

HALL OF JUSTICE
330 WEST BROADWAY
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101
(619) 531-4040
SanDiegoDA.com

OFFICE OF
THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

DWAIN D. WOODLEY
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

SUMMER STEPHAN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

RECEIVED

JUL 21 2023

SAN DIEGO
COUNTY GRAND JURY

July 5, 2023

Presiding Judge Michael T. Smyth
San Diego County Superior Court
1100 Union St
San Diego, California 92101

**Re: Response to 2022/2023 Grand Jury Report:
“AB1227 Human Trafficking, The Fight Against Child Trafficking”**

Dear Judge Smyth:

The 2022/2023 San Diego County Grand Jury investigated issues surrounding Human Trafficking in the County and wrote a report detailing the facts developed in the investigation and making a series of 6 findings and 14 recommendations to various governmental entities, including the District Attorney. As required by Penal Code § 933, I write to respond to the Grand Jury's recommendations 23-29, 23-30 & 23-31, which involve matters under the control of the District Attorney. The findings of the grand jury that do not pertain to matters under the control of the District Attorney are not addressed.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommendation 23-29: Work with the SDCOE and the 42 school districts to introduce the SDTPC “end-to end training program” to reinforce the pupil training required by AB1227.

The District Attorney works with the SDCOE on their Human Trafficking Youth Prevention Education (HTYPE) federal grant which operates as Project SaFE (Safe From Exploitation). The PROTECT curriculum is the primary prevention curriculum. To date, 2,970 students and 1,289 staff across 4 school districts and 21 schools (including charter schools) have been given prevention education. Further, 222 school staff have gone through a Training of the Trainers (TOT) to enable them to teach other staff members on implementing the curriculum. Additional staff training of 24 Project Safe Liaisons (PSLs) is scheduled for August and will train the PSLs on how to train future staff and students to ensure future sustainability.

SDTPC no longer exists. However, the District Attorney will continue to work with the SDCOE on human trafficking prevention education. While SDTPC was in existence, all 42 districts were offered human trafficking prevention programming at no cost. By the end of the grant, 292 schools across 31 school districts trained 53,272 students in prevention education. SDTPC's three prevention programs (kNOw MORE, Project Roots, PROTECT) are still operating in the County of San Diego and the District Attorney continues to support each program as needed.

Recommendation 23-30: Work with the SDCOE to develop the Train the Trainers (TOT) program for roll out to all 42 school districts to reinforce human trafficking specific training for administrators, staff, and educators.

This recommendation is being implemented. SDCOE through Project SaFE and in conjunction with the District Attorney has provided a Training of the Trainers to all participating school districts. In addition, during the summer, additional, newly added schools and districts will receive the TOT. For those districts that have chosen not to participate in Project SaFE, there are resources available on the SDCOE website and the District Attorney assists SDCOE with technical support where appropriate. For example, the District Attorney assisted with the development of the Human Trafficking School Safety Protocol (HTSSP) which has been federally approved under the HTYPE grant. The HTSSP is available on the SDCOE website.

Recommendation 23-31: Take action to enforce the SB1193 requirement for businesses, and public agencies, to display posters in a conspicuous location, that provide resource information and phone numbers for victims of human trafficking.

SB 1193 requires specified businesses and establishments to post a notice that provides information about human trafficking resources. SB 1193 created a civil penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500) for a first offense and one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each subsequent offense. Violations are not criminal offenses. The law authorizes the Attorney General, District Attorney, County Counsel and City Attorney to bring an action to impose a civil penalty if a local or state agency with authority to regulate that business or establishment complies with the notice requirements. To date, we are not aware of a case that was submitted to the District Attorney's Office from law enforcement or another regulatory agency documenting a violation and requesting our office to pursue a civil penalty in court.

The District Attorney will organize a meeting with the key stakeholders, including the agencies authorized to bring an action to impose a civil penalty for a violation and the local agencies authorized to regulate these businesses for violations with the objective of

Presiding Judge Michael T. Smyth
San Diego County Superior Court
June 30, 2023
Page 3

evaluating the feasibility of establishing a process for documenting the required notice and proof of a violation and submitting the case to the proper reviewing agency for possible filing of a civil action for non-compliance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Summer Stephan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

SUMMER STEPHAN
San Diego County District Attorney

Cc: Nora Vargas, Chair, District 1, San Diego County Board of Supervisors
Helen Robbins-Meyer, CAO, San Diego County
Holly Porter, Deputy CAO, General Manager, Public Safety Group, San Diego County