



# TRANSPORTATION

## TOOLKIT

### Who We Are

Blue Campaign is the unified voice for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) efforts to combat human trafficking, working with federal, state, and local governments, as well as law enforcement and public and private organizations. Blue Campaign strives to protect the fundamental right to freedom and bring those who exploit human lives to justice.

### What's Inside?

This **toolkit** offers tips and resources to help you inform and educate your employees about human trafficking. It includes indicators for four industries:

- Trucking
- Aviation
- Rail
- Maritime

Download and print your industry's fact sheet and share it with your organization to help raise awareness of this crime.

# What is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking is modern-day slavery and involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain labor or commercial sex. Every year, millions of men, women, and children are trafficked in countries around the world, including the United States.

There are different types of human trafficking:

- **Sex Trafficking**  
Victims are manipulated or forced to engage in sex acts for another's commercial gain.  
Anyone under the age of 18 engaging in commercial sex is considered to be a victim of human trafficking. **No exceptions.**
- **Forced Labor**  
Victims are compelled to work for little or no pay, often manufacturing or growing products we use and consume daily. Common forced labor industries include:
  - Construction
  - Manufacturing
  - Agriculture
- **Domestic Servitude**  
Victims are forced to work, sometimes for long hours, for little or no pay as nannies, housekeepers, or domestic help. They often have their identification taken from them by their traffickers.

## Human trafficking and the transportation industry

Traffickers use trains, buses, planes, and ships to transport victims, hiding them in plain sight. Transportation industry employees are uniquely positioned as the eyes and ears on the highways, public transportation systems, and in the air.

## What actions can I take to stop human trafficking?

- Know the indicators of human trafficking.
- Design a plan of action to respond to reports of human trafficking in your business or industry.
- Partner with agencies that provide services to victims of human trafficking.
- Provide employee training to increase understanding and identify signs of human trafficking.
- Distribute and post the fact sheets in this kit to your employees and/or colleagues.



# SIGNS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

for **trucking** staff

Trafficking occurs at commercial truck stops, state rest areas, and welcome centers. Trucking industry employees are the eyes and ears of the highways. You are in a unique position to recognize and report human trafficking and stop traffickers from exploiting our transportation system.

## GENERAL INDICATORS

- Individuals may:
  - Go from truck to truck or appear to be operating multiple trucks at once.
  - Show signs of fear, anxiety, tension, submission, and/or nervousness.
  - Show signs of physical abuse, restraint, and/or confinement.
  - Exhibit evidence of verbal threats, emotional abuse, and/or being treated in a demeaning way.
  - Show signs of malnourishment, poor hygiene, fatigue, sleep deprivation, untreated illness, injuries, and/or unusual behavior.
  - Lack freedom of movement or are constantly monitored.
  - Avoid eye contact and interaction with others.
  - Have no control over or possession of money or ID.
  - Have lower quality clothing compared to others in their party.
  - Have few or no personal items, such as no purses or wallets.
  - Appear to be with a significantly older “boyfriend” or in the company of older males.
- A group of girls or boys appear to be traveling or stopping at a rest stop with an older female or male.

*The presence of an individual indicator, alone, may not necessarily mean a person is being trafficked. When deciding whether or not to take action, individuals should consider the totality of circumstances*

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- ⊗ Do not at any time attempt to confront a suspected trafficker or victim. Do not alert a victim of your suspicions.
- ☰ When reporting a potential human trafficking incident, it is critical to include as many details about the suspected trafficker/victim as possible, such as:
  - Description of potentially involved vehicles (i.e., a trucking company logo, license plate numbers, Department of Transportation identification numbers).
  - Physical description of the suspected trafficker and/or individual (i.e., height, weight, clothes, presence of tattoos or unique physical characteristics).
- ⚠ Call 9-1-1 for emergency situations—threats of violence, physical assault, emergency medical needs, etc.
- 🗨 Follow your corporate protocol, such as notifying management and security.
- 👮 Call 1-866-DHS-2-ICE (1-866-347-2423) to report suspicious criminal activity to federal law enforcement. Highly trained specialists take reports from both the public and law enforcement agencies. Submit a tip at [www.ice.gov/tips](http://www.ice.gov/tips).
- 📞 Get help from the National Human Trafficking Hotline by calling 1-888-373-7888 or text HELP or INFO to BeFree (233733).



# SIGNS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

for aviation staff

Flight attendants and airport staff can play a key role in the fight against human trafficking by recognizing indicators on airplanes and in airports.

The Department of Homeland Security and Department of Transportation’s **Blue Lightning Initiative (BLI)** trains U.S. commercial airline employees to identify potential human trafficking victims and notify federal authorities. BLI is a joint initiative led by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Department of Transportation. For more information, visit <https://www.cbp.gov/border-security/human-trafficking/blue-lightning>.

## GENERAL INDICATORS

- Individuals may:
  - Have no control of travel identification or documents.
  - Have difficulty articulating reasonable, logical travel plans.
  - Show signs of fear, anxiety, tension, submission, and/or nervousness.
  - Show signs of physical abuse, restraint, and/or confinement.
  - Show signs of malnourishment, poor hygiene, fatigue, sleep deprivation, untreated illness, injuries, and/or unusual behavior.
  - Exhibit evidence of verbal threats, emotional abuse, and/or being treated in a demeaning way.
  - Avoid eye contact and interaction with others.
  - Have lower quality clothing compared to others in their party.
  - Have few or no personal items, such as no luggage or other bags.
- Co-traveler restricts the movement and social interaction of an adult traveler.
- A non-genuine parent/guardian-child relationship.
- A group of girls or boys appear to be traveling with an older female or male.

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## WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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# SIGNS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

## for rail staff







Transportation workers including rail police, conductors, ticket counter staff, and others come into contact with thousands of people on a daily basis, positioning them to identify potential human trafficking victims. Human traffickers may be more likely to travel with victims on railroads because identification from passengers is not required when traveling or purchasing a ticket, offering greater anonymity than air travel.

### GENERAL INDICATORS

- Individuals may:
  - Have difficulty articulating reasonable, logical travel plans.
  - Show signs of fear, anxiety, tension, submission, and/or nervousness.
  - Show signs of physical abuse, restraint, and/or confinement.
  - Exhibit evidence of verbal threats, emotional abuse, and/or being treated in a demeaning way.
  - Show signs of malnourishment, poor hygiene, fatigue, sleep deprivation, untreated illness, injuries, and/or unusual behavior.
  - Avoid eye contact and interaction with others.
  - Have lower quality clothing compared to others in their party.
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# SIGNS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

for **maritime** staff

Many traffickers use coastlines and ports of entry to smuggle potential victims into the country, putting maritime employees in a good position to potentially see victims when they first arrive and before they are placed onto the country’s transportation systems. Those who work in the maritime industry can routinely encounter smuggling vessels with migrants ranging in age, nationality, and gender.

The Blue Campaign works with the U.S. Coast Guard to monitor the nation’s waterways by training members to identify subtle cues that are often associated with cases of sex trafficking, domestic servitude, or forced labor encountered during routine operations.

Though human trafficking is commonly associated with the Coast Guard’s migrant interdiction mission, other areas of concern include, but are not limited to, trafficking onboard fishing vessels, people involved in search and rescue cases, and recreational maritime sector.







It’s essential that maritime employees are ready to recognize, react to, and report indicators of human trafficking.

## GENERAL INDICATORS

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# BLUE CAMPAIGN

## Partnering with the Transportation Industry

Together, we can #endtrafficking.

Blue Campaign can't end human trafficking alone – we need your help to educate your employees and colleagues about the signs and indicators of trafficking. Armed with this information, they will know what to do when they suspect trafficking.

Blue Campaign partners with several organizations in the transportation industry to help raise awareness of human trafficking and works with them to train their employees to recognize and report the crime.

Below are a few examples of Blue Campaign transportation industry partnerships:



Longtime partner Amtrak works to educate staff, customers, and the public on human trafficking through Blue Campaign resources and co-designed training materials. This partnership is in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Amtrak's Blue Campaign partner activities include:

- Running Blue Campaign public service announcement videos in stations nationwide.
- Distributing indicator cards in train seat backs and sharing Blue Campaign content in public facing materials.
- Sharing Blue Campaign information about human trafficking indicators in internal newsletters to educate Amtrak staff.
- Presenting jointly with Blue Campaign at industry events to showcase partnership work.



Flight Attendants play a key role in the fight against human trafficking by looking out for indicators of the crime on planes. The Association of Flight Attendants (AFA) partners with Blue Campaign to help train employees on indicators to look for and how to report the crime.

AFA's Blue Campaign partner activities include:

- Providing training to flight attendants to recognize and report human trafficking.
- Housing a Blue Campaign display at its headquarters to educate employees and visitors on human trafficking.
- Utilizing a traveling Blue Campaign display at conferences and events to raise awareness of human trafficking.
- Distributing Blue Campaign materials at industry events.
- Sharing Blue Campaign resources on its social media channels.



NATSO, formerly known as The National Association of Truck Stop Operators, recognized the important role truck stop and travel plaza employees can play in combatting human trafficking. They are partnering with Blue Campaign to educate employees to recognize and report this heinous crime.

NATSO's Blue Campaign partner activities include:

- Providing 5,000 travel plaza and truck stop locations with Blue Campaign human trafficking awareness and training materials.
- Promoting Blue Campaign resources on its website, newsletter, and social media channels.
- Encouraging its members to hang posters, fact sheets, and other materials at their facilities nationwide.



The United Parcel Service (UPS) entered an official partnership with Blue Campaign to provide human trafficking awareness training for freight drivers. These workers spend time in communities and are often familiar with the people in them.

UPS' Blue Campaign partner activities include:

- Providing awareness training for UPS freight drivers.
- Sharing Blue Campaign human trafficking awareness initiatives on social media.