



Tulsa Police Department

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Policy # 122C

Effective Date 08/30/2016

Policy Name Silver Alert

Approved Date 08/29/2016

Approved by *Wendell Franklin, Chief of Police*

Previous Date 08/10/2010

PURPOSE OF CHANGE:

To update the Exploitation Unit is now the Sex & Violent Offender Registration Unit (SVOR).

POLICY:

The Tulsa Police Department responds to various types of missing persons situations. Circumstances may include kidnappings, runaways, or people with proven diminished mental capacity who have wandered away from caregivers. Because there are various programs that aid us in locating missing persons who fall into these categories, there are different procedures to be followed.

Missing persons investigations present unique problems for police departments. The mere act of being missing is not a crime, yet it suggests the possibility that any number of major crimes may have been committed or that a person is in danger. Many innocent reasons may exist for a person's absence; indeed, most missing person cases involve no foul play. However, any circumstance that suggests a possible threat to human life mandates a timely investigative response from this Department.

The Silver Alert is an early warning system to alert the public when a person generally 60 years or older is missing and believed to be in danger. While the Silver Alert has been specifically designed for persons over the age of 60, in rare instances where the victim is under 60, but lacks the mental capacity of an adult, the Silver Alert may be authorized for activation.

SUMMARY: Procedures to be followed for missing persons who are 60 years or older, who have a proven mental or physical disability.

APPLIES TO: All police personnel

DEFINITIONS:

SILVER ALERT – a system to alert the public when a person who is 60 years or older is missing and police believe them to be in danger.

PROCEDURES:

A. SILVER ALERT

1. The Silver Alert is activated when a person, 60 years or older is missing and who meets the following criteria:
 - a. The person has a proven Mental or Physical Disability.
 - b. There is reason to believe the person is in imminent danger of serious bodily injury or death.
 - c. Disseminating this information to the News Media and general public would assist in locating the person.
2. If the above criteria are met, contact a Shift Commander, or supervisor. They will review the search efforts to date

and will determine if the missing person meets the Silver Alert protocol.

3. If it is determined that the Silver Alert protocol is met:

a. **Notify On Call SVOR Detectives**

b. Notify dispatch of the Silver Alert activation and request notification of the listed personnel:

1) SVOR Unit Lieutenant.

2) PIO.

c. Set up a field command center.

d. Continually evaluate field search operations.

e. Consider the activation of IMT members for assistance with the Command Post and search activities.

f. Contact Teletype (TTY), who will notify the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (OLETS).

1) Provide them with all known victim information for a statewide broadcast to the Department of Public Safety (DPS).

2) Ensure that the Silver Alert contains a description of the missing person and all known details.

3) If the victim is in a vehicle, please enter the vehicle information into NCIC.

4. The Shift Commander will establish a Command Post near the search location to continually evaluate the search efforts and coordinate the field command post operations.

5. When the victim is located, notify Child SVOR Detectives, PIO, and TTY to have the Silver Alert Cancelled.

REGULATIONS: None

REFERENCES: None