

# THE AMBER ADVOCATE

MISSING CHILDREN'S DAY EDITION



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## Bringing Our Missing Children Home Safely

National Missing Children's Day | May 25, 2010

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Your story ideas and pictures are welcome.

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# MISSING CHILDREN'S DAY COMMEMORATED AROUND THE WORLD

Efforts to find a child who vanished more than 3 decades ago have turned into an international event to remember all missing children. On May 25, 1979, 6-year-old Etan Patz went missing on his way to school in New York City. The missing boy was the first child whose face appeared on a milk carton and President Ronald Reagan later proclaimed May 25 as National Missing Children's day. This year, nine countries in addition to the U.S. helped raise awareness for missing children by commemorating International Missing Children's Day, which is also observed on May 25.

The Manhattan District Attorney marked the anniversary by announcing that he will take a fresh look at the Patz case and review evidence collected against a convicted child molester now serving 20 years in a Pennsylvania prison.

## CAPITAL HONORS

At a special Missing Children's Day ceremony in Washington, D.C., U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder honored law enforcement officers and citizens for helping in the recovery of missing children. "The extraordinary efforts of the men and women we recognize today have awakened family after family from the nightmare of having a missing child, and, when there can be no solace, helped them to recover from unthinkable loss," said Holder.

The following individuals were honored at the event:

1. North Carolina Assistant District Attorney Kelly Miller for helping secure a 115 to 142.5 year prison sentence for a man who was sexually abusing his 8-year-old niece while her mother was deployed to Iraq.
2. Phoenix FBI Special Agent Michael J. Conrad for assisting in the recovery of an abducted 2-year-old child.



"The extraordinary efforts of the men and women we recognize today have awakened family after family from the nightmare of having a missing child..."  
U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder



3. Tombstone, Arizona postal employees James Pantoja, Tony Palma and Denultra Camp for distributing a missing child poster which helped in the safe recovery of a 9-year-old child.
4. Miami FBI Special Agents Catherine Koontz and James T. Lewis for pursuing child pornography cases and eventually identifying 8 children who had been sexually abused.
5. Lajas, Puerto Rico fifth grader Billy Joe Reyes Collado for creating the winning poster for the 2010 Missing Children's Day Art Contest.

"Law enforcement officers and prosecutors see the most broken parts of broken lives," said Assistant Attorney General and National AMBER Alert Coordinator Laurie O. Robinson. "But these men and women have managed to channel their shock and outrage into a sense of duty. And because of their actions, these horrible perpetrators have been brought to justice – and young children have been saved – removed from danger."

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) President and CEO Ernie Allen spoke at the event about how companies like Google, Microsoft and others have helped develop technology to stop the exploitation of children. "These fierce competitors agreed to work together with us toward a common goal, eradicating commercial child pornography," said Allen.

The Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs also released two publications at the ceremony: "The Crime of Family Abduction: A Child's and Parent's Perspective," (<http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojdp/229933.pdf>) which offers insight into how a child abduction by a family member affects the child and the family, and the fourth edition of "When Your Child is Missing: A Family

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Survival Guide." (<http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/pubs/childmissing/contents.html>)

## AROUND THE U.S.A.

Here are some highlights on how Missing Children's Day was recognized around the United States:

- The direct-mail company Valassis celebrated the 25th anniversary of its "Have you seen me?" program by distributing a four-page missing children insert to 44 million households.
- A record number of motorcycle riders participated in the Ride for Missing Children in New York. The 443 riders stopped at elementary schools that helped raise money and released balloons to honor a missing student.
- The Pennsylvania Turnpike held "Safety-Breaks" at 2 of its busiest plazas which included presentations on how to prevent abductions and locate missing children.
- People were urged to "Take 25" minutes to teach children how to stay safe on-line in Alabama, Arizona, Kansas, New York and other states.
- The Minnesota AMBER Alert Network held a "Dining to Donate" event to raise money and awareness with an event that included free fingerprint ID kits, face painting, McGruff the Crime Dog and the Los Padrinos Lowrider Car Club.
- Electronic billboards in Loveland, Colorado displayed more than 100 missing children from May 1 until May 25.



## INDIAN COUNTRY

Indian tribes from across the southwest observed Missing Children's Day by learning how to bring missing and abducted children home. Law enforcement officials, child protection advocates and community leaders gathered at the Harrah's Ak-Chin Indian Community Resort in Maricopa, Arizona on May 25. The training session included the latest child protection strategies as well as a

traditional blessing and native dance. On the same day, the tribal councils for the Ak-Chin, Tohono O'odhom and White Mountain Apache tribes announced their AMBER Alert resolutions.



## AROUND THE WORLD

International Missing Children's Day was commemorated in Australia, Canada, Brazil, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Romania, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. The nine countries held events to raise awareness about missing children issues, including:

- Brazil hosted a 1-day missing children seminar and released balloons.



- The Royal Canadian Mounted Police unveiled its annual report on missing children, released balloons and honored a law enforcement officer who helped recover a missing child.
- The Dutch National Police visited local schools to discuss missing children's issues and released 500 balloons.



- The Australian Federal Police created a website where virtual balloons can be released and includes a public service announcement. Visit [www.help-bringthemhome.org.au](http://www.help-bringthemhome.org.au).

- The United Kingdom launched the Child Rescue Alert (More info on pg. 8).



"We urge you to join us in spreading the message of hope and help to bring these children home," said Nancy Dube, Executive Vice President and CEO of the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children.



# AMBER ALERT TRAINING HELPS SOLVE 1996 CHILD HOMICIDE CASE

Detectives say the AMBER Alert training they received played a pivotal role in making an arrest in an Oregon child homicide case that happened nearly 14 years ago. The Jackson County, Oregon Sheriff's Office arrested William Frank Simmons on April 7 for the November 1996 murder of Kaelin Rose Glazier.

Simmons was indicted by a Grand Jury and arrested exactly 2 years after Glazier's remains were found 78 feet from Simmons' home. Once the skeletal remains were found, detectives said they relied on the AMBER Alert training they had just received from the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) through Fox Valley Technical College".

"We are passionate about AMBER Alert training," said Det. Sgt. Colin Fagan, Jackson County Sheriff's Office. "When we found her remains we had a better idea of what we needed to do to move the case forward. We knew we had one opportunity to get this right and the AMBER Alert training gave us the awareness and the tools to take the case to the Grand Jury and make an arrest."

Fagan had attended training on how to develop a Child Abduction Response Team (CART) when he saw an age-progressed picture of Kaelin Glazier. The course also included a case study presentation by Sergeant Mark Simpson (Retired) about his investigation into the 1996 abduction and murder of Amber Hagerman, the 9-year-old whose death prompted the creation of the AMBER Alert program.

Fagan and a colleague were impressed by the quality of the training and soon the sheriff's office was sending their detectives and crime analysts to

every AMBER Alert course on missing and abducted children offered by the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs. The Jackson County Sheriff's Office is also changing its policies and procedures for missing and abducted children.



"The Jackson County Sheriff's Office should be commended for taking what they learned and bringing closure to a tragic murder," said Simpson, "It clearly demonstrates that the effort we put into training is extremely worthwhile."

The Jackson County Sheriff's Department also asked Simpson for advice to help with its newly ramped up investigation into Glazier's death. Simpson was given complete access to the case files so he could train other detectives about lessons learned during the investigation. "We consider Mark a member of the team and we consulted with him to draw from his deep well of experience," said Fagan.

The teamwork paid off when detectives finally had enough evidence to present their findings to the Grand Jury. "They put a lot of effort and sweat equity into the investigation," added Simpson. "I'm proud to have had this unique opportunity to work with these detectives and be associated with them."

OJJDP offers the following training courses: Canvassing, Search and Recovery Strategies for

Abducted Children, Child Abduction Response Team (CART), CART Certification, Basic Forensic Response to Missing and Abducted Children, Investigative Strategies for Missing and Abducted Children, Leadership for Missing and Abducted Children and Specialized Investigative Techniques in Child Abduction Cases. More information can be found at [www.amber-net.org/training](http://www.amber-net.org/training).

# SHERIFF SAYS TRAINING PREPARED HIM FOR HIGH PROFILE ABDUCTION

Seven-year-old Somer Thompson vanished on October 19, 2009 while walking home from school in Orange Park, Florida. She had separated from her twin brother and her sister after an argument. Somer's mother flagged down a passing deputy and reported her daughter was missing.

Clay County, Florida Sheriff Rick Beseler had never handled a child abduction case and thought the chances it would happen were small. But the sheriff wanted to be ready just in case and during the past 4 years his deputies attended more than 20 training sessions on the AMBER Alert and missing child investigations. Six months prior to this reported missing child incident his office had a table-top exercise involving a child being abducted while walking home from school.

sibilities other than abduction, an AMBER Alert was issued at 10: 45 a.m. the next day.

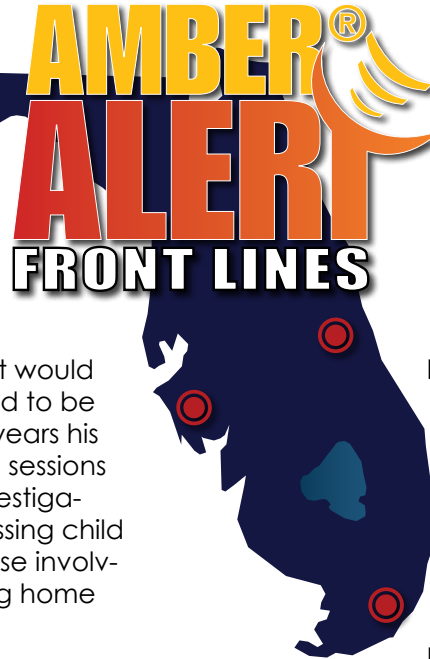
The CART had all the needed equipment, protocols and personnel in place immediately. "I had confidence because we had trained and learned from the AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance program offered through Fox Valley Technical College what ultimately can happen," said Beseler.

CART members called themselves Team Somer as a way to connect with the family and community. They wore purple bracelets and gold pins with the Team Somer logo and placed a banner at the command post

with Somer's picture that read "Remember this is why we are here."

More than 2,000 leads came in during the first 24 hours. Each investigative team had a member from every law enforcement agency to foster teamwork and prevent anyone's ego from getting in the way. "When other agencies come in you have to have trust," said Clay County Sheriff's Captain David Senters. "They have to trust that you aren't going to keep the good leads for yourself. You also have to have a plan and stick to that plan."

The Sheriff's Office had also developed a landfill protocol and detectives searched every garbage truck. Somer's body was found the following day in a transfer truck 55 miles away in Folkston, Georgia. "If we didn't find the body we would not have solved the crime," concluded Beseler.



Clay County, Florida Sheriff Rick Beseler

helped the sheriff's office develop a better leads tracking system and protocols for searching and canvassing.

The same day Somer went missing, the sheriff set up a command post at the local junior high school. More than 100 law enforcement officers from Clay County, two surrounding counties, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the U.S. Marshals Service and the FBI gathered for the first activation of the newly formed Child Abduction Response Team (CART). After eliminating all pos-



Clay County Sheriff's Captain David Senters

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# “WHERE’S BOB?” WHEREVER AMBER ALERT TRAINING IS TAKING PLACE

The constant smile, the twinkle in his eye and his unmistakable New Jersey accent makes Bob Hoever unforgettable. His official title is Associate Director of Special Projects, Missing Children Division for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). Unofficially, Hoever is the “Waldo” of AMBER Alert training. He trains nearly every week of the year and any picture of an AMBER Alert training will likely have Hoever in the midst.

Teaching about AMBER Alerts became a labor of love for Hoever after a rush introduction to the program in 2002. Hoever had been working missing child cases for the New Jersey State Police since 1985 and his supervisor called him into an emergency meeting to talk about two girls who were abducted the day before in California. The Governor had just announced that New Jersey would have an AMBER Alert Program in three days and Hoever was going to be the State AMBER Alert Coordinator.

“That was a defining moment,” said Hoever. “We knew we had to have it ready by Monday and we knew we needed to use other means of notification besides broadcasters.” Hoever was prepared because he had already heard about AMBER Alerts through NCMEC and started developing a child abduction plan with Pennsylvania and New York.

Two weeks later the first AMBER Alert was issued after police received a report that a child had been abducted. It did not take long before the child was dropped off in the same area of the reported abduction. Police became suspicious the victim was not telling the truth and the boy confessed he was throwing snow balls at cars and one motorist decided to take him to his parents. “We assume the motorist heard the AMBER Alert and took off,” said Hoever.

Another memorable alert happened after witnesses said a man threw a girl into the back of a white van and took off quickly. A mother heard the alert and told police it may be her husband and daughter. The police found the girl at school and Hoever said the media was ready to criticize him for issuing the alert. But all concerns ended when Hoever pulled out a map showing recent abductions in the area by a man in a white van. “We always tip the scale on the safety of the child,” said

Hoever. “It showed the AMBER Alert worked and we saved thousands of hours trying to find out if the girl was safe.”

During the early years of the AMBER Alert Program, State AMBER Alert Coordinators had to learn from the successes and mistakes of others. “We really did learn from each other very quickly,” said Hoever. “The greatest experience I ever had was sharing all the lessons learned from all the other AMBER Alert Coordinators.”

“The most gratifying and rewarding thing for me is to see how the program has safely rescued more than 500 children and brought them home to their families. It does not matter what state that occurs in; we are all part of the AMBER Alert family. Everyone has played a part in that.”

In 2004, Hoever retired from the New Jersey State Police and began working for NCMEC. Besides working with Fox Valley Technical College in the AMBER Alert Program, Hoever is the Team Adam Program Manager and liaison to tribal law enforcement, Missing Child Clearinghouse Managers and AMBER Alert Coordinators.

Hoever said his passion for the AMBER Alert Program is flamed by the fact he is the father of three children. “Having children yourself makes you realize how precious children are. It also makes you realize how vulnerable they are and that it is up to us to make sure they are ok.”

He believes more abducted children are safe because technology, training and teamwork keep getting better. “The speed in which children are being recovered now is amazing,” added Hoever. “People are working as a team better than ever before.”



Bob Hoever, Associate Director of Special Projects, Missing Children Division for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

## FRANCE, BELGIUM & THE UNITED KINGDOM COME TOGETHER TO STOP CROSS-BORDER ABDUCTIONS

France, Belgium and the United Kingdom have agreed on the criteria to be used for a cross-border child abduction alert. The agreement came during a 3-day seminar held this May at the French Ministry of Justice in Paris. The countries agreed to the minimum criteria set in the 2008 European Commission guidelines to issue alerts if "it is a proven abduction or there are clear elements indicating that it could be a case of abduction." Police and prosecutors also gathered to discuss best practices, identify key contacts, coordinate their efforts and build trust. Another meeting took place in July to discuss how agencies should share case evidence during an alert and to prepare for a mock exercise on September 15.

## UNITED KINGDOM RELAUNCHES CHILD RESCUE ALERT

The United Kingdom relaunched a new and improved Child Rescue Alert to help find abducted children. The original system was launched in 2004 and is based on the U.S. AMBER Alert Program. The new system will use computer software to send messages to radio, television, cell phones, computers and roadway signs. The program is also compatible with alerts used by other European countries. The Child Rescue Alert Program is being overseen by the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA). "Child Rescue Alert is not expected to be used often, as strict criteria must be met, but it is a valuable tool available to a senior investigator to be used in the right situations," said NPIA Chief Constable Peter Neyroud.

## GREAT BRITAIN HIT BY HOAX ALERTS

Police in Sussex, Great Britain condemned a hoax text message warning people of abductions in supermarkets. The text was sent to more than 100 people and claimed that 11 attempted abductions had occurred at three market areas. The police asked the public not to redistribute the text.



## WIRELESS AMBER ALERTS NOW AVAILABLE IN CANADA

Canada is now sending AMBER Alerts free to cell phone users who register for the service. The Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association and law enforcement agencies teamed together to help send the text alerts to the public. People can sign up for the alerts at [www.WirelessAMBER.ca](http://www.WirelessAMBER.ca) or text AMBER to 26237.

## SOUTH AFRICA KICKS UP CHILD PROTECTION EFFORTS

South Africa launched a campaign to protect children during the 2010 World Cup. The "Let's Give the Red Card to Child Exploitation" campaign aimed to reduce risks to vulnerable children during the mega-event. The campaign specifically targeted the travel and tourism industry to help protect children and prevent the effects of child sex tourism - including human trafficking, child pornography and child prostitution.





# NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM AIMS TO BRING A VOICE TO NATIVE AMERICAN CHILDREN

An unprecedented gathering of more than 175 tribal representatives from 54 tribes and 20 states took place in Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico to develop a multi-agency approach to protecting Native American children. The National Symposium on Child Protection in Indian Country was held March 9-11 to confront faltering graduation rates and increased incidents of suicide, rape, child abuse and abduction.

"We need to stop the rising crime rate, especially against women and children," said Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Larry Echo Hawk, a member of the Pawnee Nation. "The real agenda is to empower tribal governments so they can govern their own people. We need to teach parents about parenting skills so children are safe in their homes."

The Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention sponsored the symposium as part of the AMBER in Indian Country Initiative (AIIIC). The initiative was recently expanded to address the following challenges:

- Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation
- Runaway and Thrownaway Children
- Family Violence

AIIIC is now offering additional training concerning high risk runaways, including Native American trackers, bloodhounds and tribal border issues. "The idea is to create the same level of service and safe return of children in Native American Communities as what is found in any other community," said AIIIC Liaison Jim Walters. "We always wanted a voice for children in Indian Country."

Gena Tyner-Dawson, Senior Advisor to the Assistant Attorney General for Tribal Affairs, announced that more grants are available to help tribes protect children. "We want to improve public safety, reduce alcohol crimes, create correctional facilities, provide more assistance to sexual assault victims,

reach out to victims of elder abuse and prevent juvenile delinquency," said Tyner-Dawson. "We have one goal: to improve public safety in tribal communities."

U.S. Attorney for New Mexico, Greg Fouratt encouraged law enforcement leaders to become involved in the lives of children so they will be trusted when a crime is committed. "We have to introduce ourselves to kids before they ever meet a prosecutor, judge or jury," said Fouratt. "They desperately need our help."



Above: Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Larry Echo Hawk  
Below: Gena Tyner-Dawson, Senior Advisor to the Assistant Attorney General for Tribal Affairs



Native American Children's Alliance Executive Director Linda Logan shared that she was a victim of child sexual abuse, as was her mother, grandmother and two sisters. She also identified ways to stop Indian children from being abused. "Tribal leaders need to acknowledge family abuse is a problem," said Logan. "We also need to hold offenders accountable in a way that is fair, swift and sure."

Under federal law, the maximum penalty for child abuse in Indian Country is one year in jail and a \$5,000 fine. "What we are doing now is not working," said Jerry Wiseman-Foley, a tribal prosecutor in Oklahoma. "We need to look at our own ways to address what is going on with our people."

Indian Pueblo Council Chairman Joe Garcia said the problems will not be addressed unless tribes, states and the federal government work together. "We cannot do it alone," said Garcia. "People must work together or we won't make a dent in the system."

Representatives from the Native American Community Academy (NACA) and the National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA) also participated in the symposium to help in their advocacy work for tribal communities and children. More information about the symposium can be found at [http://www.ncjrs.gov/html/ojdp/news\\_at\\_glance/229711/sf\\_1.html](http://www.ncjrs.gov/html/ojdp/news_at_glance/229711/sf_1.html).

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Diana Thomson, Somer's mother, at a candlelight vigil and speaking to the media



"We would not know anything today. It would be a missing child buried under a thousand tons of garbage in another state."

Another key part of the child recovery plan was to foster good relations with the media and the victim's family. "You always want the family on your side," said Beseler. "We brought the Thompson family into our fold."

Diana Thomson, Somer's mother, issued this statement after her daughter was found: "I don't know how to describe the level of support from the Clay County Sheriff's Office. Deputies and detectives have been by my side and cried with me. The Sheriff has been there for support as well and has spared no expense in the search for Somer and now for the killer."

Just 19 days before the abduction, the Clay County Sheriff's Office had its budget cut by \$1.75 million and 30 positions were eliminated. The sheriff had to solicit funds from other agencies and the community donated hundreds of thousands of dollars in goods and services. "I had nothing to pay these guys and they were working around the clock," said Beseler.

The Sheriff also asked for the public's help to find the killer. A tip line was established so people could call in about anyone who may have made

changes in their behavior, appearance or may have left the area unexpectedly. A total of 4,000 leads came in during the next 5 months including an early tip about Jarred Harrell.



Somer Renee Thompson

Jarred Harrell, 24



As time passed national news organizations started doing critical stories about the investigation. Investigators were under intense pressure to resolve the case but they did not let it overshadow the need to conduct the investigation properly. On April 12, 2010, 5 months after Somer went missing, Harrell was arrested for the abduction, sexual assault and murder of Somer Thompson. Detectives had followed Harrell for weeks and a DNA sample ultimately connected the 24-year-old to the crime.

Sheriff Beseler hopes other law enforcement agencies will learn from the Somer Thompson case about the need for training and having a well-prepared CART. He said a child abduction case will change a department—either for better or worse.

"There is no case that is going to generate the public pressure or the public interest like a missing or abducted child," said Beseler. "The pressure is unlike anything I have felt and I have been in law enforcement for 36 years. It can be your finest hour or it can be your

worst nightmare. If you are not ready it will swallow you."

## SURVIVING PARENTS RIDE BIKES TO RAISE AWARENESS



Members of the Surviving Parents Coalition will travel across the country by bicycle to raise awareness and \$1 million for child advocacy initiatives. Ed Smart and Ahmad Rivazfar, both parents of child abduction victims, will join other volunteer cyclists on a 3,500 mile journey through 26 cities. The ride begins August 21 in Rochester, New York and ends September 22 in Los Angeles. More information can be found at [www.RideforTheirLives.com](http://www.RideforTheirLives.com).

## NEW YORK EXPANDS ALERTS FOR MISSING SENIORS AND YOUTH

The New York Police Department has expanded the types of alerts that will be sent to the public by phone, text and e-mail. *Notify NYC* will send a Senior Alert when an elderly person is missing. A Missing Child/College Student Alert will be activated when a child or college student of any age is reported missing and deemed to be endangered, but does not meet the AMBER Alert criteria.



## CENTRAL FLORIDA NOW SENDING TEXT ALERTS

Orange County, Florida is now sending text messages for AMBER Alerts and other emergencies. Residents can also use the free service to receive alerts for severe weather, evacuations and road closures.

## GREEN BAY USES NEW MESSAGING SERVICE FOR AMBER ALERTS

Green Bay, Wisconsin is now using a "Twitter-like" system to send AMBER Alerts. Officials plan to use Nixle to send information about AMBER Alerts, fires, school lockdowns, crimes and safety tips. The public can also sign up to receive alerts only about their specific neighborhood.



## RESTAURANT RAISES MONEY AND AWARENESS FOR MISSING KIDS

The Red Robin Restaurant in Greenwood Village, Colorado partnered with NCMEC to give out child identification kits with every kids' meal. The restaurant also donated 50 cents from each meal to support child safety.

## TENNESSEE TEENS CHARGED IN AMBER ALERT PRANK

Tennessee issued an AMBER Alert after a 13-year-old girl went missing and started sending messages that she had been abducted. The girl and her 15-year-old boyfriend were found safe at a park in Henderson, Tennessee less than 3 hours after the alert went out. Both have been charged with filing a false police report and telephone harassment.



## RESIDENTS COMPLAIN ABOUT EARLY ALERT

Officers at the New Braunfels, Texas Police Department had to make a difficult decision while trying to locate a missing and mentally disabled 19-year-old woman. Police determined the woman was in "high danger" and used an automatic phone system to call 9,700 residents in the area shortly after 1 a.m. Some of the residents complained but others offered to help in the search. The woman was found around 2 a.m. in an abandoned building less than a mile from her home. "Was it an inconvenient time? Yes, but in a situation like that you want to use all the tools at your disposal," City Manager Mike Morrison told a newspaper. "If it were my daughter, I'd want to know that they were doing everything possible to make sure she was safe."



## LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES USE FACEBOOK TO HELP LOCATE MISSING PERSONS

The social networking website Facebook is used by millions to connect people with friends. The Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and Clinton, Indiana Police Department are joining other law enforcement agencies that are using Facebook to help find and identify missing people. The Minnesota website includes crime prevention tips, agency updates and solicits help on cold cases. The Clinton site posts AMBER Alerts, most wanted criminals and mug shots.



## GEORGIA CREATES BLUE ALERT FOR COP KILLERS

Georgia legislators passed a bill that allows the state to issue a "Blue Alert" for anyone suspected of seriously injuring or killing a police officer. The alert comes a year after a Chattahoochee Hills police officer was shot several times with a high-powered rifle while he was on patrol. Georgia issues a "Levi's Call" for child abductions and "Mattie's Call" for elderly or disabled people who are missing.



## MISSOURI HITS MILESTONE IN CHILD ID PROGRAM

More than 100,000 children have now been registered in the Missouri Child Identification and Protection program. The registration includes digital photographs, fingerprints, vital child information and emergency contacts, dental bite impressions and two laminated identification cards. The information is burned onto a miniature CD that police can load in a computer and be entered into the AMBER Alert system. The program is sponsored by the Freemasons of the Grand Lodge of Missouri.



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