

ADVISORY BULLETIN

TRANSMITTAL NO. 2016-02

**TO: ALL FUNDED PROGRAMS
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**FROM: ELIZABETH CRONIN, ESQ.
DIRECTOR**

SUBJECT: Human Trafficking Referrals

DATE: January 26, 2016

The New York State Office of Victim Services (OVS or Office) announces that, effective January 20, 2016, established legal and social service providers may notify the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) and the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) of a person that reasonably appears to be a human trafficking victim.

The notification must be done by way of the attached referral form and with the victim's consent. Upon receipt of such a notification, DCJS, in consultation with OTDA, will make a preliminary assessment of whether such victim appears to meet the criteria for certification as a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons as defined in Section 7105 of Title 22 of the United States Code (Trafficking Victims Protection). If it is determined that the victim appears to meet the criteria of a trafficking victim in New York State, OTDA will report the finding to the victim by way of a confirmation letter.

This confirmation letter will aid trafficking victims in obtaining services which may include, but are not limited to, crime victim services, case management, emergency temporary housing, health care, mental health counseling, drug addiction screening and treatment, language interpretation and translation services, English language instruction, job training and placement assistance, post-employment services for job retention, and services to assist the individual and any of his or her family members to establish a permanent residence in New York state or the United States.

Should you have questions regarding this notice please contact Shelby Foster, Associate Attorney, at (518) 457-8066.

On behalf of the New York State Office of Victim Services, thank you for working with us to provide the highest quality services to crime victims.



Elizabeth Cronin, Esq.
Director

