

Ohio Amber Alert Steering Committee

www.ohioamberplan.org

Attorney General's Office - Missing Children Clearinghouse
Ohio Department of Transportation
State Emergency Communications Committee
Buckeye State Sheriff's Association
Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police

Ohio Emergency Management Agency
Ohio State Highway Patrol
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Ohio Association of Broadcasters
Local/Regional AMBER Plan Representative

Victim's Advocate



Ted Strickland, Governor

November 20, 2008

Dear Athletic Director, Principal, or Superintendent:

The Ohio AMBER Alert Steering Committee is constantly in search of new and improved ways to rapidly provide law enforcement information about an abducted child and of communicating AMBER Alerts to the greatest number of people when a child is abducted. Although the Emergency Alert System (EAS), faxes, teletypes, and highway sign boards do a good job in getting the mass message out, more can be done on an individual basis.

Technology now exists to specifically target zip code areas and send text messages to cellular devices when an AMBER Alert occurs. This targeted technology ensures the alert is focused on the area where we need everyone's help to locate the abducted child.

This winter, the Ohio AMBER Alert Steering Committee, in conjunction with basketball season, is initiating a program called "Time-Out for AMBER Alerts." We are requesting that all schools take a minute or less during basketball games to promote this program. We are also promoting the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles ID R Kids program

Enclosed are instructions and flyers for a one minute (or less) presentation to be made at the halftime of your basketball games. It is quick, easy, and FREE, and may help save a child's life. Please consider implementing this program at your school and help us improve the Ohio AMBER Alert program.

Please contact S/Lt. Rob Jackson of the Ohio State Highway Patrol at (614) 728-1355 if you have questions or need assistance in implementing this program.

Sincerely,

MARK A. PATCHEN, Chairman
Ohio AMBER Alert Steering Committee

Enclosure: as stated
MAP:ljj

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