs.nv.gov>

CSEC Coalition Structure



COALITION MEMBERS TO INCLUDE REPRESENTATION FROM:

- Chair-Appointed by Governor
- Co-Chair-DCFS Administrator
- Deputy Admin for DCFS & Juvenile Justice
- Court Improvement Program
- Judges-Northern, Southern & Rural-Dependency and Juvenile courts
- Office of NV Attorney General
- Nevada Assembly
- Nevada Senate
- State & Federal law enforcement including FBI and NDPS
- County District Attorney offices
- County Public Defenders office and/or Nevada State Public Defender
- Local Department of Family or Social Services
- Local Department of Juvenile Justice Services
- Nevada Trucking Association
- Non-profit legal aid center
- Nevada Department of Education
- Nevada Indian Tribe
- Community based organizations that provide services to victims
- Nevada System of Higher Education
- Mental health service providers
- Victims and/or family members of child sex trafficking victims
- Any other person as determined by Chair and Co-Chair



CSEC Coalition Structure



- Four meetings a year led by:
 - Governor-appointed Chair – Justice Nancy Saitta (Ret.)
 - DCFS Administrator – Kelly Wooldridge, MSW, LCSW
- 31 participants – 18 categories identified in E.O.:
 - Including child welfare, juvenile justice, law enforcement, delinquency and dependency judges, CSEC survivors, advocates, education, mental health, AG, DA and PD's.
- Six working subcommittees:
 - Prevention, Engagement, Care Coordination, Training, Data, Legal (formed in Dec. 2017).



Strategic Plan



- Nevada CSEC Coalition Strategic Plan includes future goals and implementation of a:
 - Model Coordinated Response Protocol- A toolkit to assist jurisdictions in responding to CSEC.
 - Prevention Resource Guide- A community guide to prevention strategies.



Strategic Plan Goals



- **Goal 1:** Increase coordination and collaboration in identifying and serving CSEC victims/survivors.
 - **Objective 1a:** Implement a **Statewide Model Coordinated Response Protocol (MCRP)** to assist communities to develop a coordinated response to CSEC victims/survivors.
 - **Objective 1b:** Identify or create regional/tribal task forces to adapt the statewide MCRP to regional/tribal needs, and oversee the implementation of the protocol and services.
 - **Objective 1c:** Develop and assist community survivor advocates to support CSEC survivors, including acquiring secure funding.



Strategic Plan Goals (Cont.)



- **Goal 2:** Expand access to services for CSEC and their families.
 - **Objective 2a:** Increase the identification of CSEC through standardized screening tools.
 - **Objective 2b:** Provide a holistic continuum of care for CSEC, including quality placement options with secure funding sources.
 - **Objective 2c:** Disseminate information regarding CSEC resources.





- **Goal 3:** Improve outcomes for CSEC through increased expertise and data-driven services.
 - **Objective 3a:** Provide CSEC-informed awareness and advanced (e.g. trauma-informed, stages of change) trainings for those who serve CSEC, identifying secure funding sources.
 - **Objective 3b:** Collect and disseminate statewide data that supports the reporting requirements of PL 113-183.
 - **Objective 3c:** Establish minimum training, service delivery and outcome standards for service providers.
 - **Objective 3d:** Evaluate the impact of training and services.

Strategic Plan Goals (Cont.)



- **Goal 4:** Increase awareness of CSEC through public awareness campaigns in Nevada.
 - **Objective 4a:** Partner with Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health to expand CSEC awareness and prevention.
 - **Objective 4b:** Disseminate a **CSEC Prevention Resource Guide** to assist communities to implement public awareness campaigns.
 - **Objective 4c:** Identify funding for statewide prevention efforts.



Strategic Plan Goals (Cont.)



- **Goal 5:** Sustain the effort to coordinate and improve services for CSEC.
 - **Objective 5a:** Align efforts with related initiatives in Nevada.
 - **Objective 5b:** Strengthen laws against perpetrators and consumers of child sex trafficking, and laws that support CSEC victims/survivors.
 - **Objective 5c:** Codify a requirement for mental health, health care and law enforcement professionals to participate in discipline-specific CSEC training.
 - **Objective 5d:** Require all State- and grant-funded programs that serve CSEC to include a staff self-care component.



Juvenile Victims Trafficking Act (JVTA)

- JVTA PL114-22 amended the Child Abuse Protection and Treatment Act (CAPTA) definition of “child abuse and neglect” and “sexual abuse” by adding a special rule that a child shall be considered a victim of ‘child abuse and neglect’ and of ‘sexual abuse’.
- **If** the child is identified, by a state or local agency employee of the state or locality involved, as being a *victim of sex trafficking or severe forms of trafficking* (as defined by TVPA).



JVTA Requirements



Provisions and procedures:

- Requiring identification of all reports involving children known or suspected (defined by TVPA).
- Training CPS workers about identifying, assessing and providing comprehensive services to children who are sex trafficking victims, including efforts to coordinate with State law enforcement, juvenile justice and social services agencies such as runaway/homeless youth shelters to serve this population.



Meeting JVTA Requirements

- DCFS under a Program Improvement Plan (PIP) with the federal Children's Bureau. Target completion date is August 30, 2019.
- Data elements identified - currently evaluating how to modify child welfare intake and UNITY system to receive reports of child sex trafficking victims to capture required data.
- Formation of Legal Subcommittee



Legal Subcommittee - Purpose

- To evaluate NRS and make recommendations to meet JVT requirements in a manner that ensures on-going compliance with CAPTA.
- Identify and recommend needed additions or revisions to NRS to strengthen protections for CSEC victims to ensure their safety and service needs.
- Provide consultation to full Coalition and its subcommittees regarding legislative requests and/or legal impact of recommendations.



Legal Subcommittee Members

- Deputy Attorney General
- Washoe County District Attorney
- Clark County Family Court, Juvenile Division
- Clark County District Attorney
- Children's Attorney
- Survivor Advocate
- Community Agencies
- Child Welfare
- Juvenile Justice



Current NRS Addressing CSEC

NRS 62C.240 - If District Attorney files a petition alleging that a child under 18 years of age has engaged in prostitution of solicitation:

- Child shall be placed under court supervision without an adjudication; and
- The court shall order services to address the sexual exploitation of the child; and

Current NRS Addressing CSEC (cont.)

- any other needs the child may have including: counseling and medical treatment. Not Formal Probation.
- Court may still order any placement of the child the Court finds to be in the child's best interest.
- Petition must be dismissed at age 18 unless child consents.

Examples from Other State Mandates

- Safe Harbor – Partial to full decriminalization of child prostitution – tension between decriminalizing and protecting CSEC.
- Coordinated responses, e.g. task forces and MDT's.
- Awareness training for first responders and professionals serving CSEC.
- Specialized foster homes, Intensive case management.



Lessons Learned from Other States

- Did not anticipate demand for increased services and need for housing options.
- Mandates weakened due to lack of adequate funding for service array and housing options.
- Challenges to sustaining awareness and training.
- Challenges of serving child sex trafficking victims.



Potential Requests for 2019 Legislative Session

- Preserving child victim testimony
- Codify training requirements
- Codify portions of the Coordinated Response Protocol
- Funding for Training and Prevention
- Recommended revisions to NRS from Legal Subcommittee



Thank you

for your time and commitment
to improving services for
children and youth in Nevada.

