

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 12-206

WHEREAS, of all Florida's resources, its citizens are the most precious; and

WHEREAS, approximately 41,000 incidents of missing children are reported to Florida law enforcement annually; and

WHEREAS, more than 10,000 incidents of missing adults are reported to Florida law enforcement annually; and

WHEREAS, persons who are missing are at risk of criminal predatory behavior, human trafficking, exploitation, and endangerment; and

WHEREAS, especially in circumstances where criminal predatory behavior or other clear endangerment is indicated, a coordinated law enforcement response and the prompt and widespread sharing of information concerning the missing person is critical; and

WHEREAS, Florida's outdoor advertisers possess an industry-wide capacity to raise the awareness of millions of Floridians about the state's missing persons; and

WHEREAS, Florida has over 600 reported unidentified deceased persons, some of whom are believed to be long-term missing persons; and

WHEREAS, due to the advancement of computer and forensic technologies, the probability of identifying unidentified deceased persons has increased; and

WHEREAS, making a positive identification can provide answers to family members who are searching and can present law enforcement with leads in the death investigations; and

WHEREAS, the 1999 Florida Legislature designated the second Monday in every September to recognize Florida's missing children and to increase awareness and understanding of the issue among our parents, citizens, and law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, the 2008 Florida Legislature passed the Jennifer Kesse and Tiffany Sessions Act, which expanded the Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse mission to include both missing children and adults; and

WHEREAS, it is important that information regarding any missing person, child or adult, be circulated and publicized in a variety of methods; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has in place a method of issuing AMBER, Missing Child and Silver Alerts;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICK SCOTT, Governor of Florida, in obedience to my solemn constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Florida, do hereby promulgate the following Executive Order effective immediately:

Section 1. All Governor's agencies must, and other state agencies are encouraged to, upon the request of the Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse, within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, immediately post photographs of specific missing persons in conspicuous public areas under their control including, but not limited to:

- A. State-operated highways, including rest stops, visitor information centers, toll booth plaza facilities, and toll booth plaza ticket windows;
- B. State owned and operated facilities; and
- C. Agency or entity public web sites.

All Governor's agencies must, and other state agencies are encouraged to, when feasible, share information concerning missing children and endangered adults, which may assist law enforcement in locating the missing person.

All state agencies are encouraged to place links on their website to active AMBER, Missing Child and Silver Alert notifications available at www.fdle.state.fl.us and www.missingchildrenalert.com and make a reasonable effort to encourage their employees to sign up to receive alert notifications via email.

The Florida Department of Management Services is directed to help coordinate compliance with these provisions in all state offices throughout Florida.

Section 2. The Florida Department of Education is encouraged to work in partnership with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement on relevant efforts to prevent children and students from going missing and to rescue those who are missing.

Section 3. The Florida Department of Corrections shall make available to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and to local law enforcement agencies the use of agency tracking dogs to assist in search and rescue efforts when a person is reported missing.

Section 4. The Florida Department of Elder Affairs shall work in partnership with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and local law enforcement agencies to provide assistance to seniors suffering from an irreversible deterioration of intellectual faculties and their families in an effort to prevent missing seniors, and to locate them if they become missing.

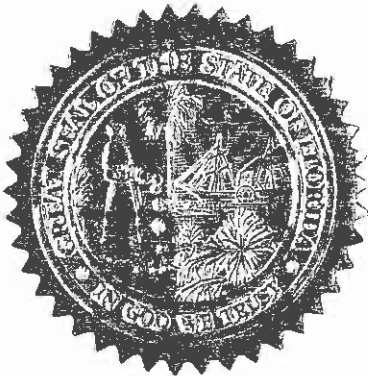
Section 5. The Florida Department of Transportation shall work in partnership with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement in the event of an AMBER or Silver Alert activation to notify the public in an effort to aid in the recovery of the missing or abducted person.

Section 6. The Florida Division of Emergency Management shall work in partnership with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to aid in the recovery of an abducted child by providing emergency notification to the public of an AMBER Alert through the use of the Emergency Alert System.

Section 7. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement will partner with private entities, such as the Florida Outdoor Advertising Association and its members, to coordinate the use of donated billboard space in an effort to notify Florida's citizens when an AMBER or Missing Child Alert is issued and to raise awareness of missing persons.

Section 8. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement, in conjunction with local law enforcement agencies, will continue to coordinate the activities of the state's Child Abduction Response Teams (CART) to assist in sharing resources and in coordinating a community response in the event a child is missing and the team is activated.

Section 9. The Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse, in conjunction with the Florida Medical Examiners Commission, will continue to encourage medical examiner's offices and local law enforcement agencies to collaborate together and revisit unidentified deceased cases in order to resolve long term missing persons cases under the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Joint Initiative to Identify Florida's Unidentified Deceased.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capitol, and this 10th day of September, 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Rick Scott", written over a horizontal line.

GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Ken Pritzner", written over a horizontal line.
SECRETARY OF STATE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA