## Florida's Missing Person Alerts

MEPIC is responsible for the activation of three different alerts throughout the State of Florida. Our specially trained analysts are available 24 hours a day to activate alerts that meet the established criteria. Alerts can only be issued at the request of a law enforcement agency.

#### AMBER Alert

The AMBER Alert is a tool to quickly and effectively notify the public of critical information regarding a child who has been abducted and is in life-threatening danger.

## Missing Child Alert

A Missing Child Alert may be activated when a child is missing and law enforcement has reason to believe that their life is in danger, but there is no indication that the child has been abducted.

#### Silver Alert

The Florida Silver Alert is an alert geared toward missing seniors who have dementia or Alzheimer's. If the missing person is in a vehicle, MEPIC may activate a State Silver Alert and road signs will be illuminated.

When an alert is activated, law enforcement is asking for the public's help in locating a missing person. With Florida's Missing Person Alerts, you can make a difference in the life of an abducted child or missing person.

Sign up to receive Florida's Missing Person
Alerts by email at
www.missingchildrenalert.com



Florida Department of Law Enforcement

**Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse** 

Post Office Box 1489 Tallahassee, FL 32302

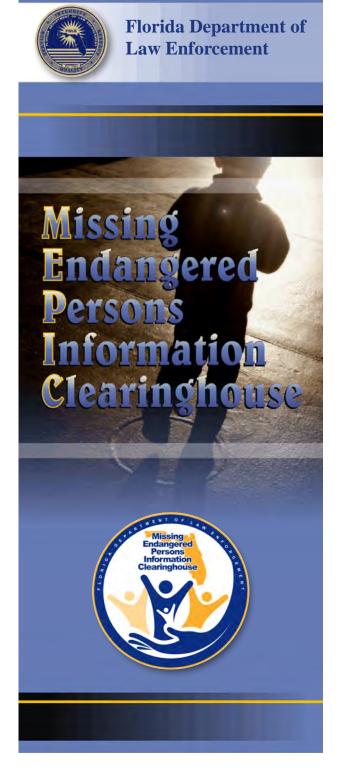
(850) 410-8585 Fax: (850) 410-8744

Call Toll Free Nationwide 1-888-FL MISSING (1-888-356-4774)

For additional information visit: www.fdle.state.fl.us

Or email us at: mepic@fdle.state.fl.us





# Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse

The Missing Endangered Persons
Information Clearinghouse (MEPIC) is within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) and is designed to collect, store and disseminate information to assist in the location of missing persons.

MEPIC accepts any case where the person is believed to be endangered, as well as all cases for persons under the age of 26, regardless of the reason they have become missing. Per Florida Statute 937.022, in cases where the missing person is 26 years of age or older, the request for assistance must come from a law enforcement agency.

Family members, friends and any other person who has knowledge of a crime involving a missing child or young adult 25 years and younger may request that MEPIC open a case if law enforcement has entered the person into the Florida Crime Information Center.

MEPIC serves in a vital support role for law enforcement by providing important resources and analytical services that could lead to the whereabouts of the missing person. MEPIC also works to make information and photographs of the missing person available to the public.

The Clearinghouse serves as a point of contact for family members and law enforcement.

MEPIC also works together with other state clearinghouses, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and INTERPOL to exchange information about missing persons.

### **MEPIC Services**

**The MEPIC Hotline** is available toll free 24 hours a day to report a missing person, receive sighting information and to respond to requests for assistance or information. Call us at 1-888-FL MISSING.

*The Clearinghouse* offers analytical and investigative support in the processing of leads associated with missing persons' investigations.

The Missing Person's Fingerprint Project is a combined effort between MEPIC, the FDLE Crime Information Bureau and local law enforcement agencies to collect fingerprints of missing children to aid in locating and identifying these children so they can be reunited with their families.

**The DNA Initiative** is an effort to ensure that DNA is collected on all persons missing for longer than 90 days. MEPIC works together with local law enforcement to identify potential sources, provide materials and assist in the collection and processing of DNA submissions.

The Unidentified Project is a joint initiative between MEPIC and the Medical Examiners' Commission. The purpose of this initiative is to gather resources needed to identify unidentified deceased persons and bring renewed attention to the growing number unidentified persons in Florida.

The Crimes Against Children Program is housed within MEPIC and provides investigative, training and intelligence assistance to local law enforcement agencies on child abuse and child death cases.

The Clearinghouse provides awareness, public safety information and training upon request. As part of this effort, MEPIC, the Florida Missing Children's Day Foundation and the MEPIC Advisory Board organize a ceremony and child safety fair to commemorate Florida Missing Children's Day. This event occurs annually on the second Monday in September. The ceremony serves as a way to honor Florida's missing and those who have played a role in recovering them.

If your love one goes missing, contact your local law enforcement agency immediately, then contact the Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse at 1-888-356-4774.

