

FAMILY VIOLENCE
PREVENTION FUND'S

SPEAKING UP

THE FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION FUND'S NEWS & TIPS FOR THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT COMMUNITIES

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WIRELESS INDUSTRY PROMOTES CHILD SAFETY

Every cell phone user who can receive text messages can help reunite abducted children with their families by registering to receive Wireless AMBER Alerts™, thanks to a new partnership between the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and the wireless industry.

Cell phone users whose wireless carrier participates in the Wireless AMBER Alerts Initiative can register to receive AMBER alerts as free text messages by registering at www.wirelessamberalerts.org, or on their wireless carrier's website. Subscribers may designate up to five geographic areas for which they would like to receive Wireless AMBER Alerts.

“Americans want to help fight crimes against children, and now that power rests in the palm of their hand,” said Steve Largent, President and CEO of CTIA-The Wireless Association™, and President of The Wireless Foundation. “Currently, Alerts are broadcast by television and radio outlets and on some electronic highway signs. With more than 60 percent of Americans owning wireless devices, and seldom going anywhere without them, this initiative will significantly increase the reach of the AMBER Alert program by notifying people – wherever they are – of the emergency.”

AMBER stands for “America’s Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response” and was created in 1997 when Dallas-Fort Worth broadcasters teamed with local police to develop an early warning system to find abducted children. All 50 states have now established AMBER Alert programs.

President Bush authorized the national AMBER Alert program as part of the PROTECT Act signed in 2003, which have helped recover more than 200 children.

Wireless AMBER Alerts also serve as a preventative tool, since people who prey on children know that almost any cell phone owner they pass can identify a perpetrator and contact law enforcement. *To sign up, visit www.wirelessamberalerts.org today.*