

# New Jersey

# Human Trafficking Laws

as of August 2019

According to NJ law, a person commits the crime of human trafficking if they knowingly hold, recruit, entice, harbor, transport, provide or obtain another person to engage in sexual activity by using one of the following methods:



## FORCE

- Causing serious physical harm or restraint
- Includes abuse, rape, beating, kidnapping, holding
- Forcing the use of drugs or alcohol



## FRAUD

- Pretending to be someone's friend or romantic partner
- Lying about age or identity
- Making false promises
- Tricking someone into believing they would be making money from a legitimate job



## COERCION

- Threatening to cause physical harm
- Threatening to expose a secret or share explicit photos or videos
- Withholding documents of identification or immigration
- Making someone believe they are a criminal

**ANY YOUTH UNDER THE AGE OF 18 EXCHANGING SEX ACTS FOR ANYTHING OF VALUE IS CONSIDERED A VICTIM OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING, REGARDLESS OF THE PRESENCE OR ABSENCE OF THESE 3 METHODS.**

# Penalties

as of August 2019



It is considered a first degree crime to exploit another person for the purpose of human trafficking. The penalties are:

- 10-20 years in prison (20+ years if victim is under 18)
- A fine of \$25,000 or more
- Restitution to the victim



It is considered a second degree crime to assist a trafficker by providing services, resources or assistance to further human trafficking, or to procure a person to engage in sexual activity.

- 5-10 years in prison
- A fine of \$15,000 or more
- Revocation of business license, if the business was used in the course of the crime

**IF A PERSON IS CHARGED/CONVICTED OF PROSTITUTION AS A RESULT OF BEING TRAFFICKED, THEY CAN APPLY TO HAVE THOSE CRIMES EXPUNGED OR VACATED FROM THEIR RECORD.**

## Resources

### ***National Human Trafficking Resource Center***

1-800-3737-888 or text HELP to 233733 (BEFREE)

### ***New Jersey Human Trafficking Hotline***

1-855-END-NJ-HT or 1-855-363-6548

### ***AVANZAR Dream Free Program***

1-800-286-4184

