ST. PETERSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT	DATE OF ISSUE	EFFECTIVE DATE	NUMBER
INSTRUCTIONAL ORDER	March 2023	Immediately	**V.5:24**
	Distribution: All Employees		

Subject: **MISSING PERSONS, RUNAWAYS, and BLUE ALERTS**

Index as:
A Child Is Missing (ACIM)
Abduction, Family/Non-family
Amber Alert
Blue Alert
DCF
Department of Children and Families (DCF)
Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE)
Florida Fusion Center (FFC)
High-Risk Missing Person
Intelligence Watch and Warning (IWW)
IWW
Lost Children
Missing Adult
Missing Child
Missing Endangered Persons
Missing Persons and Runaways
Person With Information (PWI)
Purple Alerts
PWI
Runaways
Silver Alert
Spectrum Alert

Accreditation Standards: 41.2.4, 41.2.5, 41.2.6, 81.2.4, CFA 15.12, 15.20
Cross Reference: G.O. III-06, Juvenile Procedures
I.O. V5-05, Comm Procedures_ MDT, Radio, Cellular Telephone
ECD SOP VI-01, High Risk Situations
ECD SOP VI-02, Alert Procedures
Chapter 937, Florida Statues
Suzanne's Law, Section 3701 (a) of the Crime Control Act of 1990
Replaces: I.O. V.5:24, Missing Persons and Runaways (June 23, 2025)

This Order establishes procedures for the investigation, reporting of adult missing persons, missing children, and runaways, as well as the criteria and procedures for the issuance of Amber, Silver, Purple, Spectrum, and Blue Alerts. It consists of the following sections:

I. Purpose
II. Policy
III. Definitions
IV. Missing Endangered Person
V. Missing Adult
VI. Missing Child
VII. Runaways
VIII. Additional Required Notifications
IX. Actions To Be Taken Upon Locating A Missing Person
X. Blue Alert

I. PURPOSE

The Directive establishes responsibilities and guidelines to ensure reports of runaways and missing persons are given full consideration and attention by all members of the Department. This includes the careful recording and investigation of factual circumstances surrounding the voluntary or involuntary disappearance of those individuals, as well as ensuring the proper training, dispatch, response, and follow up concerning those investigations.

II. POLICY

A. It is the policy of the St. Petersburg Police Department that all reports of missing persons, whether adults or children, are given full attention including careful investigation and recording of the factual circumstances surrounding the person's disappearance.

B. Particular care will be exercised when the disappearance involves those who are young, aged, mentally, physically disabled, or those insufficiently capable of caring for themselves.

C. There is no waiting period for reporting a missing person, either child or adult. Requirements for reporting a missing child or runaway child are mandated by the National Child Search Act of 1990 and Title 42 USC Sections 5779 and 5780 and section 937.021, Florida Statues.

D. An incident report for all missing person and runaway investigations will be prepared as described below.

E. Investigative Jurisdiction

1. Pursuant to section 937.021(3), Florida Statutes:
   a. The agency having jurisdiction over the investigation is the one where the missing person was last seen.
   b. However, if the absence of a person appears to be involuntary (the result of criminal activity), the agency having jurisdiction where such crime occurred must be the investigating agency.

2. The responsible investigating agency will make any required follow-up and FCIC/NCIC entry or issue any other required notification or alert.

3. Any dispute over investigative jurisdiction will be brought to the attention of a supervisor as soon as possible. If the issue is not satisfactorily resolved, the report will be received and promptly written, and the Watch Commander so notified.

F. A court order is not required for a child to be reported missing by a representative of the Department of Children and Families (DCF) or a community-based care provider (§ 937.021).

G. The Department will, within, but no later than the times indicated, request the family or next of kin to provide: (§ 937.031, Florida Statues)

1. Written consent to obtain dental records after a person has been missing for thirty (30) days; and

2. After a person has been missing ninety (90) days, request a biological specimen for DNA analysis.

3. The Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC) will be notified that dental and DNA records have been obtained so required notification can be provided to FCIC/NCIC.

H. In the event that an officer has been seriously injured, killed by a subject(s), or becomes missing while in the line of duty under circumstances causing concern for the officer's safety, the Department will activate a Blue Alert.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. Amber Alert – An emergency response system that disseminates information about a missing person, usually a child, by media broadcasting or electronic roadway signs.

B. Blue Alert – A request for assistance from the public following:

1. The serious injury or death of a law enforcement officer in the line of duty, or

2. An officer who is missing in connection with the officer's official duties, or

3. An imminent and credible threat that an individual intends to cause the serious injury or death of a law enforcement officer.

C. Missing Adult – A person eighteen (18) years of age or older whose temporary or permanent residence is in, or believed to be in, this state, whose location has not been determined, and who is being reported as missing.

D. Missing Child – A person under eighteen (18) years of age whose temporary or permanent residence is in, or believed to be in, this state, whose location has not been determined, and who is being reported as missing.

E. Missing Endangered Person – A person who meets one or more of the following criteria:

1. Is a missing child; however, under articulable circumstances a child MAY be considered either a missing child **OR** a runaway;

2. A missing adult younger than twenty-six (26) years of age;

3. A missing adult twenty-six (26) years of age or older who is suspected of being endangered or the victim of criminal activity.

4. Regardless of age, a missing endangered person may include someone who is:
   a. Missing under suspicious circumstances, which may indicate criminal activity or whose disappearance is unexplained, when such behavior is regarded by knowledgeable parties as highly unusual or suspicious, considering the subject's behavioral patterns, plans or routines.
   b. The subject of a child abduction, such as*:*
      1) A family abduction, when a non-custodial family member flees with a child, usually in direct violation of a court-ordered custody arrangement; or
      2) A non-family abduction, when a child is taken by an unknown or known individual, through force or persuasion, usually in furtherance of additional victimization;
   c. A person who poses a credible threat of immediate danger or seriously bodily harm due to a mental, cognitive, intellectual, developmental, or physical disability, or suffers from a medical condition that is potentially life threatening if left untreated/unattended;
   d. A patient of an adult care facility (*e.g.,* mental health, adult congregate living facility, etc.) and is considered potentially dangerous to themselves or others; or who
   e. Has demonstrated a potential for suicide; or
   f. Has been involved in a boating, swimming, or other sporting accident or natural disaster.

F. Person With Information (PWI) – A person who does not have a warrant or probable cause issued in reference to the case in question, but there is a "substantial likelihood" they have relevant information that can assist in the recovery of a Missing Endangered Person.

G. Purple Alert – An emergency response system used to assist in the location of missing adults suffering from a mental or cognitive disability that is not Alzheimer's disease or a dementia-related disorder; an intellectual disability or a developmental disability; a brain injury; other physical, mental, or emotional disabilities that are not related to substance abuse; or a combination of any of these and whose disappearance poses a credible threat of immediate danger or seriously bodily harm.

H. Runaway – A child under the age of eighteen (18) who has voluntarily removed themselves from the custody and control of their parents, guardian, or other legal custodian; however, nothing in this policy will preclude treating a person under the age of eighteen (18) as a *Missing Endangered Person* when the circumstances warrant it.

1. Whenever there is any doubt about whether a child has left voluntarily or is endangered, the incident will be treated as a *Missing Endangered Person.*

2. Runaways under the age of twelve (12) will be investigated as a Missing Child. Under articulable circumstances, a child of eleven (11) **MAY** be considered a runaway with approval of a supervisor.

I. Silver Alert – An emergency response system used to locate missing adults suffering from an irreversible deterioration of intellectual faculties.

J. Spectrum Alert – An emergency response system intended to quickly mobilize the community to assist in locating and ensuring the safe recovery of missing children with autism spectrum disorder.

IV. MISSING ENDANGERED PERSON

A. If the disappearance is considered a Missing Endangered Person, the Emergency Communications Center will ensure a patrol supervisor is notified immediately.

1. The patrol supervisor will ensure notification is made to the on-call supervisor, Investigative Services Bureau, to determine if a response is required from the Crimes Against Persons Division.

2. The supervisor should consider, based upon the totality of the circumstances, the following actions:
   a. Conducting a grid search
   b. Utilizing a K-9
   c. Assigning additional personnel to conduct a neighborhood search, to include areas known to be frequented by the subject
   d. Assigning additional personnel to check areas of particular danger (*e.g.,* lakes, retention ponds, canals, construction sites, etc.)
   e. Issuing a Region 3 broadcast and/or requesting a statewide BOLO
   f. Requesting additional resources, such as marine and/or helicopter support, community volunteers, personnel attending the Police Academy, and military personnel (*e.g.,* USCG)
   g. Notifying local media for assistance
   h. Utilizing the *A Child Is Missing (ACIM)* program, which assists in locating children and certain qualified missing adults as explained in this Order

3. The supervisor will consider issuing an *"Amber Alert"*, a *"Silver Alert"*, a *"Purple Alert"*, a "*Spectrum Alert*" or a *"Blue Alert"* when applicable. If the criteria to activate an Alert exists, the telephone number to activate any of these Alerts is: 1-888-356-4774.

B. Alert Activation Process

The supervisor, Emergency Communications Center, or designee, will perform these notification procedures following an Alert activation when it is initiated by the Department, a nearby agency or an agency outside the immediate area when the individual is believed to be in or near the St. Petersburg area. The Emergency Communications Center will:
   a. Enter a broadcast in the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System.
   b. Send an e-mail to "Everyone" in the city, notifying them of the Alert.
   c. During normal business hours the emergency communications supervisor, or designee makes the following notifications by phone:
      1) Codes Compliance Dispatch or designee
      2) Fire Department Master Station Chief
      3) Parking Enforcement Director
      4) Channel 35 Director
   d. During hours outside of normal business hours the supervisor, or designee makes the following notifications by phone:
      1) Pinellas County Regional 911 Center (R911) supervisor and forward the alert information.
      2) Water Resources Dispatch. They forward the information to the following departments: Sanitation, Parks and Recreation, Engineering, Storm Water and Transportation.
   e. Upon cancellation of the Alert, make a notification of cancellation to the listed agencies.

C. Alert Criteria

1. Amber Alert
   a. The Florida "Amber Alert" is a process that provides information to the community concerning an endangered, missing, or abducted child;
   b. To activate an "Amber Alert," the child must be:
      1) Under age 18; and
      2) There must be a clear indication the child was abducted by a stranger or otherwise be in danger of serious bodily harm or death;
   c. Activation of an "Amber Alert" is not authorized for runaways or family abductions unless the investigation determines the child's life is in immediate danger.

2. Silver Alert
   a. The Florida "Silver Alert" is a process that provides information to the community concerning an endangered person, who is operating a vehicle and is a:
      1) Missing person sixty (60) years of age or older who has demonstrated a clear indication of the irreversible deterioration of their intellectual faculties (*i.e.,* dementia), which has been verified by the investigating/agency; or
      2) Under extraordinary circumstances when a person is age eighteen (18) to fifty-nine (59) has irreversible deterioration of intellectual faculties and investigation has determined the person lacks the capacity to consent and that the use of dynamic message signs may be the only way possible to rescue the person.
   b. Prior to requesting use of the "Silver Alert" system through the use highway dynamic message signs, the Department is required to have:
      1) Concluded that the disappearance poses a credible threat to the person's welfare and safety; and
      2) Entered the person's information into FCIC/NCIC and requested a statewide BOLO to other agencies; and
      3) Already activated a local or regional alert by contacting media outlets; and
      4) Determined a vehicle is involved and that tag and state information is available and verified for display.
   c. Once issued/displayed a Silver Alert remains active for six hours, unless rescinded, or the Department of Transportation (DOT) is otherwise instructed by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE).

3. Purple Alert

   The Florida "Purple Alert" engages the public in the search for the missing person and provides a standardized and coordinated community response when:
   1) The person is eighteen (18) years of age or older and does not qualify for a Silver Alert.
   2) The investigation has determined the missing person:
      a) Has any combination of the following:
         i) An intellectual or developmental disability that is not Alzheimer's disease or a dementia-related, or
         ii) Brain injury; or
         iii) Another physical, mental, or emotional disability that is not related to substance abuse, and
      b) Does not have Alzheimer's disease or a dementia related disorder.
   3) The Department's investigation concluded that the disappearance poses a credible threat of immediate danger or serious bodily harm to the missing person, and they can only be returned to safety through law enforcement intervention.
   4) There is a detailed description of the missing person suitable for distribution.
   5) The Department has entered the missing person into the Florida Crime Information Center (FCIC)

4. Spectrum Alert
   a. Standard Alert
      1) The child must be under 18 years of age.
      2) There must be a reasonable belief that the child has autism spectrum disorder (ASD).
      3) There must be a well-founded belief, based on an active investigation, that the child is in danger of death or serious bodily injury.
      4) There is a detailed description and/or photograph of the child to broadcast to the public.
      5) The law enforcement agency of jurisdiction recommends activation.
   b. Enhanced Alert
      1) All requirements for the standard alert criteria must be satisfied and
      2) There must be a well-founded belief that the child is in imminent danger of death or serious harm.

D. If a Person With Information (PWI) is identified, the investigating officer will include such person(s) in the report under a name entry of PWI. The officer will also ensure the PWI is entered along with the missing person in NCIC. Up to two (2) PWIs may be attached to each missing person.

V. MISSING ADULT

A. Officers taking the initial report will gather as much information as possible, documenting the circumstances leading up to, and at the time of, the subject's disappearance.

1. The initial report will include:
   a. Name, age, and physical description of the subject and the relationship of the reporting party to the subject;
   b. Time, date, and last known location of the subject and the identity of anyone accompanying the missing subject;
   c. Whether the subject has been missing before, including a summary of the circumstances surrounding that previous event;
   d. Whether the subject has recently been involved in a critical incident, including domestic incidents, emotional trauma, or a life crisis, demonstrated unusual characteristics or bizarre behavior, is dependent on drugs or alcohol, or has a history of mental illness;
   e. The current physical condition of the subject and whether they are currently on prescription medication(s), including the name of the medication(s);
   f. Whether the absence appears to have been planned as evidenced by the packing of clothing or other personal belongings, obtaining cash from bank accounts, or the taking along of prized possessions;
   g. The degree to which the absence departs from established behavioral patterns, habits, or plans; and
   h. Any other unique events or circumstances which might have a bearing on the subject's disappearance.

2. If the missing adult is over the age of eighteen (18) and under the age of twenty-six (26), then the provisions of *Suzanne's Law* [Sec. 3701(a) of the Crime control Act of 1990] and section 937.0201, Florida Statues (the Kesse/Sessions Act) will apply:
   a. The person will be entered into FCIC/NCIC as a missing person;
   b. The circumstances and age will be evaluated as a possible missing endangered person; and
   c. If it is after regular business hours, the on-call supervisor, Investigative Services Bureau, will be notified and determine if a detective from the Personal Violence Unit (PVU) should be called out.

3. The report should contain information to assist investigators should it be determined the disappearance involved foul play.

B. A photograph of the person should be obtained, if possible. The subject's name and incident number will be placed on the rear of the photo.

C. Make all notifications required and determine if the investigation should be considered a Missing Endangered Person.

D. If the subject is not located, the follow-up investigation will be the responsibility of the assigned detective.

VI. MISSING CHILD

A. Investigating officers will establish the circumstances, under which the child is missing, immediately broadcast a description, and:

1. Complete the initial report, which will include:
   a. Name, age, and complete physical description of the missing child, including a clothing description;
   b. The time, date, and location where the child was last seen;
   c. Length of time at the present address;
   d. Former address, if any;
   e. Marital status of parent(s) or guardian(s);
   f. Location of divorced or separated parents;
   g. Who has legal custody of the child;
   h. Attitude of divorced or separated parents toward the child;
   i. Length of time at the school the child is currently attending;
   j. Whether the child has any problems at school;
   k. Names of school associates;
   l. Names of teachers;

m. Identity of relatives, including addresses, telephone numbers and relationship to the missing child;
n. Family friends, child's friends, and acquaintances, including cell phone text messages, information about frequently accessed Web sites, chat rooms, Social Media platforms, etc.;
o. Recent trips or excursions;
p. Hobbies and activities in which the child is particularly interested;
q. Whether the child packed clothing, took or did not take a significant personal item or money; and
r. Any other information or circumstance should be included in the narrative which will help establish whether the child is a *Missing Child* or is a *Runaway*.

2. Obtain a recent photograph of the child. The subject's name and case number will be placed on the rear of the photo.

3. Search or cause to be searched, the entire house and curtilage where the child resides and possibly could be found. The search will include all structures, vehicles, abandoned refrigerators, trucks, packing boxes, ice chests, cabinets, under beds, closets, crawl spaces, attics, and **any** space where the child might hide or be hidden.

4. Notify a supervisor if the child has not been located. The supervisor will:
   a. Determine if the investigation should be considered a *Missing Endangered Person* and as necessary, assign resources to:
      1) Initiate a search at the location where the child was last seen, if other than the child's residence;
      2) Search locations the child frequents; and
      3) Advise the Crimes Against Children (CAC) Unit. If after hours, contact the ISB on-call sergeant;
   b. Consider obtaining permission to search the child's school locker, when appropriate and where possible, CAC personnel may facilitate this.

B. Officers should be particularly cognizant of information that may suggest the potential for parental abduction or the possibility of stranger abduction. Other information to be sought includes the presence of behavioral problems, signs of an abusive home environment, a dysfunctional family situation, or whether the child is believed to be with an adult(s) who may pose a danger.

C. If the investigation rules out the possibility of a runaway, officers will:

1. Secure the residence and treat it as a crime scene, particularly the child's room.

2. Secure and protect the child's hairbrush, toothbrush, diary, anything else that would retain the child's fingerprints, and the child's (or the family's) computer and computer discs, cell phone, and any other electronic device that may be of use in the investigation.

3. Check to see if there are any sexual predators or sexual offenders who live in the area. The officer may:
   a. Search the online FDLE Sexual Offenders and Predators Database, and/or
   b. Contact the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Sexual Predator & Offender Tracking (SPOT) Unit

VII. RUNAWAYS

A. Because runaways are at significant risk of victimization if not located, it is the policy of this agency to investigate runaway incidents and attempt to reunite the child with their family.

B. Officers investigating a report of a runaway will:

1. Prepare a report with complete information, including:
   a. The complete name and, if applicable, moniker of the child;
   b. A complete physical description;
   c. Last known clothing description;
   d. Location where the child was last seen;
   e. If any event precipitated the running away (*e.g.*, bad report card, a breakup with a boy/girlfriend, school discipline, etc.);

f. If the child spent a lot of time on the Internet, consider the possibility the child may have been enticed to leave by someone via electronic communication;
g. Whether the child packed clothing, took or did not take a significant personal item, took cash with them, or any other circumstance which will help establish whether the child ran away or is missing;
h. Possible destinations;
i. Identity of close friends with whom the child may have confided, or who may be accompanying the child; and
j. Locations where the child is known to frequent.

2. Obtain a recent photograph of the child.

3. Inform the supervisor of the report so that they can ensure other personnel are notified of the Runaway report.

4. If more than one sibling has run away from home, a separate event number and report is required for each runaway to ensure proper follow-up investigation.

C. Officers should be particularly cognizant of information that may suggest a possible parental abduction, or the possibility of stranger abduction. Other information to be sought includes the presence of behavioral problems, signs of an abusive home environment, a dysfunctional family situation, or whether the child is believed to be with an adult(s) who may pose a danger.

D. Follow-up investigation is the responsibility of the Police Investigator Assistants (PIA). The PIA will:

1. Contact a family member or guardian of the runaway within seventy-two (72) hours of receiving the initial report. The contact or attempt to contact will be documented in a follow up report.

2. Inform the parents, guardians, and other relevant parties to contact the PIA as soon as any contact is made with the child.

3. Maintain on-going contact with the child's parent or guardian concerning progress of the investigation.

VIII. ADDITIONAL REQUIRED NOTIFICATIONS

A. Upon the filing of a Missing Endangered Person police report the investigating officer will:

1. Immediately inform all on-duty law enforcement officers of the existence of the Missing Endangered Persons report; and,

2. Communicate the report to every other law enforcement agency having jurisdiction in Pinellas County.

B. Upon learning of a Missing Endangered Person police report the responding supervisor and detective will consider utilizing the *A Child Is Missing (ACIM)* program. The program assists law enforcement agencies with the search and early recovery of missing children; elderly (Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia); autistic; cognitively impaired; and otherwise disabled individuals; and college students missing on campus, in the first hours of their disappearance by use of telephone alert calls. The program is available nationwide twenty-four (24) hours a day and 365 days a year. The program contact numbers are 1-888-875-2246 or 954-763-1288.

C. The investigating officer will ensure that ECHO channel receives the information of all missing persons, including PWIs, electronically or in paper form, to complete a BOLO, as required by law.

1. In both adult and child missing person cases, the investigating officer will, within two (2) hours of the receipt of the report, electronically or with the assistance of the Emergency Communications Center (§ 937.021, Florida Statutes), transmit the report for inclusion within the Florida Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse.

2. If the investigating officer is unable to electronically link the *Incident Report* with identification information to the Echo channel; or other emergent circumstances prevent the officer from personally providing the information to the Emergency Communications Center; the investigating officer will ensure the information is sent electronically, or taken in handwritten form, to the Emergency Communications Center in a timely manner by another officer or supervisor to ensure compliance with the two (2)-hour requirement of section 937.021(4)(b), Florida Statutes.

D. ECHO channel will immediately transmit the information for entry into the Florida Crime Information Center (FCIC) system and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) Missing Person File (per 42 USC 5779 and 5780).

E. The Watch Commander will ensure the missing person information is provided to Read-off for subsequent shifts.

F. Once contact is made with a PWI, a follow up will be written and the assigned case detective or investigator will determine if the PWI can be removed from FCIC/NCIC.

IX. ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN UPON LOCATING A MISSING PERSON

A. The officer receiving information that a missing person has been located will complete a follow-up report and electronically, or with the assistance of the Emergency Communications Center, ensure:

1. Notification is made to the Florida Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse,

2. FCIC/NCIC entries are deleted, and

3. The BOLO and any media alerts (Silver Alert) are canceled in a timely manner.

B. If an adult missing person is located:

1. The officer will:
   a. Contact the missing person or the complainant, in person or by telephone, to make a determination if there was no criminal activity involved in the person's disappearance; and
   b. Complete a follow-up report by the end of the shift, documenting the circumstances of the disappearance and return of the person reported missing.

2. The officer must also ensure the person's right to privacy is protected. If the disappearance was voluntary and the person is not suffering from diminished capacity, they cannot be forced to return home.

3. The missing person should be asked if their whereabouts can be relayed to the party who reported them missing. Without their permission to do so, officers are restricted to only informing the complainant of the missing person's well-being.

4. Unless criminal matters necessitate other action, the desire of the missing person(s) not to reveal their whereabouts will be honored and this information will be placed in the report.

C. If a child is located or returns:

1. The officer will contact the parent or guardian and arrange to speak with the child in person. The investigating officer will:
   a. Determine if the child needs medical attention.
   b. Inquire as to the circumstances surrounding the disappearance:
      1) Why did you leave home?
      2) How long have you been away from home?
      3) Who have you been staying with while away from home?
      4) What did you do while you were away?

c. Determine that there was no criminal activity involved in the child's disappearance, nor were they the victim of a crime before or during their disappearance; and
   1) Has anyone hurt you or tried to hurt you while you were away from home?
   2) Are you a member of a gang?
   3) Do you drink or do drugs?
d. Determine if the child and/or family is in need of any social or family services;
   1) Will you be safe at home? If no, why?
   2) Do you have someone you can talk to at home or school?

2. The officer will ensure attempts to contact the parent(s) or guardian(s) are conducted in a timely manner, and all attempts and successful contacts will be documented in the incident follow-up report.

3. The officer will provide the parent(s) or guardian(s) with contact information for appropriate community counseling agencies (G.O. III-06 Juvenile Procedures) as may be indicated by the investigation.

4. Irregular or suspicious follow up runaway reports will be directed to the appropriate CAC detective.

X. BLUE ALERT

A. Criteria

To activate a Blue Alert, the following four criteria must be met:
a. A law enforcement officer must have been:
   1) Seriously injured;
   2) Killed by a subject(s); or
   3) Become missing while in the line of duty under circumstances causing concern for the law enforcement officer's safety
b. 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.
c. 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.
d. The local law enforcement agency of jurisdiction must recommend issuing the Blue Alert.

B. Procedures

1. If one of the Blue Alert criteria is met, the patrol supervisor will notify the Watch Commander Immediately.

2. The Watch Commander will:
   a. Confirm the elements of a Blue Alert are met.
   b. Obtain a detailed description of the offender, and if applicable, the offender's vehicle or other means of escape, (vehicle tag or partial tag) must be available for broadcast to the public.
   c. Request the Emergency Communications Center to notify:
      1) The Command Staff via a ReadyOp alert
      2) The on-call supervisor, and
      3) The Investigative Services Bureau
   d. Consider, based upon the totality of the circumstances, the following actions:
      1) Conducting a grid search
      2) Utilizing a K-9
      3) Assigning additional personnel to conduct a neighborhood search, to include areas known to be frequented by the suspect
      4) Requesting additional resources, such as marine and/or helicopter support, and military personnel (*e.g.,* USCG); and
      5) Notifying local media for assistance via the Public Information Office (PIO)

e. If the Watch Commander determines that the offender(s) poses a serious risk to the public or to other law enforcement officers, they will consider activating a “Blue Alert” after consulting with the Sergeant, Major Crimes and/or Investigative Services Bureau personnel.

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

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

3. Investigative Services Bureau Procedures
   a. Upon receipt of a ReadyOp alert, an intelligence analyst or detective will conduct background research on the offender to identify person associations, prior home of record information and criminal history.
   b. Once verified information has been acquired, the intelligence analyst will publish and disseminate a Blue Alert Officer Safety Bulletin and disseminate to CARS, internal email, and other law enforcement agency contacts.
   c. Once the offender has been apprehended, the intelligence analyst will disseminate a cancellation for the Blue Alert Officer Safety Bulletin and disseminate to CARS, internal email, and other law enforcement agency contacts.

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Anthony Holloway
Chief of Police