

## Florida Silver Alert

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The Florida Silver Alert is used to locate missing persons suffering from an irreversible deterioration of intellectual faculties. Law enforcement agencies must activate a local or regional alert as described below in an effort to locate the person prior to the issuance of a State Silver Alert.

### Criteria

- The person must be 60 years and older; or, The person must be 18-59 and law enforcement has determined the missing person lacks the capacity to consent and that the use of dynamic message signs may be the only possible way to rescue the missing person.
- Must have an irreversible deterioration of intellectual faculties (e.g. Alzheimer's disease or dementia) that has been verified by law enforcement.

### Local/Regional Activation Steps

According to the Florida Silver Alert Plan, activation of a state or regional Silver Alert consists of the following steps, although each agency may have their own policy or requirements for activation of a local Silver Alert:

1. Local law enforcement must conduct a preliminary investigation in which the agency has concluded that the disappearance poses a credible threat to the person's welfare and safety.
2. Local law enforcement must enter the missing person into the Florida Crime Information Center (FCIC) and issue a statewide BOLO.
3. Local law enforcement must contact media outlets in the area and/or surrounding jurisdictions.

If a law enforcement agency has activated a local/regional Silver Alert and believes that activation of highway dynamic message signs may assist in the recovery of the missing person, the agency may request activation of a State Silver Alert.

### State Silver Alert Criteria

1. In addition to the above criteria, the person must be traveling by motor vehicle with an identified license plate number or other vehicle information.
2. Law enforcement must have activated a local Silver Alert by, at a minimum, completing the steps outlined above.

### State Activation Steps

- The local law enforcement agency will activate a local or regional Silver Alert.
- The local law enforcement agency will call the FDLE Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse (MEPIC) at 1-888-356-4774 (tel:+1-888-356-4774).
- The FDLE will work in conjunction with the local law enforcement agency of jurisdiction to determine the areas for activation and prepare information for public distribution.
- The FDLE will ensure that the information is broadcast through dynamic highway message signs and via email through the Department of Elder Affairs listserv (<http://lists.elderaffairs.org/listmanager/listinfo/silveralert>) and other resources.

Note: Only law enforcement agencies can request activation of a Silver Alert. If you would like to report a missing person, please contact your local police department or sheriff's office first, then contact MEPIC at 1-888-FL MISSING (356-4774).

### Resources

- Florida Department of Elder Affairs 850-414-2000 (tel:+1-850-414-2000)
- Media Alert 813-282-8612 (tel:+1-813-282-8612)
- A Child is Missing, Inc. 1-888-875-2246 (tel:+1-888-875-2246)