

INFORMATION BULLETIN



January 24, 2025

FEATHER ALERT PROGRAM

The purpose of this Information Bulletin (IB) is to provide law enforcement agencies with information about the Feather Alert program.

Background

Assembly Bill (AB) 1314, signed into law by Governor Gavin Newsom, later amended by AB 2348 and AB 1863, established Government Code Section 8594.13 and authorized a Feather Alert program beginning January 1, 2023. A Feather Alert is activated when an endangered indigenous woman or person has been reported missing under suspicious or unexplained circumstances.

Government Code Section 8594.13 specifies the following criteria that must be met for the issuance of a Feather Alert:

- (1) The missing person is an indigenous woman or an indigenous person.
- (2) The investigating law enforcement agency has utilized available local and tribal resources.
- (3) The law enforcement agency determines that the person is missing.
- (4) The law enforcement agency or tribe believes that the person is in danger and is missing under circumstances that indicate any of the following:
 - (A) The missing person's physical safety may be endangered.
 - (B) The missing person may be subject to trafficking.
 - (C) The missing person suffers from a mental or physical disability, or substance use disorder.
- (5) There is information available that, if disseminated to the public, could assist in the safe recovery of the missing person.



The CHP has designated the Emergency Notification and Tactical Alert Center (ENTAC) as the alerting authority for all Feather Alerts. Law enforcement agencies or Tribes of California may directly request ENTAC activate a Feather Alert consistent with the following requirements:

- (1) If a person is reported missing to a law enforcement agency and that agency determines that the criteria are met, the law enforcement agency or Tribe of California may request the Department of the California Highway Patrol to activate a Feather Alert.
- (2) A law enforcement agency shall make a determination that the criteria are met within 24 hours, following the initial report being made to the agency.
 - (A) If the law enforcement agency does not make a determination within 24 hours as required by clause, then the Tribe of California may directly request the Department of the California Highway Patrol to activate a Feather Alert.

Tools and Resources Available for a Feather Alert

Based on the specific circumstances of the incident, ENTAC may provide the following assistance:

- Social media flyer distribution: [@CHPAAlerts](#)
- Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA): The WEA capable devices within a targeted geographic area receive an emergency alert message with an embedded hyperlink to additional information and photographs, when applicable.
- California Law Enforcement Telecommunications Center broadcast.
- Changeable Message Signs (CMS). In cooperation with the California Department of Transportation, CMS may be activated within limited geographic regions, when appropriate.
- Investigative assistance.

Policies and Procedures

Law enforcement agencies and Tribes of California should establish policies and procedures for requesting activation of a Feather Alert by the CHP. Some of the items for inclusion in agency specific policies and procedures are:

- The Government Code conditions for when a Feather Alert can be requested and activated.



- Contact and liaison information for tribal authorities.
- The contact information for ENTAC.

Questions regarding this IB should be directed to Counterterrorism and Threat Awareness Section, ENTAC at (916) 843-4199.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

OPI: 028

