



# SOUTH CAROLINA ALERTS

**AMBER ALERT**

**ENDANGERED PERSON ADVISORY**

**BLUE ALERT**

## Activation of the South Carolina AMBER Alert

**PURPOSE:** This plan is designed to activate an urgent bulletin to instantly galvanize the entire community to assist in the search for and safe return of the child in the most serious child abduction cases.

**As soon as an abduction is reported and the investigation reveals all of the following:**

- The law enforcement agency believes that the child has been abducted: taken from their environment unlawfully, without authority of law, and without permission from the child's parent or legal guardian.
- The child is 17 years old or younger, and the law enforcement agency believes the child is in immediate danger of serious bodily harm or death; or if the individual is 18 years old or older, and the law enforcement agency believes the individual is at greater risk for immediate danger of serious bodily harm or death because the individual possesses a proven physical or mental disability.
- All other possibilities for the victim's disappearance have been reasonably excluded.
- There is sufficient information available to disseminate to the public that could assist in locating the victim, suspect, or vehicle used in the abduction.
- The child's name and other critical data have been entered into NCIC.

**IMPORTANT: If you respond NO to ANY of the above statements, it does not meet the U.S. Department of Justice recommended criteria for activation of the AMBER Alert.**

**How to Activate the South Carolina AMBER Alert:**

- When the chief, sheriff, or designee determines that the case meets all of the criteria for activation of the South Carolina AMBER Alert plan, call SLED Headquarters at (803) 896-7133.
- Fax or email the completed South Carolina AMBER Alert Information Form and a photograph of the victim(s) and suspect(s) to (803) 896-7595. (To download form go to [www.sled.sc.gov](http://www.sled.sc.gov) )

## Activation of the South Carolina Endangered Person Advisory

**PURPOSE:** To provide a statewide system for the rapid dissemination of information regarding a missing person who is believed to be suffering from dementia or some other cognitive impairment. (signed into law by the governor on 5/28/2010 (South Carolina Code of Laws, [Section 23-3-30](#)).

**Endangered Person Notification System (EPNS) activation shall be based on the following criteria:**

- Law Enforcement confirms that the missing person is believed to be suffering from dementia or other cognitive impairment.
- Law Enforcement concludes that the disappearance poses a credible threat to the person's welfare and safety, or a threat to the public's safety.
- A legal custodian of the missing person has submitted a missing person's report to the local law enforcement agency where the person went missing.

**The MPIC will activate the SCDOT dynamic message signs if:**

- There is sufficient information available to disseminate to the public that could assist in locating the missing person: such as photographs and confirmed vehicle/tag information.
- Law Enforcement has already activated a local or regional advisory by contacting media outlets in their jurisdiction and/or surrounding jurisdictions.
- Law Enforcement acknowledges use of the statewide dynamic message signs may be the *only* possible way to rescue the missing endangered person.

**How to Activate the South Carolina EPNS:**

- When the chief, sheriff, or designee determines that the case meets all of the criteria for activation of the EPNS, call SLED Headquarters at (803) 896-7133.
- Fax or email the completed South Carolina EPA Information Form and a photograph of the missing person to (803) 896-7595. (To download form go to [www.sled.sc.gov](http://www.sled.sc.gov))
- If criteria are not met, the agency may contact SLED's Operation Desk for assistance and use of other possible resources to assist in a safe recovery. (803)896-7133 available 24/7.

## Activation of the South Carolina Blue Alert

**PURPOSE:** To broadcast critical information to the public as quickly as possible in an effort to assist in the apprehension of an offender(s) who allegedly killed, seriously injured, or abducted a law enforcement officer and poses a significant risk to the public and other law enforcement officers. The Blue Alert was signed into law by Governor Nikki Haley on February 27, 2012 (Code of Laws of South Carolina, [Section 23-3-1400](#)).

**In the interest of maintaining the confidentiality of an active criminal investigation, a request for activation must be received from the law-enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the investigation.**

- Contact SLED (803)896-7133, available 24/7.
- Fill out the Blue Alert request form found at [www.sled.sc.gov](http://www.sled.sc.gov) and e-mail the form to the SLED designee's email address or fax it to (803)896-7041.
- If available, send photos to SLED

**Blue Alert activation shall be based on the following criteria:**

If requesting law enforcement agency:

- Can confirm that an officer has been killed, seriously injured or kidnapped.

- Can conclude that the suspect is a threat to the public's safety, and there is enough information to disseminate to the public to assist law enforcement in apprehending the suspect.
- Has entered the subject as being wanted into the database of the National Crime Information Center (NCIC); if available enter vehicle as being wanted.
- Has issued a BOLO advisory through NLETS to other law enforcement/911 centers or has requested SLED to send a BOLO to other law enforcement/911centers.
- Has already activated a local or regional advisory by contacting media outlets in their jurisdiction and/or surrounding jurisdictions.
- Acknowledges that use of the statewide dynamic alert system may be the only possible way to apprehend the suspect.

NOTE: There has to be sufficient information available to disseminate to the public that could assist in apprehending the suspect: confirmed vehicle/tag information must be available to activate the electronic highway signs.

**For criteria, forms and more details go to the SLED website [www.sled.sc.gov](http://www.sled.sc.gov)**