

U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Private Sector Exchange

Originally issued: July 23, 2009

Guidance Directive

William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act

The William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (WWTVPRA) of 2008 was signed into law on December 23, 2008. Changes under this law, relate to the legal rights of certain employment or education-based non-immigrants under Federal immigration, labor, and employment laws. The WWTVPRA outlines information that must be provided to certain non-immigrants about their rights, protections and available resources. To learn more or to download the <u>Nonimmigrant Rights, Protections</u> and <u>Resources pamphlet</u>, please go to the <u>Exchange Visitor Program Website</u> or the <u>Bureau of Consular Affairs Website</u>.

The pamphlet provides clear information on important issues regarding the health, safety and welfare of the exchange visitor participant as well as information regarding:

■ The legal rights of employment-based non-immigrants under Federal immigrant, labor, and employment laws;

■ The illegality of slavery, peonage, trafficking in persons, sexual assault, extortion, blackmail, and worker exploitation in the United States;

■ The legal rights of immigrant victims of trafficking in persons, worker exploitation, and other related crimes, including: the right of access to immigration and labor rights groups; the right to seek redress in United States courts; and the right to report abuse without retaliation; and

• The availability of services for victims of human trafficking and worker exploitation in the United States, including victim services complaint hotlines.

To meet your obligations under WWTVPRA, I strongly encourage you to utilize the toll-free numbers for the National Human Trafficking Resource Center and Trafficking in Persons and Worker Exploitation Task Force Compliant Line by making them available to participants. You may wish to include copies of the pamphlets in acceptance packages or your orientation materials.

Stanley S. Colvin Deputy Assistant Secretary for Private Sector Exchange