



## *NC Center for Missing Persons*



*NC Center for Missing Persons  
Division of Alcohol Law Enforcement  
4706 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4706  
1-800-522-5437*



September 4, 2003

RE: AMBER ALERT PLAN

Dear Law Enforcement Colleague:

On June 12, 2003, Governor Michael F. Easley signed into law North Carolina's AMBER Alert System. This replaced the North Carolina Child Alert Notification (NC CAN) System.

This system allows law enforcement to very quickly notify the public of an abducted/endangered child through multiple sources. The cooperation of the media, the Department of Transportation and law enforcement has been tremendous and each of you is to be congratulated for your efforts. The system was funded in part by a generous contribution from Revival Soy as well as a grant from the Governor's Crime Commission, which are greatly appreciated.

A copy of the approved North Carolina's AMBER Alert Plan is attached for your use. The staff of the North Carolina Center for Missing Persons will provide training to law enforcement agencies on the system. This training will focus on activation criteria, responsibilities and proper use of the AMBER system.

If you have any questions, or wish to schedule training for your agency, please contact the North Carolina Center for Missing Persons at 1-800-522-5437.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bryan E. Beatty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "B".

Bryan E. Beatty

Secretary

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\* *Included in Master Copy Only*

# NORTH CAROLINA AMBER ALERT SYSTEM

(“America’s *M*issing: *B*roadcast *E*mergency *R*esponse”)

## PREFACE

The original AMBER Plan was created in 1996 as a legacy to a 9-year-old Texas girl named Amber Hagerman whose abduction and brutal murder prompted the Arlington, Texas community to request that radio stations in the area broadcast special “alerts” when such incidents took place in the future. Since that time, more than 45 states and 47 local jurisdictions have established AMBER Alert early warning systems and on April 30, 2003 the President of the United States signed into law the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to End the Exploitation of Children Today Act (PROTECT Act) of 2003. On June 12, 2003 Governor Michael F. Easley signed into law the conversion of the North Carolina Child Alert Notification System to the North Carolina AMBER Alert System.

## ADVISORY PANEL

The North Carolina “AMBER Alert” Plan receives guidance from representatives of participating organizations whose expertise and technical support combine to promote and sustain a standard of quality necessary to achieve the goals of the Plan.

### *Members*

North Carolina Sheriff’s Association

North Carolina Association of Chiefs of Police

North Carolina Association of Broadcasters

Western North Carolina AMBER Alert Task Force

North Carolina Attorney General’s Office

Legislative Liaison from the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety

North Carolina Division of Alcohol Law Enforcement

North Carolina Department of Transportation’s Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)

North Carolina Division of Emergency Management

Department of Justice - US Attorney's Office - Eastern District of North Carolina

Installation Provost Marshal - Fort Bragg, North Carolina

### *Objectives*

This panel shall meet no less that twice a year to review the AMBER Alert Plan:

1. To ensure the readiness of the Plan;
2. To evaluate abductions not reviewed theretofore and make recommendations to amend the system, if necessary;
3. To receive updates on AMBER Alert developments nationwide.

## MAJOR COMPONENTS OF THE AMBER ALERT SYSTEM

### **The North Carolina Center for Missing Persons**

The Center for Missing Persons serves as the State's central repository for information regarding missing children and adults. Since its creation in 1985, the Center has worked with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to locate missing persons and reunite them with their families. North Carolina is one of the few states with a clearinghouse for missing adults as well as children. The Center provides technical assistance to police and sheriff's offices and serves as liaison between states and various governmental agencies.

### **The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT)**

NCDOT operates the state-maintained transportation system in North Carolina including aviation, ferry, public transportation, rail, and highway systems. It maintains a number of overhead Dynamic Message Signs on the highways that can be viewed by travelers alerting them to traffic anomalies. They are also utilized to notify the public that an AMBER Alert has been activated.

### **The North Carolina Division of Emergency Management (NCEM)**

NCEM is responsible for disseminating information provided by the NC Center for Missing Persons via the Emergency Alert System. NCEM's communications component, the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) will format a message (*see Appendix A, p.19: INFORMATION FOR BROADCAST ANNOUNCEMENT*) for statewide distribution through radio, television and cable systems.

### **Emergency Alert System (EAS)**

EAS is the civil emergency alert system designed to inform the public of immediate threats to national security, life and property. Employing warning tones, EAS utilizes the public safety agencies and the media who then transmit emergency information to the public.

### **North Carolina Association of Broadcasters (NCAB)**

An organization representing radio and television broadcasters across the state, it has been instrumental in developing a vehicle by which AMBER Alerts are dispatched via the airwaves in an expeditious manner.

## **National Crime Information Center (NCIC)**

Maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in Clarksburg, West Virginia, it is a nationwide computerized information system that serves all criminal justice agencies—local, state, and federal. NCIC contains information used to identify and locate wanted/missing persons and stolen/recovered property as entered by law enforcement agencies across the nation. NCIC also provides the access method to the national criminal history record information index known as the Interstate Identification Index.

## **Division of Criminal Information (DCI)**

The State Bureau of Investigation's Division of Criminal Information serves as the statewide telecommunications center. This central computer network operates twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, linking local, state, and national criminal justice agencies with up-to-the-minute information on crimes and criminals. It is being programmed to store AMBER Alert data.

## **Lost Child Alert Technology Resources System (LOCATER)**

LOCATER is an advanced computer system with software that creates posters of missing children for local, statewide, and national distribution. The Center for Missing Persons is equipped with LOCATER and will assist law enforcement agencies on request.

## **National Center for Missing and Exploited Children**

NCMEC provides information and services dedicated to families, professionals, media, and law enforcement. It offers the latter technical assistance, training, and educational materials to help them investigate cases of missing and exploited children. North Carolina law requires law enforcement agencies to notify NCMEC if AMBER Alert criteria are met. NCMEC serves to broaden the AMBER Alert to the height of national attention and offers assistance valuable to the investigation.

## OVERVIEW

In response to growing concern over the abduction and brutal treatment of children and in keeping with a national trend to address this issue, North Carolina has established the AMBER Alert System. The North Carolina Center for Missing Persons of the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety has been given the responsibility to implement this program and ensure its swift and efficient application.

Used judiciously, the program is designed to facilitate the safe and prompt recovery of abducted children whose circumstances meet a very specific combination of criteria. Since the inception of the first AMBER Plan, more than 98 children have been returned home safely. The system was first used in North Carolina in June 2002 when a Franklin County infant was taken by her babysitter. A friend of the woman who heard the broadcast contacted the babysitter and informed her of the alert. Upon learning about the AMBER Alert, the woman surrendered and returned the child safely.

These successes are the result of a collaborative effort by state and local law enforcement, state departments of transportation who operate the Dynamic Message Signs (DMS), state departments of emergency management who activate the Emergency Alert Systems (EAS), television and radio broadcasters who agree to broadcast the alerts to their respective markets, and contiguous states who by mutual agreement and interest serve to extend the boundaries of alert.

In North Carolina, the Center for Missing Persons activates the alert and upon qualifying the request for activation by law enforcement sets the process in motion by quickly disseminating the information to the participating agencies and organizations. It is noted that, according to a 1997 first-of-its-kind study by the Attorney General of Washington State, 74 percent of the children who were kidnapped and later found murdered were killed in the first three hours after being taken. (*See appendix D*)

In the interest of deflecting inappropriate use of the AMBER System the North Carolina approach, in addition to the statutory criteria outlined below, adheres to very strict sequential notification guidelines and prompts. Pursuant to these dictates, the Center for Missing Persons has been given the responsibility of participating in the development of training modules for law enforcement and marketing strategies designed to promote public awareness. The relative infrequency of this crime notwithstanding, preparation and the elements of speed, accuracy, and validity are essential in promoting the safe recovery of its victim.

## AUTHORITY

G.S. 143B-495 establishes the North Carolina Center for Missing Persons (1986) and G.S. 143B-499.2(6a) gives it authority to develop and maintain the AMBER Alert System (2003).

## CRITERIA

§ 143B-499.7 of the North Carolina General Statutes requires that, in order to activate an AMBER Alert, ALL of the following conditions must apply:

- 1) The child is 17 years of age or younger;
- 2) The child is believed:
  - a. To have been abducted, or
  - b. To be in danger of injury or death;
- 3) The abduction is not known or suspected to be by a parent of the child, unless the child's life is suspected to be in danger of injury or death;
- 4) The child is not believed to be a runaway or voluntarily missing; and
- 5) The abduction has been reported to and investigated by a law enforcement agency.

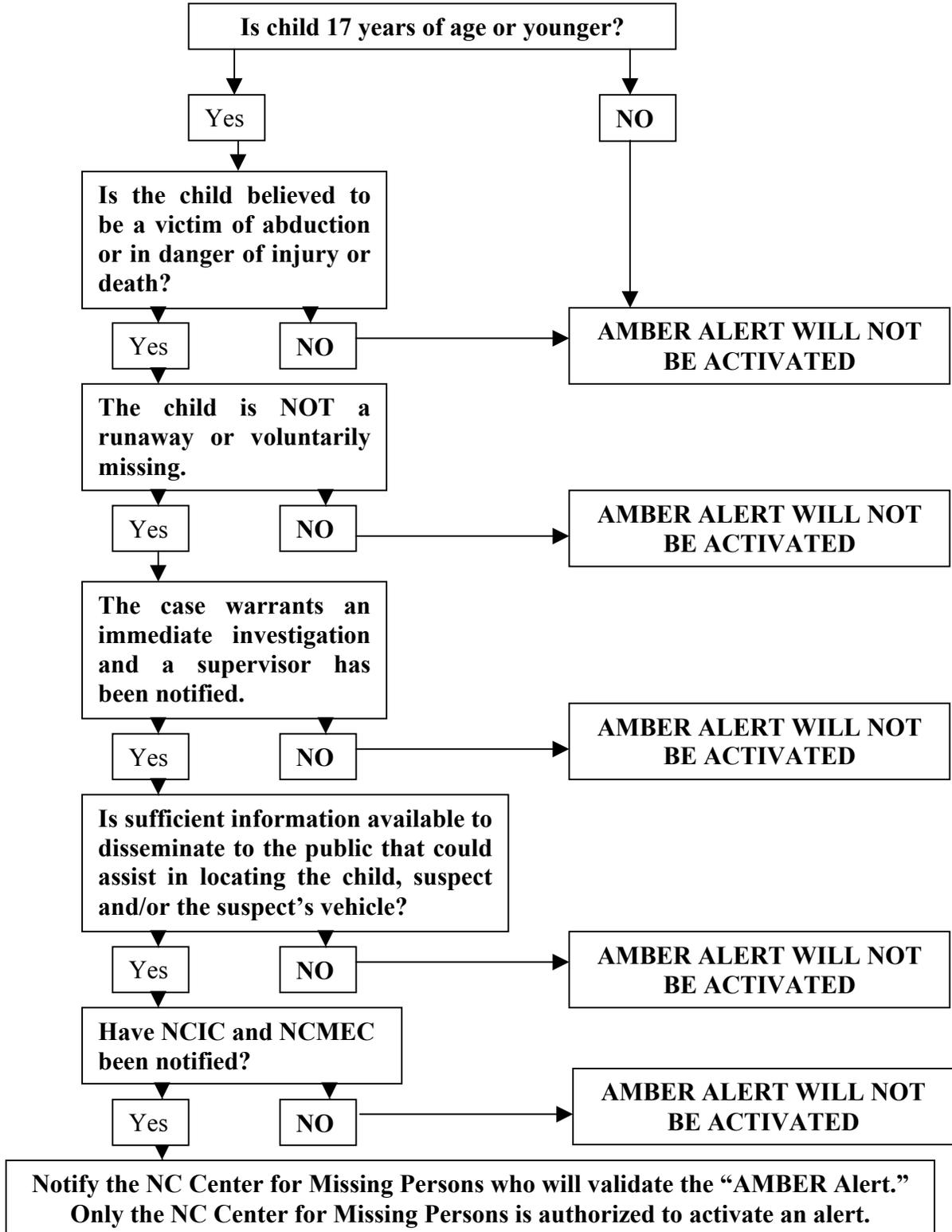
If the abduction of the child is known or suspected to be by a parent of the child, the Center, in its discretion, may disseminate information through the AMBER Alert System if the child is believed to be in danger of injury or death.

It will also be the responsibility of the Center to determine whether there is sufficient identifying data to justify an AMBER Alert activation.

*See next page for decision flowchart*

**DECISION FLOWCHART FOR NORTH**

**CAROLINA "AMBER ALERT" PLAN ACTIVATION**



## ACTIVATION

### *Requirements of law enforcement agency*

If a missing child report meets the criteria established in G.S. 143B-499.7(b), as soon as practicable after receipt of the report, the law enforcement agency shall notify:

- a. The North Carolina Center for Missing Persons;
- b. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Prior to notifying and requesting an AMBER Alert activation by the Center for Missing Persons, the investigating officer of the originating agency will:

- 1) determine that the statutory criteria have been met;
- 2) obtain approval from the chief, sheriff or designee to request activation of an AMBER Alert;
- 3) enter case into NCIC and format an Amber Alert through DCI;
- 4) establish a 24-hour attended phone number;
- 5) continue an ongoing investigation;
- 6) compile for dissemination using the AMBER Alert form (*see Appendix A, pp. 15, 16*) the identity and description of child and abductor (photos if available), time and location of abduction and direction of travel, and other relevant data;
- 7) if practicable, using DMS locator guide (*Appendix C*), determine location of nearest signs.

Notify the North Carolina Center for Missing Persons:

- 1) by telephone at 1-800-522-5437 or (919) 733-3914;
- 2) transmit the completed fact form by telephonic facsimile to the NC Center for Missing at (919) 715-1682;
- 3) transmit by Internet or, absent that capability, by telephonic facsimile or by personal delivery if time constraints are not prohibitive, a recent and true photographic image of the victim and, if possible, the abductor.

### *Requirements of the Center for Missing Persons*

- 1) Communicate with investigating officer or supervisor;
- 2) Validate AMBER Alert request;
- 3) Review the request for completeness;
- 4) Make notification to the Department of Transportation to activate Dynamic Message Signs, if appropriate;
- 5) Make notification to the Division of Emergency Management to activate Emergency Alert System (EAS);
- 6) Notify commercial partnerships;
- 7) Notify contiguous state partners that an AMBER Alert is in progress, if appropriate;
- 8) Monitor the progress of the investigation and alert apparatus;
- 9) Within a reasonable time frame following cancellation of the AMBER Alert, perform a step-by-step evaluation, make recommendations for improvement, implement changes, and make appropriate notifications to participating agencies and partners.

*Role of the Department of Transportation*

NCDOT will post an AMBER Alert on overhead Dynamic Message Signs when notified ONLY by the Center for Missing Persons and when at least (3) of the following abductor's vehicle attributes are known:

- 1) Make
- 2) Model
- 3) Color
- 4) License Plate Number

and the abduction site is within range or direction of travel of one or more NCDOT overhead Dynamic Message Signs.

<p><b>AMBER ALERT</b></p> <p><b>BLUE BRONCO</b></p> <p><b>LIC. NC XXX YYYY</b></p>
First page – flash rate will be 5 seconds

<p><b>ABDUCTED CHILD</b></p> <p><b>CALL *HP</b></p> <p><b>IF SEEN</b></p>
Second page – flash rate will be 2 seconds

**The above is an approximation of the message transcribed on the highway overhead Dynamic Message Signs.**

The Center for Missing Persons will notify the NCDOT Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Operations Unit that an AMBER Alert has been activated and whether it meets the criteria listed above. If appropriate, NCDOT will arrange to have the necessary message programmed into the DMS system.

The ITS Operations Unit and the Center for Missing Persons will communicate at least once an hour during the AMBER Alert. Messages will stay posted until:

- 1) The Center for Missing Persons advises NCDOT to discontinue the message;
- 2) The sign is needed for a message of higher priority; or
- 3) The message is causing traffic congestion.

ITS Operations Unit will advise the Division personnel to discontinue the message in the first case. ITS will notify the Center if the messages are discontinued for either the second or third reasons.

#### ***Role of the Division of Emergency Management***

The Division of Emergency Management, through its communications branch in the State Emergency Operations Center, will activate the statewide Emergency Alert System upon verification of an official AMBER Alert message from the NC Center for Missing Persons. Initial broadcast and the rebroadcasts will be accomplished at the request of the NC Center for Missing Persons.

#### ***Role of the Dept. of CCPS Public Information Officer (PIO)***

The PIO will be notified by the NC Center for Missing Persons as soon as possible after verification of an official AMBER Alert has been made. The PIO will provide assistance in coordinating the event with the news media to include cancellation action.

#### ***Role of the media***

Participating media outlets either by individual discretionary policy or guidelines established by the North Carolina Association of Broadcasters agree to broadcast the AMBER Alert until cancelled. The Center for Missing Persons will fax more detailed data to participating outlets as the information develops. If available, television news services will receive photographic images as soon as practicable.

#### ***Role of State Highway Patrol Communications Centers***

In the event an AMBER Alert is activated, telecommunicators who staff State Highway Patrol Communications Centers will receive notice by the Emergency Alert System or alternate means determined by Highway Patrol and the NC Center for Missing Persons.

When SHP Communications Centers become aware that an AMBER Alert has been activated, all units on patrol will be apprised by radio transmission to be on the lookout for the victim, abductor, and suspect's vehicle. Patrol units can search DCI for additional information regarding the AMBER Alert.

In anticipation of increased incoming reports of sightings and public suspicions, the following steps have been developed to promote a functional policy of disseminating information generated by these reports:

1. If a call is received from a member of the public who becomes aware of the AMBER Alert after reading a message on an overhead Dynamic Message Sign or by radio or television reports and advises that he/she has observed the suspect vehicle on a roadway, the telecommunicator receiving the report shall:
  - a) ascertain the vehicle make, model, year, color, tag number and state of issue;
  - b) determine number and description of occupants;
  - c) establish the location of sighting and direction of travel as well as location of Dynamic Message Sign, if known;
  - d) dispatch a law enforcement unit to track and/or intercept the suspect vehicle and another to meet the witness caller;
  - e) notify a supervisor;
  - f) immediately provide the information to the law enforcement agency investigating the case.
2. Non-sighting information not deemed urgent shall be reported to the law enforcement agency of record in a timely manner. Exceptions should be made and patrol units dispatched based on the creditability, urgency, and venue of the report.
3. The Center for Missing Persons will:
  - a) be available to assist the Communications Center throughout the course of the AMBER Alert;
  - b) notify the Communications Center when the AMBER Alert is cancelled.

#### ***Role of contiguous states***

States with whom memoranda of understanding exist will be notified through their respective AMBER Alert counterparts and, at their discretion, activate a part or all of their AMBER Systems.

#### ***Role of the public***

Cooperation of the public is essential. It is anticipated that public response will be expedient and ambitious with the promulgation of AMBER data through Dynamic Message Signs and television and radio broadcast reports. Cell phones enable the traveling public to offer tips spontaneously and directly to the investigating agency. Since successful outcomes depend on the assistance of the public, a substantial increase in contacts is inevitable. It is, therefore, incumbent on law enforcement to prepare itself to handle this increase. AMBER Alerts have little value without the cooperation of the public. However, a case of a criminally abducted child is a law enforcement matter and citizens should confine their involvement to serving as the “eyes and ears” of law enforcement.

## **CANCELLATION**

Upon determining that an AMBER Alert is no longer necessary, the local law enforcement agency will immediately notify the Center for Missing Persons. The Center will ensure that the Department of Transportation deactivates the Dynamic Message Signs (DMS) and that the various media outlets discontinue the AMBER Alert. The Division of Emergency Management will also be notified to discontinue EAS.

## TRAINING

Training materials and instructional formats have been developed in cooperation with the Department of Justice academy training staff and in accordance with North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Standards and North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Standards Commission guidelines. Law enforcement agencies, supervisors, investigators, training officers and 911/\*HP telecommunicators are primary targets of this training. Other intended targets include but are not limited to broadcasters, state agencies, educational institutions, civic organizations, volunteers, and other members of the public. Training will be offered using a presentational model with emphasis on a systematic approach to activating the AMBER Plan. Upon completion, a trainee will be familiar with the history, predicate statutes, and dynamics of the AMBER Alert Plan as well as established hierarchical procedural responsibilities. This training also provides a forum for feedback from the participant who can serve as a resource in contributing to the advancement of the Plan.

## ORGANIZATIONS/RESOURCES

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) 1-800-THE-LOST  
[www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com)

One of the most ambitious resources available, NCMEC provides a wealth of information and services to families, professionals, media, and law enforcement. It offers the latter technical assistance, training, and educational materials to help them investigate cases of missing and exploited children.

National Incident Notification Network (NINN)  
[www.ninn.org](http://www.ninn.org)

Maintains a web site designed to report breaking news coverage within the United States and Canada. Noted among these reports are AMBER Alert bulletins.

Lost Child Alert Technology Resource (LOCATER)  
[www.locaterposters.org](http://www.locaterposters.org)

The Center for Missing Persons is equipped with LOCATER, an advanced software program developed by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to provide law enforcement with the capability to create high-quality missing-person posters. Once created, these posters can be reproduced for distribution at roll calls, at incident command posts, and to the community. They can also be transmitted to other agencies, the media, and the public via the Internet or through a broadcast fax service.

The Polly Klaas Foundation (PKF) 1-800-587-4357  
[www.pollyklaas.org](http://www.pollyklaas.org)

This non-profit organization is dedicated to educating the public on the prevention of child abduction, aiding in the search of missing children, and acting as a means to bring the issue of missing children into focus. It also assists law enforcement with cases of missing children.

Klaas Kids Foundation  
[www.klaaskids.org](http://www.klaaskids.org)

The mission of this organization is to stop crimes against children. Its web site provides information and serves as a resource for concerned citizens.

Team H.O.P.E. 1-866-305-HOPE  
[www.teamhope.org](http://www.teamhope.org)

Assists families with missing children by offering counseling, resources, empowerment, and emotional support from a trained volunteer.

Missing Children Investigation Center (MCIC) 1-818-382-1999  
[www.mcic4help.org](http://www.mcic4help.org)

This is a non-profit organization whose mission is to locate and return missing, abducted, and runaway children as well as children involved in cults.

Missing Kids Investigative Network (MissingKin)  
[www.missingkin.com](http://www.missingkin.com)

Assists families and local law enforcement and government agencies in order to locate missing or abducted children.

Rino Kids  
[www.rinokids.com](http://www.rinokids.com)

Provides families a free service to help locate missing or abducted children and adults. Provides information to police to assist in locating missing individuals.

Child Find of America  
[www.childfindofamerica.org](http://www.childfindofamerica.org)

The mission of this organization is to locate missing children through active investigation, prevent child abduction through education, and resolve incidents of parental abductions through mediation.

*The names of these organizations are provided to law enforcement who may find their web sites useful in investigating missing person's cases. Parents of missing children should always be cautious when seeking help from non-police sources in these matters for fear of encountering individuals who would exploit them.*

## **APPENDIX A**

### **FORMS**

*North Carolina AMBER Alert form - 2 pages*  
*Release of Information form (English and Spanish)*  
*Information for Broadcast Announcement form*

**NORTH CAROLINA AMBER ALERT FORM (Page 1)**

*(Please complete this form and fax both pages to the NC Center for Missing Persons at FAX Number 919 715-1682)*

**Reporting Law Enforcement Agency** \_\_\_\_\_

**Investigating Detective** \_\_\_\_\_ **Supervisor** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone Number** \_\_\_\_\_ **Facsimile Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pager Number** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cellular Number** \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

**Date of Notification** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time of Notification** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Abduction** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time of Abduction** \_\_\_\_\_

**Location of Abduction** \_\_\_\_\_

**Location Last Seen** \_\_\_\_\_  
(If different than location of abduction)

**Direction of Travel** \_\_\_\_\_

**Destination** \_\_\_\_\_  
Probable \_\_\_\_\_ Possible \_\_\_\_\_ Unknown \_\_\_\_\_

**Vehicle Description** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Make, Model, Year, **Color**, License Plate Number and State of Issue)  
(Indicate how reliable this information is)

\*\*\*\*\*

**How many children were abducted?** \_\_\_\_\_ [For more than one child use additional page(s)]

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (Middle) (Nickname)

**Gender** \_\_\_\_\_ **DOB** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age** \_\_\_\_\_ **Race** \_\_\_\_\_ **Skin Complexion** \_\_\_\_\_

**Height** \_\_\_\_\_ **Weight** \_\_\_\_\_ **Hair Color** \_\_\_\_\_ **Hair Length** \_\_\_\_\_ **Hair Style** \_\_\_\_\_ **Eyes** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Distinguishing Physical Characteristics** \_\_\_\_\_

**When Last Seen Child Was Wearing:**

**Shirt** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type, Color, Sleeve Length, Pullover, Buttoned, etc.)

**AMBER ALERT FORM (Page 2)**

**Pants or Skirt** \_\_\_\_\_

**Shoes/socks** \_\_\_\_\_

**Outerwear** \_\_\_\_\_

**In possession of** \_\_\_\_\_

(Pet, Toy, etc.)

**Other** \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

**How Many Abductors were there?** \_\_\_\_\_ [If more than one, use additional page(s)]

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

(Last)

(First)

(Middle)

(AKA)

**Gender** \_\_\_\_\_ **DOB** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age** \_\_\_\_\_ **Race** \_\_\_\_\_ **Skin Complexion** \_\_\_\_\_

**Height** \_\_\_\_\_ **Weight** \_\_\_\_\_ **Hair Color** \_\_\_\_\_ **Hair Style** \_\_\_\_\_ **Hair Length** \_\_\_\_\_ **Eyes** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Distinguishing Physical Characteristics** \_\_\_\_\_

**When Last Seen Abductor Was Wearing:**

**Shirt** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pants/Skirt** \_\_\_\_\_

**Shoes/Socks** \_\_\_\_\_

**Outerwear** \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Identifiers** \_\_\_\_\_

**Details of Abduction** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**NORTH CAROLINA AMBER ALERT**

**RELEASE OF INFORMATION FORM**

The undersigned hereby authorizes full disclosure of all records concerning my child, \_\_\_\_\_, to the Center for Missing Persons (hereinafter referred to as the Center) and its agents and the law enforcement agencies investigating this case and their agents. I also agree that such information may be reviewed and stored provided it is done so in a confidential manner and I do so regardless of any agreement I may have made to the contrary with any other individual or entity to whom my child's information is released or presented. I also agree to release from liability any person or entity who releases such information pursuant to this investigation. For the purpose of this release, information shall include but is not limited to all documentation and photographic images as well as the spoken word.

A photocopy or electronically transmitted facsimile of the release form will be valid as an original thereof, even though it does not bear an original representation of my signature.

I hereby agree to these provisions and willingly sign my name below.

**Print or Type Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (Middle)

**Current Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
(House Number and Street) (Apt. or Lot Number) (City, State, Zip Code)

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_



I hereby agree the information I have provided to the Center or its agents or designees to be truthful, factual, and correct. I also agree to and understand the necessity for and give authority to the Center, its agents, or designees to release this information to the North Carolina Association of Broadcasters and/or its associates, to other commercial partners, and to essential State agencies and subsidiaries for the purpose of alerting the public about the abduction of my child.

As parent/legal custodian, I also understand that in order for the Center to activate the North Carolina AMBER Alert, the following criteria must be met:

1. The child is 17 years of age or younger;
2. The child is believed:
  - a. To have been abducted, or
  - b. To be in danger of injury or death;
3. The abduction is not known or suspected to be by a parent of the child, unless the child's life is suspected to be in danger;
4. The child is not believed to be a runaway or voluntarily missing; and
5. The abduction has been reported to and investigated by a law enforcement agency.

I am also aware I may be charged criminally for committing the crime of knowingly providing false information to law enforcement authorities. I have read and fully understand the contents of the agreement.

**Print or Type Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

LA ALERTA AMBER DE NORTH CAROLINA  
LA FORMA LIBERACION DE INFORMACION

El abajofirmante por la presente autoriza la revelación repleta de todo registra concerniente mi niño, \_\_\_\_\_, al Centro para Personas Desaparecidas (se refirió más adelante a como el Centro) y sus agentes y las agencias del orden publico que investigan este caso y a sus agentes. Concuero también esa tal información se puede revisar y puede ser almacenada proporcionó lo es hecho así en una manera confidencial y yo hago así a pesar de cualquier acuerdo que puedo haber hecho al contrario con cualquier otro individuo o la entidad a quien la información de mi niño se libera o es presentada. Concuero también liberar de la responsabilidad cualquier persona o la entidad que libera tal información según esta investigación. Para el propósito de esta liberación, la información incluirá pero no es limitada a toda documentación e imágenes fotográficas así como también la palabra hablada.

Una fotocopia o facsímile electrónicamente transmitido de la forma de la liberación serán válidos como una original del mismo, aunque no soporta una representación original de mi firma.

Yo por la presente concuero a estas provisiones y de buena gana firmo mi nombre abajo.

Imprima o Escriba Nombre \_\_\_\_\_  
(apallido) (primero) (centro)

Dirección actual \_\_\_\_\_  
(el Número y la Calle)(Propenso o el Número de Terreno) (la Ciudad, el Estado, Código de Cremallera)

Firma \_\_\_\_\_



Yo por la presente les concuero la información que he proporcionado al Centro o sus agentes o designees para ser veraz, basado en hechos, y correcto. Concuero también a y entiendo la necesidad para y doy la autoridad al Centro, sus agentes, o designees para liberar esta información a la Asociación de Locutores de North Carolina y/o sus socios, a otros socios comerciales, y a agencias esenciales de Estado y sucursales para el propósito de poner sobre aviso el público acerca del secuestro de mi niño.

Como padre/custodio legal, yo entiendo también que en orden para el Centro para activar la Alarma AMBER de North Carolina, los criterios siguientes se deben reunir:

1. El niño es 17 años de la edad o menor;
2. El niño es cree:
  - a. Que haber sido secuestrado, o
  - b. Que estar en peligro de la herida o la muerte;
3. El secuestro no se sabe ni es sospechado que estar por un padre del niño, a menos que la vida del niño se sospeche que estar en peligro;
4. El niño no es creído para ser un fugitivo ni voluntariamente perdido; y
5. El secuestro ha sido informado y investigado por una agencia de la policia.

Estoy también enterado que puedo ser cargado criminalmente para cometer el crimen de astutamente proporcionar información falsa a autoridades de orden publico. He leído y he entendido completamente el contenido del acuerdo.

Imprima o Escriba Nombre \_\_\_\_\_

Firma \_\_\_\_\_

**INFORMATION FOR BROADCAST ANNOUNCEMENT**

**THIS IS A NORTH CAROLINA AMBER ALERT FOR A CHILD ABDUCTION**

*The \_\_\_\_\_ is searching for \_\_\_\_\_.*  
(Law enforcement agency) (Victim's name)

\_\_\_\_\_ *is a \_\_\_\_\_ year-old \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ approximately \_\_\_\_\_ feet,*  
(Victim's name) (Age) (Race) (Sex)

\_\_\_\_\_ *inches tall, weighing \_\_\_\_\_ pounds. She/He has \_\_\_\_\_ hair, and*

\_\_\_\_\_ *eyes. \_\_\_\_\_ was last seen wearing \_\_\_\_\_*  
(Color) (Victim's name) (Description of clothes)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*The abductor \_\_\_\_\_, is described as (Race, Gender, Height,*  
(Suspect's name)  
*Weight, hair color, eye color, clothing description, and unique physical characteristics)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*They were last seen traveling \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_*  
(Direction) (Road)

*in a \_\_\_\_\_*  
(Make, Model, color, License plate number, State, Other distinguishing features)

*If you have any information regarding this abduction, call \_\_\_\_\_*  
(Law Enforcement Agency)

*immediately at \_\_\_\_\_ or call 911 or \*HP.*

**THIS IS AN AMBER ALERT**

**END OF MESSAGE**

## **APPENDIX B**

### **NC GENERAL STATUTE**

*The North Carolina General Statute regarding AMBER Alert was signed into law on June 12, 2003. While the changes to the statute have not yet been officially printed, the representation contained herein is House Bill 478 (Session 2003) which was signed by the governor and contains the true content of the statute.*

### **PROTECT ACT FACT SHEET**

*This act may be cited as the 'Prosecutorial Remedies and Tools Against the Exploitation of Children Today Act of 2003' or 'PROTECT Act.' In the interest of brevity, only the fact sheet is represented herein. The law in its entirety can be found on the Internet.*

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2003

SESSION LAW 2003-191  
HOUSE BILL 478

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW REGARDING THE NORTH CAROLINA CHILD  
ALERT NOTIFICATION (NC CAN) SYSTEM AND TO RENAME THAT SYSTEM  
THE AMBER ALERT SYSTEM.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 143B-499.1 reads as rewritten:  
**"§ 143B-499.1. Dissemination of missing persons data by  
law-enforcement agencies.**

A law-enforcement agency, upon receipt of a missing person report by a parent, spouse, guardian, or legal custodian, shall immediately make arrangements for the entry of data about the missing person or missing child into the national missing persons file in accordance with criteria set forth by the FBI/NCIC, immediately inform all of its on-duty law-enforcement officers of the missing person report, initiate a statewide broadcast to all appropriate law-enforcement agencies to be on the lookout for the individual, and transmit a copy of the report to the Center.

If the report involves a missing child and the report meets the criteria established in G.S. 143B-499.7(b), as soon as practicable after receipt of the report, the law enforcement agency shall notify the Center and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children of the relevant data about the missing child."

**SECTION 2.** G.S. 143B-499.2 reads as rewritten:  
**"§ 143B-499.2. Responsibilities of Center.**

The Center shall:

- (1) Assist local law-enforcement agencies with entering data about missing persons or missing children into the national missing persons file, ensure that proper entry criteria have been met as set forth by the FBI/NCIC, and confirm entry of the data about the missing persons or missing children;
- (2) Gather and distribute information and data on missing children and missing persons;
- (3) Encourage research and study of missing children and missing persons, including the prevention of child abduction and the prevention of the exploitation of missing children;
- (4) Serve as a statewide resource center to assist local communities in programs and initiatives to prevent child abduction and the exploitation of missing children;
- (5) Continue increasing public awareness of the reasons why children are missing and vulnerability of missing children;
- (6) Achieve maximum cooperation with other agencies of the State, with agencies of other states and the

- federal government and with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in rendering assistance to missing children and missing persons and their parents, guardians, spouses, or legal custodians; and cooperate with interstate and federal efforts to identify deceased individuals;
- (6a) Develop and maintain the ~~North Carolina Child Alert Notification System (NC CAN)~~ AMBER Alert System as created by G.S. 143B-499.7;
  - (7) Forward the appropriate information to the Police Information Network to assist it in maintaining and publishing a bulletin of currently missing children and missing persons;
  - (8) Maintain a directory of existing public and private agencies, groups, and individuals that provide effective assistance to families in the areas of prevention of child abduction, location of missing children and missing persons, and follow-up services to the child or person and family, as determined by the Secretary of Crime Control and Public Safety;
  - (9) Annually compile and publish reports on the actual number of children and persons missing each year, listing the categories and causes, when known, for the disappearances;
  - (10) Provide follow-up referrals for services to missing children or persons and their families;
  - (11) Maintain a toll-free 1-800 telephone service that will be in service at all times; and
  - (12) Perform such other activities that the Secretary of Crime Control and Public Safety considers necessary to carry out the intent of its mandate."

**SECTION 3.** G.S. 143B-499.7 reads as rewritten:

**"§ 143B-499.7. ~~North Carolina Child Alert Notification~~ AMBER Alert System established.**

(a) There is established within the North Carolina Center for Missing Persons the ~~North Carolina Child Alert Notification System (NC CAN)~~. AMBER Alert System. The purpose of ~~NC CAN~~ AMBER Alert is to provide a statewide system for the rapid dissemination of information regarding abducted children.

(b) The ~~NC CAN~~ AMBER Alert System shall make every effort to disseminate information on missing children as quickly as possible when the following criteria are met:

- (1) The child is ~~12~~ 17 years of age or younger;
- ~~(2) The child is believed to have been abducted;~~
- ~~(3) The child is believed to be in danger of injury or death;~~
- (4) The abduction is not known or suspected to be by a parent of the ~~child;~~ child, unless the child's life is suspected to be in danger of injury or death;
- (4a) The child is believed:
  - a. To have been abducted, or
  - b. To be in danger of injury or death;
- (5) The child is not a runaway or voluntarily missing;

and

- (6) The abduction has been reported to and investigated by a law enforcement agency.

~~The NC CAN System may disseminate information on missing children who are ages 13 to 17 on a case by case basis, if all other criteria in subdivisions (2) through (6) of this subsection have been met, if the Center believes the dissemination of the information to be beneficial in the possible recovery of the missing child.~~

If the abduction of the child is known or suspected to be by a parent of the child, the Center, in its discretion, may disseminate information through the ~~NC CAN~~ AMBER Alert System if the child is believed to be in danger of injury or death.

(c) The Center shall adopt guidelines and develop procedures for the statewide implementation of the ~~NC CAN~~ AMBER Alert System and shall provide education and training to encourage radio and television broadcasters to participate in the System. The Center shall work with the Department of Justice in developing training material regarding the ~~NC CAN~~ AMBER Alert System for law enforcement, broadcasters, and community interest groups.

(d) The Center shall consult with the Department of Transportation and develop a procedure for the use of overhead permanent changeable message signs to provide information on the abduction of a child meeting the criteria established in subsection (b) of this section, when information is available that would enable motorists to assist law enforcement in the recovery of the missing child. The Center and the Department of Transportation shall develop guidelines for the content, length, and frequency of any message to be placed on an overhead permanent changeable message sign.

(e) The Center shall consult with the Division of Emergency Management, in the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, to develop a procedure for the use of the Emergency Alert System to provide information on the abduction of a child meeting the criteria established in subsection (b) of this section.

(f) The Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, on behalf of the Center, may accept grants, contributions, devises, bequests, and gifts, which shall be kept in a separate fund, which shall be nonreverting, and shall be used to fund the operations of the Center and the ~~NC CAN~~ AMBER Alert System."

**SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 5th day of June, 2003.

s/ Beverly E. Perdue  
President of the Senate

s/ James B. Black  
Speaker of the House of  
Representatives

s/ Michael F. Easley  
Governor

## **PROTECT ACT FACT SHEET**

United States Department of Justice April 30, 2003

The “PROTECT Act of 2003” is an historic milestone for our nation's children. The Justice Department will dedicate the full force of our nation’s resources against those who victimize our nation’s youth. Important coordinated law enforcement information, fast law enforcement response, and swift and sure penalties can work to protect our children. The PROTECT Act comprehensively strengthens law enforcement’s ability to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish violent crimes committed against children.

Problem #1: Law Enforcement Had Inadequate Tools to Help Locate Missing Children and Prosecute Offenders.

Solution #1: The Act Establishes the AMBER Alert Program, and Provides Significant New Investigative Tools. AMBER Alert programs are a proven tool to help recover abducted children.

- Establishing a national AMBER Alert Program. Building on the steps already taken by the Bush Administration to support AMBER Alert programs, this bill allows for national coordination of state and local AMBER Alert programs, including the appointment of a national AMBER Alert Coordinator and the development of guidance for issuance and dissemination of AMBER Alerts.

- On October 2, 2002, the Attorney General designated Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs Deborah Daniels to serve as coordinator.

- Support for state AMBER programs. The bill provides \$25 million in FY 2004 for states to support AMBER Alert communication systems and plans.

- Enhanced tools to protect children:

- This bill allows law enforcement to use existing legal tools for the full range of serious sexual crimes against children. Under prior law, wiretaps are authorized for a range of crimes, but not for many of the various crimes associated with using the internet to lure children for purposes of sexual abuse and sex trafficking.

- This bill makes clear there is no statute of limitations for crimes involving the abduction or physical or sexual abuse of a child, in virtually all cases. Under previous law, the statute of limitations expired when the child turned 25, potentially allowing child rapists to go free if law enforcement could not solve the crime in time.

- Under current law, defendants who commit crimes against children are often released on bail. The bill makes it more difficult for defendants accused of serious crimes against children to obtain bail. This is similar to other existing provisions for some drug, firearms, and violent crimes.

- The bill strengthens laws punishing offenders who travel abroad to prey on children (“sex tourism”).

- AMBER Alert system galvanizes entire communities to assist law enforcement in the time-sensitive search for and safe return of child victims, and there is no doubt the AMBER Alert system saves lives:

- AMBER alerts have already recovered over 50 children.

- The Justice Department is quickly implementing AMBER Alerts nationwide:

- 89 AMBER plans are already in effect throughout the country.

- 41 programs exist statewide.

.The Justice Department has a National Amber Alert Coordinator who has been working since last year to develop a seamless nationwide child protection system in EVERY state.

.The Justice Department mailed a report in March to all 50 Governors detailing steps to create statewide AMBER programs.

Problem #2: Federal Law Did Not Ensure Adequate or Consistent Punishment for Those Who Committed Crimes Against Children.

Solution #2: The PROTECT Act Provides Appropriately Severe Penalties for Those Who Would Harm Children.

·Increased penalties for non-family member child abduction: the minimum prison sentence is now 20 years.

·Increased penalties for sexual exploitation of children and child pornography: a first offense of using a child to produce child pornography is now 15 to 30 years.

·“Two Strikes” provision that requires life imprisonment for offenders who commit two serious sexual abuse offenses against a child.

·Provisions to address the rates of “downward departures” - when judges sentence criminal defendants to less time in jail than the Sentencing Guidelines state.

.For years, downward departures in child pornography possession cases have ranged between 25% and 29% nationwide.

§One judge, for example, granted a 50% downward departure to a 5'11", 190-lb. child pornography defendant - who had accessed over 1,300 child pornography pictures and begun an Internet correspondence with a 15-year-old girl in another state - in part due to his concern that the defendant would be “unusually susceptible to abuse in prison.” *United States v. Parish*, 308 F.3d 1025 (9th Cir. 2002) (rejecting Government’s appeal and affirming the sentence).

.The bill provides the judiciary with less authority to give reduced prison sentences, by eliminating much-abused grounds of departure such as “diminished capacity,” aberrant behavior,” and “family and community ties.”

§In one recent child pornography case, a judge departed downward in part on the ground that the defendant had a “diminished capacity” due to the fact that he “was extremely addicted to child pornography.” The bill ensures that pedophiles will not be able to get reduced sentences just because they are pedophiles.

•Prior to this Act, the length of post-release supervision of sex offenders was capped at five years, which is plainly inadequate in light of the high rate of recidivism for such offenders. The Act would allow a term of supervised release of any terms of years or for life.

Problem #3: Past Legal Obstacles Have Made Prosecuting Child Pornography Cases Very Difficult. Last year, the Supreme Court declared unconstitutional a federal law that criminalized the possession of “virtual” child pornography, i.e., materials whose production may not have involved the use of real children. This decision has made it immeasurably more difficult to eliminate the traffic in real child pornography.

·Child pornography takes place largely over the internet, so most of the child pornography cases that are brought involve computer files of images. Defendants now routinely seek to escape conviction by claiming that there is a “reasonable doubt” as to whether the computer image is that of a real child.

·As computer imaging advances, this problem will worsen. Some experts already claim that it is impossible to tell whether a particular image was made using a real child. Future prosecutions will become battles of experts that will confuse juries and harm our ability to protect our nation’s children.

Solution #3: Strengthen the Laws Against Child Pornography in Ways that Can Survive Constitutional Review. Among other provisions, the bill will:

·Revise and strengthen the prohibition on ‘virtual’ child pornography.

·Prohibit any obscene materials that depict children, and provided tougher penalties compared to existing obscenity law.

·Encourage greater voluntary reporting of suspected child pornography found by internet service providers on their systems.

## ***APPENDIX C***

### ***DYNAMIC MESSAGE SIGN LOCATER***

## Div 2 Ident. Data

TIP#	PROJ ECT#	COU NTY	ROUT E	STAT ION	LOCATION	DMS TECH	GO TO MAINT DATA
R- 2913 E	8.1610 403	CRA VEN	US 70 WBL	49 + 75	0.19 MI BACK FROM BUS70 EXT E. OF NEW BERN	REFLECTIV E DISK	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (R- 2913E)</a>

## Div 3 Ident. Data

TIP#	PROJ ECT#	COUNTY	ROUTE	STA TION	LOCATION	DMS TECH	GO TO MAINT DATA
----- --	6.237 017	BRUNSWICK	US 17/74/ 7	327 + 30	0.33MI BACK FROM EAGLE CREEK E. OF BRUNSWICK RIVER	REFLECTIVE DISK	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (6.237017)</a>
----- --	6.237 017	BRUNSWICK	US 17/74/ 7	327 + 30	0.33MI BACK FROM EAGLE CREEK E. OF BRUNSWICK RIVER	REFLECTIVE DISK	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (6.237017)</a>
R- 2405A	6.279 001T	NEW HANOVER	US 17	131 + 20	FROM I-40 at WILMINGTON TO PENDER CO. LINE	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (R- 2405A)</a>
R- 2633C A	8.U25 0902	NEW HANOVER	US 421	10 + 60	0.5 MI SW US 17 PYPASS	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (R- 2633CA)</a>
R- 2633C B	8.U25 0902	NEW HANOVER	I-40	384 + 60	I-40 EBL, EAST OF US17	LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (R- 2633CB)</a>
U- 0092B	8.225 0102	NEW HANOVER	SMITH CREEK PKWY	N/A	NE of CAPE FEAR RIVER to MCRAE STREET	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (U- 0092B)</a>
U- 0092B	8.225 0102	NEW HANOVER	SMITH CREEK PKWY	N/A	NE of CAPE FEAR RIVER to MCRAE STREET	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (U- 0092B)</a>

## Div 4 Ident. Data

TIP#	PROJ ECT#	COUNTY	ROUT E	STATI ON	LOCATION	DMS TECH	GO TO MAINT DATA
I- 0905 A	8.130 0503	HALIFAX / NORTHAMPTON	I-95 NBL	628+0 0	NBL I-95 MILE 172	HYBRID FIBEROPTI C	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (I- 0905A)</a>
I- 0905 A	8.130 0503	HALIFAX / NORTHAMPTON	I-95 NBL	67 + 00	NBL I-95, N OF US158 MILE 173	HYBRID FIBEROPTI C	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (I- 0905A)</a>

I-0905A	8.1300503	HALIFAX / NORTHAMPTON	I-95 SBL	143+50	SBL I-95 MILE 173	HYBRID FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-3 (I-0905A)</a>
I-0905A	8.1300503	HALIFAX / NORTHAMPTON	I-95 SBL	242+50	SBL I-95 MILE 176	HYBRID FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-4 (I-0905A)</a>
I-4039	8.1341301	WILSON / NASH / HALIFAX	I-95 SBL	2293+00	SBL I-95 MILE 140.29	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (I-4039)</a>
I-4039	8.1341301	WILSON / NASH / HALIFAX	I-95 NBL	2071+00	NBL I-95 MILE 136.08	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (I-4039)</a>
I-4039	8.1341301	WILSON / NASH / HALIFAX	US 64 WBL	N/A	2.5 MILES E OF I-95	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-3 (I-4039)</a>

## Div 5 Ident. Data

TIP#	PROJECT#	COUNTY	ROUTE	STATION	LOCATION	DMS TECH	GO TO MAINT DATA
R-2000EA	6.408001B	WAKE	I-540 EBL	787+00	MILE MARKER 10	HYBRID FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (R-2000EA)</a>
R-2000EA	6.408001B	WAKE	I-540 WBL	280+50	1 MILE EAST OF SIX FORKS RD.	HYBRID FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (R-2000EA)</a>
R-2000EB	8.U401726	WAKE	US 1 SBL	N/A	1 MILE N OF DURANT RD	HYBRID FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (R-2000EB)</a>
U-2582A	8.2402801	WAKE	EBL	628+00	WADE AVE EXT	REFLECTIVE DISK	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (U-2582A)</a>
U-2582A	8.2402801	WAKE	WBL	661+00	WADE AVE EXT	REFLECTIVE DISK	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (U-2582A)</a>
U-2582A	8.2402801	WAKE	NBL	34+50	EDWARDS MILL EXT	REFLECTIVE DISK	<a href="#">SIGN-3 (U-2582A)</a>
U-2927A	8.2351801	DURHAM / ORANGE / WAKE	I-85 SBL	578+00	MILE MARKER 157.1	HYBRID FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (U-2927A)</a>
U-2927A	8.2351801	DURHAM / ORANGE / WAKE	I-40 EBL	N/A	MILE MARKER 307.7	HYBRID FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (U-2927A)</a>
U-2927A	8.2351801	DURHAM / ORANGE / WAKE	I-85 SBL	N/A	MILE MARKER 182.5	HYBRID FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-3 (U-2927A)</a>
U-2927A	8.2351801	DURHAM / ORANGE / WAKE	I-40 WBL	N/A	MILE MARKER 307.7	HYBRID FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-4 (U-2927A)</a>
U-2927	8.2351801	DURHAM / ORANGE /	I-40 WBL	N/A	MILE MARKER 285.3	HYBRID FIBEROP	<a href="#">SIGN-5 (U-2927A)</a>

A		WAKE				TIC	
U-2927A	8.2351801	DURHAM / ORANGE / WAKE	I-40 EBL	N/A	MILE MARKER 220.4	HYBRID FIBEROP TIC	<a href="#">SIGN-6 (U-2927A)</a>
U-2927A	8.2351801	DURHAM / ORANGE / WAKE	I-85 NBL	455 + 78	MILE MARKER 168.5	HYBRID FIBEROP TIC	<a href="#">SIGN-7 (U-2927A)</a>
U-2927A	8.2351801	DURHAM / ORANGE / WAKE	I-85 SBL	40 + 00	MILE MARKER 182.5	HYBRID FIBEROP TIC	<a href="#">SIGN-8 (U-2927A)</a>
R-2000AA	8.U401711	WAKE	I-540	TBD	TBD	TBD	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (R-2000AA)</a>
R-2000AB	8.U401711	WAKE	I-540	TBD	TBD	TBD	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (R-2000AB)</a>
R-2000AC	8.U401711	WAKE	I-540	TBD	TBD	TBD	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (R-2000AC)</a>
R-2000F	8.U401701	WAKE	I-540	TBD	TBD	TBD	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (R-2000F)</a>
R-2000G	8.U401701	WAKE	I-540	TBD	TBD	TBD	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (R-2000G)</a>
R-2635	TBD	WAKE	I-540	TBD	TBD	TBD	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (R-22635)</a>
R-2721	TBD	WAKE	I-540	TBD	TBD	TBD	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (R-2721)</a>
R-2828	TBD	WAKE	I-540	TBD	TBD	TBD	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (R-2828)</a>
R-2829	TBD	WAKE	I-540	TBD	TBD	TBD	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (R-2829)</a>
I-0306DB	8.1414801	DURHAM	I-85		W. OF DUKE ST TO W. OF CAMDEN AVE.	LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1(I-0306DB)</a>
U-2582B	8.2402802	WAKE	EDWARD S MILL RD.	108+00	BETWEEN MACON POND RD AND PRINCETON MILL PARKWAY	LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1(U-2582B)</a>

## Div 6 Ident. Data

TIP#	PROJ ECT#	COUNT Y	ROUTE	STA TION	LOCATION	DMS TECH	<a href="#">GO TO MAINT DATA</a>
I-2305B	8.1461404	ROBES ON	I-95 NBL	???	0.27MI BACK FROM MILE MARKER 10	HYBRID FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (I-2305B)</a>
I-2305B	8.1461404	ROBES ON	I-95 SBL	???	42 FT BACK FROM MILE MARKER 27	HYBRID FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (I-2305B)</a>
U-2207	8.1441602	CUMB	US 401 BYPASS	21 + 20	BETWEEN US401 BUS. & CLIFFDALE RD	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (U-2207)</a>

		ERLAND					
U-2207	8.1441602	CUMBERLAND	US 401 BYPASS	59 + 30	BETWEEN SWAIN ST & LEGEND AVE	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (U-2207)</a>
X-0002DD	8T441302	CUMBERLAND	I-95 NBL	N/A	500 METER N OF MILE MARK 49	LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (X-0002DD)</a>
X-0002DD	8T441303	CUMBERLAND	I-95 SBL	N/A	30 METER S OF MILE MARK 64	LED	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (X-0002DD)</a>

## Div 7 Ident. Data

TIP#	PROJ ECT#	COUNTY	ROUTE	STATION	LOCATION	DMS TECH	<a href="#">GO TO MAINT DATA</a>
C-3101	8.1492801	GUILFORD / ALAMANCE / FORSYTH	I-85 SBL	901+09	.43MI N JCT S ELM ST.	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (C-3101)</a>
C-3101	8.1492801	GUILFORD / ALAMANCE / FORSYTH	I-85 SBL	901+09	.43MI N JCT S ELM ST.	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (C-3101)</a>
C-3101	8.1492801	GUILFORD / ALAMANCE / FORSYTH	US 29	322+50	.71MI JCT 01D US 29	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-3 (C-3101)</a>
C-3101	8.1492801	GUILFORD / ALAMANCE / FORSYTH	US 29 SBL	144+75	.95MI N JCT CONE BLVD	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-4 (C-3101)</a>
C-3101	8.1492801	GUILFORD / ALAMANCE / FORSYTH	US 220	N/A	400FT S SR1106	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-5 (C-3101)</a>
C-3101	8.1492801	GUILFORD / ALAMANCE / FORSYTH	US 421 NBL	N/A	600FT N SR3418	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-6 (C-3101)</a>
C-3101	8.1492801	GUILFORD / ALAMANCE / FORSYTH	US 220 NBL	112+00	.45MI JCT CREEK RIDGE	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-7 (C-3101)</a>
C-3101	8.1492801	GUILFORD / ALAMANCE / FORSYTH	I-85 SBL	965+25	.4 MI JCT NC62	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-8 (C-3101)</a>
C-3101	8.1492801	GUILFORD / ALAMANCE / FORSYTH	I-85 SBL	362+50	.94MI JCT SR 3045	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-9 (C-3101)</a>
C-3101	8.1492801	GUILFORD / ALAMANCE / FORSYTH	I-85 NBL	253+00	1.26MI JCT NC 6	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-10 (C-3101)</a>
C-3101	8.1492801	GUILFORD / ALAMANCE /	I-40 WBL	101+00	.39MI W JCT RANDLEMA	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-11 (C-3101)</a>

1		FORSYTH					
C-3101	8.1492801	GUILFORD / ALAMANCE / FORSYTH	I-85 NBL	581+50	.80MI JCT US-29-70	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-12 (C-3101)</a>
C-3101	8.1492801	GUILFORD / ALAMANCE / FORSYTH	I-40 EBL	425+00	.77MI JCT UNION CRS	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-13 (C-3101)</a>
C-3101	8.1492801	GUILFORD / ALAMANCE / FORSYTH	I-40 EBL	153+42	1.47MI W JCT NC150	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-14 (C-3101)</a>
C-3101	8.1492801	GUILFORD / ALAMANCE / FORSYTH	I-40 EBL	16+50	.45MI E JCT NC68	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-15 (C-3101)</a>
C-3101	8.1492801	GUILFORD / ALAMANCE / FORSYTH	I-40 EBL	250+30	.53MI E JCT WENDOVER AVE.	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-16 (C-3101)</a>
I-2306B	8.1500305	ORANGE	I-85 NBL	18+44	WEIGH STATION	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (I-2306B)</a>
I-2306B	8.1500305	ORANGE	I-85 NBL	21+18	WEIGH STATION	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (I-2306B)</a>
I-2306B	8.1500305	ORANGE	I-85 SBL	21+18	WEIGH STATION	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-3 (I-2306B)</a>
I-2306B	8.1500305	ORANGE	I-85 SBL	18+44	WEIGH STATION	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-4 (I-2306B)</a>
I-2306B	8.1500305	ORANGE	I-85 NBL	35+53	WEIGH STATION	FIBEROPTIC BLANK-OUT	<a href="#">SIGN-5 (I-2306B)</a>
I-2306B	8.1500305	ORANGE	I-85 SBL	35+63	WEIGH STATION	FIBEROPTIC BLANK-OUT	<a href="#">SIGN-6 (I-2306B)</a>
I-2306B	8.1500305	ORANGE	I-85 NBL	492+00	WEIGH STATION	REFLECTIVE DISK	<a href="#">SIGN-7 (I-2306B)</a>
I-2306B	8.1500305	ORANGE	I-85 SBL	560+00	WEIGH STATION	REFLECTIVE DISK	<a href="#">SIGN-8 (I-2306B)</a>
I-2402B	8.U492305	GUILFORD	TBD	TBD	TBD	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (I-2402B)</a>
I-2402B	8.U492305	GUILFORD	TBD	TBD	TBD	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (I-2402B)</a>
I-2402B	8.U492305	GUILFORD	TBD	TBD	TBD	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-3 (I-2402B)</a>
I-2402B	8.U492305	GUILFORD	TBD	TBD	TBD	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-4 (I-2402B)</a>
U-2411B	9.8070745	ALAMANCE	TBD	TBD	TBD	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (U-2411B)</a>

U-252 4AB	8.U49 2101	GUILFORD	WESTERN LOOP	TBD	N OF I-85 TO N OF HIGH POINT RD	TBD	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (U-2524AB)</a>
U-252 4AC	8.U49 2101	GUILFORD	WESTERN LOOP	TBD	N OF HIGH POINT RD TO N OF SR1541	TBD	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (U-2524AC)</a>
U-252 4BA	8.U49 2101	GUILFORD	WESTERN LOOP	TBD	I-40 TO N OF SR2147	TBD	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (U-2524BA)</a>
U-252 4BB	8.U49 2101	GUILFORD	WESTERN LOOP	TBD	N OF SR2147 TO N OF BRYAN BLVD	TBD	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (U-2524BB)</a>
I-240 2C	6.4980 04B	GUILFORD	I-85 GREENSBO RO BYPASS	N/A	S OF MILE MARK 137	FIBER OPTIC VMS RELOCATION	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (I-2402C)</a>
I-330 6B	8.1501 601	ORANGE	I-40	N/A	ORANGE COUNTY LINE TO NC147	LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (I-3306B)</a>

## Div 9 Ident. Data

TIP#	PROJ ECT#	COUNTY	ROUT E	STA TION	LOCATION	DMS TECH	<a href="#">GO TO MAINT DATA</a>
----- ----	DIV PROJ	FORSYTH	US 52	???	???	DISCRET E LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (DIV PROJ)</a>
C-3100	8.162 3001	FORSYTH / GUILFORD	I-40 EBL	32+2 0	1.8MI IN ADVANCE OF LEWISVILLE CLEMMONS RD	FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (C-3100)</a>
C-3100	8.162 3001	FORSYTH / GUILFORD	I-40 EBL	245+ 00	1.4MI JCT US421 I-40	FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (C-3100)</a>
C-3100	8.162 3001	FORSYTH / GUILFORD	US42 1 SBL	467+ 40	1.4MI JCT US421 I-40	FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-3 (C-3100)</a>
C-3100	8.162 3001	FORSYTH / GUILFORD	I-40 WBL	267+ 00	1.9MI JCT I-40 AND I-40 BUS. SPLIT	FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-4 (C-3100)</a>
C-3100	8.162 3001	FORSYTH / GUILFORD	I-40 EBL	349+ 25	1.6MI IN ADVANCE OF US52	FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-5 (C-3100)</a>
C-3100	8.162 3001	FORSYTH / GUILFORD	I-40 WBL	197+ 80	1.7MI IN ADVANCE OF US52	FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-6 (C-3100)</a>
C-3100	8.162 3001	FORSYTH / GUILFORD	I-40 BUS E	137+ 50	IN ADVANCE OF US52	FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-7 (C-3100)</a>
C-3100	8.162 3001	FORSYTH / GUILFORD	I-40 BUS W	63+8 0	1.7MI IN ADVANCE OF US52	FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-8 (C-3100)</a>
C-3100	8.162 3001	FORSYTH / GUILFORD	US 52 SBL	329+ 00	1.1MI IN ADVANCE OF UNIVERSITY B1	FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-9 (C-3100)</a>

C-3100	8.162 3001	FORSYTH / GUILFORD	US 52 SBL	292+ 00	1.5MI IN ADVANCE OF I- 40 BUS	FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-10 (C-3100)</a>
C-3100	8.162 3001	FORSYTH / GUILFORD	US 52 SBL	162+ 30	1.5MI IN ADVANCE OF I- 40	FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-11 (C-3100)</a>
C-3100	8.162 3001	FORSYTH / GUILFORD	US 52 NBL	114+ 00	1.8MI IN ADVANCE OF I- 40 BUS	FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-12 (C-3100)</a>
C-3100	8.162 3001	FORSYTH / GUILFORD	US 52 NBL	375+ 00	1MI IN ADVANCE OF CLEMMONSVILLE RD	FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-13 (C-3100)</a>
C-3100	8.162 3001	FORSYTH / GUILFORD	I-40 WBL	272+ 50	1.6MI IN ADVANCE OF I- 40 BUS	FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-14 (C-3100)</a>
I-0911B(P OC)	8.161 0403	FORSYTH	I-40 EBL	122 + 00	I-40 WBL MILE MARK 181	HYBRID FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (I-0911B(POC))</a>
I-2511BA	8.163 1505	ROWAN	I-85 SBL	N/A	EXIT 86 @ SR1133	FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (I-2511BA)</a>
I-2511BA	8.163 1505	ROWAN	I-85 NBL	N/A	OVERPASS SR1243	FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (I-2511BA)</a>
U-3829	8.162 3301	FORSYTH	US 421 SBL	151 + 00	US421 SBL MILE MARKER 240	HYBRID FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (U-3829)</a>
U-3829	8.162 3301	FORSYTH	US 421 SBL	75 + 10	US421 SBL BEFORE SR 1171	HYBRID FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (U-3829)</a>
U-3829	8.162 3301	FORSYTH	I-40 WBL	449 + 50	0.5 MILE EAST OF SILAS CREEK PARKWAY	HYBRID FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-3 (U-3829)</a>
U-3830	9.162 3301	FORSYTH	I-40 EBL	450 + 50	0.5 MILE EAST OF SILAS CREEK PARKWAY	HYBRID FIBEROPT IC	<a href="#">SIGN-3 (U-3829)</a>
							<a href="#">..div09\D9DMSM TN.HTM</a>

## Div 10 Ident. Data

TIP#	PROJE CT#	COUNTY	ROUT E	STAT ION	LOCATION	DMS TECH	GO TO MAINT DATA
I-2511 CA	8.1631 503	ROWAN	I-85 NBL	379 + 50	NORTH OF PEACH ORCHARD RD	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (I-2511CA)</a>
I-2511 CA	8.1631 503	ROWAN	I-85 SBL	379 + 50	NORTH OF PEACH ORCHARD RD	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (I-2511CA)</a>
I-2511 CB	8.1631 503	ROWAN	I-85 SBL	N/A	EXIT 86 AT SR1133	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (I-2511CB)</a>
I-2511	8.1631 503	ROWAN	I-85 NBL	N/A	OVERPASS AT SR1243	DISCRETE LED	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (I-2511CB)</a>

CB							
I-2901A	8.1673802	MECKLENBERG/GASTON	I-85 SBL	607+20	0.41MI N JCT SR2480	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (I-2901A)</a>
I-2901A	8.1673802	MECKLENBERG/GASTON	I-85 NBL	185+00	0.86MI N JCT SR2691	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (I-2901A)</a>
I-2901A	8.1673802	MECKLENBERG/GASTON	I-85 SBL	24+00	0.49MI N JCT NC273	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-3 (I-2901A)</a>
I-2901A	8.1673802	MECKLENBERG/GASTON	I-85 NBL	481+00	0.64MI S JCT US74	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-4 (I-2901A)</a>
I-2901A	8.1673802	MECKLENBERG/GASTON	I-85 NBL	69+00	1.4MI S JCT NC279	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-5 (I-2901A)</a>
I-2901A	8.1673802	MECKLENBERG/GASTON	I-77 SBL	858+00	1.48MI S JCT SR2108	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-6 (I-2901A)</a>
I-2901A	8.1673802	MECKLENBERG/GASTON	I-77 SBL	450+00	0.49MI N JCT NC49	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-7 (I-2901A)</a>
I-2901A	8.1673802	MECKLENBERG/GASTON	I-77 NBL	110+50	0.14MI S I-485 COLLECTOR	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-8 (I-2901A)</a>
I-2901A	8.1673802	MECKLENBERG/GASTON	I-77 NBL	390+00	0.45MI S JCT US521	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-9 (I-2901A)</a>
I-2901A	8.1673802	MECKLENBERG/GASTON	I-85 SBL	190+20	0.64MI N JCT US521	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-10 (I-2901A)</a>
I-2901A	8.1673802	MECKLENBERG/GASTON	I-77 SBL	730+00	0.78MI N JCT NC16	FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-11 (I-2901A)</a>
R-2123CC	8.4671610	MECKLENBERG	I-485 SBL	1650+00	MILE MARK 36	HYBRID FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (R-2123CC)</a>
U-3115A	9.8100476	MECKLENBERG	US29 NBL	71+83	PRIOR TO PAVILLION BLVD	LINE MATRIX HYBRID LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (U-3115A)</a>
U-3115A	9.8100476	MECKLENBERG	US29 NBL	447+00	AFTER SPEEDWAY BLVD	LINE MATRIX HYBRID LED	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (U-3115A)</a>
I-3311	8.1674401	MECKLENBERG	I-77	N/A	I-85 TO CHAR. OUTER LOOP	LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (I-3311A)</a>

A					NORTH		
I-3311A	8.1674401	MECKLENBERG	I-77	N/A	I-85 TO CHAR. OUTER LOOP NORTH	LED	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (I-3311A)</a>
I-3311B	8.1674401	MECKLENBERG	I-77	TBD	CHAR. OUTER LOOP NORTH TO NC73	TBD	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (I-3311B)</a>
R-2248BB	8.U672205	MECKLENBERG	I-485	TBD	NORTH OF I-85 TO NC27	LED	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (I-2248BB)</a>

## Div 11 Ident. Data

TIP#	PROJ CT#	COUN TY	ROUTE	STATI ON	LOCATION	DMS TECH	<a href="#">GO TO MAINT DATA</a>
I-2807E	8.1741102	SURRY	I-77 NBL	706+00	BEFORE HY 89	HYBRID FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (I-2807E)</a>
I-2807E	8.1741102	SURRY	I-74 WBL	62+00	MILE MARKER 6	HYBRID FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (I-2807E)</a>
I-2807E	8.1741102	SURRY	I-77 SBL/I-74 EBL	900+00	MILE MARK 102	HYBRID FIBEROPTIC	<a href="#">SIGN-3 (I-2807E)</a>
I-2807E	8.1741102	SURRY	I-77 NBL/I-74 WBL	933+00	WEIGH STATION	FIBEROPTIC FLIP-DISK	<a href="#">SIGN-4 (I-2807E)</a>
I-2807E	8.1741102	SURRY	I-77 SBL/I-74 EBL	977+00	WEIGH STATION	FIBEROPTIC FLIP-DISK	<a href="#">SIGN-5 (I-2807E)</a>

## Div 14 Ident. Data

TIP#	PROJ CT#	COUNTY	ROUTE	STATI ON	LOCATION	DMS TECH	<a href="#">GO TO MAINT DATA</a>
W-3607	8.7394002	HAYWOOD	I-40 WBL	N/A	0.34MI BACK FROM MILE MARKER 34	FIBEROP TIC	<a href="#">SIGN-1 (W-3607)</a>
W-3607	8.7394002	HAYWOOD	I-40 EBL	N/A	0.34MI BACK FROM MILE MARKER 35	FIBEROP TIC	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (W-3607)</a>
W-3607	8.7394002	HAYWOOD	I-40 EBL	N/A	0.66MI BACK FROM MILE MARKER 28	FIBEROP TIC	<a href="#">SIGN-3 (W-3607)</a>
W-3607	8.7394002	HAYWOOD	I-40 WBL	N/A	0.66MI BACK FROM MILE MARKER 29	FIBEROP TIC	<a href="#">SIGN-4 (W-3607)</a>

W-4430	8.7394003	HAYWOOD	I-40 EBL	N/A	MILE MARK 3.5	TBD	<a href="#">SIGN-1(W-4430)</a>
W-4430	8.7394003	HAYWOOD	I-40 WBL	N/A	MILE MARK 20	TBD	<a href="#">SIGN-2 (W-4430)</a>

## **APPENDIX D**

### **STATE OF WASHINGTON**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*This is a summary of a 1997 study conducted by the Attorney General of the State of Washington. It is included in North Carolina's AMBER Plan to offer statistical insight germane to child abduction and homicide.*

CHRISTINE O. GREGOIRE  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON &  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION  
Cooperative Agreement  
93-MC-CX-K006

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Most children who are not where parents expect them to be, are "missing" for a very short period of time and reappear on their own, with no evidence of foul play. However, some children are missing against their will. The great majority of those children, even though they have undergone a traumatic experience, are not harmed seriously and are returned home alive. Many of them are taken by estranged parents or other family members. A small group is victimized by more predatory abductors, who want to make money by ransoming the child, to sexually molest the victim, and/or to kill the child. The list of children who are abducted and killed each year by someone who is not a family member is relatively small, compared to the number of missing children or to other types of child murder.

Because of their rarity among criminal homicides their complexity, emotion and high profile nature, they are extremely difficult to investigate. *This research was undertaken in an effort to better understand these types of murders, and to identify investigative techniques and strategies that will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal investigations and the apprehension rate of the murderers who abduct children.* The focus is on cases of child murder in which the victims were abducted or, at the time of the initial report to the police, were suspected to have been abducted.

The murder of a child who is abducted by a stranger is a rare event. There are estimated to be about 100 such incidents in the United States each year, less than one-half of one percent of the

murders committed. There is approximately one child abduction murder for every 10,000 reports of a missing child.

The victims of these cases are "average" children, leading normal lives, and living with normal families, typical low-risk victims. The vast majority of them are girls (76%), with the average age being slightly over 11 years of age. In 80% of cases, the initial contact between the victim and killer is within 1/4 mile of the victim's residence.

These cases are generally reported to a law enforcement agency as a "missing child" (58%). Often there is no initial indication of foul play, just a report that the child is missing or runaway. This is a difficult time for the investigator; not knowing whether the "missing child" is late or has been abducted. The investigator is in a position of having to decide on a course of action when time could be a very critical factor.

Any report of a missing child should be taken seriously. As many facts as possible surrounding the disappearance should be obtained as fast as possible, and an assessment of the nature of the case made expeditiously. Factors to consider in assessing the case should include the age of the child, the circumstances surrounding the child's missing status, and the history of the child.

Fast action is necessary since, 1) there is typically over a two hour delay in making the initial missing child report (60%), and 2) the vast majority (74%) of the abducted children *who are murdered* are dead within three hours of the abduction. Because of these critical time features, it is important to respond quickly with a neighborhood canvass and search of the area.

Over half (57%) of these child abduction murders are committed by a killer who is a stranger to the victim. Family involvement in this type of case is infrequent (9%). However, the relationship between the victim and the killer varies with the gender and age of the victim. The youngest females, 1-5 years old, tend to be killed by friends or acquaintances (64%), while the oldest females, 16-17 years old, tend to be killed by strangers (also 64%). The relationship between the killer and victim is different for the male victims. The youngest male victims (1-5 years old) are most likely to be killed by strangers (also 64%), as are the teenage males (13-15 years old, 60% and 16-17 years old, 58%).

The average age of killers of abducted children is around 27 years old. They are predominantly unmarried (85%) and half of them (51%) either live alone (17%) or with their parents (34%). Half of them are unemployed, and those that are employed work in unskilled or semi-skilled labor occupations. Therefore, the killers can generally be characterized as "social marginals."

Almost two-thirds of the killers (61%) had prior arrests for violent crimes, with slightly more than half of the killers' prior crimes (53%) committed against children. The most frequent prior crimes against children were rape (31% of killers) and other sexual assault (45% of killers). Sixty-seven percent of the child abduction murderers' prior crimes were similar in M.O. to the murder that was committed by the same killer.

Commonly, the killers are at the initial victim-killer contact site for a legitimate reason (66%). They either lived in the area (29%) or were engaging in some normal activity. Most of the victims of child abduction murder are victims of opportunity (57%). Only in 14 percent of cases did the killer choose his victim because of some physical characteristic of the victim. The primary motivation for the child abduction murder is sexual assault.

After the victim has been killed, 52 percent of the bodies are concealed to prevent discovery. In only 9% of cases is the body openly placed to insure its discovery. When searching for the victim, searchers must be aware of this fact and look under branches, rugs, or debris. The fact that so many of the bodies are concealed also requires that searchers be placed at intervals approximately equal to the height of the victim.

A unique pattern of distance relationships exists in child abduction murders. The initial contact site is within 1/4 mile of the victim's last known location in 80% of cases. Conversely, the distance between the initial contact site and the murder site increases to distances greater than 1/4 mile (54%). The distance from the murder site to the body recovery site again decreases, to less than 200 feet in 72 percent of cases.

There are investigative implications of these spatial relationships. If the initial contact site is not identified by the police, the clearance rate drops drastically, and vice versa. The close proximity between the initial contact site and the victim's last known location suggests that a thorough neighborhood canvass and area search be completed to locate the initial contact site.

Similarly, knowledge of the location of the murder is important to the investigation. The murder site is second only to the body of the victim as a source of physical evidence that can be connected with the killer. Its close proximity to the body recovery site suggests that a thorough search be conducted to locate it.

It was discovered that once the murder investigation has begun, *the name of the killer* is known to the police *within the first week* in 74% of cases. This provides an opportunity for investigators who are stalled regroup after a week or two, and evaluate everyone connected with the investigation. Likewise, it is not uncommon for the police to have actual contact with the killer before he becomes a primary suspect, for example, during the initial neighborhood canvass.

While at times the media seems to "get in the way," in the end they are much more likely to have a positive effect on the investigation (31% of cases) than a negative one (6% of cases). In short, the media are more likely to bring witnesses forward than to aid the killer in his escape. The media had no effect at all in 63% of the investigations.

One question answered by this research is: What can we tell parents to help them protect their child? Even though child abduction murders are rare events, the thing for parents to do is to eliminate, or minimize, the opportunity for their children to become victims. The first step is to be aware that children are not immune from abduction because they are close to home. In fact, well over half of these abductions that led to murder took place within three city blocks of the victim's home and approximately one-third of them within one-half block. (It is probably not a good idea to send an unescorted ten year old girl to the grocery store to buy a quart of milk.) The greatest single thing we can do as parents is to be certain that our children are supervised, even if they are in their own front yard.

There has been much publicity about, "not speaking to strangers" and "not getting into cars with strangers." We should carry that precaution one step further. We should also educate our children *not to even approach* a car, *whether the occupant of the car is a stranger or not*. We should tell our children, "if someone offers a ride, asks for directions, or offers treats, *turn around and run* to a safe place, and tell (their guardian)."

Citizens need to be aware of strangers and *unusual* behavior in their neighborhoods. They need to have the presence of mind to observe and to write down descriptions of people, vehicles, and license numbers. Many child abductions are witnessed by people who do not realize that a crime is being committed. For example, when a citizen observes an adult pulling a struggling child in a public place, it is easy to interpret the event as a guardian taking control of an unruly child. In fact, in most instances, that is exactly what it is. However, nothing prevents a citizen from evaluating the circumstances closer, perhaps intervening, and certainly, noting descriptions and license numbers.

Last, we need to tell parents that if their child is unaccounted for, *call the police immediately*. Do not delay.

## ***APPENDIX E***

### ***U.S. Dept. of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention***

#### ***Publications List***

**Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention  
(OJJDP) Publications - Child Protection**  
<http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/pubs/missing.html>

Characteristics of Crimes Against Juveniles  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

Child Abuse Reported to the Police  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML Files](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

Child Sexual Exploitation: Improving Investigations and Protecting Victims  
[ASCII Text File](#)

Children Abducted by Family Members: National Estimates and Characteristics  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

Children as Victims  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML Files](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

Crimes Against Children by Babysitters  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

The Criminal Justice System's Response to Parental Abduction  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

Cuando su Niño Desaparece: Una Guía Para la Supervivencia de la Familia  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

The Decline in Child Sexual Abuse Cases  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

Early Identification of Risk Factors for Parental Abduction  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

A Family Resource Guide on International Parental Kidnapping  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

Federal Resources on Missing and Exploited Children:  
A Directory for Law Enforcement and Other Public and Private Agencies, 1997 Edition  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#)

Federal Resources on Missing and Exploited Children: A Directory for Law Enforcement and Other Public and Private Agencies Federal Agency Task Force for Missing and Exploited Children, Third Edition, May 2001  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#)

Issues in Resolving Cases of International Child Abduction by Parents  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

Keeping Children Safe: OJJDP's Child Protection Division  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

Kidnapping of Juveniles: Patterns From NIBRS  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

*Know the Rules* Brochure

[Adobe Acrobat file](#) and [Spanish Version](#)

*Know the Rules* Package

[Adobe PDF file](#)

Know the Rules

- Abduction and Kidnapping Prevention Tips for Parent  
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- After School Safety Tips for Children who are Home Alone  
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- For Child Safety in Amusement or Theme Parks  
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- For Going To and From School More Safely  
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- For Holidays and Safe Shopping  
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- General Parental Tips to Help Keep Your Children Safer  
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- Interactive Theatre Project  
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- Safety Tips for Halloween  
[Adobe PDF file](#)
  
- School Safety Tips  
[Adobe PDF file](#) and [Spanish Version](#)
  
- When Your Child is Flying Unaccompanied  
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- When Your Child is Flying Unaccompanied (Travel Tips)  
[Adobe PDF file](#)
  
- When Your Child is Traveling Unaccompanied by Bus or Train  
[Adobe PDF file](#)

A Law Enforcement Guide on International Parental Kidnapping  
[Summary/Bibliography](#)

Missing, Abducted, Runaway, and Thrownaway Children in America (NISMART-1)  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#)

Missing/Exploited Children Directory  
[ASCII Text File](#)

National Estimates of Missing Children: An Overview  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

Nonfamily Abducted Children: National Estimates and Characteristics  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

Overview of the Portable Guides to Investigating Child Abuse: Update 2000  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

Parents Anonymous<sup>SM</sup>: Strengthening Families  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

Parental Abduction: A Review of the Literature  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#)

Personal Safety for Children: A Guide for Parents  
Adobe Acrobat File:  
[English Version](#) and [Spanish Version](#)  
HTML File:  
[English Version](#) and [Spanish Version](#)  
[Summary/Bibliography](#)

Protecting Children in Cyberspace: The ICAC Task Force Program  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

Portable Guides to Investigating Child Abuse

- Overview (Update 2000)  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)  
*Note: Not all Guides are available online.*
- Overview (1997)  
[ASCII Text File](#) and [Adobe Acrobat File](#)
- Battered Child Syndrome: Investigating Physical Abuse and Homicide  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#)

- Burn Injuries in Child Abuse  
[ASCII Text File](#) and [Adobe Acrobat File](#)
- Child Neglect and Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy
- Criminal Investigation of Child Sexual Abuse
- Diagnostic Imaging of Child Abuse  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#)
- Forming a Multidisciplinary Team to Investigate Child Abuse  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)
- Interviewing Child Witnesses and Victims of Sexual Abuse
- Law Enforcement Response to Child Abuse  
[ASCII Text File](#) and [Adobe Acrobat File](#)
- Photodocumentation in the Investigation of Child Abuse  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#)
- Recognizing When a Child's Injury or Illness is Caused by Abuse  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#)
- Sexually Transmitted Disease and Child Sexual Abuse  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [ASCII Text File](#)
- Use of Computers in the Sexual Exploitation of Children

Report to the Attorney General on International Parental Kidnapping

**Available Online Only**

[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#)

Resource Guidelines: Improving Court Practice in Child Abuse & Neglect Cases

[Adobe Acrobat File](#)

**Runaway/Thrownaway Children: National Estimates and Characteristics**

[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

Safe From the Start: Taking Action on Children Exposed to Violence

[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

**Second Comprehensive Study of Missing Children**

[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#) and [Summary/Bibliography](#)

Special Joint Report: Federal Agency Task Force for Missing and Exploited Children  
[ASCII Text File](#) and [Adobe Acrobat File](#)

Using Agency Records to Find Missing Children: A Guide for Law Enforcement  
[ASCII Text File](#) and [Adobe Acrobat File](#)

When Your Child Is Missing: A Family Survival Guide  
[Adobe Acrobat File](#) and [HTML File](#)  
[Summary/Bibliography](#) and [Spanish Version](#)

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## ***APPENDIX F***

### ***TRAINING***

Training outline

\*Lesson plan

\*Power Point presentation

\*Presentation handout

\*Training Evaluation

*\* Included in master copy only*

*Title: Procedures for AMBER Alert Activation*

Lesson Purpose: The purpose of this training is to familiarize the student with statutes, history, procedures, and documentation methodologies as related to activation of an AMBER Alert.

Training Objectives: On completion of this instruction, the student will have acquired an understanding of and ability to engage in the policies and procedures associated with the AMBER Alert system as follows:

1. Discuss historical foundation and evolution of AMBER Alert.
2. Identify federal and state statutes relative to AMBER Alert.
3. List and explain criteria and procedures for initiating and canceling an AMBER Alert.
4. Identify, prioritize, complete, and submit forms necessary to consummate an AMBER Alert.

Hours: Two (2)

Instructional Method: Lecture model

Training aids: Overhead projection, slides, and handouts

References: NC Center for Missing Persons AMBER Alert Plan  
NC General Statutes, Chapter 143B.499.7  
NCDOT DMS locations

Prepared by: Robert J. Poisella  
Missing Persons Specialist  
NC Center for Missing Persons  
NC Alcohol Law Enforcement Division

Date Prepared: May 5, 2003

*Title: Procedures for AMBER Alert Activation*

## I. Introduction

- A. The grave nature of child abduction, increasing public interest, and law enforcement's challenge to prevent, investigate, and resolve cases are indicators that reinforce the need to provide training in the investigation of missing children. This training focuses on the stranger abduction of children, which meets specific conditions necessary to warrant an AMBER Alert. In a first-of-its-kind study conducted in 1997 by the Attorney General of the State of Washington, it was determined that 74% of the children who were kidnapped and later found murdered were killed within three hours of the abduction.
- B. Training Objectives
- C. The success of the AMBER Alert system is contingent on a combination of factors:
  - 1. Judicious application – Arbitrary frequent activation of AMBER Alert creates a 'commonplace' perception, which may promote a sense of indifference among law enforcement agencies, broadcasters, and the public. This can have negative consequences when, indeed, it is truly warranted. Therefore, it is imperative that the criteria are understood and applied appropriately in accordance with statute and policy.
  - 2. Expeditious application – Persons who have a role in any of the steps must be prepared to execute their phase of the process without delay. Notifying the public as soon as possible is usually the critical most important factor in the safe recovery of abducted children. Therefore, it is imperative that the law enforcement agency determine the status of the case swiftly and initiate the process instantaneously.

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## II. Body

- A. The historical foundation and evolution of the AMBER Alert plan
  - 1. The original AMBER Plan was created in 1996 as a legacy to a 9-year-old Texas girl named Amber Hagerman whose abduction and brutal murder prompted the Arlington, Texas community to request that radio

stations in the area broadcast special “alerts” when such incidents took place in the future. Since that time more than 45 states and 47 local jurisdictions have established AMBER Alert early warning systems. AMBER has come to be an acronym for “*America’s Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response.*” On April 30, 2003, the President of the United States signed into law the Child Protection Abduction Prevention Act of 2003 (Protect Act). On June 12, 2003 Governor Michael F. Easley signed into law the conversion of the NC CAN system to the North Carolina Amber Alert System.

2. In 1997, in an unprecedented study conducted by the Attorney General of the State of Washington, it was determined that:
  - a. There are approximately 100 non-custodial child abductions per year in the United States which result in homicide.
  - b. 74% of those homicides occur within the first three hours of the abduction.
3. A U.S. Department of Justice study released in 2002 showed that in 1999, 40 percent of 115 child abductions considered high-profile cases were murdered, usually within 24 hours.
4. The North Carolina Child Alert Notification (NC CAN) System, AMBER Alert’s predecessor in the state, was established in the summer of 2000 to provide a statewide system. It was the beginning of a cooperative effort among the NC Center for Missing Persons, radio and television broadcasters, and local law enforcement agencies to address the issue of abducted children. On June 12, 2003 Governor Michael F. Easley signed the Amber Alert System into law.
5. In October 2002 America Online (AOL) began transmitting AMBER Alerts about abducted children onto the screens of computers, pagers and cell phones of more than 26 million subscribers in dozens of states and cities.

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6. In March 2003, BellSouth joined forces with six southern states to distribute information to their 1,350 technicians operating service vans throughout North Carolina. These technicians are trained in preparedness and have been instructed to notify law enforcement authorities if they believe they have useful information.
- B. Recent laws have been enacted in both the federal and state jurisdictions

1. On April 30, 2003, the President of the United States signed into law the Protect Act of 2003.
  2. On June 12, 2003, Governor Michael F. Easley signed into law the conversion of the NC CAN to the AMBER Alert System.
- C. Since the first few hours of an abduction are critical, it is essential that the initial response is swift, accurate, and complete. Therefore, the AMBER Alert initiator should be familiar with the criteria and procedures in order to prevent the lose of valuable minutes searching for the policy:
1. The following are the statutory criteria for activating an AMBER Alert. (§143B-499.7)
    - a. The child is 17 years of age or younger.
    - b. The child is believed:
      - (1) To have been abducted, or
      - (2) To be in danger of injury or death.
    - c. The abduction is not known or suspected to be by a parent of the child, unless the child's life is suspected to be in danger;
    - d. The child is not believed to be a runaway or voluntarily missing;
    - e. The abduction has been reported to and investigated by a law enforcement agency.

If the abduction of the child is known or suspected to be by a parent of the child, the Center, in its discretion, may disseminate information through the AMBER Alert System if the child is believed to be in danger of injury or death.

It will also be the responsibility of the Center to determine whether there is sufficient identifying data to justify an AMBER Alert activation.

- D. In order to ensure the best possible chance for success, the steps in the procedural sequence should be uniformly conjoined. Each component of the process should engage its responsibilities in the established sequence.

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1. Requirements of law enforcement agency

If a missing child report meets the criteria established in G.S.143B 499.7(b), as soon as practicable after receipt of the report, the law enforcement agency shall:

- a. determine that the statutory criteria have been met;
- b. obtain approval from the chief, sheriff or designee to request initiation of an AMBER Alert;

- c. enter case into NCIC and activate an Amber Alert through DCI;
  - d. establish a 24-hour attended phone number;
  - e. continue an ongoing investigation;
  - f. compile for dissemination using the AMBER Alert form (2 pages) the identity and description of child and abductor (photos if available), time and location of abduction and direction of travel, and other relevant data;
  - g. if practicable, using DMS locator guide, determine location of nearest signs;
  - h. notify the North Carolina Center for Missing Persons:
    - 1. Telephone - 1-800-522-5437;
    - 2. Fax – transmit completed fact form - 919-715-1682;
    - 3. Internet - transmit by Internet or, absent that capability, by telephonic facsimile or by personal delivery if time constraints are not prohibitive, a recent and true photographic image of the victim and, if possible, the abductor;
  - i. notify the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at 1-800-THE LOST (1-800-843-5678).
2. Requirements of the Center for Missing Persons
- a. communicate with investigating officer or supervisor;
  - b. validate AMBER Alert request;
  - c. review the request for completeness;
  - d. make notification to the Division of Emergency Management to activate Emergency Alert System (EAS);
  - e. make notification to the Department of Transportation to activate dynamic message signs, if appropriate;
  - f. notify commercial partnerships;
  - g. notify contiguous state partners that an AMBER Alert is in progress, if appropriate;
  - h. monitor the progress of the investigation and alert apparatus; modify or cancel, as necessary;
  - i. within a reasonable time frame following cancellation of the AMBER Alert, perform a step-by-step evaluation, make recommendations for improvement, implement changes, and make appropriate notifications to participating agencies and partners.

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3. Role of the North Carolina Department of Transportation

NCDOT will post an AMBER Alert on overhead Dynamic Message Signs when notified ONLY by the Center for Missing Persons and when at least (3) of the following abductor’s vehicle attributes are known:

- a. Make
- b. Model
- c. Color
- f. License Plate Number

AND the abduction site is within range or direction of travel of one or more NCDOT overhead Dynamic Message Signs.

The Center for Missing Persons will notify the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Operations Unit of an AMBER Alert that meets the criteria listed above.

The ITS Operations Unit and the Center for Missing Persons will communicate at least once an hour during the AMBER Alert. Messages will stay posted until either:

- The Center for Missing Persons advises NCDOT to discontinue the message
- Sign is needed for a message of higher priority
- Message is causing traffic congestion

ITS Operations Unit will advise the Division personnel to discontinue the message in the first case. ITS will notify the Center if the messages are discontinued for either the second or third reasons.

4. Role of the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management

Activates the Emergency Alert System (EAS).

Typically used for severe weather warnings, this official emergency bulletin is sent out over the airwaves for public consumption and to put the various media on notice that an alert is in progress. EM will broadcast the alert every fifteen minutes for the first two hours (or until cancelled) and every thirty minutes during the next three to five hours.

5. Role of the media

Participating media outlets either by individual discretionary policy or guidelines established by the North Carolina Association of Broadcasters typically broadcast the alert every fifteen minutes for the first two hours (or until cancelled), every thirty minutes during the next three to five hours, and at their discretion thereafter. The Center will fax more detailed data to participating outlets as the information develops. If available, television news services will receive photographic images as soon as practicable.

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6. Role of contiguous states

States with whom memoranda of understanding exist will be notified through their respective AMBER Alert counterparts and, at their discretion, activate a part or all of their AMBER Systems.

7. Role of the public

Cooperation of the public is essential. It is anticipated that public response will be expedient and ambitious with the promulgation of AMBER data through Dynamic Message Signs and television and radio broadcast reports. Cell phones enable the traveling public to offer tips spontaneously and directly to the investigating agency. Since favorable outcomes depend on the assistance of the public, a substantial increase in contacts is inevitable. It is, therefore, incumbent on law enforcement to prepare itself to handle this increase. AMBER Alerts have little value without the cooperation of the public. However, a case of a criminally abducted child is a law enforcement matter and citizens should confine their involvement to serving as the “eyes and ears” of law enforcement.

8. Cancellation

Upon determining that an AMBER Alert is no longer necessary the investigating detective, with the knowledge of the chief, sheriff, or designee, will immediately notify the Center for Missing Persons. The Center will ensure that the Department of Transportation deactivates the Dynamic Message Signs (DMS) and that the various media outlets discontinue the AMBER Alert. The law enforcement agency, upon determining the changed case status, will continue to follow established procedures pursuant to the new status.

- E. In order to ensure that clear, accurate, and complete details are communicated, forms has been developed to facilitate the activation process:
1. ‘North Carolina AMBER Alert’ form (two pages) provides details about the abducted child, the abductor, and other relevant information.
  2. ‘Release of information’ form (in English and in Spanish) is both a waiver of the child’s privacy and evidence of the parent’s understanding of the elements necessary to activate an AMBER Alert.
  3. ‘Information for Broadcast Announcement’ provides a standard upon which the media can base its reporting.

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III. Conclusion

- A. Summary – The process for activating an Amber Alert is a simple one. Nonetheless, a child’s life may depend on its proper use. Therefore, it is imperative that it be executed with precision and speed. The infrequency of AMBER Alerts notwithstanding, it is recommended that the relevant procedures be kept in a convenient place in order to facilitate the process without delay.

B. Questions/Discussion