

## **Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Minors**

This Office prioritizes the investigation and prosecution of numerous child pornography, child enticement, child endangerment, and sex trafficking offenses.

- In July 2019, prosecutors charged Jeffrey Epstein with sex trafficking of minors between 2002 through 2005, Epstein sexually exploited and abused dozens of underage girls by enticing them to engage in sex acts with him in exchange for money. Epstein allegedly worked with several employees and associates to ensure that he had a steady supply of minor victims to abuse, and paid several of those victims themselves to recruit other underage girls to engage in similar sex acts for money. The indictment against Jeffrey Epstein was vacated following his death in August of 2019.
- In 2018, the Criminal Division initiated the "Operation Safe Kids" initiative, which
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