

# PROTECTED INNOCENCE CHALLENGE

STATE ACTION. NATIONAL CHANGE.

## Issue Brief

### SECTION 6.1

<b>Area of Law</b>	Criminal Justice Tools for Investigation and Prosecution
<b>The Policy Point</b>	Training on human trafficking and domestic minor sex trafficking for law enforcement is statutorily mandated.
<b>The Legislative Solution</b>	Law enforcement officers are very often the first responders in a domestic minor sex trafficking situation. Providing them with the awareness, skills and tools necessary to respond appropriately and effectively is critically important. Given limited time and competing priorities, mandatory training on issues of domestic minor sex trafficking will result in an increase in enforcement and successful prosecutions. Training will also lead to implementing protocols across the law enforcement community to enhance officers' ability to detect a trafficking situation and to work effectively with trafficking victims. The objectives of many anti-trafficking task forces include working collaboratively to identify victims, convict traffickers, and implement unique agency policies and procedures for victims of sex trafficking given limited community resources.

#### Select Statute Highlights

Few states mandate training specifically on domestic minor sex trafficking. The following are examples of state laws that mandate law enforcement training on human trafficking.

##### Georgia

Ga. Code Ann. § 35-1-16(a) (Training law enforcement officers investigating crimes involving trafficking persons for labor or sexual servitude) mandates the Georgia police officer training council to establish procedures, training materials and information in "(1) Methods for identifying, combating, and reporting incidents where a person has been trafficked for labor or sexual servitude, as such terms are defined in Code Section 16-5-46 [Trafficking of persons for labor or sexual servitude]; (2) Methods for providing proper detention facilities or alternatives to detention facilities for persons who have been trafficked for labor or sexual servitude . . . including providing information on therapeutic facilities for such persons; and(3) Methods for assisting persons who have been trafficked for labor or sexual servitude . . . including providing information on social service organizations available to assist such person.

##### Florida

Fla. Stat. § 787.06(5) (Human Trafficking) requires "[e]ach state attorney to develop standards of instruction for prosecutors to receive training on the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking crimes and to provide for periodic and timely instruction." Also, "[a]fter January 1, 2007, every basic skills course required for law enforcement officers to obtain

initial certification must include training on human trafficking crime prevention and investigation." Fla. Stat. Ann. § 787.06(5).

##### Indiana

Ind. Code Ann. § 5-2-1-9(a)(10) requires the Indiana Law Enforcement Training Board to provide "[m]inimum standards for a course of study on human and sexual trafficking that must be required for each person accepted for training at a law enforcement training school or academy and for in-service training programs for law enforcement officers. The course must cover the following topics: (A) Examination of the human and sexual trafficking laws (IC 35-42-3.5), (B) Identification of human and sexual trafficking, (C) Communicating with traumatized persons, (D) Therapeutically appropriate investigative techniques, (E) Collaboration with federal law enforcement officials, (F) Rights of and protections afforded to victims, (G) Providing documentation that satisfies the Declaration of Law Enforcement Officer for Victim of Trafficking in Persons (Form I-914, Supplement B) requirements established under federal law [and] (H) The availability of community resources to assist human and sexual trafficking victims."

##### Texas

Texas Code § 402.035(d)(5),(7) states the Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force shall "work with the Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education to develop and conduct training for law enforcement personnel, victim service providers, and medical service providers to identify victims of human trafficking;" and "examine training protocols related to human trafficking issues, as developed and implemented by federal, state and local law enforcement agencies."