

**For Immediate Release:**

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**Attorney General Balderas Announces \$157,500 Restitution Award for Survivor of Sex Trafficking**

*ALBUQUERQUE, NM*---On September 21, 2021, prosecutors argued that a survivor of human trafficking should receive compensation for the forced labor she endured at the hands of convicted human trafficker Wallace Carson. Judge Britt Baca-Miller of the Second Judicial District Court agreed and ordered a \$157,500 restitution award for the survivor to compensate for future medical treatment, lost wages, and other harms suffered as a result of Carson's criminal activity.

"Traffickers should not profit from their exploitation of the most vulnerable, and this restitution award represents to survivors everywhere that we will fight for survivors of this horrific crime," said Attorney General Balderas. "Traffickers need to be brought to justice to the fullest extent of the law because this crime is always a life sentence of trauma for its survivors."

In April 2016, jurors found beyond a reasonable doubt that Carson sex trafficked a child and an adult victim, among other offenses. After his appeal, Carson was resentenced earlier this year with the inclusion of mandatory restitution for compelling the survivors of this crime to engage in commercial sex. Judge Baca-Miller further ordered that the restitution amount come out of Carson's prison fund as he serves his 48.5 year sentence on charges related to kidnapping, human trafficking, and promotion of prostitution.

Carson's restitution hearing was argued by Assistant Attorney General Zach Jones.

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