FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NDAA Announces Human Trafficking Advisory Board and Best Practices Guide in Recognition of National Human Trafficking Awareness Month

ARLINGTON, VA – In recognition of National Human Trafficking Awareness Month, the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) announced today a <u>new best practices guide for human trafficking prosecution</u> and its National Human Trafficking Advisory Board.

The National Human Trafficking Prosecution Best Practices Guide informs and recommends effective and consistent investigation and prosecution practices throughout the country. Prosecutors are also encouraged to further develop the guide by contributing their knowledge and expertise on emerging best practices. The NDAA Women Prosecutors Section compiled the guide under the guidance of the San Diego County District Attorney's Office.

Additionally, the National Human Trafficking Advisory Board, in partnership with Lawyers Without Borders (LWOB), will provide assistance to a group of 10-50 prosecutors in Tanzania as they work under a country statute on human trafficking, the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2008. Advisory Board members will use background information provided by LWOB to act as "mentors" to Tanzanian prosecutors that request assistance on strategic and legislative guidance, investigative suggestions, and other resources. This partnership extends through September 30, 2021.

"The human trafficking prosecution best practices guide and advisory board allow prosecutors around the country and the globe to continue improving processes for effectively combatting the exploitation of human beings in trafficking," said NDAA President Duffie Stone. "We feel privileged to be able to announce two initiatives to recognize and bring awareness to National Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

Members of the National Human Trafficking Advisory Board include:

- Imran Ali, Assistant County Attorney and East Metro Sex Trafficking Task Force, Washington County Attorney's Office (Stillwater, MN)
- Mary Ellen Barrett, Deputy District Attorney of the Sex Crimes and Human Trafficking Division, San Diego County District Attorney's Office (San Diego, CA)
- Carolina Holderness, Chief of Human Trafficking Response Unit, New York County District Attorney's Office (New York, NY)
- Bill Hughes, Chief Criminal Deputy, Yavapai County Attorney's Office (Camp Verde, AZ)
- Monique Pillinger, Assistant State Attorney of Human Trafficking Unit in Office of the State Attorney, 17th Judicial Circuit of Florida, Broward County (Fort Lauderdale, FL)
- Shanna Redwine, Division Chief for Special Victims Division, Montgomery County District Attorney's Office (Conroe, TX)
- **Guillermo Santiso**, Deputy-in-Charge for Human Sex Trafficking Section of Sex Crimes Division of Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office (Los Angeles, CA)
- Carrie Soubal, Operations Advisor, Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office (Miami, FL)
- Duffie Stone, Solicitor, South Carolina 14th Judicial Circuit, and NDAA President (Bluffton, SC)

Formed in 1950, and celebrating its 70th anniversary, NDAA is the oldest and largest national organization representing state and local prosecutors in the country. With more than 5,500 members representing over two thirds of the state and local prosecutors' offices, NDAA is recognized as the leading source of national expertise on the prosecution function and is a valuable resource for the media, academia, government, and community leaders. NDAA's mission is to provide state and local prosecutors with the knowledge, skills, and support they need to ensure that justice is done and that public safety rights are protected.