



Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives

In - Service Training

Course Instructions

- ◆ The Course is temporally offline. It will be added to POST online library within Benchmark shortly.
- ◆ This course satisfactorily fulfills one of the required In-Service Training requirements within the C.R.S 24-31-315. (5-Year cycle)
- ◆ Use the shareable link to access the information. Access to the shared file will be monitored.
- ◆ Please review the course in Presentation or PDF format
- ◆ Once the course is completed, please have the training history manager input the training as “POST MMIR In-Service Training.”
- ◆ Contact POST trainingpost@coag.gov with any concerns.



Course Sections

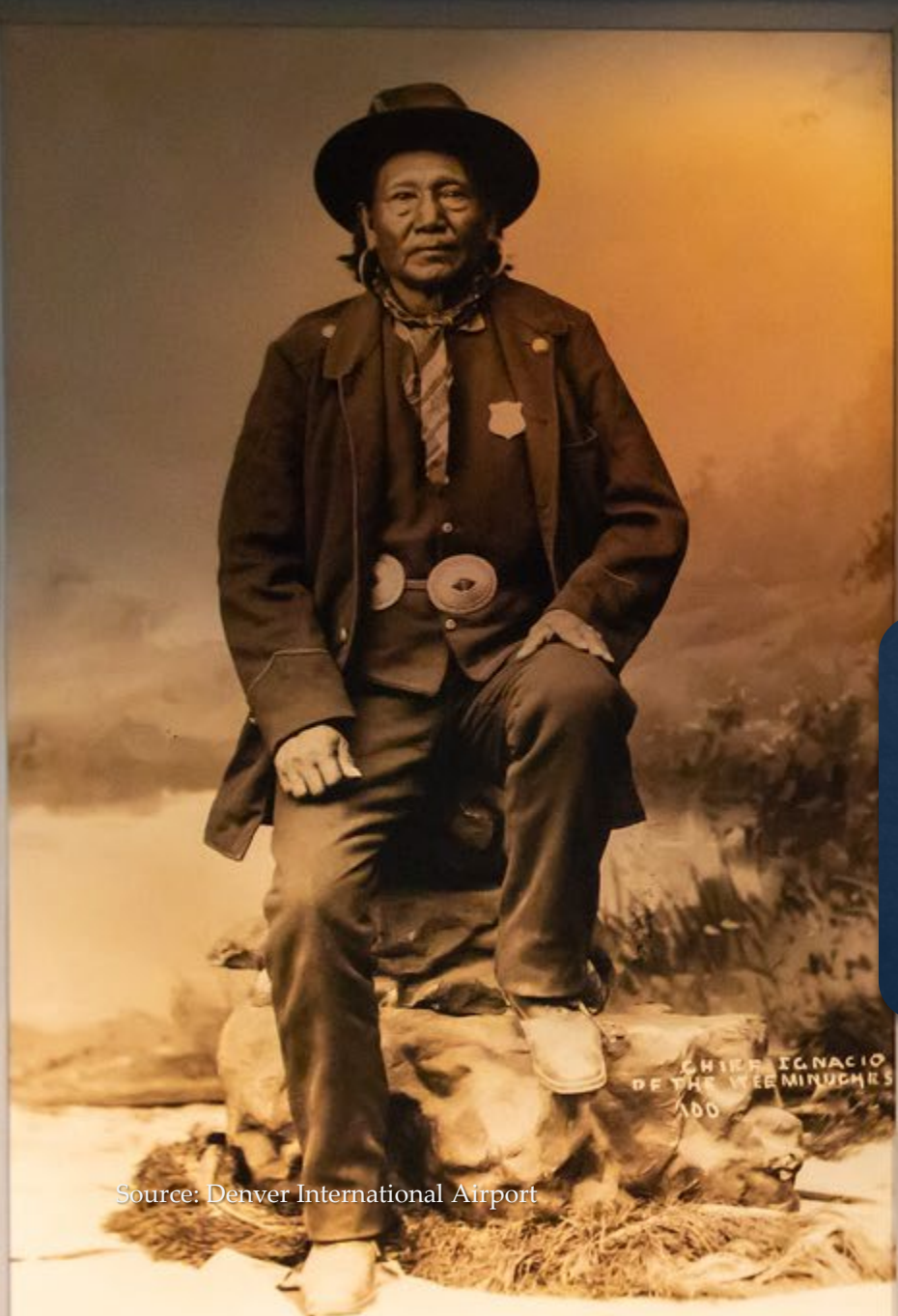
Introduction

Cultural Awareness

Jurisdiction Consideration

Investigative Procedures

Missing Person, Unresolved Cases, and Death Investigation



Source: Denver International Airport

UTE



Introduction



Not only a rural issue

- ❖ 2020 Census report that 74,129 people who identify as American Indian/Alaska Native alone live in Colorado
- ❖ Over 100,000 in combination with one or more races in Colorado.

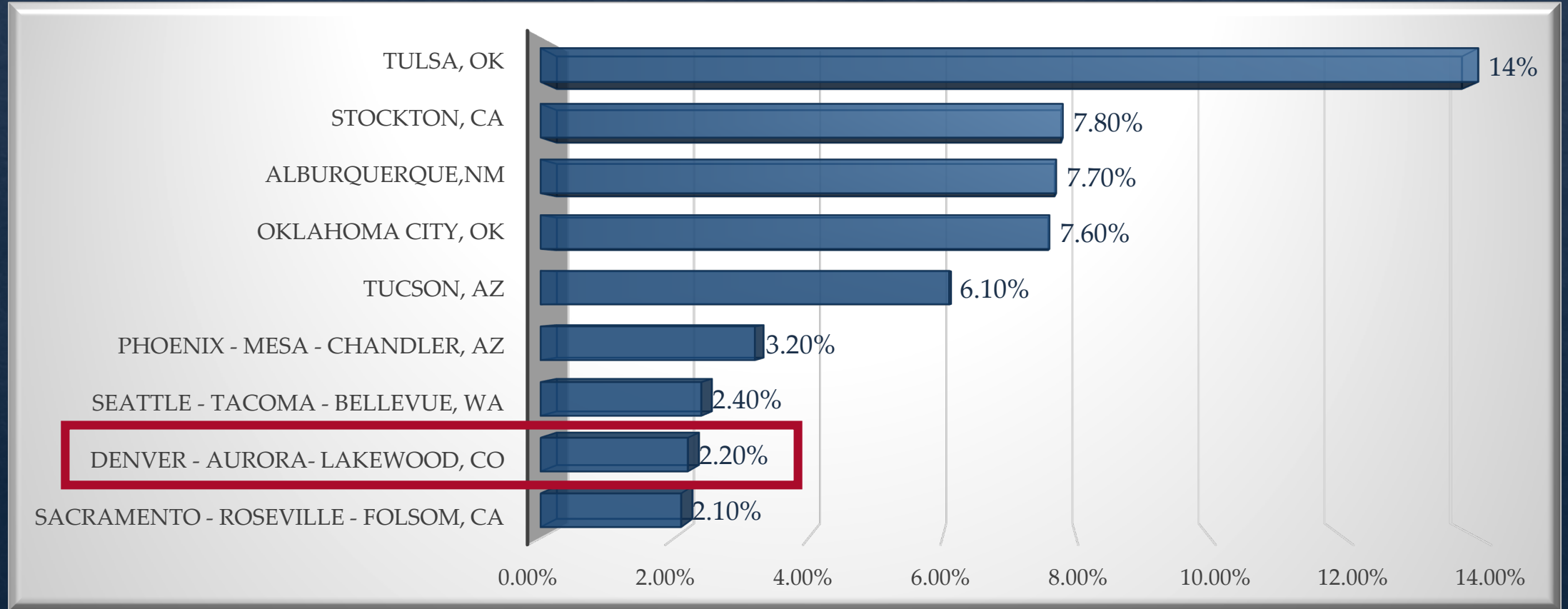
71%

Of American Indian /Alaska Native live in urban areas

Of American Indian /Alaska Native live in urban Indians are Tribal people currently living off Federally-defined Tribal lands in urban areas.



Metropolitan Areas with highest Percentage of American Indian or Alaska Native Population 2019



Why do cases remain Unsolved?

- ❖ Lack of actionable leads or forensic evidence
- ❖ Investigator turnover
- ❖ Absence of witnesses
- ❖ The reluctance of witnesses to cooperate or testify
- ❖ Limitation of resources
- ❖ Incomplete understanding use of existing resources



(Adcock 2021; Davis, Jensen, and Kitchens 2011; Moran 2021)



Issues with Missing Persons Cases

- ◆ Jurisdictional Issues
- ◆ Lack of Coordination and relationships between tribal and non-tribal law enforcement agencies.
- ◆ Racial (mis)classification when entering the cases into databases

- ❖ The right to go missing. “going missing”
Criminal or non-criminal
- ❖ Lack of policies mandating the entry of missing persons into national data systems
- ❖ Lack of standardized definitions of missing persons
- ❖ Variation in the age of what constitutes adult status across states and jurisdiction

Challenges in Reporting, Policies, and Definitions

Underlying Issues that Involve Missing Persons

Domestic Violence

Sexual Violence

Trafficking

Substance Abuse

Mental Health Challenges

A lack of affordable housing/homelessness

Poverty





Colorado Senate Bill 22-150

Concerning Responding to the Missing Indigenous Persons Crisis, And, in Connection therewith, Establishing The Office of Liaison For Missing And Murdered Indigenous Relatives and Making Appropriation

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives



CRS § 24-31-319

- ◆ Post Board shall work with the Office of Liaison for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives.
- ◆ Develop and Facilitate Training for Peace Officers.
- ◆ Beginning January 1, 2023, the Basic Academy curriculum and Annual In-Service training programs must include training.



Executive Order 13898

- ◆ On November 26, 2019, President Trump Signed Executive Order 13898
- ◆ Creating a Task Force on Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives.
- ◆ Enhance the operation of the criminal justice system and address concerns
- ◆ Particularly missing and murdered women and girls.



Executive Order 13898

Develop	Establish	Address	Conduct
Develop Model Protocols and Procedures to apply to new and unsolved cases	Establish a multi-disciplinary, multi-jurisdictional team including reps from Tribal Law Enforcement, Department of Justice (DOJ) and Department of Interior (DOI).	Address the need for clarity concerning roles, authorities, and jurisdiction	Conduct appropriate consultations with Tribal governments

Operation Lady Justice

Initial Findings From Experts

- ◆ Authority and Jurisdiction of Tribal, Federal, State, and Local Agencies
- ◆ Reporting protocols, Initial Investigation
- ◆ Community Prevention Training & Resources
- ◆ Law Enforcement Training and Resources
- ◆ Victim-centered and trauma-informed approaches



"Lady Justice" Pending permission from DG Smalling, Choctaw Nation



Not Invisible Act

Signed October 10, 2020

A Multi-jurisdictional advisory committee composed of Law Enforcement, Tribal Leaders, Federal Partners, service providers, family members of missing and murdered individuals, and survivors

Nonprofit group Seeding Sovereignty commissioned this piece by Indigenous youth artist Jackie Fawn to recognize missing and murdered Indigenous women. (Image via Facebook)

NOT INVISIBLE ACT

- Identify, report, and respond to instances of MMIP and Human Trafficking
- Track and report data on MMIP and Human Trafficking
- Consider Issues related to the hiring and retention of Law Enforcement
- Coordinate Tribal –state-federal resources to combat MMIP
- Increase information sharing

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives



SAVANNA'S ACT



Increase coordination and communication among all levels of Law Enforcement



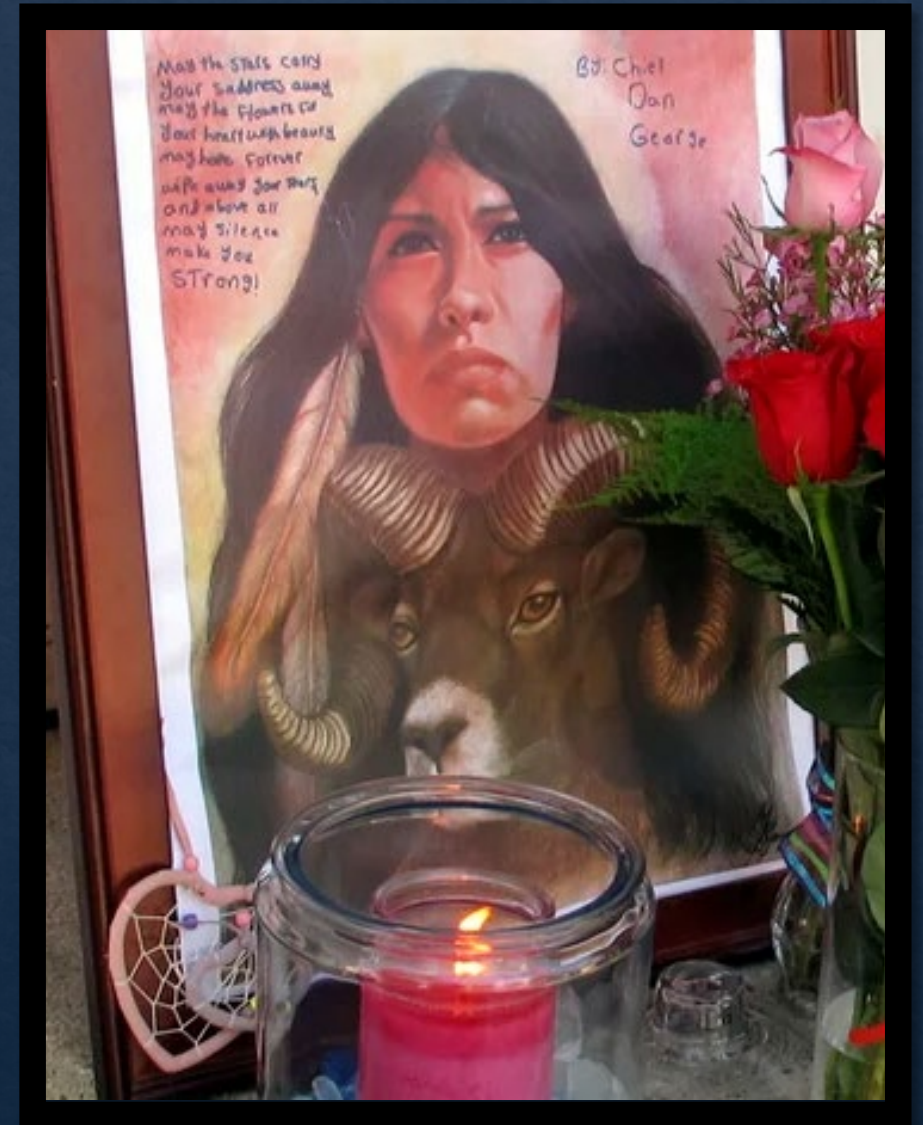
Clarifies the responsibilities of Tribal, Federal, State, and Local Law Enforcement



Improves Data collection and information sharing among all levels of government



Empowers Tribal governments with additional resources



Creator: Dave Kolpack Credit: AP

Things to consider

- ◆ Upon arrival to a new agency, it's best to meet with your advocacy groups, stakeholders, and other resources early in your training
- ◆ Review Agency procedures on missing person cases.
- ◆ Learn the services offered in your region for victims and relatives of missing persons
- ◆ Create a quick guide or use the other side of your business card to add additional resources
- ◆ Work with other levels and agencies; create a group/call-out list if beneficial.



Questions?
Observations?
Discussion?



Question #1

What two Federal Legislates bills were signed into law in 2020 that included language to:

- Create a multi-jurisdictional advisory committee
- Identify, report, and respond to instances of MMIP and human trafficking.
- Improve Data Collection and Information Sharing
- Clarifies responsibilities of Tribal, Federal, State, and local Law Enforcement.

Answer: Not Invisible Act and Savanna's Act



Question #2

Studies found a lack of policies mandating the entry of missing persons into national data systems

A. True

B. False



Cultural awareness

Credit: Denver Public Library Special Collections



"INDIGENOUS" MEANS HAVING DESCENDED FROM PEOPLE WHO WERE LIVING IN NORTH AMERICA BEFORE THE TIME PEOPLE FROM EUROPE BEGAN SETTLING IN NORTH AMERICA, BEING AN ENROLLED MEMBER OF A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED INDIAN TRIBE, OR BEING A LINEAL DESCENDANT OF A TRIBALLY ENROLLED PARENT OR GUARDIAN.

“Indigenous”



Term “Indian”

Term “Indian” is used throughout the Presentation and Manual

Used in Federal Laws, journals, and research as an identifying term for an Indigenous person

For clarity and continuity, the term will be used only when necessary for referencing and less confusion.



Terms or Phrases to Avoid

“Indian Princess”

“Low man on the totem pole”

“Sitting Indian style”

“Let’s have a wow”

“too many chiefs, not enough Indians”

“Indian giver”

“circle the wagon”



Historical Overview



Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives

American Indian Boarding Schools

American Indian Residential Schools

- ❖ BIA established its first School in 1860 and continued until 1978
- ❖ Goal was to educate through the “assimilation” of Indian Tribes into the “American way of Life.”
- ❖ Reformers said this was necessary to “civilize” Indian people
- ❖ Documentation of ethnicity was often time misclassified



Credit: Museums of Western Colorado

Lasting Effects of Assimilation



- ◇ Boarding Schools were originally mandated
- ◇ After the mandate, many children still attended boarding school as there was no other school
- ◇ Schools existed until 1978

Source: The Indigenous Foundation: Two portraits of Tom Torlino. Photographs, courtesy of the Cumberland County Historical Society, Carlisle, Pennsylvania

Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)

- ◇ ICWA was enacted in 1978
- ◇ Congress found that a one-third of Native Children were removed from their homes between 1941 and 1967
- ◇ ICWA established minimum federal standards for removing the native children.
- ◇ Some of the standards included:
 - ◇ Proper notification to the Tribe by state courts
 - ◇ Preference be given to child's extended family
 - ◇ Then to other members of the tribe



Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) II

- ❖ Still, today Native American children are at a higher rate in the U.S adoption and foster care system
- ❖ In November of 2022, this is actively being challenged in the U.S Supreme Court



Jurisdictional Considerations



All land within the limits of any Indian reservation under the jurisdiction of the U.S Government

What is Indian Country?

All dependent Indian communities within the borders of the United States whether within the original or subsequently acquired territory.



Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs

- ◆ BIA – A Federal agency since 1824
- ◆ Serves 574 Federally recognized tribes through four offices
 - ◆ Office of Indian Services – General Assistance, Child Welfare
 - ◆ Office of Justice Services - Operates or funds court & L.E Ops
 - ◆ Office of Trust Services - Manage trust lands and resources
 - ◆ Office of Field Operations - Oversees operations at the tribal level

Photo: members of the Blackfoot Tribe meeting with Commissioner of Indian Affairs John Collier in 1934. Source Library of Congress



Federal Law Enforcement Agencies



FBI FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION



ATF Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
Firearms and Explosives



DEA United States Drug Enforcement
Administration



U.S. Marshals Service

— OFFICES *of* THE —
UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS



Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives

State & local Agencies

- ❖ Many Sheriffs office and municipal agencies have Cross-deputize and Law Enforcement memoranda of Understanding (MOU)
- ❖ There is no “cross deputize” for federal Officers. Certain qualified Federal Officers may use the Colorado POST Provisional to become Colorado POST certified.
- ❖ The Southern Ute Police Department (SUPD) patrols 677,622 acres spread throughout three counties.
- ❖ Works in conjunction with the town of Ignacio. The Ignacio Police Department has Jurisdiction in the city.
- ❖ Southern Ute Indian Tribe is predominately in La Plata County



Investigate Assistance

- ❖ Colorado Bureau of Investigation – Missing Person Unit
 - ❖ Assists local Law Enforcement and other organization in locating and recovering missing children and adults
 - ❖ Manages the MIPA Missing Indigenous Person Alert
- ❖ Colorado Bureau of Investigation – Human Trafficking Child Exploitation
 - ❖ Multi-agency investigative team that assists local Colorado Law Enforcement
 - ❖ CBI provides training related to human trafficking



Credit: CBI Missing Person Unit

Jurisdictional Complexity

18 USC 1152 General Crimes Act

18 USC 1153 Major Crimes Act

Public Law 280 (Where & Who it applies)

Public Law 290

Tribal Law and Order Act

Violence Against Woman Act 2013 & Reauthorization of 2022

Special Domestic Violence Jurisdictional Criminal Jurisdiction (SDVJC)



18 USC 1152 General Crimes Act

- ◇ Indian country Crimes Act creates federal court jurisdiction for certain types of offenses
- ◇ Committed by Indians against non-Indian victims
- ◇ All offenses committed by non-Indians against Indian victims. This also applies when the offender is Indian, and the victim is non-Indian.

18 USC 1153 Major Crimes Act

- ◇ Enacted in 1885
- ◇ Federal criminal jurisdiction over certain enumerated crimes
- ◇ Defendant is Indian
- ◇ It has exclusive federal Jurisdiction over certain enumerates such as;
 - ◇ Murder
 - ◇ Assault resulting in serious bodily injury
 - ◇ Most sexual offense, etc



Public Law 280

Enacted in 1953

Removed federal government authority to prosecute Indian country crimes(MCA and General Crimes)

Authorizes six states to prosecute most crimes that occurred in Indian Country.

Colorado was not included in PL-280.



Guide to Indian Country Jurisdiction

Not affected by PL 280/State Jurisdiction

Indian Status	Type of Crime Major Crime (as defined by Major Crimes Act (MCA))	All Other Crimes
Indian perpetrator, Indian Victim*	Federal (under MCA) and tribal jurisdiction	Tribal Jurisdiction
Indian perpetrator, Non-Indian Victim**	Federal (under MCA) and tribal jurisdiction	Federal (under General Crimes Act) and Tribal Jurisdiction
Non-Indian perpetrator, Indian Victim	Federal Jurisdiction(under General crimes act. ***	Federal (under General crimes act Jurisdiction ***
Non-Indian perpetrator, Non-Indian Victim	State Jurisdiction	State Jurisdiction



Source: <https://www.tribal-institute.org/lists/jurisdiction.htm>

Public Law 98-290



- ◆ May 21, 1984
- ◆ Resolving Boundaries of Southern Ute Indian Reservation
- ◆ Treaty was created in 1868, defining jurisdiction, including persons other than Indians and property.



Tribal Law & Order Act

- ◆ Enacted in 2010
- ◆ Provides rights to defendants regarding prosecution under Tribal Law
- ◆ To be prosecute certain crimes under triable Authority:
 - ◆ Effective assistance of counsel for defendants
 - ◆ Free, appointed, licensed attorneys for indigent defendants
 - ◆ Law-trained tribal judges who are also licensed to practice law
 - ◆ Publicly available tribal criminal laws and rules
 - ◆ Recorded criminal proceedings



Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) 2013

Tribal Authority to:

Investigate, prosecute, convict, and sentence both Indian and non-Indian

Who assault Indian spouses or dating partners or violate a protection order in Indian county.



VAWA Criminal over non- Indians

- Assault of Tribal justice personnel;
- Child violence;
- Dating violence;
- Domestic violence;
- Obstruction of justice;
- Sexual violence;
- Sex trafficking;
- Stalking; and
- Criminal violations of protection orders.

Not Covered in VAWA 2013

Crimes will generally no be covered:

- ❖ Crimes committed outside of Indian county
- ❖ Crime between two non-Indians
- ❖ Crimes between two strangers, including sexual assaults
- ❖ Crime committed by a person who lacks sufficient ties to the tribe (Living or working on reservation
- ❖ Child abuse or elder abuse that does not involve the violation of a protection order.




Question

- ◊ A crime defined or meets the scope of the General Crimes Act that has been committed within “Indian Country”
- ◊ The status of the accused is determined to be “Non-Indian”
- ◊ The Victim’s status is “Indian”

Does this Fall under Federal Jurisdiction? **Yes** or NO





Investigations



Domestic Violence



Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives

Domestic Violence

American Indians and Alaska natives see Domestic violence at a higher rate than non-AI/AN. Nearly 3 million have been victims of some form of violence, such as stalking, Sexual Violence, Physical violence by an intimate partner, and Psychological aggression by intimate partners, including nearly 80% of AI/AN Men.



Signs of Trauma

Can include:

- ❖ Nausea, flashbacks, trembling, memory gaps, fear, and anger. These can lead to behaviors that police may misinterpret as not cooperating, appearing adversarial, or behaving in an aggressive manner.
- ❖ Hypervigilance or constant state of arousal. This may appear as the person being hostile, particularly when they are feeling threatened.
- ❖ Disengaging, “tuning out,” They may feel numb and show no outward signs of distress, which police can interpret as suggesting that there is little or no trauma because the person is not acting out.



- ❖ Officers should allow-if possible- the traumatized person to vent about his or her feelings and should reflect those feelings. Listen attentively with a nonjudgmental demeanor. Approach victims by asking, “What has happened to you?” instead of “What is wrong with you?”

Signs of Trauma

(Source: Author; Altovise Love-Craighead: Vera.org: building trust through trauma-informed policing)



Scene Safety & Security

- ◆ Follow agency protocols
- ◆ Whenever possible, request for backup
- ◆ When possible, review the previous history of DV
 - ◆ Presence of weapons
- ◆ Ask Dispatch to inquiry for more details:
 - ◆ From the Caller
 - ◆ Scene situation
 - ◆ Suspects relationship



Be an advocate

- ◇ Officer Police report is Especially important in a Domestic Violence incident.
- ◇ When speaking with a missing Indigenous Persons relative or community:
 - ◇ Use active listening skills
 - ◇ Speak in a calm slow voice
 - ◇ Use Non- Judgmental Language (avoid terms that may be considered harmful)
 - ◇ Explain need for obtaining sensitive information
 - ◇ be mindful of location of interview and who may see or hear the conversation



Agency Engagement

- ◆ Agencies shall continuously work closely to create a model policy and procedures with the following:
 - ◆ Tribal court Staff,
 - ◆ Tribal Behavioral Health Staff,
 - ◆ Chief Judges,
 - ◆ Tribal Council,
 - ◆ Tribal Elders Council,
 - ◆ And community members



Source: National American Indian Court

Elder Abuse

- ◆ Elder Abuse is a global problem. Yearly, over 5 million older Americans are victims of elder Abuse, neglect, or exploitation, with many going unreported. With an increase in the population of those 60 and older, it is essential to understand some of the indicators of possible elder Abuse, such as:
 - ◆ A. Bruises, pressure marks, broken bones, neglect
 - ◆ B. Poor hygiene, unusual weight loss, and Bedsores
 - ◆ C. Sudden changes in Financial situations
- ◆ “Neglect could include emotional and psychological abuse, physical abuse, financial and material exploitation. Elders in the Native American community may also face Spiritual Abuse, denying access to ceremonies or traditional healing”. These indicators are inconclusive and may be indicators of other health or violence.



Sexual Violence section

- ❖ A case involving Sexual Violence is complex that involves not only Law Enforcement but, Health Care Providers, Advocates/Victim Services, Prosecutors/Attorneys, and other Integral Stake holders. Understanding your roles, Evidence Gathering, and support for the Survivor and Families are crucial.
- ❖ Understand your agency policies and response



Religious and Spiritual Leader

- ◆ Religious and Spiritual leaders play an important role in the safety of the Survivor.
- ◆ Many Communities have the most trust in their Spiritual leaders and the Survivors will need their support.
- ◆ Other Stakeholders can include:
 - ◆ Educators
 - ◆ Mental Health providers
 - ◆ Shelters/community programs



- ❖ Preying on those who appear vulnerable
- ❖ The (incorrect) perception that L.E may not take enforcement action on Tribal Land
- ❖ The perception that Law Enforcement from state and local entities does not work well with Tribal Law Enforcement
- ❖ That Native American victims are invisible to law enforcement and the community

Why Traffickers May Target Native Communities

Source: DHS BLUE Campaign



Human Trafficking Indicators

Indicators of a victim

Signs that indicate lack of freedom

Scripted Responses (Coached)

Financial dependance

Appears anxious, guarded, nervous

Signs of control

Denial and attempt to appear unharmed

Distrustful, fear being arrested (Undocumented victims)

Source: DHS BLUE Campaign

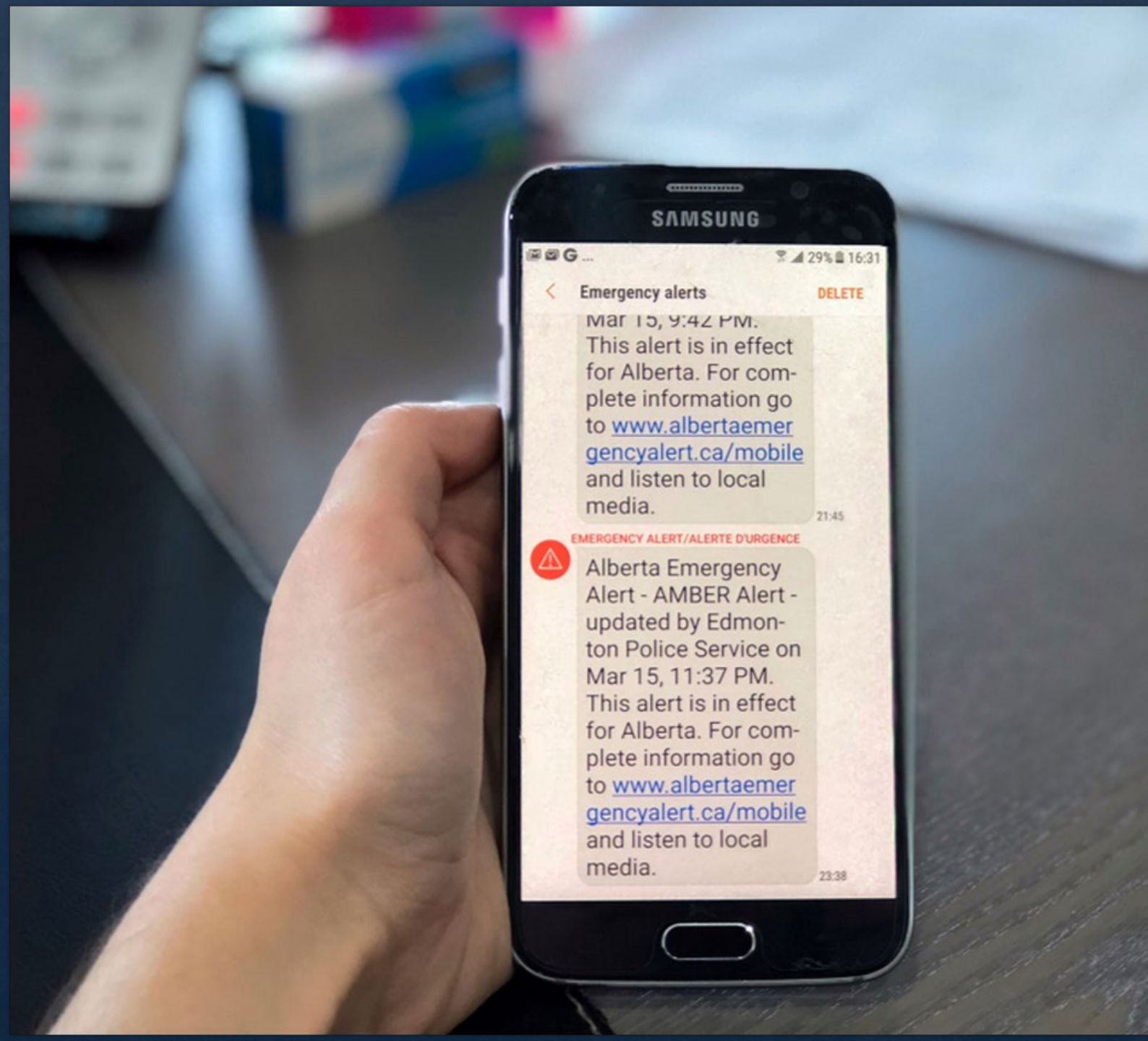


Where does Sex Trafficking take place?

- ◇ Homes
- ◇ Bus stations
- ◇ “Man camps”
- ◇ Hotels
- ◇ Truck Stops
- ◇ Casinos
- ◇ Powwows
- ◇ Internet
- ◇ Massage parlors
- ◇ Escort Services
- ◇ Shopping malls
- ◇ Shelters
- ◇ Schools, Tribal community Colleges
- ◇ Streets
- ◇ Bars/Strip Clubs



Missing Person & Death Investigation



Section Topics

- ◆ Missing person Cases procedures
- ◆ Missing Person procedures, Reporting Duties, and Database entry
- ◆ Evidence collection and DNA protocol for Indigenous persons
- ◆ Unresolved case Investigations Protocols



Missing Person – Acceptance

§16.2.7-102

Law Enforcement agency shall accept without delay if:

- (a) The missing person resides, or was last known to reside, in Colorado; or
- (b) There is credible information indicating that the missing person was last believed to be in Colorado.

A Law Enforcement shall not refuse acceptance of missing person based on time



Missing Person report – Response

CRS 16-2.7-103

18 Years of age or older

- ◆ Law Enforcement agency shall:
 - ◆ within Eight hours after receiving report
 - ◆ Enter any relevant information into the CCIC
 - ◆ As appropriate, contact other L.E agency's that may assist

Under 18 years old

- ◆ Law Enforcement agency shall:
 - ◆ Within Two hours after receiving report
 - ◆ Notify CBI and,
 - ◆ Enter any relevant information into the CCIC



Suppose the missing person is indigenous. In that case, the best course of action for the law enforcement agency includes appropriate communications with other law enforcement agencies that may assist in locating the missing indigenous person. Additionally, the law enforcement agency shall notify the Colorado Bureau of Investigation within eight hours after receiving a report of a missing adult or within two hours after receiving a report of a missing child.

Missing Person Report – Response §16-2.7-103



Mandatory Reporting of Missing Children

“Suzanne’s Law”

- ◇ Part of the National “Amber Alert”
- ◇ Amends the Crime and Control Act of 1990
- ◇ Federal Law requiring Law Enforcement to notify NCIC any Time
- ◇ When someone between the age of 18 and 21 is reported missing



Database Entries

- ❖ Missing Indigenous Person Alert (MIPA)
- ❖ Colorado Criminal Information Center (CCIC)
- ❖ National Criminal Information Center (NCIC)
- ❖ National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)
- ❖ National Missing and Unidentified Person System (NamUs)
- ❖ Colorado Bureau of Investigation Indigenous person Missing person case (2023)



Missing Indigenous Person Alert (MIPA)

- ◆ Program created through Colorado SB 22-150 (Office of Missing and Murdered Relatives)
- ◆ Initiates on December 30, 2022
- ◆ Law Enforcement agency that receives a Report of a missing indigenous Person;

Must notify CBI;

Within **8** hours of receiving the missing person report;

Within **2** hours of a report of a missing child.



Missing Indigenous Person Alert (MIPA) Criteria

1. The person must have gone missing from Colorado

2. The missing person must be of Indigenous decent

3. The request for a Missing Indigenous Person Alert (MIPA) must come from a law enforcement agency.

4. The missing person must be entered as missing in CCIC/NCIC and their race must be listed as (I) for Indigenous (If no option for Indigenous, select Native American)



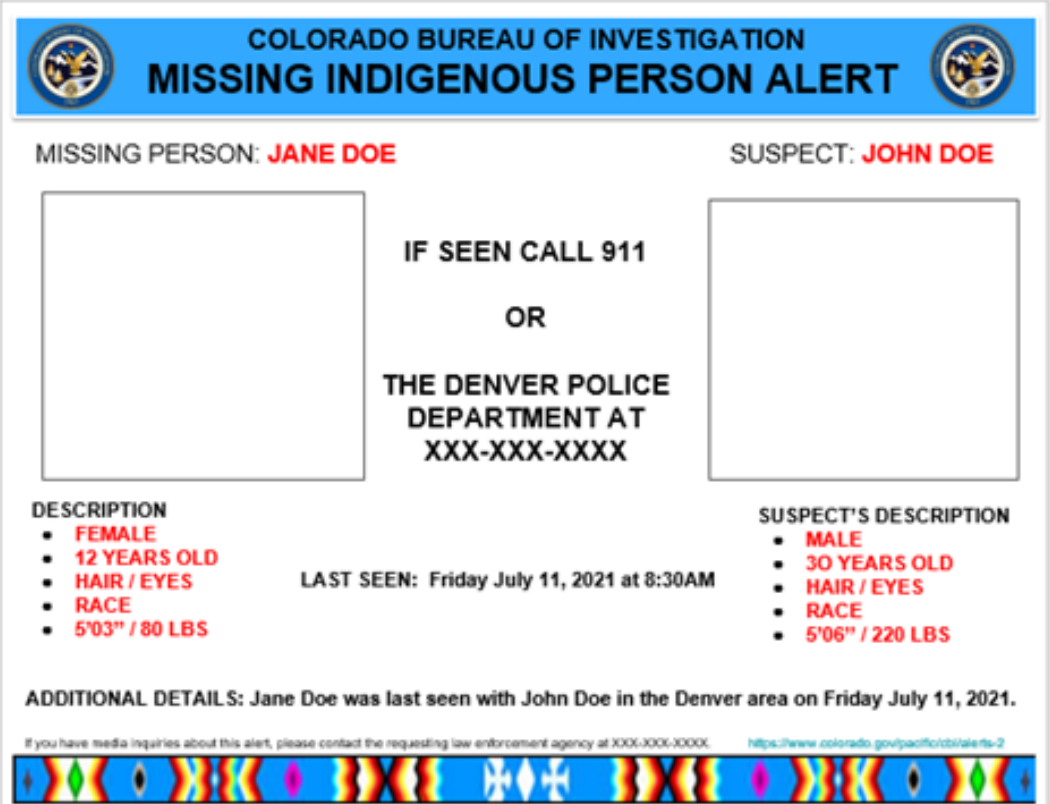
Missing Indigenous Person Alert (MIPA)

NOTIFICATION PROCESS

Once the L.E Agency receives a report of a Missing Indigenous Person;

To Request an Alert Call CBI
303-239-4360

Time is of the Essence



COLORADO BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MISSING INDIGENOUS PERSON ALERT

MISSING PERSON: **JANE DOE** SUSPECT: **JOHN DOE**

IF SEEN CALL 911
OR
THE DENVER POLICE
DEPARTMENT AT
XXX-XXX-XXXX

DESCRIPTION

- **FEMALE**
- **12 YEARS OLD**
- **HAIR / EYES**
- **RACE**
- **5'03" / 80 LBS**


SUSPECT'S DESCRIPTION

- **MALE**
- **30 YEARS OLD**
- **HAIR / EYES**
- **RACE**
- **5'06" / 220 LBS**

LAST SEEN: Friday July 11, 2021 at 8:30AM

ADDITIONAL DETAILS: Jane Doe was last seen with John Doe in the Denver area on Friday July 11, 2021.

If you have media inquiries about this alert, please contact the requesting law enforcement agency at XXX-XXX-XXXX. <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cbi/alerts-2>



CBI Missing Person Unit

- ❖ “CBI serves as a central agency for informing on missing children and adults
- ❖ Missing Person Unit assists local law enforcement and partner agencies
- ❖ Collects, compiles, and disseminates information to assist in finding a missing person.”
- ❖ Law Enforcement Training



Source: <https://cbi.colorado.gov/sections/investigations/missing-persons>

National Crime Information Center (Missing Person)

- ◇ According to the FBI, 2021, there were 337,195 NICI entries for missing children*
- ◇ Federal, State, Local, Tribal, and territorial Criminal Justice
- ◇ Missing Person entry participation varies from state to state
- ◇ Physical Safety is at risk
- ◇ Indication disappearance was not voluntary

**Federal
Bureau of
Investigation**



* Reports of child running away multiple times is considered its own separate event.

NCMEC assistance



Child Sex Trafficking

Can include element of:

Pimp-Controlled Trafficking

Gang-Controlled Trafficking

Familial Trafficking

Buyer-Perpetrated Trafficking

Family Abductions

Risk factors can include:

Custody and Visitation issues

History of Domestic and family violence

Past criminal record

Asking for government documents or obtaining (Passports, birth certificates)

Long-Term Missing

NCMEC reports that family abduction cases have the longest average time missing of 326 days.

NCMEC can assist in Biometrics Collection and Analysis

Cross searching possible matches in NamUs, NCMEC, and NCIC Databases

Nonfamily Abduction & Attempts

NCMEC reports possible risk factors:

Attempted more often occur going to or from school

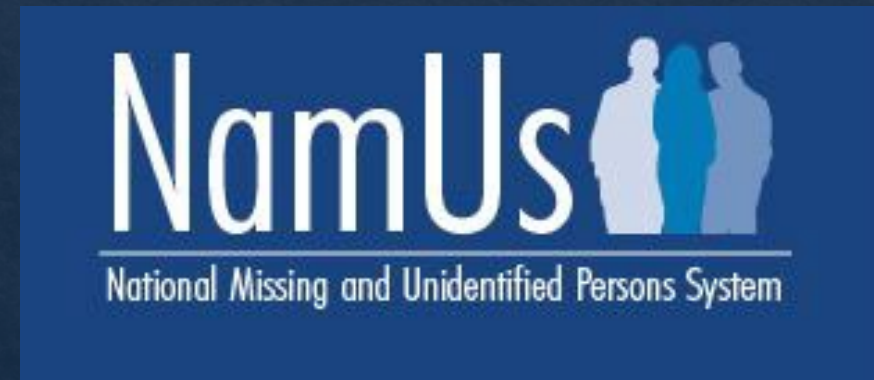
School aged child are less likely to be with a parent or adult

Source: <https://www.missingkids.org/theissues>



NamUs

- ◆ In 2019, NIJ reported NamUs was used to resolve 358 Indigenous Persons Cases.
- ◆ NamUs is supporting an additional 385
- ◆ 8 States mandate case entry to NamUS



What Information should be on Missing Person Poster

- ◆ Name
- ◆ Recent photo
- ◆ Date of disappearance
- ◆ Gender and biological sex (If Different)
- ◆ Detailed description (Height, weight, build, hair, eye color)
- ◆ Identifying marks or scars, especially tattoos and other unique marks



COLORADO BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MISSING INDIGENOUS PERSON ALERT



MISSING PERSON: **Name**



IF SEEN CALL 911

OR

**THE POLICE DEPARTMENT /
SHERIFF'S OFFICE AT XXX-XXX-XXXX**

LAST SEEN: Date and Time the person went missing

DESCRIPTION

- **SEX**
- **AGE**
- **HAIR COLOR / EYE COLOR**
- **RACE**
- **TRIBAL AFFILIATION**
- **HEIGHT / WEIGHT**

ADDITIONAL DETAILS: Additional information that can be shared with the public that might help to locate the missing person. This might be the location in which they went missing, what clothing they were last seen wearing, any unique characteristics or clothing that might help someone to recognize the missing person

If you have media inquiries about this alert, please contact the requesting law enforcement agency at XXX-XXX-XXXX.



MMIR ALERT

COLORADO



MARIE ANN BLEE

Height: 5'2"

Weight: 115 lbs

DOB: 1964

Hair: Strawberry Blonde

Eyes: Brown

Last Seen: 11/22/1979

Tribal Affiliation: Leech Lake
Band of Ojibwe

15 YEAR OLD MARIE BLEE WAS LAST SEEN ON 11/21/1979 AT A PARTY AT THE MOUNTAIN SHADOW VILLAGE MOBILE HOME PARK. BLEE TOLD A FRIEND THAT SHE HAD A RIDE HOME FROM AN UNIDENTIFIED DRIVER DURING THE EARLY MORNING HOURS. SHE HAS NEVER BEEN HEARD FROM AGAIN. SHE WAS LAST SEEN WEARING A PURPLE COLLARED V-NECK TOP, A BROWN VELVET VEST, JEANS, AND A LEATHER BOBEE NECKLACE.

PLEASE CONTACT
ROUTT COUNTY SHERIFF'S
OFFICE
WITH ANY INFO

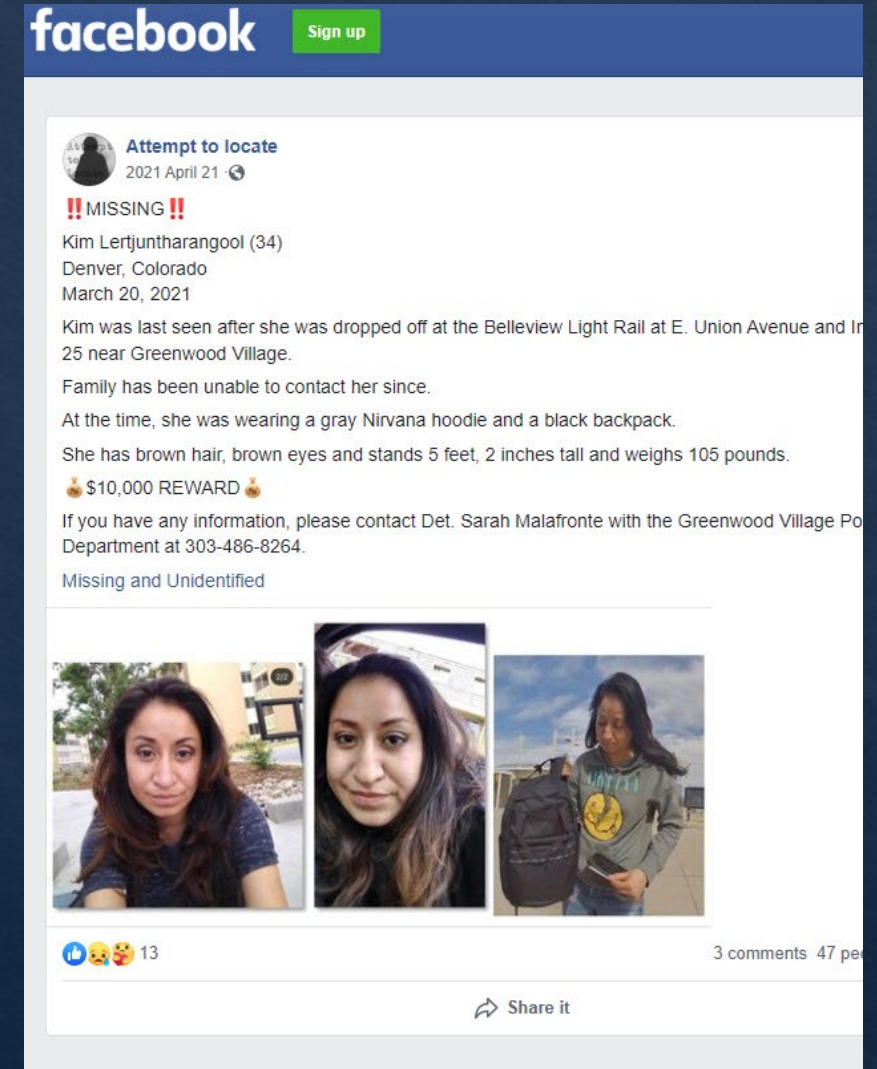
970-824-4495

Proper Identification

- ❖ Occurrence of "Looks Like" Misclassification
- ❖ Ask about their race
- ❖ Just because they are not an "enrolled member" does not preclude them from identifying as part of a tribe or nation.
- ❖ If the Officer is reporting race as American Indian or similar, it is advantageous to include Tribe Affiliation in subcategories or document somewhere else in the report. This may include entering as "Other."

Other Reporting tools

- ❖ Police Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Tictok, Nextdoor)
- ❖ Make sure to add nearby agencies and agencies with a large following, including large metro and indigenous populations.



Scenario 1

- ◇ While on routine patrol, a concerned parent approached you to report that their 19-year-old daughter had gone missing from their Colorado home under suspicious circumstances.
- ◇ Parent says she has not heard from her daughter since yesterday and did not drop off her prescription this morning at the parents' house.
- ◇ Parent mentions that their daughter has had recent domestic violence issues with a live-in boyfriend.



Scenario 1 cont.

◊ Are you required to accept a missing Person Report?

Yes

◊ What is the length of time for an agency to enter relevant information into the CCIC?

Based solely on age, Within 8 hours

◊ Agency requirement to enter a person into NCIC?

Yes, the Person is under 21 years old.



Other CBI Managed Alerts

America's Missing Broadcast Emergency Response (AMBER)

Medina Alert – Hit and Run

Endangered and missing/Media Alert

Silver Alert

Blue Alert - Seriously Injured or Killed Law Enforcement Officer

Source; <https://cbi.colorado.gov/alerts>





Evidence Gathering & Forensic science

- ◇ Cultural Issues that relate to the collection of DNA samples
- ◇ CODIS (Combines DNA Index System), an electronic database of DNA profiles that can identify suspects, is similar to the AFIS database.
- ◇ Using outside resources and technology

Common Items Submitted for DNA

- ◆ Bedding
- ◆ Bones
- ◆ Bottles, straws, cups
- ◆ Cigarette butts
- ◆ Clothing (e.g., hats, shirts, pants, sneakers, underwear, gloves)
- ◆ Condoms and wrappers
- ◆ Fingernail scrapings
- ◆ Hair
- ◆ Ligatures
- ◆ Sexual assault evidence collection kits (e.g., vaginal swabs, anal swabs, oral swabs)
- ◆ Swabs from firearms
- ◆ Swabs from surfaces (e.g., window, steering wheel, door handle)
- ◆ Swabs of possible stains (e.g., blood, saliva, semen)
- ◆ Weapon handles





Other types of Forensic Science

- ◇ Drug Chemistry
- ◇ Firearm and Toolmark
- ◇ Footwear and Tire Track
- ◇ Latent Prints
- ◇ Serology
- ◇ Toxicology
- ◇ Trace

CBI offers Comprehensive training



Colorado Cold Case Database



- ◇ Database features unsolved:
 - ◇ Homicides,
 - ◇ Missing persons,
 - ◇ And Unidentified person cases



Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives

Death Investigation

- ◆ When a missing person case or unresolved case results in a death Investigation, it is important to follow proper policies and procedures for a death investigation. Your agency may also have additional guidelines to follow. When working investigation, it is important to keep cultural beliefs. Communication with your local tribe or contacting the proper resources will help you identify the appropriate disposition of the remains. The disposition should also include sharing the name, culture, and other tribal customs. Contained in the topics within Death Investigation:
 - ◆ a. Notification(s)
 - ◆ b. Cultural protocols
 - ◆ c. Disposition of remains



Building Trust with community with patience

- ◇ Avoid Jargon
- ◇ Often Misconceptions is that Indigenous speak all or similar language
- ◇ Be Humble. Listen more, talk less
- ◇ Don't interrupt, hold your questions
- ◇ Use the present tense

- ◇ Ask the person or group which term they Prefer



Be an advocate

- ◊ When speaking with a missing Indigenous Persons relative or community:
- ◊ Use active listening skills
- ◊ Speak in a calm, slow voice
- ◊ Use Non- Judgmental Language (avoid terms that may be considered harmful)
- ◊ Explain the need for obtaining sensitive information
- ◊ be mindful of the location of the interview and who may see or hear the conversation



- ◆ According to the Office for Victims of Crime, “Vicarious trauma is an occupational challenge for people working and volunteering in the field of victim services such as Law enforcement, emergency services, fire services, and other allied professions.” Work-related trauma can take on various roles. Frequently this trauma or a specific event is not triggered for years. Reactions by individuals vary and can range from negative, neutral, or Positive. Using the resource provided, if you, a co-worker, supervisor, or family member, notice any signs that could be done to vicarious trauma, reach out for assistance.
[Link to Vicarious trauma toolkit.](#)

Vicarious Trauma

End Of Presentation

Please have Agency Training Coordinator Complete Training Entry into
Benchmark system

