Human sex trafficking continues to be a problem both globally and right here at home. It is estimated that there are 20.9 million victims of human trafficking around the world—the equivalent of more than 7 times the entire population of Nevada. The Office of the Nevada Attorney General continues to collaborate with local law enforcement, community leaders, victim advocates and others to create solutions and boost the capacities of the office towards eradicating this growing problem.
Pursuant to NRS 201.345, the Office of the Attorney General has exercised its concurrent jurisdiction to the district attorneys of the counties in this State to prosecute any violation of NRS 201.300 or 201.320, and formed a Human Sex Trafficking Prosecutions Unit (HSTPU).

The HSTPU is currently staffed with personnel from a number of divisions in the Office of the Attorney General who dedicate their time to the Unit in addition to their current job assignments.

Prosecution resources include deputies attorney general in Carson City, Reno, Ely and Las Vegas, including a deputy assigned as a Special Assistant United States Attorney during the period.

Investigative resources include a full-time human trafficking investigator assigned to the Las Vegas office, as well as investigators throughout the State, who may be assigned as needed.

Outreach resources include representatives from the Clark County Department of Family Services, and staff who have committed to participating in task forces, continuing legal education, victims’ services and other forms of outreach.

I. Performance Measures

Pursuant to the intent of the Senate Committee on Finance and the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means that the Office of the Attorney General provide semiannual reports to the Interim Finance Committee regarding the number of human sex trafficking cases reported, investigated and prosecuted, by geographic location, in the State, the following report is made for the activities of the HSTPU during the period:

a. Cases resulting in judgments of conviction:

1. Clark County District Court, Case No. C-14-299619-1, State v. Wright, Guilty Plea entered on May 5, 2016 to one count of Coercion (felony), sentencing is currently set for September 1, 2016;

b. Cases indicted and currently set for jury trial:

1. United States District Court, Case No. 2:15-cr-00226-GMN-PAL, U.S. v. Moore, et al., Attempt Sex Trafficking of a Minor and related counts;

c. Referrals investigated by the HSTPU:

1. None during the period
II. **Public Relations, Outreach and Educational Programs**

On July 28, 2016, Nevada Attorney General Adam Paul Laxalt hosted the third annual Benefit Dinner for Victims of Human Trafficking, an event cosponsored by the Office of the Nevada Attorney General, Soroptimist International and the Nevada Trucking Association. The benefit included a dinner and silent auction to raise funds for victims of human trafficking within the State of Nevada. In addition to AG Laxalt, Amy Ayoub, a human trafficking survivor and lifelong Nevadan was the evening’s guest speaker. Assemblyman Mike Sprinkle discussed Assembly Bill (AB) 311, a bill passed in 2013 that authorized the Department of Health and Human Services to create a contingency account for victims of human trafficking. The account is entirely donation based, and assists Nevada victims in emergency situations such as temporary housing or transportation costs.

The HSTPU continues to be a participating member of the Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force sponsored by the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. The Task Force aims to coordinate the efforts of prosecutors, law enforcement and victim’s advocates in Clark County.

The HSTPU also continues to participate in the National Association of Attorney's General Human Trafficking Committee that establishes and promotes best practices for combating trafficking and in the Nevada Coalition to Prevent the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, a working group established by Governor Sandoval on May 31, 2016 currently chaired by Justice Nancy Saitta. Additionally, HSTPU assists with fundraising dinner efforts that contribute to the State Contingency Fund for victims of human sex trafficking.

III. **Investigations Division Progress**

On May 9, 2016, a criminal investigator was assigned to the newly created Human Sex Trafficking position within the Office of the Attorney General (OAG). This investigator will be assigned to, and work with, the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) Vice and Sex Trafficking Investigations Unit according to the agreed upon Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The investigator is scheduled to begin working directly with LVMPD on August 9, 2016. The required MOU between the OAG and LVMPD has been drafted and is awaiting signature by the principle officials. This investigator will also collaborate with representatives of the Clark County Department of Family Services (DFS) on issues related to Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) within the foster care system. It is believed that this collaboration will allow for the development of intelligence and other effective tools to aid law enforcement and investigative efforts in the greater Las Vegas metropolitan area. This collaboration will also allow law enforcement, other government agencies and community partners to more efficiently deliver needed services to CSEC victims and minimize the occurrences of their re-victimization. As the Human Sex Trafficking investigator receives training and gains experience, this individual will become an integral part of the local Multidisciplinary Team (MDT), and will work with Investigations Division leadership to create, develop, and integrate a safe and effective Human Sex Trafficking program within the Nevada Office of the Attorney General.
In preparation for this assignment, the investigator has attended the following trainings: Child Sex Trafficking: Awareness & Response (CSTAR) through the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children; Human Trafficking & Child Exploitation Seminar through U.S. Department of Homeland Security – Homeland Security Investigations; The Sexual Offender & Physical Abuser through Scott A. Johnson (Forensic Consultation); and JuST (Juvenile Sex Trafficking) First Response Conference through Shared Hope International.

The Investigations Division continues to actively engage in the general sex crimes and trafficking arenas in the following manner: there are two criminal investigators assigned full-time to the Washoe County Sheriff’s Office and the FBI’s Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force in Reno, Nevada; one full-time forensic examiner assigned to the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and FBI’s ICAC Task Force in Las Vegas, Nevada; and one full-time criminal investigator dedicated to investigating missing and exploited children matters in Las Vegas, Nevada. This current level of engagement has continued to produce positive results in both the federal and state criminal justice systems, examples of which are mentioned above in Sections I(a) and I(b) of this report.

IV. Clark County Department of Family Services (DFS) Collaboration

In an effort to be proactive in the investigation of human trafficking cases and CSEC cases, the Office of the Attorney General has collaborated with Department of Family Services (DFS) to identify those children within the foster care system who are either victims or are at the greatest risk of becoming victims of human trafficking. It is the hope of the OAG that through this collaboration with DFS and our community partners, we can successfully intervene and prevent our children from becoming victims of CSEC; and effectively prosecute the traffickers.

The partnership between the OAG and DFS enables the gathering of intelligence in order to help target specific threats relative to human sex trafficking. This process is critical in the OAG’s ability to assist LVMPD in targeting untapped sectors that have been a source of victims in the past. This intelligence gathering piece will assist the task force in focusing law enforcement resources at appropriate places within southern Nevada.

The DFS was formed in 2002 following the merger of state and county child welfare services and is tasked with keeping children safe. DFS is comprised of approximately 900 full and part-time staff, which includes a director and two assistant directors, 13 managers and 150 supervisors tasked with overseeing the day-to-day operation. The services provided to the community are delivered through the child protective services (CPS) and Permanency divisions within DFS.

The CPS case workers are tasked with the investigation of complaints of abuse and neglect that may result in the removal of children from the home. The case workers assigned to Permanency seek to advocate for the return of children to the home through court processes and following the delivery of therapeutic and other rehabilitative services to both children and parents. To ensure continuity of wrap-around services, the case workers for the CPS and Permanency sides report to their individual supervisors, and the supervisors report to a single manager who oversees the case throughout the entire process.
The provision of CPS and permanency services is further managed through the established DFS geo-zones. The geo-zone model divides the Las Vegas valley into smaller geographical areas for more effective resource management and service delivery. There are five geo-zones consisting of the central office and four additional sites in the east, west, north and south parts of the Las Vegas valley. The delivery of services to victims of abuse and neglect is based on their proximity to each site and reduces the likelihood of victims having to leave their home area to receive necessary services. DFS also has an Emergency Response Team (ERT) of CPS case workers who remain on-call 24/7 to respond to serious reports of abuse that require immediate attention.

a. Child Haven

The Child Haven shelter is a licensed facility, staffed by employees who provide safe, nurturing temporary care for children who cannot safely remain with their families. County staff provides direct care, daily supervision and life skills development to children in this temporary placement. These procedures promote and support the sound operation of the Child Haven Shelter program.

Once a child is brought to Child Haven, a case manager is assigned to begin the search for the child’s relatives and fictive kin. If the case manager is unable to locate a relative or fictive kin who is able to meet the physical, emotional and psychological needs of the child the placement team begins its search for a suitable caregiver. Once an appropriate caregiver has been identified as a child’s placement, the placement team transitions the child to the caregiver’s temporary care, custody and control. In the event the placement with the caregiver is disrupted, the child may return to the Child Haven shelter, where the placement team must again identify an appropriate caregiver to serve as the child’s temporary placement, until such time when it is deemed safe for the child to return home.

Child Haven is comprised of five cottages. The intake/reception cottage for all ages processes children entering the facility, houses children ages 0-6, and also serves as overflow housing for both boys and girls. There are two (2) elementary cottages; one each for girls and boys ages 6-10, and two pre-teen/teen cottages; one each for girls and boys ages 11-17. The pre-teen/teen cottage may also include juveniles who have been placed by the Juvenile Delinquency Sexually Exploited Youth (SEY) Court, or who may be under the care, custody and control of both DFS and Department of Juvenile Justice Services (i.e. dual jurisdiction youth).

At the time of this OAG’s site visit to Child Haven, the girls’ pre-teen/teen cottage had the highest census. This population--which is most prone to runaway behavior--is the most vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation. The statistical data below was provided by DFS and shows the number of children under their jurisdiction.

<p>| Age | 0  | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | Total |
|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Female | 147 | 160 | 132 | 102 | 106 | 76  | 74  | 93  | 74  | 66  | 48  | 64  | 64  | 53  | 52  | 68  | 64  | 57  | 53  | 1,553 |
| Male  | 140 | 170 | 129 | 115 | 108 | 110 | 109 | 102 | 82  | 77  | 73  | 63  | 59  | 66  | 48  | 47  | 41  | 42  | 47  | 1,628 |
| Total | 287 | 330 | 261 | 217 | 214 | 186 | 183 | 195 | 156 | 143 | 121 | 127 | 123 | 119 | 100 | 115 | 105 | 99  | 100 | 3,181 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Total Children</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Children 0-18</td>
<td>3,181</td>
<td>1,553</td>
<td>1,628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Children 10-17</td>
<td>909</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Children 12-15</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The goals of the collaboration between the AGO, DFS and our community partners is to determine the total number of children within the foster care system; secondly to identify the population at greatest risk of being trafficked, and finally to identify those children who are trafficking victims. The statistical data gathered by DFS will not only help in identifying that population, but will also allow for the partnered agencies to focus resources where they can be most effective.

b. Southern Nevada Children’s Assessment Center

SNCAC is a multi-disciplinary team led by a governing board of professionals from each local law enforcement agency within Clark County, the Office of Special Investigations, as well as professionals in the legal, child welfare, medical and mental health community.

SNCAC provides services that include forensic interviews of child and adolescent victims; forensic medical examinations of child and adolescent abuse victims; a multidisciplinary child abuse review team consisting of prosecutors, law enforcement, DFS child protective services, mental health and medical professionals that review and monitor child abuse cases. SNCAC also provides family advocacy services to victims and their non-offending families and/or caregivers, to include Non-Offending Parenting Classes. SNCAC offers advocacy and community referrals, assistance with obtaining victim therapy (both outside and within SNCAC), as well as onsite crisis mental health services and consultation. SNCAC is accredited through the National Children’s Alliance (NCA), the national association and accrediting body for Children’s Advocacy Centers (CACs). SNCAC is managed by an administrator, program coordinator, and qualified expert in forensic interviewing.

SNCAC has two interview rooms specifically designed for the purpose of conducting child and adolescent victim forensic interviews, as well as a suspect interview room pursuant to NCA national standards in a separate area outside of SNCAC. All of the interview rooms are equipped with cameras and digital recording equipment, as well as an attached observation room for investigative entities. SNCAC also houses CPS sex abuse investigations units and LVMPD’s sex assault juvenile squad of detectives and their sergeant. There are onsite therapists provided through a zero-dollar contract with an outside agency, as well as an onsite instructor who provides Non-Offending Parent (NOP) classes. SNCAC also provides crisis intervention services for every client served by SNCAC. SNCAC’s family advocate team is also able to provide services in the home for those victims and their families unable to travel to SNCAC. SNCAC also has an onsite clinic that provides medical exams to victims of sex crimes.
Prior to the formation of SNCAC, child and adolescent victims of abuse were often interviewed upwards of 20 times by law enforcement, medical professionals, child protective services and other agencies concerning the alleged abuse. SNCAC conducts a single comprehensive forensic interview that includes questions relevant to multiple disciplines, such as child protective services and law enforcement, aimed at minimizing re-victimization of victims. SNCAC also conducts extended forensic interviews where one interview broken up into multiple sessions, depending on the child’s needs, abilities and comfort level.

SNCAC conducts more than 1,000 forensic interviews annually with three dedicated full-time forensic interviewers and an Administrator, Program Coordinator and qualified expert in forensic interviewing. SNCAC Administrator expects that number will increase significantly in 2016 as the interviewers are now working staggered shifts in a 12 hour day. SNCAC not only assists with cases involving local law enforcement and child welfare agencies, but also federal agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Homeland Security Investigations, Office of Special Investigations through the U.S. Military, as well as Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The request for forensic interviewing assistance begins with as little as a local law enforcement event number, federal case number or child protective services case number, and a brief description of the allegations at hand.

SNCAC specializes in sex crimes against child and adolescent victims. SNCAC also assists with cases involving child witnesses to homicides, near fatalities, and all other high profile cases involving children as witnesses and/or victims. Sexual abuse victims are more susceptible to being recruited into the world of human trafficking. SNCAC has experience in dealing with sexual abuse victims who are more susceptible of being recruited into the world of human trafficking by providing forensic interview services, as well as various services to include, but not limited to, crisis intervention; medical SCAN (suspected child abuse and neglect) exams; medical follow-up; and referrals for ongoing treatment/care. SNCAC plays a pivotal role in the investigation of sex crimes against child and adolescent victims.

The multi-disciplinary team approach utilized by SNCAC ensures that child and adolescent victims of sexual abuse and their families are provided with the services necessary to deal with the disclosure of the traumatic event, when appropriate. The statistical data provided by DFS for children in Child Haven who are at risk of being trafficked, in conjunction with information obtained from SNCAC about those children who might be susceptible to becoming victims of trafficking will give law enforcement an effective tool to target pimps and traffickers seeking to exploit our youth.

The Office of the Attorney General, through its collaborative efforts with LVMPD, DFS, as well as other community based, spiritual and non-governmental organizations, hopes to identify innovative opportunities to provide a comprehensive, coordinated response to children at risk of, or victims of, human trafficking, including commercial sexual exploitation and forced child labor/domestic servitude. The Office will continue to work alongside Nevada’s law enforcement and community partners in an effort to promote awareness and create solutions to fight human trafficking at a state and national level.