



RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ERADICATION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Endorsed February 28, 2017

WHEREAS, the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color (CBAC), organized in 1992, is a coalition created to act as a collective voice for issues of common concern to its member organizations; and

WHEREAS, the member organizations of the CBAC are the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA); and

WHEREAS, the member organizations of CBAC are the national voices of their respective legal communities in the United States and its territories and possessions; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is one of the fastest growing money-making activities of terrorists and other types of criminal groups; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is the second most lucrative criminal enterprise after drug trafficking, generating approximately \$32 billion annually for traffickers; and

WHEREAS, the devastation of human trafficking, both sex and labor trafficking, affects more minority communities in the United States than once believed; and

WHEREAS, although slavery has been banned across the globe, more than 29 million people are living in modern day slavery and forced prostitution; and

WHEREAS, victims internationally are often sold for use as sexual slaves, forced laborers, organ harvesters; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is not just a crisis abroad, it is a crisis here in America; and

WHEREAS, over 100,000 children are at risk for becoming victims of domestic minor sex trafficking in the United States; and

WHEREAS, domestic minor sex trafficking and labor trafficking of foreign nationals in the United States has been a focus of federal law enforcement since the passage of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act in 2000 and increasingly state and local police agencies nationwide; and

WHEREAS, in 2011 the Bureau of Justice Statistics stated that, among the confirmed incidents in the United States, sex trafficking victims were overwhelmingly female (94 percent) and the average age of a victim first being forced into sex trafficking is 12 to 14; and

WHEREAS, in those cases where race was known, sex trafficking victims were more likely to be Black (40%) than Caucasian (26%); and

WHEREAS human trafficking is such an important issue that the month of January has been designated National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CBAC supports increased penalties for individuals convicted of human trafficking, not just in the United States but around the world;

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT the CBAC encourages states to adopt safe harbor laws that treat those being trafficked as victims, and not criminals;

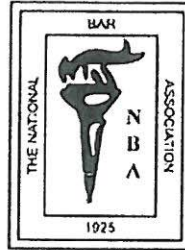
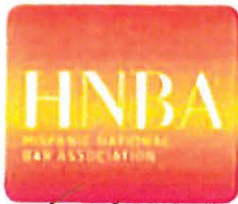
BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT the CBAC advocates for more federal funding for state and local governments and organizations working to eliminating human trafficking and provide a full array of services (mental health, education, and housing) for survivors of sex and labor trafficking;


BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT the CBAC members take the lead in developing pro bono and low cost legal aid programs that protect the rights of victims and help them secure needed services and recovery.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the CBAC will host an international conference on human trafficking in January of 2017 in recognition of National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, in partnership with other civil and human rights organizations.

CERTIFICATION

WE, the duly-elected Presidents of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA), hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly enacted by a duly noticed meeting of the Board of Directors.





Pedro Torres-Diaz
President, Hispanic National Bar Association

2/28/17

Date



Cyndie Chang
President, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

2/28/17

Date



Kevin Judd
President, National Bar Association

2/28/17

Date



Jennifer H. Weddle
President, National Native American Bar Association

2/28/17

Date