



**Trafficking Intervention Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2025 – 9:00 am to 10:08 am
Video Conference**

In Attendance: Rich Austria, Joyclyn Bell, Jay Benke, Angie Denning, Mary Dirksen, Esther Garrett, Kaitlyn Hardy, Kristin Hubble, Ashley Johnson, Florence Mackey, Alhena Herrera Martin, Robin Miller, Heidi Moon, Sage Neilson, Tom Perez, Margaret Scott, Rich Sheldon, Amanda Swanson, JR Ujifusa, Letetia Wilson, Brittany Zitzelberger

Absent: Dr. Adewusi, Liz Alston, Nina Belli, Teresa Cowing, Katina Larsen, Judge Valeri Love, Ashlee Purdy, Eliza Rodriguez, Shannon Sivell

Minutes: Sherree Rodriguez

Welcome - Amanda opened the meeting with group introductions.

Minutes – The Advisory Committee (AC) members present approved minutes from the November meeting.

Membership Application – Lesley Anderson

The group discussed the many and significant qualifications of Lesley Anderson to serve on the AC. The group unanimously approved her membership.

Updates

- The Compass Summitt has merged with the Child Abuse Symposium for their annual training conference, in April 2025 which sold out. They had national trainers, as well as a panel with District Attorneys (DAs) from Clackamas, Marion, Multnomah, and Washington Counties, and the Oregon Attorney General (OAG), who spoke to the needs of victims and their advocates across the state.
- The EPIK Project was invited to participate in a Jacksonville, Florida, sports community buyer-focused messaging campaign. They have the resulting promotional materials on their website at epikproject.org/dontbuysex, which they hope to use the structure for sports-based focuses within the state of Oregon.
- The OAG is moving forward with a statewide platform on combatting organized crime. They have a proposal before legislature to place 14 agents in rural locations around the state in this effort.
- AC representatives recently attended the Greater Rockies Immersive Training Conference, in Bozeman, Montana, sponsored by the federal Office for Victims of Crime. It was informative for both urban and rural response to trafficking challenges around the state.
- Oregon Department of Transportation is participating in the ongoing project to fight trafficking nationwide. The group is wrapping up efforts to create a best practice tool kit for the response as it pertains to Department of Transportation oversight, across the country.
- Two bills that remain before Oregon Legislature are the Judicial Education Senate Bill 710, and the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Certification Commission has submitted House Bill 3070.
- The Law Enforcement (LE) Committee has concerns about traffickers sentenced over the last 15 years being released to Parole and Probation and how that may impact potential victims. The



Illicit Massage Industry has seen a lot of activity in trafficking. Working with landlords has helped curb this problem somewhat.

- The Data Committee work is finalizing Phase Two with their needs assessment. From there they will begin analyzing gaps related to human trafficking data collection in the state. Input from the AC may be provided to Kristin Hubble.
- Labor Trafficking Task Force work has highlighted training needs. DOJ is hosting a five-part webinar series for LE and allied professionals. National Labor Trafficking Institute training has illuminated the enormity of the problem in rural areas. ODHS is looking to create a response to labor trafficking as a form of child abuse. They are forming a workgroup to create a policy for screening and case management. The AC was invited to reach out to Liz Alston or Amanda Swanson to participate. Reports have been coming in of US citizens and other folks with legal status who are also victims of this crime.

Federal Changes/Impact to the work

The committee discussed the impact of federal changes to the work of human trafficking in the state. There is need for more culturally informed representation in the work. Relationships with federal partners have been hindered. There is hindrance in the ability to respond to and assist the immigrant community, particularly related to clarity among law enforcement in knowing what they can and cannot do in relationship to immigrants. The [Oregon DOJ Civil Rights webpage](#) has pertinent support information. There are barriers to working with federal agencies regarding illicit massage. Federal and state agencies have different motives. Funding cuts create further barriers to basic victim services.

Moving forward

While there is uncertainty about state and federal funding, DOJ plans to restructure the trafficking response work to have the most efficient and effective response.

The meeting adjourned at 10:08 am.

Scheduled meetings: August 1, November 7, 2025