

Mayor/Police Chief Name  
Mayor/Police Chief Address  
City, State, Zipcode

Dear (Mayor/Police Chief Name),

As a concerned citizen and community member, I urge you to address the issue of sex trafficking and sexual exploitation in our community. I specifically want you to take a leadership role in addressing the customers of prostitution who are the root cause of this problem, and who are rarely held accountable.

Our own neighborhood is no exception, as you'll see from the attached news articles. I am contacting you because as a leader and public servant, you have the ability to deter sexual exploitation in Illinois by focusing public and criminal justice system attention on the "demand" side of the sex trade.

Prostitution could not exist without the people who buy sex.

Customers as well as pimps and traffickers, who profit from prostitution, continue to be largely ignored by law enforcement, while those who are purchased are arrested again and again. This is contrary to local research with men who buy sex which suggests that 'johns' can be deterred from buying sex by real consequences, such as prosecutions and fines of \$1,000 or more.

As a community, we need to focus on ending the demand for paid sex, by arresting and charging those who buy, or seek to buy, sex. Providing prostituted individuals with resources and social services is vital for them to be able to exit prostitution. But as long as men who purchase sex feel that they can do so with impunity, vulnerable children and adults will continue to be recruited and coerced into the sex trade. Our community must make it clear that purchasing sex is never justified, no matter a person's circumstances, and whenever sex is purchased, an industry is supported that profits off of sexual exploitation and harm.

Your leadership can be a vehicle for both awareness-raising and advocacy on this important issue. I ask for your support and participation in helping end the demand for sexual exploitation and for creating real, lasting change.

---

(Your signature)

---

(Your name)

---

(Your address)