

# CITY OF FLAGSTAFF – OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS, Flagstaff, both a tourist destination and rural community, is uniquely affected by human trafficking, which includes both sex and labor exploitation crimes.** The same economic forces that have shaped Flagstaff also inadvertently contribute to human trafficking crimes—a thriving tourism industry, limited affordable housing, and a geographic location that limits access to services and resources. A lack of awareness of how trafficking crimes present within a community of this size and geographic position has also been a contributing factor.

**WHEREAS, the biggest misconception is that trafficking is something that happens in larger cities or overseas.** Local and federal law enforcement has indicated that sex trafficking is happening in Arizona at an alarming rate. The income potential and the use of technology are among reasons why the crime is prevalent.

**WHEREAS, profit from sex trafficking is a billion-dollar business, second only to illegal arms trafficking and the illicit drug trade.** Sex trafficking is a high profit, low risk business where the commodity, human beings, can be sold repeatedly, unlike drugs or weapons where the product can only be sold one time. For any business to survive, it requires supply and demand. There appears to be an unwavering demand fueled by easy access through the internet, and a ready supply of both adults and youth that are constantly being recruited and exploited.

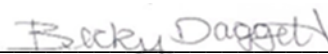
**WHEREAS, since 2018, agencies in the Flagstaff community have come into contact with over 522 victims.** Through various law enforcement investigations, a demand for the purchase of commercial sex has been identified in the region that fuels these crimes.

**WHEREAS, Flagstaff Initiative Against Trafficking (FIAT) is a community collective of professional service providers who want to end Human Trafficking.** The goals of FIAT are to: Construct a unified response for trafficking victims and survivors to get out of the life safely, educate and to bring awareness to our community on human trafficking in order to drive down demand, and to collect data to determine the true impact of Human Trafficking in Flagstaff.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Becky Daggett, Mayor of the City of Flagstaff, Arizona do hereby proclaim January 2026 as**

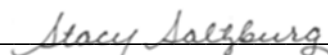
## FLAGSTAFF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026



MAYOR

ATTEST:



CITY CLERK