

Missing Persons

Basic Academy

1 Hour

- I. Benefits for Law Enforcement Involvement
 - a. Community Support
 - b. Personal and professional satisfaction
 - c. Reduction of civil liability
- II. Missing Person
 - a. Definition - Any person who is reported missing to a law enforcement agency whether it be an Adult or a Juvenile
- III. Police Report
 - a. Currently, all missing person reports are referred to Communications for documentation on a TRAC report unless one of the following is involved:
 - i. The missing person is 11 years of age or younger
 - ii. The missing person is reasonably considered "at risk"
 - iii. A search of the area is necessary
 - iv. There is suspected foul play
 - v. Parental abduction is reasonably suspected
 - vi. The collection of evidence is necessary
- IV. Types of Missing Person
 - a. Catastrophic missing
 - i. Child or adult who is reported missing and assumed to be a victim of a disaster (fire, flood, earthquake, terrorist act, etc.)
 - b. Parental Abduction
 - i. Child who is taken, detained, concealed, enticed away, or retained by a parent/family member or person at the request of the parent
 - c. Runaway
 - i. Any child who is voluntarily missing. A person is no longer considered a runaway at the age of 18.
 - d. Unknown
 - i. Cases where there are insufficient facts to determine the missing person's disposition.
 - e. Voluntary missing adult
 - i. Adult who is reported missing, but who has left of their own free will
 - f. Dependent adult
 - i. Adult who is reported missing and who has physical or mental limitations, e.g., dementia, Alzheimer's disease, autism, etc.
 - ii. Any disability which restricts their ability to carry out normal activities
 - g. Lost
 - i. Child or adult who is reported to have strayed away and whose whereabouts are unknown
 - h. Stranger abduction
 - i. Child or adult who is taken or abducted against their will by an unknown person or a known person who is not a family member
 - i. Suspicious circumstances

- i. Child or adult who is reported missing, and the circumstances give rise to believe that:
 - 1. Foul play may be involved
 - 2. The person is a danger to self or others
 - 3. The disappearance is out of character for the person and no known reason can be determined
- V. At Risk
 - a. Missing person is considered at risk when:
 - i. The juvenile is 11 or under
 - ii. The person missing is the victim of a crime or foul play
 - iii. The person missing is in need of medical attention
 - iv. The person missing is mentally impaired, including cognitively impaired or developmentally disabled
- VI. Dispatching the Call
 - a. Priority
 - i. Shall be given preference over non-emergency property crimes includes holding calls for shift change as well as meal and other breaks, also over administrative activities such as report writing, servicing patrol vehicles, etc.
 - b. Content of Dispatch
 - i. Three determining factors a dispatcher should consider when formulating dispatch content are:
 - 1. Level of Urgency
 - 2. Informational needs of the officer
 - 3. Department Policy
 - ii. Dispatch content needs to contain sufficient information to allow for identification of the missing person:
 - 1. Name, age (date of birth), address
 - 2. Physical description
 - 3. Clothing
 - 4. Mental, emotional and/or physical condition
 - 5. Time and location last seen
 - 6. Availability and mode of transportation
 - 7. Suspect information
 - 8. Pattern of previous behavior
 - 9. Pertinent information and instructions to the reporting party
 - iii. Local broadcasts
 - 1. Must be made without delay on all reported missing persons
 - 2. May be via radio and/or teletype
- VII. Field Procedures
 - a. Means for locating a missing person
 - i. Make a local B.O.L.
 - 1. Without delay on all missing persons
 - 2. Via local radio, teletype, CLETS
 - 3. Notify DOJ via MUPS
 - ii. Missing Person's vehicle
 - iii. Suspect information
 - iv. Suspect vehicle information
 - v. Search the area

- vi. Determine existence of court orders
 - vii. Utilize additional resources, i.e. Amber Alert, Silver Alert, Search and Rescue
- b. Conditions that influence the nature and level of response:
 - i. Age: 11 and under At Risk
 - ii. Access to vehicles
 - iii. Knowledge of area
 - iv. Foul Play or Suspicious Circumstances
 - v. Mental or emotional condition
 - vi. Medical or physical condition
 - vii. Weather and climate
- VIII. Legal Requirements
 - a. 14211(a) - Accept without delay, give priority, B.O.L. if under 16 years of age or AT Risk, assess steps for locating.
 - b. 14211(e)- Report to DOJ via MUPS within 2 hours if AT RISK or under 21 years of age.
 - c. 14211(b)– A report is to be taken regardless of the missing person’s residence or location last seen unless an agency is accepting a missing person’s report
- IX. Missing Persons Unit Requests
 - a. Get cell phone for reporting party
 - b. Get email address for reporting party and missing person
 - c. Get date of birth for reporting party, if not possible, age
 - d. Group home cases need probation officer, social worker and parent information as we need to contact them
 - e. Verify area codes for all phone numbers
 - f. Verify if missing person is conserved if an adult at group home or residential care home

POST Required Hours ____1____

Agency Specific _____

TOTAL Hours ____1____