



Support of Standard for Public Safety Telecommunicators When Responding to Calls Pertaining to Missing, Abducted and Sexually Exploited Children

Whereas, There are nearly 800,000 children reported missing each year;¹

Whereas, On average 2,100 children are reported missing to law-enforcement agencies each day;²

Whereas, 58,200 children were victims of non-family abductions in a one-year period of time;³

Whereas, Researchers⁴ have found that when children are abducted and murdered, time is of the essence; 47% die within the first hour, 76% within three hours, 15 survive more than a day and 40% are dead before they are reported;⁵

Whereas, We are seeing an increase in the number of reported cases of child sexual exploitation;⁶

Whereas, This country's future is dependent upon the growth and development of children;

Whereas, Call takers and dispatchers in public safety answering points (PSAPs) play a vital role in child protection through effective call screening of calls regarding missing children, collection of information about children and abductors, and follow-up information searches that support investigations of missing children;

Now, **therefore be it resolved** that the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and the National Association of State EMS Officials agree that the crises of missing and sexually exploited children are grave concerns to our organizations and the nation; and the consequences of these actions against our children threaten the foundation of our country's existence.

Be it further resolved, that the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the National Association of State EMS Officials hereby join in partnership to support State and Local efforts aimed at adoption by 9-1-1 centers of APCO ANS 1.101.2-2010 Standard for Public Safety Telecommunicators when Responding to Calls Pertaining to Missing, Abducted and Sexually Exploited Children which describes best practices that will help to recover abducted children as soon as possible, and protect children from sexual exploitation.

Submitted by Paul Patrick (UT), NASEMSO Communications Committee Chair

Signed this 20th day of September 2013.



James DeTienne
2012-2014 President



Dennis Blair
2012-2014 Secretary

Intended Distribution:

APCO International
National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
National Emergency Number Association
National Academies of Emergency Dispatch

¹According to Andrea J. Sedlak, David Finkelhor, Heather Hammer, and Dana J. Schultz in "National Estimates of Missing Children: An Overview," *National Incidence Studies of Missing, Abducted, Runaway, and Thrownaway Children*, Washington, DC: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, October 2002, page 5, 797,500 children were reported missing in 1999 [hereinafter Sedlak].

²Daily average of 2,184 is derived from 797,500 reports made in 12 months of 1999.

³Sedlak, *supra* note 1, page 10.

⁴Robert D. Keppel, Joseph G. Weis, and Kenneth A. Hanfland. *Case Management for Missing Children Homicide Investigation*. Olympia, Washington: Office of the Attorney General, State of Washington and U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, May 1997, page 23.

⁵*Id.*, page 13.

⁶Reports of sexually exploited children have increased to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's CyberTipline from 9,668 reports in its first full year of operation in 1999 to 81,939 reports in 2003. These numbers are summarized from *NCMEC Quarterly Progress Reports* by John B. Rabun published in Alexandria, Virginia, by the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children respectively January 13, 1999/page 37, January 13, 2000/page 36, January 8, 2003/page 27, and January 14, 2004/page 29.
