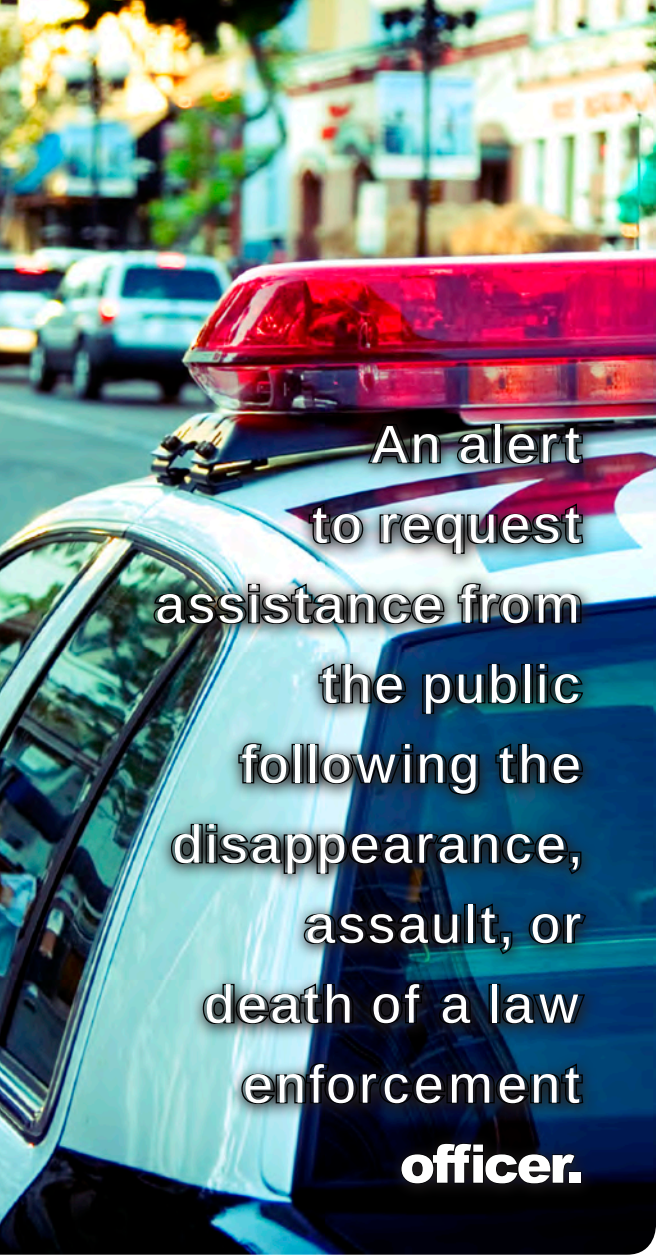

FLORIDA
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
BLUE ALERT PLAN

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
P.O. BOX 1489
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32302-1489

FLORIDA FUSION CENTER WATCH DESK

850-410-7645 | 1-800-342-0820

WWW.FLORIDABLUEALERT.COM

SEPTEMBER 2016

FLORIDA
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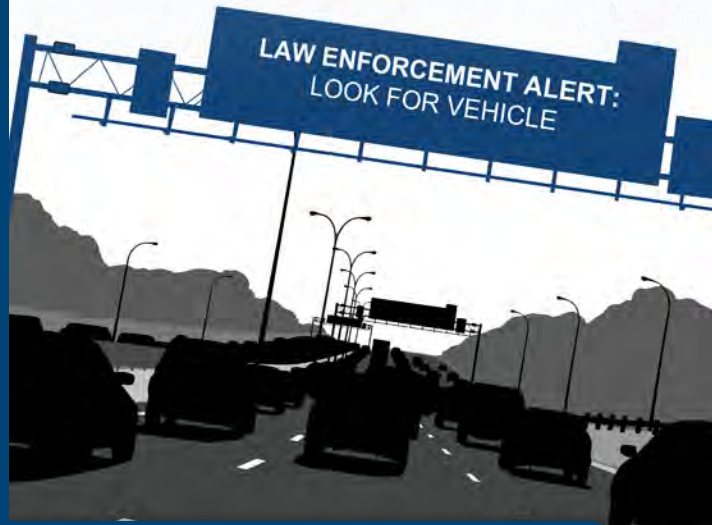

A SAFER FLORIDA
HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES

PROCESS FOR ACTIVATION

To activate a Blue Alert, the following steps must occur in this order:

1. The local law enforcement agency of jurisdiction calls the Florida Fusion Center (FFC) Intelligence Watch and Warning (IWW) at 850-410-7645.
2. A regional FDLE supervisor will work with the investigating agency to ensure the activation criteria have been met and offer assistance.
3. IWW will work with the investigating agency to prepare for information for public release, including suspect and/or vehicle information. This includes:
   - Notifying law enforcement agencies throughout the state;
   - Displaying vehicle information on road signs, lottery machines, and the 511 System; and
   - Activating the Emergency Alert System on the radio and television in the surrounding area.
4. Once FDLE is notified that the offender(s) has been captured, FDLE contacts the appropriate parties and cancels the alert.

Each activation is reviewed by a committee of state agency partners and law enforcement representatives to ensure that criteria and goals are met and that each activation took place in a timely fashion.

Criteria

To activate a Blue Alert, the following four criteria must be met:

1. **A law enforcement officer must have been:**
   - **seriously injured;**
   - **killed by a subject(s); or**
   - **become missing while in the line of duty under circumstances causing concern for the law enforcement officer's safety.**
2. **The investigating agency must determine that the offender(s) poses a serious risk to the public or to other law enforcement officers and the alert may help avert further harm or assist in the apprehension of the suspect.**
3. **A detailed description of the offender's vehicle or other means of escape, (vehicle tag or partial tag) must be available for broadcast to the public.**
4. **The local law enforcement agency of jurisdiction must recommend issuing the Blue Alert.**

Background

On October 1, 2011, Governor Scott signed an Executive Order establishing the Florida Law Enforcement Officer Blue Alert Plan.

This plan, which uses some of the technologies employed in AMBER and Silver Alerts, was established in response to the increasing number of law enforcement officers in the state killed, injured, or missing in the line of duty. In some of these cases, the offender or offenders used vehicles to flee and attempt to escape.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles' Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) immediately broadcast important information about an offender(s), who has seriously injured, killed, or abducted a law enforcement officer.

Under this plan, the information is broadcasted through dynamic highway message signs and other appropriate notification methods to increase the chances of capturing the suspect(s) responsible for injuring, killing or abducting a law enforcement officer.