
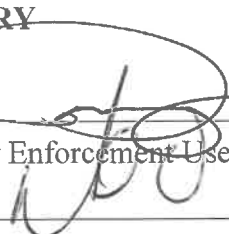




**COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS  
MISCELLANEOUS POLICY/PROCEDURE**

<b>Policy No.</b> 4615	<b>Date Issued:</b> February 1, 2006
<b>Section:</b>	<b>Date Revised:</b> July 22, 2019
<b>Accreditation Standards:</b> None	
<b>SUBJECT: AMBER/SILVER/BLUE ALERT MESSAGES AND ENDANGERED MISSING ADVISORY</b>	
<b>APPROVED:</b> 	_____
	Chairperson, Law Enforcement Users Subcommittee
<b>APPROVED:</b> 	_____
	Dennis Kidd, General Manager

**1.0 Purpose**

To identify the alerting systems used state and nationwide and ensure a timely notification of law enforcement and media in the event of an AMBER, SILVER or Emergency Missing Advisory (EMA) activation.

**2.0 Alerting Systems**

2.1 AMBER Alert is part of the nationwide AMBER Plan, a voluntary partnership between law enforcement agencies and broadcasters. The plan utilizes the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and other means to notify the public about a missing child and suspected abductor.

AMBER Alert criteria:

- There is reasonable belief by law enforcement that an abduction has occurred.
- The law enforcement agency believes that the child is in imminent danger of serious bodily injury or death.

- There is enough descriptive information about the victim and the abduction for law enforcement to issue an AMBER Alert to assist in the recovery of the child.
- The abduction is of a child aged 17 years or younger.
- The child's name and other critical data elements, including the Child Abduction flag, have been entered into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) system.

2.2 SILVER Alert program is to establish a quick response system designed to issue and coordinate alerts following the unexplained or suspicious disappearance of an elderly person, or a person who is developmentally disabled or cognitively impaired.

SILVER Alert criteria:

- The missing person is 65 years of age or older, developmentally disabled or cognitively impaired.
- The investigating agency has utilized all available local resources.
- The law enforcement agency determines that the person has gone missing under unexplained or suspicious circumstances.
- The law enforcement agency believes that the person is in danger because of age, health, mental or physical disability, environment or weather conditions, that the person is in the company of a potentially dangerous person, or that there are other factors indicating that the person may be in peril.
- There is information available that, if disseminated to the public, could assist in the safe recovery of the missing person.

2.3 BLUE Alert purpose is to establish a quick response system designed to issue and coordinate alerts following a violent attack upon a law enforcement officer.

Blue Alert Criteria:

- A law enforcement officer has been killed, suffers serious bodily injury, or is assaulted with a deadly weapon, and the suspect has fled the scene of the offense.
- A law enforcement agency investigating the offense has determined that the suspect poses an imminent threat to the public or other law enforcement personnel.
- A detailed description of the suspect's vehicle or license plate is available for broadcast.
- Public dissemination of available information may help avert further harm or accelerate apprehension of the suspect.

2.4 An Endangered Missing Advisory (EMA) is designed to provide a rapid response to safely recover missing persons who may be in danger. Many children do not fit the criteria for an AMBER Alert but may, nonetheless, be endangered. It also provides a way to help recover missing adults in cases where no systematic recovery plan exists.

EMA guidelines: not all the following needs to be met.

- Do the circumstances fail to meet the criteria for an Amber Alert?
- Is the person missing under unexplained or suspicious circumstances?
- Is the person believed to be in danger because of age, health or physical disability, and the environment or weather conditions; is he or she in the company of a potentially dangerous person; or is there any other factor that may put the person in peril?
- Is there information that could assist the public in the safe recovery of the missing person?

California Highway Patrol (CHP) is the designated administrator for these alerting systems and is responsible for issuing the alerts.

### **3.0 Authorization**

As per CHP rules, ENTAC (Emergency Notification and Tactical Alert Center) is the point of contact to activate the alert. Only law user agency senior management (lieutenant or above) may request activation of these alerts.

AMBER alerts will activate the EAS and freeway Changeable Message Signs (CMS), APBnet, and the Wireless Emergency Alert Program (WEA).

SILVER alerts will activate the CMS and Emergency Digital Information System (EDIS) message.

Blue Alerts will activate the EAS, CMS, APBnet and EDIS.

EMA will activate CHP to send out flyers to law enforcement agencies and businesses throughout California and surrounding states. Media outlets will also post alerts on their websites. National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) will disseminate the alert.

### **4.0 Procedure**

- 4.1. Upon receiving a request to activate the AMBER alert, SILVER alert, Blue Alert or an EMA dispatchers will complete the following tasks:
  - Notify the On-Duty/On-Call Operations Supervisor

- Provide the Incident Commander involved with the incident or the authorizing law user agency senior management with CHP ENTAC phone number (916)657-8287.
- Without regard to any potential Project ROPE, an additional broadcast of the alert will occur on all primary, secondary and CLEMARS radio channels and ensure the message is transmitted to all on duty units via Mobile Data Computer (MDC).
- Upon receiving a request to cancel the alert system, dispatchers will advise CHP ENTAC of the cancellation and ensure a notification of cancellation is transmitted to all on duty units via MDC.

4.2. All AMBER Alerts received via the CLETS printer will be broadcast county-wide in accordance with Policy No. 4345 (Be on the Lookout Broadcasts) on all local agencies primary, secondary and CLEMARS frequencies. SILVER Alert, Blue Alert and EMA messages received via the CLETS printer will be reviewed, and if regionally appropriate, will be broadcast and/or disseminated via MDC message.

Warble Tone: "(Agency Name) to all units and stations, standby to copy (incident type) BOL, (Agency Name) authority."

Pause approximately 10-15 seconds to give units time to prepare to copy the BOL.

Warble Tone: "(Agency Name) to all units and stations, (incident type) BOL, (Agency Name) the authority".

- a. Wanted for (code/description) by (Agency Name)
- b. Vehicle description, plate and registered owner (if available)
- c. Name (last name, first name)
- d. Race
- e. Sex
- f. Age or DOB
- g. Height
- h. Weight
- i. Hair color
- j. Eye color
- k. Complexion
- l. Obvious physical imperfections (glasses, scars, tattoos, etc.)
- m. Clothing (head to toe)
- n. Other pertinent identification information (i.e. - direction of travel, weapons, etc.)

Conclude the broadcast, "(Agency Name) clear, (time)."