



# Quarterly CTIP Newsletter

## Agency Highlights

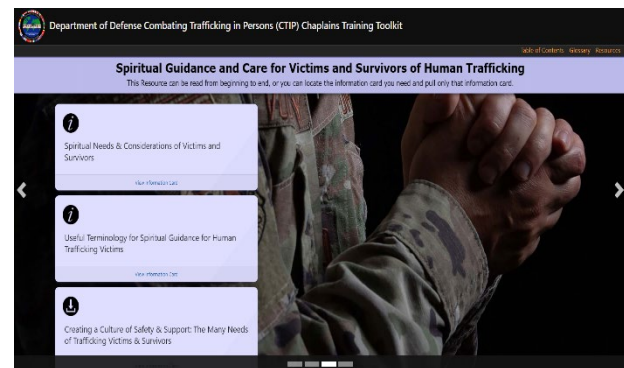
### New Chaplains Training and Toolkit on Human Trafficking

*Contributed by: Combating Trafficking in Persons PMO*

*“I was trafficked when I was a child. For a long time, I told no one what had happened. When I was 17, I joined the military, and it was there I began to heal. First, I discovered a new kind of family, one that has helped and protected me for many years. In Marine Corps boot camp, I began to go to church on Sundays, at first for the peace it offered, but later for its healing power. Chaplains are first responders in the military – even more so than health providers. Health providers, especially mental health providers like therapists, are still seen as a stigma, and the records can follow you around forever. But a person can seek help from a chaplain and have complete confidentiality and privacy. That was the first time I thought about telling someone what had actually happened to me.”*

*-Jerome Elam<sup>1</sup>*

Experts often talk about the physical and mental devastation of human trafficking, but very little is said about the spiritual effects. Chaplains can play a vital role in the fight against human trafficking. They may be the first responders to victims, survivors, parents, and other service members who may have suffered as a result of human trafficking. The new specialized CTIP Military Chaplains Training and companion Toolkit on Human Trafficking focus on the loss of belief, survivor’s guilt, moral injury, and other spiritual issues related to human trafficking. An example from the training is this survivor talking about what happened to her in the course of being trafficked.



*“I was trafficked by an organized criminal network, which used force, intimidation, and coercion to traffic me into clubs and bars. They encouraged my addiction to drugs and used that as a means of keeping me in a form of indentured servitude. During the time I was trafficked I saw and heard a lot of illegal things the network was doing. At the height of being trafficked, I witnessed a murder, and my life was threatened. What I saw haunted me for decades, but I never had a word for it until a colleague mentioned “moral injury.”*

Moral injury is a response to traumatic events that causes people to question the existence of good and evil, both in the world and in themselves. Once applied mainly to military veterans, the concept of moral injury is now used in the medical professions, by first responders, and others who work or take action in high stakes situations. When a person violates a deeply held ethical code, as in a soldier taking a human life, moral injury can occur. In the medical profession, if health providers do everything they can to save a patient but fail, due to circumstances beyond their control, they may experience moral injury. If trafficking survivors are forced to commit crimes while being trafficked, or witness a terrible, violent crime against others, they may experience moral injury. Moral repair involves moving from secrecy and isolation into a supportive community where naming traumatic events, and their moral ambiguities, is

<sup>1</sup> DoD CTIP Chaplains Training on Human Trafficking, <https://ctip.defense.gov/Training/>

possible. See more about these issues in our [Chaplain's Training on Human Trafficking](#).

The [Chaplains Toolkit on Human Trafficking](#) is a "grab and go" set of Action Cards that has survivor stories, videos, one-pagers, infographics, case studies, pocket cards, desk guides and other resources on human trafficking for chaplains.

Both the training and the toolkit provide military chaplains with the resources they need to help in the following situations:

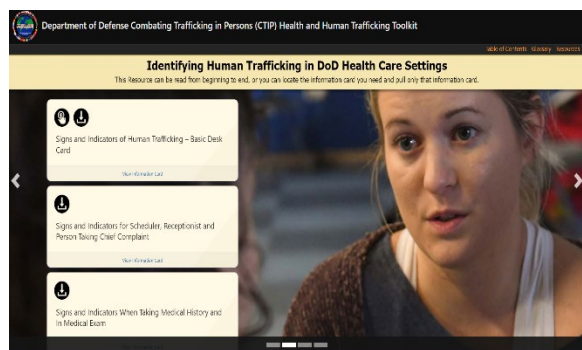
- Giving spiritual guidance to someone in your flock who has been trafficked.
- Counseling or ministering to servicemembers who were trafficked before they joined the military.
- Recognizing those in “precursor” situations that have the potential to become trafficking victims and giving spiritual guidance with prevention in mind.
- Encountering trafficking victims or survivors who have experienced moral injury in the course of being trafficked. Your guidance can offer spiritual sustenance and healing to victims and survivors of trafficking.
- Meeting parents and other family members who have suffered loss as a result of trafficking of a child, teen, or adult. Your guidance and ability to refer members to the right resources is critical.

The new Chaplains' Training on Trafficking in Persons and the companion Toolkit provide information to help military chaplains combat human trafficking. Please visit the [CTIP website training page](#) to access both new resources.

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## **New CTIP Resources for DoD Health Care Providers**

***Contributed by: Combating Trafficking in Persons PMO***



A seminal study on health and human trafficking shows that 87% of trafficking victims sought care from a health care provider during the time they were trafficked. Health care providers are first responders and play a vital role in identification, treatment, and follow up for victims and survivors and their families. The new DoD Combating Trafficking in Persons (CTIP) Healthcare and Human Trafficking Training and Toolkit provides DoD health care providers the information they need to help recognize human trafficking in healthcare settings and respond effectively. Access both here: <https://ctip.defense.gov/Training/>

One survivor story included in the training, demonstrates the need:

*“[W]hen I turned 13 I’d had enough of the abuse in my home, and I ran away. I didn’t know where to go so I went to the center of town and stood by [the] town hall. A man saw me hanging around there and he said that he was looking for a ‘protégé.’ I didn’t know what it was, but it sounded fine to me. He said that I could stay at his house. When we got to his house, he pulled out a bottle of gin and had me drink. The next thing I remember is waking up all sick and wet and hurt. The next day he took me out on the street and told me what I had to do. When I said I didn’t want to, he threatened me with a gun and pistol whipped me. And that’s how I got into this life and couldn’t get out. Over the next year he hit me, punched me, kicked me, beat me, slashed me with a razor. I had forced unprotected sex with customers, got pregnant twice and had two abortions. I have so many injuries and so many illnesses. I have hepatitis C, and STDs, stomach problems and back pain and a lot of psychological issues. I overdosed on drugs twice and was taken to the hospital where they saved me but then released me back to my pimp again.”<sup>2</sup>*

This survivor story encompasses the “three i’s” – injuries, illnesses, and impairments – that survivors suffer while being

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<sup>2</sup> From the DoD CTIP Health and Human Trafficking Training, <https://ctip.defense.gov/Training/>

trafficked: injuries from violence inflicted by traffickers and buyers; illnesses – both acute and chronic, communicable and non-communicable; and impairments such as alcohol and drug use and abuse.

U.S. Department of Defense health care providers may be a first responder to victims, survivors, parents, and other service members who may have suffered as a result of human trafficking. The DoD CTIP Office created a specialized Healthcare and Human Trafficking Training and companion [Toolkit](#) to provide them with the resources to help. The Toolkit is a “grab and go” set of Action Cards that include pocket cards, desk guides, case studies, and other resources on human trafficking for healthcare providers.

The training and toolkit include information about trafficking in healthcare settings, including:

- Health issues of human trafficking victims and survivors
- Indicators of human trafficking in chief complaint, medical history, and medical exam
- Barriers to health care for victims and survivors
- Best practices for identifying, treating, referring, and reporting human trafficking
- New ICD codes on human trafficking
- Mandatory reporting issues
- Using electronic medical records in human trafficking cases

The CTIP Office training page on the website has links to the new Healthcare and Human Trafficking Training and Toolkit as well as the other CTIP trainings offered. We hope the DoD Health Care community will use these resources to learn how they can play a vital role in combating human trafficking.

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## Featured Articles

### **Two Attorneys General Speak to DoD CTIP Task Force Meeting about Combating Human Trafficking** *Contributed by: Combating Trafficking in Persons PMO*

On October 11, 2023, the CTIP Task Force hosted the Honorable Aaron Ford, Attorney General of Nevada (Democrat), and the Honorable Sean Reyes, Attorney General of Utah (Republican). Together they made powerful presentations about combating trafficking in their own states, federally, and abroad. Both Attorneys General (AG) belong to the Attorneys General Alliance, which has 48 state AG members. Two of the main themes both AGs discussed were collaboration and victim and survivor assistance.

AG Ford stressed the point that trafficking undermines the rule of law, enriches criminals and terrorists, and destroys the lives of its victims. The crime is a difficult one to prosecute because victims often don't cooperate with prosecutors for fear of retaliation by the traffickers. Trafficking is a huge problem across the globe and in every state in the U.S. and needs a coordinated and collaborative response, not just of law enforcement agencies, but also from the victim services community. This is why, in Nevada, they have worked to create a victim-centered response to human trafficking, including developing a Victim Witness Advocacy Program, with two advocates, who work with survivors to get them to the multiple levels of resources they need, including crisis intervention, safety, housing, food, clothing, medical assistance, and legal aid.



AG Ford said they are aware that some communities are more vulnerable to trafficking, including LGBTQ individuals, immigrants, and undocumented people. Nevada also has major highways, including I-80, U.S. 50, U.S. 395, and U.S. 95 which run through the state, connecting big cities, like Las Vegas and Reno, and rural areas to big cities, making human trafficking a state-wide problem. For this reason, they have formed a statewide coalition, the Nevada Human Trafficking Coalition (mandated by Bill 145), which consists of interested parties and stakeholders to help identify

victims and assist them with services.

AG Ford also mentioned a regional coalition, HEAT (Human Exploitation and Trafficking) Unit, out of Washoe County, that is comprised of law enforcement personnel throughout the Truckee Meadows with detectives from the Washoe County Sheriff's Office, Reno, Sparks, and University of Nevada -Northern Command Police Departments, and Washoe County School District Police, as well as a Washoe County Sheriff's Office Victim Advocate. HEAT is responsible for investigating human trafficking crimes, providing public awareness and training, and law enforcement personnel training. The mission of the HEAT Unit is to (1) ensure the safety of human trafficking victims; (2) actively pursue, arrest, and imprison those who prey upon Nevada's vulnerable population; and (3) offer resources to victims to help them successfully gain independence from their traffickers through a collaborated effort with community victim service providers.

Nevada also works closely with its federal partners, mainly the Department of Homeland Security, on human trafficking and child exploitation. They collaborate with Homeland Security Investigations and with the Department of Justice Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. In June, AG Ford's office partnered in an undercover operation that resulted in the arrest of 14 child sex predators, including one Federal law enforcement official. The operation included the U.S. Air Force Office of Special Investigations, among many other federal, state, and county partners. AG Ford said that this most recent operation shows the importance of having allies and partners at all levels – federal, state, county, and city law enforcement, as well as service providers, non-governmental organizations, and other advocates, and he will continue to form partnerships to combat human trafficking.

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Though AG Reyes' main work is in Utah, he has visited other states, training AGs and their staff on how to investigate and prosecute human trafficking cases.

Utah redesigned its infrastructure into a single agency that is equipped to address human trafficking holistically. They created a "SECURE Strike Force" where prosecutors and investigators are in the same office. It took a while to change the mindset of law enforcement to this new approach, but it was worth it. This collaboration helped address the fact that vast majority of police officers do their work hoping that prosecutors will take their case, only to be

told that the prosecutor declined the case. They circumvented that problem by having prosecutors and investigators working together from the start, so when the evidence is gathered the prosecution can move forward.

This collaborative victim-centered effort includes:

- Sending investigators out with specific instructions on the evidence they need to gather, not more, not less – in the right way, constitutionally, to resist challenges that might come up
- Training them on the black letter law, so they know what they are investigating
- Using virtual reality simulators in online exploitation cases, to help them understand how to gather evidence in these cases
- Adding a layer of cultural competence and sensitivity
- Drawing on the expertise and resources of dozens of LE agencies.

Utah unites federal, state, county and tribal law enforcement, and service providers to work together in the Utah Human Trafficking Task Force, making sharing information and assisting victims and survivors much easier. Utah also created a network of resources and service providers to empower victims and survivors, making sure that they have sufficient resources to be not just prosecutors but also protectors. AG Reyes also mentioned that they have military members on their Task Force and are invited out to various installations to brief Service members on human trafficking. This helps

create political will for the Commanders and other leadership who participate in the briefings.

AG Reyes related 3 cases which exemplify the work.

In 2014, a father noticed his teenage son acting oddly; he suspected trafficking. The suspected trafficker turned out to be a powerful ringleader in an MS-13 ring who was raping young boys, selling them, and forcing them to be drug trafficking mules. The feds said, “Good luck in bringing him down – he’s been arrested and deported 7 times and he just keeps coming back.” AG Reyes prosecuted him under Utah law. Through building trust with victims, he was able to get dozens of young boys to come forward, and they led the AGs office to potentially hundreds of victimized boys. The trafficker hanged himself, but the trial went forward so the victims could testify. They told how he recruited his victims (giving them money, candy, and taking them to the local video arcades) and how he forced them to do his bidding with psychological terror (he would shoot their pet and tell them their parents and siblings would be next if they ever said anything). This was one of the largest human trafficking cases in the U.S.

In another case, several nurses they had trained on signs and indicators of human trafficking told AG Reyes’ office they suspected trafficking because they were seeing an inordinate number of mothers from the Marshall Islands traveling to Utah to give birth to their babies and then signing them away in the hospital. The AG’s office uncovered the largest illegal adoption black market case in the U.S. Headquartered in Arkansas, it also impacted people living in Arizona and Utah. The perpetrator, who as a lawyer and public elected official, was manipulating new mothers to give up their babies, ostensibly for a year to give them a head start in life and then tricking them into giving them up for good. The adoptive parents did not know about the young Marshall Island mothers. AG Reyes’ office gathered the evidence in cooperation with state and federal authorities. The perpetrator was convicted to many years in Arkansas, and other charges are pending in Arizona and Utah.

The third case occurred in Haiti where, working in cooperation with the federal authorities there, they rescued 14 young girls from a trafficking cartel. Due to corruption in the Haitian legal system, the case went to trial, but the traffickers were not convicted. Then-President Moise issued an edict for their arrest, but no federal agency would carry out the arrest warrant, fearing repercussions from the cartel. One brave Haitian AG said he would execute the warrant, “because America inspires me. I want Haiti to have what you have: rule of law.” He asked, “What good are laws if you don’t enforce them; if everyone doesn’t abide by them?”

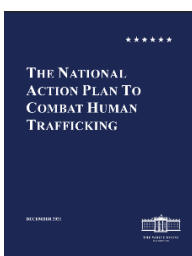
State Attorneys General are making a collaborative and concerted effort to combat TIP and help victims and survivors.



## Interagency Activities

The Department of Labor released the [Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor Report](#). The report focuses on the efforts of certain U.S. trade beneficiary countries and territories to eliminate the worst forms of child labor through legislation, enforcement mechanisms, policies and social programs.

The Human Trafficking Institute’s [2022 Federal Human Trafficking Report](#) provides objective, quantifiable information to guide practitioners as they develop impactful responses to combat human trafficking.



The Senior Policy Operating Group’s Public Awareness and Outreach Committee developed the [comprehensive inventory of federal government anti-trafficking resources](#). The document was developed in response to Priority Action 4.4.1 of the National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking.

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## DoD CTIP Program Office Updates

On October 5, 2023, the CTIP PMO represented the DoD at the Senior Policy Operating Group (SPOG) meeting. The SPOG consists of senior officials designated as representatives of the President's Interagency Task Force. DoD updates included the two new CTIP specialized trainings for DoD Chaplains and DoD Health Care Personnel and the CTIP presentation at Department of Labor West Coast Symposium in conjunction with Loyola University.



For more information,  
visit :  
[ctip.defense.gov](https://ctip.defense.gov)

New Government Accountability Office Engagement 106973 – “Contract Requirements to Combat Trafficking in Persons.” The issues under review are the extent Federal agencies: include relevant CTIP contract clauses, implement monitoring and enforcement activities regarding contractor annual CTIP certification requirements, refer TIP allegations to suspension and debarment offices involving activities on the part of contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements recipients. The Primary Action Office in the DoD is the Acquisition & Sustainment Defense Pricing and Contracting Office, which is reaching out to the Services, Defense Logistics Agency, and Defense Contract Management Agency for information requested by the GAO.

The CTIP PMO held its quarterly CTIP Task Force meeting on October 11, 2023. The CTIP PMO invited two guest speakers for the meeting. Mr. Sean D. Reyes (Attorney General of Utah) and Mr. Aaron Ford (Attorney General of Nevada), to discuss joint efforts of Attorneys General over the years, anti-trafficking efforts of the states that overlap with or are of interest to federal anti-trafficking efforts, especially efforts where there is a DoD nexus, and their own efforts in their state and beyond to combat trafficking in persons.

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**New Course Numbers!** The CTIP PMO updated the course numbers on JKO to the following:

- CTIP-GA-US011 Combating Trafficking in Persons (CTIP) General Awareness
  - CTIP-AP-US012 Combating Trafficking in Persons (CTIP) for Acquisition and Contracting Professionals Course
  - CTIP-IP-US013 Combating Trafficking in Persons (CTIP) for Investigative Professionals
  - CTIP-EA-US014 Combating Trafficking in Persons (CTIP) DoDEA Web-based Training
  - CTIP-LDR-US015 Combating Trafficking in Persons (CTIP) Resource for Leaders
  - CTIP-HC-US016 Micro training: Combating Trafficking in Persons (CTIP) Healthcare and Human Trafficking
  - CTIP-CH-US017 Micro Training: Combating Trafficking in Persons (CTIP) Chaplains Course
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Check out the **CTIP Website!** The [website](#) includes tabs for the CTIP Trainings, the CTIP Student Guide to Preventing Human Trafficking, and Acquisition Resources.

**OUSD(P&R)** recognized our own Marcela Jimenez in their latest newsletter, discussing her accomplishments in updating and promoting the CTIP website, “Marcela's efforts have resulted in a 63% increase in traffic to the CTIP website in just one year.”



**Follow us on social media!** The CTIP PMO is now on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), and [LinkedIn](#)!

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## Upcoming Events

- **The annual CTIP Self-Assessment is due to the CTIP PMO by November 30, 2023.**
- The next CTIP Quarterly Task Force meeting will be January 10, 2024.
- January is National Human Trafficking Prevention Month.
- Check out the [Department of Health and Human Services “Upcoming Events”](#) page for federal partners TIP events. *The page is updated as events are scheduled.*