

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS COUNCIL
2016 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Jillian Gilchrest, MSW
Council Chair**

**SUBMITTED TO THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY
January 11, 2017**

Trafficking in Persons Council Members and Designees

State & Legislative Members

- The Commission on Women, Children, and Seniors, represented by Jillian Gilchrest, Trafficking in Persons Council Chair
- The Chief Public Defender, represented by Deborah Del Prete Sullivan, Legal Counsel
- The Chief State's Attorney, represented by Christopher Alexy, Senior Assistant State's Attorney
- The Child Advocate of Connecticut, represented by Faith VosWinkel, Assistant Child Advocate
- The Commissioner of Children and Families, represented by Tammy Sneed, Director of Gender Responsive Adolescent Services and co-chair of the Human Anti-Trafficking Response Team
- The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, represented by Kimberly Karanda, Director of Statewide Services
- The Commissioner of Public Health, represented by Olinda Morales, Esq., Staff Attorney
- The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, represented by Kelly Kraynak, Lieutenant, Connecticut State Police
- The Judicial Branch, represented by Linda J. Cimino, Director, Office of Victim Services
- The Victim Advocate of Connecticut, represented by Hakima Bey-Coon, Staff Attorney
- The Commissioner of the Department of Labor, or their designee
- The Commissioner of the Department of Consumer Protection, or their designee
- The Commissioner of the Department of Social Services, or their designee

Public Members

- Andrew Anastasio, Jr., Chairman, Motor Transport Association of Connecticut, Inc.
- Mario Thomas Gaboury, Acting Dean and Professor, Henry C. Lee College of Criminal Justice & Forensic Sciences, University of New Haven
- Debra Greenwood, President & CEO, The Center for Family Justice, Inc.
- Bethany Hamilton, Associate Director, Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence
- Kara Hart, Esq., Staff Attorney, Greater Hartford Legal Aid
- Wendy Moto Kasongo, Director of Cultural Diversity & Accessibility, Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- Alicia R. Kinsman, Esq., Director and Managing Attorney of Immigration Legal Services, and Leonela Cruz-Ahuatl, Program Manager for Project Rescue, International Institute of Connecticut
- Joanne Peterson, Captain, Basic Training Division, Police Officer Standards and Training Council
- Beau Thurnauer, Deputy Chief, East Hartford Police Department, representing the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association
- Erin Williamson, Survivor Care Program Director, Love 146

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS COUNCIL

The Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Council is chaired and convened by the Commission on Women, Children, and Seniors pursuant to *C.G.S 46a-170* and consists of members from a diversity of backgrounds, including representatives from State agencies, the Judicial Branch, law enforcement, motor transport and community-based organizations that work with victims of sexual and domestic violence, immigrants, and refugees, and address behavioral health needs, social justice, and human rights. The TIP Council consults with government and non-governmental organizations (both state and federal) to develop recommendations to strengthen State and local efforts to prevent trafficking, protect and assist victims, prosecute traffickers, and provide updates and progress reports on trafficking in Connecticut. The TIP Council reports annually to the Connecticut General Assembly.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN CONNECTICUT

In Connecticut, a person is guilty of trafficking in persons when such person compels or induces another person to engage in sexual contact or provide labor or services by means of force, threat of force, fraud or coercion. Anyone under the age of 18 engaged in commercial sexual exploitation is deemed a victim of domestic minor sex trafficking irrespective of the use of force, threat of force, fraud or coercion. For many people, sex and labor trafficking bring visions of foreign places and people, but this idea is false. In reality, sex and labor trafficking are happening in the state, to Connecticut residents.

2016 HIGHLIGHTS OF TIP COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Task Force Presentations

The TIP Council met five times during 2016, in January, March, September, November and December. The Council discussed a variety of topics related to sex and labor trafficking. Some of the topics discussed by Council members at 2016 Council Meetings include:

- Hotel/Motel Room Rental Hourly Rates
- Domestic Workers
- Nail Salons
- Massage Parlors
- Connecticut Lodging Association
- Connecticut Sentencing Commission
- Hotel/Motel Human Trafficking Trainings
- Police/Prosecutor Report-Back Tool
- End Demand Campaign
- Human Trafficking Awareness Month
- Policy Recommendations

Roundtable: Why No Convictions?

In March of 2016, the TIP Council hosted a Joint Informational Forum with the Judiciary, Public Safety & Security, and Children's Committees at the Connecticut General Assembly to understand why no convictions occurred for *Sec. 53a-192a*, Trafficking in persons, since the felony charge was enacted in 2006. The Roundtable brought together federal and state officials, including U.S. Attorney for the State of Connecticut, Deirdre Daily, Chief State's Attorney Kevin Kane, Department of Children and Families



Commissioner Joette Katz, and organizations working with trafficking survivors, to discuss what policy or legislative changes were needed to remove current barriers to prosecution in these cases.

One major barrier identified during the Roundtable discussion was the definition of trafficking in persons in Connecticut state statute as requiring more than one occurrence of sexual contact to take place. Law enforcement specialists explained that if they knew a woman or child was being sexually exploited, they would not wait for a second occurrence to take place before making an arrest. This discussion led lawmakers to amend 2016 legislation and remove the requirement that more than one occurrence must take place.

Since convening the Roundtable discussion, there have been two convictions for trafficking in persons in the state of Connecticut. The TIP Council recognizes the many professionals who are working together to hold offenders accountable and prosecute individuals who commit trafficking in persons.

2016 Legislative Results

The TIP Council worked collaboratively with various state agencies, organizations, and lawmakers on comprehensive anti-trafficking legislation. Connecticut's legislation has been recognized as a national model, as Connecticut was the first state in the country to require all hotel and motel owners to train employees on trafficking in persons.

Public Act 16-71, An Act Concerning Human Trafficking

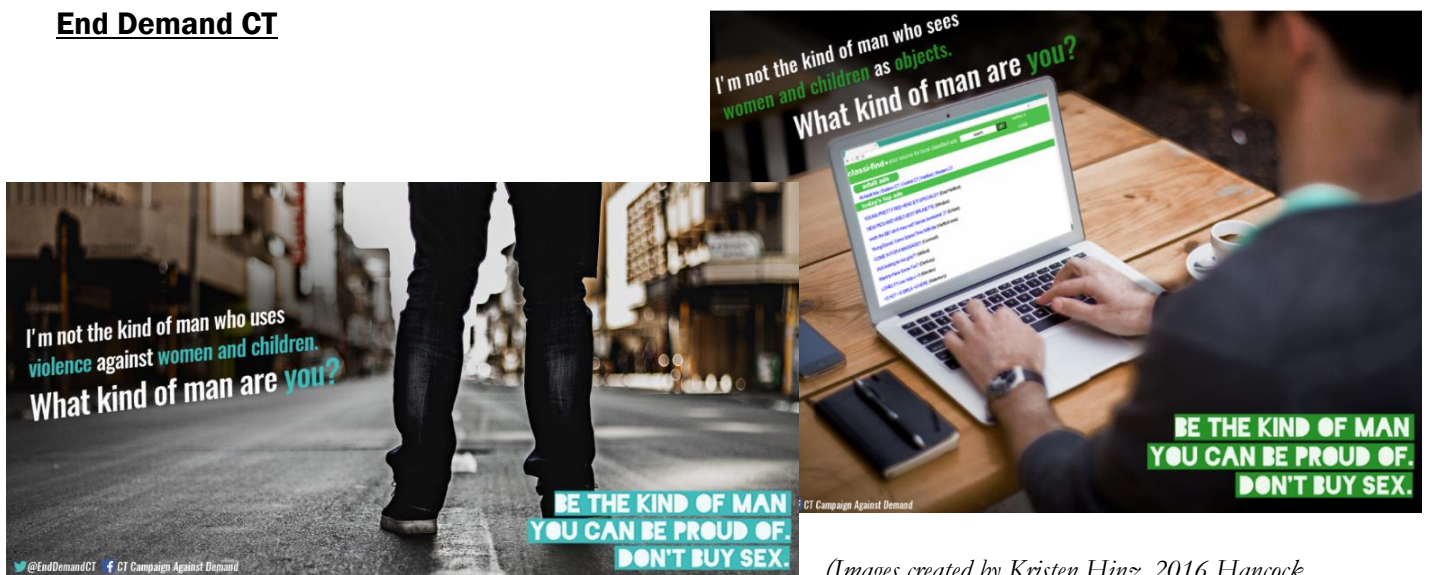
- Expand the membership of the Trafficking in Persons Council to include the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, or the commissioner's designee, and the Director of the Basic Training Division of the Police Officer Standards and Training Council, or the director's designee. The Council's mandate was expanded to include coordination of data regarding human trafficking;
- Require each state's attorney and each municipal chief of police to report to the Connecticut General Assembly on involvement with human trafficking investigations and anti-trafficking efforts;
- Require each hotel, motel, inn or similar lodging to maintain a record-keeping system of all guest transactions;
- Require each hotel, motel, inn or similar lodging to ensure that each employee receive training at the time of hire on human trafficking;

- Increase the age at which a person can be found guilty of prostitution and enticing a minor to the age of 18;
- Strengthen *Sec. 53a-83*, Patronizing a Prostitute, to ensure that those patronizing such other person who has not attained age 18 or is a victim of trafficking will be charged with a felony;
- Include mandatory financial penalties for patronizing a prostitute, promoting prostitution, and permitting prostitution;
- Require all highway service plaza, hotel, motel, inn or similar lodging, adult-only business, and establishments with alcohol liquor permits to post signage on human trafficking;
- Remove prostitution and include patronizing a prostitute in *Sec. 54-36p*, Connecticut’s forfeiture of property statute;
- Strengthen *Sec. 53a-192a*, Trafficking in Persons by removing the requirement that more than one occurrence of sexual contact occur;
- Expand *Sec. 54-95c*, Connecticut’s erasure of records statute to include trafficking-related crimes.

Public Act 16-66, An Act Concerning Various Revisions to the Public Health Statutes

- Establish a working group to consider matters relating to nail salons and the provision of services by nail technicians;
- Submit a report of Working Group findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health, in accordance with the provisions of *Sec. 11-4a* of the general statutes by January 1, 2017.

End Demand CT



(Images created by Kristen Hinz, 2016 Hancock Student Leadership Program, Western Connecticut State University)

The TIP Council has initiated a Connecticut Campaign Against Demand that officially launches in 2017. The sex trafficking of Connecticut’s women, men, and children is driven by demand for the commercial sex acts they perform. Put simply, without “buyers” to purchase sex there would be no sex-for-pay industry. Who are these “buyers”? What do we know about the individuals in Connecticut who pay to sexually abuse children and exploited adults?

In 2013, the state of Connecticut amended *Sec. 53a-83*, Patronizing a prostitute, to explicitly target individuals who pay to sexually abuse children and exploited adults, increasing the penalty to a Class C felony. Since then, however, no arrests or convictions have occurred for that charge. During that same time period, the Department of Children and Families received 456 referrals for children at high risk of domestic minor sex trafficking. This means that each child had at least one individual offer him or her money or goods in exchange for sex. Utilizing a very conservative estimate, if each of these children was sexually exploited by one buyer each day for half a year (182 days), this would amount to more than 80,000 buyers.

Where are these buyers? Are they being arrested? If so, for what charges? If not, why? Connecticut lawmakers, state agencies, and advocates need to work together to better understand the demand side of sex trafficking in order to effectively prevent this crime from happening. This begins with creating awareness, since more often than not, those buying sex are left out of conversations about human trafficking. With the use of social media, traditional media, and advertising, the TIP Council hopes to raise public awareness about the individuals in our state who choose to pay to sexually abuse children and exploited adults.

The TIP Council Campaign Against Demand seeks to:

1. Raise public awareness;
2. Engage local and state leaders in anti-demand efforts;
3. Support law enforcement in anti-demand initiatives; and
4. Improve public policy aimed at curbing demand.

CONNECTICUT-BASED NEEDS ASSESSMENT

In March of 2016 after conducting a competitive request for proposal (RFP) process, the TIP Council selected the University of Connecticut School of Social Work (UCONN SW) to conduct a statewide needs assessment. Unfortunately, because of budget cuts during the 2016 Legislative Session, the TIP Council was unable to fund the Needs Assessment project. The TIP Council is working to secure private dollars to work with UCONN SW in 2017. The Michael Bolton Charities has committed \$5,000 toward the completion of this project.

Despite best efforts and owing to the underground nature of the crime, the TIP Council still doesn't fully understand the impact and scope of human trafficking in Connecticut and many undetected victims continue to go unserved. By collecting data, through surveys and focus groups, we can determine what labor and sex trafficking looks like across Connecticut and begin to create a roadmap to effectively address and prevent human trafficking.

The TIP Council, with technical assistance from the Laboratory to Combat Human Trafficking (LCHI), will embark on an initiative that will develop sustainable efforts to end human trafficking with the essential input of those working in the field. By utilizing the structure established by the United States Department of State's "4P" paradigm—prevention, protection, prosecution, and partnership—the TIP Council will embark on a statewide needs assessment on sex and labor trafficking in Connecticut, the results of which will inform a coordinated response to trafficking in

persons that is community-led and can serve as a bridge among geographic areas of Connecticut, among sectors, and among anti-trafficking groups.

Every community in Connecticut is unique—from cities, to casinos, to rural communities, and so each has particular resources, industries and community dynamics. These characteristics are essential to an understanding of how trafficking manifests differently and will be the principle guiding force behind organizing a community-based human anti-trafficking response around the 4 P's. This project will allow the TIP Council to build on Connecticut's strengths in a data-informed manner as a community, more comprehensively and more collaboratively.

TIP Council Recommendations for 2016

In 2016, fulfilling the requirement established in *Public Act 13-166*, AAC Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking in Persons, the Trafficking in Persons Council is pleased to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature.

The TIP Council recommendations are based on the work of the Council, the work of individual Council members, and Council presentations. At the TIP Council meeting on December 15, 2016 those members in attendance discussed each proposed recommendation and voted to approve the recommendations. Following that meeting, the TIP Council Chair sent an email to all Council members to solicit additional Council feedback and votes. All Council members had an opportunity to vote on the Council recommendations.

The Council recommendations are presented in two categories: Policy Concept Recommendations and Recommendations for Further Research and Discussion. Any Council member not in favor of a Council recommendation is listed in opposition to that proposal by name and the agency he or she represents.

Policy Concept Recommendations:

1. Recommend revising the membership in *Sec. 46a-170*, Trafficking in Persons Council, to include the Department of Education;
2. Recommend that the Connecticut Sentencing Commission, Special Committee on Sex Offender, Subcommittee on Sex Offender Sentencing consider whether to include *53a-192a*, Trafficking in persons and *53a-83(c)*, Patronizing a prostitute when such other person is under the age of 18, to the Registration of Sex Offender statutes; and
3. Recommend revising the definition of “employees” covered by state minimum wage and overtime laws to include those employed in domestic service in or about a private home, the traveling sales crews industry, and agriculture workers.

Further Research & Discussion:

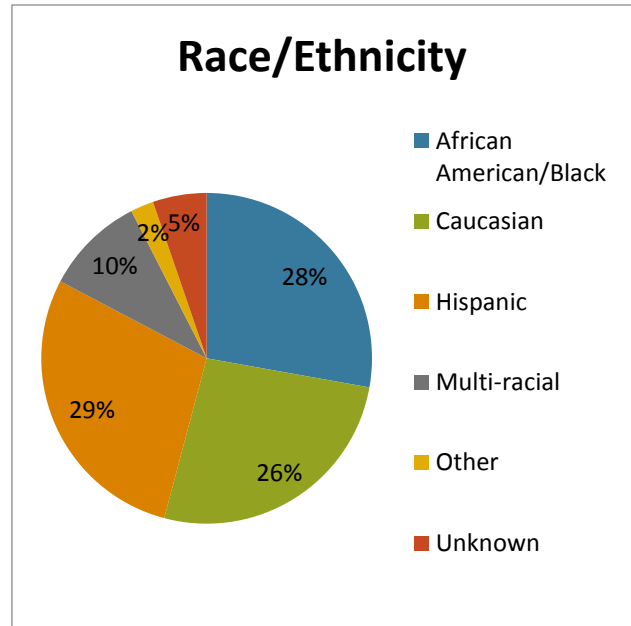
1. Recommend further discussion on using fines collected for being found guilty of *53a-83*, *53a-83(c)*, *53a-83a*, *53a-86*, *53a-87*, *53a-88*, and *53a-89* for the establishment of grants and/or funds to support trafficking victim services and/or law enforcement efforts;

2. Recommend further discussion on requiring training on human trafficking to various professionals including, state and municipal police, judges, prosecutors, the “defense bar”, medical providers, and educators;
3. Recommend further discussion on the implications of repealing *Sec. 53a-86*, Promoting prostitution in the first degree;
4. Recommend further discussion on revising *Sec. 53a-192a*, Trafficking in persons, to include recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act and increasing penalties to recognize the severity of the crime;
(*Office of Chief Public Defender opposes; Department of Public Health abstains*)
5. Recommend further discussion on increasing the penalty for *Sec. 53a-83(c)*, patronizing a prostitute under the age of 18, to align with similar sexual crimes against children;
(*Office of Chief Public Defender opposes*)
6. Recommend further discussion on repealing, *Sec. 53a-83a*, Patronizing a prostitute from a motor vehicle: Class A misdemeanor; expanding *Sec. 53a-83*, Patronizing a prostitute, to include patronizing from a motor vehicle and from the internet or social media, and the impact of recent changes to Sec 54-36p on the seizure of an automobile used in the commission of *Sec. 53a-83*;
7. Recommend further discussion with the Connecticut Sentencing Commission on the feasibility of a pre-trial diversionary program for persons charged with prostitution;
8. Recommend further discussion and inquiry on the status of a working group to consider matters relating to nail salons and the provision of services by nail technicians established under *P.A. 16-66, Sec. 44*;
9. Recommend further discussion and inquiry on why there have not been any convictions under *Sec. 53a-83(c)*, Patronizing a prostitute under the age of 18, effective 2013;
10. Recommend further discussion on elementary, middle, and high school personnel’s responsibility to file Family with Service Needs (FWSN) reports for chronic absenteeism in order to protect victims of domestic minor sex trafficking;
11. Recommend further discussion on cross-municipality police information sharing for chronic runaways; and
12. Recommend the TIP Council creates an inventory of Connecticut statutes that have been enacted to address human trafficking, their status, and their effectiveness to date.

2016 COUNCIL MEMBER ACTIVITIES

Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF):

At over 100 members strong, the DCF Human Anti-trafficking Response Team (HART) comprises multi-department, multiagency partners, various levels of law enforcement, the provider community, faith-based network, among others. The state's system of Multidisciplinary Teams now review DMST cases ensuring the child and family has the most efficient and responsive approach during their most difficult times. In 2015, DCF received 133 referrals of youth who were at risk or confirmed victims of human trafficking. As of September 2016, DCF has received 151 referrals of youth who were at risk or confirmed victims of human trafficking.



The Office of Victim Services (OVS):

OVS has contracted with the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence to provide shelter and services on a temporary basis, basic needs such as clothing and prescriptions, and assistance with permanent living arrangements for victims of human trafficking. OVS contracted with the International Institute of Connecticut to conduct regional community-based trainings through June 30, 2016. Effective July 1, 2016, OVS contracted with The MILLA Project to conduct community-based trainings.

The State Legislature allocated \$8,344 in 2016 to OVS to provide housing and training. For 2016, OVS reimbursed for the following services and training:

Number of victims housed: 2

Number of trainings: 2

Number of participants in trainings: 31

Funds spent for housing: \$346.18

Funds spent for trainings: \$220.48

International Institute of Connecticut, Inc. (IICConn):

Project Rescue, the Anti-Human Trafficking Program at IICConn, serves survivors of human trafficking and raises awareness about the issue of trafficking in persons within the state of Connecticut. In cooperation with the U.S. Attorney's Office and law enforcement, Project Rescue was established in 2006 to serve trafficking victims through comprehensive case management, advocacy, immigration legal aid, and referrals to community service providers. In addition, Project Rescue provides statewide training to service providers and law enforcement on victim identification and outreach to increase public awareness of human trafficking.

Presently, IICONN is the only service provider in the state that provides comprehensive case management services to all trafficking victims, including women, men, adults, children, foreign born and nationals. IICONN's collaboration with law enforcement entities such as Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the FBI, state and local law enforcement have been crucial to Connecticut's battle against human trafficking. Since 2006, Project Rescue has had a significant increase in referrals, identified victims and requests for trainings. Our work and efforts are primarily supported by the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) through the Department of Justice and the Trafficking Victim's Assistance Program (TVAP) through the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants.

With the new OVC funding, IICONN will:

- 1) Build its current state-wide delivery response by strengthening collaboration with local, state and federal law enforcement, local agencies, service providers and nonprofit organizations;
- 2) Improve identification of all victims through training and outreach to potential community partners; and
- 3) Co-chair and convene the Connecticut Coalition Against Trafficking with the goal of strengthening the work of the coalition as a whole.

IICONN had the following results in 2016:

Number of people screened: 120

Number of victims served: 46

Number of trainings: 19

Training locations: Norwich, Bridgeport, Middlesex, New Haven, Fairfield, Wilton, Cheshire, Hartford, New York

Love 146

Love146 provides prevention and survivor care services across the state of Connecticut. This year, due to generous funding from the Office of Victim Services (OVS), which is part of the Judicial Branch, the Department of Children and Families (DCF), and private individuals and foundations, Love146 provided the following services:

Long-Term Services: 41 youth

Rapid Responses: 101 youth

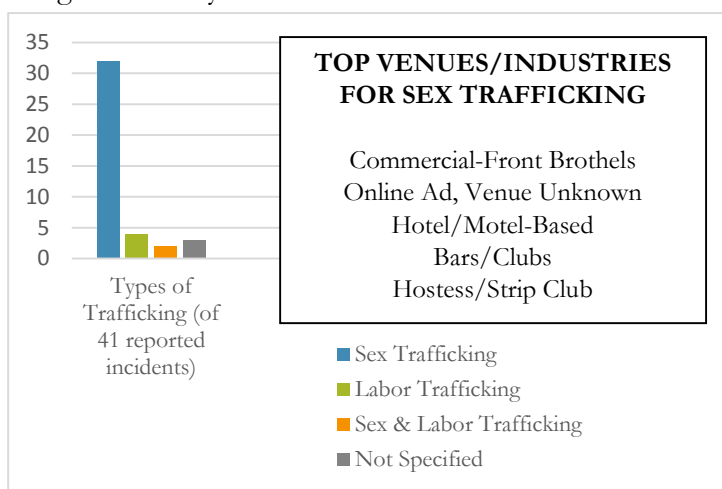
* Rapid Responses are one-time interventions that provide youth with information, safety planning, and referral services related to human trafficking in a one-on-one setting.

Love146 also trained 36 professionals to implement Not a #Number, Love146's prevention education curricula.

Connecticut Specific Data

National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) Connecticut Data:

The NHTRC is a national, anti-trafficking hotline and resource center serving victims and survivors of human trafficking and the anti-trafficking community in the United States. The toll-free hotline, 1-888-373-7888, is answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Callers can speak with a hotline operator in English or Spanish, or in more than 200 additional languages using a 24-hour tele-interpreting service. The NHTRC is operated by Polaris, a leader in the global fight to eradicate modern slavery.

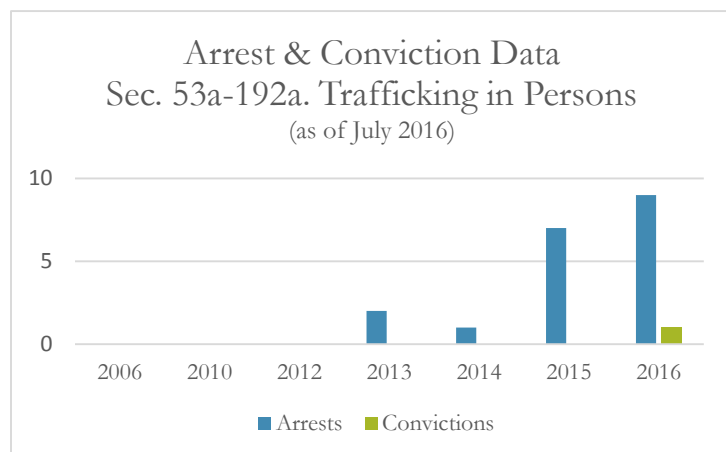


The NHTRC works closely with service providers, law enforcement, and other professionals in

Connecticut to serve victims and survivors of trafficking, respond to human trafficking cases, and share information and resources. Since 2007, the NHTRC has received more than 765 calls to their hotline that reference Connecticut. From January to September 2016, the NHTRC has received 145 calls from Connecticut and a total of 41 unique cases (incidents) of potential human trafficking. This is a more than 40% increase from 2015.

State of Connecticut Judicial Branch:

The State of Connecticut Judicial Branch maintains arrest and conviction data for crimes related to trafficking in persons and commercial sexual exploitation.



Sec. 53a-192a. Trafficking in

persons: Class B felony. (a) A person

is guilty of trafficking in persons when such person compels or induces another person to engage in conduct involving more than one occurrence of sexual contact with one or more third persons, or provide labor or services that such person has a legal right to refrain from providing, by means of (1) the use of force against such other person or a third person, or by the threat of use of force against such other

person or a third person, (2) fraud, or (3) coercion, as provided in Sec. 53a-192. For the purposes of this subsection, “sexual contact” means any contact with the intimate parts of another person.

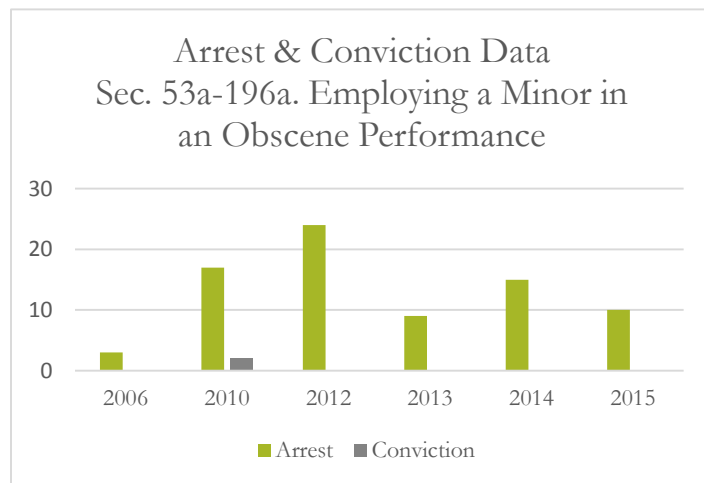
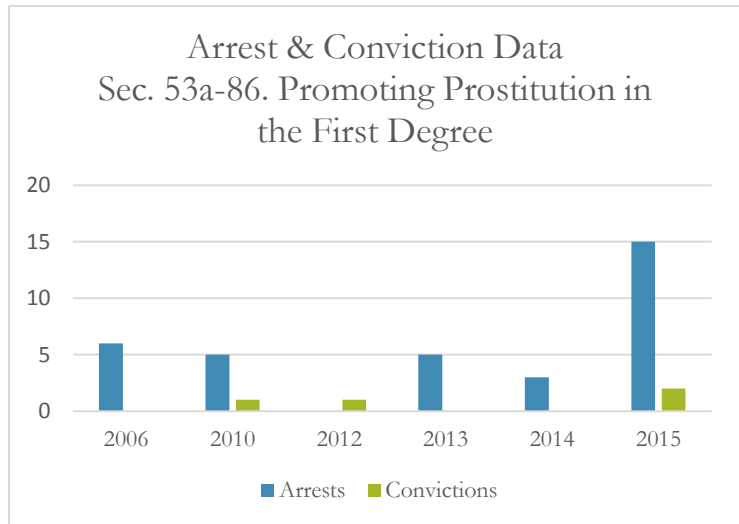
(b) Trafficking in persons is a class B felony.

Sec. 53a-86. Promoting prostitution in the first degree: Class B felony.

(a) A person is guilty of promoting prostitution in the first degree when he knowingly: (1) Advances prostitution by compelling a person by force or intimidation to engage in prostitution, or profits from coercive conduct by another; or (2) advances or profits from prostitution of a person less than eighteen years old.

(b) Promoting prostitution in the first degree is a class B felony. Any person found guilty under subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section shall be

sentenced to a term of imprisonment of which nine months of the sentence imposed may not be suspended or reduced by the court.



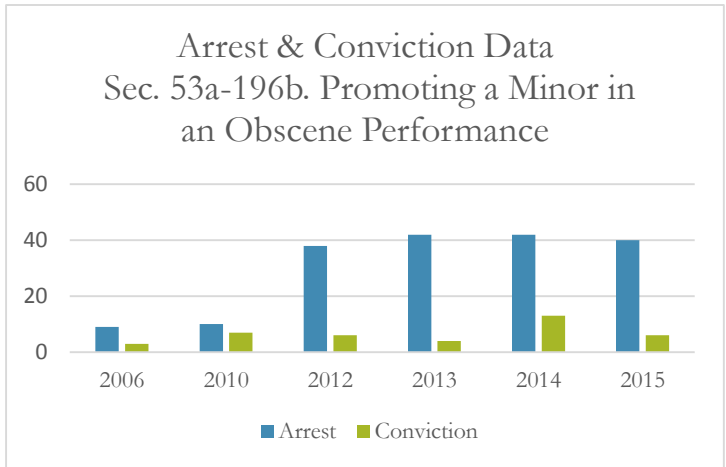
Sec. 53a-196a. Employing a minor in an obscene performance: Class A felony.

(a) A person is guilty of employing a minor in an obscene performance when such person (1) employs any minor, whether or not such minor receives any consideration, for the purpose of promoting any material or performance which is obscene as to minors, notwithstanding that such material or performance is intended for an adult audience, or (2) permits any such minor to be employed, whether or not

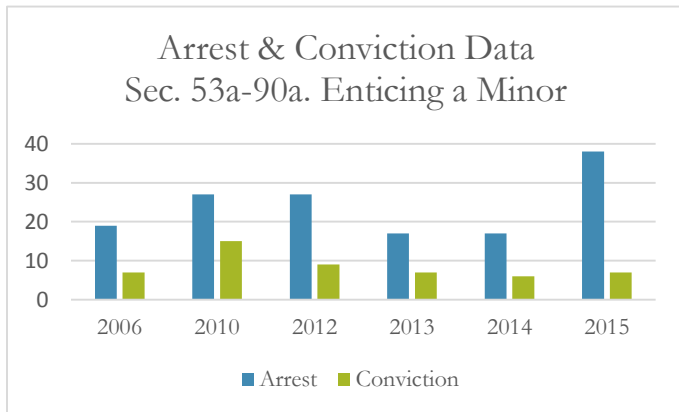
such minor receives any consideration, in the promotion of any material or performance which is obscene as to minors, notwithstanding that such material or performance is intended for an adult audience, and such person is the parent or guardian of such minor or otherwise responsible for the general supervision of such minor's welfare.

(b) Employing a minor in an obscene performance is a class A felony and any person found guilty under this section shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of which ten years of the sentence imposed may not be suspended or reduced by the court.

Sec. 53a-196b. Promoting a minor in an obscene performance: Class B felony. (a) A person is guilty of promoting a minor in an obscene performance when he knowingly promotes any material or performance in which a minor is employed, whether or not such minor receives any consideration, and such material or performance is obscene as to minors notwithstanding that such material or performance is intended for an adult audience. (b) For purposes of this section, “knowingly” means having general knowledge of or reason to know or a belief or ground for belief which warrants further inspection or inquiry as to (1) the character and content of any material or performance which is reasonably susceptible of examination by such person and (2) the age of the minor employed.



(c) Promoting a minor in an obscene performance is a class B felony.



Sec. 53a-90a. Enticing a minor.

Penalties. (a) A person is guilty of enticing a minor when such person uses an interactive computer service to knowingly persuade, induce, entice or coerce any person under sixteen years of age to engage in prostitution or sexual activity for which the actor may be charged with a criminal offense. For purposes of this section, “interactive computer service” means any information service, system or access software provider that provides or enables

computer access by multiple users to a computer server, including specifically a service or system that provides access to the Internet and such systems operated or services offered by libraries or educational institutions.

(b) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, enticing a minor is a class D felony for a first offense, a class C felony for a second offense and a class B felony for any subsequent offense.

(2) Enticing a minor is a class B felony if the victim of the offense is under thirteen years of age and any person found guilty of such class B felony shall, for a first offense, be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of which five years of the sentence imposed may not be suspended or reduced by the court and, for any subsequent offense, be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of which ten years of the sentence imposed may not be suspended or reduced by the court.

Sec. 53a-90b. Misrepresentation of age to entice a minor: Class C felony. (a) A person is guilty of misrepresentation of age to entice a minor when such person, in the course of and in furtherance of the commission of a violation of section 53a-90a, intentionally misrepresents such person's age.

