



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HALL OF JUSTICE

ALEX VILLANUEVA, SHERIFF



March 15, 2022

The Honorable Shannon Grove
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 7150
Sacramento, California 94249

Dear Senator Grove:

**SENATE BILL 1042 – SUPPORT
AS INTRODUCED
VIOLENT FELONIES: SERIOUS FELONIES: HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is proud to support Senate Bill 1042, seeking to add human trafficking to the list of crimes that are defined as serious and violent under California law.

Senate Bill 1042 will include human trafficking in the lists of crimes that are defined as serious and violent under California law, making the crime a strike under the Three Strikes Law. It will also help strengthen protections for the millions of victims of sex and labor trafficking.

In February 2022, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department participated in the seventh annual Operation Reclaim and Rebuild enforcement operation, conducted by the Los Angeles Regional Human Trafficking Task Force and more than 80 participating federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies and task forces from across California. The weeklong, statewide effort aimed at combatting human trafficking took place between Sunday, February 6 and Saturday, February 12, 2022, and was conducted in various mediums and met with positive results.

Operation Reclaim and Rebuild was widely successful in its endeavor with 65 adults and 7 minor victims being recovered; 182 males arrested for the charge of solicitation; and 30 suspected traffickers and exploiters were arrested. In total, 413 arrests were made.

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Senate Bill 1042 will give a voice to the millions of victims that have suffered from this horrific abuse. This bill will fight to protect victims, strengthen prevention, and increase the prosecution of those who buy and sell human beings. It is about time that California starts to prosecute these horrendous acts as serious and violent crimes.

I appreciate your commitment to issues regarding public safety. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (213) 229-3000, or my Legislative Advocate, Lieutenant Brandon Epp at (323) 240-6586.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alex Villanueva". The signature is stylized and cursive.

ALEX VILLANUEVA
SHERIFF