

CHAPTER 2
ENDANGERED MISSING ADVISORY

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CHAPTER 2

ENDANGERED MISSING ADVISORY

1. PURPOSE. The purpose of this chapter is to establish policy and procedures associated with an Endangered Missing Advisory (EMA). The goal of an EMA is to provide information to the public via media broadcasts and other notification resources to solicit help from the public in the safe recovery of the missing person.

2. GENERAL.
 - a. Background. Assembly Bill 946 established Section 8594.11 of the California Government Code (GC), which makes a local law enforcement agency investigating a missing person's case responsible for determining whether the requirements have been met before requesting an EMA. If the CHP concurs that the requirements have been met, the Department may activate an EMA within the appropriate geographical area.

 - b. The EMA fulfills the requirements of the federal Ashanti Alert Act of 2018, which helps facilitate regional and local search efforts for missing individuals who fall outside the criteria of AMBER, Silver, Yellow, Blue, Feather, and Ebony Alerts.

 - c. The EMA provides law enforcement the opportunity to broadcast missing person information to the public via media broadcasts and other notification resources for incidents that do not meet the criteria of alerts contained in this manual.

3. ENDANGERED MISSING ADVISORY CRITERIA. In accordance with Section 8594.11 GC, a law enforcement agency may request an EMA be activated if the agency determines that all of the following conditions are met:
 - a. **The missing person is developmentally disabled, cognitively impaired, has been abducted, or is unable to otherwise care for themselves, placing their physical safety at risk.**

 - b. **The investigating law enforcement agency has utilized all available local resources.**

 - c. **The law enforcement agency determines the person has gone missing under unexplainable or suspicious circumstances.**

 - d. **The law enforcement agency determines the person is in danger because of age, health, mental, or physical disability, environment, or weather**

conditions, the person is in the company of a potentially dangerous person, or other factors indicating the person may be in peril.

e. **There is information available that, if disseminated to the public, could assist in the safe recovery of the missing person.**

4. **PROCEDURES.** All requests for an EMA activation or assistance, shall be forwarded to the Emergency Notification and Tactical Alert Center (ENTAC).

Department personnel shall not activate an EMA without the approval of ENTAC.

5. **RESPONSIBILITIES.**

a. **Departmental Employees.** Any on-duty employee who receives an initial report of a missing person who is at risk, developmentally disabled, or cognitively impaired, or who has been abducted, shall immediately report it to their supervisor.

(1) Department employees should follow policy and procedures for missing persons outlined in HPM 100.69, General Law Enforcement Policy Manual, Chapter 6, Missing Persons.

b. **Supervisors.** Upon notification of an incident that meets the criteria for an EMA, supervisors shall notify the appropriate CHP communications center and request ENTAC be notified. If the incident occurred in another CHP Area, the on-duty supervisor for the CHP Area in which the incident occurred shall also be notified.

(1) Supervisors shall ensure that the appropriate law enforcement agency with investigative authority is notified immediately.

c. **Area Commanders.**

(1) Area commanders shall ensure all personnel are made aware of EMA policies, as well as any related local standard operating procedures.

(2) Area commanders shall meet with their counterparts in local allied law enforcement agencies to discuss EMA criteria, notification processes, and departmental resources available to assist during an EMA.

d. Division Commanders.

(1) Division commanders shall ensure all employees within their command are familiar with the policy and notification procedures associated with EMAs.

e. Communications Centers.

(2) Under no circumstances will a communications center initiate an EMA without the express approval of ENTAC.

6. DEPARTMENTAL RESOURCES. To provide the highest level of public broadcast and maximum dissemination, the Department may assist local law enforcement with dissemination of EMA information through secondary notifications systems. These notification systems are discretionary and activated at the discretion of ENTAC with input from the investigating agency. These systems include, but are not limited to:

- a. Wireless Emergency Alerts
- b. Social media posts
- c. Changeable Message Signs

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