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# **City of Detroit**

## **CITY COUNCIL**

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**FROM:** David Whitaker, Director  
Legislative Policy Division

**DATE:** January 23, 2026

**RE: Reestablishment of the Detroit City Council Human and Sex Trafficking Task Force**

City Council Member Angela Whitfield-Calloway has requested the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) produce a resolution reestablishing the Human and Sex Trafficking Task Force.

Attached is the requested resolution. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

**A Resolution by Council Member Angela Whitfield-Calloway**

**Reestablishing the Human and Sex Trafficking Task Force**

**WHEREAS** Every year, millions of men, women, and children are trafficked in countries around the world, including the United States. It is estimated that human trafficking generates billions of dollars of profit per year, second only to drug trafficking; and

**WHEREAS** Preying upon those who are more susceptible for a variety of reasons, including psychological or emotional vulnerability, economic hardship, and lack of a social safety net, natural disasters, or political instability, traffickers use force, fraud, or coercion to lure their victims and force them into labor or commercial sexual exploitation; and

**WHEREAS** Human and sex trafficking disproportionately impacts persons of color, women, and girls, LGBTQI+ individuals, migrants, and others from historically marginalized and underserved communities. According to the Kirwan Institute for the study of race and ethnicity at Ohio State University, 77% of victims in the United States are people of color; and

**WHEREAS** Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel recently hosted a roundtable discussion to raise awareness to the Human Trafficking problem in the state of Michigan and the importance of education on detection and the scale of Human Trafficking in our state; and

**WHEREAS** 5,000 human trafficking survivors have been identified across the state of Michigan since 2007, and Michigan currently ranks in the top ten in the nation in the number of cases reported by the state, according to the Human Rights Trafficking Hotline; and

**WHEREAS** According to statistics collected by the Polaris Project, human trafficking annually identifies more than 400 cases in Metro Detroit, involving 800 victims in the City of Detroit alone in 2019, and

**WHEREAS** In 2021, of the 25,000 children reported missing to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children who had run away, 1 in 6 were likely sex trafficking victims; and

**WHEREAS** The state of Michigan received a grade of “F” from Shared Hope International, a widely respected international organization in the anti-trafficking movement due to an extreme deficiency in identifying and responding to victims, providing a continuum of care, providing justice for survivors, preventing trafficking, and training individuals about trafficking, and

**WHEREAS** In Michigan, there were 2000 more human trafficking cases last year than in 2024, according to the Chair of the Michigan Human Trafficking Commission; and

**WHEREAS** The availability of training and education programs, and the creation of partnerships with various community and social services agencies are vital components in the fight to eradicate these hideous crimes; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED** Recognizing the notable gains made by the Detroit City Council Human and Sex Trafficking Task Force and in response to the nature and ongoing prevalence of human trafficking in the city of Detroit, the Detroit City Council hereby reestablishes the

Human and Sex Trafficking Task Force effective immediately, continuing until December 31, 2026, to be chaired by Council Member Angela Whitfield-Calloway.