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DHS Open Source Enterprise Daily Human Trafficking and Smuggling Report 4 January 2012

NATIONAL:

- **Bolingbrook Man Charged In Sex Trafficking Case [Illinois]:** A 39-year-old Bolingbrook man was arrested Tuesday on federal charges that he forced a 17-year-old girl to work in the sex trade, according to federal documents. McKenzie Carson, also known as "Casino," allegedly recruited several young women over the past year to engage in prostitution in the Chicago area, according to a federal complaint filed last week. Carson allegedly used violence to force his victims into the sex trade and advertised their services on the Internet. ... He kept all or portions of the money they were paid by customers, the complaint said. Carson, charged with one count of sexual trafficking of a child by force, fraud or coercion, was arrested Tuesday morning at his home. [HSEC-3.10; Date: 3 January 2012; Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chi-bolingbrook-man-charged-in-sex-trafficking-case-20120103.0.4194695.story>]
- **More Than A Dozen Illegal Immigrants Caught At McAllen Stash House [Texas]:** More than a dozen illegal immigrants rounded up near McAllen are being processed before they're returned to home countries. Border Patrol agents caught approximately 20 of them running from a stash house on Highway 107. Authorities went to the house Monday afternoon after the owner complained about the tenants. Authorities say the group of illegals ran into the brush when police and the Border Patrol arrived. ... Border Patrol agents wouldn't give an exact number of illegal immigrants who ran from the house. A man from El Salvador, who was taken into custody, told CHANNEL 5 NEWS he was staying with 18 other people. [HSEC-3.10; Date: 3 January 2012; Source: <http://www.krgv.com/news/more-than-a-dozen-illegal-immigrants-caught-at-mcallen-stash-house>]
- **Honduran Mother And Son Reunited [Texas]:** A mother and her 4-year-old son were reunited by U.S. Border Patrol agents and the Alton Police Department Thursday after being separated by a smuggler. The Honduran mother was with a group of illegal immigrants arrested near La Gloria. During processing, the woman told agents that her son was at a stash house in McAllen. She said smugglers told her the two would be reunited in Houston. The mother provided agents with the phone number of the suspected smuggler. Agents called the number to verify the woman's claim. Shortly thereafter, agents received a call from a man claiming to be the child's father, stating that he had received an anonymous phone call from an individual who said he had dropped the child off at a park in Alton. The agents relayed the information to officers from the Alton Police Department, who immediately responded to the call and found the boy at a park next to the police station. The mother and son were reunited at the Rio Grande City Station. [HSEC-3.10; Date: 30 December 2011; Source: <http://www.valleycentral.com/news/story.aspx?id=702527>]

INTERNATIONAL:

- **[UPDATE] Survivors From Boat Disaster Had Visas [Australia]:** The Indonesian government says the easing of visa regulations for a number of Asian countries is not a "blank check" for asylum seekers heading to Australia. Indonesia - the main transit point for asylum seekers that travel by boat to Australia - is set to relax visa rules for people from Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, while similar changes for Pakistan and Afghanistan are awaiting final approval. People from Afghanistan made up the largest cohort of asylum

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seekers intercepted in Australian waters in 2011, while Sri Lankan and Pakistani nationals were the fifth and sixth largest groups. ... "People smuggling will occur with or without such arrangements and what we need to be doing is really disrupting the networks that have been involved in people smuggling," he said. The comments follow an admission from the chief of immigration with Indonesia's Law and Human Rights Ministry, Bambang Irawan, that the new visa rules could trigger a fresh wave of boat-people traffic to Australia. "There's the potential for the new policy to lure more boat people heading to Australia," Irawan said earlier this week. [HSEC-3.6; Date: 4 January 2012; Source: <http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-world/survivors-from-boat-disaster-had-visas-20120104-1pl0o.html>]

- **Over 1,000 Child Sex Abuses In 2011 [Sri Lanka]:** Grave sexual exploitation of children has amounted to 1089 in 2011 compared to 854 in 2010, according to Police media spokesman SSP, Ajith Rohana. The incidence of rape and human trafficking cases in Sri Lanka in 2011 was on high with 1152 incidents reported from January 1 to August 31. However, there was a drop by 652 cases as compared to the corresponding year 2010. In 2010, 1804 cases had been reported, he revealed. Despite three amendments being made to the Penal Code to punish offenders, the increase had continued, SSP Ajith Rohana said addressing a recent seminar on human trafficking. He stressed that the media had an important role to play as a part of the criminal investigation process. [HSEC-3.6; Date: 1 January 2012; Source: <http://www.nation.lk/edition/index.php/todays-news/item/797-over-1000-child-sex-abuses-in-2011>]
- **[UPDATE] Suspected Child Trafficker Seeks Bail [Zimbabwe]:** Simon Mhlanga, the 41-year-old suspect charged with alleged human trafficking after 16 Zimbabwean children were found in a truck in Mafikeng two weeks ago, will again appear in the Mmabatho Magistrate's Court for a second bail application on January 12. Police spokesperson Brig Thulane Ngubane said the suspect was kept in custody because they could not confirm his physical address. He was denied bail by the court on Wednesday. The truck Mhlanga used was parked in the Mafikeng CBD and was spotted by a passerby who alerted the police. Three children from the group, two boys and a girl, allegedly escaped when confronted by the police, who are still searching for them. The remaining 13 were kept at the Grace shelter in Mooinooi. [HSEC-3.10; Date: 31 December 2011; Source: <http://www.newzimbabwe.com/news-6829-Suspected+child+trafficker+seeks+bail/news.aspx>]
- **Stronger Law Against Human Trafficking [Philippines]:** Alarmed by the number of Filipino women and children trafficked in the Asia-Pacific region, several congressmen on Wednesday called for a "stricter" implementation of the country's anti-trafficking law. Aurora Rep. Juan Edgardo Angara, chairman of the House Committee on Higher and Technical Education, and Gabriela Rep. Luz Ilagan criticizes the lax implementation of the law, which prodded the trafficking of Filipino women into forced commercial sex in places like China, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, and Australia as disclosed by the International Labor Organization (ILO). "We already have an anti-trafficking law, so the solution lies not with the Legislature in the passage of new laws but in the enforcement of existing laws," Angara said. He proposed that the government should use the Anti-Money Laundering Law "to choke off" the funding of the syndicates to paralyze their operations and catch them. ... The ILO said Filipino as well as Indonesian and Sri Lankan migrant workers "have died in unclear circumstances, while others have been subjected to severe punishments in several Middle Eastern countries." [HSEC-3.6; Date: 4 January 2012; Source: <http://www.mb.com.ph/articles/347000/stronger-law-against-human-trafficking>]
- **500 Undocumented Haitians Pour Into Brazil In Last Days Of 2011:** Some 500 undocumented Haitian immigrants crossed into Brazil from Bolivia in the last three days of 2011, joining some 700 of their compatriots who live in an improvised shelter in the Amazonian town of Brasileia, a source in the Acre state government told Efe Monday. The mass immigration occurred in just a few days because of rumors that Brazil considered blocking Haitians from entering anywhere along its Amazonian border beginning this year, the source said. Over the last two years Brazil has welcomed hundreds of Haitians who entered the country illegally looking for better living conditions following the 2010 earthquake, and who were given humanitarian visas since they could be considered neither asylum seekers nor political refugees. ... According to the Jesuit Refugee Service, human-trafficking rings recruit Haitian citizens with promises of work in countries like Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia – but once abandoned and left to their own devices, the migrants end up traveling to Brazil. In 2010 alone, Brazil awarded 475 humanitarian visas to Haitian immigrants, but the number of the undocumented rose significantly in 2011. [HSEC-3.10; Date: 3 January 2012; Source: <http://www.laht.com/article.asp?ArticleId=458242&CategoryId=14090>]

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