



HUMAN SMUGGLING AND TRAFFICKING CENTER

INTELLIGENCE NOTE

17 January 2014
HSTC2014010008

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS: POSSIBLE SEX TRAFFICKING DURING SUPER BOWL XLVIII (U)

(U) Sex traffickers may move their victims to New Jersey and New York City metropolitan areas in an attempt to profit from the 400,000 expected visitors for Super Bowl XLVIII, scheduled for 2 February 2014.¹ Law enforcement has rescued a small number of sex trafficking victims at each of the three previous Super Bowls. It remains unclear whether those rescued represented an increase in sex trafficking or were simply the result of increased anti-trafficking operations.

(U) Law enforcement has also identified the Atlantic City, New Jersey, area as a suspect trafficking spot because of its proximity to the Northern New Jersey and New York City metropolitan areas and the large number of potential Super Bowl visitors who may travel to the casinos.²

(U) SEX TRAFFICKING

(U) Sex trafficking is defined as a commercial sex act induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age.

(U) Sex traffickers moving victims to the Super Bowl may exploit them for increased profit at truck stops along the way, based on the experiences of a nongovernmental victim services organization.³ Sex traffickers may use the following routes, which are often used to move illicit drugs and smuggled aliens, according to open source information.

- (U) **Interstate 95** (I-95) is the main south-north trafficking route on the East Coast and provides an easily-accessible thoroughfare to major East Coast cities such as Miami, Baltimore, and Philadelphia, and New York.^{4,5} I-95 extends from Florida to Canada through fourteen states, including Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York.
- (U) **Interstate 81** (I-81), which closely parallels I-95 to the west, is a major trafficking route that extends from Tennessee at Interstate 40 through Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania to the New York-Canada border just south of Highway 401

in Ontario, Canada.⁶ I-81 is popular with long-distance drivers because it bypasses the more congested metro areas of major East Coast cities along I-95.

- (U) **Interstate 80** (I-80) is a key west-east trafficking route that extends from California at U.S. Route 101 (US 101) through Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania to New Jersey at I-95.⁷
- (U) **Interstate 78** (I-78) is a significant west-east trafficking route that extends from Pennsylvania at (I-81) to New Jersey and New York City.⁸
- (U) **Interstate 87** (I-87) is a major south-north trafficking route that extends from the Bronx in New York City at Interstate 278 to the New York-Canada border at Autoroute 15 in Quebec.⁹

(U) SEX TRAFFICKING AT PREVIOUS SUPER BOWLS

(U) **Super Bowl XLVII, 3 February 2013:** Inter-agency anti-trafficking operations during the week leading up to Super Bowl XLVII in New Orleans, Louisiana resulted in the recovery of five victims, including a minor, and the arrests of 85 prostitutes and other individuals. Four of the victims were moved from two different states for the purpose of engaging in prostitution at the Super Bowl.

(U) **Super Bowl XLVI, 5 February 2012:** Inter-agency anti-trafficking operations during Super Bowl XLVI in Indianapolis, Indiana resulted in the recovery of four victims and the arrests of 68 prostitutes and other individuals.

(U) **Super Bowl XLV, 6 February 2011:** Inter-agency anti-trafficking operations beginning two weeks before Super Bowl XLV in North Texas resulted in the recovery of eight victims, including four minors, and the arrests of 133 prostitutes and other individuals.

(U) Sources: NOLA.com – The Times-Picayune, “Authorities nab 85 in effort to combat Super Bowl sex trafficking,” 7 February 2013; Indiana Attorney General, “Results of the anti-human trafficking campaign during Super Bowl of 2012,” 2012; ICE News Briefing, 22 February 2011

(U) **Canada-based traffickers may take advantage of the numerous interstate highways that link major Canadian cities such as Montreal, Toronto, and Ottawa to the New Jersey-New York metropolitan region to move their victims to the Super Bowl.** Canadian and foreign women and girls are exploited in sex trafficking across Canada, according to the U.S. Department of State’s 2013 Trafficking in Persons Report.¹⁰

(U) **Highway 401**, which links cities in the United States with Montreal, Toronto, and other Canadian cities along the northern border, has been used by traffickers to move victims en route to sexual exploitation.¹¹

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(U) Canada-based human traffickers commonly have their victims use fraudulent visas and passports at ports of entry along the northern border. In addition, some traffickers may have their victims travel as imposters, using genuine passports of others to attempt entry.

(U) **Surface transportation security personnel and operators are uniquely positioned to spot and report sex traffickers and victims at bus terminals and train stations.** Super Bowl and transportation officials estimate that 70 percent of game attendees will need to arrive by public surface transportation—via bus, train, and motorcoach.¹²

(U) INDICATORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

(U) The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Blue Campaign has developed the following list of key indicators for identifying human trafficking victims.

- (U) Lacks control of identification or travel documents;
- (U) Lacks freedom of movement;
- (U) Seems to be restricted from socializing, attending religious services, or contacting family;
- (U) Seems to have been deprived of basic life necessities, such as food, water, sleep, or medical care;
- (U) Shows signs of having been abused or physically assaulted. Such signs range from the more obvious, such as broken bones, to the more subtle, such as branding and tattooing;
- (U) Seems submissive or fearful in the presence of others;
- (U) Seems not to control his or her schedule;
- (U) Seems to lack concrete short- or long-term plans; and
- (U) Seems to lack knowledge about the place where he or she lives.

(U) PRODUCT FEEDBACK

(U) Please direct any information, questions, or comments concerning this intelligence note or information to:



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(202) 312-9746
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(U) SOURCES

¹ (U) Official Internet site of the New York/New Jersey Super Bowl Host Committee, Press Release, “Public Transportation to Fuel Movement for Super Bowl XLVIII as Organizers Declare Game First “Mass Transit Super Bowl,” http://nynjsuperbowl.com.s3.amazonaws.com/2013-12-09/Transit_Press_Release.pdf , Accessed on 9 December 2013, UNCLASSIFIED

² (U) Asbury Park Press, “Time to stop human trafficking,” 4 September 2013, UNCLASSIFIED

³ (U) Polaris Project, “Sex Trafficking at Truck Stops,” <http://www.polarisproject.org/human-trafficking/sex-trafficking-in-the-us/truck-stops>, Accessed on 9 December, UNCLASSIFIED

⁴ (U) Asbury Park Press, “Time to stop human trafficking,” 4 September 2013, UNCLASSIFIED

⁵ (U) Maryland Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention and the Maryland Human Trafficking Task Force, “Combating Human Trafficking in Maryland: Recommendations for a Statewide Approach,” 21 May 2012, UNCLASSIFIED

⁶ (U) Lebanon Daily News, “I-81 offers law enforcement challenges,” 17 January 2011, UNCLASSIFIED

⁷ (U) Iowa State Daily, “Humans for sale: the issue of sex trafficking,” 20 June 2013, UNCLASSIFIED

⁸ (U) The Sentinel, “I-81: Highway an artery for drug, sex trafficking,” 17 January 2011, UNCLASSIFIED

⁹ (U) CBC Radio-Canada, “Two Canadian networks dismantled,” 29 November 2007, UNCLASSIFIED

¹⁰ (U) U.S. Department of State, Trafficking in Persons Report, June 2013, UNCLASSIFIED

¹¹ (U) Public Safety Canada, “2012-2013 Human Trafficking Stakeholder Consultations—National Summary Report,” 2013, UNCLASSIFIED

¹² (U) Official Internet site of the New York/New Jersey Super Bowl Host Committee, Press Release, “Public Transportation to Fuel Movement for Super Bowl XLVIII as Organizers Declare Game First “Mass Transit Super Bowl,” http://nynjsuperbowl.com.s3.amazonaws.com/2013-12-09/Transit_Press_Release.pdf , Accessed on 9 December 2013, UNCLASSIFIED