

February 7, 2022

Sent Via U.S. Mail

Mr. Roger Goodell, Commissioner National Football League 345 Park Avenue New York, NY 10154

## Re: Request for Increased Resources to Combat Human Trafficking Before, During and After the Superbowl

Dear Commissioner Goodell,

I write to you today on behalf of the Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC) and in partnership with the undersigned organizations working to support victims of human trafficking ahead of the upcoming Super Bowl LVI on February 13, 2022, at SoFi Stadium in Los Angeles. As the largest statewide law enforcement association in the country representing more than 77,000 public safety members and 930 public safety associations – we respectfully request that the National Football League (NFL) increase its investments to help combat human trafficking in connection with the Super Bowl by providing grant funding specifically for those organizations that work directly with victims.

Human trafficking occurs all around us, and the NFL has been one of the most prominent organizations dedicated to raising awareness and providing resources to help the public recognize and report suspected human trafficking through your *It's a Penalty* campaign, ad placements at LAX and partnerships with businesses like Uber and Hilton.

The NFL's commitment to awareness and prevention is crucial – especially in California where years of new laws and policies have inadvertently made it easier for sex offenders to be released and created new obstacles to law enforcement's ability to investigate and intervene in human trafficking operations.

As you know, the sad reality is human traffickers use large sporting and entertainment events like the Super Bowl to increase the sales of their victims. We hope our officers can help more victims of human trafficking before, during and after the upcoming Super Bowl in Los Angeles. But, as dozens of sex trafficking arrests are made in connection with the Super Bowl each year, we must also collectively focus on what's next for the victims whose lives have been impacted by months or years of being trafficked and sexually abused. The journey back to living free and productive lives is long and hard. To truly support these victims, we need to leave them in good hands and ensure they have the resources and care they need to recover. Our officers work closely with organizations who help victims heal and restore their lives – and we are writing today to ask you to help these organizations help the victims of human trafficking.

We believe you have an opportunity to build upon the NFL's strong commitment to this cause by providing resources that will support the men, women and children who are the survivors of human trafficking and sex abuse.

Whereas the Super Bowl is one of the greatest profit generating events in America and the NFL is one of the nation's preeminent sporting organizations with a vested interest in expanding its role as a socially responsible partner with hosting cities, we humbly request that the NFL work collaboratively with both PORAC and the undersigned organizations to identify opportunities to increase direct support for victims with the goal of establishing a permanent grant program that would provide funding for qualifying victims support organizations in hosting cities – starting this year in Southern California.

As you continue to work to make Super Bowl weekend a safe experience for all, we encourage you to consider your immediate opportunity to go beyond your level of current investment to mitigate the impacts of human trafficking in connection with the Super Bowl. We strongly believe that our organizations can be a valuable resource to you and the NFL on this incredibly important issue. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the PORAC Headquarters at (916) 928-3777 or contact our legislative advocates at Aaron Read & Associates (916) 448-3444.

Very Truly Yours,

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