

INDICATORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

RIDESHARE



- ▶ The potential victim lacks significant information on where they are traveling to, staying, or working.
- ▶ Indicators of control by another person:
 - ▶ The other person is in control of the potential victim's identification documents - particularly if the victim appears to be at an age capable of handling their own documentation.
 - ▶ The other person speaks or translates on behalf of the potential victim.
 - ▶ The potential victim appears apprehensive to speak in the presence of the person(s) they came with or they look to the person(s) they came with to respond for them.
 - ▶ The potential victim is in frequent communication, by phone, when not in the presence of the potential perpetrator.
 - ▶ The potential victim appears to be dependent (but may not use this phrase to describe themselves) on another person (financially, emotionally, and/or for drugs).
- ▶ The potential victim is dressed inappropriately for the weather conditions in their intended destination.
- ▶ They are traveling from where they live to "make money" for the week or weekend.
- ▶ Body Language and Facial Expressions:
 - ▶ Seems disoriented or lost
 - ▶ Seems distrustful, fearful, or hostile
 - ▶ Displays hopelessness, despondency, dejection, or desperation
- ▶ May appear aggressive or hesitant to talk with law enforcement; some victims may appear to be anxious, nervous, or fearful.
- ▶ Multiple people (potential "customers") are taken to the same hotel repeatedly within 24 hours or less via a Rideshare app.
- ▶ The potential victim has few personal belongings while traveling.
- ▶ The passenger is on the phone with someone who appears to be directing what to do when they reach their destination:
 - ▶ "What do I do when I get there?"
 - ▶ "What room am I going to?"
 - ▶ "How much should I charge?"
 - ▶ Listen for phrases like "play / making a play," "dates," "an account is down," and "postings."

NOTE Potential victims of trafficking may show signs of physical neglect or abuse (scars, bruises, burns, etc.) and/or seem malnourished or disheveled. Please note that victims of sex trafficking may be less likely to show signs of physical abuse in areas like the face, arms, or legs, but may sustain injuries in less visible areas such as on their lower back or on their head, underneath the hair.

- ▶ An individual is repeatedly visiting different hotels or residential locations in the same area within 24 hours via a Rideshare app.
- ▶ The passenger is not the same person who booked the ride.

EXAMPLE *When speaking with the passenger and using the name provided, the passenger does not respond in a manner that indicates it is their typical/given name.*

- ▶ The destination is a hotel or long-term accommodation, but the passenger does not have the typical baggage associated with the trip.

EXAMPLE *The passenger is traveling to stay at a hotel but only has a small purse.*

- ▶ Indicators of other suspicious behavior is present.

EXAMPLE *Victims sleep on the floor of the car wash where they work or they live out of a hotel and have sex with “clients” in the same hotel.*

- ▶ They are traveling to meet their partner, who they met on social media. They are not in possession of their own finances or they believe their partner will provide for any of their needs.
- ▶ Potential victims of sex trafficking may have tattoos given as a form of branding by their trafficker - strong indicators are street names, crowns, dollar signs, and anything with pimp-related language.

MINOR

- ▶ A minor traveling with someone who does not appear to be a relative but is an adult.
- ▶ A minor claiming to be older than they appear to be or their identification documentation is in question. Note, you are not allowed to book or ride alone by Rideshare if you are under 18.

- ▶ School-aged youth traveling by Rideshare during school hours.
- ▶ Report potential trafficking of minors to law enforcement.

NOTE A child may delay disclosing abuse or harm.

Suspected child sex trafficking can be reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) at 1-800-THE-LOST or cybertipline.org.

ACTION

- ▶ Make a report of your observations to the National Human Trafficking Hotline. Reports of even limited information are helpful, as other callers may have reported the same situation.
- ▶ If you are a Rideshare driver, make a report through your Rideshare app’s reporting system.

While no single indicator confirms the existence of human trafficking, several indicators combined can increase the likelihood of exploitation. Even in the absence of these indicators, you can still make a report to the National Human Trafficking Hotline if you suspect exploitation.

888-373-7888
U.S. HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE