

PRESS RELEASE

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HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY TO HOST "RUN FOR FREEDOM" 5K RUN AND 1-MILE WALK

Tulare County runners and walkers are invited to raise awareness and assist victims of human trafficking at the 2019 Justice Run: *Run for Freedom* 5K and one mile walk on January 19, 2019, at Mooney Grove Park in Visalia. Set during Human Trafficking Awareness Month, the run will benefit Family Services of Tulare County and the Central California Family Crisis Center and their support for victims.

"Since its inception in 2011, the Justice Run has supported victims and brought awareness to crimes like domestic violence and sexual assault and their impacts on our communities," said District Attorney Tim Ward. "This year, we're pleased to partner with the Human Trafficking Task Force, victim service non-profits, and law enforcement to take a united stand against this terrible crime that hides in plain sight. We hope that with more education and more awareness on how this crime occurs, we can work together towards justice and help victims become survivors."

Community service organizations will have booths at the event to distribute valuable resources on crime prevention and other needs.

For more information or to register for the run, visit www.da-tulareco.org/runforfreedom.htm. To learn more about the Tulare County Human Trafficking Task Force and its mission, visit www.stoptraffickingtc.wordpress.com.

Media inquiries can be directed to the Office of the District Attorney, County of Tulare Supervising Deputy District Attorney and Task Force Coordinator Melissa Chabra (559) 636-5494