

# LOS ALAMITOS POLICE DEPARTMENT



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Honorable Thomas J. Borris  
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court  
700 Civic Center Drive West  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Honorable Judge Borris:

I have received and reviewed the 2011-2012 Orange County Grand Jury Report, "Sex Trafficking of Girls." The following is the Los Alamitos Police Department's responses to the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations:

Regarding F1- *The Human Trafficking Task Force (HTTF) recognized that more law enforcement training is needed in sex trafficking. The Los Alamitos Police Department agrees with this finding.*

Regarding F3 - *Child victims of sex trafficking are often misidentified. Due to the lack of proper identification of the child's age, law enforcement agencies may be unable to charge the trafficker/pimp with child related sex trafficking violations. The Los Alamitos Police Department agrees with this finding.*

Regarding F4 - *Trafficked minors often flee non-secure shelters. Law enforcement and prosecutors may request detention of a child to protect them from repeated exploitation by pimps. The Los Alamitos Police Department agrees with this finding.*

Regarding F5 - *Penal Code §1275.1 allows the courts to set conditions on bail, including presenting probable cause that the bail money (or the security for the bond) was illegally obtained. This provision allows law enforcement and the courts to hold the perpetrators, which may keep them from intimidating and victimizing young girls once released. The Los Alamitos Police Department agrees with this finding.*

Regarding F7 - *Currently no database is available to law enforcement agencies to check and identify victims of sex trafficking. The Los Alamitos Police Department agrees with this finding.*

Regarding R1 – *Police and Sheriff Departments should provide additional training for officers to clarify law enforcement's understanding and awareness of minor sex trafficking of girls. This recommendation has*

been implemented by the Los Alamitos Police Department. The OC Human Trafficking Task Force has provided briefing training and field resources to our officers. Officers have received POST training “Response to Human Trafficking.”

IACP has a course and field guide for “The Crime of Human Trafficking: A Law Enforcement Guide to Identification and Investigation” which can be implemented within the next quarter.

Regarding R2 – *The Sheriff’s Department, city police departments and responsible Orange County agencies should develop a data base using a single term such as “Minor Sex Trafficking” to allow the trafficked victims to be systematically tracked with the result of a proper identification and status as a victim of crime. A consistent label for the crime would allow multiple agencies, communities and regions to research and intervene in a single coordinated effort. This recommendation will not be implemented by the Los Alamitos Police Department because it is not reasonable due to the insufficient volume of these types of incidents. Furthermore, we do not have the resources to develop a proprietary database; however, we would be in favor of cooperating with a countywide effort.*

Regarding R3 – *Law enforcement agencies and district attorneys should consider using the provisions of California Penal Code §1275.1 more frequently if they have cause to believe that the source of bail money for a ‘pimp’ or ‘john’ was illegally obtained. This recommendation has been implemented by the Los Alamitos Police Department. Personnel are aware of the provisions of California Penal Code 1275.1 and will consider its use when applicable.*

Sincerely,



Todd Mattern  
Chief of Police  
Los Alamitos Police Department