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IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Volunteers to Host Stop Traffic Gala on Derby Eve

A Benefit for Survivors of Human Trafficking

Louisville, Ky, April 18, 2018- The first annual Stop Traffic Gala is a party for a purpose: to raise \$10,000 in aid for survivors of human trafficking. Trafficking is often called modern day slavery and its victims are exploited for labor and/or sex. Human trafficking is a serious problem in Kentucky. Over 200 children were reported to the state as being potentially trafficked in Kentucky in 2017.

The Stop Traffic Gala will be held May 4, 2018 at La Casita Center. The party will start at 6:00pm and guests can enjoy a red carpet entrance, food, music, dancing, and a photography exhibit. Popular DJ Juan Hustle from B96.5 will host the event. In addition, Donna Pollard, advocate, survivor, and founder of Survivors' Corner will be the featured speaker. The Butchertown Social will host the official afterparty.

Event organizer, Soha Saiyed, local attorney and antitrafficking advocate stated, "The Kentucky Derby is a boon to not only legitimate businesses in the area, but also criminals who would exploit men, women, and especially children for financial gain. This party for a purpose is an opportunity for the community to celebrate Derby while raising funds and awareness for survivors. Lots of things in the world are terrible, but we do not have to be."

All proceeds from the event will go directly to the Bakhita Empowerment Initiative at Catholic Charities. For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit www.cclou.org/stop.

About Bakhita Empowerment Initiative

The Bakhita Empowerment Initiative, a program of Catholic Charities to combat Human Trafficking, provides direct assistance and case management to survivors of sex or labor trafficking. The program also aims to educate the community about human trafficking, as well as how to identify individuals who are being forced or coerced for the purpose of sexual exploitation or labor.

Media Contact:

To schedule an interview with Soha Saiyed, Donna Pollard, or Juan Hustle, please email Soha Saiyed at soha@abneylegal.com or call her at (502) 550-4540.

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