

BUSING ON THE LOOKOUT (B.O.T.L.)

When building an army to fight a crime like human trafficking, the bus industry — commercial and school — has a key role to fill, primarily due to the actions of human traffickers themselves:

- Human traffickers use bus terminals and bus stops as recruiting areas when they're looking for vulnerable people, primarily minors and young adults, to exploit.
- Human traffickers use buses to transport their victims, whether by using a bus to bring victims to them or to take their victims to locations where they'll be sold.
- When victims are able to get out, some rely on bus transportation to escape.
- Human traffickers recruit out of schools, and some victims continue to attend school during the day — and ride the school bus — while they are being trafficked or groomed at night.

Human traffickers are counting on people not paying attention and not knowing the signs to look for or the questions to ask. *If every bus driver and bus station employee* could be trained to identify the signs of human trafficking and how to report it effectively, imagine how many victims could be recovered and, potentially, how many traffickers could be arrested!

Bus drivers are the eyes and ears of the roads, rest stops, tour sites, casino parking lots, and other places where trafficking may occur. Members of the bus industry are already making a difference in fighting this crime. A number of them have already recognized things that didn't seem right with passengers they've been transporting. Their calls to law enforcement have resulted in successful victim recovery.

MISSION

Busing on the Lookout (BOTL), a program of Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT), exists to educate and equip all members of the bus industry with the information necessary to enable them to fight human trafficking as part of their everyday jobs.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Train every bus driver commercial or school and all bus terminal employees with BOTL materials.
- Be on the lookout for red flags and call the hotline (1-888-3737-888) to report suspicions.
- Display BOTL materials in bus terminals in the hopes victims will see them and self-report.
- Partner with law enforcement and government agencies to facilitate the investigation of human trafficking cases discovered through the bus industry and disseminate that information to partners in the bus industry.

TRAINING MATERIALS

- 30 minute industry-specific bus training video with certification test and certification available for those states requiring human trafficking training as part of CDL requirements.
- BOTL wallet card, which can be downloaded and printed, or requested by writing the staff at tat.truckers@ gmail.com.
- Posters for display at bus terminals or in buses, which can be downloaded and printed, or requested by writing the staff at tat.truckers@gmail.com.
- Dash stickers, which can be requested by writing the staff at tat.truckers@gmail.com.

