

PORT OF SEATTLE
MEMORANDUM

COMMISSION AGENDA
ACTION ITEM

Item No.: 6c

Date of Meeting: January 10, 2012

DATE: January 5, 2012

TO: Tay Yoshitani, Chief Executive Officer

FROM: Mary Gin Kennedy, Director, Commission Services
Colleen Wilson, Chief, Port of Seattle Police Department

SUBJECT: Human Trafficking Motion

ACTION REQUESTED:

Adopt a motion of the Port of Seattle Commission to: (1) recognize January 11, 2012, as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day and January 2012 as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month; (2) note a joint media event is planned for January 11, 2012, with participation by the King County Council, the Seattle City Council, the Mayor of Seattle, and the Port Commission highlighting the issue of human trafficking and the importance of awareness and prevention; (3) commend the Port's on-going cooperation with other government agencies and non-profit organizations to strengthen anti-trafficking efforts in King County and Washington state and especially at the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (the "Airport"); (4) direct the Port to make additional efforts to increase the awareness of human trafficking by conducting training and other activities which help Port employees and Airport workers identify signs of possible trafficking, give victims information on how to obtain help, educate travelers about human trafficking and provide information on how to report suspicious situations or concerns; (5) urge businesses operating at Port facilities to attend local meetings or seminars where efforts to prevent human trafficking are discussed to become more knowledgeable about this issue; (6) encourage all King County residents to become informed about human trafficking and to join efforts to combat all forms of modern-day slavery.

SYNOPSIS:

This memo requests the Port of Seattle Commission to adopt a motion recognizing January 11, 2012, as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day and January 2012 as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery which controls and exploits children, men and women through sexual slavery, forced labor, debt bondage, involuntary servitude and child labor. It is the fastest growing and most lucrative criminal enterprise in the world and is tied with arms dealing as the second largest international criminal industry behind drug dealing. Seattle is part of a trafficking circuit, and Washington state is a center for recruitment, transportation and sale of people for sexual purposes or forced labor. Some trafficking victims may enter the United States through the Port of Seattle.

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Tay Yoshitani, Chief Executive Officer

January 5, 2012

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The motion summarizes the Port's cooperation with other federal, state and local governments and non-profit organizations to strengthen anti-trafficking efforts, directs Port staff to make additional efforts to increase awareness about human trafficking and urges King County residents to become informed about human trafficking and to join efforts to combat all forms of modern-day slavery.

OTHER DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS REQUEST:

Human Trafficking Motion.

PREVIOUS COMMISSION ACTIONS OR BRIEFINGS:

None.