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NEWS RELEASE

El Paso International Airport is Joining the Fight to End Human Trafficking

EL PASO, Texas – El Paso International Airport (EPIA) is joining the fight to end human trafficking by raising awareness of the crime and supporting the Blue Lightning Initiative (BLI). The BLI is an element of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Blue Campaign led jointly by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

"No one should be a victim of human trafficking; it is a crime that strips people of their basic rights. The airport and bridge systems are major gateways to the region and we have a responsibility to do our part to help end this horrible crime," said Monica Lombrana, A.A.E., Chief Operations and Transportation Officer. "We are asking our partners and the community to join us."

EPIA has officially partnered with DHS and DOT to align airport staff, airline partners, concessionaires, and key City Departments to be able to recognize and respond to suspected incidents of human trafficking. EPIA will distribute information and provide training throughout the year beginning with a press conference at 10:00 a.m. on January 10, 2020 at the El Paso International Airport La Placita Conference Room.

In commemoration of the victims of human trafficking, the lights at the airport in the main lobby, the landscaping along Airway Boulevard, and sculptures on I-10 will shine blue during the month of January.

We are also asking the public to participate in #WearBlueDay on January 11, 2020.

You can show your support to end human trafficking by wearing blue clothing, snap a photo, and posting it to social media using the #WearBlueDay to raise awareness of human trafficking on January 11, 2020.

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The United States Department of Homeland Security and the United States Department of Transportation are Federal agencies of the United States Government and are separate and distinct entities from this Airport.

Promote Transparent and Consistent Communication Among All Members of the Community