



# Combating Human Trafficking



Diplomatic Security Service (DSS) special agents, investigators, and analysts work in 275 U.S. embassies and consulates in more than 170 countries, frequently putting DSS at the epicenter of multinational investigations, including those involving human trafficking. These crimes often involve some aspect of passport, visa, or travel document fraud, which is DSS' investigative specialty.

DSS agents and analysts located in 29 domestic offices across the country partner with U.S. federal, state, and local law

enforcement agencies to investigate these crimes within the United States. DSS participates in multi-agency anti-trafficking task forces and coordination teams in several U.S. cities.

In a growing number of instances, foreign law enforcement agencies seek DSS' assistance in their own efforts to combat human trafficking. Some of the international trafficking cases that DSS has supported include:

- A Texas couple who [enslaved their nanny](#) was forced to pay the Nigerian woman more than \$100,000 in restitution.
- "[Operation Cinderella Story](#)," which dismantled an international human trafficking and money laundering ring operating in South Korea and New York City.
- A joint-agency [international sex trafficking case](#) that involved an individual victimizing and exploiting women in the Middle East, Australia, and the United States.
- Three people were found guilty of recruiting, defrauding, and exploiting 76 temporary workers at a farm in Minnesota during a DSS-led [forced labor case](#). Investigations related to the initial case are ongoing.

A crucial part of the DSS human trafficking effort is to assist victims through its Victims' Resource Advocacy Program (VRAP), which provides tailored support such as safe housing and medical care.

For more information, please contact Diplomatic Security Public Affairs at [ds-press@state.gov](mailto:ds-press@state.gov).

\*[Shutterstock photo]

Updated December 2017