



El Segundo Police Department

Training Section

348 Main Street, El Segundo, CA 90245
Phone (310) 524-2253

TRAINING BULLETIN

February 11, 2023

State of California Missing Person Alerts Program

The California Missing Person Alerts Program highlights a strategic partnership between law enforcement, the community, traditional and social media, and other partners to effectively provide the public with actionable information relating to a missing person and affect a quick, safe recovery.

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) – Emergency Notification and Tactical Alert Center (ENTAC) is the designated state coordinator for missing person alerts throughout California. ENTAC is staffed 24 hours a day by uniformed CHP personnel and is located at the CHP Headquarters in Sacramento, CA. The CHP is responsible for the activation of all alerts on behalf of investigating agencies in California’s municipalities, counties, and tribal communities. The investigating agency contacts the CHP and the details concerning the incident and the activation criteria are reviewed together. Investigating agencies are encouraged to contact the State Coordinator to receive free California POST certified training regarding all missing person alerts and available tools and resources.

The CHP maintains a list and information for all active alerts in California. California has six recognized alerts: **AMBER Alert**, **Blue Alert**, **Silver Alert**, **Feather Alert**, **Yellow Alert**, and **Endangered Missing Advisory** (Ashanti Act Compliant).

AMBER Alert

The America’s Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response (AMBER) Alert is part of the nationwide AMBER Plan and is a voluntary partnership between law-enforcement agencies and media broadcasters. The plan utilizes the latest tools and resources to quickly notify the public of an abducted/taken child. The importance of this program is what drives the continued need to develop technologies and strategic partnerships to aid in the safe recovery of our most vulnerable loved ones.

The State's AMBER Alert Program is modeled after the nationwide AMBER Plan, which was developed in 1996 after nine-year-old Amber Hagerman was abducted and brutally murdered near her home in Arlington, Texas. Amber's

death had such an impact on her community that it prompted law enforcement agencies and the Texas Association of Radio Managers to develop an emergency alert plan to help recover abducted children. In 2002, Assembly Bill 415 (Government Code section 8594) was signed into law and mandated that AMBER Alert plans be implemented statewide and charged the CHP as the statewide coordinator for all AMBER Alerts.

Criteria

In order for an AMBER Alert to be activated, the following criteria must be met:

1. Confirmation that an abduction has occurred or a child was taken by anyone, including, but not limited to, a custodial parent or guardian.
2. The victim is 17 years of age or younger, or an individual with a proven mental or physical disability.
3. The victim is in imminent danger of serious bodily injury or death.
4. There is information available that, if disseminated to the public, could assist in the safe recovery of the victim.

Silver Alert

A Silver Alert is activated when an elderly, or developmentally or cognitively-impaired person has gone missing and is determined to be at-risk. Silver Alerts provide immediate information to the public to aid in the swift recovery of at-risk persons meeting the criteria.

Criteria

In order for a Silver Alert to be activated, law enforcement must be satisfied the following criteria have been met:

1. The missing person is 65 years of age or older, developmentally disabled or cognitively impaired.
2. The investigating law enforcement agency has utilized all available local resources.
3. The law enforcement agency determines that the person has gone missing under unexplained or suspicious circumstances.
4. The law enforcement agency believes that the person is in danger because of age, health, mental or physical disability, environment or weather conditions, the person is in the company of a potentially dangerous person, or other factors indicating that the person may be in peril.
5. There is information available that, if disseminated to the public, could assist in the safe recovery of the missing person.

Blue Alert

A Blue Alert is activated when a violent attack on a law enforcement officer has occurred and poses an imminent threat to law enforcement or the general public. Blue Alerts provide immediate information to the public to prevent further harm and aid in the swift apprehension of the suspect.

Criteria

In order for a Blue Alert to be activated, the following criteria must be met:

1. A law enforcement officer has been killed, suffers serious bodily injury, or is assaulted with a deadly weapon, and the suspect has fled the scene.
2. A law enforcement agency investigating the offense has determined that the suspect poses an imminent threat to the public or other law enforcement personnel.
3. A detailed description of the suspect's vehicle or license plate is available for broadcast.
4. Public dissemination of available information may help avert further harm or accelerate apprehension of the suspect.

Yellow Alert

A Yellow Alert is activated when a person has been killed due to a hit-and-run incident and the law enforcement agency has specified information concerning the suspect or the suspect's vehicle.

Criteria

In order for a Yellow Alert to be activated, law enforcement must be satisfied the following criteria have been met:

1. A person has been killed due to a hit-and-run incident.
2. There is an indication that a suspect has fled the scene utilizing the state highway system or is likely to be observed by the public on the state highway system.
3. The investigating law enforcement agency has additional information concerning the suspect or the suspect's vehicle, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
 - (A) The complete license plate number of the suspect's vehicle.
 - (B) A partial license plate number and additional unique identifying characteristics, such as the make, model, and color of the suspect's vehicle, which could reasonably lead to the apprehension of a suspect.
 - (C) The identity of a suspect.
4. Public dissemination of available information could either help avert further harm or accelerate apprehension of a suspect based on any factor, including, but not limited to, the time elapsed between a hit-and-run incident and the request or the likelihood that an activation would reasonably lead to the apprehension of a suspect.

Feather Alert

A Feather Alert is a resource available to law enforcement agencies investigating the suspicious or unexplainable disappearance of an indigenous woman or indigenous person. The Feather Alert will provide immediate information to the public to aid in the swift recovery of missing indigenous persons.

Criteria

In order for a Feather Alert to be activated, a law enforcement agency or tribal authority must determine that the following criteria have been met:

1. The missing person is an indigenous woman or indigenous person.
2. The investigating law enforcement agency has utilized available local and tribal resources.
3. The law enforcement agency determines that the person has gone missing under unexplainable or suspicious circumstances.
4. The law enforcement agency believes that the person is in danger.
5. There is information available that, if disseminated to the public, could assist in the safe recovery of the missing person.

Endangered Missing Advisory

An Endangered Missing Advisory (EMA) is an alert available to law enforcement agencies investigating the suspicious disappearance of at-risk missing children or other endangered persons. EMAs provide immediate information to the public to aid in the swift recovery of at-risk persons. EMAs fulfill the federal Ashanti Alert Act of 2018.

Criteria

In order for an Endangered Missing Advisory to be activated, the following criteria must be met:

1. The person is missing under unexplained or suspicious circumstances.
2. The person is believed to be in danger because of age, health, mental or physical disability, or the environment; is in the company of a potentially dangerous person; or any other factor that may put the person in serious peril.
3. There is information available that, if disseminated to the public, could assist in a safe recovery.