

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**

**2013 Legislative Session**

Resolution No. CR-74-2013

Proposed by Council Member Toles

Introduced by Council Members Toles, Campos, Davis, Franklin, Harrison, Lehman,  
Olson and Turner

Date of Introduction July 9, 2013

**RESOLUTION**

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Human Trafficking Task Force

3 For the purpose of establishing the Human Trafficking Task Force to address the issue of Human  
 4 Trafficking in Prince George's County, to educate the public about human trafficking, to identify  
 5 and serve victims of human trafficking and to increase prosecution of traffickers.

6 WHEREAS, trafficking is the use of force, threat of force, fraud or coercion to recruit,  
 7 harbor, transport, provide or obtain any person for labor or commercial sex or to cause a person  
 8 under 18 to engage in a commercial sex act; and

9 WHEREAS, every year, millions of men, women and children are trafficked in countries  
 10 around the world, including the United States, and it is estimated that human trafficking is a \$32  
 11 billion per year industry, second only to drug trafficking as the most profitable form of  
 12 transnational crime; and

13 WHEREAS, human trafficking is a hidden crime, as victims rarely come forward to seek  
 14 help because of language barriers, fear of the traffickers, and/or fear of law enforcement; and

15 WHEREAS, due to the County's location along the I-95 corridor, Prince George's County  
 16 serves as a central geographic zone for human trafficking; and

17 WHEREAS, the Prince George's County Police Department states that since 2010 the  
 18 number of human trafficking cases has grown exponentially, requiring a newly established  
 19 special vice unit to address human trafficking; and

20 WHEREAS, the State of Maryland has passed and considered a number of bills that seek to  
 21 offer additional protections to potential victims while increasing penalties for perpetrators; and

22 WHEREAS, it is necessary to establish a collaborative body of organizations in Prince

George's County to formally adopt a consistent and sustained effort to combat this modern day slavery; to apply for all available grant funding from the Department of Justice and to work to establish a victims services network to free and aide victims of both sex trafficking and domestic worker trafficking; and

WHEREAS, Section 506 of the Charter provides that the Council may appoint, for designated periods, one or more temporary advisory boards of citizens of the County who shall assist in the coordination of County policies and programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that the Human Trafficking Task Force is hereby established to facilitate more coordinated anti-trafficking efforts in the County through protocol development, extensive community outreach, proactive investigations, law enforcement training efforts, intelligence sharing, forming partnerships between law enforcement and non-governmental organizations, and the creation of a specialized law enforcement core group; to increase identification rates of human trafficking victims in the County, including domestic and transnational victims of both sex and labor trafficking; to aide in the establishment of a provider network to provide comprehensive services to victims of trafficking; and to increase the prosecution of traffickers, criminally and where appropriate civilly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Human Trafficking Task Force shall be composed of 15 members:

1. The Chairman of the County Council or the Chairman's representative, who shall serve as Vice-Chair;
2. The Executive Director of the Human Relations Commission or the Executive Director's representative, who shall serve as Chair;
3. The State's Attorney or the State's Attorney's representative;
4. The Chief of Police or the Chief's representative;
5. The Director of Homeland Security or the Director's representative;
6. A representative from the Prince George's County Commission for Women;
7. The Director of Social Services or the Director's representative;
8. The Health Officer or the Health Officer's representative;
9. The Sheriff or the Sheriff's representative;
10. The Administrative Judge of the Prince George's County Circuit Court or the

- 1           Administrative Judge’s representative;
  - 2           11. A representative from the Governor’s Task Force on Human Trafficking;
  - 3           12. Two (2) representatives from non-profit organizations; and
  - 4           13. Two (2) representatives from the Faith Based Community.
  - 5           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Human Trafficking Task Force shall present its
  - 6 findings and recommendations to the County Council on or before May 30, 2014.
  - 7           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council Administrator shall assign appropriate
  - 8 technical and administrative support staff to assist the Human Trafficking Task Force in its work.
- Adopted this 24<sup>th</sup> day of July , 2013.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Andrea C. Harrison  
Chair

ATTEST:

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Redis C. Floyd  
Clerk of the Council