

Child Abduction T.I.P.S. (Training, Information, Practices & Strategy)

MANDATED REPORTING LAWS

By Margaret Petros, Executive Director, Advisory Committee Member

Reporting cases of suspected parental abductions is mandatory for certain professionals under the California Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Law. The first child abuse reporting law in California, enacted in 1963, applied only to physicians. It required that physicians report evidence of physical abuse. As knowledge and understanding of child abuse increased over time, it became evident that other professionals might also be in a position to identify abuse, bring it to the attention of authorities to protect children from further harm.

The California Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act (CANRA) was passed in 1980. Over the years, numerous changes and additions strengthened the definition of child abuse and the persons required to report. Today, the following professionals must report:

- Commercial Computer Technicians
- Paid Athletic Coaches
- Administrator, or Director of a Public or Private Organization
- Public assistance worker
- Employee of a child care institution
- Firefighter, except for volunteer firefighters
- Physician, surgeon, psychiatrist, dentist, resident, intern, podiatrist, chiropractor, licensed nurse, dental hygienist, optometrist
- Emergency medical technician I or II, paramedic
- State or county public health employee who treats a minor for any condition.
- Coroner
- Medical examiner, or any other person who performs autopsies
- Commercial film and photographic print processor
- Child visitation monitor
- Animal control officer or humane society officer
- Teacher Instructional aide
- Teacher's aide or teacher's assistant
- Classified employee of any public school
- Administrative Officer or supervisor of child welfare and attendance, or a certified pupil personnel employee
- Administrator of a public or private day camp
- Administrator or employee of a public or private youth center, youth recreation program or youth organization
- Administrator or employee of a public or private children's organization
- Employee of a county office of education or the California Department of Education, whose duties bring the employee into contact with children on a regular basis
- Head start Teacher
- Licensed nurse
- Licensing worker or licensing evaluator employed by a licensing agency
- Employee of a school district police or security department
- Any person who is an administrator or presenter of, or a counselor, in a child abuse prevention program in any public or private school
- District attorney investigator, inspector or family support officer
- Special education teachers, and staff
- Nursing student's
- Doctors
- Medical Students
- Social worker
- Marriage, family and child counselor, (marriage and family therapist), clinical social worker
- Marriage, family, and child therapist trainee Psychological assistant Unlicensed marriage, family, and child therapist intern
- Clergy member
- Custodian of records of a clergy member
- Probation officer or parole officer
- District attorney investigator, inspector or family support officer
- Peace officer
- Employee of the police department, county sheriff's department, county probation officer
- Employee or volunteer of a Court Appointed Special Advocates program, a custodial officer as defined in Section 831.5., any person providing services to a minor child under Section 12300 or 12300.1 of the Welfare and Institutions Code
- Licensee, and administrator, or an employee of a licensed community care or child day care facility

When/Who do you report to: When has knowledge of or observes a child in his or her professional capacity, or within the scope of his or her employment whom he or she knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect. Reports must be made to police or local child welfare department immediately, or as soon as practically possible, by phone. A written report must be forwarded within 36 hours of receiving the information regarding the incident. You can learn more by reading CA Penal Code 11164 - 11174.3.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

The First 48 Hours: Law Enforcement's Response to Abducted, Endangered and Missing Children

Date: October 26, 2017
Place: Sacramento, CA
Time: 8:00-4:00pm

Specifically designed for Patrol Lieutenants, Watch Commanders, Field Sergeants, Detectives, and other Law Enforcement First Responder Personnel

Topics to be discussed include:

- Missing Child Intake Procedures
- First Responder and Supervisor Responsibilities
- Neighborhood Video Canvassing and Roadblock Procedures
- Victimology
- Supervisory Command Post Considerations
- Stranger Abduction and Murder Case Studies of Children
- AMBER Alert

Presenters:

- **Det. Kevin Coffey**, Detective-III, Juvenile Division, Los Angeles Police Department
- **SA Jeffrey R. Cugno**, Primary NCAVC Coordinator, Federal Bureau of Investigation
- **Cpt. Jay Bart**, California Highway Patrol



Audrey L., Florida

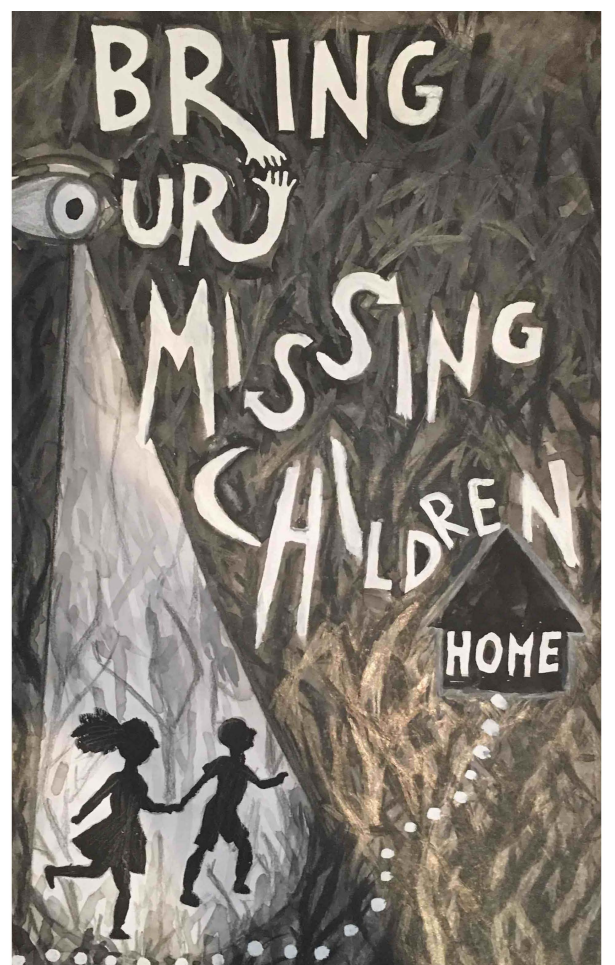
MISSING CHILDREN'S DAY POSTER CONTEST

By Megan Eschleman, Criminal Identification & Intelligence, Supervisor

President Ronald Reagan declared May 25th as National Missing Children's Day in 1983. The United States Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention sponsors an annual Missing Children's Day poster contest, creating an opportunity for schools, law enforcement, and child advocates to discuss the issue of missing and/or exploited children with youths, parents, and guardians. Materials are distributed to schools and after school programs that provide an active learning experience in preparation for the contest in October each year. Activity guides explain to the students that on average, 2,200 children are reported missing each day in the U.S. and that in a one-year time period, there are 3,200 non-family abductions and 354,000 family abductions of children reported.

Students must be in the 5th grade and create a poster that demonstrates the theme "Bring Our Missing Children Home". The posters are required to be handmade and original in design. Additionally, the poster must be submitted with a completed application, which includes a description of the poster and a brief biography of the artist. Posters are submitted to each state's Missing Children's Clearinghouse in February and a single state winner is then selected to go on to the national judging competition.

The single national winner, his/her teacher and parents, and the state contest manager is brought to Washington, DC, to participate in the National Missing Children's Day ceremony. The national winner also receives a national award certificate, a United States Savings Bond, and a copy of their poster.



Haruka E., California

In California, we received 170 posters from 34 different schools and programs for this year's contest. Haruka E. from Pasadena was California's winning selection. More than 3,000 students from 34 states and the Aviano U.S. Air Force Base in Italy participated in the national 2017 contest. This year's national winner is Audrey L. from Florida.

We are already looking forward to the 2018 contest in a continued effort to highlight the importance of proactive education programs such as this. For information on California's 2018 contest, please email the California Department of Justice Missing and Unidentified Persons Section at MUPS.CAPosterContest@doj.ca.gov.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Deanne Castorena, Chair, Deputy-in Charge, Los Angeles Co. District Attorney's Office
- Jannell Jones, Vice-Chair, Program Specialist, Orange Co. Department of Education
- James Bacin, Deputy District Attorney, Orange Co. District Attorney's Office
- Jay Bart, Captain, Emergency Notification & Tactical Alert, Center, California Highway Patrol
- Joseph Brine II, Special Agent, FBI Squad C-4, Crimes, Against Children
- Sharon Giles, Sergeant, Supervisor Family Protection Unit, Oxnard Police Department
- Marlene Glusing, Legal Assistant, Merced Co. District Attorney's Office
- Megan Eschleman, Criminal Identification & Intelligence, Supervisor, Department of Justice, Missing & Unidentified Persons Section
- Xiomara Flores-Holguin, Specialized Response Bureau (MART, CSEC, ROU and LE Liaison), Los Angeles County Department of Children & Family Services
- Leslie A. Olson, Program Manager, Sacramento Co. Child Protective Services
- Elaine F. Tumonis, Deputy Attorney General, State Child Abduction Coordinator, Office of the Attorney General
- Erin Runnion, Founder, The Joyful Child Foundation
- Cari Teran, Marriage & Family Therapist, Private Practice