

HUMAN TRAFFICKING INSTITUTE

EMPOWERING JUSTICE SYSTEMS TO DECIMATE MODERN SLAVERY AT ITS SOURCE



John Freeman is the Director of Law Enforcement Operations of the Human Trafficking Institute. He is responsible for all aspects of HTI activities related to law enforcement. He directs efforts to build, enhance, and sustain specialized investigators wherever the Institute has impact and beyond. He manages focused training and mentoring for partners and facilitates cooperative efforts across a wide spectrum.

Mr. Freeman served as a special agent with the Diplomatic Security Service - U.S. Department of State for twenty-one years, leading teams in protective security and criminal investigations. While serving as a foreign service special agent he was posted to U.S. Embassies in Nigeria and South Korea, as well as the DSS Representative to the Joint Terrorism Task Force - Seattle, and on Secretary Condoleeza Rice's Protection Detail. He also successfully conducted and led investigations focused on passport & visa fraud, parental abductions, organized crime, and terrorism. The second half of John's DSS career focused on human trafficking investigations, at first building a small team tasked with high profile cases, some with bilateral diplomatic impact. Coordinating agents, analysts, and victim service providers, his teams' efforts resulted in successful federal prosecutions. Other cases had international components allowing John to better integrate DSS domestic field offices with DSS agents assigned overseas in U.S. Embassies and Consulates, again with the resulting successful prosecution and convictions in the United States.

Simultaneously, John was representing DSS and the Department of State to strengthen U.S. Government efforts to expand interagency anti-trafficking task forces and develop specialized anti-trafficking training, including a pilot program to train 2500 U.S. Embassy staff members across 10 foreign countries. In 2019 he was named as a member of the U.S. Delegation to the annual United Nations Convention Against Transnational Crime's (UNTOC) Working Group on Trafficking in Persons in 2019. In the United States, he was a frequent panelist for various conferences and presented instructional training to students attending courses with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, the International Law Enforcement Academy-Roswell, NM, and training academies for both Homeland Security Investigations and DSS. He also participated in multiagency working committees to formulate national policy, including the 2020 National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking, released three months after John retired.

John is a veteran U.S. Army paratrooper. After completing his military service, John earned a Bachelor's Degree in History from Excelsior College.

**JOHN
FREEMAN**
*Director
of Law
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Operations*