

“Without having legitimate connections to so many high-powered people, Jeffrey Epstein would not have been able to traffic most of these women after 2008,” said lawyer Brad Edwards. Along with his law-firm partner, Brittany Henderson, he represents the Polish model and more than 150 of Epstein’s accusers. “These are smart women who would not have believed him otherwise.”

Under federal law, sex trafficking of adults involves the use of force, fraud or coercion to compel sex acts in exchange for money or favors. The law doesn’t require movement across a border, and the coercion can be psychological. When the victims are minors, the law doesn’t require proof of fraud or coercion.

Edwards’s clients have sued Epstein’s estate and financial institutions that provided banking services to him. Edwards said that most of the women were sexually abused and exploited by Epstein himself, but that he also groomed some for certain of his friends. He said a total of more than 20 men have been named as participants in sexual exploitation or abuse by women who were trafficked by Epstein. He declined to name the men, citing client confidentiality.

Epstein often instructed women to report back their encounters with other men, Edwards said. “He would make the women describe the details of the abuse, and if they were upset, it would get