Mesa Police Department
Human Exploitation and Trafficking (HEaT)

East Valley Human Trafficking Task Force (EVHTTF) Staffing:
1 Sergeant
3 Detectives
1 Police Investigator
2 SA – HSI-Phx
2021 Operations / Investigations

• Leather Mitt
• “No Name”
• Labor of Love
• On the Flip Side
• Trigger Point
• Broken Hearts

Stop Human Trafficking
Operation Leather Mitt

Short operation/limited resources:

• Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST) and Child Sexual Exploitation Operation
• Occurred in March
• 6 arrests were made; 4 DMST, 2 Luring for Child Sexual Exploitation
• AZ Attorney General’s Office Prosecuting
• Multiple other victims identified, and additional charges filed
Douglas Klingenberg

- Mesa DR – 21-50967
- Charge: Luring a minor for sexual exploitation, attempted sex conduct with a minor
- Klingenberg made a deal for sex with a 13-year-old female.
- Previously attempted to lure a person he believed to be a 15-year-old-female.
- An additional minor was located and interviewed. That minor stated that Klingenberg furnished harmful materials to her. Detectives are still working to identify additional victims and additional charges.
Ricky Hrubienski

- Mesa DR 21-54541
- Charges: Child sex trafficking, money laundering, attempted sex conduct with a minor
- Deal to purchase oral sex with a 14-year-old child.
- Drove to a location to meet the child.
- Mr. Hrubienski’s vehicle possessed fake license plates and he had a pistol.
Zachary Babbitt

- Mesa DR: 21-54317
- Original Charge: Luring, attempted sex conduct with a minor
- Undercover detective posing as a 14-year-old.
- Deal was made for sex with condoms.
- Arrest and communication device(s) seized.
Zachary Babbitt - Investigation

• Search of devices netted other victims. Detectives located multiple other young victim girls ages 10-14.
• Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) was located.
• Babbitt used his church to attempt to lure victims.
• Additional Charges: Sexual exploitation of a minor. Luring a minor for sexual exploitation.
Operation “No Name”

Ongoing Operation / Investigation
• Case started by HSI – PHX with an infant victim.
• Multinational / Multistate investigation with large Mesa/Phoenix group.
• Partnership combining resources and investigations: SWAT/SRT, MFL, undercover locations, interview rooms, victim advocates, air support, animal control/humane society.
• 23 search warrants. 23 subjects were arrested. 14 victims rescued or ID’d and pending rescue.
Operation Broken Hearts

Large multiagency operation hosted by Phoenix PD:

• Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST) and Child Sexual Exploration Operation.
• 37 arrests were made by the Task Force.
• Mesa and Tempe operated one location, Phoenix and Chandler at another. HSI-Phx and the AZ Attorney General’s Office supported both. HEaT and ICAC (Internet Crimes Against Children) teams partnered on these investigations.
• Maricopa County Attorney’s Office prosecution.
• Multiple other victims identified, and additional charges filed.
• Sex offenders were arrested.
Jonathan Holt

- Mesa DR 2021-19914.
- Charge: Child Sex Trafficking, Money Laundering
- Deal was for sex with a 13-year-old female for $200. The suspect arrived with another male. A third male arrived with firearms.
- Holt stated victim likely would have been killed.
Jeff Coffman

- Tempe IR 21-12460.
- Charge: Aggravated Luring, Sexual exploitation of a minor
- Deal was for oral sex with a 14-year-old boy.
- A search of Mr. Coffman’s electronic devices netted a large amount of Child Sexual Abuse Materials (CSAM).
Thomas Fisher

Tempe IR 21-12453

- Charges: Child sex trafficking, attempted sexual conduct with a minor, and money laundering.

- Registered Sex Offender (RSO).
  - Mr. Fisher was previously arrested for Luring a minor.

- Made a deal for sex with a 15-year-old for items of value.
Operation Broken Hearts

- Mesa DR 2021-22858
- Charges: Aggravated Luring, Attempted Sexual Contact, Sexual Exploitation of a Minor
- Jessica Mihalovits solicited a 14-year-old female for sex and sent full body nude photos.
- Further investigation found a child (pre-10) that was previously victimized by Jessica and Billy.
- Child Sexual Abuse Materials (CSAM) were located.
Thank you

Questions

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