

December 1, 2019

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President of Senate
State House, H-107
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones
Speaker of the House
State House, H101
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Report on Child Sex Trafficking – MSAR # 12140
Complete pursuant to Family Law Article § 5-704.4(g)(2)

Dear President Miller and Speaker Jones:

The Department of Human Services (DHS) is required to submit a report to the Maryland General Assembly, as well as the Department of Legislative Services on child sex trafficking reports and referrals to regional navigators in accordance with provisions of the Family Law Article § 5-704.4(g)(2). In accordance with this reporting requirement, DHS is pleased to provide you with the enclosed report.

If you should require additional information please contact the Office of Government Affairs at 410-767-8543.

Sincerely,



Lourdes R. Padilla
Secretary

cc: Sarah Albert, Department of Legislative Services (5 copies)



REPORT ON CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Completed pursuant to Family Law Article § 5-704.4(g)(2)

December 1, 2019

REPORT REQUIREMENT

This report is hereby submitted in response to the following reporting requirement found under Family Law Article § 5-704.4(g)(2):

(g)(2)Beginning December 1, 2019, the Department of Human Services shall annually report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on:

- (i) the number of reports of child sex trafficking made in the State in the preceding year;*
- (ii) the outcome or disposition of reports of child sex trafficking made in the State in the preceding year; and*
- (iii) the number of referrals made to regional navigators under this section in the preceding year.*

Source: Family Law Article § 5-704.4(g)(2)

BACKGROUND

The Department of Human Services has tracked sex trafficking data since 2013. Data collected includes the number of reports received by Child Protective Services (CPS), as well as the disposition of each investigation on a state-wide and local jurisdiction level. CPS investigations can have one of three dispositions as defined by Family Law §5-701:

- **Indicated** - a finding that there is credible evidence, which has not been satisfactorily refuted, that abuse, neglect, or sexual abuse did occur.
- **Unsubstantiated** - a finding that there is an insufficient amount of evidence to support a finding of indicated or ruled out.
- **Ruled out** - a finding that abuse, neglect, or sexual abuse did not occur.

NUMBER OF REPORTS OF CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING MADE IN MARYLAND IN 2018

Number of reports of child sex trafficking made in 2018:

- **124 screened in reports**
- **21 screened out reports**

OUTCOMES OR DISPOSITION OF REPORTS OF CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING MADE IN MARYLAND IN 2018

Disposition of reports of child sex trafficking made in 2018:

- Indicated: **52**
- Unsubstantiated: **26**
- Ruled Out: **46**

NUMBER OF REFERRALS MADE TO REGIONAL NAVIGATOR IN 2018

Number of referrals made to Regional Navigators in 2018: **0****

**No referrals were made to the Regional Navigator Program for CY2018 as the program did not exist at that time.

Sex Trafficking Data for CY 2018:

Reports Received	Reports Screened Out	Reports Screened In	Indicated	Unsubstantiated	Ruled Out	Referred to Regional Navigator
145	21	124	52	26	46	0**