

STATE OF TEXAS                   §  
   §  
 COUNTY OF FORT BEND         §

**RESOLUTION OF THE  
 FORT BEND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT  
AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

**WHEREAS**, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton has described human trafficking as modern-day slavery; the exploitation of men, women, and children for forced labor or sex by a third-party for profit or gain;<sup>1</sup>

**WHEREAS**, Human trafficking affects both adults and children, men and women, and people from all parts of Texas, the United States, and around the world;

**WHEREAS**, Fort Bend County has increased efforts across many County Offices to combat human trafficking because human trafficking destroys lives and threatens our Nation's security, public health, and the rule of law;

**WHEREAS**, Fort Bend County spends hundreds of millions of dollars of public funds yearly on goods and services and wants to ensure that these funds do not support services or activities that violate human trafficking laws;

**WHEREAS**, this Commissioners Court believes that the purchasing decisions by this County are an opportunity to promote awareness about human trafficking and encourage contractors to follow employee recruitment and labor practices that comply with human trafficking laws;

**WHEREAS**, this Commissioners Court also believes that action by this Court will help to educate the public that human trafficking violates both state and federal law; and

**WHEREAS**, this Resolution is found to serve a public purpose.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Fort Bend County is opposed to Human Trafficking;
2. The County Purchasing Department shall post on their website the following so that Contractors can report instances of actual or suspected trafficking:

If you believe you may have information about a potential trafficking situation, call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) at 1-888-373-7888.

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/initiatives/human-trafficking>


NHTRC is a national, toll-free hotline, with specialists available to answer calls from anywhere in the country, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, every day of the year related to potential trafficking victims, suspicious behaviors, and/or locations where trafficking is suspected to occur.

3. And, the following language shall now be **required in all** formal competitive procurements, contracts negotiations that begin after the effective date of this Resolution, contracts, bids and Purchase Orders:

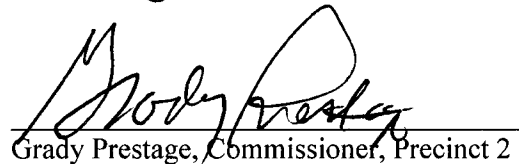
BY ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT, CONTRACTOR ACKNOWLEDGES THAT FORT BEND COUNTY IS OPPOSED TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND THAT NO COUNTY FUNDS WILL BE USED IN SUPPORT OF SERVICES OR ACTIVITIES THAT VIOLATE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAWS.

**ADOPTED** by Fort Bend County Commissioner's Court this 9<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2019.

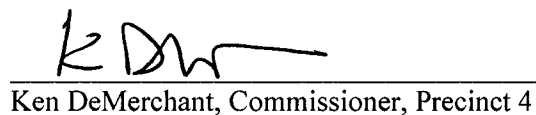
PASSED AND APPROVED BY COMMISSIONERS COURT this 9<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2019.

  
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KP George, County Judge


  
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Vincent Morales Commissioner, Precinct 1

  
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Grady Prestage, Commissioner, Precinct 2

  
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Andy Meyers, Commissioner, Precinct 3

  
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Ken DeMerchant, Commissioner, Precinct 4

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Richard, County Clerk  
County Clerk

