



**SITUATIONAL INFORMATION REPORT**  
**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**  
**Reporting Highlights**  
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

Approved for Release: 06 February 2017

SIR Number: SIR-00116102109

**(U//FOUO) Update - Full Implementation of the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act May Provide a More Comprehensive Picture of the Child Sex Trafficking Threat in the United States**

SOURCE: (U) An employee of the FBI.

Admin: (U//FOUO) This version contains updated information provided by NCMEC and the FBI and should replace the original version dated 08 December 2016.

(U//FOUO) The purpose of this National Situational Information Report is to provide awareness about the full implementation on 29 September 2016, of H.R. 4980, "Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families (PSTSF) Act," which can be found in its entirety at [www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/4980](http://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/4980). Full compliance with the PSTSF Act may also allow for law enforcement and social service agencies to more proactively address the threat rather than solely reacting to it.

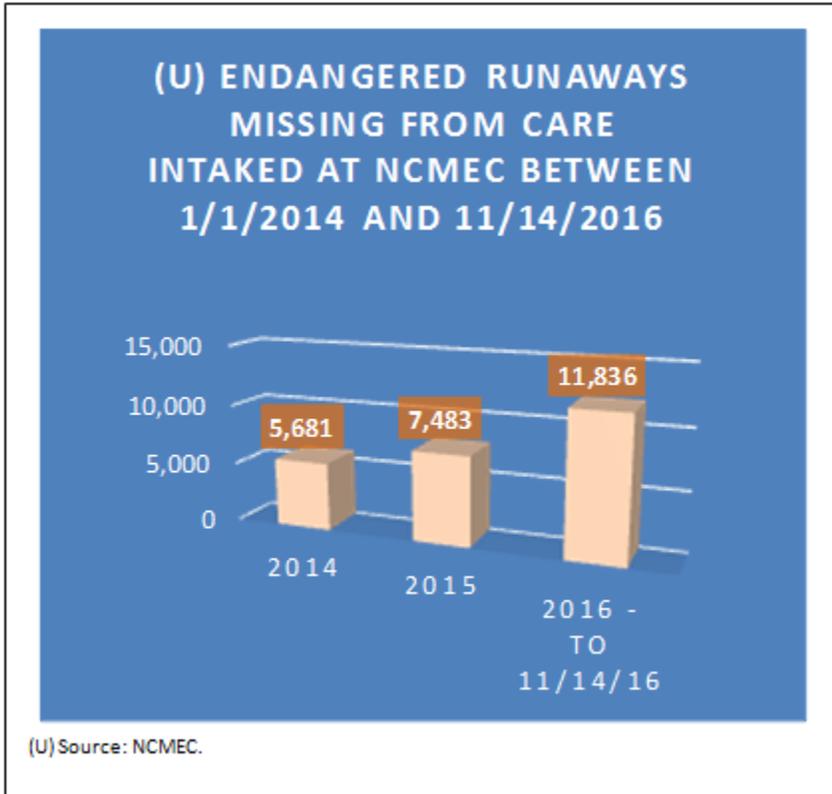
(U//FOUO) The FBI assesses the 29 September 2016 full implementation of the PSTSF Act requiring social services to notify law enforcement and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) within 24 hours of receiving a report of a child missing from care, including from a foster family, a group home, or a medical/rehabilitation facility likely will continue to improve intelligence on the child sex trafficking threat in the United States. The PSTSF Act also requires states to expeditiously locate a child missing from care and to determine the primary contributing factors that led to the incident.

**(U) Warning: This is an information report, not finally evaluated intelligence. It is being shared for informational purposes but has not been fully evaluated, integrated with other information, interpreted or analyzed. Receiving agencies are requested not to take action based on this raw reporting without prior coordination with the FBI.**

*(U) Note: This product reflects the views of the CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE Division.*

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(U//FOUO) Relevance: Child sex trafficking is a growing threat across the country with many child victims forced into sex trafficking after being reported as missing from state care, according to child advocacy reporting. Since the PSTSF Act was passed in September 2014, the FBI has already received an increase in intelligence, from several early adopters, related to potential trends in locations, hotspots, recruitment, and ages of victims.



- (U) Reporting of missing endangered runaways steadily increased from October 2015 to September 2016 as a result of several early-adopters of the PSTSF Act, according to NCMEC's missing child database. Endangered runaways comprise 83 percent of NCMEC's caseload.
- (U) NCMEC prior to this Act only had a formalized PSTSF reporting agreement with Illinois, Florida, Texas, and Los Angeles County.
- (U) One in five of the 11,800 runaways reported to NCMEC as of 2015 likely was a sex trafficking victim, according to NCMEC. This number was up from one in six in 2014 and 74 percent of suspected sex trafficking victims in calendar year 2015 were in the care of social services or foster care when they were reported as missing ([www.missingkids.org/1in5](http://www.missingkids.org/1in5)).
- (U) FBI analysis of reporting in direct response to this law identified that as the overall number of reports made to NCMEC increased so did the overall number of reports of juveniles 14 and younger. In 2014, 205 of likely victims of child sex trafficking went missing from care at the age of 14 years or younger and increased to 252

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from January to 14 November 2016. The FBI has also seen reporting in the last several months from entities who previously did not report, including children missing from Native American reservations.

(U//FOUO) While the PSTSF Act may address the potential number of underreported endangered runaways, consistency in participating agency reporting will be critical to its success. Upon the PSTSF Act's enactment, the Department of Health and Human Services will query states and social service agencies for compliance.

(U) This report has been prepared by the CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE Division of the FBI. Comments and queries may be addressed to the CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE Division at Number Unavailable.

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**Customer and Product Information**

SIR Tracking ID: SIR-00116102109

Product Title: (U//FOUO) Update - Full Implementation of the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act May Provide a More Comprehensive Picture of the Child Sex Trafficking Threat in the United States

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Customer Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

**Relevance to Your Intelligence Needs**

- 1. The product increased my knowledge of an issue or topic. (Check one)
  - 5. Strongly Agree
  - 4. Somewhat Agree
  - 3. Neither Agree or Disagree
  - 2. Somewhat Disagree
  - 1. Strongly Disagree

**Actionable Value**

- 2. The product helped me decide on a course of action. (Check one)
  - 5. Strongly Agree
  - 4. Somewhat Agree
  - 3. Neither Agree or Disagree
  - 2. Somewhat Disagree
  - 1. Strongly Disagree

**Timeliness Value**

- 3. The product was timely to my needs. (Check one)
  - 5. Strongly Agree
  - 4. Somewhat Agree
  - 3. Neither Agree or Disagree
  - 2. Somewhat Disagree

\_\_\_1. Strongly Disagree

Comments (please use reverse or attach separate page if needed):

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