



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **PCPT Trains Bus Drivers to Identify and Report Human Trafficking**

*~~Pasco County Public Transportation joins the fight against this worldwide issue~~*

**PASCO COUNTY, FL** ---- [Pasco County Public Transportation](#) (PCPT) is partnering with the [Pasco County Commission on Human Trafficking](#) and the [U.S Institute Against Human Trafficking](#) (USIAHT) to train all bus drivers on how to properly identify and report potential cases of human trafficking or modern slavery.

“It's important for all transit employees to be aware of their frontline support role in combatting human trafficking,” said PCPT Director Kurt Scheible. “Our partnership with the Pasco County Commission on Human Trafficking and USIAHT will provide PCPT employees with critical training to identify vulnerable victims and help prevent this in our community.”

PCPT bus operators and customer service agents will be trained on how to identify and report suspicious behavior. Pasco County bus drivers will receive cards outlining trafficking indicators, protocols to follow if they suspect human trafficking and the National Human Trafficking Hotline number: 1.888.373.7888. Each bus will display an informational placard and have victim resource cards available for riders to take if they need help. This campaign is expected to reach over 60,000 people every month.

“Eradicating human trafficking is not something any one organization can do alone,” said Pasco County Commission on Human Trafficking Chair Liana Dean. “This is a problem that’s going to take all of us to solve, which is why it’s so important that collaborations like this exist.”

Human trafficking is a growing problem worldwide, with an estimated 40 million men, women, and children trapped in modern slavery, according to the International Labor Organization. Florida consistently ranks third nationally in the number of calls to the National Human Trafficking Hotline.

*To learn more about Pasco County Public Transportation, including bus routes, transportation news and schedules, visit the PCPT website at: [www.ridepcpt.com](http://www.ridepcpt.com). To learn more about the Pasco County Commission on Human Trafficking, please visit: [bit.ly/PascoHTCommission](http://bit.ly/PascoHTCommission).*