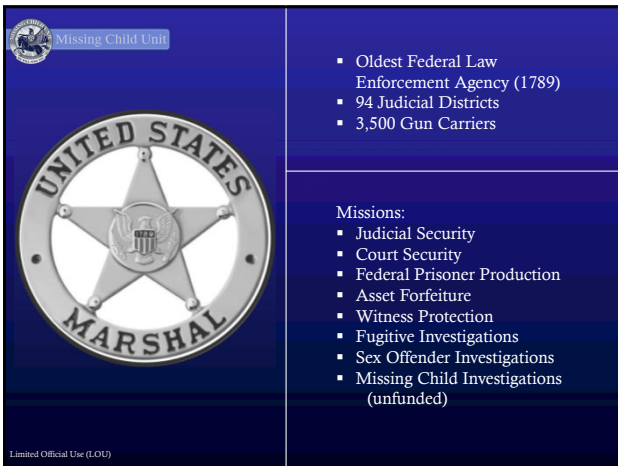
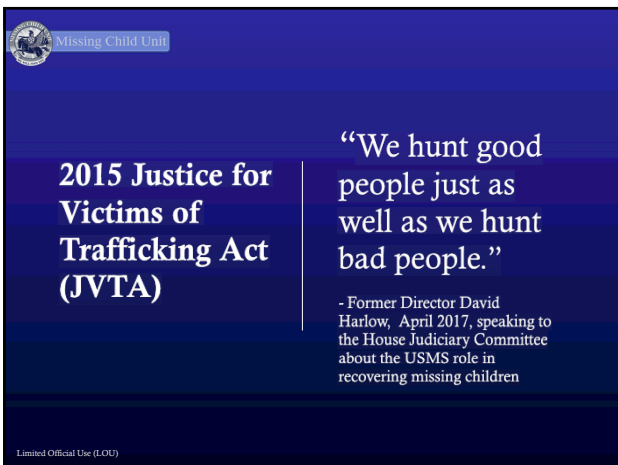


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Missing Child Unit

Missing Child Unit

MCU aims to develop, implement, and oversee a comprehensive nationwide missing child investigative program, utilizing all available USMS resources and disciplines in coordination with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

MCU provides ongoing program management and oversight to USMS investigators assisting all federal, state, and local partners to recover missing children .

"WE WILL FIND YOU!"



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Missing Child Unit

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children



1-800-THE-LOST

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Missing Child Unit

Scope Of Missing Child Problem


reported by NCMEC

In 2021, there were **337,195** missing children in the Nation Crime Information Center (NCIC) database.

- **94% of missing kids are endangered runaways**
- 5% are family abductions
- Less than 1% are lost, injured, or missing children
- Less than 1% are non-family abductions

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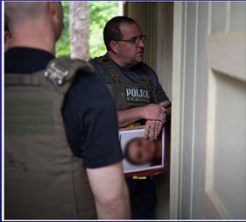
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 Missing Child Unit

Who is a missing child?

A missing child is a person younger than 18 whose whereabouts are unknown to their legal guardian.


(As defined under federal law 34 U.S.C.§11292)



What is required for the USMS to assist?

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 Missing Child Unit

USMS Missing Child Program Metrics

- Total recoveries in FY16: 173**
- Total recoveries in FY17: 192**
- Total recoveries in FY18: 253**
- Total recoveries in FY19: 296**
- Total recoveries in FY20: 387**
- Total recoveries in FY21: 950**

61% of cases are closed within 7 days of USMS assistance



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 Missing Child Unit

Limitations To Our JVTA Authority

- Does NOT require we support a missing child case
- Does NOT determine custody of recovered child
- Does NOT execute state court orders
- Does NOT allow the transport of a child in a GOV
- Does NOT provide new designated primary investigative authority
- Does NOT allow signing an MOU

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Missing Child Unit

USMS Missing Child Cases

Fugitive Missing Child Case

A missing child case associated with a fugitive or Adam Walsh Act investigative nexus.


***Require: Full extradition felony warrant**

Critically Missing Child Case

A missing child case that involves a suspected crime of violence or where factors have been identified that indicate elevated risk to the missing child.

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Missing Child Unit

Critically Missing Child


Suspected Crime of Violence

Abductor, associate, or missing child:

- Is a suspected gang affiliate
- Has violent tendencies
- Has mental health concerns
- Has suicidal tendencies or would inflict self-harm
- Is a sex offender
- Is a suspected drug abuser
- Is suspected to be in the possession of firearms/weapons

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Missing Child Unit

Critically Missing Child

Elevated Risk Factors

Missing Child:

- Has a medical condition
- Requires medication
- Has a physical disability and/or mental health concerns
- Has suicidal tendencies or would inflict self-harm
- Is a suspected sex trafficking victim
- Is a suspected online enticement victim
- Is a suspected drug abuser
- Is pregnant or suspected to be pregnant

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Missing Child Unit

Stages of a USMS Missing Child Investigation



- Notification
- Evaluation
- Case Entry
- Investigation
- Pre-Recovery Planning & Coordination
- Recovery
- Case Closure


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Missing Child Unit


How Can the USMS Help?

- Nationwide reach
- Assist law enforcement partners in locating/recovering missing children and locating a person with information about a case
- Arrest related fugitives
- Investigate related sex offenders
- Provide liaison assistance between law enforcement and NCMEC
- Conduct Missing Child Operations



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What Do We Need To Assist?

- Entered in NCIC
- Under 18 years old (at the time of entry into NCIC)
- Request from law enforcement
- Fits USMS criteria
 - Critically Missing Child
 - Fugitive Missing Child
- Articulate risk factors
- Intake case with NCMEC (recommended not required)

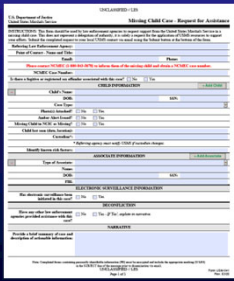
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Missing Child Unit

How To Request USMS Assistance?

USM-641



***NOT a delegation form!**

www.usmarshals.gov
Forms and Publications

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Missing Child Unit



Contact Us

MissingChildUnit@usdoj.gov

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