

Council Member Patrick O'Donnell City of Long Beach333 W. Ocean Blvd. Long Beach, 90802562-570-5235

On behalf of *Gems Uncovered*, I am writing to inform you of our position of support for the Sex Trafficking of Minors recommendation, related to human trafficking and the increased penalties for individuals paying a minor for sex. Human trafficking is a fast, growing concern in our country and is second only to drug trafficking in terms of profitable crimes. California, and specifically the South Bay area, is one of the top destinations for human trafficking. Children, who are victims, are often prosecuted for prostitution while little is done to the solicitor.

Thank you for bringing forth this issue to City Council and helping stop sex trafficking in our community.

Mary White

Founder