



**U.S. Department
of Transportation**



Webinar: Building Effective Public Awareness & Outreach Efforts to Combat Human Trafficking for the Transportation Sector – Presenter Bios

Wednesday, July 31, 3:00-4:30pm EDT



Shelia Helton-Ingram serves as Assistant Director of the Office of International Transportation and Trade at the U.S. Department of Transportation. In her role, she manages the Protocol and Special Programs Team, including the Counter-Trafficking Program, and supports the development and implementation of multimodal international policy, trade promotion, and cross-border technical assistance efforts. Previously, she served as Regional Manager for Africa, Europe, and the Middle East, where she advised on international transportation and trade policy by conducting in-depth analyses and provided policy recommendations to address

emerging and ongoing international transportation issues. She also served as Manager for the Safe Skies for Africa Program, which enhanced aviation safety, security, air navigation, and airport operations in Sub-Saharan Africa through technical assistance and capacity building efforts. Shelia possesses 30 years of cumulative experience in various facets of aviation, aerospace, and management during her career with the military, government, and private industry.



Maha Alkhateeb serves as the Senior Counter-Trafficking Advisor on domestic and international counter-trafficking policy at the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). She leads DOT's Counter-Trafficking Initiative, Internal Counter-Trafficking Steering Committee, and Transportation Leaders Against Human Trafficking initiative in engaging with federal, state, and local stakeholders to bolster counter-trafficking policies, partnerships, employee training, and public awareness. As the Designated Federal Officer of DOT's Advisory Committee on Human Trafficking, she facilitated its establishment and works closely

with the Committee on the development of their reports to Congress. She also led the development of counter-trafficking strategies for the U.N. International Civil Aviation Organization and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation. Previously, Maha worked to prevent domestic violence in the U.S. and abroad through community training and educational resource development. Prior to that she conducted research on civic incorporation among new immigrants at Catholic University. She holds a Master of Arts in Sociology from The George Washington University.



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Elizabeth (Beth) Pfenning serves as International Relations Specialist and Counter Trafficking Advisor for the Counter Trafficking Team at the U.S. Department of Transportation Office of International Transportation and Trade (OIT&T), where she supports tribal engagement, the Department's Advisory Committee on Human Trafficking (ACHT), the Transportation Leaders Against Human Trafficking (TLAHT) initiative, and multilateral work to establish counter trafficking practices and standards. Beth is a member of the Senior Policy Operating Group (SPOG) Committees that support the President's Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (PITF).

Prior to DOT, Beth served as the Capacity Building Specialist and Prevention Team Lead with the HHS Office on Trafficking in Persons OTIP for nearly eight years, where she was responsible for coordinating and evaluating team initiatives related to prevention, capacity building, and communications. She managed the training and technical assistance portfolio, which included oversight of OTIP's National Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistance Center (NHTTAC), the SOAR to Health and Wellness Demonstration Program, and the Human Trafficking Leadership Academy (HTLA). Prior to federal service, she worked in women's reproductive health policy and spent six years working with and on behalf of individuals with lived experience in human trafficking as a federal grant recipient with Polaris.



Kimberly Casey is a Communications and Prevention Specialist at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Trafficking in Persons. In this role, she manages intra- and inter-agency prevention initiatives, strategic communications, public awareness and outreach, and the Human Trafficking Youth Prevention Education grant program. Kimberly serves as co-chair for the SPOG Public Awareness and Outreach Committee and the HHS Task Force to Prevent Human Trafficking Public Engagement Committee. For 17 years, Kimberly has worked with governments, non-governmental

organizations, and philanthropists to address human trafficking and violence prevention within marginalized populations.

Kimberly has a Master of Public Policy from George Mason University and studied international organizations and human rights at the University of Fribourg in Switzerland.



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Kylla Lanier is the Deputy Director and Senior Director of Public Sector Engagement for TAT a 501(c)3 organization that stands committed to educate, equip, empower and mobilize members of key industries and agencies to combat human trafficking. She is responsible for implementation of vision, public sector engagement, training and national promotion of the organization. She speaks on human trafficking at conferences, in the media, universities, industry meetings and makes operational decisions for TAT. She is responsible for TAT's global expansion, implementation of TAT's programming, including the Iowa Motor

Vehicle Enforcement (MVE) model and pertinent legislation in all 50 states and conducts in-depth law enforcement trainings around the nation. She consults with international agencies that seek to replicate TAT's model and instructs audiences on best practices for engaging with trafficking victims.

Kylla has been involved in the fight against human trafficking since 2007 when she helped initiate the state coalition against trafficking in Oklahoma. In addition to her human trafficking work, she has authored a book called *My Life Crazy* about her experiences working with gangs in El Salvador in the mid-1990s. She was also named Broken Arrow Public Schools District Teacher of the Year in 2011.



Lori Cohen is CEO of PACT, the leading policy organization on child sex trafficking in the nation, and a member of the ECPAT international network, active in over 100 countries and dedicated to the prevention of child sex trafficking and exploitation. An attorney, Lori has nearly two decades of experience working with survivors of human trafficking and related forms of gender-based violence. She has garnered international recognition for her work and has drawn upon her legal experience to advocate for anti-trafficking policy on federal, state, and local levels. She has conducted trainings in the U.S. and abroad for attorneys,

prosecutors, judges, health care professionals, and private industry leaders. Lori has taught at Yale University and the University of Michigan Law School.

PACT currently is participating in a federally funded program to research and pilot a public awareness campaign on child sex trafficking that draws upon both data analytics and survivors' voices.