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**DALLAS COMMUNITY DONATES NEARLY \$1 MILLION TO SUPPORT VICTIMS OF
HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

Local businesses and community leaders support International Justice Mission

DALLAS –Human rights agency International Justice Mission (IJM) hosted a benefit dinner last night at The Fairmont Dallas to rescue victims of slavery around the world. Over 700 attendees helped to raise more than \$945,000 to support the work of IJM. The event was coordinated by a team of local committee members who secured sponsorships by more than twenty Dallas-area businesses and churches.

“The Dallas corporate sponsors, leading law firms and members of the community have clearly shown that they support the international work of fighting against modern day slavery,” said Van Beckwith, Senior Partner at Baker Botts LLP and IJM Dallas Benefit Dinner Co-Chair. “I am honored that the Dallas community has again shown its deep support for IJM and their work across the globe empowering local authorities to rescue victims and hold violent perpetrators accountable for their crimes.”

Gary Haugen, IJM’s president and CEO who founded the organization in 1997, was the benefit dinner’s keynote speaker and gave a glimpse into the violent reality that the world’s poor face daily.

With an estimated 27 million slaves in the world today—more than any other time in history—IJM helps to meet this urgent need by partnering with local authorities in 16 communities around the world to bring rescue to victims of slavery, sexual exploitation and other forms of violent oppression.

The event featured a musical performance by Grammy nominated artist Natalie Grant, invocation by The Village Church’s teaching pastor Matt Chandler, and special guest speech by Trevor Rees-Jones,

founder and chairman of Chief Oil and Gas. Other special guests in attendance included members of the Dallas Cowboys players and coaching staff.

“I have long admired the work of IJM. Their commitment to freedom and justice is remarkable, and I’m grateful for their example and integrity. They’re heroes in the fight against modern-day slavery,” said Grant.

In the past year alone, IJM brought relief to more than 2,400 victims of violence and injustice, and secured the conviction of 132 perpetrators for their crimes against the poor. Learn more about International Justice Mission at www.ijm.org.

About International Justice Mission

International Justice Mission is a human rights agency that brings rescue to victims of slavery, sexual exploitation and other forms of violent oppression. IJM lawyers, investigators and aftercare professionals work in 16 communities in developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America with local officials to secure immediate victim rescue and aftercare, to prosecute perpetrators and to ensure that public justice systems - police, courts and laws - effectively protect the poor.

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