



**Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission Briefing**  
*In Conjunction with Exodus Cry and Shared Hope International*

**The Demand Factor in the Global Sex Trade:**  
**Human Trafficking as a Human Rights Crisis**

**Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016**  
**10:30 AM – 12:00 PM**  
**2255 Rayburn House Office Building**

**Panelists**



**Taina Bien-Aimé** is the executive director for the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women (CATW). Ms. Bien-Aimé's expertise in human trafficking began over two decades ago when she joined the Board of the international human rights organization, Equality Now, and subsequently served as its Executive Director from 2001-2011. She led and participated in national and international coalitions that successfully advocated for strong anti-trafficking legislation from international conventions to the US federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act to New York State's groundbreaking Human Trafficking Act of 2007. Also, under her tenure, Equality Now initiated the first campaigns against sex tourism and formed the Fund for Grassroots Activism to End Sex Trafficking, supporting community-based groups in a dozen countries on five continents that provide direct services to victims and push their governments to address trafficking in women and girls.



**Ernie Allen** of Allen Global Consulting is a global expert on child abduction, sexual exploitation, human trafficking and the Dark Web. He speaks to global audiences on these issues and advises governments, law enforcement, technology companies and nonprofit organizations. He currently chairs a global initiative to combat online exploitation for UK Prime Minister David Cameron. He serves on

several corporate boards and is an advisor to the Ethisphere institute in the US; Il Telefono Azzurro in Italy; ECPAT International in Thailand and others. He is a founding board member of the End Modern Slavery Initiative Foundation and serves as an advisor on human trafficking to the McCain Institute for International Leadership. Allen was named a Pathbreaker for his victim-center anti-trafficking efforts by Shared Hope International in 2013. Previously he was the architect, first chairman and President and CEO of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. He also created the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children and served simultaneously as its President and CEO.



**Sheriff Tom Dart** of Cook County, Illinois, reformed the way Sheriff's Police handle prostitution arrests— steering prostituted women toward rehabilitative services through the Sheriff's Women's Justice Program rather than jail. Sheriff Dart also launched a national campaign to target the men who solicit sex and highlight their roles as catalysts for the sex trade. Since its first operation in 2011, the National John Suppression Initiative has grown to include 80 law enforcement nationwide partners who have combined for 3,886 arrests of men buying sex. The Child Exploitation Unit, also founded under Dart, actively pursues child pornography and human trafficking cases. Such work provided the foundation for his federal lawsuit against the website Craigslist, which ultimately led to the removal of the Adult Services section previously listed on their website.



**The Honorable Sean D. Reyes** is the 21st Attorney General and first ethnic minority elected statewide in Utah. Reyes has received wide praise for transforming the Utah AG's office, regaining public trust, and successfully handling many of the most important cases in the state's history. In 2014, Reyes garnered international acclaim when news broke of his involvement in South America with Operation Underground Railroad, having joined a covert sting where he posed as a bodyguard and translator to help liberate more than 100 children from a sexual trafficking ring with widespread reach. The sting had the support of both the U.S. and Colombian governments. For more information, visit [seanreyes.com](http://seanreyes.com) or [attorneygeneral.utah.gov](http://attorneygeneral.utah.gov)



**Kubiiki Pride** is an advocate against the exploitation of women and girls who has leveraged her own experience as a mother whose child was victimized by child sex slavery to educate policy makers and service providers on the issue of domestic minor sex trafficking. Although she has found no easy route to free her family from the chains that connect her to this horrendous crime, she has found solace in the fact that today the fight to save children from a similar fate is no longer in the shadows. She works with organizations like Shared Hope International to bring the

fight to those who most often walk away with no repercussions, the buyers and facilitators in an effort to find justice for the survivors.



**Withelma “T” Ortiz Walker Pettigrew** is a survivor, leader and advocate. From the ages of 10-17, T survived being subjected to commercial sexual exploitation here in the US, through Domestic Human Trafficking. T now uses her lived experiences to teach, lead, and educate on needed reforms to systems and existing services that often interface with youth who have been sexually victimized including the child welfare, juvenile justice and mental health systems. T has spoken at many venues including Georgetown Law, The TriBeCa Film Festival, and the U.S. Senate. She has testified before members of Congress, and shared her story on a national level as one of GLAMOUR Magazine's 2011 Women of the Year. T currently serves on The National Foster Care Youth and Alumni Policy Council and is a Young Woman Leader and Member of the Board of Directors for the Human Rights Project for Girls Based in Washington, D.C. Her efforts are ongoing and continual, as she recently kicked off her College Campaign (TGoesToCollege2013) in an article featured by Nick Kristof in the New York Times Online and Most Recently Was Awarded by The Los Angeles County Probation Department for her Local and National Work. She also serves daily as a motivational mentor to other girls who have been similarly forced into the modern day form of slavery.