

OHIO'S ALERT PROGRAMS

Distribution of Alert Notifications

AMBER Alerts are initially distributed via EAS and WEA, with additional information available via social media, e-mail, text message or fax. All information regarding Endangered Missing Child, Endangered Missing Adult and Blue Alerts is distributed via social media, e-mail, text message or fax. Updates and cancellations of all alerts are distributed via social media, e-mail, text message or fax.



AMBER Alert

This alert is only issued in cases of a confirmed child abduction when the general public's help may make a life or death difference in the safe recovery of the abducted child. Ohio has a statewide AMBER Alert plan as well as numerous regional and local plans.

CRITERIA (Established in Ohio Revised Code)

1. Law enforcement confirms the child is under 18 years of age;
2. Law enforcement believes the abduction poses a credible threat of immediate danger of seriously bodily harm or death to the child;
3. There is sufficient descriptive information about the child, the suspect and/or the circumstances surrounding the abduction to believe the activation of the alert will help locate the child; and
4. A law enforcement agency determines that the child is not a runaway and has not been abducted as a result of a family abduction, unless the investigation determines the child is in immediate danger of serious bodily harm or death.

ALERT DISTRIBUTION

This alert is activated through the Emergency Alert System (EAS), using the Child Abduction Emergency (CAE) code. Alerts may be issued within one or more EAS operational areas, or statewide. EAS is only used for the initial activation. All updates and cancellations are communicated via secondary notification. EAS activation of an AMBER Alert will also trigger distribution of a Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) to all WEA-enabled mobile devices.

Secondary notification of AMBER Alerts is provided via social media, e-mail, text message or fax. Information about active alerts, including photos, is available at OhioAMBERPlan.org or 1.877.AMBER.OH.



Endangered Missing Child Alert

This alert is issued by law enforcement when a missing child is considered at risk, but the case does not meet the criteria for an AMBER Alert. This alert provides a way to enlist the public's help in locating an endangered missing child, without desensitizing the media and general public to AMBER Alerts.

CRITERIA

1. Law enforcement confirms the child is under 18 years of age.
2. Law enforcement confirms the child is missing, such as lost, non-witnessed/non-confirmed abduction or the child's whereabouts are unknown.
3. Law enforcement believes the missing circumstances pose a credible threat of serious bodily harm or death to the child.
4. There is sufficient descriptive information about the child and the circumstances surrounding the disappearance that the alert activation will help locate the child.

This alert is issued by law enforcement when a child is missing due to unknown circumstances and the investigating law enforcement agency considers the missing child to be at-risk of serious physical harm or death based on the circumstances of the disappearance. Additionally, sufficient descriptive information exists about the child and the circumstances to indicate the alert would help locate the child.

ALERT DISTRIBUTION

Endangered Missing Child Alerts are issued via social media, e-mail, text message or fax. The EAS and WEA are NOT activated. Updates and cancellations are also delivered via social media, e-mail, text message or fax. Notification about an Endangered Missing Child Alert is sent statewide to all who request to receive these alerts.

Additional information about the alert, including photos if available, is also posted on the Ohio Attorney General's website, bit.ly/ohiomissingpersons. A special toll-free number (1.866.693.9171) may also be activated for tips and alert information.

Points of Contact

AMBER Alert	OSHP Communications Center	614-466-2660
Endangered Missing Child Alert	Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation / Missing Persons Unit	800-325-5604
Endangered Missing Adult Alert	Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation / Missing Persons Unit	800-325-5604
Ohio Blue Alert	OSHP Communications Center	614-466-2660



Endangered Missing Adult Alert

This alert is intended to help locate an endangered missing adult who has a mental impairment or is 65 years of age or older, and whose disappearance poses a threat of serious bodily harm or death.

CRITERIA (Established in Ohio Revised Code)

1. Local investigating law enforcement agency confirms the individual is missing;
2. Individual is 65 years of age or older, or has a mental impairment;
3. Individual's disappearance poses a credible threat of immediate danger of serious bodily harm or death to the individual; and
4. Sufficient descriptive information about the individual and the circumstances surrounding the disappearance exists that activation of the alert may help locate the individual.

ALERT DISTRIBUTION

This alert is issued via social media, e-mail, text or fax. The EAS and WEA are NOT activated. Updates and cancellations are also delivered via social media, e-mail, text message or fax. Notification is sent statewide to all who request to receive these alerts.

Additional alert information, including photos if available, is posted on the Ohio Attorney General's website, bit.ly/ohiomissingadult. A special toll-free number (1.866.693.9171) may also be activated for tips and alert information.



Ohio Blue Alert

This alert was established to enlist the public's help in locating a suspect involved in killing or seriously injuring a law enforcement officer, or in locating a missing law enforcement officer.

CRITERIA (Established in Ohio Revised Code)

1. Local law enforcement agency confirms a law enforcement officer has been seriously injured or killed and a suspect has not been apprehended; OR a law enforcement officer is missing while on duty under circumstances warranting concern for his/her safety; and
2. Sufficient descriptive information about the suspect and the circumstances surrounding the law enforcement officer's injury, death or disappearance exists to indicate that activation of the alert may help locate the suspect or the missing officer.

ALERT DISTRIBUTION

This alert is issued via social media, e-mail, text message or fax. The EAS and WEA are NOT activated. Updates and cancellations are also delivered via social media, e-mail, text message or fax. Notification about an Ohio Blue Alert is sent statewide to all who request to receive these alerts.

Additional information about the alert, including photos if available, is posted at bit.ly/ohiobluealert. A special toll-free number (1.877.262.3764) may also be activated for tips and alert information.

Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee

OhioAMBERPlan.org