

MISSOURI AMBER ALERT SYSTEM

“ONE PAGE STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE”

STEP #1 BEGINNING THE PROCESS.

1. An abduction has occurred which under your local AMBER Alert plan justifies the issuance of an AMBER Alert.

STEP #2 ACTIVATE LOCAL ABDUCTION ALERT SYSTEM.

Immediate contact with your local media outlets is essential to the success of the alert.

During this phase of the alert process, standard law enforcement dispatch teletypes and CJIS missing person entries should be processed.

If you DO NOT HAVE a local abduction alert system or if the situation warrants activating both a local alert and a MISSOURI ABDUCTION ALERT simultaneously, GO TO STEP # 3.

STEP #3 VERIFY THE MORE STRINGENT MISSOURI AMBER ALERT CRITERIA HAVE BEEN MET*.

1. An abduction has occurred which for the purpose of the Missouri Amber Alert System means a person whose whereabouts are unknown, and who is reasonable believed to be the victim of the crime of kidnapping as defined by section 565.110, RSMO, as determined by local law enforcement; and
2. There is a credible threat of serious bodily injury or death to the victim; and
3. There are sufficient details concerning the abduction to make a public alert useful; and
4. Based on information available a regional or a statewide alert would be most beneficial for this situation. In rare unusual occurrences, normally required descriptors may not be available, but in the professional judgment of the investigating agency, a public alert may be useful to the recovery of the victim.

*** Missouri Amber activation should not be requested for events not meeting the criteria listed above. Events not meeting these criteria may be addressed through local alerts if available, Missouri Uniform Law Enforcement System and National Crime Information Center entries, assistance from national (NCMEC) and state (Missouri State Highway Patrol missing person clearing house) entities and standard press releases.**

STEP #4 FILL OUT THE MISSOURI AMBER ALERT ABDUCTION FORM.

If you have any questions or issues when filling out this form call (573) 751-1000

STEP #5 SEND THE MISSOURI AMBER ALERT FORM BY FAX TO:

1. MISSOURI AMBER ALERT NOTIFICATION (573) 751-6814
2. Upon receipt of your fax you will be contacted by phone to verify the alert.

Multi-State Alerts

Some alerts may necessitate broadcast into adjacent states. This broadcast is accomplished by sending a standard police dispatch to the Missouri control terminal with the address text field formatted “Request AMBER Alert broadcast to XX, YY, and ZZ,” with XX, YY and ZZ being two letter abbreviations for the requested state or states. Control terminal operators will appropriately code the message as an AMBER Alert and forward it to the appropriate adjacent state control terminals.

If you wish further assistance from other states, you may contact the adjacent states Missing Person Clearing house. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children maintains a current list of contact information for each state’s clearing house on its web site. As of this writing the link is:

http://www.missingkids.com/missingkids/servlet/ServiceServlet?LanguageCountry=en_US&PageId=1421

Unfortunately links have a tendency to change, so it may be more reliable to navigate from their homepage www.missingkids.com. Select “Resources for Law Enforcement.” On that page you will find a link to “NCMEC Clearinghouse Program.” That link takes you to a listing of each state’s contact information.



AMBER Web Portal Consortium

<http://www.missouriambervalert.com>

Missouri is a member of the AMBER Web Portal Consortium. AMBER alerts, meeting the Missouri AMBER Alert criteria, may be enhanced by utilizing the Portal. Trained law enforcement agencies may enter and update information on the Portal that will spawn a multimedia AMBER Alert. Volunteer subscribers, the news media and many state agencies will be notified when an alert is issued. Those notified may then connect to the Portal to receive information as updates are posted by the reporting law enforcement agency.

To utilize the portal, follow the steps to activate a Missouri AMBER Alert. Trained agencies should also check the box marked “and Request for Portal Access” on the Missouri Amber Alert Abduction Form. Missouri Amber Alert control center personnel will contact the reporting agency with appropriate User ID and passwords to access the system. Departments without required training may access the Portal by proxy through control center personnel provided the control center has sufficient personnel resources to be of assistance.