



Florida Missing Children's Day 2010



The Florida Police Chiefs Association and the Florida Sheriffs Association are proud to be united in their support of *Florida Missing Children's Day*. We, as your State Association Presidents, are writing to ask for each agency's support and help in recognizing Florida's missing children.

As many of you know, in 1999 the Florida Legislature created *Florida Missing Children's Day*. The ceremony will be held at the State Capitol in Tallahassee on September 13, 2010 and will once again honor law enforcement officers and civilians statewide who have assisted in missing child cases, and will help to raise statewide awareness in the prevention of child abduction and sexual exploitation. We encourage you to attend this poignant event. It is truly an experience you will not forget and it gives us the opportunity to acknowledge everyone who have been struck by this type of tragedy and suffered such a great loss. Please take the time to view the 2009 Florida Missing Children's Day ceremony that illustrates the significance of this event. It can be found at <http://www.fdle.state.fl.us/Content/getdoc/e26763fe-dacd-4e0d-827f-965f149f88cf/2008-Florida-Missing-Children-s-Day.aspx>.

We would also like to invite you to join us in financially supporting this initiative by making a contribution from your Trust Fund or Contraband Forfeiture Fund for this important statewide, law enforcement-sponsored event. In the past some agencies have contributed \$500, however any donation would be advantageous. We believe that one of the most beneficial uses of our law enforcement trust fund monies is the support of *Florida Missing Children's Day*. Please participate in this event by returning your contribution along with the attached pledge form and by attending *Florida Missing Children's Day 2010* in Tallahassee.

Governor Charlie Crist, school age children, many law enforcement officers, families of missing children and those families whose children did not survive their abduction, will attend the ceremony on September 13th. Civilians who have aided in missing child cases throughout the state will join them.

Florida Statute 683.231 has afforded FDLE the authority to establish a citizen support organization to provide assistance, funding, and promotional support for activities authorized for Florida Missing Children's Day. As a result, the newly developed "Florida Missing Children's Day Foundation, Inc." has been established. This foundation will raise the necessary private and public funds to conduct the annual Florida Missing Children's Day.

We hope you will attend *Florida Missing Children's Day 2010* and see for yourself just how your financial support makes such a difference in the lives of victim families and how important the simple recognition of our law enforcement officers and civilians who work diligently to save the lives of children.

Handwritten signature of Dorene E. Thomas in black ink.

Chief Dorene E. Thomas, President
Florida Police Chiefs Association

Handwritten signature of William "Bill" Farmer in black ink.

Sheriff William "Bill" Farmer, President
Florida Sheriffs Association

**Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Missing Endangered Person Information Clearinghouse
Advisory Board**

LAW ENFORCEMENT SPONSORSHIP FORM

_____ **Yes, our agency will be a Sponsor** of Florida Missing Children's Day (FMCD) 2010.

Enclosed is our contribution in the amount of: _____ \$250 _____ \$500 _____ other amount

Payable to: **Florida Missing Children's Day Foundation, Inc.**

Please print your name and your agency's name as you wish them to appear in FMCD 2010 printed materials:

Your Name & Title: _____

Agency Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email: _____

The following awards are presented:

- Local Law Enforcement Officer of the Year
- State/Federal Law Enforcement Officer of the Year
- Law Enforcement Task Force/Team of the Year
- Law Enforcement Trailing Team of the Year
- School Bus Operator of the Year
- Citizen of the Year
- Evelyn Williams Memorial Award
- John and Reve' Walsh Award
- Fifth Grade Essay Contest Award

If your agency's pledge or check is received by August 20, 2010, your agency's name will be included in the list of sponsors for FMCD 2010. If it is necessary for your agency's check to be submitted later, you may use this form as your pledge and fax it to the Florida Missing Children's Day Foundation, Inc. at 850-410-8744.

Please return this form with your contribution, made payable to:
Florida Missing Children's Day Foundation, Inc.
7322 Manatee Ave. W. #214
Bradenton, FL 34209

Florida Missing Children's Day
Tallahassee, Florida
September 13, 2010



**2009-2010 Florida Missing Children's Day
Award Nomination Submission Form
LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICER OF THE YEAR**



Your Name:	Daytime Telephone Number:
Address:	Email Address:
Relation to Nominee (s):	

Thank you for considering nominees for the 2009-2010 Florida Missing Children's Day Awards. Winners will be selected by the Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse Advisory Board under the auspices of FDLE. The awards will be presented on September 13, 2010 at the formal ceremony in Tallahassee, FL. **Please fax your nominations to FDLE/MEPIC Attention: Patricia Rutherford at 850-410-8744 or mail to: Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse, P O Box 1489, Tallahassee, FL 32302-1489.**

DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS IS TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2010

The nominee must meet the following criteria. He/she must:

1. have been a sworn, active law enforcement officer during the case investigation;
2. be employed by a municipal or county law enforcement agency in the state of Florida;
3. be in good standing with his/her department;
4. have no departmental or other charges currently pending against him/her;
5. have performed an investigative activity during January 1, 2009 thru April 30, 2010 that can be determined to be exceptional, extraordinary, outstanding, or beyond the call of duty, and that such activity has resulted in the safe recovery or location of a missing child, or solved a case involving serial child homicide or child sexual exploitation; OR
6. made a significant contribution to missing children issues through the development and/or implementation of an educational, awareness, or safety program.

NOMINEE(S) INFORMATION:

Name of Nominee:	Department:
Rank:	Daytime Telephone Number:
Work Address:	Email Address:
Name of Supervisor:	Daytime Telephone Number: Email Address:
Concerning the case(s) of: Name(s) of Children	Agency Case Number:
Name of child(ren) custodial parents:	
Current address of custodial parents:	
Evening Telephone Number:	Daytime Telephone Number:

Please provide detailed information concerning the case investigation. Be sure to describe the role of the nominee(s) and specify the actions and activities that led to your nomination of the individual(s) for this award. Include any additional information, including press clippings or news footage for our consideration. You may attach additional pages. Please type or print clearly.

EXAMPLE

During the qualifying timeframe for this award, the Detective personally investigated 2,204 missing person cases. He recovered over 1,500 missing juveniles, some of whom were victims of violent crimes, neglect, or who were trying to escape other forms of danger or violence. Some examples of his exemplary work include:

In June 2005, the Detective investigated the case of a 17-year-old runaway. He established a rapport with the girl's family and learned that the missing girl and some friends may have been involved in the murder of a Puerto Rican police officer. The Detective pursued the matter and discovered that the girl was in another state. The Detective issued a nationwide B.O.L.O for the girl, and the tactic paid off. She was stopped by the police and taken into protective custody. The ensuing investigation revealed that her friends, not she, had killed the police officer. The Detective's investigative efforts not only found the missing girl, they solved a terrible crime.

In July 2005, a 14-year-old girl in child protective custody was reported missing. The investigation revealed that the missing girl was the victim of sexual abuse at the hands of her father, hence her placement in protective shelter. It was suspected that the mother was trying to reunite the family, as the father had just been released from police custody. Fearing this would further expose the child to harm, the Detective contacted FDLE, and the child's information was placed on the FDLE website. He then attempted to locate either parent. His suspicions proved true, and he was able to safely recover the child, while thwarting the parents' plan to reconnect, thus sparing the child a life of misery and future abuses.

In August 2005, a woman reported her 14-year-old stepdaughter missing. A note left by the child suggested she had run away to avoid neglect at the hands of her stepmother. A search of the missing girl's school records revealed she was absent 47 days in the 2005 school year and was failing classes. The Detective eventually located the missing child and conducted a thorough interview. She described being given out-of-date food to eat and being forced to miss school in order to complete chores for her other siblings. The Detective pursued prosecution efforts against the stepmother. The girl was successfully placed with other family members, is attending school regularly, and has improved her grades.

In November 2005, the Detective investigated the case of a 16-year-old missing girl whose friends reported that they believed she was using illegal narcotics and may be in the company of two men. He developed information indicating that the girl might be at a residence which was a suspected "teen sex slave operation". The girl was located at this residence where underage girls were being "sold" to local men, and were being held there by the supply of narcotics, and in some cases by physical abuse. The recovery of the missing girl and arrest of the suspects was publicized in the local news media.

These examples of the many successes of the Detective's speak to his skills and tenacity as an investigator. His ability to empathize with, both the missing children and their worried loved ones, as well as his dedicated professionalism make him an outstanding candidate for this award.



2009-2010 Florida Missing Children's Day Award Nomination Submission Form for TRAILING TEAM OF THE YEAR



Your Name:	Daytime Telephone Number:
Address:	Email Address:
Relation to Nominee (s):	

Thank you for considering nominees for the 2009-2010 Florida Missing Children's Day Awards. Winners will be selected by the Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse Advisory Board under the auspices of FDLE. The awards will be presented on September 13, 2010 at the formal ceremony in Tallahassee, FL. **Please fax your nominations to FDLE/MEPIC Attention: Patricia Rutherford at 850-410-8744 or mail to: Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse, P. O. Box 1489, Tallahassee, FL 32302-1489.**

DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS IS TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2010

The nominee must meet the following criteria.

1. The activity warranting nomination must have occurred in the state of Florida during January 1, 2009 thru April 30, 2010; and
2. The activity can be determined to be exceptional, extraordinary, outstanding, or heroic, and that such activity resulted in the safe recovery or location of a missing child.

NOMINEE(S) INFORMATION:

Name of Nominee:	Rank of Handler:
Employer/Department:	Daytime Telephone Number:
Work Address:	Email Address:
Name of Supervisor:	Daytime Telephone Number: Email Address:
Name of Dog:	Breed:
Age of Dog:	Picture of Dog and Handler enclosed? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Concerning the case(s) of: Name(s) of Children	Agency Case Number:
Name and address of custodial parents:	
Evening Telephone Number:	Daytime Telephone Number: Picture of child(ren) enclosed? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide detailed information concerning the case investigation. Be sure to describe the role of the nominee(s) and specify the actions and activities that led to your nomination of the individual(s) for this award. The information should include weather and environmental conditions, age of the trail, type of scent article – if any, length of trail, types of surface and other relevant circumstances or difficulties of the trailing effort as well as the outcome. You may include any additional information, including press clippings or news footage for our consideration. You may attach additional pages. Please type or print clearly.

EXAMPLE

On July 12, 2005, a six-year-old little girl went missing after being dropped off by her summer camp bus near her home. When she did not arrive home at the expected time, the Sheriff's Office received a frantic 911 call from the mother. Friends and neighbors had searched unsuccessfully for two hours.

Under the direction of the Corporal, the Deputy and his canine were called to the scene. The canine scented on a towel of the girl's, in the parking lot of the community. The canine trailed the child's scent to an area where the utilities were located, then to a mobile home. After investigating the yard, the canine continued through the community, arriving at another mobile home. After investigating the patio there, the canine trailed around the home to the backyard. The canine went up to a child who was playing with a group of children. As a result, the missing child was returned safely to her mother.

Even though it was 92 degrees, the track was two-hours-old, and there were a number of loose dogs, cats, and some 100 people in the area, the team, in spite of these distractions, and the canine were able to find the child quickly. This action saved law enforcement manpower and other expenses, as well as, saved the child's mother and the community unnecessary prolonged anguish.

As a result of this case, the trailing team has been placed on the Child Abduction Response Team (CART) which is activated for Amber Alerts.

This trailing team received two separate nominations for this award.



2009-2010 Florida Missing Children's Day Award Nomination Submission Form for STATE / FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR



Your Name:	Daytime Telephone Number:
Address:	Email Address:
Relation to Nominee (s):	

Thank you for considering nominees for the 2009-2010 Florida Missing Children's Day Awards. Winners will be selected by the Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse Advisory Board under the auspices of FDLE. The awards will be presented on September 13, 2010 at the formal ceremony in Tallahassee, FL. **Please fax your nominations to FDLE/MEPIC Attention: Patricia Rutherford at 850-410-8744 or mail to: Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse, P. O. Box 1489, Tallahassee, FL 32302-1489.**

DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS IS TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2010

The nominee must meet the following criteria. He/she must:

1. have been a sworn, active law enforcement officer during the case investigation;
2. be employed in Florida by a federal government agency;
3. be in good standing with his/her department;
4. have no departmental or other charges currently pending against him/her;
5. have performed an investigative activity January 1, 2009 thru April 30, 2010 that can be determined to be exceptional, extraordinary, outstanding, or beyond the call of duty, and that such activity has resulted in the safe recovery or location of a missing child, or solved a case involving serial child homicide or child sexual exploitation; OR
6. made a significant contribution to missing children issues through the development and/or implementation of a educational, awareness, or safety program.

NOMINEE(S) INFORMATION:

Name of Nominee:	Department:
Rank:	Daytime Telephone Number:
Work Address:	Email Address:
Name of Supervisor:	Daytime Telephone Number: Email Address:
Concerning the case(s) of: Name(s) of Children	Agency Case Number:
Name of child(ren) custodial parents:	
Current address of custodial parents:	
Evening Telephone Number:	Daytime Telephone Number:

Please provide detailed information concerning the case investigation. Be sure to describe the role of the nominee(s) and specify the actions and activities that led to your nomination of the individual(s) for this award. Include any additional information, including press clippings or news footage for our consideration. You may attach additional pages. Please type or print clearly.

EXAMPLE

The Special Agent made a significant contribution to missing children issues through the development and implementation of a new preventive measure called the Safe Online Surfing (SOS) Program.

The Special Agent developed private partnerships to create this new Internet safety initiative designed for use in schools to prevent the online enticement of children by sexual predators. It will reach thousands of children who utilize the Internet and teach them the potential dangers of interacting with strangers online. The program is an Internet-based tutorial that incorporates a quiz, allowing students to compete for an opportunity to win scholarship dollars. The quizzes consist of questions related to online safety issues, with a focus on avoiding sexual predators that use the Internet to target, groom and victimize children.

In recent months, the SOS program has drawn the attention of local business leaders, non-profit organizations and professional sports teams, who have pledged their support. Local school boards have mandated that the SOS program be incorporated into computer familiarity curriculum in the upcoming 2006-2007 school year. This decision will lead to an anticipated 35,000 middle school-aged children completing the SOS tutorial next year. The FBI is in the process of expanding the SOS program to other field divisions throughout the country.

An educational program such as the SOS Program is only possible if it enjoys a strong support system. The Special Agent has worked tirelessly, while continuing to manage his investigative caseload of crimes against children matters, to elicit the support of countless agencies, businesses and schools, in order to help children avoid becoming victims of abduction and sexual victimization, through the SOS Program.

This is the kind of effort that deserves recognition. The Special Agent's contribution extends beyond his efforts on a specific case with a specific victim. His efforts, through the SOS Program, will have an affect on thousands of potential victims of sexual predators, empowering them through knowledge and enabling them to stay safe while enjoying the Internet.



2009-2010 Florida Missing Children's Day Award Nomination Submission Form for SCHOOL BUS OPERATOR OF THE YEAR



Your Name:	Daytime Telephone Number:
Address:	Email Address:
Relation to Nominee (s):	

Thank you for considering nominees for the 2009-2010 Florida Missing Children's Day Awards. Winners will be selected by the Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse Advisory Board under the auspices of FDLE. The awards will be presented on September 13, 2010 at the formal ceremony in Tallahassee, FL. **Please fax your nominations to FDLE/MEPIC Attention: Patricia Rutherford at 850-410-8744 or mail to her at: Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse, P. O. Box 1489, Tallahassee, FL 32302-1489.**

DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS IS TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2010

The nominee must meet the following criteria.

1. The activity warranting nomination must have occurred while on duty as a School Bus Operator in the state of Florida during January 1, 2009 thru April 30, 2010; and
2. The activity can be determined to be exceptional, extraordinary, outstanding, or heroic, and that such activity resulted in the prevention of a child abduction, or the recovery of a child from a situation of imminent danger

NOMINEE(S) INFORMATION:

Name of Nominee:	
Address:	Email Address:
Evening Telephone Number:	Daytime Telephone Number:
Name of Supervisor:	Daytime Telephone Number: Email Address
Concerning the case(s) of: Name(s) of Children	Agency Case Number:
Name and Current address of custodial parents:	
Evening Telephone Number:	Daytime Telephone Number:

Please provide detailed information concerning the case investigation. Be sure to describe the role of the nominee(s) and specify the actions and activities that led to your nomination of the individual(s) for this award. Include any additional information, including press clippings or news footage for our consideration. You may attach additional pages. Please type or print clearly.

EXAMPLE

While training a group of new school bus drivers, the bus operator observed a young child walking beside a busy two lane road. The child appeared to be too young to be in school, so she had the trainee stop nearby. The bus operator questioned the child about where she was going and how old she was. The reply was that she was eight-years-old.

Clearly, the child was not eight-years-old. The bus operator contacted the closest elementary school and established that the child was not enrolled. Enlisting the help of a Spanish speaking trainee, she obtained further information from the child. She contacted the police for assistance.

While the police were taking the report, the mother of the child came running, looking for her daughter. It was learned that the child was four-years-old and several blocks from her home. The child had left the house to follow her aunt to the local middle school. That was when the bus operator spotted her along the road.

The bus operator should be commended for her quick action and follow through to ensure the safety of this child and return to her mother.



2009-2010 Florida Missing Children's Day Award Nomination Submission Form for CITIZEN OF THE YEAR



Your Name:	Daytime Telephone Number:
Address:	Email Address:
Relation to Nominee (s):	

Thank you for considering nominees for the 2009-2010 Florida Missing Children's Day Awards. Winners will be selected by the Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse Advisory Board under the auspices of FDLE. The awards will be presented on September 13, 2010 at the formal ceremony in Tallahassee, FL. **Please fax your nominations to FDLE/MEPIC Attention: Patricia Rutherford at 850-410-8744 or mail to: Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse, P. O. Box 1489, Tallahassee, FL 32302-1489.**

DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS IS TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2010

The nominee must meet the following criteria.

1. The activity warranting nomination must have occurred in the state of Florida during January 1, 2009 thru April 30, 2010; and
2. The activity can be determined to be exceptional, extraordinary, outstanding, or heroic, and that such activity resulted in the prevention of a child abduction, or the recovery of a child from a situation of imminent danger

NOMINEE(S) INFORMATION:

Name:	
Address:	Email Address:
Evening Telephone Number:	Daytime Telephone Number:
Concerning the case(s) of: Name(s) of Children	Agency Case Number:
Name of child(ren) custodial parents:	
Current address of custodial parents:	
Evening Telephone Number:	Daytime Telephone Number:

Please provide detailed information concerning the case investigation. Be sure to describe the role of the nominee(s) and specify the actions and activities that led to your nomination of the individual(s) for this award. Include any additional information, including press clippings or news footage for our consideration. You may attach additional pages. Please type or print clearly.

EXAMPLE

On January 4, 2006, the citizen, who is an owner-manager of the Hotel, provided information and action that led to the identification and arrest of a convicted sex offender who tried unsuccessfully to check into the hotel with the nine-year-old daughter of the offender's female companion.

When the offender came into the hotel office trying to rent a room, the citizen looked outside and observed a girl slumped down in the passenger seat of the car. Upon questioning, the offender appeared nervous and was vague regarding the child, and subsequently left the office.

Before the offender drove away, the citizen obtained the license number and called 911. This led to an immediate search for the offender and the girl by the Sheriff's Office. She was located at an elementary school, where she revealed that she had been molested on the way to school.

The registered sex offender, whose probation had expired the week before, was arrested and charged with interference with child custody, lewd and lascivious battery on a child, and false imprisonment of a child. He was also held without bond.

The citizen is commended for his quick thinking and valuable assistance to the Sheriff's Office, which prevented this child from being further victimized.



2009-2010 Florida Missing Children's Day Award Nomination Submission Form for LAW ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE/TEAM OF THE YEAR



Your Name:	Daytime Telephone Number:
Address:	Email Address:
Relation to Nominee (s):	

Thank you for considering nominees for the 2009-2010 Florida Missing Children's Day Awards. Winners will be selected by the Missing Endangered Person Information Clearinghouse Advisory Board under the auspices of FDLE. The awards will be presented on September 13, 2010 at the formal ceremony in Tallahassee, FL. **Please fax your nominations to FDLE/MEPIC Attention: Patricia Rutherford at 850-410-8744 or mail to: Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse, P O Box 1489, Tallahassee, FL 32302-1489.**

DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS IS TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2010

The nominee must meet the following criteria. He/she must:

1. have been a sworn, active law enforcement officer during the case investigation;
2. be employed in Florida and worked as a group of two or more people;
3. be in good standing with his/her department;
4. have no departmental or other charges currently pending against him/her;
5. have performed an investigative activity during January 1, 2009 thru April 30, 2010 that can be determined to be exceptional, extraordinary, outstanding, or beyond the call of duty, and that such activity has resulted in the safe recovery or location of a missing child, or solved a case involving serial child homicide or child sexual exploitation; OR
6. made a significant contribution to missing children issues through the development and/or implementation of an educational, awareness, or safety program.

NOMINEE(S) INFORMATION:

Name of Nominee:	Department:
Rank:	Daytime Telephone Number:
Work Address:	Email Address:
Name of Supervisor:	Daytime Telephone Number: Email Address
Name of Task Force or Group:	
Concerning the case(s) of: Name(s) of Children	Agency Case Number
Name of child(ren) custodial parents:	
Current address of custodial parents:	
Evening Telephone Number:	Daytime Telephone Number:

Please provide detailed information concerning the case investigation. Be sure to describe the role of the nominee(s) and specify the actions and activities that led to your nomination of the individual(s) for this award. Include any additional information, including press clippings or news footage for our consideration. You may attach additional pages. Please type or print clearly.

EXAMPLE

An agency requested assistance in identifying the victim, the location of the offense and the offender in a child exploitation investigation.

The Commander and the Sergeant led the investigation, which resulted in pinpointing dates images were taken by sifting through volumes of hotel registrations for a ten month period. They also located other clues including the identification of a motorcycle in one of the images.

As a result of this detailed investigative work, the victim was identified, and revealed that she had been a victim of ongoing abuse from the time she arrived in the United States with the suspect.

This case presented investigators with very unique challenges and legal obstacles. Working with very minimal clues and only photographic evidence, they were able to piece together an event timeline which ultimately led to the identification of the suspect and victim. U.S. and Canadian law enforcement officials working in unison were able to disseminate information to the public without violating the legal rights or dignity of the victim portrayed in photos. The tedious investigative work ultimately led to a successful identification of the victim and the prosecution of the suspect.

From its inception, the Commander directed the course of the investigation, and was the liaison between two countries, local, state, and federal agencies, and the myriad of child protection organizations which ultimately became involved in this case.