

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

Course Outline

Missing and Abducted Children *Response Initiatives For: Call-Takers, First Responders, Investigators and First-Line Supervisors*

Primary Title: Missing and Abducted Children: *Response Initiatives for Call-Takers, First Responders, Investigators, and First-Line Supervisors*

Designed and Presented By: The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC)
699 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

- Outline:**
- I. Overview
 - A. Society's Expectations
 - B. Scope & Scale of the Issue
 - C. Rates of Occurrence

 - II. Types of Missing & Abducted Child Incidents
 - A. Runaway Child Victimization
 - B. Family Abductions
 - C. Non-Family Abductions
 - D. On-Line Enticement
 - E. Other Child Victimization Incidents

 - III. Intra-Agency Law Enforcement Response
 - A. Call-Intake
 - B. Patrol Response
 - C. Investigative Response
 - D. First-Line Supervisory Response

 - IV. Inter-Agency Resources Response and/or Support
 - A. NCMEC Resources
 - B. Local, State, Federal Resources

 - V. Departmental Policy and Procedures
 - A. Model Policies on Missing & Abducted Children
 - B. Agency Self-Assessment
 - C. Pre-Incident Planning

 - VI. Implementation of a Comprehensive Planned Response
 - A. Table Top Exercise
 - B. Participant Handouts

 - VII. Program Review & Conclusion

Audience: While this program focuses on providing the knowledge base required for call intake personnel, first responders, initial investigators, and first-line supervisory personnel when dealing with these complex incidents, other personnel, such as school resource officers, victim-witness staffers, and department administrators also will find the information helpful in planning a coordinated organizational response. In addition, this presentation can be modified to serve the specific interests of other members of the child protection network such as CPS personnel, social service workers, prosecutors, and community service professionals comprising a multi-disciplinary team.

Objectives: At the completion of this program, the participant will clearly understand the critical role of law enforcement (criminal justice, etc.) when responding to reports of missing and abducted children and will recognize the need for a comprehensive, planned response to such cases. Throughout the presentation, the participant will be encouraged to review his/her agency's current response to missing child assignments and to evaluate various methods to enhance that response. The participant will also be introduced to investigative resources that can be of assistance in locating missing and/or abducted children. Finally, the participant will participate in a table top exercise that will provide the forum for a comprehensive planned response dealing with missing and abducted children incidents.

Presenter: This program will be presented by Wayne Sheppard, NCMEC's Associate Director of Training and Outreach. Mr. Sheppard assists local state, and federal law enforcement agencies in areas such as violent crime analysis, missing and exploited children investigations, and provides training and technical assistance in areas such as the design of effective policies and procedures, the development of regional response plans, and other efforts aimed at enhancing an agency's overall response to cases of missing and abducted children. Prior to his affiliation with NCMEC, Mr. Sheppard served with the Pennsylvania State Police where he held a number of investigative and supervisory positions including Supervisor of the Criminal Investigation Assessment Unit, Missing Persons Unit, and the Pennsylvania Amber Alert Coordinator before retiring from the State Police.

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