



Calhoun: The NPS Institutional Archive
DSpace Repository

News Center

News Articles Collection

2013-10

CHDS Supports Fusion Centers Leaders in Child Sex Trafficking Workshop

Center for Homeland Defense and Security

Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California

<http://hdl.handle.net/10945/50953>

Downloaded from NPS Archive: Calhoun



Calhoun is a project of the Dudley Knox Library at NPS, furthering the precepts and goals of open government and government transparency. All information contained herein has been approved for release by the NPS Public Affairs Officer.

Dudley Knox Library / Naval Postgraduate School
411 Dyer Road / 1 University Circle
Monterey, California USA 93943

<http://www.nps.edu/library>

CHDS Supports Fusion Centers Leaders in Child Sex Trafficking Workshop

 chds.us/c/item/827

Fusion centers could serve as a central hub in assisting law enforcement fight child sex trafficking.

That was one recommendation stemming from a joint meeting of IACP's Child Sex Trafficking Advisory Working Group and Fusion Center Stakeholders that met July 22-23 in Washington, D.C. The gathering was hosted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, in collaboration with the Department of Justice, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Naval Postgraduate School's Center for Homeland Defense and Security. The overarching goal of the initiative is to improve the ability of law enforcement to recognize and respond to child victims of prostitution, also known as Child Sex Trafficking and Domestic Sex Trafficking of Minors. The purpose of the meeting was to:



- *Advise on effective methods for increasing identification and response to child victims of prostitution by law enforcement agencies of different types (rural, suburban, urban, tribal), size (small, mid-sized, large), and varying levels and types of available resources*
- *Provide a review of the tools and resources under development*
- *Provide advice on best methods to increase the use of the tools and resources in the field*
- *Champion law enforcement's role in identifying and responding to child victims of prostitution, and*
- *Discuss best practices and opportunities for fusion centers to engage in and support these efforts.*

"I think it critically important to work closely with what already exists in the national network of fusion centers," said Bart R. Johnson, Executive Director of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. "Our next steps are to continue to work with CHDS, the fusion center network and the federal government in getting them (fusion centers) the tools and support they need to address the issue of human trafficking."

Recommendations stemming from the two-day session included:

- *Increase understanding of the intersection of child sex trafficking with other crimes (missing children, gangs, vice, drugs, organized crime, child exploitation).*
- *Market and promote adoption of resources at the frontline of law enforcement*
- *Develop indicators of child sex trafficking and how officers should apply the indicators in the field*

- *Develop stronger collaborative and partnership efforts between law enforcement and state, local, and federal partners.*
- *Ask fusion centers to take on a more central role in providing analysis and information sharing on Human Trafficking*
- *Promote the benefits of Fusion Centers to local law enforcement*
- *Increase awareness of the role of Fusion Centers in supporting frontline officers similar to the Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting Initiative*
- *Create an online library of tools and resources on child sex trafficking including an inventory of training courses and videos for law enforcement.*
- *Promote the use of public awareness and training materials available via the Blue Campaign.*

“Fusion centers play an important role as a focal point for information sharing and add significant value to their customers by providing a state and local context,” said CHDS Executive Leaders Program graduate Scott McAllister, Deputy Under Secretary, Office of Intelligence and Analysis, U.S. Department of Homeland Security. “By building trusted relationships and collaborating with state and local partners, fusion centers can gather and share the information necessary to pursue and disrupt activities that may be indicators of, or potential precursors to, criminal and terrorist activity. These efforts also apply to the threats posed by human trafficking. With timely, accurate information on potential human trafficking issues, fusion centers can directly contribute to and inform federal and state investigations.”

Just as terrorism investigations in the United States have often hinged on local or state police sharing information, those agencies and federal partners should work in a similar fashion.

“It’s a serious issue that crosses state and international lines, so we need to make sure we work closely with and partner with our federal peers” Johnson said.

[Copyright/Accessibility/Section 508](#)