

## ROYAL THAI POLICE AWARD THE EXODUS ROAD AFTER UPGRADE IN U.S. TRAFFICKING REPORT

The Exodus Road was among six NGOs awarded by the Royal Thai Police for contributing to the significant improvement in preventing and suppressing human trafficking in the country.

Delivered by the Deputy National Police Commissioner Pol. Gen. Srivara Ransibrahmanakul, the Royal Thai Police award comes after the U.S. Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons upgraded Thailand's ranking to Tier 2 in its 2018 Trafficking in Persons Report (TIP) released on June 28, 2018. This marks Thailand's best ranking in the TIP Report in a decade.

During the awards ceremony, two Udon cases facilitated by The Exodus Road in April 2018, which led to the rescue of two boys and one girl, and the arrest of two traffickers and six clients, were highlighted.

"We hope this important award will lead to more partnership and collaboration in the future," said Kevin Campbell, Director of Operations for The Exodus Road.

Other organizations recognized by the Royal Thai Police for their efforts to prevent and suppress human trafficking include Homeland Security Investigation, Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Australia-Asia Program to Combat Trafficking in Persons.

"It was an honor to see The Exodus Road being recognized along with these major regional and national institutions. I'm extremely encouraged by the hard work and success of our team in Thailand," Mr. Campbell added.

The 2018 TIP Report applauded Thailand for increased prosecutions and convictions of traffickers and a decrease in prosecution time for trafficking cases through the use of specialized anti-trafficking law enforcement divisions. The Report also noted new government regulations that increase oversight of NGO-operated shelters for trafficking victims, and the establishment of an anti-trafficking task force which includes social workers and representatives of NGOs.

The Exodus Road is a nonprofit based in Colorado Springs, CO, that collaborates with local law enforcement to facilitate rescue of victims and arrest of perpetrators of human trafficking in India, Thailand, Southeast Asia, Latin America, and the U.S. The Exodus Road currently engages 63 active operatives on its global Search & Rescue teams, and has supported roughly 900 rescues and 400 arrests in six years of operation.

## Contact:

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