

# PROCLAMATION

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING

## January 2024 as Human Trafficking Prevention Month

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**WHEREAS**, the United States Senate designated January 11 as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day in 2007 and, beginning in 2010 by Presidential Proclamation, each January has been designated National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month; and

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking involves commercial sexual exploitation and labor exploitation and sex trafficking is defined as “a commercial sex act that is induced by force, fraud, or coercion,” but if the person has not attained the age of 18 years old, force, fraud or coercion is not required; and

**WHEREAS**, labor trafficking is defined as “the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery;” and

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking is a human rights violation, and a violation of both federal and California law, and it also exploits our most vulnerable, promotes the breakdown of families and communities, fuels organized crime, and undermines public health; and

**WHEREAS**, the crime of human trafficking is present in every country and every U.S. state; and

**WHEREAS**, forced labor, involuntary domestic servitude, and commercial sexual exploitation of adults and youth and have been found to exist within local communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of San Mateo has dedicated resources including the San Mateo County Human Trafficking Program, has supported the efforts of the San Mateo County Police Chiefs and Sheriff Association, and has partnered with other governmental and non-governmental organizations to identify and address human trafficking within San Mateo County;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors declares January 2024 as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month in order to improve efforts and resources to eliminate human trafficking and encourage all individuals to take a stand against human trafficking and modern-day slavery.

**Dated: January 30, 2024**