



Sex Trafficking Charges in Alaska, 2013-2018*

In **2012**, at the urging of law enforcement and child advocates, Alaska legislators broadened the Promoting Prostitution statutes (AS 11.66.110-135), changed the age of consent for prostitution to 21, increased the penalties throughout, and renamed the statutes Sex Trafficking.

In **2013** the statute was used in two cases.

In 3KN-13-00051CR, a sex worker was charged with prostitution (of herself) and with 7 counts of felony sex trafficking for sharing her space with other sex workers. There were no allegations of force, fraud, coercion, minors, etc.

In 4FA-13-2273CR an independent sex worker was charged with trafficking herself for “aiding and facilitating” her own prostitution.

People charged with trafficking a minor: 0

People charged with forcing someone into prostitution: 0

Allegations of force, fraud, or coercion: 0

Sex workers charged: 2/100%

In **2014** the statute was used in five cases:

In 3AN-14-06159CR a sex worker was charged with 8 felony counts of sex trafficking for sharing space with and providing safety services to other sex workers.

In 3AN-14-08995CR a sex worker was charged with 2 felony counts of sex trafficking for sharing her work space with other sex workers. Charging documents detailed officers receiving services on several occasions and noted that different workers chose to provide different services and

set different prices, and that the defendant was the only worker who agreed to engage in penis in vagina sex with them.

In 3AN-14-01675CR a man was charged with several counts of misconduct involving a controlled substance and one count of sex trafficking for procuring or soliciting a patron for a prostitute.

In 3AN-14-01952CR a man was charged with five counts of sex trafficking, including one count of using force which was later dismissed by prosecution.

In 4FA-14-02843CR a man was charged with seven counts of sex trafficking after police came into contact with him while he was acting as security for a sex worker.

People charged with trafficking a minor: 0

People charged with forcing someone into prostitution: 0

Allegations of force, fraud, or coercion: 1

Sex workers charged: 2

In **2015** the statute was amended in SB91 to prevent the state from charging sex workers with trafficking themselves, or from being charged with the lower levels of sex trafficking if they had not committed the higher levels of sex trafficking (inducing or using force). In 2015 the statute was used in six cases:

In 3AN-15-01056CR a man was charged with several drug related crimes and two counts of sex trafficking for allegedly allowing a sex worker to live with him and use his home to work out of in exchange for 50% of her profits.

In 3AN-15-06104CR a man was charged with 7 counts of sex trafficking. There were no allegations of force, fraud, coercion, or minors.

In 3AN-15-02982 a man was charged with 4 felony counts of sex trafficking after his girlfriend was arrested for prostitution and it was alleged that she had given him prostitution earnings in order to pay a utility bill.

In 3AN-15-02164CR a violent pimp was charged with 8 counts of sex trafficking for having a prostitution enterprise and forcing a person into prostitution.

In 3AN-15-02163CR the violent pimp's long term victim was charged as his codefendent with seven counts of sex trafficking. She pled out in order to get out of jail in time to avoid termination of her parental rights.

In 3AN-15-09874CR a violent pimp was charged with five counts of sex trafficking and two counts of sexual assault for allegedly forcing women to work as street based prostitutes and taking their earnings while subjecting them to physical, sexual, and psychological violence.

People charged with trafficking a minor: 0

People charged with forcing someone into prostitution: 1

Allegations of force, fraud, or coercion: 2

Sex trafficking victims charged: 1

In **2016** the statute was again changed to remove the protections for sex workers and instead provide exemptions for those who did not receive money from prostitution. In 2016 the statute was used five times:

In 3AN-16-02239CR a man was charged with attempting to induce an adult into prostitution without the use of force.

In 3AN-16-08499CR a man was charged with several counts of drug misconduct and one count of sex trafficking for “aiding or facilitating” prostitution.

In 3AN-16-01543CR and 3AN-16-01544CR brothers were charged with 11 counts of sex trafficking for using coercion and isolation to induce a woman into prostitution and then continue to control and isolate her.

In 3AN-16-00601CR a report from a sex worker led to a man being charged with 7 counts of felony sex trafficking for running a prostitution enterprise.

People charged with trafficking a minor: 0

People charged with forcing someone into prostitution: 2

Allegations of force, fraud, or coercion: 2

Sex workers charged: 0

In **2017** and **2018** there were no sex trafficking charges filed by the state of Alaska.

*Department of Law has yet to respond to a records request for 2019 and 2020 cases. We are not currently aware of any state cases in these years.