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MEDIA OPPORTUNITY – November 14, 2017 at noon

Bar Association “Hot Talks” to Discuss the Human Trafficking Highway

WHAT: The Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association will host the next “Hot Talks” conversation **Tuesday, November 14 at 12 p.m.** on the topic of human trafficking. This free event is open to all of Cleveland at the CMBA Conference Center, located in One Cleveland Center.

Human trafficking is today's slavery. It happens around the country, around the globe and right here in our community. In fact, Ohio ranks 4th in human trafficking calls to the National Human Trafficking Hotline according to Governor John Kasich's 2017 tax force report released earlier this year. Join us for an interactive, lively discussion to learn more about this problem and be educated to become part of the solution to end human trafficking.

Leading our conversation will be **Theresa Flores** and **Kirsti Mouncey**. The discussion will be moderated by **Diane Citrino**. After brief, introductory remarks, the conversation will be open to all for an interactive question and answer period.

[Theresa Flores](#) is a human trafficking survivor, author, advocate and founder of S.O.A.P. (Save Our Adolescents from Prostitution). She is the Prevention Education Specialist for Gracehaven and has been a licensed Social Worker for more than 20 years. A survivor of domestic child sex trafficking, she was sold in an underground crime ring in an upper middle class suburb outside Detroit from the time she was 15-17 years old. In 2009, Theresa was appointed to the Ohio Attorney General's Human Trafficking Commission and has testified before the Ohio House and Senate in support of Human Trafficking Legislation. Her efforts were a major part of the success of these bills being passed into laws. Additionally, the “Theresa Flores Law” was passed in Michigan that eliminates the statute of limitation for children who have been trafficked.

[Kirsti Mouncey](#) is the Chief Program Officer at Cleveland Rape Crisis Center (CRCC). In 2011, CRCC launched Project STAR (Sex Trafficking Advocacy and Recovery) following Kirsti's vision of providing specialized services for Sex Trafficking Victims – a program that served over 200 trafficked women, men and children in 2015. She has extensive experience in the victim services and advocacy arena, having worked directly with hundreds of survivors of sexual violence, and developed effective education and outreach programs that reflect best practices. Kirsti also is an Adjunct Instructor for CWRU School of Social Work and a Trainer/ Consultant for the Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center. She further utilizes her expertise around trauma, rape and sexual abuse as an Expert Witness locally for the Cuyahoga County Prosecutors Office, and statewide.

[Diane Citrino](#) is an experienced litigator and partner at Giffen & Kaminski, a women-owned law firm in Cleveland. A former Regional Director of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, Diane frequently conducts independent investigations into alleged workplace harassment or discrimination. She currently chairs the Ohio Advisory Committee to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, and the Commission's most recent report addressed the issue of Human Trafficking in Ohio. Recently she won over \$4 million for three female tenants who had lived in Cleveland apartments owned by landlords Derek and Graig Brown, because of the threats, harassment and illegal actions of the Brown brothers featured in the 2016 cover story in “Best Lawyers.”

No need to RSVP. This is a brown bag lunch event.

Hot Talks is a monthly series to address hot topics in our community. Learn more at CleMetroBar.org/HotTalks.

WHEN: Tuesday, November 14 from 12 - 1 p.m.

WHERE: CMBA Conference Center
1375 E. 9th Street, 2nd Floor, Cleveland, OH 44114

About the CMBA

The nonprofit Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association operates as a center for legal professionalism in the region, promoting the highest ethical and professional standards. Serving the largest legal community in the state, the CMBA has more than 5,200 members. Learn more at CleMetroBar.org.

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