

# Talbot County, Maryland



## PROCLAMATION

### NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH – JANUARY 2022

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking is a serious problem on the Eastern Shore, whereby traffickers use violence, threats, deception and other manipulative tactics to force and coerce both young people and adults to engage in commercial sex acts or to provide labor or services against their will; and

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking is the second highest criminal enterprise in the United States, grossing \$9.5 billion a year, with the increased use of drugs, the focus on social media, and changes brought on by COVID-19 increasing the level of human trafficking; and

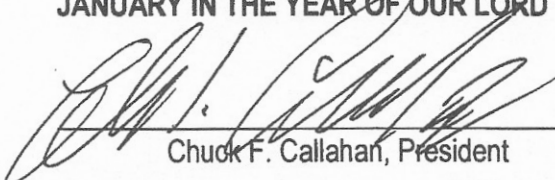
**WHEREAS**, the Eastern Shore Human Trafficking Task Force is engaged in anti-human trafficking actions by encouraging and promoting awareness and prevention of human trafficking; and

**WHEREAS**, between June 2013 and May 2020, there were reports of child sex trafficking in every county on the Eastern Shore, and since 2017, 127 human trafficking victims have been rescued throughout Maryland; and

**WHEREAS**, across the nation, Human Trafficking Prevention Month, acknowledged in January each year, formally recognizes that human trafficking consistently occurs in the United States and emphasizes the need for the public and private sectors to partner together and focus on prevention, prosecution of traffickers, and support for survivors;

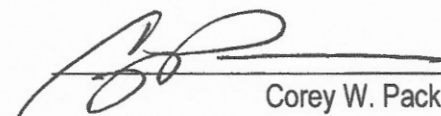
**NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF TALBOT COUNTY** do hereby declare the month of January as **Human Trafficking Prevention Month** in Talbot County and urge all citizens to actively work toward the prevention of human trafficking, prosecution of its perpetrators, and support of the survivors of this horrendous crime.

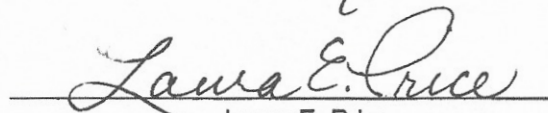
**GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS AND THE GREAT SEAL OF TALBOT COUNTY, THIS 25<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JANUARY IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-TWO.**

  
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Chuck F. Callahan, President

  
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Pete Leshner, Vice President

  
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Frank Divilio

  
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Corey W. Pack

  
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Laura E. Price