# Human Trafficking Victim Report

August

2015

Orange County Human Trafficking Task Force



Human trafficking is a crime that deprives a person of their personal liberty through the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of carrying out labor services or commercial sex acts. In the attempt to defile a person's self-worth and human dignity for exploitative means, human traffickers practice malicious and deliberate forms of injustice over those in weaker positions and who are unable to defend themselves. The channels for exploitation come in many forms. However, inequality and history of abuse often times magnify an exploiter's ability to find profitable human property, to the extent that a victim's livelihood and means of survival is a trivial matter. Predatory crimes of this degree are the unraveling of mankind's selfish and violent nature gone unchecked.

The Human Trafficking Victim Report's initial purpose was to inform the community at-large about the work that the Orange County Human Trafficking Task Force (OCHTTF) has been doing since 2004. The result of the report included: (1) an awareness and understanding of where the problem stands locally and (2) the ability to come together to meet a greater need for those who were victimized.

The successful evolution of the OCHTTF is not due to a lack of challenges or setbacks. It is a success because:

- it is the desire of a shared community to bring a little known issue such as human trafficking to the surface simply because it needed to stay relevant
- the plan to meet the task force goals by coordinating protection, prosecution, and prevention through multi-disciplinary victim-centered partnerships takes patience, hard work, and faith from those involved
- none of this would have be possible without a team of law enforcement, victim service providers, volunteers, prosecutors, educators and survivors stepping up to attempt valiant and resourceful ways to meet the gaps in services as a community

The culmination of community-building success addressing human trafficking is a cultural paradigm shift in the works – the type of shift needed to remind us why the United States still celebrates itself as the land of the free.

#### **Victim Report Overview**

The third release of the OCHTTF's Human Trafficking Victim Report consists of data that include the efforts of the Anaheim Police Department, California Highway Patrol, Community Service Programs, FBI, Orange County District Attorney's Office, Orange County Sheriff's Department, Public Law Center, The Salvation Army, and United States Attorney's Office. The report attempts to project the best estimated data for Orange County, using figures of those identified and assisted by the OCHTTF.

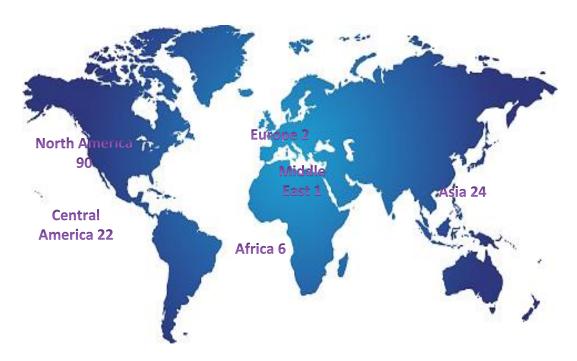
The report is broken down into five main sections and outlines the following:

- I. 2014 Victim Demographic Analysis
- II. Victim Service Considerations
- III. Volunteers & Wraparound Needs
- IV. Law Enforcement & Prosecution
- V. Training & Technical Assistance

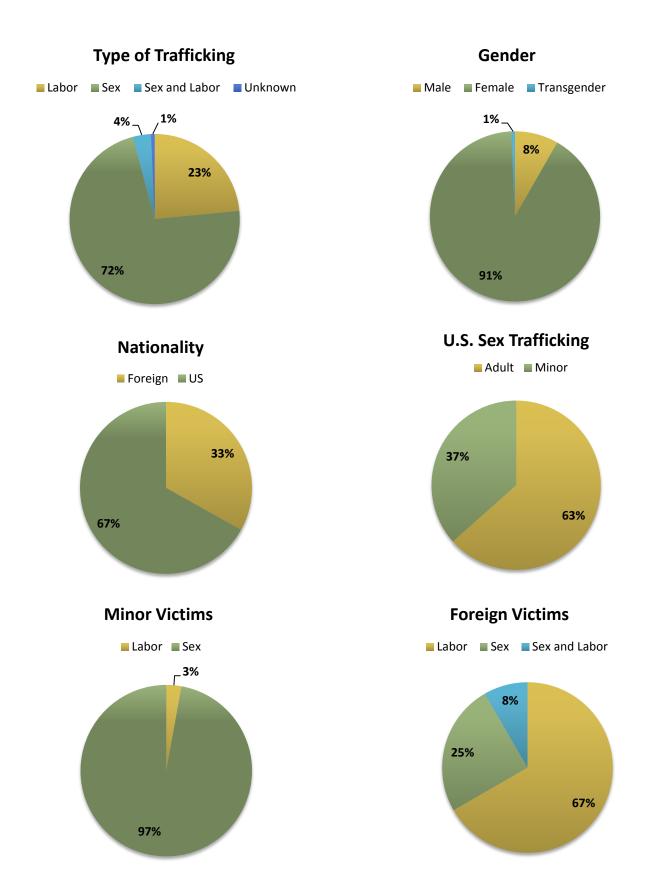
## I. <u>2014 VICTIM DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS</u>

Since 2004, the OCHTTF has assisted over 450 victims of human trafficking from 36 countries. The 2014 Victim Demographic Analysis shows the total number of victims who received victim services in Orange County by Community Service Programs and The Salvation Army.

	Labor	Sex	Labor & Sex		
	Trafficking	Trafficking	Trafficking	Unknown	Total
Gender					
Male	10	0	2	0	12
Female	24	104	3	1	132
Transgender	0	1	0	0	1
Age					
Adult	33	71	5	1	110
Minor	1	34	0	0	35
Nationality					
Foreign	32	12	4	0	48
Adult	31	12	4	0	47
Minor	1	0	0	0	1
US	2	93	1	1	97
Adult	2	59	1	1	63
Minor	0	34	0	0	34
Total	34	105	5	1	145

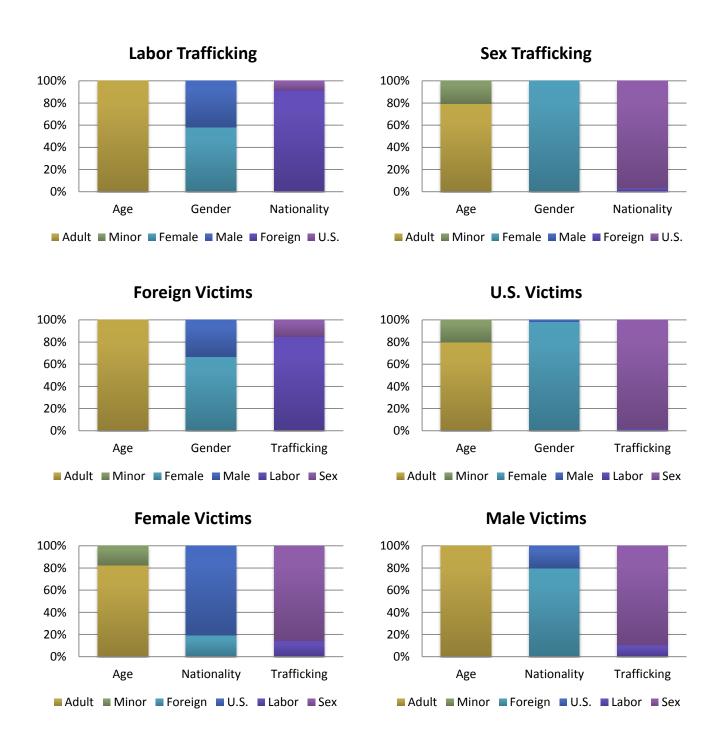


Countries of origin: Bulgaria (1), Egypt (1), El Salvador (1), Eritrea (1), Ethiopia (1), Honduras (2), Indonesia (1), Jordan (1), Kenya (2), Mexico (19), Philippines (19), South Korea (2), Tanzania (1), Thailand (1), United Kingdom (1), United States (90), Vietnam (1)



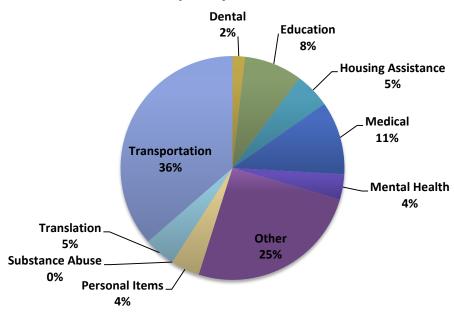
## 2014 New Victim Demographic

In 2014, of the 145 total victims of human trafficking assisted by the OCHTTF, 69 (48%) consisted of new victims. Of the 69 given victim assistance, 15 were foreign nationals and 54 were U.S. nationals.



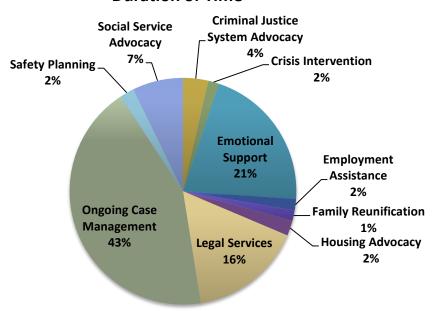
## II. <u>VICTIM SERVICE CONSIDERATIONS</u>





The **Frequency of Service** chart reflects the number of times each service was provided for victims.

#### **Duration of Time**



The **Duration of Time** chart reflects the length of time spent providing each service for victims.

#### In Their Own Words

The following questionnaire was given to clients assisted through the victim service programs of Community Service Programs and The Salvation Army. In their own words, here are some of the things they wanted to share to help better inform those addressing this issue.

#### 1. What challenges did you have cooperating with law enforcement?

"I gave all my information."

"Facing all the interviews. Meet different people, their position and capability to help."

"The police in immigration were very helpful and nice. I have no complaints."

"The hardest part was talking about what had happened. Also, it was hard trusting the police because I didn't know if it was actually the police or one of "them". It was hard because they weren't dressed like the police. They were undercover. Since the people that did this to me told me they were watching me at all times I thought maybe they were tricking me."

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Q1: "No challenges. I told them everything because I needed help."

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"I didn't trust them. I was pretty sure I was going to jail. If I tell this person everything they will use it against me and try to put me in jail for a long time. When I opened up a case, the law enforcement official said, "This is pointless." I felt bad and started crying because what I thought would happen, happened."

"No challenges. They listened and they helped a lot. They helped me to find a safe place to stay."

"They placed me in jail for 24 hours."

#### 2. What made a positive difference in your interaction with law enforcement?

"I felt safe when I called the police. I felt safe when they came to my ex-husband's house. When I saw them, I felt safe like someone was here to help me."

"That I can be a legal worker in the state."

"Supportive of our case."

Q2: "Having more self-confidence."

"They were respectful."

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"Trying to help me get information about who was trafficking me so they can try and put him in jail."

"Spoke in Spanish."

"Once they took me out of where I was, gave me the chance to speak to my family, and took me to the police station I knew it was really the cops and I trusted them more. The freedom they gave me."

## 3. What challenges did you have working with victim service providers or participating in a victim service program?

"Sometimes I cannot come to client events because I have to stay home or work."

"Difficulty in communication and personal interaction."

"I didn't see or encounter any hardships with the program. They gave me full support."

"Too many people at the shelter. Different cultures. Everyone has different things. They have different ways. It's hard when someone doesn't respect me. It's difficult to adjust. It's hard when someone has kids and someone doesn't."

"Knowing the program and things that they need to do with the clients."

"The whole team was very helpful. I am very happy, especially with this opportunity for my kids. I think you did more than you had to do. Your care made me not feel alone when you asked "How are you?" The events you call me for on Saturdays made my kids happy."

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Q3: "The location of the shelter. I was afraid to walk to the bus stop because of safety, but once my case manager walked with me to the bus stop and showed me how to use it, it was fine."

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"None."

"Moving forward has been hard. You all offer us everything so it's a great program, but it's still hard to move forward. I always ask my psychologist: "When is this pain going to end? When can I stop thinking about what happened?" She responds, "It doesn't matter the time that passed. It's always going to be with you, but there's going to be a time when it doesn't hurt. It's like having a scar. The scar will always be there and you'll see it, but it won't hurt."

"When I tried to visit the Christian church, but it was fun."

## 4. What do you recommend that law enforcement and/or victim service providers do to better understand the type of help or assistance you needed?

"When we are recognized as victims, they help us and understand us more. I also received help on where to go. Victims need help on knowing how to move forward, for us and our family. We are eternally grateful for organizations like The Salvation Army Anti-Trafficking Services that help women like me who are now able to have a new future for not just ourselves, but also our kids."

"For the police: Have patience because it's not easy to get out of being knocked around. In my case when the police came I didn't want to go because I felt dependent on my trafficker and I didn't want her to go to jail. So I was resistant when the police came. They were firm and said I had to go with them. What I would have liked to hear is: "We are the police. We are here to help you. Everything is going to be okay."

For victim services: What I would like to see is have more groups, not talking about exactly what happened, but giving us a chance to process through it and being able to get to know each other. "

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## Q4: "More promotion. I didn't know there were organizations like you helping victims like us."

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"They offered me a lot. Anything I needed and anything I asked from them."

"Law enforcement: Let victims know that they are not there to take them, but to take them out of the life that they didn't deserve. Offer them services, your program and that they will be safe."

"To better introduce the program and the purpose of the help you do."

"They have an interpreter to communicate with me, so I am okay."

"Black and white orientation of the victim's rights, benefits, services. Appropriate and availability of services for each individual victim."

## 5. <u>Did you have any personal challenges or reluctance initially in wanting to receive help? If yes, what helped change your mind?</u>

"I always wanted to be helped."

"Unaware of the services and the urgency of needs. Jobless for months and transition of workplace."

"When I first heard people wanted to help me, I couldn't believe that there are people who wanted to help me. I was in shock. People worried for us. And I never think it will happen to me and my family. I am also happy you guys made me feel that I am human."

"For both: At first, I didn't want help because I didn't trust you. I wasn't sure if you were going to deport me and take away my kids. You said you wanted to help, but I thought maybe you just wanted information.

Police: When I arrived at the police station it was then when I trusted them, but not completely since I still thought there was a chance you were going to send me back to my country.

Victim Services: Helping me apply for my papers or when I told my case manager that I was sad she would come over and spend time with me. Those things helped me trust her. It was not only about providing us stuff, but it's more personal. I can't trust myself because I was scared they would judge me, but with my case manager I knew I can tell her anything and I can trust the program."

"None. I wanted help."

"To be a trafficking victim is full of challenges, stress and pressure. I really thank God, because I found The Salvation Army Anti-Trafficking Services. They changed my life from worst to better to best."

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## Q5: "I had a hard time trusting you the first time. I kept coming back and you kept on supporting me."

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"My immigration attorney told me why I'm human trafficking. Trafficking is too many things. He told me I am part of it. He gave me a piece of paper explaining why I am human trafficking."

"I wanted help because I wanted to be back with my family and not be on the street. The Salvation Army Anti-Trafficking Services helped more than I thought."

## 6. What type of services or resources could the task force have provided to better support you and your goals?

"Assistance in health and education programs."

"You guys help a lot. You do everything because I see you help. You help me if need a ride or shampoo. It's like family here."

"Workshop for fathers, education, ROP classes."

"Longer transitional housing. I hope my new case manager can help me with my goals because my current one helps me so much and I hope to have the same support from my new case manager as my current has shown me."

"I don't know. You did a lot. Help me go to school. Provided transportation."

"The first thing is help me look for a job right now. But you all help me with basically everything. The biggest is the work permit. And just not to leave us because without the support of the program, we wouldn't know what to do. You all quide us and that's a huge help."

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Q6: "Transportation and housing. I struggled with both."

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#### 7. When you hear the word victim or survivor of human trafficking what does that mean to you?

"Victim is very hard for me to explain. I was a victim before when I was still in my country. Lots of stress and a lot of hardships. I survived through the help of The Salvation Army Anti-Trafficking Services."

"Victim means people struggling different kinds of problems and face all the trials. Survivor is someone who survived from trials and taking the good path of their life."

"I like victim better because I was a victim from when I was with my ex-husband. The word victim validates that something bad happened to me. But, that was before. I am a survivor now. I am not a victim anymore."

"Victim will feel terrible. Survivor will feel free."

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Q7: "Victim is someone who can't defend themselves. Survivor is like I'm a winner and I made it. The traffickers didn't get what they wanted and I beat them because I survived."

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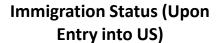
"Severe financial hardship. Taking our own money prior to employment and being bound to huge debt. Emotional and mental torture, discomfort, and family's deprivation of financial support for six years. Exploitation. Being taken advantage of."

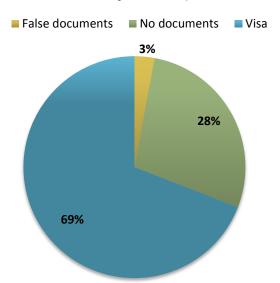
"Victim – scary, self-pity. Survivor – happy, feeling comfortable."

"Victim brings me down and makes me feel sad. Survivor makes me feel the opposite, happy and strong. Victim sounds like death. When I think of victim, I think of homicide, rape, etc. It doesn't make me feel good about being a victim of human trafficking. Survivor makes me feel stronger. I look back because I was able to go through that whole situation and still be here alive. I often felt like I was going to die when I was in that situation, like when I was in my trafficker or customer's car and they had no door handle on the passenger's side so I couldn't get out."

"I don't know."

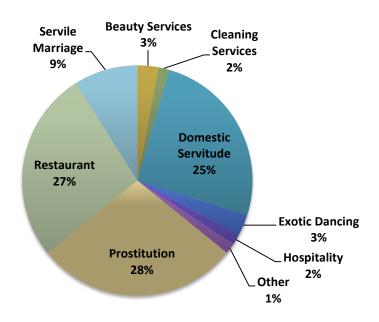
The *Immigration Status* and *Industry of Exploitation* chart reflect approximately 69 foreign national victims assisted by The Salvation Army from 2012 to 2014.





Type of visas: diplomatic (2%), student (6%), marriage (11%), tourist (28%), and temporary work (53%) Most victims exploited for labor entered the U.S. with a temporary work visa. Most victims exploited for commercial sex entered the U.S. without documents or with a toursit visa.

### **Industry of Exploitation**



## III. VOLUNTEERS & WRAPAROUND NEEDS

Volunteers are an integral part of the wraparound needs for victims of human trafficking. Volunteer services help complement the staff of the OCHTTF by providing the community support needed to help move survivors toward self-sufficiency and integrate mainstream society as effortless and trauma-reducing as possible. The efforts of the faith-based organizations, women's organizations, and grassroots organizations working in harmony with the OCHTTF to help support the simple and everyday needs of human life is beyond measureable.

The collaborative efforts grown over the years demonstrates that volunteers and community organizations can partner together using a victim-centered approach to help meet the personal needs of all victims. It is with thoughtful consideration of victimology - including the relationships between victims and offenders, power and control, cycle of violence, the interactions between victims and the criminal justice system, and the connections between victims and other social groups and institutions, such as media, business and social movements – that the community has come to understand that exploitation and fostering injustice can come in many forms. Not only is it important for the task force's community-based partnerships to create an environment that nurtures that understanding but also put in the extra care needed for harm reduction.

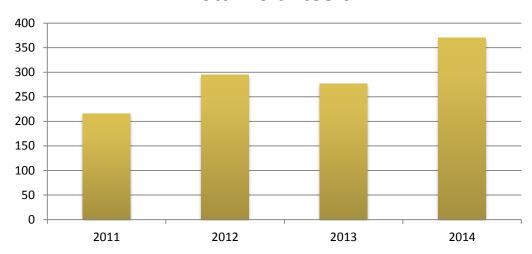




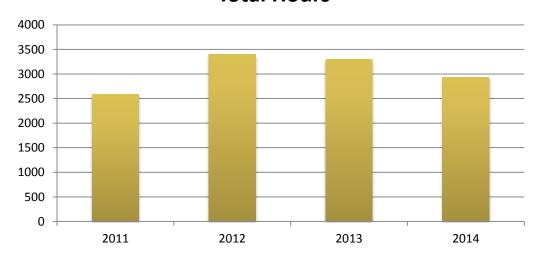




## **Total Volunteers**



## **Total Hours**



The total number of hours volunteered from 2011 to 2014 is 12,190.

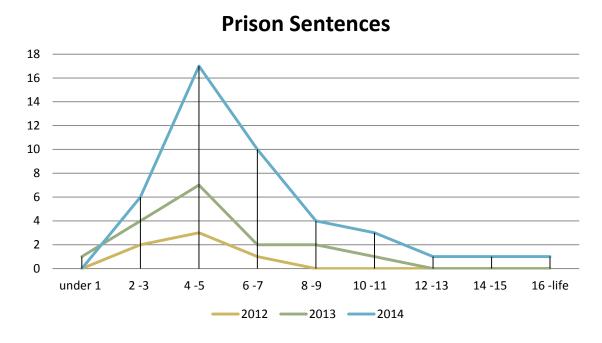
Noteworthy Community Collaborative: A Place of Our Own, Abeni, Angels Joy, Art and Creativity for Healing, Beverly's House, Calvary Church of Santa Ana, Cottonwood Church of Los Alamitos, CSP Sexual Assault Victims' Unit, CSP Youth Offender Wraparound, Global Center for Women and Justice, Grateful Hearts, International Sanctuary, Junior League of Orange County, Laura's House, Orange County Bar Association, Orange County Yoga Center, Richfield Community Church, Sisters of St. Joseph Orange, Soroptimist International of Brea/La Habra, Southlands Church, St. Mark Presbyterian Church, The A21 Campaign, University of California Irvine, Vineyard Church of Anaheim, Westminster Four Square Church

## IV. LAW ENFORCEMENT & PROSECUTION

In November 2012, California's anti-human trafficking Proposition 35 (Prop 35) was enacted in California with 81 percent of the vote, and over 82 percent of the vote in Orange County, to increase the penalty for human trafficking, particularly in cases involving the trafficking of a minor by force.

A component of the OCHTTF is the Orange County District Attorney Office's Human Exploitation And Trafficking (HEAT) Unit, which targets perpetrators who sexually exploit and traffic women and underage girls for financial gain, including pimps, panderers, and human traffickers. Initiated in April 2013, the HEAT Unit uses a tactical plan called PERP: Prosecution, to bring justice for victims of human trafficking and hold perpetrators responsible using Prop 35; Education, to provide law enforcement training to properly handle human trafficking and pandering cases; Resources from public-private partnerships to raise public awareness about human trafficking and provide assistance to the victims; and Publicity, to inform the public and send a message to human traffickers that this crime cannot be perpetrated without suffering severe consequences.

Between April 2013 and December 2014, 124 cases of human trafficking, pimping and pandering were handled by the HEAT Unit.



Between 2012 and 2014, the Orange County District Attorney's Office obtained 76 convictions. Of the 76 convictions, 66 received prison sentences and the number of years is reflected in the **Prison Sentences** chart. The remaining 10 served time in local jail or formal probation.

### **Case Highlights**

#### People v. Chuncey Garcia and Cierra Robinson

In 2013, 14-year-old Jane Doe lived in another state and ran away from home. Robinson befriended the victim with the intention of procuring her as a commercial sex slave for Garcia. Robinson engaged in commercial sex to benefit Garcia and recruited other women to do the same for Garcia. Garcia and Robinson took the victim to a hotel room under the pretense of offering her an opportunity to make money by answering phones. Once at the hotel, Garcia told Jane Doe that she would be required to engage commercial sex for his financial benefit. Garcia took the victim to Orange County and forced her to work as a prostitute by walking down the street in highprostitution areas. He posted sexually suggestive advertisements of Jane Doe on known prostitution websites. Garcia forced Jane Doe to have sex with adult sex purchasers, collected all of the money she received from men, and set a daily quota that Jane Doe had to meet under the threat of withholding meals if she did not bring in enough money. Robinson instructed Jane Doe on what to do, including how much to charge for various sex acts. A patrol police officer observed the victim in an area known for prostitution and began investigating the case because Jane Doe looked extremely young. Members of the OCHTTF identified Jane Doe as both a missing person and a victim of human trafficking, and arrested Garcia and Robinson. Garcia was found guilty by a jury in the first Orange County Prop 35 case of one felony count of human trafficking and one felony count of pimping a minor under 16, with a sentencing enhancement allegation and prior prison convictions. He was sentenced in 2014 to 17 years to life in state prison. Robinson was found guilty by a jury of one felony count each of human trafficking of a minor and pandering of a minor under 16 years old by procuring and was sentenced in 2013 to five years in state prison.

#### People v. Kristian Adway, Dejon Moore, and Jennifer Moeggenberg

In 2013, Moore contacted a minor victim on Facebook and maintained a long distance relationship with the victim. After a period of time grooming the victim into a relationship, Moore drove to Los Angeles to pick up the victim after she rode a train to meet him. Moore then met up with Adway and drove together with the victim to Orange County. Moore used force and fear to induce the victim to work for him and engage in commercial sex. Moeggenberg set rules for the victim and how to behave around sex purchasers. Moore collected the money the victim made from performing commercial sex and gave some of the earnings to Adway. Moore hit and threatened the victim when she expressed desire to stop providing the sexual services. Driving through Anaheim, a police officer attempted to pull the car over to perform a routine traffic stop. Adway refused to stop his vehicle and sped approximately 60 miles per hour and turned into a crowded parking lot. Adway attempted to flee from the officer on foot. All the defendants were caught and arrested. At the sentencing, the victim submitted a victim impact statement which was read by the People to the court. She wrote in part, "My priorities are now in order and I know what I want and need in life. I appreciate all of the people who have walked this path with me and did everything in their power to make sure I was okay." Adway was sentenced to five 5 years in state prison and mandatory lifetime sex offender registration. Moore was sentenced to 11 years in state prison and mandatory lifetime sex offender registration. Moeggenberg was sentenced to three years in state prison.

#### People v. Tavaris Mims

In 2014, Mims began a romantic relationship with the victim and moved into her home. Mims is a member of a criminal street gang and frequently used the victim's home for activities of his criminal street gang. Mims convinced the victim to engage in commercial sex acts for money and turn over 100 percent of the profits to him. Mims deprived the victim of liberty by forcing her to engage in commercial sex acts against her will. Mims kept the money that the victim received from the commercial sex acts and used it with the specific intent to promote, further and assist in the criminal conduct of his gang. Mims and the victim got into a verbal dispute in her home and during the confrontation, Mims pulled out a knife and placed it against her throat and threatened to kill her. The next day Mims threatened the victim again and told her that he would kill one of her family members if she spoke to law enforcement. After receiving a tip that the victim was assaulted, members of the OCHTTF began investigating the case and arrested Mims. Mims was found guilty by a jury of one felony count each of human trafficking, pimping, pandering, aggravated assault, criminal threats, dissuading a witness by force or threat, and street terrorism with sentencing enhancements personal use of a knife, and criminal street gang activity.

#### People v. Gao Zhou and Yuzhen Xie

In 2013, Zhou and Xie conspired to commit pimping, pandering, and money laundering. During this time, Zhou paid for website advertisements for prostitution and rented high-end apartments in Irvine and Los Angeles County from which to run brothels. The defendants induced three victims to engage in commercial sex in Orange County and kept a significant portion of the profits under the guise of "debt bondage." Xie and Zhou maintained numerous bank accounts, where they deposited the money made by the victims in the brothel and paid for expenses associated with the brothel, including advertisements. Zhou monitored regular surveillance of sex purchasers who frequented the brothel, acted as a pimp, and arranged sexual encounters for the victims. Zhou pleaded guilty to a court offer to 12 felony counts including pimping, pandering, money laundering, conspiracy to commit each of these crimes, and a sentencing enhancement. He was sentenced to four years in state prison in 2014. At the time of publication, Xie had a warrant for her arrest.

### **Facebook Predators**

Human Traffickers and pimps often use social media to target, groom, and recruit victims to sexually exploit for financial gain. The following defendants were convicted of recruiting undercover police officers off of Facebook, whom they believed to be vulnerable underage girls or women.

*Eric Dejuan McMillian*, 33, was convicted of felony attempt of human trafficking and pimping. He was sentenced to 7 years in state prison.

*Frankie Lee Brown*, 30, was convicted of felony attempt pandering with a sentencing enhancement for a prior strike and prison convictions. He was sentenced to 4 years in state prison.

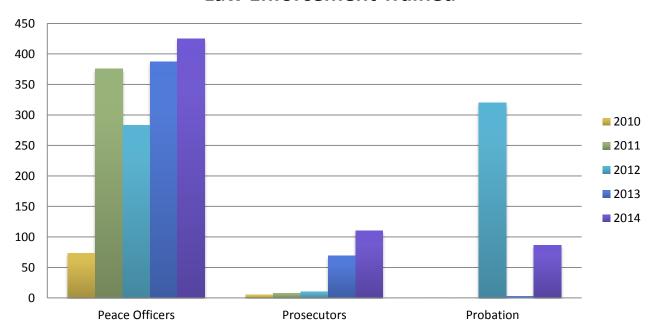
**Dominca Darlene Wallace**, 25, was convicted of pandering for prostitution. She received 6 years in state prison.

## V. TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Since 2010, the OCHTTF has been facilitating the Human Trafficking of Minors Training curriculum funded by the Children's Justice Act through the California Office of Emergency Services. Currently, the training series offers four courses: Basic Law Enforcement, Investigative Techniques for Investigators and Prosecutors, Train the Trainers and Victim Advocate. The training series primarily focuses on the training of law enforcement and first responders, folding in victim advocates/victim witness/victim service providers as a vital component to the criminal justice system process and victim-centered advocacy. The training team is required to train across the state, covering 10 regions within California in order to capitalize on best practices and information sharing across the state. The Basic Law Enforcement and Investigative Techniques courses are POST (Peace Officers Standards and Training) certified for sworn peace officers as available law enforcement training credit.

The training teams consist of members of the OCHTTF from the Anaheim Police Department, California Highway Patrol, Community Service Programs, Orange County District Attorney's Office, Orange County Sheriff's Department, and Public Law Center.

## **Law Enforcement Trained**



## Law Enforcement Training Courses Locations Trained

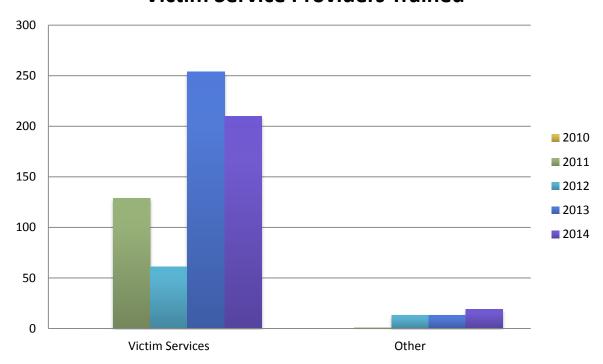
Alameda County
Calaveras County
El Dorado County
Fresno County
Humboldt County
Kern County
Los Angeles County
Monterey County

Nevada County
Orange County
Sacramento County
San Bernardino County
San Diego County
San Francisco County
San Joaquin County
San Luis Obispo County

Santa Barbara County Santa Clara County Santa Cruz County Shasta County Sonoma County Tulare County Ventura County



## **Victim Service Providers Trained**



# Victim Advocate Training Course Locations Trained

Los Angeles County Monterey County Orange County Sacramento County San Luis Obispo County Santa Barbara County Tulare County

