

May (Vol. 5, No. 2)

Published By
Oklahoma State Bureau of
Investigation

Stan Florence
Director

Charles Curtis
Deputy Director

Angie Baker
SAC Director

John Flores-Hidones
Statistical Research Specialist

Nikki Lofftus
Statistical Research Specialist

Meredith Mouser
Statistical Research Specialist



National Missing Children's Day

On May 25, 1979, 6-year-old Etan Patz disappeared while on his way to school – it was the first time he had been allowed to walk alone. It took 33 years for Pedro Hernandez to confess to Etan's murder. Hernandez confessed to luring Etan to his basement and then strangling him. Hernandez then dumped the boy's body in an alley. Etan's body has never been found.

The disappearance of Etan Patz sparked a national discussion among leaders, community members, and families. In 1984, President Ronald Reagan proclaimed May 25th Missing Children's Day in honor of Etan. The Department of Justice observes the day with a ceremony in Washington, D.C. Officials present awards to individuals, communities, and agencies for their work in promoting child safety. Around the country, community leaders hold events to raise awareness and support victims' families.

Fifth graders from around the nation can also participate in a national poster contest each year. Contestants are required to create a poster that includes the phrase "Bring Our Missing Children Home." The student who wins the competition is invited to the annual ceremony in Washington, D.C.

As part of the awareness campaign, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) encourages caregivers to take quality photos of their children. Caregivers are also encouraged to educate their children about safety and prevention.

For more information, please visit <http://www.missingkids.com/May25>

In this issue:
National Missing Children's Day

Keeping Kids Safe

Home Safety

Teach children their full name, address, and phone number

Make sure they know your full name

Teach children how and when to use 911

Instruct children to keep doors locked and not open them for anyone when home alone

Public Safety

Remind children not to walk/play alone outside

Teach children never to approach an unknown vehicle

Practice “what-if” situations

Teach children where to go for help

Internet Safety

Learn about the Internet

Place the computer in a common area

Use privacy settings on social networking sites

Caution children not to post personal information online

School Safety

Instruct children to walk in groups – never alone

Point out safe spots where they can go for help

Caution children never to accept a ride from a stranger unless you have told them it is okay

For more information, please visit www.missingkids.com and www.take25.org

Information adapted from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, which is funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice

FBI Child ID App

Nikki Lofftus

In 2012, a 6-year-old boy was abducted in Puerto Rico. The media was providing conflicting identification information and a recent photograph was not available. Local law enforcement requested assistance from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Once on the scene, an FBI agent utilized the Child ID App to collect information about the boy from family members. While speaking with agents, the young boy's father mentioned that the boy's front teeth were unique. The new information was released to media, and the young boy was located and reunited with family within a few hours.

The first three hours after a child goes missing are the most critical. One of the most important tools for law enforcement when searching for a missing child is a current photo with descriptive information. The Child ID App, developed by the FBI, is a free mobile app designed to assist authorities when a child goes missing. Caregivers can use the app to store current photos and other identifying information about their children. Should a child go missing, the app will then send the information directly to authorities.

For more information, please visit www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2011/august/child_080511

Upcoming Publications

Crime in Oklahoma, 2014

Arrest-Related Deaths, 2014

An Analysis of Arrest-Related
Deaths, 2005-2012



Reminder.....

The Office of Criminal Justice Statistics can assist you and your agency with statistics for grant applications or any other research requests. Please visit: www.ok.gov/osbi/Statistical_Analysis_Center