**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** April 25, 2025

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## ILLINOIS STATE POLICE LEADS HUMAN TRAFFICKING RECOVERY OPERATION IN NORMAL, IL

**NORMAL** – Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation Task Force 6 lead a human trafficking investigation that resulted in the recovery of a person who had been trafficked.

On April 23, 2025, the Normal Police Department (NPD) received a call for service from a local massage spa. NPD officers encountered a person seeking assistance who identified themself as a victim of human trafficking, and the officers notified ISP. ISP Task Force 6 arrived and with assistance from NPD, executed a search warrant at the business. ISP also assisted the victim in getting essential services to help them with their recovery.

During human trafficking operations, ISP routinely works closely with local partners to provide essential services to victims, including medical, mental, and substance abuse treatment, as well as food, clothing, short and long-term housing, financial aid, and help obtaining legal assistance. There is no one size fits all option when it comes to assisting people who have been trafficked and significant time and resources are dedicated to developing the best plan for each person.

The Bloomington Police Department has also increased efforts to crack down on businesses that are involved with illicit activities, including human trafficking. These multi-jurisdictional efforts are aimed at stopping human trafficking in McLean County.

<u>Human trafficking</u> is the use of force, fraud, or coercion to compel a person into commercial sex acts, labor, or services against their will. ISP continues its multifaceted approach toward protecting those most vulnerable with its ongoing statewide human trafficking enforcement operations. The signs of human trafficking can be subtle; to learn more, please visit <u>Recognizing the Signs | National Human Trafficking Hotline.</u>

If you suspect human trafficking, contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888 or text \*233733. For more information visit <a href="www.humantraffickinghotline.org">www.humantraffickinghotline.org</a>. You can also email <a href="mailto:ISP.CrimeTips@illinois.gov">ISP.CrimeTips@illinois.gov</a>.

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