



**SERVICE
FIRST,
NOW!**

Major Aarin Harrell
Lieutenant Breanna Valentine
Dallas Police Department

National Human Trafficking Prevention Month Update

Public Safety Committee

January 12, 2026



Presentation Overview



Human trafficking is a serious public safety issue impacting both adults and children across the City of Dallas. The Dallas Police Department is committed to identifying and supporting victims, holding offenders accountable, and working collaboratively with community partners to prevent exploitation and protect our most vulnerable residents.

Purpose

To inform the Public Safety Committee and Dallas residents about the scope of human trafficking involving adults and children, share relevant data and trends, highlight outreach and prevention efforts, and outline the actions the Dallas Police Department is taking to combat human trafficking and support victims.

What is Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is a serious crime where people are exploited through force, fraud, or coercion for labor or commercial sex. It affects both adults and children and can occur in many settings.

This includes forcing individuals to work under abusive conditions or exploiting them for sex. Human trafficking is a major public safety and human rights issue that requires awareness, prevention, and strong community and law enforcement partnerships to address.

Investigations & Criminal Offense

Adult human trafficking is investigated by the Human Trafficking Unit of the Special Investigations Division (SID).

Offenses Investigated:

- Trafficking and Continuous Trafficking of Persons
- Smuggling and Continuous Smuggling of Persons
- Promotion and Aggravated Promotion of Prostitution
- Online and Aggravated Online Promotion of Prostitution
- Compelling and Aggravated Compelling of Prostitution

Investigative Process

Human trafficking investigations generated from:

- Tips from public, law enforcement agencies, and advocates
- Follow up from other operations
- Victim outcry
- Human Trafficking Hotline

Human trafficking is investigated through:

- Undercover operations
- Interviews
- Execution of search and arrest warrants
- Recovery operations
- Working with advocates for victim placement and services

Adult Statistics

Category	2024	2025
Trafficking Cases	353	329
Arrests	171	105
Victims Recovered	11	63
Prostitution Cases	450	281
Arrests	402	183
Victims Recovered	4	6

Partnerships

- Mayor's Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Advisory Council
- Homeland Security Investigations North Texas Trafficking Task Force
- Office of Community Affairs
- North Texas Coalition Against Human Trafficking
- A21
- One Safe Place (The Underground)
- Rescue Her
- Mosaic
- Our Calling
- Work with additional NGOs currently, and as they become known
- Freed People

Prevention & Awareness Strategy

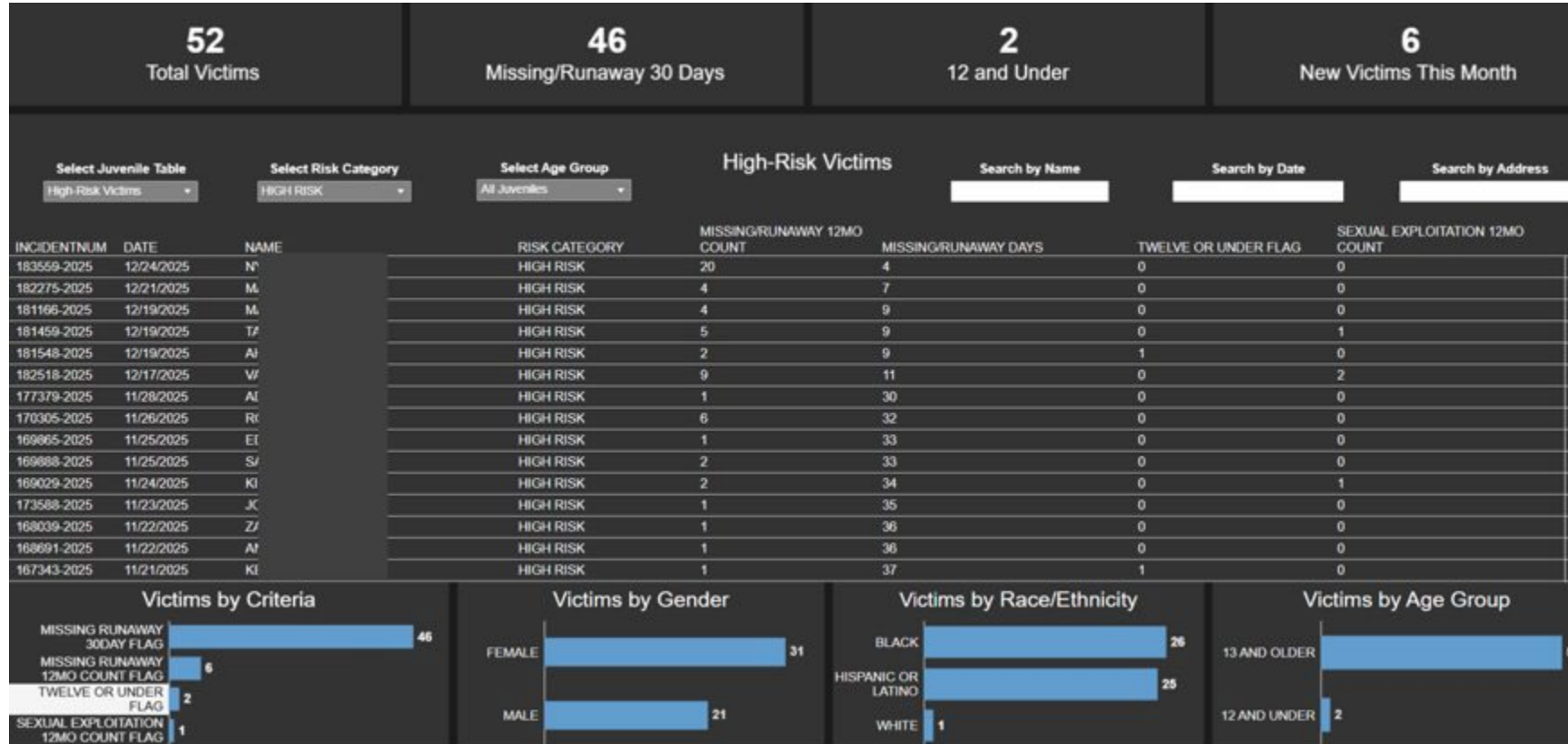
- Public Awareness
- Training for First Responders
- Victim Identification Tools
- Hotline & Tip Reporting
- Online Monitoring
- Targeting Buyers & Traffickers

Youth HRV

The High-Risk Victims Unit is the lead investigative unit when a youth has been victimized.

Year	Youths Recovered by DPD
2025	193
2024	117
2023	99
2022	101
2021	81

High-Risk Victim Dashboard



Outreach and Advocacy

Education and Outreach

The Unit includes a full-time education and outreach officer responsible for creating, organizing, and delivering presentations on cyber safety, child sexual abuse, exploitation, and trafficking awareness to teenagers, educators, coaches, caregivers, parents, and community leaders.

Partnerships

- Human Trafficking Advisory Council
- Homeland Security Investigations North Texas Trafficking Task Force
- North Texas Coalition Against Human Trafficking
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)
- Traffick911, Refuge City, New Friends New Life, The Underground, Precious Child, Inc.

Youth Processes

The Human Trafficking Unit includes two Federal Task Force Officers (TFO) assigned to the North Texas Trafficking Task Force under the United States Department of Homeland Security.

These officers also investigate child trafficking offenses. When the Human Trafficking Unit or Youth Ops encounters a youth victim, they are typically transferred to the High-Risk Victims Unit for specialized care and support.

In most cases, youths are transported to a local Children's Advocacy Center, where they receive advocacy, placement assistance, and social services, assigned a case worker and interviewed by Child Protective Services. youths are fully evaluated at an approved medical facility.

QUESTIONS?

