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March 28, 2014

Dear Sir/Madam:

**NEW OBLIGATION PER CIVIL CODE SECTION 52.6 TO POST
PUBLIC NOTICES (INFORMATION AND HOTLINES FOR
VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING)**

This letter is to inform you about a new law intended to protect victims of human trafficking and to assist you in meeting a simple obligation required of you under that law.

Section 52.6 of the California Civil Code requires specified categories of businesses to post notices in several languages informing the public and victims of human trafficking about telephone hotline numbers they can use to seek help or to report unlawful activity.

You are required to post notices because your business or establishment is an on-sale general public premises licensee under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act. You may post the compliant poster with notices in three languages that is included in this mailing for your convenience.¹ **Failure to comply with the posting requirements is punishable by a civil fine of \$500 for a first offense, and \$1000 for each subsequent offense.**

The notices must be placed in a conspicuous place near the public entrance or another conspicuous location in clear view of the public and employees where similar notices are posted.

The hotline notices must be at least 8 ½ by 11 inches in size, written in a 16 point font, and contain the specific words on the enclosed poster. Because your business is located in Los Angeles County, you are required to post a notice in English, Spanish and Chinese. We also recommend that you post notices in any other language(s) used in your community.

Human trafficking is the fastest growing criminal enterprise in the United States – a nine billion dollar industry. Up to 17,500 victims are trafficked into the U.S. every year, and California is one of the top four trafficking destinations.

¹ Additional compliant versions of the notice can be found on the Department of Justice's website at <http://oag.ca.gov/human-trafficking/sb1193/counties>. Korean, Tagalog, Hindi, Japanese, Khmer, Thai, and Vietnamese are some of the other languages available.

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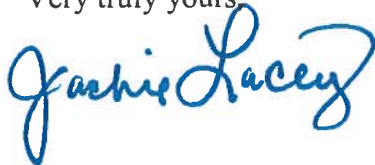
People from other countries seeking work, underage runaways, sex workers, and domestic workers can be particularly vulnerable to being tricked into situations where they are held in virtual slavery. They may be afraid to contact authorities and have limited English skills. Los Angeles County's geographic spread and diverse communities make it easier to hide and move victims from place to place, making it difficult for law enforcement to locate and help potential victims.

Increasing public awareness of human trafficking and the rights of victims is the right thing to do – and under Civil Code § 52.6 – it is the law.

We are sending the notice poster to you to aid in your compliance with this new law and to remove any cost or burden to you. We have every expectation that each business will comply with the posting requirements and avoid any civil penalties. Please post this poster today.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact Deputy District Attorney Ellen Aragon in our Consumer Protection Division (213) 580-3273.

Very truly yours,



JACKIE LACEY
District Attorney

no

Enclosure