



# PATROLLER

OCTOBER 2025

*Newsletter for the Patrollers, volunteers, and supporters of Castro Community On Patrol in San Francisco, California, USA.*

ESTABLISHED 2006

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(Volunteer Scheduling & Retention)

### SOMA WEST CBD COLLABORATION ON SAFETY



Sharing best practices, promoting effective programs, and collaborating with like-minded entities is a key part of our mission and our overall goals. Making all communities safer is good for everyone.

To this end we met with staff at the [SoMa West Community Benefits District](#) recently, to discuss mutual collaborations and assist them in implementing some of the programs that work so effectively for the Castro neighborhood.

We are working to deliver a [Beginners Self-Defense](#) training class in mid-January of 2026 and we are in discussions regarding expanding the [SFPD SAFE PLACE](#) program into the SoMa West neighborhood.

We are happy to have found such an eager partner in [SoMa West CBD](#).

### SFPD DISTRICT BOUNDARY CHANGES



The San Francisco Police Commission is set to meet on Wednesday November 5, and on the agenda is the [Police Boundary Analysis](#) report.

The Boundary Analysis takes place every ten years, to allow district police station boundaries to be changed, based on population and crime reported changes over the preceding ten-year period.

There had been some initial discussion of the Castro neighborhood being moved from Mission station to Park station, however the current proposed map does not suggest this will happen.

If the proposed map is accepted, then the Mission and Park police station boundaries will remain unchanged as a result of this boundary analysis report.

### PROTECT THE CASTRO BY JOINING US

Ordinary people, doing extraordinary things is how we think of our Patrollers. They come from all walks of life, all backgrounds, and live throughout the Bay Area. They all share one single focus, helping to keep the Castro SAFE for EVERYONE.

We only ask for a minimum of one 3-hour patrol a month! We provide all training and equipment.

Help us to  
**PROTECT THE CASTRO**

### S.F.P.D. CRIME DATA SNAPSHOT

[SFPD Crime Data](#) results citywide for the following specific categories between 1/1/2025 to 10/26/2025

	2025	Yr - Yr %
Homicide	22	-18.5%
Robbery	1,376	-23.8%
Assault	1,729	-14.0%
Burglary	3,106	-28.8%
Veh. Theft	2,566	-45.3%
Larceny	13,520	-23.3%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>-26.7%</b>

During the same period last year, SFPD recorded a total of 30,944 reports, compared with a total of 22,686 reports this year, representing a 26.7% drop overall.

# PATROL NEWS

## CCOP SUPPORTED THE 51<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL CASTRO STREET FAIR



We were extremely proud to once again support the annual [Castro Street Fair](#) as they marked their 51<sup>st</sup> annual event on Sunday October 5.

CCOP has supported the Fair for around fifteen years, performing a very special and essential Treasury support function with the help of a number of community volunteers.

[Castro Street Fair](#) is a very popular annual event that always attracts tens of thousands of attendees. All functions at the fair are filled by volunteers from local Castro nonprofit organizations. Donations provided by attendees and collected by these volunteers are disbursed to those nonprofits after Fair expenses are settled. This typically means a very important influx of funds for all of these local nonprofits.

Supporting local nonprofit events and activities is a key part of our function and mission at Castro Patrol. These annual events are extremely important in building and strengthening the community in a myriad of diverse and unique ways.

Join us as a volunteer [Patroller](#), and help us to support Castro Street Fair and the other annual events that take place throughout the year.

## CCOP PROVIDED ADDITIONAL SAFETY SUPPORT FOR THE CASTRO NIGHT MARKET & HALLOWEEN



The first formal Halloween event in the Castro took place to coincide with the final [Castro Night Market](#) of 2025, on Friday October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Castro Patrol was proud to attend and assist in providing additional safety for the extremely well attended, safe, fun, and energetic event. Tens of thousands of attendees, many in costume, filled the streets, shopped at the vendor booths, and enjoyed the entertainment at the three performance stages between 5 PM and 10 PM.

The event was a great success in our view, and we look forward to supporting the [Castro Night Market](#) when they return next year.



**SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT**

# PATROL TRAINING ACADEMY

***BY Chief Ken Craig, Community Patrol Service***

## **SANCTUARY CITY & FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT INTERACTIONS**

Given the increasing use of Federal Law Enforcement agents, and in some cases members of the National Guard and active Military, conducting immigration enforcement sweeps in targeted cities throughout the country it is important to have a full and broad understanding of the City & County of San Francisco, State of California, and the National level legislation that applies in various situations.

It is anticipated that Federal agents may increase their activities in San Francisco at some time in the future, based on statements made at the Presidential level.



## **SANCTUARY CITY**

In 1989, San Francisco passed the “City and County of Refuge” Ordinance (also known as the Sanctuary Ordinance). The [Sanctuary City Ordinance](#) generally prohibits City employees from using City funds or resources to assist Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in the enforcement of Federal immigration law unless such assistance is required by federal or state law.

In 2013, San Francisco passed the “Due Process for All” Ordinance. This ordinance limits when City law enforcement officers may give ICE advance notice of a person’s release from local jail. It also prohibits cooperation with ICE detainer requests, sometimes referred to as “ICE holds.”

These ordinances were last amended in July 2016.

## **FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT INTERACTION**

If an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or Department of Homeland Security (DHS) or another Federal Agency agent stops you on the street:

Keep calm.

Always ask the officer, “Am I free to go?” If the answer is “yes,” walk away.

If the answer is “no:”

- Do not walk away
- Do not answer any questions

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- Ask for a lawyer
- Do not talk about your immigration status
- Do not talk about when and how you came to the United States
- Do not lie to the officer
- Do not physically resist

If an officer searches you, say, “I do not consent to this search.”

If an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or Department of Homeland Security (DHS) or another Federal Agency agent comes to your home or place of business:

Do not open the door if it is closed when they arrive. Ask the officer to slip a valid [Judicial Search and Seizure Warrant](#) or a valid [Judicial Arrest Warrant](#) under your door or pass it through a window. If they don't have a valid [Judicial Search and Seizure Warrant](#), or [Judicial Arrest Warrant](#) they cannot enter your home or place of business without **YOUR EXPLICIT PERMISSION**.

A valid Judicial Search and Seizure or Arrest warrant **MUST** be:

- Signed by a judge or magistrate (not an immigration official)
- Show the address to be searched
- State in detail where the agent will search

You **do not** have to let them into your home or place of business if they only have a [DHS administrative warrant of removal-deportation](#).

You **MUST** however let any law enforcement personnel with a valid [Judicial Search and Seizure Warrant](#) or a valid [Judicial Arrest Warrant](#) into your home or place of business and you may not unduly impede or prevent them from carrying out the defined tasks within the warrant. The officers may only search the areas specified in detail within the search warrant.

## Get legal help

Visit the [Immigrant Support Hub](#) to get legal help if you are detained or about to be deported.

**If you see an ICE agent in San Francisco**

[Report ICE in San Francisco.](#)

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# PATROL TRAINING ACADEMY

## **PRIVATE SPACE PROGRAM**

In California, a private business can refuse service for valid, non-discriminatory reasons, such as disruptive behavior, intoxication, or violating a clear, lawful dress code. However, businesses cannot refuse service based on a customer's protected characteristics, including race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, or national origin, due to federal and state anti-discrimination laws like the Unruh Civil Rights Act.

A business can legally refuse service if the refusal is based on non-discriminatory factors, such as:

- Customers who are causing a scene, being loud, or making threats toward staff or other patrons.
- Refusing service to someone who isn't wearing the required attire (e.g., no shirt, no shoes) or other clearly posted and non-discriminatory rules.
- If a customer's actions pose a genuine threat to the safety or hygiene of others.
- A business can refuse service to someone who appears to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- A business is not required to serve someone who cannot, or will not, pay for their services.

It is however illegal in California to refuse service based on a person's membership in a protected class. These protected classes include:

- Race, color, or ancestry
- Religion or creed
- Sex or gender, including pregnancy
- Sexual orientation
- Disability, mental or physical
- National origin
- Medical condition

The right to refuse entry does not apply when law enforcement is on the property for official and valid police duties.

- **Public vs. private areas:** Law enforcement officers can enter and question individuals in public areas of a business, such as a dining room, retail space, or parking lot, without permission. They cannot, however, enter non-public or "employee-only" areas without a valid [Judicial Search and Seizure Warrant](#) or a valid [Judicial Arrest Warrant](#) or the owner's consent.
- **Response to a call:** If a business owner requests police assistance, officers will enter to address the issue.

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# PATROL TRAINING ACADEMY

- **Judicial warrants:** Police can override a business owner's refusal if they present a valid [Judicial Search and Seizure Warrant](#) or a valid [Judicial Arrest Warrant](#) to search or access private areas.
- **Exigent circumstances:** Officers can also enter private property without a warrant in emergency or "exigent" situations, such as a pursuit or when they have articulable reasons for a search.

NOTE that a [DHS administrative warrant of removal-deportation](#) does not meet the valid judicial warrant standard and therefore access can be denied and refused.

While a business has the right to refuse service, there are practical risks involved that must be carefully considered:

- **Legal obstruction:** If officers are there on official business and a business obstructs their entry, the owner or staff could face legal consequences for obstruction.

Posted [PRIVATE SPACE](#) signs are helpful in defining what is a publicly accessible space, and what is a private / staff only space for the purposes of determining where law enforcement personnel may access, and where a legal judicial warrant is required to provide non-exigent access.

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# WHO / WHEN / WHERE / HOW

## **LIFE / PROPERTY THREATENING OR CRIME IN PROGRESS ?**

### **Call 9-1-1**

In any situation where life or property is at imminent risk, or where a crime is in progress right now, call 9-1-1 for an immediate emergency response.

## **NO IMMEDIATE THREAT TO LIFE OR PROPERTY?**

### **Call 415-553-0123**

In situations which are less critical or immediate but where a Police or Fire response may still be required, use the non-emergency number above.

**San Francisco District Supervisor's Office**  
Supervisor Rafael Mandelman  
District 8,  
**Call 415-554-6968**  
**MandelmanStaff@sfgov.org**

San Francisco District Supervisors represent you and can assist in many areas of concern that involve formal Government agencies or departments. If their office cannot assist you directly, they will help to put you in contact with resources that can assist.

**San Francisco District Attorney's Office**  
350 Rhode Island Street  
North Building, Suite 400N, 94103  
**Call 628-652-4000**  
**DistrictAttorney@sfgov.org**

The DA's office prosecutes crime in San Francisco and offers various services for victims of crime.

**VICTIM SERVICES:** 628-652-4100  
**HATE CRIME HOTLINE:** 628-652-4311

## **San Francisco Official Resources**

**San Francisco Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
415-553-7400

**San Francisco Police Department Mission Station**  
415-558-5400 [SFPDMissionStation@sfgov.org](mailto:SFPDMissionStation@sfgov.org)

**San Francisco Police Department Park Station**  
415-242-3000 [SFPDParkStation@sfgov.org](mailto:SFPDParkStation@sfgov.org)

**SFFD Street Crisis Response Team**  
Call 911 for people in severe mental distress

**SFFD Street Wellness Response Team**  
415-553-0123 for homeless related non-criminal issues

**San Francisco City Services**  
3-1-1 to report "things" i.e. human waste, trash, etc.

**Mental Health Services For Everyone**  
9-8-8

## **Community Resources**

**Castro Community Benefits District Services**  
415-500-1181 [ExecDirector@castrocbd.org](mailto:ExecDirector@castrocbd.org)  
**Cleaning Services:** 415-471-7536

**Castro Cares Community Ambassadors Program**  
Call or Text 415-471-7536

**Community Patrol Service**  
[CommunityPatrolService@gmail.com](mailto:CommunityPatrolService@gmail.com)

**SFPD LGBTQ+ Community Advisory Forum**  
[LGBTQ.forum@sfgov.org](mailto:LGBTQ.forum@sfgov.org)

**24 Hour National Domestic Violence Hotline**  
1-800-799-7233

**Trevor Project**  
212-695-8650 (LGBTQQI+ youth in need of support)

**SF Adult Protective Services (APS) Hotline**  
415-335-6700 or 1-800-814-0009

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## Castro CBD, Castro Cares Program

castro  
C A R E S



be a part of the solution

Castro Cares is a unique community collaborative providing supplemental outreach and hospitality services throughout the district to the city's homeless support services and the work of the San Francisco Police Department. The program is funded by a city grant and through public donations.

The program deploys uniformed Community Ambassadors 7-days a week. They interact with the residents, business employees and owners, visitors, and with those living on the streets.

To find out more about the Castro Cares program, or to donate in support of the program, check out their website at [www.castrocbd.org/castro-cares/](http://www.castrocbd.org/castro-cares/)

## SFPD LGBTQ+ Advisory Forum



"Working together to create a safer and stronger community for all"

The San Francisco Police Department, LGBTQ+ Advisory Forum was formed in 2010 and welcomes LGBTQ+ volunteer members from around the city. Members meet quarterly with SFPD command staff, to offer input on SFPD Policy, raise concerns, work on community projects and learn more about the SFPD.

To find out more, contact us at [SFPD.LGBTQ.Forum@gmail.com](mailto:SFPD.LGBTQ.Forum@gmail.com) and we will be happy to chat with you about how to become a permanent member..

## SFPD SAFE PLACE Program



The [SFPD SAFE PLACE](#) program is a collaborative effort between SFPD and San Francisco Businesses to offer a temporary "safe haven" to victims of crime or harassment until law enforcement or medical professionals arrive.

The program mission is to reduce hate crimes, bullying, harassment, and discrimination. By working together, we can encourage crime reporting and promote safety and security.

To find out more, contact us at [INFO@CastroPatrol.org](mailto:INFO@CastroPatrol.org) and we will be happy to chat with you, and enroll you into the program.

## Community Patrol Service



Community Patrol Service (CPS) is a not-for-profit community organization that works with neighborhoods throughout the United States who wish to develop a Community On Patrol Service (COPS) organization such as Castro Community On Patrol (CCOP). CPS will offer free advice, guidance, training information, suggestions, and non-fiscal support throughout the development of your own COPS group.

To find out more, contact us at [CommunityPatrolService@gmail.com](mailto:CommunityPatrolService@gmail.com) and we will be happy to chat with you, and enroll you into the program.

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# PROTECT THE CASTRO



## BE THE DIFFERENCE

**GIVE US JUST THREE HOURS A MONTH AS A PATROL VOLUNTEER,  
TO MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY**

Castro Community On Patrol (CCOP / Castro Patrol) needs volunteers to help us patrol the Castro neighborhood on a monthly basis. YOU could be our next Trainee Patroller! Our next Community HERO.

We have successfully patrolled the Castro neighborhood since 2006, deploying in teams of three unpaid volunteer Patrollers who walk for a 3-hour shift which they select themselves. Our patrols provide assistance, distribute free safety whistles, offer guidance, and deliver support to the residents, businesses, and visitors of the Castro, interacting with thousands of people every year.

We **ARE** often “First Reporters” by calling in Medical, Fire, or Law Enforcement professionals when needed, and we will offer assistance when safe to do so until the professionals arrive. We **DON'T** break up physical fights or put our volunteers into dangerous situations.

Our volunteers are mostly members of the LGBTQ+ community, but we are open and welcoming to **ALL**. We provide full training, and you will always deploy with other experienced, knowledgeable, and dedicated volunteers. Patrolling is fun, you get to meet lots of people, and you can feel good about helping out your community. Sign up TODAY and become a neighborhood HERO tomorrow.

[www.CastroPatrol.org](http://www.CastroPatrol.org) | [info@CastroPatrol.org](mailto:info@CastroPatrol.org)

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**SIGN UP. BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION.**



**"SAFETY is a COMMUNITY EFFORT"**

**NEVER DOUBT THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL, COMMITTED PEOPLE  
CAN CHANGE THE WORLD. INDEED, IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT EVER HAS.**

**BE THE DIFFERENCE!**

**[WWW.CASTROPATROL.ORG](http://WWW.CASTROPATROL.ORG)**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO VOLUNTEER**

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# DON'T BE AFRAID, GET TRAINED AND PREPARED

## SIX STEPS TO ASSIST IN PROSECUTING CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

**1**

**IF YOU SEE A CRIME IN PROGRESS, OR A LIFE-THREATENING SITUATION:**

**CALL - 911**

**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS OR SOMETHING AUTHORITIES SHOULD KNOW ABOUT:**

**CALL - 415-553-0123**

**MEET AND PROVIDE A WITNESS STATEMENT TO POLICE.**

If Officers don't see the incident you called about themselves, and find no other criminal activity when they arrive, they cannot CITE or make an ARREST without a witness to the incident.

**2**

**3**

**GET THE COMPUTER AIDED DISPATCH (CAD) NUMBER THAT IS ASSIGNED TO THE INCIDENT**

Officers will provide this when you provide your witness statement. This number will allow you to track the case from investigation to prosecution.

**FOLLOW UP WITH SFPD INVESTIGATORS**

Call the SFPD Station that responded to your incident and provide the CAD # to get updates on the status of incident.

**4**

**5**

**FOLLOW UP WITH THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

Using the CAD#, work with the Assistant District Attorney assigned to the case, and let them know what YOU WANT to happen in the case.

**GO TO COURT, AND STAND AS A WITNESS**

If the case goes to court, be sure to attend and be willing to provide witness testimony on the stand, and/or victim impact statements.

**6**

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**DON'T BE AFRAID, GET TRAINED AND PREPARED**

# **REPORT HATE CRIMES**



**This location is a SAFE PLACE for victims of hate crimes and harassment to call 911 and wait for police to arrive.**

## **EMERGENCY CALL 911**

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# SAFETY FOR EVERYONE



As a **COMMUNITY** we need to come together to help mitigate and eradicate any violence on the streets, targeting anyone in the neighborhood, but this needs **EVERYONE** to participate and get **INVOLVED**:

1. **TRAIN** so you know how to defend yourself and what to do when you are threatened, or feel threatened,
2. **USE** the community support opportunities available throughout the neighborhood if you need them, and encourage loved ones and friends to do the same,
3. **HELP** anyone in trouble by using your **SAFETY WHISTLE** to call attention to the incident, and hopefully many other community members will do the same,
4. **CALL 9-1-1** immediately to report any acts of violence or threats of violence so Police can respond as quickly as possible – time may be of the essence,
5. **PROVIDE** the details of what you saw to Police if you are a witness to a violent incident. Only witness statements can lead to an arrest, charges, and ultimately conviction. YOUR statement may be critical,
6. **FILE A REPORT** with Police if you are the victim of a violent incident. SFPD are trained and required to be professional, empathetic, and understanding when you need to report a criminal act against you. San Francisco and California are **SANCTUARY** locations so don't worry about your immigration status in the U.S. when reporting. Have a trusted friend or organization with you when you make your report.
7. **SHARE** your incident details with [INFO@CastroPatrol.org](mailto:INFO@CastroPatrol.org) so we can not only support you through the legal process, but we can also track these incidents to help us recognize patterns and work with SFPD to target dangerous areas or times with more enforcement.

**SAFETY** is a **COMMUNITY EFFORT**. The **WHOLE** community needs to respond and shout with one voice **"WE WILL NOT BE VICTIMS, WE WILL NOT BE TARGETS, WE WILL FIGHT BACK."**



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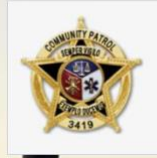
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**DON'T BE AFRAID, GET TRAINED AND PREPARED**



# DATING SAFETY



**USE THE BUDDY SYSTEM.** Share emails, online profiles, and details of your new date with a trusted friend.

**CHECK IN.** Ask your BUDDY to reach out to you by phone or text during your date to verify you are good.

**NO – IS NEVER NEGOTIABLE.** SAY NO TO ANYTHING OR ANYONE THAT MAKES YOU FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE.

**ESCAPE ANY WAY YOU CAN.** If you feel threatened or at risk do what you need to ESCAPE to safety.

**DEFEND YOURSELF.** You are entitled to defend if you need to. Better to be tried by 12, than buried by 6.

**REPORT IT.** If you are threatened, abused, or injured by a date, report them to 9-1-1 and let your friends know.

**SEEK SUPPORT.** From friends, from the community, and from government and nonprofit entities.



[www.CastroPatrol.org](http://www.CastroPatrol.org)

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**DON'T BE AFRAID, GET TRAINED AND PREPARED**

# **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

**INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE IS AGAINST THE LAW  
AND OFTEN LEADS TO SERIOUS INJURY OR WORSE.  
DON'T BECOME A MARTYR.**

## **DO YOU NEED HELP?**

- **Are you regularly subjected to acts of degradation, physical or verbal abuse, intimidation, or excessive control?**
- **Do you feel UNSAFE with your intimate partner?**
- **Do you feel empowered to make decisions for yourself?**

**Abusers rarely stop their abuse, but frequently escalate to more serious attacks. Ask for help!**

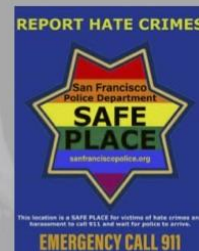
**LGBTQ Anti-Violence Project: 1-212-714-1141**

**FORGE Transgender Project: 1-414-559-2123**

**Youth LGBTQ Help Center: 1-800-246-7743**



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# ANGEL SHOTS

THIS ESTABLISHMENT RECOGNIZES AND SUPPORTS  
THE **ANGEL SHOT** SAFETY PROGRAM

## DO YOU NEED HELP?

- Are you on a **DATE** that is not going well?
- Do you feel **UNSAFE**?
- Is anyone **BOTHERING** you or making you feel **UNCOMFORTABLE**?
- Are you being **FORCED** to do something against your will?

**ASK OUR SECURITY STAFF OR YOUR SERVER FOR  
AN "ANGEL SHOT."**

**WE WILL HANDLE THINGS DISCRETELY AND WE  
WILL PROTECT YOU UNTIL YOU ARE SAFE &  
SECURE.**



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**DON'T BE AFRAID, GET TRAINED AND PREPARED**

# **HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS SLAVERY BY A DIFFERENT NAME.  
TARGET THE TRAFFICKERS AND HELP SAVE THE VICTIMS.**

## **DO YOU NEED HELP?**

- **Are you FORCED to work for little or no reimbursement?**
- **Do you face physical or psychological abuse if you do not work as demanded?**
- **Can you leave at any time, without fear of retribution?**
- **Are you expected to do things outside of your comfort zone, such as performing sexual favors for strangers?**

**National Human Trafficking Hotline**

**Call: 1-888-373-7888**

**Text: HELP to 233733 (BEFREE)**

**[www.humantraffickinghotline.org](http://www.humantraffickinghotline.org)**



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