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Florida Attorney General's Office News Release

Nine Arrested on Human Trafficking Charges

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Attorney General Ashley Moody, the Hernando County Sheriff's Office and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement today announced the arrests of nine individuals on charges related to human trafficking. Authorities began the human trafficking investigation after receiving an anonymous tip about an online ad offering a minor for sex.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "This human trafficking investigation began with an anonymous tip—a brave individual who saw a child in trouble and reported it to law enforcement. Because of that tip, exceptional law enforcement work and legal support from our statewide prosecutors, the victim was rescued and those responsible are behind bars."

On May 16, 2017, the Hernando County Sheriff's Office received information of an adult prostituting a minor from a residence in Brooksville. The initial anonymous tip provided the name of the minor, the address and a phone number. Investigators immediately identified the child and located several Backpage.com advertisements linked to the provided phone number. Within 24 hours, authorities conducted an undercover sting operation that resulted in the rescue of the minor. The minor is safe and recovering at an undisclosed shelter that specializes in providing trauma-informed care for minors who are survivors of sex trafficking.

Over the last two years, the minor assisted law enforcement in this investigation by providing details about the trafficker. The minor described the transportation arrangements to locations in counties around the state by the trafficker, all for engaging in commercial sex with adult men. On some occasions, the minor stayed overnight with the adults. Many of the men would come to the home that the minor shared with the trafficker to engage in commercial sex. With the minor's assistance, HCSO worked diligently to identify and locate persons as repeat customers.

The following individuals are facing human trafficking charges in connection to the investigation:

· Luigi Barile, 38, Spring Hill
· Matthew Christopher Doyle, 38, Spring Hill
· Joseph Andrew Easton, 24, Inverness
· Bryan Joseph Giguere, 36, Homosassa
· James William Hancock, 67, Delray Beach
· Shawn Christopher Henson, 39, Newberry
· Latchman Kaladeen, 49, Wesley Chapel
· Lawrence Edward Kemble, 70, Ocala
· Jason Michael Raulerson, 46, High Springs

Attorney General Moody's Assistant Statewide Prosecutor Julie Sercus is prosecuting the case.

Learn the signs of human trafficking by visiting YouCanStopHT.com. Report human trafficking to local law enforcement and the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1(888) 373-7888.