

Chief Justice Paul Newby Proclaims January 2023 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month for the Judicial Branch



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Chief Justice Paul Newby Proclaims January 2023 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month for the Judicial Branch

January 11 is proclaimed as Human Trafficking Awareness Day



HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH JANUARY 2023 HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS DAY JANUARY 11, 2023

WHEREAS, HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS A PUBLIC SAFETY, PERSONAL LIBERTY, AND PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE WHICH DENIES THE HUMAN DIGNITY AND FREEDOM OF VICTIMS REGARDLESS OF AGE, RELIGION, GENDER, AND CITIZENSHIP OR SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS; AND
 WHEREAS, THE CRIME OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING INVOLVES A FORM OF IDENTIFY, HARASSMENT, OFFENSES, OR TRAFFICKED THROUGH FORCE, FRAUD, OR COERCION FOR THE PURPOSES OF SEXUAL OR LABOR EXPLOITATION, IDENTIFIY IDENTIFIY, OR DEAR BRIBING, OR WHEN ANY COMMERCIAL SEX ACT IS COMMITTED UPON A PERSON WHO HAS NOT REACHED 18 YEARS OF AGE; AND
 WHEREAS, THE NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE AS WELL AS PARTNER AGENCIES WITHIN NORTH CAROLINA NOTE A DISAPPOINTING INCREASE IN REPORTS REGARDING DOMESTIC TRAFFICKING AND ENDING VULNERABILITY OF HARLED DUE TO THE OPENING, PREVENTIVE IMPACTS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, AND OTHER SUCH ECONOMIC FACTORS; AND
 WHEREAS, THE NORTH CAROLINA TERRORISM CENTER AGAINST CHALLENGE TASK FORCE REPORTS AN INCREASE IN CYBER TIPS FROM A TOTAL OF 4730 IN 2021 TO 17370 IN 2022 AS OF OCTOBER 2; AND
 WHEREAS, THE NORTH CAROLINA HUMAN TRAFFICKING COMMISSION, AS THE LEGISLATIVELY MANDATED LEADER OF ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING EFFORTS IN THE STATE, AND THE NORTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL BRANCH CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS AND SUPPORT EFFORTS TO BOLD MANAGEMENT OF THE MANY FORMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING, TO PREVENT AND SERVE VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS, AND TO INCREASE THE PREVENTION AND PROSECUTION OF THESE SUBJECTS CRIMES; AND
 WHEREAS, THE NORTH CAROLINA HUMAN TRAFFICKING COMMISSION IS CHARGED WITH EXAMINING AND COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING, FUNDING AND FACILITATING RESEARCH, CREATING MEASUREMENT, ASSESSMENT, AND ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES, INFORMING AND EDUCATING LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL, SOCIAL SERVICE PROVIDERS, AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC; SUGGESTING NEW POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND LEGISLATION, DEVELOPING REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAMS, AND IDENTIFYING GAPS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT OR SERVICE PROVISION AND RECOMMENDING SOLUTIONS; AND
 WHEREAS, HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO RECOGNIZE THAT ALL NORTH CAROLINIANS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE PREVENTION OF THIS CRIME AND IN THE CREATION OF SOLUTIONS THAT ADDRESS IT AND SERVE VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS.

NOW, THEREFORE, I DO HEREBY PROCLAIM JANUARY 2023 AS "HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH" AND JANUARY 11, 2023 AS "HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS DAY" FOR THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Paul Newby
PAUL NEWBY, CHIEF JUSTICE
SUPREME COURT OF NORTH CAROLINA

RALEIGH - [Supreme Court of North Carolina Chief Justice Paul Newby](#) has proclaimed January 2023 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month and January 11 as Human Trafficking Awareness Day for the Judicial Branch by way of a proclamation.

Since 2010, January has been recognized as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month by a presidential proclamation. The anniversary of the presidential proclamation, January 11, is known as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day.

"It's important to raise and spread awareness about this issue to help North Carolinians recognize and prevent these cruel crimes," said Chief Justice Newby. "We can help put an end to human trafficking in North Carolina only by rigorously gathering our resources and working collaboratively across government."

North Carolina has made significant progress over the last decade in reducing human trafficking, thanks largely to the efforts of the [North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission](#) (NCHTC). The Commission is housed within the [North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts](#) and works to increase awareness and foster partnerships to bring services to survivors.

MORE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

The North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission is the legislatively mandated leader of anti-human trafficking efforts in North Carolina per S.L. 2013-368. The Commission is charged primarily with examining and combating human trafficking; funding and facilitating research; creating measurement, assessment, and accountability measures; informing and educating law enforcement personnel, social services providers, and the general public; suggesting new policies, procedures, and legislation; and developing regional response teams and identifying gaps in law enforcement or service provision and recommending solutions.

- [All Things Judicial Podcast on the NCHTC](#)
- [Proclamation signed by Chief Justice Newby](#)
- [NCHTC fact sheet](#)
- [North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission website](#)
- [North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission awareness signs](#)

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About North Carolina Judicial Branch

The [North Carolina Judicial Branch](#) is an equal and distinctively separate branch and core function of government. More than 7,000 Judicial Branch employees statewide administer justice in courthouses in North Carolina's 100 counties. The [Judicial Branch budget for FY 2020–21](#) was \$598.2M, 89.2% of which is used to pay salaries and the remaining 10.8% is used for operations. The Judicial Branch receives only 2.44% of the overall State budget.

About North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts

The North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (NCAOC) is the administrative agency for the [North Carolina Judicial Branch](#), providing administrative services to help the North Carolina court system operate more efficiently and effectively, taking into account each courthouse's diverse needs, caseloads, and available resources.

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