



MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

180 – MISSING PERSONS

GENERAL ORDER: 2025-27
ISSUED: June 26, 2025

EFFECTIVE: June 26, 2025

REVIEWED/APPROVED BY:
Assistant Chief Nicole Waldner
DATE: May 19, 2025

ACTION: Amends General Order 2024-41 (July 24, 2024)

WILEAG STANDARD(S): 6.1.5, 6.6.5

ROLL CALL VERSION

**Contains only changes to current policy.
For complete version of SOP, see SharePoint.**

180.10 DEFINITIONS (WILEAG 6.1.5)

C. CRITICAL MISSING

A person who has been reported missing and meets any of the following criteria:

9. The missing person meets the criteria for a Missing Child Alert under SOP 180.55(A).

F. MISSING CHILD ALERT

The Missing Child Alert may be utilized for a person who has not attained the age of 18 years and the person is believed to be incapable of returning home without assistance due to a physical or mental condition or disability, or the person has not attained the age of 10 years, and

1. The individual(s) location is unknown, and,
2. It is within 72 hours of the individual's disappearance, and,
3. Their situation does not qualify for another alert (e.g., AMBER Alert).
4. The individual has been entered as missing into National Crime Information Center (NCIC).
5. There is sufficient information available to disseminate to the public that could assist in locating the missing person.

I.H. SILVER ALERT

4. The Silver Alert System is a cooperative effort between law enforcement and the broadcast media in the event of a missing person, aged 60 or older, who is believed to be missing as a result of impaired cognitive disorders such as dementia or Alzheimer's, or other permanent cognitive impairment. Activation of the system provides emergency broadcasts of descriptive information of the missing through a multitude of media outlets and must be made within 72 hours of the individual's

disappearance.

- ~~2. The Silver Alert System may also be utilized for a person who has not attained the age of 18 years, whose location is unknown, and whose situation does not qualify for another alert and the person is believed to be incapable of returning home without assistance due to a physical or mental condition or disability or the person has not attained the age of 10 years.~~

180.55 MISSING CHILD ALERT (WILEAG 6.1.5)

A. MISSING CHILD ALERT CRITERIA

The Missing Child Alert may be utilized for a person who has not attained the age of 18 years and the person is believed to be incapable of returning home without assistance due to a physical or mental condition or disability, or, the person has not attained the age of 10 years, and

1. The individual(s) location is unknown, and,
2. It is within 72 hours of the individual's disappearance, and,
3. Their situation does not qualify for another alert (e.g., AMBER Alert).
4. The individual has been entered as missing into National Crime Information Center (NCIC).
5. There is sufficient information available to disseminate to the public that could assist in locating the missing person.

B. MISSING CHILD ALERT PROCEDURE

1. If a police member has reason to believe a person meeting the criteria of 180.55(A) has been reporting missing, they shall immediately broadcast a description, contact his/her shift commander, and request a sergeant respond to the scene. The sergeant shall coordinate the search and canvass of the home and surrounding area.
2. A CIB supervisor at extension [REDACTED] shall be notified by the district shift commander when they become aware of a potential Missing Child Alert missing. The CIB shift commander shall assign a CIB investigator to coordinate the investigation with the sergeant on scene in an attempt to locate the missing person. The CIB shift commander shall also monitor the investigation.
3. If the CIB shift commander determines the Missing Child Alert criteria have been satisfied, he/she shall obtain approval from the inspector of the Criminal Investigation Bureau, or designee, during weekdays, or the night watch commander on nights or weekend to activate the Missing Child Alert. The CIB shift commander shall ensure the Missing Child Alert instructions are implemented without delay and the necessary reports are completed.

4. The CIB shift commander shall continually monitor and investigate all Missing Child Alerts. The CIB shift commander shall assign an investigator on each shift and the investigators shall file a supplemental report on each shift.

180.5560 SILVER ALERT (WILEAG 6.1.5)

A. SILVER ALERT CRITERIA

- ~~1. The missing person has not attained the age of 18 years, whose location is unknown, and whose situation does not qualify for another alert and the person is believed to be incapable of returning home without assistance due to a physical or mental condition or disability or the missing person has not attained the age of 10 years.~~
12. The missing person is 60 years of age or older.
23. The missing person is believed to have Alzheimer's, dementia, or another permanent cognitive impairment that poses a threat to their health and safety.
34. There is reasonable belief that the missing person's disappearance is due to their impaired cognitive condition.
45. The Silver Alert request is made within 72 hours of the individual's disappearance.
56. There is sufficient information available to disseminate to the public that could assist in locating the missing person.
67. The missing person has been entered into NCIC.

B. SILVER ALERT PROCEDURE

1. If a police member has reason to believe a person meeting the criteria in 180.5560(A) has been reported missing, they shall immediately broadcast a description, contact his/her shift commander and request a sergeant respond to the scene. The sergeant shall coordinate the search and canvass of the home and surrounding area.
4. The CIB shift commander shall continually monitor and investigate all Silver Alerts. The CIB shift commander shall assign an investigator on each shift and the investigators shall file a missing other event supplementary report in RMS.

180.6065 INTERFERENCE WITH CUSTODY

180.6570 MISSING JUVENILES

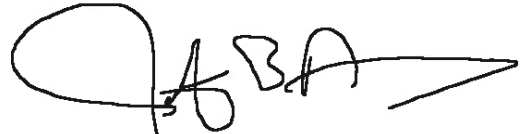
180.7075 MISSING PERSONS REACHING AGE 21 (WILEAG 6.1.5)

180.7580 NON-CRITICAL PERSON MISSING MORE THAN 30 DAYS (WILEAG 6.1.5)

180.8085 LONG TERM MISSING

180.8590 LOST CHILD**180.9095 MISSING PERSON RETURNS (WILEAG 6.1.5)**

- D. An officer shall be sent to the returned person's location only when one or more of the circumstances detailed in SOP 180.10(A) and/or (C)(1-89) are present or the missing person is currently wanted by the police. Every reasonable effort should be made to take the wanted person into custody.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.B.N.' with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

JEFFREY B. NORMAN
CHIEF OF POLICE

JBN:mfk