



What's New at NCJTC?



Tyesha Wood, AMBER Alert in Indian Country, Named 'CHAMPION OF CHANGE'

Tyesha M. Wood—a Program Manager for the AMBER Alert Training & Technical Assistance Program (AATTAP) who oversees the AMBER Alert in Indian Country (AIIC) Initiative—is one of five public servants nationwide selected by the End Violence Against Women International (EVAWI) organization as a 2024 “Champion of Change.”

EVAWI operates as a catalyst for justice and healing, “so that every survivor of sexual assault and domestic violence gets the right response, every time,” the non-profit group says. “Champions of Change work on a state or national level, to create system-level reforms in the way we respond to sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and other forms of gender-based violence.”

Wood was chosen as a “Champion of Change” because she is “a powerful advocate with an unwavering commitment to justice for children and victims of interpersonal violence in Indian Country,” the EVAWI notes. Read the full story at [AMBER Alert in Indian Country Leader Named 'Champion of Change' - AMBER Alert in Indian Country \(amber-ic.org\)](#)

In December 2023, the United States was expected to finish the year with its largest annual drop in homicides on record, based upon data collected from small-large law enforcement agencies. Following steady increases in crime in both 2021 and 2022, the 2023 drop in homicides and other violent crimes is significant.

“The homicide rate in the United States is expected to plummet nearly 13% compared to 2022, meaning more than 2,000 fewer people were the victims of homicide this year. It is historic. It's the largest one-year decline,” Jeff Asher, a national crime analyst, told ABC News.

[Read More at ABC NEWS](#)

NCJTC has done its part to help train and support law enforcement, investigators, and prosecutors in their investigations. This month, we feature our death investigation training portfolio.

Critical 3 Videos to Support Death Investigations

[3 Ways to Take Suspicion Out of Your Death Cases](#)

[3 Things to Consider When Investigating Crime Scenes](#)

[Sudden Unexplained Infant Deaths](#)

[The Use of Polygraph Examinations During Criminal Investigations](#)

February 3 Safer Internet Day Resources



[S.M.A.R.T. Parenting Tips for Online Safety](#)



[S.M.A.R.T. Parenting Tips for Online Safety - Quick Reference](#)

Current Death Investigations Trainings

Investigating and Prosecuting No Body Homicides
[April 8 - 9 | Sandy, UT](#)
[May 20 - 23 | Online](#)

Suspicious Death Investigations: Finding the Right, Eliminating the Wrong, and Avoiding the Undetermined
[April 8 - 9 | Madison, WI](#)
[September 9 - 10 | Marana, AZ](#)
[Feb 24 - 25, 2025 | Lacombe, LA](#)

National Missing and Unidentified Persons Conference
[April 16 - 18 | Las Vegas, NV](#)

Enhancing Investigations through Genetic Genealogy
[May 16 - 17 | Albuquerque, NM](#)
[October 28 - 29 | Provo, UT](#)

Child Homicide Investigations
[May 20 - 21 | Lebanon, OH](#)
[September 9 - 10 | Fargo, ND](#)

Responding to an Unexplained Child Death
[July 17 | Online](#)

Investigation and Prosecution of Cold Case Homicides
[May 22 - 23 | Lebanon, OH](#)
[September 11 - 12 | Fargo, ND](#)



In case you missed last month's newsletter focused on Internet Safety, [click here](#).

Interested in learning about upcoming training opportunities?



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 Scan the QR code or visit ncjtc.org/signup

NCJTC in the News



Amber Alert Network Brazos Valley shares importance of Missing Persons Day

For National Missing Persons Day (February 3), AATTAP Region 3 Liaison Chuck Fleeger spoke with KBTX Media about the day's significance. “It's important for us to remember that every day, there are families out there who are missing a loved one,” says Chuck, who serves as Executive Director of the Amber Alert Network Brazos Valley-Texas. National Missing Persons Day is meant to remind people that children go missing in families that think it can never happen to them, “so it's important for us to be vigilant, and do everything we can to help bring those missing persons home.” (Well said—and thanks for your longtime public service, Chuck.)

[READ MORE](#)

AMBER Alert in Indian Country Team Meets with Oregon Tribes and Officials

On February 15, 2024, the AMBER Alert in Indian Country team coordinated a meeting with the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians (CTCLUSI) in Coos Bay, Oregon.



Other organizations present were members of the Oregon State Police and the Coquille Chief of Police, Brian Dubray.

This meeting included discussion on Oregon state resources for a missing or abducted child(ren) and resource information for the AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program. Attendees of the meeting also participated in a cultural presentation by the CTCLUSI community, which included a tour of the tribal History Gallery and their Traditional Plankhouse.

Chief Dubray was a gracious host. The AMBER Alert in Indian Country Program and the Oregon State Police are looking forward to continued partnerships and communication to protect children.