

TTD NEWS RELEASE

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Transportation Unions Join Fight Against Human Trafficking

ORLANDO, FL—The Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO (TTD), joined the battle to thwart the scourge of human trafficking that is being carried out in the nation's transportation system.

"As many as 27 million women, men and children are sold into prostitution, domestic servitude or other forced labor in dark corners across the globe," the TTD Executive Committee declared at its annual winter meeting, pointing out that those involved in the human trafficking trade regularly "whisk their victims" throughout our transportation system.

"Our rank-and-file members are in a unique position to contribute to this global fight since human trafficking occurs in their workplaces," said TTD President Edward Wytkind.

In a unanimously adopted [policy statement](#), the Executive Committee endorsed the Transportation Leaders Against Human Trafficking initiative led by the Department of Transportation (DOT) in partnership with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

"We commend Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood for leading on this critical issue and for seeking a partnership with transportation unions whose members are the eyes and ears of our transportation system that can help identify human trafficking enterprises," Wytkind said.

The TTD 33-member Executive Committee pledged to combine leadership, education and training, and public awareness and outreach efforts, with hopes of having a "collective impact to combat this atrocity head on."

Last October, DOT joined the DHS Blue Campaign and began training all 55,000 DOT employees and 20,000 contractors on ways to identify common signs of human trafficking. And Amtrak, most of whose workers belong to TTD-affiliated unions, has committed to training its 20,000 employees on tactics for identifying and reporting suspected instances of human trafficking. Other employers are following suit.

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The Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO, represents 33 member unions in the aviation, rail, transit, motor carrier, highway, longshore, maritime and related industries. For more information, visit us at www.ttd.org or on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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