



VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY  
CHARLES WIDGER SCHOOL OF LAW

THE INSTITUTE TO ADDRESS  
COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

# COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN PENNSYLVANIA: 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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## ABOUT THE CSE INSTITUTE

The Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law Institute to Address Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE institute) provides legal research, technical assistance, policy consultation, and training to partners throughout Pennsylvania, the United States, and internationally.

To partner with the CSE Institute or support our work, please contact our director, Shea M. Rhodes, Esq.

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For more information about our work, please visit our website: <https://cseinstitute.org>

Thank you to LBDesign for the design and development of our website.

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# A MESSAGE FROM SHEA



VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY  
CHARLES WIDGER SCHOOL OF LAW

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## TEN YEARS OF IMPACT

This year, I am reflecting on ten years of impact since our inception in 2014. The CSE Institute has evolved from an idea that fit on one piece of paper to an internationally recognized leader in the anti-trafficking community.

I have had the distinct pleasure of having worked with over 130 Villanova law students during the last ten academic years, sending a cohort of lawyers into their practice equipped with the necessary skills to be trauma informed. Through our Justice for Victims Fellowship program, we have achieved criminal record relief for 65 survivors of sex trafficking. I am proud of our work and deeply committed to eradicating the root causes of exploitation and making the world a safer place for women, girls, and marginalized populations.

Over the last decade, we have worked tirelessly to achieve a shift in laws and policies to better protect the most vulnerable in our society and hold perpetrators accountable. One of the most important lessons we have learned is that harnessing political will is the most important ingredient to making change happen. I urge people in positions of political authority to join us in advocating for this essential ingredient. We must revisit laws that do not protect the most vulnerable among us and revise them to be effective in both their design and practice. We must strive to implement the laws that we do have in place to protect victims and survivors from commercial sexual exploitation. Stated simply - we must make our laws do the right thing for the right reasons.

On behalf of the CSE Institute, I thank you for reading this Report on Commercial Sexual Exploitation in Pennsylvania. I hope readers will find this report helpful in the search for knowledge about human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation in our Commonwealth. I invite you to learn more about our mission and accomplishments over the last ten years as we strive to make meaningful changes moving forward. It is our wish that you will be inspired to join us in advocating sustainable progress.

Thank you.

Shea

## MEET OUR CO-FOUNDERS



**Shea M. Rhodes, Esq.**, a national expert on laws and policies related to sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, is the CSE Institute Co-Founder and Director. She has dedicated her career to combatting violence against women, working to protect the rights of those who are oppressed or exploited.

Ms. Rhodes is a member of several local, state, national, and international anti-trafficking initiatives. Most recently, through a grant awarded to the CSE Institute by Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), Ms. Rhodes chairs the Statewide Human Trafficking Coordination Project. She also sits on the Board of Directors for Dawn's Place, a residential treatment program for women who are victims of CSE and sex trafficking.

Prior to forming the CSE Institute in 2014, Ms. Rhodes served Philadelphia as an Assistant District Attorney. During that time, she helped found Project Dawn Court and developed a law enforcement working group to facilitate effective handling of human trafficking cases. Ms. Rhodes regularly conducts trainings and presentations throughout PA and nationally.



**Michelle Madden Dempsey**, the Harold Reuschlein Scholar Chair and Professor of Law, is a Co-Founder and the Faculty Advisor of the CSE Institute. She teaches in the areas of Criminal Law, Evidence, and Sexuality and the Law.

Professor Dempsey has devoted her career to combatting both CSE and violence against women. An internationally renowned scholar, she has received numerous awards and has published extensively on CSE from a perspective that incorporates both criminal law and philosophy. Professor Dempsey continues to pursue scholarly projects regarding CSE, sexual abuse, sexual consent, and related topics.

She also serves as the Co-Editor in Chief of the premiere international, interdisciplinary journal, *CRIMINAL LAW & PHILOSOPHY*.

Professor Dempsey also co-founded and serves on the Executive Committee for *The Collective: Women in Legal Philosophy*, a new organization dedicated to supporting the work of women in legal philosophy.

## OUR MISSION:

We exist to eradicate  
injustice and  
amplify dignity.

## CSE INSTITUTE: TEN YEARS OF IMPACT

The Institute to Address Commercial Sexual Exploitation at Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law (CSE Institute) provides legal research, technical assistance, policy consultation, and training to partners throughout Pennsylvania, the United States and internationally united against sex trafficking and CSE. In 2016, we added a direct legal services component through the Justice for Victims Fellowship. Since inception in 2014, the CSE Institute has worked tirelessly toward our mission.

**> 350** Training sessions held throughout the state and nationally

**> 2000** Individuals trained in our “Enhanced Collaborative to Enhance Human Trafficking” Training

**160+** Agencies and individuals who have received technical assistance from the CSE Institute

**3** Anti-trafficking bills passed in Pennsylvania incorporating our expertise and the lived experience of our clients<sup>1</sup>

**> 17K** Hours worked by more than 130 student externs

## HISTORY OF THE CSE INSTITUTE



## UNLOCKING POTENTIAL: CSE INSTITUTE EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Each semester, a select group of second- and third year Villanova law students are chosen to participate in a for-credit externship with the CSE Institute.



### GOALS OF THE EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM

#### Customized Experience

The CSE Institute encourages externs to engage in projects that fall at the intersection of our mission and their interests, creating a unique, self-directed externship experience for each student.

#### Learn the Law

Through becoming familiar with laws regarding trafficking, prostitution, and commercial sexual exploitation, externs learn to confidently summarize, apply, and critique the law.

#### Strengthen Legal Skills

Externs strengthen and diversify their research and writing skills by drafting policy papers, compiling research findings, conducting legislative and policy analysis, and contributing to the CSE Institute online blog.

#### Understand the Issue

Interacting with victims and survivors and creating a “real world” connection with their work allows externs to understand the reality of commercial sexual exploitation and its consequences.

#### Gain Real World Experience

Contributing to the representation of survivors of sex trafficking in criminal record clearing matters including expungement, vacatur, pardons, and clemency gives externs hands-on legal experience.

#### Build a Legal Network

Externs have the opportunity to meet and cultivate relationships with judges, lawyers, advocates, and other professionals working to address commercial sexual exploitation in Pennsylvania and beyond.



## WHAT IS YOUR WHY?

Here is what our students had to say when asked why they wanted to be an extern with the CSE Institute.

"I wanted to join the CSE Institute because, after taking Shea's human trafficking course, my eyes were opened to the terrible horrors of this issue. I knew I wanted to get involved - and what better way to do that than to join the Institute where I could learn from the best mentors and the best group of peers."

-Rachel Cook, CWSL '25

"The CSE Institute has truly been a highlight of my law school journey. From serving as an extern to transitioning into a research assistant role, I've honed invaluable skills that extend far beyond the classroom. One profound realization has been the significance of adopting a trauma-informed approach in the legal profession, regardless of legal focus. Exploring how policy can be used to advocate for sex trafficking victims has also been both eye-opening and rewarding. The skills I've learned from the CSE Institute will be invaluable throughout my entire legal career."

Laurel Enaco, CWSL '24

"Working with the CSE Institute has been an incredible experience. I externed for the Institute because I believe in the Institute's mission and greatly admire the sheer passion of the Institute's team. I also wanted a practical experience in law school that focused on trauma informed lawyering since this is not a skill that can be taught in a law school classroom. Being part of the Institute has taught me so much about the importance of advocacy and how lawyers can use these skills to support survivors of commercial sexual exploitation."

Kaitlyn Furst, CWSL '25

"Externing at the CSE Institute continues to be the highlight of my law school career. This year, I had the honor of working with a client to prepare her vacatur petition. Empowering a survivor in her choice to pursue record-clearing options and having the opportunity to gain practical experience through guided trauma-informed lawyering has been an incredibly rewarding and eye-opening experience and has forever altered the way that I experience and interact with the world both as a woman and as a future lawyer."

Riley Crouthamel, CWSL '25

“Working with the CSE Institute for the past three years has been the most rewarding experience I have had in law school. The women who run the Institute are huge role models in my life and I loved learning from them. The Institute not only demonstrated to me how the legal profession can support and aid survivors of sexual exploitation but provided me with a safe space to learn and grow as a future attorney. I am beyond thankful for everything that the Institute has taught me and will take the lessons I learned from the Institute with me forever.”

Michaela Kelly, CWSL '24

“Externing at the CSE Institute continues to be my “why” for attending law school. This year, I had the amazing opportunity to participate in direct client representation by drafting an expungement petition for a client, as well as contributing to another client’s path to vacatur. It was an honor to engage with these practical experiences and become more educated on the application of trauma-informed lawyering, as well as empower survivors through their decisions to pursue record-clearing options. Prior to attending Villanova, I envisioned myself as a part of this incredible team and I will forever be grateful for the meaningful opportunities and relationships that I have gained through my externship.”

Julia Smith, CWSL '25



## CSE INSTITUTE SYMPOSIUM RECAP

On Friday, October 13, 2023, the CSE Institute hosted our annual symposium, **“Combatting Commercial Sexual Exploitation Through Equality Model Policies and Laws.”** The day-long event included cutting-edge panel presentations from survivors driving policy reforms alongside attorneys and law reformers, including panelists from Sweden, Maine, and Massachusetts, to guide our next steps in progressing the Equality Model as a way of combatting CSE in Pennsylvania and beyond. We also had a fireside chat discussing the abolitionist law in France. We were thrilled that Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Joanna McClinton, CWSL ‘06 delivered remarks on Political Will and Substantive Rules: The Role of Politics in Developing Laws to Combat Commercial Sexual Exploitation.

With over 120 individuals registered for the event we had a packed audience that included prosecutors from the Attorney General’s office, civil society representation from throughout Pennsylvania, Washington, DC, Connecticut, and New England, as well as Pennsylvania State Representative Kristine Howard, who serves part of Chester County, and our wonderful alumni who remain committed to advancing the CSE Institute’s mission.

*“Quite honestly this was one of the best meetings I have been to regarding CSE. The diversity and expertise of the panelists was incredibly informative, and I will need lots of time to process all of the information I heard today. Thank you so much to the VU Institute to Address CSE for this wonderful symposium!”*

Feedback from Symposium  
Participant

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to our incredible group of panelists and moderators. The work our panelists have accomplished and the efforts they continue to pursue serve as an incredible inspiration for the CSE Institute and stakeholders in Pennsylvania, the United States, and beyond.

Heartfelt thanks also goes out to the community at Villanova Law who work tirelessly behind the scenes and without whom these events would never happen: Brian Sirak, Michael Hayden, Emmy Bebee, Samantha Pilhuj, Joe Mariani, Victoria Durand, and the amazing Samantha Myers.

We’re also grateful for our partners who sponsored the event including Julie Uebler of Uebler Law, LLC, Mark Momjian of Momjian Anderer, LLC, and the National Center on Sexual Exploitation.

All panels can be viewed on our website, [www.cseinstitute.org](http://www.cseinstitute.org).

## Panel 1 Recap - Sweden: Where it All Started

Panel 1 continued the conversation started at the 2022 Symposium, “Combating Commercial Sexual Exploitation through Law and Policy,” where panelists emphasized the importance of Sweden’s policies in the development of the Equality Model. Moderated by **Ane Mathieson**, Co-Director of the EMPOWER Center at Sanctuary for Families, the panel included **Silvia Ingolfssdottir Åkermark**, Attorney, Brottsbyran advokatena Åkermark & Lodin AB; **Anna Ekstedt**, Sweden’s Ambassador at Large for Combating Trafficking in Persons; **Madelieene Sundell**, National Coordinator for anti-human trafficking at the Salvation Army, Sweden; and **Annika Svensson**, National Police, Sweden.



The Equality Model, embodied in the Swedish Sex Purchase Act of 1999, comprises four key principles: decriminalization of the prostituted person, criminalization of sex buyers and facilitators, public education campaigns on the harms of prostitution, and comprehensive exit services for victims. Central to the Equality Model is its focus on targeting demand for commercial sexual exploitation and educating sex buyers on the consequences of their actions. National awareness campaigns funded by the government play a crucial role in this effort, shedding light on the gendered nature of the commercial sex industry and its impact on society.

In Sweden, law enforcement prioritizes targeting sex buyers and traffickers while providing support services for individuals engaged in prostitution. Officer Annika Svensson shared insights into deterring sex buying and building trust with survivors, highlighting the role of drugs in perpetuating exploitation.

Despite the law’s successes, panelists stressed the need for continuous improvement and the importance of listening to survivors and those engaged in prostitution. They encouraged global advocates to adapt the Equality Model to their communities while emphasizing the importance of allowing local context and culture to guide implementation efforts. The panel closed by highlighting Sweden's leadership in combatting commercial sexual exploitation through the Equality Model, urging global action and innovation to address this pervasive issue.



## Recap of Fireside Chat with Jonathan Machler

During the symposium, our Institute's Director and Co-Founder, **Shea Rhodes**, sat down with **Jonathan Machler**, the Executive Director of the Coalition for the Abolition of Prostitution, CAP International. During this "Fireside Chat", Shea and Jonathan explored France's abolitionist model- how it started, how it's going, and what we can learn from it.



Jonathan emphasized the importance of recognizing prostitution as a form of violence based on multiple forms of inequalities: men's domination over women, rich over poor, majority groups over minorities. He explained "there will be no equality between women and men as long as men think that they can buy access to women's bodies. Prostitution is part of a long patriarchal tradition of making women's bodies available for men's benefit."

Jonathan explained that France garnered the political will to adopt the abolitionist

model primarily as a result of feminist advocacy. By mobilizing diverse groups, abolitionists demonstrated that the system of prostitution is not just a "women's issue" nor is it an issue that is left to be addressed by advocates alone. Rather, abolishing prostitution is an issue that affects all of society and must be addressed by all of society.

Shea and Jonathan then turned to how things are going now - seven years after the law's adoption. Jonathan noted that there is still a lot of work to do- the laws are not implemented uniformly across the country, exit programs need increased funding, and the pro-prostitution lobby continues to launch attacks- but overall, France's model embodies a victory in the fight against the system of prostitution. Jonathan left us with these questions: Do we want to accept coerced sex in our society? Can we recognize that socio-economic coercion resulting from sexist, racist, class-based patterns of oppression is legitimate coercion? If we do not, then we accept the normalization of the purchase of sexual acts. We must ask ourselves what kind of society we want to live in.

## Panel 2 Recap - Maine: Successful Advocacy Lessons Learned.

The panelists included: **Eleanor Kennelly Gaetan**, PhD, Vice President and Director of Public Policy, National Center on Sexual Exploitation; **Tricia Gant**, Executive Director, Just Love Worldwide; **Lois Galagay Reckitt**, Maine State Representative; and **Nate Walsh**, Assistant District Attorney, Androscoggin County District Attorney's Office. The panel was moderated by **Yasmin Vafa**, Co-founder & Executive Director, Rights4Girls.

The panel discussed the Equality Model as the most effective legal model to address the harms of commercial sexual exploitation by highlighting how the

Equality Model passed for the first time in the United States, specifically in Maine.

All the panelists spoke about their support for the Equality Model's four basic tenets: (1) decriminalization of the prostituted person; (2) criminalization of sex buyers and facilitators with a

commitment to treating buying sex as a serious crime; (3) a public education campaign about the inherent harms of prostitution; and (4) funded, robust, holistic exit services for victims of commercial

sexual exploitation. A large part of this panel focused on the fact that while passing legislation is an important first step, the real work begins with implementation of new laws.

*"Passing legislation is one thing but implementation is a whole other challenge."*

Yasmin Vafa,  
Executive Director, Rights for Girls



## Panel 3 Recap - Massachusetts: Survivors Driving Equality Model Legislation.

The final panel of our annual symposium included **Audra Doody**, Co-Executive Director of Safe Exit Initiative (SEI); **Nora Gallo**, Public Policy and Advocacy Manager of My Life My Choice; **Audrey Morrissey**, Co-Executive Director of My Life My Choice; **Delia Vega**, Senior Survivor Mentor and Policy and Advocacy Specialist of My Life My Choice; and **Ryann**



**Whitaker**, Coordinator of Transitional Housing Resources for Victims of Exploitation at SEI. The panel was moderated by **Alisa Bernard**, the National Campaign Manager of World Without Exploitation.

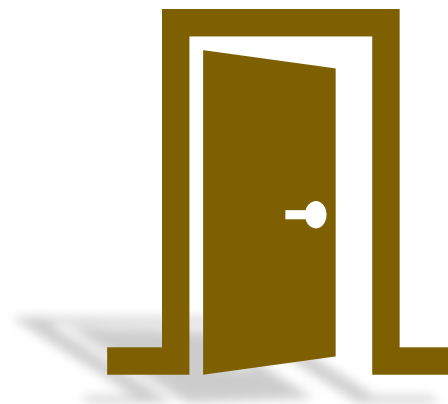
This panel discussed recent developments in Equality Model legislation in Massachusetts. They emphasized that there are a multitude of elements involved in how people are being impacted by trafficking in Massachusetts, thus, it is imperative that policy work is informed by survivors leading the efforts to implement Equality Model legislation. In Massachusetts, survivors created the Equality Model in Massachusetts Coalition (EMMA), which focuses on uplifting survivor voices in changing policy in Massachusetts and assists in building relationships among survivors, allies, and other survivor-led organizations.

For the Equality Model to be successful in the United States, there needs to be inter-organization cooperation and relationship building among different agencies and institutions, such as hospitals, schools, district attorneys, public defenders, and law enforcement. During the panel, Audrey Morrissey stated that, “relationship building is so important, especially on a national level. Events like the Symposium are how these national relationships are built. People bring different expertise, and one person cannot hold all the information. Each person plays their part and has a role in the fight.”

The lessons shared from the advocacy for Equality Model legislation serve as inspiration for the CSE Institute and stakeholders in Pennsylvania and the United States as a whole.

## OPENING DOORS FOR SURVIVORS: JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS FELLOWSHIP IMPACT

Since the inception of the Justice for Victims Fellowship in 2016, 121 clients have been served as a result of the Fellows' collective efforts. The Fellows' priority is to provide criminal record clearing options for victims and survivors of sex trafficking primarily through vacatur and expungement. Of the 65 clients seeking vacatur of their criminal records, the fellows have successfully achieved vacatur of 230 cases with over 360 charges being erased from their criminal records. These survivors had anywhere from 1 to almost 40 vacatur-eligible charges removed from their criminal histories.



**65**

**Clients Served**

**230**

**Cases Vacated**

**360**

**Charges Cleared**

### WHAT IS VACATUR?

In Pennsylvania, criminalized survivors of human trafficking can petition the Court to clear six enumerated crimes off their criminal records through a remedy known as vacatur.<sup>2</sup> Vacatur symbolizes Pennsylvania's recognition that it has unjustly convicted and punished these victims – and that they are not, and never were, criminally culpable for conduct that was a direct result of their victimization.

To be eligible for vacatur in Pennsylvania, a trafficking survivor must show:

- They were convicted of one of the six enumerated offenses eligible for the remedy,
- Status as a victim of human trafficking,
- There is a nexus between the conviction and their status as a trafficking victim. AND
- The prosecuting attorney consents to the motion seeking vacatur.



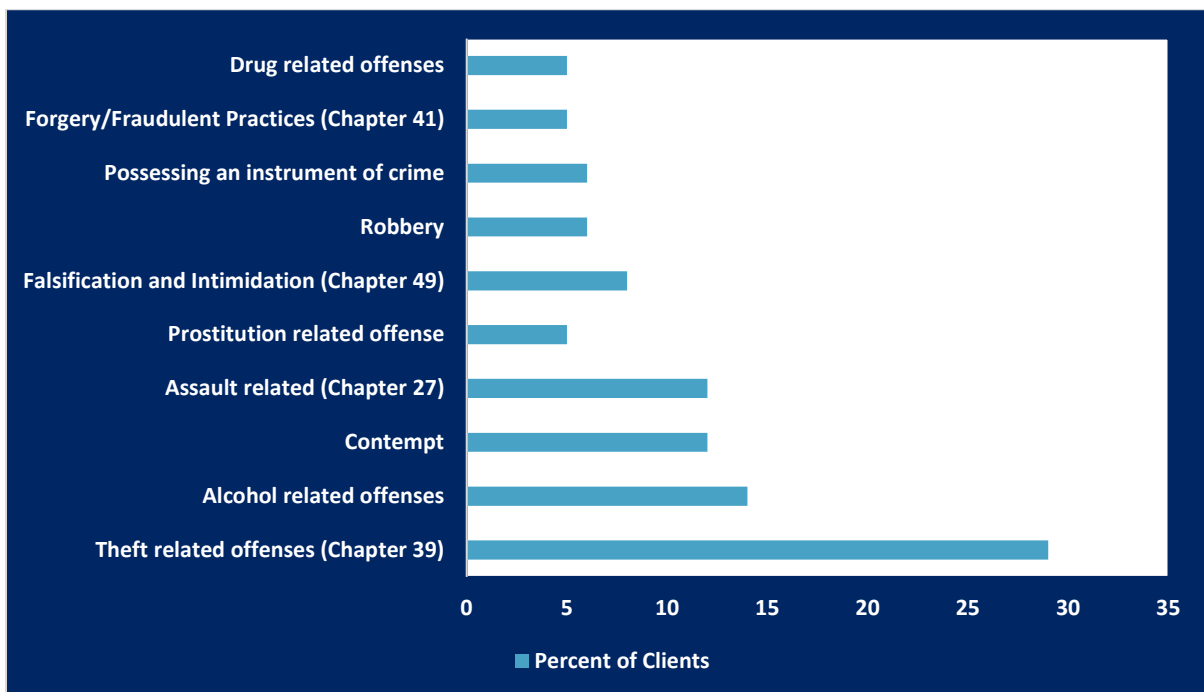
## VACATUR IN PENNSYLVANIA: LIMITS OF THE LAW

We have spoken with countless survivors who could benefit from criminal record clearing. Yet, despite the successes we have had in obtaining vacatur relief for some of our clients, there are several limitations with Pennsylvania's current vacatur law:

- The current list of eligible convictions does not encompass the wide breath of criminal conduct human traffickers force their victims to perform
- The requirement of District Attorney consent to file bars victims from arguing their vacatur petition in front of the court
- Only convictions are vacatur eligible- leaving delinquency adjudications, probation without verdict cases, and withdrawn (i.e., dismissed or nolle prossed) cases on a survivor's criminal records
- The law places burdens on survivors in the form of filing fees and possible attendance at court hearings

***62% of CSE Institute clients still have convictions left on their criminal records AFTER the vacatur remedy is fully exhausted.***

## PERCENT OF CLIENTS WITH NON VACATUR ELIGIBLE OFFENSE(S)



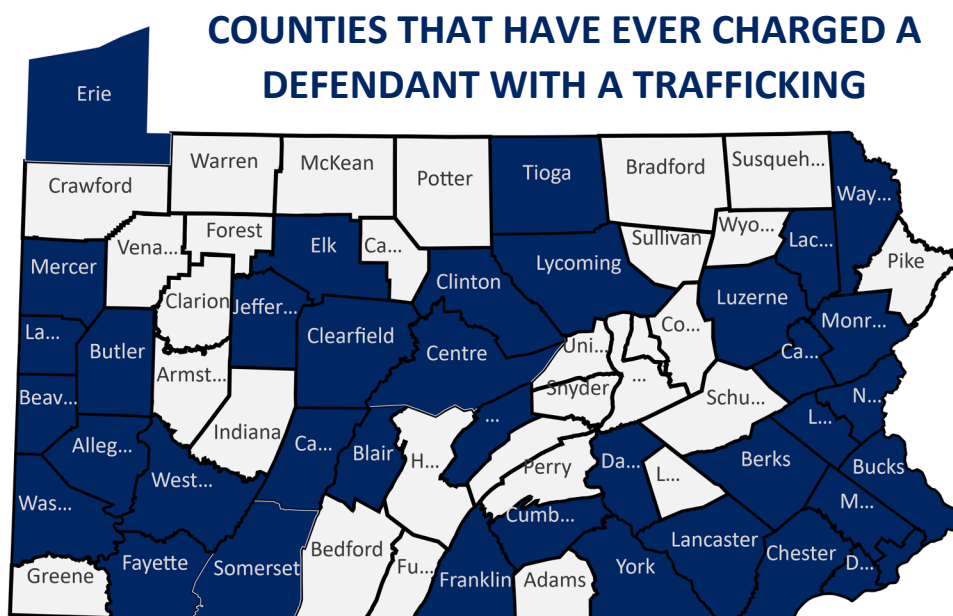
## LAW IN ACTION

Since our inception in 2014 coinciding with the passage of Pennsylvania's comprehensive human trafficking statute, the CSE Institute has tracked criminal charges across the Commonwealth for crimes involving sex trafficking and prostitution. These charges fall under two statutory umbrellas: sex trafficking charges under Chapter 30<sup>3</sup> and Prostitution and Related Offenses under § 5902.<sup>4</sup>

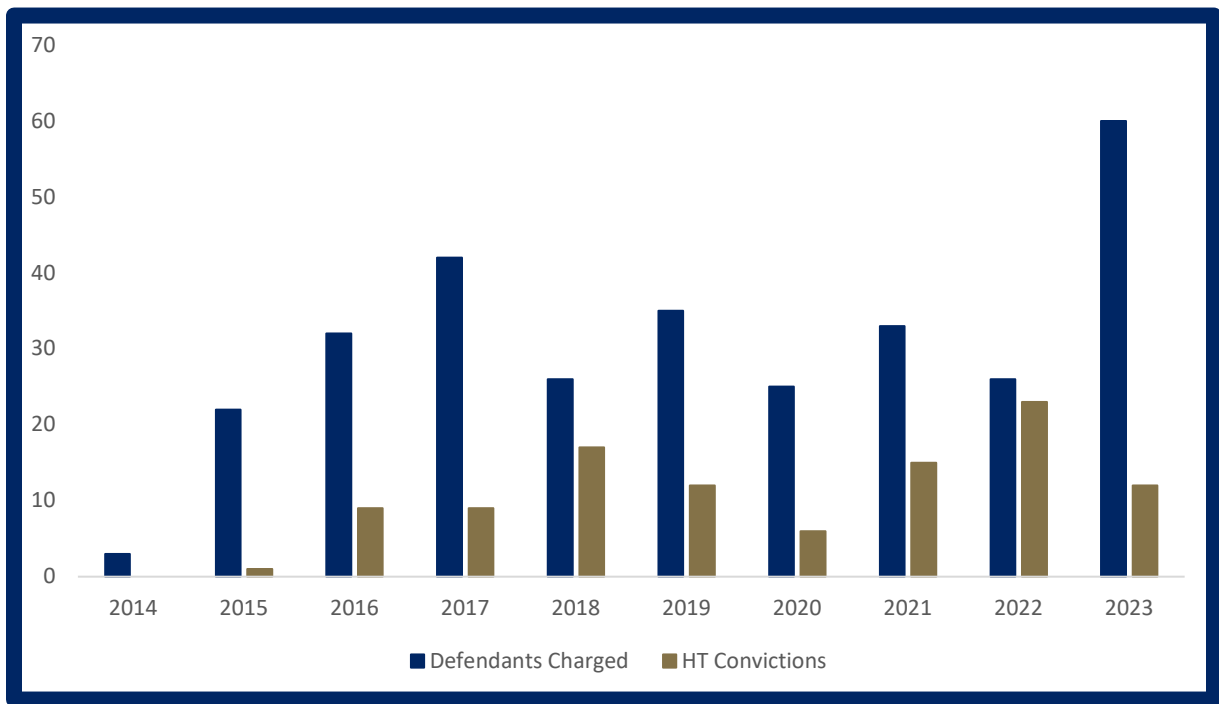
### 2023 Pennsylvania Trafficking Charge Statistics

In 2023, there were **19 counties** who charged a trafficking related case<sup>5</sup> against a total of **60 defendants**, the largest number charged in a single year since enactment of the law. The CSE Institute has tracked trafficking related case data through both the media and the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts. These data show that between 2014 and the end of 2023, prosecutors in 38 counties have used the law to charge trafficking related offenses against 304 defendants.

**38** OF 67 COUNTIES  
HAVE CHARGED AT  
LEAST ONE CASE SINCE  
ENACTMENT  
OF THE LAW



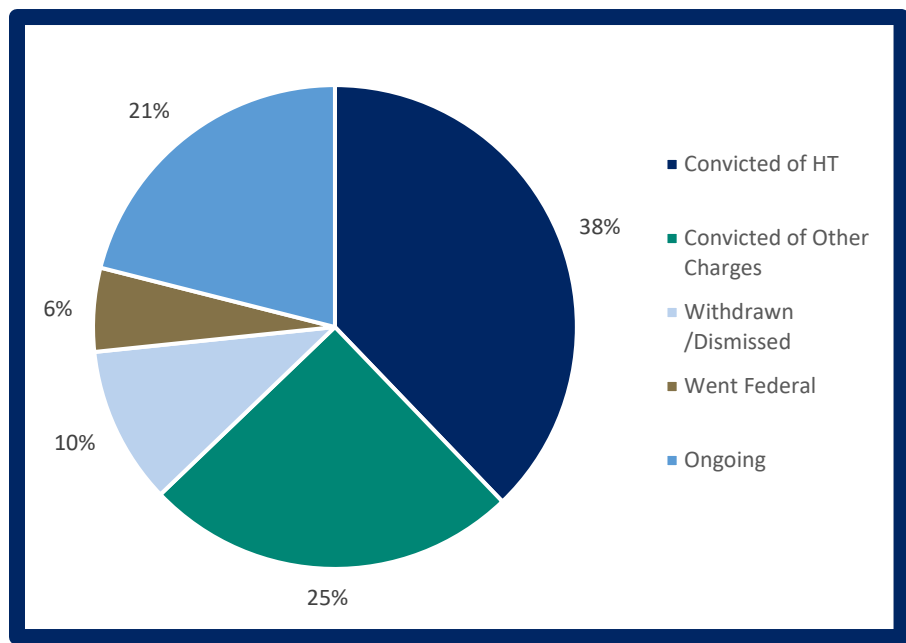
## NUMBER OF DEFENDANTS CHARGED AND CONVICTED BY YEAR



## OUTCOMES FOR CASES BROUGHT SINCE LAW WAS ENACTED

There have been **115** state human trafficking related convictions. A majority (56%) of these convictions occurred in six counties:

- Philadelphia (19)
- Chester (10)
- Bucks (9)
- Delaware (11)
- Lancaster (15)



## 2023 Pennsylvania Prostitution Charge Statistics

The CSE Institute has been tracking prostitution related charges since our inception. In 2023, for the third straight year, there were more arrests for buying sex<sup>6</sup> than there were for selling sex.<sup>7</sup> While the statewide data show a shift in focus to demand, this trend does not necessarily reflect a change in philosophy throughout the Commonwealth. These data are largely driven by four counties: Cumberland, Lancaster, Lehigh, and Philadelphia. Conversely, 20 of the 30 counties who charged any prostitution related offense in 2023 arrested more individuals for selling sex than for buying sex.

*Of the 30 counties that reported data to the AOPC in 2023, **only 10** counties charged violations of buying sex at a higher rate than selling sex.*

**OF THOSE CHARGED WITH  
BUYING SEX, 100% WERE MEN**

**OF THOSE CHARGED WITH  
SELLING SEX, 93% WERE  
WOMEN**

County	Selling	Buying
Allegheny	27	1
Beaver	1	0
Blair	0	2
Bucks	11	0
Chester	1	0
Centre	0	1
Cumberland	10	54
Dauphin	4	5
Delaware	2	0
Erie	1	0
Fayette	4	0
Franklin	0	1
Lackawanna	18	1
Lancaster	4	36
Lawrence	3	0
Lebanon	1	0
Lehigh	10	24
Luzerne	4	3
Lycoming	1	0
Mercer	1	2
Mifflin	1	0
Monroe	1	0
Montgomery	1	2
Northampton	7	4
Philadelphia+	2	50
Schuylkill	1	0
Union	1	0
Washington	2	0
Westmoreland	1	0
York	10	5
<b>Total:</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>191</b>

## CHAMPION OF JUSTICE: AN INTERVIEW WITH CUMBERLAND COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SEAN MCCORMACK

Cumberland County District Attorney Seán McCormack has been a prosecutor for thirty-four years and spent most of his career working on child sexual abuse cases. He first joined the Cumberland County District Attorney's Office in March of 2020 as the Chief of the District Attorney's Trial Division, after serving thirty years in the Dauphin County District Attorney's Office. DA McCormack's long career as a prosecutor has allowed him to experience the ever-changing landscape of anti-trafficking work.

In 2014, the enactment of Pennsylvania's first comprehensive anti-trafficking statute, "Act 105," expanded Pennsylvania's legal definition of human trafficking and provided prosecutors with better tools to hold traffickers accountable. One of the most notable changes brought by Act 105 was the transition to targeting sex buyers, or "the demand." Act 105 imposes criminal liability for trafficking, not only on those who induce sex trafficking, but also on those who solicit or obtain sex from a person, if the buyer knows or recklessly disregards that the individual is a victim of trafficking.

When he was sworn in as District Attorney in January of 2022, DA

McCormack quickly became aware of the human trafficking crisis in Cumberland County, as well as the outdated methods used by law enforcement to combat such issues. In response to these issues, DA McCormack spearheaded Operation Impact Demand through the Cumberland County Human Trafficking Task Force to identify and arrest sex buyers who maintain the demand for commercial sex. Within the broader scope of Operation Impact Demand, DA McCormack also initiated OPERATION: Closed2Trafficking in conjunction with York and Dauphin counties.

***"The customers are the ones that fuel the business. Without customers' money, the traffickers don't have money going into their pockets."***

OPERATION: Closed2Trafficking was conducted to identify supposedly legitimate massage parlors that were operating as fronts for labor and sex trafficking.<sup>8</sup> Specifically, OPERATION: Closed2Trafficking targeted sex buyers who patronized illicit Asian massage businesses throughout south-central Pennsylvania. When discussing why he wanted to focus on going after the customers of these businesses, DA McCormack explained that "The

customers are the ones that fuel the business. Without customers' money, the traffickers don't have money going into their pockets."

During an operation, one of the difficult pieces is determining whether a business is an illicit massage parlor or a legitimate business. DA McCormack advised that some of the investigation involves "old-fashion police work", such as conducting stake out, running license plates, and interviewing customers. Additionally, law enforcement will look for patterns typical of an illicit massage business, including high turnover rates of the women employed there. In illicit massage businesses, the women who work there typically do not have any means of independence and are often placed in these businesses with no means of transportation. After approximately 3-6 weeks, a woman will be removed, and a new employee will take her place. Further, Cumberland County has their own forensics lab, which many other counties do not possess. This allows law enforcement to test DNA and other forms of forensic evidence. Because of the complicated nature of distinguishing between an illicit massage parlor and an established business, OPERATION: Closed2Trafficking took close to a year before law enforcement were able to make arrests.

DA McCormack expressed that the most challenging and controversial part of conducting these operations is what happens to victims afterwards. Following an operation, victims are ultimately charged, however, DA McCormack

remains steadfast in treating their cases differently. Once an illicit massage business is identified and warrants are served, victims are sent to separate victim centers, rather than police stations. These centers are typically held at local churches and are comprised of community non-profit organizations, as well as translators. Additionally, DA McCormack explained that Cumberland County looks to provide victims with services and exit strategies by collaborating with different community groups. Further, under Act 105, judges are permitted to vacate certain criminal convictions, such as prostitution, that trafficking victims received as a direct result of their victimization. The one barrier to vacatur is that the Commonwealth must consent for the petition to be filed, however, DA McCormack emphasized his strong desire to see victims' cases move through the courts and eventually be vacated.

***"This crime doesn't stay in one place. It is all over. You really need to work together to get to the bottom of it."***

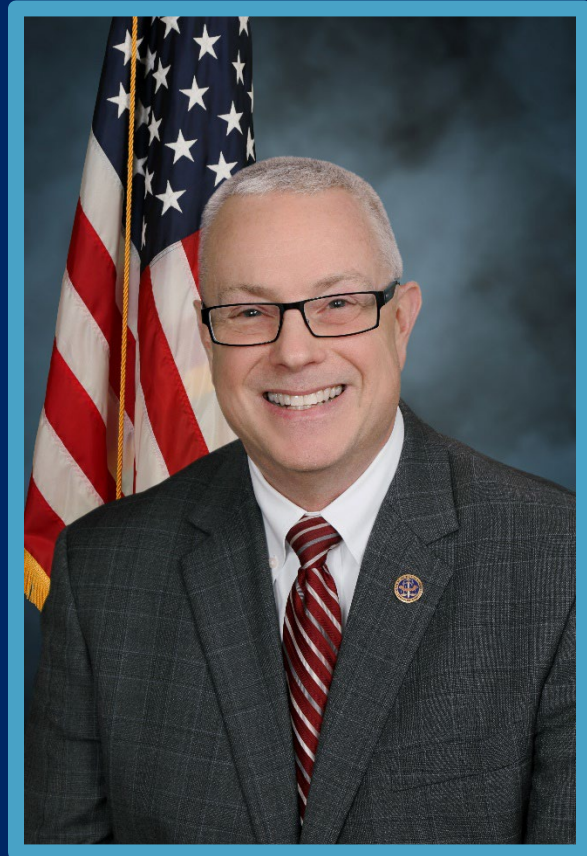
Since the passing of Act 105, DA McCormack has faced many obstacles in making necessary changes to the ways in which Cumberland County law enforcement responds to human trafficking. The most prominent challenges have been education and patience. Many Cumberland County law enforcement officers most likely

encountered trafficking victims during past operations but failed to recognize them as such.

The commercial sex trade has drastically changed throughout the years, especially with the rise in technology and social media. As a result, the Cumberland County team has had to relearn the modern methods used by traffickers to attract those who patronize illicit massage businesses, such as websites and social media platforms, to successfully replicate those tactics during OPERATION: Closed2Trafficking. Additionally, Cumberland County law enforcement has partnered with several anti-trafficking organizations and victim services groups to better understand the trauma that victims go through.

The significance of operations like Operation Impact Demand and OPERATION: Closed2Trafficking is that they target the sex buyers fueling the demand for commercial sex by putting money into the hands of traffickers. Since the commencement of Operation Impact Demand in 2023, forty-five individuals have been arrested and ten illicit massage businesses have been shut down across Cumberland, York, and Dauphin Counties. When discussing the outlook of Operation Impact Demand, DA McCormack stated that he would continue to conduct operations and would like to see this trend grow throughout other Pennsylvania counties. Moreover, he hopes to eventually see more cooperation at the federal level so that bigger, inter-state operations can be conducted. In his parting message, DA McCormack

emphasized that, “This crime doesn’t stay in one place. It is all over. You really need to work together to get to the bottom of it.”



Sean McCormack  
Cumberland County District Attorney



## CSE INSTITUTE POLICY PRIORITIES

As part of our work at the CSE Institute, we draft and share policy papers relating to key issues regarding best practices in addressing sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation, sexual misconduct, and related legislation addressing forms of gender-based violence. At the beginning of the 2023/2024 legislative cycle the CSE Institute published five policy priorities that we urged Pennsylvania legislators to advance this session:



### CSE INSTITUTE POLICY PRIORITIES

- 1. Expand Post Conviction Relief for Victims of Human Trafficking**
- 2. Modernize Pennsylvania's Prostitution and Trafficking Statutes**
- 3. Second Look Legislation for Victims of Interpersonal Violence**
- 4. Address Illicit Massage Businesses through Regulation**
- 5. Address Survivors Driver's License Concerns**



## Policy Priority 1: Expand Post Conviction Relief for Victims of Human Trafficking

One aspect of Pennsylvania's anti-trafficking legislation enables criminalized survivors of human trafficking to vacate certain offenses from their criminal records. Vacatur symbolizes a recognition that the state has unjustly convicted these victims – and that they are not criminally culpable for conduct that was a direct result of their victimization. While powerful, there are several limitations of Pennsylvania's current vacatur statute:

- The requirement of District Attorney consent bars victims from arguing their vacatur petition in front of the court
- The current list of eligible convictions does not encompass the wide breath of criminal conduct human traffickers force their victims to perform
- Only convictions are vacatur eligible- leaving adjudications, probation without verdict cases, and withdrawn cases on a survivor's criminal records
- Filing fees and potential court appearances create unnecessary burdens on survivors

### THE SOLUTION:

To address the flaws preventing survivors from accessing this important remedy, the CSE Institute recommends the PA legislature amend the Commonwealth's vacatur provision to:

- ✓ **Change the DA consent requirement to a notice requirement.** This revision would bring Pennsylvania in line with the rest of the nation as the Commonwealth is the *only* state that requires DA consent for a vacatur motion.
- ✓ **Expand the list of vacatur eligible offenses.** At a minimum, the list of eligible offenses should be expanded to reflect the experiences of survivors who have been trafficked within Pennsylvania.
- ✓ **Remove unnecessary barriers to access.** Common barriers to access the vacatur remedy include filing fees and the fear of having to attend a hearing.
- ✓ **Allow survivors to vacate non-convictions from their criminal record as well.** This change would close a loophole in the current law preventing survivors from accessing vacatur as intended.

***"Clearing my criminal record provided an immense window of opportunity to reestablish myself as a productive member of society."***

Tammy McDonnell, Survivor Leader and  
CSE Institute Advisory Board Member

## Policy Priority 2: Modernize Pennsylvania’s Prostitution and Trafficking Statutes

For years, the CSE Institute has advocated for greater protections for those who are commercially sexually exploited by adjusting the Commonwealth’s trafficking and prostitution laws. Specific recommendations we advocate for are to:

- ✓ Eliminate recidivism penalties for non-violent crimes of prostitution<sup>9</sup>
- ✓ Modernize prostitution and human trafficking statute language to be more accurate and victim centered
- ✓ Add “patronizing” to the list of acts that qualify as trafficking to bring Pennsylvania in line with federal law<sup>10</sup>
- ✓ Disaggregate the prostitution statute moving all crimes except the sale of sex (18 Pa.C.S. § 5902(a)) to Chapter 30

### WHERE ARE WE NOW?

In 2023, Act 39 was signed into law and added “patronizing” to the list of acts that qualify as trafficking in Pennsylvania.

The CSE Institute continues to urge legislators to reintroduce 2021 House Bill 1835, “Eliminating Recidivism Penalties for Non-Violent Crimes of Prostitution.”<sup>11</sup> This would:

- ✓ Eliminate recidivist penalties for persons in prostitution
- ✓ Modernize prostitution and human trafficking statute language to be more accurate and victim centered,
- ✓ Remove the offense of “patronizing a victim of sexual servitude” (18 Pa.C.S. § 3013), and
- ✓ Disaggregate the prostitution statute by moving all crimes except the sale of sex (18 Pa.C.S. § 5902(a)) to Chapter 30 - Human Trafficking.

## Policy Priority 3: Second Look Legislation for Victims of Interpersonal Violence

### THE ISSUE:

**A**lthough survivors of human trafficking who are incarcerated may lack the language to express their perceived diminished culpability, the criminal justice system in some states have ways of accounting for these inequities. There are three avenues in which victim-offenders may have their victimization heard and accounted for in the criminal justice system once they are found guilty of a crime: mitigating the original sentence, second look resentencing, and clemency.

***Pennsylvania has the 3rd largest percentage of its prison population serving life without parole (LWOP). Two laws, the mandatory sentence of life imprisonment for first- and second-degree murder and the denial of parole eligibility to anyone serving a life sentence, are largely responsible for 13.4% of Pennsylvania's prison population serving LWOP, compared to 3.6% nationally.<sup>12</sup>***

In 2020, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Office of Victim Advocate (OVA) conducted a study on the relationship between participation as an

offender and personal victimization.<sup>13</sup> The OVA research focused on women incarcerated for crimes committed while experiencing either domestic violence or human trafficking, referring to them as "victim-offenders." This terminology acknowledges that these individuals are both "victims" due to their experience with domestic violence or human trafficking, while recognizing they also were found guilty of an offense, and thus "offenders."

Of the 62 women surveyed, 46 answered yes to either being a victim of domestic violence, being prostituted, or both (74%). Those who answered yes were then asked whether evidence of their victimization was presented at trial. Thirty-seven of the 46 women said the evidence was not presented (80%). The same 46 women were also asked whether they believed their case was one of self-defense. Twenty-seven women answered yes (44%), 30 answered no (48%), three did not answer (5%), one responded they did not know (2%), and one responded N/A (2%). Those who answered yes to self-defense were then asked whether they thought their self-defense was accurately presented at trial. Of the 27 women who answered yes to self-defense, 24 responded no (89%), two responded yes (7%), and one did not answer (4%).

CSE Institute client, **Cyd Charisse Berger** is an example of this cycle of violence exacerbated by the state's punitive sentencing laws. Cyd was a trafficking victim in the late 1970s. Her trafficker, Dwayne Hicks, physically abused her, threatened her family, kidnapped her son, and forced her into prostitution.

In 1983, Cyd Berger was sentenced to life without the possibility of parole after being convicted as a co-conspirator to murder. Her co-defendant Hicks murdered a sex buyer to steal his car, while Cyd sat, paralyzed with fear, in

another room. **Today, over 40 years later, Cyd remains incarcerated.**

Several states have implemented some type of “second look” provision and many have pending legislation to implement it.<sup>14</sup> “Second look” laws allow courts or parole boards to reevaluate a person's sentence after specified period of time served in prison.<sup>15</sup> This type of change is particularly important in Pennsylvania which has some of the harshest sentencing policies in the country and where the Board of Pardons rarely allows for commutation.<sup>16</sup>

## HOW IS PENNSYLVANIA ADDRESSING THIS ISSUE?

In 2023, House Bill 1843 was introduced and proposes sentencing considerations for child victim offenders.<sup>17</sup> Under the bill, upon finding that the child victim offender's criminal conduct was against their abuser courts have discretion to depart from mandatory minimum sentences or sentencing enhancements, impose a determination of guilt without further penalty, transfer the child's case to juvenile hearing, or reduce or waive imposition of fines, court costs, or restitution.

House Bill 1843 is an important step towards protecting victims and achieving true justice. But more must be done. Notably, the bill is limited to original sentencing mitigation, applies only to children, and fails to offer an opportunity for child victim offenders already serving sentences to have their sentences reconsidered. These gaps must be addressed to protect survivors of human trafficking within Pennsylvania.

Throughout the 2023-2024 Legislative session, the CSE Institute has advocated for the following:

- ✓ Enable victims of interpersonal violence who have been sentenced to long periods of incarceration to apply for re-sentencing after serving 15 years
- ✓ Allow judges to consider whether the original sentence fulfills the goals of sentencing or whether a new sentence would be more appropriate
- ✓ Acknowledge issues that were not considered at the time of sentencing because society did not yet recognize their importance

## Policy Priority 4: Address Illicit Massage Businesses through Regulation

### THE ISSUE

Illicit massage businesses are human trafficking operations that attempt to disguise themselves as legitimate massage establishments. They are a large source of both sex and labor trafficking in Pennsylvania and nationally. A 2018 report from Polaris showed that there are more than 9,000 illicit massage businesses in the United States, making it a \$2.5 billion a year industry.<sup>18</sup> The current pervasiveness of corporate secrecy facilitates the ongoing manipulation and exploitation of victims in illicit massage parlors. Thus, more robust legal regulations are needed to create stronger corporate transparency.



Pictured here is Lily Spa, one of the massage businesses targeted by Operation: Closed2Trafficking in Cumberland County, PA.<sup>19</sup>

### THE SOLUTION

Pass House Bill 1241 “Eliminating Illicit Massage Businesses”<sup>20</sup>, which was initially introduced last legislative session as HB 2899.<sup>21</sup> HB 1241 represents a critical step toward reestablishing the Commonwealth’s position as a leading jurisdiction in the fight against human trafficking. If passed, this bill would:

- ✓ Require both a valid manager’s license and valid bodywork facility license with the application transmitted to the Pennsylvania State Police, the Department of Human Services, and the FBI for review and criminal history check
- ✓ Require facilities maintain a comprehensive service log tracking customer, service provider, type of service, and other details
- ✓ Ensure that if a bodywork facility is operating illicitly, victims will be provided information and services through the Office of Victims’ Services and the Crime Victims Act<sup>22</sup>

## Policy Priority 5: Addressing Survivors Driver's License Concerns

### THE ISSUE:

Commercial sexual exploitation is a devastating crime that results in lifelong collateral consequences for victims and survivors.<sup>23</sup> Some victims of CSE and other forms of interpersonal violence have been forced to drive illegally, unable to receive or respond to any violation notices. This has resulted in victims and survivors having their vehicle operating privileges revoked or suspended. The inability to drive is a barrier to rebuilding a new life post victimization.



### THE SOLUTION:

The CSE Institute continues to advocate for two policy changes that would assist survivors' in fully restoring driving privileges in Pennsylvania:

- ✓ Urge Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to reinstate driver's licenses of survivors whose convictions have been vacated.
- ✓ Create a mechanism to provide relief to survivors of commercial sexual exploitation facing driving consequences due to their victimization.

## POLICY SPOTLIGHT: AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

**V**ictims of human trafficking are compelled to commit crimes at the direction or coercion of their trafficker. Traffickers recruit vulnerable women and exploit these vulnerabilities to keep them under their control.

The tragic reality that victims turn to violence against their trafficker or abuser is well-documented; Sara Kruzan and Chrystul Kizer are two recent, high-profile cases where girls under eighteen years old were recruited and groomed for commercial sex, and subsequently killed their traffickers to escape the abuse.<sup>24</sup> These cases are not anomalies. They are only two instances of an all-too-real scenario whereby victims of trafficking, in desperation to escape the horrific abuse, see violence as the only way out.

Recognizing the need to protect survivors, Senate Bill 890 was introduced in 2023 in the Pennsylvania Senate<sup>25</sup> and a companion bill, House Bill 2227, was introduced this year in the House of Representatives.<sup>26</sup> Both pieces of legislation propose to establish an expanded affirmative defense for any individual who committed a crime as a direct result of their human trafficking victimization. Currently, an affirmative defense in Pennsylvania may only be brought if an individual is facing prostitution charges as a direct result of human trafficking. Senate Bill 890/House Bill 2227 propose to replace the existing “defense” with an expanded protection for all crimes committed as a direct result of trafficking. This includes crimes that result in the death of their abuser. These bills also propose changes that would clarify existing law by explicitly stating that the trafficker's prosecution and conviction for the crime of human trafficking are not required for a victim of human trafficking to utilize the affirmative defense.<sup>27</sup>



This legislation is a critical step toward achieving justice for survivors. Expanding the applicability of the affirmative defense to cover all crimes committed as a result of trafficking is crucial to best serve survivors who felt such conduct was the only way out.



## IMPACT LITIGATION: HOLDING FACILITATORS ACCOUNTABLE

**H**otels and motels are some of the most common venues for facilitating and financially benefitting from sex trafficking as they provide both easy entry and financial secrecy for sex buyers.<sup>28</sup> Because of their unique position, hotels have been held both criminally accountable and civilly liable for their role in sex trafficking under the Trafficking Victim's Protection Act (TVPA).<sup>29</sup> The TVPA allows survivors to sue anyone who knowingly benefits from their exploitation under federal law, which includes both traffickers and sex buyers.<sup>30</sup> Additionally, Pennsylvania law also allows a survivor to bring forth a cause of action against anyone who profits from their victimization, which could impose liability on the hotel as a corporate entity and the individual hotel employee who rented the room to the trafficker.<sup>31</sup> In 2023 and 2024, Pennsylvania saw several high-profile civil cases adjudicated against hotels, illustrating the importance of this impactful work. Although these civil lawsuits will not erase the horrors survivors have faced, recent high-profile civil cases increase public awareness about sex trafficking.

In October 2023, the North American Motor Inns and its owner Ramara, Inc. were **ordered to pay \$37.5 million in an unprecedented arbitration decision** in support of survivors.<sup>32</sup>

The three survivors, who were the Plaintiffs in this case, were trafficked as minors in 2012.<sup>33</sup> Kline & Specter filed a civil lawsuit on behalf of the survivors in 2020 and

2021 to “hold the hotel accountable for ignoring obvious and clear signs of sex trafficking.”<sup>34</sup> This civil case was the first human trafficking case in the United States to be successful in arbitration.<sup>35</sup>

*“[T]hese awards are a significant victory in holding hotel owners and operators accountable . . . and will hopefully cause the hotels to act to deter such conduct moving forward.”*

Emily Marks  
Partner at Kline and Spector, PC

In February 2024, the North American Motor Inn and Ramara Inc. were **ordered to pay \$24.5 million to two survivors** who were subjected to human trafficking on the property in West Philadelphia.<sup>36</sup> During the year of their victimization, the hotel was aware of a “culture of criminal activity” but ignored it instead of taking steps to combat the activity, including the trafficking.<sup>37</sup> The lawsuit also named Ramara Inc. as a defendant as it was the owner of the hotel at the time of the victimization.<sup>38</sup> Emily Marks, an attorney who represented the Plaintiffs, responded to the arbitration award by stating that, “these awards are a significant victory in holding hotel owners and operators accountable for the



open and obvious criminal activity that is occurring on their properties and will hopefully cause the hotels to act to deter such conduct moving forward.”<sup>39</sup>

The CSE Institute urges the hospitality industry to take ownership of this problem and confront it with tangible solutions. These solutions could include mandatory trainings for all management and employees to help them recognize the signs of sex trafficking in hotels and what to do if they suspect trafficking. The CSE Institute also urges the industry to stop turning a blind eye to the commercial sexual exploitation happening within their hotels. Instead, hotels and motels should become a leading force in stopping this exploitation altogether. The CSE Institute recognizes the need for legislation requiring these types of training, policies, and procedures to be implemented in every hotel and motel across the country.



North American Motor Inns, on City Line Avenue in Philadelphia.

### ***Samsung Fire & Marine Ins., Co. v. UFVS Mgmt. Co., LLC***

While there has been an increase in hotels being held civilly responsible in the United States for their inaction, there is a concern that insurers in the hospitality industry will try to limit their liability. For example, between 2017 and 2019, four women filed separate state court suits against the Roosevelt Inn in Philadelphia and the Days Inn where they were sex trafficked. The women alleged that the hotel ignored the clear signs of sex trafficking and the hotel failed to stop it from taking place. The women are now asking the Third Circuit to “reverse a lower court’s ruling that relieved the hotel’s insurers from covering the underlying lawsuits.”

In March 2023, U.S. District Judge Chad F. Kenney granted the motions for judgment on the pleadings and motion to dismiss from the Insurers. Judge Kenney reasoned that public policy bars insurance coverage for those involved in enabling human trafficking.<sup>40</sup> The decision to dismiss the case against the hotel’s insurance companies was based on the idea that shielding policyholders from the consequences of their criminal conduct would be “against the safety, morals, and welfare of the Commonwealth.”<sup>41</sup>

The Court’s decision in this case primarily relied on *Minnesota Fire & Casualty Co. v. Greenfield*, which was decided in 2004 by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.<sup>42</sup> In *Greenfield*, the Court held that an insured cannot use their insurance policy to defend against a civil action stemming from the criminal activity by the insured.<sup>43</sup>

The Court's decision in *Samsung Fire & Marine Ins., Co. v. UFVS Mgmt. Co., LLC* is based on the idea that the insured in this case knowingly benefitted "from acts facilitating the trafficking scheme" since they rented rooms to traffickers, and even if they did not knowingly benefit, they still ignored the clear signs that trafficking was occurring in their hotels.<sup>44</sup> Therefore, the Court concluded that based on the ruling in *Greenfield*, it would be against public policy to provide insurance for loss that is because of criminal conduct.<sup>45</sup> Currently, this decision is being appealed to the United States Third Circuit Court.<sup>46</sup>

Another case filed in May 2023 in the Pennsylvania Eastern District Court by Liberty Mutual Fire Insurance Co. seeks to not indemnify Red Roof Inns in two lawsuits brought by survivors.<sup>47</sup> The matter is currently stayed pending the outcome of *Samsung Fire & Marine Ins., Co. v. UFVS Mgmt. Co., LLC*.<sup>48</sup>

It is important to note that if insurers are excluded from liability for trafficking lawsuits, the exclusion will severely limit a survivor's ability to seek civil remedies for their victimization at these hotels.<sup>49</sup> Instead of restricting coverage, insurers should discuss the potential legal ramifications of human trafficking lawsuits with their insured so that they are aware of the consequences of turning a blind eye to what is occurring in their hotels. Insurers should advocate for legislation regarding mandatory human trafficking training in hotels and require that employees complete this training as part of their policies. Moreover, it is likely that if insurers begin to limit their liability for hotels, then insurers for short-term residences may also follow, severely limiting survivors' access to financial settlements further.

## ORGANIZATIONS & GROUPS WORKING AGAINST COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN PENNSYLVANIA

The following is not an exhaustive list and does not constitute an endorsement of any agency or services provided. There are new anti-exploitation organizations forming all across the Commonwealth annually. If your organization is missing from this list, please contact us.

Organization	Web Address
Abuse Network, The	<a href="https://www.abusenetwork.org/">https://www.abusenetwork.org/</a>
A Child's Place (Mercy Health Center)	<a href="https://www.achildsplacepa.org/">https://www.achildsplacepa.org/</a>
A Way Out	<a href="https://www.myawayout.org/">https://www.myawayout.org/</a>
A Safe Place of Warren and Forest Counties	<a href="https://asafeplacewarren.org/">https://asafeplacewarren.org/</a>
A Woman's Place	<a href="https://awomansplace.org/">https://awomansplace.org/</a>
Abuse & Rape Crisis Center	<a href="https://www.arccbc.org/">https://www.arccbc.org/</a>
ACCESS York, YWCA York	<a href="https://www.ywcayork.org/">https://www.ywcayork.org/</a>
Adams County Children's Advocacy Center	<a href="https://kidsagaincac.org/">https://kidsagaincac.org/</a>
Alice Paul House	<a href="https://alicepaulhouse.org/">https://alicepaulhouse.org/</a>
Beaver County Anti-Human Trafficking Coalition	<a href="https://bcantihumantraffickingcoalition.weebly.com/">https://bcantihumantraffickingcoalition.weebly.com/</a>
Berks Women in Crisis	<a href="https://safeberks.org/">https://safeberks.org/</a>
Blackburn Center	<a href="https://www.blackburncenter.org/">https://www.blackburncenter.org/</a>
Bloom	<a href="https://bloomforwomen.org/">https://bloomforwomen.org/</a>
Bradley H. Foulk Children's Advocacy Center for Erie County, Inc. The	<a href="https://www.cacerie.org/">https://www.cacerie.org/</a>
Bucks Coalition Against Trafficking	<a href="https://novabucks.org/get-help/bucks-coalition-against-trafficking/">https://novabucks.org/get-help/bucks-coalition-against-trafficking/</a>
Butler County Alliance for Children- Child Advocacy Center	<a href="https://www.butlercountycac.org/">https://www.butlercountycac.org/</a>
Bucks County Children's Advocacy Center	<a href="https://novabucks.org/get-help/childrens-advocacy-center/">https://novabucks.org/get-help/childrens-advocacy-center/</a>
Cambria County Child Advocacy Center	<a href="https://www.cambriacac.org/">https://www.cambriacac.org/</a>
C.A.P.S.E.A, Inc.	<a href="https://capsea.org/">https://capsea.org/</a>
Care Center of Indiana County, The	<a href="https://carecenterofindianaco.org/">https://carecenterofindianaco.org/</a>
Centre County Women's Resource Center	<a href="https://www.centresafe.org/">https://www.centresafe.org/</a>
Chester County Anti-Trafficking Coalition (CCAT)	<a href="https://sites.google.com/site/ccatsite/home">https://sites.google.com/site/ccatsite/home</a>
Chester County Child Advocacy Center	<a href="https://www.chesco.org/4480/Childrens-Advocacy-Center">https://www.chesco.org/4480/Childrens-Advocacy-Center</a>
Children's Advocacy Center of Lawrence County	<a href="https://www.upmc.com/locations/hospitals/jameson/locations/childrens-advocacy-center">https://www.upmc.com/locations/hospitals/jameson/locations/childrens-advocacy-center</a>
Children's Advocacy Center of Lehigh County	<a href="https://www.lvhn.org/locations/john-van-brakle-child-advocacy-center">https://www.lvhn.org/locations/john-van-brakle-child-advocacy-center</a>
Children's Advocacy Center of North Eastern PA	<a href="https://cacnepa.org/">https://cacnepa.org/</a>
Children's Advocacy Center of McKean County	<a href="https://www.mckeancountypa.gov/departments/children_s_advocacy_center/index.php">https://www.mckeancountypa.gov/departments/children_s_advocacy_center/index.php</a>
Children's Advocacy Center of Berks Co.	<a href="https://www.countyofberks.com/departments/da/children-s-alliance-center">https://www.countyofberks.com/departments/da/children-s-alliance-center</a>

Organization	Web Address
Children's Center of Susquehanna & Wyoming Counties	<a href="https://fsaww.org/childrens-center-of-susquehanna-wyoming-counties/">https://fsaww.org/childrens-center-of-susquehanna-wyoming-counties/</a>
Children's Home of Easton, The	<a href="https://www.thechildrenshome.org/">https://www.thechildrenshome.org/</a>
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	<a href="https://www.chop.edu/">https://www.chop.edu/</a>
Congreso	<a href="https://www.congreso.net/">https://www.congreso.net/</a>
Covenant House	<a href="https://www.covenanthousepa.org/">https://www.covenanthousepa.org/</a>
Crisis Shelter of Lawrence County	<a href="https://www.crisisshelter.org/about-crisis-shelter/">https://www.crisisshelter.org/about-crisis-shelter/</a>
Crisis Victims Center of Chester County	<a href="https://www.cvcofcc.org/">https://www.cvcofcc.org/</a>
Crisis Victims Center of Erie County	<a href="https://www.cvcofcc.org/">https://www.cvcofcc.org/</a>
Crisis Victims Center of Fayette County	<a href="https://crimevictimscenter.com/">https://crimevictimscenter.com/</a>
Crisis Victims Center of Lehigh County	<a href="https://cvclv.org/">https://cvclv.org/</a>
Crisis Victims Center of Lawrence County	<a href="https://www.palawhelp.org/resource/crisis-shelter-of-lawrence-county">https://www.palawhelp.org/resource/crisis-shelter-of-lawrence-county</a>
Dawn's Place	<a href="https://www.ahomefordawn.org/">https://www.ahomefordawn.org/</a>
Delaware County Children's Advocacy Center	<a href="https://cacofde.org/">https://cacofde.org/</a>
Delaware County Victim Assistance Center	<a href="http://delcovictimassistance.org/">http://delcovictimassistance.org/</a>
Department of Human Services	<a href="https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx">https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx</a>
Department of Transportation	<a href="https://www.transportation.gov/">https://www.transportation.gov/</a>
Domestic Violence Center of Chester County	<a href="https://dvcccpa.org/">https://dvcccpa.org/</a>
Domestic Violence Service Center of Luzerne and Carbon Counties	<a href="https://www.domesticviolenceservice.org/">https://www.domesticviolenceservice.org/</a>
Domestic Violence Services of Cumberland & Perry Counties	<a href="https://www.dvscp.org/">https://www.dvscp.org/</a>
Eden's Farm	<a href="https://www.edensfarm.org/">https://www.edensfarm.org/</a>
Faith Alliance Against Slavery & Trafficking	<a href="https://faastinternational.org/">https://faastinternational.org/</a>
Geisinger Child Adovacy Center	<a href="https://www.geisinger.org/patient-care/conditions-treatments-specialty/child-safety-and-advocacy">https://www.geisinger.org/patient-care/conditions-treatments-specialty/child-safety-and-advocacy</a>
Gwen's Girls	<a href="https://gwensgirls.org/">https://gwensgirls.org/</a>
HAVEN of Tioga County, Inc.	<a href="https://www.havenoftiogacounty.org/">https://www.havenoftiogacounty.org/</a>
Helping All Victims in Need (HAVIN)	<a href="https://www.havinpa.org/">https://www.havinpa.org/</a>
Huntingdon House	<a href="https://www.huntingdonhouse.org/">https://www.huntingdonhouse.org/</a>
Joseph J. Peters Institute, The (JJPI)	<a href="https://jjpi.phmc.org/">https://jjpi.phmc.org/</a>
Justice of Work (formerly Friends of Farmworkers)	<a href="https://www.justiceatworklegaid.org/">https://www.justiceatworklegaid.org/</a>
KidsPeace	<a href="https://www.kidspeace.org/">https://www.kidspeace.org/</a>
Lancaster County C.A.S.E.	<a href="https://lancastercountycase.com/about/">https://lancastercountycase.com/about/</a>
Lancaster County Children's Alliance	<a href="https://www.lancastergeneralhealth.org/services-and-treatments/pediatrics/lancaster-county-childrens-alliance">https://www.lancastergeneralhealth.org/services-and-treatments/pediatrics/lancaster-county-childrens-alliance</a>
Leigh Valley Community Foundation	<a href="https://www.leighvalleyfoundation.org/">https://www.leighvalleyfoundation.org/</a>
Lighthouse Counseling Services, LLC	<a href="https://www.lighthousecounselingpa.com/">https://www.lighthousecounselingpa.com/</a>
Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania	<a href="https://www.lutheranadvocacypa.org/">https://www.lutheranadvocacypa.org/</a>
Luzerne County Child Advocacy Center	<a href="https://luzernecountycac.org/">https://luzernecountycac.org/</a>
Mid- Atlantic Dream Center	<a href="https://midatlanticdreamin.com/">https://midatlanticdreamin.com/</a>
Mission Kids	<a href="https://missionkidscac.org/">https://missionkidscac.org/</a>
Montgomery County Anti- Trafficking Coalition (MCAT)	<a href="http://www.mcatpa.org/">http://www.mcatpa.org/</a>
Nationalities Services Center, Anti Human Trafficking Project	<a href="https://nscphila.org/anti-human-trafficking">https://nscphila.org/anti-human-trafficking</a>

Organization	Web Address
Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA)	<a href="https://novabucks.org/">https://novabucks.org/</a>
Northeast Regional Child Advocacy Center	<a href="https://www.nrcac.org/">https://www.nrcac.org/</a>
North Penn Legal Services	<a href="https://www.nplspa.org/">https://www.nplspa.org/</a>
North Star Initiative	<a href="https://www.northstarinitiative.org/">https://www.northstarinitiative.org/</a>
Oasis of Hope	<a href="https://www.oasisofhopeusa.org/">https://www.oasisofhopeusa.org/</a>
Over the Rainbow Children's Advocacy Center	<a href="https://overtherainbowcac.org/">https://overtherainbowcac.org/</a>
Partners for Justice	<a href="https://www.partnersforjustice.org/the-problem">https://www.partnersforjustice.org/the-problem</a>
Partnership to End Human Trafficking	<a href="https://peht.org/">https://peht.org/</a>
PathWays PA	<a href="https://pathwayspa.org/">https://pathwayspa.org/</a>
Peace Promise	<a href="https://peacepromise.org/">https://peacepromise.org/</a>
Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV)	<a href="http://www.pcadv.org">http://www.pcadv.org</a>
Pennsylvania Coalition to Advance Respect (PCAR)	<a href="http://www.pcar.org">http://www.pcar.org</a>
Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD)	<a href="http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/default.aspx#.V1dD62PvHsE">http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/default.aspx#.V1dD62PvHsE</a>
Pennsylvania Public Transportation Coalition	<a href="https://www.pa-tec.org/">https://www.pa-tec.org/</a>
Philadelphia Anti-Trafficking Coalition	<a href="https://patcoalition.org/">https://patcoalition.org/</a>
Philadelphia Children's Alliance	<a href="https://www.philachildrensalliance.org/">https://www.philachildrensalliance.org/</a>
Pinnacle Health Children's Resource Center	<a href="https://www.upmcpinnaclefoundation.org/about-upmc-pinnacle-foundation">https://www.upmcpinnaclefoundation.org/about-upmc-pinnacle-foundation</a>
Pittsburgh Action Against Rape	<a href="https://paar.net/">https://paar.net/</a>
PPC Violence Free Network	<a href="https://fscas.org/ppc-violence-free-network-shelter/">https://fscas.org/ppc-violence-free-network-shelter/</a>
Salvation Army New Day Drop-In Center	<a href="https://easternusa.salvationarmy.org/eastern-pennsylvania/new-day-drop-in/">https://easternusa.salvationarmy.org/eastern-pennsylvania/new-day-drop-in/</a>
She's Somebody's Daughter	<a href="https://www.shessomebodysdaughter.org/">https://www.shessomebodysdaughter.org/</a>
Schuylkill Community Action	<a href="https://schuylkillcommunityaction.com/">https://schuylkillcommunityaction.com/</a>
Southwestern PA Legal Aid	<a href="https://www.wccf.net/charities/southwestern-pennsylvania-legal-services-inc">https://www.wccf.net/charities/southwestern-pennsylvania-legal-services-inc</a>
Survivor Alliance for Growth & Employment	<a href="https://thesurvivorsalliance.org/">https://thesurvivorsalliance.org/</a>
Sparrow Place	<a href="https://www.sparrowplace.org/">https://www.sparrowplace.org/</a>
Sullivan County Victim Services	<a href="http://www.sulcovs.org/">http://www.sulcovs.org/</a>
Survivors, Inc.	<a href="https://www.survivorsink.org/">https://www.survivorsink.org/</a>
Transitions of PA	<a href="https://www.transitionsofpa.org/">https://www.transitionsofpa.org/</a>
Turning Point of Lehigh Valley	<a href="https://turningpointlv.org/">https://turningpointlv.org/</a>
Valley Against Sex Trafficking (VAST)	<a href="https://vast.ngo/">https://vast.ngo/</a>
Valley Youth House	<a href="https://www.valleyyouthhouse.org">https://www.valleyyouthhouse.org</a>
Victims Intervention Program at Wayne & Pike Counties	<a href="https://vipempowers.org/">https://vipempowers.org/</a>
Victim Outreach Intervention Center of Butler County	<a href="https://www.voicebutlercounty.org">https://www.voicebutlercounty.org</a>
Victim Resource Center of Northeastern PA	<a href="https://vrcnepa.org/">https://vrcnepa.org/</a>
The Well	<a href="https://worthwhilewear.org/blogs/programs/the-well">https://worthwhilewear.org/blogs/programs/the-well</a>
Western PA CARES for Kids	<a href="https://www.carescac.org/">https://www.carescac.org/</a>
Women Against Abuse	<a href="https://www.womenagainstabuse.org/">https://www.womenagainstabuse.org/</a>
Women's Center of Beaver County	<a href="https://www.womenscenterbc.org/">https://www.womenscenterbc.org/</a>
Women's Center of Montgomery County	<a href="https://wcmontco.org/">https://wcmontco.org/</a>
Women in Need	<a href="https://winservices.org/">https://winservices.org/</a>

Organization	Web Address
Women Organized Against Rape	<a href="https://www.woar.org/">https://www.woar.org/</a>
Women's Resource Center, Inc.	<a href="https://womensresourcecenter.net/">https://womensresourcecenter.net/</a>
Women's Resource Center of Monroe County	<a href="https://www.safemonroe.org/">https://www.safemonroe.org/</a>
York County Children's Advocacy Center	<a href="https://www.yorkcac.org/">https://www.yorkcac.org/</a>
Your Safe Haven	<a href="https://www.yoursafehaven.org/">https://www.yoursafehaven.org/</a>
YWCA Bradford/McKean County Victim's Resource Center	<a href="https://ywcabradford.org/victims-resource-center">https://ywcabradford.org/victims-resource-center</a>
YWCA Carlisle	<a href="https://ywcacarlisle.org/">https://ywcacarlisle.org/</a>
YWCA Greater Harrisburg	<a href="https://www.ywcahbg.org/">https://www.ywcahbg.org/</a>
YWCA Northcentral PA-Wise Options	<a href="https://www.ywcawilliamsport.org/">https://www.ywcawilliamsport.org/</a>

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- <sup>2</sup> 18 Pa. Cons. Stat. § 3019 (d) (2024).
- <sup>3</sup> 18 Pa. Cons. Stat. §§ 3011-3013 (2024).
- <sup>4</sup> 18 Pa. Cons. Stat. § 5902 (2024).
- <sup>5</sup> 18 Pa. Cons. Stat. §§ 3011-3013 (2024).
- <sup>6</sup> 18 Pa. Cons. Stat. § 5902 (e) (2024).
- <sup>7</sup> 18 Pa. Cons. Stat. § 5902 (a) (2024).
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- <sup>9</sup> 18 Pa. Cons. Stat. § 5902 (a.1) (2024).
- <sup>10</sup> 18 Pa. Cons. Stat. §§ 3011-3013 (2023); Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, 22 U.S.C. § 7101 (West 2024)
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