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Zoom Webinar Technical Overview



Q&A

Enter your questions into the Q&A box.



Chat

Watch the Chat for messages from the webinar organizers.

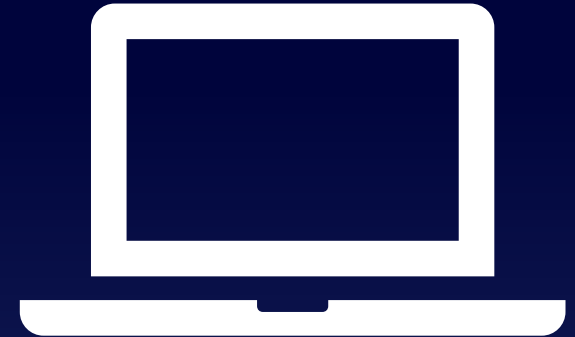


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Maximizing The First Three Hours: Rapid Child Abduction Response for Indian Country

May 11, 2023 | Presented by:

David Chewiwie, Associate, NCJTC

Francis E. Bradley, SR., Associate, NCJTC



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The opinions expressed by presenters in their oral or written material are theirs alone, and do not necessarily represent those of the National Criminal Justice Training Center of Fox Valley Technical College or OJJDP.

AMBER Alert Training & Technical Assistance Program

Mission

To safely recover missing, endangered, or abducted children through the coordinated efforts of law enforcement, media, transportation, and other partners by using training and technology to enhance response capacities and capabilities and increase public participation.





Poll Questions

- Poll questions will be asked during the webinar.
- This is your time to weigh in with your thoughts.
- Please respond promptly; polls are open for a short period of time.

What type of work assignment does the participant work in?



- Tribal Law Enforcement
- Advocacy
- Tribal Government
- Other

Today's Presenters



David Chewiwie
Associate, NCJTC



Francis E. Bradley, Sr.
Associate, NCJTC

Learning Objectives

- ✓ Discuss the assessment of missing or abducted child incident from Indian Country.
- ✓ Participants will learn pre-planned response strategies and resources specific to Indian Country.
- ✓ Discuss how to overcome resource and training challenges for missing child abductions.



Washington State Study

- A 2006, Washington State Study by the Attorney General's Office, studied child abduction murder cases.
- Revealed of 735 child abduction homicide cases, 76% of the time, the child was killed **within the first three hours.**
- Cases within Indian Country have highlighted the challenges on tribal lands, as well as the need for prevention, risk-reduction, preparation, and a well-coordinated response.



Maximizing The First Three Hours

- “High-risk/low frequency” incidents
- Prevention/risk-reduction, preparation, and rapid response are key

Prevention and Risk Reduction

Key elements:

- The importance of calling police right away when a child is missing
- Many families and relatives will begin search
- No required wait period
- Children can be abducted even if they are “close to home”

Child Safety Principles

- Approaching vehicles, known or unknown
- Supervision, even when they are in their own front yard, neighborhood street, or neighborhood parks
- Teaching parents/guardians to be aware of strangers within their community, and to report suspicious behavior

Resources

Internet safety resources

- K-12 internet safety programs for children

Child ID Kits

- Photographs of child
- Victimology information
- DNA
- Fingerprints
- Dental records



Resources

- Awareness campaigns
 - Sextortion
 - Luring
 - Internet safety for children
 - Sex trafficking
- Social media
- Informational flyers
- Presentations at schools on tribal lands

Putting a Plan in Place

How do we do this?

Challenges:

- Jurisdictional issues
- Large and often rural tribal lands
- Resources
- Broadband issues and internet availability
- Cell phone service
- Equipment availability
- Infrastructure limits
- Access to critical data and information sharing
- Vague or unclear addresses and directions

Putting a Plan in Place

- Training specific to your tribal community
 - Cultural awareness
- Tribal council and law enforcement agency cooperation and collaboration
- Mutual Aid Agreements
 - Standardized reporting
 - Canvassing forms
 - Checklists
- Tribal agency self-assessment

How many abducted child incidents have you responded to, whether as a law enforcement officer, or in other assistance capacity?



- None
- 1-5
- 6-10
- Over 10



Initial Response

Critical stage to successfully locating a missing or abducted child.

A well-coordinated response:

- May reduce the uncertainty and fear of the parent(s)/guardian(s)
- Aid in long-term cooperation with your agency
- Will instill confidence in your agency's command staff and Incident Management System

Effective Rapid-Response Strategies

- What assets can you request prior to arrival?
- Immediate confirmation that the child is missing
- Confirmation that information you received is factual and not speculation
- Searching of the residence



Effective Rapid-Response Strategies

How much accurate information do we have, and what do we need to request that will help right now?

Situational and Risk Assessments

- Vital elements of the initial response which guide your response strategy.
 - Child abduction-parental
 - Medical issues
 - Special needs
 - Autism spectrum

My “Right Now” Resources

- Missing or abducted children incident checklist
- Initial canvass document
- Parent, guardian, or reporting party, friends, relatives
- Basic reporting information
 - Vehicle information
 - Photo of child/Child ID kit
 - Victimology information
 - Information on friends and associates
 - Social media information



Supervisor Role

Supervisor responsibilities on scene:

- Critical risk-assessment and consultation
- Command and control responsibility
- Conduit or “buffer” for questions and requests
- Personnel and other resource requests
- AMBER Alert
- Mobile command post
- Mutual Aid request to Chief or Commander
- Search and rescue initial notification



Investigator Role

- Investigator
 - SORNA resources
 - Additional canvass resources
 - Crime-scene identification, preservation, and forensic examination
 - Missing person fliers
- Additional officers
 - Best use and deployment to high-probability areas



Other Resources

Air resource capabilities

- Can start the initial search prior to arrival of other patrol resources
- Covers more area for your initial search
- Covers area and terrain that might not be able to be searched by ground resources in a quick manner
- Nighttime and FLIR capabilities

Initial search and rescue notification

- Can provide initial assessment and consultation on search needs
- Can deploy a search K-9 before search teams are assembled

Getting the Word Out

How much accurate information do we have the ability to broadcast right now?

- Local/tribal, multi-agency or countywide broadcasts
- Social media
- News media
- Reverse 911
- Current photo
- AMBER Alert
- Native missing alert, Wireless Emergency Alerts, and other alerts

An aerial photograph of a multi-lane highway winding through a hilly, wooded area. The road is dark asphalt with white lane markings. The surrounding terrain is covered in dense green trees and shrubs, with some areas appearing more open or cleared. The perspective is from a high angle, looking down at the road as it curves through the landscape.

Initial Neighborhood Canvass

- Most crucial step in a missing child response
 - Standardized canvass form
 - Door-to-door canvass
 - Open area canvass/search
- Mobile command post
 - Probabilities and directed deployments, versus concentric circles or rings
- Determine the availability of functioning video systems in the area

Search Equipment Resources

- Drones-quickly deployable and can cover large search areas
- Hand-held FLIR (heat signature detection)
- SARTOPO or other GPS-based apps
- CERT rapid-deployment team(s)



After the Initial Search: Now What?

- Prepare a hand-off briefing for command staff, ICS, or other command and control system
- Coordinate/combine patrol, investigations, and supervisor information
- Assign a family liaison to ensure proper information flow in a quick and efficient manner



Resources

AMBER in Indian Country

- amber-ic.org
- <https://www.amberadvocate.org/best-practices/>

A photograph of two women with long dark hair, smiling and embracing each other outdoors. The woman on the left is wearing a beige turtleneck sweater and large white tassel earrings. The woman on the right is wearing a yellow textured sweater. The background is a soft-focus field of yellow flowers.

Key Takeaways

- Time is your enemy
- Preparation and a well-coordinated response are keys to a successful recovery of a missing child

Contact Information & Final Q&A



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June 1, 2023 | 9:00 – 10:00 AM CT

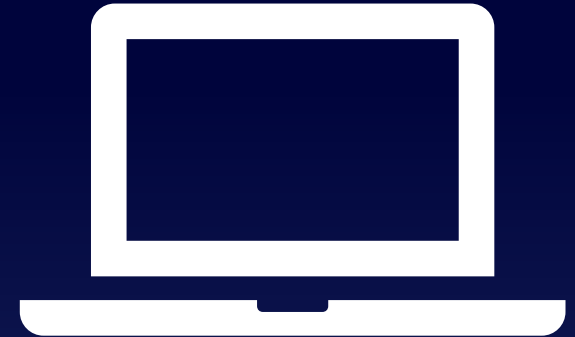
✓ *An Introduction to CART in Indian Country*

August 24, 2023 | 9:00 – 10:00 AM CT

✓ *Preventing Child Abduction & Exploitation in Indian Country*

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