

Maintaining Vigilance on the Issue of Human Trafficking

CONFERENCE OF CHIEF JUSTICES CONFERENCE OF STATE COURT ADMINISTRATORS

- WHEREAS, the Conference of Chief Justices and Conference of State Court
 Administrators adopted Resolution 4 at the Conference of Chief Justices 2016
 Midyear Meeting on February 3, 2016 encouraging their members to promote the strategies and best practices identified at the National Summit on Human Trafficking and the State Courts, and called for increased education and training opportunities for justice system stakeholders; and
- WHEREAS, many criminal justice stakeholders are aware of this issue; however, more work needs to be done; and
- WHEREAS, according to the National Association of Counties, four out of five counties with populations above 250,000 report that human trafficking is an increasing problem; and
- WHEREAS, the issue of human trafficking is often before the state courts, and those courts are uniquely positioned to identify and address the crime of human trafficking; and
- WHEREAS, the Abolish Human Trafficking Act (S 1311) and the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (S 1312) would reauthorize programs under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act, which established a fund to award grants to states and localities; and
- WHEREAS, the courts recognize that human trafficking is a nationwide concern impacting all Americans, and state courts are taking a leadership role in the movement to prevent human trafficking;
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conference of Chief Justices and Conference of State Court Administrators urge Congress and the United States Department of Justice to provide adequate funding to state courts to: (1) provide training for judges and court personnel on federal policies and requirements; (2) develop resources and best court practices; and (3) fully implement those best practices.

On <u>December 5, 2017</u> the NACM Board voted to support this resolution.

