



Keep Your Children Safe

On any given day, dozens of Ohio children are reported missing. Thankfully, most return to their families quickly and unharmed. The Attorney General's Office offers these tips to keep your children safe:

- Teach your children their full name, address and telephone number.
- Make sure your children know your full name and how to reach you by cellphone or at work.
- Teach your kids how and when to call 911.
- Make sure your children always have a trusted adult to call if they're scared or have an emergency.
- Instruct your kids to keep the door locked and not to open it to anyone when they are home alone.
- Know who your child is communicating with on social media.
- Know your child's passwords to their electronic devices.
- Talk with your child about how the people they meet on social media are not always who they say they are.
- Discuss with your children how they should answer the telephone when you're away.
- Choose caregivers and babysitters with care. Seek referrals and check references. Drop in unexpectedly to see how things are going. Ask your children about their experiences.
- Make sure your children understand that there is safety in numbers. When they are playing or walking to school or elsewhere, have them do so with friends.



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Ohio Attorney General's Missing Persons Unit



The Attorney General's Office promotes measures to keep kids safe and assists law enforcement and families with cases of missing children. Through its Missing Persons Unit, the office:

- Issues Missing Child Alerts.
- Works with law enforcement when Amber Alerts are needed.
- Maintains a toll-free hotline (800-325-5604) with the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI).
- Provides online resources to aid in searches at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/MissingPersons.
- Uses social networking sites, public records and law enforcement databases to help locate children.
- Assists law enforcement and families.
- Trains professionals and the public on issues regarding missing persons.

If a loved one is missing:

- Immediately file a report with law enforcement.
- Limit access to your home until investigators have the opportunity to collect evidence.
- Do not touch anything in the home.
- Give investigators all requested information, including a complete description, photos, facts related to the disappearance, social media accounts, cell-phone numbers and any other requested details.
- Be prepared to provide fingerprints, dental records and DNA to help find your loved one.



For more information on the Missing Persons Unit, please contact Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost's office at **www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/MissingPersons or 800-325-5604.**