

September 22, 2025

Missing Person Records - Immediate Entry

Missing Person Identification Act, 50 ILCS 722/5, mandates that "All law enforcement agencies shall accept without delay any report of a missing person. Acceptance of a missing person report filed in person may not be refused on any ground."

Furthermore, in accordance with 50 ILCS 722/10, missing persons designated as "high risk" must be **immediately** entered into LEADS and NCIC. "High risk" is defined by 50 ILCS 722/10 as:

- 1) the person is missing as a result of a stranger abduction;
- 2) the person is missing under suspicious circumstances;
- 3) the person is missing under unknown circumstances;
- 4) the person is missing under known dangerous circumstances;
- 5) the person is missing more than 30 days;
- 6) the person has already been designated as a high-risk missing person by another law enforcement agency;
- 7) there is evidence that the person is at risk because:
 - a) the person is in need of medical attention or prescription medication;
 - b) the person does not have a pattern of running away or disappearing;
 - c) the person may have been abducted by a non-custodial parent;
 - d) the person is mentally impaired;
 - e) the person is under the age of 21;
 - f) the person has been the subject of past threats or acts of violence;
 - g) the person has eloped from a nursing home;
 - h) the person is a veteran or active duty member of the United States Armed Forces, the National Guard, or any reserve component of the United States Armed Forces who is believed to have a physical or mental health condition that is related to his or her service. (New January 1, 2019)
- 8) any other factor that may, in the judgment of the law enforcement official, indicate that the missing person may be at risk.

Additionally, Suzanne's Law (Title 42 U.S.C., Section 5799(a) - modified 2003) also requires agencies to **immediately enter** records into the LEADS/NCIC Missing Person file for missing individuals **under the age of 21, regardless of the circumstances.**

And as an overall policy, LEADS Regulations (Illinois Administrative Code 1240.60 a) (3)) mandate that "each agency must enter information into LEADS or ensure information has been entered into LEADS as soon as the facts are known and sufficient identifiers are available to permit the establishment of a LEADS record."

Bottom line, don't delay the entry of your missing person reports; enter missing person records into LEADS and NCIC as soon as possible.

For assistance please contact the Help Desk at 866/LEADS-00.

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