

MOTON

A large component of Human Trafficking is forced labor. Forced labor occurs when a person is compelled against their will to provide service through the use of force, fraud or coercion. According to the Department of Homeland Security: Traffickers who exploit people for forced labor do not discriminate. Victims can be any age, race, religious affiliation, gender identity, or nationality. They may also come from any socioeconomic group.

Certain risk factors, however, may make certain individuals more vulnerable to forced labor than others. These risk factors include **unstable immigration status**, language barriers, poverty and lack of basic needs like food, shelter, and safety, psychological effects of a recent or past trauma, lack of social support systems like friends, family, and community, and physical or developmental disabilities. U.S. citizens, foreign nationals, women, men, and children can all be victims of forced labor.

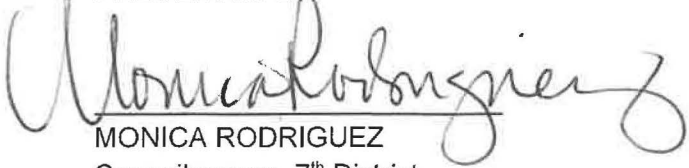
Indicators of forced labor may take place at any point during the recruitment and employment process. Forced labor could begin during the worker's recruitment process to force the acceptance of the job, to deceive the worker into an exploitative job, or to create a situation of debt bondage by charging recruitment fees that are virtually impossible for the workers to repay. Once the person is working, an employer may also force, defraud, or coerce the victim to perform work not agreed to at the time of recruitment. A worker may agree to do a job, find the conditions are not what were expected and agreed upon, but be prevented from leaving the job by their employer.

Incidents of forced labor occur in Los Angeles and the region every day; however, these activities are seldom reported. As such, the City must make every effort to monitor and combat forced labor practices in order to ensure the protection and welfare of vulnerable populations.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Police Department report on their efforts to monitor and combat forced labor practices conducted by entities operating in the City and region.

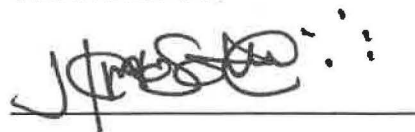
I FURTHER MOVE that the City's Procurement Officer and the Bureau of Contract Administration report on the protocols they use to ensure entities providing goods and services to the City do not engage in forced labor practices.

PRESENTED BY:



MONICA RODRIGUEZ  
Councilwoman, 7<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:



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DEC 01 2023