



*...Protecting Children, Preparing Responders, Educating Communities...*

## Public Notification/Social Media

### Law Enforcement Reporting:

- Immediately report your loved one missing to local law enforcement.
- There is no waiting period to report a missing person, and it is against Federal Law for an agency to impose any waiting period to report a child (under the age of 18 in Texas) as missing. (34 U.S. Code § 41308 - State Requirements for Reporting Missing Children <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/34/41308>)
- Request the name and Badge/ID number of the reporting Officer/Deputy, a case number, information as to the investigative process within the law enforcement agency, and the next steps with the case involving your missing loved one.

### Public Distribution/Notification:

- Ask the reporting Officer/Deputy if the agency will create and distribute a flyer for your missing loved one. Provide consent for them to do so if requested.
- Provide recent and accurate photograph(s) of your missing loved one.
- If the agency will not create/distribute a flyer to the public for your missing loved one, contact a recognized local and/or national missing persons non-profit organization for assistance.
  - Examples of these organizations in/around Texas include:
    - Texas Center For The Missing <https://centerforthemissing.org/contact/> [support@tcftm.org](mailto:support@tcftm.org) or 713-599-0235
    - National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) (children under the age of 18 or missing young adults under the age of 21) at 1-800-THE LOST <https://www.missingkids.org/home>
    - Amber Alert Network Brazos Valley (AANBV) [www.aanbv.org](http://www.aanbv.org), [www.facebook.com/aanbvtx](https://www.facebook.com/aanbvtx) or 877-98-AANBV (877-982-2628)
    - Black and Missing Foundation <https://blackandmissinginc.com/contact/> 1-877-97-BAMFI (1-877-972-2634)
    - Morgan Nick Foundation (Arkansas) <https://morgannickfoundation.com/contact-us/> 1-877-543-HOPE (4673) [Staff@morgannick.com](mailto:Staff@morgannick.com)
- Share any social media posts created by law enforcement, recognized non-profits, or local media outlets.
- It is recommended that you ***DO NOT*** put your personal phone number on any flyers or social media posts that you create or share. Rather, put the name and contact number of the primary law enforcement agency responsible for the follow up investigation.
- Report any tips or information received to the primary law enforcement agency for follow up.
- Update/remove any social media posts upon recovery of your missing loved one.

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