



**Public Affairs Division  
Mississippi Highway Patrol  
Mississippi Bureau of Investigation**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 7, 2020**

**Contact: Major Johnny Poulos  
Email: [jpoulos@dps.ms.gov](mailto:jpoulos@dps.ms.gov)**

## **MBI Conducts Undercover Human Trafficking Operation in Pearl**

**Jackson, MS** – On Thursday, December 3, 2020, the Mississippi Bureau of Investigation conducted an undercover human trafficking operation in Pearl which resulted in the arrests of 5 individuals who were charged with procuring sexual servitude of a minor and exploitation of a child.

“The Mississippi Bureau of Investigation is committed to apprehending sex traffickers and sex buyers while helping our most vulnerable,” said Lieutenant Colonel Lee Morrison, Director of MBI. “The dedicated Human Trafficking Unit of MBI continues to plan and execute operations aimed at identifying and separating human trafficking victims, both adults and minors, from their perpetrators.”

The Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics, Mississippi Office of Homeland Security, Clinton Police Department, Columbia Police Department, Monroe County Sheriff’s Office, Newton County Constable’s Office and the Oxford Police Department also assisted in the operation and arrests of the following individuals:

- Michael Starks, 50, was charged with Procuring Sexual Servitude of a Minor and Exploitation of a Minor.
- Kentaveus Woodard, 21, was charged with Procuring Sexual Servitude of a Minor and Exploitation of a Minor.
- Aramis Clerk, 28, was charged with Procuring Sexual Servitude of a Minor and Exploitation of a Minor.
- Samuel Page, 25, was charged with Procuring Sexual Servitude of a Minor and Exploitation of a Minor.
- Arthur Jackson, 30, was charged with Procuring Sexual Servitude of a Minor and Exploitation of a Minor.

If you suspect someone is a victim of human trafficking, please call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888.