



<b>CHAPTER # 34 MISSING PERSON ALERTS</b>	<b>POLICY # 34.2 GOLDEN ALERTS</b>
<p><i>This policy is for internal use only and does not enlarge an employee's civil liability in any way. The policy should not be construed as creating a higher duty of care, in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party civil claims against employees. A violation of this policy, if proven, can only form the basis of a complaint by this department for non-judicial administrative action in accordance with the laws governing employee discipline.</i></p>	
Date Implemented: 11/01/2019	Review Date:

**POLICY**

It is the policy of the Department to comply with Kentucky Revised Statute 39F.180 as it relates to a Golden Alert/Elderly Missing Person. Established procedures will assist members of the Department when dealing with a missing or lost "impaired person".

**DEFINITIONS**

Impaired Person – a person who has a known or reported

- ...developmental disability, including but not limited to autism, or traumatic brain injury and whose disappearance poses a credible threat to the health or safety of the person, as determined by the Department of Kentucky State Police or a local law enforcement agency; or
- ...physical, mental, or cognitive impairment or organic brain disorder, including but not limited to Alzheimer's disease, and whose disappearance poses a credible threat to the health or safety of the person, as determined by the Department of Kentucky State Police or a local law enforcement agency.

Golden Alert – a public notification system that may be used to assist in the safe recovery of a critical missing person.

**PROCEDURE**

When a report is received of a missing person who is known or reported to be an impaired person, officers shall respond and provide immediate assistance and resources in investigating and facilitating the safe return of the impaired person.

The responding officers shall notify the Department's Lieutenant, who will notify the Chief of Police. A Golden Alert shall immediately be reported to the Louisville Metro Emergency Management Director (statutorily required within two hours).

Responding officers should attempt to get all vital information to complete a Missing Person Report and to obtain recent photos and complete necessary documents required to enter the missing person into NCIC as an Endangered Missing Person. The entry into NCIC will be made without delay.

The Chief of Police or his designee shall notify local media outlets of the Golden Alert via a media release.

Whenever a report qualifies as a Golden Alert, the responding officer shall immediately begin to formulate a plan for locating the individual. The extent and length of the search should be governed by the available information and evidence. Consideration should be given to using the following resources when appropriate:

- Canine tracking
- Other law enforcement agencies/personnel
- Fire Department personnel
- Local and State Emergency Management
- Volunteers

Upon notification, the Emergency Management Director assumes overall responsibility for the ongoing search of the missing person. It shall be his responsibility to notify the state-level, on-duty officer of the Division of Emergency Management. The Division of Emergency Management may utilize the public notification resources available to the Amber Alert notification system during a Golden Alert (i.e. statewide broadcasters, Transportation Cabinet, etc.).

There is no requirement in Kentucky to delay the search or rescue of any lost, missing, or overdue person. Any person who is reported lost, missing, or overdue (adult or child), may be searched for immediately by any emergency management, fire, law enforcement, emergency medical services, search and rescue, rescue squad, or other similar organization to which a missing or overdue person is reported.