



SW MI Human Trafficking Task Force
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 27, 20175
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**SW MI HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE 1ST IN NATION TO PARTNER
WITH TRAFFICKCAM ON COUNTY-WIDE HOSPITALITY PROJECT**

ST. JOSEPH, MI – The following is the list of hospitality properties that have been photographed for the Traffickcam project, which allows these photos to be directly downloaded to the FBI server to help law enforcement identify victims, survivors, missing persons, and probable johns or pimps. Each property had 4 pictures of 2 room types taken. It takes approximately 5-10 minutes per property to complete the task for the FBI's database. This project is in conjunction and with approval from the Southwestern Tourism Council.

The end result is anticipated to create a safer community.

BENTON HARBOR, MI

The Hilton Garden Inn
The Holiday Inn Express
Days Inn
Best Western
Red Roof Inn
Motel 6
Springhill Suites
America's Best Value Inn & Suites
Comfort Suites

NEW BUFFALO, MI

Four Winds Casino Resort
Baymont Inn
Comfort Inn
Fairfield Inn
Super Inn

(more)



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NILES, MI

Holiday Inn Express
Quality Inn & Suites
Golden Eagle

SAWYER, MI

Super 8

ST. JOSEPH, MI

The Holiday Inn Express
Inn at Harbor Shores
Silver Beach Hotel
The Boulevard Inn
MarkIII Motel
The Holiday Inn Express
EconoLodge

STEVENSVILLE, MI

Super 8
Ray's Motel
Hampton Inn
Comfort Suites
Candlewood Suites
Baymont Inn & Suites

Those choosing NOT to participate:

American Inn (Benton Harbor)
Rodeway Inn (Benton Harbor)
Bridgman Inn (Bridgman)
Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott (Watervliet)
Harbor Grand Hotel (New Buffalo)
*Not Available
*Holiday Inn Express (New Buffalo)

Information from Traffickcam's website states: "Help fight trafficking by uploading photos of your hotel room. These photos will be used to determine where perpetrators of sex trafficking are committing their crimes."

(more)

The SW MI Human Trafficking Task Force's work fighting sex trafficking now attributes to the downloadable 2.5 million pictures of hospitality properties that have been taken thus far. This task force is the first to do an entire county in the nation, making Berrien County pave the way in helping to make the area safer for tourism and providing assistance on a larger level for rescue if need be on a federal level. We hope all travelers and citizens will decide to join this public project in uploading their hospitality photos.

Included here is a certificate, providing additional information. The purpose of this project is multi-fold: It sends an astounding message to tourists that our county is doing everything possible to make our area safer, a message to law enforcement that we are working in conjunction with their teams on this topic, and a message to traffickers that this is not a county they are welcome in.

If additional counties choose to participate in this project, the number of photos taken and uploaded could likely make a difference where hotel room photos are shared on social media where victims are being advertised for sex. These proactive photos could likely provide help that the law enforcement requires to quicker rescue these victims.

Additional information on this subject can be found at the SW MI Human Trafficking Task Force website: www.swmihumantrafficking.org

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