



The Exodus Road®

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 2018

CONTACT:

Amy Roth Sandrolini, Chief of Staff | amy@theexodusroad.com

Colorado Springs Independent article has potholes

The May 9 -15 issue of the *Colorado Spring Independent* ran a series of three articles by Alissa Smith that referenced The Exodus Road (TER), a Colorado Springs-based nonprofit partnering with law enforcement to rescue victims and arrest perpetrators of human trafficking in the U.S., Latin America, Thailand and Cambodia.

While we applaud the *Independent* for shining a light on the present danger of human trafficking in Colorado, we feel compelled to clarify several mischaracterizations the articles made.

Over months, The Exodus Road provided Ms. Smith with access, interviews, and documentation of our work to the extent we could without jeopardizing the safety and security of trafficking victims, undercover investigators and our law enforcement partners. Rather than use that information to illuminate readers about the complicated and often life-threatening aspects of the anti-trafficking work done by our organization - or the traumatic impact of the crime on its victims - the articles largely utilized outdated arguments and opinion versus fact to examine our intervention-based methodology.

In a sidebar article, Ms. Smith explored the connection between sex work, religion and human trafficking intervention. We regret she chose to heavily reference The Exodus Road in this article, as The Exodus Road is not a faith-based organization and does not fight or take a stand on prostitution.

The Exodus Road does one thing: fight human trafficking, strategically and comprehensively. To date, The Exodus Road has supported the rescue of nearly 1,000 victims and arrested almost 500 perpetrators.

For organizations in the difficult and urgent fight against human trafficking, the road out of slavery is difficult enough without unnecessary potholes thrown in our way.