

Formal Invitation to Join HAC-HT

**Please note: Letters were originally written on City of Houston letterhead and sent directly from the Mayor's Office.*

[Date]

Dear [name of individual]:

Over the last 2 years, Houston's Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force has worked to put an end to this vile crime that plagues our city. As you know, Houston's unique makeup makes it susceptible to human trafficking. Its miles of coastline, ports, airports, proximity to the Mexican border, diverse communities, and network of highways leave Houston particularly vulnerable to traffickers.

Recognizing the need for a more comprehensive approach to the problem, the Mayor recently approved a proposal to graduate the Task Force to a more expansive area Council that forges strategic partnerships with key stakeholders. The new **Houston Area Council on Human Trafficking (HAC-HT)** will advance and deliver the City's response to the organized efforts of traffickers. With your support, we can more efficiently mobilize the partners that are already in the fight and include potential key players who would be powerful voices in the conversation.

Using the 4Ps, an established framework set forth by the United Nations, HAC-HT will focus on the following four areas: 1) **Prevention** focuses efforts on public awareness and advocacy campaigns; 2) **Protection** efforts include rescue, rehabilitation, and reintegration using a victim centered approach; 3) **Prosecution** includes rectifying laws and coordinating with law enforcement; and 4) **Partnerships** advocate collaboration with the private and public sector, which will enhance group diversity and promote effective communication. Using this framework will enable us to build bridges, where appropriate, with domestic and foreign governments combating trafficking, coordinate HAC-HT and its sub-committee meetings, and report on progress to the public.

You are an integral part of the anti-human trafficking movement in Houston, and I hope you will accept my invitation to serve as a member of HAC-HT. I look forward to working with you as we move towards a day when the City of Houston is free of this horrific crime. Please let me know if you will accept this invitation by [date] by e-mailing HAC-HT's Chair with your current address and contact information. If you have any questions, you can contact the City of Houston representative.

Sincerely,

[Name]