



The Office of
**HUMAN TRAFFICKING
PREVENTION**

Office of the Governor
Jeff Landry

State of Louisiana
Office of the Governor
Office of Human Trafficking Prevention

Chief Tommy Clark
Commission Chair

Michelle Johnson
Advisory Board Chair

Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Commission & Advisory Board

January 29, 2026; 1:00 p.m.
Louisiana State Capitol, 4th Floor Press Room
900 N 3rd St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Minutes

I. Call to Order

Chief Tommy Clark

- A. This meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Madeleine Williams

- A. The following members of the Commission Board are present:

- I. Senator Beth Mizell, absent
- II. Christy Tate, (here by proxy, Lauren Brocksmitth)
- III. Danielle Lax, present
- IV. Jennifer Hannon, present
- V. Jon Tircuit, present
- VI. Representative Kellee Hennessy Dickerson, present
- VII. Kristine Russell, absent
- VIII. Mary Kate Andrepont, present
- IX. Natalie Laborde, (here by proxy, Julie Ralph)
- X. Nicolette Gordon, absent
- XI. Paula Miles, present
- XII. Stephen Guccione, present
- XIII. Steven McCain, absent
- XIV. Susie Schowen, absent
- XV. Tommy Clark, present

- a. The following members of the Advisory Board are present:

- I. Alliece Cole, present
- II. Amanda Moody, present
- III. Carmen E. Spooner, present



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- IV. Casey Morace, (here by proxy, Andrew Morse)
- V. Catalene Theriot, absent
- VI. Chantrelle Varnado-Johnson, absent
- VII. Clayton Kleinpeter, absent
- VIII. Darrell Renfro, (here by proxy, Rosanna DiChiro Derbes)
- IX. Holly Tupper, present
- X. Jennifer Best, present
- XI. Kimberly Young, present
- XII. Michelle Johnson, present
- XIII. Rafael de Castro, present
- XIV. Rheneisha Roberston, absent
- XV. Rochelle Fahrig, absent
- XVI. Sheri Combs, present
- XVII. Sherrard Crespo, absent
- XVIII. Stephanie Sterling, absent
- XIX. Tiffany Simpson, absent

III. Opening Remarks

Chief Tommy Clark

- A. Chief Tommy Clark thanks everyone for attending.
- B. Mary Kate Andrepont thanks everyone who attended the 5K Run for Human Trafficking Prevention Month and for the great awareness work done this January. Andrepont also explained the importance of having events that spread awareness and integrate survivor voices.

IV. Presentation

Mary Kate Andrepont

- A. Mary Kate Andrepont gives a presentation on Louisiana's new Child and Youth Identification Tools. The tools use evidence-based indicators to help child-serving professionals identify possible trafficking. Copies of the tool were printed out for members. Members can email humantrafficking@la.gov or Andrepont directly to get access to the tool and its User Guide. She recommends users screen digitally on the Lighthouse platform.

V. Old Business

Chief Tommy Clark

- A. December 2025 Minutes
- B. Vote to approve December 2025 Minutes
 - 1. Chief Clark opened up discussion to approve December 2025 minutes. No discussion.
 - 2. Chief Clark opened up public comment. No public comment.



3. Representative Kellee Hennessy Dickerson made a motion to approve the December 2025 meetings. The motion was seconded by Michelle Johnson. All in favor of the motion with no opposition.

VI. New Business

Chief Tommy Clark

A. Proposed Bylaws

1. Andrepont presented the proposed Commission and Advisory Board Bylaws for 2026. Members were provided a copy of the Bylaws ahead of the meeting to review.
2. The members of the Commission voted to approve the Bylaws.
 - a) Chief Clark opened up discussion to approve the Bylaws. No discussion.
 - b) Chief Clark opened up public comment. No public comments.
 - c) Vote, a motion to approve bylaws by Danielle Lax, seconded by Jennifer Hannon. All in favor, motion passed.

B. Updates from Subcommittees

1. Labor and Immigration Subcommittee,
 - a) Leanne McCallum Desselle is the chair for the subcommittee. Desselle outlined the priority areas that were discussed at the meeting. Carmen Spooner was voted to be the secretary.
2. Sex Trafficking of Adults,
 - a) Jennifer Best is the Chair of the subcommittee, and she provided an overview of the subcommittee's discussions. Erika Brantly was also voted to be the secretary.
3. Sex Trafficking of Minors,
 - a) Holly Tupper is the Chair of the subcommittee, and she provided an overview of the subcommittee's discussions. Lily Erwin was also voted to be the secretary for the subcommittee.

C. Upcoming Trainings

1. The Mid South Conference is scheduled for Lake Charles from March 2nd-3rd.
2. Leanne Desselle discussed a research opportunity on human trafficking and disaster recovery. She is interviewing people who own, operate, or manage construction or disaster recovery businesses that conduct disaster recovery and reconstruction work. Members or attendees can email lmccallum@rti.org to learn more or schedule an interview.



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VII. Other Business

Chief Tommy Clark

- A. Sydney Schneckenburger with Project Protect our Children introduced herself and her organization. Project Protect our Children's project the Youth Action Board Program seeks to engage, education, and empower passionate middle and high school students to raise awareness about human trafficking. Email Sydney Schneckenburger sydney@projectprotectourchildren.com to learn more.
- B. Elsie Dunn introduced herself and her organization Edify who will be opening up a safe house in Louisiana for survivors soon.

VIII. Upcoming Meetings

Chief Tommy Clark

- A. The next meeting will be on April 16, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.

IX. Adjournment

Chief Tommy Clark

- A. Representative Kellee Hennessy Dickerson makes a motion to adjourn this meeting, seconded by Michelle Johnson. This meeting was adjourned at 2:03 p.m.



State of Louisiana
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Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Commission and Advisory Board

Sex Trafficking of Minor Victims Subcommittee

MINUTES

January 29, 2026

9:00 AM

4th Floor Press Room, Louisiana State Capitol
900 N Third St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

I. Call to Order

Mary Kate Andrepont

XX. This meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m.

II. Roll Call

A. The following members are present: Holly Tupper, Debbie Solcher, Jennifer Hannon, Thomas Mule, Andrew Morse, Rachel Male, Alliece Cole, Sydney Schneckenburger, Lily Erwin, Megan Simmons, Tiffany Bourg, Claire Poche, Lacey Shull, Tomas Juarez, Kristi Juarez, Michelle Johnson, Tonya Rider, Stephanie Minto.

III. Welcome and Review of Expectations

Mary Kate Andrepont

A. Introductions of Members

I. All subcommittee members gave a short introduction.

B. Subcommittee Expectations

I. Mary Kate Andrepont gives a brief presentation of the subcommittee's purpose and expectations. Members are asked to attend at least three of the four subcommittee meetings this year. Mary Kate Andrepont also mentions we will nominate a secretary during this meeting.

C. Meeting Dates and Deadlines

I. Mary Kate Andrepont goes over important deadlines throughout the year and the times and dates of all subcommittee meetings.

IV. New Business

Mary Kate Andrepont

A. Leadership



- I. Co-Chairs: Debbie Solcher and Holly Tupper
- II. Nomination of Secretary, Holly Tupper makes a motion to recommend Lily Erwin, seconded by Debbie Solcher. All in favor, no opposition. Motion passed.
- B. Discussion of Subcommittee Priorities for 2026
 - I. Subcommittee members are reminded to follow the public meeting laws. Holly Tupper explains how the subcommittee meetings were structured last year and how they can improve or make changes moving forward with working groups. Holly Tupper would like to put more effort into creating better recommendations for this year and start brainstorming now.
 - II. Megan Simmons states they have been working on trauma informed individual education plans. A discussion was held regarding the goal of creating trauma-informed IEPs accessible statewide in Tennessee. Members noted to look at other state laws such as Tennessee, that may be beneficial to incorporate into our legislation. Resources that reflect more for students in schools. Debbie Solcher says the Department of Education needs to be involved as this will improve inconsistent reporting among school boards. A potential next step identified was piloting the program in a region with existing stakeholder buy-in. Members also discussed collecting data from the pilot to demonstrate impact and inform a broader rollout strategy.
 - III. Megan Simmons talks about research on educator surveys she's been conducting in the East Baton Rouge School District that teachers do not know how to deal with kids who have been through certain trauma and how daunting it is for them. More training and awareness will need to be held to advocate for this. Holly Tupper explains there needs to be a placement packet that provides more information about who is involved. Members discuss ongoing issues related to parents not communicating with service providers when a child goes missing. Jennifer Hannon states DFCS needs to budget discharge planning so there is a better system in place and more communication between school districts. Michelle Johnson states that with Act 662 human trafficking consultants are removed from working those cases and legislators need to know it is important to keep those consultants because the Liaisons are no longer there anymore. Holly Tupper says placement reporting for missing kids and filling the gaps with DCFS will be a big topic for the next subcommittee meeting.
- V. **Other Business** **Mary Kate Andrepont**
 - A. Next Meeting Date: April 16, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at the Louisiana State Capitol in the Press Room on 4th Floor.
- VI. **Adjournment** **Mary Kate Andrepont**
 - A. Motion to adjourn meeting by Holly Tupper, seconded by Lacey Shull. This meeting was adjourned at 10:01 a.m.



State of Louisiana
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Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Commission and Advisory Board

Sex Trafficking of Adult Victims Subcommittee

MINUTES

January 29, 2026

10:00 AM

4th Floor Press Room, Louisiana State Capitol
900 N Third St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

C. Call to Order

Mary Kate Andrepont

- A. This meeting was called to order at 10:14 a.m.

D. Roll Call

Mary Kate Andrepont

- A. The following members are present: Erika Brantly, Debbie Solcher, Tomas Juarez, Kristi Juarez, Jennifer Best, Stephanie Wilkins, Holly Tupper, Alliece Cole, Michelle Johnson, Rachel Male, Lacey Shull, Jasmine Garnder, Ashlie Bissell.

E. Welcome and Review of Expectations

Mary Kate Andrepont

- A. Introductions of Members
- I. Each member gave a brief introduction. Mary Kate Andrepont announces some members who are absent at today's meeting.
- B. Subcommittee Expectations
- I. Mary Kate Andrepont introduces the Co-Chairs Jennifer Best and Stephanie Wilkins. She also goes over a brief presentation of the subcommittee's purpose and expectations as well as public meeting laws.
- C. Meeting Dates and Deadlines
- I. Mary Kate Andrepont announces important deadlines throughout the year, as well as when the meeting and time dates are. Mary Kate also wants to strive for well thought out and detailed recommendations and what dates they will be due this year.

F. New Business

Mary Kate Andrepont



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A. Leadership

- I. Co-Chairs: Jennifer Best and Stephanie Wilkins
- II. Nominations of Secretary, motion to nominate a secretary. Erika Brantley makes a motion to nominate herself, seconded by Michelle Johnson. Motion passed.

B. Discussion of Subcommittee Priorities for 2026

- I. Jennifer Best reviews what the recommendations were for last year and discusses moving forward with those topics. Michelle Johnson says the Care Coordination plan has been written and includes a financial piece for a fiscal note and mirror what Act 662 said, but specifically for care coordination for adults.
- II. Thomas Juarez says they are a part of a great SART program. They can provide more resources that will work for adult human trafficking victims. Jennifer Best wants adults to feel like they have a support system and resources and that they are welcome to have access to those services.
- III. Michelle Johnson agrees there needs to be a plan for a protocol and create a task force with a focus on adult victims and people from the public can testify what is needed and not needed. More voices will bring more awareness, so a recommendation idea for a pilot plan is implemented. Stephanie Wilkins says more advocacy around recovery centers and emergency shelters for people. Suggestions for incorporating adult screening tools to help identify victims, you will need designated service providers for those adults that will have that screening information. Lacey Shull says Texas law gives you an option for when someone renews your license you have the option to donate for human trafficking. Rachel Male talks about research for specialized services without discrimination for LGBTQ victims.

G. Other Business

Mary Kate Andrepont

- A. Next Meeting Date: April 16, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at the Louisiana State Capitol in the Press Room on 4th Floor.

H. Adjournment

Mary Kate Andrepont

- A. A motion to adjourn this meeting by Jennifer Best, seconded by Stephanie Wilkins. The meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.



State of Louisiana
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Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Commission and Advisory Board

Labor Trafficking and Immigration Subcommittee

MINUTES

January 29, 2026

11:00 AM

4th Floor Press Room, Louisiana State Capitol
900 N Third St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

B. Call to Order

Mary Kate Andrepont

- A. This meeting was called to order at 11:08 a.m.

C. Roll Call

Mary Kate Andrepont

- A. The following members are present: Leanne Desselle, Sheri Combs, Carmen Spooner, Kristi Juarez, Tomas Juarez, Stephanie Minto, Lily Erwin, Dustin Peloquin, Mark Fontenot, Debbie Solcher, Rachel Male, Noel Bellas, Holly Tupper, Thomas Mule, Amber Hebert, Erika Brantly, Elsie Dunn, Michelle Johnson.

D. Welcome and Review of Expectations

Mary Kate Andrepont

- A. Introductions of Members
 - I. Members each gave a small introduction.
- B. Subcommittee Expectations
 - I. Mary Kate Andrepont gives a brief presentation on the subcommittee's purposes and expectations. She also announces the importance of following public meeting laws.
- C. Meeting Dates and Deadlines
 - I. Mary Kate Andrepont also announces all of the meeting times and dates as well as important deadlines for this year.

E. New Business

Mary Kate Andrepont

- A. Leadership
 - I. Chair: Leanne Desselle



- II. Nomination of Secretary, a motion was made to nominate Carmen Spooner by Thomas Mule, seconded by Stephanie Minto.
- B. Discussion of Subcommittee Priorities for 2026
 - I. Leanne Desselle opens the floor for what ideas can be proposed moving forward. Erika Brantly says that because of the current political climate with immigration, it will make things more complicated for victims who want to come forward.
 - II. Some recommendations include more education for public benefit case workers and that non U.S. citizens know their rights. Sheri Combs says more protection needed for immigrant survivors for what services and rights that they have. Stephanie Minto says meeting victims where they are instead of having them always come to the office and meeting them at their homes if it makes them feel more comfortable.
 - III. Reflecting back on what has been done in the past 5 years within the Labor and Immigration subcommittee. Other topics for recommendations can include more advocacy for the way some of these victims are treated and more fairness throughout. More research will need to be conducted and look at other states' current legislation and amend for companies to have supply chain management regulation when there is forced labor involved. More protocol for sting operations that occur without victim services or a translator and have a promising practice guide for how law enforcement can manage these operations and make it state wide protocol. Leanne Desselle says a tool kit will most likely be needed. Mandatory reporting for law enforcement is needed and more statewide communication and reporting procedures. The Louisiana Sheriffs Association may have to sit in these subcommittee meetings for more insight.

F. Other Business

Mary Kate Andrepont

- A. Next Meeting Date: April 16, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. at the Louisiana State Capitol in the Press Room on 4th Floor.

G. Adjournment

Mary Kate Andrepont

- A. A motion to adjourn this meeting by Leanne Desselle, seconded by Tomas Juarez. The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.