Minnesota
Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives
Office

What to do When a Loved One Goes Missing

Call 911 immediately. Or, go to your local law enforcement agency to report your loved one's disappearance as soon as you are concerned for (or aware of) their absence. Remember:

- There is no waiting period. Per Brandon's Law: *"A law enforcement agency shall accept **without delay** any report of a missing person. The law enforcement agency **shall not refuse to accept a missing person report."***
- Share information about the loved one with law enforcement, including their:
  - Name and date of birth.
  - Height and weight.
  - Scars, marks or tattoos.
  - Last known location.
  - Description of what they were wearing.

Keep records. Ask for the name of the officer taking the report, along with the case number and the name of the investigator assigned to the case. Record that information below.

- Report taker: _____
- Case number: _____
- Investigator: _____
- Phone number: _____

Ask for help. Make phone calls, reach out to family and friends on social media and ask the Minnesota Office of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives (MMIR) for support with:

- Guiding you during this difficult time.
- Creating a missing persons flyer and offering distribution advice.
- Assisting with law enforcement interactions.
- Referring you to additional resources.
- Planning next steps as needed.

Make a communications plan. It is vital to exchange information while your loved one is missing.

- Choose a family spokesperson to oversee giving and receiving updates from law enforcement about your missing loved one.
- Ask law enforcement for regular updates. Note that, as things change, the amount of updates may change.
- Send tips you receive to law enforcement.

Department of Public Safety
Office of Justice Programs

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