



ERIE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Written Directives

Number: **130.001**

Title: Prostitution Offenses Related to Sex Trafficking and Exploitation		Pages: 2
Effective Date: 09/25/13	Review Date: 06/01/20	Amended Date: 06/28/19

POLICY:

As specified in the Victims of Trafficking and Violent Protection Act of 2000, the United States Congress defines sex trafficking as the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act.

The Erie Police Department recognizes that victims of human sex trafficking are being forced into involuntary servitude and as such are stripped of their basic human rights under the 13th Amendment of the United States Constitution. Therefore, the Erie Police Department is committed to investigating all instances of suspected human sex trafficking in the Town of Erie.

DEFINITIONS:

NONE

PROCEDURES:

I. GENERAL

- A. Officers shall immediately notify a supervisor and the On-Call or On-Duty detective for all investigations involving child prostitution and/or sex trafficking.
- B. The supervisor and On-Call or On-Duty Detective will respond to the scene of investigations involving child prostitution and/or sex trafficking. If the Detective is unavailable to respond, the detective or supervisor will provide officers with instruction on how to proceed.
- C. All cases involving prostitution by a child, prostitution of a child, domestic trafficking of women and children and sexual exploitation for prostitution will be handled in similar fashion:
 - a. Officers should separate all involved parties.
 - b. In suspected human trafficking cases, women and juveniles should be treated as victims.
 - c. Officers should consider the location of the contact a potential crime scene and secure it pending further instruction from the Detective or a supervisor. Locations may include but are not limited to: vehicles, hotel rooms, houses, and/or street contacts.
 - d. The Detective or a supervisor should be contacted prior to: interviews with suspects and victims, victim or child protective custody decisions, placement of juveniles, parental notification and charging of suspects.

- D. The Detective and a supervisor responding to a child prostitution and/or sex trafficking crime scene will assess the situation and determine how to proceed with the following:
- a. Protective Custody reference the victim or child;
 - b. Parental or guardian notification;
 - c. Juvenile custody or placement;
 - d. All needs concerning search warrants;
 - e. Evidence collection;
 - f. Suspect and/or juvenile interviews;
 - g. Suspect and/or juvenile charges;
 - h. Scene documentation;
 - i. Victim assistance notification; and
 - j. All other criminal investigative matters applicable to the offense(s) as well as coordination with other investigative units.

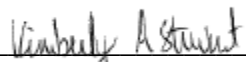
E. The on-duty supervisor shall notify the Staff Duty Officer (SDO) as soon as possible.

RULES:

NONE

REFERENCES:

Denver Police Department Operations Manual 304.11 (3/2013)



Kimberly A. Stewart
Chief of Police