

# MN BUREAU OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION PREDATORY CRIMES SECTION

Assistant Special Agent in Charge  
Bobbi Jo Pazdernik





MINNESOTA  
**ICAC**  
INTERNET • CRIMES • AGAINST • CHILDREN  
**TASK FORCE**

### Mission Statement:

The mission of the Minnesota Human Trafficking Investigators Task Force is to provide coordinated and collaborative statewide assistance with human trafficking investigations, prosecutions, victim recoveries and trainings through a victim centered approach.



- Minnesota  
**BCA**  
Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

# TRUST

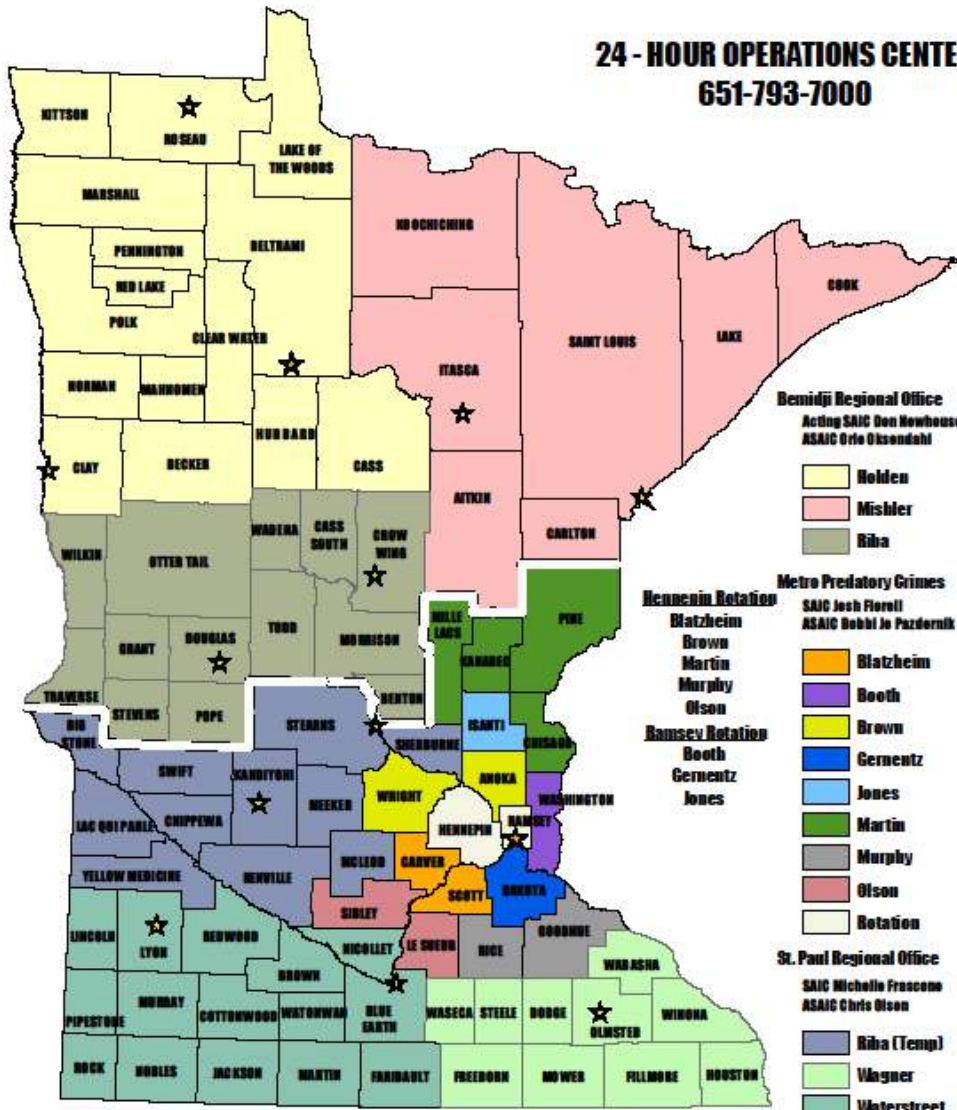


- Investigator Brian Pottratz
  - Deputy Commander of TRUST



# MN BCA PREDATORY CRIMES INVESTIGATORS

24 - HOUR OPERATIONS CENTER  
651-793-7000



**Benidji Regional Office**  
Acting SAIC Don Newhouse  
ASAIC Orlo Oksandahl

- Holden
- Mishler
- Riba

**Metro Predatory Crimes**  
SAIC Josh Florell  
ASAIC Bobbi Jo Padernek

- Blatheim
- Booth
- Brown
- Gernutz
- Martin
- Murphy
- Olson
- Rotation

**St. Paul Regional Office**  
SAIC Michelle Frascone  
ASAIC Chris Olson

- Riba (Temp)
- Wagner
- Waterstreet

- ★ Field Offices
- ★ Regional Offices

## PREDATORY CRIMES SECTION

- PCS = 14 Agents
- ICAC
- HT
- Non-Compliant Predatory Offenders
- MNHITF = 1 SSA and 9 TFO's

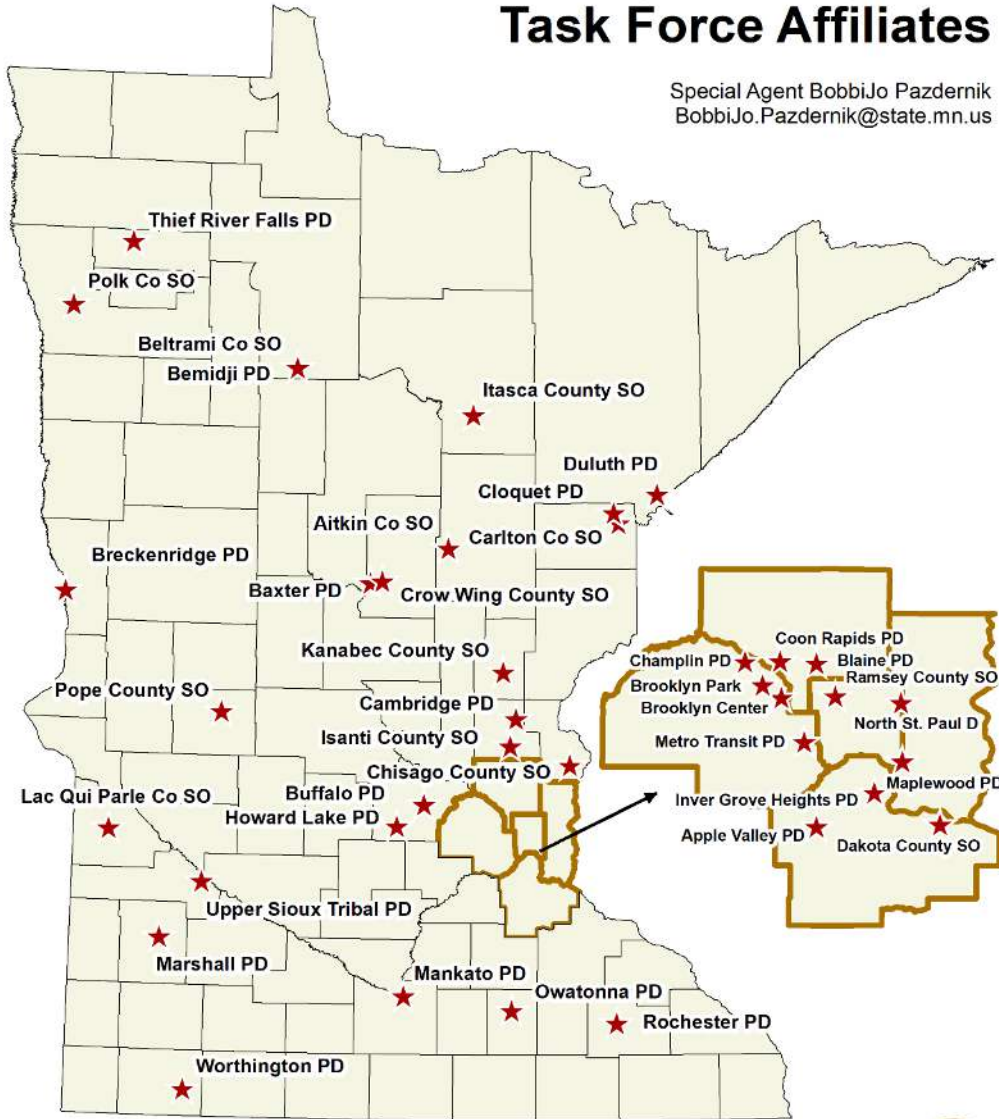
# MNHITF STRUCTURE

- Full-time members report to BCA daily
- One case management system
  - State-wide system
- One De-confliction system
- Commander to approve operations plans/reports
- State-wide jurisdiction/coverage
  - Assignment to each Safe Harbor Regional Navigator
- MNHITF has same access to BCA resources



# MN Human Trafficking Investigators Task Force Affiliates

Special Agent BobbiJo Pazdernik  
BobbiJo.Pazdernik@state.mn.us



# MNHITF COMMITTED MEETINGS AND TRAINING

- Weekly meetings
- Monthly Intelligence share with 4 TF's and Affiliates
- Quarterly meetings
  - Statewide intelligence sharing
  - Training topics – Spotlight, Truckers Against Trafficking, Visa's
  - Teleconference capabilities – Web X
- Annual Conferences –



# TRUCKER'S AGAINST TRAFFICKING





# FREEDOM DRIVERS PROJECT

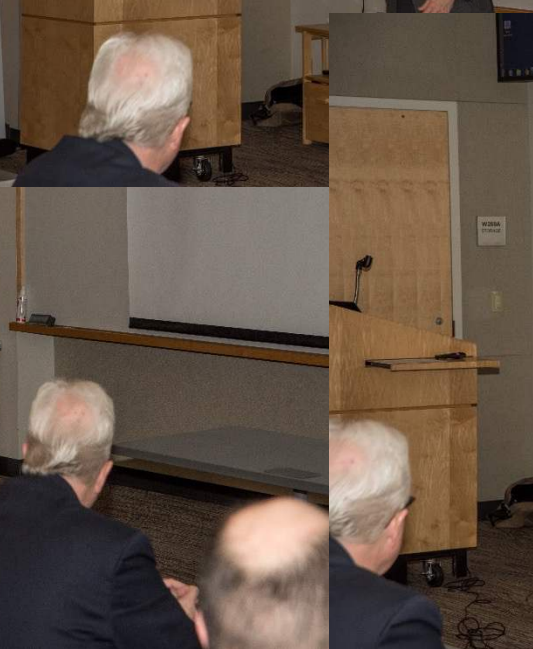
FREEDOM DRIVERS



DIAMOND SPONSOR  
ups



# BRING LAW ENFORCEMENT AND TRUCKING/BUSING INDUSTRY TOGETHER



# OUTREACH WORKS



## TAT IN ACTION



On July 24, 2018, TAT trained, professional team drivers for Western Distribution, Chris and David, were parked at a truck stop in Bemidji, Minnesota when they observed a fortyish-year-old man exit his truck with a teenage girl. They observed the man touching her backside and rubbing on her in a way that did not seem right with the obvious age difference. David followed them into the truck stop, where he observed the younger female as being withdrawn, scared and rather malnourished. Upon reporting the incident to the hotline, Chris left his name and telephone number so law enforcement could call him back, if needed. This turned out to be imperative to the case, as Chris provided critical information which enabled law enforcement to track down the driver at a later date/location and his passenger, who turned out to be an 18-year-old, mentally disabled, missing person out of Georgia.

*\* Names, locations, and other identifying information have been changed and/or omitted to preserve the confidentiality of the people we serve.*



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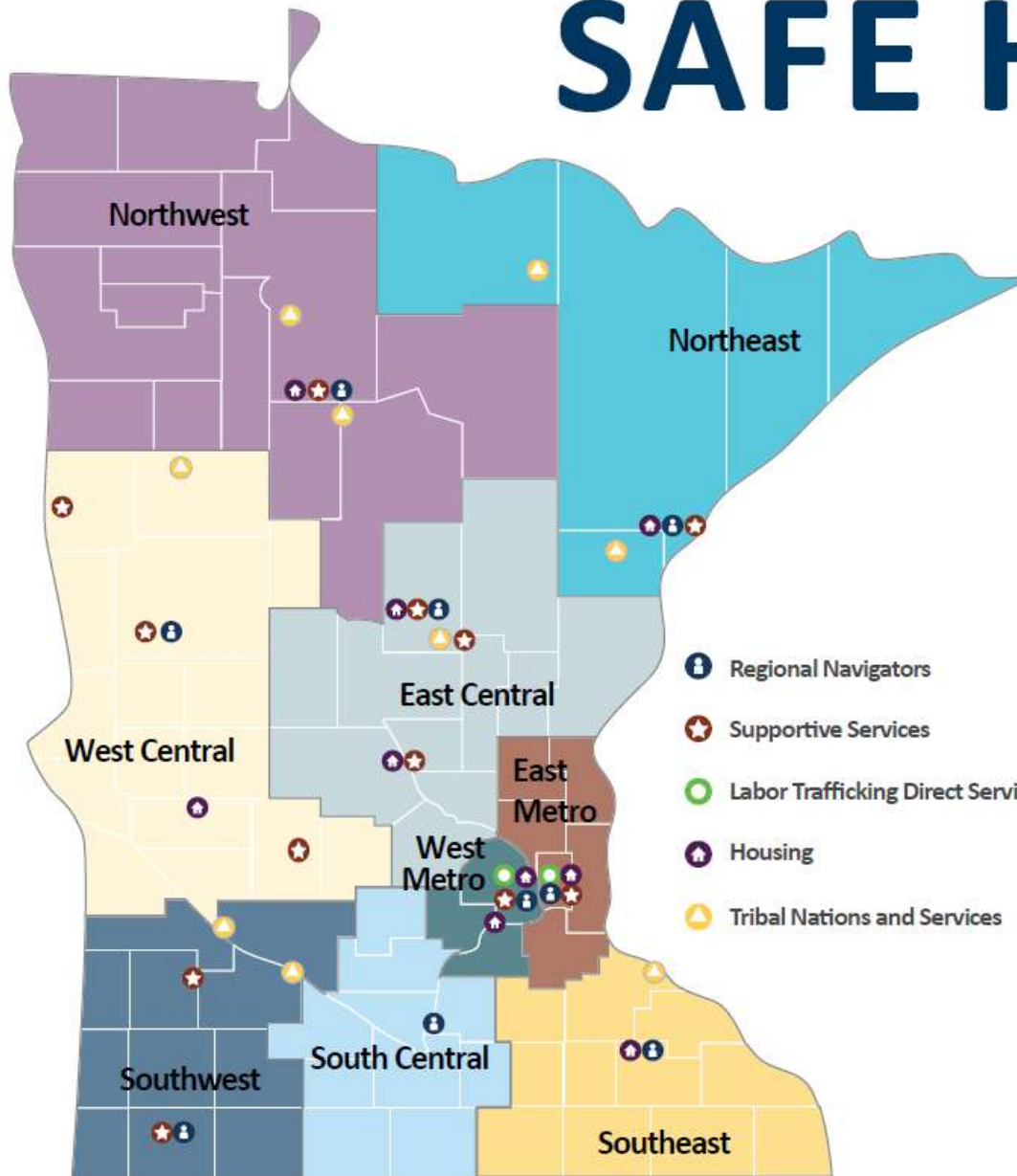
# NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

## (888)373-7888

- Statewide Response to tips
  - Past protocols
  - Present protocols
- Collaborating/assisting with the jurisdiction related to the tips
- BCA Operations 24/7 response
  - (651)793-7000



# SAFE HARBOR



Safe Harbor, funded by appropriations from the Minnesota State Legislature, provides a statewide network of victim-centered, trauma-informed services and safe housing. In addition, nine Regional Navigators serve as points of contact in their communities and provide connections to services for youth.

To find services statewide, call the Day One Crisis Hotline at 1-866-223-1111 or text: 612-399-9995  
Chat/Website: [www.dayoneservices.org](http://www.dayoneservices.org)

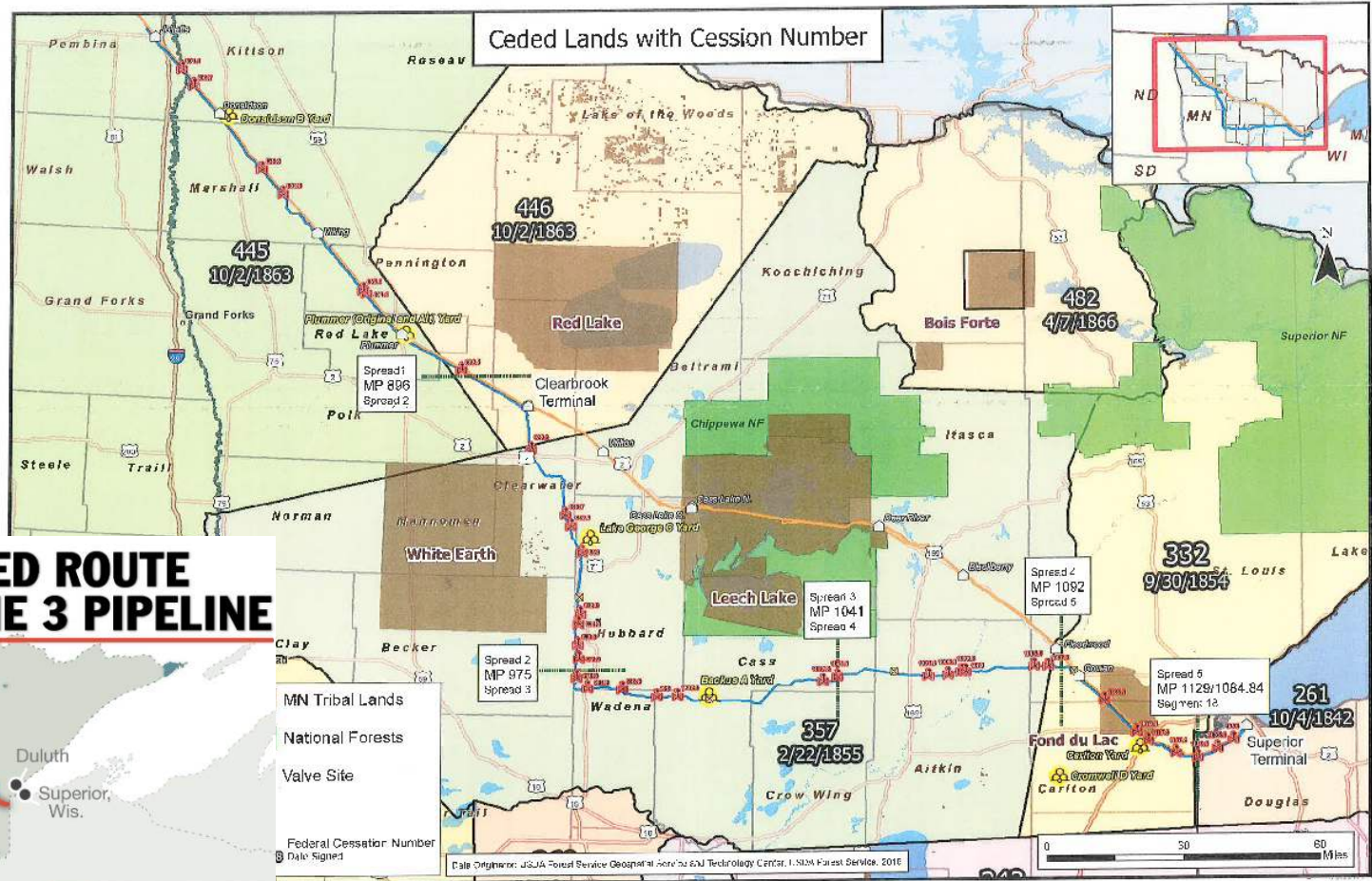
-  Regional Navigators
-  Supportive Services
-  Labor Trafficking Direct Services
-  Housing
-  Tribal Nations and Services

## OTHER MNHITF PROJECTS

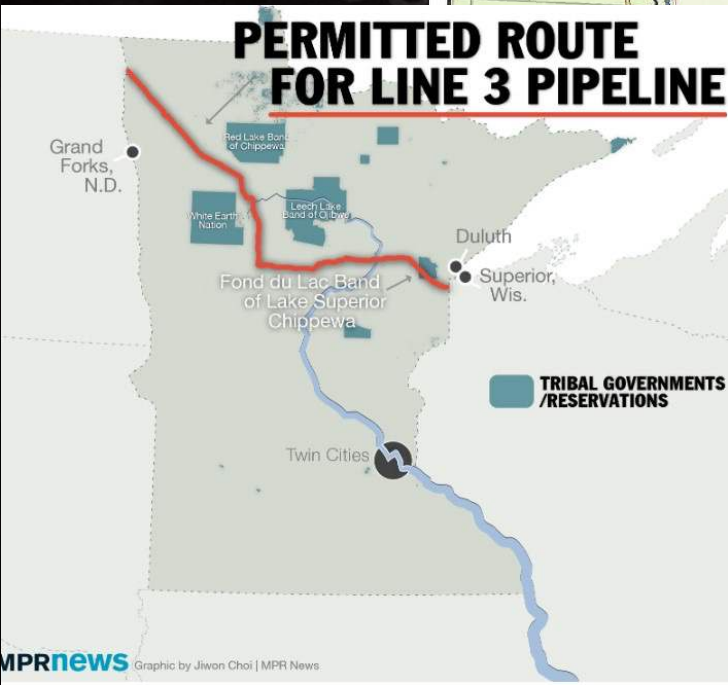
- Coordinated Response LE/Child Protection
- Child Protection Best Practice Guide
- Multiple MDT's
- Henn. Co. Protocol Development/Implementation
- U of M Research Project
- Labor Trafficking Protocol Development
  - 1<sup>st</sup> of it's kind



# EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRY PROJECTS



## PERMITTED ROUTE FOR LINE 3 PIPELINE



- Line 3 Replacement Project



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# CONTENTIOUS PROJECT

- **Our Role**
  - Sex Trafficking
  - Sexual Exploitation of Minors

## What other concerns do people have about the project?

Opponents of Line 3, including Indigenous groups, raised concerns about a potential rise in sex trafficking in the region as the state was debating whether to approve the project.

In June, local and state officials arrested six men during a sting operation to combat human trafficking in Beltrami County. Two of the men arrested were working for a subcontractor on Line 3.

Two pipeline workers were arrested in a different sex trafficking sting in Itasca County earlier this year.

Enbridge says the workers were fired, and all workers are required to complete human trafficking awareness training.

MPRNews (2021)



Demonstrators gather in canoes and on horses in the Shell River before going onto an Enbridge Line 3 easement that will be used to drill under the river in Menahga on July 15.

▲ Tim Evans for MPR News file

Environmental groups, activists and some northern Minnesota Ojibwe bands argue that a new Line 3 opens up a new part of the state to the possibility of an oil spill, which could threaten lakes, rivers and wild rice waters. The new pipeline corridor crosses several waterways, including the Mississippi River twice.

The nation's biggest inland oil spill happened in 1991 on the current Line 3 near Grand Rapids, Minn. The line has leaked crude other times, too.



## LINE 3 – WHAT WE EXPECTED

- Demand Increase – HUGE Increase Population
  - ND HT Commander
- Traffickers will meet demand
  - Metro Traffickers bringing up victims
  - Local Traffickers recruiting more victims or forcing them to work more
  - Closed access groups “man camps” or similar
  - Vehicle stops, highly mobile crime
- Opportunists (Traffickers/Familia)
- Survival sex



# L3RP PLAN

- Prevention
- Training
- Coordinated Response
- Pro-Active Operations
- Outreach



# PREVENTION

**Your Call MN**  
November 20 at 7:06 AM

Our first Community Discussion begins today at 11 am CST on Facebook! Click the link to RSVP and get notified when we go live.

## COMMUNITY DISCUSSION: Know the Signs of Sex Trafficking

Join us on November 20 at 11am CST

**OUR STATE. THEIR LIVES. YOUR CALL**

**PANELISTS:**

- Kelly Halfield, Sex Trafficking Investigator, FDL PD
- Bobbi Jo Pazdernik, Commander, MNHITF, BCA

**FRI, NOV 20**  
Community Discussion: Know the Signs of Sex Trafficking  
Causes · 626 people

Like Comment Share Interested

**OUR STATE. THEIR LIVES. YOUR CALL**

VIDEO COMMUNITY NEWS TOOLKIT RESOURCES CONTACT

WATCH THE TRAILER

Report suspected sex trafficking:  
**877.966.6222**  
or text "HELP" to:  
**233733**

If you, or someone you know, are in immediate danger, call 911

**JOIN US**  
**Dec 15, 2020**  
**6-7pm CST**

**OUR STATE. THEIR LIVES. YOUR CALL**

**TUE, DEC 15**  
"Our State. Their Lives. Your Call." Live Film Premiere and Q&A  
Causes · 695 people

Interested



OUR STATE. THEIR LIVES. YOUR CALL

Billboards  
Live 9/28



**Overview:**  
Our initial 8 billboards targeted high risk reservation routes and were live from 9/28 through 11/22. Our next wave of Northern and Metro focused boards went live on 11/23. The billboards garnered over 2M impressions in November.



- Billboards
- Truck Wraps
- Both strategically placed along routes from Metro to L3RP
- Care Packs
- Posters



OUR STATE. THEIR LIVES. YOUR CALL

Wrapped Trucks  
Live 11/23/20 - 11/21/21



Three trucks with over 1,000,000 impressions in November, 2020.



# TRAININGS

- LE Trainings:
  - Approx. 450 along the line trained.
  - Intended Audience: LE, CP, Prosecutors along the line in N. MN that have had little or no HT awareness
- Cultural Competency Trainings
- Assisted Fond Du Lac w additional training
- Victim Advocacy Trainings
- Government Offices – PUC and LTG



# LINE 3 HT COORDINATED RESPONSE

- 911 Centers
  - If an emergency, 911 response
- BCA/TRUST Coordination
  - 24/7 BCA Operations (Non-tribal land) 651-793-7000 or Bobbi Jo 612-209-0857
  - TRUST (Tribal land or Native American victim) Brian Pottratz 218-335-8277
- Regional Navigators (resource card)/Advocacy
- Child Protection
- MN Statewide Leaders Collaboration Bi-Weekly Meetings (Preparedness Meetings)



# LETS TALK ABOUT BIG EVENTS

- SIMPLE Business Model:
  - SUPPLY and DEMAND
  - Myth vs truth
- SUPER BOWL, NCAA, PGA and PIPELINE
- Prevention comparison
  - Super Bowl: calling out stings
  - NCAA: jails telling us to shut it down
  - Pipeline
    - Rural community challenges
    - Experienced sex buyers
    - Software used





# SUPER BOWL OPERATIONS

- Proactive Daily Operations
- 2 Simultaneous Arrest Locations
  - Child Sex Trafficking
  - Sexual Exploitation of Minors
- BCA Command Post
- Statewide RESPONSE to National Human Trafficking Tip Line







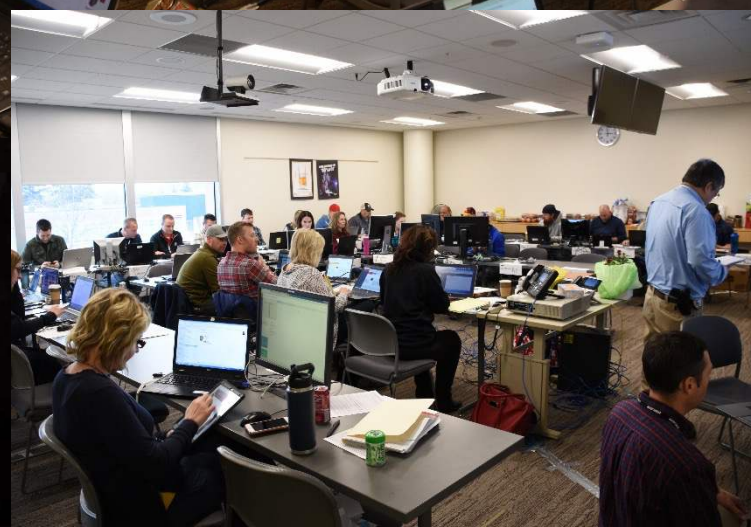
# MN Human Trafficking Investigators Task Force

## CONOPS PRESENTATION





- On –Scene victim service providers



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# LINE 3 PRO ACTIVE



- Rural
- Town flooded
- Few Hotels
- Hotels are overtaken by L3
- Cant operate next door
- 1<sup>st</sup> one canceled
- Think out of BOX for location



# I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!

- HOLD FOR VIDEO



# LINE 3RP FEB. 17-19, 2021 ITASCA COUNTY OP

- Chad Arther Dockendorf, 45, of Grand Rapids, MN charged with Solicitation of a Person Believed to be a Minor, a felony and 4th Degree DWI, a misdemeanor;
- • Matthew Ty Hall, age 32, of Mt. Pleasant, TX charged with Solicitation of a Person Believed to be a Minor, a felony;
- • Derek Wayne Jokinen, age 44 of Sawyer, MN charged with Solicitation of a Person Believed to be a Minor, a felony;
- • Rusty James Marek, age 56 of Grand Rapids, MN charged with Solicitation of a Person Believed to be a Minor, a felony;
- • Michael Kelly West, age 53 of Rolla, MO, charged with Carrying a Pistol without a Permit, a gross misdemeanor, and Solicitation to Engage in Prostitution, a misdemeanor;
- • Bruce Duane Jones, age 54 of Goodridge, MN with Communication of Sexually Explicit Materials to a Minor, a felony; nd
- • Saihou Adrisa Sissoho, age 20 of Chisolm, MN charged with Solicitation of a Person Believed to be a Minor, a felony.



# LINE 3RP, JUNE 25-26, 2021 BEMIDJI/BELTRAMI COUNTY OP

Michael Lee Eichstadt, 56 Bemidji, MN

BCA Case 2021-456

Quint Kyle Ironnecklace, 24 Bemidji, MN

BCA Case 2021-458

Lance Armon Jones, 39 Oakville, Washington

BCA Case 2021-459

Matthew F Senica, 49 Illinois

BCA Case 2021-460

Philip Edward Toomey JR, 48 Maywood, MO

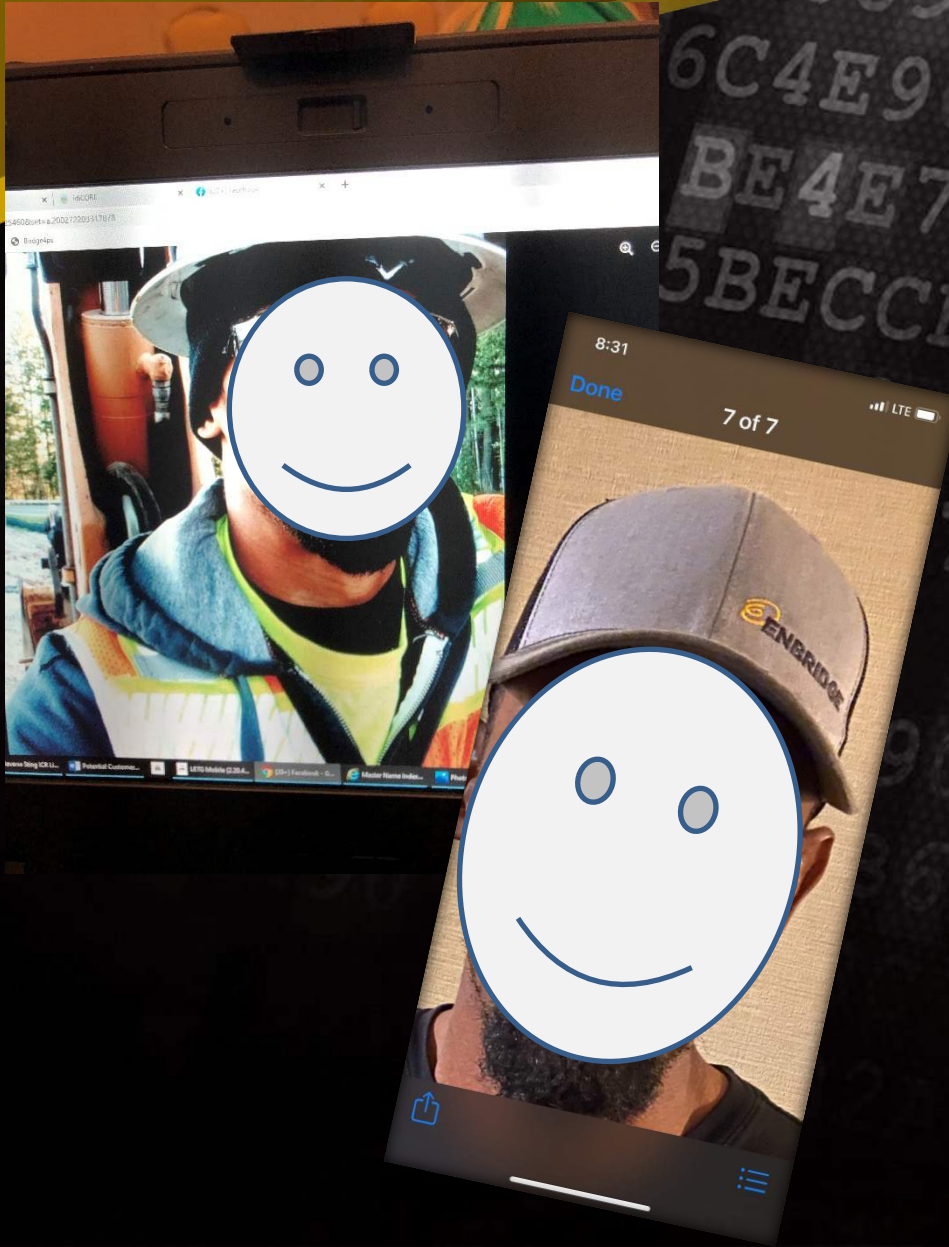
BCA Case 2021-461

Dennis Michael Murphy, 43 Park Rapids, MN

BCA Case 2021-462 **152.025.2(1)**



# THINGS WE LEARNED



- A Boss (not individual Pictured)
  - Had required HT training
  - Learned about sex advertisements from workers
  - Supervised 200 workers, said it was accepted in the culture



# TRUCKER'S AGAINST TRAFFICKING COALITION BUILD JUNE 29, 2021

## CREATING LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Coalition Build in Bemidji, MN

**When:** June 29, 2021, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (Lunch provided)

**Where:** Sanford Center  
1111 Event Center Drive NE, Bemidji, MN 56601

**What:** A half-day summit hosted by the Precision Pipeline, LLC and Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) to bring together key energy, trucking, and truck stop stakeholders, with local, state and federal law enforcement and government agencies to work together to close loopholes to traffickers. The training will feature a Human Trafficking 101 presentation, information on training resources for trucking, truck stop, and energy companies, a presentation by a survivor-leader/field trainer, and a law enforcement panel. The law enforcement panel will delve deeper into trends officers are seeing locally, share case studies, discuss victim-centered approaches and offer recommendations for industry partners wanting to get involved. There will be time at the end of the meeting for Q&A and discussion. This is a closed meeting. If you would like to attend, please register at the link below. For any questions, please contact Esther Goetsch at [egoetsch@truckersagainstrafficking.org](mailto:egoetsch@truckersagainstrafficking.org).

[TO REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT CLICK HERE](#)



COHOSTS AND/OR SPONSORS:



- MNHITF/BCA presented the HT 101 as well as sat on the LE panel with TRUST members
- Combo LE and CEO's/Managers of Pipeline
- Feedback was extremely good





# COALITION BUILD IMPACT REPORT



BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA - JUNE 29, 2021

## CULTURAL CHANGE

Energy Company's commented that they were amazed and that they had never heard the directness regarding HT before



*It was a good balance of having us understand what human trafficking is and how we and our organizations can be a part of the solution. I didn't know we had a regional task force across our reservations. It was nice to have industry, law enforcement and trainers coming together in the same room.*

- Lake Superior Consulting



Recognizing the impact the energy industry can have on communities where they operate and the reality that traffickers will look for opportunities to make money and exploit victims, it is imperative that the energy and related industries be trained on human trafficking, the red flag indicators to be looking for, and how to effectively and immediately report it to law enforcement. Due to the influx of workers coming to northern Minnesota to work on Line 3, TAT teamed up with the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and Precision Pipeline to bring together key industry stakeholders in the pipeline, energy and trucking industries along with local, tribal and state law enforcement. At the Coalition Build, TAT provided targeted action steps for all attendees, as well as free training materials for industry members and law enforcement, to use within their companies and agencies.

Ultimately, TAT Coalition Builds seek to aid in the recovery of victims by closing down loopholes to traffickers who not only exploit victims, but also legitimate businesses. By coming alongside industry, and simultaneously training the law enforcement who will be the first ones arriving on the scene, TAT has seen a much more coordinated approach in combating this crime at a local and state level.



# QUESTIONS



- Minnesota

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# CONTACT INFORMATION

- ASAIC Bobbi Jo Pazdernik
  - Desk 651-793-1040
  - Cell 612-209-0857
  - Email [BobbiJo.Pazdernik@state.mn.us](mailto:BobbiJo.Pazdernik@state.mn.us)
- Investigator Brian Pottratz
  - Desk 218-335-8277
  - Cell 218-407-0223
  - [brian.pottratz@lpolice.org](mailto:brian.pottratz@lpolice.org)
- BCA Main Line 651-793-7000



THANK YOU



- Minnesota

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