



PHASE III

“The Pathfinder Certificate of Completion Seminar”

Seminar # 13

Issue # Four of 12 key issues: The Police Intervention

Seminar Objectives:

1. Identify the six phases of Police intervention.
2. Learn the Do's and do nots of a missing person's report.
3. How to complete a missing person's report.

Issues the Family Faces

The Police Intervention

The countdown to finding a missing person begins the moment someone concerned for his or her well-being alerts law enforcement. Investigators are essentially working against the clock, as with each passing hour decreases the likelihood that the subject will be found.

Protect the integrity of the evidence: One of law enforcement's first steps in investigating a missing person case is trying to prevent the loss of evidence, Dr. Michelle Jeanis, criminology professor at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, told ABC News. And it is not just the person's family who investigators are looking to speak to. Law enforcement will often seek information from the public, including people who may have happened to be going on with their daily lives but witnessed a crucial moment in the subject's disappearance, said former FBI Special Agent in Charge and ABC News contributor Steve Gomez.

The victim could be in grave danger. Those first few days are especially crucial if an individual is being transported or is in danger. Investigations on missing persons who authorities believe may be vulnerable -- such as children and those with a mental illness -- are expedited because time is of the essence to get the word out to the public to look for them. Although stranger kidnappings are "very, very rare," children are usually murdered quickly, sometimes within the first three hours but usually within the first two days.

The fact is people usually see something, so that period is vital to find the person right away,

In addition, it is important to generate as much awareness and as many leads as possible, Gomez said, adding that they tend to slow down after the 72-hour mark. "That's why it's just so important to try and move the investigation along and to get the public's help," he said.

The first 48 hours are also critical because that's when investigators have the best chance of following up on leads, before people's memories start to fade, Dr. Bryanna Fox, former FBI agent and criminology professor at the University of South Florida told ABC News. "The information

that law enforcement gets tends to be a little more accurate, and they are able to act on the information and hopefully get that person who is missing quicker."

As soon as police get a call reporting that someone is missing, they will begin to evaluate whether the case even involves a missing person at all. Law enforcement then chooses how they will allocate resources to missing persons cases on a "case-by-case basis." For adults who are reported missing, one of the things investigators look to first is whether the subject was displaying a-typical behavior.

Amber Alert: In "serious cases" of missing children, in which law enforcement has a reason to believe the child has been abducted or is in imminent danger, an Amber Alert may be issued. The Amber Alerts were designed "especially for those kids who are perceived to be in immediate danger," but there are specific criteria for the level of danger the case must meet to warrant the alert. For example, a runaway child would not qualify for an Amber Alert. The reason for the selectivity, in part, is to not desensitize the public. Law enforcement wants the public to be "alert and aware" when a message is sent out, and too many could cause people to ignore it.

Media coverage makes a difference in closing the case

Getting the word out to the public that someone is missing is "integral" to closing the case, "Every family wants that media attention" to help find their loved one. However, not all missing persons cases get the same media attention. Research suggests that there is a disparity in media attention, especially at the national level.

Women received nearly 12 times more media coverage, on average, than male victims, while white victims received nearly three times as much total media attention than minority victims, as well as higher word counts within articles. White, young, female victims -- often college co-eds or mothers -- "definitely get the most amount of attention. The phenomenon is known as "missing white woman syndrome."

In addition, the age of the victim correlated inversely with the word count within a story, with each additional year of age corresponding to a 4.4 percent decrease in the word count.

Social media now plays a vital role in missing persons cases

Social media has become a "huge asset to safely recovering people," purely due to the ease of spreading the message.

While people pay attention when seeing stories of missing persons on broadcast news, it "brings it a little closer to home" when they see someone they know or trust talking about it on Facebook or Twitter.

The social media awareness "energizes the public to help the family and law enforcement," which generates leads. Our law enforcement makes sure posting information on missing persons on their social media accounts increases the odds that they will be able to find them sooner. Before social media, law enforcement would release BOLOs -- or "be on the lookout" notices -- that would be posted to various neighborhoods, it is now the standard practice for those BOLOs to be posted to the law enforcement agency's social media accounts.

The sooner an announcement is made, the more likely the person will be safely recovered, Fox said.

How to Report a Missing Person

It is not necessary to wait 24 to 48 hours before filing a report, according to www.Findlaw.com. When filing the report, give law enforcement a detailed description of the subject's physical appearance such as his or her height, weight, and age, as well as any identifying markers such as a tattoo or birth mark. Be sure to include clear photos of the missing person.

Obstacle the Family Addresses

A Viable Option: Delivering your son or daughter into police custody is a severe but rational measure for distraught parents who have exhausted other options, addiction clinicians say. “I know parents [of people who went into treatment] who say if they hadn’t turned their kids in to the police, their kids would be dead now,” says Deni Carise, chief clinical officer at Recovery Centers of America, which has addiction treatment centers in four northeast states. “For a lot of parents, going to the police is a matter of getting their child off the street so he doesn’t die.”

For some parents of addicts, turning their child in to authorities is a matter of protecting themselves or others, says Tina Muller, program manager for the family wellness department at Mountainside Treatment Center in Canaan, Connecticut. “If an opiate addict is being abusive and creating safety issues, threatening or engaging in violence and bringing drugs into a home where younger siblings may find them, you need to call the police,” Muller says. While opioid addiction gets the most attention because it is currently claiming the most lives, some parents of people addicted to cocaine and other drugs also turn their sons or daughters into police.

Though it is an agonizing step for parents, turning one’s own child into law enforcement to save his or her life makes sense in the context of the deadly opioid epidemic, clinicians say. In 2015, drug overdoses driven by the opioid scourge – including heroin, which is illegal, as well as prescription pain relievers such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, codeine, morphine, and fentanyl – were the leading cause of accidental death in the U.S., according to the American Society of Addiction Medicine.

Be sure you have exhausted every option. You may think you have tried everything, but before you call the police, make certain you have explored every potential resource to try to get your son or daughter help, Muller says. “I would definitely recommend that parents and families seek advice from local treatment centers,” she says, as treatment clinicians may be aware of resources parents do not know about. If your child is a juvenile, check with local and state social services officials and authorities at the school your child attends, and ask if there are resources such as counseling or therapy for addicts, she says. Some school districts have alternative schools that can help students with addiction issues. If they haven’t already tried one, parents can try to stage an intervention, in which relatives and friends confront a person to describe how his or her drug use is affecting them and urge them to seek help.

Explain to law enforcement officers why you are turning in your child. Once you have decided you have no other recourse, call the police to explain why you are about to turn your child in, says Howard Samuels, owner and chief executive officer of The Hills Treatment Center, an alcohol and drug rehabilitation facility in Los Angeles. “You want the police to know that you want the person arrested because he or she is out of control because of drugs,” Samuels says. “That’s the way to handle it. You don’t want to call 911 and have the cops come in with guns drawn.”

Do not assume your son or daughter will be in jail for long. The amount of time someone spends in jail varies depending on the charge, the person’s prior criminal record, if any, and local statutes. Someone who is arrested for a first offense on a charge that does not involve violence, or a weapon may be incarcerated for a brief time, overnight or maybe even a matter of hours, Samuels says. Let your child’s lawyer know what is going on and ask him or her what treatment resources the local criminal justice system provides, he says.

VIDEO ONE

ASSIGNMENT VIDEO: On www.youtube.com/

Search Title: Smart Justice - What Happens When You Get Arrested

Published on May 4, 2018

Buncombe County Government

Have you ever had a family member or friend arrested? It can be a very scary and confusing experience for everyone involved. In this video, we are going to take a tour of the arrest and pre-trial phase of the criminal justice system here in Buncombe County. If you ever find yourself in this situation, you will have the needed information for the best possible outcome. **Duration: 7:22 hrs.**

Solutions to Issues & Obstacles

This approach is often more effective, than information that is meant to scare the patient into support service.

Putting an addict in jail may temporarily prevent him or her from becoming a grim statistic, but it will not guarantee immediate treatment. Throughout the U.S., there are more than 3,000 drug courts, which refer people to treatment instead of jail, according to the National Association of Drug Court Professionals. Drug courts put about 150,000 people annually into treatment. Meanwhile, there are about 650,000 people incarcerated in local jails at any given time, according to the Prison Policy Initiative, a nonprofit that produces research on the criminal justice system and advocates against mass incarceration. "We realize we're just scratching the surface of meeting the need," says Chris Deutsch, a spokesman for the NADCP.

Seek support for yourself and other family members. Just as addicts in recovery need a support system, so do their loved ones. "This is an epidemic" that affects not only addicts, but those close to them, he says. Parents and other relatives need to know they are not alone, and they need to learn strategies for supporting the addict without enabling him or her, he says. Resources include clinical licensed therapists and support groups, such as Nar-Anon Family Groups, which is like the Alcoholics Anonymous model in that it uses 12 steps to help people deal with their feelings about their loved one's addiction. "Counselors can help and being part of a group in which you hear from other people who are going through similar experiences is invaluable". "There's a feeling of fellowship.

Practical Exercise # One: MISSING PERSON REPORT

Adult ____ Child ____

Date and Time of Report:

Date and Time of Last Contact:

Reported by: Name

Voluntary Missing Adult

Parental/Family Abduction

Drug Addiction Related Circumstances: Drugs Currently Taking, past rehabilitation center treatments: Name and phone.

Current or Past Drug Counselors:

Suspicious Circumstances:

Possible Stranger Abduction?

Prior Missing: Date, location

Sexual Exploitation:

At Risk, Medical or Mental Health Concerns

Missing Persons Name (Last, First, Middle):

Sex:

Race:

Corrective Lenses: Facial Hair: Eye Color:

Alias/Moniker/Nickname: DOB/Age: Height: Weight:

Scars/Marks/Tattoos:

Residence Phone Number:

Cell Phone Number:

Business Phone Number:

Employer: Name, Address Phone

Residence Address, City, State, Zip Code:

Social Security Number: Driver's License/ID Number: State:

Business Address, City, State, Zip Code:

Probation/Parole/Social Worker Name & Phone:

Social Networking Site(s) and Screen Name(s):

Email Address:

Clothing:

Piece of DNA: toothbrush, hair etc.

Last Known Location/Activity (Description or Address, City, State, Zip Code): Possible Destination (Description or Address, City, State, Zip Code):

Alcohol, Drug, Mental Health, or Medical Condition(s):

Jewelry:

Known Associates and Lifestyle:

Visible Dental Work:

Dentist Name, Address, Phone Number:

Medical Provider Name, Address, Phone Number:

Photo Available:

Fingerprints: Ever had taken?

Describe Tattoos:

Any Suspect Names of who might know him best: Name, Cell Phone.

Car Registered Owner Vin Number:

Type, Model, Make, Color, Condition markings

License Number: State/Province/Country: Reg. Year: Damage to Vehicle:

Primary Bank:

Friends Names:

Friends Cell Phone:

Common Area for Hanging Out:

THE STORY

VIDEO TWO

ASSIGNMENT VIDEO: On www.youtube.com/

Search Title: How to file a missing person report: What to do when a person is missing

Published on Sep 28, 2018

Justice for the Missing

If you need to know what to do when someone goes missing, watch this video. I answer the question, "do I have to wait 24 hours to file a missing person report?" I talk about when to file a missing person report and how to file a police report to find your missing loved one. If you are looking for a missing person report example, contact your local authorities. We also talk about what to do if someone goes missing. Whether you are looking to find a missing person for free, how to track down a missing person, or missing person cases in general you will want to subscribe to this channel. We talk about missing person cases that are solved, police missing person procedures, solved missing person cases, and unsolved missing person cases Contact us at justicefordaniellebell@gmail.com Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/missingdanie...> Twitter: @JusticefortheM2 Instagram: Justice for the missing Ensure your case is listed on these sites. <https://api.missingkids.org/missingki...> <http://charleyproject.org/> Search and Rescue Nonprofit <http://klaaskids.org/pg-leg/>

Duration: 7:41

MASTER FAMILY PLAN OF ACTION FOR: "FAMILY IS A SYSTEM"

Complete answers and move to "Master Family Plan of Action"

1. The family will identify the have a plan on who will follow through with the booking and release process for their loved one.
2. The Family will complete a missing person report now for use as needed later.
3. Next steps need to be considered and planned, in order the right documents and people are included.