

Stanley Police News Release



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For Immediate Release

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Stanley Police Goes High Tech to Search for Missing Children

Police Chief Heath Jenkins has formalized an agreement with the A Child Is Missing alert program that has led to a high tech method now in place to search locally for missing children, missing elderly (often with Alzheimer's), college students, and missing persons who may be mentally or physically challenged or disabled.

Upon receipt of a missing person call, the Stanley Police Department will now make their first phone call to a toll free number that rings in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This call, answered 24/7, 365 by a technician at A Child is Missing, initiates a rapid process of information gathering and sophisticated mapping systems which expedites thousands of phone calls within minutes with a customized recorded message detailing the missing persons description and last known whereabouts. The message will also include a Stanley Police Department phone number to be called by anyone who has information regarding the location of the missing person.

A Child Is Missing is a nationwide non-profit organization that helps law enforcement agencies locate missing children, missing elderly (often suffering from Alzheimer's), college students, and missing persons who are mentally or physically challenged or disabled. A Child is Missing utilizes sophisticated computer mapping systems and trained technicians with the capacity to place 1,000 alert phone calls in one minute to residents and businesses in the area where someone has gone missing. To date the efforts of A Child Is Missing have been credited with more than 325 safe assisted recoveries. To register your unpublished home or cell phone number, visit www.achildismissing.org.



A Child is Missing (ACIM)

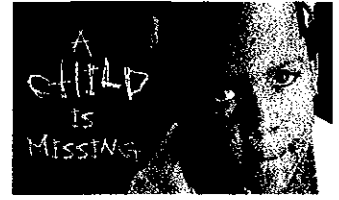
Alert Program

MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **How does the program work?** Law enforcement calls ACIM with a description of the missing person, their location and pertinent information. A trained technician inputs the information into a sophisticated computer program and the calling area is established. An audio message is then specifically tailored and quickly disseminated within the calling area.
2. **Who activates the program?** Law enforcement activates the program by calling ACIM. If ACIM receives a call from any other source, verification of the legitimacy of the call is first made with the area's police department.
3. **For whom is the program primarily used?** Those younger than 18 who go missing, are lost, wander away, run away or are abducted. Anyone of any age who is mentally or physically challenged, elderly (often afflicted with Alzheimer's or dementia) and missing college students.
4. **Who pays for the program?** Funding from government grants, corporations, foundations, individuals and special events all contributed to financing this alert program—its use is free to law enforcement.
5. **During what hours are calls made?** 24/7, 365 days. The ACIM alert program is never off duty. Technicians accept calls anytime and place calls between 6:00 am and 10:30 pm unless extenuating circumstances dictate otherwise. Law enforcement determines if calls are to be made after 10:30 pm
6. **Where does ACIM get its database?** Our service provider utilizes a sophisticated program to establish and maintain the database with quarterly updates. Unlisted numbers and cell phone numbers are not part of this database, but can be added with a simple registration process on the ACIM website www.achildissing.org.
7. **How long has ACIM been serving law enforcement?** Since its inception in January 1997 with more than 14 million phone calls placed to date to search for missing persons.
8. **Does a law enforcement agency need additional resources to facilitate its use of the alert program?** No. ACIM requests, but does not require, a letter of participation signed by an agency's chief or sheriff. In the absence of a letter of participation, an agency can still activate a missing person search.
9. **How does ACIM assist law enforcement regarding sexual predator/offender notification?** ACIM notifies the public of sexual predators or sexual offenders who are living in or have moved into a given area. While a law enforcement agency does not require additional resources to active the alert program for this purpose, a letter of authorization signed by an agency's chief or sheriff is required to designate ACIM as a registered agent for the law enforcement agency. This service is available in all states in which law permits such notification.
10. **When and where are training sessions held?** On an ongoing basis ACIM conducts sessions throughout the country by sending experienced trainers—usually with significant experience in law enforcement—to train members of law enforcement agencies on the procedures necessary for using the Alert Program. Most sessions accommodate multiple agencies in a given geographic area, some training of individual agencies is conducted and all training provides the necessary materials for the agency to disseminate following training.
11. **Who attends training sessions?** Sheriffs, chiefs of police, officers and deputies, public information officers, communications personnel, detectives, members of rescue teams, etc...
12. **Can an agency that has not had training use the program?** Yes. By calling 1.888.875.2246 any law enforcement agency can use the alert program for missing persons. However, to utilize the sexual predator/offender alert, a letter signed by an agency's chief or sheriff must be on file with ACIM.
13. **Can alert messages be disseminated in multiple languages?** Yes.
14. **Can more than one case be processed at the same time?** Yes
15. **Are there any backup contact numbers for ACIM?** Yes. 954.763.1288 is a backup phone number law enforcement can use and a pager number is also available: 954.492.4778.
16. **Does ACIM activate the Amber Alert?** No, ACIM does not activate the Amber Alert—they work in tandem with one another.



A Child is Missing Alert Program



Key Points

Types of cases A Child Is Missing works and the value of the Alert Program

All cases mapped and scripted by trained technicians well-versed and experienced in diverse emergency alert scenarios

1. Alert telephone calls for missing children, elderly (Alzheimer's), disabled, and college students on campus.
2. Alert Program can be used in tandem with Amber Alert (before and during) when an address is known.
3. Parental, familial, or stranger child abductions from home, school, hospital, or elsewhere.
4. A Child Is Missing is not restrained by jurisdictional boundaries permitting alert calls to cross county/state lines.
5. Cases in which a child or unconscious person is located; alert calls can locate parent, guardian, or family member.
6. In situations of school lockdowns/evacuations, A Child Is Missing can map the area surrounding the school to send alerts to the community.
7. Child Abduction Response Team (C.A.R.T.) Notification Program deploys team into action with a single alert call.
8. A Child Is Missing assists law enforcement in searches for children who have wandered off or run away.
9. Alert Program works cases in which law enforcement suspects a child is being harbored.
10. Sexual offender/sexual predator community awareness calls in states permitting telephone notification.
11. Resident information calls regarding community meetings related to child, elderly, or disabled safety.
12. A Child Is Missing conducts regular trainings throughout the country and supplies materials to law enforcement.
13. Trainers for A Child Is Missing are available to speak at national and statewide conferences.
14. Standard Alert Program calling time is 6:00am – 10:30pm (In all time zones) unless circumstances dictate otherwise.
15. Alert Program utilizes computer mapping and enhanced satellite imagery to select an appropriate calling area.
16. Unlisted phone numbers and cell phone numbers can be entered at www.achildismissing.org to receive alert calls.
17. A Child Is Missing is a law enforcement resource that can identify sexual offenders living in the particular area where the child went missing.