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ISSUE: 22-41

TRAINING BULLETIN

DATE: October 28, 2022

Missing Persons/Ready Kern Directive

Updates are forthcoming to DPPM H-800 (Missing Persons – Reporting), DPPM H-1500 (Child Abduction Alert “Amber Alert”), and Communications Section Policy and Procedure C-200 (Ready Kern).

Until these updates are approved by Sheriff’s Administration, the Ready Kern system should only be used to alert the public of missing persons investigations if the following criteria is met:

- Law Enforcement confirms a child has been abducted, 17 years of age or younger, or a proven mental or physical handicapped person regardless of age.
- Law Enforcement believes the circumstances surrounding the abduction indicate that the victim is in imminent danger of serious bodily injury or death. Absent unusual conditions, parental or family abductions will not fit the criteria without further indication of imminent danger.
- There must be enough descriptive information about the victim, abductor, and suspect’s vehicle to believe an immediate broadcast alert to the public will assist in the safe recovery of the victim.

When appropriate, other investigative tools such as Nixle, the Nextdoor application, and Search and Rescue should still be used as outlined in DPPM H-800 (Missing Persons – Reporting).