

NEWS RELEASE

DIVISION OF POLICE • COLUMBUS, OHIO ELAINE BRYANT • CHIEF OF POLICE

For Immediate Release:

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Public Information Office

Tuesday, November 30, 2021 MA#49-2021

Human Trafficking Victim Recovered

The Central Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force received multiple tips regarding a 14-year-old Columbus female who was possibly being human trafficked in 2021, but detectives were unable to confirm any of the information until a recent development.

The juvenile's grandmother filed a missing persons report with Columbus Police on November 9, 2021. Officer Charles Radich, a detective with CPD's Missing Persons Unit, obtained information that the missing teen was in the Detroit suburb Southfield, Michigan and potentially being human trafficked. Det. Radich notified the Southfield Police Department and the Central Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force to report the information and obtain assistance.

With the assistance of the Federal Bureau of Investigations Detroit Human Trafficking Task Force, on November 22, 2021, officers were able to locate the missing teen at a Southfield area hotel.

Hundreds of sex advertisements for the missing girl were also found posted on illicit websites.

A 30-year-old male from Texas was identified in connection with this case. Charges are pending.

The victim has been reunited with family and is receiving assistance.

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