


F R O M	Name & Title	Charles S. Svehla, Acting Fire Chief	CITY OF BALTIMORE MEMO	
	Agency Name & Address	Baltimore City Fire Department 401 E. Fayette Street, Mezzanine		
	Subject	City Council Bill #22-0127R – Investigative Hearing – Human Trafficking Investigations and Prosecutions		

TO: The Honorable Nick J. Mosby, President
And All Members of the Baltimore City Council
City Hall, Room 408

DATE: January 23, 2023

The proposed resolution calls on the Baltimore City Fire Department (BCFD or the Department), along with other agencies and collaborators to brief the City Council on the scope of the human trafficking problem in Baltimore City and efforts to address the issue.

The Department began working on this issue in the Fall of 2018, working with the City of Baltimore’s Anti-Human Trafficking Coordinator on training members of the BCFD who held advanced life saving (ALS) certification. The training educated our members on human trafficking and what it might look like on an EMS or suppression response. Additional training was conducted in the Fall of 2020 which concentrated on the definition of sex trafficking, introduced the concept of labor trafficking, and highlighted the BlueDot response model. These training provided members with the tools to identify and a place to take potential patients who have been trafficked. The BlueDot program is available 24/7/365. Over the past four years, nearly 500 ALS providers have received this training.

Although the Department’s priority has historically been on patient care, as opposed to prosecution, all frontline members have been trained on the importance of documentation of relevant details; including patient injuries, appearance, demeanor, and statements. Additionally, members have also been trained to document anything about the scene that may point to trafficking activity. The Department has also worked to develop partnerships with both the Baltimore Police Department (BPD) and the Baltimore City States’ Attorney’s Office (SAO).

The Baltimore City Fire Department looks forward to a productive discussion on CC 22-0139R.

CS/kw